

Leicestershire County Council – Country Parks Overview

Beacon Hill (Upper car park)

Beacon Hill is the most popular of the country parks run by Leicestershire County Council. In 2019-2020, there were around 230,000 visitors to the park and in 2020-2021 this figure could surpass 300,000. Walkers, cyclists and horse riders alike can take advantage of our multiuse track which loops around the edge of the park. There is also a network of paths throughout the park solely for pedestrians. Visitors can enjoy rock climbing, orienteering, jogging and general exercise or enjoy bird watching and gentle strolls in the peace and quiet. Visitors come to the park from across the county and region, with most visitors staying between 1 and 2 hours.

The park is open every day of the year from 6am until 8pm or dusk, whichever is the soonest. The licensee would have the right to bring one vehicle selling ice cream and cold drinks from a pitch in the Upper Car Park. The location will be agreed with the Senior Ranger for the site.

There are currently no other vendors of ice cream on site, although the Beacon Hill Café sells hot and cold drinks, light meals and refreshments and ice cream. This can be found in the lower car park at the opposite end of the site, just over a mile away.

More information on Beacon Hill can be found at www.leicscountryparks.org.uk/beacon-hill.

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The park is open every day of the year from 6am until 8pm or dusk, whichever is the soonest. The licensee would have the right to bring one vehicle selling hot drinks such as barista style coffee, quality teas and hot chocolate, cakes and biscuits from a pitch in the Upper Car Park. The location will be agreed with the Senior Ranger for the site.

There are currently no other vendors of hot drinks such as barista style coffee, quality teas and hot chocolate, cakes and biscuits on site, although the Beacon Hill Café sells hot and cold drinks, light meals and refreshments and ice cream. This can be found in the lower car park at the opposite end of the site, just over a mile away.

More information on Beacon Hill can be found at www.leicscountryparks.org.uk/beacon-hill.

Market Bosworth Country Park

Market Bosworth Country Park on the outskirts of the town of Market Bosworth. Visitors come to the park to explore the historic open parkland, fine mature trees and wildflower meadows. Popular activities include feeding the ducks at the Bow Pool, or picnics in and around the new pasture fields. The site is also a popular destination for walks around the surrounding area.

In 2019/20 the park received around 48,000 visitors. In 2020/21 we expect this figure to rise significantly, forecasting around 100,000 visitors per annum.

Visitors come to the park from across the local area, with most visitors staying between 1 and 2 hours.

The park is open every day of the year from 7am until 8pm or dusk, whichever is the soonest. The licensee would have the right to bring one vehicle with a pitch in the car park. The location will be agreed with the Senior Ranger for the site.

Watermead Country Park (North)

Watermead Country Park runs from the heart of the city centre, out to the A46 outer ring road. Visitors come to explore the network of lakes, nature reserves, cycling trails and walking routes. The park is well served by footpaths from Birstall, Wanlip and Thurmaston. This means that the level of users is significantly higher than the 48,000 visitors who park their cars in the car park.

Watermead Park also hosts various events and activities throughout the year. These include a park run on Saturday mornings which attracts hundreds of runners to the park.

The park is open every day of the year from 7am until 7pm or dusk, whichever is the soonest. The licensee would have the right to bring one vehicle with a pitch in the King Lear's car park. The location will be agreed with the Senior Ranger for the site. There are other ice cream vendors in the southern half of the park, some two miles away.

Burrough Hill Country Park

Located between Burrough on the Hill and Somerby, south of Melton Mowbray, Burrough Hill Country Park is one of the most striking and historic features in the landscape of eastern Leicestershire. As well as the grassy hilltop the country park offers diverse wildlife habitats and varied areas to visit and is a basis for walking in the local area.

The park receives at least 6,500 visitors per year and is open every day of the year from dawn until dusk.

The licensee would have the right to bring one vehicle with a pitch in the car park. The location will be agreed with the Senior Ranger for the site.