



Boaters' Guides

Welcome

Welcome to waterscape.com's Boaters' Guides.

These guides list facilities across the waterway network. This first release of the guides covers the facilities provided by British Waterways on its navigations in England and Wales.

The guides are completely computer-generated. All the information is held in a central database. Whenever you download a guide from waterscape.com, it will take the very latest information and compile a 'fresh' PDF for you.









The same information is used in the maps on waterscape.com itself, to ensure consistency. It will be regularly updated by local staff whenever details change.

We would like to hear your comments and corrections on the information contained within. Please send your feedback to feedback@waterscape.com.

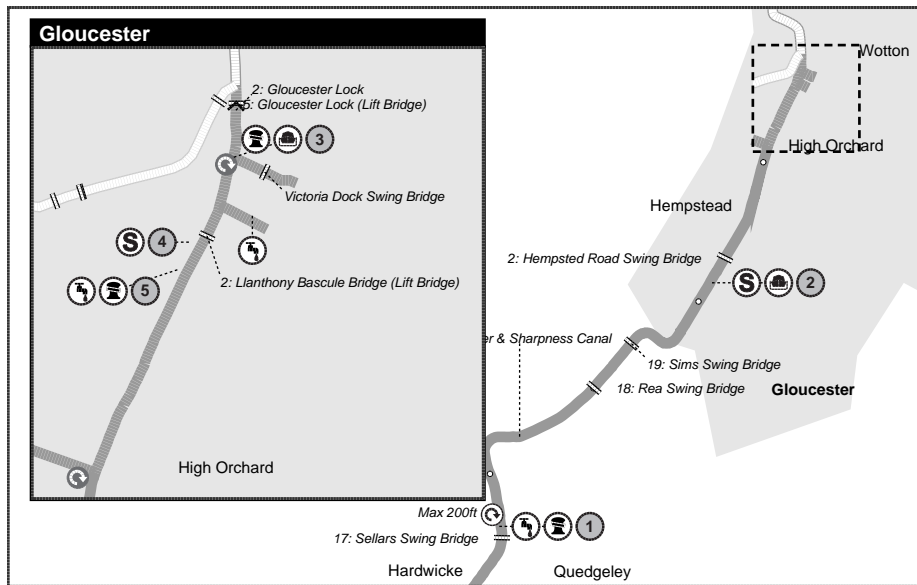
Dimension data

British Waterways' waterway dimension data is currently being updated. The following information is for general guidance purposes.

Key to facilities

-  Winding hole (length specified)
-  Winding hole (full length)
-  Visitor mooring
-  Information and office
-  Dock and/or slipway
-  Slipway only
-  Services and facilities
-  Water point only

Gloucester & Sharpness Canal



Navigation notes

[Gloucester & Sharpness Canal](#)

Sharpness to Gloucester:

[River Severn](#)

Gloucester Lock to Upper Lode Lock: The River Severn from Gloucester Lock to Upper Lode Lock at Tewkesbury is tidal, therefore, the flow of the river will be reversed at times during the flood tide, and velocities may be increased during the ebb. Obtain advice from the lock keepers at Gloucester or Upper Lode before leaving the lock.

Opening times

[Gloucester & Sharpness Canal](#)

Sharpness Port Manning New

Arrangements: (9 May 11 until further notice): As from Monday 9th May 2011, British Waterways will no longer be manning Sharpness Port between 21h00 and 09h00 daily (unless ship passage is booked in advance).

Where High Water falls between 09h00 and 21h00, British Waterways will continue to man the Pier Head for four hours before High Water and for one hour after. All craft are required to book passage through the Port in advance. At least 24 hours notice is required. Sharpness passage bookings can be made on 01453 511968 (Pier Head either manned or telephone answering service). General Enquiries on 01452 318000 (office hours only). Contact: 01452 318000

Stoppages and restrictions

[Gloucester & Sharpness Canal](#)

Sharpness Port: Advice (3 May 11 until further notice): [\[/media/documents/24271.pdf](#) Download a guide to Sharpness Port entrance lock signals] Contact: 01452 318008

Gloucester & Sharpness Canal Fretherne

Bridge: Advice (16 Jun 11 until further notice): Customers are reminded that there is a morning embargo on the opening of Fretherne Bridge. The embargo runs from 8.20 am until 9.00am Monday - Friday during school term times. During this time, we are unable to open the bridge for leisure craft. Please take this into

account when planning your journey and if held at the bridge please follow the instructions of the bridge keeper. Contact: 01452 318000

Hempstead, Rea & Sellers Bridge: Stoppage (4 Jan 12-24 Feb 12): UPDATE (28 October 2011): Changed 28.10.2011 Due to funding availability, these works have been deferred.

Installation of cross canal ducts for power cables to be placed along the bed of the canal at these bridges. Contact: 01923 201120

Sellers Bridge - Gloucester Marathon

Sunday 22nd January 2011: Restriction (22 Jan 12-22 Jan 12): There will be restrictions on Sellers Bridge for the Gloucester Marathon being held on Sunday 22nd January 2012. Sellers Bridge (The Pilot) will be closed between 10.55hrs to 11.25hrs and on the return journey between 12.45hrs and 15.30hrs to allow the runners to finish the race. There will be traffic management on Rea Bridge. Contact: 01452 318000

Gloucester & Sharpness Canal and River

Severn Winter Opening Times: Advice (1 Nov 11-18 Mar 12): Gloucester and Sharpness Canal and River Severn Winter Operations Tuesday 1st November 2011 until Monday 19th March 2012 Non-commercial Vessels - Passage 5 days per week Thursday to Monday. Opening Time 8am to 4pm. River Locks need to be booked in advance. Booking made via telephone 01452 310832 (Gloucester Lk). A minimum of 24hrs notice is required when booking Locks. Customers are advised that availability of Lock opening times will be confirmed when booking are made. On odd occasions it may be necessary to offer customers alternative times if Lock Keepers are honouring previously made bookings.

Commercial Vessels - Passage 7 days per week. Bookings required for River Locks and G&S Bridges on Tuesday and Wednesday. Masters are requested to give at least 24hrs notice when booking passage. High Orchard and Netheridge Bridge. If you require these structures to be lifted/swung passage will need to be booked. A minimum of 24 hours notice must be given. Booking made via telephone 01452 310832 (Gloucester Lk). Gloucester & Sharpness Canal Key to Manned Structures Gloucester Lock- manned- 01452 310832/07717681086 Llanthony - not

manned- operated from Glos lock Hempstead - manned- 01452521880/07766520301 Sims - manned - 01452501994/07768360415 Rea-not manned operated from Sims Sellars - not manned operated from Parkend Parkend - manned-01452720016/077861913794 Junction - manned -01452740444/07827254740 Sandfield - not manned operated from junction Fretherne - manned- 01452740582/07827254791 Splatt-manned-01452740578/07827254800 Cambridge - not manned operated from Patch Patch - manned - 01453890324/07827254833 Purton - manned -01453811384/07827254839 Christmas Opening Hours 2011 For The Gloucester & Sharpness Canal and River Severn SATURDAY 24TH CHRISTMAS EVE - OPEN AS NORMAL SUNDAY 25TH CHRISTMAS DAY - CLOSED MONDAY 26TH BOXING DAY - CLOSED TUESDAY 27TH - OPEN FOR COMMERCIAL VESSELS ONLY 24HRS NOTICE REQUIRED WEDNESDAY 28TH - OPEN FOR COMMERCIAL VESSELS ONLY 24HRS NOTICE REQUIRED THURSDAY 29TH - OPEN AS NORMAL FRIDAY 30TH - OPEN AS NORMAL SATURDAY 31ST - NEW YEARS EVE OPEN AS NORMAL SUNDAY 1ST - NEW YEARS DAY CLOSED MONDAY 2ND - OPEN AS NORMAL Contact: 01452 31800

Sharpness Lock Gates: Stoppage (30 Jan 12-11 Feb 12): Periodic inspection and maintenance of the lock gates, sluices & tidal chambers. MB Contact: 01923 201120

River Severn - Reduced Draft: Restriction (1 Sep 11 until further notice): Low flows in the River Severn have been recorded for a significant number of days this year. Reduced flow rates in the River Severn reduce the ability of the river to remove silt and shallows have formed on the lower reaches of the Severn (Upper Lode to Gloucester Lock) with significant shallows being recorded between Gloucester Lock and the Upper Parting. Where shallows have been encountered between Gloucester Lock and the Upper Parting the depth of water (without tide) has been recorded as little as 1.2m (4ft) in places however to date we have had no reports of boats becoming stranded. Skippers are advised to navigate with care, keep to the main channel, and not cut bends. We will continue to monitor the development of shallows over the coming weeks and update our advice as required. Vessels drawing in excess of 1.2m (4ft) are advised to contact Gloucester Lock in advance of their journey to ascertain the latest position. We would also ask customers who encounter shallows whilst navigating the River Severn to report them as they pass through the locks so that we can investigate, update our records and advice. The weather forecast for the next week is mainly dry therefore; we do not expect to see an improving situation over the coming week. Please contact Gloucester Lock on 01452 310832 for information. Contact: 01452 318000

Sharpness Lockage Fees: Advice (1 Jan 08 until further notice): Fees for leisure craft passing through the Sea Lock at Sharpness. Lockage fee of £25 per boat per lock. Appropriate British Waterways licence Long Term Licence holders (River & Canal or River Only) benefit from a number of inclusive lock passages: 12 Months 16 lock passages 6 Months 8 lock passages 3 Months

4 lock passages If you hold a long term River Only Licence you will need to upgrade to a Canal & River licence to enter the Gloucester & Sharpness Canal or Gloucester Lock. The charge will be 50% of the Canal & River licence for the period that the upgrade is required. (Note you still benefit from the Long Term licence holder inclusive lock passages.) Concessions on lockage fees are given to block bookings subject to the group entering and leaving Sharpness on the same tide and a single payment for the group to cover both licensing and lockage charges. Please contact our customer service staff for details on 01452 318000. Contact: 01452 318000

Sharpness Low Level Bridge: Stoppage (7 Nov 11-12 Nov 11): Replacement of the road traffic barriers and signaling system. MB Contact: 01923 201120

High Orchard Bridge (St Ann Way) & Netheridge Bridge: Advice (30 Jan 08 until further notice): UPDATE (19 April 2011): Please be advised that vessels exceeding 4.5m (14.7 ft) air draught will need to book to have these bridges lifted through Gloucester Lock on 01452 310832. Bookings will only be taken for normal, seasonal bridge opening hours and these bridges cannot be lifted before 9am on weekdays (except Bank Holidays) you are required to give 24hrs notice for booking the bridges to be lifted

Vessels exceeding 4.5m (14.7 ft) air draught will need to book to have this bridge lifted through Gloucester Lock on 01452 310832. Bookings will only be taken for normal, seasonal bridge opening hours and this bridge cannot be lifted before 9am on weekdays (except Bank Holidays). Contact: 01452 318000

Gloucester Office Updated Opening Hours: Advice (3 Oct 11-2 Apr 12): UPDATE (19 September 2011): Update Winter Opening hours for the Gloucester Office - South Wales and Severn Waterway. Week commencing 3rd October 2011 to week commencing 2nd April 2012 The office will be open to customers on Mondays and Thursdays from 9.30am to 12.30 All other times either by appointment or use alternative such as www.waterscape.com

UPDATE (02 March 2011): UPDATED INFORMATION Summer Opening hours for the Gloucester Office - South Wales and Severn Waterway. Opening Hours for Face to Face Customer Service The office will be open to customers from 4th April 2011 to Friday 30th September 2011- Monday to Friday 9.00am to 12.00 All other times either by appointment or use alternative such as www.waterscape.com

Winter Opening hours for the Gloucester Office - South Wales and Severn Waterway. Week commencing 1st November 2010 to week ending 1st April 2011 The office will be open to customers on Mondays and Thursdays from 9.30am to 12.30 All other times either by appointment or use alternative such as www.waterscape.com Contact: 01452 318000

Locks and bridges

Gloucester & Sharpness Canal

Lock 2, Gloucester Lock: Operated by bridgekeeper. Subject to flooding from river severn. Depending on flood/tidal influence Gloucester Lock flood gates will be closed at around 6m above summer level. Gloucester lock is not available for navigation when the

flood gates are closed. Craft should proceed with caution keeping close to the quay wall when approaching Gloucester Lock from the River Severn side.

Bridge 5, Gloucester Lock (Lift Bridge): Operated by bridgekeeper. Main road lift bridge, cannot be opened for craft during peak vehicle traffic flows Monday to Friday 08.20 to 09.00hrs and 16.30 to 17.30hrs with the exception of commercial boat traffic. Waterway width 24ft 6ins

Victoria Dock Swing Bridge: Operated by bridgekeeper. 08.30 10.00 11.30 13.00 (daily) 14.45 16.45 18.30 (summer only) 15.00 (winter only). All times are at the discretion of the Bridge Keeper and require 1/2 hour notice.

Victoria Basin (Gloucester Docks): Home of Gloucester Marina

Bridge 2, Llanthony Bascule Bridge (Lift Bridge): Operated by bridgekeeper. Traffic restrictions as with Gloucester Lock Bridge. Waterway width 38ft.

Bridge 2, Hempsted Road Swing Bridge: Operated by bridgekeeper. Manually operated, traffic restrictions as with Gloucester Lock Bridge. Waterway width 37ft 6ins. Weight limit on bridge.

Bridge 19, Sims Swing Bridge: Operated by bridgekeeper. Mechanical, most narrowboats go under without opening. Waterway width 37ft 6ins.

Bridge 18, Rea Swing Bridge: Operated by bridgekeeper. Manual, most narrowboats go under without opening. Waterway width 37ft 6ins. Air draught 8ft 2ins (2.5m).

Bridge 17, Sellars Swing Bridge: Operated by bridgekeeper. Manual, most narrowboats go under without opening. Waterway width 36ft 6ins. Air draught 9ft 4ins (2.85m).

📍 Services and facilities

Gloucester & Sharpness Canal

2 A&D Marine: Fuel for boats

4 Llanthony Bridge: Water, Elsan disposal, pump-out, toilet. BW key key required. Card type: 30 unit card.

📏 Dimensions

33 Constraint Point: Bends in the canal Length: 65m, (213.25 ft). Additional Note: Seek advice from Harbour Master

33 Constraint Point: Sharpness Lock Additional Note: No locks on this stretch, dredged to 3.5m. Access is gained through Sharpness Port and therefore this figure is taken, hence the large range.

33 Constraint Point: Pylons at sandfield and Parkend Headroom: 38m, (124.67 ft). Additional Note: Seek advice from Harbour Master

33 Constraint Point: Parkend Bridge/Fretherne Beam: 10.76m, (35.3 ft). Additional Note: At 3.5m draught. The main constraint is the approach to each bridge at a specified depth. Harbour master to advise.

🚢 Visitor moorings

Gloucester & Sharpness Canal

1 Sellars Bridge - Visitor Moorings: Total 100 metres. BW visitor moorings upstream of bridge on towpath side. Please check with the Bridge Keeper before mooring as ships turn at this point and space is limited.

3 Gloucester Docks - Visitor Moorings: Total 500 metres. Please note the following details when planning a visit to Gloucester Docks.

The dock area is the waterspace between Gloucester Lock in the north and Llanthony Lift Bridge in the south, and includes permanent moorings in Victoria Basin (to the east). Large craft use the main waterspace for turning.

Please note the dock area is still used as a working area mainly associated with access to the two dry docks operated by T Nielson Company. The dock walls adjacent to the dry docks will often have craft moored in transit either to or from the docks. We hope you appreciate the colour and images of times past associated with many of these historic craft.

Please do not obstruct safety ladders, or your vessel may be moved.

The north-east of the docks has pontoons laid out in herringbone fashion and are dedicated as 48-hour moorings. Other locations around the dock walls are similarly signed 48-hour moorings. Arrangements can be made to extend moorings by up to 14 days by contacting the Waterways Office and making the appropriate payment.

Some locations have electric supplies and again these can be accessed through the Waterways Office. BW Sanitary Station keys and boat licences are also available from here.

Disabled moorings only on low quay situated at entrance to Barge Arm. Please notify the Waterways Office if you wish to moor here.

Up to 25% of the visitor moorings are available for winter moorings between November and March. Please apply to the Waterways Office.

Please note that in addition to the craft accessing the dry dock, the main waterspace is a thoroughfare for boats travelling the River Severn and Sharpness Canal. Some of these craft are large and use the main waterspace for turning. In addition, the Waterways Trust operates boat trips frequently in this area.

5 Llanthony Pontoons - Visitor Moorings:

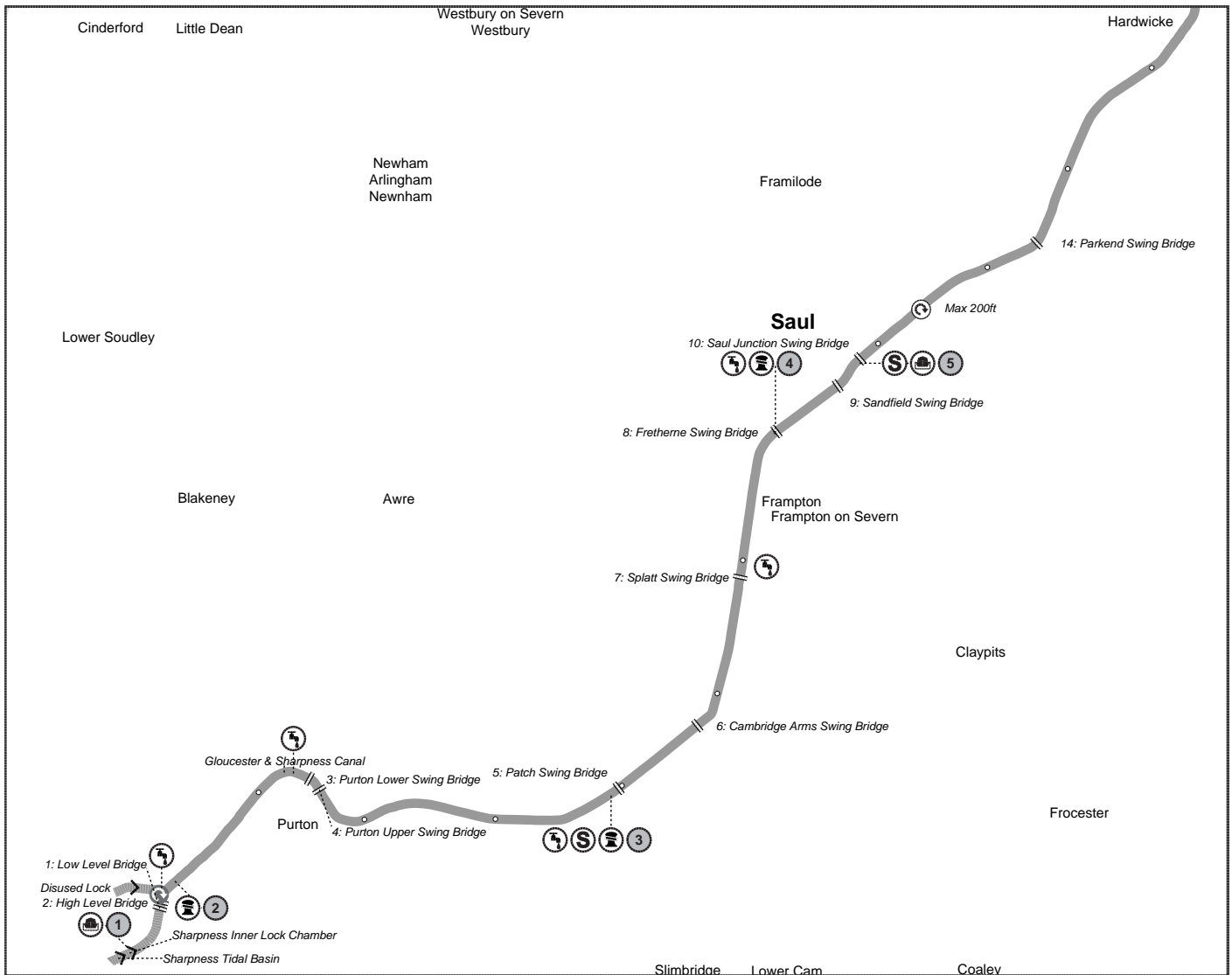
Total 180 metres. Sanitary Station and pump-out. BW permanent and visitor pontoon moorings. Bakers Quay Outside the docks at the start of the canal, east side. Limited visitor mooring space. Please check with Llanthony Bridge Keeper.

🚢 Slipways and docks

Gloucester & Sharpness Canal

2 A&D Marine: Dry-dock.

3 Gloucester Dry Dock: Dry-dock. Neilsen & Son specializing in Tall Ship repair



Navigation notes

Entrance to Sharpness Docks:

Locks and bridges

Bridge 14, Parkend Swing Bridge: Operated by bridgekeeper. Mechanically operated. Waterway width 36ft 3ins.

Bridge 10, Saul Junction Swing Bridge: Operated by bridgekeeper. Operates Sandfield Bridge during winter by CCTV. Manually operated in summer, mechanical in winter. Waterway width 37ft 6ins.

Bridge 9, Sandfield Swing Bridge: Operated by bridgekeeper. CCTV operation from Saul Junction during winter. Mechanical operation. Waterway width 38ft 3ins.

Bridge 8, Fretherne Swing Bridge: Operated by bridgekeeper. Cannot be opened for craft Monday to Friday during school terms between 8.20am and 9am. Mechanical operation. Waterway width 30ft 5ins.

Bridge 7, Splatt Swing Bridge: Operated by bridgekeeper. Manually operated. Waterway width 36ft 5ins.

Bridge 6, Cambridge Arms Swing Bridge: Operated by bridgekeeper. Manually operated. Waterway width 36ft 6ins.

Bridge 5, Patch Swing Bridge: Operated by bridgekeeper. Very busy due to Wetland Trust (Slimbridge) and adjacent Boat Station Public road. Manually operated. Waterway width 36ft

6ins.

Bridge 3, Purton Lower Swing Bridge: Operated by bridgekeeper. Operates Purton Upper Swing Bridge by CCTV.

Bridge 4, Purton Upper Swing Bridge: Operated by bridgekeeper. CCTV operation from Purton Lower Bridge. Waterway width 35ft 3ins.

Bridge 2, High Level Bridge: Seldom used by vehicle traffic - most boats go under. Waterway width 50ft 3ins. Air draught 16ft 9ins (5.1m).

Bridge 1, Low Level Bridge: Heavy vehicle traffic. Waterway width 50ft 2ins.

Sharpness Inner Lock Chamber: Sharpness Sea Lock is used by both Commercial and Leisure craft. All vessels are required to book passage through Sharpness Lock and Bridges at least 24 hours in advance. Leisure craft bookings are made through Sharpness Pier head on 01453 511968. The Pier head is manned from 5 hours before High Water to one hour after High water on each tide.

Services and facilities

3 Slimbridge Boat Station: Water, Elsan disposal, pump-out, toilet. Fuel for boats

5 Saul Junction Facility: Water, Elsan disposal, pump-out, toilet, shower.

Visitor moorings

2 Sharpness - Visitor moorings: Total 150 metres. BW visitor moorings are located above the entrance to the Old Arm on the towpath side.

3 Patch Bridge South - Visitor Moorings: Total 140 metres. BW long term and visitor moorings on off-side south of bridge. Please check with Bridge Keeper at this popular visitor site. Trip boat arrival/departure point on off-side by water point south of bridge. Camping/caravan/leisure goods shop nearby. Slimbridge Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust within easy reach. Bus service to Dursley.

4 Fretherne Br North - Visitor Moorings: Total 138 metres. Limited BW visitor mooring towpath-side north of bridge. Please check with Bridge Keeper. Pubs and limited services in Frampton village nearby.

Slipways and docks

1 Sharpness Dry Dock: Dry-dock, wet-dock. Sharpness Port Authority

5 B&T Marine: Dry-dock.