



Derbyshire  
Wildlife Trust



# Reserves

# Map & Guide

[www.derbyshirewildlifetrust.org.uk](http://www.derbyshirewildlifetrust.org.uk)

# What to look for on our reserves...

Our reserves are places where you can reconnect with wildness, notice the seasons and experience joy in nature.



Water voles, which are suffering a devastating national decline, can still be seen regularly at Cromford Canal, Mapperley Woods and the Avenue Washlands.

27 37 19

Water vole © Ian Wilson



The bittern, a rare member of the heron family, sometimes visits Willington, Drakelow and Carr Vale in winter.

45 47 17

Bittern © Elliott Neep



Keep an eye out for fungi at Lea Wood, the Avenue Washlands and Mapperley Wood. Look for puffball, colourful orange peel and elegant common bonnet.

31 19 37

Common bonnet  
© Paul Shaw



For meadows bursting with wildflowers each summer, head to Rose End Meadows, Hartington Meadows or our Wye Valley reserves.

28 23 12 - 15

Bulbous buttercups  
© Kieron Huston



Look out for jewel-like dragonflies and damselflies. Hilton Willow Pits and Willington Wetlands are great places to try.

44 45

Emperor dragonfly  
© Tony Pioli



Visit at dusk and if you are lucky you might spot a barn owl at Woodside Farm or the Avenue Washlands.

38 19

Barn owl  
© Margaret Holland



Bluebells are plentiful across many of our woodland reserves in spring. Try Lea Wood, Mapperley Wood and Spring Wood.

31 37 49

Bluebells © Jim Higham



A visit to Rose End Meadows, Gang Mine and Hilton in the summer will reward you with clouds of butterflies!

28 29 44

Small copper  
© Amy Lewis

# Explore

## Derbyshire's wild side!

Take a trip to one of our nature reserves and discover the wonderful wildlife on your doorstep.



Walkers at Deep Dale © Ian Weatherley



Small tortoiseshell  
on wildflowers  
© Kieron Huston

## A little bit of house keeping...

Please enjoy our reserves and the wonderful wildlife that calls them home.

To help keep these places special, camping and fires aren't permitted, and we ask that wildflowers, plants and fungi are left where they are for everyone to enjoy.

Dogs are welcome, but please keep them on leads and take any litter home with you.

Please also stick to the paths to avoid disturbing wildlife.

Thank you for helping keep our reserves great places for people and wildlife to enjoy, now and in the future.



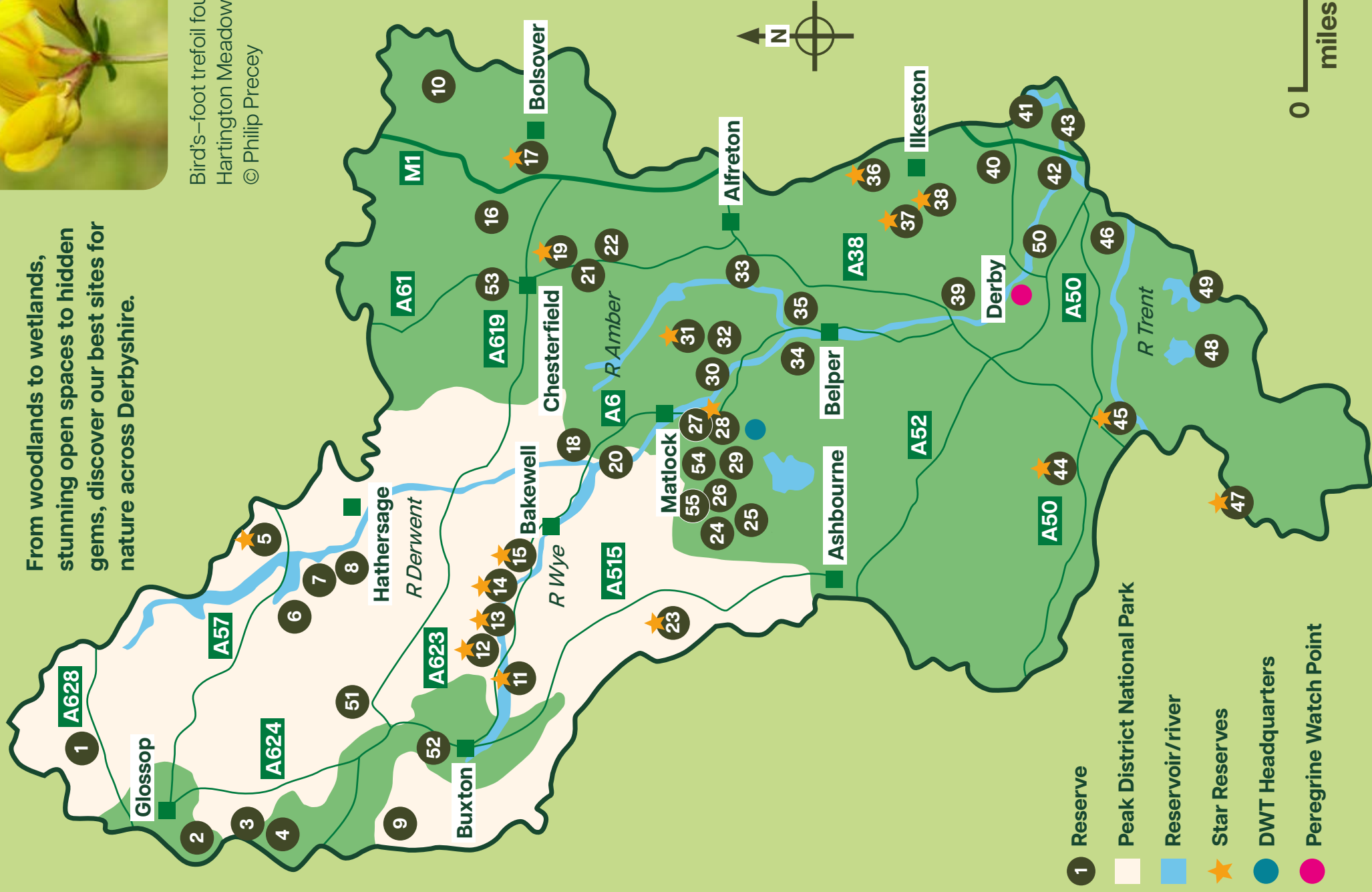
Small scabious at Gang Mine © Kieron Huston

# Our reserves...

From woodlands to wetlands, stunning open spaces to hidden gems, discover our best sites for nature across Derbyshire.



Bird's-foot trefoil found at Hartington Meadows  
© Philip Precey



1 Reserve

Peak District National Park

Reservoir/river

Star Reserves

DWT Headquarters

Peregrine Watch Point

0 | 5 miles

## 1 Brockholes Wood SSSI

GRID REF SK07179966

What3Words:

///vocals.alerting.amps

One of a few remaining upland oak woodlands with moorland.

## 2 Long Clough

GRID REF SK03169253

What3Words:

///expecting.roofed.freezers

An important grassland reserve with more than 150 species of flowers, sedges and mosses.

## 3 Broadhurst Edge Wood

GRID REF SJ99778741

What3Words:

///drops.guests.cricket

Woodland and bilberry glades. See birds, including tawny owl, whinchat and redpoll.

## 4 Watford Lodge LNR

GRID REF SK00558648

What3Words:

///treatable.stun.uplifting

This small wetland hosts a range of species, from frogs to birds.

## 5 Ladybower Wood SSSI

GRID REF SK20598671

What3Words:

///shifters.rectangular.siesta

One of a few remaining upland oak woodlands with moorland – a great place to look for mountain hares and woodland birds.

## 6 Hadfields Quarry

GRID REF SK16108242

What3Words:

///brother.rivals.toys

Species-rich grassland, wetland and woodland. See palmate newts and green tiger beetles.

## 7 Thornhill Carrs

GRID REF SK1975583929

What3Words:

///processes.boxer.nuptials

A steep-sided valley dominated by extensive hawthorn scrub and open glades.

## 8 Overdale

GRID REF SK18348062

What3Words:

///deploying.under.dynasties

Upland pasture rich in plants. See pipits and skylarks.



Overdale © Mark Hamblin

## 9 Hillbridge and Park Woods

GRID REF SK01127869

What3Words:

///figs.developed.loft

An upland oak woodland rich with the colour and scent of bluebells in spring.

## 10 Hollinhill and Markland Grips

GRID REF SK512753

What3Words:

///dabble.masks.stop

Dramatic scenery created by steep valley sides and exposed rock faces – it's a great place to see woodland wildflowers, including bluebells and orchids.

## 11 Deep Dale and Topley Pike SSSI

GRID REF SK10457206

What3Words:

///class.hedgehog.amid

A spectacular dale where you can admire the abundance of wildflowers.

## Wye Valley Reserves

GRID REF SK13807326

what3words:

///opts.comply.oxidation

Miller's Dale car park, SK17 8SN is a great place to start your adventure.

The Wye Valley is home to a string of nature reserves. Discover

limestone dales, quarries and ancient woodlands bursting with wildflowers. Being situated one after the other along the Monsal Trail, these reserves are perfect for full-day walks, as well as for short strolls or bike-ride pit stops.

## [12] Chee Dale SSSI

## [13] Miller's Dale Quarry SSSI

## [14] Priestcliffe Lees SSSI

## [15] Cramside Wood SSSI



Priestcliffe Lees © Kayleigh Wright

## 16 Duckmanton Cutting SSSI

GRID REF SK42397037

What3Words:

///crispier.upstarts.outlined

Rocks and fossils give this reserve geological interest, while grassland flowers attract a variety of butterflies.



Wet Woodland at Rowsley Sidings  
© Issy Spoerry

## 17 Carr Vale ★

GRID REF SK45917022

What3Words:

///camp.apes.shudders

One of the best birdwatching sites in Derbyshire. There is plenty to see all year round.

## 18 Peak Village

GRID REF SK258660

What3Words:

///across.botanists.topping

The reserve sits on the banks of the Derwent, over the bridge at Peak Shopping Village.

## 19 The Avenue Washlands ★

GRID REF SK39666705

What3Words:

///push.satin.swanky

Reedbed, ponds and grassland in the valley of the River Rother attract an array of birds. Water voles, great crested newts and dragonflies have also made their homes here. Great for a family walk and pond dipping all year round.

## 20 Rowsley Sidings

GRID REF SK26056490

What3Words:

///sizes.typically.bleaching

An old railway siding that is now a haven for wildlife with a small mosaic of wet grassland, fen meadow and wet alder woodland.

## 21 The Avenue Country Park

GRID REF SK38876806

What3Words:

///daily.remaining.taskbar

Previously the Avenue coking works, this site has been restored to provide space for both wildlife and people. The waterways and grasslands are home to kingfishers, small mammals and grass snakes, whilst the big open skies give views of kestrels and skylarks.

## 22 North Wingfield

GRID REF SK404643

What3Words:

///cupcake.overcomes.armed

This mix of grassland and wetland provides refuges for many species, including water voles and harvest mice.

## 23 Hartington Meadows ★

GRID REF SK14936094

What3Words:

///bedrock.sits.scribbled

Meadows bursting with wildflowers and birdsong during the summer – a great stop off the Tissington Trail.

## 24 Hoe Grange Quarry

GRID REF SK22425626

What3Words:

///bookmark.reds.arrival

A disused limestone quarry of particular interest for butterflies – in fact, 24 species of butterfly have already been recorded here!

## 25 Peak Quarry

GRID REF SK232546

What3Words:

///surviving.cracking.impulsive

A disused limestone quarry with a varied habitat bursting with butterflies and wildflowers. Open to public on open days only.

## 26 Hopton Quarry SSSI 🔒

GRID REF SK26095624

What3Words:

///jolt.void.bright

A former quarry renowned for its orchids and butterflies.

## 27 Cromford Canal LNR/SSSI

SSSI

GRID REF SK300569

What3Words:

///aquatic.enough.sped

This former working waterway is rich in wildlife, including dragonflies, grass snakes and water voles.

## 28 Rose End Meadows

SSSI ★

GRID REF SK29235659

What3Words:

///curated.sprinting.horseshoe

These special meadows have never been treated with artificial fertiliser or herbicide and they create a vivid picture of how Derbyshire's limestone farmland looked around a hundred years ago.

## 29 Gang Mine SSSI

GRID REF SK286555

What3Words:

///depth.fail.humans

This small reserve is part of an ancient lead mining area. Explore and look for specialist lead-tolerant flowers and glow worms!



Little grebe – found at Cromford Canal © Tom Marshall

### 30 Derwentside

GRID REF SK32645536

What3Words:

///tidying.flamingo.speared

Adjacent to Cromford Canal – view from footpath only

Wild daffodils, wood anemones and other woodland flowers flourish in this reserve.

### 31 Lea Wood ★

GRID REF SK31835623

What3Words:

///scare.contents.goose

Ancient semi-natural woodland, good for bluebells in spring. Home to northern wood ants and excellent for fungi in autumn.

### 32 Crich Chase Meadows

GRID REF SK43455280

What3Words:

///worker.doormat.dives

The meadows stretch out over a steep slope, a herb-rich lowland meadow rich in plants and fungi that attract a wide variety of wildlife.

### 33 Oakerthorpe LNR

GRID REF SK390553

What3Words:

///rave.causes.broom

Frogs, toads and grass snakes are among the many species to be found on this small nature reserve.

### 34 Wyver Lane

GRID REF SK34464920

What3Words:

///dentistry.basically.shortcuts

An important wetland reserve, home to otter and good for birdwatching. Permit needed for bird hide.

### 35 Common Farm

GRID REF SK3605650585

What3Words:

///acrobats.fetching.buckling

One of our newest nature reserves where we will restore habitats and rewild spaces for people and nature.

### 36 Erewash Meadows ★

GRID REF SK44654959

What3Words:

///narrow.rainwater.narrow

Part of the largest area of floodplain grasslands and wetlands in the Erewash Valley – great for bird watching and water voles.



Barn owl at Erewash Meadows  
© Lorna Dickson

### 37 Mapperley Wood 🔒 ★

GRID REF SK43574360

What3Words:

///newlywed.store.fabricate

The narrow belt of woodland and acid grassland glade is a glorious carpet of bluebells in spring and as summer approaches it bursts with birdsong.

### 38 Woodside ★

GRID REF SK44954398

What3Words:

///fell.winter.like

The Trust's farm is home to many farmland birds and wildflowers, as well as orchids, invertebrates, brown hares and water voles. A great day out to see farming and conservation working hand-in-hand.

### 39 Morley Brickyards SSSI

GRID REF SK38914180

What3Words:

///scar.suffice.civil

Flooded former clay pits providing refuge for amphibians and water violet.

### 40 Risley Glebe

GRID REF SK46113586

What3Words:

///crumples.singled.cloc

A small reserve with over 150 plants, including cowslips and some scarce ones.



Nuthatch at Mapperley Wood  
© Paul Shaw

### 41 Barton Pool

GRID REF SK504331 – view from path

What3Words:

///transit.zest.thin

This small wetland reserve is important for its insects, especially hoverflies, and its old pollard willows.

### 42 Golden Brook 🔒

GRID REF SK46873334

What3Words:

///formed.transmitted.cult

A flood lagoon with an impressive diversity of habitats and lots of wildlife, including wetland birds, butterflies and wildflowers.

### 43 Lock Lane 🔒

GRID REF SK48233168

What3Words:

///closed.still.sleepy

Scrubland birds, moths and butterflies are the highlights of this former ash tip.

#### 44 Hilton Willow Pit SSSI ★

GRID REF SK253313

What3Words:

///unusually.atomic.limelight

The combination of lakes and ponds, woodland and sheltered sunny areas make the former gravel pits at Hilton a haven for wildlife.

#### 45 Willington Wetlands ★

GRID REF SK29132761

What3Words:

///grows.chum.banana

The former gravel quarry at Willington is teeming with birdlife all year round, from ducks in winter to sand martins and common terns in summer. Home to the first beavers in Derbyshire for 800 years!

#### 46 Witch's Oak Water 🔒

GRID REF SK43972957

What3Words:

//apparatus.beakers.peach

A large wetland site with open pools. Perfect for dragonflies and wintering duck. Group visiting only – contact us for more details.

#### 47 Drakelow 🔒 ★

GRID REF SK22392043

What3Words:

///both.lock.songs

A haven for birdwatchers in the Trent Valley. From tantalising glimpses of bittern in winter to large numbers of cormorants, ducks, waders and birds of prey.

#### 48 Carvers Rocks SSSI

GRID REF SK334222

What3Words:

///treatment.dries.loved

One of the last lowland heath habitats with marsh violets, bluebells, hazel coppice and plenty of birds.

#### 49 Spring Wood SSSI 🔒

GRID REF SK37822201

What3Words:

///frocks.roses.digested

A beautiful woodland with an abundance of springtime bluebells and a haven for bats.



Slinter Wood

#### 50 Derwent Meadows

GRID REF SK39463386

What3Words:

///flattery.youngest.human

The nature reserve is a mosaic of habitats comprising wet and dry grassland, reedbed, hedgerows, ponds and deciduous woodland.

#### 51 Eldon Hill Quarry

GRID REF SK1133081368

What3Words:

///surfed.gambles.apparatus

A former limestone quarry, with areas of grassland and woodland.

#### 52 Lightwood

GRID REF SK0548675174

What3Words:

///subject.cakewalk.voter

A haven for a wide variety of wildlife, including the curlew, wheatear and common lizards and toads.

#### 53 Wild Whittington

GRID REF SK3844475172

What3Words:

///emerge.speaks.sing

A space for natural regeneration of new woodland.

#### 54 Slinter Woods & Dunsley Meadows

GRID REF SK28605708

What3Words:

///rigs.rollover.code

The woodland is typical of limestone dales and is a beautiful mix of ash, elm, and hazel trees, with a rich flowering woodland floor.

#### 55 Middleton Moor

GRID REF SK2687855635

What3Words:

victor.hobbyists.flesh

With flower-rich grasslands and a small pond providing important habitat for amphibians.



Spring Wood bursting with bluebells © Nigel Law



Middleton Moor © Jo Smith



## About Derbyshire Wildlife Trust

### Our vision is simple:

A Wilder Derbyshire where people and wildlife thrive together.

### And our mission is clear:

Inspiring and enabling bold, transformative action, where everyone plays their part to make it happen.

### By 2030 we aim to:

Rewild 100,000 acres of land and water.

Reintroduce pine marten, black grouse and white stork.

Support 250 communities to lead nature recovery in their own neighbourhoods.

Grow a greener, fairer economy with people, wildlife and climate at its heart.


Please note: the map only provides approximate locations.

#### Visit our website for:

- directions and parking information
- more species and habitat information
- mobility access information

SSSI – Site of Special Scientific Interest

LNR – Local Nature Reserve

 Some of our reserves require an access code for gates & hides which you will find on your membership card.

 Star Reserves – these are wonderful places to see wildlife.

Published April 2026



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## Get in touch

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Registered Charity Number: 222212



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