

# DofE Gold Residential

## Nottingham Narrowboat Project

### INFORMATION



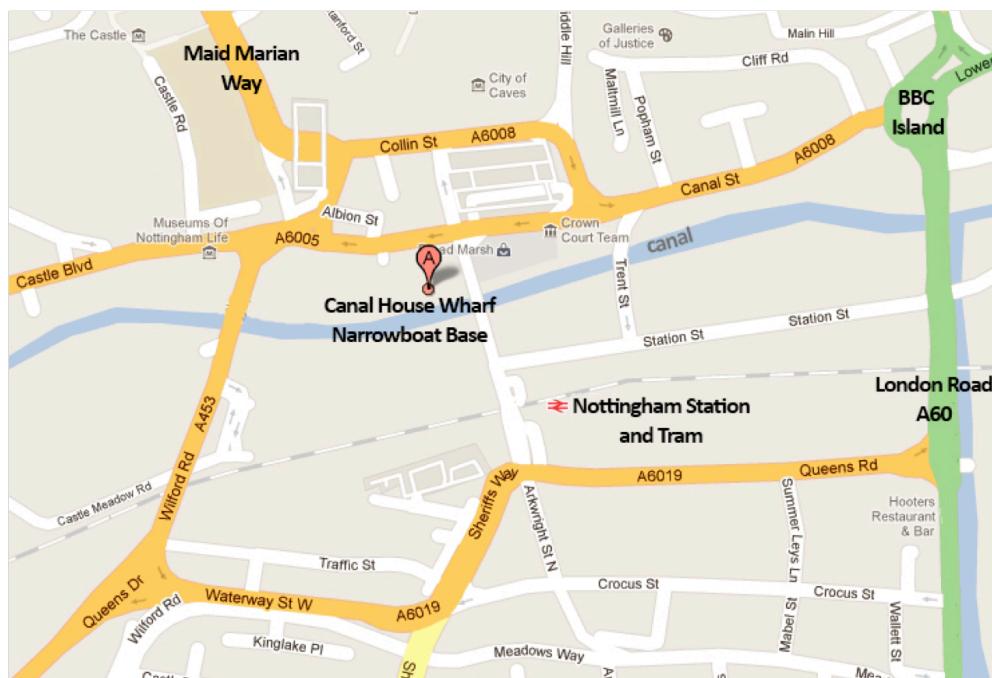
## The Nottingham Narrowboat Project

Located in the City Centre on the Nottingham Canal, the Narrowboat Project began over 40 years ago, back in 1974, and has established itself as one of the most respected community boat projects in the country. Offering a safe, accessible programme, we aim to provide a waterways experience including boat helming, working the canal's locks, water safety and a general taste of waterways life.

### Where are we exactly?

We are based on Canal Street between the Fellows, Morton and Clayton public house and the Via Fossa public house & restaurant. Our office and resource room is upstairs / 2<sup>nd</sup> floor at the Canal House pub and the boats are kept just behind it.

We are just a short distance from the Broadmarsh Bus Station, Nottingham Train Station and the NET Tram Stop adjacent to the Train Station.



### Location:

The Nottingham Narrowboat Project  
Unit 2  
Canalside  
Canal Street  
Nottingham  
NG1 7EH

### What to expect?

- A relaxed and informal environment
- A maximum group size of 6
- Lots of practical 'hands on' activities
- 'Classroom based' learning and 'home work'
- Meet new and different people
- A challenging and worthwhile experience
- To work as part of a team

At the end of the week you will have successfully passed the NCBA BHC (hopefully!) and completed the Residential section for your Gold DofE Award ☺

No experience necessary!

# FAQs

## What is an AAP?

The Nottingham Narrowboat Project is an Approved Activity Provider (AAP) for The Duke of Edinburgh's Award and therefore will meet all of the criteria to approve the residential section.

## How many other participants will be on the residential?

For the residential to meet strict DofE criteria there must be a minimum of 5 participants who take part. There are a maximum of 6 places available per residential.

## How long is the residential?

5 days and 4 nights.

## Which organisation is arranging the residential?

Nottingham City Council.

## Who from the residential organisation is going to write my assessor's report?

Helena Cresswell, DofE Award Officer, Nottingham City Council: [helena.cresswell@collegeest.org.uk](mailto:helena.cresswell@collegeest.org.uk)

## Where will the residential take place?

The project has two 70 ft long Narrowboats "Tinkers Leen" & "Megan". The DofE residencies take place on Megan.

## What type of 'shared accommodation' is the group staying in?

Beds on the narrowboat.

## What time do we meet on the Monday morning?

Please arrive in time for an **11am start**. The office is open from 10am if you arrive in Nottingham earlier.

## What time do we arrive back on the Friday afternoon?

The narrowboat aims to be back at the office in Nottingham around **4pm**. This time is not guaranteed, and will depend upon other waterway users and busy locks etc. Please bear this in mind if you are booking onward journeys.

## Where will we go?

As a group YOU will decide which route to take, but why not have a look at [www.waterscape.com](http://www.waterscape.com) click the canals and rivers tab and search for 'Trent and Mersey Canal' and the 'Grand Union and River Soar.'

Or have a look on YouTube:

Search 'Canal and River Trust'.

Click on the 'Boaters Handbook DVD' link.

## What will we do?

During the residential you will be completing the National Community Boats' Association (NCBA) Boat Handling Course (BHC)

The course is delivered by an approved NCBA trainer in preparation for a group taking a boat out on the inland waterways of the UK.

The course is designed to minimise potential risks and provide a level of knowledge and skill to the boat operators, helping to ensure a safe, enjoyable boating experience.

The topics covered during the week include:

- Safety
- Roles, Control & Communication
- Boat Maintenance
- Boat Handling
- Use of Locks

During the evenings you will be cooking for the group, exploring different areas, socialising, completing "home work" and (depending on the route taken) there is the option to play crazy golf.

## What is provided on the boat?

- Lifejackets/buoyancy aids are provided for everyone in the group.
- A fully equipped galley (kitchen) with a standard size fridge and small freezer section, a full size gas oven with 4 ring hob, storage space for supplies and all the pots, pans, plates, bowls, mugs and cutlery.
- 2 stow away tables are in the saloon (lounge area) of each boat which are able to fit up to 12 people around them for a meal or doing work of any kind.
- Both boats are equipped with central heating in case of cold weather.
- A CD player.
- Hand wash soap & toilet paper – **please do not** bring your own loo roll as the really thick stuff can clog up the waste tank!
- "Ecover" Washing Up Liquid & Multi Surface Cleaner. Please do not bring your own as the washing up water goes into the Canal / River so it's important to use biodegradable, non-polluting types.

## Who are the Staff?

We aim for 2 members of staff to accompany each residential; a Skipper and a volunteer/trainee skipper.

A qualified\* Skipper accompanies the group on every trip and has ultimate responsibility for the safety of the group and control of the boat.

\* *Skippers hold the National Community Boats' Association 'Certificate of Community Boat Management.'*

The Narrowboat Project's staff and volunteers have undergone first aid training.

## What else do I need to know?

### Safety

The safety of everyone using the boats is our primary concern. Boating on the Inland Waterways does carry an element of risk. Please read this information carefully to increase your awareness of potential dangers and appropriate safety procedures.

The skipper will give a comprehensive safety talk before the residential begins. It is important that everyone is present and pays attention to this. Particular attention should be paid to the front (bow) of the boat as it is obscured from view to the Skipper whilst the boat is underway.

### General code of conduct

A copy of the British Waterways Code of Conduct is available on board.

**No smoking** on the boats.

You must respect the needs of other waterways users.

### Special Safety Equipment

Lifejackets / buoyancy aids will be provided and must be worn at all times out side of the boat and when working locks for all group members, including staff. The boats are equipped with fire safety equipment, first aid kits and mobile phones in case of emergency.

No one must interfere with the boat controls unless authorised to do so by the skipper. Group members should follow the skipper's instructions at all times.

### Leptospirosis / Weils Disease

The quality of inland water can be of concern therefore certain measures should be taken to reduce the risk of contamination:

No swimming in Canals or Rivers

Participants should avoid immersion

Any cuts should be covered with a waterproof dressing

Wash hands before eating

Any ill effects or flu like symptoms that a participant experiences from 4 days to 2 weeks after a trip should be reported to a doctor

### Insurance

The Project is covered under a Public Liability Insurance Policy. It is the responsibility of individual participants to take out separate and additional insurance for (i) Personal accident (ii) Loss of earnings (iii) Loss or damage to personal property.

## Testimonials

Don't just take our word for what a great residential opportunity this is! Comments from the 2014 & 2015 residential:

*"It was a brilliant residential, great staff, great crew, made some new friends and it was a lot better than I thought it was going to be. I'd definitely do it again! The only problem I had was I wish it could have gone on for longer than 5 days!" Gold DofE participant Nottingham.*

*"I had so much fun on the residential – it was a lot better than I expected and I would definitely recommend it! Gold DofE participant Kent.*

*"The residential was a very good experience, I would definitely recommend it. The trainers were both very knowledgeable and approachable." Gold DofE participant, Nottingham.*

*"I had a great time thank you. Please pass on my thanks to the trainers for doing such a great job of teaching us!" Gold DofE participant Nottingham.*

*"Brilliant staff! Brilliant residential! Great fun!" Gold DofE participant Leicestershire.*

*"I would seriously recommend this residential to others, there is lots to learn and achieve and great opportunities to be had. Thank you very much." Gold DofE participant, Lincolnshire.*

## Interested?

Reserve your place for a £20 deposit and contact me for an application form.

Please note bookings are taken on a first come, first served basis.

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