

A Warm Welcome On Board Boat Georgia



Welcome on board Boat Georgia. We hope your boating holiday will be an enjoyable one and to help you settle into the lifestyle of living on a boat, we have compiled this handbook.

Unlike living in a house or staying in a hotel, a boat is completely self sufficient. In designing this boat, we have tried to make it as user friendly as possible for our guests so you can quickly adapt to the boating lifestyle and really enjoy your holiday.

If you do encounter any problems, please do check the relevant section in this handbook first. If you can't find the answer, then please call us. We are on hand 24 hours for emergencies but for all other non-emergency queries you can contact us between 8.00am and 6.00pm. Our contact numbers are listed below.

Your safety onboard is very important to us and we ask that you read the safety section in this book.

Finally, we hope you have an enjoyable stay and visit us again

All best wishes

Jane & Rob Southern & Sam Riley

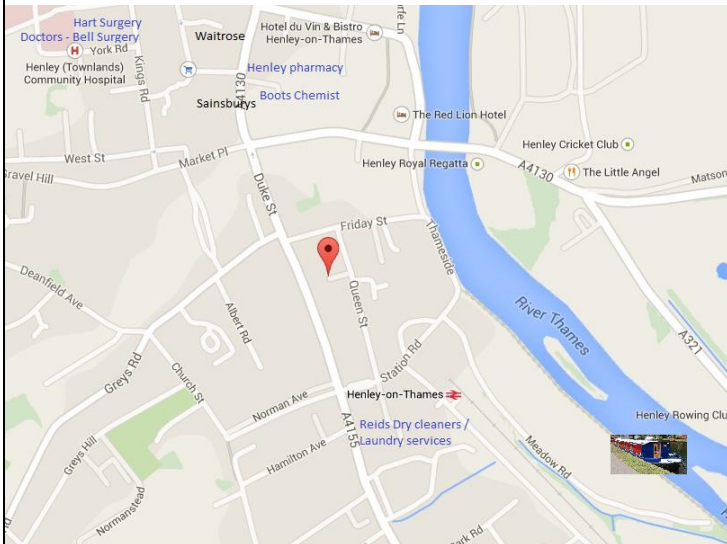
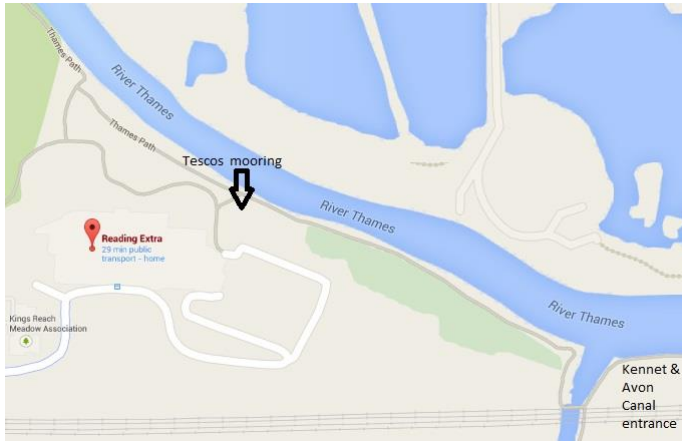
Contact numbers:

07780 88 71 72 (8.00hrs – 18.00hrs)

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Local Amenities & Shopping: Reading: Tescos Kings Meadows. If you need to stock up on provisions at the start of your holiday, then why not moor up at Tescos on their mooring and get everything you need for your holiday. The boat handover will end very near here, It's on the way to Henley and only half an hour down stream from Reading Marine.



Henley

From the boat moorings, walk along the tow path towards Henley Bridge. Turn right just past the Angel Pub at the bridge on to Market place. There are banks, cafes and shops along this road. Turn right at the crossroads on to Duke street for Sainsburys and Waitrose supermarkets (approx 8 minute walk from the boat). Turn left at the crossroads on to Duke street for the post office and further shops and restaurants.

Doctors surgeries	The Bell Surgery , York Road Henley RG9 2DR Tel: 01491 843 250	Nearest mooring is Henley
Hospitals	Royal Berks A & E , London Road, Reading RG1 5AN Tel: +44 (0) 118 322 5111	Nearest mooring is Reading Bridge in Caversham, just upstream of Caversham Lock
Laundry services	Reid's of Henley , 75 Reading Road, Henley-on-Thames RG9 1AX Tel: 014941 573663	Dry cleaning and serviced wash and ironing for dresses, trousers, shirts, blouses, skirts (not underwear)
Chemist / Pharmacies	Boots , 3 Bell Street, Henley On Thames 01491 574132	
Taxis /Transfers /rail	1st Select Cars : + 44 (0) 1491 414444 Railair.com coach service to Heathrow from Reading train station. Direct trains from Reading station to Gatwick	Railair coach service to Heathrow every 20 minutes (50 minute journey). Trains to Gatwick every hour(1 hour 15mins journey)

Staying on board a boat safely

Boarding and disembarking Please always disembark the boat by stepping ashore –never jump ashore. Be extra careful in wet weather as the decks can be slippery. Wear rubber soled flat shoes such as deck shoes or trainers.



Outside areas on the boat

Roof of the boat: Guests are not permitted to go on the roof of the boat unless to fetch the poles /plank. There is delicate WiFi equipment on the roof and it can be slippery in wet weather. No sun bathing on the roof is permitted for safety reasons. Be aware of low bridges.

Perimeter of the boat: Please do not go around the perimeter of the boat on the outside ledge (Gunwhales). There is a risk of crushing between the boat and the shore and of falling in. If you need to get from one end of the boat to the other, please go through the boat inside.

Please be aware of sitting on the deck with legs dangling over the edge, especially near the riverbank and in locks. The boat can move and weighs 18 tonnes and will crush anything between it and the bank. Please advise children especially of this risk.

Ropes: Please keep ropes coiled on the railing, never leave on the floor as they can easily end up in the water and then in the propellor.

Children: Children love to explore and being on a boat is an adventure. Please would parents make children aware of the safety risks outlined above and keep a close eye on children, especially at locks.

Life Jackets: When cruising, it is compulsory for all children to wear a life jacket and adults too. These are located in the locker at the back of the boat. Young children must wear the orange Baltic life jackets according to their size. All life jackets will be allocated during the handover.

The fuel burner: Can be extremely hot and is effectively a stove. Please only handle the stove using the stove handles and make children aware not to touch the stove.

Fire: The boat interior is made from wood and so smoking is not permitted anywhere onboard (including the front and rear decks). Candles are also not permitted anywhere onboard. There are 3 fire extinguishers and a fire blanket on board. In the event of fire: Get out, stay out and call emergency services 999. Then call us. Do not stop to collect personal belongings or return to the boat until it is safe to do so.



Gas



In the handover, you will be shown where the gas cut off points are. If you smell gas, check the gas cooker hob is turned off or hasn't blown out (the gas should automatically cut out if the ring blows out). Turn the gas off at the gas bottles located in the stern (next to the door leading in to the kitchen). Ventilate the boat by opening all doors & windows.

Do not light any matches or turn lights on.

- One bottle is connected and the other is a reserve. The gas can be turned off (in the event of a gas leak in the boat) at the bottles. There are drainage holes at the bottom of the external locker for any gas leakage to drain out.
- If you need to change over bottles, if one is empty, turn the valve at the top of the empty bottle to the close position. You will know if the bottle is empty as it will be light. Then use the spanner located in the locker and unscrew the hose connection (it is clockwise direction to unscrew) from the empty bottle and reattach the hose to the new bottle. Then open the valve at the top of the bottle and press the button firmly on the gas regulator bubble. If you don't press this, the gas will not come through.
- The grill and oven will only allow gas through if you turn the knob to the half way setting and keep it pressed in for at least 10 seconds. Once the gas flame is burning, you can then turn the knob to the required temperature / gas mark setting. **The gas won't come through and won't ignite if the knob is turned to maximum setting.**

Electricity and power.



The boat is powered by a bank of 12 volt domestic batteries.

There are 2 electric systems on board: 12 volt system and 240 volt system (an inverter located in the cupboard at the back of the boat, converts the 12 volt output from the batteries into 240 Volts).

The boat uses the 12 V system. This includes: all the lights and the fridge.

The 240 Volt system is needed for: the plug sockets, hair dryer and WiFi and TVs. The 240V system will only work if the inverter is turned on.

In order for the batteries to supply sufficient power to the boat, **the engine will have to be run for a minimum of 4 hours each day**. This is easily managed while cruising, but if you plan not to cruise and stay moored for the day, the engine will still have to be run for 4 hours, otherwise the batteries will be drained (the fridge and inverter constantly draw power). Make sure alternator light goes out after turning the engine on, otherwise the engine isn't charging the batteries. To turn the alternator light off (make sure the throttle is 'out of gear') gently increase the revs until the alternator light goes out.



- When using **high voltage appliances** (such as hair dryers, vacuum cleaner) **Always turn engine on first** to avoid draining the batteries.
- If you are not using the 240v sockets or WiFi **please turn off the inverter** to save power. Everytime you go out and leave the boat, please remember to turn the inverter off.

Trouble Shooting: If no 240v power:

- a) **If the batteries are low**, the inverter (which converts 12v from the batteries into 240v) will not have enough 'juice' to work. **Turn on the engine and run for 30 minutes** (make sure alternator light is not illuminated – gently increase engine revs on the throttle until the light goes out, then the batteries will charge)
Check to see if the inverter is 'on.' The inverter is located in the life jacket compartment at the back of the boat by the stern door. You can access it through a large hole cut in the back cupboard panel. A green light should be illuminated next to the word 'On'.
- b) **If there are too many high voltage appliances** used simultaneously, the **inverter will go into 'Alarm' mode** and the 240V supply will be automatically shut off. To re-set the inverter, turn off and unplug all electrical appliances (except the TV and fridge) and then **turn off the inverter for 30 seconds before turning it back on** again. It will automatically re-set itself and 240v will be resumed.

Heating



- The boat can be heated by the fuel burner in the lounge (Please only use smokeless coal / small logs). This is a very effective and economical way of heating the boat.
- The boat also has central heating via radiators. Central heating is turned on via a switch at the back by the fuse switches board. Press the 'flame' switch once to turn it on. You should hear a whirring sound from engine compartment. If nothing happens after 5 minutes, push switch back in (turns it off) and start engine to put some 'juice' back into the batteries. Make sure when engine is on, the alternator goes out. The Webasto heater requires considerable battery power to ignite & will only do so if sufficient power is in the batteries.
- To turn off heating, press the flame switch again. Please don't run the heating for more than 2 hours at a time.



Hot Water

- The boat's engine automatically heats the water in the hot water tank. The engine needs to run for minimum of 60 minutes to heat the water (most boaters tend to shower in the evenings when the water is hot following a day's cruising – otherwise turn the engine on 30 minutes before showering)

The shower

- The shower works normally by just turning the shower on. You will also need to turn on the shower pump switch on to pump the water out of the shower tray. Simply turn it on just before showering and turn it off when finished. Don't forget to heat hot water before showering (via the engine or central heating)

Refilling Water



- The water refill cap is outside on the front deck. When the tank is full, you will hear a 'boom' and then water will come out of the pipe, overflowing. Turn off the water and screw the cap back on the pipe.
- If no water comes out of the taps (kitchen & bathroom) check water pump switch is turned on (When a tap is turned on, the water pump makes a whirring sound. If no sound at all, check to see if water pump switch is 'on' (located in fuse cupboard on backwall in kitchen). If the water is 'spluttering' have you run out of water? Need to refill the tank.
- Good practice: Always refill with water when you pass a water tap (located at most locks – see map)

The Toilet



Please do not put anything down the toilet unless it has been ingested or is thin toilet paper (not thick quilted toilet roll). The toilet will block and there is a call out charge if the toilet becomes blocked due to wet wipes, cotton wool, sanitary items, nappies etc being put down the toilet, no matter how small.

Please **only** put toilet paper down the toilet. Thank you





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Operating the TV

Everytime you moor up and wish to watch TV you will have to auto tune the channels.

Turn the invertor on to get 240v

Turn on the TV using the remote control (press red 'Power' button to turn on)

↓
Check the TV is set to TV /Free View / DVB.

↓
On remote control press menu and select auto tune (Free view / DVB)

↓
Press OK again to confirm. Wait approx. 5 minutes for TV to auto-tune

Note: On the TV in the lounge, you need to go in to settings menu (look for the icon) to access the programming auto tune

Starting The Engine

Georgia has a Canal Line 70HP engine. Before starting the engine, make sure the throttle is out of gear (in the upright vertical position)

Turn the key to the right in the ignition and hold for 10 seconds (you will hear a high pitched continuous sound) until the yellow light on the control board goes out, then turn key further to right to start engine and release.

Once the engine is running, let the engine run for 10 minutes (from cold) before casting off.

Note: You only need to turn and hold the key for 10 seconds when starting the engine from cold. Once the engine is warm, just turn the key in the ignition (make sure it is out of gear – throttle in upright position) like you would for a car.

Weed hatch

If you notice a change in the way the boat steers, this could be due to some debris being caught in the propeller and this will need to be removed. First, moor up safely and then turn off the engine.



Take the keys out of the ignition. Open up the engine hatch and turn the handle on the bar going across the weed hatch. Take off the bar and then lift the handle on the weed hatch. The whole unit will lift out. Place on the deck. You will then see the propeller. Remove the debris (if fishing line or rope you will need to cut it off to remove it). Once all debris is cleared, put the weed hatch unit back in place. Replace the metal cross-bar and tighten the screw handle firmly. Do not attempt to re start the engine until the cross-bar clamp has been fully tightened.



Driving the boat Summary



- Always wear your life jacket when cruising
- Drive on the right, but not too close to the river bank as it can be shallow.
- Drive slowly, especially when approaching locks and mooring places
- Moor facing upstream so you can easily stop the boat
- When turning the boat around, make sure there is plenty of space and no other boats or obstacles. Remember on the river there is a current. Have you allowed for the current? It will carry the boat downstream while you are turning. Where will you end up after turning?
- When in locks, once your lines are on and the boat is stationary, turn engine off. Make sure you have only one turn around the cleats in the lock – don't hang the boat.
- Make sure, when in a lock, that you are well clear of the cill and front gates
- No drinking and driving. This invalidates your insurance.

- No smoking anywhere on the boat  
NO SMOKING
- **Man overboard.** If someone falls in, shout "Man overboard." On hearing this, the helmsman must **immediately put the gear in neutral**. Once the person overboard is seen and clear of the propeller, throw the life ring and get a crew member to keep sight of them. Drive the boat past the person and turn the boat around. Approach the overboard person slowly and pick them up from the front of the boat.
- Keep an eye out for changing weather conditions, especially in the cooler months of the year. If there is much rain, the stream conditions may change. If **Yellow Boards Stream Increasing** are shown at the lock then call us. It may mean you have start heading back to base as the current will soon change to Red Boards. If **Red Boards** are displayed, you must moor up and not continue as it is not safe to navigate. Call us for instructions.

