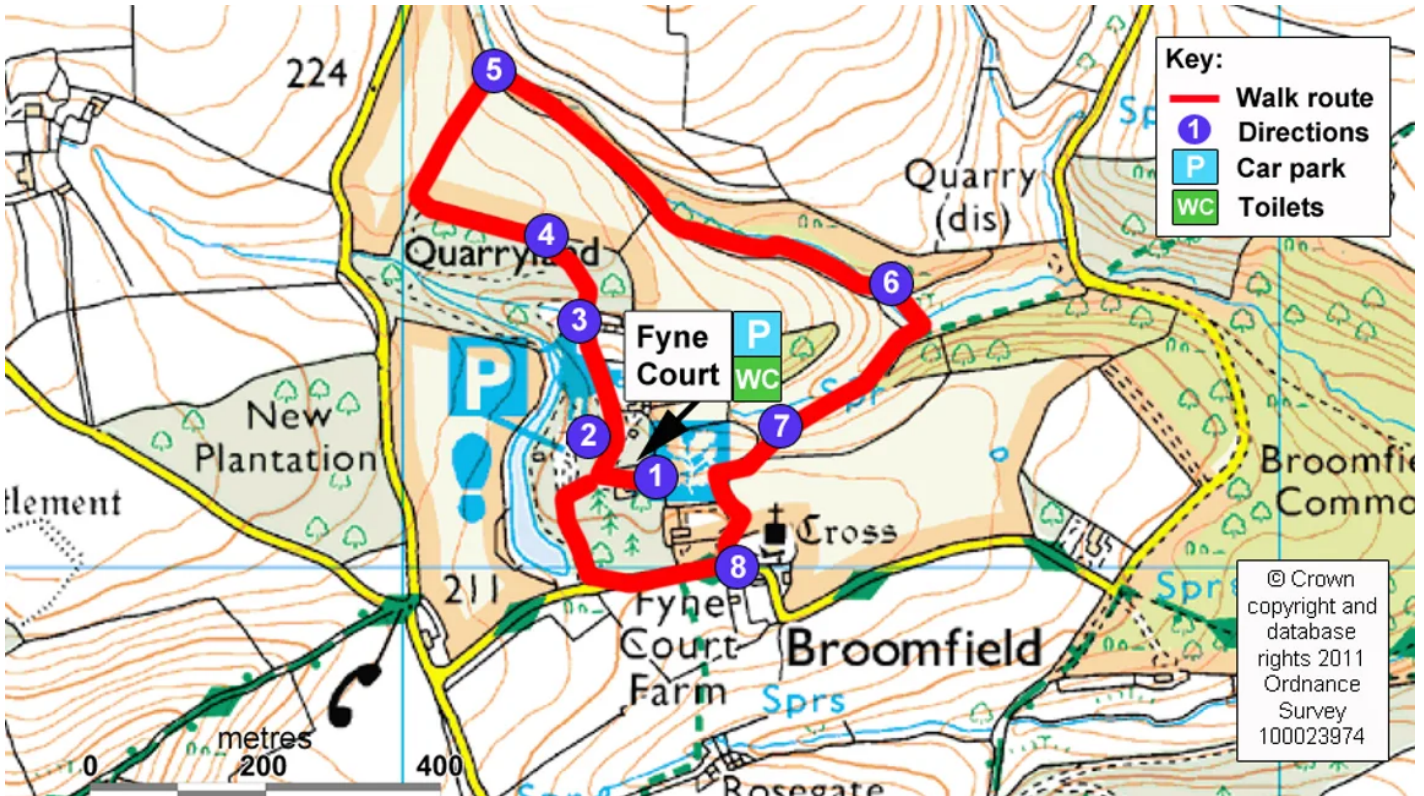


SOMERSET

Fyne Court wildlife walk

Discover a wealth of wildlife on this gentle walk around Fyne Court Estate, starting near the old buildings in the courtyard, then around broadleaved woodland, grazed meadows and through the remains of a once well respected Arcadian landscape park. Five Pond Wood is currently closed. When you reach this point on the route, please follow the re-directed path.



Information

Address: Fyne Court, Broomfield, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA5 2EQ

OS map: Explorer 140; Landranger 182

Activity: Walking

Easy: The walk covers a range of grass, stone and soil paths, with some steps and gates. For further details, please see Terrain section.

Not suitable for dogs: To avoid disturbing wildlife, dogs are not permitted in the Somerset Wildlife Trust reserve. Dogs are welcome under close control in the National Trust section of the estate.

Full trail: Miles: 1.5 (km: 2.4)

Duration: 30 mins - 40 mins

Terrain

Follow the Five Pond Wood nature trail (waymarked in purple). The walk covers a range of grass, stone and soil paths, with some steps and gates. There is also an all-ability circular trail waymarked in yellow.

Total steps: 8

Start point: Fyne Court courtyard, grid ref: ST223320

1. The walk starts by the information centre and Andrew Crosse display, which provides lots of information about Fyne Court and the Quantocks in general. From the information centre, walk out of the courtyard and up the stone track towards the car park. Once past all the buildings, turn right down the track.
2. A short way down the track there is an information board on the left with coloured arrows pointing along a gravelled path. Follow this path left into the wood and then take the right-hand split in the path, and continue straight along through a laurel tunnel.
3. Look out for a silted-up pond to the left of the path. Just past this pond there are steps leading up the hill on the right-hand side, climb these and then take the right-hand path through beech woodland. Fyne Court supports many veteran trees, especially beech. They provide refuge for insects, bats, birds and fungi. Listen for the drumming of great spotted woodpeckers in the early spring and the coarse cawing of rooks in the rookery.
4. At the next split take the path to the right and go through a gate that leads into a field. Walk down across the field and slightly to the right. Once you can see the fence line against Five Pond Wood you should be able to spot a gate; head towards this.
5. Once at the gate go through into Five Pond Wood and follow the path immediately to the right, through the wood.
6. A wooden bridge takes you across the stream and then on through a gate before emerging from the wood. Cross another bridge, looking left for a fantastic wet meadow. Climb the short slope to a wide track, turn right and follow it along.
7. After a short distance you will reach another gate. Go through and follow the path to a few steps before a gate, which leads into a grazed meadow. Keep the garden wall on

your right and head towards Broomfield Church, follow the garden wall around the corner where you will come to the final gate.

8. From the gate turn left, up to the road and then turn right. Follow the road back to the entrance to Fyne Court and then the track into the courtyard.

End point: Fyne Court courtyard, grid ref: ST223320
