

Liverpool Canal Link Skippers Guide & Information Pack



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For more information on the Liverpool Canal Link, please visit www.canalrivertrust.org.uk and search for the Liverpool Link!

Contents

	Page Number
Cover	1
Contents	2
History and Background of the Liverpool Canal Link	3
Opening times and booking information	4
General Information	5
Customer Service Facilities	5 - 6
Leeds & Liverpool Canal Customer Service Facilities	7
Entering Liverpool South Docks for your stay in Salthouse Dock	8 - 12
Leaving Liverpool South Docks for the return trip to the Leeds & Liverpool Canal	12
Cancellation Process and Events & Festivals	13
Dimensions and Useful & Emergency numbers	14
Rules of Navigation	15
Diagram of Salthouse Dock	16
Map of the Liverpool Canal Link	17
Map of Facilities in Albert & Salthouse Docks	18
Map of Liverpool South Docks	19

History & Background

The Leeds & Liverpool Canal was authorised in 1770 and constructed in sections until the main line, delayed by the wars with France, was complete by 1816. At this time, the canal terminus in Liverpool was near Old Leeds Street and consisted of a basin several metres away from and above the nearest docks which were George's Dock and Basin. These led to the construction of the South Docks of Albert, Salthouse and others further up the river. Due to there being no direct connection between the canal and docks, transhipment of goods from docks to canal and vice versa was a laborious and inefficient task.

During development on the Central Docks North down the River Mersey estuary in the mid-1800s, a flight of four locks was constructed at Stanley Lock Flight to carry canal vessels down to the docks and entered the dock system through Stanley, Collingwood and Salisbury Docks. Here a barge lock was constructed to allow vessels to enter the river.

In 1981, as the result of a governmental initiative, Merseyside Development Corporation was established with a brief to revitalise the South Docks area, attracting inward investment, business and visitors.

In 2003, ownership of the South Docks waterspace was transferred to British Waterways who had, exciting plans for the further development of the waterspace as a vibrant destination for visiting ships, pleasure boats and inland waterways craft as well as a water recreation amenity for Liverpool and the surround area.

In 2012, British Waterways became Canal & River Trust.

The Liverpool Canal Link (LCL) provides a navigable route from the bottom of the existing Stanley Lock Flight on the Leeds & Liverpool Canal to Liverpool's South Docks.

Funding for the Project was secured from the Northwest Regional Development Agency (NWDA), the Merseyside Objective One programme (European Regional Development Fund), English Partnerships, Peel Holdings and British Waterways.

The construction of the LCL was split into four contracts and orders placed with three different construction companies; Pierse Construction Ltd; Balfour Beatty plc and HGB Construction Ltd under contract from Countryside Neptune, with construction managed by British Waterways.

British Waterways (now Canal & River Trust) negotiated a 'right of passage' through Liverpool Central Docks with the Dock owners.

The Canal & River Trust is now responsible for the ongoing operation of the Leeds & Liverpool Canal (L&L), Liverpool Canal Link (LCL) and Liverpool South Docks. For further information please contact them on the numbers at the back of this document.

Opening Times for Stanley, Prince's and Canning Locks

Stanley Lock Flight is open for boats travelling **into Liverpool** from 13:00 to 14:30 daily (except Tuesdays), boats can travel on the Link up until 16:00, once clear of the flight. The flight is open for boats travelling **out of Liverpool** (starting from Mann Island) from 08:00 to 09:30 daily (except Tuesdays). Please note that the locks will be padlocked closed outside of these times.

Please be advised that the Stanley Lock Flight and Prince's Lock are self-service and **not** an assisted passage. Mann Island Lock is also self-service unless informed otherwise, for example if a tall ship is entering Canning Dock which causes a difference in water levels, Mann Island Lock will not be operable. Freedom of movement through the locks is available during the windows outlined above. Volunteers and seasonal lock keepers will be available in the area should you need any guidance on your day of passage.

Changes to Bridges 6 (Netherton Swing Bridge) & 9 (Handcock's Swing Bridge)

Please note, in 2018 we carried out upgrades to make Bridges 6 and 9 on the Leeds 8 Liverpool canal fully user operated. We installed road barriers and a new user pedestal which allows for user operation at Bridge 9, Handcock's Swing Bridge. Please note that use of Bridge 9 is restricted during peak traffic times and will be open for canal user operation from 9:30am to 2:00pm and 6pm to 7:30am daily (no assistance required).

We installed new landing stages at Bridge 6, Netherton Swing Bridge which enabled user operation.

Please ensure you have an official Canal & River Trust key and not a copy as this may lead to swing bridge failures resulting in delays. We also ask that consideration is given to road users and that swing bridges are not operated for long periods at any one time, i.e., to accommodate approaching craft in the distance.

How To Book Your Mooring and Important Information

The Liverpool Canal Link is open from April to October each season.

Although freedom of movement through the docks is now available, a booking is required to ensure that you can be accommodated on a pontoon mooring in Salthouse Dock. Bookings for this can be made via your My Trust Account. If you need support making your booking or have any enquiries, please contact our customer service team on 0303 040 4040.

We have a 28 day no return policy on the bookings. The web system will not allow bookings within this time period.

General Information

Please ensure your mobile phone is left switched on at all times during your passage across the Liverpool Canal Link. Canal & River Trust must be able to contact you before and during your passage.

It is imperative that you moor in your confirmed pontoon space during your stay. Should you experience inclement weather upon arrival and are unable to moor in your allocated pontoon, please take the closest pontoon until it is safe to move to your confirmed berth. If you have not occupied the confirmed berth, you may be asked to move.

Leeds & Liverpool Canal

All boaters are requested to take extra care to ensure that all gates and paddles are closed after use, double up with other users in locks and keep a minimum of two locks apart on lock flights when travelling to and from Liverpool to help conserve water.

Customer Service Facilities

<u>Salthouse Dock - Liverpool Waterfront</u>

- Refuse There are bins located on the pontoons in Salthouse Dock
 These bins are emptied Monday to Friday, only.
- Water is available at every other pontoon, except for between S1 to S9 where there are fewer water points, we advise having a good length of hose if you are moored on these pontoons. Please share with your neighbour(s).
- Toilets are available within the public toilets in Albert Dock, please see Albert Dock map link below.

https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/refresh/media/thumbnail/26445-albert-dock-fun-pack.pdf

Liverpool South Docks Facilities

Showers and toilets are available within the Albert Dock public facilities and are available between 10:00 and 18:00 daily. The showers are managed by the Trust, please use your Canal & River Trust Yale key for access.

Do not use the public toilets as an Elsan, or discharge any sewage or foul water into the canal or dock system

There are no pump out or elsan disposal facilities at Salthouse Dock. If you require these services, you will need to contact Liverpool Marina directly.

Liverpool Marina Office Opening Times and Information Monday – Friday: 9am - 5pm Weekends: Closed.

Lock Opening times

Monday – Sunday: 5am - 10pm

Out of hours locks must be pre-booked online.

There is an out of hours emergency line available in the foyer of the marina. Please press the green button. All services must be booked online. Out of hours services such as unbooked slipway use, emergency pump outs and replacement access cards are available to book online 24/7. A member of the team will contact you on receipt of the booking.

For pump outs: www.liverpoolmarina.com/pump-outs

Diesel: www.liverpoolmarina.com/fuel

Lock: <u>www.liverpoolmarina.com/book-a-lock</u>

Lock Time Sheets: www.liverpoolmarina.com/lock-times
Other (slip/access card) www.liverpoolmarina.com/services

On arrival to the marina, please use CH37 to reach the lock.

Liverpool Marina is a third-party provider. Canal & River Trust pre-payment cards are not accepted for this service. Card Payments Only.

All services are subject to availability.

Information is correct at time of publishing. To ensure correct information, please visit https://www.liverpoolmarina.com Or email reception@liverpoolmarina.com

When travelling south on the Leeds ϑ Liverpool Canal, your final service station is available at Litherland. Disposal of wastewater, pump out and elsan requirements and rubbish disposal will be available here. We also recommend that fresh water tanks are filled up at Litherland. There is a large superstore adjacent to the site which is handy for supplies.

Canal & River Trust Customer Service Facilities heading to Liverpool:

Plank Lane - No 8 (Leigh Branch)

Water pointPump out

Wigan Top Lock - Lock 65

Refuse

Showers

Toilets

Water point

Elsan

Pump out

Recycling Facilities

Refuse

Showers

Toilets

Water point

Elsan

Pump out

Bridge 35, Moss Bridge

Refuse

Burscough Bridge - Bridge 32A

Toilets

Water point

Elsan

Chapel Lane (Henhurst Lock) - Lock 86

Toilets

• Elsan

Litherland - Bridge 2J

Refuse

Toilets

Water point

Pump out

Elsan

Skippers Guidance

ENTERING LIVERPOOL SOUTH DOCKS FOR THE STAY IN LIVERPOOL SALTHOUSE DOCK

LOCATION

- 1. You must arrive at the top of Stanley Flight on the Leeds & Liverpool Canal to make passage within the opening times stipulated.
- 1.1. If you do not arrive by the specified time, you may not be able to travel on the Link until the next opening period, subject to availability.
- **1.2.** The Liverpool Canal Link (LCL) starts at the Top Lock heading into Liverpool. Then at Mann Island when departing Liverpool.

OPERATION

- 2.1 Navigation on the Link is available only during the stipulated opening times and does not operate on Tuesday's.
- 2.2 The Leeds & Liverpool Canal and the Liverpool Canal Link accommodate full length wide beam boats. See dimensions on page 14.
- 2.3 Stanley Locks, Prince's Lock and Mann Island Lock are all user operated.
- 2.4 Access to the South Docks may be restricted because of poor weather conditions or if Canning River Entrance is in use by sea-going vessels around tide times. You will be informed in advance should this be the case. In these events waiting areas will be at Salthouse Dock or Mann Island depending on direction of travel.
- 2.5 Whilst on the Leeds & Liverpool Canal and the Link, customers will be required to comply with the Canal & River Trust terms & conditions and abide by their regulations and bylaws.
- 2.6 Whilst in Stanley Dock, customers will be required to comply with Kitgrove Ltd Dock Rules and terms & conditions.
- 2.7 Whilst in Collingwood, Salisbury, Trafalgar, West Waterloo, Prince's Half Tide and Prince's Dock customers will be required to comply with Peel Ports Dock Rules and terms & conditions.
- **2.8** Whilst in the Liverpool South Docks, customers will be required to comply with The Trust Dock Rules and terms & conditions.
- **2.9** Peel Ports, Kitgrove Ltd and The Trust reserve the right to close their waterways and docks at any time and without reason.

SAFETY

- 3.1 It is important that boaters are familiar with the boat-handling and safety information given in this Guide, issued by The Trust.
- **3.2** Children should wear life jackets while in the Central Docks and South Docks waters. Adults are strongly advised to wear them.
- 3.3 Boats must not stray outside the navigation lanes designated by floating buoys while in the Central Docks.

- 3.4 The water in the docks can be up to 6 metres deep. Dock steps, grab chains and ladders are located in the Central and South Docks and lifebuoys are located around the South Docks. Skippers should make themselves aware of the location of the safety equipment whilst sailing through the docks.
- 3.5 Skippers should be aware that weather conditions can change rapidly in the docks, with the wind creating 'funnels' between buildings and through dock passages often making navigation difficult. Please be aware that many of the docks are large, exposed areas of water and there are many blind corners especially around Dock passages.

EMERGENCIES

- **4.1** For Trust operational emergencies, please contact The Trust Emergency Number: 0800 47 999 47 and supply details of the incident and the location.
- **4.2** For life threatening emergencies please call 999 and supply details of the incident and the location.

TRAVELLING INTO LIVERPOOL DOCKS FROM THE LEEDS & LIVERPOOL CANAL

- **5.1** The journey into Liverpool Docks commences from Stanley Top Lock. The Stanley Flight is open for passage inbound, daily from 13:00 to 14:30 (except Tuesdays). Please note that the locks will be padlocked closed outside of these times.
- **5.2** The four locks that make up the Stanley Flight are customer operated. Volunteers and seasonal lock keepers are available for guidance should it be required.

Before leaving the Stanley Lock Flight Basin, Skippers should check their boat will pass under Great Howard Street Road Bridge (Bridge AA) and two small bridges on the other side of it. The air draught available can reduce to 2.16m, when the Central Docks water level is high. An air draught marker is installed at the side of the bridge. Skippers are reminded that the passage through to Stanley Dock is not in line with Stanley bottom lock.

TRAVELLING THROUGH LIVERPOOL DOCKS

6.1 STANLEY DOCK

Stanley Dock, together with the other Docks to the west and south of it, are referred to as the Central Docks. The Link route passes through Stanley Dock with its high wharves and disused warehouses on both sides. Over the last 10 years, Liverpool has received massive investment and there are a number of new developments now in place, such as the Titanic Hotel in Stanley Dock. Sailing down the dock, ahead can be seen the Regent Road bascule (Bridge BB) leading into Collingwood Dock. All boats should pass beneath this bridge with care if travelling at high water, as a series of structural transverse beams restricts the air draught.

6.2 COLLINGWOOD DOCK

Once again, a dedicated navigation channel, travelling east to west, is marked by floating buoys and boaters must stay within this channel. Boaters should continue to the end of the dock into Salisbury Dock Passage.

6.3 SALISBURY DOCK

Boaters should continue travelling west towards Victoria Clock Tower at the far end of the dock. Halfway down the dock, boaters should turn south (left) into the navigation channel marked by floating buoys leading into Trafalgar Dock Passage.

6.4 CENTRAL DOCKS CHANNEL

Boaters should continue travelling south through the cutting in to what was previously Trafalgar Dock. You will pass the Clarence Graving Dock on the east side (left). The largely straight channel continues through a length of backfilled docks with an existing dock wall on the east side and a side slope to the west. Boaters are advised to keep to the Navigation through a deviation approximately two thirds of the way through is assisted by a localised widening of the channel. The channel leads south into the West Waterloo Dock and then through a passage into Prince's Half Tide Dock. The route crosses Prince's Half Tide Dock and passes beneath Prince's Dock Causeway Bridge (Bridge DD) and enters Prince's Dock itself. Boats navigate the length of the Dock, passing beneath Prince's Dock Footbridge (Bridge EE) and leave via Prince's Dock Lock. Buoys mark a safe channel through Prince's Dock. While passing beneath Prince's Dock Footbridge (Bridge EE) please ensure that you keep in the centre of the buoyed channel, as there is restricted headroom on the outside of the channel.

6.5 PRINCE'S DOCK LOCK (LOCK 5)

Prince's Dock Lock (Lock 5) is a traditional broad beam mitre gate with gate sluices. The area is fenced to exclude the public. Mooring bollards, along with a pontoon landing stage are provided on either side of the lock. The drop of the lock varies from 1.31 metres to 0.7 metres depending on the Dock water level.

6.6 PIER HEAD TUNNELS AND BASINS

On leaving Prince's Dock Lock boats enter the St Nicholas Tunnel. This is approximately 190 metres long and leads to the Pier Head section of the canal. This section is 6.5 metres wide, curved in the middle and has an allowable draught of 1.2 metres. The water depth is generally 1.5 metres elsewhere. The tunnels are unlit and on approach to each tunnel, boaters are advised to switch on any headlights/cabin lights. Both sides of the tunnel are fitted with timber fenders incorporating hand-rails in the fenders. St Nicholas Tunnel leads to Liver Basin. From this basin boaters are able to view the Liver Building. From Liver Basin boats enter Cunard Tunnel. This tunnel is 99 metres long, narrowing to 6.5 metres in width and is unlit. From Cunard Tunnel boats enter Museum Basin. From this basin boaters are able to see the Port of Liverpool Building and the Museum of Liverpool. The canal continues into the Museum Tunnel (88 metres in length), which passes beneath the Museum of Liverpool, and leads to Mann Island Basin and Lock. Stopping or mooring is not allowed anywhere along this length of canal, except at Prince's Lock. Boats must stop if an emergency arises. Life buoys are provided in the open waterspaces of this section of canal.

6.7 MANN ISLAND BASIN

Moorings are provided in Mann Island Basin for boats to use while Mann Island Lock is being used or whilst a restriction on lock movements is in place.

6.8 MANN ISLAND LOCK (LOCK 6)

Mann Island Lock (Lock 6) takes you into Canning Dock. This Lock is now self-service and is operated by boaters. There are floodgates fitted to the east end of the Lock that will be closed when the water levels in Canning Dock is higher than in Mann Island Basin. The floodgates are operated by Trust staff and are generally left open during operating hours. The area is fenced to exclude the public.

6.9 ENTERING THE SOUTH DOCKS

Proceed out of Mann Island Lock and bear right past two former graving dock entrances. The third passage, adjacent to the Pump House pub, is Canning Dock Passage, travel through here into Canning Half Tide Dock, continue in a westerly direction and after approximately 100 metres turn left and enter Albert Dock via Albert Passage. Do not enter Albert Passage if the Dock gate is closed and ensure navigation light is on green before proceeding.

The air draught below Hartley Bridge is approximately 3 metres. Canning Dock and Canning Half Tide Dock are operational docks and are frequently utilised by sea going vessels, especially around high-water times. If the operational docks are in use, then passage from the canal link to your berth in Salthouse Dock will be delayed until all marine operations are complete. Once in Albert Dock bear to the left and head for Salthouse Dock Passage, this will give you access to pontoon moorings in Salthouse Dock. Remember when transiting dock passages keep to the right and sound your horn. Also, be aware that you may encounter vessels coming in the opposite direction.

VISITOR MOORINGS

- 7.1 You must moor in your allocated berth in Salthouse Dock which is allocated at time of booking and displayed on your email confirmation.
- 7.2 From 1 April 2023, a £10 charge per night will be applicable for the first 7 nights, following the initial 7-night stay a charge of £25 per night will be applicable.
- 7.3 A 28 day no return policy is in place for berthing in Salthouse Dock. The web booking system will not allow boats to make multiple applications and reservations within this period.

SAILING WITHIN THE SOUTH DOCKS

8.1 Please feel free to explore the docks on your boat. There are a variety of recreational users on the waterspace, including swimming clubs and sub aqua clubs, please comply with any instructions given from these groups. Please observe the 5-knot speed limit and be aware that there is a busy Watersports in Queen's Dock and activities take place on a daily basis.

Restrictions on navigation may be in place during events such as sponsored swims or other water related events.

LEAVING LIVERPOOL SOUTH DOCKS FOR THE RETURN TRIP TO THE LEEDS & LIVERPOOL CANAL

- 9.1 Boats should be ready to leave their mooring in Salthouse Dock during the morning of their exit date. Opening times to travel from Liverpool Docks towards the Leeds θ Liverpool Canal are between 08:00 and 09:30.
- **9.2** At the allocated time please make your way into Albert Dock, from Salthouse through Albert Passage and turning right into Canning Half Tide Dock and into Canning Dock.
- 9.3 Once in Canning Dock, make your way to Mann Island Lock and proceed through, heading towards Prince's Lock.
- 9.4 On leaving Prince's Dock Lock proceed through the central docks channel towards Salisbury Dock (Salisbury Dock is easily identified as there is a large clock on the western side), turn right into Collingwood Dock and proceed towards Stanley Dock.
- 9.5 On entering Stanley Dock proceed towards Stanley Basin, remember the air draught beneath Great Howard Street Road Bridge can be as little as 2.16m, if the central dock water level is high.
- **9.6** A pontoon landing stage is available at bottom lock which allows you to safely leave your boat in order to operate the lock.

CANCELLATION PROCESS

Liverpool Link Canal (LCL)

Canal & River Trust requires a minimum of 5 days' notice of all passage cancellations.

Should you fail to cancel your passage in accordance with this procedure an administration charge of £10.00 will be issued to your Trust account and you will be invoiced for this amount.

For further information please contact our Customer Support team on 0303 040 4040

EVENTS & FESTIVALS

From time to time, events and festivals take place in Liverpool Docks which require use of Canal & River Trust waterspace. Due to reduction in available pontoons and / or high customer demand during these periods, we may block out the spaces and allocate them manually on a first come, first serve basis. If you are interested in mooring in Liverpool Docks during these periods, please contact the North-West Customer Support Team on 0303 040 4040.

DIMENSIONS

MAXIMUM BOAT SIZES			
Liverpool to Wigan and Leigh Branch (including Liverpool Link)			
Length	Beam	Draught	Headroom
72ft	14.3ft	3.94ft	8ft
21.6m	4.29m	1.2m	2.4m

Please note headroom can reduce to 2.16m beneath Great Howard Street Road Bridge if Central Dock water level is high (See Section 7 – Stanley Lock Flight)

USEFUL NUMBERS

Canal & River Trust - Customer Services	0303 040 4040
Canal & River Trust - Emergency Number	0800 47 999 47
Emergency Services	999

Contact the police by calling 999 to report emergencies or by calling 101 for non-emergencies. The Merseyside Police Control Room can be contacted on 0151 709 6010

For information on Calor Gas Suppliers, Vets, Launderettes, Churches, Theatres etc, please contact the <u>Tourist Information Centre</u>

Local information on Duty Doctors, Dentists, and Casualty Dept. can be obtained from NHS Direct on 111

For information on all local transport services, please see https://www.merseytravel.gov.uk/

Liverpool Council Direct can be contacted on 0151 233 3000

To see what's on in Liverpool, please visit https://www.visitliverpool.com/

Liverpool City Centre Map

Liverpool Cycle Map

SUMMARY OF THE RULES OF NAVIGATION FOR CANAL & RIVER TRUST'S ESTATE AT LIVERPOOL SOUTH DOCKS

PLEASE NOTE A FULL COPY OF THE RULES OF NAVIGATION, DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION, IS DISPLAYED IN THE LIVERPOOL SOUTH DOCKS OFFICE.

RULES OF NAVIGATION

No Vessel shall exceed a speed of 5 knots or such lesser speed as may be appropriate having regard to the interests of safety.

Every Vessel shall sound one Prolonged Blast on a horn siren or other audible warning device on approaching any passage bridge or other obstruction.

Unless expressly permitted to do so in writing by the Harbour Manager, Vessels may only leave their prescribed berths (other than when proceeding to/from the Liverpool Canal Link) to transit any part of the Estate at the following times:

1100-1800hrs (or Sunset whichever the earlier)

Every Vessel shall comply with any instructions either in writing or verbal given by the Harbour Manager, and/or Trust staff.

No Vessel shall approach within 20 metres of Canning River Entrance Albert Passage Dock Gate or Brunswick River Entrance at any time unless for the purpose of navigating through the same.

All Vessels shall keep to starboard when transiting the Estate and in particular when navigating the Dock Passageways when due caution shall be exercised and all precautions and necessary measures taken to anticipate the approach of other Vessels.

Every Vessel shall at all times be navigated with proper caution and at such a speed and in such a manner as not to endanger the Vessel or to cause any nuisance danger obstruction or annoyance to any other Vessel (whether moored, anchored or berthed or in the course of approaching or leaving any mooring) property or person.

Every Vessel navigating the Estate shall give way to all other vessels using the Estate including (without limitation) all Vessels or persons engaged in Water Recreation.

No Vessel shall enter any part of the Estate in respect of which the right to use has from time to time been withdrawn for the purposes of safety water sports events maintenance or for any other reason as the Harbour Manager may in his sole discretion determine.

Every Vessel shall at all times comply with all Regulatory Requirements including where applicable the BSS Boat Safety Scheme. All certificates, licences, permits and other authorisations shall be produced to the Harbour Manager, or Trust staff, on demand.

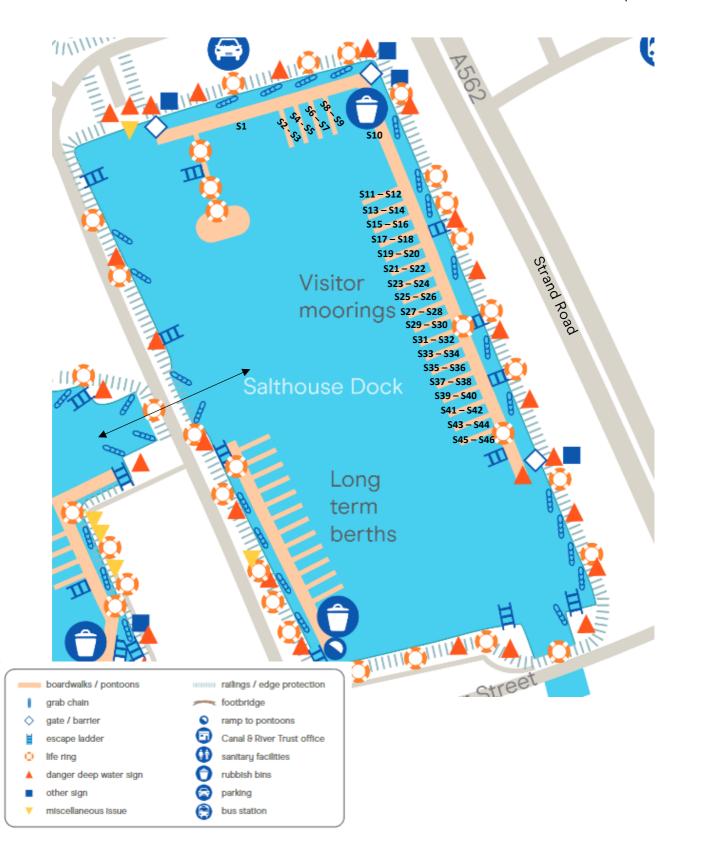
Noise from engines or from entertainment sources must be reduced or contained to a reasonable level so as not to annoy other users of the Estate or local residents.

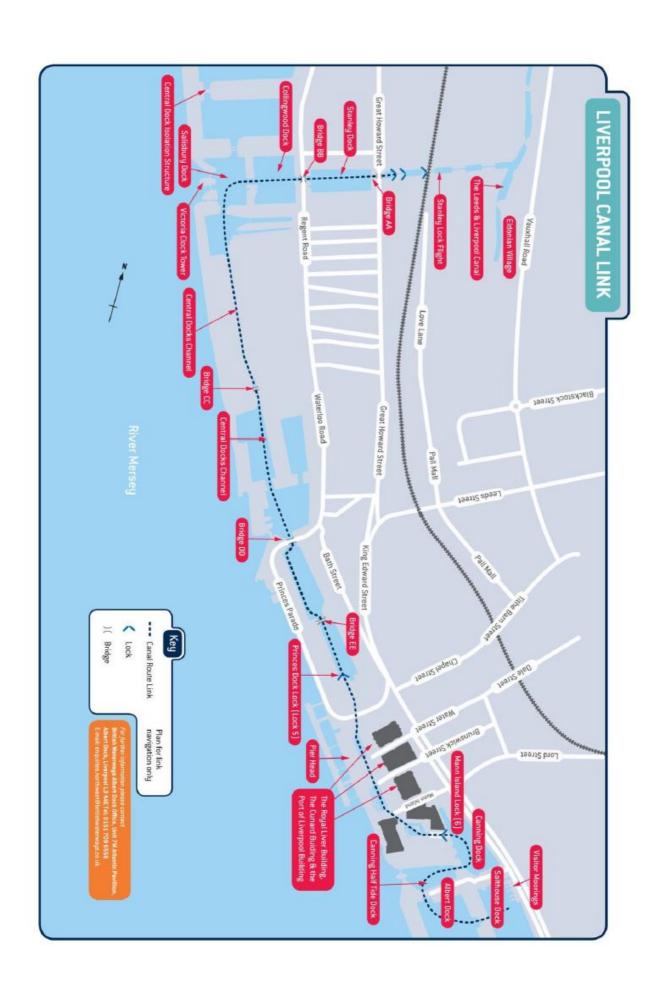
No refuse garbage waste sewage effluent oil or other noxious material of whatsoever nature shall be deposited from any Vessel within Estate. All refuse garbage waste sewage effluent oil and other noxious materials shall be disposed of in accordance with the waste management plan of the Estate Owner in force from time to time.



Salthouse Dock Moorings

Pontoons S1 – S22 are 15m and above Pontoons S23 – S37 are 12 – 15m Pontoons S38 – S46 are up to 12m





Facilities in and around Albert & Salthouse Docks



Liverpool South Docks

