



Broad-bodied  
Chaser Dragonfly  
© J. Bates



Bullrushes on Alvecote  
Meadows  
© Sue Steward



Lapwing  
© Darin Smith

Explore the landscape, history and wildlife of the Tame Valley Wetlands. Stretching between Birmingham and Tamworth is an extraordinary, hidden landscape on the doorstep of over one million people.



Alvecote Meadows  
© Sue Steward



## Getting here

Warwickshire Moor Local Nature Reserve is situated off Moor Lane, Bolehall, close to the centre of Tamworth. There is a small area to park cars at the entrance to the site and there is limited parking on Moor Lane (nearest postcode is B77 3LL).

A bus route passes near to the start of the walk.  
Visit: [www.staffordshire.gov.uk](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk) for more information.

This guide is available to download from the website.  
For more information visit:

[tamevalleywetlands.co.uk](http://tamevalleywetlands.co.uk)

✉ [enquiries@tamevalleywetlands.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@tamevalleywetlands.co.uk)

Facebook.com/tamevalleywetlands

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Cover image, Cattle on Alvecote  
Meadow © Sue Steward. Content  
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Wildlife Trust



Recycle  
after use



# Warwickshire Moor & Alvecote Circular Walk

Medium: 10.5 km / 6.5 miles



## Follow the Countryside Code

Sections of this circular walk travel through wildlife friendly areas. Please be aware of this and know your Countryside Code:

- Leave gates and property as you find them and keep to paths
- Leave no trace of your visit and take your litter home
- Keep dogs under effective control
- Be considerate of locals and others enjoying the outdoors
- Follow advice and local signs.

**Warwickshire Moor Local Nature Reserve**  
The reserve is owned by Tamworth Borough Council and managed by Staffordshire Wildlife Trust through the Wild About Tamworth Project. It was created in 2006 when the main ditch running through the reserve was dug and widened and a series of pools and scrapes created. Many different volunteer groups and local residents were involved with other projects to build boardwalks, lay footpaths and create nesting boxes. The reserve is home to species such as broad-bodied chaser dragonflies, sedge warblers and

bullhead and minnow in the River Anker. **Alvecote Pools**  
Alvecote Pools is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and nature reserve situated alongside the River Anker, adjacent to the hamlet of Alvecote on the border of Warwickshire and Staffordshire in England. Consisting of two discrete areas, Pooly Fields and Alvecote Meadows, the site covers 128 ha (320 acres) in total and is the largest SSSI in Warwickshire. First notified in 1955, Alvecote Meadows has been owned by Warwickshire Wildlife Trust since 1997. The SSSI comprises

a series of shallow pools alongside the river that have arisen as an effect of colliery subsidence from Alvecote Colliery, which was later merged to form North Warwickshire Colliery and which ceased operation in 1965. In addition to the wetland habitat, there are areas of fen, reed bed and woodland. As a result, the area is regionally important for bird life, and over 100 species are reported annually, with between 60 and 70 breeding. The site is also important for beetles, with 322 species recorded, and spiders (121 species). The Coventry Canal was constructed to connect the rapidly expanding city of Coventry with the Trent & Mersey Canal. This way, its promoters hoped to exploit the potential of the Warwickshire coalfields, shipping fuel both to north and south (via the Oxford Canal). Its construction took over 20 years before the whole line eventually opened in 1790. Nonetheless, it was a profitable venture that still paid a dividend right up to 1947, the year before the canals were taken under the Government's wing.



Tame  
Valley  
Wetlands





# Warwickshire Moor & Alvecote Circular walk

**Distance:** 10.5 km (6.5 miles)

**Allow:** 3-4 hours

**Landscape and path type:** The route uses surfaced footpaths & bridleways, muddy tracks, hills and steep inclines, tarmacked pavements and roads. There are slopes and kissing gates during this walk. Sturdy footwear is recommended.

**Map:** OS Map 232 Nuneaton & Tamworth, Lichfield & Atherstone.

**Dogs:** Restricted to public rights of way through the reserve, under close control at all times.

## Directions:

**1** From the small parking area on Moor Lane, look for the boardwalk near you to explore the Warwickshire Moor area. The boardwalk is a short loop around the Local Nature Reserve where you will get the chance to see dragonflies, birds and small mammals. Upon reaching the parking area again, walk to the left, along Moor Lane towards the railway.

**2** Walk through the rail tunnel, following the finger post ahead. Continue to follow the way marking posts through the fields until reaching a surfaced track alongside playing fields in 740m.

**3** Exit through the kissing gate onto Moor Lane again, walking along the road to the T-junction and turn right. Follow the road onto Bracklesham Way and over the rail bridge. Turn left onto Tamworth Road.

**4** Turn left onto Shuttington Road over another railway bridge. Follow this road until you reach Shuttington Bridge,

then take the public footpath down into the fields to the right, following the way marking posts and exiting onto Alvecote Lane in 730m. Turn left and walk along Alvecote Lane, over Alvecote Bridge and through a kissing gate down the slope then turn back on yourself onto the Coventry Canal at Bridge 59. You can leave the circular walk here to explore Pooley Fields Country Park.

**5** Follow the towpath along the canal for 3km, passing beneath bridges 59 to 70 before leaving the path at Amington Road Bridge (bridge 71) and joining June Crescent. At Bridge 63 (Hodge Lane Bridge) take the time to leave the circular walk briefly to explore a Staffordshire Wildlife Trust Nature reserve at Hodge Lane. Walk along Amington Road for 580m before turning right onto Moor Lane and continuing along the Lane for 310m to the end of the walk.

## Key

- ☆ Walk highlight
- ☕ Refreshments
- P Parking
- 🚻 Toilets
- 🚌 Bus stop
- 🏠 Buildings
- 💧 Open water
- 🌲 Woodland
- 🪦 Cemetery
- ● ● Warwickshire Moor & Alvecote (circular route)
- 2 Route point
- Road
- - - Footpath
- - - Bridleway
- Track
- Train track



Alvecote Pools woodland  
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