



Staunton Harold Sailability Trust

Powerboat Cruise Captain Fact Sheet 2026

Interesting facts:

Staunton Harold Reservoir is a large reservoir under the management of Severn Trent Water, located between Melbourne and Ticknall in Derbyshire, England. Most of the water is within Derbyshire but a small part of the southern shore is over the border in Leicestershire. The site is also the home of Staunton Harold Sailing Club.

The reservoir was built in 1964 at the behest of the River Dove Water Board, meant to serve Leicester and the towns of northern Leicestershire. Although no villages were lost in the construction of the reservoir, Furnace Farm, New England Farm and Calke Mill were submerged; their remains lie 25 metres (75 feet) below the surface. The dam wall is a clay core construction designed to withstand the pressure of millions of tons of water.

The Reservoir was first used for sailing in 1975 and was an amalgamation of 3 sailing clubs and we have 130 acres of water to sail on.

Part of the shoreline border the Calke Abbey estate, as well as the National Forest. The reservoir has a total surface area of 209 acres (0.85 km²).

Staunton Harold hosts a natural habitat for much bird and plant life, and is also home to Dimmingsdale Nature Reserve. You can see all types of birds from on the water Herons often perch on the marks, Deer can also be seen on the far shore sometimes as they come to the waters edge to drink.

Within the water there are some large fish Pike have been seen measuring 3 feet long!

There is also a visitors' centre and a children's adventure playground available to visitors. A non-functioning windmill dominates the skyline close to the visitors' centre called Tower Windmill, built in 1797 by the first Lord Melbourne at a cost of £250. Since July 2022, Severn Trent has been working with the National Trust to manage this site. [\[1\]](#)