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**0303 040 4040**  
 (Lines open 8am to 6pm – Mon to Fri, 9am to 5pm – Sat, 10am to 4pm – Sun)

**Visit Canal & River Trust website to find out more information.**

The only exception is for current members of British Canoeing and Canoe Wales who get to use our waterways for free as part of their membership.

Our 2,000 miles of canals and rivers need a lot of TLC to keep them in great shape for everyone to use and enjoy – no matter the size of craft. As well as maintaining things like canal walls or water flow, your licence fee goes towards making sure there are enough easy access points, ramps and slipways for example.

## Licensing

### 10 Reedley Marina, Burnley to Greenberfield Top Lock, Barnoldswick

Paddle across the border from Lancashire to Yorkshire and take in some of the great sites on the trail.

<b>Start</b>	Reedley Marina BB12 0DX
<b>Finish</b>	Greenberfield Top Lock, BB18 5SU
<b>Distance</b>	10½ miles
<b>Time</b>	2½ to 5 hours possible 6 depending on arrival time at Foulridge tunnel
<b>Portages and Locks</b>	Barrowford Lock Flight (7 locks, 1km)
<b>OS Map</b>	Landranger 103 – Blackburn & Burnley

- Local Facilities**
- Facilities available at Reedley Marina – Kingfisher Café
  - Boater facilities at Barrowford Top Lock, Foulridge Wharf, and Greenberfield Locks, Café at Foulridge and Greenberfield.
  - Anchor Inn at Salterforth.

- Description**
- Launch at Reedley Marina – contact to arrange if leaving vehicles.
  - Portage Barrowford locks 7 locks 30 minutes.
  - After a short paddle from the top of the locks you will arrive at Foulridge Tunnel. **Please follow all instructions.**
  - Leaving the tunnel and wharf behind you pass the Anchor Inn at Salterforth.
  - Continue past Lower Park Marina before reaching the exit at Greenberfield Top Lock.



## Safety

Canoeing, kayaking and paddle boarding can be fun, however, any activity on water brings its own hazards and dangers, please ensure you have the correct equipment and level of experience for your planned tip.

**Equipment**  
 ALWAYS wear a Buoyancy Aid ensuring a correct fit for everyone in the party. Carry a mobile phone in a waterproof case as well as a whistle.

**Clothing**  
 Wear footwear you don't mind getting wet, and clothing suitable for the weather conditions, carry suitable spare clothing in a waterproof dry bag, especially in colder weather conditions.

**Navigation rules**  
 Ensure you stay to the right where possible, take care around bridges and other canal infrastructure where visibility can be impaired. Portage at all bridges and locks. Powered craft have right of way over unpowered craft so leave as much space as possible.

**Locks and swing bridges**  
 It is best practice to portage all locks and swing bridges, portaging past and swing bridges, portaging past water. Most swing bridges are required to be unlocked and either manually or electronically operated therefore saving time by portaging.

**Tunnels**  
 There are two tunnels along the trail, Gannow at 511m and Foulridge at 1 mile in length, all paddlers are required to wear a buoyancy aid, display a bright white forward facing light and carry an alternative means of attracting attention with an airhorn recommended. When at any tunnel entrance's please follow any powered craft at an appropriate distance. The Foulridge tunnel operates on a one-way traffic light system please follow all instructions at the entrance to the tunnel and **DO NOT ENTER WHEN THE LIGHTS ARE RED.**

**Launching and landing**  
 Our canal and river banks are home to some of the country's rarest wildlife, including the endangered water vole. Please don't 'seal' launch or drag boats into the canal as it can damage the bank. Float your canoe for launching, lift out when landing and carry it to and from the water. Where possible please keep to any designated paths or launching points.

**On the water**  
 Try to keep as quiet as possible. By keeping any noise you make to a minimum you're bound to see more wildlife. Constantly assess the wildlife around you. If you see signs of disturbance move away quietly.

**After your paddle**  
 We want future generations of paddlers to enjoy the same experience that you do now. The ability to canoe along peaceful corridors of water, rich with flora and fauna. We're asking you to follow a few simple steps to make sure that you don't accidentally disturb any waterway wildlife.

**Useful contacts**  
 When you've finished your paddle please make sure to thoroughly clean all your equipment and clothing. You'll save us time and money battling invasive species, them spreading wherever possible. When you canals and rivers even better places to be.

**Useful contacts**  
 Please report any pollution, fly tipping or fish in distress to the Environment Agency on 0800 807060.

**Useful contacts**  
 If you see any birds or animals in distress please call the RSPCA on 0990 555999 (24 hours).

## Environmental Good Practice

The diverse natural environment of our canals and rivers is one of the reasons they are such special places to canoe. Take to the water and you'll get right up close to some of the country's finest and rarest wildlife.

Our waterways are home to many invasive species and we need to stop them spreading wherever possible. When you're out and about on the water your boat and clothing can pick up fragments of plants and tiny creatures that we don't want in another stretch of canal or river.

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## For more tips visit British Canoeing website.

For more information Download British Canoeing's 'You, your canoe and the environment leaflet.'

## Map 2

**Map 2**

Canal & River Trust  
 Desmond Family  
 Canoe Trail

**Trail information**

This guide follows the development of the trail as it journeys from West to East and is the recommended direction of travel considering prevailing wind direction and river flows.

The trail combines the Leeds Liverpool Canal and Aire & Calder Navigation to create a canoe trail stretching 162 miles across the North of England connecting Liverpool and Leeds, recently celebrating its bicentenary and is enjoyed by boaters and paddlers alike.

The Aire & Calder Navigation is a commercial waterway transporting goods and materials between the town of Goole and city of Leeds.

The Navigation brings its own unique set of challenges, combining both canalised navigation and river sections, large locks and high walls.

**PLEASE NOTE: It is recommended that only more experienced paddlers or groups of paddlers with experienced leaders or coaches paddle on the river sections of the Aire & Calder Navigation.**

River sections are liable to flooding please check water levels at navigation junctions before proceeding.

**1** Wigan Lock Flight (23 locks)  
**2** Gannow Tunnel (559yds)  
**3** Burnley Embankment  
**4** Foulridge Tunnel (1640yds)  
**5** Bingley 5-Rise Locks & 3-Rise Locks

Wigan, Bootle, Burscough, Blackburn, Burnley, Skipton, Leeds, Castleford, Knottingley, Goole, Aire & Calder Navigation, Leeds & Liverpool Canal.

**KEY**

- aqueduct
- lock
- tunnel
- swing bridge
- railway bridge
- pipe bridge
- water point
- café
- pub
- toilets
- shopping
- parking
- railway station

Welcome to the Desmond Family Canoe Trail, connecting the west and east coasts via the Leeds Liverpool Canal and Aire & Calder Navigation.

Paddle through the villages, towns and cities across northern England and enjoy stunning scenery from a whole new viewpoint. Enjoy. Volunteer. Donate.

**Reedley Marina to Goole**

Canal & River Trust  
 Desmond Family  
 Canoe Trail

**Map 2**

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## 11 Greenberfield Bottom Lock, Barnoldswick to Anchor Lock (no33), Gargrave, Skipton

Meander round the beautiful rolling hills of Pennine Yorkshire passing by wonders of the canal.

<b>Start</b>	Greenberfield Locks BB18 5SU
<b>Finish</b>	Lock 33, Gargrave (Premier Inn) BD23 4AJ
<b>Distance</b>	6 miles
<b>Time</b>	2 – 4 hours
<b>Portages and Locks</b>	Bank Newton Locks x 6 (750m). Stegneck Lock to Anchor Lock (800m or 2km if combined with Bank Newton portage)
<b>OS Map</b>	OS Landranger 108

- Local Facilities**
- Café at Greenberfield Locks.
  - Boater facilities at Greenberfield Locks.
  - Cross Keys Inn & Abbots Harbour at East Marton, Anchor inn at Lock 33.

**Description**

- Launch at Greenberfield Bottom Lock, a short downhill walk from the car park.
- Marvel in the engineering of the double arched bridge at East Marton.
- Meander, twist and turn, keep your eyes peeled for the mast, 'haven't we just passed that?'.
- Portage Bank Newton Flight (700m).
- Paddle the last section (700m) before Gargrave Locks (See portage information).



## 12 Anchor Lock (no33), Gargrave, Skipton to Low Bradley, Keighley

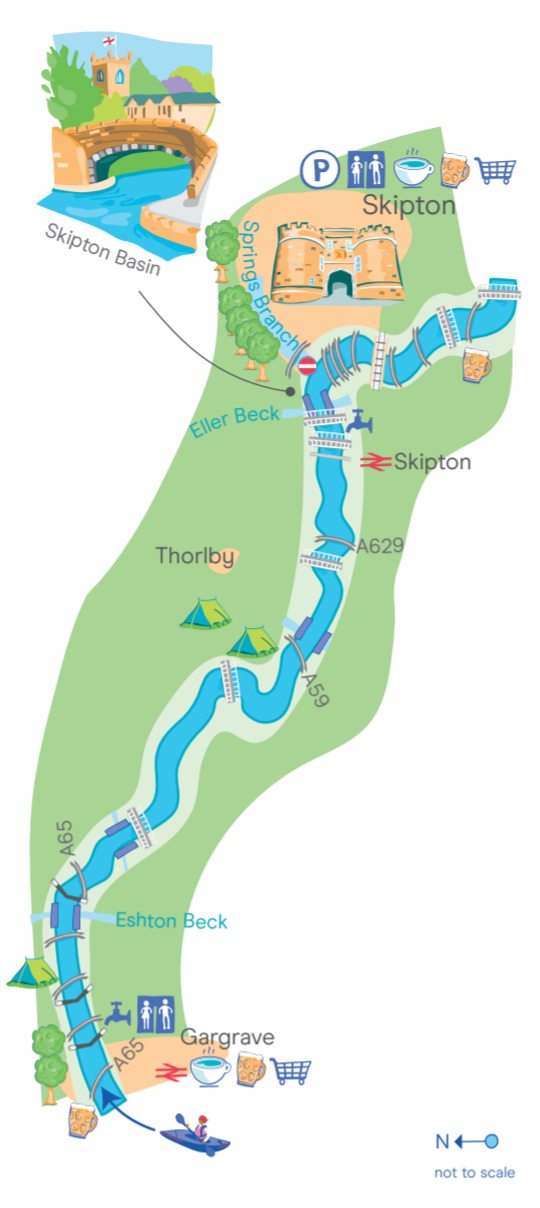
Pass through the market town of Skipton as you continue towards Leeds and the East Coast.

<b>Start</b>	Lock 33 Gargrave (Premier Inn) BD23 4AJ
<b>Finish</b>	Low Bradley BD20 9EN
<b>Distance</b>	7½ miles
<b>Time</b>	3 – 5 hours
<b>Portages and Locks</b>	Gargrave Locks 6 swing bridges
<b>OS Map</b>	OS Landranger 108 & 104

- Local Facilities**
- Anchor Inn at Lock 33.
  - Various pubs, restaurants and cafes in Skipton.
  - Boater facilities in Skipton, parking and toilets.
  - Car park at Low Bradley.

**Description**

- Launch at Anchor Inn, portage to either Eshton Road (1km) or continue to Holmes Bridge (2km total).
- Paddle past swing bridges before reaching Springs Branch and Skipton Basin.
- Heading east towards Leeds, pass Snaygill Swing Bridge at the Rendezvous hotel and continue to Low Bradley.
- Continue your journey until you reach Low Bradley Swing Bridge and exit here.

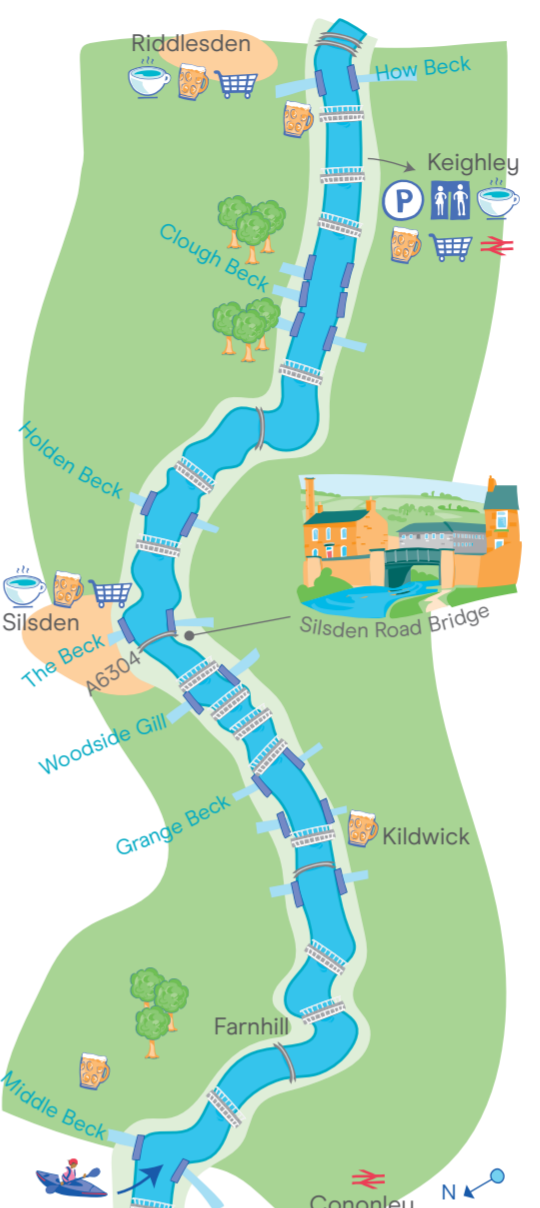


## 13 Low Bradley, Keighley to Riddlesden, Keighley

Paddle along the wide valley looking across to open farmland and small villages.

<b>Start</b>	Low Bradley Swing Bridge DD20 9EN
<b>Finish</b>	Riddlesden, Granby Swing Bridge BD20 5EW
<b>Distance</b>	7½ miles
<b>Time</b>	2 – 4 hours
<b>Portages and Locks</b>	2 swing bridges
<b>OS Map</b>	OS Landranger 104

- Description**
- Starting from Low Bradley the trail heads towards Leeds overlooking the valley below.
  - Paddle through the village of Kildwick.
  - Pass the wharf and marina at Silsden boat hire.
  - Exit at Granby Swing Bridge.



## 14 Riddlesden, Keighley to Apperley Bridge, Bradford

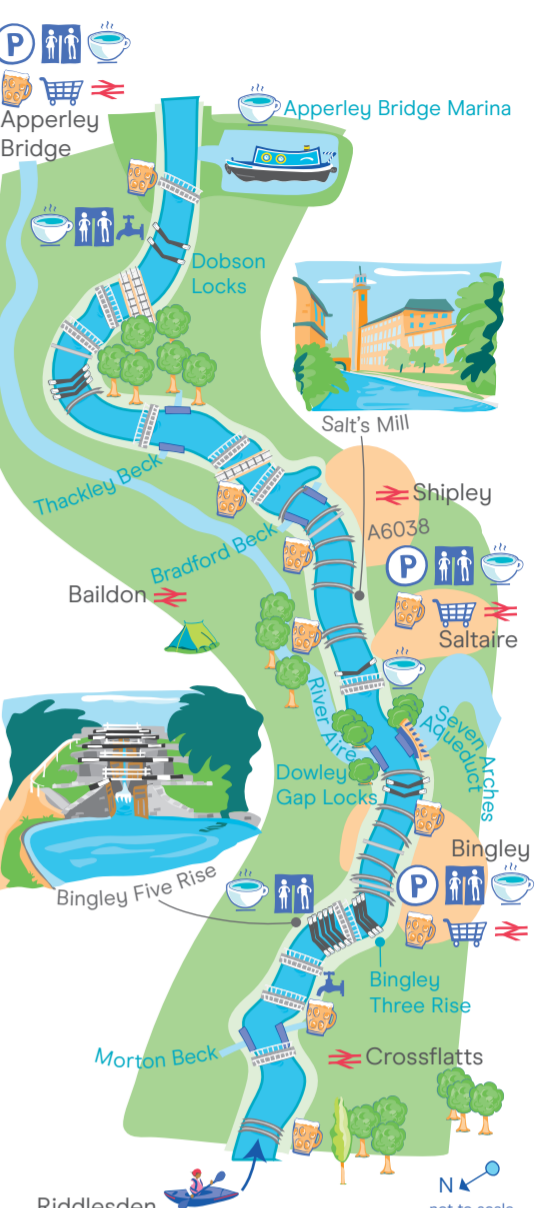
Wander past the world heritage sites at Bingley & Saltaire.

<b>Start</b>	Riddlesden, Granby Swing Bridge BD20 5EW
<b>Finish</b>	Apperley Bridge BD10 0PY
<b>Distance</b>	10 miles
<b>Time</b>	2½ – 5 hours
<b>Portages and Locks</b>	Bingley Five Rise Bingley Three Rise Dowley Gap Locks (2) Field x3
<b>OS Map</b>	OS Landranger 104

- Local Facilities**
- Bingley Town Centre is filled with options for eating and drinking.
  - Bingley Five Rise Café.

**Description**

- Start at Granby Swing Bridge.
- Arrive at the famous Bingley Five Rise locks, portage both the Five and Three Rise locks in one.
- Continue to Dowley Gap and portage the two locks before paddling over the Seven Arches Aqueduct.
- Continue past the world heritage site of Salts Mill.
- Portage Field locks continuing to finish at Dobson Locks, Apperley Bridge.



## 15 Apperley Bridge, Bradford to Leeds Dock, Leeds

Paddle through the suburbs of Leeds.

<b>Start</b>	Apperley Bridge, Millman Swing Bridge BD10 0PY
<b>Finish</b>	Leeds Dock LS9 8PB
<b>Distance</b>	9 miles
<b>Time</b>	2¼ – 4½ hours
<b>Portages and Locks</b>	13 locks & 5 swing bridges
<b>OS Map</b>	OS Landranger 104

- Local Facilities**
- Rodley: Tiny Tea Room and Railway Inn.
  - Bramley: Abbey Inn.
  - Kirkstall: The Kirkstall Bridge.
  - Granary Wharf: various.
  - Leeds Dock: various.

**Description**

- Start below Millman Swing Bridge paddling past Apperley Bridge Marina.
- Paddle past pubs and swing bridges on your way towards Leeds.
- Pass Kirkstall Abbey on the final stretch into Leeds.
- Portage the Office & River Lock before paddling to your finish point in Leeds Dock.



## 16 Leeds Lock, Leeds to Castleford Junction, Castleford

Leaving Leeds behind as you paddle on rivers and navigations to reach Castleford.

<b>Start</b>	Leeds Lock LS9 8PB
<b>Finish</b>	Castleford Junction WF10 2LN
<b>Distance</b>	9½ miles
<b>Time</b>	2¼ – 4½ hours
<b>Portages and Locks</b>	4 locks
<b>OS Map</b>	OS Landranger 104/105

- Local Facilities**
- Woodlesford village.
  - Lemonroyd Marina.

**Description**

- Paddling out of Leeds, stay to the right and paddle down the canal cutting.
- You will pass under the M1 as you get closer to Woodlesford Lock.
- Arriving at Lemonroyd Marina you will join the River Aire for the section to Castleford Junction.
- At the junction of the canal with the Wakefield Branch turn left into Castleford junction and exit at the mooring points.



## 17 Castleford Junction, Castleford to Whitley Lock, Whitley

Enjoy open countryside and small villages as the trail heads towards the last town of Goole.

<b>Start</b>	Castleford Junction WF10 2LN
<b>Finish</b>	Whitley Lock DN14 0JP
<b>Distance</b>	11½ miles
<b>Time</b>	3 – 6 hours
<b>Portages and Locks</b>	2 locks
<b>OS Map</b>	OS Landranger 105

- Description**
- Leaving Castleford Junction behind take the short paddle to Bulholme lock before re-joining the River Aire.
  - Paddle past Fairburn Ings RSPB Reserve.
  - At Ferrybridge, portage the lock by taking the left-hand channel to the floating pontoon and re-join below the lock.
  - Paddling through Knottingley keep right as you head towards Whitley Lock.
  - Paddle under the M62 and exit at Whitley Lock. Take care to stay away from the overflow on the right of the trail.



## 18 Whitley Lock, Whitley to Goole

Take in the views and enjoy the last few miles of the trail as you reach the finish.

<b>Start</b>	Whitley Lock DN14 0JP
<b>Finish</b>	Goole – Nature Trail – DN15 5TB
<b>Distance</b>	12½ miles
<b>Time</b>	3 – 6 hours
<b>Portages and Locks</b>	1 lock
<b>OS Map</b>	OS Landranger 105

- Description**
- Leaving Whitley Lock behind you as you travel towards the end of the trail.
  - Paddle past South Yorkshire Boat Club at Great Heck.
  - Keep left at the New Canal Junction.
  - Paddle under the M18 and past Rawcliffe Bridge on the last stretch.
  - Arrive at the nature trail in Goole.

