

Welcome to The Nunnery Lakes Discovery Trail

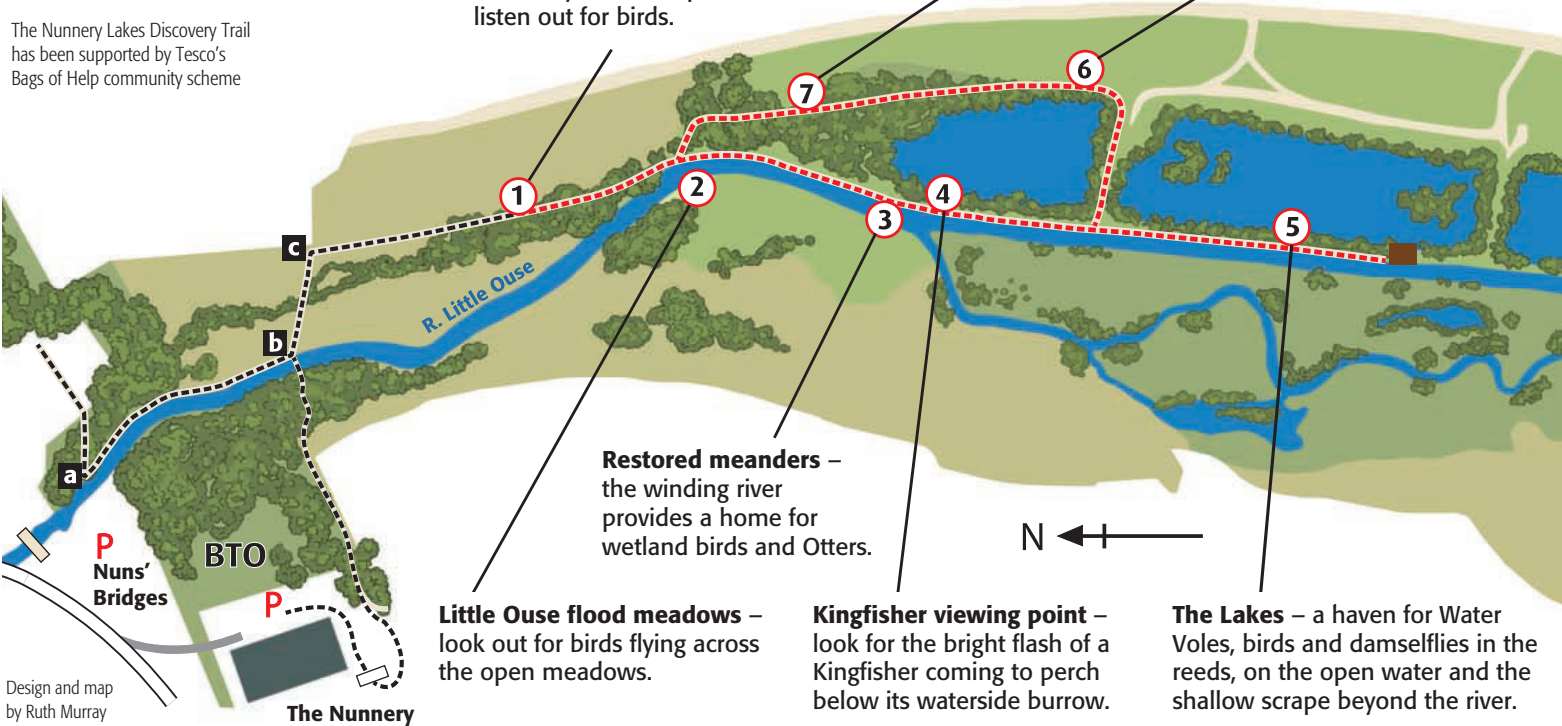


The Nunnery Lakes Discovery Trail has been designed to guide visitors of all ages around the lakes, which are on a nature reserve between the Thet and the Little Ouse rivers. The walk takes about an hour at a leisurely pace. A series of interpretation panels help you to discover more about the special Breckland habitats you pass through and the wildlife you can see and hear.

The lakes were created in the early 1970s when sand and gravel were extracted, so the water is deep and cold, and should be left to the wildlife. The reserve is now owned by the BTO and cared for with the help of volunteers. It is open for the public to enjoy during daylight hours and is quite a wild place, so it's best to wear jeans and walking boots or wellies.

We hope you enjoy your visit

The Nunnery Lakes Discovery Trail has been supported by Tesco's Bags of Help community scheme



Design and map by Ruth Murray

Key

- Discovery Trail
- BTO Permissive paths
- Interpretation signs
- White five-bar gate
- Kissing gates
- ▭ Bridge over Little Ouse
- Observation hide
- Lakes and rivers
- Woodland
- P Parking

How to find the trail

Via Nuns' Bridges Car Park:

Cross the pedestrian bridge over the Little Ouse and turn right. Take the path beside the river through kissing gate **a**. The sign here will give you more information. On the left is low-lying fen which once formed part of the floodplain, and across the river is an area of wet woodland. Some of the trees lean precariously towards the river and a few have started falling into the river, creating a tangle of branches where Kingfishers sometimes perch and Moorhens nest. Ahead you will see the three arches of a bridge. Pass through kissing gate **b**, turn left and after 50 metres go through kissing gate **c** on the right. About 150 metres down this path is the start of the Discovery Trail, a series of interpretative panels with information about the wildlife to look out for.

Via The Nunnery:

Leaving The Nunnery through the white five-bar gate, cross the road and turn left along the pavement until you reach the corner (Nightingale Way). Cross the road and go down the gravel track, where you will find an information sign opposite the cottages. Carry on over a small bridge until you reach the bridge over the Little Ouse. Otters, Water Voles and Brown Trout have all been seen in the river here in recent years. Continue beyond the bridge and after 50 metres kissing gate **c** is on the right. About 150 metres down this path is the start of the Discovery Trail.

Why not join the *Friends of Nunnery Lakes Reserve*, a group of enthusiastic volunteers who give up their time to help out with the management work and conservation projects on the reserve?

If you are interested in getting involved please contact the Reserve Manager on 01842 750050 or email: info@bto.org

www.bto.org/reserve

The BTO is a registered charity and the UK's leading provider of independent evidence for conservation, primarily about birds. We combine the observations of thousands of survey volunteers across the country with data analysis by professional scientists. This allows us to carry out large-scale surveys, and make the results freely available.

The BTO headquarters and many of our science staff are based in Norfolk, with small offices in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Registered Charity No. 216652 (England & Wales), SC039193 (Scotland)