



Meeth Quarry's vast claypits have been allowed to fill with water. They now provide a good place to see wildfowl and wading birds.

Enjoying your visit

Meeth Quarry is a new and developing nature reserve. Devon Wildlife Trust is managing it as a place which people can enjoy and in which wildlife can flourish.

Our priorities are your safety and the protection of wildlife.

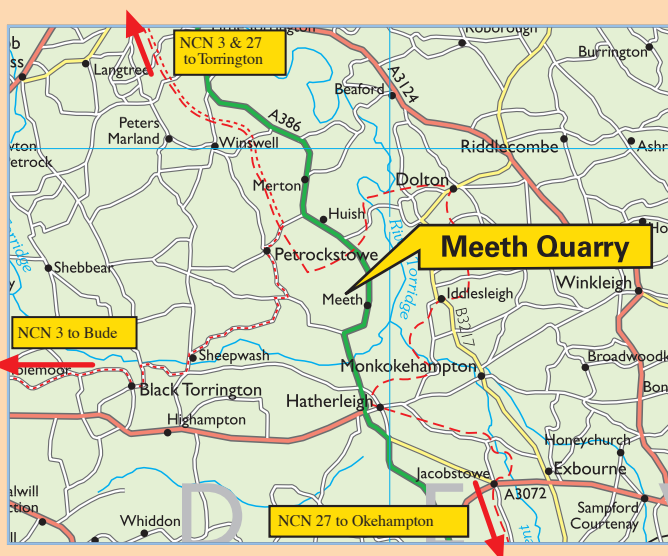
- ¥ Please keep to the marked trails to give wildlife space and to avoid hazards including deep water, unstable rock faces and derelict buildings.
- ¥ Due to deep water and dangerous currents swimming and diving are not permitted at the nature reserve.
- ¥ The presence of grazing livestock may mean that some paths are closed for short periods.
- ¥ Be aware of other path users including cyclists, horseriders and pedestrians.
- ¥ Horses must stay at a walking pace at all times.
- ¥ Cyclists must give way to all other users.
- ¥ Dogs are allowed in some parts of the nature reserve but not in others — see local signs for guidance.
- ¥ Dogs should be kept on a short lead at all times. Please clear up after your dog.
- ¥ No camping or overnight vehicle parking is allowed on the nature reserve.
- ¥ The lighting of fires and BBQs is not permitted.

Further access information and guidance is available at www.devonwildlifetrust.org

How to get there

The best way to visit Meeth Quarry nature reserve is by foot or by bicycle along the Tarka Trail (Route 27 of the National Cycle Network NCN). The Trail bisects the heart of the nature reserve one mile from its southern end at Meeth. A bike park, picnic benches and information boards can be found here. Visit www.devon.gov.uk/tarkatrail for more details of the Tarka Trail.

People arriving by car should use the A386 Hatherleigh to Great Torrington road. On entering Meeth village look for signage to the Tarka Trail and Meeth Quarry nature reserve — this appears just within the southern perimeter of the village (on your left heading north, on your right heading south). Enter a service road here and drive just under one mile before reaching the entrance to Meeth Quarry nature reserve and a car park.



For more information about DWT nature reserves, our work or how to become a member, contact

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Meeth Quarry nature reserve



Join DWT at www.devonwildlifetrust.org

Protecting Wildlife for the Future

Shaped by people, home to wildlife

Look for roe deer as they stand stock-still in the nature reserve's undergrowth hoping not to catch your eye.
Photo, Jon Hawkins



Meeth Quarry is unlike any other Devon Wildlife Trust nature reserve. Its industrial past has dramatically shaped its present.

For nearly 100 years it was a series of busy clay quarries and mines. The legacy of this industry has created a very diverse landscape. Today, two enormous lakes and several massive piles of clay spoil dominate its features. Elsewhere there are ponds, woodland, bogs and grasslands.

Together these make Meeth nature reserve a home for a diverse range of wildlife and a wonderful place for people to explore on foot, bike or horseback.

- 1** Settling ponds once helped purify clay-contaminated water. Now they offer a home to 14 types of dragonfly and damselfly.
- 2** Explore the neighbouring Ash Moor nature reserve.
- 3** Huge amounts of waste material (known as 'spoil') was dug from the quarries and discarded in piles. These sparse, open areas make an ideal home for brown hare.
- 4** Since production stopped in 2004 the quarries have been allowed to flood. Today, geese and ducks are regular visitors.

Meeth Quarry is a dragonfly and damselfly haven. 14 species have been recorded here.
Photo, David Chamberlain



Map courtesy of Google Mapping Inc.

