



## Discover little adventures on your doorstep

Go for a boat ride on the Anderton Boat Lift. It's a must!

Watch boats pass through the flight of locks in Audlem and chat to boaters

Take binoculars and keep look out for wagtails and dippers feeding off insects

Stop by Northgate Locks in Chester, the deepest in the country

Get to a canalside pub in time for lunch

There are no locks on the Lancaster Canal so it's a great place to explore by canoe

Spot Herons, buzzards, lapwings and Kingfishers at Lune Aqueduct

Check out the viaduct, aqueduct and the quirky footbridges at Marple Locks

Have a picnic on the banks of the canal

Step inside a traditional narrowboat at the National Waterways Museum

Looks fun

Wow nice plan!



WOAH! Can I come?

Me too!



Are you looking for inspiring places to visit with the family? Then look no further than your local canal or river. This guide features a selection of our best waterside places to visit in the North West – whatever the weather! Each location includes a map, suggestions of fun-packed activities you can do and useful information on where to park, places to eat, toilets and boat trips.

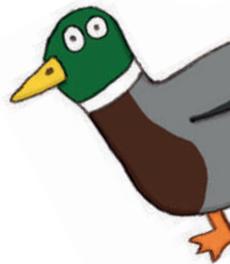
Where will you explore today?



Have a look on our map and find a little adventure on your doorstep!



So many to choose from



Key

1. Lune Aqueduct
2. Lancaster & Penny Street Basin
3. Garstang
4. Bilsborrow
5. Albert Dock & Liverpool Canal Link
6. Rufford/Burscough
7. Wigan Pier
8. Portland Basin
9. Uppermill
10. Marple Locks
11. Clarence Mill & Adelphi Mill
12. Anderton Boat Lift & Visitor Centre
13. Middlewich
14. National Waterways Museum
15. Chester
16. Hurleston
17. Nantwich
18. Audlem



\* AINA Waterways —



\* This map shows waterways managed by members of the Association of Inland Navigation Authorities (AINA). We have not featured places to visit on waterways managed by these organisations. There are other inland waterways that have not been shown, the information on this map is for guidance only, for accurate information please visit our website.



# Canal & River Trust

Making life better by water



## Visit Anderton Boat Lift

The mighty Anderton Boat Lift is one of the 'Seven Wonders of the Waterways'. It's one of only two working boat lifts in the country. Unmissable!

Little adventures on your doorstep



Map not to scale: covers approx 0.5 miles/0.8km



## A little bit of history

The Anderton Boat Lift moved boats between the Trent & Mersey Canal and the River Weaver about 14 metres (50 feet) below. Built in 1875, it shortened journeys by cutting out the old route via the Bridgewater Canal. Boats were lifted up, two at a time, in giant tanks of water. Genius!

Best of all the  
Visitor Centre & Grounds  
are Free entry

### Five things to do at Anderton Boat Lift

- Go for a boat ride** on the Anderton Boat Lift. It's a must!
- Have a go** on the Vintage Arcade Machines in the Visitor Centre.
- Take a break** in the Visitor Centre Coffee Shop which overlooks the amazing boat lift.
- Take a walk** along the Canal to Lion Salt Works.
- Look out for** the mosaic that tells the story of this area from industrial site to wildlife haven.

### Information

Anderton Boat Lift  
Visitor Centre, Lift Lane  
Northwich  
Cheshire CW9 6FW

-  Parking
-  Toilets
-  Coffee shop
-  Pub
-  Information
-  Picnic
-  Boat trips
-  Path
-  Allow half a day for this visit

#### \* Don't forget:

Although the site is open all year round, please visit website for daily opening hours, the facilities and boat trips may not be and some may be chargeable. Please check with local businesses before setting out.

### Did you know?...

Coots have a **white spot** on the front of their head and moorhens have a **bright red beak tipped with yellow**, and a white stripe on their side.



Go to [canalriverexplorers.org.uk](http://canalriverexplorers.org.uk) to discover lots of fun things to do with the family.

A big thank you to all the volunteers who helped produce these.



# Canal & River Trust

Making life better by water

Little adventures on your doorstep



## Visit the National Waterways Museum, Ellesmere Port

Sited on the banks of the Shropshire Union Canal and the Manchester Ship Canal, the National Waterways Museum at Ellesmere Port offers a terrific day out for families.



**STAY SAFE:**  
Stay Away From the Edge

Map not to scale: covers approx 1.4 miles/2.4km



## A little bit of history

The National Waterways Museum occupies the old dock buildings of Ellesmere Port which originally linked the Shropshire Union Canal to the River Mersey. The museum has the largest collection of canal boats in the world, from brightly painted narrowboats to icebreakers.

Best of All -  
It's Free with an  
Annual Pass!\*

### Five things to do at the National Waterways Museum

- Discover** boats of all shapes and sizes, old docks, warehouses, locks and the cottages where the workers once lived.
- Step** inside a traditional narrowboat and find out what it must have been like to live on the canals.
- Enjoy** our canal themed outdoor play area, 'Blue Belle'
- Check** out the website for more information and events.
- Look** out for the sculpture commemorating the days when boats were towed by horses.

### Information

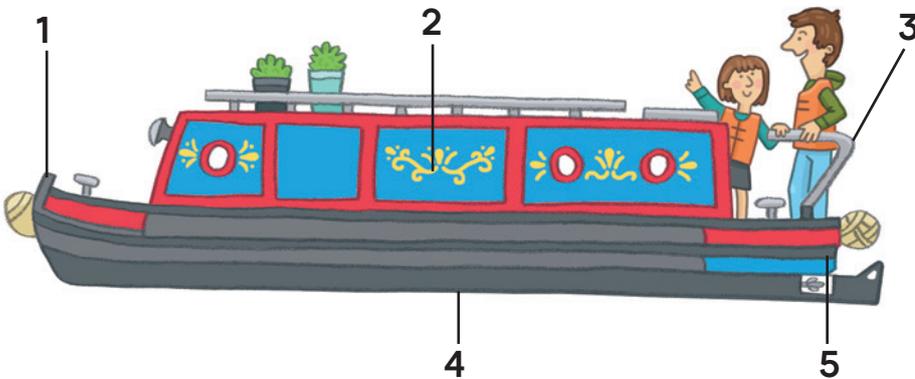
South Pier Road  
Ellesmere Port  
CH65 4FW

-  Parking (free on site)
-  Toilets
-  Café
-  Playground
-  Path
-  Allow up to a half to full day for this visit

#### \* Don't forget:

Although the site is always open, some of the facilities may not be and some may be chargeable. Please check with local businesses.

### Can you name the different parts of a narrowboat?



Answers: 1 bow; 2 cabin; 3 tiller; 4 hull; 5 stern

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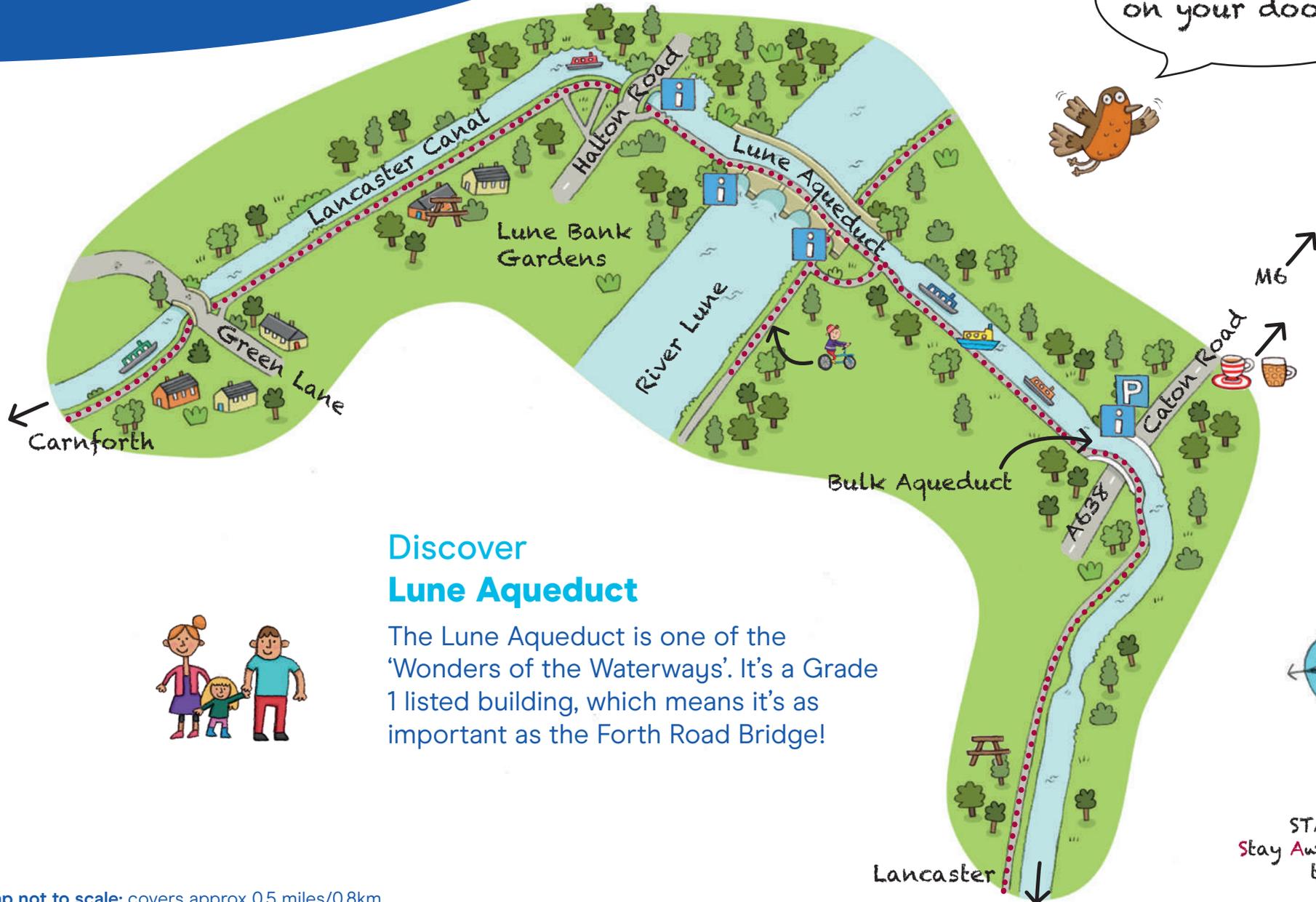




Canal &  
River Trust

Making life better by water

Little adventures  
on your doorstep



## Discover Lune Aqueduct



The Lune Aqueduct is one of the 'Wonders of the Waterways'. It's a Grade 1 listed building, which means it's as important as the Forth Road Bridge!

Map not to scale: covers approx 0.5 miles/0.8km

STAY SAFE:  
Stay Away From  
the Edge

## A little bit of history

John Rennie, the canal engineer, designed the beautiful Lune Aqueduct to take the Lancaster Canal across the River Lune without the need for locks. He built it in the classical style because wealthy Lancaster merchants who had invested in it, wanted a fine aqueduct to grace their city.



Best of all  
it's FREE!\*

### Five things to do at Lune Aqueduct

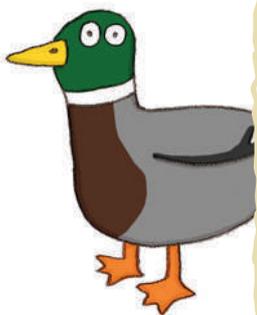
- Take** the Lune Aqueduct waterbus from Lancaster City Centre over the aqueduct and learn more about the Lancaster Canal.
- Go** birdspotting. Herons, buzzards, lapwings, canada geese and kingfishers are regularly spotted here.
- Look** for the QR codes on waymarkers and explore the Lune Aqueduct digital memories trail.
- Watch** boats passing over the aqueduct. Walk down into the valley and view the aqueduct from below.
- Cycle** along the newly opened cycle path passing underneath the aqueduct and along the banks of the River Lune.

### Did you know?...

It's best to feed ducks tasty treats like:

- porridge oats
- rice
- peas
- chopped lettuce
- birdseed

Whilst they will gobble up white bread, crisps and chips its junk food for you and ducks!



### Information

Caton Road  
Lancaster LA1 3PE

-  Parking
-  Toilets
-  Café
-  Pub
-  Lune Aqueduct QR trail waymarkers
-  Cycling
-  Boat trips
-  Path
-  Allow 1-1½ hours for this visit

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## Visit Lancaster and Penny Street Basin



The Lancaster Canal runs through the heart of Lancaster. So, shop till you drop then relax in a pub or café by the water's edge!

Little adventures on your doorstep



**STAY SAFE:**  
Stay Away From  
the Edge

## A little bit of history

The Lancaster Canal is the 'Black and White' canal so-called because it carried limestone (white) and coal (black). The canal brought wealth to the city, delivering cheap coal that fuelled the steam-powered cotton mills beside the canal. Many of the fine houses in Lancaster were built by the cotton merchants.

Best of all  
it's FREE!\*

### Five things to do at Lancaster and Penny Street Basin

- **Spot** narrowboats moored near Waterwitch Basin.
- **Take a trip** on the canal. Choose the waterbus, a trip boat or a special afternoon tea cruise.
- **Walk** along the towpath to the spectacular Lune Aqueduct, about 40 minutes beyond Penny Street Bridge. Look out for QR trail waymarkers.
- **Keep a look out for** wildlife. Otters have been spotted beyond Penny Street Bridge.
- **Lancaster** is a Roman city so there's plenty of history. Visit Lancaster Castle, the Maritime Museum, the City Museum or the cathedral.

### Information

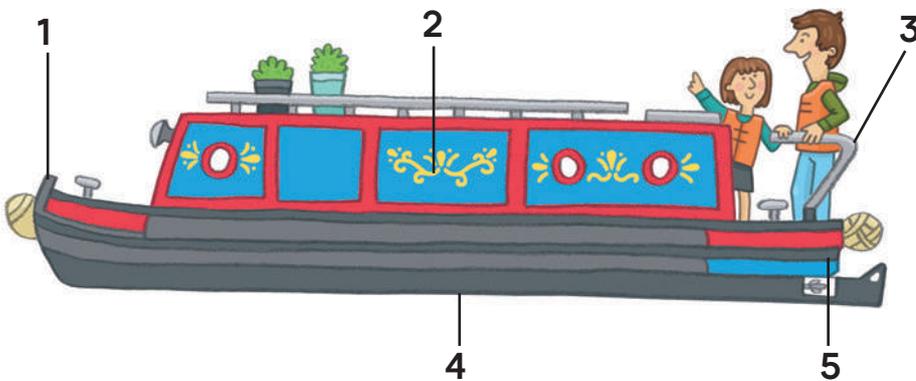
Water Witch Basin  
Aldcliffe Lane  
Lancaster LA1 1SU

-  Parking
-  Toilets
-  Café
-  Pub
-  Information
-  Boat trips
-  Path
-  Allow 2-3 hours for this visit

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### Can you name the different parts of a narrowboat?



Answers: 1 bow; 2 cabin; 3 tiller; 4 hull; 5 stern

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# Canal & River Trust

Making life better by water

## Explore Garstang

There are no locks on the Lancaster Canal that runs through the pretty market town of Garstang. That means its flat – and a great place for family bike rides and walks.



Little adventures on your doorstep



**STAY SAFE:**  
Stay Away From the Edge

Map not to scale: covers approx 1.4 miles/2.4km

## A little bit of history

The Lancaster Canal is the 'Black and White' canal so-called because it carried limestone (white) and coal (black). Designed by John Rennie the famous canal engineer, the canal was used to transport coal, slate, timber, food, rope and limestone. Today, Garstang is more famous for being the world's first Fairtrade town.

Best of all  
it's FREE!\*

### Five things to do at Garstang

- Walk** down the towpath and check out quaint bridges and the lovely stone aqueduct which takes the canal over the River Wyre.
- Relax** by the basin and watch boats.
- There are no locks** on the Lancaster Canal so it's a great place to explore by canoe.
- See** how many water birds you can spot and name in five minutes.
- Go shopping** for world food in the Fairtrade shops.

### Information

Kepple Lane  
Garstang PR3 1PA

-  Parking
-  Café
-  Pub
-  Tourist Information
-  Cycling
-  Path
-  Allow 2 hours for this visit

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# Canal & River Trust

Making life better by water

Garstang  
Barton Grange Marina  
& Garden Centre

## Explore Bilsborrow

Not far from busy roads is the Lancaster Canal running through the pretty village of Bilsborrow. Take a break from the car and get out on the towpath!



Guy's Thatched Hamlet & Owd Nell's Tavern



Post office & Village Stores

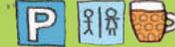
Fish & chips  
B&B (trip boat parties)

White Bull



St Hilda's Church

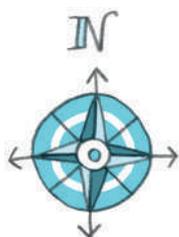
Roebuck



Premier Inn



Little adventures on your doorstep



Preston



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Stay Away From  
the Edge



## A little bit of history

It's difficult to imagine that the Lancaster Canal, known today for its peaceful beauty, once carried limestone (white) and coal (black). It was known as the Black & White Canal. Today, Bilborrow is the perfect spot to stop off and explore the historic village with its medieval barn and historic aqueduct.



Best of all  
it's FREE!\*

### Five things to do at Bilborrow

- Take** binoculars and keep look out for wagtails and dippers feeding off insects attracted to water. You may even spot a kingfisher!
- Brave** the weather and go for a bracing walk. Wear wellies and let children splash around in puddles.
- Take** a leisurely boat trip and admire the beautiful landscape from the water.
- Bike** up the towpath to Brock Aqueduct opened in 1797. It was built by John Rennie, the famous 18th century canal engineer.
- Take** a break in one of the picturesque canal-side pubs.

### Information



Canalside,  
St Michaels Road,  
Near Gardtang,  
Bilborrow, PR3 ORS

 Parking  
(at pubs)

 Toilets

 Pub

 Path

 Allow 2 hours  
for this visit

#### \* Don't forget:

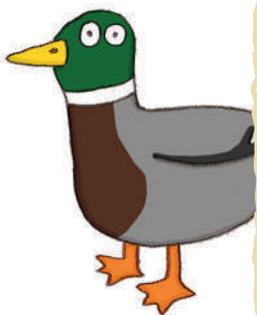
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### Did you know?...

It's best to feed ducks tasty treats like:

- porridge oats
- rice
- peas
- chopped lettuce
- birdseed

Whilst they will gobble up white bread, crisps and chips its junk food for you and ducks!



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# Canal & River Trust

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## Discover Albert Dock

Albert Dock is where wonderful architecture meets must-see attractions on the historic waterfront in Liverpool. What's not to like!



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Little adventures on your doorstep



## A little bit of history

Albert Dock fell into disuse after the Second World War. Now regenerated, it is the focus of world-class architecture and attractions – all within walking distance of each other. There's even a new canal link that connects the Leeds & Liverpool Canal with the Liverpool South Docks.



Best of all  
it's FREE!\*

### Five things to do at Albert Dock

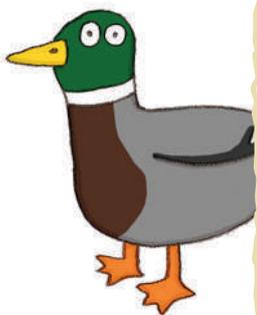
- Spot** big ships such as ocean-going cruisers, liners, tall ships and warships.
- Walk** along the Liverpool Canal link and look out for iconic buildings such as the Royal Liver Building and the Cunard Building.
- Go** to the new Museum of Liverpool and learn about dockland life.
- Take a trip** on the world-famous Mersey Ferry.
- Visit** the Mersey Maritime Museum, Tate Liverpool or the International Slavery Museum.

### Did you know?...

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- rice
- peas
- chopped lettuce
- birdseed

Whilst they will gobble up white bread, crisps and chips its junk food for you and ducks!



### Information

Albert Dock  
Liverpool L3 4AA

-  Parking
-  Toilets
-  Café
-  Pub
-  Cycling (Riverside Walk only)
-  Riverside Walk
-  Allow half to a full day for this visit

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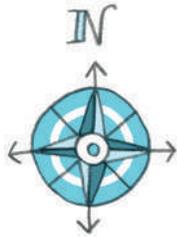
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# Canal & River Trust

Making life better by water



## Discover Rufford Top Lock/ Burscough

With flat towpaths, historic canal features and rich wildlife, Rufford Top Lock/ Burscough is the perfect place for family walks, bike rides and bird spotting.

Map not to scale: covers approx 0.5 miles/0.8km



Little adventures on your doorstep



STAY SAFE: Stay Away From the Edge

## A little bit of history

Rufford Top Lock and Burscough Wharf grew up around the junction of the Rufford Branch Canal with the Leeds & Liverpool Canal. The boatyards, a dry dock, the rows of cottages where the people who serviced these facilities lived, and the pubs they once used, still survive.



Best of all  
it's FREE!\*

### Five things to do at Rufford Top Lock/Burscough

- ❑ **Check** out the dry dock (now disused) where boats were once repaired. It's one of the oldest on the canal system.
- ❑ **Take** a break at the Ship Inn, formerly called the Blood Tub. But don't let that put you off – it's located next to Lock 2 and serves great pub food!
- ❑ **Hire** a bike and explore the entire length of the Rufford Branch Canal (7 miles/11 km). With eight locks, seventeen bridges including a swing bridge and unusual paddle gears, there's plenty to see.
- ❑ **Keep** a look out for top birds such as barn owls, kingfishers, dippers and wagtails.
- ❑ **Visit** Rufford Old Hall (National Trust) originally built in 1530 and which still retains its Tudor Great Hall.

### Did you know?...



Coots have a **white spot** on the front of their head and moorhens have a **bright red beak tipped with yellow**, and a white stripe on their side.

### Information

Burscough Wharf  
Liverpool Road North  
Burcough  
Lancashire L40 5RZ

 **P** Parking (free at pubs, Burscough Wharf and roadside)

 Toilets  
(pubs and village)

 Café

 Pub

 Cycle hire

 Boat hire

 Path

 Allow 2 hours for this visit

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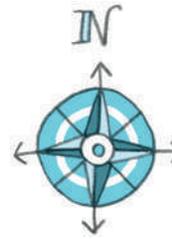
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Wigan North  
Western 0.2 miles/  
0.4km

## Visit Wigan Pier

Wigan Pier was once famous for its gritty industrial landscape. Now being regenerated, it's a great place to spot historic canal features.



**STAY SAFE:**  
Stay Away From  
the Edge



Map not to scale: covers approx 0.5 miles/0.8km

## A little bit of history

Wigan sits on the Leeds & Liverpool Canal - the longest in the country. The original Wigan Pier was a coal tippler – two curved rails at the head of the tramway on the edge of the canal which enabled waggons loaded with coal from the nearby colliery to be tipped straight into waiting barges.

Best of all  
it's FREE!\*

### Four things to do at Wigan

- Watch** boats passing through the lock and chat to boaters.
- Take** a boat trip and discover more about the Leeds & Liverpool Canal.
- Look** out for canal features such as the mile post at Wigan Pier, old canal cottages and the dry dock.
- Check** out the restored Trencherfield Mill Steam Engine that once powered Wigan's industry. Go online to find out about steam days.

### Information

Wigan Pier  
Wallgate  
Wigan WN3 4EU

 Parking

 Boat trip

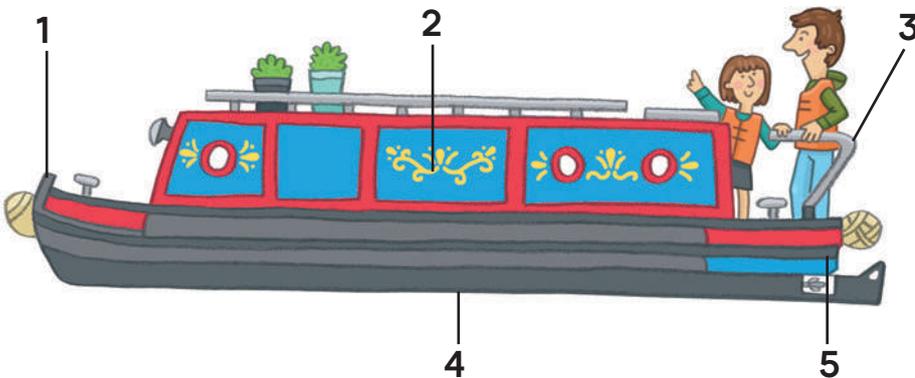
 Path

 Allow 1-2 hours for this visit

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### Can you name the different parts of a narrowboat?



Answers: 1 bow; 2 cabin; 3 tiller; 4 hull; 5 stern

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# Canal & River Trust

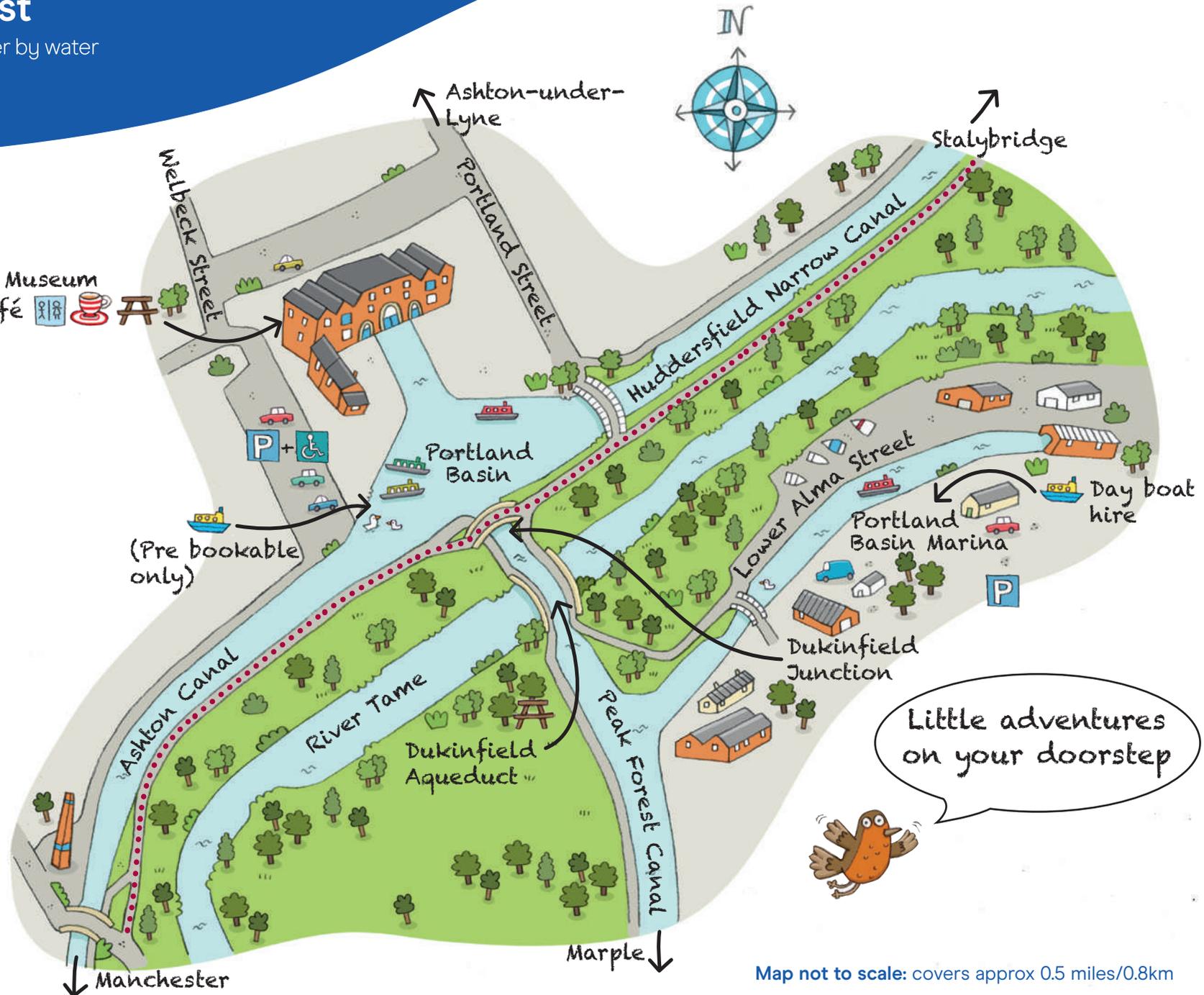
Making life better by water

## Explore Portland Basin

Portland Basin is the junction of the Peak Forest, Ashton and Huddersfield Narrow canals. It's a great place where canals, boats and people meet.



**STAY SAFE:**  
Stay Away From the Edge



Map not to scale: covers approx 0.5 miles/0.8km

## A little bit of history

Portland Basin was an important interchange between three canals. Ashton Canal delivered coal to nearby textile mills and made the return journey with cloth to Manchester. The Peak Forest Canal delivered cargo to the north west, and the Huddersfield Narrow Canal crossed the Pennines to the north east.

Best of all  
it's FREE!\*

### Five things to do at Portland Basin

- Visit** the highly rated Portland Basin Museum housed in a Victorian warehouse. There are lots of family friendly activities including an under 5s play area, craft activities and trails. And it's FREE!
- Walk** along the scenic Peak Forest Canal towards Marple.
- Walk** round Portland Basin and chat to visiting boaters.
- Spot** six restored old wooden narrowboats decorated with traditional patterns, rope work and lettering.
- Picnic** by the aqueduct and watch boats pass from the Peak Forest Canal over the River Tame and into Portland Basin.

### Information

Portland Place  
Heritage Wharf  
Ashton-under-Lyne  
OL7 0QA

 Parking + 

 Toilets

 Café

 Picnic bench

 Boat trips

••• Path

 Allow 2-3 hours  
for this visit

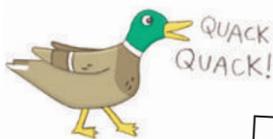
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### What to Spot

Explore the waterside together.  
How many of these can you spot?

A duck quacking



166

The number of a  
bridge or lock

A fascinating insect

An interesting  
stone or brick

The names of  
two boats



A face  
or animal  
in the  
clouds

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## Visit Uppermill

Surrounded by stunning countryside on the edge of the Pennines, Uppermill is a great place for canal and riverside walks.



**STAY SAFE:**  
Stay Away From the Edge

## A little bit of history

Uppermill was once famous for its wool and cotton mills. The River Tame supplied the power and the Huddersfield Narrow Canal provided the transport. Building the canal was a great achievement. There are 74 locks along its length, raising the canal to 196.6 metres (645 feet) above sea level. It's Britain's highest canal!

Best of all  
it's FREE!\*

### Five things to do at Uppermill

- Take** a trip on the trip boat.
- Walk up** the towpath to where the canal disappears into the three-mile-long Standedge Tunnel – one of the wonders of the waterways (2 miles, uphill)
- Look** for the Wool Road Transhipment Shed. While the Standedge Tunnel was being built, goods were off-loaded here and then transported across the Pennines by packhorse.
- Check** out the magnificent railway viaduct, opened in 1849.
- Visit** Saddleworth Museum to discover more about Uppermill and the local area.

### Information

Wool Road  
Uppermill  
OL3 5QR

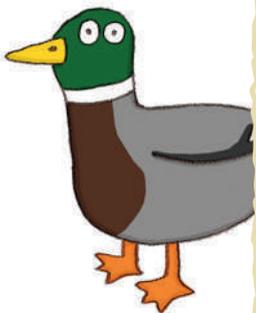
-  Parking
-  Toilets
-  Pub
-  Information
-  Picnic
-  Boat trips
-  Path
-  Allow 2-3 hours for this visit

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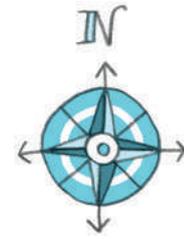
Our lock gates are handbuilt by skilled carpenters in our workshops in the West Midlands and Yorkshire, from FSC Green Oak. Each one is unique and can take up to a month to make. Once built they last for about 25 years.



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## Discover Marple Flight of Locks

The flight of sixteen locks at Marple is a spectacular sight. Plus the beautiful countryside makes it a wonderful place for a family day out.

Little adventures on your doorstep



## A little bit of history

The Peak Forest Canal was built to transport bulky materials, especially limestone, from nearby quarries. The lock flight, and the ingenious ways of taking the railway over the canal and the canal over the River Goyt, means there are plenty of interesting features to spot. And the woods are great for exploring too!

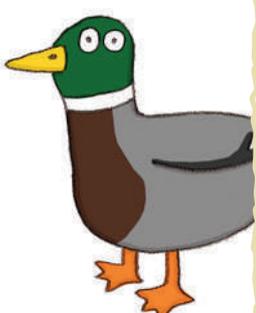


Best of all  
it's FREE!\*

### Five things to do at Marple Flight of Locks

- Watch** boats pass through the locks. It takes at least three hours to clear them so boaters might like a hand. But be careful to follow their instructions carefully.
- Inspect** the locks – they are some of the deepest in the country.
- Check** out the viaduct, aqueduct and the quirky footbridges with carved stone faces on them.
- Stop** and look at the fantastic views from the locks.
- Take** binoculars – the surrounding woodlands are great places to spot birds.

### Did you know?...



Our lock gates are handbuilt by skilled carpenters in our workshops in the West Midlands and Yorkshire, from FSC Green Oak. Each one is unique and can take up to a month to make. Once built they last for about 25 years.

### Information



Marple Locks  
Station Road SK6 7DA

-  Parking
-  Toilets
-  Café
-  Pub
-  Picnic area
-  Boat trips (pre-bookable only)
-  Path
-  Allow 2-3 hours for this visit

#### \* Don't forget:

Although the site is always open the facilities and boat trips may not be and some may be chargeable. Please check with local businesses before setting out.

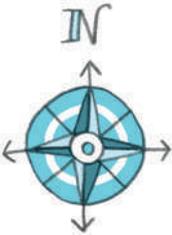
Go to [canalriverexplorers.org.uk](http://canalriverexplorers.org.uk) to discover lots of fun things to do with the family.

A big thank you to all the volunteers who helped produce these.





Little adventures on your doorstep



## Visit Clarence Mill & Adelphi Mill



King Cotton once ruled here! It's a great place to discover the past when Clarence and Adelphi Mills clattered non-stop with the machinery spinning cotton.

**STAY SAFE:**  
Stay Away From  
the Edge

Map not to scale: covers approx 1.4 miles/2.4km

## A little bit of history

The Macclesfield Canal played a vital role in the cotton trade that brought fame and prosperity to this area. Raw cotton and coal to power the machinery was delivered to Clarence and Adelphi Mills built alongside the canal. The return journey was made with the very fine cotton and exported all over the world.



Best of all  
it's FREE!\*

### Five things to do at Clarence Mill and Adelphi Mill



- **Visit** Bollington Discovery Centre to find more about the Macclesfield Canal opened in 1831 and Clarence Mill built alongside it in 1834.
- **Cycle** up the towpath and visit Adelphi Mill built in 1856 and have a go on the trip boat.
- **Check out** Bollington Aqueduct built by Thomas Telford, the famous canal engineer.
- **Pick up** a free Majestic Mills guide at the Discovery Centre and discover where the people who worked in the mills lived.
- **Take** a picnic and admire the impressive five storey Clarence Mill from the opposite bank.

### Information



Clarence Mill  
Clarence Road  
Bollington SK10 5JZ

-  Parking
-  Toilets
-  Café
-  Pub
-  Information Centre
-  Picnic
-  Play area
-  Boat trips
-  Path
-  Allow 2 hours for this visit

#### \* Don't forget:

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### Did you know?...



Coots have a **white spot** on the front of their head and moorhens have a **bright red beak tipped with yellow**, and a white stripe on their side.

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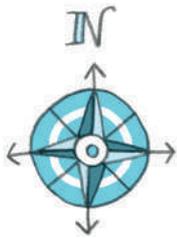


# Canal & River Trust

Making life better by water

## Visit Middlewich

Middlewich, once famous for the production of salt, is located on the junctions of three canals and three rivers. It's great place for waterway walks and wildlife!



Little adventures on your doorstep



**STAY SAFE:**  
Stay Away From the Edge

## A little bit of history

Salt has been produced in Middlewich since Roman times. 200 years ago, when the canals arrived, they brought coal to fuel steam-powered machinery. Middlewich became an important inland 'port' as salt was delivered all over the country via Trent & Mersey Canal, the Shropshire Union Canal and other canals.

Best of all  
it's FREE!\*

### Five things to do at Middlewich

- Hire** a boat and discover more about the Trent & Mersey Canal.
- Walk** down the towpath to the Wardle Canal – just 47m long and the shortest canal in the country. It was built to link the Trent & Mersey Canal to the Middlewich branch of the Shropshire Union Canal.
- Find** the plaque on the bridge
- Follow** the Canal and Salt Trail in Middlewich
- Have a picnic** on the banks of the canal and watch boats.
- Name** all the water birds on the canal you can see in five minutes.

### Information

Civic Way  
Middlewich  
CW11 1HZ

 Parking

 Toilets

 Café

 Pub

 Play area

 Boat hire

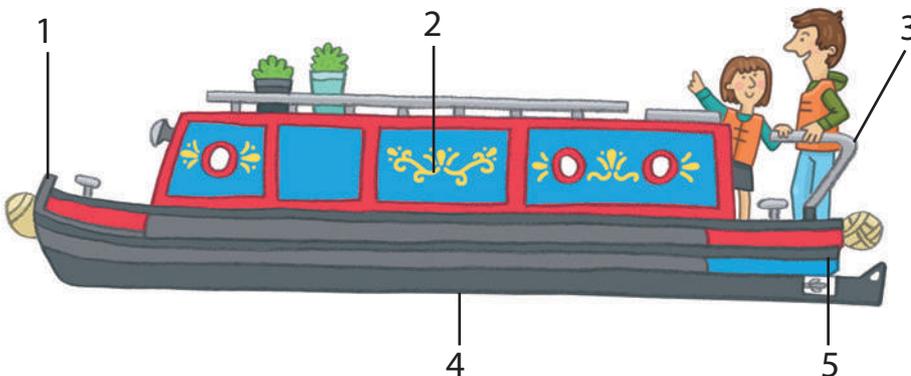
 Path

 Allow 2-3 hours  
for this visit

#### \* Don't forget:

Although the site is always open the facilities and boat trips may not be and some may be chargeable. Please check with local businesses before setting out.

### Can you name the different parts of a narrowboat?



Answers: 1 bow; 2 cabin; 3 tiller; 4 hull; 5 stern

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# Canal & River Trust

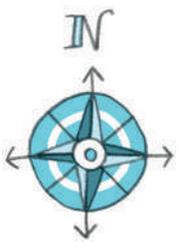
Making life better by water

## Visit Chester

The Shropshire Union Canal runs through the heart of Chester. Shop till you drop then relax by the water's edge!

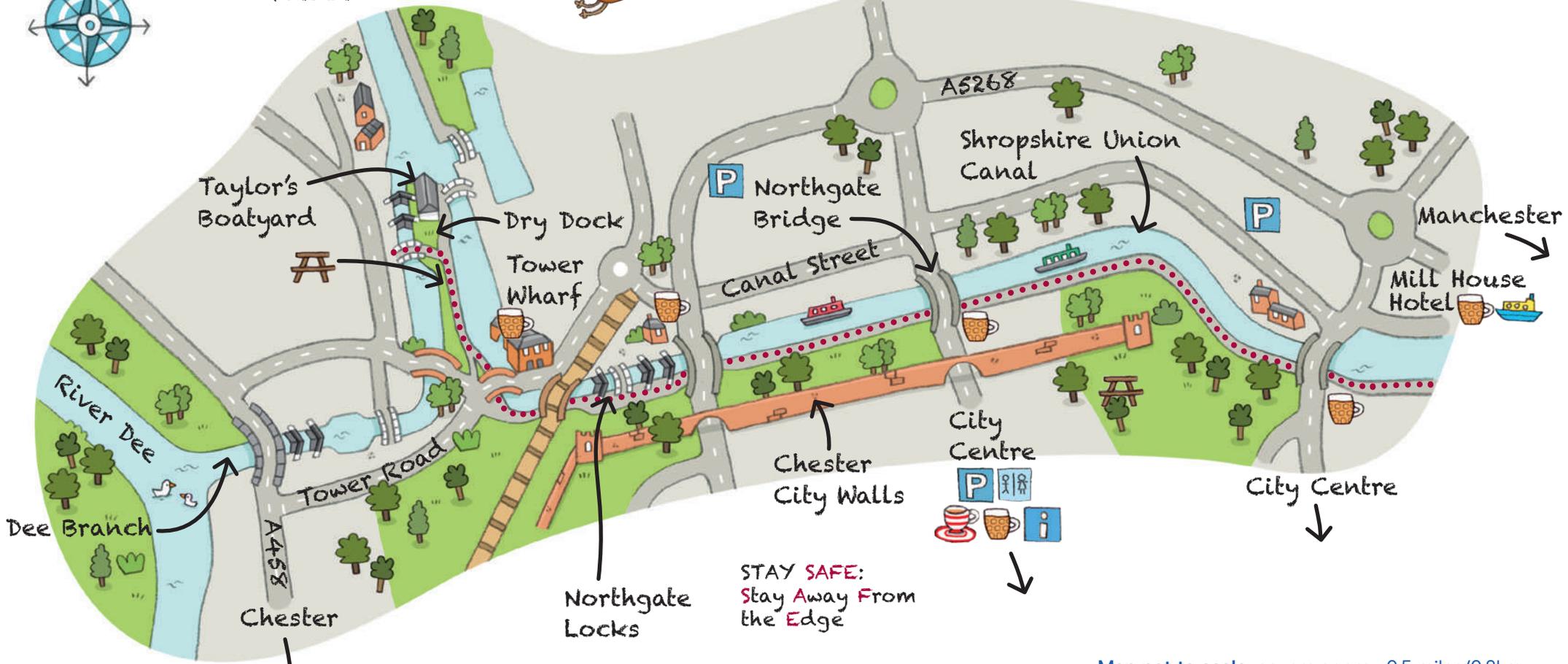


Little adventures on your doorstep



Ellesmere Port & National Waterways Museum

Liverpool



**STAY SAFE:**  
Stay Away From the Edge

Map not to scale: covers approx 0.5 miles/0.8km

## A little bit of history

Minutes from the historic city of Chester, and overlooked by the tourists who flock to the city each year, is the secret world of the Shropshire Union Canal. In this great city, the River Dee joins the canal to complete the once important trade route from Ellesmere Port to the Midlands.

Best of all  
it's FREE!\*

### Five things to do at Chester

- **Have** a bite to eat on board a boat and discover more about the Shropshire Union Canal.
- **Look out for** the Bridge of Sighs (Northgate Bridge). Condemned prisoners once passed from the city gaol across the bridge to the place of execution.
- **Stop by** Northgate Locks – carved out of solid sandstone and the deepest in the country.
- **Go along** to King Charles's Tower. Here, the king is said to have watched his defeated army fleeing after the Battle of Rowton Moor.
- **Walk** to Tower Wharf and see a working boatyard and dry dock, and an old canal warehouse converted to leisure uses.

### Information

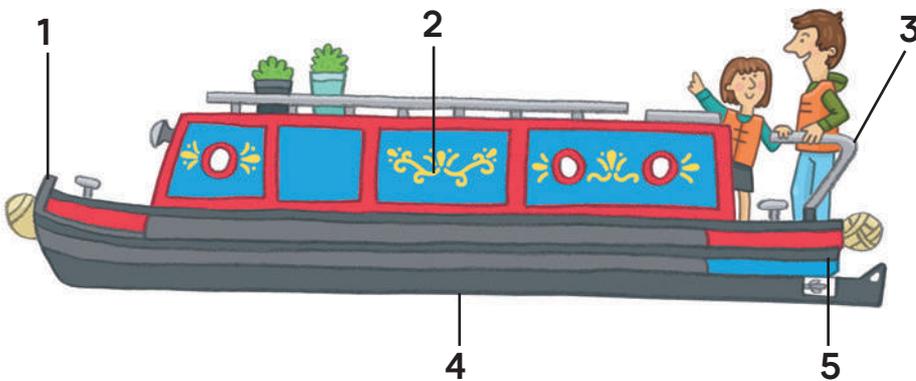
Gorse Stacks  
Chester CH1 3EQ

-  Parking
-  Toilets
-  Café
-  Pub
-  Picnic
-  Information
-  Restaurant boat
-  Path
-  Allow 3-4 hours for this visit

#### \* Don't forget:

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### Can you name the different parts of a narrowboat?



Answers: 1 bow; 2 cabin; 3 tiller; 4 hull; 5 stern

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# Canal & River Trust

Making life better by water



## Discover Hurlleston

The Llangollen Canal runs through stunning scenery at Hurlleston and there are plenty of interesting canal features to see. There's even a great local ice cream shop nearby!



Little adventures on your doorstep

## A little bit of history

Hurleston is on the Llangollen Branch of the Shropshire Union Canal. Here, it splits into two with the main line running north - south and the other line running west, ascending 34 feet via the four Hurleston Locks, and then south. It's one of the busiest canals in the country and the gateway to Wales.

Best of all  
it's FREE!\*

### Five things to do at Hurleston

- Call in** at the Welcome Station and learn more about Hurleston Locks. It's housed in the old canal stables where the horses, which once towed boats were fed, watered and rested overnight.
- Check out** the roving bridge and see how it enabled horses to cross to the other side of the canal without being unhitched.
- Cross** the stile and walk down the field edge to Snugbury's Ice Cream (open winter 9.30am/5pm, summer 9.30am /6pm). It's got to be good with a name like that!
- Look out** for the straw sculpture on the way to Snugbury's (it might be muddy in wet weather so wear wellies).
- Watch** boaters negotiating the narrow locks and count the boats going through the locks.

### Information

Lock 1  
Hurleston Bridge  
CW5 5SF

 Parking

 Toilets

 Pub

 Path

 Allow 1 hour  
for this visit

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### What to Spot

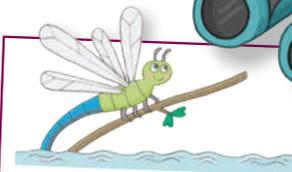
Explore the waterside together.  
How many of these can you spot?

A duck quacking




166

The number of a  
bridge or lock



A fascinating insect

An interesting  
stone or brick




The names of  
two boats




A face  
or animal  
in the clouds




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and search for  
'canal newsletter'.

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# Canal & River Trust

Making life better by water

## Discover Nantwich

Located on the Shropshire Union Canal, the market town of Nantwich was once famous for the production of salt. Today, it's a great place for country walks and wildlife!



## A little bit of history

Basin End in Nantwich is the terminus of the old Chester Canal built in 1772 to connect Chester to Nantwich. The canal crosses the flat Cheshire plains through an area famous for salt production since Roman times. Once busy with canal trade, the Basin is now a popular place for boats and boaters.



Best of all  
it's FREE!\*

### Five things to do at Nantwich

- Walk** down the towpath to the cast iron aqueduct built by the famous canal engineer Thomas Telford. It carries the Shropshire Union Canal over the main road to Chester.
- Spot** the brightly painted narrowboats in Basin End.
- Take** a day hire boat trip and discover more about the Shropshire Union Canal, known to canal lovers as 'The Shroppie'.
- Pack a picnic** and see how many waterbirds you can spot in five minutes.
- Visit** Nantwich Museum and find out more about salt-making.



### Information

First Wood St  
Nantwich CW5 5EG

 Parking  
(pay & display)

 Toilets

 Café

 Pub

 Information

 Picnic

 Day hire boats

 Path

 Allow 2-3 hours  
for this visit

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### Did you know?...



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# Canal & River Trust

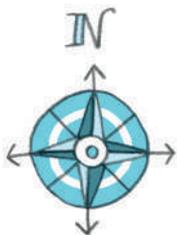
Making life better by water

## Explore Audlem



Discover the pretty village of Audlem on the Shropshire Union Canal. The gentle landscape, plenty of wildlife and the flight of locks ensure a great day out.

Overwater Marina



Nantwich  
↑

Audlem Village

St James's Church



Buerton  
→

Shroppie Fly  
Audlem Mill Craft Centre & Canal shop

The Lord Combermere

Bridge Inn

Whitchurch

Adderley  
↓

Little adventures on your doorstep



**STAY SAFE:**  
Stay Away From the Edge

## A little bit of history

The Shropshire Union Canal was the last big project of Thomas Telford, the great Victorian canal engineer. Opened in 1835, 'the Shroppie' was an industrial highway transporting coal and other bulky materials. Today, the canal is busy again, but with leisure boats enjoying the trip through the pretty Cheshire countryside.

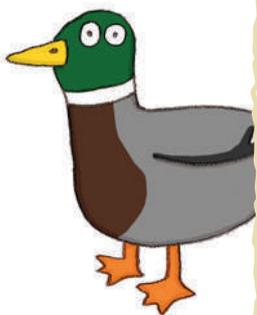
Best of all  
it's FREE!\*

### Five things to do at Audlem

- ❑ **Check out** the pretty village of of Audlem with its 13th century church.
- ❑ **Catch** the water taxi from Audlem to the marina and walk back along the towpath.
- ❑ **Watch** boats pass through the flight of locks and chat to boaters.
- ❑ **Visit** Audlem Mill Craft Centre and Canal Shop, once a corn mill served by the canal.
- ❑ **Look out** for birds such as Canada Geese, swans, coots, moorhens, herons and ducks. You might be lucky and spot a kingfisher!

### Did you know?...

Our lock gates are handbuilt by skilled carpenters in our workshops in the West Midlands and Yorkshire, from FSC Green Oak. Each one is unique and can take up to a month to make. Once built they last for about 25 years.



### Information

Cheshire Street  
Audlem CW3 0AH



Parking



Toilets



Café



Pub



Information



Picnic



Water taxi



Path



Allow 2-3 hours  
for this visit

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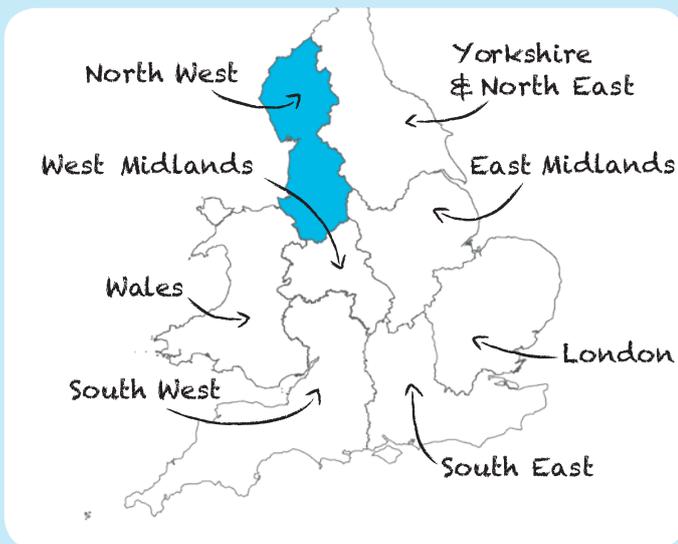
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# Canal & River Trust

Making life better by water

**For more inspiring places to visit look out for our other guides.**



A place to walk, somewhere to feed the ducks or a place to simply be. **Life by water is relaxing, friendly and healthy, it makes a difference to how we feel.**

At Canal & River Trust we believe life is better by water. We care for these waterways so they exist for you to enjoy, for free, every day.

Discover, explore, enjoy.



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