

Wish you were.. HERE?

1. Grand Union

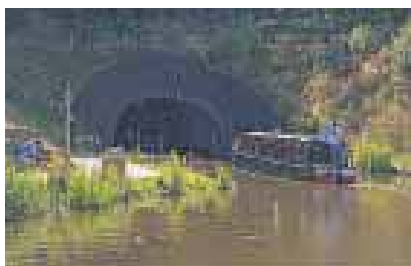
THE longest single waterway in the UK, this historic canal runs from London to Birmingham through the wonderful scenery of the Chilterns. Waterways Holidays, based at Linslade in Bedfordshire, recommend a route to Braunston in Northants which will take you through in 27 locks, two aqueducts and two tunnels, making

it the perfect introduction to all the joys (and perils) of a holiday on the British waterways.

The Deal Renting Daffodil, a 42ft narrowboat sleeping four with a well-equipped galley, TV, CD system and full central heating starts from £250pp a week or £62.50pp per night (www.waterwaysholidays.com, 0845 127 1020).

Canals

IT'S the perfect excuse to take things easy. The average speed of a British canal holiday is a leisurely 4mph. The UK's 3,000 miles of waterways meander past rolling hills, idyllic meadows and pretty villages. Then in the evening you tie up by a pub for a reflective drink. Find out more at www.waterescape.com and www.drifters.co.uk.



2. Forth & Clyde

TAKE a leisurely holiday along the Forth & Clyde canal from Falkirk. The trip to Glasgow takes in the stunning scenery around Auchinstarry and Cadder village.

The Deal A six-berth narrowboat starts at £783 (£43.50pp per night) from June 19-22 (www.black-prince.com, 01527 575115).





3. Worcester & Birmingham

KNOWN as "The 58" after the number of locks on its 30 miles, the Worcs & Birmingham passes the model village of Bournville, built for Cadbury chocolate workers.

The Deal Hiring a five-berth boat for seven nights from June 5 to 12 costs £848 (www.drifters.co.uk, 0844 984 0322).

4. Kennet & Avon

THIS idyllic stretch of water between Bath and Reading, famed for the Caen Hill flight of 29 locks, is celebrating its bicentenary this year with carnivals and exhibitions.

The Deal An eight-berth boat starts at £895 from June 14-18 - that's £28pp per night. (www.drifters.co.uk, 0844 984 0322).



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