



Holiday OWNERS Club

"Wisp of the Water"

By the members
for the members

"Wisp of the Water"



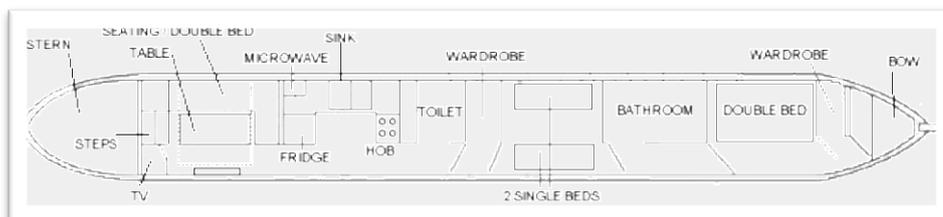
Worcester Marina, Lowesmoor Wharf, Worcester, Worcestershire, WR1 2RS
Telephone: 01905 734 160 – e-mail: abclg@worcestermarina.com

New Canal Boat and new Venue for 2013

Design: Full Radiator Central Heating. Hot and Cold running water supplied from a 200 gallon water tank and a 1200w inverter that supplies 240 volt electricity to certain appliances and sockets on the boat. Note that own appliances are used at your own risk. There is a Radio, CD player, Colour Television and DVD/Video player.

She will sleep up to 6 people in a Fixed Double Bed at the front of the boat in its own private room and a Dinette Double conversion at the rear. There will be 2 single beds at the middle of the boat and bedding is provided. As you would expect the Galley is fully equipped with a 4-burner gas cooker complete with grill and oven, refrigerator, sink and drainer, work surfaces and storage space. There are suitable saucepans, cooking utensils, crockery and cutlery.

The Bathroom has a hand basin, flush toilet a shower or hip bath/shower with a 240v shaver socket. There is an extra toilet in the middle of the boat.



2 Double & 2 Single Berths - Size 55ft

Worcester Marina

If you prefer to stock up on your food and drink when you are near rather than bring it all in your car then there is an ALDI within 2 Minutes Walk. A Sainsbury and Tesco are 10 Minutes drive away.

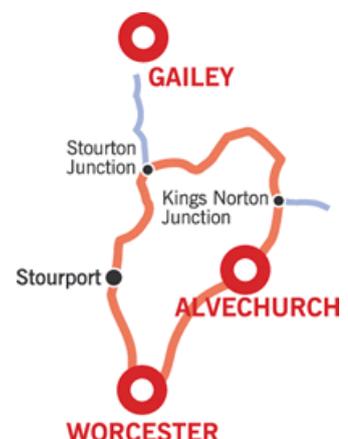
There is a shop at the Marina with souvenirs, maps, guides and soft drinks.

Secure parking is on site and is locked at 6 pm with a British Waterways key. Parking is at Owners Risk.

Routes

**Stourport Ring, Pearson's P1, Nicholson's N2, Lockmaster L16,
7 Nights, 7.50 Hours per day, 116**

This is one of the most popular one-week cruises of all. This route contrasts takes in the 21st century Birmingham city centre, 19th century heritage and some of the most rural stretches of canal imaginable along the river Severn. Much of the stunning new development in Birmingham is focused on the canal-side area, the Symphony Hall, International Convention Centre and the Sea Life Centre.



From here you can branch off to the fantastic Netherton tunnel or visit the Black Country Museum phone 0870 225 0127. If time permits, experience the era of steam on the Severn Valley Railway, with a trip from Kidderminster to the picturesque market town of Bridgnorth Tel: 01299 403 816 www.svr.co.uk
You have a fabulous river view of the quite magnificent Worcester Cathedral in a city with a mix of quaint and modern shopping and of course, the Royal Worcester Porcelain Museum Tel: 01905 726 311

Stratford-Upon-Avon & return, Pearson's P5, Nicholson's N4, Lockmaster L5, 7 Nights, 6 Hours per day, 44 Locks. An Avon Licence is required and can be purchased on arrival at Avon River.

Here you find idyllic stretches of countryside near this historic town. Each route offers a superb mixture of culture, history and shopping. The beautiful canal basin in Stratford is ideal for mooring and is near the Shakespeare Theatre Tel: 01789 403 44 or go to www.rsc.org.uk There is also Tourist information Centre on 0870 160 7930 which gives all the details you need to know about Shakespeare's birthplace.

The Map to your right is for Stratford and the Avon Ring Above and Below

Avon Ring, Pearson's P2, Nicholson's N2, Lockmaster L15, 14 Nights or 10/11 Nights, 6 Hours per day, 139 Locks. An Avon Licence is required and can be purchased on arrival at Avon River.

To really enjoy this fabulously delightful cruising experience on both the Severn and the Avon, you will need at least a 10 or 11 night break. In fact, allowing two weeks enables a detour down to Gloucester to visit its docks, warehouses and museums.

Worcester, Tewkesbury, Evesham and Stratford each have a superb mix of culture, history and shopping.

Staffordshire and Return, Pearson's P1, Nicholson's N2, Lockmaster L16, 7 Nights, 6 Hours per day, 80 Locks

If you pass through Worcester by canal, you join the River Severn for a leisurely cruise up to Stourport where you join the Staffordshire and Worcester Canal. The difference between the wide river and the more intimate atmosphere of the canal becomes evident.

The canal takes you north past dramatic sandstone rocks and through the beautifully preserved Bratch Locks towards Atherley Junction where you have the opportunity of joining the Shropshire Union Canal for a short while.

This is probably a good place to turn in order to make the most of the return journey which, apart from opening up new views of the countryside, will give you a chance to visit some of the attractions you may have missed on the way up, such as the Severn Valley Railway, or the sandstone caves at Austcliffe.

Droitwich Ring

From Worcester, 3 Nights at 8 Hours per day or 4 nights, 5.5 hours per day, 33 locks.

This new ring can be cruised again for the first time in 90 years. It combines four contrasting waterways: The Droitwich canals, the southern part of the Worcester Birmingham Canal and the River Severn north of Worcester. It's a ring that can be cruised easily in a weekend or a little longer if you wish.

Setting off on the Worcester and Birmingham Canal at Lowesmoor Wharf you will pass through two locks and arrive in Diglis Basin where you will descend two further locks to the Severn. You will need to turn right when joining the Severn to head up the river. Although you may find it easier to turn left and then turn around a short distance downstream. As you approach Worcester City Centre the Cathedral is overlooking you as you pass under Worcester Bridge built in 1781. Worcester Race Course runs alongside the River as you head towards open countryside.

You will then pass the Camp House Inn on your left at Grimley, one of the few riverside inns on the Severn. This unspoilt pub serves real ale and cider. The Bevere Lock is next and like all of the Severn Locks is mechanised and keeper operated.

Half a mile above the lock you will find the new landing stages that sit at the entrance of the Droitwich Barge Canal. In 1771 under engineer James Brindley the Droitwich Barge Canal was opened. The canal is just



less than 6 miles long with eight locks climbing from Hawford to Droitwich. You cruise the canal following the Salwarpe River. There are no roads and little sign of habitation for over a mile. There is just isolated lock 3 and Lineacre Bridge, a farm crossing dating to Bindley's time. Porters Mill Bridge is the start of the canal's main flight of locks; there are five strung out over three quarters of a mile of gently curving rural canal. The canal then heads off on a 3 mile trip into open countryside.

Next you pass through the Salwarpe, a tiny settlement and the only canal side village. The Railway Inn marks the arrival into Droitwich. It is the only waterside pub although there are plenty more in town. Droitwich, built on Salt and Vines Park, was the site of the former brine works and salt wharves. You'll notice the church tower leaning and other buildings in Droitwich as a result of salt-mining subsidence. Four swing bridges cross the canal in Vines Park, the final one crossing Barge Lock where you enter another waterway, Droitwich Junction Canal. You will pass along a new canalised length of the River Salwarpe. The river section quickly comes to an end and the first of four brand new locks appear. The town of Droitwich is left behind and you head into open countryside once again.

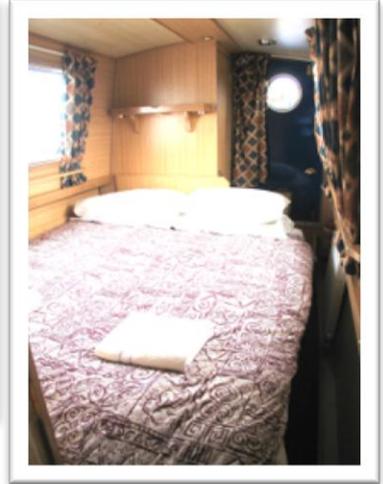
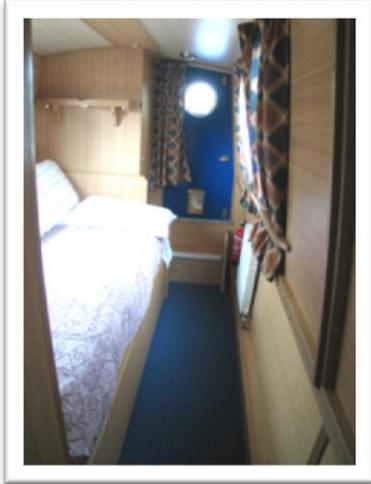
Once through the Hanbury Locks, you arrive at Hanbury Junction where a tight turn brings you into the canal settlement of Hanbury Wharf. The Eagle and Sun pub on your left looks down on the Worcester and Birmingham Canal and ahead there is a stretch of four miles without locks. A wooded cutting leads to Dunhampstead Tunnel and after you pass through the villages of Oddingley and Tibberton, the descent to Worcester begins with a flight of 6 locks and then a further 4 at Astwood as you enter the outskirts of Worcester and find your way back to Lowesmoor Wharf.

New Boat for 2013

Canal boat club were pleased to announce to us that they have were to give us a brand new boat with a Front Door, which I know seems to have been a big issue with many of you. They have now already delivered 4 new boats and our one, "Wisp of the Water" is in the process of being built. Alvechurch have been building high quality canal boats for over 30 years and have come up with a great design for the replacement boats, however, as always with narrow boats there are compromises. To give access to the front door the forward double berth can no longer be full width, but, we they have included a bed extension so that you can choose to have a wider bed at night which folds away during the day to provide easier access to the front deck.



The photos show the double berth extended and then closed away for day use. They will be monitoring the feedback from boaters where possible taking the comments into account when designing future boat replacements.



The existing boats are undergoing a complete maintenance programme. During last winter just over a third of the boats were repainted in the smart new Canalboat Club livery and it is planned that a further third will be painted this winter. The soft furnishings colour scheme will be similar to the photo.



This shell will be your boat in 2013

Directions from the M5 South, J7 Take the A44 to Worcester City Centre (Whittington Road, and then the London Road). At the traffic lights in Sidbury, close to the Cathedral with a large motor cycle shop on your left, turn right into City Wall Road which is sign-posted A38 Bromsgrove. At the first roundabout take the second exit. After 100 metres you will come to another roundabout where you need to take the first exit into Pheasant Street. **After 100 metres** come to a set of traffic lights and turn left into Lowesmoor. Immediately on your right is the entrance to Lowesmoor Wharf, which is a light industrial estate. Enter this estate and follow the road round to the left and you will see Viking Afloat at the end of this road.

Directions from The M5 North, J6 Take the A449 to Worcester and follow signs to the City Centre. Keep to the one way system to the left signposted A38. This brings you to a set of traffic lights at the junction of City Walls road and Lowesmoor. Go straight over these lights and carry on to the first roundabout where you need to take the first exit. After 100 metres you will come to another roundabout. Take the first exit into Pheasant Street. Then it is as above **highlighted in yellow.**

Charges for 2012 which are payable at Worcester Marina:

1. First car is free but a second car is charged at POA
2. A Maximum of **2 Dogs** are allowed and charged at £30 EACH.
3. Utility Fee of £50
4. £100 Fuel Deposit. The boat is handed over ready fuelled. At the end of the trip the boat must be refuelled and any difference will be charged or refunded accordingly.
5. £50 Damage Waiver, optional but recommended.

Changeover day is Thursday

If you are inexperienced inform Barry so that a trainer is available on your arrival

Check-In: 15.00 hrs. From 13:30 if you are inexperienced. Ring ahead to Marina

Checkout: 09:30 hrs.

It is imperative that you return the boat promptly so that she can be made ready.

The speed limits must be adhered to as excesses can cause damage to the canal.

By The Members For The Members