

# Red Squirrel Walk – 3.5 miles

## Formby, North West

This 1.8ml (2.9km) walk through the pinewoods of Formby is the ideal place to see the famous Formby red squirrels. It is also a great starting point for walks along the Sefton Coastal Path. The squirrels are present throughout the Sefton Coast Pinewoods and there are stunning views of Sefton's natural coast with its golden sand dunes and wide sandy beaches.

**Getting there:** (NT reserve at Formby is at the west end of Victoria Road)

**Road:** 2ml W of the A565, brown signs from end of Formby by-pass

**Car parks:** NT car park (pay and display) at Victoria Road, Freshfield, Formby

**Foot:** Access at Victoria Road or along the Sefton Coastal Path

**Bus:** Cumfy Bus to Victoria Road, Formby; circular nos: 160/1/2/3/4/5

**Rail:** Regular services on Merseyrail network to Freshfield Station

For public transport information visit [www.traveline.org.uk](http://www.traveline.org.uk)

**Maps and start grid ref:** SD 281 082, OS Explorer 285

**Facilities available:** Parking, toilets, baby changing facilities, three picnic areas, ice-cream and soft drinks available

**Terrain:** Easy walking conditions on a surfaced path for most of the route, with a few short steep slopes near Victoria Road. The return section to point 5 is a natural woodland path and is more difficult for buggies

**Distance:** 1.8ml (2.9km)

**Accessibility:** Short steep slopes near to Victoria Road

**Points of interest:** Start the walk at point 1, looking out for the following features:

1. Follow the Cornerstone Walk, N side of road opposite main notice board
2. Bench seat. A pleasant rest amongst mixed woodland, good for watching red squirrels and woodland birds
3. Picnic site. A good place for close views of red squirrels
4. Bench seat. Views across former asparagus fields. A small flock of Herdwick sheep graze here in summer
- 5 Viewing area. This is the most popular site for viewing red squirrels

**Andrew Brockbank, Property Manager at Formby, says:**

'Formby is a terrific place to get close to nature. Pinewoods and close encounters with red squirrels contrast with views of the impressive mobile yellow sand dunes and former asparagus fields.'

**Property contact details:** Tel 01704 878 591

**National Trust properties nearby:** 20 Forthlin Road, Mr Hardman's Photographic Studio, Mendips, Rufford Old Hall and Speke Hall

