

Caledonian Canal Swing Bridges

Please be advised that other than for safety reasons, the canal road swing bridges will NOT be opened to boat traffic at the following times:

Muirtown Swing Bridge - not open to canal traffic at the following times all year:

Monday to Friday	08:15 – 09:20	12:10 – 13:20	16:25 – 17:45	
Saturdays	08:20 – 09:20	13:15 – 13:45	17:00 – 17:30	
Sundays	08:20 – 09:20	10:20 – 10:50	13:15 – 13:45	17:00 – 17:30

Fort Augustus Swing Bridge - not open to canal traffic at the following times:

Monday to Friday (during school term)	08:20 – 09:00
Monday to Friday (during school holidays)	08:40 – 09:00

Banavie Road Swing Bridge - not open to canal traffic at the following times all year:

Monday to Friday	08:30 – 09:00	13:30 – 14:00
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- If you wish to pass through a bridge speak to the local lock keepers or call them on Ch74 on your VHF radio.
- A bridge will not open to canal traffic within 10 minutes of a previous opening of that bridge.
- Torvean & Tomnahurich Swing Bridges: if only one bridge is operating (i.e for maintenance purposes), restrictions will apply at peak road traffic times. Please follow instruction of the bridge keeper.
- Scottish Canals reserves the right to open the bridges at any time, without notice.

Please be advised that boat operations are also subject to the availability of the RAIL swing bridges at Clachnaharry and Banavie which are operated by Network Rail. Lock keepers will advise you of the next available swing.

Speed Limit:

Maximum speed permitted on the canal sections is 5 knots. Excess speed can damage canal banks and be hazardous to other canal users. Slow down when approaching locks and bridges and when passing moored craft

VHF communication:

Sea locks and most locks and bridges are equipped with VHF radios and operate on Channel 74. Please keep your VHF switched on!

Crew:

Please ensure you have an adequate number of competent crew aboard. Single-handed passage is possible but may be subject to delays depending on staff availability to assist.

Locks:

Please do not 'hover' outside locks. If the gates are not open please berth at the nearest available transit jetty.

Swimming:

Please do not swim in the waterway. You could become tangled in weeds or rubbish, be hit by passing craft or be drawn into the sluices of lock gates.

Radar:

Ensure radar scanners are switched off whilst craft are within or approaching locks.

Large Vessels:

Large commercial vessels operate on the canal. These craft normally have right of way and it may be necessary to stop smaller craft for short periods.

Operating hours:

For canal operating hours please see our website. Do not cruise within the hours of darkness.

Canoeists:

More than 4000 canoeists and kayakers use the canal each year. Please keep their launch pontoons clear.

If you are in any doubt please speak to one of our lock keepers for advice.

Emergency Out of Hours Contact—0800 072 9900