Pocklington Canal Amenity Society

Trips on "New Horizons"



Thank you for enquiring about booking a trip on New Horizons.

Trips depart from the Melbourne arm of the Pocklington Canal. To find us the postcode is YO42 4QJ, Grid ref SE 752 443 and the approximate what3words location is "blanket.corkscrew.skin".

The arm is down the lane just to the west of The Melbourne Arms pub in Main Street, Melbourne. You should park somewhere near the pub and walk the couple of hundred metres down to the canal basin where the boat should be on the visitor moorings on the west side of the basin. Passengers with mobility issues may be able to park at the basin – check with the skipper on the boat. There is a toilet at Melbourne basin (if locked the skipper will have a key) but, NB, there is no toilet on the boat.

Trips can be of any length from c 1 hour to 4.5 hours or even a full day, depending on what you want as well as whether the canal is navigable and volunteers are available to crew the boat. Our most popular trip is around 2.0 to 2.5 hours from Melbourne westward to Gardham Lock (where there are picnic tables) and return. Longer trips are sometimes possible using the locks east towards Pocklington, either to a turning point just above Walbut Lock or one at the Bielby Arm, the current limit of navigation. These trips take c 3.5 hours, for the shorter one, to 4.5 hr. However these are dependent on there being plenty of water in the canal; late in the summer and into the autumn this may not always be the case.

Whilst on a trip you are our responsibility. While many people have canal boating experience and can operate the bridges and locks, we can only allow you to help if it's safe. We can not allow anyone to cross the locks using the gates. There is a swingbridge at Gardham Lock and the lock can be crossed safely when that is in place.

We can carry a maximum of 12 people (including babies). You can bring up to two well-behaved dogs, but please check first as some of our crew have allergies. We normally offer a cup of tea or coffee during a booked trip. For booked trips you are very welcome to bring your own food and drink to enjoy on board or at the turning point.

We operate on the basis of donations to the funds we need to maintain and restore the canal. The trip manager will advise on the size of donation we normally receive, and in addition we will ask you to fill in a Gift Aid form so that we can ask the government to refund tax and so increase the value of your donation.

If you would like to book a trip, or would like more details, please send an email to book.newhorizons@gmail.com. If you don't have access to email, you can phone Steve Ashby on 01904 489593.