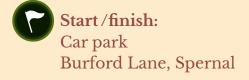


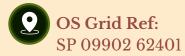
## Accessible trail in the Heart of England Forest

Our specially designed route suitable for wheelchairs, pushchairs and people with limited mobility, passes through a mixture of recent plantation and more mature woodland, with views across to ancient woodland.









WHAT3WORDS control.gives.indicated

Terrain: Easy going, suitable for wheelchairs, pushchairs and people with limited mobility.





## Hazel

Loaded with catkins in spring and nuts in autumn, hazel is an indicator of an ancient woodland site.



## **Butterflies**

Depending on the time of year you can spot red admiral, comma, silver washed fritillary (pictured) and speckled wood species as you follow the trail.



## The different aged trees together with mature hedgerows and grassland provide a rich variety of habitats for wildlife in this area of the Forest.

**1.** Access the Morgrove coppice car park from Burford lane **1**. When entering the car park please park on the grassed half of the car park.

To begin the walk head to the end of the car park furthest from the entrance where you will find the first waymarker 2.

2. Begin to follow the path. When you reach a waymarked post with a bridge to the right 3 continue forward keeping the hedge on your right. The woodland you can see to the right in the distance is Spernal Park wood which is a mix of ancient semi natural woodland (ASNW) and plantations on an ancient woodland site (PAWS). Ancient semi

natural woodland means it has had continual forest cover since 1600.

- **3.** Continuing along the path you will pass a bridge to your right **4**. Still following the path, it then starts to gently bend towards the left.
- **4.** You will arrive at a small bridge which will take you in to Morgrove Coppice Wood **3**. As you follow the path through Morgrove Coppice you will find yourself surrounded by trees of all ages. The pine trees that were planted here in the 60's have been thinned out of this area to allow us to plant broadleaf trees in their place.

Follow the accessible route markers.



- **5.** Follow the path as it meanders through the wood. At a T junction follow the waymarker and take the path to the left **6**.
- **6.** Following the path, you will notice some large Scots pine trees to your right. Keep following the waymarked route until you meet the boardwalk which will appear on you left **7**.
- 7. Continue forward on the boardwalk following it to its end as it exits the Morgrove coppice woodland 8.
- **8.** After leaving the boardwalk take the path diagonally to the right through the plantation that leads back to the car park **1**.



Our wild walk takes you off the beaten track to explore the mature woodland and see the veteran oaks. Waterproof, sturdy footwear is a must for this more challenging Forest walk.



Distance: 0.45 miles 1.2 miles when including the accessible wildlife trail.



**Difficulty:** Moderate



Start/finish: Car park Burford Lane, Spernal



OS Grid Ref: SP 09902 62401



WHAT3WORDS control.gives.indicated



Terrain: Uneven, can be slippery, wellies when wet as gets very muddy.



Things to look out for





Don't miss the vibrant carpet of bluebells in spring. The presence of English bluebells can indicate an ancient woodland site - one that has existed continuously since at least 1600 AD.



Veteran oaks

Full of character and beauty, veteran oaks are rich in wildlife providing habitats to many birds, moss and lichens, fungi, and hundreds of different insects.



Walk through the Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland (ASNW) and find veteran oaks, bluebells in the spring, and wildflowers and butterflies in the summer months.

**1.** Access the Morgrove coppice car park from Burford lane **1**. When entering the car park please park on the grassed half of the car park.

To begin the walk head to the end of the car park furthest from the entrance where you will find the first waymarker 2.

- 2. Following the path, you will reach a waymarked post with a bridge to the right, turn right and cross the bridge 3.
- **3.** The path will take you for a further 50 metres until you reach another gap in the hedge **4**.

Once through the gap, head diagonally left entering the mature woodland of Spernal Park (5).

This area of Spernal Park is ASNW which means it has had continual forest cover since 1600. The wood is also home to veteran oak trees and many wildflowers.

- **4.** Walking along the path you will pass a large open ride to your right looking back up into the wood **6**. In the spring and summer months you will spot wildflowers and butterflies.
- 5. Keep following the path as it snakes through the bottom of the wood. At the end of the path turn left down a short set of stairs exiting Spernal park 7. Looking across to the new plantation you will spot the waymarker ahead.

Follow the orange waymarkers along the route.



**6.** Following the waymarker enter the woodland plantation **3.** Follow the path diagonally left as it snakes through the plantation.

At the end of the new plantation you will spot the next waymarker across the ride to your left 9.

7. When you reach the waymarker you will find a bridge through the hedge. Cross this and either turn left to return to the car park or turn right to join the Morgrove Coppice accessible trail .

Pick up directions from **step 4** of the accessible route.