



## Discover little adventures on your doorstep

Looks fun

Wow nice plan!

Watch boats working through Bingley locks

Bring binoculars and look for damselflies and dragonflies

Take a boat trip from New Dock in Leeds and view the waterfront from the canal

Pack wellies and find puddles to splash in

Walk down the towpath and look for wildflowers

Bike along the towpath and watch boats go through the locks

Check out the waterside cafes

Watch anglers fishing for roach, chub, tench and fearsome pike

Check out Standedge Visitor Centre and discover more about the tunnel

Take binoculars and keep a look out for seals at Tees Barrage

WOAH! Can I come?

Me too!



Are you looking for inspiring places to visit with the family? Then look no further than your local canal or river. This guide features a selection of our best waterside places to visit in Yorkshire & North East – whatever the weather! Each location includes a map, suggestions of fun-packed activities you can do and useful information on where to park, places to eat, toilets and boat trips.

Where will you explore today?



So many to choose from



Have a look on our map and find a little adventure on your doorstep!



Key

1. Tees Barrage & Stockton
2. Ripon
3. Skipton
4. Bingley
5. Saltaire
6. Leeds
7. Woodlesford Lock
8. Hebden Bridge
9. Sowerby Bridge
10. Standedge Tunnel & Vistor Centre
11. Naburn
12. Pocklington
13. Sprotborough
14. Drakeholes

\* AINA Waterways —



\* This map shows waterways managed by members of the Association of Inland Navigation Authorities (AINA). We have not featured places to visit on waterways managed by these organisations. There are other inland waterways that have not been shown, the information on this map is for guidance only, for accurate information please visit our website.





# Canal & River Trust

Making life better by water



## Visit the Tees Barrage & Stockton

Opened in 1995, the Tees Barrage is one of the waterways wonders. It took four years to build and involved diverting the mighty River Tees. Don't miss it!



**STAY SAFE:**  
Stay Away From the Edge

Map not to scale: covers approx 0.5 miles/0.8km

## A little bit of history

The Tees Barrage was built to improve the river's watersports facilities by making this stretch of the water non-tidal. Four massive floodgates control the flow of the river and prevent flooding. The Olympic-class White Water Centre built alongside it, hosts major watersports competitions. An awesome day out!

Best of all  
it's FREE!\*

### Five things to do at the Tees Barrage & Stockton

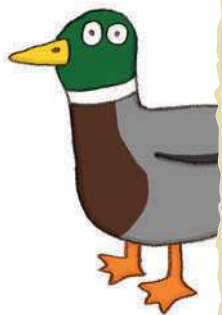
- **See** the Tees Barrage from the viewing platform and admire this great engineering feat. Don't miss the fish ladder that allows migrating fish such as salmon to navigate the barrage.
- **Cycle** to the beautiful Infinity Bridge and then to the replica of HM Bark Endeavour commanded by Lieutenant James Cook on his first voyage to Australia and New Zealand.
- **Take** binoculars and keep a look out for seals.
- **Learn** a new water sport such as windsurfing, water and jet-skiing, sailing, rowing, canoeing or white-water rafting.
- **Climb** the 18m-high Air Trail – the highest in the UK and the only one to be found alongside an Olympic standard white water course!

### Did you know?...

It's best to feed ducks tasty treats like:

- porridge oats
- rice
- peas
- chopped lettuce
- birdseed

Whilst they will gobble up white bread, crisps and chips its junk food for you and ducks!



### Information

Tees Barrage  
Tees Barrage Way  
Stockton-on-Tees  
TS18 2QW

- Parking
- Toilets +
- Café
- Pub
- Picnic
- Boat trips
- Path
- Allow half to full day for this visit

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Go to [canalriverexplorers.org.uk](http://canalriverexplorers.org.uk) to discover lots of fun things to do with the family.

A big thank you to all the volunteers who helped produce these.





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## Explore Ripon Canal

This beautiful stretch of the Ripon Canal was derelict until restored and reopened in 1996. Now, bordered by trees and wildflowers, it runs like a pretty green ribbon through the city.

Map not to scale: covers approx 0.5 miles/0.8km

**STAY SAFE:**  
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## A little bit of history

The River Ure becomes difficult to navigate upstream of Boroughbridge. So Ripon Canal, and other small sections of canal along the Ure, was cut so that boats could pass from Hull and York to Ripon. The main cargo was coal from Yorkshire and flax for the Knaresborough linen industry on the return industry.


Best of all  
it's FREE!\*


### Five things to do at Ripon Canal

- **Visit** one of the bird hides located along the canal. See how many birds you can spot and name in five minutes.
- **Take** a boat trip and discover more about Ripon Canal.
- **Walk** down the towpath and look for wildflowers.
- **Spot** old canal buildings now converted into other uses.
- **Visit** Ripon Cathedral. A church has been built on this site since 672AD.


### Information

Canal Wharf  
Ripon  
HG4 1AQ


 Parking

 Toilets

 Café

 Boat trips

... Path

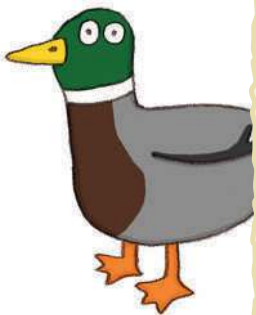
 Allow 1-2 hours  
for this visit

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### Did you know?...

Our lock gates are handbuilt by skilled carpenters in our workshops in the West Midlands and Yorkshire, from FSC Green Oak. Each one is unique and can take up to a month to make. Once built they last for about 25 years.



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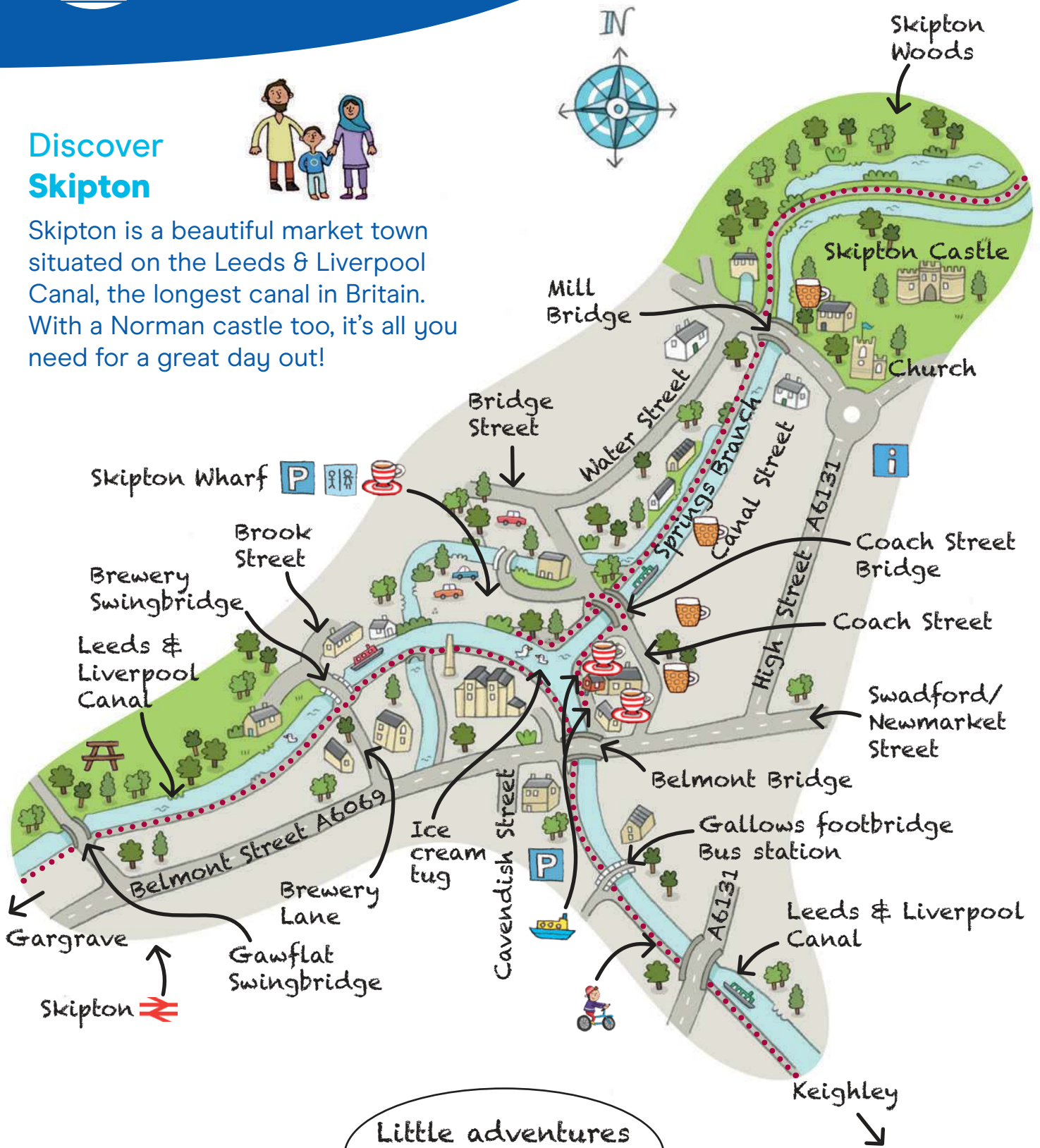
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## Discover Skipton



Skipton is a beautiful market town situated on the Leeds & Liverpool Canal, the longest canal in Britain. With a Norman castle too, it's all you need for a great day out!



Little adventures on your doorstep



**STAY SAFE:**  
Stay Away From the Edge

## A little bit of history

The Springs Branch leaves the Leeds & Liverpool Canal in the centre of Skipton. It was built for Lord Thanet, who lived in Skipton Castle and owned the limestone quarries served by the branch. Stone was brought from the quarries by horse drawn trams and loaded into boats for the journey to Leeds.

Best of all  
it's FREE!\*

### Five things to do at Skipton

- ❑ **Check out** Skipton Castle, built in 1090. The Springs Branch winds round it and forms a moat.
- ❑ **Walk** along the canal and spot old warehouses, a water mill and the chute that was used to deliver limestone into the canal barges.
- ❑ **Sit** at the wharf, eat fish and chips and feed the ducks.
- ❑ **Take** a boat ride and discover more about the Leeds & Liverpool Canal.
- ❑ **Explore** the award-winning High Street with its independent shops and bustling market.

### Information

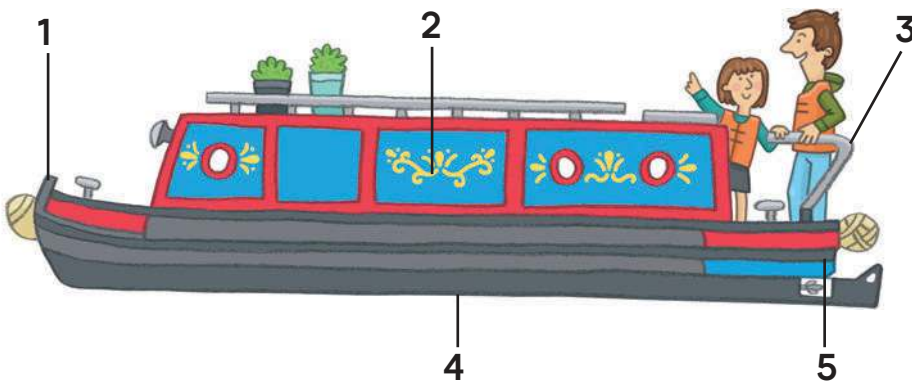
Coach Street Car Park  
Coach Street  
Skipton BD23 1LE

-  Parking (pay & display)
-  Toilets
-  Café
-  Pub
-  Information
-  Picnic
-  Cycling
-  Boat trips
-  Path
-  Allow up to half a day for this visit

#### \* Don't forget:

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### Can you name the different parts of a narrowboat?



Answers: 1 bow; 2 cabin; 3 tiller; 4 hull; 5 stern

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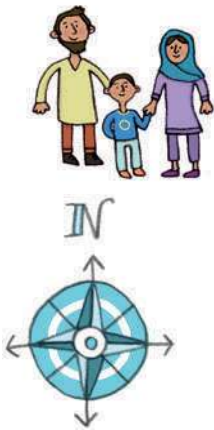
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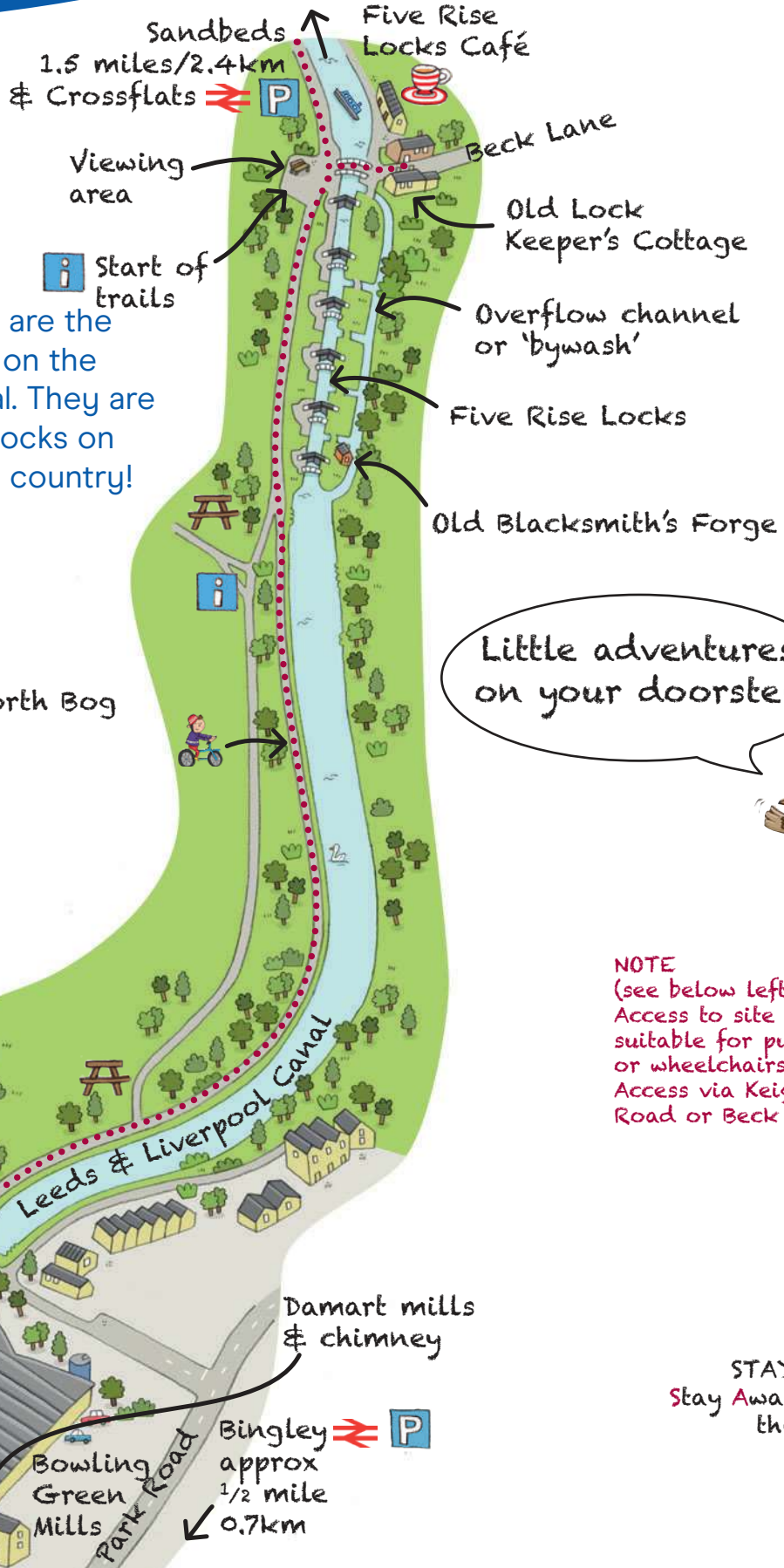


## Explore Bingley Five Rise Locks

Bingley Five Rise Locks are the most awesome feature on the Leeds & Liverpool Canal. They are the steepest staircase locks on the longest canal in the country!



North Bog



Little adventures on your doorstep



**NOTE**  
(see below left):  
Access to site not suitable for push- or wheelchairs here.  
Access via Keighley Road or Beck Lane

**STAY SAFE:**  
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**NOTE** (see above right)

## A little bit of history

Bingley Five Rise Locks built more than 200 years ago, are one of the 'Seven Wonders of the Waterways'. The staircase locks open directly from one to another, lifting boats 18 metres (60 feet) up the valley along the Leeds & Liverpool Canal.

Best of all  
it's FREE!\*

### Five things to do at Bingley Five Rise Lock

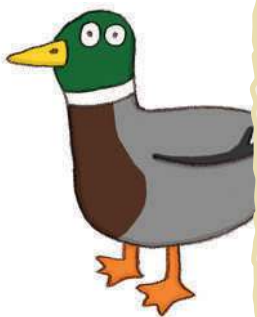
- Watch** boats working through the locks – it can take 45 minutes to go up the locks and 30 minutes to go down.
- Take** a break in the café. It was once the stables where horses that hauled boats in the early days of canals rested.
- Cycle** along the towpath and catch a train back.
- Walk** a short way down the valley and see Bingley Three Rise Locks (0.3 miles/0.5 km).
- Discover** more about Bingley Five Rise Locks by downloading our Smartphone App, Interactive QR code trail or Geocaching trail. Look out for signs on site.

### Did you know?...

It's best to feed ducks tasty treats like:


- porridge oats
- rice
- peas
- chopped lettuce
- birdseed


Whilst they will gobble up white bread, crisps and chips its junk food for you and ducks!



### Information


Five Rise Locks,  
Beck Lane, Bingley  
BD16 4DT

 Parking  
(in town)


 Toilets

 Café

 Picnic

 Cycling

 Path

 Allow up to half  
a day for this  
visit

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## Explore Saltaire

Saltaire is a textile village built on the River Aire and the Leeds & Liverpool Canal. It has World Heritage Status – that means it's as important as Stonehenge!

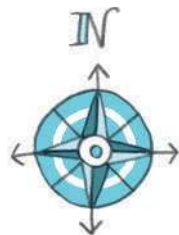
Little adventures on your doorstep



Dowley Gap Aqueduct (1/2 mile/0.8km) & Bingley



**STAY SAFE:**  
Stay Away From the Edge



## A little bit of history

Saltaire is named after Victorian industrialist Sir Titus Salt who sited his textile mills beside the Leeds & Liverpool Canal and the River Aire (hence Salt-Aire). He built the village with stone cottages, schools, hospitals and churches for his workers. It was a far cry from the slums where mill workers usually lived.

Best of all  
it's FREE!\*

### Five things to do at Saltaire

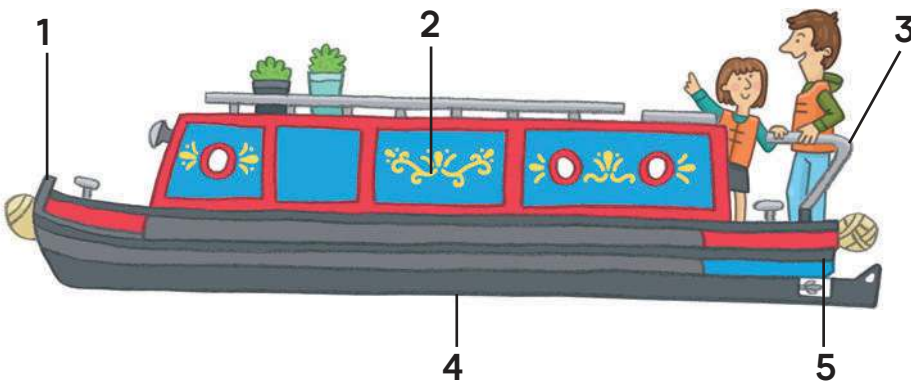
- **Titus** Salt didn't approve of pubs so Saltaire was a 'dry' village. Follow his spirit and take a break in cafés!
- **Bike** along the towpath and watch boats go through the locks.
- **Have a picnic** in Roberts Park on the banks of the River Aire. Keep a look out for otters which have been spotted here.
- **Follow** the Saltaire to Bingley QR trail. Look out for signs on site.
- **Visit** Salts Mill built in the grand Italianate style. Today it houses the largest collections of work by David Hockney, one of Britain's great modern painters.

### Information

Salts Mill  
Victoria Street  
Saltaire BD98 8AA

-  Parking
-  Toilets
-  Cafe
-  Pub
-  Information
-  Picnic
-  Play area
-  Cycling
-  Path
-  Sculpture Trail
-  Allow 2-3 hours for this visit

### Can you name the different parts of a narrowboat?



Answers: 1 bow; 2 cabin; 3 tiller; 4 hull; 5 stern

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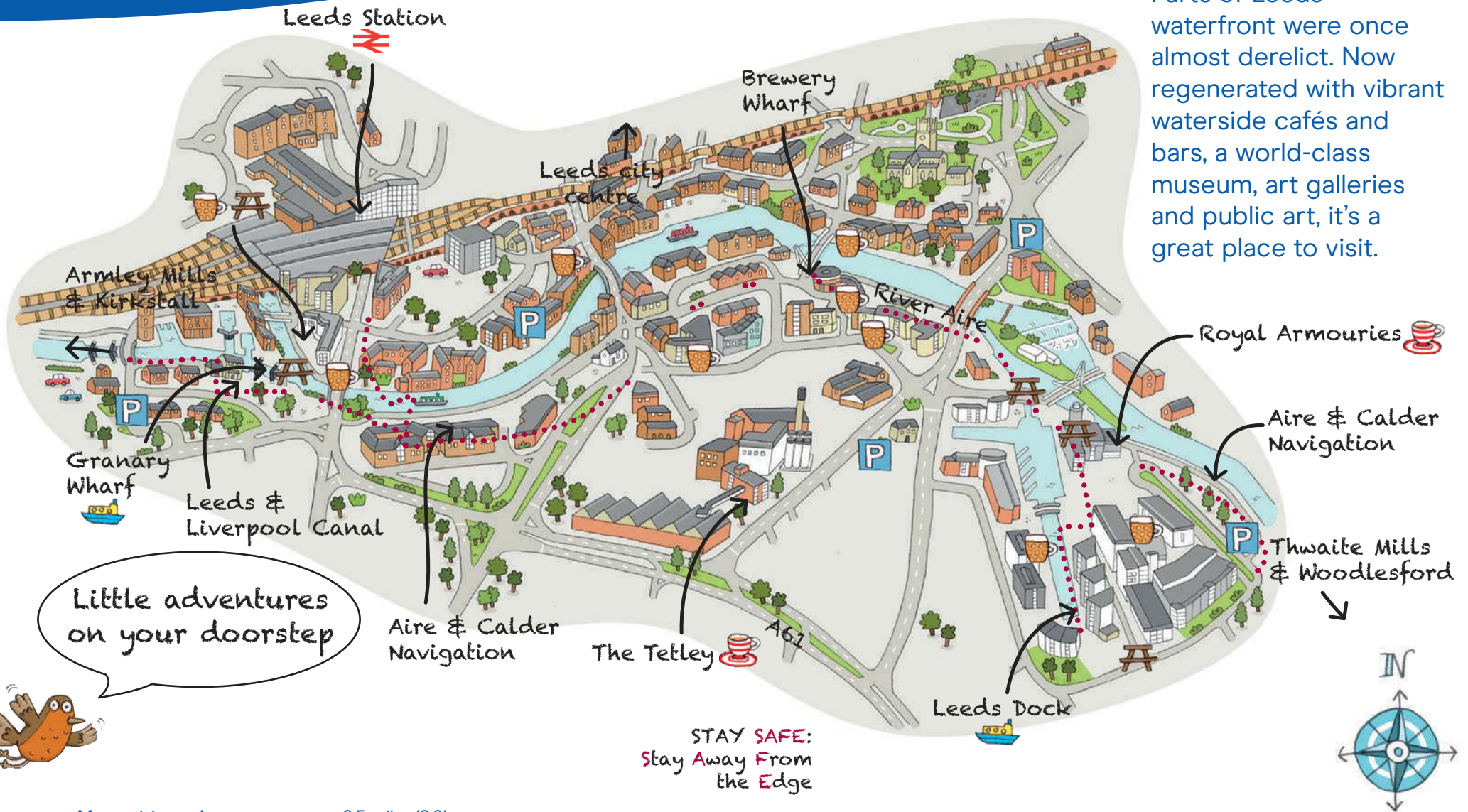
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## Discover Leeds Waterfront

Parts of Leeds waterfront were once almost derelict. Now regenerated with vibrant waterside cafés and bars, a world-class museum, art galleries and public art, it's a great place to visit.



Map not to scale: covers approx 0.5 miles/0.8km

## A little bit of history

Leeds Dock, located on the Aire & Calder Navigation, was once a vast complex of store yards and warehouses busy offloading coal and goods from the barges that plied this wide canal. It was a nerve centre that provided a vital cross-Pennine link from Liverpool to the North Sea via the Aire & Calder Navigation and the Humber.

Best of all  
it's FREE!\*

### Five things to do at Leeds Waterfront

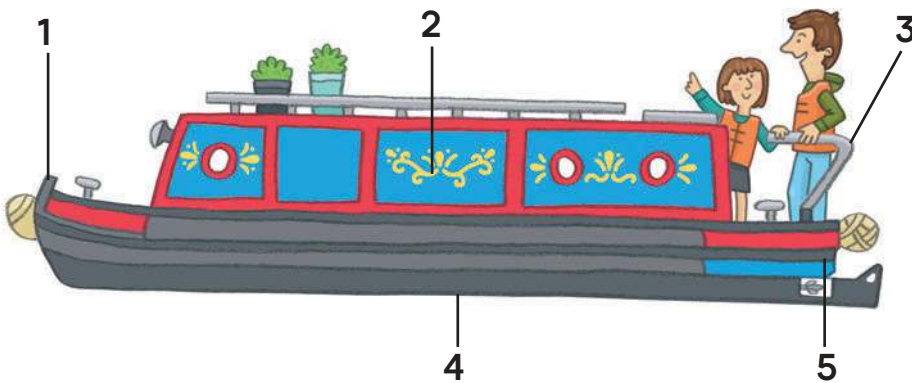
- **Take** a boat trip from Leeds Dock and view the waterfront from the canal
- **Visit** The Royal Armouries and discover a world-class collection of arms and armour. Look out for exciting activities for kids.
- **Take** a walk along the towpath to Thwaite Mills (2.7 km/1.7 miles), a water-powered mill which at various times milled rape oil for lubrication and lighting, and crushed wood for dyes and whiting for household products
- **Take** a look at The Tetley, a stunning art deco building that has great art exhibitions and family art activities
- **Pack** a picnic, choose a picnic bench overlooking the waterfront and soak up the atmosphere.

### Information

The Tetley  
Hunslet Road  
Leeds LS10 1JQ

-  Parking (all P&D)
-  Toilets (in pubs, cafes and attractions)
-  Café
-  Pub
-  Picnic bench
-  Boat trips (from Leeds Dock to Granary Wharf and back)
-  Path
-  Allow 3 hours for this visit

### Can you name the different parts of a narrowboat?



Answers: 1 bow; 2 cabin; 3 tiller; 4 hull; 5 stern

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# Canal & River Trust

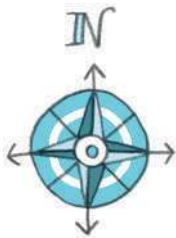
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## Explore Woodlesford Lock

Located just five miles from Leeds, Woodlesford Lock on the Aire & Calder Navigation, is one of the best places to escape the city and enjoy country walks.

Thwaite Mills Museum & Leeds  
←



Little adventures on your doorstep



**STAY SAFE:**  
Stay Away From the Edge

Map not to scale: covers approx 0.5 miles/0.8km



## A little bit of history

The Aire & Calder Navigation was built to connect Leeds to the Humber and the North Sea. Unique to this navigation were 'Tom Puddings', huge open containers for carrying coal, linked together and pushed along by tugs. The waterway still carries commercial traffic but today, it makes its way through peaceful countryside.

Best of all  
it's FREE!\*

### Five things to do at Woodlesford Lock

- Picnic** Pack binoculars and track down exotic wooden wildlife such as elephant, antelope, giraffe, gorilla, deer and the very rare Gruffalo!
- Use** the bird screen to watch a huge variety of bird life. Look out for sand martins on the riverbank, the blue flash of a kingfisher or spot a forked-tailed red kite circling in the sky.
- Visit** Thwaite Mills, a water-powered mill which at various times milled rape oil for lubrication and lighting, and crushed wood for dyes and whiting for household products
- Keep** a look about for working boats and barges
- Take** a walk. There's a circular walk to Fishponds Lock (1.75 miles), or a towpath walk to Lemonroyd Lock (1.5 miles), or try part of the Leeds Country Way, a 62-mile long circular walk divided into 4-6 mile sections.

### What to Spot

Explore the waterside together.  
How many of these can you spot?

A duck quacking




166

The number of a  
bridge or lock



A fascinating insect

An interesting  
stone or brick




The names of  
two boats






A face  
or animal  
in the  
clouds




### Information


Woodlesford Lock  
Woodlesford  
West Yorkshire  
LS26 8PU

 Parking (free & P&D)


 Toilets (in hotel, pubs and cafés in village)

 Café

 Pub


 Picnic bench

 Path

 Allow 2 hours for this visit

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 Sign up for our newsletter and get regular updates and offers from the Canal & River Trust.

Simply go online and search for 'canal newsletter'.

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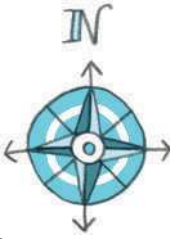


## Explore Hebden Bridge

Discover this lovely old textile mill town on the Rochdale Canal. The spectacular scenery and quirky, independent shops, galleries and cafés in Hebden Bridge, ensure a great day out.



Little adventures on your doorstep



**STAY SAFE:**  
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## A little bit of history

Hebden Bridge was, and still is, famous for the production of corduroy. It was once known as 'trouser town'! Packhorses took the cloth from the mills to the canal, and from there to Sowerby Bridge or Lancashire. Many of the old mills still stand, but most are now converted into studios and workshops.






Best of all  
it's FREE!\*

### Five things to do at Hebden Bridge

- Take** a boat trip and discover more about the Rochdale Canal.
- Explore** the many art galleries and independent shops in the town centre.
- Pick up** a heritage trail and explore Hebden Bridge.
- Walk up** to the old packhorse bridge that gives its name to the town.
- Spot** old mill buildings and workers' cottages stacked up the steep valley.

### Information

Albert Street  
Hebden Bridge  
HX7 8AH

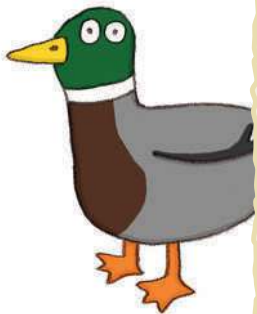
-  Parking
-  Toilets
-  Café
-  Pub
-  Information
-  Picnic
-  Boat trip
-  Path
-  Allow 2-3 hours for this visit

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### Did you know?...

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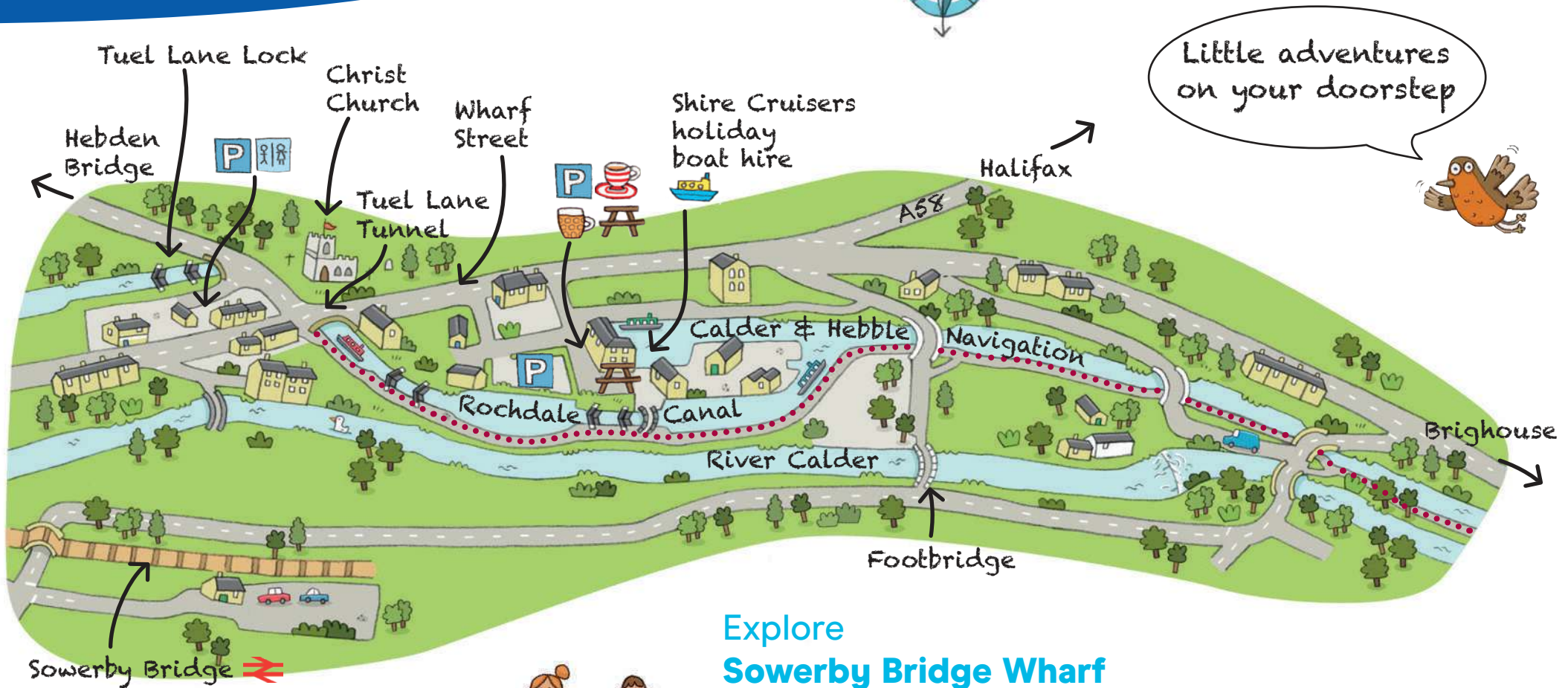
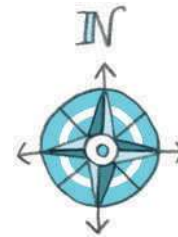






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the Edge



## Explore Sowerby Bridge Wharf

Sowerby Bridge Wharf is where two waterways meet on the edge of the Pennines. Once a major industrial centre, now trendy pubs and cafes occupy many of the old canal buildings.

## A little bit of history

Sowerby Bridge Wharf was a vital link in the chain of waterways stretching from the Humber to the Mersey. Here, cargo was transferred from long boats called Mersey flats to the shorter Yorkshire keels because they were too big for the locks on the Calder & Hebble Navigation.









Best of all  
it's FREE!\*

### Five things to do at Sowerby Bridge Wharf

- **Take a walk** round the canal basin – its one of the finest in the country.
- **Walk Over** to Tuel Tunnel Lock – the deepest lock in Britain. Watch boats being raised nearly 6 metres (18 feet) and chat to our lock keeper.
- **Check out** the waterside cafes and spot how many have been converted from old canal warehouses.
- **Spot** Wainhouse Tower built for local dye works owner, John Wainhouse. The textile industry once boomed here with raw and processed cotton delivered to and from the mills by canal.
- **Boat building** has a long tradition here. You can still see colourful narrowboats being refitted and repaired on the Wharf.

### Information

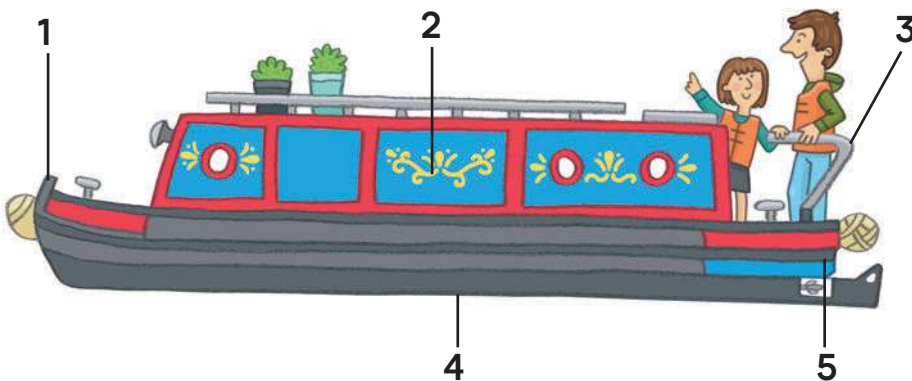
Stanley Street  
Sowerby Bridge  
HX6 2AJ

-  Parking
-  Toilets
-  Café
-  Pub
-  Picnic
-  Boat hire
-  Path
-  Allow 3 hours for this visit

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## Discover Standedge Tunnel



Standedge Tunnel is the longest, highest and oldest canal tunnel to be built in Britain. It's one of the wonders of the waterways. Don't miss it!



Map not to scale: covers approx 0.5 miles/0.8km

**STAY SAFE:**  
Stay Away From  
the Edge



## A little bit of history

Standedge Tunnel was cut through the Pennines by hundreds of navvies working with nothing but picks, shovels and muscle power. It took 16 years, and after many financial and constructional difficulties, opened in 1811. More than three miles long, there's no towpath so boats were 'legged' through. Phew!

Best of all  
it's FREE!\*

### Five things to do at Standedge Tunnel

- Take a boat trip** into the tunnel and find out what it must have been like to 'leg' boats through.
- Check out** the Visitor Centre located in an old canal warehouse. Discover more about the tunnel and how it was built.
- Visit** the Loft Space Creative hub.
- Take a break** in the Watersedge Café and enjoy a delicious snack.
- Keep an eye open** for wildlife in the Tunnel End Reservoir Nature Trail.

### Information

HD7 6NQ

-  Parking + 
-  Toilets
-  Café
-  Visitor Centre
-  Picnic bench
-  Play area
-  Boat trips
-  Path
-  Allow half a day for this visit

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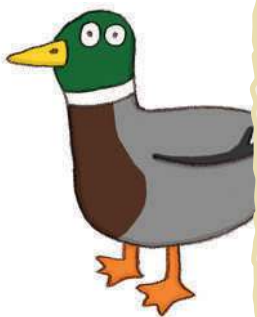
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### Did you know?...

It's best to feed ducks tasty treats like:

- porridge oats
- rice
- peas
- chopped lettuce
- birdseed

Whilst they will gobble up white bread, crisps and chips its junk food for you and ducks!



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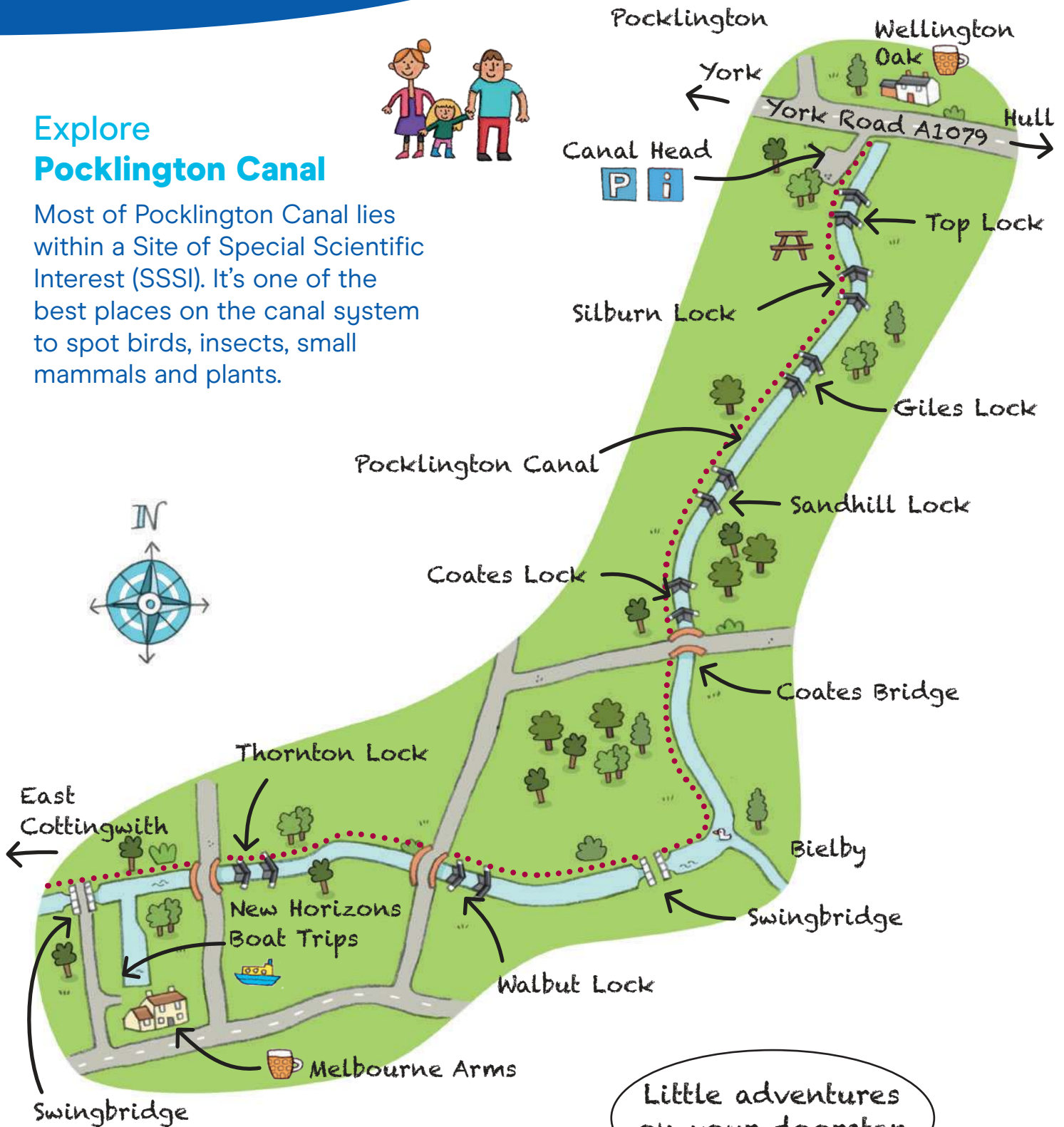
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## Explore Pocklington Canal

Most of Pocklington Canal lies within a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). It's one of the best places on the canal system to spot birds, insects, small mammals and plants.



Little adventures on your doorstep



**STAY SAFE:**  
Stay Away From the Edge

## A little bit of history

Pocklington Canal is a broad canal that runs for almost ten miles (15.3 km) through nine locks. It was built to allow Yorkshire keels, which operated on the River Derwent, to use it. In the 1960s, the canal was in serious decline but thanks to a team of dedicated volunteers, much of it has been restored.



Best of all  
it's FREE!\*

### Five things to do at Pocklington Canal

- Take** a boat trip and discover more about the Pocklington Canal.
- Look for** swing bridges, quaint hump-backed bridges, restored and unrestored locks.
- Bring** binoculars to look out for uncommon wildlife such as water voles and damselflies.
- Have** a picnic on the banks of the canal and watch out for nesting birds in the reeds.
- Pack** wellies and find puddles to splash in.



### Information

Melbourne YO42 4QJ  
&  
Pocklington YO42 1NW



Parking



Information  
(Sunday &  
bank holiday  
afternoons)



Picnic



Boat trips  
(Sunday &  
bank holiday  
afternoons)



Path



Allow 3-4 hours  
for this visit

#### \* Don't forget:

Although the site is always open the facilities and boat trips may not be and some may be chargeable. Please check with local businesses before setting out.

### What to Spot

Explore the waterside together.  
How many of these can you spot?

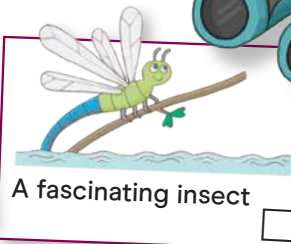


A duck quacking



166

The number of a  
bridge or lock



A fascinating insect



An interesting  
stone or brick



The names of  
two boats



A face  
or animal  
in the  
clouds



Go to [canalriverexplorers.org.uk](http://canalriverexplorers.org.uk)  
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A big thank you to all the volunteers who helped produce these.





## Explore Sprotbrough

Sprotbrough Lock is one of the loveliest spots on the Sheffield & South Yorkshire Navigation. It's one of the best places on the canal system to watch birds.



**STAY SAFE:**  
Stay Away From  
the Edge

## A little bit of history

The Sheffield & South Yorkshire Navigation runs from Sheffield to Keadby where it joins the River Trent. Sprotbrough Locks is a peaceful spot surrounded by woodlands and a nature reserve – a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). It's a wonderful place to escape city life and enjoy country walks and easy bike rides.

Best of all  
it's FREE!\*

### Five things to do at Sprotbrough

- Bird spotting** is a must in summer. Pack binoculars and look out for birds attracted to the Sprotbrough Flash.
- Take** a boat trip and discover more Sheffield & South Yorkshire Navigation.
- Enjoy** a picnic on the banks and feed the ducks.
- Watch** anglers fishing for roach, chub, tench and fearsome pike.
- Watch** boats pass through Sprotbrough Lock.

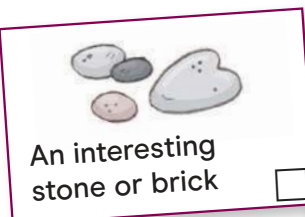
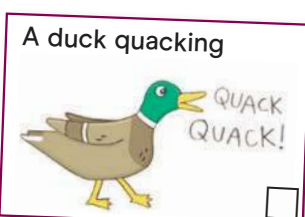
### Information

Sprotbrough Locks  
Nursery Lane  
Sprotbrough  
Doncaster DN5 7NB

-  Parking
-  Pub
-  Picnic
-  Cycling
-  Holidays & taster cruises
-  Path
-  Allow 1-2 hours for this visit

### What to Spot

Explore the waterside together.  
How many of these can you spot?



#### \* Don't forget:

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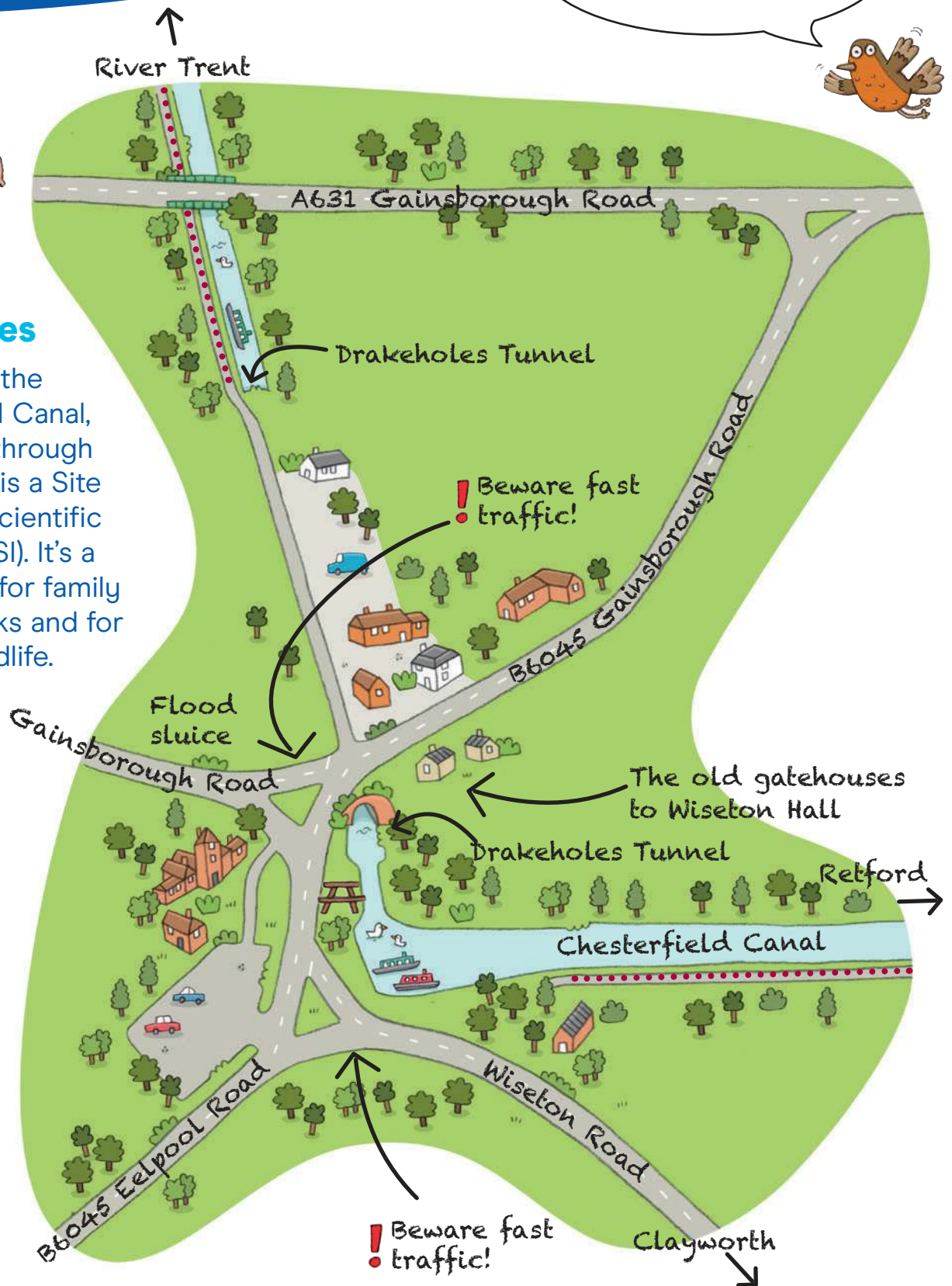


Little adventures on your doorstep



## Visit Drakeholes

This part of the Chesterfield Canal, which runs through Drakeholes, is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). It's a great place for family country walks and for spotting wildlife.



**STAY SAFE:**  
Stay Away From the Edge

## A little bit of history

The Chesterfield Canal carried bulky goods such as coal, limestone, lead, timber and local produce such as cheese between Chesterfield and the River Trent. On this canal, boats weren't painted with traditional 'rose and castles' patterns, and boatmen lived 'ashore' with their families rather than on boats.



Best of all  
it's FREE!\*

### Five things to do at Drakeholes

- Look out for** the entrance to Drakeholes Tunnel. It was built without a towpath so the boats were 'legged' through.
- Take** a fishing net and go canal dipping.
- Look out for** the colourful narrowboats.
- Pack** a picnic, sit on the canal banks and enjoy the peaceful atmosphere.
- Bring** binoculars and look for damselflies and dragonflies that thrive on the still waters of canals.




### Information


Eel Pool Road  
Doncaster  
DH10 5DH

 Parking

 Toilets

 Picnic

 Path

 Allow 1-2 hours  
for this visit

#### \* Don't forget:

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## What to Spot

Explore the waterside together.  
How many of these can you spot?

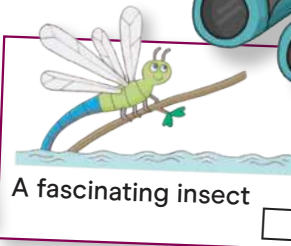


A duck quacking



166

The number of a  
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The names of  
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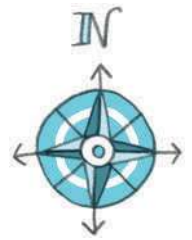


# Canal & River Trust

Making life better by water

## Explore Naburn Locks

Part of the River Ouse navigation, Naburn Locks were once busy with barges transporting goods to and from York and Hull and beyond. Today it's the perfect place for country walks and spotting wildlife.



Map not to scale: covers approx 0.7 miles/1.2km

Selby ↘

STAY SAFE:  
Stay Away From the Edge

## A little bit of history

The first lock at Naburn was built in 1757 – one of the earliest examples of canal engineering in the country. In Victorian times, a larger lock was built alongside the original one to allow large freight barges to pass through. It was opened with much ado by Queen Victoria's grandson, Prince Albert Victor.



Best of all  
it's FREE!\*









### Five things to do at Naburn Locks

- Take a walk** on the banks of the River Ouse and watch out for red kites, kingfishers and herons
- Check out** old canal buildings such as the forge, workshop, the lock keeper's cottage and the cast iron swing bridge
- Explore** the Naburn nature trail and sensory garden
- Take** a leisurely scenic boat trip to York along the mighty River Ouse
- Walk or bike** up the towpath to Naburn village and discover the historic church and traditional pub.

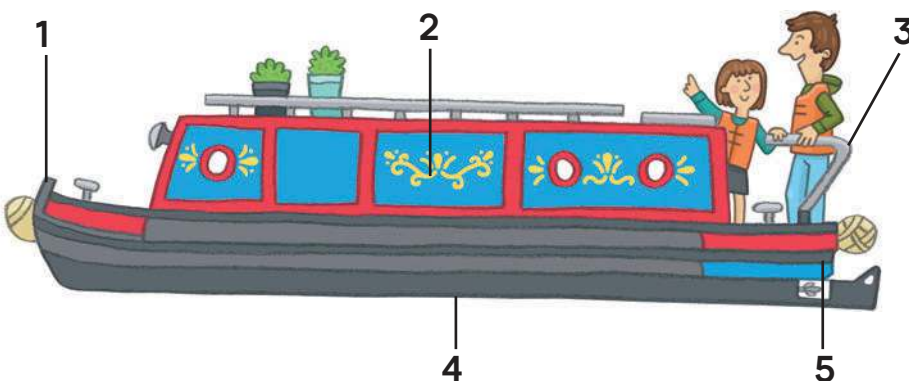


### Information

Naburn Locks  
Naburn  
York YO19 4RU

-  Parking
-  Toilets  
(at the locks)
-  Pub
-  Picnic
-  Boat trips
-  Path
-  Nature Trail
-  Allow 2 hours  
for this visit

### Can you name the different parts of a narrowboat?



Answers: 1 bow; 2 cabin; 3 tiller; 4 hull; 5 stern

#### \* Don't forget:

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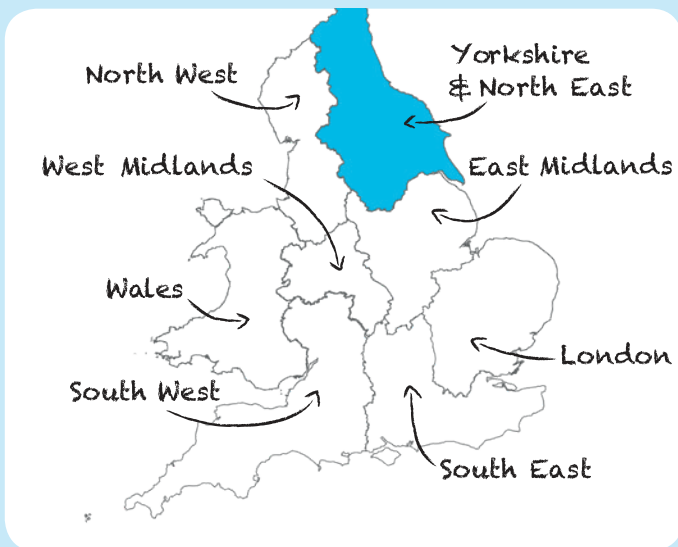




# Canal & River Trust

Making life better by water

**For more inspiring places to visit look out for our other guides.**



A place to walk, somewhere to feed the ducks or a place to simply be. **Life by water is relaxing, friendly and healthy, it makes a difference to how we feel.**

At Canal & River Trust we believe life is better by water. We care for these waterways so they exist for you to enjoy, for free, every day.

Discover, explore, enjoy.



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