

Moore Nature Reserve is situated between the Manchester Ship Canal and the River Mersey. The 200-acre site has been managed as a nature reserve since 1991, after being used as farmland and for sand quarrying. Today the reserve can boast five large lakes surrounded by extensive woodland, meadows and wetlands, made accessible by a network of paths and bird hides. Its many habitats provide a home for a variety of birds, mammals, insects, plants. The reserve is open to the public at all times, 365 days a year.

The reserve is one of the best bird watching sites in Cheshire, known for its varied bird life, including all five species of British owl and all three species of woodpecker. Throughout the seasons a variety of wildlife can be seen. Spring and summer bring a host of wonderful wildflowers including many orchids, and a large array of dragonflies. In autumn many fantastic fungi can be found.

Bitterns winter at Moore, seek the out in the Eastern reedbed. Black-necked grebes breed here most years, which is quite special as these are extremely rare indeed. Other scarce birds such as long-eared owls and lesser spotted woodpeckers can also be seen here

Another feature of the reserve is its gulls. The presence of the landfill site next door ensures that, during the winter, thousands of gulls visit to feed and bathe in the reserve's pools. Amongst the commoner species (Black headed, Common, Herring, Lesser and Gtr Black backed) rarer gulls can often be found such as Iceland and Glaucous gulls.

The main part of the reserve is broadleaved woodland, with the five large lakes set amongst the trees. On the lake many species of wildfowl and waders can seasonally be seen, such as Coot, Curlew, Gadwall, Goldeneye, Little and Gt Crested Grebe, Brent, Canadian and Greylag geese, Grey Heron, Mute Swan, Moorhen, Oystercatcher, Redshank, Dunlin, Lapwing, Shoveler, Shelduck, Wigeon, Smew ,Teal,Tufted duck Pochard, Water rail and Kingfisher

The feeding station and surrounding marshy ,wooded areas are busy places frequented by Blackbird Blue, Great, Long-tailed and Coal tit, Goldcrest, Goldfinch, Greenfinch, Fieldfare, Redwing, lesser redpoll, Starling, Robin, Dunnock, Gt and lesser spotted woodpecker, Siskin, Skylark Reed bunting, Robin, Song thrush, Mistle thrush, Sparrowhawk, Stock dove, Treecreeper, Pied and Grey wagtail, Jay, Brambling, Bullfinch, Chaffinch, Pheasant and Wood pigeon.

The reserve's website contains lots of useful information about the reserve including a reserve map and directions to get there. There's also a section on the website to report any interesting sightings; recent sightings of rare birds such as bitterns.

The reserve has a good range of paths, mixed surfaces with benches dotted around. There are 9 hides or viewpoints and feeding station.

The many bird hides can be good places to stop for a rest or a drink or bite to eat whilst watching the wildfowl. However there are no toilet /comfort facilities on the reserve.

Easy walking

In general the paths are dry,however after heavy rain the far end path / road to the Lapwing feeding station can be quite muddy.

The main gate to the reeding station area is locked and the pedestrian gate is too small for mobility scooters to fit through.

The road leading up to the Phoenix (eastern reed bed)can also be muddy and there are large and deep potholes/puddles in it and there again access to the hide is a no go for a scooter.

Barriers - One stile, six wide kissing gates and four flights of steps

Read more at <https://ww2.rspb.org.uk/groups/Liverpool/places/343817/#IsgjUu2CWZCZPJpd.99>