

Seasonal highlights

Throughout the seasons the reserve presents a wealth of spectacular wildlife for visitors' to discover. Spring is alive with birdsong. Cuckoo call from willow scrub, bittern boom in the reed-beds and an array of warblers sing from dawn to dusk. The season sees spoonbill feeding on the flooded pools and egrets stalking along the dyke edges.



As spring runs into summer, swallowtail butterflies emerge. They are joined by Norfolk hawkers, dragonflies and a host of other colourful and fascinating insects. The fen mason wasp, once considered extinct in the UK, can be found along the paths.

From late summer to early autumn, the reserve is an important staging-post for migrating birds, with a variety of waders using Brendan's Marsh as a place to rest and feed.

In winter, flocks of bearded tits repeat their 'pinging' call through the reeds and huge skeins of wild geese fill the leaden sky. At twilight, a trip to the Stubb Mill raptor roost may reward you with harrier, merlin and 'bugling' crane.

NWT Hickling Broad

Postcode: NR12 0BW
Grid ref: TG 428 222
Tel: 01692 598276

Norfolk Wildlife Trust

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Our reserves

If you have enjoyed visiting NWT Hickling Broad why not visit another of our nearby beautiful nature reserves?

Ranworth Broad

Post code: NR13 6HY
Grid ref: TG 358 151

Upton Broad

Post code: NR13 6EQ
Grid ref: TG 380 137

Thorpe Marshes

Post code: NR7 0QA
Grid ref: TG 267 083

Martham Broad

Post code: NR29 4EB
Grid ref: TG 466 203

Further details on all
NWT reserves can be found on our
website: www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk

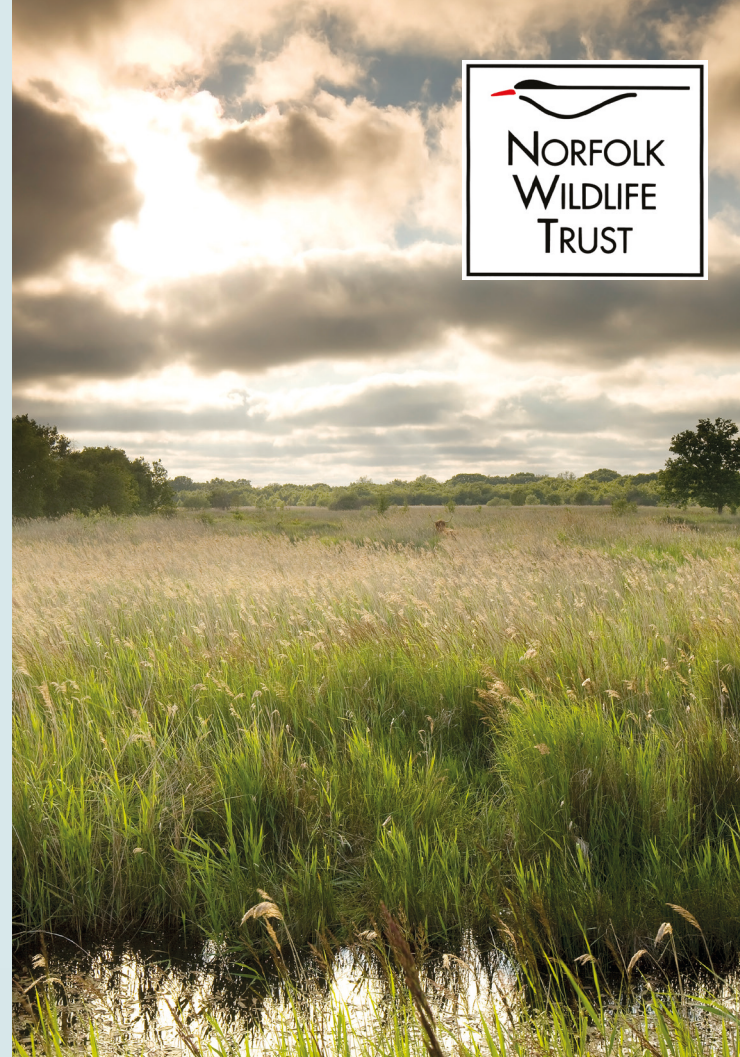
Join us today!

Join Norfolk Wildlife Trust as a member at
Hickling visitor centre from as little as **£3 a month**,
and get a **FREE guided wildlife boat trip!**

Ask at the visitor centre for details, or go to
www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk/membership
and quote code **HBBOAT**



Saving Norfolk's Wildlife for the Future



This National Nature Reserve, owned and managed by Norfolk Wildlife Trust, has been under our protection since 1945.

It forms an important part of the wider Broads landscape and is a haven for many of the UK's rarest animals and plants. The reserve is noted for its swallowtail butterflies, bittern, common crane and wide variety of fenland plants. With its wide open skies, reed-beds, woodland and unspoilt landscape, it offers a perfect place for a walk any time of year.

Hides and viewing points allow fantastic vistas across the marshes and the open water of the broad itself, providing an opportunity to see marsh harrier, great crested grebe and flocks of winter wildfowl. Our Visitor Centre provides refreshments, information, books, and nature related gifts for all ages.

NWT Nature Reserve

HICKLING BROAD

www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk



Saving Norfolk's Wildlife for the Future

Enjoying your visit

The nature reserve is open every day, dawn till dusk. We ask all visitors to check in at the centre when it is open to show their membership card or purchase admission for the reserve. A donations box is available for outside of visitor centre hours. Boat trips operate daily between April – October and can be booked by calling the centre 01692 598276. Group bookings welcome.

Can I bring my dog?

Only registered assistance dogs are permitted onto the nature reserve. A public footpath which forms part of the Weavers Way is accessible from the visitor centre to the village staithe. This can also be picked up on the south side of the broad where you can walk along the broads-edge and Potter Heigham Marshes. Note to dog walkers, adders are resident in these areas.

I have limited mobility, where can I go?

From the visitor centre there are accessible trails to Cadbury and Seckers hides and the view point on the broad. Perch benches are located along the trails. Please note there is a requirement to open and close gates while following some of the paths. We can offer limited parking close to Bittern hide and our Raptor roost watch point, both accessed via a slope. Picnic benches adapted for wheelchair users and accessible toilets are available at the visitor centre.

Facilities

Our visitor centre is open daily April to October (10am – 5pm) and Thursday – Sunday, November to March (10am – 4pm). We have a gift shop, serving light refreshments and have accessible toilets with baby change facilities. There is ample car parking with accessible parking, adjacent to the visitor centre. Bike racks are also available.

At all our sites the responsibility for the safety of visitors is seen as one that is shared between the Trust and the visitor.

Visitors can help by:

- Observing all notices and signs during your visit
- Ensuring all gates are securely closed
- Not cycling on the reserve – bike racks are available at the visitor centre
- Following any instructions and advice given by Trust staff
- Ensuring that children are properly supervised at all times
- Wearing appropriate clothing and footwear

