

Public Risk notes for visitors to Wheatfen

All visitors to keep to designated paths, which are well maintained, to help prevent accidents and reduce risk of falling into dykes. There are three lifebuoy rings at prominent, water adjacent positions, on The Reserve.

Suitable footwear and clothing are advised for people using the access footpaths

Children under the age of sixteen must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Schoolchildren on courses must be accompanied by a teacher (or teachers if the group size is more than six).

Smoking is not allowed on The Reserve as it is a possible fire risk.

Care must be taken when crossing dyke bridges and walking on some footpaths where the going is uneven.

The Wardens Office telephone is 01508 538036 in case there is a problem but his hours are restricted and he may be out on The Reserve working.

The Reserve is open from dawn to dusk on days when there is no flooding. When The Reserve is flooded the entrance gate will be closed and a notice displayed on it.

Wheelchair access is limited to the boardwalk that leads to The Thatch, where there are display items and pictures related to the history of The Estate. Other paths are not suitable for wheelchairs or children's buggies/pushchairs as the terrain is uneven and sometimes subject to flooding.

Insect bites and stings. People with allergy problems to insect bites and stings should carry appropriate repellent and antidotes.

Poisonous plants, fruits and fungi. To avoid the risk not to be handled or eaten. Care must be taken to avoid penetration of thorns which could lead to infections. Wash hands if handled.

Weather conditions. When the sun is strong walkers are advised to wear suitable protective clothing and high factor sun cream. In high wind conditions walking through the woodland should be avoided as there may be a small risk of being injured by overhanging vegetation and dangerous trees.