



**Canal &
River Trust**

Making life better by water

South West

Gloucestershire | Wiltshire |
Worcestershire | Somerset

Discover little adventures on your doorstep

Take a picnic and watch the boats
crossing Avoncliff Aqueduct



Watch out for wildlife such as
swans, coots, moorhens and ducks



Take a boat trip. It's a great way to
explore the Kennet & Avon canal



Spot the old crane at Bridgwater Docks



Sit beside a side pond at Caen Hill
Locks flight and see how many water
birds you can spot



Check out the brightly coloured boats
and chat to a boater



Check out the Diglis River Lock, the
largest and deepest river lock on the
English inland waterways



Discover more about Gloucester Docks
in the Waterways Museum



Cycle long the towpath to Bridgwater
Docks, then reward yourselves with a
rest in a canal side pub



Watch the boats passing through
the locks



Looks
fun

Wow nice plan!

WOAH!
Can I
come?

Me
too!

Stourport Basins, Diglis, Gloucester Docks, Saul
Junction, Bath, Bathampton, Dundas Aqueduct,
Avoncliff Aqueduct, Bradford-On-Avon Wharf, Seend
Locks, Caen Hill Locks, Devizes Wharf, Pewsey, Crofton,
Bridgwater Docks, Huntworth, Maunsel Lock

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 London – 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?



Key

1. Stourport Basins
2. Diglis
3. Gloucester Docks
4. Saul Junction
5. Bath
6. Bathampton
7. Dundas Aqueduct
8. Avoncliff Aqueduct
9. Bradford-On-Avon Wharf
10. Seend Locks
11. Caen Hill Locks
12. Devizes Wharf
13. Pewsey
14. Crofton
15. Bridgwater Docks
16. Huntworth
17. Maunsel Lock

*AINA Waterways



So many to choose from



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



* 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

Explore **Stourport on Severn** **Canal and River Basins**

Stourport was built as an inland port over 250 years ago. It's the only town in Britain to be made as a result of a canal.

Wolverhampton
& Kidderminster

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

Stourport on Severn is where sea, river and canal traffic meet. Exotic goods were brought up river from the great seaports of Bristol and Gloucester. Here, they were exchanged with manufactured goods brought from Birmingham and the Black Country via the Staffordshire & Worcestershire Canal.



Best of all
it's FREE!*

Five things to do at Stourport on Severn Canal and River Basins

- ❑ **Explore** the town. It was built in the mid 1700s so there are lots of lovely buildings to see.
- ❑ **Discover** the Staffordshire & Worcestershire Canal and the original Basins once lined with warehouses and inns.
- ❑ **Check out** the wide locks built to take huge, flat-bottomed wooden sailing ships called Severn trows.
- ❑ **Picnic** beside the River Severn, Britain's longest river. Each year, salmon and eels swim up the river to spawn.
- ❑ **Take** a boat trip and discover more about Stourport and the River Severn.



Information

For Riverside parking:
DY13 8UJ



Parking



Toilets



Café



Pub



Picnic area



Boat trips



Path

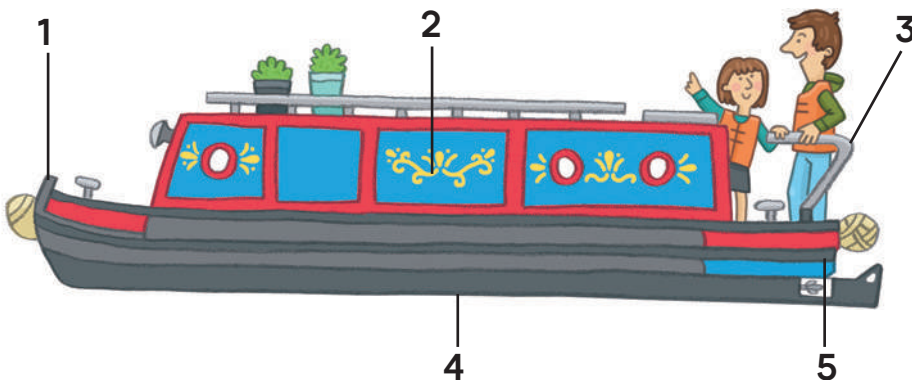


Allow a half to
full day for this
visit

* 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

Go to canalriverexplorers.org.uk
to discover lots of fun things to
do with the family.





Canal & River Trust

Making life better by water



Discover Diglis Basin

Diglis Basin is where the Worcester & Birmingham Canal meets the awesome River Sever. It's a great starting point for exploring the canal.



STAY SAFE:
Stay Away From
the Edge



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

A little bit of history

The Worcester & Birmingham Canal starts at Diglis Basin and ends at Gas Street Basin, Birmingham. A major user of the canal was Cadburys who imported cocoa beans via the Sharpness Docks and River Severn. Today, the Basin is part of 3 popular cruising rings, so there are always boats to spot.



Best of all
it's FREE!*

Five things to do at Diglis Basin

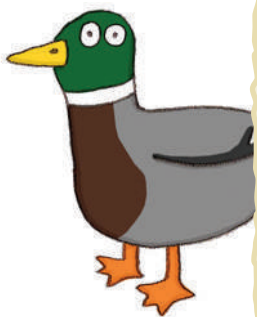
- ☐ **Check out** the Diglis River Lock, gateway to the Severn, and the largest and deepest river lock on the English inland waterways.
- ☐ **Stand** on the banks of the River Severn, view one of England's greatest rivers. Look out for the swan sanctuary too.
- ☐ **Explore** the circular walk starting from Worcester Bridge.
- ☐ **Take** a break on the Floating Café.
- ☐ **Visit** Worcester Cathedral built on the banks of the River Severn. King John, who died in 1216, is buried there.

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

Diglis Basin
Diglis Road
Worcester WR5 3BW

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

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Canal & River Trust

Making life better by water

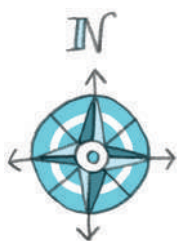
Visit Gloucester Docks

Once a busy industrial site, Gloucester Docks has been regenerated and is now Britain's best Victorian inland port. A great family day out!



Worcester

Little adventures on your doorstep



STAY SAFE:
Stay Away From the Edge

A little bit of history

Cargo was delivered to Gloucester Docks from all over the world and then to the Midlands via the River Severn, a notoriously tricky river. The Gloucester & Sharpness Canal opened in 1827, made this journey much safer. Huge crowds cheered when the first ships entered the basin.



Best of all
it's FREE!*








Five things to do at Gloucester Docks

- ☐ **Stop** by the Mariners' Chapel where sailors, boaters and dockers worshipped.
- ☐ **Discover** more about the docks in the Waterways Museum housed in the Llanthony Warehouse.
- ☐ **Take** a boat trip and discover more about the docks and the Gloucester & Sharpness Canal.
- ☐ **Look for** the Custom House. Here, cargo was checked and duties were collected. Today, it houses the Soldiers of Gloucester Museum.
- ☐ **Take a break** in a dockside cafe and spot different types of boats.



Information

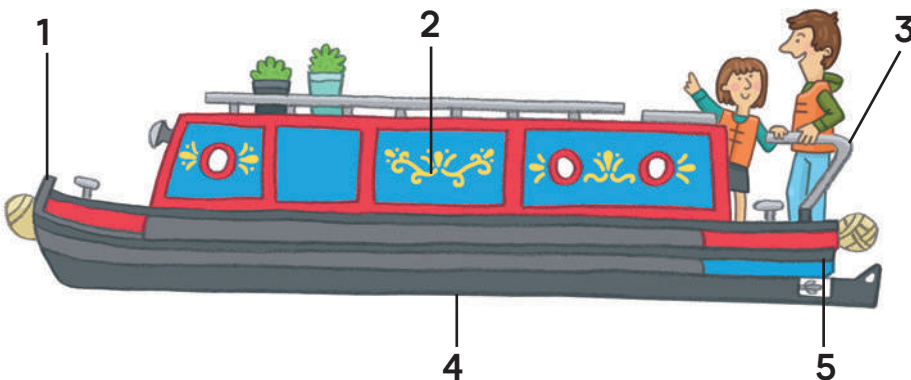
Gloucester Docks
GL1 2EH

-  Parking (pay & display)
-  Toilets
-  Café
-  Pub
-  Boat trips
-  Path
-  Allow half a day 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 Saul Junction

Saul Junction is where the Gloucester & Sharpness Canal meets the rural Stroudwater Canal. Once an important connection, it's now a great place for wildlife.



Map not to scale: covers approx 1/2 miles/0.8km

A little bit of history

The Gloucester & Sharpness Canal was built for ocean-going ships bringing cargo up from Gloucester Docks. The Stroudwater Canal bought coal from the Midlands to the cloth mills in the Stroud Valley. So, Saul Junction was a great meeting place for ships and crew, boats and boaters and cargo from around the world.

Best of all
it's FREE!*

Five things to do at Saul Junction

- ☐ **Check out** the Cotswold Canal Trust Visitor Centre and discover more about the restoration of the Stroudwater Canal.
- ☐ **Bike** down to the 'boat graveyard' at Purton. Old boats were beached here to help protect the canal banks from erosion by the River Severn.
- ☐ **Go** on a boat trip and discover more about the canals.
- ☐ **Take** a break in the Stables Café that once provided stabling for the horses towing the boats.
- ☐ **Cycle** down to the Wetlands and Wildfowl Trust at Slimbridge.

Information

Saul Junction
Church Lane, Saul
Gloucs. GL2 7LA

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

What to Spot

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

A duck quacking


☐

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

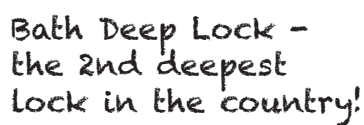

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A big thank you to all the volunteers who helped produce these.



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

A little bit of history

Minutes from the magnificence of Bath and overlooked by most of the millions of tourists that flock to the city each year, is the hidden world of the Kennet & Avon Canal. Here in this great city, the canal joins the River Avon to complete the once important trade route from Bristol to London.



Best of all
it's FREE!*

Five things to do at Bath Locks

- ☐ **Take a boat trip.** It's a great way to explore this beautiful canal and admire the fabulous views of the city.
- ☐ **Look out for** Cleveland House and the square hole in the roof of the tunnel. Nobody knows what it was used for!
- ☐ **Have a picnic** in Sydney Gardens. There's a great museum and good play area there too.
- ☐ **Discover** the crossover bridge. It was built so that when the towpath changed sides, the horses towing boats didn't have to be unhitched.
- ☐ **Download** audio trails which explore the canal between Halfpenny Bridge and Darlington Wharf. There's also a two mile circular trail that links with key features in the city centre.



Information

Sydney Road
Bath
BA2 6NT



Street parking only



Toilets



Café



Picnic area



Play area



Path



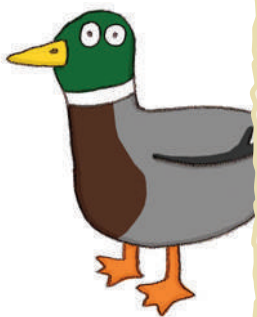
Allow 3-4 hours
for this visit

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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.



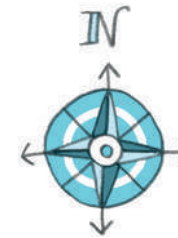
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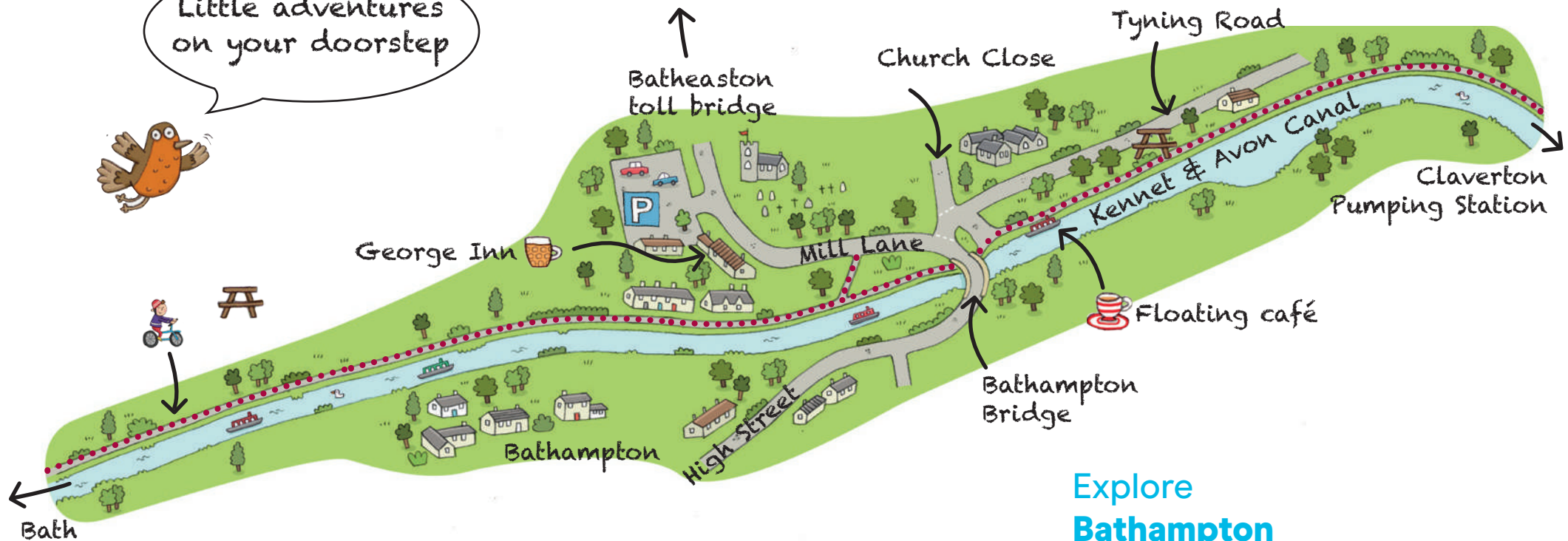


Canal & River Trust

Making life better by water



Little adventures
on your doorstep



STAY SAFE
Stay Away From
the Edge



Explore Bathampton

Bathampton is a pretty village on the beautiful Kennet & Avon Canal. What better starting place for a great family day out exploring a canal!

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

A little bit of history

Bathampton was once a busy wharf where Bath stone quarried nearby was loaded on to canal barges. From here, it was delivered to building projects in Bath and Bristol, and as far east as London. Today, Bathampton is the perfect starting point to discover the canal and Bath stone buildings.



Best of all
it's FREE!*

Five things to do at Bathampton

- ☐ **Walk down** the towpath into Bath and look out for the elegant buildings built of golden Bath stone.
- ☐ **Cycle up** the towpath to Claverton Pumping Station, built by John Rennie to supply water to the canal.
- ☐ **Discover** the pretty village of Bathampton, much of it built in Bath stone.
- ☐ **Picnic** on the banks of the canal and watch boats pass through the peaceful countryside.
- ☐ **Watch out for** wildlife such as swans, coots, moorhens and ducks.



Information

Mill Lane
Bathampton BA2 6TR



Parking



Toilets



Café



Pub



Picnic



Path

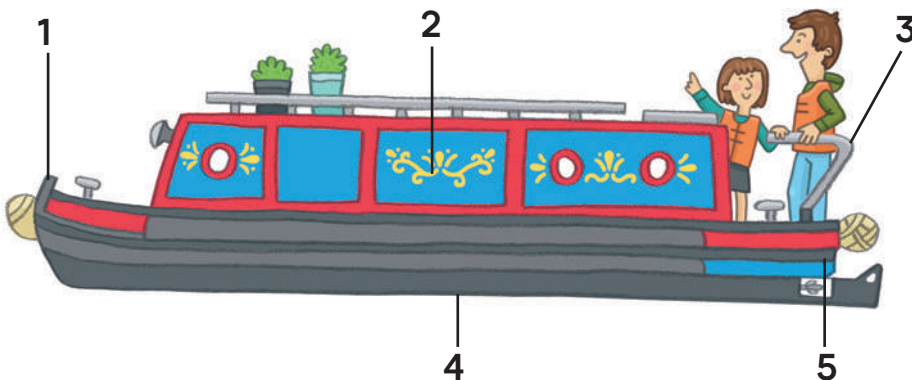


Allow 1-2 hours
for this visit

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Can you name the different parts of a narrowboat?



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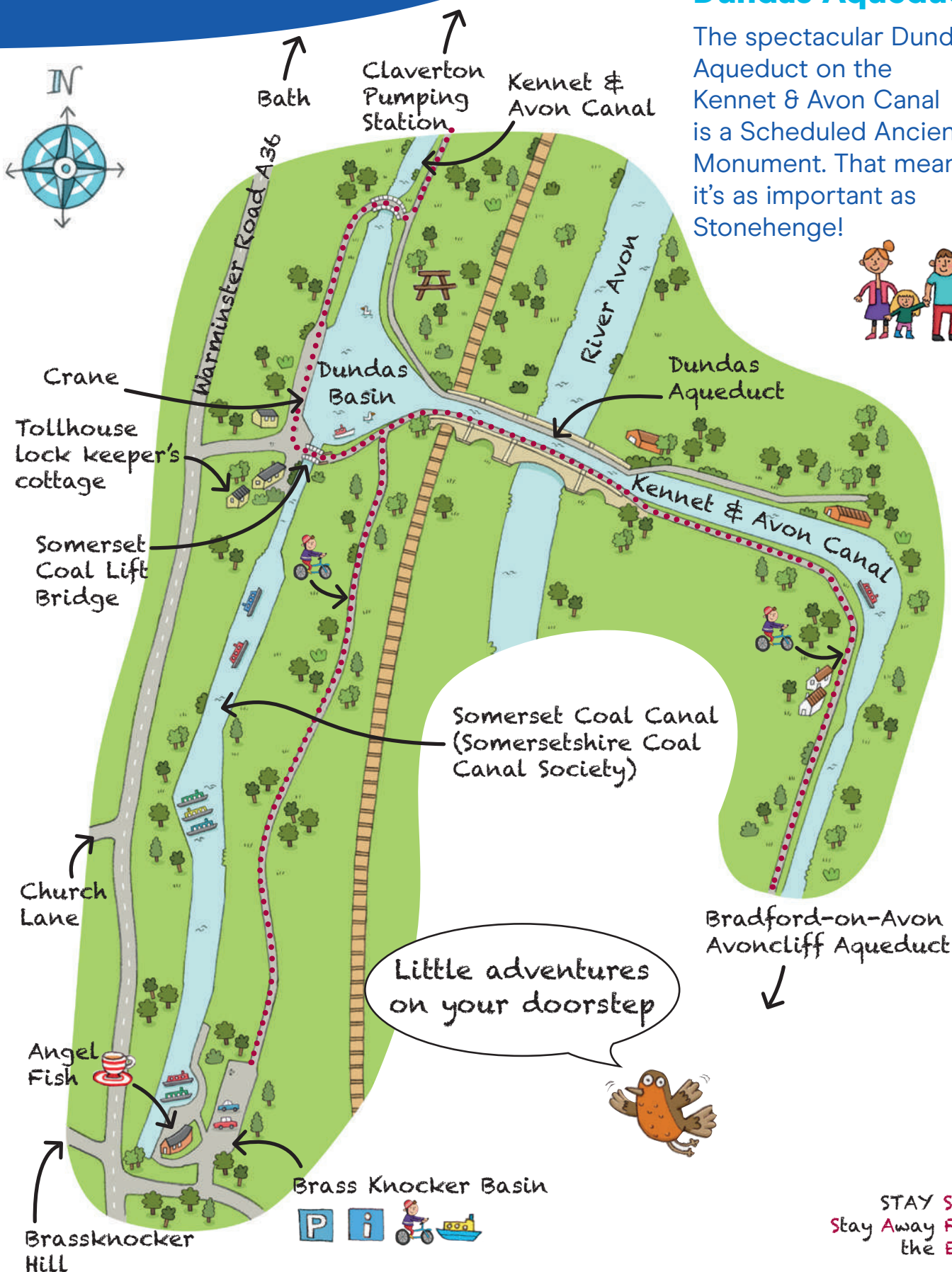


Canal & River Trust

Making life better by water

Discover Dundas Aqueduct

The spectacular Dundas Aqueduct on the Kennet & Avon Canal is a Scheduled Ancient Monument. That means it's as important as Stonehenge!



STAY SAFE:
Stay Away From
the Edge

A little bit of history

John Rennie designed the Dundas Aqueduct and it's regarded as his finest architectural achievement. He built it to carry the Kennet & Avon Canal across the wide Avon valley without the need for locks. Opened in 1805, it's named after Charles Dundas, first chair of the Kennet & Avon Canal Company.




Best of all
it's FREE!*

Five things to do at Dundas Aqueduct


- ☐ **Walk** down into the valley and view the aqueduct from below. It's built of Bath stone that was transported by the canal from local quarries.
- ☐ **Look out for** old canal features such as the crane for loading and unloading goods, and the lift bridge at the entrance to the Somerset Coal Canal.
- ☐ **Hire** a bike and visit Avoncliff Aqueduct also built by John Rennie and opened in 1801.
- ☐ **Have** a picnic and watch the boats crossing the aqueduct.
- ☐ **Explore** Somersetshire Coal Canal built to transport coal from local coalfields to Bath and much of Bristol.

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



Brassknocker Hill
Monkton Combe
Bath BA2 7JD

-  Parking
-  Toilets
-  Restaurant
-  Information
-  Picnic
-  Cycling/hire
-  Boat/canoe hire
-  Path
-  Allow 2 hours for this visit

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Canal & River Trust

Making life better by water

Explore Avoncliff Aqueduct

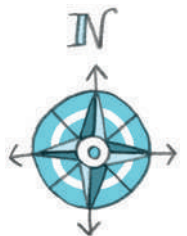
The Avoncliff Aqueduct on the Kennet & Avon Canal is one of two magnificent aqueducts within walking distance of each other. Why not visit them both!



Little adventures
on your doorstep



STAY SAFE:
Stay Away From
the Edge



A little bit of history

John Rennie designed the Avoncliff Aqueduct to carry the Kennet & Avon Canal across the wide Avon Valley without the need for locks. Opened in 1801, it was his first across the canal (the second being the Dundas Aqueduct nearby). Almost immediately, the central arch sagged!

Best of all
it's FREE!*


Five things to do at Avoncliff Aqueduct

- ☐ **Walk** to the tiny hamlet of Avoncliff and view the aqueduct from there. It's built of Bath stone that was transported from local quarries by the canal.
- ☐ **Take** a picnic and watch the boats crossing the aqueduct.
- ☐ **Cycle** up the towpath and visit the even more magnificent Dundas Aqueduct, opened in 1805.
- ☐ **Spot** the modern mason's marks on the aqueduct made when it was repaired.
- ☐ **If** you're really quiet kingfishers can often be seen in this area. Be quick or you'll miss them!

Information

Avoncliff Aqueduct
Avoncliff BA15 2HB

 Parking


 Toilets

 Café

 Pub

 Picnic

... Path

 Allow 1-2 hours
for this visit

What to Spot

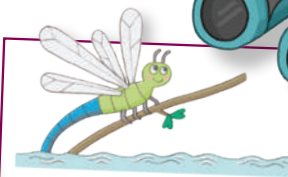
Explore the waterside together.
How many of these can you spot?

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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Canal & River Trust

Making life better by water

Visit Bradford-on-Avon Wharf

Bradford-on-Avon Wharf was once the busiest wharf on the Kennet & Avon Canal. Today, it's a great place to spot historic canal features.



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

STAY SAFE:
Stay Away From
the Edge

A little bit of history

The Wharf was split over two sites. Coal was delivered from the Somerset coalfields to the lower wharf. Other bulky goods – including local cheeses – were unloaded on the upper wharf, beside the lock. Today, it's still the busiest lock on the canal, but with pleasure boats rather than working boats.



Best of all
it's FREE!*

Five things to do at Bradford-on-Avon Wharf

- ☐ **Watch** boats passing through Bradford-on-Avon Lock, one of the deepest on the canal.
- ☐ **Bike** to Avoncliff Aqueduct designed by John Rennie, the famous canal engineer (1.4 miles/2.3km).
- ☐ **Spot** old canal features such as the lock keeper's house, now the café.
- ☐ **Check out** the gauging dock where the toll keeper calculated the amount of toll to be paid to use the canal.
- ☐ **Walk** up the towpath to the medieval Tithe barn owned by Shaftesbury Abbey. (A tithe was one tenth of produce given to the Church.)

Information

Canalside car park
Baileys Barn
(off Moulton Drive)
Bradford-on-Avon
BA15 1BX



Parking
(pay & display)



Toilets



Café



Pub



Picnic



Play area



Cycling



Boat trips



Path

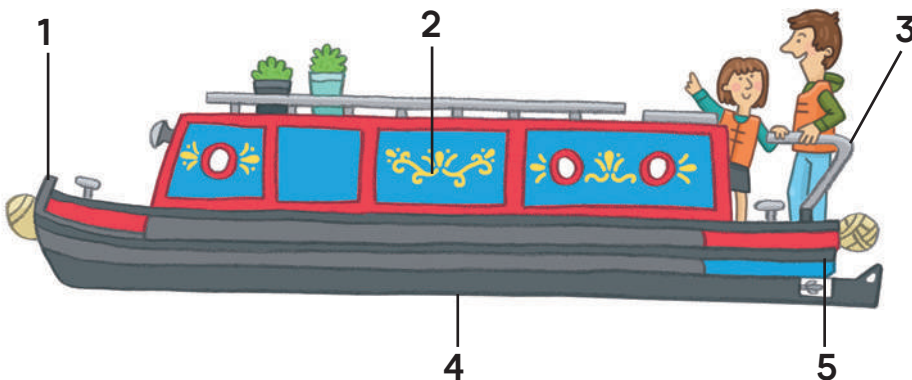


Allow 2-3 hours
for this visit

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Can you name the different parts of a narrowboat?



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Canal & River Trust

Making life better by water

Discover Seend Locks

Seend Locks on the Kennet & Avon Canal were once crammed with canal barges laden with iron ore from local quarries. Today, it's a great place to start exploring the beautiful Kennet & Avon Canal.



STAY SAFE:
Stay Away From
the Edge

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

A little bit of history

It's possible that iron ore has been extracted and smelted at Seend since the Iron Age – but only on a small scale. In Victorian times, it was quarried on a commercial scale and sent to Wales to be smelted via the Kennet & Avon Canal. Iron ore continued to be quarried here on and off until 1946.



Best of all
it's FREE!*

Five things to do at Seend Locks

- ☐ **Check out** Seend Park swingbridge and notice that the chains and ironwork are marked 'K.A.C. 1800'.
- ☐ **Pack a picnic** and go for a lovely woodland walk near the swingbridge.
- ☐ **Cycle** a mile along the towpath to Semington Bottom Lock, the junction with Wilts & Berks Canal. Long abandoned, this canal is now being restored.
- ☐ **The Kennet & Avon** is important for wildlife conservation. Look out for kingfishers, mute swans, coots, moorhens and herons.
- ☐ **Walk** along the towpath and watch boats passing through the locks and making their way sleepily along the canal.



Information

Seend Cleeve
SN12 6QB



Parking



Pub



Cycling



Path



Allow 1 hour
for this visit

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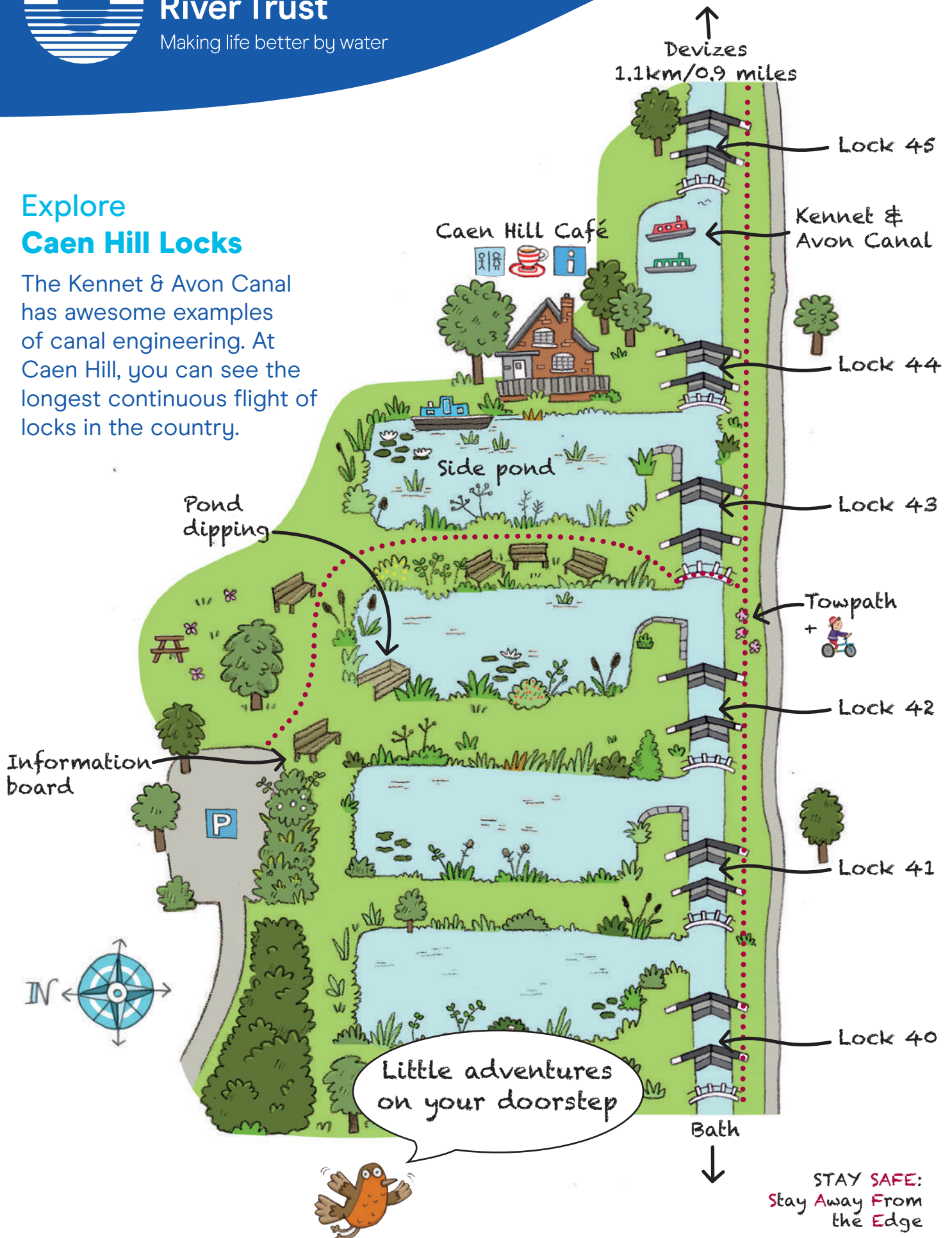


Canal & River Trust

Making life better by water

Explore Caen Hill Locks

The Kennet & Avon Canal has awesome examples of canal engineering. At Caen Hill, you can see the longest continuous flight of locks in the country.



A little bit of history

Caen Hill Locks were built over 200 years ago. John Rennie, a famous canal engineer, wanted to take the canal the shortest route – uphill! There are 16 locks each with a massive side pond to prevent the canal running out of water.

Best of all
it's FREE!*

Five things to do at Caen Hill Locks

- ☐ **Help** boaters to work the locks. It can take four hours to complete the flight, so they need all the help they can get! Always ask first and follow instructions carefully.
- ☐ **Take** a break in the café – it's an old lock keeper's cottage. In the 1890s, Mr Crouch, Lock keeper, lived there.
- ☐ **Sit** beside a side pond and see how many water birds you can spot and name in five minutes.
- ☐ **Each side pond** stores water the equivalent of two Olympic-sized swimming pools. They are great places to go pond dipping.
- ☐ **The side ponds** are teeming with wildlife. In summer, look out for dragonflies and the much smaller damselflies.

Information

The Locks,
Devizes SN10 1QR

-  Parking
-  Toilets
-  Café
-  Picnic table
-  Cycling
-  Path
-  Allow 1-2 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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Canal & River Trust

Making life better by water

Discover Devizes Wharf

The Kennet & Avon Canal is a real favourite with many people. A few minutes from the centre of Devizes lies Devizes Wharf, a great place to start exploring the canal.



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

STAY SAFE:
Stay Away From
the Edge

A little bit of history

Devizes stands on the banks of the Kennet & Avon Canal. In the past, this wharf was busy with workers loading and unloading goods such as coal, timber and bricks. On market days, passengers arriving by boat got off here too. Today, it's just the place to sit outside the café and enjoy the view.



Best of all
it's FREE!*

Five things to do at Devizes Wharf

- ☐ **Check out** the brightly coloured boats and chat to a boater.
- ☐ **Visit** the museum, once a bonded warehouse where goods were stored before duty was paid on them.
- ☐ **Look for** the grooves worn by wet towropes on Cemetery Road Bridge.
- ☐ **Walk** down the towpath and discover the pill box, part of defences built along the Kennet & Avon Canal during the Second World War.
- ☐ **Spot** the arch on the far side of Town Bridge which allowed horses towing the boats, to pass through.



Information

Devizes Wharf
Couch Lane
Wiltshire SN10 1EB



Parking



Toilets (in café)



Café



Shop/
Information
Centre



Cycling



Boat trips



Path

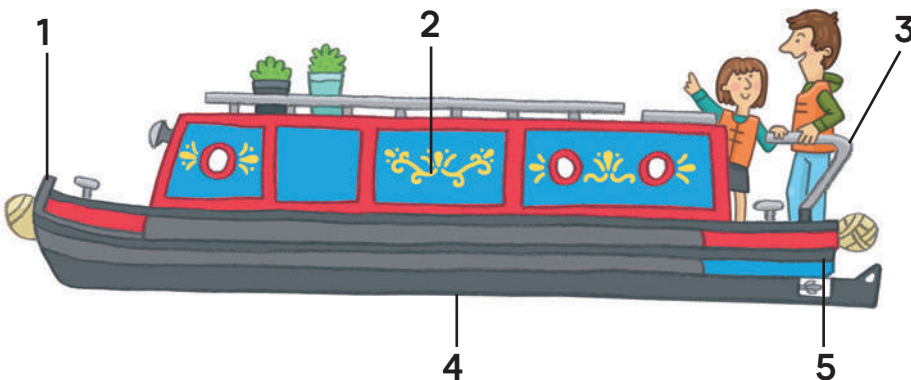


Allow 1-2 hours
for this visit

* 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

Go to canalriverexplorers.org.uk to discover lots of fun things to do with the family.





Canal & River Trust

Making life better by water

Discover Pewsey Wharf

Once a busy industrial canal wharf, Pewsey Wharf is now a picture of tranquility. And a great place to start exploring the beautiful Kennet & Avon Canal!



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

STAY SAFE:
Stay Away From
the Edge


A little bit of history

Pewsey Wharf wasn't always peaceful. It was once the centre of trade for the local community. Here, grain and flour, coal ashes for roads, coal, timber and gravel were unloaded on to the wharf. Today it provides a great day out in the country for families.



Best of all
it's FREE!*

Five things to do at Pewsey Wharf



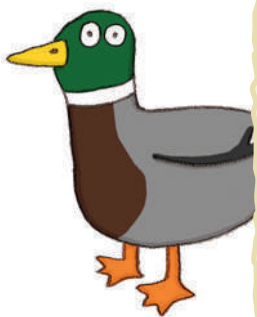
- ☐ **The Kennet & Avon Canal** formed a line of defence against invasion during the Second World War. Look out for pillboxes built as mini forts.
- ☐ **Keep** an eye open for kingfishers!
- ☐ **Go along** the towpath and look out for the winding hole, one of the few places where boats can turn round.
- ☐ **Relax** with a picnic and watch boats making their way sleepily along the canal.
- ☐ **Walk** to Ladies Bridge and the Wide Water, near Wilcot. It's said that Mrs Wroughton and her two daughters, who owned the land, would only sell part of it to the canal company on condition this bridge was built and the canal made to look like an ornamental lake.

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



Pewsey Wharf
Marlborough Road
Pewsey SN9 5NT



Parking



Toilets



Bistro



Pub



Path



Allow one hour
for this visit

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





Canal & River Trust

Making life better by water

Explore Crofton

The Kennet & Avon Canal has brilliant examples of early canal engineering. The magnificent Crofton Pumping Station is one of the best!



Little adventures on your doorstep



STAY SAFE:
Stay Away From the Edge

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

A little bit of history

All canals need a water supply. The challenge at Crofton was to get water to the western end of the Kennet & Avon Canal, as it reached the summit. John Rennie, the famous canal engineer, built a pumping station with two steam pumps to lift water 40 feet (12 m) to the summit of the canal. Opened in 1809. It's still going strong today!

Best of all
it's FREE!*

Five things to do at Crofton

- ☐ **A visit** to the pumping station is always a great day out but it's especially good when the engines are 'in steam'. Check steam days croftonbeamengines.org.
- ☐ **Visit Wilton Water**, a reservoir fed by natural springs – that Rennie created to supply water to the pumping station.
- ☐ **Watch** boats passing through the locks.
- ☐ **Have a picnic** overlooking the canal.
- ☐ **Cycle** along the towpath to Bruce Tunnel (1.3 miles/2 km) named after the Earl of Ailsbury, the local landowner who insisted on a tunnel instead of a deep cut.

Information

Off Crofton Road
Crofton SN8 3DW

-  Parking (pay & display)
-  Toilets
-  Café
-  Information
-  Cycling
-  Path
-  Allow 3-4 hours for this visit

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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Sign up for our newsletter and get regular updates and offers from the Canal & River Trust. Simply go online and search for 'canal newsletter'.



Canal & River Trust

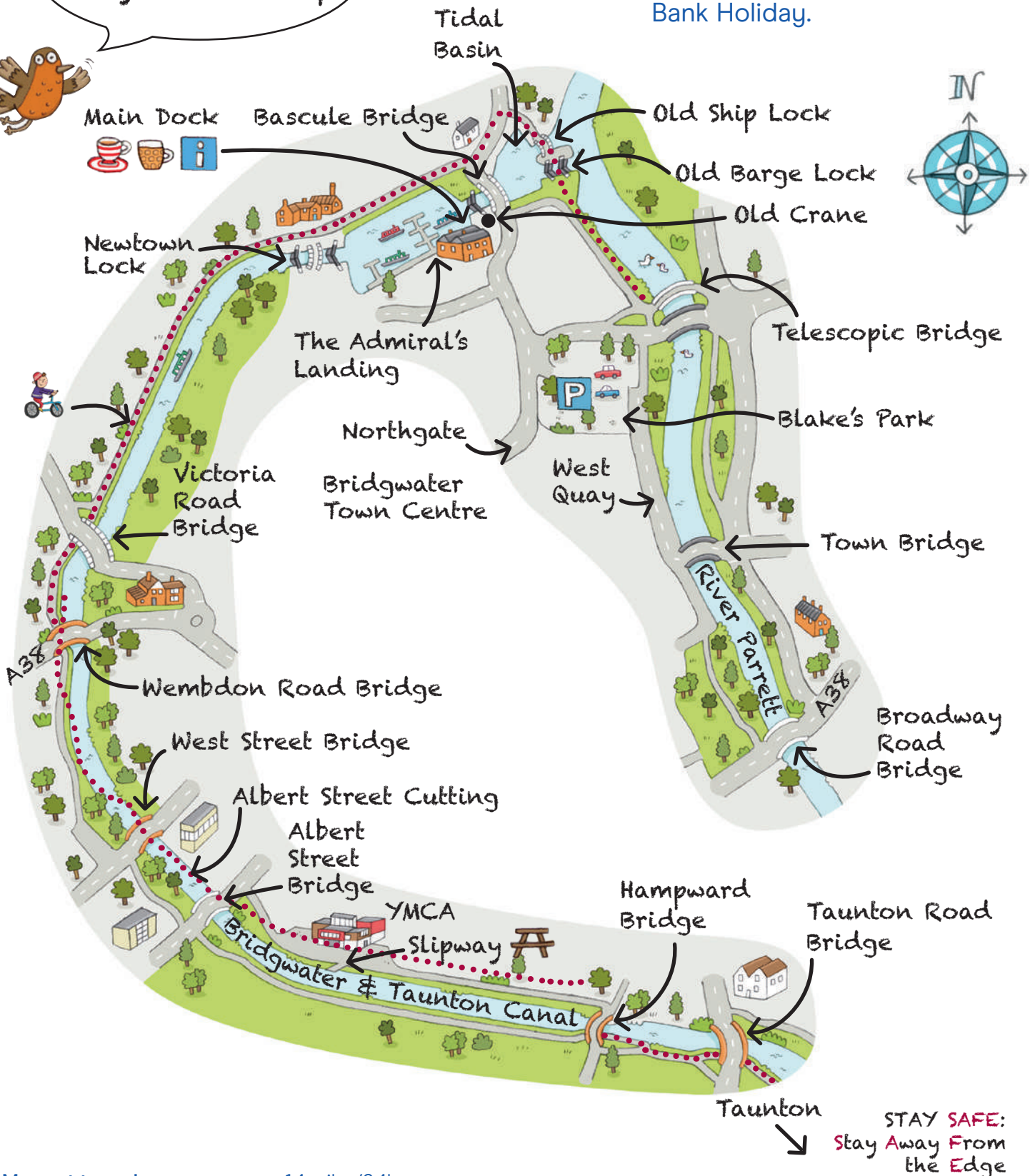
Making life better by water

Discover Bridgwater Docks

When the Bridgwater Docks were built, thousands of people lined the docksides and the day was declared a Bank Holiday.



Little adventures on your doorstep



A little bit of history

Bridgwater was once Britain's fifth most important port. The docks were built so that ships could load or unload at any stage of the tide, so that cargo could be transferred onto barges on the Bridgwater & Taunton Canal. Today, it's a peaceful place where people enjoy activities such as walking and cycling.

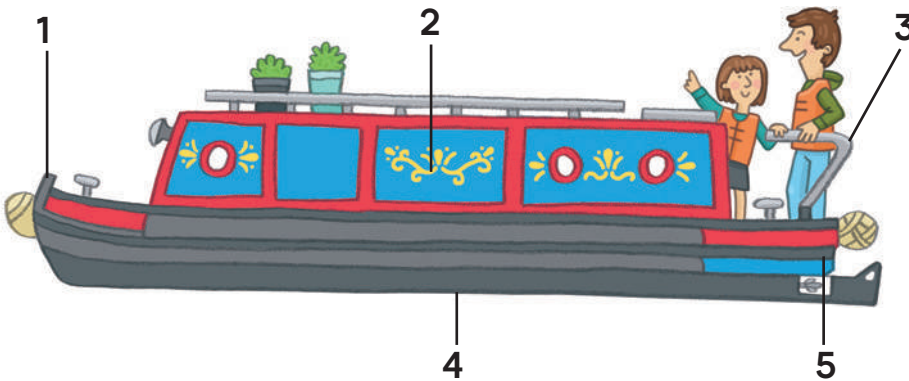


Best of all
it's FREE!*

Five things to do at Bridgwater Docks

- ☐ **Check out** quirky bridges such as the Bascule Bridge and the Telescopic Bridge (designed by Isambard Kingdom Brunel) for ocean-going ships entering the docks.
- ☐ **Explore** Newtown Lock connecting the docks to the Bridgwater & Taunton Canal, and the Old Lock linking to the River Parrett.
- ☐ **Spot** the old crane at the dockside.
- ☐ **Look for** Admiral's Court where valuable goods were stored before duty was paid on them.
- ☐ **Walk round** to Albert Street Cutting and look for the poem inscribed into the wooden beams.

Can you name the different parts of a narrowboat?



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

Information

Admirals Court
The Marina
Bridgwater TA6 3EX



Parking



Toilets



Café



Pub



Information
Centre



Picnic



Cycling



Path



Allow 1-2 hours
for this visit

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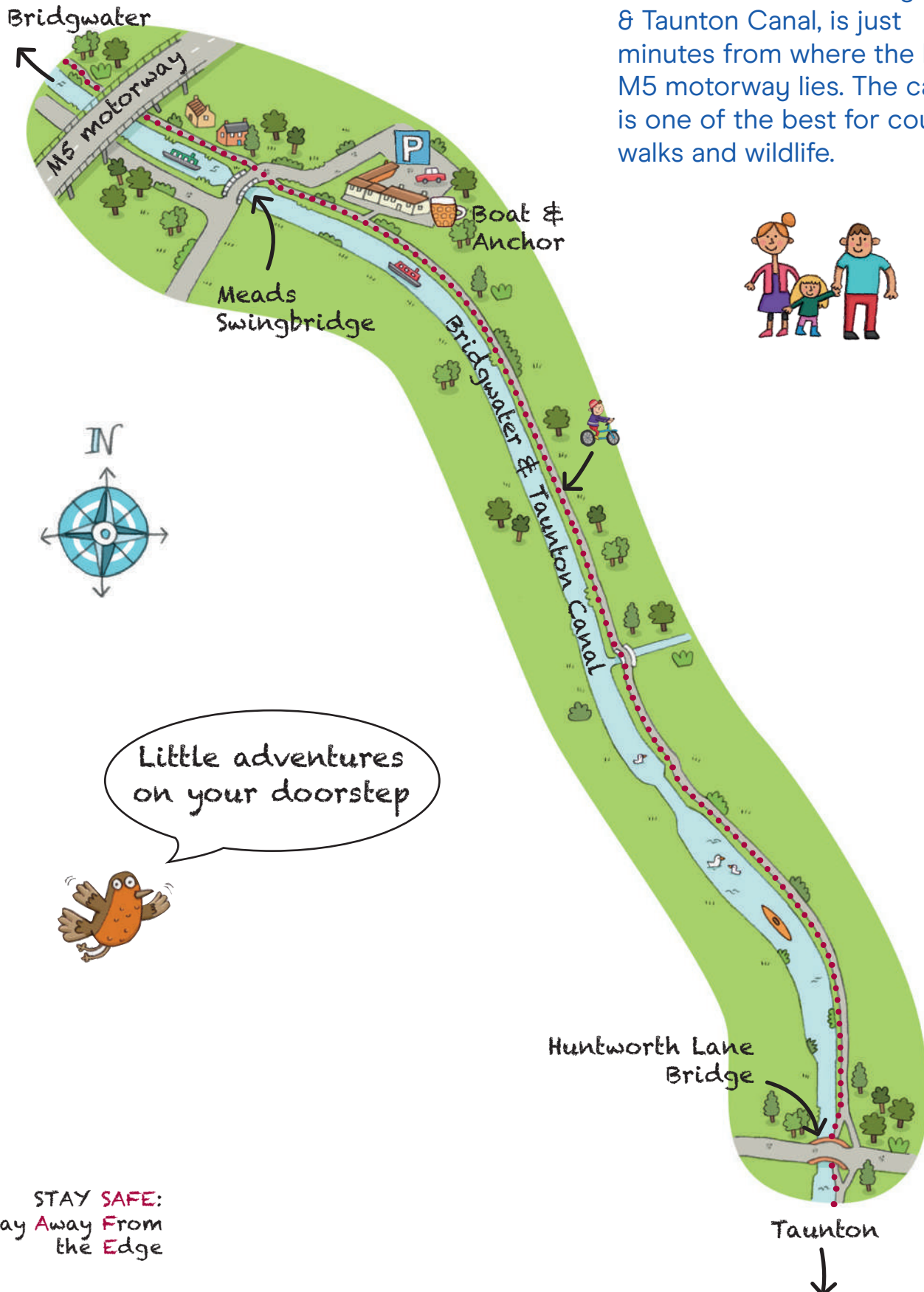


Canal & River Trust

Making life better by water

Explore Huntworth

Huntworth, on the Bridgwater & Taunton Canal, is just minutes from where the busy M5 motorway lies. The canal is one of the best for country walks and wildlife.



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

A little bit of history

When the Bridgwater & Taunton Canal was opened in 1827, it joined the River Parrett at Huntworth. It was later extended to Bridgwater Docks. Today, Huntworth is a great place for country walks and bird spotting as the canal cuts through the beautiful Somerset Levels.



Best of all
it's FREE!*

Five things to do at Huntworth

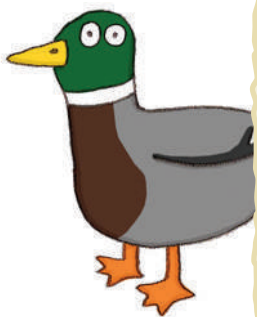
- ☐ **Take** binoculars and look out for uncommon birds such as bittern, kingfishers and osprey. Watch out for other wildlife such as otters, water voles and insects such as damselflies and dragonflies.
- ☐ **Cycle** long the towpath to Bridgwater Docks, then reward yourselves with a rest in a canal side pub.
- ☐ **Pack** wellies and splash in puddles along the towpath.
- ☐ **Have** a picnic overlooking the canal and feed the ducks.
- ☐ **Watch** boats passing the swingbridge and chat to boaters.

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




Meads Crossing
Huntworth
TA7 0AQ


 Parking

 Toilets

 Pub

 Cycling

 Path

 Allow 1-2 hours
for this visit

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Canal & River Trust

Making life better by water

Discover Maunsel Lock

Maunsel Lock was once busy with boats plying their trade to and from Bridgwater Docks. Today, it's a great place to start exploring the Bridgwater & Taunton Canal.

Little adventures
on your doorstep



Maunsel Lock
Canal Centre



Maunsel
Lock

Lock keeper's
cottage



St Michael's
Church

Bridgwater &
Taunton Canal

Solar system
art trail
'The Sun'
installation

Higher Maunsel Lock

Taunton

Bridgwater



Hedging Lane

Bankland Lane

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

STAY SAFE:
Stay Away From
the Edge

A little bit of history

Maunsel Lock, on the Bridgwater & Taunton Canal, is a picture of peace. During the Second World War however, it formed a line of defence known as the Wessex Stop (or Taunton) Line and all the swing bridges were removed. Many have now been reinstated as part of a programme of restoration.



Best of all
it's FREE!*

Five things to do at Maunsel Lock

- ☐ **Look out for** Second World War pillboxes where anti-tank equipment was stored.
- ☐ **Maunsel Lock** is on the edge of the Somerset Levels – a great place for wildlife. Look out for kingfishers, herons, dragonflies and damselflies.
- ☐ **Enjoy** a traditional cream tea in the Maunsel Lock Tea Rooms over looking the canal.
- ☐ **Take** a boat trip and discover more about the Bridgwater & Taunton Canal.
- ☐ **Starting** at Maunsel Higher Lock, explore the Somerset Space Walk. Scale models of the planets are positioned along the canal to represent the solar system.



Information

Maunsel Lock
Canal Centre
Bankland
North Newton TA7 0DH
T 01278 663 160



Parking



Toilets



Café



Picnic



Boat trips



Path



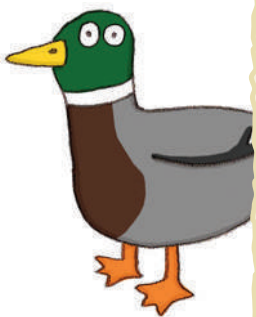
Allow 1-2 hours
for this visit

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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.



Go to canalriverexplorers.org.uk to discover lots of fun things to do with the family.





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.



T: 0303 040 4040

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