

UK Canal Boating

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Escape with a canal boating holiday!

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## Coventry Cathedral and Museum of British Transport from Tamworth

Cruise this route from : Glascote Basin

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[Coventry-Cathedral-and-Museum-of-British-Transport-from-Tamworth-Cruising-Route.html](#)

Cruising Days : 5.00 to 0.00

Cruising Time : 24.00

Total Distance : 50.00

Number of Locks : 22

Number of Tunnels : 2

Number of Aqueducts : 0

The old Coventry Cathedral was destroyed during World War 2, but the new cathedral was completed in 1962, and is worth a visit.

The Museum of British Transport is south of the Coventry canal basin, and claims to be the largest collection of British made transport in the world, with over 200 cars, 90 motorbikes, and 230 cycles, also period street scenes, royal vehicles and the awesome Thrust SSC -the world land-speed record holder.

## Cruising Notes

### Day 1

Step back through 900 years of history with a visit to Tamworth Castle. Uncover the secrets held within the chambers and hallways of this unique building and get a real sense of how the Saxons, Normans, Tudors and Victorians lived.

If you wish to start your holiday off with an adventure, how about walking to the Snow Dome which is only about 10 minutes from the marina. All weather skiing and snowboarding centre with kit rental, an ice rink, swimming pool and gym. It is open until late every night.

You start off from your mooring in the Glascote marina and cruise eastwards , turning left out of the Marina along the Coventry canal.

You pass through Tamworth for a couple of miles, and then you are out in the country passing the ruins of Alvecote Priory through the trees, with Pooley Field Nature reserve on your left.

Polesworth is the first village of note, having stores, takeaways, fish and chip shop, off licence and pubs, etc, and spans the canal. It is 1.5 hours to here and a good place to stop for the night.

## **Day 2**

Cruising through more predominantly open countryside, you will soon reach Atherstone Bottom Lock No. 11.

Atherstone is a small town with plenty of pubs, for instance, Market Tavern, The Black Swan and The Kings Head.

This flight of 11 locks is interspersed at first and once you are into the town the locks become closer together , but the flight is in very pleasant surroundings. To the south of bridge 41 is a useful stores.

Mancetter, another small village, is to the left of the canal about .5 mile east of bridge 36.

Continue south, through the quarry belt towards Nuneaton. En route is a pub at Hartshill called The Anchor Inn.

Cruise through Nuneaton until you reach Marston Junction, then continue south do not turn left along the Ashby canal, with the suburbs of Bedworth to your right.

Another junction is soon reached, Hawkesbury Junction, where the Coventry canal continues its journey to Coventry, and this is where you will be heading tomorrow.

It is a lovely place to moor for the night , and you have cruised for 8.5 hours.

At Hawkesbury Junction you will see many traditional boats, an fine engine house and useful facilities. The steam engine used in the Engine house was installed in 1821, having been previously used for nearly 100 years at a colliery. The atmospheric steam engine is now housed in Dartmouth Museum.

To the east of the Junction you can see Hawkesbury Hall, now a private house.

There is a pub at the Junction, called The Greyhound, a traditional canalside pub, dating from the 1800's, which serves food and real ales. There is a garden and mooring here, and children are welcome.

If you have made good time and what some time visiting the Cathedral and Museum tomorrow then cruise the last 2 hours to Coventry Basin.

## **Day 3**

Continue along the Coventry canal, do not turn left onto the Oxford canal through the lock.

There is a useful Tesco's supermarket just before bridge 8

Just beyond bridge 2 before are 'Cash's Hundred Houses', an elegant row of weavers houses. The weavers slept on

the 1st 2 floors, and the looms occupied the top floor. Only 37 of the houses remain.

The end of the Canal at Coventry basin is very interesting on the side of a hill, overlooked by attractive wooden canal warehouses. The Old weighbridge office is now a shop and information centre. The basin is home to shops, small businesses and an art gallery and has a welcoming community of boaters. A canalside walk is ideal for spotting wildlife.

A footbridge over the ring road gives access from the basin to the town centre, with shopping, eating and drinking possibilities. Coventry Art Gallery, the Museum of British Road Transport and Sir Basil Spence's remarkable Coventry Cathedral are also nearby.

The Basin features a bronze statue of the famous 18th-century canal engineer James Brindley - one of fifteen artworks commissioned from local artists for the Canal Art Trail which extends from the basin to Hawkesbury Junction.

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It is 2 hours from Hawkesbury Junction to Coventry Basin.

Its is 12 hours back to Glasgote Basin so turn around when you have explored and start your journey home.

#### **Day 4 Day 5**

Back to Glasgote Basin

## **Useful Links**

Description : Coventry Cathedral

Website : <http://www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/>

Telephone : 024 7652 1200

Description : Coventry Transport Museum

Website : <http://www.transport-museum.com/>

Telephone : 024 7623 4270

*The information above is provided in good faith to assist you with planning your canal boat holiday. Information accuracy cannot be guaranteed, however, if you do see something that needs updating, please don't hesitate to [contact us](#).*

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