

**Where to go and what to do** Aylesford Priory • Cobtree Museum of Kent Life • Cobtree Manor Park • All Saints Church • Mote Park - 180 hectare park • Maidstone Museum and Art Gallery • Archbishop's Palace at Maidstone • Teston - the house of Alfred Reader Co • Haysden Country Park • Tonbridge historic town and castle • St Margaret's Church at Barming • Yalding Fen Educational Nature Reserve • historic dockyards at Chatham • become a medway volunteer • hire a rowing boat • boating • fishing • canoeing • picnic sites • walk the Saxon Shore Way • view the estuary on a paddle steamer • sightseeing and much more •

A brief guide to the ...

# Medway Medway Medway Medway Medway Medway



The River Medway extends 31km above its tidal limit  
 The Medway was opened to navigation over 230 years ago  
 Approximately 2,000 boats are registered on the Medway each year  
 The Medway is home to one of only two cricket ball manufacturers in Britain  
 Aylesford on the Medway marks the site of a great battle in 455 A.D.  
 The River Medway is situated in Kent also known as the Garden of England

**A brief history**

The River Medway's name originated from Saxon descriptions of the river's meandering course, through the middle of the rich and fertile country of Kent. In 1663, the first statutory Act was passed, and permitted the building of locks and weirs along the river. Following improvements the river became popular for commercial barges carrying heavy goods to and from the coast.

By the early twentieth century, with the introduction of steam power and the development of the railways, commercial traffic on the river began to decline. It is now used mainly for recreation.



**ENVIRONMENT AGENCY**

**ANNUAL EVENTS** Admiral's cruise • swan upping • raft races • canoe club events • slaloms • Medway River Festival, Maidstone, for further information ☎ Maidstone Town Centre Manager on 01622 678777 •



### Registration and Licensing

#### Annual Registration (powered)

For an application form contact:  
The Environment Agency, Guildbourne House,  
Chatsworth, Worthing, West Sussex BN11 1LD.  
☎ 01903 832000.

Cost of registration is dependant on the size and dimensions of your boat. Allow 10 working days for your application to be processed. To apply we recommend you have a valid Boat Safety Certificate or EU equivalent. For further information ☎ 01923 201408.

#### Visitors (powered)

You can obtain your visitor registration in the same way as you would apply for an annual registration (see above). Alternatively these can be issued on arrival at:

- Allington Lock ☎ 01622 752864 or;
- local marinas and boat yards

#### Annual and Visitor (unpowered)

You can obtain a registration from any of the above.

### Moorings

Local marinas and boatyards manage most of the moorings on the river. To check availability contact the marina nearest to where you would like a mooring.

Contact details are listed in our navigation guide to the Medway (see below).

### Medway River Project

This scheme is working with the Agency, Kent County Council, local authorities and the Countryside Commission to improve the wildlife and enjoyment of the Medway with the help of local people. To find out more, become a member of the Thursday Action Group or get your copy of 'Medway Meanders' ☎ 01622 683695.

### Duty River Keeper

☎ 01622 752864

For a more detailed guide to The Medway ☎ 01903 832000.



Tourist Information Centres  
Maidstone ☎ 01622 602169  
Tonbridge ☎ 01732 770929  
Rochester ☎ 01634 843666



For a free leaflet ☎ 01903 832239



For information ☎ 01622 671411



**ENVIRONMENT  
AGENCY**