



Dunsmore Living Landscape area

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About Dunsmore

The Dunsmore Living Landscape scheme is a Warwickshire Wildlife Trust led project working to restore this important ancient landscape to one rich in wildlife accessible to all in the areas lying between east Coventry, Rugby and north Leamington. With the generous support of the National Lottery Heritage Fund, the project is focusing on a landscape-scale level of action for wildlife in the area, allowing us to restore ancient woodland, historic hedgerows, ponds and flower rich grassland, creating habitat for iconic wildlife such as the hazel dormouse and purple emperor butterfly.

By working with local partners, landowners and communities we are improving these habitats, helping to conserve historic sites and improve access, interpretation and general information about the area. We are also providing learning and training opportunities and running a range of events and activities, designed to reconnect people with their local living landscape, green spaces and heritage sites.

This leaflet has been created to provide you with some information about the local area and provide you with an opportunity to get up close to nature and explore.

Wildlife spotting



The Warwickshire countryside is filled with an abundance of beautiful plants, birds, animals and bugs all year round – particularly in the spring and summer.

Can you help Harry the Hedgehog find these lovely things?

- 
Teal
- 
Green Woodpecker
- 
Cowslip
- 
Common Blue
- 
Small-leaved Lime leaf

© Guy Edwardes

© Joshua Copping

© Guy Edwardes

© Bob Coyle

© Rock and wasp



Dunsmore Living Landscape

Ryton Pools Country Park

A guide for parents of children with autism



warwickshirewildlifetrust.org.uk
 exploredunsmore.org



Welcome to Ryton Pools Country Park

...pools, play areas and picnic sites...

Ryton Pools is a popular country park containing pools, meadows and woodlands providing homes to a wide range of birds and other wildlife. The excellent surfaced paths enable easy walking around the site.

This is a popular dog walking park and some will be off their leads, so may not suit children who are fearful of dogs.

On arriving at the Park, there are four areas of car parking for you to choose from, all off the road that you come in on. The first is next to the Visitor Centre, with a café, shop and toilets. The final one at the end of the road by the large Ryton Pool.

There are two playground areas, one next to the Visitor Centre and the other at the far end of the park towards Ryton village, about 160m from the fourth car park. There is also a pirate themed trail near the Visitor Centre.

This can be a very busy country park, especially in good weather. If your child would prefer to be somewhere quieter, we recommend parking in the first car park by the Visitor Centre if possible and heading out of it down by the bottom corner and along the path away from the Visitor Centre. This

path leads you to quieter areas, including smaller ponds to look at and a wooded children's play area, complete with Stone Age themed carved archway about 200m away from the car park. If it's not being used for a birthday party or school/family session, you can den build here. If you head further round to the rear of the park at Paget's Pool (about 775m), there are life-size sculptures of two straight tusked elephants - an adult and calf - and an information board about the geology and exciting archaeological finds that were made at the site when it was a quarry.

Some children may prefer to spend time looking at the open areas of sparkling water. Paget's Pool can be viewed from a high platform off the main path. The larger Ryton Pool is next to the end fourth car park.



© Craig Earl

The paths are very good for buggies, wheel-chairs, cycling and scooters. There is also a bicycle and KMX kart hire business on site open at weekend and school holidays from Easter to autumn half term. Details can be found at www.rytonpoolsyclehire.co.uk

There is also a miniature railway in the park run by Coventry Model Engineering Society and open on Sundays between 1pm and 4pm on Sundays between Easter and the end of September. The queues can be long though.

The park also provides access to the adjoining Ryton Wood owned and managed by Warwickshire Wildlife Trust. A companion guide to this one is available for the wood.

Info:

Entrance is on the A445 Leamington Spa to Ryton-on-Dunsmore road. what3words: mops.memo.charmingly, postcode: CV8 3BG, grid reference: SP368725

Open 7 days a week from 8.00am. Closing times vary through the year and can be checked on the website: www.countryparks.warwickshire.gov.uk/rytonpools

Admission free but there are charges for car parking.

Facilities include toilets, café, Visitor Centre with shop and an ice cream van at weekends and during school holidays.

Play areas: pirate themed play area near to main facilities (fenced with open entrance), pirate themed trail, adventure playground area (fenced with gated entrances), woodland play area (fenced with open entrance point)

Pools: mainly fenced or trees/hedges creating natural barriers. Paget's Pool has open access areas

Terrain: excellent surfaced paths, some sloping.

Dogs: frequent and often off lead.

