Canals near bath

By George W Jack D Oscar W

Bradford on avon canal

The Kennet & Avon Canal through Bradford on Avon was fully opened in 1810, connecting the town to London in the east and Bristol to the west. The Somersetshire Coal Canal linked it to the North Somerset Coalfield and the Wilts & Berks Canal and North Wilts Canal gave easier access to the Midlands. The Dorset & Somerset Canal intended was to link the Kennet & Avon to the English Channel via Frome, with their junction at Bradford, but only a coalfield branch to Nettlebridge was built.

Following decades of decline, the Kennet & Avon Canal has been fully restored and work proceeds on the Wilts & Berks Canal.



Bath Canal

The canal towpath is a great way to reach the Thermae Bath Spa, the stylish shops, the busy bars and trendy restaurants that recreate the buzz of the Georgian era. However, its gentle curves are the perfect compliment to the formal elegance of Bath's Georgian architecture, leading you on tranquil towpath walks out towards the Wiltshire Downs.



Somerset coal canal

The Somersetshire Coal Canal was built in the early 1800s to bring coal from the mines in the Timsbury, Paulton and Radstock areas to the Kennet & Avon Canal for distribution across southern England. The Southern Branch was sold to the Somerset & Dorset Joint Railway after 40 years, but the Northern Branch to Paulton survived for nearly 100 years and was one of the most profitable canals in England.



