

Finding your way around Otmoor nature reserve



Accessibility

The paths, kissing gates, viewing screens and the hide have been designed to accommodate medium-sized wheelchairs. However, we do not recommend that wheelchair users attempt to cross the reserve in winter, as the paths become soft and muddy.

Public rights of way:

- **bridleways**
- **footpaths**

This area is criss-crossed with footpaths and bridleways, which allow you to create your own nature walk of any length. Public rights of way away from the reserve are not managed by the RSPB and in general are not surfaced; they will be wet and muddy in the winter and after rain.

The Oxfordshire Way

The Oxfordshire Way is a 68-mile recreational walk that runs south-east from Bourton-on-the-Water to Henley-on-Thames. The route passes through Oxfordshire's most rural and scenic landscapes. The walk skirts Otmoor as it travels from Islip to Waterperry. Find out more at www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/walksandrides

Visitor trail

This 1.5-mile (2.5-km), flat trail takes you to the heart of the reserve. Although surfaced with stone, it can become soft and muddy in winter. A stroll along this trail is a great way to experience the birds and other wildlife of the grasslands, reedbed and hedgerows.



Otmoor's wet grassland and reedbed are a haven for all sorts of different wildlife.



Key:

- Water
- Reedbed
- Grassland
- Hide
- P Parking
- Viewing screen

Access to the bridleways on MOD land may be restricted except on Mondays.

Take time to enjoy listening to the wind rustling the reeds at the end of the visitor trail.

In winter, watch one of nature's best spectacles: 50,000 starlings come to roost in the reedbed.

In summer, try and keep your eye on the dragonflies as they dart quickly past.

Did you know?
More than 150,000 reeds were planted by volunteers when the reedbed was created from scratch.

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In spring, you'll hear the distinctive song, but will you spot a grasshopper warbler?

Enjoy a stroll through this wild flower meadow.

See birds all year round from the hide: from lapwings in spring to golden plovers in winter.

Experience a beautiful view across the reserve from the footpath.

Did you know?
Otmoor is the last stronghold for a wide range of wildlife in the centre of England.

“Personally, I value above all else the wildness of the place. I love the open space and big skies.”
Ann Downham, RSPB Otmoor Volunteer