

A series of white footprint icons are arranged in a winding path that leads from the bottom left towards the center of the image, following the direction of the dirt path.

Cromwell Bottom
Nature Reserve

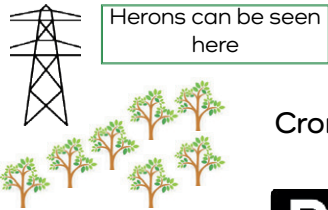
 Shorter Walks and
Wheelchair Friendly Routes



what3words
 ///public.slides.sheets
 postcode HD6 2RG
 GPS N53.35.518
 W001.50.272

Rough Guide to Cromwell Bottom Local Nature Reserve

Avocet and parking available, leading to Brookfoot Lock - join the towpath.



Elland ← Eland Road → Brighouse

Cromwell House **Oils Well**

Cromwell Drive leads to Reserve and parking

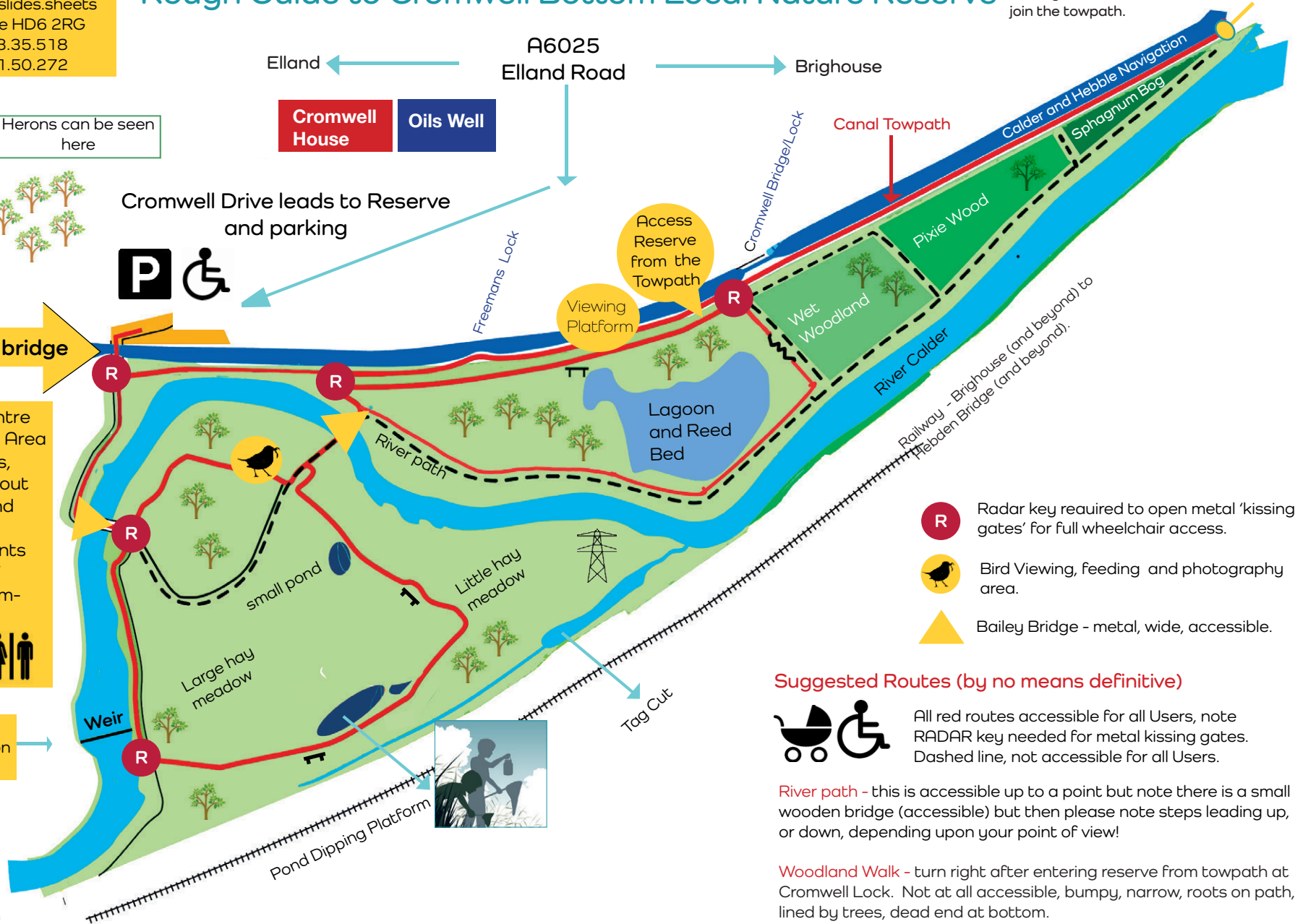


You are here - bridge

The Visitor Centre and Education Area - refreshments, information about the Reserve and Nature. Toilets and refreshments available Tues/Thurs/Sun 10am-4pm.



See Sand Martin hide and Beehives on the far bank.



- Radar key required to open metal 'kissing gates' for full wheelchair access.
- Bird Viewing, feeding and photography area.
- Bailey Bridge - metal, wide, accessible.

Suggested Routes (by no means definitive)

All red routes accessible for all Users, note RADAR key needed for metal kissing gates. Dashed line, not accessible for all Users.

River path - this is accessible up to a point but note there is a small wooden bridge (accessible) but then please note steps leading up, or down, depending upon your point of view!

Woodland Walk - turn right after entering reserve from towpath at Cromwell Lock. Not at all accessible, bumpy, narrow, roots on path, lined by trees, dead end at bottom.

An information guide to accompany your walk around Cromwell Bottom Nature Reserve

You are encouraged to use the accompanying map which will help to guide you round the reserve. Just follow the numbers marked on your map which will match up to the Information Point photos in this leaflet. Enjoy your time on the reserve!

A brief history of the Nature Reserve

Cromwell Bottom Local Nature Reserve, in the past has been the site of a quarry, a tip for ash from the old Elland power station, and a land fill site. Now it is a mix of woodland, wetlands and grasslands, and is rich in plants, particularly species of orchids, and wildlife due largely to the alkaline nature of the fly ash underneath. Situated next to the Calder and Hebble Navigation, the River Calder runs through the reserve. It became a nature reserve in 2000.

Cromwell Bottom is considered to be one of the most important wildlife sites in Calderdale. The wetlands and meadows provide a variety of habitats for many insects, such as butterflies and moths, dragonflies and damselflies. A bird feeding area helps to attract many birds to the site. These include bullfinch, dunnock, woodpeckers, robins, redpoll and many more. Other birds that can be seen or heard around the site include kingfishers, oystercatchers and curlew. Many mammals and amphibians have also made Cromwell Bottom their home.

Cromwell Bottom Wildlife Group was founded in September 2011 and has since grown to a membership in excess of 100. We have weekly 'Volunteer Days' on Thursdays and monthly Trustees' meetings as we are a registered charity.

Route 1 Visitor Centre to bridge and return

Level terrain (no seating) 0.26 km/0.1mi

- Start at Visitor Centre



- Continue to bridge via upper path

 (Lower path wheelchair accessible)



Enjoy the views over the River Calder! Look out for...

- Spiders in the metal work on the bridge
- Heron • Goosander • Dipper • Ducks • Cormorant

Route 2 Visitor Centre to bird viewing area and return

Level terrain 1.9 km/ 1 mile approx

- Start at Visitor Centre
- Continue over either bridge via upper path

 (Lower path wheelchair accessible)



- Turn right at end of bridge, then left through kissing gate to signpost
- Keep left on path



Look out for... • Robin • Wren • Blue/Great/Coal/Long Tailed Tit
• Dunnock • Nuthatch • Chaffinch • Goldfinch • Bullfinch • Reed Bunting • Jay • Magpie • Pheasant • Grey Squirrel

Route 3 Circular route around meadow

Level terrain and wheelchair friendly, until the moderate climb to the meadow. Manual wheelchair users may find the climb challenging 1.04km/0.6miles

- Start at Visitor Centre continue over either bridge via upper path

 (Lower path wheelchair accessible)

- Turn right at end of bridge and left through kissing gate
- At signpost, take right fork, up hill to the meadow



- Take circular route around perimeter of meadow and return to Visitor Centre



Look out for... Deer and wide variety of wildflowers, especially orchids, in summer months. **Seating available on meadow top**

Route 4 Circular route via bird viewing area, ponds and river

Level Terrain 1.9km/1.1 mi

- Start at Visitor Centre
- Continue over either bridge via upper path
- ♿ (Lower path to the right wheelchair accessible)
- Turn right at end of bridge, then left through first kissing gate to signpost
- Keep left for bird viewing area (seating)



Continue up wooden steps or loop round and follow path straight ahead along edge of meadow (seating on corner)

- Pass the dipping ponds (seating) and turn right at the kissing gate, continue and turn left across bridge and return to Visitor Centre

Look out for... • Dragonflies • Damselflies • Butterflies • Pond creatures • Wildflowers including orchids in summer months

Route 5 'Figure of 8' route via bird viewing area, lagoon, river path and choice of return paths

Level terrain Approx. 2.6km /1.6 miles depending on return route

- Start at Visitor Centre
- Continue over either bridge via upper path
- ♿ (Lower path to the right wheelchair accessible)
- Turn right at end of bridge, then left through first kissing gate to signpost
- Keep left to bird viewing area
- Continue over bridge and take left fork



- Pass the bench and the lagoon viewing platform on the right



- Turn right, following edge of lagoon
- Continue over wooden bridge and down steps to river path (not suitable for wheelchair users)



- Turn right at bottom of steps, **finally** returning to bridge, following river path (seating)
- Turn left over bridge to path junction by signpost (seating)
- Return to Visitor Centre via:
 1. Ponds - left path (seating)
 2. Meadow - middle path - challenging for manual wheelchairs (seating)
 3. Bird viewing area (right path)

Look out for...

Lagoon • Canada Geese • Swans • Moorhen • Coot • Grebes
Reed Warbler

River • Mallard • Grebes • Goosander • Kingfisher • Grey Wagtail • Dipper



CBWG hope you have enjoyed your visit!

**Why not call in to our Visitor Centre after
your
walk for drinks and light snacks?**

Cash donations only please!

**Open Tuesdays, Thursdays and
Sundays 10-4pm**