

Liverpool CANNING DOCK & ELLESMERE PORT

SHROPSHIRE UNION cruise on the River Mersey and Manchester Ship Canal

On this cruise you will see:

LIVERPOOL

- **Canning Half-tide dock** – one of the oldest docks in Liverpool dating from 1737.
- **Canning River Entrance** – the 1845 pedestrian swing bridge is grade 2 listed.
- **M&S Bank Arena Liverpool** (previously Echo Arena) built in 2008 at King's Dock – and its associated **Exhibition Centre Liverpool**.
- Views of Liverpool's two **Cathedrals** and **St John's Beacon**.
- **Brunswick River Entrance** – now the entry point for Liverpool Marina.

RIVER MERSEY

- **Cammell Laird shipyard** – the *Danny* was built on this site in 1903 and most recently the *RRS Sir David Attenborough*, for the British Antarctic Survey.
- **Tranmere Oil Terminal** opened in 1960 and used by tankers up to 300,000 tonnes.
- **Rock Ferry tank cleaning jetty** (disused) and old slipway – home to **Royal Mersey Yacht Club**.
- **Bromborough Buoy** – a black and yellow “east cardinal” buoy marking the seaward entrance to the Eastham Channel.
- **Bromborough River wall** – still used by coasters to discharge general and bulk cargo.
- **Eastham Channel** - upstream views Garston Docks, Liverpool airport, Hale Head and light house should be visible.
- **Eastham Ferry** – only a stone outcrop remains - plus two pubs, a country park and Eastham Woods.
- **Queen Elizabeth II Oil Dock** opened in 1954, handles tankers up to 40,000 tonnes via its 100 ft wide entrance lock.

MANCHESTER SHIP CANAL

- **Eastham Locks** - the entrance to the canal from the River Mersey. The *Danny* uses the large western 80ft wide lock which has two opposing sets of outer gates, the outer ones face outwards and are known as “storm gates” and used to prevent the River Mersey spilling into the Manchester Ship Canal on large, spring tides. The other locks are out of use, with the smallest being converted into a hydro-electric scheme.
- **Eastham refinery** which has the capacity to meet almost 50% of UK bitumen demand.
- **Manisty Wharf** the site of the Bowater Paper mill which closed around 2010, after which the berth was used to tranship coal.
- **Mount Manisty** small hill opposite, named after canal engineer Edward Manisty.
- **Ellesmere Port Docks**, established in the 1790's, developed / enlarged in the 1840's. This was the transshipment port for sea-going vessels on the Mersey for cargo into the inland canal system via the Shropshire Union. The dock entrance is marked by a lighthouse (no longer in use) as the port was built before the Manchester Ship Canal.
- **National Waterways Museum** – adjacent to the *Danny*'s berth on Telford Quay and occupying part of the old dock complex.

This cruise also operates in the opposite direction so if starting from Ellesmere Port the sights mentioned will be passed in reverse order.