



**WELCOME
ABOARD**



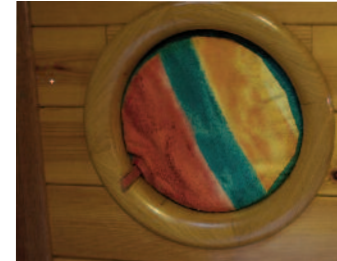
Bespoke Executive Solutions



Master cabin

There is a large wardrobe and a very comfortable double bed. Bedding is supplied if you do not wish to bring your own.

There are four separate lights including two reading lamps. Each has its own switch on the unit itself.



The portholes and skylight can be 'plugged' with the upholstered cushions hanging below the gunnels instead of curtains.

There are steps to the left which double as a seat. The steps lead to further double doors which can be used as a second exit, emergency exit and provide the only access to the Skippers position whilst underway.

A lovely place to sit with a good book, glass of wine and a fishing rod!



Finally

– Useful points to remember:

- Wood and coal for the stove can be found under the steps at the entry port. There is enough for the duration of your stay.
- Use someone else's toilet if you have chance, you'll not enjoy emptying yours.
- Remember to extinguish candles before turning in for the night.
- If you require 240v electricity, please give the Skipper plenty of notice
- Remember to let the Skipper know when you will shortly need a rubbish disposal point.
- We have limited 12v electricity when the engine is not running. Please conserve energy.
- If leaving the boat, even if only for a short time, remember to securely lock all doors and hatches.
- The cooker must not be used inside tunnels.
- Don't forget a pair of stout boots and a warm, waterproof jacket.
- If you intend to bring your fishing rod, remember to bring your licence as well and be aware of private fishing restrictions.
- **FINALLY** If you wish to finish your holiday with the same number of limbs that you started it with, remember to keep them **INSIDE** the profile of the boat at all times once underway. Be aware of approaching boats, trees, bridges etc – they all can cause injuries of one form or other!

that they are not below anything combustible such as the sloping roof sides etc.

There is a fire extinguisher on the cabin wall near the corridor.

The solid fuel stove is quite an interesting model to master; your Skipper will give you a helping hand to get it going. Always remember to switch



on the red switch on the unit behind the stove when lighting it, as this is essential for the central heating to work properly. Once the fire has burned out



remember to turn the red switch off before cleaning out the stove. Your Skipper will advise upon the disposal of hot ash.

Do not leave the bottom fire door open as it causes damage to the central heating system.

Leaving the main stove door

open looks nice, however, commercial vessels travelling into the evening are heavy, create a wash that will move the boat against it's mooring lines and this can result in hot coals being dislodged onto the floor with disastrous results.

The 'Heads' (Bathroom)

Entering the heads you will find the light switch directly above your head on the light itself.

Hand basin

Almost standard, the basin has normal hot and cold taps. There is a pump below the floor, which exits the water via a filter out through the side of the boat into the canal. Please refrain from running the water without the plug in as the pump can become overburdened. Conserve water, we have to carry all we have.

Shower

The shower is standard with a hot & cold mixer and the lever for changing from bath to shower usage is located on top of the taps themselves. Constant hot water is available 24/7 but remember we only have a limited amount aboard.

Bath

A perfect size for a dwarf but it requires the same principles applying as the hand basin.

Toilet

The toilets on boats are always a tricky issue for the non - initiated...!

A few useful boat toilet tips;

Don't use it if there is an alternative

Look really hard for this alternative!

Remember to use the facilities of establishments along the route, every four miles or so at most. That's about an hour.

Gentlemen – behind bridge on towpath / bushes

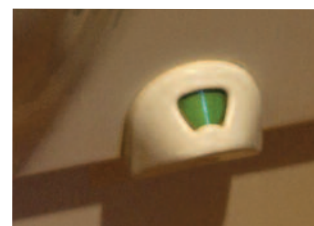
Ladies – try to hang on until our next stop.

And the reasons why...?

Obviously aboard a boat, waste cannot run off to sewers, it stays on the boat in tanks. Modern boats have automatic pumping out systems and large holding tanks set into the floor.

NB 'Hawkesbury' is a 1937 vessel and she has a small holding tank that must be emptied manually. Need we say more...?

Used sparingly between four adults it should last about three days between empties.



There is an indicator of content level. Do not allow the green section to become all red or you will be most unpopular with your fellow guests.

Instructions for use.

- Lift seat
- Sit down
- Carry on with the job in hand
- Toilet paper and anything else that has been digested can go down the pan
- Turn white dial on your right ANTI – CLOCKWISE to allow contents of pan to drop into tank below
- Press white dial to flush
- Turn white dial CLOCKWISE to close entrance to the tank (Very important – say no more)
- Lower seat.



Welcome aboard

the historic Narrowboat 'Hawkesbury', our former working boat.

Built in 1937 for the 'Grand Union Canal Carrying Company' by 'Harland & Wolff', she shares the same lineage as the infamous S.S 'Titanic'!

Unlike 'Titanic', 'Hawkesbury' the last ever 'Big Woolwich' has managed to stay afloat for over seventy years, so we thought we'd ensure she lasts a while longer and have compiled this information pack for your benefit. Read it well and you should not sink her!

Although a very old Lady, 'Hawkesbury' has been updated and modernised and contains various systems and equipment that may be new to you. Unlike a standard holiday craft, this vessel has complex systems more often found on residential boats. 'Hawkesbury' is much more homely yet a little more complex to master.

One thing to remember above all... If you do happen to sight an iceberg, please let the Skipper know!



As you will have gathered by now, Narrowboat 'Hawkesbury' has been tastefully converted to be a comfortable 'Live – aboard' vessel.

The guest living accommodation is located in what once served as the 'hold' of the vessel when she carried loads such as coal and aggregate.

Plying the Grand Union Canal and the River Thames, she was capable of carrying 37 tonnes. In her current guise as a self-catering hotel boat, corporate day charter and Skipper training vessel, NB 'Hawkesbury' weighs 32 tonnes, is seven feet wide, 71'6" in length and below the waterline has a draught of 3'2".

There are very few boats on the narrow canal system of these proportions and this is the reason why NB 'Hawkesbury' has her own resident Skipper.

All our Skippers are qualified and highly experienced aboard full sized craft. We hope that you will learn from them a thing or two about 'proper boating' during your stay.

The Skipper resides at the rear of the vessel in the original 'Back Cabin' behind the engine room. Obviously during your stay you will want to try your hand 'at the tiller' but we must insist that both the engine room and the Skipper's quarters remain out of bounds for reasons of both Health & Safety and of privacy.

The 'clothed' forward saloon.

Situated at the front of the boat (the 'Bow'), is the main entrance to the accommodation.

On either side of the boat behind the zipped 'entry ports' are four steps leading down into the boat.

The effects of wind and water upon the 'cloths' dictate that care and attention should be taken when zipping and unzipping the entry ports. They have a tendency to stick. Once unzipped, the flap of 'cloth' should be rolled up tightly and secured with the straps that hang down from inside the boat.

If you are going to open both entry ports, consider this useful tip...

You will find two cushions at the top of the steps which act as seats in the bows whilst cruising. We'd advise you to put both these cushions on the non towpath side steps.

This serves as a reminder to which side to step off...(Easily done with wet and muddy results as your scribe can ashamedly vouch...!)

The entire 'clothed' section can be rolled up on dry days and as a result you have a really nice, open-air saloon. Please ask the Skipper for assistance if this is your intention.



Once safely inside the boat and looking back in the direction of the steps you will notice various compartments within the entrance.



Each 2nd step lifts up to reveal a kindling and log store, which you will require to get the solid fuel stove alight.

The central 3rd step contains a coalbunker, your main fuel for the stove. This lifts up by pulling on the brass ring under the rug. Inside you will also find the chimney, to be located topsides prior to lighting the fire and a small shovel for extracting the coal into the scuttles located next to the stove.



The 4th and final step contains NB 'Hawkesbury's' headlamp. It is rather old so please leave fitting it to the Skipper as you would not be happy about the bill for replacing it... Really!

To both side of these steps are cupboards containing further logs and equipment used in the general management of the boat. They also provide a useful storage area for your walking boots, wellingtons, umbrellas, etc.

Turning around again, above your heads you will find three ceiling lights. These are powered by 12v electricity powered by the boat's batteries. The switches are on each unit. A further, more powerful lamp sits above the main cabin door.

The boat only has a limited store of power when the engine is not running so conservancy is the key. **Remember – If you don't REALLY need it on switch it off.**

Also above your head you will see the television

aerial. Your Skipper will set that up for you once we are moored for the night if you want to watch television.

To your right are four seats over a bench which doubles as storage lockers. The first section contains vessel waterproofing and insulation equipment, the second a selection of cold / wet weather clothing. Please feel free to use this on inclement days if you wish.



On your left you will see four stools that you are welcome to use. There is also a table system that once erected will sit eight people inside the forward salon by slotting the legs into the respective holes in the foot well.

Should you wish to set up the table outside on the towpath you will find space around it for four people. Ask the skipper for a demonstration if you need one.

Next on the left is the Skippers locker. This remains locked and the Skipper should not normally require access to this during your stay.

On the right after the bench locker is the dustbin. Rubbish disposal points are situated at points along the canal so again; let the Skipper know when the bin is approaching half full.

There is a fire extinguisher on the top section of the main cabin door.

Lastly, the fire, microwave, washing machine and freezer by the main door all require a 'shore line' (an electric hook up from the mains 240v supply) as they use more electricity than the boat can actually produce.



Only certain marinas provide shore power, so if you think that you may need any of these

appliances, speak to the Skipper. He can give you an idea of the location of the next marina or advise you upon alternatives such as laundrettes on route etc.

A note of caution; be sure to always securely lock the main cabin doors when leaving the boat at any time and remember not to leave valuables 'under the cloths' as this is not a secure area.

The Galley

The 'Galley', the nautical term for the kitchen, is immediately inside the doors from the forward saloon.



Although still 'under the cloths' the cloths are on top of steel cabin sides.

The galley has various lights on the ceiling, each with its own switch.

Gas operates both the cooker and heats the water for the sink. Should you run out of gas, please alert the Skipper who will remedy this for you.

Should the hot water not come through after about 30

seconds, the wind may well have blown out the pilot light in the engine room. Please let the Skipper know.

There is a fire blanket just inside the door.

The gas cooker is a simple model to operate and the Skipper can give you a demonstration of how to use it if you ask him to.



The cooker MUST NOT BE USED WHEN TRAVELLING THROUGH TUNNELS.

The fridge is powered by the main boat batteries and will remain switched on for the duration of your stay.

Under the cooker are various pots and pans and in the adjacent cupboard you will find crockery, glasses etc.

Under the sink you will find the normal 'under

the sink' detritus. Ask the Skipper if you require something that isn't there. The sink discharges by gravity into the canal so try not to block the plug with food scraps etc. Also remember that chemicals should not go down any sinks due to the risk of pollution.

The cupboard to the right of the sink contains surplus crew cutlery & crockery etc. Please do not use. The cupboards to the left are for your provisions.

Above this cupboard you will find the guests cutlery drawer. The two further draws contain candles, matches, firelighters etc. Please help yourself but remember to replace them at the next visit to the shops.

The main saloon

The main saloon is the living area of NB 'Hawkesbury'.

A radio/CD player sits on your right and the sofa doubles up as a ¾ sized bed. The Skipper can help you with this if you struggle with it.

The television is digital and has 'Free to View' channels as well as the usual terrestrial channels. There is a DVD player that does not require the aerial to work.

The unit upon which the TV/DVD sits contains various films and music CD's. Please help yourselves.



Remote controls for the machines live on top of the unit and the power supply to switch them on is the three-pin plug situated directly behind the cooker.

Important: Both TV /DVD run on 240v electricity powered through an Inverter converting the 12v power generated by running the engine into 240v. Whilst the engine is running you are OK to run low powered 240v appliances. The engines must go off no later than 7.30pm for reasons of noise pollution.

There should be enough residual power however for a DVD to be played or television watched for around two hours.

Over use will decimate the batteries and you will have no lights, water, etc until the engine has been run the following day.

There is a folding table in the main saloon underneath two hatches that open up like a window. Remember to lock these hatches if leaving the boat.

There are various lights in the saloon. Switches can be found on each unit. Candles may be used but remember to blow them out and make sure