



ADDITIONAL ADVICE FOR GROUPS HIRING HUNTER FLEET YACHTS



Do not plan an over-ambitious cruise for the week. It is easy to prepare for the tides but wind and rain cannot be forecast long in advance so be prepared to change your plans if conditions require.

Remember it takes time for a flotilla of boats to set off or come in to moor so allow for it.

Unless your skippers are regular and FREQUENT sailors on the Broads they will need time to remember the skills and get used to the boats again so plan a short journey for the first day.

If the wind is from the west, avoid hoisting sails on the west bank of Womack Dyke. This stretch of water is narrow, busy and on a bend and it is unfair on other users to block most of the waterway.

One of the more difficult stretches of water to sail on the Broads is Womack Dyke now that there are official public moorings. This is unfortunate because it is the start of your cruise. If the wind necessitates tacking when you leave the Yard it is advisable to set off first towards Womack Staithe, turn when you have sorted yourself out and get into a rhythm of tacking before you reach the difficult bit. If the wind will necessitate tacking past a number of boats on the public moorings it is advisable to quant up Womack Dyke and hoist in the main river. Talk to the Yard staff as it may be safer to push boats up Womack Dyke with the Yard safety boat.

Be considerate to those who are hiring the Hunter boats after you and also to others enjoying their holidays on the Broads.

Please remember that when your crews take over a boat it is THEIR boat during the hire so they should treat it as THEIRS.

OTHER POINTS WORTH CONSIDERING:

One of our groups makes each boat crew responsible for their own breakages and losses. It has proved a very effective policy which you may wish to follow.

Consider giving your skippers some pre-charter training. Another of our groups takes the skippers out separately for the weekend and the holiday/trainee crews come from Monday to Friday.

If you are returning home on the Friday, plan your last lunchtime stop close to, but not at, the Yard. Kit can then be packed, the boats tidied and cleaned. Skippers should not sail back until they are satisfied with the condition of their boat - the cleaning up will have been done when the skipper has complete control of the crew.

The organiser or a nominated skipper should check all boats before you leave.