

Guildford Boat House

Ideally situated in the centre of Guildford, the Boat House is close to a number of places of interest, so you can combine activities to make the most of your day.

Guildford Castle is within walking distance

Guildford Museum (01483 444750) has many displays featuring the river as well as plenty of local information

Guildford Discovery Science Centre (01483 537080)

Guildford Borough Council provide excellent free guided walks around the town – contact the Tourist Information Centre (01483 444333)

Guildford Cathedral offers brass rubbing and other activities (01483 565287)

The Meadows opposite the Boat House are ideal for picnics and games

Booking Procedure

Please study the trip options on the previous page, then contact us with your preferred dates and times (it is helpful if you have alternatives available).

You will receive a confirmation invoice showing how the fares are calculated. As a concession for schools, we allow you to pay up to one month after the trip, or by the end of the current term, whichever is the sooner. A final invoice based on the actual number of people attending is issued on the day of the trip.

One teacher / helper travels free of charge for every ten children booked. Teachers are most welcome to have a preview trip where possible, by prior arrangement.

Descriptive notes are available free of charge, covering the 4 mile stretch of river between Guildford and Godalming. Please ask if you would like a copy.

If you intend to visit Dapdune Wharf you must contact them on 01483 561389 to book and pay for any facilities you may require: (classrooms, guides, work packs).



Welcome to Guildford Boat House

River Trips for School Groups

A visit to the River Wey – cared for by the National Trust – contributes to many areas of the curriculum. From geography and science, to technology and mathematics, history and art, a visit can stimulate many activities.

Guildford Boat House operates river trips covering the stretch of navigation between Guildford and Godalming, and also downstream to the National Trust's Dapdune Wharf. Our trips offer the ideal way for Key Stage 1 & 2 children to study the river at first hand.

The Harry Stevens

The trips normally take place aboard the Harry Stevens, named after the last proprietor of the Wey Navigation, who donated the river to the National Trust in 1964. This is an open-sided launch seating up to 69 passengers (including children: 60 adults max), and for all-weather protection the craft is fitted with roll-down curtains. There is a public address system on board, used by the skipper for commentaries while cruising, and sometimes by staff if the trip is to cover aspects of river life you are seeking to highlight.

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Dapdune Wharf

Trips can be combined with a visit to Dapdune Wharf, situated downstream from Guildford Boat House.

The Wharf was once the barge-building site for the river's main operator. It was opened as a National Trust Visitors' Centre in 1996 and gives a fascinating insight into the history of this 20-mile waterway. The Education Department at the Wharf have put together some excellent facilities as well as a good education pack for teachers. The Education Officer will tailor your visit to your needs if you so wish. There is a classroom and activities can include dressing up, roleplay, science and IT.

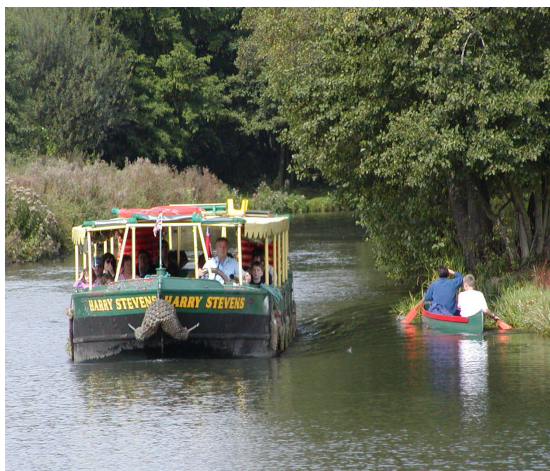
There is coach parking at the Wharf.

Combining a trip passing through a lock with a visit to the Wharf makes the very best use of a day centred on the river.

Please remember that you must book your visit to Dapdune Wharf directly with the National Trust (01483 561389/534092); there is a separate charge to enter for groups, unless your school has National Trust education group membership. Dapdune Wharf is open from Thursday to Monday inclusive.

The Season

Trips can be booked (subject to availability, of course) on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 3 April to 20 October



The Cruises

Trip 1: A 45 minute return cruise from Guildford Boat House upstream, turning in front of St Catherine's Lock, passing water meadows, St Catherine's Ferry, Priory and Sands.

Fares: Staff £5.00 (1 free per 10 pupils) Pupils £2.50
There is a minimum charge of £100.00 for this cruise

Trip 2: A one and a half hour cruise from Guildford Boat House upstream through St Catherine's Lock and under the lowest bridge on the Navigation at Shalford, past the old gunpowder store, turning at the entrance to the old Wey & Arun Canal (presently under renovation) and returning to Guildford.

Fares: Staff £7.00 (1 free per 10 pupils) Pupils £3.50
There is a minimum charge of £140.00 for this cruise

Trip 3: A 45 minute single journey from Guildford Boat House downstream to Dapdune Wharf, passing through Millmead Lock, past the treadmill crane and old town warehouses before arriving at the wharf*.

Fares: Staff £5.50 (1 free per 10 pupils) Pupils £2.75
There is a minimum charge of £110.00 for this cruise

Trip 4: A one and three quarter hour single journey from Guildford Boat House upstream to St Catherine's Lock, turning to come downstream through Millmead Lock and the town, to Dapdune Wharf*.

Fares: Staff £8.00 (1 free per 10 pupils) Pupils £4.00
There is a minimum charge of £160.00 for this cruise

Trip 5: A one and three quarter hour single journey from Guildford Boat House to Farncombe Boat House*, near the top of the River Wey & Godalming Navigations, passing the water meadows, St Catherine's Sands and Chapel, St Catherine's Lock, the old gunpowder store and wharf, Unstead Lock and other features including WWII "pill boxes".

Fares: Staff £9.00 (1 free per 10 pupils) Pupils £4.50
There is a minimum charge of £180.00 for this cruise

*Trips 3, 4 & 5 can be taken "in reverse". Many schools cater for a large number of pupils by splitting the group in two, with half travelling in one direction and the other half in the other. Where trips are taken in each direction with a maximum break of 45 minutes, the minimum charge for the two trips is 1.5 times the stated minimum for one trip.