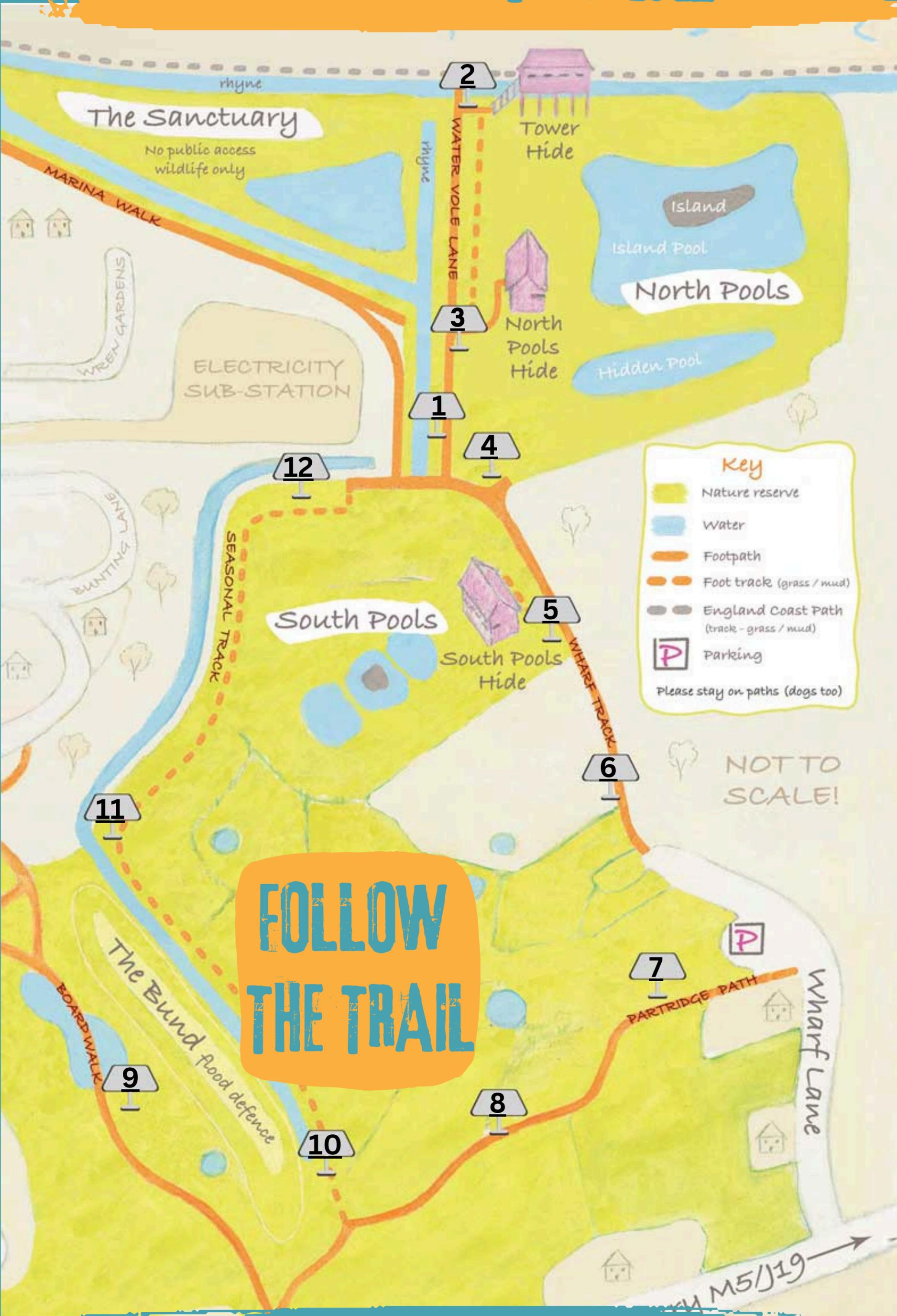


SUMMER TRAIL



CREATED BY THE FRIENDS OF PORTBURY WHARF

SUMMER TRAIL

1

Rhyne

2

Salt Marsh

3

North Pool Hide

4

Insect Patch

5

South Pool Hide

6

Hedgerow

7

Trees

8

Grassland

9

Reedbed

10

Wet Woodland

11

Track

12

Wet Meadow



As you walk **between** the posts
find the 12 **Wilbur** Water Voles

SCROLL OR CLICK TO GO TO EACH POST

1 RHYNE

SUMMER RHYNE

A rhyne, pronounced “reen”, is a man-made drainage ditch. There are 310,000 miles of these watery veins across the UK. In summer, rhyne shelter new life such as baby Water Voles and Moorhen chicks.

SUMMER RHYNE QUIZ

1. Name 3 aquatic insects.
2. What creatures hunt for insects above the water?
3. What mammal lives in the rhyne?

The answers are on the panel

[← TO MAP](#)

[POST 2 →](#)

2 SALT MARSH

SUMMER SALT MARSH

Salt Marsh is grassland regularly flooded by the tide. It is a refuge for vulnerable shorebirds.

Only salt-tolerant plants called halophytes can grow in such salty, wet ground. They take in carbon dioxide and deposit the carbon in the mud which helps reduce global warming.

Because of its important flora and fauna it is a Site of Special Scientific Interest.

SUMMER SALT MARSH QUIZ

1. What is a young Roe Deer called?
2. Name 3 salt marsh plants on this panel
3. What bird is nesting on the salt marsh?

The answers are on the panel

3 NORTH POOLS

SUMMER NORTH POOLS

These two freshwater pools are the deepest on the reserve, so they usually hold water all summer.

There are not as many water birds here as in winter but keep an eye for birds nesting in the reeds. If you are lucky you may even see a Roe Deer in the field.

SUMMER NORTH POOL QUIZ

1. Which birds nest on the island?
2. Which birds flying on the panel have long forked tails?
3. Name 3 birds which dive underwater to find their food?

The answers are on the panel

4 INSECT PATCH

WE NEED INSECTS

Most insects help us, very few harm us.

80% of all plants are pollinated by insects giving us fruit, nuts and vegetables.

Some are beneficial insects which can control pests instead of using toxic chemicals and others eat and recycle dead animals and plants.

SUMMER INSECT PATCH QUIZ

1. Name 2 insects that pollinate flowers.
2. Name 2 insects that help us grow our crops.
3. Name 2 insects that help compost decaying matter.

The answers are on the panel

[← TO MAP](#)

[POST 5 →](#)

5 SOUTH POOL

SUMMER SOUTH POOLS

They are quite shallow, so they largely dry out in summer, but there is enough water to attract ground nesting oystercatchers, swans, geese, coots and moorhens.

Also look out for summer visitors, such as Reed Warblers nesting in the reeds and swallows skimming the water for insects.

SUMMER SOUTH POOL QUIZ

1. What is a baby goose called?
2. Name the black bird with a white beak.
3. What insects might you see above this pool.

The answers are on the panel

6 HEDGEROW

SUMMER HEDGEROW

Over 600 plants, 1,500 insects, 65 birds and 20 mammal species use UK hedgerows for food, shelter and to move between areas.

Bats and bees even use them for navigation.

SUMMER HEDGEROW QUIZ

1. Name 3 mammals that you might find by hedgerows.
2. Apart from birds what else nests in hedgerows?
3. What bird will nest on the ground below a hedgerow?

The answers are on the panel

 [TO MAP](#)

[POST 7](#) 

7 TREES

SUMMER TREES

Many insects lay their eggs in trees. The larvae eat the leaves, sap or wood and the adults feed on the blossom nectar.

Insects attract hungry birds and many of them nest in trees. Some raise families in the tree tops but others, such as tits and owls, prefer holes in tree trunks.

SUMMER TREE QUIZ

1. Name one bird and one mammal that nest in holes in trees.
2. Name one bird and one mammal that builds its nest in the tree tops.
3. Name a bug that likes Hawthorn trees.

The answers are on the panel

8 GRASSLAND

SUMMER GRASSLAND

It is a wildlife haven and it stores carbon too, so great for the climate.

The plants provide food for insects, the insects are food for small mammals, birds and frogs. These, in turn, are food for birds of prey, foxes and Grass Snakes.

SUMMER GRASSLAND QUIZ

1. What are the 3 types of grassland found on the reserve?
2. Name a bird with a type of grassland in its name.
3. Name 3 butterflies that lay eggs on native grasses.

The answers are on the panel

9 REEDBED

SUMMER REEDBED

Reedbeds form in ponds and wet ground. They are dense areas of mainly Common Reed and sometimes Reedmace, aka Bulrush.

Many creatures are found in these 2m tall mass of stems from insects to nesting birds and small mammals to amphibians.

SUMMER REEDBED QUIZ

1. What mammal might you find in a reedbed?
2. What amphibian has a crest and returns to water in the spring to lay eggs?
3. Name a bird that nests in reedbeds?

The answers are on the panel

 [TO MAP](#)

[POST 10](#) 

10 WET WOODLAND

SUMMER WET WOODLAND

Wet woodland is a tangle of water-loving trees, such as willow, alder and birch, growing in a flooded, swampy area.

We have mainly willows in our wet woodland.

In summer it may dry out until re-flooded by autumn rain.

SUMMER WET WOODLAND QUIZ

1. What reptile likes water?
2. What creatures like rotting wood?
3. What is a common name for a Crane Fly?

The answers are on the panel

 [TO MAP](#)

[POST 11](#) 

11 TRACK

SUMMER TRACK

This is a wonderful track for a summer walk.

On one side is a rhyne hidden by lush waterside plants and on the other side there are pastures and meadows.

SUMMER TRACK QUIZ

1. Name 2 birds that you might hear singing along this track.
2. Name 3 butterflies that you might see here.
3. Name 3 flowers that might grow along the edges of the track.

The answers are on the panel

 [TO MAP](#)

[POST 12](#) 

12 WET MEADOW

SUMMER WET MEADOW

This is grassland seasonally flooded by rain with a wonderful mix of wildflowers, grasses and sedges.

As the meadow dries out over summer, so the flowers bloom attracting many pollinators to feed on their nectar.

SUMMER WET MEADOW QUIZ

1. What reptiles and amphibians might hunt in a wet meadow?
2. Name a flower that you might see in a summer wet meadow.
3. What is the name of the “water bat” which hunts insects above water?

The answers are on the panel

 [TO MAP](#)

[TO FINISH](#) 



THE FINISH LINE

WELL DONE!

WE HOPE YOU HAVE ENJOYED YOUR WALK

What's your favourite fact that you learnt during your walk?

Tell your family and friends so they can learn it too.

Next time you visit see if the squares on the panels have changed!

DON'T FORGET TO TRY OUT THE WINTER TRAIL

The winter panels will be installed between October and March



WETLANDSTRAIL.ORG