

Broome Island Access Statement



Broome Island

Introduction:

Broome Island is a unique island campsite, only accessible by boat, on the River Soar near Barrow Upon Soar. We are open to adventure groups, families, youth organisations and Duke of Edinburgh's Award canoe expeditions. Visitors have exclusive use of the ~2000 square yard site.



Before you arrive:

Please contact us to discuss your particular requirements. The site is generally self-service, although wardening can be provided (fees apply). All visits must be pre-booked, and extra notice may be required in order to provide reasonable adjustments for visitors with special requirements. The campsite is a not-for-profit Community Interest Company, and wardens are experienced in campsite management and working with young people.

Boats and Mooring Facilities:

The Soar Navigation is a canalised section of the River Soar with a gentle to medium current, used by narrowboats and smaller craft including paddle-boarders and swimmers. Visitors arrive via their own craft, hired craft, or we can arrange kayak hire. There are various public launch areas along the river and boat hire companies offer their own launch sites. A number of local charities provide accessible boating on the River Soar; The Baldwin Trust are based at Barrow Boating.

An 11 metre long fixed jetty is provided along the north of the island, which is wooden decked with small mooring rings: mooring pegs may also be used. The jetty height is optimised for dinghies but be affected by the river level at the time. Parts of the jetty sit at ground level, whilst there is a single 20cm step down in some parts. A 2 metre wide inlet launch is also available. The local river level can be checked before arrival at <https://riverlevels.uk/river-soar-quorndon-pillings-lock>



Camping area:

The site is grassed with gentle undulation, with firm ground suitable for wheeled mobility equipment (subject to weather conditions). The site is bordered with a range of trees and bushes but there are sections of the boundary that slope down to the water.

In the centre of the site is a small fire pit, with a large picnic table nearby. Visitors must bring their own camping equipment, only the equipment listed below is provided as standard. Equipment hire may be available by exception, subject to availability.



To the west of the site is a brick BBQ, with two grills with two height options. Visitors must bring their own cooking equipment, crockery and utensils. A washing-up sink is provided at the outside of the shed at a working height of 1 metre.



Facilities:

A small shed raised up on wooden stilts provides a 'caravan style' cartridge toilet, a corner shower and a sink basin. Rainwater harvesting provides running hot and cold water for washing (this water is not suitable for consumption). Drinking water is provided in 25L water containers with dispenser taps. The toilet has spare cartridges which can be replaced by visitors when full - please contact the warden when all cartridges are used.

By prior arrangement, tents and other camping equipment may be available.



The shed also houses cleaning products, consumables and waste & recycling bins. The following products are provided for visitors:

- Toilet roll, sanitary waste bags, hand towels
- Charcoal briquettes, matches and firelighters
- BBQ grills and ash pans
- Buckets for fire-fighting water
- Cleaning wipes, J-cloths and antiseptic spray
- Mop & bucket, dustpan & brush
- Cleaning spray and scourers for BBQ grills



The shed has LED lighting, an extractor fan and 4 USB-A type sockets for charging mobile devices. Temporary battery supplies and a refrigerator can be arranged for medical equipment. A gas boiler provides adjustable hot running water.

For visitors who cannot access the shed via the steps, we can provide a toilet tent with 'bog in a bag' style toilet. We can also provide a larger utility tent for washing, please contact us to discuss your specific requirements.

Riverside Cabin:

A small shed raised up on wooden stilts with a double bed, small breakfast bar and mini fridge. Bedding, towels and drinking water are provided, with cooking equipment and catering packages available. There are 2x USB-A and 2x USB-C type sockets for device charging.

Local conditions:

The island is near the A6 Loughborough Road; some road noise may be heard during peak traffic hours. To the east of the site is a marina and caravan site, we ask that visitors are reasonably quiet between 9PM and 9AM (boat engines may not operate during these hours). Visitors are advised that horses are often grazing on the adjacent field and a range of animals frequent the site including ducks, geese, swans and herons. A public footpath crosses the fields to the north of the island should visitors wish to incorporate the site into an expedition.

There is no designated parking; visitors should make use of street parking or parking provided by boat hire companies. Please contact us for information regarding local river access points and rights-of-way.

There is good mobile signal (up to 5G) on all networks. An emergency plan is provided on site detailing access points for emergency vehicles.

Nearest Accident & Emergency: **Leicester Royal Infirmary**, Infirmary Square, Leicester LE1 5WW

Nearest Hospital / GP: **Loughborough Urgent Care Centre**, Hospital Way, Loughborough LE11 5JY

Nearest Pharmacy: **Boots Pharmacy**, 21 High Street, Barrow Upon Soar LE12 8PY

Nearest Dentist: **Soar Valley Dental Practice**, 46 High Street, Barrow upon Soar LE12 8PY