

## Take part with us

### Family activities

Take the Wild Challenge and come along to one of our family activities throughout the year including pond dipping, bug hunting and den building. In the summer, you can even camp in our wildflower meadow during the Big Wild Sleepout!

### Events

Whether you're a keen bird-watcher, general outdoor enthusiast or creative type, we have an event to suit you. Join us on a night-time stroll, take part in a photography workshop or improve your knowledge of birdsong.

### A celebration of nature

Come along to our seasonal festivals as we celebrate the best of the UK's wildlife including nightingale, fungi and wintery water birds.

For dates, prices and full details about all our events, ask a member of the reserve team

or visit [rspb.org.uk/pulboroughbrooks](http://rspb.org.uk/pulboroughbrooks)

## In this area...

### Other local attractions:

**RSPB Pagham Harbour, Chichester, West Sussex, PO20 7NE**  
Tel: 01243 641508 (23 miles)

[rspb.org.uk/paghamharbour](http://rspb.org.uk/paghamharbour)

A coastal haven for wildlife and people, where hundreds of birds move in and out with the tides.

**RSPB Adur Estuary, near Shoreham by Sea, West Sussex, BN43 5DA**  
Tel: 01273 775333 (15 miles)

[rspb.org.uk/adurestuary](http://rspb.org.uk/adurestuary)

Look out over the saltmarsh and mudflats to see the water birds including redshank and oystercatcher.



Girl by Eleanor Bentall / [rspb-images.com](http://rspb-images.com)

“We really look forward to coming. The staff and volunteers are fantastic, we always learn lots and just love being outside!”  
The Saunders Family.

## Top things to do Spring/summer

A busy time for nature and a great time for you to explore.

- 1 Experience the magic of a dawn chorus starring mellow blackbirds and the unique song of nightingales.
- 2 Enjoy an evening heathland stroll looking for mysterious nightjars, flitting bats and twinkling glow worms.
- 3 Stop by the ponds to spot whirligig beetles and fierce dashing dragonflies.
- 4 Indulge in an ice cream whilst watching beautiful butterflies in our wildflower meadow.
- 5 Marvel at the acrobatic displays of lapwings and look for their fluffy chicks.

## Autumn/winter

Five things not to miss during the chillier months.

- 1 Explore the heath for amethyst deceiver toadstools and red-and-white-spotted fly agaric mushrooms.
- 2 Enjoy a warming drink in the café, while watching fallow deer emerge from the autumn mist.
- 3 Admire the wetlands teeming with whistling wigeon, quacking ducks and honking geese.
- 4 Catch a glimpse of the peregrine – the world's fastest bird – in pursuit of lunch.
- 5 Look for pretty pink bullfinches and darting long-tailed tits in the hedgerows.

## How to get here

Nearest town: Pulborough

**By train:** the nearest train station is Pulborough on the Arun Valley line (2 miles).

**By bus:** catch the Compass bus 100. Ask the driver for the request stop at the reserve entrance.

**By car:** the reserve is off the A283 halfway between Pulborough and Storrington.

### Opening times

The visitor centre is open 9.30am–5pm daily (café until 4.30pm) and the nature trails are open all year round. The centre and trails are both closed on Christmas Day. Please check our website for full opening hours over Christmas and New Year.

### Admission charges

Entry to the nature trail is free for RSPB members. For non-members, it costs £6 for adults and £3 for children. Access to the visitor centre is free to all.

### RSPB Pulborough Brooks

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E-mail: [pulborough.brooks@rspb.org.uk](mailto:pulborough.brooks@rspb.org.uk)  
[rspb.org.uk/pulboroughbrooks](http://rspb.org.uk/pulboroughbrooks)

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

We would like to thank the following organisations and those charitable trusts, businesses and individuals that continue to give us their generous support.



The RSPB is a registered charity in England & Wales 207076, in Scotland SC037654. Front cover by Eleanor Bentall. 860-0432-18-19

# Welcome



In the beautiful Arun Valley, nestled at the foot of the rolling South Downs, RSPB Pulborough Brooks is home to all kinds of wildlife.

In spring you can meander along gentle trails listening to beautiful birdsong, and in autumn watch hungry birds raiding the berry-laden hedgerows. Views on the reserve open out across the wetlands with looping lapwings and fluttering skylarks overhead. It's the perfect home for the thousands of ducks who visit us in winter.

In summer, discover the fascinating creatures living on our newly-restored wooded heath. Encounter speedy green tiger beetles, listen for endangered nightjar on summer evenings and watch fierce but beautiful dragonflies patrol the boggy pools.

Be sure to explore the visitor centre and browse our shop, or indulge in a homemade sweet treat in our café. You can also enjoy a picnic in the Wildlife Explorer meadow next to our adventure play area.

Beautiful surroundings, great facilities and an abundance of wildlife make RSPB Pulborough Brooks a wonderful day out.



giving  
nature  
a home

## Pulborough Brooks nature reserve



## Get closer to nature in a beautiful landscape

Discover our  
wonderful  
wetland  
wildlife.

Hear a  
magical  
dawn  
chorus.

Enjoy  
stunning  
views from  
our café.



# Pulborough Brooks

## Finding your way around

To discover what makes RSPB Pulborough Brooks such a special place for nature, start exploring today.

The trails will take you through some of the most important habitats on the reserve, past hundreds of homes for wildlife. The Wooded Heathland and Wetland trails are both permissive paths, subject to occasional change or closure for management or operational purposes.

Wrap up warm to experience the winter wetlands or take a leisurely stroll to search for incredible insects through the summer. Be sure not to miss nature's virtuoso springtime singer, Pulborough Brooks is one of the best places in the country to hear and see elusive nightingales.

### Wooded Heathland trail

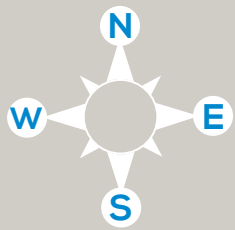
The 1½-mile outer loop leads you through woodland and heath. Allow about an hour and a half.

As you wander along the sandy tracks, look out for green tiger beetles and basking lizards. Pause at Black Pond to spot patrolling dragonflies before heading through flower-carpeted woodland to Hail's View. Watch for tiny goldcrests and tits feeding acrobatically amongst the pines, then wander up towards the Bronze Age barrow at The Clump to enjoy views across the valley and the South Downs.

### Wetland trail

This gentle 2-mile circular trail explores the heart of the reserve. Allow at least two hours to walk the loop.

There are four hides and two viewpoints along the trail, overlooking grassland, ditches and pools. Head to Fattengates Courtyard for a breath-taking springtime birdsong concert and in summer, wander down the Zig-zag path and admire the wildflowers and myriad of insects they attract. Take a short stroll to West Mead hide in the winter for close-up views of the beautifully camouflaged snipe and, for a longer walk, head down to Nettley's hide where you may hear the 'plop' of a water vole in the ditches.



### Key

- Water
- Grassland
- Woodland
- Scrub
- Heathland
- Arable farmland
- Visitor centre, shop and café
- Wildlife Explorer meadow play area
- Viewing point
- Parking
- Picnic area
- Hide
- Public footpath
- Seasonal trail

- The Wetland trail is steep and bumpy in places, therefore not recommended for wheelchairs. Two motorised buggies are available to use free of charge and it's strongly advised to book these in advance. The Wooded Heathland trail is unsuitable for wheelchairs.
- For more information about the accessibility of RSPB Pulborough Brooks, please visit [rspb.org.uk/pulboroughbrooks](http://rspb.org.uk/pulboroughbrooks)
- To avoid disturbing wildlife, no dogs except registered assistance dogs are allowed on the Wetland trail.
- Well-behaved dogs, and their owners, are welcome on the Wooded Heathland trail. Please keep dogs on leads to avoid disturbing wildlife and grazing livestock. Some sections of the wooded heath may be closed during the breeding season.

