

THE LOCK INN CANOE HIRE HANDOVER

Exploring the Kennet & Avon Canal by canoe is a great way to spend an hour or so. However, as with most things fun there are also things that you must know and rules to follow to keep you and your family / friends safe.

If there is anything that you don't understand or any questions that you have relating to your canoe, equipment, or the canal, please don't hesitate to ask.

WHAT TO WEAR & SPARE EQUIPMENT

Loose, comfortable clothing & sensible footwear (i.e., trainers, flat sandals, no wellington boots, no high heels) Please be aware that when the sun is out, it will reflect off the water which may make it hot. Please dress accordingly (layers that can be removed if necessary are recommended) As is the way in England, weather conditions can change rapidly so a change of clothes is advisable.

Other things we recommend taking on your trip is a hat, sunscreen & a drink. If you are not planning to stop at one of the cafes or pubs along your way, snacks or a picnic is also a nice idea.

Please do not bring phones, jewellery, watches, cameras, car keys, etc if not waterproof. We can provide you with a 'dry bucket' to help protect your valuables however these are limited and we cannot be held responsible for any loss or damage to any of your personal property.

CANOE SAFETY RULES

To get into your canoe – Have someone hold the canoe steady whilst you sit on the edge of the bank and step carefully into it. Crouch low, keep your knees bent and hold onto the sides of the canoe for balance as you walk to your seat. Always keep to the middle of the canoe to keep it from rocking.

Keep Low – do not stand up or walk around when you are away from the bank. Avoid sudden, jerky movements. Always sit on the seats or in the centre of the canoe. Sitting on the side of the canoe will cause it to tip over. Stay away from low hanging trees or branches near the bank. **IN THE EVENT OF CAPSIZING – DON'T PANIC!** Remove yourself from the path of oncoming traffic and head for the nearest bank. If you feel it is not possible to retrieve the canoe &/or equipment, please ring for further assistance.

For general assistance call The Lock Inn 01225 727669

IN THE CASE OF EMERGENCY (if an injury has occurred and you require medical assistance) dial 999

Be aware of Weil's Disease (Leptospirosis) Although it is rare in the UK, it can be a serious infection and you should familiarise yourself with the symptoms. If you experience flu-like symptoms, such as headache, chills & muscle pain after canoeing, please seek medical advice. Before taking part in canoeing, cover all cuts & grazes with waterproof plasters. Wash your hands after contact with the canoe & canal water and before eating & drinking.

NAVIGATION & MOORING

The hirer undertakes to abide by the Canal & River Trust code for the use of unpowered craft or inland waterways, and such rules that apply on any other rivers that the canoe is being used on

- CONSIDER OTHERS
- When passing anglers, unless they politely request otherwise, follow a straight course & keep to the centre of the channel, in single file.
- Don't perform speed events without permission from the local waterway office.
- TAKE CARE – make sure your craft is suitable for the waterway you are using & that you are competent to use it.
- Larger craft need deeper water and room to manoeuvre so move to the side of the channel where the helmsmen can see you.
- Contact the local waterway office or visit CRT's website to check on its safety regulations.
- Unpowered craft are not permitted through many tunnels or on parts of some larger river navigations.
- If you are permitted to use a tunnel, carry a light & whistle to warn other craft of your presence. Travel in groups of at least three.
- Wear a life jacket or buoyancy aid while afloat.
- DO NOT TAKE CANOES THROUGH LOCKS
- Give way to larger craft & pass on the RIGHT-HAND SIDE whenever possible.
- Do not moor on the non – towpath side of the canal or at bridges where 'no mooring' signs are displayed
- Powered boats use propellers. Please keep yourself & paddles away from them
- Be aware of potential blind spots for other canal users – although you might have seen them, they might not have seen you
- Paddle gently & at a distance from wildlife to minimise disturbance.

IMPORTANT POINTS BEFORE SETTING OFF

- No fishing is allowed unless you have a national rod license & the appropriate permit to fish on the stretch of canal your journey takes you on
- As per the countryside code, please protect the wildlife & the countryside by not leaving rubbish on the canal bank or by dropping it in the canal. Bring it back with you & we will dispose of it for you
- Many people enjoy the canal, please respect others & keep the noise to a minimum.

HEALTH & SAFETY

If any of your party have any health issues, such as asthma, diabetes, heart disease etc, please make us aware before setting off. In certain circumstances, we may discourage you from taking part in the activity. Anyone with epilepsy should not participate in this activity.

Maximum weight per canoe is 250kg

Anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Minimum age to hire is 18.

Alcohol should not be consumed before or during your trip. Anyone found under the influence of alcohol, or any other substance will not be permitted to hire or participate in the activity.

Judgement is impaired and awareness & reaction times are reduced. We have the right to confiscate any large amounts of alcohol until your return.

ENJOY YOUR TRIP

Canoe Hire at The Lock Inn

DATE:/...../20..... SURNAME:.....

HOUSE NAME or NUMBER: POSTCODE.....

CONTACT NUMBER:

TERMS & CONDITIONS OF HIRE

- A form of identification along with a proof of address (Driving Licence, utility bill or similar) should be made available when hiring a canoe.
- A photograph taken by us of a Credit Card / Debit Card / Driving Licence in your name will be required.
- Minimum Age to hire is 18 years old. Anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult.
- Maximum weight per canoe is 250kg. We recommend a maximum of 3 adults or 2 adults and 2 children per canoe. If we feel your group could exceed a single canoe, we may suggest a second hire. Please accept this as a Health & Safety observation and nothing else.
- Life Jackets are offered free of charge for everyone in your group.
- Please read the Canoe Hire Handover Form attached carefully. (It may be helpful to take a photo of it also with your phone, so you are able to refer to any important information whilst you are on your trip). When you are happy with the Terms & Conditions listed, please sign below.

Tariff		
EQUIPMENT	CHARGES	CHARGES
CANOE	1 st October – 31 st March £22.50 for 2hrs then £10 per Hour thereafter.	1 st April – 30 th September £32.50 for the first 2hrs then £12.50 per hour thereafter.
<i>Oars</i>	<i>FOC</i>	<i>FOC</i>
<i>Dry Bucket</i>	<i>FOC</i>	<i>FOC</i>
<i>Life Jacket</i>	<i>FOC</i>	<i>FOC</i>

DECLARATION:

I / We have read & understood the above information and the *Canoe Hire Handover Form*.

Signatory

Office use only.....

Identification Documents Produced: Passport / Driving License / OTHER (please specify _____)

Proof of Address Produced: _____

Has Customer been shown the hire conditions? YES / NO

EQUIPMENT	NO's	TIME OUT:	TIME IN:
Canoe			
Oars			
Life Jackets			
Dry Bucket			
TOTAL HOURS			
TOTAL HIRE FEE			

FORM OF PAYMENT: _____