

Melford Country Park

Melford Country Park is a 8.13 hectare site of grassland, deciduous woodland and flooded former gravel workings located at the southern end of the village of Long Melford, Suffolk.

The Park is designated as a Local Nature Reserve. It has a beautiful walk through the woodland, lakes, grassland and along the river frontage. The river Stour forms the western and southern boundary of the park and the riverbank is lined with mature White Poplar.

There is a wooden footbridge across the flooded gravel pits, linking the areas of deciduous woodland. Many of the willows around the southern pond blew down in the storm of 1987 and remain in this state as a natural habitat for wildlife. The ponds are rich in aquatic life including Roach, Bream, Tench and Pike, are populated by dragonflies and damselflies, and provide breeding sites for Coot, Little Grebe, Moorhen and Mute Swan. Kingfishers are regularly seen, as are otters. There are two areas of grassland, with the southern area allowed to grow naturally, crossed by mown paths.

The park has a car park, toilets, and a number of picnic tables and benches. It is widely used by local people and those from further afield, and is a great destination for family strolls, walking the dog, and a pleasant place for a picnic or a as a base from which to ramble.

Melford Country Park is maintained and operated by Long Melford Parish Council, who lease it from Suffolk County Council.

Directions

- Melford Country Park is situated to the south of the village of Long Melford, Suffolk, on Borley Road. Postcode CO10 9HH.
- Buses from Sudbury, Bury St Edmunds and Haverhill stop 100m from the park.
- Trains run from London, Norwich, and Ipswich to Sudbury, with a change at Marks Tey. There is a bus service from Sudbury to Long Melford.
- The park is on National Cycle Network route 13 and South Suffolk route A, although cycling in the Park itself is not allowed.
- The Park is just off the Valley Walk from Sudbury, a 2.5 mile beautiful hike. GR TL857 436.

Map – Melford Country Park

