

## Caring for the Kennet & Avon Canal

We're the charity working to protect and bring to life this 250-year-old network of canals and rivers spanning England and Wales. Not so long ago many canals were abandoned, and some lost forever. Today, with your support, wildlife is recovering, history is alive, boats are plentiful and spending time in this environment is contributing to our health and happiness.

Our mission is to keep this extraordinary network of canals and rivers alive, teeming with wildlife, transforming places they run through and enriching all of our lives. Your support today could help us care for Berkshire's canals and many more places, for today and generations to come.



DONATE



Please support our work & donate today

SCAN ME



Canal & River Trust

Making life better by water

## Keeping history alive

The wharf at Aldermaston was built in 1723 when the Kennet Navigation, a forerunner of the canal, opened. Local trade flourished in the area – flour, cheese, timber and malt were taken along the canal to London and coal, iron or luxury goods such as tobacco and spirits were brought back on the return journey.

After buying the Kennet & Avon Canal in 1851, the Great Western Railway Company built a small canal channel linking to the railway. This made it easier to transfer goods between the canal and rail.

Discover lots of fun things to do with the family by and on the water. Go to [canalrivertrust.org.uk/explorers](https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/explorers)



The task of protecting the finest examples of working industrial heritage including Aldermaston Wharf, and the wildlife that calls it home, is growing all the time. As a charity we need you by our side more than ever. Please support our work today.

Registered with



FUNDRAISING REGULATOR

Enjoy

Take Action

Volunteer

Donate

[canalrivertrust.org.uk](https://canalrivertrust.org.uk)

Registered charity no. 1146792

March 2023



Canal & River Trust

## Welcome to Aldermaston Wharf

From industry to wildlife.




We're the charity making life better by water

Once a busy industrial canal wharf, Aldermaston Wharf is now a picture of tranquillity and the perfect place to start exploring the Kennet & Avon Canal.

**Visit us at:**

Aldermaston Wharf,  
Aldermaston RG7 4JS

 Allow 1–2 hours  
for your visit

**Find your way around**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
|  towpath     |  shopping        |
|  lift bridge |  information     |
|  swingbridge |  boat hire       |
|  café        |  parking         |
|  pub         |  railway station |

**Stay SAFE**  
Stay **Away From the Edge!**

For more information on visiting safely:  
[canalrivertrust.org.uk/safety](http://canalrivertrust.org.uk/safety)

Details correct at time of print, please check before travelling.



**5 things to do at Aldermaston Wharf**

- 1** **Take** a look at the scalloped brick chamber on Aldermaston Lock, it is just one of two locks on the canal with this.
- 2** **Stroll** along the towpath and watch the colourful canal boats making their way along the canal.
- 3** **Have** a picnic and watch the wildlife – kingfishers, herons, coots and mute swans can be seen.
- 4** **Chat** with our volunteer lock keepers, they'll tell you more about the Kennet & Avon Canal.
- 5** **Enjoy** a traffic-free cycle ride along the towpath to Woolhampton, well known for its coaching inns.

**Did you know?**

If you walk along the canal towards Woolhampton bridge, you will see a pillbox. It is one of a number of similar structures built along the canal to defend against German invasion in World War II.

