

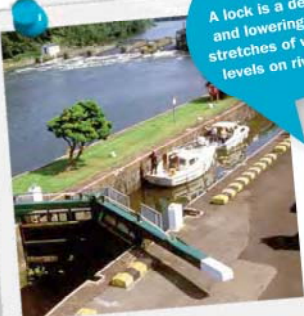
## Special Feature

# Locks and Bridges on Ireland's Inland Waterways

As vessels travel along Ireland's inland waterways, there are many fixed and moveable bridges and a variety of locks to navigate under and through. Here are examples of some of them:

### Did you know?

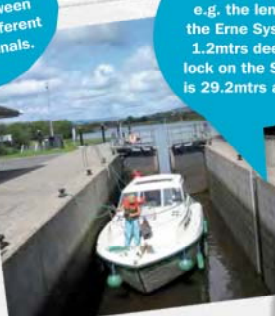
A lock is a device for raising and lowering boats between stretches of water of different levels on rivers and canals.



**The Cutts**  
Located on the Lower Bann at Coleraine this lock is manually operated by a Lock-Keeper

### Did you know?

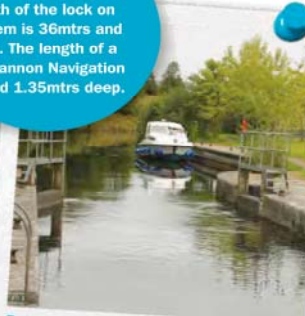
Locks vary in size and depth e.g. the length of the lock on the Erne System is 36mtrs and 1.2mtrs deep. The length of a lock on the Shannon Navigation is 29.2mtrs and 1.35mtrs deep.



**Drumshanbo Lock**  
Located on Lough Allen in Co. Leitrim Drumshanbo Lock is a hydraulic lock operated by a Lock-Keeper

### Did you know?

The locks on the Shannon Navigation and the Shannon-Erne Waterway are hydraulically operated while the locks along the other navigations are manually operated.



**Ballinamore Lock**  
Located on the Shannon-Erne Waterway this lock is a hydraulic lock operated by boat users through the use of a smart card



**The Grand Canal 30th Lock**  
Located on the Grand Canal the 30th Lock is operated manually through the use of a lock key

### Did you know?

Most of the moving bridges are of steel construction except for Bagnagh Bridge on the Royal Canal which is a concrete bridge. The moving bridges are hydraulically operated.



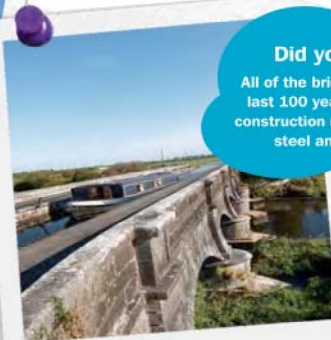
**Monasterevin Lifting Bridge**  
Situated on the Barrow Line of the Grand Canal in Co. Kildare, this bridge is automatically operated by a Lock-Keeper



**Shannonbridge**  
A sixteen arch masonry road bridge located at Shannonbridge on the Shannon Navigation linking Co. Roscommon with Co. Offaly

### Did you know!

All of the bridges built in the last 100 years use modern construction materials, mainly steel and concrete.



**Whitworth Aqueduct**  
This multiple span masonry arched bridge carries the Royal Canal over the River Inny in Co. Longford

### Did you know?

The original canal bridges which are approximately 200 years old were built using masonry materials.



**Tarmoherry**  
A vertical lifting bridge located on the Shannon Navigation in Co. Longford, this is automatically operated by a Lock-Keeper.

### Did you know?

Most of the bridges carry roads over the navigations but some are aqueducts carrying canals over roads and rivers. Some bridges carry railways over the navigation.

## The Lockkeeper

A lock-keeper's work has a great variety to it. Apart from controlling water levels the lockkeeper also puts the various boats through the lock, writes boat permits for these boats and maintains the lock itself.

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