

# The Norfolk Broads

Few places can match the Broads for a varied boating holiday experience. Fishing, birdwatching, sightseeing and dining, there's plenty to discover on and off the water.

And with 125 miles of navigable, lock-free waterways, they're perfect for beginners. Harry Blake pioneered pleasure boating in this part of the world and we're proud to continue his unrivalled tradition of excellence.



## Cruise or sail?

Decisions, decisions. You can experience the Broads in two very different ways. Sit back in the comfort of your cruiser or get a bit more hands-on, sailing peacefully away in a yacht. Both are pure bliss, so don't agonise too much over deciding which to try.

## Wildlife wonder

A boat is the perfect hide. And there's nowhere better to take advantage of that than on the Broads. You'll not only see a wealth of rare plants and have easy access to wildlife reserves, you'll have the opportunity to observe a huge variety of birds and water-dwelling creatures at very close hand. Bitterns, sedge warblers and water rail for keen birdwatchers. And for the amateur nature lover, herons, swans, huge dragonflies and bright butterflies, including Britain's largest – the swallowtail.

## A big day out

Forget traffic lights and one-way systems, Norwich's city centre and riverside attractions are in easy reach by boat. Just cruise in and moor up right in the centre. Places of historical interest, cinemas, theatres, a swimming pool, restaurants, shops and bars are just a short stroll from your boat. And if you want a change of pace, try an amusement park, or horse and greyhound racing in Great Yarmouth, speedboat racing at Oulton Broad, or one of the regattas that take place throughout the Broads. Or for a quaint fix on a grand scale, Wroxham, capital of the Broads, is home to the world's largest village store.

## Hooked

If you'd like to do a spot of coarse fishing from your boat or the water's edge, bring your rod. The Broads are well stocked with pike, bream, perch, roach, rudd and tench. Make sure you pick up a licence from the Environment Agency. However, take note – no fishing is permitted between mid March and mid June.



## Experience a week of discovery...

### Day 1

Cast off and head upstream, through the sleepy hamlet of Belaugh, and on to Coltishall. Moor up and sample the delights of riverside pubs such as 'The Kings Head'.

### Day 2

Cruising to today's destination of Potter Heigham, you'll pass villages like Horning peppered with traditional Norfolk thatched dwellings as well as St Benet's Abbey. Why not buy some local produce and enjoy lunch onboard?

### Day 3

You're off to the bustling seaside town of Great Yarmouth today. On the way downstream, you'll pass through Acle with its typical Broadland windmills, and Stokesby, home to the Ferry Inn.

### Day 4

After a morning's shore leave in Great Yarmouth it's time to head for Reedham, via the conservation area mudflats of Breydon Water. Stock up on galley supplies and vittles at the quayside.

### Day 5

It's about 2.5 hours to Bramerton, a great place for lunch or a walk along part of the Weavers Way. Then it's on to Norwich with its wealth of history.

### Day 6

Today it's down the narrow, scenic River Chet. The small town of Loddon is a good place to take on provisions before a night's mooring at Burgh Castle built on the site of a medieval castle.

### Day 7

Make tracks back to the Northern Broads, through Great Yarmouth and towards the Stacey Windpump (mooring at the nearby pub for lunch). Horning is a great choice for your last night!

## Sailing Courses

In association with Eastwood Whelpton at Upton on the Norfolk Broads, The Norfolk Broads School of Sailing offers a wide range of courses using the National Sailing Scheme from the Royal Yachting Association. From 'Start Sailing' to 'Advanced Techniques', the scheme covers all aspects of yacht sailing on inland waters.

Aboard a yacht from the Eastwood-Whelpton fleet, you can take any one of a range of courses in conjunction with a full week or short break holiday. The 'Start Sailing' module is ideal for beginners, while those with some experience can develop their knowledge on a 'Basic Skills' module. Other courses cover passage making and seamanship skills.

A single course module can be taken during the first four days of a week's holiday, with lots of time for free sailing and relaxing to enjoy the wonderful Broads scenery. Two modules can be combined to cover a full week, while shorter weekend courses are also available, including 'Pre flotilla' module to introduce you to the idea of a Mediterranean flotilla holiday. All our courses are extensively practical and include elements covering the specific sailing skills needed on the Broads.

Our team of qualified instructors have many years experience of Broads sailing. You will meet your instructor each morning and sail on different Broads or rivers while you complete the syllabus with their expert knowledge and guidance. Successful candidates will receive the appropriate RYA certificates.

Full details are available from our Reservations Team. Please ask for details when making a booking for a yacht.

### Courses for 2005

For 2005, The Norfolk Broads School of Sailing is offering the following courses:

**Foundation Skills:** Start Sailing. Basic Skills.

**Development Courses:** Seamanship Skills. Cruising: Passage making and planning.

Each module includes at least 14 hours teaching time, coupled with 3 hours additional sailing.

A single module can be taken over a long weekend or during a three day, mid-week break.

Two modules can be combined over a full week.



Full details of all the above courses are available from our Reservations Team. Please ask for details when making a booking for a yacht.