

Enjoy your Norfolk Broads Boating Holiday

Be prepared!

Take a **mobile phone** with you and make sure it is always fully charged and you know the number

Coastguard, Police Ambulance & Fire

Telephone 999

Non Emergency Police

0845 456 4567

Problems and Advice

Broads Radio Control

Broads Authority

01603 756056

Be specific!

In an emergency be as specific as possible about your location:

- Name of the boat
- How many people on board
- What the emergency is
- Name of the river
- Nearest village
- Nearby landmarks
- Nearest 24hr mooring

Information Centres

There are 6 information centres dotted around the broads specifically to help you make the most of your visit.

Beccles	01502 713196
Whitlingham Visitor Centre	01603 617332
Hoveton/Wroxham	01603 782281
Potter Heigham	01692 677016
Toad Hole Cottage	01692 678763

Helpful tips to avoid accidents

Wear a life-jacket. At all times while on deck wear your life-jacket, even if you can swim. The water is very cold and even strong swimmers can get into trouble quickly. Children should always wear life-jackets even when your boat is moored and adults should keep an eye on them.

Mooring. Casting off and mooring up can be the most difficult parts of handling a boat, but with preparation and practice you'll soon be confident.

Make a plan. Before casting off or mooring up make sure your ropes are ready and that your crew knows what to do in advance.

Don't jump. This is where the majority of injuries occur. The most appropriate member of the crew (wear a life-jacket) should **step ashore** (the fittest adult - this is not a job for a child).

Careful approach. Always approach a mooring against the tide, with a hand on the throttle. You'll then be able to hold the boat stationary heading into the tide and approach the mooring sideways under perfect control. Always use your mud weight when moored for extra safety.

Keep an eye out. Watch your crew at all times. It's possible for people, especially children, to fall overboard without anyone noticing. Don't let children sit on the front of the boat, or play at the stern of the boat or on the roof unsupervised, especially when the boat is underway.

Don't swim. The Broads is a natural, wild place and the water in the rivers and broads is always cold, no matter what the weather is like, and cold shock can kill. With just your head above water you're also nearly invisible to boaters.



Speed limits. These range from 3-6mph and are clearly sign-posted on all rivers and broads.

The limits may appear to be a little slow if you're new to the broads, however, they are there for the protection of the environment as well as other broads users. Boat waves damage banks, harm wildlife and can be dangerous for other boaters and anglers. It is therefore important to plan your journeys as they may take a little longer than you might think. Use the information below to plan your trips on a daily basis.

Boat Handling Basics. Your holiday cruiser is bigger (up to 48'), heavier (around 10 tons), and worth more (maybe £100,000) than most cars, so do take care with it.

Brakes. Your boat has no brakes - to stop it, you put it into reverse - and it takes much longer to stop so you must think ahead.

Wind & Tides. The river is always moving, and your boat will be affected by the winds and tides - steering straight may not keep you on a straight path.

Steering. Steering a boat is different, because the rudder is at the back, so it's that end (the stern) that moves. You'll be facing the front (the bow), but always think about the back end or you may find your stern swinging into other boats or the bank.

Manoeuvring your boat. This should be done at slow speeds - a quick burst of power with the helm hard over will kick the stern around, but slow the engine quickly afterwards. Most boats turn better in one direction than the other. When viewed from behind, most boats' propellers turn clockwise - these will turn better to the left (port) than to the right.

Journey Planner

Journey times are shown in hrs & mins (one way only)

Going under bridges

On larger boats make sure you know the headroom (air draught) your boat needs. Check the advance **Bridge Guage Board** to see what clearance you have and whether your boat will pass through. Don't forget to **watch your head!**



Northern Rivers & Broads

River Bure	Hrs
Wroxham - Coltishall	2:00
Wroxham - Salhouse Broad	1:00
Salhouse Broad - Horning	1:00
Horning - Ranworth	1:00
Ranworth - South Walsham	1:30
South Walsham - St Benet's Abbey	1:00
South Benet's Abbey - Upton	1:30
Upton - Acle	0:30
Acle - Stokeby	0:30

River Ant	Hrs
Stalham - Wayford Bridge	0:45
Stalham - Sutton	0:30
Stalham - Barton Broad	0:45
Barton Broad - How Hill	1:00
How Hill - Ludham Bridge	0:45
Ludham Bridge - Ranworth	1:30
Ludham Bridge - Upton	2:00

River Thurne	Hrs
Hickling - Horsey	0:45
Hickling - West Somerton	1:30
West Somerton - Potter Heigham	1:00
Potter Heigham - Womack Water	0:30
Womack Water - Thurne	0:30

Southern Rivers & Broads

Rivers Yare & Chet	Hrs
Thorpe St Andrew - Whitlingham	0:15
Whitlingham - Brundall	2:00
Brundall - Rockland	0:45
Rockland - Cantley	2:00
Cantley - Hardley Staithe	0:30
Hardley Staithe - Reedham	0:45
Loddon - Reedham	1:30
Reedham - Berney Arms	0:45

River Waveney	Hrs
Geldeston - Beccles	1:00
Beccles - Burgh St Peter	2:00
Burgh St Peter - Oulton Broad	0:45
Oulton Broad - Somerleyton	1:30
Somerleyton - St Olaves	0:45
St Olaves - Burgh Castle	0:45



A typical week cruising in Broadland!

Day 1: Coltishall

Leaving the boatyard and head upstream, under Wroxham Bridge (height permitting). Continue cruising until you reach Coltishall. Moor up alongside the green and sample one of the great restaurants and pubs such as The Kings Head, The Recruiting Sergeant or The Norfolk Mead.

Day 2: Potter Heigham

Depart Coltishall heading downstream back toward Wroxham. The next village you come to is Horning, however, make sure you visit Salhouse Broad with its beach and play area, Hoveton Great Broad opposite with its fascinating Broads Authority Nature Trail. Continue through Horning and on towards South Walsham Broad passing the ruins of St Benet's Abbey. This is all that remains of what was once an important East Anglian monastery and dates back to the 11th century. Turn into South Walsham Dyke and cruise fifteen minutes up to the broad. You can either moor to the bank alongside the dyke or drop your mudweight over board and swing peacefully in the middle of the broad. After lunch you have approximately a 1.5 - 2 hour cruise to Potter Heigham. Upon arrival, moor in view of the tiny hump backed bridge and marvel at the skill of the bridge pilots threading large cruisers through the tiny opening. Highly recommended (boat height permitting) is to explore the river beyond the bridge as far as Hickling Broad and Horsey Mere.

Day 3: Great Yarmouth

You now head downstream along the River Thurne towards the Thurne mouth, where it meets the River Bure. Turn left and continue downstream towards Acle,

and under Acle Bridge towards Stokesby and the Ferry Inn. This is a real traditional pub and is an ideal place to stop for lunch. With Great Yarmouth being your final destination, this is also a good place to wait for the tide; it is preferable to leave Stokesby two hours before low water at Great Yarmouth in order to arrive there at slack water. This will make your mooring up much easier. Take advantage of the Harbour Master on hand to assist with mooring up. Yarmouth is a bustling seaside town with much to offer, including a first class beach, shopping centre and funfair.

Day 4: Reedham

It is time to head for Reedham. First check the height gauge beside the Yarmouth bridge and cross reference with your Skipper's Handbook to ensure there is enough room to pass under (please check with the Harbour Master if in doubt). Follow the posts to your right after the second bridge, then through the third bridge and across Breydon Water. At the far end of Breydon Water fork right towards the Berney Arms, this is a quaint little pub with the unique feature of having no public road access. From the Berney Arms it is approximately an hours cruise to Reedham where you will find a long quay available for visitor moorings. On the quay are two pubs and shops where you can buy milk, bread and papers for the next day's trip to Norwich.

Day 5: Norwich

Heading upstream it is about a 2 1/2 hour cruise to Bramerton. However we would recommend detours into both Surlingham and Rockland Broads before stopping at Bramerton for lunch. After lunch depart for the cathedral city of Norwich. En-route pass through

Thorpe (bridge height permitting), and travel past Thorpe Green. This detour takes about fifteen minutes and is very rewarding. The scenery tends to take on a more commercial theme as, in times gone by, Norwich relied heavily on river transport and the Norfolk Wherries to carry cargo. Moorings can be found in the heart of the city at Norwich Yacht Station.

Day 6: Loddon

Leave Norwich retracing your steps until you arrive at the River Chet. At the head of this narrow river the small town of Loddon, is an ideal place for provisions and a lunch stop. On leaving Loddon, head back through Reedham, and take a right hand turn along the New Cut. Dug to facilitate easier passage for the trading wherries between Lowestoft and Norwich it takes you directly onto the River Waveney and St Olaves. Upon reaching St, Olaves turn left and head downstream under the bridge (height permitting) towards Great Yarmouth. We suggest that this evening you moor at Burgh Castle situated at the head of Breydon Water and the site of a Roman castle, the ruins of which can still be explored today.

Day 7: Heading home

Today, it is time to head back. Set off half an hour before low water at Yarmouth. This will ensure you make the best use of the tides and obtain maximum clearance under the bridges at Yarmouth. Once through Great Yarmouth head upstream towards the Stracey Arms Mill. The four-storey mill is worth visiting and has the first proper mooring you will reach. Continue to head upstream towards Horning, about three hours cruise away. This is a convenient location for your final night being only 1 to 1.5 hours cruise from the boatyard.

