

ALLEN GARDINER RIVER CRUISE BUSINESS

Ref No: FPM67732
Location: Fox's Marina & Boatyard, The Strand, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP2 8SA
Website: www.rivercruiserestaurants.co.uk
Asking Price: £150,000 (£120,000 Vessel Only)

NOW FOR SALE!

A rare opportunity to acquire a turn-key business based on a beautifully restored historic WWII heritage vessel with an established reputation, operating as a fully equipped commercial passenger boat river cruise and hospitality business on the River Orwell, Suffolk.



Allen Gardiner is a unique vessel with significant character and charm; it was originally built in Miami in 1942 as a South African Air Force rescue launch during the Second World War. Following an extensive rebuild and restoration, she now operates as an intimate dining and charter vessel carrying up to 12 passengers. Operating from the prime River Orwell location of Fox's Marina, Ipswich, the vessel offers scheduled dining cruises, private charters, corporate hospitality, celebration events and memorial cruises throughout one of the UK's most attractive estuaries.

Allen Gardiner has been thoughtfully configured for hospitality and charter operations. The vessel provides a warm and welcoming atmosphere, combining traditional maritime character with practical commercial operation.

The goodwill and assets of the business, including commercial licensing, a strong online presence and an established repeat customer base makes Allen Gardiner a unique acquisition for hospitality operators, tourism businesses, charter operators or private owners seeking a proven hospitality business model based upon a distinctive historic vessel. The business currently trades as part of River Cruise Restaurants and has been recently surveyed.

Vessel Specification

- Length Overall: 19.2 metres
 - Beam: 4.57 metres
 - Draft: 1.73 metres
 - Gross Tonnage: 46 tonnes
 - Engine: Caterpillar 3306T
 - Power: 360 kW
 - Cruising Speed: Approximately 10 knots
 - Passenger Capacity: 12 passengers
 - Commercially Licensed Passenger Vessel
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Survey & Certification

- Latest Passenger Vessel Survey completed: 3 June 2026
 - Next Full Survey Due: 2031
 - Passenger Certificate Valid Until: January 2027
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Accommodation & Layout

- Wheelhouse
 - Commercial galley
 - Dining saloon seating up to 12 guests
 - Two passenger toilets
 - Spacious side deck
 - Fore deck viewing area
 - Aft deck seating area
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Revenue Streams

- Scheduled dining cruises
 - Breakfast, lunch, supper and dinner cruises
 - Private charter hire
 - Corporate hospitality and Tourism related events
 - Celebration cruises
 - Memorial and ashes-scattering services
 - Gift vouchers
 - Drinks and bar sales
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Cruising Routes Highlights

- Orwell Bridge
 - Pin Mill
 - Woolverstone
 - Levington
 - Felixstowe Port
 - Harwich Harbour
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Included in Complete Business Sale

- Allen Gardiner vessel
 - Established trading business
 - Branding and goodwill
 - Domain name and social media accounts
 - Customer database
 - Existing forward bookings
 - Established operating procedures
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CONTACT INFORMATION

This business is being offered for sale by its owner on a direct basis.

**For further information please contact Mr Craig Ambury
via email: craig@rivercruiserestaurants.com / Tel: 07831 698298**

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