

Outdoor property Access Statement Bookham Commons

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Introduction

This property consists of 450 acres of ancient oak woodland, grassland plains, ponds and wetlands. There are way-marked trails, surfaced tracks (which are suitable for buggies and tramper vehicles) and grassy paths across the site. The tracks connect with a wider set of bridleways and so don't make up circular routes, therefore walkers may wish to consult an ordnance survey map for longer walks. The commons are made of London clay and may become very muddy when wet. There is a small natural play area. Dogs are welcome, but owners should be aware that horse riders also use the commons and wild deer roam the site.



natural play area

NB - Mobile phone reception varies in strength across the site. In an emergency, please make contact on the phone number above as soon as you are able.

Arrival & Parking Facilities

The main car park entrance is accessible by following the A246, Leatherhead to Guildford Road to Great Bookham. In Great Bookham head north down the high Street, over the crossroads and then along Church Road to the Commons. The entrance road to the car park and car park surface is firm with a top layer of loose gravel.



Bookham Tunnel car park

There is a cairn for payment at the Tunnel car park or you can use RINGO (telephone 020 3046 0010 and quote area code 8501). The cost to park is £4, or free for National Trust members.

Access from the car park to the start of the walks is level but can be muddy if wet. The surface of the paths is a mixture of surfacing stone and grass paths that are suitable for buggies and electric scooters during dry periods. There are numerous benches dotted around the commons. There is access for mobility vehicles and wheelchairs to the bird hide at the Upper Eastern pond along the surfaced tracks.

The common is also accessible from the London-bound platform at Bookham railway station (please note there is only a stepped footbridge to cross the train line, with no ramps). Buses also stop at the station car park (pay and display maintained by South West trains) Monday to Friday. This access path is formed of earth and grass and may become very muddy during wet weather.



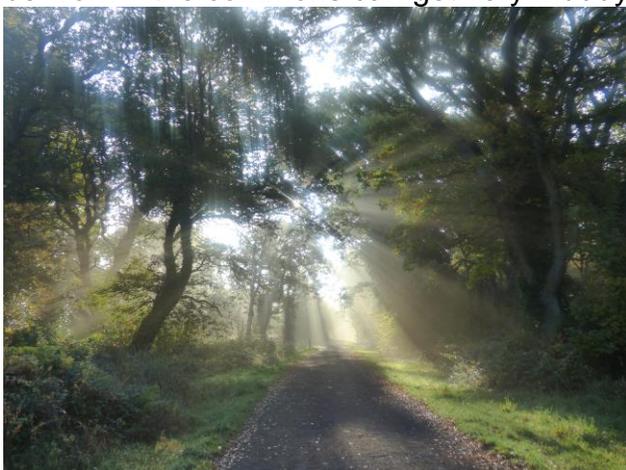
Picture of station footbridge taken from station car park– access to commons is through white 'kissing' gate on far side.

There are no refreshment or toilet facilities available at the car park, station or on the commons. The nearest are available in Great Bookham or at Ye Olde Winsor Castle (public house) on Little Bookham Street.

Dogs must be kept under close control during bird nesting season (April – September). Dog waste bins can be found at: Tunnel car park, Plains car park and outside Merritt's Cottage.

Trail

There is a waymarked trail of approximately 1.5 miles which will take around 30 minutes. It is graded as easy, but there is one fairly steep slope and suitable clothing and footwear should be worn – the commons can get very muddy when wet.



Trail route at Bookham Commons

Further information regarding trails around the property is available on our main website - <http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/bookham-commons>

Contact details for more information

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A variety of landscapes await you on Bookham Commons... From shady, mysterious oakwoods, to open grassland plains, marshy ponds and wetlands, to wet heathland and wood pasture.



Where to go

A network of surfaced tracks can be used year-round to wander circular routes or plan longer distance hikes or cycle trips along quiet lanes and bridle tracks. Grassy paths lead the adventurous to even quieter glades and streams, but bring your boots if it's been raining – the commons are made of London clay and can get quite muddy!

All common land enjoys open access for walkers, though we have to ask cyclists and horse riders to please keep to the blue waymarked tracks to avoid path erosion and damage to rare wild flowers.

Things to look out for

- A** Nightingale
- B** Purple Emperor
- C** Silver-Washed Frillary
- D** Moorhen
- E** Roe deer
- F** Sparrowhawk
- G** Yellow Flag
- H** Reed Mace
- I** Grey Heron

Key

- Surfaced bridle tracks
- Bridle tracks
- Family trail
Some sections muddy in winter
- Footpaths
- Water courses
- Natural play area
- Seasonally grazed grassland

Access and rights of way

- Public bridleway
- National Trust permissive bridle track
- Public footpath

Dogs
Dogs are very welcome on Bookham Commons, though we do ask that they are kept under reasonable control and kept within sight of you.