



Gloucester – Prime Trip / Hire Boat Mooring Opportunity

The Opportunity

In partnership with the National Waterways Museum Gloucester, The Canal & River Trust are inviting interest in operating, managing, and expanding the current passenger trip boat offer. The Trust, which looks after 2,000 miles of waterway across England and Wales, will offer the new operator full control in running the trips, with the added benefit of local promotional support from the Museum.

The Trust is seeking a competent, reliable, and professional partner to operate equally high quality and professional trips for tourists, private hire, community groups, schools, and anyone else who would like to view the historic Gloucester Docks from the water. The focus is on providing a unique multi-seasonal experience that will be an attraction in its own right. The mooring itself is located in the prime commercial mooring location for the Gloucester Docks, adjacent Orchard Square and the Museum entrance. See 'Site Constraints' for more information.

It does not matter if you have no experience of running a business on water, what we are looking for is a business operator with a professional and high quality approach. The Trust can provide guidance on where and how to source a craft if required. Just let us know.

Registering Your Interest

The Trust is currently inviting expressions of interest in this unique opportunity with a view to inviting interested organisations to enter in to a formal tender process later in 2017. All expressions of interest should be made to Richard.Beardsley@canalrivertrust.org.uk by the 30th June 2017.



Site information

Lease Arrangements

The partner will be granted a lease of the primary mooring and secondary moorings (if merited). The Lease will be for a fixed term not exceeding a period of 15 years. Any lease will be conditional on the Trust and the new business agreeing that the lease will be contracted out of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1954.

Rental

The Lease will include an Annual Rent to be agreed, payable to the Trust.

In return for offering the location, promotions, and ticketing support, the partner will also pay the Museum, by way of additional Rent, a retainer and potentially a percentage of profit depending on results.

The Rents will be fair and the amount will depend on the extent and content of the partner's proposed operations.

Planning

It is anticipated planning permission will not be required for the primary trip boat use. However, should planning permission be required the successful bidder will be responsible for obtaining permission from the Local Planning Authority: Gloucester City Council.

Site Facilities

The primary mooring has mooring rings/bollards, and access to an electricity supply. It is proposed a secondary (or home) mooring will have additional facilities if required. Contact the Trust for further information.

The primary mooring also has the potential to include a right to use the adjacent covered canopy area and general circulation space as part of Orchard Square.



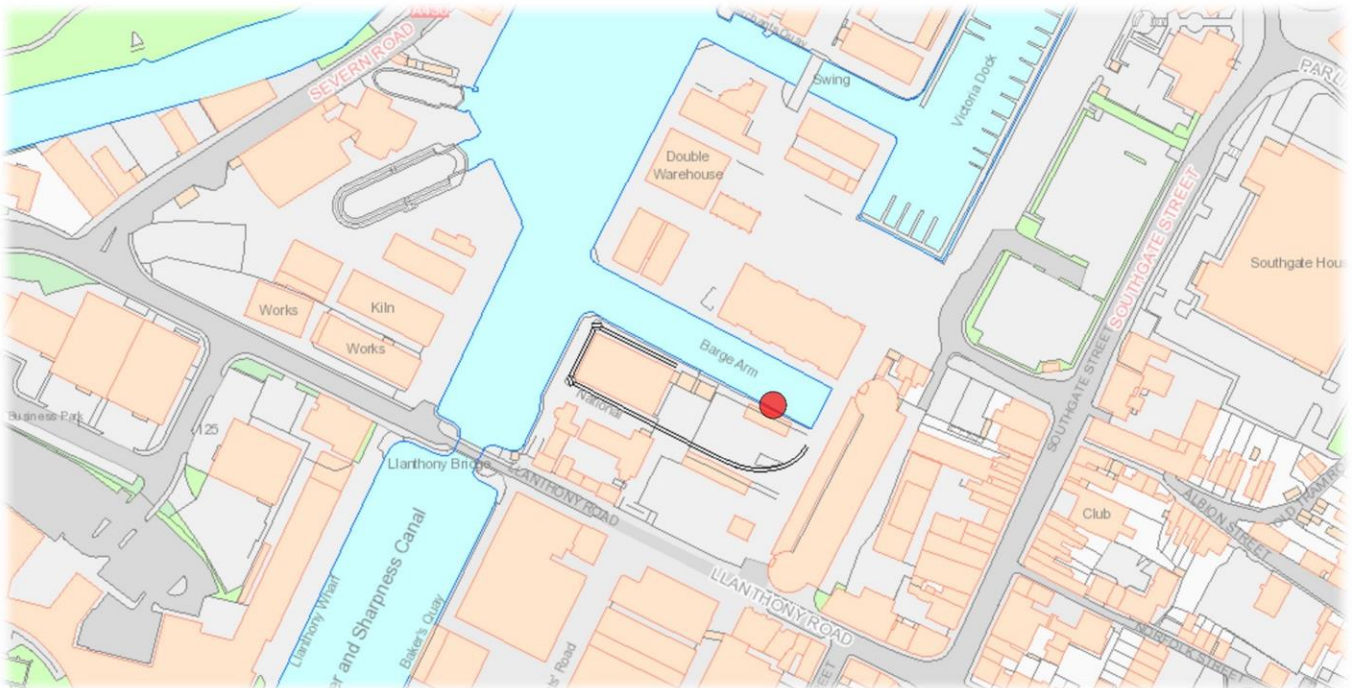


Site Constraints

The primary mooring is located within the Barge Arm of Gloucester Docks and is therefore restricted in terms of size and manoeuvrability of craft. The primary trip boats will therefore need to be able to turn 360 degrees on their own axis in a space with a width of roughly 10 metres. The expectation is approximate passenger numbers of between 25 and 40 per trip can be accommodated based on existing craft designs.

Mooring is also restricted by the high quaysides. The primary trip boat craft will therefore need to be 'top-loading', adapted accordingly, or the proposal should include appropriate pontoon designs.

Mooring Location



The primary mooring is situated on the southern side of the Barge Arm, accessed from Orchard Square. The nearest road access is Llanthony Road, though it should be noted that most of Orchard Square is private land and access should be pre-arranged.

Viewings of the mooring is recommended and can be arranged via the Trust (see contact on page 1).