

## Broad Colney Lakes

These lakes are the result of gravel workings in the 1920s. Now they are surrounded by trees and are a peaceful refuge for both wildlife and people.



The three lakes are quite different from one another: one is fed by the River Colne, one is relatively still and deep and the smallest has partially developed into marshy woodland. A variety of land and water birds can be found here. Great crested grebe can be seen on the lake, along with tufted duck, whilst in the alder trees flocks of siskin can be seen feeding with mixed flocks of finches and tits. Otters travelling up and down the River Colne pass through the reserve.

The range of [habitats](#), from open water through wet woodland into dry grassland, offer suitable conditions for many different plants. These range from [emergent](#) plants such as fringed water lily in the deeper water. Twenty-one species of tree and shrub have been recorded including five species of willow.

The freehold to the reserve was donated to the Trust by Lafarge Ltd in 1977.

Access to the reserve has been improved with a path network suitable for people with disabilities. A leaflet is available [here](#).

The reserve is managed in order to maintain and enhance the diversity of species, particularly around the margins of the lake. More open conditions are created to encourage vegetation which is vital for aquatic insects such as damselflies and dragonflies.



- [Get driving directions](#)
- [Find nearby public transport](#)

### How to Get Here

#### Location

London Colney

#### Directions

On the B5378 (Shenley Lane) from London Colney to Shenley turn left into the car park just before the British Legion huts.

#### Public Transport Links

Trains to St Albans; bus to High Street, London Colney.

#### Walking Links

#### Map Reference

TL 175032

#### Visitor Guide

#### Size

11 hectares

Access to site

Accessible at all times.

Access around site

Some pathways and viewing areas over the lakes suitable for wheelchairs.

Walking time

Advice on what to wear/bring

Wellingtons recommended.

Map of site (if available)