

## THE FOUR COUNTIES RING HOLIDAY

One of the most interesting and varied routes on the whole canal system. To complete this ring comfortably you must cruise for a minimum of 9 hours a day. Certainly if you have never been before we would start you off traveling South, stopping at Sandon, Salt or Weston for your first night. On your 2nd night you would expect to be near Gailey Wharf. On the 3rd night you need to be between Gnosall and Norbury Junction. On the 4th night you need to be near Audlem. On the 5th Night you need to be at Middlewich, On the 6th near Hardings Wood Junction. On Your last night you need to be at the top of Stone.

### THE FROST FAMILY CANAL BOAT HOLIDAY DIARY, 2014

#### 7 DAYS

##### DAY ONE

Picked up our boat, home for the next week. Had some tuition and set off south to Great Haywood. Did our first lock on our own at Aston. Moored up for the night at Sandon. Took us about 2.5 hours.

##### DAY TWO

Woke up to rain and had breakfast. I was allowed to steer today & didn't hit anything! Locks are OK when you get the order of the paddles. Weather cleared up at dinner time just as we arrived in Penkridge. Decided to aim for Brewwood for the night and stopped by the Bridge Inn. About 8 hours today.

##### DAY THREE

Lovely morning. Sat outside with a cup of tea and just watched the fish jumping. Fab! Had a vote, we would only go as far as Market Drayton this time. This gave time to visit the town and some other small towns on the way back.

##### DAY FOUR

Made it to Market Drayton. A lovely town with its own brewery. Found a good butcher and eating on board tonight. Weather overcast. It took us 6 hours to get to Gnosall.

##### DAY FIVE

Sun shining. Aiming for Gailey tonight. Got the hang of driving now, really enjoying winding down. Phone works sometimes along with the wifi, but hey, who cares, I'm on holiday!

##### DAY SIX

Called into Shugborough today at Great Haywood. Lovely house and gardens, we had afternoon tea.

##### DAY SEVEN

Moored up below Stone to tidy up the boat. Sad to be going home. Meal out in Stone tonight. Really chilled out, can't wait till our next holiday. May do the full ring next time!

