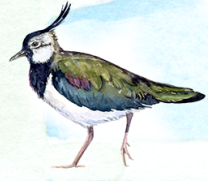


Blashford Lakes Accessible Trail

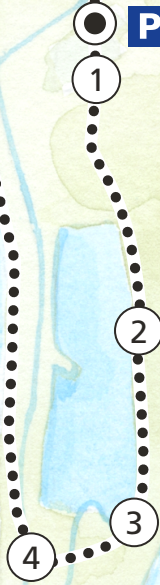
This 1.6 mile lakeside walk uses gravel paths.



↑
To Fordingbridge

Ellingham Drove

  **Blashford Lakes Study Centre**



Salisbury Road (A338)

↓
To Ringwood



Key:

-  Trail Starting Point
-  Trail
-  Car Park
-  Public Toilets
-  Trail steps

Navigate using our FREE walking app

Scan the code to download the app and please follow the New Forest Code



Blashford Lakes Accessible Trail

This walk explores the Blashford Lakes Nature Reserve which is a wonderful series of lakes that are full of wildlife and a great place for bird watching.

There are six bird hides around the reserve, linked by gravel paths, so there's plenty of opportunity to spot Common terns, lapwings, oyster catchers and, if you are lucky, a murmuration of starlings.

This is a nature reserve so only assistance dogs are allowed onsite. Two all-terrain mobility scooters are available to hire.



Directions

① Arrival

Starting out from the car park, head up to the Education Centre and take a left, picking up the trail past the Welcome Hut. If open, the Welcome Hut is a fantastic starting point to pick up information about the Lakes

② Woodland hide

Continue straight past the first left until you reach a signpost for a woodland hide. This short path takes you up to the first bird hide. Keep going to find the second, larger bird hide on the opposite side of the path



③ Dockens Water

Cross over a small, railed bridge to reach the boardwalk, passing over a long stretch of wetland. Back on solid ground the path splits. To the left, past a carved wooden owl, the path stops at wooden bench. To the right the path continues to a second bridge passing over a forest stream known as Dockens Water

Trail Overview

Start/finish:

Blashford Lakes Car Park.

Grid reference SU 151 079

whats3words.com/exposing.venue.outfitter

Ordnance Survey map:

Explorer OL 22 New Forest.

Distance:

1 mile (1.6 km) – 1 hour.

Local facilities:

The car park has two accessible bays, easy access toilets and a cafe.

④ Ellingham lake

Turn right following signs for the shorter walk with Ellingham lake on your left. Leaving the lake, the track curves to the right comes to a wide bridge. Cross over Dockens Water one last time and you'll find yourself at the road just before the entrance to the car park. Turn right and follow the car park back towards the Education Centre to finish the walk.



Accessibility: The car park has two accessible bays, easy access toilets. The trails are gravel and suitable for a self-power wheelchair, two of which you can hire from the centre.