If you enjoyed your visit to Roydon Woods you may like to . . .

- Become a member of the Trust and help build a better future for our wildlife.
- Become a volunteer and be actively involved in looking after our reserves.

Find out more...
Visit our website www.hwt.org.uk or telephone 01489 774400. You can buy wood products made to order and venison from this reserve. For details telephone the Reserve Officer on 07970 564525.

Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust
Beechcroft House
Vicarage Lane
Curdridge
Hampshire
SO32 2DP

www.hiwwt.org.uk

Roydon Woods Nature Reserve is situated in the New Forest National Park, an historic landscape of ancient woodlands, open heath, distinctive villages, wildlife rich coast, and gentle farmland. www.newforestnpa.gov.uk

Welcome to Roydon Woods Nature Reserve
A brief guide to help you enjoy your visit to this beautiful nature reserve

Wildlife

The wide range of英超支持 a huge number of species, including mammals, birds, reptiles, insects, and fungi. The woods provide nest sites for buzzards and sparrowhawks and all three British species of woodpeckers. Nightjars can be heard churring on the heath at dusk in summer and the clear cousin and upper blue tit are common. Trees include oak, ash, and hazel. The woods are home to a variety of birds, including woodpeckers, jays, and robins. The woods are also home to a variety of insects, including butterflies and bees. The heath is home to a variety of reptiles, including adders and reptiles are often seen sunning themselves on rocks and boulders. The woods are also home to a variety of insects, including butterflies and bees, which are often seen nectar feeding on flowers. The woods are also home to a variety of mammals, including badgers, foxes, and deer, which are often seen grazing and foraging in the woods.

Walks

The nature reserve is situated in the New Forest National Park, an historic landscape of ancient woodlands, open heath, distinctive villages, wildlife rich coast, and gentle farmland. The woods provide nest sites for buzzards and sparrowhawks and all three British species of woodpeckers. Nightjars can be heard churring on the heath at dusk in summer and the clear cousin and upper blue tit are common. Trees include oak, ash, and hazel. The woods are home to a variety of birds, including woodpeckers, jays, and robins. The woods are also home to a variety of insects, including butterflies and bees, which are often seen nectar feeding on flowers. The woods are also home to a variety of mammals, including badgers, foxes, and deer, which are often seen grazing and foraging in the woods.

What to look out for

- Spring
  - Bluebells, Brimstone butterflies, the arrival of migrants including chiff-chaff, blackcap and garden warbler.

- Summer
  - Dragonflies and damselflies, soaring buzzards, nightjars churring on the heath at dusk.

- Autumn
  - Fungi - there are over 900 species, glorious autumn colours, glowing yellow gold woodland rides in seen Vive. The woods are home to a variety of insects, including butterflies and bees, which are often seen nectar feeding on flowers. The woods are also home to a variety of mammals, including badgers, foxes, and deer, which are often seen grazing and foraging in the woods.

- Winter
  - Flocks of fieldfare and redwing, mixed parties of tits, the deer in grey winter coats.

History

From prehistoric times to the present day, man’s activities have left their mark on the reserve, the most obvious being the network of banks and ditches which denote the former extent of fields and copses – Roydon was much less wooded in the past than it is today.

Centuries of encroachment and purchase from the New Forest, farming, forestry and industrial activity have created the present landscape of Roydon. Early landowners included the monks of Netley Abbey.

Within the nature reserve there is evidence of cottages and fields as well as industrial relics from pit sawing, charcoal burning and brick making. The many humps and hollows provide mute evidence of a much busier past. In 1978 Roydon Woods was very generously gifted to the Trust by Peter Barker-Mill.
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History
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Within the nature reserve there is evidence of occupation and fields as well as evidence of charcoal and flints as well as charred oak which suggests the presence of a medieval or early modern charcoal burn.

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Within the nature reserve there is evidence of cottages and fields as well as industrial relics from pit sawing, charcoal burning and brick making. The many flints and flint arrowheads prove that man made use of the reserve and the area for at least 5000 years.

What to look out for

- Spring Bluebells, Brimstone butterflies, the arrival of migrants including chiff-chaff, blackcap and garden warbler.
- Summer Dragonflies and damselflies, soaring buzzards, nightjars churring on the heath at dusk.
- Autumn Fungi – there are over 900 species, glorious autumn colours, the groaning and whistling of rutting fallow and sika deer.
- Winter Flocks of fieldfare and redwing, mixed parties of tits, the deer in grey winter coats.

Welcome to Roydon Woods Nature Reserve
Covering almost 1000 acres (400 ha), the reserve is a wonderful mosaic of woodland, heath, fields and meadows, with numerous streams, several ponds and a section of the Lymington River.

Wildlife
The wide range of habitats support a huge number of species, including nationally rare plants, insects and fungi. Badgers are numerous, while fallow and sika deer can be seen throughout the reserve.

Bluebells carpet some of the woods in spring. White admiral and silver washed fritillary butterflies can be seen flying along woodland rides in summer and the heath becomes purple with honey scented heather.

The woods provide nest sites for buzzards and sparrowhawks and all three British species of woodpeckers. Nightjars can be heard churring on the heath on warm summer evenings and dragonflies are seen almost everywhere.

Walks
Public bridleways and a series of waymarked permissive footpaths provide access to much of the area while keeping disturbance to a minimum and maintaining the tranquility visitors enjoy.

A detailed guide to the waymarked paths can be downloaded from the Trust’s website (look for Roydon Woods).
Roydon Woods Nature Reserve

Free running dogs cause stress and disturbance to livestock and local wildlife. We therefore ask that your dogs are kept on a lead when near livestock and close to you or on a lead at all other times. Temporary restrictions may be put in place in some parts of the reserve during the bird breeding season and when cattle are calving. Please look out for and take note of signs on the reserve.

How to find us...

Roydon Woods lies 1¼ miles south east of Brockenhurst. Take the A337 south from the village to Setley. Parking is very limited but roadside parking can be found nearby. The reserve is located at the end of a gravel track.

Getting around...

The bridleways are all gravelled tracks, but the permissive paths are unsurfaced and can be muddy in wet weather.