

Grove Ferry Canoe Trail

Take to the water and explore this stunning stretch of the Great Stour River, where you will be surrounded by lush greenery and wildlife. Keep quiet and you might see a water vole scurrying along the riverbank, or a heron half-hidden in the reeds.

-  **Canoe Trail** – Fordwich to Grove Ferry Picnic Site (5 miles/2.5 hours)
-  **Canoe Trail Extension** – Grove Ferry Picnic Site to Plucks Gutter (3.3 miles/2 hours)
-  **River Walk** – Grove Ferry to Fordwich (5 miles/2.5 hours)
-  **River Walk Extension** – Grove Ferry Picnic Site to Plucks Gutter (3.5 miles/1.5 hours)

-  Refreshments
-  Parking
-  Toilets
-  Canoe hire
-  Canoe launch



Bring your own canoe or hire one from Canoe Wild at either Fordwich or Grove Ferry. Pay and display parking is available at Grove Ferry Picnic Site, from here you can make use of the new launch and follow the trail in any direction.

You can also start your paddle in Fordwich and follow the winding trail downriver to Grove Ferry, with an optional extension to Plucks Gutter for the experienced canoeist. To get to Fordwich arrange a lift with Canoe Wild (free to canoe hire customers).

A scenic walk through Stodmarsh National Nature Reserve offers more opportunities to spot wildlife. Look out for marsh harriers soaring overhead!



Scan the QR code or visit www.kent.gov.uk/groveferrycanoetrails to download GPX files of these routes.



Grove Ferry Picnic Site visitor and pontoon facilities is part funded by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development

Kent Country Parks



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River Safety Tips:

Know Your Limits

Ensure that you have the correct levels of experience and knowledge for this self-guided river trail. Keep right to avoid oncoming craft. Do not go in the lake.

Be Prepared

Equip yourself responsibly with boat, paddle, bailer/sponge, buoyancy aid, first aid kit, pen knife, mobile phone, drinking water, waterproof jacket and weather appropriate gear. Check the weather forecast and tides and currents before your journey.

Do Not Disturb Wildlife

Never approach wildlife head on, or so close that you disturb its natural behaviour. Stay quiet while keeping your distance.

Respect River Users

The river is a shared space with other users, such as fisherman, so please be respectful and considerate of each other.

For more detailed safety guidance visit britishcanoeing.org.uk

How to Find Us

Grove Ferry Picnic Site, Grove Road, Upstreet, Canterbury, Kent, CT3 4BP



Slipway by the George and Dragon pub, Fordwich, Kent, CT2 0DB

By car

Signposted on the A28 towards Margate. There is pay and display parking available at Grove Ferry Picnic Site and on-street parking in Fordwich.

By bus or train

Plan your journey using public transport on Traveline.

Contact details

Telephone: 03000 42 09 93

Email: kentcountryparks@kent.gov.uk

www.kent.gov.uk/countryparks



Hire a canoe or kayak from Canoe Wild at Grove Ferry Picnic Site or Fordwich. You can also arrange transport between sites with Canoe Wild, free to canoe hire customers.

To hire a canoe or kayak, or to arrange transport, visit www.canoewild.co.uk or phone 07947835688.

Spotter's Guide

How many of these plants and animals can you spot along the river?



Banded Demoiselle



Beaver



Broad Bodied Chaser



Canada Goose



Cetti's Warbler



Comma



Coot



Cormorant



Grass Snake



Grey Heron



Grey Wagtail



Hemp Agrimony



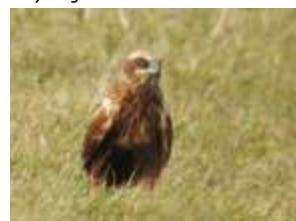
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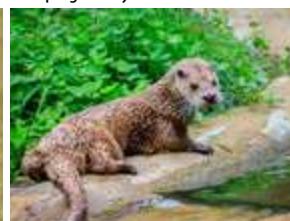
Kingfisher



Mallard



Marsh Harrier



Otter



Purple Loosestrife



Red Admiral



Swan



Tern



Water Vole



Woodpecker



Yellow Flag



Yellow Water Lily