

WORCESTER & BIRMINGHAM CANAL

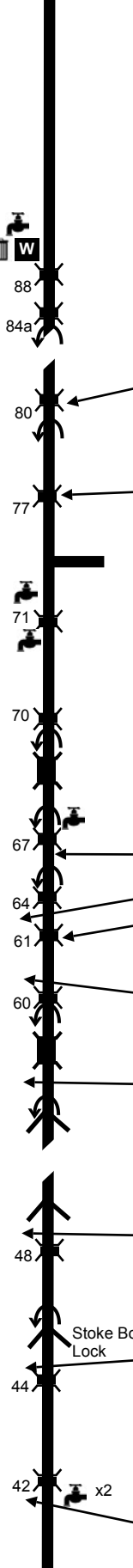
Locations	Distance	Locks
Birmingham City Centre - Kings Norton Junction	5.5	1
Kings Norton Junction - Alvechurch	5	4
Alvechurch - Stoke Works	7	6

Approximate distances shown in miles

NOTES

Birmingham The Worcs & B'ham Canal actually starts a little south of the junction at Gas Street Basin. You'll find visitor moorings near the junction (convenient for Brindley Place), across the way by the **NIA**, in Gas Street and also by the **Mailbox** - an up-market eating and shopping venue that includes Harvey Nicholls. All these places provide easy access to Birmingham's attractions, in particular the **Sea Life Centre**, **Symphony Hall**, **Birmingham Rep and Town Hall**. There are plenty of pubs, bars and restaurants around here largely selling lagers and keg beers, so - **The Prince of Wales** in Edward St stands out like an oasis with eight real ales on offer. Nearby, overlooking Cambrian Wharf is the **Flapper & Firkin** (live music) and a useful convenience store. Further afield there are plenty more shops, restaurants etc around Broad St, New St and Corporation St including a Tesco Metro in New St. The Bull Ring Shopping Centre, built in the 60s, was demolished a few years ago and replaced by a new centre that includes Selfridges. Doubtless, consultants were paid a vast sum of money to come up with a name for this bright, modern "shopping experience". The result? The highly original "Bulling". Next to the Hippodrome Theatre, the **National Trust Back to Backs** offer a glimpse of Birmingham's past. In the iconic Rotunda building in New St. T.O.A Taxis Tel: 0121 427 8888

BCN



Selly Oak Not the ideal place for an overnight stop but bridge 80 is handy for Sainsbury's and a retail park 10 mins southwest. In the other direction you're in Birmingham Uni student territory so plenty of takeaways, pubs, reasonably priced restaurants and an Aldi. **Buses and trains** to Birmingham City centre, **trains** to Redditch.

Bournville & Cadbury World Visitor moorings here and "secure" moorings on the non-towpath side - you'll need a BW key to get out and down to Stirchley for shops, banks and plenty of restaurants.

Kings Norton Junction - Stratford-on-Avon Canal

Kings Norton 5 mins west from bridge 71 for **The Navigation** and a little further for a small shopping centre with bank, convenience store and another pub all grouped round a village green. Next to the church is the grammar school, dating from 14thC, that won the BBC's "Restoration" programme a few years ago. **Doctor** Broadmeadow Health Centre Tel: 0121 458-1340 **Dentist** 30 The Green Tel: 0121 458 1362 **Vet** 87 Watford Rd Tel: 0121 459 4333 If you're really desperate, you can climb the hill eastwards for a large Macdonalds and a chippy.

Wasthills Tunnel 2726 yards

Hopwood House

Crown Alvechurch. 10-15 mins east from bridge 61 for the village centred around a busy road. Banks, convenience store, takeaways, restaurants, pubs etc. **Doctor** The Square, Tel: 0121 445-1084 **Dentist** The Square Tel: 0121 445 3600 **Trains & Buses** to Birmingham, Redditch Barnt Green Cars Tel: 0121 445 1812 **Alvechurch Boat Centre** & **Weighbridge Shop**

Tardebidge Tunnel



Tardebidge Top Lock

Well, if you've got here you're either about to tackle or have just completed the 30 locks that make up the Tardebidge flight - at least when people ask, you can say you've done it and, if you're working down the flight, you can reward yourself with a pint soon after.

Tardebidge Bottom Lock

Queens Head

Black Prince Holidays & **Navigation**

Stoke Works A BW notice by the waterpoint details shops in Ryefields Rd (over bridge 42 to the main road and 10 mins north). When we visited, one shop was empty and gave no indication of its trade, and the adjacent convenience store looked rather run-down with several empty shelves - there is a P.O. in store

Boat & Railway

Not all locks and bridges are shown above, a gap in the line - indicates some distance between locations
Numbers, eg. - 3 refer to advertisements in the first section of the guide.



British Waterways 24 hour emergency freephone service: 0800 47 999 47

Medical Advice NHS Direct 0845 4647 **A&E Depts:** Birmingham Children's Hospital Tel: 0121 333 9999 Selly Oak Hospital Tel: 0121 627 1627 Alexandra Hospital, Redditch Tel: 01527 503030 **Minor Injuries** (cuts, sprains, minor burns or broken bones) Walk-In Centre, Boots the Chemist, Birmingham City Centre, Prince of Wales Community Hospital, Bromsgrove Tel: 01527 488058
If your injury is not serious you should visit a Minor Injuries Unit. This will allow A & E staff to concentrate on serious cases and could save you a long wait.