

The Falkirk Wheel (Scotland)

- The Falkirk Wheel, is the final piece in the renovation of the canal system in Scotland that allows small boats (pleasure craft) to traverse the breadth of Scotland, from the Firth of Forth to the Firth of Clyde, The Forth and Clyde canals meet at Falkirk. The difference in the height between the two canals is 115 feet, Years ago a set of locks (11 in all) allowed the craft to reach the different levels. When the canals were being renovated it was decided that to try and repair or rebuild the locks was out of the question. The answer to the problem was to build a spectacular wheel that would accommodate 4 x 20 Metre long boats in a single go, and as one lot went down 2 more could be lifted at the same time. The following pictures show the wheel in all it's glory. From entering the cradle to leaving it takes just 15 minutes.
- (click to continue)

View back, towards the Tunnel



Approaching the Wheel on the lower level



Sailing into the Wheel.



2 boats in the Wheel



Wheel in vertical position



Wheel in motion



Boat entering the Wheel



Wheel in motion with the boat



Note the green boat in the far cradle



Green boat leaving the cradle



View of boats in the cradles

