

Where does the water come from?

The water at Wilmcote Locks comes south from Kingswood Junction, where the Stratford Canal meets the Grand Union Canal.

Reservoirs feeding this part of the canal network include Earlswood Lakes (16 canal miles away), Rotton Park Reservoir in Birmingham and Upper Bittell and Cofton Reservoirs near Alvechurch.

Water may also come from Olton Reservoir on the 10 Mile Pound of the Grand Union Canal.

Earlswood Lakes have a total capacity of 692 million litres (megalitres). Unlike most reservoirs, water from them is pumped up into the canal

It takes more than 2½ days to transfer water from Earlswood Lakes to the top of Wilmcote Locks

Wilmcote Top Lock is emptied and filled over 3000 times in an average year, using more than 300 megalitres of water

The 11 locks at Wilmcote are spread over just under a mile and drop the canal down around 77 feet

Some water flows into the canal from local streams, called feeders

