



The Forest of Marston Vale

Parking addresses: The Forest Centre, Station Road, Marston Moretaine, Bedford MK43 0PR.

Or, if you really want to avoid parking charges: Green Lane, Stewartby, Bedford, MK43 9LY.

Parking: We recommend parking at The Forest Centre as this supplies a fair contribution to the costs of maintaining and developing the Millennium Country Park. The car parking was £2 for three hours when we went, but you can pay more or less, according to how long you plan to stay.

However, you may legitimately avoid parking charges by parking in a layby in Green Lane, about 100 metres past the Kimberley Sixth Form College. In that case you would head for the entrance of the adjacent Stewartby Water Sports Club, and then pick up the path near the club gates. The walk from Green Lane to the Marston Millennium Country park is around 1.3 Km.



Parking at the centre is Pay and Display.



Or you can park in Green Lane and walk 1.3 km to the park.

Walk: The Millennium Country Park is part of the Forest of Marston Vale, and is best accessed via the official Visitor Centre at Marston Moretaine

The Forest of Marston vale is not yet the forest that it one day will be, as millions more trees are yet to be planted. The area concerned was once the huge Stewartby brickworks, and the chimneys that served the kilns still stand today. Parts of the site were also landfills, which have since been covered over and set aside for the forest project

The Forest Centre offers car parking as well as a cafe which serves hot and cold food, and which has pleasant indoor and outdoor seating.

We don't suggest any particular walking route, just turn-up and do your own thing. The area of the entire Marston Vale Forest is reckoned to be around 61 square miles, but from the Visitor Centre the walking areas seem to be a lot more localised than that. You won't get lost. On the last occasion that we visited we arrived quite early and glimpsed muntjac deer, rabbits, and various water-birds. The plant life is also very varied and plentiful.

Food and drink: The Forest Centre has a perfectly good cafe.