



DIRECTIONS

BY ROAD

- If you are approaching by the M6 motorway or from the east, exit the M6 at junction 12.
- Take the A5 westbound, heading towards Telford. After 1/2 mile you will pass a lay-by on the left followed by a speed camera.
- The boatyard entrance is on the left immediately after the speed camera road markings. If you miss it, continue 1/2 mile to the roundabout and back track. If you are approaching from the West take the A5 heading eastbound towards the M6 from the Gailey roundabout (*the A449/A5 junction*).
- After 1/2 mile you'll pass a petrol station on your left, look right for a round tower house. The boatyard entrance is on the right immediately after the canal bridge.

FROM AIRPORTS

From **Birmingham International and East Midlands** take a National Express coach or train to either Stafford or Wolverhampton then taxi the last 7 miles to the Marina. Taxis should be waiting outside stations / coach depot. *Please see www.nationalexpress.com for details on national coach travel.*

BY RAIL

The nearest main line rail stations are Wolverhampton (from the South) or Stafford (from the North). Both have taxi ranks and the boatyard is about 8 miles distance. The village of Penkridge has a local branch line rail station with infrequent connections from either Wolverhampton or Stafford, but there is no taxi rank.

There is a taxi service in the village centre. The boatyard is 3 miles distance.



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.

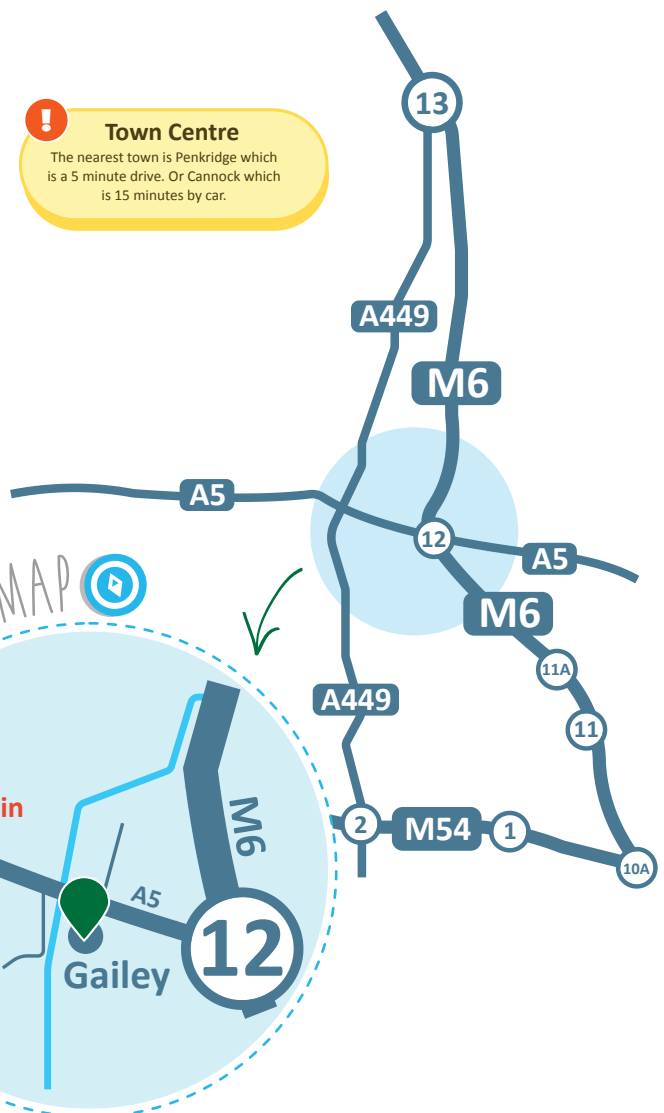
LOCAL TAXI COMPANIES

Penkridge Cabs: 01785 713013

NEAREST GROCERY STORES

There are a number of stores based in nearby Cannock such as an **ASDA, Morrisons** and **Sainsbury's**.

Closer in Penkridge there are 2 **Co-Op Stores** and also a mini **Sainsbury's**.





THE BLACK COUNTRY RING

7 Nights • Cruising Time Per day: 7.5 Hrs • Locks: 78

- Gailey is ideally placed for this ring that takes you on the Staffordshire & Worcestershire Canal, through the water fronts of Birmingham via the new Main Line, onto the Birmingham & Fazeley and the Trent & Mersey.
- The route is a varied mix of urban and countryside and offers family activities along the way.
- Birmingham has its shopping, restaurants and art galleries, plus the Sea Life Centre and museums for the children (see www.bmag.org.uk).
- Visit the Black Country Museum and live the story of the Black Country (www.bclm.co.uk).
- There is also Dudley Zoo and Castle (www.dudleyzoo.org.uk), Drayton Manor Park (www.draytonmanor.co.uk) and Shugborough Hall (www.shugborough.org.uk).

NANTWICH & RETURN

7 Nights • Cruising Time Per day: 6.5 Hrs • Locks: 58

- Ideal for first timers or those looking for a relaxing break.
- Leaving Gailey, you head south down the Staffordshire & Worcestershire Canal to Atherley Junction then cruise the Shropshire Union with Market Drayton, Audlem and Nantwich along the way.
- Retrace your steps back to Gailey and enjoy the new perspective that this will give.

CALDON CANAL & RETURN

7 Nights • Cruising Time Per day: 5 Hrs • Locks: 82

- An alternative to the Four counties ring, but equally energetic.
- You will head up towards the Peak District and enter the Churnet Valley with its stunning countryside.
- The canal terminates at Froghall where you turn and retrace your steps.

THE FOUR COUNTIES RING

7 Nights • Cruising Time Per day: 9 Hrs • Locks: 92

- 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.**

STOURPORT & RETURN

7 Nights • Cruising Time Per day: 6.5 Hrs • Locks: 58

- A comfortable cruise along the pretty Staffs & Worcs Canal.
- If you wanted to go past Stourport you could continue to Worcester which is a total of 72 locks and needs 8 hours cruising per day.
- Kinver Village is well worth a stop for shopping and excellent pubs. Energetic boaters will be rewarded by a climb up Kinver Edge for the extensive views.

THE STOURPORT RING

7 Nights • Cruising Time Per day: 7.5 Hrs • Locks: 118

- A route of contrasts takes in the 21st century Birmingham city centre and 19th century heritage.
- Alongside the canal network in Birmingham city centre you will find The Symphony Hall, National Indoor Arena, the Sea Life Centre, International Convention Centre and Brindley Place.
- Birmingham city centre is within easy walking distance of the canal with its restaurants, shops, theatres, art galleries and museums (www.visitbirmingham.com).
- The Birmingham Canal Navigations (BCN) link the old and new main lines and take you past places such as Smethwick, West Bromwich, Tipton, Wolverhampton.
- Travel on the rural River Severn the longest river in the UK and second longest in the British Isles.

CHESTER OR ELLESMERE & RETURN

10 Nights • Cruising Time Per day: 6/7.5 Hrs • Locks: 80/86

- On this popular countryside route the locks are well spaced for easy cruising.
- Travel to Chester and then retrace your steps back to the marina which is a popular week for first time boaters.
- You can also continue past Chester along the Shropshire Union main line to its historic terminal on the River Mersey at Ellesmere Port.
- Mooring in Chester is within easy reach of the walled city centre with its medieval 'rows' where there are a variety of shops, galleries and the majestic cathedral (www.visitchester.com).
- Chester Zoo is just a short walk from the canal (www.chesterzoo.org).
- Visit the National Waterways Museum at Ellesmere Port.



NORBURY & RETURN

3 Nights • Cruising Time Per day: 5-6 Hrs • Locks: 4

A leisurely route where you get to relax and unwind.

MARKET DRAYTON & RETURN

4 Nights • Cruising Time Per day: 6.5 Hrs • Locks: 14

Extend your Norbury and return trip to Market Drayton.

STONE & RETURN

4 Nights • Cruising Time Per day: 6 Hrs • Locks: 30

Travel up the Trent & Mersey to the market town of Stone.

GREAT HAYWOOD & RETURN

3 Nights • Cruising Time Per day: 5.5 Hrs • Locks: 22

Go up to the Great Haywood Junction and you might want to visit Shugborough Hall.

