

## IMPERIAL WHARF, LONDON

PRESTIGE RIVERSIDE FACILITY ON THE RIVER THAMES

The autumn of 2010 saw an important new marina open in central London as part of one of the largest and most prestigious riverside developments to take place in the UK's capital in recent years. Designed and constructed by Walcon Marine, the new facility at Imperial Wharf is located on the River Thames and provides over 600 metres of berthing space on the edge of London's fashionable Chelsea district.



The River Thames at London is a challenging environment for marina construction with its twice daily tides creating powerful currents, significant volumes of river traffic generating wash and the risk of floating debris.

Walcon however has a long history of building marinas and berthing facilities on the Thames and for Imperial Wharf created a layout that used 27 piles driven deep into the riverbed to anchor the marina, together with Walcon's rugged System 21 pontoon design with its all-welded steel framework, hardwood decking and fibre concrete floats. The pontoons are fully serviced with water and electricity.





The enclosed nature of the site together with the high quality of the surrounding buildings and landscaping required extra attention to detail throughout the project, as well as presenting unusual issues including that of acquiring special permission to work within a few metres of the busy Battersea railway bridge - shown in the background of the picture above.

Imperial Wharf itself is a recently-completed luxury riverside complex with around 1800 apartments and houses plus 4 hectares of landscaped gardens. Built on a former industrial site it sits on the edge of the fashionable Chelsea district with easy access to the City and West End.

Walcon has extensive experience of working in the challenging tidal waters of the River Thames. Projects completed there in recent years include (from west to east):

- Teddington
- Brentford Soaphouse Creek
- Hurlingham Club
- Imperial Wharf
- Chelsea Harbour
- Cadogan Pier
- St Katherine's Dock

