

Finding your way around Lochwinnoch nature reserve



Please note: dogs are welcome along our trails, provided that they are on leads and kept under control.

Aird Meadow trail

A stroll through some of the reserve's woodland, with flat paths suitable for wheelchairs and pushchairs. Visit the woodland bird feeding station along the way. There are two accessible hides about halfway along, which look out onto the Aird Meadow Loch and are ideal for seeing ducks, swans, herons and even otters. Walk all the way to Tod Seat for a great view of Castle Semple Loch and a pleasant spot to picnic (0.7 miles/1.2 km; 25 mins).

Dubbs Water trail

A short walk alongside the sedge and reedbeds, with a great viewpoint at the end overlooking the Aird Meadow Loch. Along the way, listen for sedge warblers and reed buntings in spring and summer, and watch whooper swans and ducks in autumn and winter (0.3 miles/430 m; 15 mins).

Semple trail

Part of this trail runs through the reserve. Look out for ducks, swans and wild flowers. It is one mile to the Castle Semple visitor centre and the complete circular walk is just under eight miles (12.5 km) – please ask reserve staff for details.

This nature reserve is an important place for wildlife. RSPB Scotland welcomes responsible access, in line with the Scottish Outdoor Access Code. We hope you enjoy your visit.



Along the River Calder, look out for kingfishers. One may whizz past in a brilliant blue flash.

Key:

- Water
- Marsh
- Grassland
- Woodland
- Viewpoint
- Parking
- Visitor centre
- Bench
- Railway line



Follow the Semple trail to reach a great viewpoint and see ducks and swans up close.

From the bridge, scan the River Calder for dippers. These birds often bob at the water's edge.

Wander to Dubbs Water viewpoint to admire the fabulous scenery.

In summer, stroll along Dubbs Water trail to hear the scratchy-sounding songs of sedge warblers.

Great spotted woodpeckers sometimes visit the bird feeding station at the visitor centre.

Watch lots of different birds feasting at our woodland feeding station.

You'll spot plenty of bees, butterflies and bugs in our wildlife garden.

If you're lucky, you may spy a shy otter from the wildlife viewing hides.

A good place on the Aird Meadow trail to take a break and listen for water rails. These birds sound like squealing pigs!

Our events include opportunities for children to help look after our wildlife garden.

Did you know?
Our treetop viewing tower offers an amazing panorama over the Aird Meadow.

Did you know?
Lochwinnoch reserve has two osprey platforms ready and waiting for birds to nest on them.

There are nestboxes across the reserve. Can you spot the different types for barn owls and treecreepers?

