

Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve is a nationally important nature reserve and a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), home to over 2,000 species. Managed by Kent Wildlife Trust, the 73 hectare reserve was the first example of a gravel pit site being developed for the purpose of nature conservation. Birds, dragonflies and other wildlife as well as fungi and plants, thrive in the five lakes, ponds and woodland habitats. Look out for wading birds on the muddy lake edges such as common sandpiper, lapwing and greenshank and other birds like reed bunting, kingfisher and grey wagtail.

3 Follow the path around East Lake, always keeping the lake on your left-hand side. Once you have completed the loop, head back towards the footpath and the Darent Valley Path. Take the footpath to the left turning off of the Darent Valley Path onto Pounsley Road then onto Mere Road. Continue along this road which will become Eden Road then Campion Square, before reaching a junction with Rye Lane.

4 Turn left and then take the first right onto Station Approach and to Dunton Green Station.



The Darent Valley Rail Trails have been created by the Darent Valley Landscape Partnership Scheme. DVLPS is led by the Kent Downs AONB, working throughout the Darent Valley to conserve the area's rich heritage landscapes and encourage

people to enjoy, explore and connect to them www.darent-valley.org.uk

A selection of the Rail Trails are available to use on the Darent Valley Trails app, available free of charge on the App Store and Google Play. With special thanks to the North West Kent Countryside Partnership for devising this route.













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**Darent Valley Rail Trails** 

**DUNTON GREEN** 

## Wetland and Wildlife

WALK I7

A 4.3 mile circular walk from Dunton Green station, enjoying the sights and sounds of wildlife in the wetland and woodland habitats of Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve.



Start / end point: Dunton Green station

Length: 4.3 miles / 6.9km

**Terrain:** Some pavements and hard surfaced paths around Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve but also some undulating, narrow paths. Some road crossings. Follow a section of the Darent Valley Path

**Accessibility:** There are no steps or stiles on this walk

**Toilets / refreshments:** Available at Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve (during opening hours)

What3Words: ///gone.groups.junior

OS Explorer map: 147

## **On The Way**

- Explore Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve
- Look out for wading birds on the muddy edges of East Lake
- Follow the Darent Valley Path for a section of this walk
- 1 From Dunton Green station, head down Station Approach then turn left at the bottom onto Rye Lane. Follow the road until you see a sign for the Darent Valley Path then turn right along it.

The Darent Valley Path is a promoted route and currently runs for 19 miles between Dartford and Sevenoaks. Hugging the River Darent for much of it, the waymarked route offers panoramic views through a mix of stunning landscapes of marshes, woodland and chalk grassland.

2 Follow the Darent Valley Path for approximately 700 metres then when you reach a permissive footpath, turn left (the lake should be on your left-hand side). Continue along the path, entering Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve and again turn left.

