

### Example: Access and Visitor Facilities

Natural England Access Classification	Champion	Destination	Other	
			✓	
NNR Access Plan Category	Open	Managed	Restricted	Excluded
		✓		
<p><b>Visitor Appeal and Suitability for Access</b>            With its spectacular displays of wild flowers, the reserve has high visitor appeal in late spring/early summer. The reserve is reasonably accessible from towns and villages in the area and the terrain allows for easy, level access. There are few site hazards.</p> <p>The main visiting season for the reserve is the period from late April to early July (the main flowering season), when the reserve attracts visitors from across the Midlands. At other times of year visitors are largely local people.</p> <p>In terms of its primary botanical interest, public access is compatible with objectives for nature conservation, as long as visitors keep to defined routes to minimise trampling of wild flowers and hay crops. However, there is a conflict between public access and the success of ground-nesting birds whose breeding performance is regularly reduced by visitor disturbance in the April-June period. The split nature of the NNR provides opportunities for zoning of access.</p> <p><b>Access Provision</b>            Regular bus services link the local villages of Marston and Wheaton Aston with Stafford and Wolverhampton. The closest railway stations are at Stafford (8 miles) and Penkridge (4 miles).</p> <p>Public footpaths cross compartments 1 and 24 (see Map 7). A concessionary path, open from 1<sup>st</sup> June to 31<sup>st</sup> August crosses compartments 8a, 9 and 11, links with the green lanes of Micklemore Lane and Broadholes Lane and provides a circular walk around the NNR from Wheaton Aston.</p> <p><b>Visitor Facilities</b>            A small area of hard standing is provided for the parking of bicycles and visitors' cars in compartment 1. Wicket gates are positioned in field boundaries between the most visited meadows and along the routes of public and concessionary paths. Reserve signs are positioned at all main entrances to the site. Copies of the reserve leaflet are available from Wheaton Aston post office. There are currently no formal facilities for disabled visitors although access is generally level and dry.</p>				