

Docklands Canal Boat Trust

Registered Charity No 288345



Holidays & Day Trips on the River Boat MV. Challenge



A purpose built Wide Beam River Boat providing holidays and day trips for people with disabilities, their carers support organisations, Clubs, schools, Charities and emergency services on the River Lee and London's Waterways



Information Pack

2011

www.dcbt.org.uk

'Challenge' a Boat for all Seasons



Docklands Canal Boat Trust (DCBT)

DCBT was formed in 1984 when they commissioned their purpose built river boat, MV Challenge. The boat was built in a British ship yard in the North East of England. Present at the Keel laying ceremony was Michael Crawford of *Some Mother's do have 'em'* fame.



Following its launch at Tilbury and its river trials, the boat was officially commissioned in the presence of Princess Michael of Kent.

Since then our boat has cruised the waterways of London, Essex and Hertfordshire providing memorable holidays for a wide range of groups and families with disabilities.

Where we operate from

MV. Challenge is moored opposite the Princess of Wales public house on Lea Bridge Road, Hackney, E5 9RB. This is a great place for starting or ending boat trips as there is a convenient car park with good access to the boarding quay for wheelchairs and disabled passengers.

About our Vessel

Challenge is a purpose designed 70' broad beam boat with facilities for disabled people and their carers. This includes:

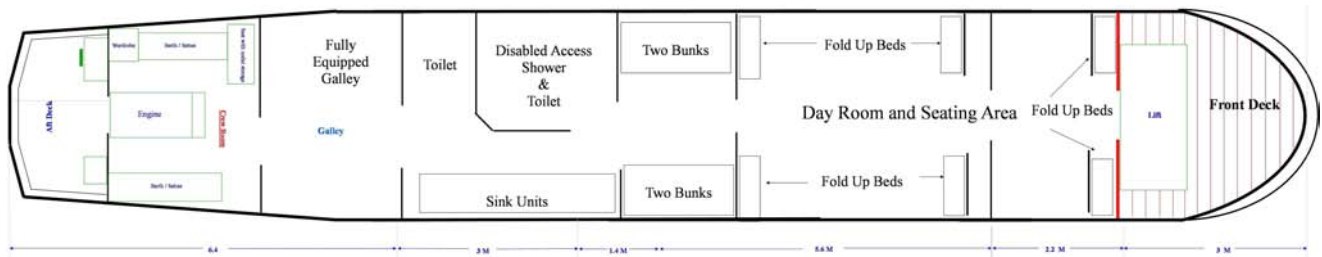
- Ramp from quay to boat
- Toilet
- Disabled Toilet and Shower
- Fully fitted kitchen
- 10 bunks
- Skippers cabin
- Central heating
- Day room
- 240v electricity
- Full safety gear including lifejacket & rings
- Fully trained and experienced skippers and crew
- Hydraulic lift for wheelchairs (**Max 3 Wheelchairs Per Trip**)



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‘CHALLENGE’ will sleep 10 for a five day holiday or carry 12 on a day trip. It comes with our own fully qualified skippers and crew in their own cabin. The crew welcome the involvement in running the boat and operating the locks.

Who we serve

Groups and families come from all over London to experience a wonderful day on the River Lee. Our groups include:

- Age Concern
- Bird watching Groups
- British Legion Clubs
- Camera Clubs
- Carers
- Conservation Groups
- Emergency Services
- Family Groups
- MS Society
- Parkinson’s Disease Clubs
- Primary Schools
- Special Schools
- Stroke Clubs
- Young Carers



Accommodation comprises of the following

- 6 Fold away beds
- 4 bunk beds, 2 at low level and 2 above.
- Comfortable chairs and side tables
- A galley comprising of a gas oven, grill and hob one small refrigerator and larger Fridge/freezer, sink with hot and cold running water (fresh).
- Microwave cooker, toaster, kettles
- All your utensil, cutlery, crockery, pots and pans.
- Wheelchair accessible WC with shower.
- Accessible foredeck.
- Fold up chairs for use inside and out.
- A cantilever hydraulic lift and ramp for easy boarding.



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Other features this exiting craft include:

- Large picture windows
- Radio/cassette players.
- Powerful 72 H.P. marine diesel engine.
- Books and games.
- Travel info and maps.
- Fully insured
- Installed 240v Supply



Where We Cruise

From its base on the River Lee we can cruise the waterways of London, Essex and Hertfordshire for a day, a week or even longer. Just 20 minutes away is the new 2012 Olympic Stadium. Although still under construction, in years to come this will be one of the premier destinations for our boat. Plans are in progress for numerous river side developments to enhance the River Lee and surrounding areas.



New Olympic Park

Heading south we can sail into the Hertford Union and Regents Canal system visiting many of famous canal side attractions in London. This includes:

- Camden Lock
- The Canal Museum
- Victoria Park
- Regents Park
- Three Mills Island
- Limehouse Basin



Cruising north the world is our oyster. Right on our doorstep we have **Walthamstow Marshes Nature Reserve**, which is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). Whilst land all around was being developed, this snippet of nature survived and today is still the home to old breeds of cattle (Dexters, British Longhorn and Belted Galloways) which the Regional Park uses to help maintain the reserve as it has been for thousands of years. This is also a great picnic area and ideal for school groups to study nature.



Further along we pass Springfield Marina and the varied boats moored along the river. Great for people watching and checking out who's not washed their net curtains!

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Before passing the industrial areas of the North Circular Road we cruise past more delightful areas such as Tottenham Marshes, Stonebridge Lock and Tottenham Lock. At Stonebridge there is the wonderful Watersedge Café where they serve excellent snacks, tea, coffee and cakes.



Olympic Stadium in full development

Once we have passed Enfield and cruised under the M25 we head into the River Lee Country Park. This is a mass of lakes, ponds and wildlife habitats.

In a week we can cruise as far as Ware in Hertfordshire passing many riverside attractions, pubs and leisure opportunities.

Our Skippers and Crew

MV. Challenge comes with its own fully trained skippers and crew. All our teams are volunteers but are trained to an extremely high standard, including:

- Coastguard Agency approved Community Boat Management.
- Health & Safety & Food Hygiene
- Adult & Child protection
- First Aid
- Man overboard recovery

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What it Costs

Trip or Holiday	Times	Price
Day Trip Monday to Friday	10:00 to 16:00 (6 hrs)	£140.00
Day Trip – Saturday & Sunday	10:00 to 16:00 (6 hrs)	£150.00
Weekend – Friday eve to Sunday Eve	16:00 Fri to 16:00 Sun	£400.00
Weekend – Sat & Sunday	10:00 Sat to 16:00 Sun	£320.00
Five Day Trip Monday to Friday	10:00 Mon to 16:00 Fri	£600.00

SUPPLEMENTARY CHARGES

All charges above apply to pick up and drop at our base beside the Princess of Wales Pub. Supplementary charges apply for pick ups and drop offs at other locations due to high fuel costs and the fact that this will add approximately an additional 3 hours to our volunteer crews working day.

Location	Additional Times	Price
Tottenham Lock	1 hour	£20.00
Stonebridge Lock	1.5 hours	£25.00
Three Mills Island	1.75 hours	£25.00
Limehouse Basin (Via Bow Locks Only)	2.5 hours	£30.00

Please Note

From February to end of June 2011 there is no access to the River Lee between Old Ford and Bow Locks due to extensive walkway modernisation

All trips include a fully trained crew, fuel, gas and water.

Please see our ‘Welcome Aboard’ Pack for items to bring with you

Other combinations of day trips and holidays can be arranged in discussion with our volunteer team on 07511 622747



Riverside at Springfield Park

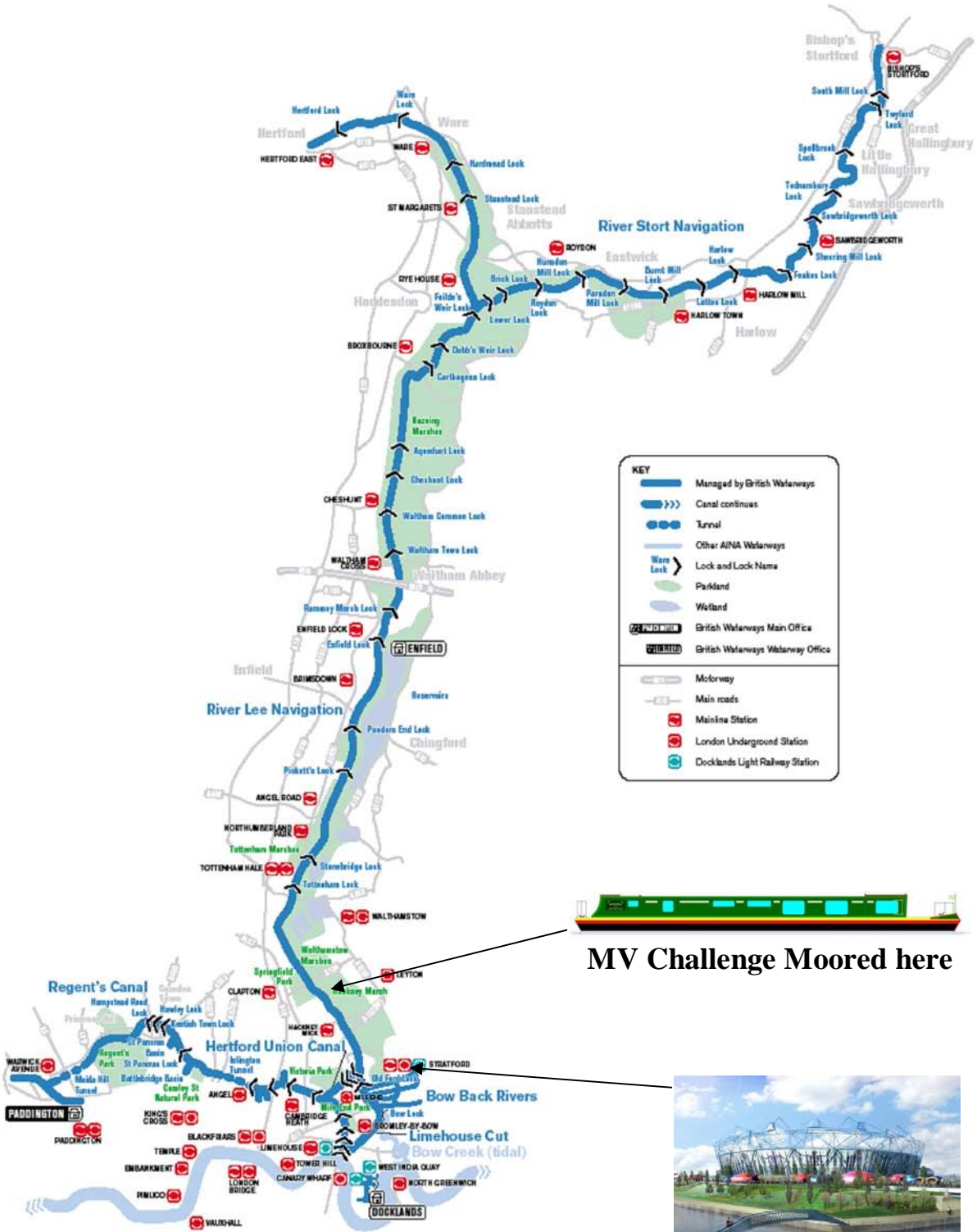
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The Waterways We Cruise



MV Challenge Moored here

New Olympic Park

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