**Top things to do**

**Spring/summer**
A busy time for nature and a
great time for you to explore.

1. Enjoy the spectacle of tumbling and calling
   lapwings and redshanks displaying over
   the marsh.
2. Watch colourful dragonflies and damselflies
   skim over the pools, while butterflies and
   bees dance around the flowers by the path.
3. Play in our fabulous adventure playground –
great for the young and young at heart!
4. Stop and listen – you may see or hear one
   of our water voles munching on plants in
   one of the ditches.
5. Hear the amazing cacophony of croaking
   marsh frogs, day and night.

**Autumn/winter**
Five things not to miss
during the chillier months.

1. See swirling flocks of lapwings and golden
   plovers shimmering in the winter sky.
2. Wrap up warm and blow the cobwebs away
   with a bracing walk along the river.
3. If you’re still and quiet you might see a flash
   of blue as a kingfisher whizzes by.
4. In winter, watch for peregrines diving steeply
   as they try to catch wading birds and ducks.
5. Warm up with a cuppa and a piece of
   home-made cake in our café.

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**How to get here**

**Nearest town: Purfleet**

By train: the nearest station is Purfleet on the route 13. We have plenty of bike racks.

By bus: follow the National Cycle Network routes to Wivenhoe, where there are many footpaths through the marsh.

By car: off New Tank Hill Road (A1090) in Purfleet, which is just off the A13 and J30 of the M25.

**Opening times**
Visitor centre and reserve, 1 November to 31 January: 9.30 am–4.30 pm. 1 February to 31 October: 9.30 am–5 pm. Closed Christmas Day and Boxing Day.

**Admission charges**
Car park: voluntary £1 donation. The reserve is free for RSPB members and residents of Havering and Thurrock. There is a charge for non-members: £6 adult, £3 child, £4 student.

**Rainham Marshes nature reserve**

RSPB Rainham Marshes
New Tank Hill Road, Purfleet, Essex, RM19 1SZ
Tel: 01708 899840
E-mail: rainham.marshes@rspb.org.uk
rspb.org.uk/rainham

The RSPB is the country’s largest nature conservation charity, inspiring everyone to give nature a home.

We are very grateful to all the kind funders that help keep Rainham Marshes a special place for nature.
Rainham
Finding your way around

Circular route
If you have a couple of hours, our 2.4-mile (3.8-km) circular walk will take you around the reserve passing hides and lots of wildlife.

This is a lovely walk through the reserve that gets you close to the birds, mammals, minibeasts and plants that the reserve has to offer.

Stop at the hides and viewing places along the way and keep a lookout for lapwings, lots of different types of ducks as well as water voles, bearded tits, and dragonflies and butterflies in summer.

Woodland walk
This half-mile (0.8-km) trail will take you through the woodland area, and back to the visitor centre. Allow yourself at least half an hour.

Keep an eye on the trees; they’re great places to spot birds such as blackcaps and kestrels.

The old cordite store has become a haven for minibeasts, such as butterflies, shield bugs and spiders, but is also good for birds – what will you see?

Riverside walk
A 1.5-mile (2.4-km) walk starting at the visitor centre and ending up by the River Thames. Make sure you allow yourself an hour.

There is a brilliant view over the River Thames on this walk and you should also see lots of wildlife.

All routes are suitable for pushchairs and wheelchairs. The good paths and boardwalks mean the reserve is a good place to walk at all times of year.

A wasp spider weaving.

Listen for a lapwing calling “peewit”.

Throughout the year, listen for the explosive call of Cetti’s warblers along the Woodland walk.

Enjoy the panoramic view from the Riverside walk over the River Thames and the reserve.

Key

Water
Salmarsh
Marsh
Woodland
Reedbed
Grassland
Family friendly southern trail

Parking
Toilets
Visitor centre
Picnic area
Adventure play area
Viewing platform

- The four hides and viewing platforms have flat entry or adapted entrances so everyone can get the same views.
- For more information about the accessibility of RSPB Rainham, please visit rspb.org.uk/rainham
- To avoid disturbing wildlife, we only allow dogs along the permissive riverside path section of the reserve, except for registered assistance dogs.
- We can loan you a mobility scooter or wheelchair. Please ask for details.