



Endeavour - Trip Information

Spirit of Endeavour is a charity that operates the canal boat Endeavour originally run by Skipton and Craven Action for Disability or SCAD.

SCAD has been running a canal boat for 40 years providing trips for older and disabled people on the Leeds and Liverpool Canal in the Skipton area. The Endeavour is the second boat used for these trips, the original boat the Marjorie Charlesworth ran until 2003 when it was replaced by the Endeavour.

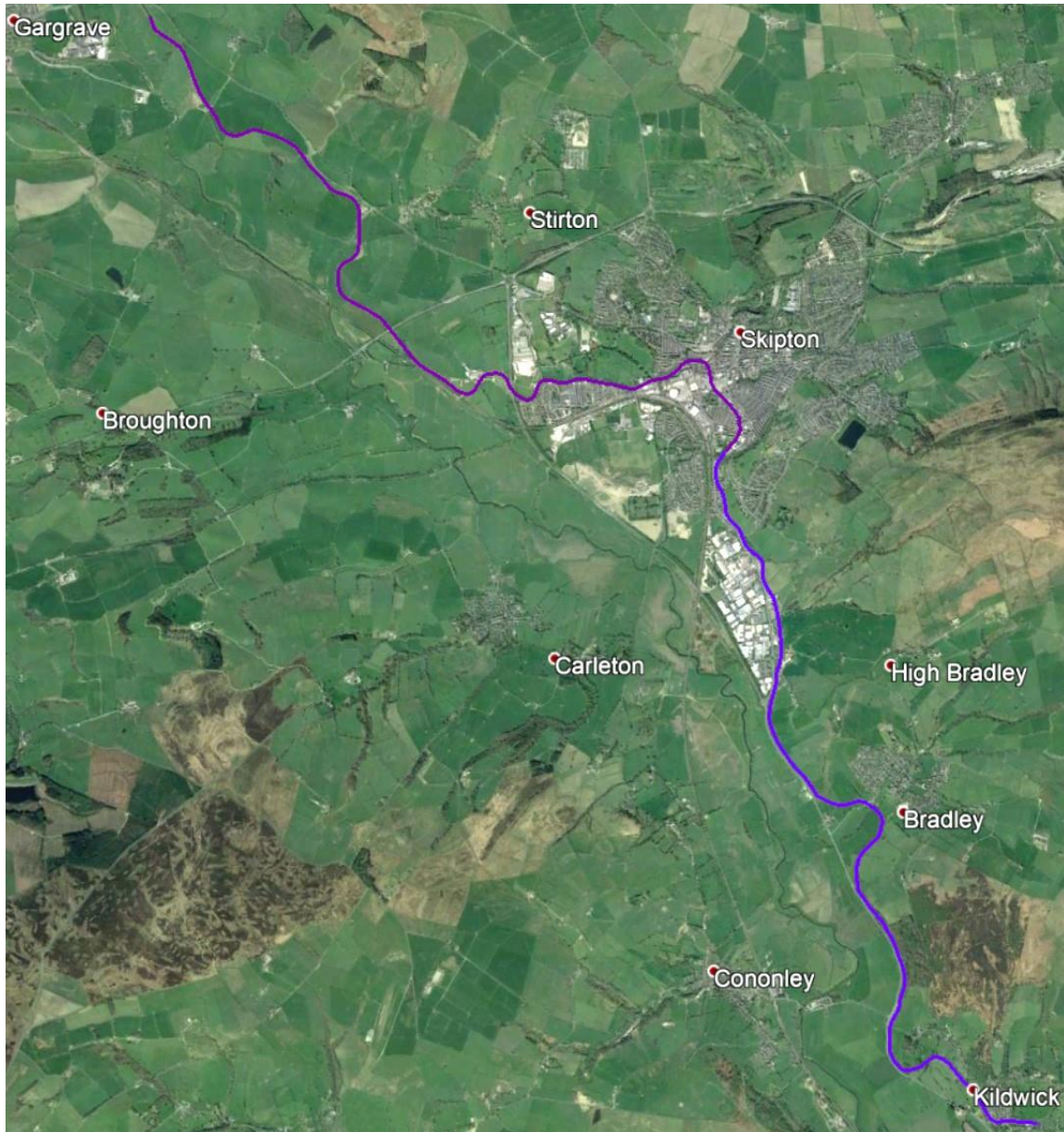
The Endeavour is a 55' long wide beam canal boat. Community boats such as the Endeavour are licenced to take up to 12 passengers of which four can be in wheelchairs. Whilst the Endeavour is set up to handle people in wheelchairs trips are open to all. A fully trained crew are supplied to operate the boat.

Trips start from the rear of Skipton General Hospital car park where there is an access path down to the canal banks. There a purpose-built ramp leads to the boat mooring for easy embarkation onto the Endeavour.

Normally trips leave the hospital at around 10:30 am returning at approximately 3:00 pm to 3:30 pm. Weather conditions cans affect the trip duration and direction.



Possible Trips



1. Going south towards Kildwick which is a little more sheltered in windy conditions
2. Going north towards Gargrave provides views of the rolling fields between Skipton and Gargrave. Time permitting it is possible to take the boat through a lock at Gargrave to experience the wonders of Victoria Engineering. This makes the trip take up to an hour longer.
3. For trips that have requested Fish and Chips, the trip goes one way for an hour turns and returns to Skipton in time for lunch. After lunch, the boat continues in the same direction for a further hour before returning to Skipton.
4. A split trip is possible where passengers change over at Kildwick. This can be useful when there is a need to accommodate more than 12 passengers. Up to 24 people can take part in this way. Often groups who take this approach take the other half of the people into Skipton for shopping opportunities.

Wildlife, particularly birds, are everywhere on the canal. [Click here to see examples.](#)

You can often see unusual boats on the canal. [Click here to see examples.](#)

On the way to Kildwick at bridge 183 is the site of a war memorial for the lost Polish aircrew of a Wellington Bomber. [Click here for the story.](#)

Access to the Mooring and Information for Wheelchair Users

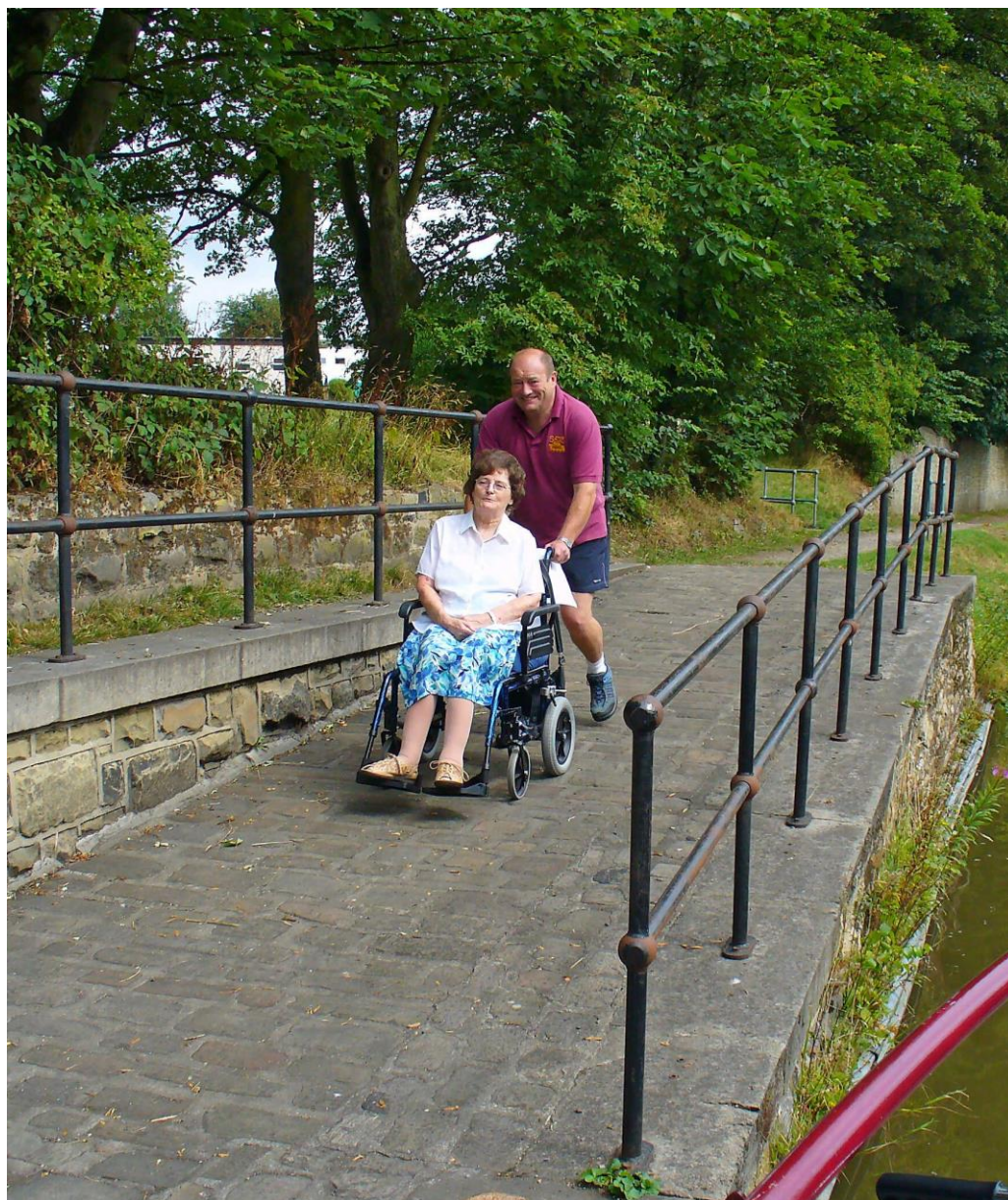
Access to the mooring and loading ramp is via a path that leads from the hospital car park to the canal bank. The loading ramp is a short walk down the towpath. All surfaces are concrete and safe for use in all weather. The crew are available to help anyone who has difficulty walking or to assist in taking wheelchairs down to the boat.

More detailed information can be found on this page – [Detailed Information](#)



There is a limit on the width of a wheelchair that can enter the cabin of the boat. Please check the information available in this document. There is a lift to lower the chair down to floor level which is operated by crew members.

We do have some passengers whose wheelchairs are too large to allow them entry into the cabin who chose to sit out on the front of the boat. This facility is available on the understanding that there are no toilet facilities available and suitable clothing is brought to allow for the weather particularly if rain is forecast.



Passenger Safety

It is the responsibility of the organiser to make sure that all passengers can comply with the safety requirements of the trip. For each trip, there needs to be a nominated representative onboard to communicate with the crew. The crew are not responsible for managing passengers except in the case of safety requirements. A safety briefing will be given at the start of each trip. A risk assessment is available at “Risk Assessment” ([link here](#)).

Passengers travel at their own risk and responsibility remains with passengers or their carers at all times. Passengers must follow the instructions of the crew on all aspects of safety.

The Crew

The crew of the Endeavour are all volunteers and give their time willingly. Our volunteers are trained in all aspects of boat safety and ensure you have a pleasant trip. There is always a trained skipper responsible for managing the boat and all aspects of the trip. Each skipper holds a CCBM certification issued by the National Community Boats Association which is a requirement of the Canal and River Trust to run these types of passenger trips.

There may be times when the weather may limit what can be done on a trip for your safety and that of the crew. Occasionally if it is windy, we may find we have to cancel the trip and re-schedule for another date.

Please be assured that we will only cancel for safety reasons or if due to mechanical problems that prevent the boat from moving safely. We may also have to alter the cruising direction from time to time or even curtail part of the trip because of bridge faults.



We try to run trips in all weathers and all the crew are fully equipped with rainwear.

Because we run Christmas trips, we can sometimes find winter weather on the day. Thankfully, it is rare to find weather as bad as this