



BOAT DOCUMENT

LEAMINGTON

INFORMATION for HIRERS

Section	BP
Sheet	003
Date	
Revision N°	07
Page	1 of 2
Owner	Ian Walker
Review date	11:3:2027

Linlithgow Union Canal Society (LUCS)

INFORMATION for HIRERS of LEAMINGTON

Leamington is a 35ft long day hire boat that is licenced to carry a maximum of twelve people. It is powered by a diesel engine and is capable of approximately 4 mph which is the canal speed limit.

There is no cover at the stern, so it is advisable for the drivers to have appropriate clothing.

Hirers are reminded that hire boats on the canals are not permitted to navigate outwith daylight hours.

As a guide, a day hire, (during hours of daylight only and allowing for the return trip to the basin, and short breaks) could comfortably cover a distance of around 25 miles. There are only two locks on the Union Canal (near the Falkirk Wheel) and Scottish Canals staff will usually be on hand to assist boats navigating there.

The vessel's main cabin contains the toilet, sink unit, first aid kit, fire extinguishers, a folding table and bench seating.

The fore cabin comprises an open area with bench seats on both sides, boxes of buoyancy aids and a waste bin. Blinds, with clear panels, can be rolled up or down as appropriate. The folding table may be used in this area if required.

One car parking space is normally available at Manse Road Basin, but this cannot be guaranteed at busy times. The nearest off-site parking may be some distance away. Loading and unloading is almost always possible directly beside the boat, but under no circumstance can a car be left parked on the slipway.

A "Skipper" must be nominated on the day of the hire and he will be responsible for driving, for the safety of the vessel and for all passengers aboard. There should also be a second-in-command (Mate) nominated who should participate in the dispatcher's briefing.

Full instructions on the operation of the boat and the "rules of the road" will be provided by a Canal Society dispatcher on the day of the hire. This can take up to half an hour, so this should be factored into your programme. Only the nominated Skipper and Mate are required to attend this, so you might wish to ask the other passengers to arrive some 20 minutes after the Skipper.

The nominated Skipper will be required to sign a handover checklist covering the briefing session.

You are welcome to bring aboard the vessel any food and drink that you wish, but the nominated Skipper and anyone else driving must at all times remain in a fit state to handle the vessel. The limits for alcohol for canal boat driving are the same as for car driving.

It is recognised that letting young people drive the boat is part of the fun and a useful learning experience, but any children (under the age of 16) must be properly supervised at all times.

It is not usually possible for a LUCS member to be available on the return of the boat as all LUCS members are volunteers. It is therefore, respectfully requested that the hirer

	BOAT DOCUMENT LEAMINGTON INFORMATION for HIRERS	Section BP Sheet 003 Date Revision N° 07 Page 2 of 2 Owner Ian Walker Review date 11:3:2027
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carries out the procedure outlined in the red Leamington User Manual located in the slot in the main cabin.

Linlithgow Union Canal Society looks forward to welcoming you to the boat and wishes you a very pleasant cruise along the Union Canal.