Winged Wonders



Updated August 2025

Distance: 2 miles

Starting point: River Lee Country Park, Hooks Marsh car park, Fishers Green Lane, Crooked Mile,

Waltham Abbey EN9 2ED

Route summary: A circular walk taking in a variety of wildlife habitats. Discover a wealth of wildlife

including dragonflies, waders and wildfowl. The route travels along the west side of

Hooks Marsh Lake and Hall Marsh Scrape, returning along Walton's Walk

Terrain: Surfaced and grass pathways (some of which are narrow and uneven) and several

bridges, one with a steep incline

Directions

- Exit Hooks Marsh car park, from the western end through the bollards towards the green high bridge
- Proceed over this bridge and continue passing between Seventy Acres Lake on the right and Hooks Marsh Lake on the left
- > Turn left, on the north-west edge of Hooks Marsh Lake, signposted 'Hall Marsh'
- Continue south on this unmade path along the western edge of Hooks Marsh Lake with Hall Marsh Ditch on the right
- > At the southern end, cross over a small wooden bridge and turn right at the pathway iunction
- Continue along the pathway, passing the Plover Viewing Screen overlooking Hall Marsh Scrape, along the southern end of Friday Lake
- > Bear to the left, heading south with Hall Marsh Scrape on the left
- Continue south, passing the entrance path on the left (Snipe Hide is a short diversion along this pathway)
- > Proceed on the main path, turning left, opposite the Flood Relief Channel
- Proceed north along the pathway back to Hooks Marsh car park

Things to note

Public transport links to the starting point at Hooks Marsh are limited

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> Car parking charges apply at Hooks Marsh car park