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Broadhead Clough Nature Reserve



Broadhead Clough offers a spectacular Pennine landscape with a dramatic past. This deep valley lies in the bottom of Bell Hole and was better known in the 18th Century for the notorious Cragg Vale Coiners than its wildlife. Within a fair distance you can experience open, windswept moors and explore the boggy mires of the valley bottom.

Join us

Protect local wildlife



Reserve information



Location

Frost Hole Lane
Mytholmroyd
West Yorkshire
HX7 5RT

Map reference

SE 000 250

Great for...

a family day out
historical interest
wildflowers



Get directions

[Find out here](#)



Public transport

[Plan your journey](#)



Opening Times

Open at all times

The most important habitat of this diverse site is the rare wet woodland bog areas.

A number of small streams flowing through the site spread out to form boggy areas known as mires, undermining tree roots and causing them to crack or the trees to fall prematurely.

Fallen wood combined with the underlying peat soils, leaves and sphagnum moss rots away to form more peat bog. There are 65 species of moss and liverwort here, which include sphagnum and star mosses, with tufts of rush and other wetland plants and fungi. This provides ideal conditions for the larvae of many invertebrates, which provides food for many charismatic birds including curlew, cuckoo, woodpeckers and finches that rely on the nature reserve for food or shelter.

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Top Tip:

This nature reserve has a variety of habitats nestled together in a wider moorland landscape. See semi-mature clough woodland, bogs, meadows and heath in one day with easy access on foot from public transport.

Managing this area is a delicate operation. Too many trees can dry out the wetter areas and can also shade out sunlight from reaching the plants beneath. Too few trees results in dead and rotting wood being removed from the food chain. Trust staff and volunteers work hard to selectively allow light to reach the woodland floor whilst maintaining moist conditions. The path network and drains are kept clear and bracken kept at bay to ensure that visitors can take in the site's beauty without damaging the fragile mires. Following the main footpath to the moorland commons above gives a stunning view onto the mires and across the whole nature reserve down the valley.

If you like social history it is well worth arranging a visit to Coiners Barn while you are there to find out more about the Cragg Vale Coiners, and infamous gang of local criminals.

To arrange refreshments and education facilities at Coiners' Barn visit www.bellhousecoiners.com

Discover Yorkshire's Wildlife

Yorkshire Wildlife Trust's [Discover Yorkshire's Wildlife](#) book, which has detailed information on all of Yorkshire Wildlife and Sheffield Wildlife Trust's reserves, is available to buy now from our online [shop](#).



Size

22.38 hectares



Status

Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)



Access

Yes

Public footpaths. Not suitable for pushchairs. Contact the Trust for disabled access information.

Walking information

Public footpaths. Please keep all dogs on leads and avoid bogs and areas of marsh. Height gain 215m from road to top of nature reserve with some steep climbs and steps. The paths are slippery when wet.



Parking

Vehicles are not allowed on the track leading to the reserve and should be parked on the roadside well before the bridge at Dauber.



Dogs

Dogs must be on lead

Public Transport

Mytholmroyd has a station and regular buses from Halifax and Burnley. National Cycle Route 66 crosses the B6138: for cyclists who like a challenge this road is the longest continuous climb in England.

Directions

Take the B6138, signposted Littleborough until ½ mile from Mytholmroyd, the houses on the right give way to fields. Visitors' vehicles are not allowed to use the track to the nature reserve and should be parked on the roadside. Immediately before the road swings left and right to cross Dauber Bridge, there is a track on the right, with a public footpath sign to Frost Hole. Walk along the track for about a ¼ mile, fork left onto the concrete road until you reach the main entrance (0.6 miles from the road).



Reserve manager
Yorkshire Wildlife Trust
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Downloads

Factsheets and guides for your visit

- [YWT - Broadhead Clough Nature Reserve map](#)
- [YWT - Broadhead Clough Area map](#)

Want to see more of Broadhead Clough before your visit? Have a look below.

[Broadhead Clough Nature Reserve photos in our Flickr group](#)

Species and habitats

Habitats [Heathland](#), [Wetland](#), [Woodland](#)

Species [Marsh Violet](#), [Sphagnum Moss](#), [Woodcock](#), [Blackcap](#), [Willow Warbler](#), [Fieldfare](#), [Lesser Redpoll](#), [Bank Vole](#)

Nearby nature reserves



[Upper Coldwell Reservoir](#)
9 miles - The Wildlife Trust for Lancashire, Manchester and North Merseyside

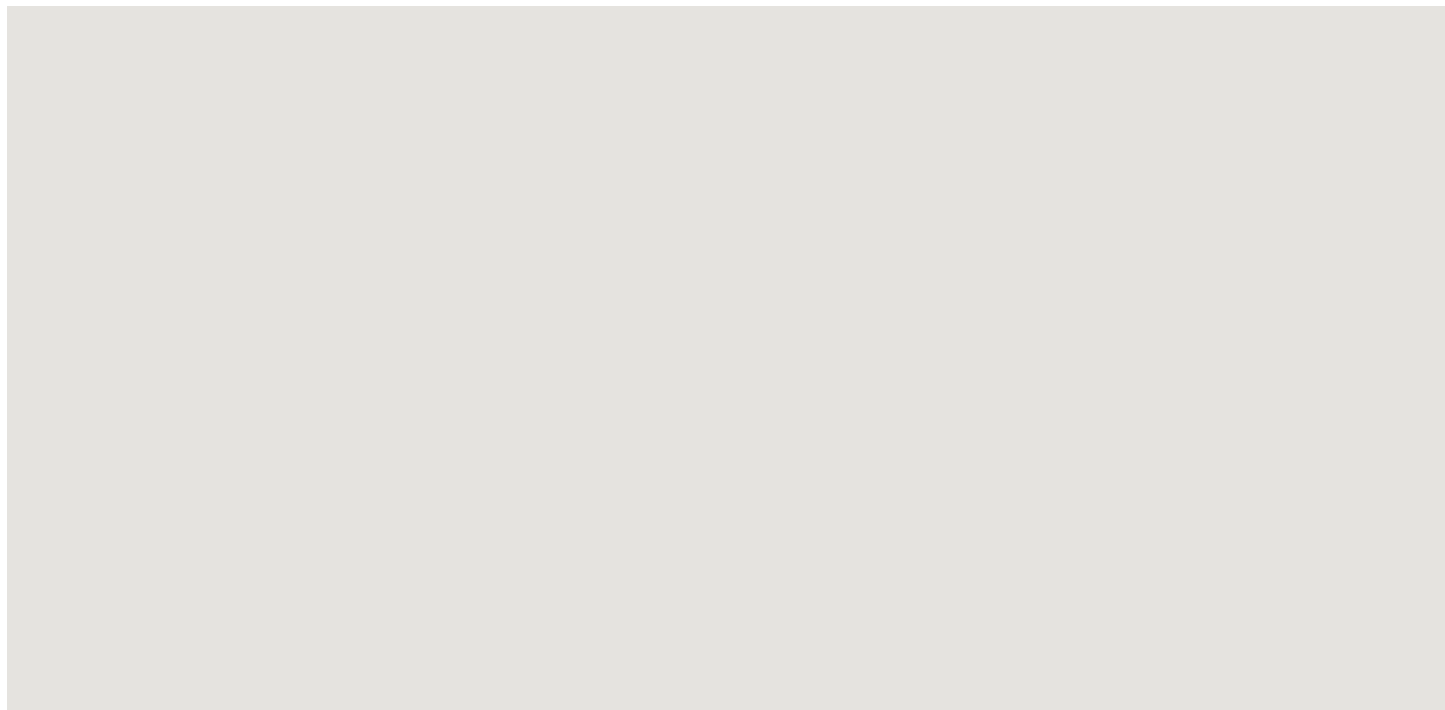


[Stirley Community Farm](#)
12 miles - Yorkshire Wildlife Trust



[Upper Park Wood Nature Reserve](#)
12 miles - Yorkshire Wildlife Trust

Nature reserve map



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