



Berks, Bucks & Oxon Wildlife Trust

Berkshire
Buckinghamshire
Oxfordshire



Seasonal spectacles

Flagship nature reserves

► Bow down Woods

► College Lake

► **Nature Discovery Centre**

Bring Your Group

Hire a space

Wildlife

Wildlife Clubs

► Warburg Nature Reserve

Visitor centres

Family days out

Permit only reserves

Wild Walks

Welcome to the Nature Discovery Centre at Thatcham

Managed on behalf of



Birthday parties

We offer a great range of children's birthday parties suitable for all ages. Book your next party with us now!



Opening times

Car Park

Open from 8am every day; subject to seasonal locking times (please

The Nature Discovery Centre offers a great day out for all the family. The Centre is packed full of interactive wildlife and natural history displays. There is a network of footpaths ranging from small family-friendly walks to longer

check the boards on your arrival).

Centre (including shop and café)

Summer (April-October)

Open 7 days a week, including bank holidays. 10:30am-5pm

Winter (November-March)

Tuesday-Sunday 10:30am-4pm.
Closed Mondays

paths for the more adventurous.

[Click here to download a map of the reserve](#)

Please note: There is currently a blue-green algal bloom in the lake at the Nature Discovery Centre. It is a natural process but it can be harmful to children and dogs. We therefore ask our visitors to **please ensure you keep your dogs and children away from the lake**. We are also not selling duck food at the moment to help promote the quality of the water. This is likely to last until the end of the summer. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause to your visit.

We have recently submitted a planning application to West Berkshire Council with designs for an improved waterfront at the Nature Discovery Centre. To find out more, [click here](#).

How to get here

The Centre is off Lower Way in Thatcham, easily accessible from the A4 and close to Newbury. The full address of the centre is

The Nature Discovery Centre
Muddy Lane
Lower Way
Thatcham
Berkshire
RG19 3FU

Get the most from your visit

Admission

Car parking and admission to the centre are free. We welcome donations.

Charges apply for special events (please see [What's On](#) for more information)



The Nature Discovery Centre offers a wide ranging and varied programme of events throughout the year. With hands on wildlife activities, craft workshops, walks and talks there's something to suit every member of the family.

[See what's on at the NDC](#)



Are you looking for a venue for a family celebration, children's party, business meeting or team building day? The Nature Discovery Centre is the ideal venue in a peaceful lakeside setting, with easy parking and good transport links.

[Find out more about our facilities](#)



There are activities for children and young people of all ages through our wildlife clubs. So if you are aged between 0 and 16, love wildlife, practical conservation and nature activities there's something for you at the Nature Discovery Centre.

[Find out more about our Wildlife Clubs](#)



The Nature Discovery Centre is a great setting for outdoor education, with specifically designed areas perfect for getting closer to nature. Book a visit for your school group



The lake in front of the Nature Discovery Centre provides the perfect setting to view a wide variety of wildlife. The internationally important Thatcham Reedbeds is a



Looking for an exciting wildlife experience for your group? Book a session with our ranger team for a guided tour of the reserve Please add a link to the bring your group

Facilities

- Lakeside Café offering delicious hot and cold food and drinks. [See a sample menu here](#)
- Gift shop with a great range of wildlife themed gifts, toys and books
- Toilets, disabled toilet and baby changing
- Picnic facilities
- Adventure Playgrounds
- Bird hide overlooking Thatcham Reedbeds Nature Reserve - please pick up a key from reception
- Signposted walk routes and seasonal trails
- Thatcham Community Orchard- find out more on the [Facebook page](#)

Bringing your dog

Dogs are welcome on the reserve, but please keep them out of the lake. We ask that you keep dogs under close control at all times. Dogs, except assistance dogs, are not permitted inside the visitor centre.

Silent Space at the Nature Discovery Centre

8am-10am every Saturday and Sunday.

The Silent Space is a secluded meadow area that offers a wonderful spot for quiet contemplation – an opportunity to relax and enjoy this peaceful area within the busy reserve. Find out more [here](#).

Contact Us

Telephone: 01635 874381

Email: ndc@bbowt.org.uk

today.

[Education at the Nature Discovery Centre.](#)

short walk from the lake.

[Find out more about the wildlife you can see.](#)

page

[Find out more about bringing your group.](#)



Tweets

[Tweets by @BBOWT_NatureDC](#)

Volunteer with us



Do your bit to help local wildlife.

Find out about [volunteering opportunities](#) here.

Employee Work Parties

Get out of the office...



...and enjoy a [team building day](#) on a local nature reserve!

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Protecting local wildlife

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