

Where does the water come from?

Unlike canals, which can have multiple water sources and may cross between different river valleys, a river navigation follows the course of a river in its valley.

The depth and flow of the water is modified by dredging, the use of weirs (submerged dams) across the river and artificial 'cuts' with locks which bypass the weirs, allowing navigation.

The navigable route alternates between artificial cuts and the natural river course.

The water here comes from the River Lea, and the Lee Navigation which intertwines with it, with a large catchment area (shaded)



The river is called Lea in its natural course, and Lee through man-made stretches

For other locations go to canalrivertrust.org.uk/water-sources