



▶ Mooring along the Ellesmere arm.

▶ The church of St Boniface at Bunbury. One of Cheshire's finest.



◀ Grindley Brook staircase on the Llangollen canal.

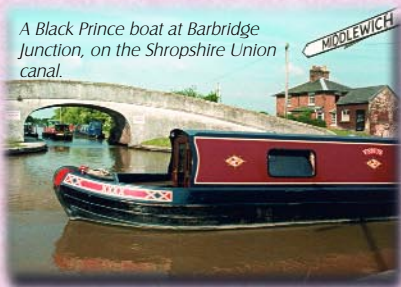
The Eastgate Clock Tower at Chester. The present tower was built in 1897 as part of the city wall replacing the original 10th century structure. ▶



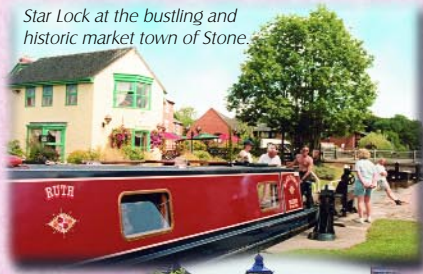
An arduous route, you should not be disappointed if you do not reach Chester. Travelling down the canal you go through the towns of Ellesmere and Whitchurch to Grindley Brook with its three locks in a staircase. From here the locks become more frequent taking you down through lovely country to the Shropshire Union at Hurlleston. The rural atmosphere continues through to Chester. You should remember that the Llangollen flows so it will take longer to return, and a visit to Llangollen itself is also well worthwhile.

ROUTE	NO. OF WEEKS	NO. OF MILES	NO. OF LOCKS	HOURS A DAY
K	1	111	70	8

Chester & return



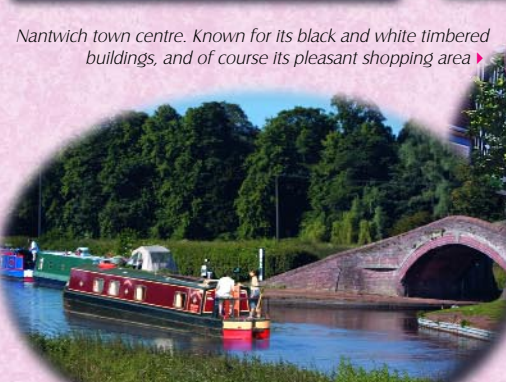
A Black Prince boat at Barbridge Junction, on the Shropshire Union canal.



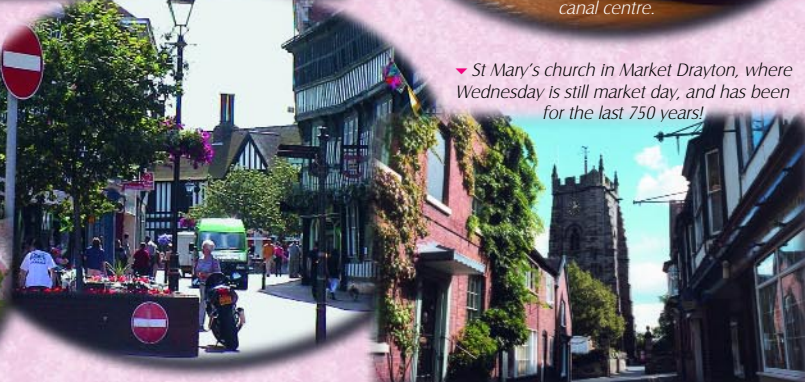
Star Lock at the bustling and historic market town of Stone.



Norbury Junction, although no longer a junction, but still a busy canal centre.



Nantwich town centre. Known for its black and white timbered buildings, and of course its pleasant shopping area ▶



▶ St Mary's church in Market Drayton, where Wednesday is still market day, and has been for the last 750 years!

For the more experienced crew. Travel down the Llangollen to Hurlleston where you join the Shropshire Union and travel southwards through small towns and villages to join the Staffordshire and Worcestershire. This is a meandering canal still travelling through pretty countryside up to Great Haywood. Here you join the Trent and Mersey and travel towards the more built up area of Stoke.

Continuing up to Middlewich through a series of locks, you take the Middlewich arm to Barbridge, and back via the Llangollen.

ROUTE	NO. OF WEEKS	NO. OF MILES	NO. OF LOCKS	HOURS A DAY
L	2	188	131	6

The Four Counties ring



▶ The bridge at Haywood, with one of our boats heading towards Tixall.