



**The River Nene is an important regional navigation, rising at sources near Bradby, Naseby and Yelvertoft, and becomes navigable at Northampton where these tributaries combine.**

Navigation starts at the junction with the [Northampton Arm of the Grand Union Canal](#) near Cotton End Lock and extends 147km (91 miles) to the sea. The first experience visiting boaters will have navigating the River Nene is likely to be at Northampton, after passage through the canal systems 17 [locks](#).

Originally a commercial navigation it is now used almost entirely for recreation. Flowing through the Nene Valley, Northamptonshire, Cambridgeshire, Lincolnshire and bordering Norfolk, the Nene gives contrasting views of eastern England. In Northamptonshire the river meanders through farmland and the industry of Northampton, Wellingborough and Irthlingborough.

Further downstream there are numerous traditional stone villages and quiet country churches to enjoy.

Peterborough dominates the route through Cambridgeshire with the city's cathedral visible on the horizon across great stretches of fenland.

The Nene was tidal to Peterborough until the construction of a tidal lock and sluice at the Dog in a Doublet in 1937. The tidal Nene flows through parts of Lincolnshire to the once bustling port of Wisbech, with its Dutch style waterfront architecture, and on to the port at Sutton Bridge.

The final leg enters the Wash between two towers known as the "the light-houses".



### River Nene Bridge Heights

Location	Headway (metres)	Headway (feet)
Billing Bridge	2.4	7.87
Whiston Farm Bridge	2.8	9.18
Doddington Road Bridge	2.6	8.53
Wollaston Footbridge	2.6	8.53
Mills Road Bridge	2.6	8.53
Ditchford Bridge	2.7	8.86
Higham Ferrers Farm Bridge	2.9	9.51
Irthlingborough Bridge	2.6	8.53
Ringstead Bridge	2.75	9.02
Woodford Old Rail Bridge	2.9	9.51
Denford Farm Bridge	2.6	8.53
Pipes Viaduct	3.0	9.84
Islip Road Bridge	2.7	8.86
Islip Footbridge	2.2	7.2
Thrapston Footbridge	2.5	8.2
Titchmarsh Farm Bridge	3.0	9.84
Thorpe Bridge	2.6	8.53
Achurch Footbridge	2.6	8.53
Ashton Footbridge	2.5	8.53
Cotterstock Bridge	2.7	8.86
Fotheringhay Bridge	2.1	6.89
Elton Footbridge	2.8	9.19
Wilgar Bridge	2.6	8.53
Nene Valley Rail Bridge	3.3	10.83
Bluebell Footbridge	2.8	9.19





### River Nene locks and distances

Table of Locks and distances	Notes	Miles Locks		Cruising Time
Northampton Junction	Junction with the Grand Union Northampton Branch	0.0	0	-
South Bridge, Northampton		.1	0	-
Northampton Lock No 1	Mitre gates at both ends of this lock.	.4	1	-
Rush Mills Lock No 2	Mitre gates at both ends of this lock.	1.9	2	-
Abington Lock No 3	Mitre gates at both ends of this lock.	2.9	3	-
Weston Favell Lock No 4	Electrically operated guillotine gate	3.5	4	-
Clifford Hill Lock No 5	Electrically operated guillotine gate	4.4	5	-
Billing Lock No 6	Electrically operated guillotine gate	4.9	6	3 hours
Cogenhoe Lock No 7	Electrically operated guillotine gate	6.3	7	3 hours 20 minutes
Whiston Lock No 8	Electrically operated guillotine gate	7.5	8	-
White Mills Lock No 9	Electrically operated guillotine gate. Earls Barton village 1 mile North.	8.4	9	-
Barton Lock No 10	Electrically operated guillotine gate. Earls Barton 1 mile North-west	9.1	10	-
Doddington Lock No 11	Electrically operated guillotine gate	9.1	11	-
Wollaston Lock No 12	Electrically operated guillotine gate. Great Doddington half a mile North-west	11.1	12	-
Upper Wellingborough Lock No 13	Mitre gates at both ends of this lock.	12.5	13	-
Wellingborough Bridge	A509 Road Bridge	12.9	13	7 hours 5 minutes
Lower Wellingborough Lock No 14	Mitre gates at both ends of this lock	13.5	14	-
Ditchford Lock No 15	The only lock on the Nene with a radial lower gate - Electrically operated.	15.5	15	-



Higham Lock No 16	Mitre gates at both ends of this lock	17.6	16	-
Irthlingborough Bridge		18.1	16	9 hours 20 minutes
Irthlingborough Lock No 17	Electrically operated guillotine gate	18.6	17	-
Upper Ringstead Lock No 18	Manually operated guillotine gate	21.1	18	-
Lower Ringstead Lock No 19	Electrically operated guillotine gate	21.6	19	-
Woodford Lock No 20	Manually operated guillotine gate	24.0	20	-
Denford Lock No 21	Manually operated guillotine gate	24.9	21	12 hours 15 minutes
Thrapston Bridge		26.1	21	-
Islip Lock No 22	Electrically operated guillotine gate	26.4	22	13 hours 5 minutes
Titchmarsh Lock No 23	Electrically operated guillotine gate	28.6	23	-
Wadenhoe Lock No 24	Electrically operated guillotine gate	31.1	24	14 hours 45 minutes
Lilford Lock No 25	Electrically operated guillotine gate	32.4	25	-
Upper Barnwell Lock No 26	Electrically operated guillotine gate	34.6	26	16 hours 25 minutes
Lower Barnwell Lock No 27	Electrically operated guillotine gate	35.0	27	-
Ashton Lock No 28	Manually operated guillotine gate	37.0	28	16 hours 45 minutes
Oundle Bridge		38.0	28	-
Cotterstock Lock No 29	Electrically operated guillotine gate	39.1	29	-
Perio Lock No 30	Manually operated guillotine gate	40.9	30	-
Warmington Lock No 31	Manually operated guillotine gate	43.4	31	19 hours 30 minutes
Elton Lock No 32	Electrically operated guillotine gate	44.9	32	-
Yarwell Lock No 33	Electrically operated guillotine gate	47.9	33	21 hours 50 minutes
Wansford Lock No 34	Electrically operated guillotine gate	49.1	34	-
Wansford Bridge	A6118 road bridge	49.6	34	22 hours 50 minutes
Waternewton Lock No 35	Electrically operated guillotine gate	52.9	35	-
Alwalton Lock No 36	Electrically operated guillotine gate	54.9	36	-
Orton Lock No 37	Electrically operated guillotine gate	58.6	37	-

Peterborough Bridge		60.6	37	-
Peterborough Junction	Junction with River Nene Stanground Branch	61.1	37	26 hours
Dog-in-a-Doublet Lock No 38	Electrically operated guillotine gate and manned by a lock keeper	65.6	38	-
Popeley's Gull		67.5	38	-
Cross Guns		70.5	38	-
Guyhirne Bridge	A47 road bridge	73.9	38	-
Bevis Hall		77.3	38	-
Wisbech Town Bridge		79.8	38	-
Horse Shoe Bend		80.5	38	-
Osborne House		80.9	38	-
West Walton Ferry		82.8	38	-
South Holland Main Drain Junction	Junction with South Holland Main Drain is through a sluice which is only opened at flood times.	86.6	38	-
Sutton Bridge	A17 road bridge	87.4	38	-
Crabs Hole	The mouth of the river and the junction with the Wash	91.5	38	-

Environment Agency sanitary facilities (water, pump out, chemical toilet disposal) are available at Northampton Marina and Wellingborough Embankment. The pump outs at both these locations are token operated. Tokens are £10 each and can be purchased from the Environment Agency (telephone 03708 506 506) and at Northampton marina (telephone 07867 580129).

Find out about call charges at: <https://www.gov.uk/call-charges>

There are also water points at:

- Thrapston Nine Arches mooring
- Wadenhoe
- Upper Barnwell lock
- Yarwell lock

Water is free at all Environment Agency sites.





**Pubs riverside or a short distance from The River Nene Navigation between Northampton and Dog-in-a-Doublet Sea Lock Peterborough**

<b>Nearest bridge/lock/place</b>	<b>Pub name</b>	<b>Location</b>
Rush Mills Lock	The Britannia	Rush Mills Lock
Clifford Hill Lock	The Four Pears	Clifford Hill Lock
Billing Lock	The Billing Mill	Billing Lock
Cogenhoe Lock	The Royal Oak	Cogenhoe Lock
White Mills Lock	The Old Swan	White Mills Lock
White Mills Lock	The Stag's Head	White Mills Lock
White Mills Lock	The Saxon Tavern	White Mills Lock
Wollaston Lock	The Stag's Head	Wollaston Lock
Wellingborough	Coach and Horses	Wellingborough
Upper Ringstead Lock	The Bell	Upper Ringstead Lock
Lower Ringstead Lock	The Axe and Compass	Lower Ringstead Lock
Woodford Lock	The White Horse	Woodford Lock
Woodford Lock	The Dukes	Woodford Lock
Denford Lock	The Cock Inn	Denford Lock
Thrapston Bridge	The Woolpack	Thrapston Bridge
Thrapston Bridge	The Bridge Hotel	Thrapston Bridge
Thrapston Bridge	The Court House	Thrapston Bridge
Titchmarsh Lock	The Fox Inn	Titchmarsh Lock
Wadenhoe Lock	The Kings Head	Wadenhoe Lock
Oundle Wharf	The Talbot Hotel	Oundle Wharf
Lower Barnwell Lock	The Tap and Kitchen	Lower Barnwell Lock
Lower Barnwell Lock	The Ship Inn	Lower Barnwell Lock
Ashton Lock	The Chequered Skipper	Ashton Lock
Fotheringhay Bridge	The Falcon Inn	Fotheringhay Bridge
Warmington Lock	The Red Lion	Warmington Lock
Elton Lock	The Crown Inn	Elton Lock
Wilgar Bridge	The Black Horse	Wilgar Bridge
Wilgar Bridge	The Queens Head	Wilgar Bridge
Yarwell Lock	The Angel Inn	Yarwell Lock
Wansford Bridge	The Haycock Hotel	Wansford Bridge
Wansford Bridge	The Paper Mills	Wansford Bridge
Wansford Bridge	The Sibson Inn Hotel	Wansford Bridge
Water Newton Lock	The Royal Oak	Water Newton Lock
Alwalton Lock	The Cuckoo	Alwalton Lock
Orton Lock	The Gordon Arms	Orton Lock
Thorpe Meadows	The Boathouse	Thorpe Meadows
Town Bridge Peterborough	Charters Bar	Town Bridge Peterborough
Stanground Lock	The Woolpack	Stanground Lock
Dog in a Doublet Bridge	The Dog and Doublet	Dog in a Doublet Bridge