

Pennines, Chester & Yorkshire

Cruise through the pretty unspoilt countryside in the north-west through Cheshire and stop off at the delightful city of Chester. Or why not cruise all of the Cheshire Ring and pass through the heart of Manchester as well as plenty of rural scenery via the Bridgewater, Rochdale, Ashton, Peak Forest and Macclesfield Canals before returning to the Trent and Mersey. Continuing north the counties of Yorkshire and Lancashire meet through a combination of canal and river navigations centering on the Pennines.

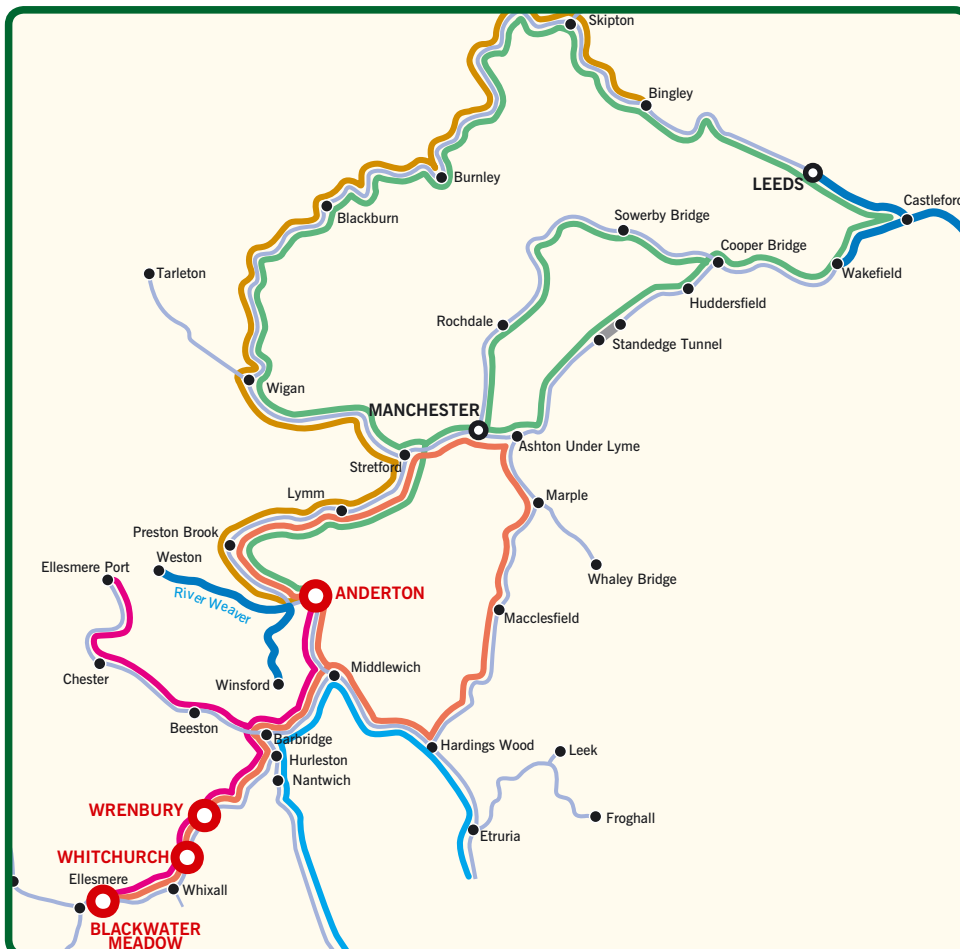
Why not take your boat through the Anderton Boat Lift and experience the sheer scale of the lift whilst it effortlessly transports you from one level to the other. It provides a 50-foot (15.2 m) vertical link between two navigable waterways: the River Weaver and the Trent and Mersey Canal.










Anderton Boat Lift



© Marketing Manchester



Boat Layouts

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"We all had an amazing time"

Feature Routes

The Cheshire Ring

☾ 7-14 P5 N5 L5

- A fascinating trip through the heart of Manchester and the Peak District with its distinctive stone architecture.
- Moor at Castlefields to explore the city of Manchester.
- Visit Old Trafford, home of 'Man U'. (0870 4421994 / www.manutd.co.uk), the huge Arndale shopping centre and the Science & Industry Museum. (0161 832 2244 / www.msim.org.uk)
- Enjoy glorious scenery as the Pennine Range overlooks the canal, if time allows, detour along the Peak Forest canal.
- Enjoy the stunning views from Marple.
- At Anderton visit the fabulously restored boat lift which links the canal with the River Weaver.



The National Waterways Museum

Chester or Ellesmere Port & return

☾ 7-10 P3 N4 L8

- On this popular countryside route the locks are well spaced for easy cruising.
- You can choose to travel to Chester and then retrace your steps back to the marina or continue along the Shropshire Union main line to its historic terminal on the River Mersey at Ellesmere Port.
- Mooring in Chester is within easy reach of the walled city centre with its medieval 'rows' where there are a variety of shops, galleries and the majestic cathedral. (Chester TIC 01244 402111 / www.chestertourism.com)
- Chester Zoo is just a short walk from the canal. (01244 380280 / www.chesterzoo.org)
- The fascinating National Waterways Museum (0151 355 5017 / www.nwm.org.uk) at Ellesmere Port is a few locks beyond Chester at the junction with the Manchester Ship Canal.
- The museum has an extensive collection of preserved inland waterway craft and display areas in many of the former warehouses.



© Chester Zoo

Bingley & return

☾ 14-21 P5 N5 L5 (Does not cover entire route)

(Max 60ft boats)

- For the more energetic this can be a 14 night trip, but if you are wanting to take your time and see the sights then take a more leisurely 3 week break.
- Heading north of the Cheshire Ring the scenery is varied, frequently rural and often spectacular.
- Experience areas of easy, lock-free cruising through the beautiful wide-open moorland of rural Pendle.
- If just two people are cruising, it is best to share the large double locks with another boat if possible.
- A comfortable turning point for a fortnight cruise is the appealing market town of Skipton.
- Skipton is a lovely market town. It has a good selection of shops, a castle, museum and local bicycle hire.



The Pennine Ring

☾ 14 P5 N5 L5

(Does not cover entire route) (Max 58ft boats)

- The recently restored Huddersfield Narrow Canal crosses the Pennines to complete the fantastic Pennine Ring.
- At 5,698 yards, the Standedge Tunnel is the longest and highest in Britain – the passage requires pre-booking with Standedge Visitor Centre. (01484 844298)
- East of Huddersfield the canal is wider and the locks are shorter, so the maximum length of boat able to complete the circuit is 58ft.

Four Counties Ring

☾ 7-14 P4 N4 L10 See page 12 for more details.



Chester

Short Breaks

Weekends: Friday to Monday (3 nights)

Midweek: Monday to Friday (4 nights)

Lymm & return

(*** 3** **P5** **N5** **L5**)

Cruise above the River Weaver and its valley, where the only lock has a drop of just six inches! Preston Brook has a tunnel of nearly a mile, and there are also two shorter ones on this route.

Beeston or Nantwich & return

(*** 3** **P3** **P4** **N4** **L5** **L8**)

Easy cruising south from Anderton with splendid scenery and good pubs. The lovely medieval town of Nantwich, with its distinctive black and white architecture, is a brisk 1/4 hour walk from the canal.

River Weaver via Anderton Boat Lift & return

(*** 4** **P5** **N4** **L5**)

A stunning feat of 19th Century engineering, re-opened in spring 2002, the Anderton boat lift carries two boats at a time hydraulically, one up and one down. At the centre of the Cheshire salt-making region, the River Weaver is steeped in industrial history, yet bristling with wildlife and beautiful scenery. Visit the Salt Museum at Northwich.

(01606 41331 / www.saltmuseum.org.uk).



Anderton Boat Lift

Route Suggestions

Route	Start			
The Cheshire Ring	Anderton	7	8	92
	Wrenbury	10/11	6.5	114
	Whitchurch	14	6	137
	Blackwater	14	7	137
Chester & return	Anderton	7	5.5	44
	Wrenbury	7	4	46
	Whitchurch	7	5	66
	Gailey	6.5	8	44
Ellesemere Port & return	Anderton	7	7	44
	Wrenbury	7	5.5	46
	Whitchurch	7	6.5	66
	Gailey	10	8	44
Bingley & return	Anderton	14/21	8+	134
The Pennine Ring	Anderton	21	6.5	227

Short Break Suggestions

Route	Start			
Lymm & return	Anderton	3	9	2
Beeston & return	Anderton	3	10	16
Nantwich & return	Anderton	3	8.5	16
River Weaver via Anderton Boat Lift & return	Anderton	4	5	10



National Waterways Museum