THE SEVERN BORE IN 1994





National Rivers Authority

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In common with a few other rivers, a tidal wave, or bore, occurs in the lower reaches of the River Severn during high tides. For a bore to form, a considerable rise in tide is needed in a converging channel with a rising bed, ie funnel-shaped.

The Severn Estuary experiences the second highest tide anywhere in the world with a range which can be in excess of 14.5 metres (47.6 feet). Under the most favourable conditions, the Severn Bore may reach two metres (six feet) in height. Opposing winds or high freshwater levels can considerably reduce the height and delay the time of arrival, whereas a following wind can increase the height and advance the time.

The average speed of the bore is approximately 16 kilometres (10 miles) per hour. The true phenomenon does not occur upstream of Gloucester because of the presence of weirs on the twin armed channel near the city.

High or spring tides occur on several days in each lunar cycle throughout the year and the following schedule lists only those which may result in spectacular bores.

Times are necessarily approximate and can vary by as much as 30 minutes either way. It is advisable to arrive early, particularly on weekends or holidays when local traffic congestion can be severe. The three preferred viewing points are shown on the map.

The view point, adjoining land and accesses at Minsterworth are all privately owned. Please keep strictly to the public footpath along the riverbank. A large bore will often attract large crowds of

viewers. Please respect the resident population, particularly at Minsterworth.

Park your car sensibly so as not to cause obstruction on either the main road or the narrow side roads. Also take care not to damage property or roadside verges.



While not so spectacular, the incoming tide and nascent bore can be seen in the upper estuary at such places as Epney, Newnham and Fretherne, where times are 20, 60 and 85 minutes before Minsterworth respectively.

High tide is approximately one hour after the bore has passed, so take particular care where you park your vehicle.

Further information can be obtained from "The Severn Bore" by F W Rowbotham (published by David and Charles). This book is now out of print but can be obtained at a local library.

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Approximate times of arrival These are real times and have allowed for BST when in force

MONTH	DATE	MINSTERWORTH	STONEBENCH	OVER BRIDGE	PROSPECT
JANUARY	Sat 1	09.54	10.04	10.29	*
JANUAKI	Thurs 13	08.48	08.58	09.23	*
	Fri 14	09.25	09.35	10.00	*
	Fri 28	08.24	08.34	08.59	*
		20.49	20.59	21.24	*
	Sat 29	09.04	09.14	09.39	**
		21.28	21.38	22.03	**
	Sun 30	09.42	09.52	10.17	***
		22.04	22.14	22.39	**
	Mon 31	10.20	10.30	10.55	**
		22.42	22.52	23.17	*
FEBRUARY	Tues 1	10.57	11.07	11.32	*
ILDKOMKI	Sat 12	09.05	09.15	09.40	*
	Fri 25	19.49	19.59	20.24	*
	Sat 26	08.05	08.15	08.40	**
		20.30	20.40	21.05	**
	Sun 27	08.46	08.56	09.21	***
		21.09	21.19	21.44	***
	Mon 28	09.25	09.35	10.00	****
		21.46	21.56	22.21	***
PATRIC DE	Peri				
MARCH	Tues 1	10.01	10.11	10.36	***
	2777 1 0	22.23	22.33	22.58	**
	Wed 2	10.40	10.50	11.15	**
	Sat 26	19.23	19.33	19.58	*
	Sun 27	08.42	08.52	09.17	**
		21.06	21.16	21.41	**
	Mon 28	09.25	09.35	10.00	***
		21.48	21.58	22.23	***
	Tues 29	10.05	10.15	10.40	****
		22.26	22.36	23.01	***
	Wed 30	10.43	10.53	11.18	***
		23.03	22.13	23.38	**
	Thurs 31	11.23	11.33	11.58	*
APRIL	Mon 25	08.16	08.26	08.51	**
		20.42	20.52	21.17	**
	Tues 26	09.02	09.12	09.37	**
		21.26	21.36	22.01	***
	Wed 27	09.46	09.56	10.21	***
		22.08	22.18	22.43	***
	Thurs 28	10.28	10.38	11.03	**
		22.47	22.57	23.22	**
	Fri 29	11.08	11.18	11.43	*
HAV	Tues 24	20.20	20.30	20.55	*
MAY	Wed 25	08.43			
	wed 2)	21.07	08.53 21.17	09.18 21.42	*
	Thurs 26	09.30	09.40	10.05	**
	Tituls 20	21.53		22.28	*
	Fri 27	10.15	22.03 10.25		**
	111 2/	22.35	22.43	10.50 23.10	*
HINE	F: 0/				
JUNE	Fri 24 Sat 25	20.42 21.24	20.52	21.17	*
		21.24	21.34	21.59	*
JULY	Sat 23	21.30	21.40	22.05	*
	Sun 24	22.11	22.21	22.46	*
	Mon 25	22.46	22.56	23.21	*
AUGUST	Mon 8	21.45	21.55	22.20	*
A00031	Tues 9	10.09	10.19	10.44	*
		22.22	22.32	22.57	**
	Wed 10	10.44	10.54	11.19	*
	-	22.59	23.09	23.34	**
	Thu 11	23.36	23.46		*
	Fri 12		25.13	00.11	*

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Continued

MONTH	DATE	MINSTERWORTH	STONEBENCH	OVER BRIDGE	PROSPECT
SEPTEMBER	Mon 5	20.45	20.55	21.20	*
	Tues 6	09.09	09.19	09.44	*
	Wed 7	21.25 09.48	21.35 09.58	22.00	**
	wed /	22.04	22.14	10.23 22.39	**
	Thurs 8	10.25	10.35	11.00	**
	114100	22.41	22.51	23.16	***
	Fri 9	11.01	11,11	11.36	**
		23.17	23.27	23.52	**
	Mon 19	20.53	21.03	21.28	*
	Tues 20	21.26	21.36	22.01	*
OCTOBER	Tues 4	20.19	20.29	20.54	**
OCTOBER	Wed 5	08.45	08.55	09.20	**
		21.02	21.12	21.37	***
	Thurs 6	09.25	09.35	10.00	***
		21.42	21.52	22.17	****
	Fri 7	10.05	10.15	10.40	***
		22.22	22.32	22.57	***
	Sat 8	10.43	10.53	11.18	**
		23.01	23.11	23.36	**
NOVEMBER	Wed 2	18.51	19.01	19.26	*
NO VENIBER	Thurs 3	07.19	07.29	07.54	**
		19.39	19.49	20.14	***
	Fri 4	08.03	08.13	08.38	***
	6.5	20.24	20.34	20.59	***
	Sat 5	08.46	08.56	09.21	***
	Sun 6	21.06 09.28	21.16	21.41	***
	Sun o	21.48	09.38	10.03	**
	Mon 7	10.10	21.58	22.23	**
			10.20	10.45	*
DECEMBER	Fri 2	19.19	19.29	19.54	*
	Sat 3	07.45	07.55	08.20	**
	0	20.09	20.19	20.44	**
	Sun 4	08.32	08.42	09.07	***
	Money	20.55	21.05	21.30	**
	Mon 5	09.15	09.25	09.50	**
	Tues 6	21.39	21.49	21.14	**
	1 ues o	09.59	10.09	10.34	**





NATIONAL LIBRARY & INFORMATION SERVICE

HEAD OFFICE

Rio House, Waterside Drive, Aztec West, Almondsbury, Bristol BS32 4UD



Severn-Trent Region

Lower Severn Area: Riversmeet House, Newtown Industrial Estate, Northway Lane, Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire GL20 7JG Telephone 0684 850951



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