

UK Canal Boating

Escape with a canal boating holiday!

Wheelock and return from Anderton

Cruise this route from : Anderton

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Wheelock and return from Anderton

Cruising Days : 4.00 to 0.00

Cruising Time : 17.50

Total Distance : 33.00

Number of Locks : 24

Number of Tunnels : 0

Number of Aqueducts : 0

A cruise through the Cheshire countryside to Middlewich where Rock salt mining that has gone on since Roman times, and to the small village of Wheelock.

The canalside area of Middlewich is a haven of peace below the busy streets. The town has been extracting salt since Roman times, and there is an interesting town trail north of Bridge 172. There are various pubs canalside along this stretch.

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Cruising Notes

Day 1

From Anderton marina you head south along the Trent & Mersey canal.

Away on your left you will see Marbury Country park which has woodlands carpeted with bluebells in the springtime, or relax under the shade of the lime avenues. Wander along the mere with splendid views over the water to the church at Great Budworth, or explore the arboretum and community orchard. Children will enjoy the play area, close to the picnic area.

There are attractive short stay moorings here if you have had a long trip and want to moor up somewhere local for the night. Or head for Marston Bridge 193 which is 45 minutes from Anderton where there is a pub and late opening stores.

Alternatively cruise for a couple of hours to Northwich, the Old Broken Cross Pub is by Bridge 184 canalside and has moorings. There is a chemist, grocer & other shops ½ mile past the pub towards Northwich.

Cruising time to here just under 2 hours

Day 2

As the canal heads towards Middlewich you move out into fine open country on a beautiful stretch of canal, often overhung by trees following the delightful valley of the River Dane.

There are pleasant moorings with picnic tables & BBQ just before Bridge 176. (just over 3 hours to here from Anderton marina)

The canalside area of Middlewich is a haven of peace below the busy streets. The town has been extracting salt since Roman times, and there is an interesting town trail north of Bridge 172. There are various pubs canalside along this stretch.

As you descend into Middlewich there are 3 locks to be negotiated before you reach a canal junction, and Kings Lock just after the junction.

Ignore the Middlewich branch canal to your right, and continue south down the Trent & Mersey Canal past several salt works, which shows this areas industrial heritage. The Rock salt mining that has gone on since Roman times has resulted in severe local subsidence, and the canal has had to be banked up in some stretches, which makes it much deeper than normal. There is a chinese takeaway west of bridge 166.

Occasional locks mark a quiet and unspoilt area, the town of Sandbach is away to the left, as the canal reaches the village of Wheelock. This busy little village has a stores and fish & chip shop., and 3 pubs, 2 near bridge 154, and one Canalside- the Cheshire Cheese- with moorings outside.

Sandbach is 1 ½ miles north of Wheelock, and is an old market town that has retained its charm. In its old cobbled market place stand 2 superb Saxon crosses, there are 7 pubs to choose from around here.

Cruising time to here 6.75 hours

Day 3

Day 4

There are about 3 locks to go before you can turn around and start your journey home.

Turn around just before Bridge 151 after the 3rd lock.

It is just 8-9 hours back to Anderton marina.

Useful Links

Description : Marbury Country Park

Website : <http://www.northwichwoodlands.org.uk/woodland/marbury.shtml>

Telephone : 01606 77741

Description : Middlewich FAB Annual Festival

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

Telephone : Contact: events@middlewich.org.uk

Description : Weaver Hall Museum

Website : http://www.cheshirewestmuseums.org/?page_id=60

Telephone : 01606 271640

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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