

NAVIGATION ADVISORY NOTICE



ANGLIAN WATERWAYS

DATE: 22 May 2020

LOCATION: River Nene & River Great Ouse

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) ADVICE FOR RIVER USERS

Following updated government guidance on outdoor activities, some restrictions on the private use of powered craft for leisure cruising on the above waterways will be lifted on Saturday 23 May 2020.

Lockdown in the UK is still in force but if you are the owner of a private use powered craft, you may now use it to take short day trips. Please check with your mooring provider as to whether they are permitting anyone onto their site before leaving home. You must return your boat to its home mooring at the end of the day and you cannot stay on it overnight. There are no restrictions on how far you may travel to access our waterways in England but you must travel in your own car, alone or only with members of your own household. Do not leave home if you or anyone in your household has symptoms of Coronavirus/Covid-19.

You may meet one other person who is not a member of your household but you must travel separately, adhere to social distancing rules and keep at least two metres apart from anyone outside your household at all times. The Government have clearly stated that it is far too early to make fundamental changes to the social distancing requirements in relation to the Coronavirus emergency.

To stay safe, you must take hygiene precautions when you are outside. Good hand hygiene is essential to keep you and others safe and well. We encourage you to frequently clean your hands whilst you are on our waterways using an appropriate hand sanitizer or soap and hot water. Please wipe touch points at locks using sanitizing wipes or a cloth with a small amount of sanitizing gel. Do not spray cleaning fluids or water onto the lock control buttons or panels.

During the lockdown, we had to pause most non-essential navigation activity. We have now recommenced routine maintenance in line with government guidelines. Please adhere to all on-site instruction and signage and exercise caution when using our sites. Be patient at busy sites and follow any instructions in place at our assisted passage locks where delays are possible. Please do not approach lock offices on foot unless instructed by the lock keeper. Toilets and shower facilities at our assisted locks will remain closed. When navigating, be wary of obstructions which may have been deposited over winter and report any problems you may encounter by ringing 0800 80 70 60.

Please make time to plan your journey and check our Navigation Notices on www.visitanglianwaterways.org. Your craft must be properly registered for use on our waterways and you must adhere to navigation legislation and byelaws at all times. Significant or serious breaches of the coronavirus restrictions should be reported to the police on 101 or the local police website, as they have powers to deal with people breaking coronavirus rules.

At this time, in line with government guidance, commercial use of our waterways (hire boats etc.) is not yet permitted.

Please enjoy the use of the navigation in a responsible way. Stay alert and stay safe as we continue to respond to the challenges of coronavirus.

Irven Forbes
Waterways Manager
22 May 2020

You can also call the Environment Agency on 03708 506 506 between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday and ask for the River Great Ouse or River Nene Waterways Team.

www.VisitAnglianWaterways.org