

RIVER SEVERN AND THE GLOUCESTER & SHARPNESS CANAL

MY LOCAL CANAL

OUR NATIONAL TREASURE

It's quality time
with my family



**British
Waterways**

Looking after your canals and rivers

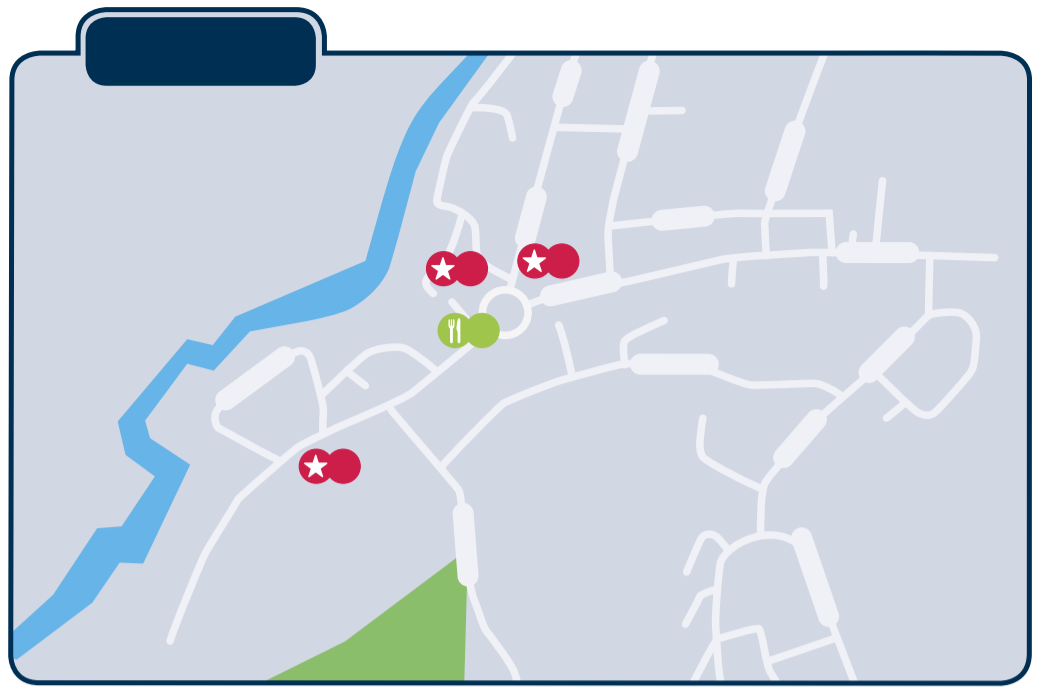
Yours to enjoy anytime

Find your nearest canal at waterscape.com

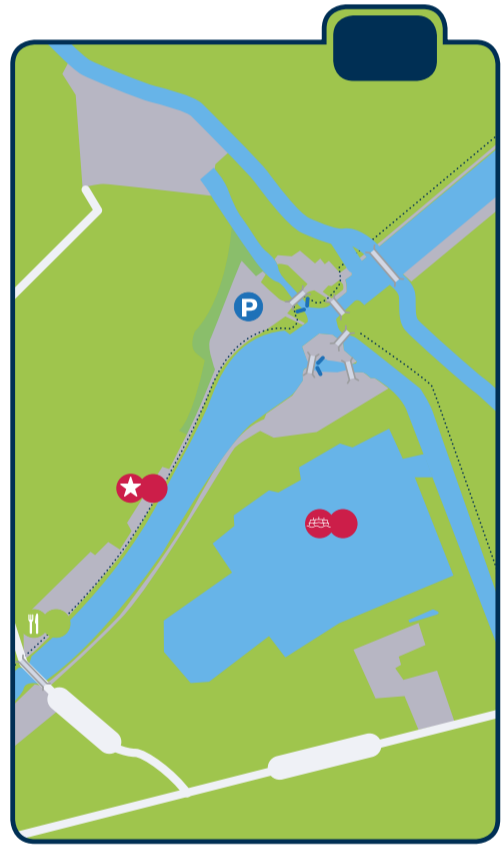
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Your local waterways: yours to enjoy every day

Your local waterway is an escape route to another world, and the best thing about it is it's right next to the noisy, busy world you're in now. All you have to do is step off the pavement, nip down a quiet pathway, or find some steps by a bridge, and you'll soon be in a completely

different place. A place for a pleasant stroll or cycle, for wildlife spotting, alfresco dining and so much more. This guide is full of useful ideas for exploring and making the most of your own local waterway, as well as telling you about the things you'll see on and alongside it.



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Ditch the pavement, try the towpath

Whether you're walking to work, to school, alone, or with your dog, there's something about being by the canal and river that's more relaxing than walking anywhere else.

It's peaceful, there's always plenty to see – from wildlife to narrowboats – and if you stick to the towpath you can't get lost! As well as your daily walking routes, www.waterscape.com/walking has a great selection of walks for those that fancy a longer breath of fresh air or some gentle exercise.



www.wow4water.net/kids

WOW stands for 'Wild Over Waterways'. The wow4water website is an educational resource, full of fun activities for children, as well as downloadable maps and trails for local canals. These help children learn more about the history and wildlife of canals and rivers, and about water safety too.

Waterside pubs

Pubs and waterways go back a long way together. So it doesn't take too long to find a historic, atmospheric canalside stop for a bite to eat and a drink. You'll also find restaurants and tea shops making the most of their great locations, with outside seating, peaceful canalside gardens, and gorgeous views.

Visit www.waterscape.com/pubs for a selection of places to eat, drink and relax by the canal. We promise you'll be spoilt for choice.



“Look! It’s a...

...duck. A water vole. A frog. A heron. A swan! With more than 60 different species of wildlife spotted in a recent survey of waterway wildlife (that's not counting the fish) you can never be sure what you might see on a walk by the canal.

The hedgerows and canal banks are ideal habitats for a whole range of creatures, so all you have to do is keep your eyes open.



On your bike

Why not cycle along the towpath, whether for a quick commute to work, exercise session or just for fun. There are no steep hills, no traffic, no car or lorry fumes and you'll cycle through some of the best scenery. Of course, towpaths vary in width and surface covering and not all sections are suitable for cycling. As long as you are considerate to other visitors and respect any 'dismount' signs most towpaths are great for two wheels. Check out the best for bicycles at www.waterscape.com/cycling



Get hooked

Whether you're a keen angler or just an enthusiastic dabbler, waterway fishing has something to offer everyone. Lovely scenery, a peaceful environment – and plenty of fish! Your local British Waterways office has information on access and peg availability in your area. And you can find more information at www.waterscape.com/fishing.

Please remember a rod licence, available from your post office or www.environment-agency.gov.uk is required by law.

