

# Welcome to some of the best places for wild days out in the Broads National Park

In this guide you'll find lots of ideas for how to get back to nature with walks, boat trips, wildlife and the chance to rediscover the great outdoors. Some places have lots of facilities, others are places to get away from it all. But all of them offer something of what makes the Broads so special – and what makes it a national park.

The Broads is a wetland mosaic of waterways, fens, marshes and wet woodlands, with seven rivers and over 60 broads and other areas of open water. The broads, or shallow lakes, were dug out in medieval times to provide peat for use as fuel. Over the centuries water levels rose and the peat diggings flooded, forming the broads.

The national park is full of rare and beautiful wildlife otters, birds such as booming bitterns, huge swallowtail butterflies, dragonflies and damselflies in their vibrant colours, and a lush profusion of plants such as the yellow iris in spring, white water lilies in summer, the guelder rose with its jewel-like red berries in autumn and golden reeds in winter. More than a quarter of Britain's rarest wildlife lives in the Broads.

- 1 Barton Broad Boardwalk 🕐 🕹 🕒 NR12 8XP
- 2 Berney Marshes & Breydon Water 🕐 🕒 NR30 1SB
- 3 Brundall Church Fen 🕐 🕒 NR13 5JZ
- 4 Buckenham Marshes 🕐 🕒 NR13 4HW
- 5 Carlton & Oulton Marshes (1) (2) NR33 8HU Burnt Hill Lane, Carlton Colville (1) (5) NR32 3JP
- 6 Cockshoot Broad 🔕 🚯 NR13 6HN
- **Fairhaven Woodland & Water Garden (1)** ONR13 6DZ
- 8 Herringfleet Hills 😫 NR32 5QX
- 9 Hickling Broad 🕐 🕹 🕒 NR12 OBW
- 10 Horsey Windpump & Mere 🔕 🚯 NR29 4EF
- 11 Horstead Mill 🕐 🕭 🕒 NR12 7AT
- 12 Hoveton Riverside Park 🕐 🕭 🕒 NR12 8UR
- 13 How Hill 🕒 NR29 5PG
- 14 Martham Broad 🕒 NR29 4EB
- 15 Ranworth Broad 🔕 🕒 NR13 6HY
- 16 Rockland St Mary Footpath 🕐 🕭 🔂 NR14 7HP Wherryman's Way
- 17 St Benet's Abbey 🕐 🔕 🕒 NR29 5NU
- 18 Salhouse Broad & E E NR13 GRX & Hoveton Great Broad
- 19 Strumpshaw Fen 🕐 NR13 4HS
- 20 Surlingham Church Marsh 🕐 🕒 NR14 7DF
- 21 Thorpe Marshes & Cary's Meadow 🕐 🕒 NR7 OQA NR7 OEB
- 22 Trinity Broads (1) (2) NR29 3AE
- 23 Upton Broad & Marshes 🕐 NR13 GEQ
- 24 Wheatfen 🕐 👌 NR14 7AL
- 25 Whitlingham Country Park (1) 🔕 🕒 NR14 8TR

### Where the wild things are

Many wild places tend to be off the beaten track, so you may find it helpful to have a map, such as a local Ordnance Survey map, to plan your route and to take with you, and to help you with finding public footpaths in the area if you want to do some further exploring.

If you're on a boat, most places have:

#### free moorings 🚯 or paid moorings 🚯

If you want to explore even further, there are several long-distance routes: the Norfolk Coast Path, the Weavers' Way, the Angles Way and the Wherryman's way. More details from: www.norfolktrails.co.uk

### Public transport 🕐

The green symbol after an entry means that a bus or train operates within about 3/3 mile (1km) of the site. Please note that not all services are regular so planning journeys in advance is advisable

Buses traveline 0871 200 2233 www.travelinesoutheast.org.uk

Trains National Rail Enguiries 03457 48 49 50 www.nationalrail.co.uk

From Norwich the Bittern Line goes north through Wroxham and the Wherry Lines go east to Great Yarmouth and Lowestoft

www.bitternline.com www.wherrylines.com

There are stations at: Acle, Beccles, Berney Arms, Brundall, Brundall Gardens, Buckenham, Cantley, Great Yarmouth, Haddiscoe, Hoveton and Wroxham, Lingwood, Lowestoft, Norwich, Oulton Broad North, Oulton Broad South, Reedham, Salhouse, Somerleyton and Worstead.

### What to take with you

When you're out and about in the countryside please bear in mind the season and the weather. You may need boots or wellies, and warm or waterproof clothes. Paths may be wet and muddy, and it can be cold out on the water, even in summer. You may also need sun protection and a sun hat. Ir summer and autumn especially, insect repellent may be helpful. It's a good idea to take some water, or a hot drink if it's cold, and a snack or lunch to keep you going. Shops and pubs can be few and far between and they may not be open when you visit. So be prepared or check in advance - it's all part of the adventure!

#### Accessible sites 🕗

The more accessible sites in this guide are marked with a pink symbol. However, you may find it helpful to phone to check whether the sites are sufficiently accessible for you.

#### More info

The Broads information centres and yacht stations will be able to help with more info on anything mentioned here, and they can also help with ideas for other places to visit and things to do, such as day boat, canoe and bike hire. All the Broads information centres have induction loops and the information centres at Hoveton and Whitlingham are accessible to wheelchair users. The ground floor of Toad Hole Cottage is accessible via a ramp.

You'll also find lots more info, ideas and links for organisations mentioned in this leaflet on www.VisitTheBroads.co.uk

For bookings and information on events please check with the contact given in each entry.

Distances and suggested times to allow for a visit are approximate and intended as a guide only.



LOWESTOFT

# Broads Information Centres

and Yacht Stations

Whitlingham Visitor Centre

**Open all year** 

whitlinghamtic@

hovetontic@

broads-authority.gov.uk

**Open April - October** 

Hoveton / Wroxham

broads-authority.gov.uk

broads-authority.gov.uk

norwichyachtstation@

broads-authority.gov.uk

Broads

Yare House, 62-64 Thorpe Road

www.broads-authority.gov.uk

Norwich NR11RY 01603 610734

How Hill, Ludham

toadholetic@

Norwich

Reedham

reedhamquay@ broads-authority.gov.uk **Great Yarmouth** Tar Works Road, NR30 10) varmouthyachtstation@ broads-authority.gov.uk

# Wild Days Out in the Broads

Walks, nature reserves and boat trips - great places to get back to nature!



Barton Broad is owned by Norfolk Wildlife Trust and is the second argest of the broads. Water quality a Barton was hugely improved by the Barton Broad millennium project. and there's an abundance of flowers dragonflies and birds. The walk takes you rough woodland undisturbed for ove half a century and leads out to a viewin platform. Allow about an hour for the walk. Sorry, no dogs except

assistance dogs. The chance of seeing an otter

Spring or autumn are best for birds

#### at all times acilities and equi

Braille signs, accessible toilets From Neatishead, follow signs to 'Boardwalk'. The boardwalk is easily accessible by wheelchair and a car park for disabled visitors is available at the entrance. Other visitors please use the car park in Long Road

Free Norfolk Wildlife Trust 01603 625540 www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk

📳 👌 🚹 at Gaye's Staithe



# **14** Martham Broad

A National Nature Reserve and a great place to see swallowtail butterflies. Public footpaths skirt the proad to north and south, but they nay be muddy in wet weather. Allo up to 2 hours. Assistance dogs allowed throughout, other dogs allowed on public footpaths only. Midsummer is best for swallowtail

butterflies at all times

Small parking area at West Somerton Free

Norfolk Wildlife Trust 01603 625540 www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk Martham Broad has some of the clearest water in the Broads

💦 at West Somer





2 Berney Marshes & **Breydon Water** Near Great Yarmouth

#### Nhat's it like? A place to experience the wide-open expanses of grazing marshes and mudflats. In spring the marshes are alive with the dramatic, tumbling flying displays of breeding lapwings and the

atmospheric calls of breeding redshanks. Atlantic grey seals often come into Breydon Water with the tide. Follow the Wherryman's Way footpath from Great Yarmouth Railway Station – allow 2 hours to walk one way. Dogs allowed on public footpaths - please keep them under control.

### What's special?

Spectacular numbers of breeding wading birds and wildfowl Winter - to see tens of thousands of ducks, geese, swans and wading birds. which visit the estuary and surrounding grazing marshes

## Boat trips

at all times Getting there and getting aro No access by car but you can get a train to Berney Arms (request stop)

Free Who to contact RSPB 01603 715191

#### www.rspb.org.uk Did vou know

Breydon Water is all that remains of a huge estuary, protected in Romar times by the fort at Burgh Castle. You can reach Burgh Castle from Great Yarmouth or Belton and walk around the fort remains. More info from Norfolk Archaeological Trust www.norfarchtrust.org.u www.english-heritage.org.uk

for eight boats



## **15** Ranworth Broad

hat's it like One of Norfolk's most popular broads, with plenty to do for both families and naturalists. 500m boardwalk leading to a visitor centre the Broads Wildlife Centre. Allow up to 3 hours. Assistance dogs allowed throughout, other dogs allowed on public footpaths only. What's special? Experience the full range of Broads plants in just a short walk Plenty of birds to see at all times of year such as common terns Guided boat trips from Easte

to October Boardwalk open at all times.

Visitor centre open April-October daily 10am-5pm In the village Toilets, Ranworth Information Centre, pub, cafe

Getting there and getting around Norfolk Wildlife Trust car park in Ranworth village. Parking for disabled visitors close to start of boardwalk, which is suitable for wheelchair users.

Free Norfolk Wildlife Trust 01603 270479 www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk

# 👌 📄 at Ranworth Staithe





A small iewel, a mixture of wet

quiet waters of the River Yare.

woodland, open Yare valley fen and

riverbank with lovely views over the

A boardwalk takes you through very we

woodland and there are tidal dykes with

crystal-clear water. Reserve owned by

Brundall Parish Council. Allow about

In June and July the flowers and other

plants are luxuriant and it feels very wild

From the roundabout on the A47, follow

Cucumber Lane. Go past the filling

station, turn left into The Street, ther

look out for the church on your right.

Lane and the reserve is over railway line

Park beside church, go down Church

Broads Information Centres

www.VisitTheBroads.co.uk

**16** Rockland St Mary

The Wherryman's Way long-distance

Footpath

Vhat's it like?

Wherryman's Way

footpath follows the River Yare

Yarmouth. The whole route is 37½

miles (60.4km), starting from Norwich

Railway Station and going through the

are lovely walks from places along the

way including three that are suitable

for wheelchair users, at Whitlingham

Country Park (see 25), Rockland St Mary

and Chedorave. Rockland St Marv has

about 900m of wheelchair-accessible

bird hide and then to a viewpoint ove

Rockland Broad and Short Dyke. Allow

up to about 1 hour, well-behaved

Superb views over the marshes and

A wonderful abundance of wildlife

good for reed and sedge warblers in

Getting there and getting arour

Car park at start of path

Broads Information Centres

www.norfolktrails.co.uk

dogs welcome.

What's special?

Rockland Broad

the summer

at all times

In the village

Pub and shop

Who to contact

PT 🕗 💽

Prices

Free

path leading to a wheelchair-accessible

Mid Yare National Nature Reserve. There

between Norwich and Great

1/2 hour. Dogs welcome.

What's special?

at all times

Prices

Free

Resident kingfishers

Nhat's it like



#### What's it like? Buckenham Marshes are traditionally managed grazing marshes and home

to large numbers of breeding wadin birds, and wintering ducks and gees The flat, open landscape of the marshes is alive in summer with birds, including lapwings, redshanks, avocets and ovstercatchers. A flat trail around the marshes provides an easy walk starting from Buckenham Station. Allow 2-3 hours. Dogs allowed on public footpaths please keep them under control.

## Winter bird spectacles: thousands of

wintering wigeon arriving from northern Europe, and hundreds of teal, lapwings and golden plovers. England's only regular flock of taiga bean geese spend the winter here.

Visit in winter to see huge flocks o ducks and wading birds swirling over the marshes

### at all times

Park by Buckenham Station and cross railway line on foot. Train to Buckenham (request stop). Disabled visitors – please contact the RSPB to arrange access to site by car.

RSPB 01603 71519 www.rspb.org.uk

Free

PT 🖹 at Cantley



# 17 St Benet's Abbey

What's it like? With the atmospheric remains of the 14th-century abbey gatehouse and 18th-century drainage mill, it's a wild place, somewhere to take in the oper marshes and open skies of the Broads. The abbey is part of a working farm and

livestock may be on site. Please keep

### dogs on a lead.

The abbev stands close to the River Bure with the Rivers Thurne and Ant to east and west across the marshes, joined by a smaller waterway, the Hundred Dyke, so the site is like an island - somewhere to really feel away from it all.

Regular guided tours and an open-ai church service, conducted by the Bishop of Norwich, who is also the Abbott of

St Benet's, on the first Sunday in August each year. The bishop arrives on board a traditional sailing wherry.

at all times during daylight hours Toilets, refreshments and shops at

Janam Bridge and Ludnam Village Getting there and getting around There are lovely walks (about 30-45 minutes) from Ludham Bridge and Ludham village, and you can also arriv by boat. For a longer walk, start from How Hill (see 13). By road, follow the route from Hall Road, Ludham; there's a car park with space for bikes and 10 vehicles, plus two parking spaces for disabled visitors. The area between the gatehouse, moorings and car park is fully accessible, elsewhere the ground

#### is uneven. Prices Free

Norfolk Archaeological Trust www.norfarchtrust.org.uk www.stbenetsabbey.org

(2)

et Ludham Bridge and Ludham village



# **5** Carlton & Oulton Marshes

Burnt Hill Lane, Carlton Colville What's it like? A reserve with grazing marsh, fens,

dykes and peat pools – a magical marsh plain with whispering reeds under wide, open skies. Carlton Marshes provides ideal nesting cover for reed and sedge warblers. Cetti's warbler and marsh harriers. Allow about 2 hours Dogs allowed on a lead. At Oulton a circular walk (about 2 miles) runs out or to the marshes. Good for birds, including marsh harriers, grasshopper warblers and bearded tits. Allow an hour for a stroll. Dogs allowed on a lead.

22 kinds of dragonfly including the Norfolk hawker; only access on foot to Oulton Dyke, with good views

### Spring and summer for flowers

Events and special things for childre Events throughout the year at Carlton Marshes including children's and family activity days, wildlife birthday parties and Weekend Wildlife Club meetings guided tours at Oulton Marshes

Reserve at Carlton Marshes open daily dawn to dusk. Oulton Marshes open at all times, but the dyke bank can be slippery during the winter and paths may be closed during dredging.

At Carlton, toilets and refreshments

10am-5pm weekends April-October toilets also available during the week when the centre is staffed

Toilets and refreshments in Oulton Broad Getting there and getting around Car park open daily dawn to dusk at Carlton Marshes: park in Church Lane Oulton for Oulton Marshes

Prices Free

Suffolk Wildlife Trust 01502 564250 www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org

P 👌 at Carlton Marshes at Oulton Marshes



## **18** Salhouse Broad & Hoveton Great Broad

What's it like? A country park with beautiful old oaks, alder carr woodland and reedbed, on the edge of Salhouse Broad. The park is home to ducks kingfishers, southern hawker dragonflie and lots of butterflies. The self-quided nature trail at Hoveton Great Broad is part of the internationally important Bure Marshes National Nature Reserve Set on an island of peat, the boardwalk follows a circular route for about 1km through different habitats including we woodland, fen and open water, with many special plants and animals. Look out for spectacular birds such as marsh harriers, long-tailed tits and treecreepers. From late April to July commo terns nest in front of the main bird hide on the trail, catching fish to feed their chicks. Discover how nature changes the environment through a process called succession - where one group of plants alters the environment making it possib for other plants to grow. Allow 1-2 hour for the park and about an hour for the nature trail. Dogs are welcome in the park but not on the nature trail.

The Hoveton Great Broad trail is only accessible by boat so it feels really wild and away from it all

Spring for bluebells and other wild flowers, summer for guided nature walks, autumn for amazing fungi, and winter for otters, water voles and watching wildfowl

Lots of events for families from Easter onwards

Park open at all times except very occasionally for winter maintenance. Hoveton Great Broad Nature Trail open April to September daily 10am-5pm.





#### Vhat's it like? Access by boat only to a boarded walkway along Cockshoot Dyke and through wet woodland, leading to Cockshoot Broad. This area is part of the Bure Marshes, a National Nature Reserve managed by Natural England Norfolk Wildlife Trust and the Broads uthority. Cockshoot Broad was the sit of the Broads Authority's first broads restoration project. Good for all Broads wildlife, including dragonflies, bats on summer evenings and marsh harriers hroughout the year. Allow up to an hou Sorry, no dogs except assistance dogs.

Vhat's special? White water lilies along the dyke in midsummer – they are a sign of clear water

Magical moment Birds in winter

Occasional boat trips from Ranworth Broad

at all times, but can be inaccessible when river water levels are high

Free Norfolk Wildlife Trust 01603 625540 www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk

This wet woodland, usually dominated by alder and willow, develops on peaty soil and is called carr woodland

(2)



At the park – toilets, picnic tables,

camping. On the nature trail -

barbecue slabs, play area, canoe hire

culars in bird hides, free guide

warden to answer questions. Ferry

Car park on Lower Street in Salhouse

Main pathway from car park past

reedbed towards the main view of

Salhouse Broad is suitable for wheelchair

users. Mooring at Salhouse Broad for

disabled visitors. The narrow boardwa

at Hoveton Great Broad Nature Trail is

unsuitable for wheelchair users or large

nature trail is 2½ miles (4km)

entrance to Salhouse Broad

07795 145475

moor at the trail quay opposite the

Park and trail free, charge for ferry

Salhouse Broad (ferry times, bookings

Hoveton Great Broad Nature Trail:

Natural England 0300 060 3900

at Hoveton Great Broad

www.hovetonareatbroad.ora.uk

at Salhouse Broad

events and information): 01603 722775 /

buggies. If you are on the River Bure, the

stream from Wroxham – pleas

service April to September daily





### What's it like

dogs except assistance dogs /hat's special?

Magical moments

den building

refreshments

PI

Special things for childre

#### **7** Fairhaven Woodland & Water Garden

What's it like?

see website

dogs 25p

**(1)** 

### South Walsham A large organic woodland garden with a private broad and boat trips. 3½ miles of fully accessible paths

wheelchair-accessible bird hides and boat trip. Dogs welcome on leads. What's special? Ancient woodland including 950-year-old oak tree, and stunning

display of candelabra primulas and rhododendrons flowering in May Beautiful view of South Walsham

Inner Broad from the staithe, with the chance to spot one of the resident otters

Year-round events programm

daily except 25 December March-September 10am-5pm October-February 10am-4pm Facilities and equipme Toilets, tea room, picnic areas, mobility

scooters for hire Getting there and get Car parks, fully wheelchair accessible

£6.85 adult, £6.60 concession, £3.95 child (5-16 years), under 5s free, Who to contact Fairhaven Woodland & Water Garden

01603 270449 www.fairhavengarden.co.uk



# 19 Strumpshaw Fen

Strumpshaw Fen is an enchanting wildlife haven in the heart of the Broads. Nature trails lead you throug the complete range of Broads habitat The reserve is home to a rich variety of Broads birds, including bitterns and marsh harriers. You may glimpse a secretive Chinese water deer, the azure flash of a kingfisher, or a silent, hunting barn owl. There are three viewing hides including a tower hide, and a reception hide where RSPB volunteers are on hand to answer questions. Allow 1-2 hours for short circular trails and 3-4 hours to explore the whole reserve. Sorry, no

Otters, and swallowtail butterflies in May or June and August Summer orchid-filled fen meadow

Guided walks, family events, kavak safaris and rent-a-warden experiences Pond dipping kits and explorer

daily all year, from dawn till dusk, except 25 December: reception hide open daily April-October 9.30am-5pm and November-March 10am-4pm Facilities and equipr

Toilets, visitor reception, light Getting there and getting a Car park at entrance. Viewing platform

accessible to wheelchair users but most trails are not accessible to wheelchair users. £4.50 adult, £3 student, £2.50 child,

one child per family free, RSPB members free Who to contact RSPB 01603 715191 www.rspb.org.uk





What's it like

An area of lowland grassland heath

with its own unique collection of

which is nationally a very rare habitat

wildlife. It provides lovely views across

the Waveney valley and a bird's-eye

view to Herringfleet Smock Mill. As a

hot, dry site it's great for reptiles and has

most of the British ones present such a

grass snakes. The valley slope provides

finest warblers, such as the whitethroat

willow warbler, chiffchaff and blackcap

The site is owned and managed by the

Somerleyton Estate, Allow about 1%

hours. Dogs are welcome, but as there

them under effective control, and keep

them on a lead between March and July

are farm animals around please keep

What's special

Mill open days

at all times

Fritton

Free

Vho to contact

Broads Information Centres

20 Surlingham

What's it like?

on footpaths.

riot of colour

at all times

In the village

Free

Pub and shop

Park by the church

RSPB 01603 715191

www.rspb.org.uk

Who to contac

What's special?

**Church Marsh** 

This small reserve beside the River

Yare provides a delightful circular

attracting bitterns, gadwall and shovele

Spring and summer for a variety of plant

warblers. Wetland wild flowers provide a

and bird life including marsh harriers.

kingfishers, water rails and wetland

Getting there and getting around

In the days before refrigerators, there

used to be an ice house at Surlingham

👔 💦 for use of pub customers only

Marsh marigolds in spring

Allow 1-2 hours. Dog walking allowed

walk around reedbeds, fens and

pools. The site floods in winter,

www.VisitTheBroads.co.uk

n the villag

Herringfleet Smock Mill

Spring is good for the birdsong

Pubs at Somerleyton, St Olaves and

Walk from the moorings at Somerleyton

excellent cover for some of Britain's

slow-worms (not slow at all), adders and

What's it like National Nature Reserve with

open skies and lots to see. There are plenty of trails and hides overlookin pools at this Norfolk Wildlife Trust reserve. Wonderful water trail by electric boat through the quiet backwaters of the broad. Allow at least half a day for your visit, water trail takes 2½ hours Assistance dogs allowed throughout other dogs allowed on public footpaths only.

9 Hickling Broad

What's special? The tree tower - for one of the best views in the Broads

Magical moments Water trail runs Easter to October, but there's plenty to do all year

Nature reserve open all year round.

Visitor centre open April-September daily 10am-5pm; weekends in winter 11am-4pm Facilities and equipme Toilets, wheelchairs available for loan,

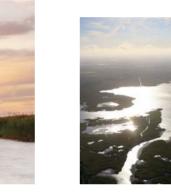
refreshments Getting there and getting aroun Car park beside the visitor centre, signposted from the A149 Stalham to Caister-on-Sea road. Visitor centre and boardwalks fully wheelchair accessible.

Gift aid admission £4.50, free for children and NWT members, additiona charge for water trail

Who to contact Boat trip bookings and information Norfolk Wildlife Trust 01692 598276 www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk

P 👌 🖹 during day

Did you know? Hickling is the largest of the broads



### 21 Thorpe Marshes & Cary's Meadow

What's it like? These are two places to visit in Thorpe on the edge of Norwich. Thorpe

Marshes is a five-hectare site with dyke that support a wealth of Broads plants which in turn are home to many specie of dragonflies and damselflies. Cattle graze some areas of the marsh, and the reedbed supports a number of bird species including reed buntings and reed warblers. Dogs on leads are welcome on the permissive path. Carv's Meadow is great for a peaceful stroll; please keep dogs under effective control.

What's special? The chance to see the rare Norfolk hawker dragonfly and southern marsh orchid close to Norwich

nical mo On St Andrew's Broad at Thorpe Marshes you can see a variety of wildfowl, particularly in winter, including great crested grebe and gadwall; in spring and summer Cary's Meadow is full of flowers

at all times Fishing platforms and canoe launch site at Cary's Meadow

Toilets, refreshments, shops Getting there and getting arou The entrance to the Marshes is off Yarmouth Road, opposite Thunder Lane Norwich, via a footbridge over the railway line. There's no parking. Comin from Norwich, the entrance to the Meadow, with a small car park, is just past Harvey Lane.

#### Prices Free Who to contac

Thorpe Marshes: Norfolk Wildlife Trust 01603 625540 www.norfolkwildlifetrust.ora.uk Cary's Meadow: Broads Information Centres www.VisitTheBroads.co.uk

at Thorpe River Green





What's it like? Windpump situated in the Norfolk Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty as well as in the Broads National Park. Great walks around the wider estate, which is internationally important for wildlife. Allow up to half a day. Dogs on leads welcome.

The view from the top of Horsey Windpump, which dates from 1912, on a clear sunny day. The windpump has recently been extensively restored and on selected days you can see its sails going round.

anical mor Early morning and dusk usually best for birds

Walks open at all times, car park oper daily dawn to dusk. Windpump open March-October daily 10am-4.30pm Boat users - Horsey Mere is closed t boats 1 November-1 March as it's a winter wildfowl refuge.

acilities and equipm foilets; small tearoom open March-October

Car park with charge (free for National Trust members); designated spaces for disabled visitors. Wheelchair-accessible bath from car park to tearoom vindpump and 350m along dyke edge to Horsey Mere. Benches along path and at viewpoint. Ground floor of windpump wheelchair-accessible. Ross' Wildlife Boat Trips (not NT) from Horsey Staithe April-October - to book text 07791 526440 before 9.30am or book at site www.wildlife-boat-trips.co.uk

Walks free; visit to windpump £5.90 adult, £2.95 child, NT members free charges for all for boat trips National Trust 01493 393904 www.nationaltrust.org.uk



### **22** Trinity Broads Near Filby

Nhat's it like?

Ormesby, Rollesby, Lily, Ormesby Little and Filby Broads are a series of interconnected shallow lakes known collectively as the Trinity Broads hey are particularly important for wildlife because of the good water quality and low levels of disturbance. The landscape of alder and oak woodland pehind fringing reedbeds provides screen from farmland and village beyond. The Trinity Broads are owned by Essex & Suffolk Water and are managed by Norfolk Wildlife Trust in partnership with the Broads Authority, the nvironment Agency and Natural England. Allow about an hour for vandering. Dogs are not allowed on the Filby footpath or in the water.

The Trinity Broads really come to life in June and July with thriving water plants and darting dragonflies

Car parks open during daylight hours Accessible fishing platforms at Filby ridge car park. Toilets at Rollesb Bridge car park.

the village The Waterside Rollesby hires rowing boats and offers boat trips -01493 740531

www.thewatersiderollesbv.co.uk ing there and getting are Car parks at Rollesby Bridge (A149) and Filby Bridge (A1064), accessible footpath and viewing platform - start at Filby Bridge car park

Who to contact Norfolk Wildlife Trust 01603 625540 www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk

## **(T)**





What's it like? Site of historic mill on the River Bure with short countryside walks through woodlands, meadow and grazing marsh within Horstead Conservatio Area. Great site for wildlife. Look out for kinofishers and grey wagtails. Fels, trout, chub, pike and roach live in the river, and there are also rare black poplar trees close to it. The site is owned by Horstea and Stanninghall Parish Council, and is managed by the parish council, the

Environment Agency and the Broads Authority. Allow 1-2 hours. Dogs welcome What's special?

Old mill sluice gates and Coltishall Lock Spring and summer to see flowers and other wildlife, especially banded demoiselle damselflies

Special things for child Large meadow for running around

at all times Facilities and equi Canoe launching area and mill pool

Turn into Mill Road near the roundabout close to the Recruiting Sergeant pub and continue along it to find the mill car park on your left. Circular route accessible to wheelchair users. From Coltishall you can walk along the River Bure, and the Bure Valley Path and Railway run between loveton and Wroxham, and Aylsham with a station at Coltishall.

Free

Broads Information Centre www.VisitTheBroads.co.uk

👔 🤣 💦 at Coltishall Common



## 23 Upton Broad & Marshes

What's it like?

Situated within the Bure valley, jus upstream of Acle, this is an area of quiet beauty and wildness with fen neadows and a host of wetland plants. It is protected and managed by Norfolk Wildlife Trust, and supports some of the Broads' rarest wildlife including swallowtail butterflies, Norfolk hawker dragonflies, water voles, otter and orchids. A network of paths, which may be muddy, gives access. No dogs please on Upton Fen and Broad; please keep dogs under control on public footpaths.

What's special? A rich mosaic of habitats and a landscape typical of the Broads

In spring lapwings tumble in display flights over the grazed marshes

at all times Getting there and getting around Car park

Free Norfolk Wildlife Trust 01603 625540

www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk Did vou know? This nature reserve has a major

restoration programme to draw together several areas of land and manage them as a larger area for wildlife

## P





**12** Hoveton Riverside Park & Liana Boat Trip

# Vhat's it like

The park is great for a stroll or relaxing by the River Bure. Walk through the narsh on a boarded walkway to the eedbeds by the Hoveton Viaduct moorings. Allow ½ hour. Dogs welcome. You can also take a trip on Edwardianstyle electric launch Liana from the park going towards Coltishall and back - a tranguil and varied stretch of river with woodlands and meadows, just minutes from the centre of Wroxham. Liana takes up to 12 people (at driver's discretion) and you can sit inside or out. The trip

#### lasts 50 minutes What's special?

The chance to see kingfishers, siskins, marsh tits, treecreepers and great spotted woodpeckers right in the middle of Hoveton

Park open at all times. Boat trips: April May, October weekends, bank holidays, Easter week and local half term only 11am, 12pm, 2pm, 3pm; June-September daily 11am, 12pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm

jackets available for all on boat trips and

must be worn by all. Binoculars for loan

Car park in Station Road Paths are

Park free. Boat trip: £7 adult, £6 child

and concession, £19.50 family (up to

two adults and two children). Group

bookings available for boat trips.

Boat trip bookings: Hoveton Broad

756097 or visit any Broads

👔 🚹 🔕 at park

24 Wheatfen

This was the home of local

2 hours. No dogs please.

rom Norwich

Magical momen

and summer

wildlife events

In the village

Who to contact

01508 538036

Did you know?

www.wheatfen.org

space for the cure of souls'

Free

hat's it like?

The Covey, Surlingham

naturalist Ted Ellis and his family - the

reserve was his 'back garden'. Paths

lead through marshes and woodland

close to the River Yare. It can be very

wet and muddy, especially in winter, s

You really feel away from it all in the

middle of nowhere, though in reality

you're only about 15 minutes by ca

daily all year, from dawn till dusk,

Car park, short boardwalk and bird hide

A profusion of flowers in spring

Walks, courses and other

water levels permitting

Pubs, shop and farm shop

Getting there and getting a

accessible to wheelchair users

Ted Ellis Nature Reserve Warden

Ted Ellis called the Broads 'a breathing

wellies are a good idea. Allow up to about

Information Centre www.VisitTheBroads.co.uk

Information Centre 01603 782281/

suitable for wheelchair users.

# Plenty of benches in the park. Life

on boat trips.

the villad

The Electric Eel's mysterious journey along reed-fringed waterways

What's special?

What's it like?

This National Nature Reserve has

the Broads special – its own broad

June or August for swallowtai butterflies, spring and summer for wild

on trails.

flowers, spring and autumn for birds, and Toilets, refreshments, Broads for one of the best views in the Broads Information Centre – open April, May – any time October Monday-Friday 9am-1pm and 1.30-5pm, and Saturday-Sunday 9am Reserve and cottage open: April, May, 5pm; June-September daily 9am-5pm October Monday-Friday 10.30am-1pn Getting there and getti

and 1.30-5pm, and Saturday-Sunday 10.30am-5pm; June-September daily 9.30am-5pm. Boat trips: April, May, October weekends, bank holidays, Easte week and local half term only 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm; June-Septembe daily 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm. Car park open free all year for access to public footpaths.



# 25 Whitlingham Country Park & Ra Boat Trip

#### What's it like? Norwich's countryside – Whitlingham Great Broad, meadows and

waterproof clothing (for spring and

autumn trips especially) – it can be

and windsurfing, as well as archery.

Many fun events for families right

November-March daily 11am-4pm

(except 25 December). Cafe: April-

October daily 9am-5pm, November

March daily 10am-4pm (except 25

December), 01603 611723.

What's special

Magical moment

through the year

to the city

day out

### something of everything that makes

#### wonderful wildlife, drainage mills and

the chance to get out on the water.

The marshes are cut for reed and sedq for thatch, so you may even see a reed cutter. You can visit Toad Hole Cottage for a glimpse of Victorian country livin explore the wildlife walking trail, walk to Buttle Marsh or Ludham Bridge and take a wildlife water trail by electric boat on board the Electric Eel. The trip lasts 50 minutes, including a short walk to a bird hide. The boat takes up to eight people (at driver's discretion) and has a roof, but the sides are open. The boat trip is not suitable for children under two. Allow 1-1½ hours for the walking trail, about 1½ hours for the Buttle Marsh walk and 10 minutes or as long as you like for the cottage - it's very tiny! In the summer and autumn you may find it helpful to bring an insect repellent for the trails. Sorry, no dogs except assistance dogs



woodlands, beside the River Yare. There are lovely walks all round the par and it's a good place for cycling too. Staff at Whitlingham Visitor Centre, housed in a historic flint barn, will introduce you

to the park and help you with lots of other ideas for trips out into the Broads. The centre has a wildlife touchscreen, which lets you explore the wildlife of the Broads before heading out into the wild to explore some of it for real. Come for

a short stroll or spend the whole day Dogs are welcome (except in the visitor centre); please keep them on leads in the conservation area. Ra, Britain's first solar-powered passenger boat, offers 50-minute trips on Whitlingham Grea

Broad with excellent views. Ra is an oper boat, taking 12 people, Bring warm,

colder than you expect out on the wat at any time. Whitlingham Adventure

offers canoeing, kavaking, stand-up paddleboarding (including hire), sailing

climbing, and bushcraft and survival, with lots of courses for children and adults

The chance to see Broads wildlife close

Everything you need for a summer's

Country park open at all times. Visitor centre: April-October daily 10am-4pn (5pm in local school summer holidays)



Toilets, plenty of open space for picnics Life jackets available for all on boat trips and must be worn by all. Binoculars fo loan on boat trips

### Pubs and cafes in Ludham

Car park – follow signs from A1062 Wroxham to Potter Heigham road Visitors with disabilities may find it helpful to telephone in advance to check whether How Hill is sufficiently accessible for you.

Toad Hole Cottage free. Wildlife walking trail: £2.50 adult, £1.50 child, includes quide booklet. Boat trip: £7 adult, £6 hild and concession, £19.50 family (up to two adults and two children). Group bookings available for boat trips.

#### /ho to contact

Boat trip bookings: Toad Hole Cottage 01692 678763 / 01603 756096 or visit any Broads Information Centre www.VisitTheBroads.co.uk

You can also visit the How Hill Trust's ardens and tearoom. Secret Garden open free at all times (and sometimes the house gardens too). Tearoom open late May to early September Saturday -Sunday 11am-4pm and every day during school summer holidays 11am-4pm.

www.howhilltrust.org.uk





Boat trips: April, May, October weekends, bank holidays, Easter week and local half-term only 11am, 12pm, 2pm, 3pm; June-September daily 11an 12pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm. Whitlingham Adventure April-October daily 9am 5pm, November-March Monday-Friday 9am-5pm.

#### lities and eq

Toilets in visitor centre. Outside toilets open daily (except 25 December) 10am–4pm, 5pm in local school summe olidays. Life jackets available for all on boat trips and must be worn by all Binoculars for loan on boat trips. Two all-terrain wheelchairs to book.

Buses from Norwich to Trowse village (25-minute walk along Whitlingham Lane to the park). Parking – for full details including annual car park permits go to

ww.whitlinghamcharitabletrust.com The park is managed by the Whitlingham Charitable Trust and all funds from car parking go towards the upkeep of the park. Cycling – National Route 1 runs through the park from Norwich city tre Boating – 24-hour fre on the River Yare, adjacent to the park, with access for disabled visitors via a ramp. Canoe launch point at the park giving access to the River Yare. You can even stay at Whitlingham, call 07794 401591 or go to

www.whitlinghambroadcampsite.com The visitor centre (including toilets, cafe and school group facilities) and Whitlingham Adventure are fully accessible. Most of the path around the Great Broad (about 2 miles / 3km) is accessible to wheelchair users. Ra is wheelchair-accessible via a ramp.

Free entry to the park and visitor centre Boat trip: £5 adult, £4 child and concession, £15 family (up to two adults and two children); group bookings available for boat trips.

#### Who to contact

Ra boat trip bookings: Whitlingham Visitor Centre 01603 617332 / 756094 or visit any Broads Information Centre www.VisitTheBroads.co.uk Whitlingham Adventure 01603 632307 www.whitlinghamadventure.org.uk

