Langford Lakes

Location
Postcode SP3 4PA
Grid ref SU037370

Access — Suitable for pushchairs and wheelchairs. Dogs are not allowed. Facilities - bird hides, Visitor Centre, toilets, car and coach parking, parking for disabled visitors, cycle racks.

Directions
If driving - Just off the A36 Salisbury to Warminster road, follow sign for The Langfords. In Steeple Langford turn into Duck Street. Reserve entrance is on left once you have crossed the river.

If using bus – use the No.265 bus service between Salisbury and Bath. Nearest bus stop is 500m away in Steeple Langford. Visit www.wiltshire.gov.uk/parkingtransportandstreets

If cycling – National Cycle Route 24 runs right past Langford Lakes. Visit www.sustrans.org.uk

Nearby reserves – Little Langford Down

About Wiltshire Wildlife Trust
Our vision is to create a county rich in wildlife and help people live sustainable lifestyles that protect the environment for the benefit of everyone.

We have about 20,000 members, look after almost 40 nature reserves, are supported by hundreds of volunteers, and work with local communities, schools, businesses and public bodies to achieve our aims. To do all this we rely on the support of our members.

If you would like to join us, or to find out about how you can help the environment, please visit www.wiltshirewildlife.org

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Registered charity no. 266202.

Cover Photo: Kingfisher, Margaret Holland
Langford Lakes

31.62 hectares

Nestled in the Wylye Valley between Salisbury and Warminster, Langford Lakes is an ideal place for bird watching. The four lakes provide a vital stopping off point and resident habitat for about 150 different bird species.

The reserve has a relaxing atmosphere with good level paths and you can enjoy watching wildfowl from five hides overlooking the lakes. You may even see some rarities, such as osprey. Residents include kingfisher, water rail and gadwall. In spring watch for great-crested grebes shaking their heads in courtship. Reed warbler, waders and terns drop in on their summer migration.

As winter advances shoveler and wigeon join the other ducks present all year round and occasionally the endangered and secretive bittern pays a visit.

When gravel was excavated during the 1960s and 1970s the process left behind holes that filled with water and were turned into a commercial fishery.

Since we acquired the lakes in 2001, we have created islands, ponds and wader scrapes that provide habitat for birds such as redshank and sandpiper that probe the mud for food.

We have improved the 800m stretch of Wylye River for fish, designated a Special Area of Conservation. And we have transformed a neighbouring field into the Great Meadow wetland, which opened in September 2012.

We run many family and educational activities from our two centres, which are also available to hire and are available for weddings.

You can get day tickets to fish on the Wylye for wild brown trout and grayling - catch and release only.

Coarse fishing is available by joining our Langford Lakes Fishing Club. Access is provided for wheelchair anglers.