Country Parks in Northamptonshire

Please don’t bin me, pass me on
Explore, discover and enjoy

- Swing, glide and climb through the trees at Irchester Country Park using the Jungle Parc UK high ropes adventure course.
- Explore the Edwardian reservoir features on the waterworks heritage trail at Sywell Country Park.
- Relax in the sensory garden or burn some energy in the superb play area at Brixworth Country Park.
- Spot a Kingfisher at Barnwell Country Park – ask the rangers where to look.
- Bike round Pitsford Water and the nearby Brampton Valley Way
- Explore trails in the ancient Rockingham Forest at Fermyn Woods Country Park and then reward yourself with home made cake in the Skylark Café
- Book a ranger led environmental activity session for your school, your group or your child’s birthday party
- Have a go at conservation volunteering, or a park event, or simply relax and enjoy the countryside

Opening Times
The park grounds are open all the time. Parking available at all times. Main car parks and toilets are open (as a minimum) 9am to 5pm every day (except Christmas Day).

Opening times for other facilities vary please check before travelling.

Pay and display parking applies at all parks (except Brampton Valley Way)

Good value season tickets are available.

Public Transport – Please visit our web site or contact Travel line

www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/parks
Northamptonshire County Council’s award winning Country Parks each have their own unique character and something to offer for everyone. With friendly and helpful staff, easy parking, picnic meadows, surfaced trails, sign posts and plenty of seating, the parks are provided with access for everyone in mind.

www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/parks
Brixworth Country Park
GATEWAY TO PITSFORD WATER

- Seven mile cycle and walking track round Pitsford Water
- Trim trail
- Superb children’s play areas
- Willowtree café – Hot and cold refreshments (Tel: 01604 889343)
- Pitsford Cycles – cycle hire and cycle shop (Tel: 01604 881777)
- Sensory garden
- Day and season permit trout fishing and tackle shop at Pitsford Lodge, Holcot (Tel: 01604 781350)
- Day and season bird watching permit for Pitsford Water nature reserve available from Pitsford Lodge, Holcot (Tel: 01604 781350)
- Sailing school (Tel: 01604 880801)
- Wildlife specialities: Barn owl, skylark, lapwing
- Meeting rooms for hire seating up to 45
Brampton Valley Way
WALKING, CYCLING AND HORSE RIDING

- One of the finest walking, cycling and in parts horse riding routes in the country
- 14 miles (22½ Km) of surfaced path through beautiful countryside along the former Northampton to Market Harborough railway line
- Part of Route 6 of the National Cycle Network
- Accessible from Brixworth Country Park via Merry Tom Lane bridleway also via car parks on roads between Boughton to Church Brampton, Brixworth to Spratton, Pitsford to Chapel Brampton, Draughton to Maidwell and Arthingworth to Kelmarsh
- Magnificent Victorian railway tunnels at Kelmarsh and Oxenden (cyclists advised to dismount and use lights)
- Wildlife specialties – hedgerow birds, butterflies and wildflowers including oxeye daisy and knapweeds. Triangular meadow between Kelmarsh and Great Oxenden contains rarities such as Adder’s tongue fern and saw-wort

Email: brixworth@northamptonshire.gov.uk · Telephone: 01604 889478
Irchester Country Park

THE IRONSTONE PARK

- Woodland trails
- Spectacular quarry and Jurassic geology
- Picnic meadows
- Superb play area for tots to teens – including quarry themed sand play, train, tree house, bank slides, superb snake swing and more set in a large meadow
- Jungle Parc UK – tree top high ropes adventure courses for adults and children
  www.jungleparc.co.uk
- Quarryman’s Rest Café
  www.quarrymansrestcafe.co.uk
- Narrow gauge Ironstone Railway Museum
  (Sundays and bank holidays only)
- Wildlife specialities: Woodpeckers, sparrow hawk and orchids
- Situated near Wellingborough
- Nature Hut party/meeting room for hire
Sywell Country Park
EDWARDIAN RESERVOIR AND ARBORETUM

- Stunningly beautiful Edwardian period former water supply reservoir
- Waterworks heritage trail explaining the history of the reservoir and its period buildings
- Beautiful 2½ mile (4km) reservoir walk
- Amphibian pond and butterfly garden.
- Visitor centre (with refreshments)
- Superb sand and water themed play area
- Day ticket coarse fishing (notably specimen tench and pike). Free for under 12s
- Pinetum
- Wildlife specialities: Water birds and amphibians
- Situated near Northampton
- Wild woodland play area
- Brockwood wild woodland play area with a unique badger theme
• Beautiful lakes and riverside walks near the historic market town of Oundle
• Picnic meadows
• Lovely children’s play area
• Day ticket coarse fishing (notably specimen carp). Free for under 12s
• Bird hides
• Interactive visitor information centre (refreshments available)
• Wildlife specialities: Kingfishers, warblers, water birds
• Meeting room for hire (seats up to 30)
Fermyn Woods Country Park

GATEWAY TO ROCKINGHAM FOREST

- Skylark café – home made cakes, freshly prepared food and refreshments
- Range of children’s play including a play castle and separate toddler area next to café
- Picnic meadows
- Access to trails in the ancient Fermyn Woods
- Day ticket coarse fishing. Free for under 12s
- Wildlife specialities: Red kite, black hairstreak butterfly, nightingale
- Superb walking trail to Lyveden New Bield and Wadenhoe village
- Situated near Brigstock village
- Outdoor activity shelter (available for hire)
Getting involved...
LEARN NEW SKILLS AND MEET NEW PEOPLE
All of the parks provide opportunities for you to get involved in volunteer work in the parks – learn new skills and meet new people – contact your local park for details.

Meeting/activity rooms for hire
If you are looking for a good value venue in beautiful country park surroundings, look no further: We have rooms for hire at Brixworth, Sywell Barnwell and Irchester Country Parks – suitable for business meetings, craft activities and workshops, community gatherings, illustrated talks, parties, schools and groups. Telephone 01604 889478 to discuss your needs.

School, group and corporate activities
EDUCATION, TRAINING, MANAGEMENT AND MOTIVATION
Led by experts and tailored to your needs we offer an exciting range of outdoor activities for schools, public and private groups. From pond dipping and nature studies to orienteering and survival skills our activities are suitable for all ages and abilities.

Nature Tots
Join a parents and tots group with a difference – We offer a regular programme of nature activities in the country parks specially designed for toddlers. Please telephone 01604 889478 for more details.

Jungle Parc UK high ropes adventure
Swing, zip and glide through the trees at Irchester Country Park using the Jungle Parc UK high ropes adventure courses. X-plorer course for those taller than 1.35m and the Adventurer course for the little ones above 1.05m. Great fun for family and friends. Jungle party packages available. Visit www.jungleparc.co.uk for more information.
Country Park events and family fun

For details on a wide range of park events visit www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/parks

Birthday parties

Looking for a Birthday Party with a difference? How about trying our Education Ranger led parties with a natural flavour! From bug-hunting & pond-dipping to a totally Wild Woods experience, there is an exciting package to suit all. We provide a room if you want to provide party food yourselves. Or take the strain off and have your celebration nibbles provided by our on site cafes. Telephone 01604 889478 to discuss your needs.

Fishing

Barnwell, Sywell and Fermyn Country Parks offer a range of superb day and season ticket course fishing like this specimen trench from Sywell Country park.

Pocket Parks

The Pocket Parks Scheme is an innovative and award winning initiative set up by Northamptonshire County Council to help local communities own and manage green spaces for the benefit of people and wildlife. To date over 80 have been set up across Northamptonshire. If you are interested in finding your local pocket park, helping out in it, or setting a new one up in your community, please contact our Pocket Parks Officer. Telephone: 01604 889478 Email: pocketparks@northamptonshire.gov.uk

Cycling

Brixworth Country Park and the Brampton Valley Way offer superb car free cycling routes. Pitsford Cycles at Brixworth Country Park caters for all your cycling needs from cycle hire to sale and repair. www.pitsfordcycles.co.uk Telephone 01604 881777

For more information on all the activities above visit www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/parks
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This information can be provided in other languages and formats upon request including large print, Braille and audio. Please call 01604 889478.