



WELCOME TO THE LANCASTER CANAL

On behalf of the staff of the Canal & River Trust and the North West Waterways Partnership, we wish you a warm welcome to the Lancaster Canal. We hope you have an enjoyable and safe cruise on our beautiful waterway.

The canal is navigable from Preston to Tewitfield – a distance of 41 miles. There are no locks on the main canal. The Northern Reaches from Tewitfield to Kendal was abandoned in the 1960's following the building of the M6 motorway. This 14 mile section is well worth exploring, particularly in Stainton, where restoration of the canal has recently commenced.

There is also a short 2.5 mile navigable section of the canal from Galgate to Glasson Dock. The Glasson Branch joins the canal to the sea at Glasson Dock via 6 locks.

More information on the history of the canal can be found in an excellent publication from the Lancaster Canal Trust called 'The Complete Guide to the Lancaster Canal'. It is available in local bookshops and Chandlers and priced at £6.50. It includes very detailed information of all the local towns and villages, along the route.

This leaflet gives some important information on the features of the canal.

1. Visitor Moorings

The canal was built as a 'barge canal' and is thus a 'saucer shape'. Please be aware that owners of some narrow / wide beam boats with deep draft may find it difficult to moor in open countryside. It may be necessary to use a plank for access.

There are a number of Visitor Moorings along the canal, all of which are popular during the main cruising season. All these moorings have a mix of 48 hour and 7 day restrictions during the cruising season. Approximately, two thirds of the space is available for 48 hour stays and the remainder for 7 day stays. 14 day restrictions apply in open countryside. Please note that we have recently added additional mooring spaces at Lancaster and Galgate

As the canal is very busy in the cruising season, we politely request that you observe these restrictions when you use the Visitor Moorings. We have a number of Voluntary Canal Rangers who patrol the visitor moorings on a daily basis and report overstays to the Canal River Trust Enforcement Team.

If you have any specific issues or emergencies, during your stay, which force you to stay on a visitor mooring for longer than the stated duration, please report your problem to the Canal River Trust Enforcement Team immediately. They will do everything possible to help.

2. Leaving your Boat to Explore the Local Area.

This area of North Lancashire and Cumbria is very beautiful, and along with the Lake District, is well worth exploring. We recognise that, on occasions that you may want to leave your boat in an extended period.

There are a number of marinas on the canal, who may have space to facilitate short term mooring of your craft. We request that you move your boat to one the marinas and do not leave it on visitor moorings. Contact Details are as follows:

- BWML Galgate and Glasson – 01524 751491
- Garstang Marina – 01524 791417

Other Marinas on the Lancaster Canal are as follows:

- Barton Grange Marina – 01995 642926
- Bridge House Marina – 01995 603207
- Nu-Way Carnforth – 01524 734457
- Tewitfield Marina – 01524 782092

3. The City of Lancaster

The City Lancaster is probably the most popular destination on the canal. It is well worth a visit. The demand for mooring space is very high, during the season. Visitor Moorings are now available in the centre of the city on both sides of Penny Street Bridge. Again, there is a mix of 48 hour and 7 day restrictions. The offside of the canal was used as additional visitor moorings up to 2013. The land is owned by the University of Lancaster, who withdrew



permissions, due to problems caused by a minority of boaters. We are now working with the University to introduce an overnight mooring opportunity for a small fee. There will be strict rules applied.

4. Sanitary Stations

There are a number of sanitary stations along the entire length of the canal. There are at Preston, Billsborrow, Garstang, Galgate (restricted), Glasson, Lancaster, Carnforth and Tewitfield. Full details of the services provided are in all the cruising guides.

5. Fuel Services

Supplies of fuel are limited on the canal.

The main canal side pumps are at Moons Bridge Marina Tel; 01772 690627 and Garstang Marina 01524 791417. Red diesel is also available from a number of local garages but you will need canisters to transport the fuel.

- Cabus Garage – 01524 791470
- Harrisons Fuel Depot Garstang – 01995 603308

6. Public Transport

The West Coast Main Line from London to Glasgow runs parallel to the canal. There are major stations at Preston, Lancaster and Oxenholme (nr Kendal). There are connections at these stations for The Fylde Coast, Morecambe, Barrow and the Cumbria Coast and Windermere. More details for National Rail Enquiries 08457 484950.

There are numerous bus services which operate close to the canal throughout its length.

The main service to the Lakes is the 555 service from Lancaster to Keswick. The main services from Lancaster to Preston are the 40, 41 and 42, which stop close to the canal. More details from Traveline North West 0871 200 22 33

7. Useful Contact Numbers

Canal River Trust National Help line – 0303 040 4040

Please note that the Royal Lancaster Infirmary Accident and Emergency Department is close to bridge 99 in Lancaster. There is a full A&E at Preston Royal Infirmary

There is a minor injuries only unit in the Westmorland Hospital in Kendal.

There are a number of Veterinary Surgeries along the canal. A few are listed below:

- Riverbank Vets, Preston – 01772 726745
- Lane Vet Group Garstang – 01995 603349
- Burch Tree Group Lancaster – 01524 63732
- Burch Tree Vets Carnforth – 01524 72000

We hope that you have an enjoyable and safe visit to the Lancaster Canal.

NORTH WEST PARTNERSHIP