

# Finding your way around Fowlmere nature reserve

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**PLACES TO EXPLORE**

## The trail

The paths and boardwalks of the nature trail offer views over most of the reserve and access to the hides and viewing points. However, some sections of the 1.8 mile (3 km) circular trail can be muddy during the winter.

## Did you know?

All the water entering the reserve comes from springs at the foot of the chalk escarpment.



Kingfishers are unmistakable with their bright blue and orange plumage.

“It’s like a dream here – and I don’t want to wake up.”  
Visitor to Fowlmere



## Key:

- Water
- Grassland
- Reedbed
- Scrub
- Woodland
- Visitor trail
- Reception
- Car park

## Did you know?

Fowlmere was once at the centre of the watercress growing industry.

Look out for thrushes and tit flocks in winter, and warblers in summer.

Spot dragonflies as you pass the pond by the boardwalk.

Wait and see if a kingfisher uses one of the perches in front of the hide.

The reedbed hide provides excellent views over the mere and across the tops of the reeds.

Keep an eye on the stream for trout hanging in the water.

Many of the reeds grow in former watercress beds fed by chalk springs.

Look closely for deer in the cattle-grazed fields.

Fowlmere's boardwalk makes it easy for everyone to see across the pools.



A long body, strong tail and webbed feet make the otter an excellent swimmer.



“Today me and my dad went to Fowlmere. At the main hide there was some ripples which were otters! They swam really close and got up on the bank.”  
Tom, Wildlife Explorer

## Did you know?

Fowlmere was bought for the RSPB with money raised by the Young Ornithologists' Club – the forerunner of Wildlife Explorers.

The River Shep arises from springs at the southern end of the nature reserve.