



Lockstations

Lockstations & Route No.

Kingston Mills	Route 1
Lower Brewers	Route 1
Upper Brewers	Routes 1 & 2
Jones Falls	Routes 2 & 3
Davis	Route 3
Chaffey's	Route 3
Newboro	Routes 3, 4 & 5
Narrows	Routes 4 & 5
Colonel By Island	Route 5
Beveridges	Route 6
Poonamalie	Route 7
Smiths Falls Detached	Route 7
Smiths Falls Combined	Routes 7 & 8
Old Slys	Route 8
Edmonds	Route 8
Kilmarnock	Route 8
Merrickville	Routes 8 & 9
Clowes	Route 9
Upper Nicholsons	Route 9
Lower Nicholsons	Route 9
Burritts Rapids	Route 9
Long Island	Routes 11 & 12
Black Rapids	Route 12
Hogs Back	Route 12
Hartwells	Route 12
Ottawa	Route 12

[Paddling Routes 1 -12](#)

[Map Legend](#)

Rideau Canal Lockstations

Managed by Parks Canada as a UNESCO World Heritage site; a National Historic Site of Canada, the Rideau Locks are among the top highlights of paddling the canal system. The locks are a fascinating series of advanced engineered structures designed to create a slack water system for naval trade and military supply. The Rideau is the oldest continuously-operated canal system in North America. It is well worth your time to stretch your legs and explore each station as you paddle through. We invite you to visit the on-site exhibits, hike the self-guided trails and have a conversation with Parks Canada staff about the unique stories hidden in each lockstation's creation. Lockstations also offer great picnic opportunities. Bring your camera for the tour, connecting with our nation's history is an unforgettable experience.

Navigating the Locks

The locks are open for transient boaters from mid-May to mid-October. Paddlers can either lock through or portage around the locks at most stations. The lockstations do not need to be open for portaging or camping on the property if you are paddling in the shoulder seasons. The portages are generally short carry-over stable terrain and range in length from 46m (151 ft) to 596m (1957 ft). Each portage trail is marked from the water at both the top and bottom of each lockstation. The distances and trail details are found in the detailed lockstation maps available in this on this site.

It is important to note that portaging is not allowed at 4 Lockstations due to dangerous highway crossings. (Merrickville, Old Slys, Smiths Falls Combined and Smiths Falls Detached). Parks Canada does not charge paddlers locking fees at these sites due to public safety. Please do not attempt to cross these busy roads with your paddling equipment. Hazard indications are identified on the maps to remind paddlers to lock through where necessary.

Parking and Launching

You can launch from every lockstation on the canal. Parking is free at most sites however there are small fees at others. Download the maps and tables for each lockstation for details. Parking is limited and there is no overnight security at any of the lockstations. Private campgrounds, marinas and other businesses are safe locations to leave your vehicle.

Once you have downloaded the lockstation maps of your choice, a red icon will indicate the best place to launch. The google map link found in the lock details table will direct you to the parking lot closest to best place to launch. Parks Canada has installed new paddling docks at most lockstations to improve access for paddlers. The paddling docks are 8'x8' cedar platforms that sit low in the water, allowing for easy loading and launching.

Paddlers have the option to follow the route from either Kingston – Ottawa OR Ottawa – Kingston. If travelling from Ottawa to Kingston, please start from route 12 and work through to route 1.





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▶ Old Slys	Route 8
▶ Edmonds	Route 8
▶ Kilmarnock	Route 8
▶ Merrickville	Routes 8 & 9
▶ Clowes	Route 9
▶ Upper Nicholsons	Route 9
▶ Lower Nicholsons	Route 9
▶ Burritts Rapids	Route 9
▶ Long Island	Routes 11 & 12
▶ Black Rapids	Route 12
▶ Hogs Back	Route 12
▶ Hartwells	Route 12
▶ Ottawa	Route 12

[Paddling Routes 1 -12](#)

[Map Legend](#)

Self-Guided Walking Tours & Trails

For more information and to see a complete listing of self-guided walking tours and trails, visit the [Rideau Heritage Route](#) website.

Fees

There is a small fee for locking through and camping, which can be paid on site. Transit passes can also be purchased for multiple lockages. Fees are currently structured for power boats on a /foot system. For current prices, please check, http://www.pc.gc.ca/lhn-nhs/on/rideau/visit/tarifs_fees_e.asp?park=101.

Camping

Camping is permitted at all lockstation with the exception of 2, Ottawa and Smiths Falls Combined. These are urban parks and not suitable for camping. Other private campgrounds and accommodations are available in the area. Camping at lockstations is \$4.90 / person / night as of 2012. It is important to note that the camping services are minimal. If you would like: showers, secure equipment storage, firewood, general supplies, or electrical services, it is recommended that paddlers make a reservation at a local campground or roofed accommodation. Detailed contact information is available in each of the route section tables to help you plan your trip.

Hiking Trails & Exhibits

Parks Canada is dedicated to preserving the heritage values of the Rideau Canal and sharing the stories for everyone to enjoy. Many lockstations have self-guided hiking trails, indoor exhibits or live demonstrations of the canal's history. Each lock has its story and we are pleased to help you access and connect with our nation's heritage. All trails and exhibits are included on the lockstation detailed maps for your convenience. Enjoy your explorations and happy paddling!

Parks Canada Rideau Canal Website:

www.pc.gc.ca/lhn-nhs/on.rideau

Rideau Info Website: Lockstation Details

www.rideau-info.com/canal/locks

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