



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?



© Jay Warren

Bluebell



© Jim Higham

White Admiral



© Chris Lawrence

Ragged Robin



© Margaret Holland

Raven



© Gemma de Gouveia

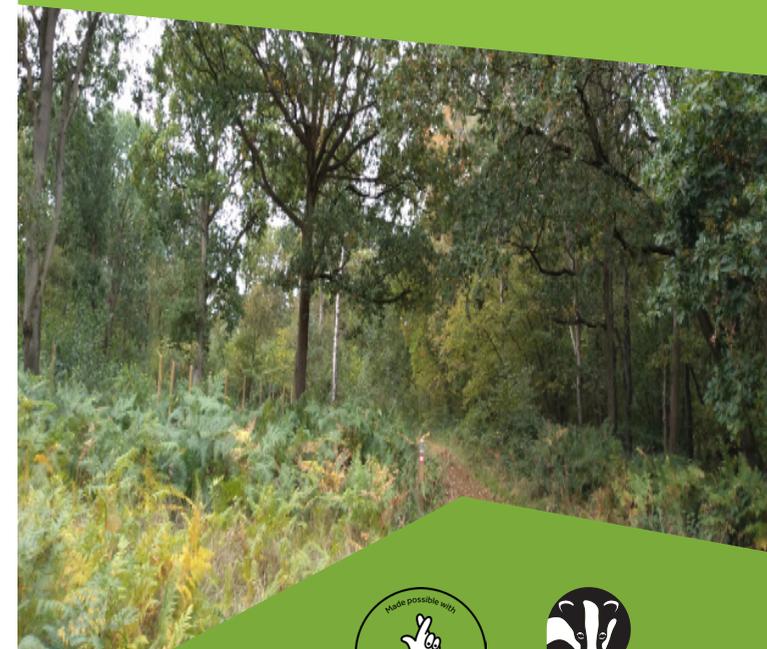
Oak leaf



Dunsmore Living Landscape

Wappenbury Wood

A guide for parents of children with autism



warwickshirewildlifetrust.org.uk
 exploredunsmore.org



Welcome to Wappenbury Wood

...a tranquil ancient bluebell wood...

2km from Princethorpe, Wappenbury Wood is a large woodland (75.6 hectares) with a network of paths around it, including two waymarked loops, one at 2.7km, the other at 2km.

The wood is an ancient woodland and is mentioned in the Domesday Book. There are numerous large old trees which children may want to hug, or make a bark rubbing on. There are lots of flowers, including areas of bluebells which may prove therapeutic to some children with autism. The flower season starts with white wood anemones and bright yellow celandines in the early spring, followed by pale yellow primroses, bluebells, cream honeysuckle and foxgloves for those who prefer pink. On warm summer evenings, the honeysuckle fills the air with its beautiful scent. There are also plenty of butterflies to spot between June and August, including the rare white admiral and purple hairstreak species. You can often hear Woodpeckers drumming on the trees. The wood is home to rare dormice, which are unlikely to be spotted but children may enjoy looking at pictures of them online.

A small area of parking is available on Burnthurst Lane at a sharp bend with the junction with Nunwood Lane. From here, walk along Nunwood Lane for 160m until you get to a house in front of you.

Turn left down the footpath and follow it down for about 130m. You will then find an entrance into the wood on your right. Here an information board shows the network of paths which will take you around the wood, including the two way marked loops. Some of the paths can get muddy during wet weather but sections are gradually being improved. Wellies are recommended after wet weather.

An attraction of the wood is that dogs are only allowed on the bridleway that runs along the north eastern boundary (included in the longer loop) and the footpath on the south eastern boundary. Only Guide dogs are allowed in the actual wood.

For those with a lot of energy, the wood can also be reached along a bridleway that runs from the end of Paget's Lane and the rear of the busier Ryton Pools Country Park. A circular walk that shows this link can be found here:

www.exploredunsmore.org/walks/woodland-lies-beyond/

There is a companion guide to this one for Ryton Pools Country Park.

Apart from along the bridleway, the woodland is officially closed on Wednesdays and Saturdays as shooting rights in the wood are owned by another individual and those are the days they may be there.



Info:

Main entrance off Nunwood Lane. Free small area of parking on Burnthurst Lane: what3words: truly.outgrown.shuttered, postcode: CV23 9QA, Grid ref: SP382709

Reserve open daily apart from Wednesdays & Saturdays.

Admission free.

No facilities, but a Visitor Centre with café and toilets is at nearby Ryton Pools Country Park – check website for opening times: www.countryparks.warwickshire.gov.uk/rytonpools

Terrain: two waymarked trails that vary from flat surfaced paths to soft and muddy when wet. Slopes are generally gentle.

Dogs: only on bridleway and public footpath



© David Martin

