

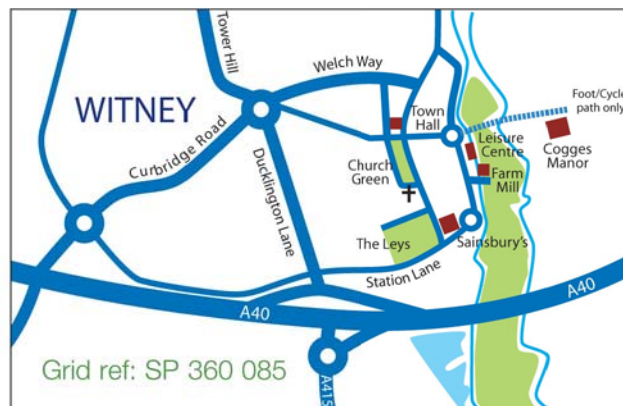


Witney Lake & Meadows is a 30 hectare Country Park owned and managed by Witney Town Council. It offers an area for informal recreation and nature conservation right on the doorstep of the historic market town of Witney.

Visitors will enjoy exploring the many interesting features that are home to a rich variety of plants and animals. An old gravel pit flooded in the mid 1980's, today forms a deep lake, whilst a traditional hay meadow and wet grassland, grazed by a small herd of cattle, are found between the two streams of the meandering River Windrush.

The creation of ponds, a ditch network, wet scrapes in the meadow, tree planting, a wildflower meadow and new woodlands, have further enhanced this special site.

Easily accessible on foot from the town centre, the park has surfaced paths encouraging access for all. Whether walking the dog, taking a stroll with the family or simply relaxing in the natural world, Witney Lake and Meadows is a hidden treasure just waiting to be discovered.



On foot / cycle: Access from town centre via Avenue Two off Station Lane or Farm Mill off Witan Way. Look out for the brown signs marking these routes.

By bus: Witney is well served by bus services from Oxford and the local area. Call Traveline South East on 0871 200 2233 or visit the website www.travelinesoutheast.org.uk for bus timetables.

By car: The country park is just off the A40. Please note that there is no parking at the country park itself, see map overleaf for suggested parking areas.

Access for all: For information on "accessibility" for those with limited mobility, call 01865 810226 or visit www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/countryside



Alternative formats of this leaflet, including large print, are available on request. Tel: 01865 810226



Welcome

Location

Witney Lake & Meadows

Witney Lake also offers a gateway to the Lower Windrush Valley, an area that has been transformed by mineral extraction over the last 60 years.

With extraction set to continue for many years to come the Lower Windrush Valley Project was established to deliver a range of environmental initiatives that aim to strengthen the landscape, protect and enhance the biodiversity and improve public access opportunities in the valley.

Contact:

Witney Town Council, Town Hall, Market Square
Witney, Oxon OX28 6AG
Tel: 01993 704379
Email: townclerk@witney-tc.gov.uk

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Witney Town
Council



Witney is world famous for the manufacture of blankets owing its prosperity to the wool trade. A short walk from the Country Park is Church Green overlooked by the magnificent spire of St Mary's church. Along the historic high street the Butter Cross, Town Hall and Corn Exchange are found alongside a range of shops and twice weekly market.

The Windrush in Witney Project has been developed by West Oxfordshire District Council to protect and enhance the Windrush Valley through Witney. The hay meadow within the country park is just one of the riverside meadows that together create a green corridor through the town centre that is recognised for its landscape, wildlife

and cultural value. Follow the public footpath north along the river to explore this area a little more.



For the benefit of all visitors and the resident wildlife, please follow the Countryside Code and seasonal notices. Camping, swimming, cycling and horse riding are not permitted. Fishing is restricted to permit holders only. Fishing rights for Witney Lake and the River Windrush are held by Witney and Newland Angling Clubs respectively. Contact the Town Hall for details on 01993 704379.

The Windrush Path is a new route, being developed by the Lower Windrush Valley Project, that ultimately aims to provide a link between Witney and the Thames Path National Trail. Walkers taking the footpath south of the country park can enjoy the new 3km section opened in 2003, which follows the River Windrush to Hardwick.

For further information about the route contact the LWVP on 01865 815426