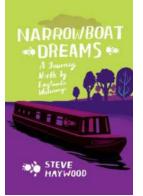
## The Magnificent Journey North By England Waterways - Discover Hidden Gems and **Enchanting Landscapes**

Have you ever dreamt of embarking on a magical journey through picturesque landscapes, ancient towns, and serene waterways? Well, look no further! Prepare yourself for an unforgettable adventure as we delve into the mesmerizing beauty of England's waterways.

#### Unlocking the Mysteries of England's Waterways

England's waterways have long been celebrated for their mystigue, charm, and unparalleled natural beauty. From the magnificent canals of Birmingham to the idyllic rivers of Yorkshire, there is no shortage of breathtaking sights to behold.

One of the most remarkable ways to explore these waterways is through a traditional narrowboat trip. These slender vessels allow you to navigate through narrow canals, granting you access to hidden gems that are otherwise inaccessible by road or foot.



#### Narrowboat Dreams: A Journey North by

**England's Waterways** by Linda Cracknell (Kindle Edition)

****	4.3 out of 5
Language	: English
File size	: 1497 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Enhanced types	etting : Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 321 pages
Lending	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Paperback	: 480 pages
Item Weight	: 15.5 ounces

Dimensions : 4.72 x 0.67 x 8.11 inches



#### Setting Sail from Birmingham

Your journey begins in the heart of England - Birmingham. This vibrant and diverse city has a rich industrial history that can be traced back to the 18th century. Immerse yourself in the industrial revolution as you set sail on the Grand Union Canal, the longest canal in the United Kingdom.

As you traverse the scenic route, you'll witness the transformation of Birmingham's urban landscape into a serene countryside. Feast your eyes on the picturesque villages, charming cottages, and lush greenery that surround the canal. Make a stop at the iconic Gas Street Basin, a bustling hub filled with trendy bars, restaurants, and historic landmarks.

#### **Exploring Yorkshire's Waterways**

Heading north from Birmingham, your narrowboat journey leads you to the captivating region of Yorkshire. Known for its captivating landscapes and historic towns, Yorkshire offers an abundance of natural wonders and cultural treasures.

Cruise along the serene Aire and Calder Navigation, where you'll encounter the remarkable cities of Leeds and Wakefield. Leeds, a vibrant cosmopolitan city, presents a delightful fusion of modern life and Victorian architecture. Visit the Royal Armouries Museum, indulging in the rich history of English weaponry and armor.

Further north, on the Calder and Hebble Navigation, lies Wakefield - a town of charm and tranquility. Explore the waterfront district, embracing the peaceful

ambiance while strolling along the River Calder.

#### **Roaming the Whitby to Tees Route**

No journey through England's waterways is complete without experiencing the Whitby to Tees route. This picturesque stretch unfolds a world of stunning cliffs, sandy beaches, and charming coastal towns.

Arriving in Whitby, a town steeped in history and folklore, you'll be captivated by its Gothic ruins, vibrant fish markets, and sandy beaches. Climb the 199 steps to reach the iconic Whitby Abbey, providing breathtaking views of the surrounding area.

Continuing towards Tees, you'll navigate through the awe-inspiring North York Moors National Park. Witness the untamed beauty of the countryside, blooming with purple heather and dotted with ancient ruins.

#### **Discovering Hidden Gems**

Along your journey, you'll stumble upon countless hidden gems waiting to be explored. Take a detour from the main canals and venture into charming backwaters that are often overlooked.

Visit the idyllic Braunston village near Daventry, where you can meander through its narrow streets lined with quaint cottages. Witness the historic Braunston Church, known for its stunning stained glass windows and peaceful garden.

Don't miss the chance to visit the enchanting Falkirk Wheel in Scotland, a marvel of modern engineering. This rotating boat lift connects the Forth and Clyde Canal with the Union Canal, offering breathtaking views of the surrounding landscapes.

Journeying through England's waterways is a remarkable experience that unveils an abundance of natural wonders, historical treasures, and authentic cultural encounters. It's a chance to slow down, breathe in the fresh air, and appreciate the beauty that lies along the path.

Whether you choose to embark on a narrowboat adventure or explore by foot, your journey north will undoubtedly leave you with memories to cherish for a lifetime. So, pack your bags, set sail, and let the magic of England's waterways guide you through a voyage of discovery!

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STEVE HAYWOOD	

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"At home, I'm a cantankerous old git. On the boat, after a week's cruising, I'm just a cantankerous old git with dirty hair."

Steve Haywood has a problem. He doesn't know where he comes from. In the south, people think he's a northerner; in the north, they think he's from the south. Judged against global warming and the sad demise of Celebrity Big Brother, this

hardly registers highly on the Richter scale of world disasters. But it's enough to worry Steve. And it's enough of an excuse for him to escape his long-suffering partner Em for a voyage of discovery along England's inland waterways.

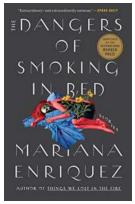
Travelling by traditional narrowboat, he heads north along two newly opened Pennine canals, a trip that takes him from Banbury in deepest Oxfordshire, through the vibrant modernity of Manchester, to the trendy affluence of Hebden Bridge, West Yorkshire's answer to London's ciabatta belt.

With irrepressible humour he recounts the history of the waterways and stories of his encounters with characters along the way, and attempts to define the magic that makes England's waterways so appealing.



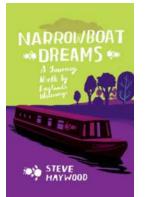
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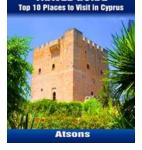
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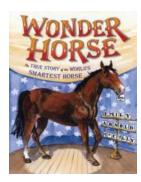
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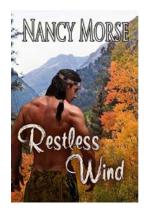
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