



CALEY CRUISERS

Your Pre Holiday Information

Information about Caley Cruisers

We run a hire fleet of 30 motor cruisers with 10 different boat classes: Balmoral, Strathspey, Highland Monarch, Highland Glen, Taransay, Highland Commander, Mull of Kintyre, Eriskay, Iona and Isle of Skye.

Detailed below you will find important information regarding your holiday with us. It is important that you read it carefully and pay particular attention to the highlighted areas regarding the arrival/instruction procedure. We do hope that it answers any queries you may have, however if there is anything you are still unsure about, please contact us. Our office hours are Monday to Friday 9am – 5pm all year and Sat 9am – 4pm April - October inclusive. During busy periods it is not always possible for us to answer the phone personally so please leave a message and we will return your call as soon as possible, usually within 20 minutes.

Arrival

1. The Safety Briefings will commence from 12:00. Your skipper must be present for the briefing and it is important that as many crew members as possible (including children) attend the Safety talk and film. The last briefing will commence at 14.00, therefore it is important to arrive before then. The Safety film is followed by a Boat Handling Instruction, for this we require your skipper and another competent, adult crew member. If you are already experienced then you will simply need to demonstrate your boat handling skills to us.

Problems arise when customers arrive late therefore please make sure you allow plenty of time for your journey. Summer traffic can cause considerable delays (it can take 2 hours to travel the 60 miles on the A82 from Fort William to Inverness in the summer!).

You may come along to the boatyard at any time during the morning to check in and leave luggage with us. A waiting and luggage storage area is located in the boatyard. Once the instructions have commenced there will be very little time spare for shopping prior to your departure from the boatyard, therefore we do recommend that you have your shopping done prior to your arrival. Or order online at ASDA, Sainsbury's and TESCO for delivery to the boat yard.

Should you unavoidably be arriving after 14:00 it is important you contact us so that we know when to expect you. It does help us considerably if you complete the form overleaf, and please state a mobile telephone number, if available, so we can contact you if necessary. It is also possible to complete the arrival information online on our website.

For safety reasons we cannot allow anyone to leave the boatyard without receiving the instructions.

2. Your cruiser will be ready between 12:00 and 14:00. We make every effort to let you board prior to 14:00, however on occasion important maintenance/repairs have to be completed which may result in your vessel being ready for boarding slightly later than 14:00. Once on board you will receive a demonstration on the boat interior and boat handling.

3. Bed linen, towels and life jackets will be on board your cruiser. We have all sizes of life jacket from baby to X-large adult. Please check that everyone onboard has a life jacket which fits. Any bed linen/life jacket changes must be made prior to departure from the boatyard.

4. Departure from the boatyard (usually between 14.30 and 15.30) is done in small convoys, travelling along the first 5 mile canal section to Dochgarroch. Once through the lock you will find all weather berthing facilities, some with power connections, and toilets/showers. Apart from a small antique shop, restaurant and tea room, there are no other facilities at Dochgarroch. Urquhart Bay Harbour is the next safe overnight stop and approximately 1hr 30min cruise from Dochgarroch. From the harbour it's a 20 minutes walk into Drumnadrochit where you will find hotels, restaurants and a few pubs. Please note the £10 overnight berthing charge for the harbour - you will need to pay in £1 or £2 coins. Or alternatively stop at the harbour at The Clansman Hotel and Restaurant, about 1hr cruise from Dochgarroch on the northern side of the Loch. The harbour does not belong to the Hotel but you can moor there for a small fee.

Occasional rough weather conditions may mean that you have to spend the first evening at Dochgarroch, therefore please make sure you have enough supplies on board just in case it is not possible to make it to Urquhart Bay Harbour on your first evening.

Departure

It is advisable to come back to the boatyard the evening prior to finalise your fuel account. There are toilet and shower facilities at our boatyard. If you prefer not to return to the boatyard the night before your departure, you must ensure you pass through Dochgarroch Lock onto the East side before the final locking of your last evening. It is also possible to spend the night at Tomnahurich Bridge. As we require all vessels to be vacated by 08:30 hrs (this is essential to ensure the boat is ready again for 14:00 hrs the same day), it is unfortunately not possible to spend your final evening on Loch Ness.

Additional Information

Electrical Appliances - The easiest and most convenient power source on all of our boats is the 12v cigarette lighter connection which is more than adequate for charging mobile phones and devices. All boats except the Iona class also feature a 240 volt inverter which means that mains power (3 pin plugs) can also be used onboard (battery power levels depending). Electrical hook-up is available on all boats but please note that there are only a few electrical hook-up points along the canal, therefore we do not recommend that you rely on this. On all boats we request that no more than 1500w appliances should be used. A fee to use the shore power facilities is applicable (except at the Caley Cruisers boat yard).

First Aid - There is no first aid kit supplied with the boat so please bring your own.

What to bring - It is advisable to use soft luggage cases for onboard. Hard cases are impractical and bulky. If you are travelling by rail, air or coach, we will be happy to store at the boatyard any cases or equipment you will not require onboard while you are on holiday. Recommended types of clothing to take with you are: general outdoor activity clothing, waterproofs and spare clothing, deck shoes. **Please also remember to bring gloves as they are very important for rope work.** Other recommended items are: sunglasses, sun lotion and insect repellent. A selection of outdoor clothing, footwear, canal charts etc. can be obtained from our sister company Caley Marina & Chandlery.

Dinghy - We can also offer dinghy hire. This would be purely for recreational use as there is no requirement to use a dinghy to go ashore (you will be berthed alongside jetties and pontoons during your cruise). The dinghy will need to be stored deflated when not in use and cannot be towed behind the boat. Pre-booking is essential. The costs are £40 per week or £20 per short break, payable on arrival.

Change over days – Friday, Saturday and Monday - depending on boat class.

Fishing - A fishing permit for the lochs may be purchased from the boatyard. One permit covers everyone onboard the boat. The fishing season runs from March through to the end of September. It is prohibited throughout Scotland to fish for or take salmon or sea trout on a Sunday. Fish usually caught are salmon, pike, eel, sea and brown trout. There is a very comprehensive fishing guide for the area around the Great Glen available: "Fishing Scotland, a guide to game fishing (Inverness-shire)" - available from www.fishing-scotland.co.uk. We do not hire fishing tackle at the boatyard. You may hire it in Inverness at J. Graham & Co., 37 Castle Street, Inverness, Tel. 01463 233178, www.grahamsonline.co.uk. If you intend to hire fishing tackle, please allow sufficient time for collection prior to 12:00. Live bait may usually be purchased there in the summer. There are no places in the Glen to buy bait, so please stock up with everything prior to departure from the boatyard.

Banks - There are banks in Inverness, Drumadrochit and Fort William. You can pay in most restaurants and supermarkets with your credit or debit card.

Grocery Supplies - There are various stops along the canal where you can stock up with supplies, the first one being the village of Drumadrochit, accessible from Urquhart Bay Harbour. But we do recommend that you purchase some basic supplies from Inverness prior to your departure from the boatyard just to get you started. There is a Co-op located close to the boatyard or order online at ASDA, Sainsbury's and TESCO for delivery to the boat yard in time for your departure. Please contact our office for further information on this.

Bedding - All fixed berths have duvets (no feathers), sheets, pillows and blankets. For convertible berths in the saloon and dining area we supply sleeping bags, pillows and blankets. You are welcome to bring your own bedding, please inform the boatyard prior to arrival. Please also advise us in advance of any allergies to pets or cleaning products.

Pets: we kindly ask our customers to bring pet-blankets or pet-baskets and to ensure that the pets do not lie on the bedding or seating.

Inventory of Items on Board - On board your cruiser you will find the following items; all cutlery and crockery including glasses and egg cups. 1 small, 1 medium and 1 large pan, a frying pan and a grill pan. Casserole dish and lid, colander, measuring jug, roasting dish, teapot, kettle, milk jug, sugar bowl, toast rack, butter dish and salt and pepper pots. Slotted spoon,

-serving spoon, potato masher, ladle, fish slice, wooden spoon, bread knife, small sharp knife, tongs, corkscrew, tin opener, cheese grater, potato peeler and scissors. There is a chopping board, sink tidy, washing up bowl with cloth and brush and a supply of environmentally friendly washing up liquid. 1 set of oven gloves and a tea towel, a dustbin with lid and dustpan and brush. A toilet roll is provided in each toilet and a toilet brush and toothbrush mug along with toilet cleaner and hand wash. There should be plenty of hangers in the wardrobes for your clothing.

We do not provide any food items such as salt, pepper or cooking oil. A cafetier is available on request.

Bicycles - Bikes are available to hire from the boatyard. Pre-booking is essential. The costs are £45 per bike per week or £30 per bike for a short break, payable on arrival. We also have children's bikes (suits 8-10 yr. old) available for £35 per week or £20 for a short break.

Fuel Deposit - Depending on the class of vessel booked, the Fuel Deposit will be £200 or £250. All of our vessels carry approximately 550 litres of diesel, which is enough fuel for about 3 weeks' cruising. The Fuel Deposit that you pay covers more than the average week's cruise. At the end of your holiday we will refuel your vessel and any extra charge or refund should be settled prior to your departure. You will be charged the fuel cost applicable at the time of your cruise. Please do not hesitate to contact our office should you have any queries regarding this matter. We will be happy to provide details on fuel consumption and averages for whichever vessel you are interested in.

Collision Damage Waiver - The Collision Damage Waiver for each boat class is £70 and covers the cost of any accidental damage that may occur to the boat whilst it is in your charge. The payment for the collision damage waiver is payable at the time of booking and is non-refundable.

Caledonian Canal Opening Hours of Operation - (please note: changes possible) The canal is generally open 7 days throughout the season. The first bridge and lock operations commence at approximately 08:30 hrs, the final one of the day at approximately 17:00 hrs (please note that at Fort Augustus you should plan to arrive no later than 15:00 hrs if you intend to go through the flight). A 50 minute lunch break will be taken sometime between 12:00 and 14:00 depending on canal traffic levels.

Please complete the form below and send it to Caley Cruisers by mail, fax or email at least 7 days prior to your arrival. Or use the form provided on our website www.caleycruisers.com/preholidayinfo.asp

Previous Boating Experience (please tick box)

This is my first boating holiday.
 I have been boating once/a few times in Inland Canals and/or Norfolk Broads.
 I take Boating Holidays frequently and have boat handling experience.
 I have been boating with Caley Cruisers before.
 details: _____

Any allergies to bedding, pets or cleaning products

yes no
 if yes, please give details: _____

Dinghy: Please tick box if you would like to hire an inflatable dinghy with oars.

A charge of £40 per dinghy/per week is applicable, payable on arrival.

Bikes: If you would like to hire a bike/bikes please state amount required in the box.

A charge of £45 per bike per week is applicable, payable on arrival.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Boat Class: _____ Holiday start date: _____

Travel by:

train bus plane car

Estimated time of arrival at the boatyard:

	reg. number	colour
car 1		
car 2		

It may be necessary for us to contact you during your journey so please state a mobile telephone number which will be switched on: _____

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