

Withdean Woods

A wooded hillside close to the centre of Brighton

Withdean Woods is a steep, wooded hillside overlooking Withdean Stadium, within a residential area of north Brighton. This area of woodland provides a local refuge for wildlife and people, away from the bustle of the city.

Woodland birds are one of the treasures of this reserve. A springtime visit will be rewarded with exuberant birdsong as blackbirds, great tits and warblers establish their territories and forage for food.

As part of the site's management, deadwood is left to rot down. These log piles become home to numerous invertebrates and fungi. The deadwood community also attracts predators including the great spotted woodpecker, catching grubs using its long, sticky tongue.

Close by is the London to Brighton railway line, which forms a continuous strip connecting the countryside to the city. Any greenspace like Withdean Woods, close to the railway, can benefit wildlife using this 'green corridor'. A local community group, The Withdean, Westdene and Eldred Avenue Copse Keepers, helps to manage this site in conjunction with Brighton and Hove Countryside Service, which owns most of the Local Nature Reserve.



dog violet

Getting around

The Park and Ride bus to Withdean Stadium is the best way to get to this one hectare reserve. Street parking is not encouraged. Unsurfaced footpaths cross the site, with some steps and steep slopes along the route. Access is occasionally restricted during sporting events at the neighbouring Withdean Stadium.

Grid Reference TQ294076

Nearest Postcode BN1 5JF

Lat Long N 50.853888, W 0.162314