

Buzzards Access Statement

Contact details

Buzzards Woodland, Withleigh, Tiverton, EX16 8JQ

01884 254665

In the case of an emergency, please call 07767 318129

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Note: Buzzards is an unmanned site

Introduction

Situated on the outskirts of Tiverton, Buzzards wood is a wildlife-rich mixture of ancient woodland, wet pasture and coppice. It sits in a steep, wooded valley through which the river Dart winds its way towards the River Exe.

There is a healthy population of Dormice and some rare and interesting birds such as Dippers and Woodcock. Dogs are welcome, however they need to be under close control or on the lead to minimise disturbance to wildlife.

Arrival & Parking Facilities

- To get to Buzzards, follow the B3137 from Tiverton to Withleigh. When you enter Withleigh, upon seeing a sign marked 'parish church', turn down a small track to the left of this sign. Follow the road until you see the National Trust car park on the left.
- The carpark can be accessed by taking the Thornhill track off the B3137 and following it for around 500m. This track is a single track with passing points and the surface is uneven, so caution is advised. The surface is not flat.
- The spaces in the gravelled carpark are not marked and there are no designated Disabled or Parent & Child spots in this carpark. There is maximum parking for around 5 cars.
- There is a large sign, with information about the tracks and trails around Buzzards wood and next to this a field gate through which the walks around Buzzards can be accessed.
- There is no visitor reception at Buzzards wood.

Access to the woodlands

The route down to the woodland is through a pedestrian gate, and follows a very steep, unmarked path across the field, and down onto a woodland track. There further two farm gates need to be passed through on way down. The distance is approximately 250m.

The woodlands

- Once entering the woodland, the paths are a worn but un-made surface. The route is steep in places, and water covers the path in some areas after heavy rain.
- The river dart runs through the bottom of the valley that the woodlands lie in, though fairly slow moving, it can be fast in places following heavy rain, and is unfenced and easily accessible in many places, with steep banks in parts.



National Trust

- There is a circular route through the woodlands that begins at the carpark, descending down into the woods through pasture.
- There is frequently livestock in the fields in and around Buzzards Woodland, so we ask that all visitors observe the countryside code and keep dogs on a lead unless livestock approach in these areas.

WCs

There are no toilet facilities at Buzzards wood. The nearest public toilets are in Tiverton Town Centre or toilets can be found at Knightshayes, which is a 10 minute drive from the carpark (sat nav postcode: EX16 7RH)

Further points to note

- There is poor mobile phone reception across most of the site.
- As a working woodland, there is occasionally woodland maintenance work occurring, meaning vehicles might be passing through the woodlands. Please follow any diversions in place and observe any warnings in place relating to tree felling.
- There is a bridleway running through the woodland, so you may encounter horses
- Buzzards is an unmanned site, so staff presence is not regularly guaranteed.

Date

02/04/2026