



Berks, Bucks & Oxon Wildlife Trust

Berkshire
Buckinghamshire
Oxfordshire



[Back to reserve map](#)

Cholsey Marsh




A tranquil riverside marsh with great crested grebe, warblers and a colony of the nationally rare Desmoulin's whorl snail.

Rare haven




Reserve information

 **Location**
1 mile south-east of
Cholsey
Wallingford
Oxfordshire
OX10 9FF

Map reference
SU 601 855

Great for...
birdwatching

 **Best time to visit**
Mar - Nov

 **Get directions**
[Find out here](#)



Once common, riverside marshes such as this are now scarce because of large-scale drainage for farming. Cholsey Marsh provides a home to a wealth of plants, insects and birds that depend on the wet reed and sedge beds. This Thames-side marsh is punctuated with patches of grassland, willow scrub and two large ponds.

Loddon lily

The summer snowflake or Loddon lily grows here in late spring. It resembles a large snowdrop with delicate green markings on its white petals. This national rarity is a native of the Thames Valley marshes and riverbanks.

Riverside wildlife

The Thames provides much of the reserve's wildlife interest. Kingfishers hunt across the water, and in summer, many dragonflies and damselfies emerge. Species of interest include the club-tailed dragonfly and the white-legged damselfly.

A place to roost

A variety of birds use the site for breeding and roosting. The ponds attract a range of ducks whilst the reedbed and scrub provide ideal habitat for warblers. The sharp-eyed may pick out a snipe feeding in the marshy grass. Cholsey Marsh is a favoured roosting site for corn buntings and meadow pipits.

Things to do

- Help us manage this reserve by [supporting us](#)
- Tweet your wildlife sightings to [@BBOWT](#)
- Sign up to our [e-newsletter](#)

Species and habitats

Habitats [Grassland](#), [Ponds](#), [Wetland](#)

Species [Marsh-marigold](#), [Meadowsweet](#), [Banded demoiselle](#), [Club-tailed Dragonfly](#), [Corn Bunting](#), [Great Crested Grebe](#), [Kingfisher](#), [Meadow Pipit](#), [Mute Swan](#), [Reed Bunting](#), [Reed Warbler](#), [Sedge Warbler](#), [Skylark](#), [Snipe](#), [Swallow](#), [Whitethroat](#)

Nearby nature reserves

Warren Bank
3 miles - Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust

Hartslock
3 miles - Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust

Moor Copse
8 miles - Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust

Nature reserve map



Public transport
[Plan your journey](#)

Opening Times
Open at all times

Size
19.00 hectares

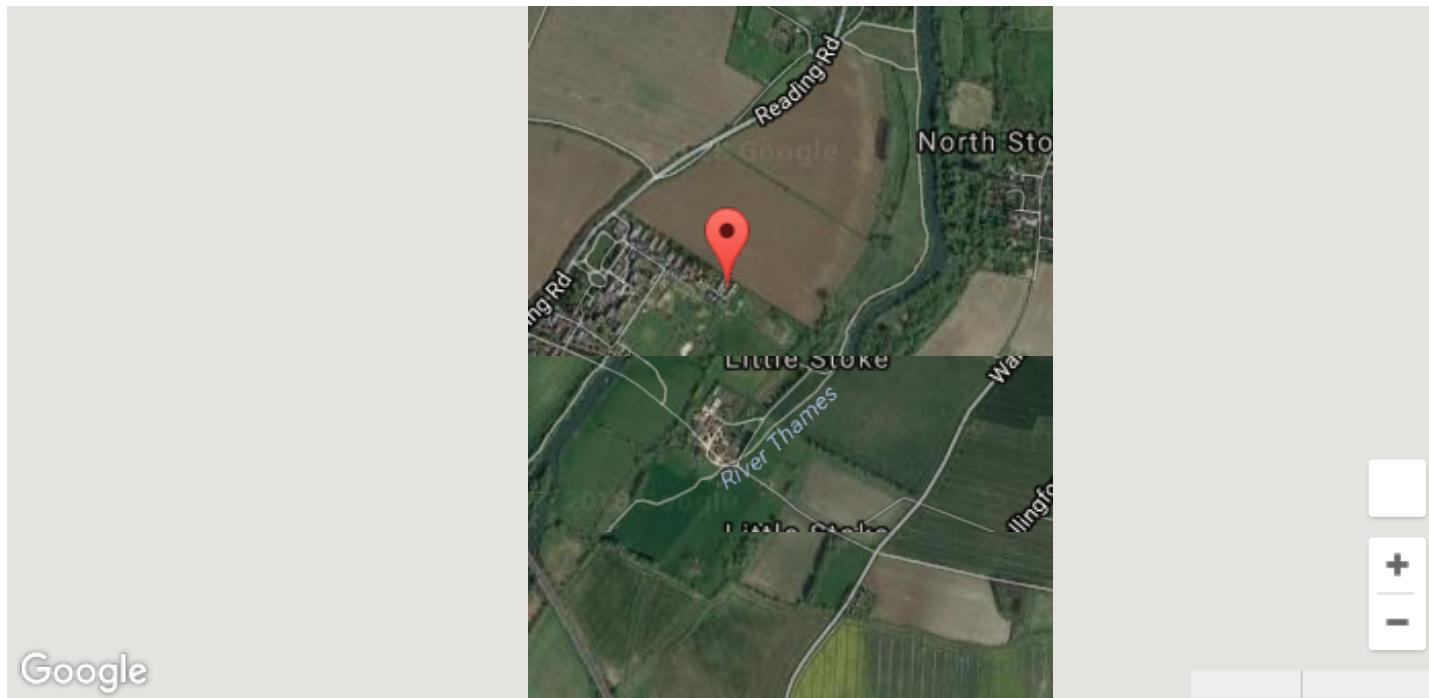
Walking information
Flat overall, soft after rain; kissing gates, gates

Parking
On the A329 2 miles south of the Wallingford bypass, turn left by Cholsey Meadows housing into Ferry Lane; park at the end of lane on hard verge.

Dogs
Dogs must be on lead

Grazing animals
Yes

Reserve manager
Berks, Bucks & Oxon Wildlife Trust (BBOWT)
Tel: 01865 775476
info@bbowt.org.uk



Smartphone Safari

Every weekend on [BBC Radio Berkshire](#) and [BBC Radio Oxford](#) we broadcast a *Smartphone Safari*. Listen along as we explore some of our fantastic reserves and introduce you to the wildlife you can see.

 [View page as PDF](#)  [Printer friendly version](#)  [Share](#)



[Join us](#) | [Accessibility](#) | [Privacy policy](#) | [Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts](#)

Be part of it →



Protecting local wildlife

Berkshire, Buckinghamshire & Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust: Registered Charity Number 204330, Company Registered Number 00680007

Website by Precedent