



# Harridge Woods Nature Reserve

ST 648 484. 136 acres (55.1 ha.)

Harridge Woods is mainly made up of semi-natural ancient woodland. It is made up of five sites and forms a large part of the Mells Valley Prime Biodiversity Area in Somerset.

**Start:** Pull off area, by ST 648 484

**Terrain:** Footpaths steep in places. Can become very muddy after prolonged periods of rain. Possible falling rocks from outcrops.

**Distance:** Approx. 1.1 miles

**Approx time:** 25-30 mins

Go For a Wild Walk



**Great Spotted Woodpecker**  
The great spotted woodpecker is black and white with white shoulder patches and red underneath the tail. Males have a red patch at the back of the head.

Map data ©2017 Google



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**Start:** Pull off area, by ST 648 484

**Notes:** Footpaths steep in places. Can become very muddy after prolonged periods of rain. Possible falling rocks from outcrops.

## Otter

*Look for dark smears of poo with fish bones in them on prominent stones or logs. This is how the Otter marks its territory.*



## Get Started!

- 1 From the pull off area, which is big enough for a few cars, head east along the main track.
- 2 Stay on the main path keeping to the left until you reach the end of the hard track where a footpath turns off to the left and one a little further on goes to the right. Take the righthand path.
- 3 Here an adventurous path heads into the woods, please take care as the path can be slippy and there are roots everywhere.
- 4 When you reach the steps take a left and cross over the bridge (an otter has been seen but only once!!) and up to the old Keepers Cottage which we have turned into a bat roost.
- 5 Retrace your steps back over the bridge and then continue up the steps.
- 6 When you meet the main track at the outdoor classroom area, turn right and keep your eyes peeled for some of the ancient ash stoggles.
- 7 Turn left back up to the main entrance gate.

## Feeling Better?

## Roe Deer

*A slender, medium-sized deer with short antlers and no tail. Roe Deer are mostly brown in colour, turning reddish in the summer and darker grey in the winter. They have a paler, buff patch around the rump.*

