

Welcome To The River Nene

The River Nene is an important regional navigation rising at sources near Badby, Naseby and Yelvertoft, and becomes navigable at Northampton where these tributaries combine. Navigation starts at the junction with the Northampton Arm of the Grand Union Canal near Cotton End Lock and extends 147 km (91 miles) to the sea.

Originally a commercial navigation it is now used almost entirely for recreation. Flowing through Northamptonshire, Cambridgeshire, Lincolnshire and bordering Norfolk, the Nene gives contrasting views of eastern England.

In Northamptonshire the river meanders through farmland and the industry of Northampton, Wellingborough and Irthlingborough. Further downstream there are numerous traditional stone villages and quiet country churches for which the 'county of squires and spires' is famous.

Peterborough dominates the route through Cambridgeshire with the city's cathedral visible on the horizon across great stretches of fenland. The Nene was tidal to Peterborough until the construction of a tidal lock and sluice at the Dog in a Doublet in 1937.

The tidal Nene flows through parts of Lincolnshire to the once bustling port of Wisbech, with its Dutch style waterfront architecture, and on to the port at Sutton Bridge. The final leg enters the Wash between two towers known as "the lighthouses".

Important Navigation Information

Navigation Authority

The Environment Agency is the navigation authority for the River Nene from Northampton to Bevis Hall just upstream of Wisbech.

Speed Limits

A speed limit of 7mph (11.kmph) applies throughout the navigation. Please navigate with care at all times for your own safety as well as to protect others, the water environment and wildlife.

Locks

There are 38 locks between Northampton and Peterborough. Typical lock dimensions are 26m long and 4.6m wide. Most of these locks have pointing doors at the upstream end and vertical guillotine gates at the lower end. Environment Agency navigation keys are required to operate them.

A windlass to fit 2.6cm square is required to operate the paddles. Navigation keys and windlasses can be purchased by licensed users at the following locations on the River Nene: Gayton Marina, Northampton Marina, Peterborough Boating Centre and Dog in a Doublet Lock.

Tidal Passage

The river is tidal for 45kms (28 miles) downstream of the Dog in a Doublet Lock. Registered craft can pass through the lock every day from 07.30am until official sunset time and must telephone (01733) 202219 to arrange passage in advance of arrival. **Warning:** There is a strong run on the flood and ebb tides in Wisbech and craft should avoid these periods.

Headrooms

Bridges & Locks - Widths & Headroom

Bridges along the River Nene have a headroom of 2.70 metres or more when the river levels are normal, with the following exceptions. Always read the inverted gauge boards located at bridge to decide whether or not your boat can pass safely underneath.

Site (fluvial)	Grid Ref	Headroom (m)
Nunn Mills Road Bridge	SP 762999	2.60
Clifford Hill Lock	SP 805607	2.65
Wilcox Bridge	SP 824611	2.60
Doddington Lock	SP 876636	2.50
Doddington Lock Access Bridge	SP 876636	2.50
Hardwater Road Bridge	SP 876637	2.60
Doddington Footbridge	SP 881641	2.60
Wellingborough Bridge	SP 901665	2.60
Ditchford Lock	SP 933683	2.50
Woodford Lock Access Bridge	SP 981769	2.65
LMSR Bridge Woodford	SP 781769	2.60
Denford Bridge	SP 992768	2.50
Islip Footbridge	SP 992792	2.30
Poreham Bridge Titchmarsh	SP 997800	2.40
Achurch Footbridge	TL 017831	2.60
Barwell Bridge	TL 038870	2.40
Ashton Lock	TL 053887	2.60
Ashton Lock Footbridge	TL 053887	2.65
Ashton Footbridge	TL 050882	2.50
Cotterstock Lock	TL 046902	2.65
Fotheringhay Bridge	TL 060930	1.50 to 2.10
Warrington Lock Lock	TL 072921	2.45
Warrington Lock Footbridge	TL 072921	2.60
Yarwell Lock	TL 075973	2.40

Site (tidal)	Grid Ref	Headroom (m)
Gaythim Road Bridge A47	TF 398030	1.40 variable
Wisbeach Bridge	TF 460986	variable / tidal
Freedom Bridge	TF 461099	variable / tidal

Moorings

Boats must not be moored within 36 metres (118ft) of any lock, sluice, weir or water intake except when navigating through a lock. In some cases such as Dog in a Doublet Lock, Bedford Road Sluice (Northampton) and Weston Favell (Northampton), mooring is prohibited for 100 metres (328ft) on both sides of the structure. Please note that the landing stages at either side of a lock are not to be used for overnight mooring.

There are visitor (48hour) moorings at: Northampton Wharf, Midsummer meadows Northampton, Northampton Marina, Wellingborough Embankment, Irthlingborough Rushden & Diamonds, Irthlingborough Lock, Nine Arches Bridge Thrapston, Islip Sailing Club, Titchmarsh Lock, Wansford Station Stibington, Orton Lock, Peterborough Embankment and Dog-in-a-Doublet Lock.

Permanent & visitor moorings may also be found at marinas and boat clubs along the marina.

Vessel Registration

All vessels kept, used or let for hire on the river must be registered with The Environment Agency or on a Canal and River Trust (CRT) Gold Licence. (A CRT standard river and canal licence does not cover you on our waterways). If applicable your vessel will also need a valid Boat Safety Scheme Certificate and insurance along with the appropriate registration charge.

If you are a member of the Canoe England or British Rowing, you may find that your membership provides you with automatic registration.

Navigation Closures & Restrictions

Closures and restrictions are advertised locally and can also be found on our webpages on www.gov.uk. Every endeavour is made to keep this information up to date, however, there may be times when sites have to be closed or restricted in emergencies.

Boat Watch

The Boat Watch scheme helps to tackle boat related crime and anti-social activities by collating and sharing intelligence across police forces.

In an emergency, when a life is in danger or a serious crime is being committed always call 999.

For all non-emergencies, not requiring immediate police attendance, please call 101. (Please mention the Boat Watch scheme when you call)

Cambridgeshire Constabulary 0845 456 4564 Norfolk Constabulary 0845 456 4567
Bedfordshire Police 01234 841212 Northamptonshire Police 08453 700700

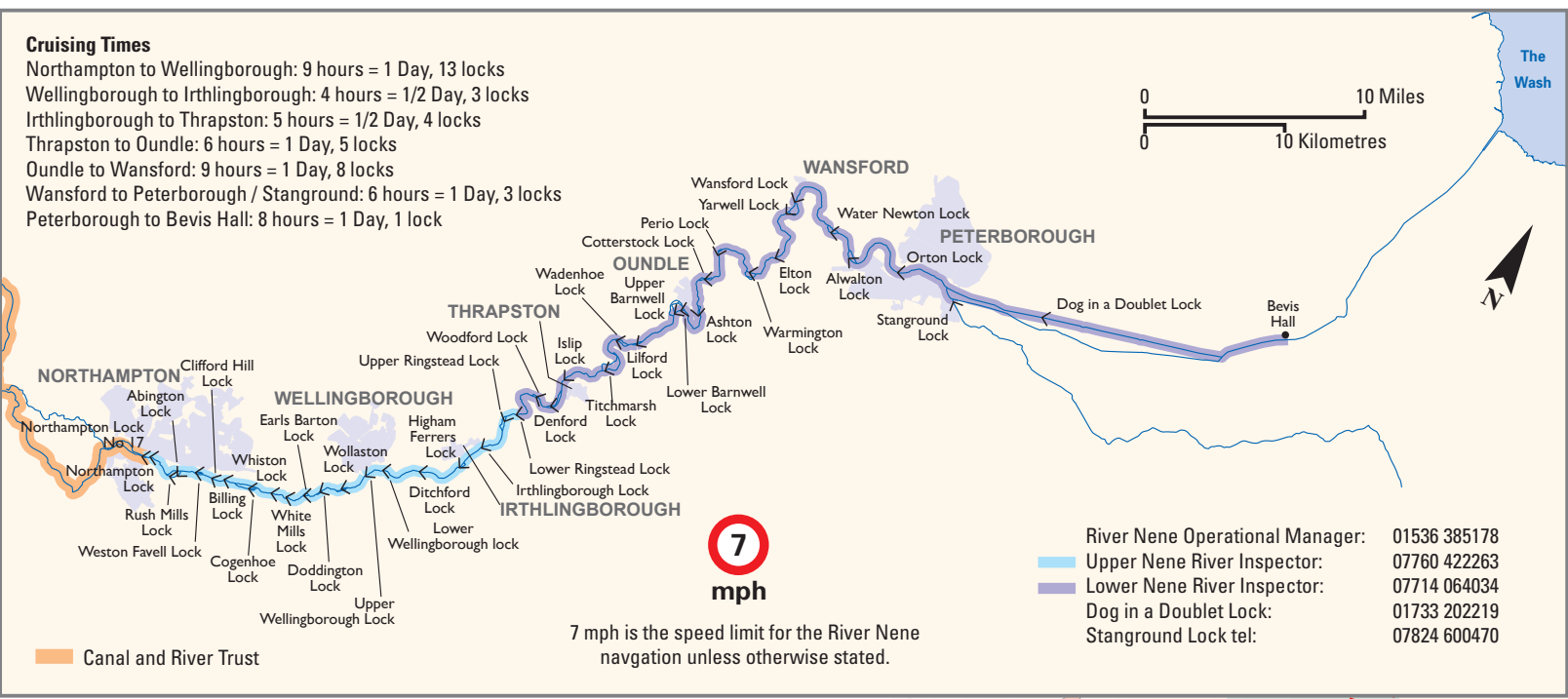
River Advice for Boaters

In times of high flow and during floods, some locks on the river are 'reversed'. An operation which closes the affected locks to navigation. We advise boat users that the locks are 'reversed' and we strongly advise against attempting to navigate. When Strong Stream Advice is in force, signs and warning lights along the length of the river are activated. A number of boat clubs and marinas also display red flags to warn river users Strong Stream Advice has been issued.

To register for strong stream advice please go to gov.uk



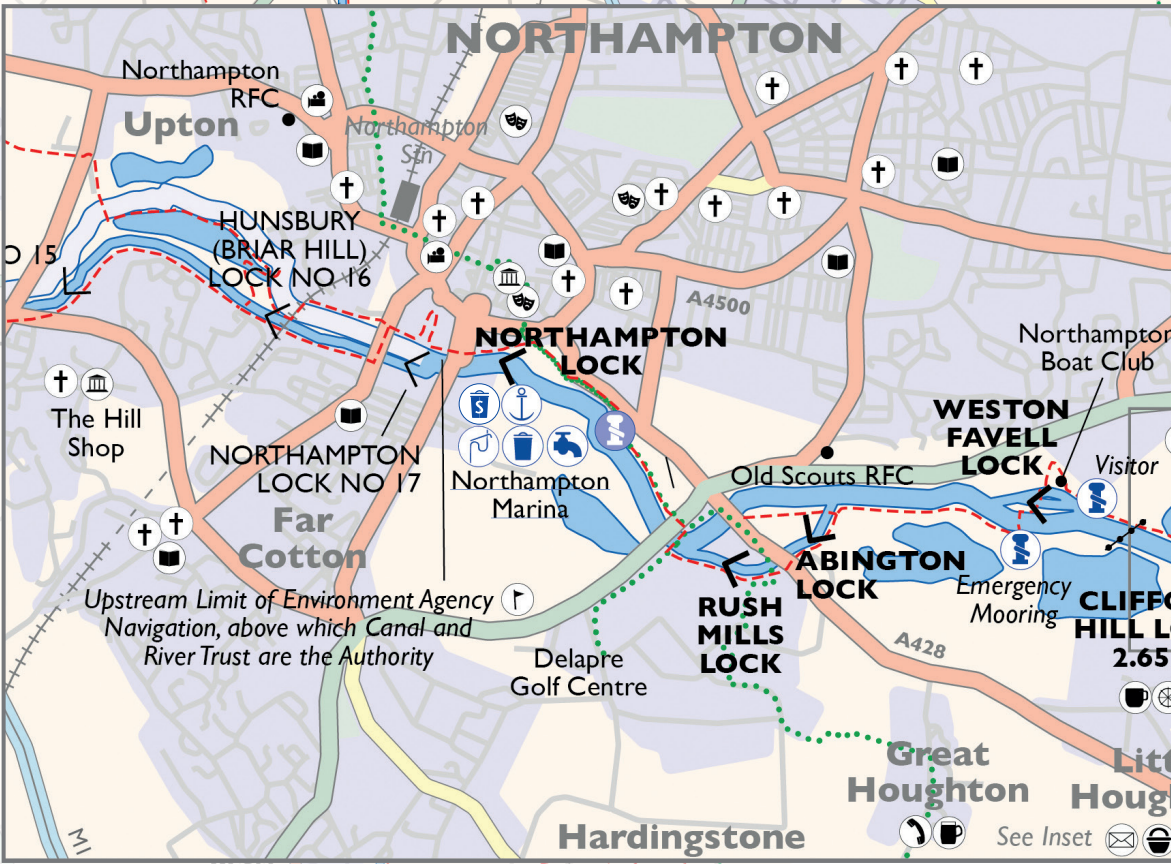
The Inland Waterways Association
Keeping our waterways alive!



Northampton Town Centre is a short 10 minute walk from Northampton Lock and Marina and provides shops and services.

Wellingborough Town Centre is a 15 min walk where shops and services can be found.

Ditchford Lock
Canoe 2 Offices, Glebe Meadow Fishery, Camping and Caravan Park.



Northampton

The first experience that visiting boat users will have of navigation on the River Nene is likely to be at Northampton, after passage from the canal system. Passage from the Grand Union Canal is via the Northampton Arm, which runs for 4 miles from the canal at Gayton, through 17 locks to Northampton. In Northampton moorings are available at Northampton Marina.

Northampton Washlands

During times of flood, navigation may be closed by barrage gates located near Abington and Weston Favell Locks. The lights and sirens on each of the barrage gate give warning that the gates are moving. In the unlikely event that the lights and sirens are in operation, NO ATTEMPT SHOULD BE MADE TO NAVIGATE. If you are within the Washlands when in operation an emergency mooring facility is provided. This mooring should be used only for emergencies between October and April and can be used as a normal visitor mooring during the boating season.

Northampton Marina

Northampton Marina offers high quality residential, permanent, visitor and winter moorings on the River Nene. Located close to the centre of Northampton, near the junction of the River Nene and the Northampton Arm of the Grand Union Canal. Northampton Marina is the ideal base for exploring both our Anglian Waterways and the Canal Network.

All moorings are located on full length rise and fall pontoons, with non-slip decking, and water and electricity to each berth. All paths, walkways and pontoons are lit at night.

The facilities building houses the reception, washrooms, showers, WC's and laundry.

Northampton Marina is a secure site, access is by electronic fob only, and is permanently manned all year round.

We also provide PO boxes for full residents, rubbish recycling and collection, pump-out and elsan facilities, wifi, BBQ/picnic area, wildflower meadow and cycle storage.

For more information on permanent moorings please contact 01733 464 065 (Mon - Fri 9.00am to 4.30pm)

For visitor moorings please contact 01604 604 344 or 07867 580 129



Grand Union Canal – Northampton Arm

The Grand Union Canal joins the River Nene at Northampton and is run by The Canal and River Trust.

Write to:

The Canal and River Trust
South East Office
510 - 524 Elder House
Elder Gate
Milton Keynes
Bucks
MK9 1BW

Tel: 0303 040 0400

24HR freephone emergency line:
0800 47 999 47
email: customer.services@canalrivertrust.org.uk
web: www.canalrivertrust.org.uk

Marinas and Boat Clubs

There are several marinas and boat clubs along the waterway, providing a warm welcome and a wide range of facilities for visiting boats.

Northampton Marina, Becket's Park, Northampton
Billing Marina, Crow Lane, Great Billing
Wollaston Marina, Wollaston
Blackthorn Lake Marina, Station Road, Ringstead
Oundle Marina, Barwell Road, Oundle

Private moorings are also available at:
Glebe Meadow Moorings, Ditchford
Yarwell Caravan Park, Yarwell Mill, Yarwell

Boat Clubs are located at:

Northampton Boat Club, Weston Favell
Middle Nene Cruising Club, Titchmarsh
Oundle Boat Club, Oundle Marina
Elton Boat Club, Warrington
Peterborough Cruising Club, Alwalton
Peterborough Yacht Club, Orton

Navigation Agents (Sale of visitor licences and navigation keys)
Northampton Marina
Yarwell Mill

