

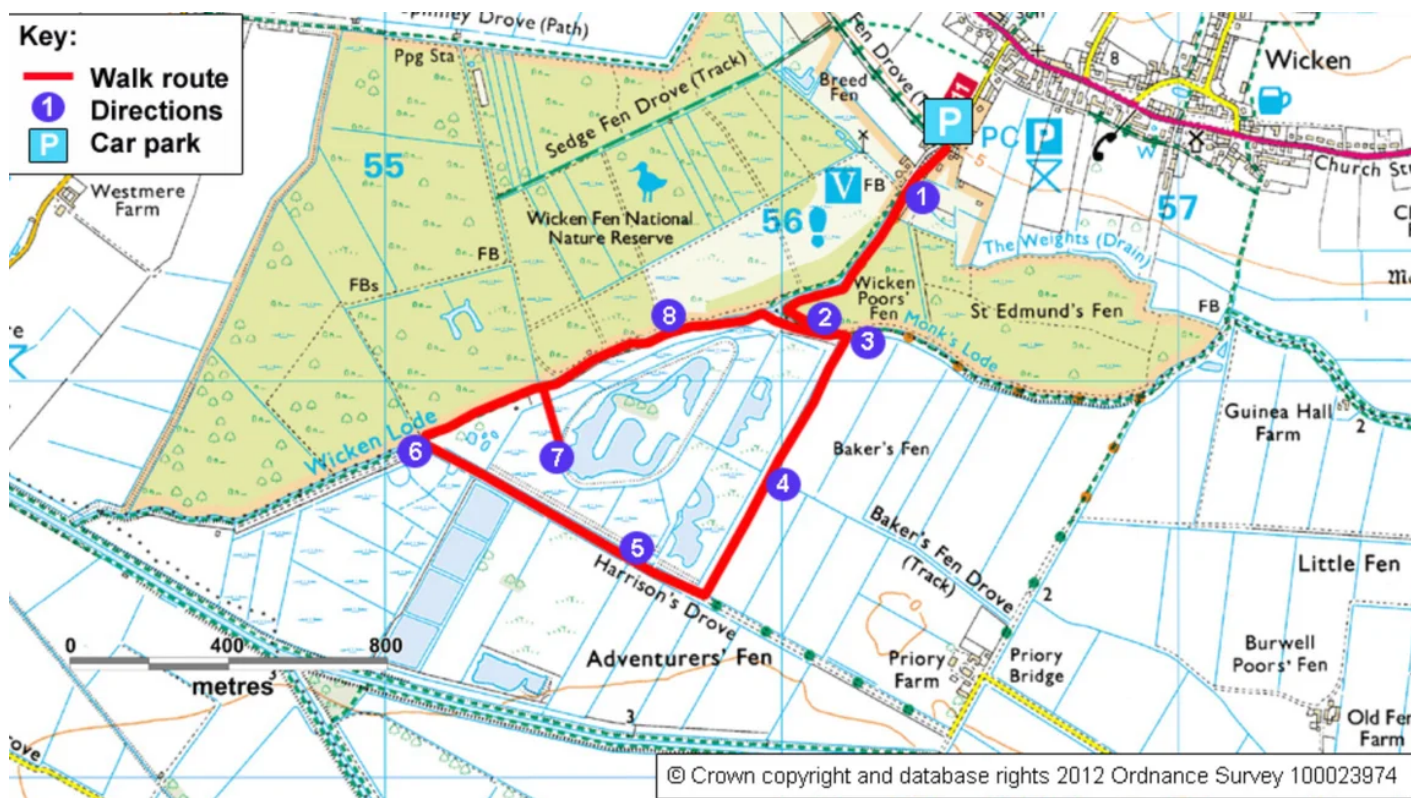
CAMBRIDGESHIRE

Wicken Fen Adventurers' Trail

This 3-mile trail explores a varied landscape of reed beds, open water and wet grassland. Look out for dragonflies in summer and herds of Highland cattle and Konik ponies.

! Safety

Take care near waterways and ponds.



Information

Address: Wicken Fen National Nature Reserve, Lode Lane, Wicken, CB7 5XP. Grid ref: TL563705

OS map: Landranger 154

Activity: Walking

Moderate: A well-signed route along wide grassy paths (can be muddy). For further details, please see Terrain section.

Dog friendly: Dogs on a short lead are welcome inside the visitor centre and shop, as well as the Docky Hut Café when you are choosing and ordering your food. We only allow assistance dogs on the Sedge Fen as this part of the Fen is home to several vulnerable, protected species. This includes the boardwalk, woodland walk and summer nature trail. Please do not let your dog jump in the water, as nests and birds are easily disturbed.

Full trail: Miles: 2.75 (km: 4.4)

Access: Easy

Duration: 1 hour 30 mins

Terrain

Total steps: 8

Start point: Wicken Fen National Trust visitor centre. Grid ref: TL563705

1. Check in at the visitor centre if you are a member or need information. As you exit, Wicken Lode is on your right. Follow the path keeping the water to your right. You will pass some ash trees and Wicken's Poor Fen on your left. This is common land. Traditionally local villagers had the right to collect sedge and peat from here.
2. Cross Monk's Lode at Norman's Bridge. Look out for plants like arrowhead and water lilies. Turn left after the bridge.
3. Walk through the double set of gates onto the grassy bank overlooking Baker's Fen. Please ensure they are closed behind you, as our grazing animals use this crossing point between different areas of the fen.
4. Walk along this bank, known as Moore's Drove, with views to your left over Baker's Fen. This grassland is wet in winter and into spring, attracting waders, and is grazed by our herds of highland cattle and Konik ponies. Continue to the end of the path
5. Turn right along the next path, and on your right is the site of Norman's Mill.
6. Note the reed beds on your left and the many birds and insects inhabiting them. Turn right again to walk alongside Wicken Lode. There is a squeeze gap and path on the right leading to West Mere Hide, used to overlook the mere's west end and the island.
7. Continue past the sign for West Mere Hide. Go down the path to visit West Mere Hide to see what wildfowl are out on the mere.
8. Return to the Wicken Lode bank, turn right and follow along the lode. Cross back over Normans Bridge and return towards the Visitor Centre.

Route has a slight incline. Sections of the route can get wet and muddy in winter.

End point: Wicken Fen National Trust visitor centre. Grid ref: TL563705
