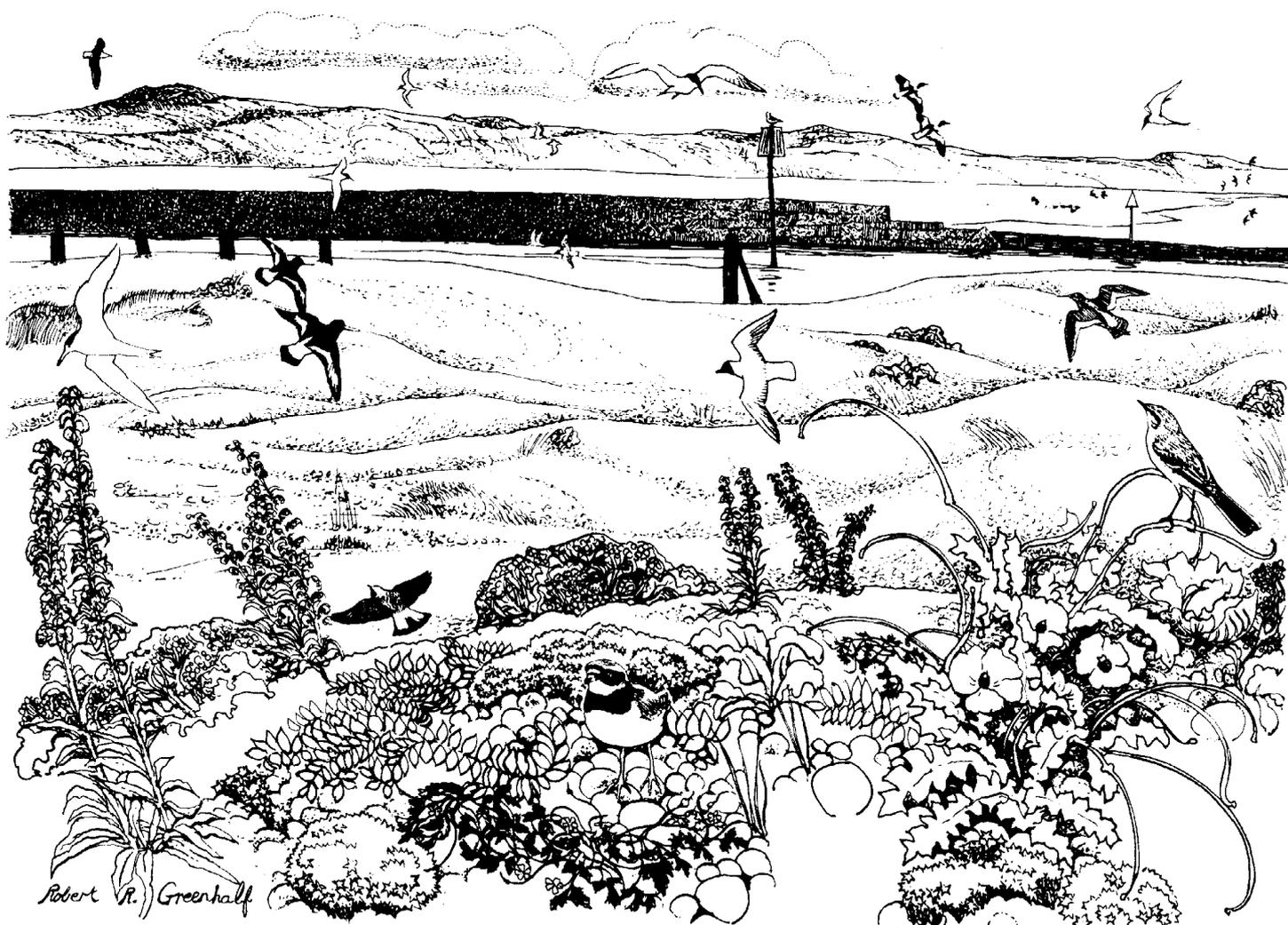


Educational Visits to Rye Harbour Nature Reserve



Information for teachers



Educational visits – information for teachers

Rye Harbour Nature Reserve is managed by Sussex Wildlife Trust and other organisations for its special habitats and wildlife. It is an internationally important wildlife site designated as a Special Protection area and Special Area of Conservation by the European Union. It also has the national designation of a Site of Special Scientific Interest and a Local Nature Reserve.

Over hundreds of years the sea has deposited numerous great ridges of shingle at Rye Harbour. This has produced the unique landscape which can be seen on a visit to the nature reserve. As the shingle has built up, the shoreline has changed and man's activities have created many different habitats. The former position of the sea can be dated with reference to the historic military defences on the nature reserve.

There are five bird watching hides (all with some wheelchair access) open to the public, and our Information Centre is open on most days 10-4pm. Experienced staff are available to lead educational visits to the reserve or Camber Castle for you.

Self-led visits are welcome to the nature reserve at any time; however we would appreciate if you let us know you are coming as it can avoid group clashes using the facilities.

Programmes of study

There are many subjects that can be studied on the Nature Reserve including Science, Geography, History, Art, English and Mathematics. Visits are appropriate for Key stages 1-4 and A-level groups. Possible study topics include Camber Castle, Changes in Coastline, Pond Dipping, Bird Watching, Habitats (which include shingle, saltmarsh, reed beds and sand dunes), Conservation Management, Animal and Plant Adaptations. A key stage 1 & 2 programme of activities is available to download from <https://assets.sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/Files/rye-harbour-programme.pdf>. For a tailor-made session specific to your group requirements, please contact the People and Wildlife Officer to discuss.

Cost

Self-guided group visits are free. Visits involving a member of the nature reserve staff cost **£3.50 per pupil full day (roughly 4 hours) or £2.50 per pupil half day (roughly 2 hours).** Minimum charges apply.

Wet weather facilities

There are very limited wet weather facilities at Rye Harbour Nature Reserve. In poor weather, groups can shelter in the largest birdwatching hides or make use of the WWII Blockhouses. We can arrange for coach access to the shore and castle.

Toilets

There are no toilet facilities on the Nature Reserve, however public toilets can be found next to the car park in Rye Harbour village, and at Winchelsea Beach.

Food

Visitors should bring food and drink appropriate to the length of the visit and the season. There are no consumables for sale at the Nature Reserve but there is a village shop and café.

Equipment

We will provide any resources needed for activities led by a member of our staff.

Clothing

It is important that all visitors bring suitable clothing with them. Windproof and waterproof coats and also sturdy shoes are appropriate **all year round**. In summer, hats and sunscreen are also necessary. In winter, warm clothes will make a visit to the exposed beach much more comfortable.

Health and Safety

Pupils must remain under teachers' control at all times and teachers remain responsible for the pupils during a visit. Teachers are also responsible for all First Aid arrangements and must carry the necessary First Aid Kits and a mobile telephone. We require a ratio of one adult to ten or fewer children (not including any nature reserve helpers). Visiting schools must have public liability insurance to cover their own potential liabilities; Rye Harbour Nature Reserve has insurance, covering its potential liabilities. A risk assessment is available for nature reserve-guided groups before your visit.

How to get here

Rye Harbour Nature Reserve is situated two miles south of Rye, East Sussex. The main entrance is in the village of Rye Harbour near the public car park and Martello Tower. High vehicles such as coaches can not enter the car park and will need to find other local parking; please contact us for more details. The nature reserve can also be accessed from Brede Lock near Rye (for Camber Castle) or the village of Winchelsea Beach.

Contact details

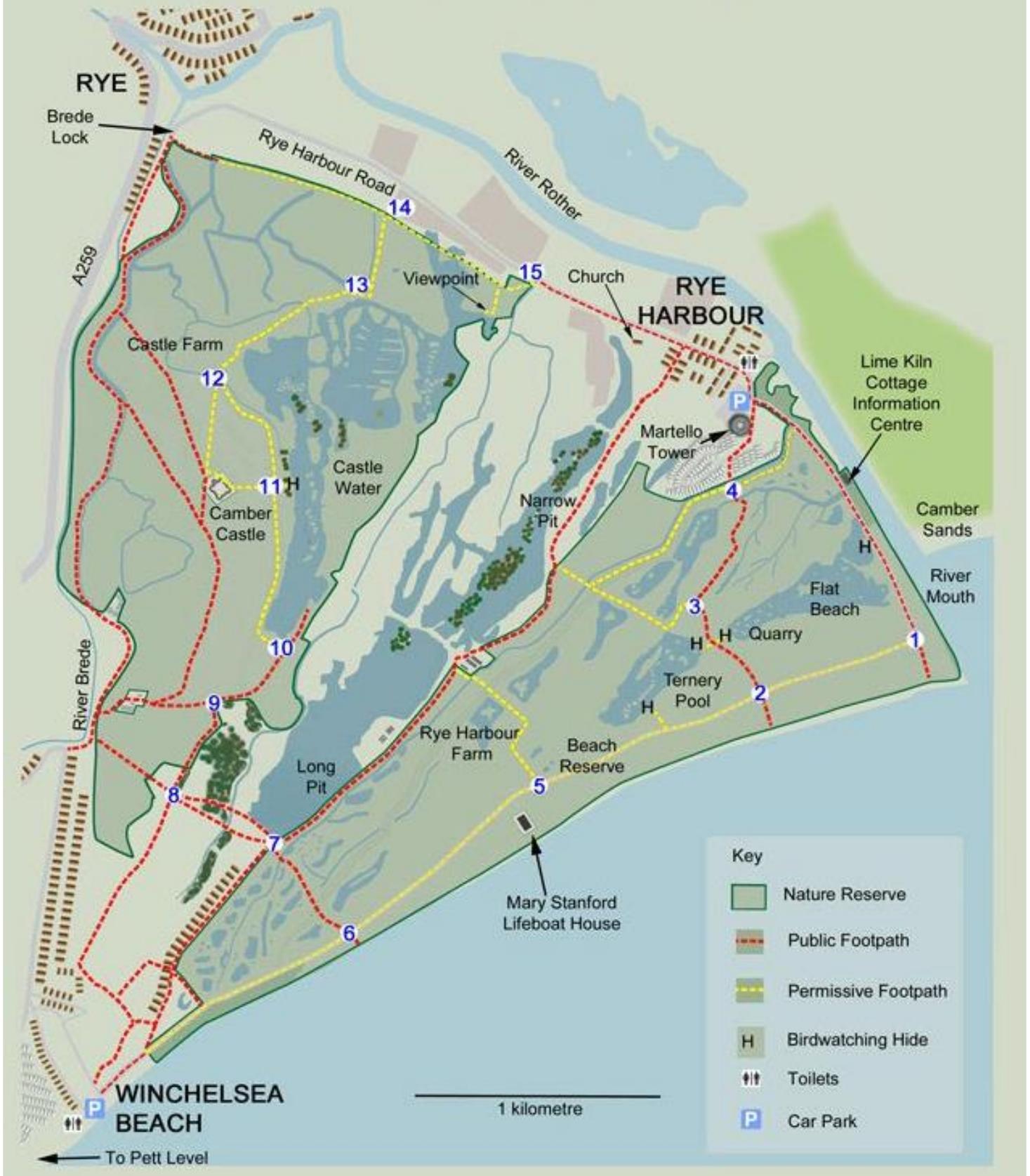
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Guide to footpaths around Rye Harbour Nature Reserve



Key	
	Nature Reserve
	Public Footpath
	Permissive Footpath
	Birdwatching Hide
	Toilets
	Car Park