



DIRECTIONS

BY ROAD

From Towcester (junction of A5 & A43) take the A43 towards Northampton.

- After 2 miles turn right towards Blisworth for 1 mile.
- In the centre of Blisworth turn left just past Royal Oak pub (200m) towards Northampton. Do not turn into Chapel Lane.
- Turn left in front of a row of thatched cottages into Northampton Road (to Milton Malsor) for 1 mile.
- Turn left at the staggered crossroad (to Rothersthorpe & Gayton).
- Immediately after the bridge over the A43, turn left at the T-junction.
- Go over the canal bridge and the marina is 300m on the left.

From the M1, exit at junction 15A and take the A43 towards Northampton for 1/4 mile.

- At roundabout turn left (to Pineham & Rothersthorpe).
- Then at the set of lights you turn left (to Rothersthorpe & Pattishall).
- At the crossroads turn left (to Milton Malsor & Blisworth).
- After going over the second canal bridge, the marina is 300m on the left.

FROM AIRPORTS

From Luton, Heathrow, Gatwick, Stansted or Birmingham: There are a number of options including rail or coach to Northampton. For information on taxi companies see below. *Please contact the taxi companies directly for an estimated fare.*

BY RAIL

Take the train to **Northampton station** and then a taxi to the marina (about 5 miles). *Please contact the taxi company directly for a fare estimate.*



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.

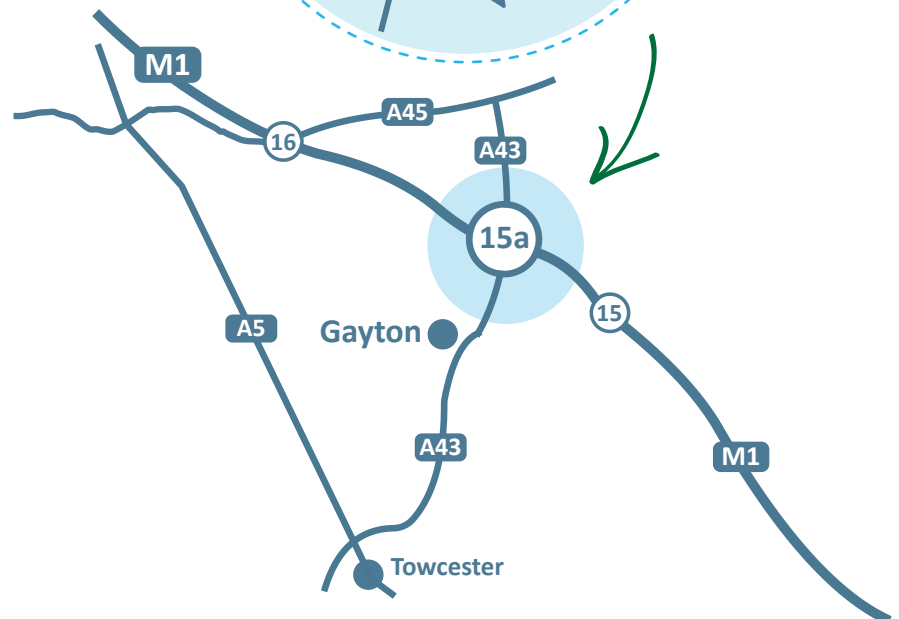
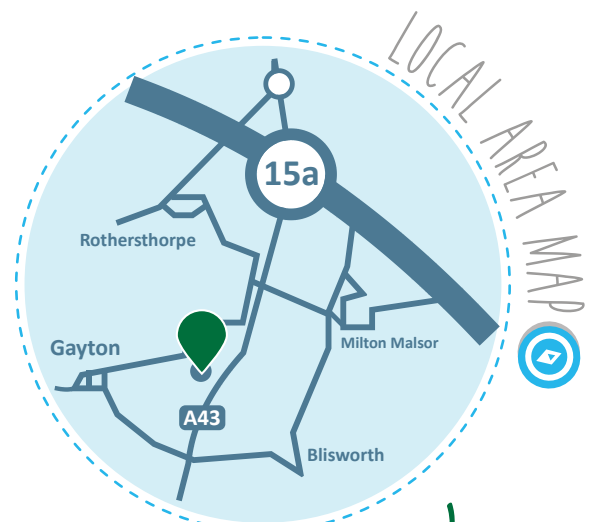
LOCAL TAXI COMPANIES

Bounds Taxis: 01604 626262 **Amber Taxis:** 01604 708999

NEAREST GROCERY STORES

The nearest convenience store is about a mile away in the village of Blisworth.

The nearest supermarket is a Tesco store on the outskirts of Northampton, just 5 minutes by car. (**0845 6779119** - www.tesco.com).





MARKET HARBOURGH & RETURN

7 Nights • Cruising Time Per day: 6 Hrs • Locks: 48

- Popular with those seeking something different- if you don't mind a bit of exercise.
- Cruise up the Grand Union Canal to Norton, then up the Leicester section for a short while towards Leicester.
- On the way to Market Harborough you will encounter two tunnels, two sets of staircase locks and mile after mile of open countryside.

BANBURY & RETURN

7 Nights • Cruising Time Per day: 7 Hrs • Locks: 70

- This is a good cruise for first timers and takes you through the Cotswold countryside.
- Takes you down the North Oxford Canal via Braunston and Napton Junctions.
- Onto the South Oxford Canal, renowned for its meandering route to the Thames.

OXFORD & RETURN

10-11 Nights • Cruising Time Per day: 6.5 Hrs • Locks: 104

- Continue on past Banbury to Oxford, the 'City of Dreaming Spires'.
- Oxford has lots to offer- historical places such as Blenheim Palace, Christ Church College, you could go shopping or dining out (*see more at www.visitoxfordandoxfordshire.com*).
- An extremely popular choice for those who want to stretch their holiday to more than a week.

WARWICK & RETURN

7 Nights • Cruising Time Per day: 6 Hrs • Locks: 72

- A popular 10 night cruise from Union Wharf or it can be completed in a week from Gayton and Rugby.
- From Union Wharf you will travel down to Norton Junction and then through to Warwick.
- Warwick has an ever-growing reputation for the variety of its cafes, restaurants and other eateries with the Market Square playing host to events throughout the year.
- Places of interest include Warwick Castle, St John's Museum and The Mill Garden (*see www.visitwarwick.co.uk for more details*).

AYLESBURY & RETURN

7-10 Nights • Cruising Time Per day: 6 Hrs • Locks: 84

- Through delightful countryside, taking in the Great Ouse Aqueduct at Cosgrove, Milton Keynes.
- Then arriving at Aylesbury, with the attractive old town centre just a short walk from the canal basin.

COVENTRY OR SNARESTONE & RETURN

7 Nights • Cruising Time Per day: 6/8 Hrs • Locks: 34

- With only 17 locks each way between Gayton and Coventry, this is one of the easiest one-week routes.
- The remote and rural Ashby Canal for Snarestone offers 23 miles of lock free cruising after Marston.
- Moor at Shenton for Bosworth Battlefield Visitor Centre (www.bosworthbattlefield.com).

THE WARWICKSHIRE RING

10-11 Nights • Cruising Time Per day: 7 Hrs • Locks: 120

- Another popular route with the option to moor at the heart of Birmingham.
- It includes the spectacular Hatton Locks and takes in the rural areas of the Grand Union Canal.
- Why not stop off at Coventry and go to the war-torn cathedral?
- The areas around Tamworth have Drayton Manor (www.draytonmanor.co.uk) and the Snow Dome (www.snowdome.co.uk).
- How could you come to Warwickshire without visiting Warwick Castle? (www.warwick-uk.co.uk).
- On a two week cruise you can include a trip along the Ashby Canal.

THE GRAND RING

14-21 Nights • Cruising Time Per day: 6-9 Hrs • Locks: 175

- This ring takes a minimum of 2 weeks to complete or longer if you want to take in the sights along the way.
- The Thames River Licence price is included in your hire charge from Aldermaston but will need to be paid if starting from Gayton Marina (***please contact marina directly***).
- Take in the delights of the southern waterways including Oxford, Banbury, Leighton Buzzard, but then follow a similar route to Limehouse and return for another aspect.

LEICESTER / EAST MIDLANDS RING

14 Nights • Cruising Time Per day: 6.5 Hrs • Locks: 115

- A pleasant two week cruise through parts of Staffordshire, Warwickshire, Leicestershire and Derbyshire.
- This route takes you up the Grand Union Canal to the Foxton flight of locks, then onto Leicester itself where you join the River Soar.
- Continue along the Soar to Trent Junction where you briefly join the River Trent which takes you up to Sawley. At this point you rejoin the canal system to complete the ring.



ROUTES WITH THIS ICON

You must inform us that you're doing this route as evidence of suitable canal boat experience must be provided.

CRICK & RETURN

4 Nights • Cruising Time Per day: 6.5 Hrs • Locks: 28

Crick and back, along the Grand Union Canal (Leicester Section).

BRAUNSTON OR NAPTON & RETURN

3 Nights • Cruising Time Per day: 8 Hrs • Locks: 26

Heading north from Gayton through Weedon and Norton takes the Grand Union to the busy junction with the Oxford Canal. Onwards to Napton is peaceful, lock free and rural.

GREAT LINFORD OR FENNY STRATFORD & RTN

3-4 Nights • Cruising Time Per day: 6.5/8 Hrs • Locks: 16

Heading south towards Aylesbury, this route has a taste of everything. The two destinations are separated by the 'new town' of Milton Keynes, where the Grand Union Canal forms the centre piece of the linear park.

WELFORD & RETURN

4 Nights • Cruising Time Per day: 8.5 Hrs • Locks: 30

Welford has plenty of overnight mooring places, with a reservoir and village to explore.

