

# CROSSING BREYDON WATER

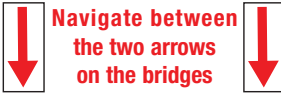
## Bridge Clearance

Clearance at mean high water during the summer is given below, but always check the bridge clearance boards. Look out for additional advance clearance boards as you approach bridges 1 and 3. The river is narrow and tides can be strong. Lower your canopy in plenty of time. Make sure everyone is down inside the boat.

MAXIMUM HEIGHT UNDER BRIDGE	
FEET	METRES
5	1.50
6	1.75
7	2.0
8	2.25
	2.50

### 1 Breydon Bridge 3.96m (13'.00")

Pleasure craft capable of passing under the bridge are requested to go through the right hand side span in each direction.



**Navigate between the two arrows on the bridges**



Stop lights indicate you must NOT pass through the centre span

### 2 Vauxhall Bridge 2.06m (6'.09")

### 3 Yarmouth/Acle Road Bridge 2.13m (7'.00")

**NB:** In all cases tidal levels can vary considerably and so affect the above figures.

**North Quay**  
Mooring for emergencies and demasting only

**Great Yarmouth Yacht Station**  
Moor **against** the tide – quay assistants will help when possible

**River Bure** to northern Broads

**Shallow corner - go around yellow post**

**No Hire Craft Beyond Here**  
Dangerous tides and North Sea ahead



**WATCH OUT FOR WATER SKIERS** in the central straight of Breydon Water – see signs on posts.

**Berney Arms Reach** – Broads Authority 24 hr free moorings for 8 boats

**TAKE CARE HERE**  
Always stay in the channel between the **red** and **green** posts.

**River Yare** to Reedham

**River Waveney** to St. Olaves and Oulton Broad

#### KEY

Demasting structure

Lay-by mooring

Channel

Shallow water and mud

Strong currents outside slack water

Dangerous currents

This map is intended as a guide. Do not use for navigation.  
[www.broads-authority.gov.uk](http://www.broads-authority.gov.uk)

## GREAT YARMOUTH BRIDGES and BREYDON WATER

There are two, soon to be three, bridges on the Yare at Great Yarmouth. **Breydon Bridge** and the **Haven Bridge** are lifting bridges. The clearance at mean high water springs (MHWS) is 3.96m (side spans) / 3.50m (centre span) and 2.90m respectively. Pleasure craft capable of passing under **Breydon Bridge** are requested to use the right-hand span in each direction. Lifts of **Breydon Bridge** and the **Haven Bridge** must be booked. (At time of print, both these bridges are unable to lift until March 2023, at the earliest.)

Lifts can be made 'from 06.00–22.00 or sunrise–sunset (whichever is the shorter)' in Summer (08.00–17.00 winter). Contact Port Marine Services on VHF Channel 12 or 01493 335522 to arrange a lift of **Breydon Bridge** or **Haven Bridge**. Bookings should be made before 16.45 for the following day (Friday 16.45 for weekends), but exceptions can be made.

Where there is a booked lift, **Breydon Bridge** will lift when the three red stop lights on the centre span are illuminated; pleasure craft should beware of commercial traffic that may be manoeuvring. The **Haven Bridge** operates with river traffic control lights for booked lifts.

A third lifting bridge (currently known as 'the third crossing' but expected to be officially named in Spring 2023) is set to

come into operation below the **Haven Bridge** in early Summer 2023. Clearance will be 4.5m at MHWS. For navigational details about the bridge and its opening times, contact Port Marine Services (see left).

All seagoing and craft inbound through the River Port should see [www.peelports.com/marine/our-ports/great-yarmouth](http://www.peelports.com/marine/our-ports/great-yarmouth) for further details, including use of VHF Channel 12; search under marine information for Great Yarmouth: local small craft information.

There are no safe moorings on **Breydon Water** itself.

Plan your crossing so that you can go through Great Yarmouth bridges at slack water, which is about an hour-and-a-quarter after low water. The tide will be less of a hazard and you'll have maximum clearance under the bridges. Daily tide times and heights are given on pages 175-187 but check the bridge gauge boards on your passage.

If you need advice on tides, or crossing Breydon on a particular day, contact Broads Control on 01603 756056, and in general see the BA Waterways Code leaflet *Crossing Breydon Water*. Alternatively, contact the yacht station at Great Yarmouth on 01493 842794 or 07766 398238. The Broads Authority staff at the yacht station are very knowledgeable and helpful.



Aerial of Breydon Bridge – courtesy of Mike Page – [www.mike-page.co.uk](http://www.mike-page.co.uk)



Photo – Sue Hines

River Bure is top left of this image. A waiting pontoon (lay-by mooring) lies before the shallow corner (*The Knoll*) just before you enter the Bure.

Image on left shows the view heading south-west from **Vauxhall Bridge**. **Breydon Bridge** can be seen in top right of the image.