



TMBA Thames Boaters Survey 2022

Summary of Responses to the TMBA online survey conducted during December 2022

Total Responders	Number	%age Responders		
	236	100.0		
Age of Respondent	Under 40	41-65	65-75	Over 75
Number	1	90.0	96	45
%age	0.4	38.1	40.7	19.1
Type of Boat				
Cruiser	184	78.0		
Narrow Boat	21	8.9		
Wide Beam	5	2.1		
Barge	11	4.7		
Day Boat	10	4.2		
Other Powered	5	2.1		
Type of Propulsion				
Diesel	188	79.7		
Petrol	39	16.5		
Electric	9	3.8		
Type of EA Registration				
Annual	208	88.1		
Visitor	16	6.8		
Gold	12	5.1		
Registration Fee Paid				
Under £300	31	13.1		
£300-£600	62	26.3		
£600-£1000	92	39.0		
£1000-£1500	40	16.9		
£1500-£2000	10	4.2		
Over £2000	1	0.4		
Is Registration Fee Value for Money ?				
YES	80	33.9		
NO	156	66.1		
Days Spent Cruising in 2022				
Under 20	40	16.9		
20-50	131	55.5		
51-100	34	14.4		
101-200	9	3.8		
Over 200	13	5.5		
Total Days On Board	13,124	n/a		

Mooring Location

Marina	155	65.7
EA Base Mooring	5	2.1
Bankside Mooring	54	22.9
Ashore	5	2.1
Continuous Cruiser	17	7.2

Overall Experience 2022	Very Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Very Unsatisfactory
Number	23	120	82	11
%age	9.7	50.8	34.7	4.7

Service Satisfaction	Very Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Very Unsatisfactory
Lock Service	41	114	69	12
%age	17.4	48.3	29.2	5.1
Lock Reliability	39	118	69	10
%age	16.5	50.0	29.2	4.2
Water Depth	36	146	47	7
%age	15.3	61.9	19.9	3.0
Navigation Hazards	9	78	98	51
%age	3.8	33.1	41.5	21.6
Mooring Availability	7	72	111	46
%age	3.0	30.5	47.0	19.5
Fresh Water Availability	14	95	80	47
%age	5.9	40.3	33.9	19.9
Sewage Pumpout/Elsan	11	79	83	62
%age	4.7	33.5	35.2	26.3
EA Comms with Boaters	13	127	66	30
%age	5.5	53.8	28.0	12.7
Enforcement and Compliance	3	68	76	89
%age	1.3	28.8	32.2	37.7

Importance Assisted Passage	Essential	Desirable	Nice to Have
Number	108	94	34
%age	45.8	39.8	14.4

Delayed by Lock Breakdowns	Once	More Than Once	Not At All
Number	59	92	85
%age	25.0	39.0	36.0

Communications Methods	Use	Don't Use	Prefer
Email	148	29	58
	63.0	12.3	24.7
Mobile Phone	135	4	96
	57.4	1.7	40.9
Tablet	101	127	7
	43.0	54.0	3.0
Personal Computer	75	155	5
	31.9	66.0	2.1
EA Webpages	153	46	36
	65.1	19.6	15.3
Facebook	101	122	12
	43.0	51.9	5.1
Twitter	28	201	6
	11.9	85.5	2.6

AntiSocial Behaviour Experience	YES	NO		
Number	94	142		
%age	39.8	60.2		
Member of Club or Association	YES	NO		
Number	176	60		
%age	74.6	25.4		
Boating Expectation	5 Years or Less	Over 5 Years	Don't Know	
Number	58	153	25	
%age	24.6	64.8	10.6	

Nearest Lock to home mooring

Lock	Number	Lock	Number
St John's	9	Marsh	8
Grafton	3	Hambleden	2
Radcot	3	Hurley	1
Rushey	2	Temple	10
Shifford	1	Marlow	2
Eynsham	2	Cookham	6
Kings	2	Bray	26
Osney	1	Boveney	22
Abingdon	4	Romney	2
Culham	2	Old Windsor	4
Benson	3	Bell Weir	2
Cleeve	1	Penton Hook	29
Goring	1	Shepperton	12
Mapledurham	3	Sunbury	9
Caversham	10	Molesey	7
Sonning	10	Teddington	11
Shiplake	8	VISITING CRAFT	8

PLEASE NOTE - This document summarises the responses received to the consultation which ran during December 2022. In addition to answering the above questions, respondents were also required to provide their name, email address and boat name, in accordance with the following assurance of privacy clearly displayed at the head of the survey form:

“Motor Boaters based on, or visiting, the Environment Agency managed non tidal Thames during 2022 are invited to participate in this survey. Personal data submitted via this form, specifically your name, email address and boat name, will be held only by the TMBA and will not be disclosed to third parties without your consent.”

A total of 236 responses were received. The information received will be used, as appropriate, to inform engagement with the waterways authorities in matters affecting the interests of power boating activities. It is the TMBA's intention to publish, in due course, a discussion paper exploring issues raised by the survey responses. The TMBA acknowledges the assistance and support of the Association of Thames Yacht Clubs (ATYC), DBA-The Barge Association, the Inland Waterways Association (IWA), the National Association of Boat Owners (NABO), and the Residential Boat Owners Association (RBOA), and other river based interested parties in promoting this survey to the power boating fraternity.

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