



DIRECTIONS

BY ROAD *Blackwater Meadow Marina is situated in Ellesmere, Shropshire approximately 16 miles North West of Shrewsbury*

- North and South take the M54/A5 towards Shrewsbury and then follow A528 to Ellesmere.
- On arrival in Ellesmere, follow signs for town centre.
- Turn left just after the garage and enter one-way system. The Marina is sign-posted left.
- You are now on Birch Road and the marina is situated approximately half a mile on the left

BY RAIL

From London, Euston station to Shrewsbury. Then change and take train to Chester which passes through Gobowen. Leave train at Gobowen and take Taxi to Blackwater Meadow



You can buy rail tickets on-line at thetrainline.com or firstgreatwestern.com.

TRAVEL / PLANNING

LOCAL ACCOMMODATION

Please check www.hotelshopuk.com or www.laterooms.com for special rates.

LOCAL TAXI COMPANIES

Berwyn Cars: 01691 652000
Oswestry Cabs: 01691 661663

NEAREST GROCERY STORES

Co-op Mini Super Market
Cross Street, Ellesmere, Shropshire, SY12 0AW
Spar Mini Super Market
Scotland Street, Ellesmere, Shropshire, SY12 0DE
Tesco Superstore
Canal Way, Ellesmere, Shropshire, SY12 0EJ

BLACKWATER APARTMENT

A 3 bedroom apartment set in the beautiful Shropshire countryside on the outskirts of Ellesmere.

It is within Blackwater Meadow Marina and adjacent to the Llangollen canal. It is within walking distance of four beautiful and tranquil meres and a number of other attractions. **Ideal if you need somewhere to stay before you embark on your canal boat holiday.**

The apartment consists of a lounge/dinner, fully equipped kitchen, 3 double bedrooms that can have either a double bed or two singles, bathroom with bath and shower and 2nd w/c. Central heating in all rooms.



Outside BBQ area

Sleeps up to 6
This apartment has 3 double rooms and 1 bathroom



www.abcholidaycottages.com





LLANGOLLEN & RETURN

7 Nights • Cruising Time Per day: 5 Hrs • Locks: 4

- The Llangollen Canal has some beautiful scenery and breathtaking engineering, and is one of the most popular canals in Britain.
- It combines the gentle countryside of Shropshire and crosses the border into Wales over Chirk Aqueduct.
- It boasts one of the most striking features on the UK canal network- the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct which you will have to travel across before you get to Llangollen.

So how do you pronounce Pontcysyllte? Aim at something like "Pont-kersulty".

- Unusually, this canal has a flow of 2mph as it feeds other canals, so the outbound journey will always be slower than on the way back.
- New visitor moorings in Llangollen are now available, but charges do apply and you need to arrive by 4.30pm.
- In a week from Blackwater you will be able to take a leisurely cruise and spend more time enjoying the activities around Llangollen (www.llangollen.org.uk), or you could decide to return and either go down the Montgomery or up to Whitchurch where we have another marina.

THE CHESHIRE RING RING

14 Nights • Cruising Time Per day: 7 Hrs • Locks: 137

- The ring takes in the whole of the Macclesfield Canal, parts of the Trent & Mersey, Bridgewater, Rochdale, Ashton and Peak Forest Canals, providing a range of scenery.
- Enjoy glorious scenery as the Macclesfield Canal skirts the edge of the Pennines.
- If time allows why not take a detour from Marple along the Peak Forest Canal and enjoy stunning views.
- You will cruise through the heart of Manchester and moor at Castlefield to explore the city and places such as the Old Trafford, home of 'Man U' (www.manutd.co.uk), the Arndale shopping centre or the Museum of Science and Industry (www.mosi.org.uk).
- This route has a variety of canal features including broad and narrow locks, aqueducts and tunnels, and the distinctive stone architecture of the Peak District.

CHESTER OR ELLESMERE PORT & RETURN

7-10 Nights • Cruising Time Per day: 6-7.5 Hrs • Locks: 66/74

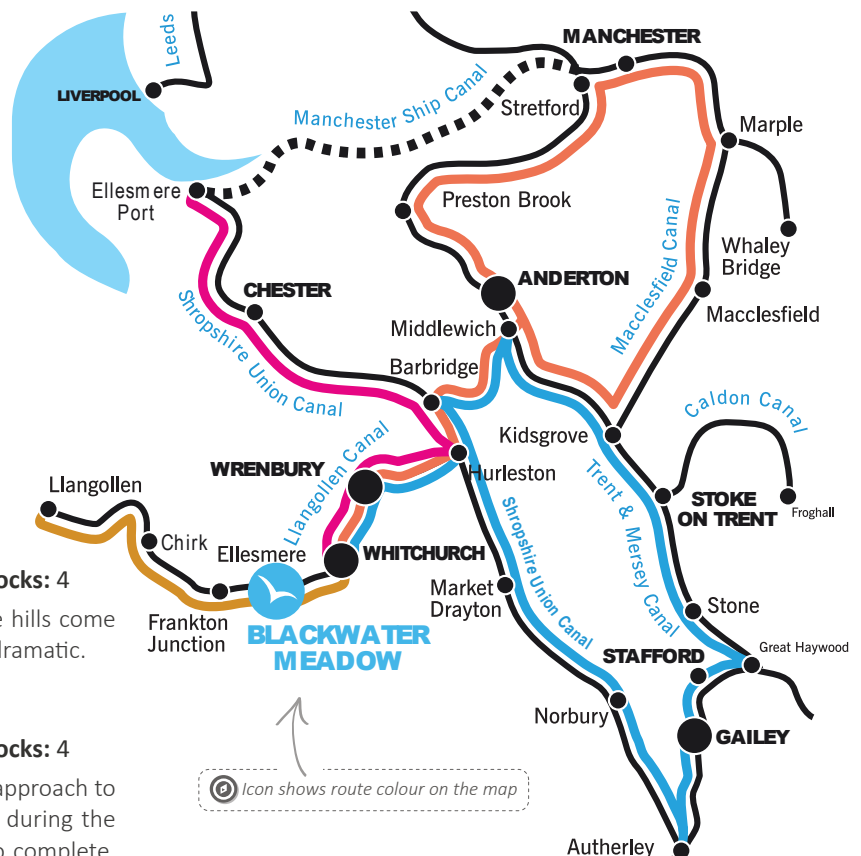
- From Blackwater you will travel up the Llangollen Canal, past our Whitchurch and Wrenbury Marinas to join the Shropshire Union Canal.
- Travelling to Chester can be completed in a week- see page 11 in the our brochure for more details (*can be viewed online at abcboathire.com*).
- If you want to take more time out in Chester and then travel on to Ellesmere Port then take a longer break from Blackwater.
- Chester has plenty to do such as walking the City Walls, visiting the cathedral, shopping or dining out (*see www.visitchester.com for more details*)

THE FOUR COUNTIES RING

14 Nights • Cruising Time Per day: 7 Hrs • Locks: 132

- Takes you along the wonderfully rural Staffordshire & Worcestershire Canal to Great Haywood Junction.
- Passing under a distinctive roving bridge, you join the Trent & Mersey Canal heading north towards the Potteries and Peak District.
- Rolling Staffordshire countryside leads you to Stoke-on-Trent, the Wedgwood Visitor Centre and the impressive 2926-yard long Harecastle Tunnel.
- The scenery on the climb up 'Heartbreak Hill' to the summit at Kidsgrove is fantastic.
- Beyond Harecastle the 13 miles to the salt town of Middlewich sees the canal descend 31 locks to the Cheshire Plains.
- The short Middlewich arm links the Trent and Mersey Canal to the Shropshire Union Canal again through more glorious countryside.

 **Don't miss the Bottle Kilns at Etruria.**




SHORT BREAKS

CHIRK & RETURN

3-4 Nights • Cruising Time Per day: 5 Hrs • Locks: 4

Towards the Welsh border at Chirk the country's fine hills come into view and the scenery becomes altogether more dramatic.

LLANGOLLEN & RETURN

3-4 Nights • Cruising Time Per day: 7 Hrs • Locks: 4

The canal hugs the side of the River Dee valley on its approach to the town of Llangollen. This is a 3 or 4 night break- during the summer period you may need to allow more time to complete. You must pre-book your passage if you plan to travel the Montgomery Canal.

