

YOUR FREE GUIDE TO



Bath, Bradford-on-Avon and Devizes' canals

Connecting me

with a time  
gone by



Canal &  
River Trust

Keeping people, nature & history connected



Step onto the towpath and

# connect...

## with the great outdoors

Think of your canals and rivers and the surrounding hedgerows as long, winding nature reserves. An ideal habitat for tiny creatures like dragonflies and butterflies, birds such as kingfishers and herons, and even larger mammals such as badgers, stoats or water voles, it's a great way to enjoy the Great British countryside right on your doorstep. In fact, a recent wildlife survey spotted over 60 different species, and that's not including the fish!

**So make sure that you keep your eyes peeled as you amble through the scenery.**



## with great times

If you're looking to break from routine, to escape the hustle and bustle of everyday life or to find a peaceful place to enjoy a spot of lunch, your local canal is just a stone's throw away. With so much to do and see, your canal is ideal for meeting friendly, like-minded people or spending quality time with your family and friends. Or just bring yourself and a book for a moment of peaceful solitude.

The handy map inside this leaflet is full of information on the unique activities and attractions that you'll find on your local waterway. So if you're after some fresh air and freedom, grab the kids or grandparents and get out on the towpath!



## with your great-great grandfathers

Our canal system is a vital part of the nation's heritage, dating back to the Industrial Revolution. And it still helps make Britain great today. Locks, aqueducts, tunnels and incredible boat lifts are all testament to the golden age of British engineering, and most of it is beautifully preserved.

## Get involved, join us

In an increasingly fast-paced and crowded world, our historic canals and rivers are a local haven for people and nature. The Canal & River Trust is the new charity entrusted with the care of 2,000 miles of waterways in England and Wales.

### Donate time – volunteer!

Fancy getting involved with the valuable work of the Trust? Whether you want to get stuck in at your local canal or take on more of an office-based role, look at our website to find out what's happening in your area; there's never been a better time to get involved.

### Plant some honeysuckle with your mobile

We are undertaking 50 amazing projects to help celebrate our launch. And we promise that 100% of your donation will go directly to your local project.

Text today to help volunteers plant fruit trees at Caen Hill – one of the 'Wonders of the Waterways' on the Kennet & Avon Canal.

A £3 text from you could help our team plant wildflowers and grow a fruit orchard, full of apple, damson and greengage trees. The orchard will enhance the beauty of this glorious waterside spot – as well as providing food and shelter for threatened birds, bees and butterflies for many years to come.

So please text a gift of £3 today – every penny you give will help make Caen Hill a very special place to spend time.

Text BATH to 70007 to give £3 to our Caen Hill project.\*



Open up for your local map

For more information go to [canalrivertrust.org.uk](http://canalrivertrust.org.uk)



# Your local canal



## Bath

Compared to the Roman baths in this historic city, the Kennet & Avon Canal is a relative newcomer at just 200 years old. However, its gentle curves are the perfect complement to the formal elegance of Bath's Georgian architecture, leading you on tranquil towpath walks out towards the Wiltshire Downs.

### Connect with people

In its Georgian heyday, Bath was where the 'A-listers' of the day came to see and be seen, and the canals played their part by transporting huge amounts of coal by barge to heat the mansions

of the rich and famous. Now the canal offers the perfect viewpoint for seeing Bath. The Thermae Bath Spa, the stylish shops, the busy bars and trendy restaurants re-create the buzz of the Georgian era.

### Connect with nature

Winding its way through the countryside, the Kennet & Avon Canal is a nature reserve offering an attractive habitat for all kinds of creatures large and small. Keep your eyes

peeled – for slow worms, grass snakes, dragonflies and damselflies and if you are lucky you may even catch a glimpse of the ever-so-shy common lizard.

### Connect with history

Built between 1784 and 1810, you can literally walk in the footsteps of your ancestors. Look out for original features like the elegant cast-iron bridges in Sydney Gardens that were designed 'in the manner of the Chinese'.

Picnic next to the elaborately decorated chimney, all that remains of a former pumping station and say "cheese" in front of Cleveland House, one of the most photographed features, built half on land and half over the canal.

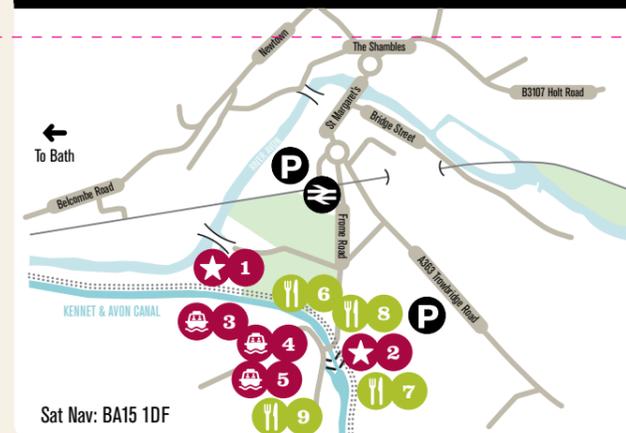
Bath



Sat Nav: BA2 4ET

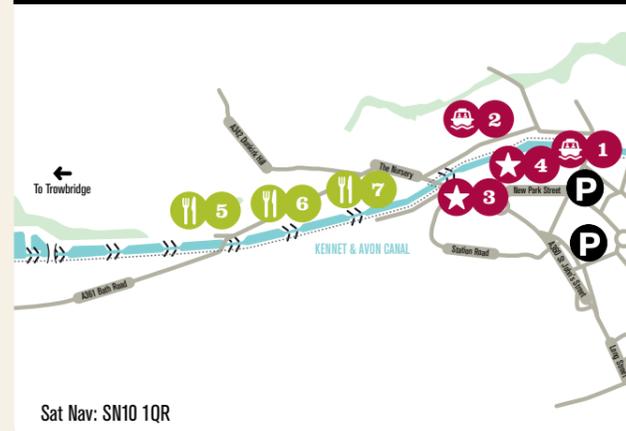
Go to [canalriverexplorers.org.uk](http://canalriverexplorers.org.uk) to download family trail maps

## Bradford-on-Avon



Sat Nav: BA15 1DF

## Devizes



Sat Nav: SN10 1QR

### Bath

- 1 The Bath Lock Flight
- 2 Bath Narrowboats
- 3 Bath Canal Boat Company
- 4 The Boathouse
- 5 The Dolphin Inn
- 6 The Hop Pole
- 7 Picnic in the Park
- 8 Kindling Coffee Co
- 9 The White Hart Inn
- 10 The George Inn

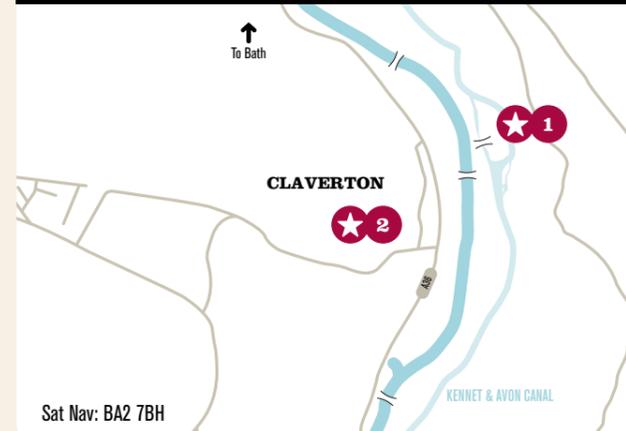
### Bradford-on-Avon

- 1 The Tithe Barn
- 2 TT Cycle Hire
- 3 Moonraker Luxury Canal Boats
- 4 Sally Narrowboats
- 5 Trip Boats from the K&A Canal Trust
- 6 The Lock Inn Café
- 7 The Kennet & Avon Canal Trust Tea Room
- 8 The Canal Tavern
- 9 The Barge Inn

### Devizes

- 1 Trip Boats from the K&A Canal Trust
  - 2 White Horse Boats
  - 3 Wadworth Brewery Visitor Centre
  - 4 Kennet & Avon Canal Trust Museum
  - 5 The Caen Hill Café and Information Centre
  - 6 The Black Horse Pub
  - 7 The Artichoke Inn
- ### Claverton
- 1 Claverton Pumping Station
  - 2 American Museum

## Claverton



Sat Nav: BA2 7BH



## Bradford-on-Avon

The town of Bradford-on-Avon is a history lesson brought to life. Highlights include the remains of an Iron Age fort and a Roman villa just outside the town.

The Kennet & Avon Canal runs from Reading to Bristol, and includes the magnificent Avoncliff Aqueduct that

crosses the River Avon and the railway line. There are lots of ways to explore the canal and its surroundings, with boats, canoes and bicycles all available for hire. It also offers plenty of pubs and restaurants. The Lock Inn Café is the perfect place to reward yourself after a towpath walk.



## Devizes

The Kennet & Avon Canal runs through Devizes – an historic town dating back to the 11th century, full of impressive architecture and Norman churches. Pack a shopping bag too and see what you can find in the small specialist shops hidden away in the many courtyards and alleyways.

One sight not to be missed here is the impressive 16-lock Caen Hill Lock Flight. It still

carries out its original function of lifting boats to the summit of Caen Hill. The area has a wealth of cycle trails and walking routes out into the surrounding countryside, or stay close to the canal and you may see kingfishers and waterfowl. You can also go pond-dipping from one of the platforms or just relax with a cup of tea at the Caen Hill Café.

## Claverton

Claverton Pumping Station is a rare example of Georgian technology. It was completed in 1813 to drive water from the river up to the canal 50ft above it. After falling into disrepair in the 1950s, it was fully restored and began pumping again in 1975. It is now open to visitors

at weekends, on Wednesdays and Bank Holidays, from March to October. The canal by Claverton contains a variety of fish such as chub, perch, pike and roach. Fishing permits are available from local fishing tackle shops.

### Key

- Canal, River or Dock
- Railway Station
- Marina
- Lock
- Pub, Restaurant or Café
- Picnic Area
- Bridge
- Place of Interest
- Information
- Canal Towpaths
- Boat Trip & Hire
- Parking

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find out more at [canalrivertrust.org.uk](http://canalrivertrust.org.uk)

To the best of our knowledge correct at time of print