

Discover the wealth of wildlife and natural beauty surrounding Lady's Wood, Great Raveley and Upwood.

We hope you enjoy this challenging walk across open farmland, over grassy meadow and through woodland. You will see a wealth of wildlife including ancient ant hills and, whatever the season, there is plenty of bird life. Strong footwear is **essential** for the long route beyond Lady's Wood as this covers uneven ground and can be wet in winter.

Wildlife Trail: Approx 9.5km/6 miles/ 2hrs 30 mins

Bluebell Trail to Lady's Wood and back: 4km/2miles/1hr

You might consider walking to and from Ramsey, via Bury, for a much longer circular walk through Upwood and Great Raveley. The total distance for this is approximately 20 km/12½ miles).

Or for an even shorter country ramble to Lady's Wood, you could park in the car park along Meadow Road.

Lady's Wood is an ancient woodland filled with beautiful plants, insects and birds. It is managed by the Wildlife Trust. Some of the trees that were felled during traditional woodland management were left lying in the wood and now provide a marvellous habitat for insects and fungi.

Spring is a particularly good time to see the fabulous carpet of bluebells. Lesser celandine, greater stitchwort and dog's mercury are also on display. Many birds can be seen and heard in the wood including green, lesser spotted and great spotted woodpeckers, tawny owls, blackcaps and redwings.



Tawny owl

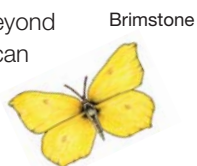
Upwood Meadow is an ancient grazing meadow with a wonderful array of wildflowers and is also managed by the Wildlife Trust. It was designated a National Nature Reserve for its floristic

diversity. Signs of medieval ridge-and-furrow can be seen in Bentley meadow where lots of ant hills provide microhabitats for plants and invertebrates. Throughout the summer plants such as cowslip, green-winged orchid, dropwort, sulphur clover and Dyer's greenweed provide valuable nectar for visiting butterflies and bees.

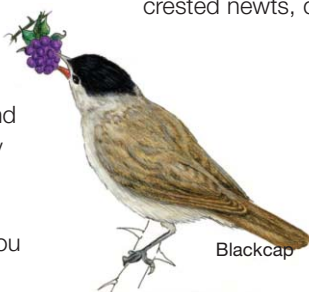


Lesser celandine

Veteran trees and mature hedgerows provide nesting habitats for turtle dove, blackcap and whitethroat - while the fruit and berries provide food for winter visitors like fieldfare and redwing. Originally dug for watering livestock, the little ponds in each field now provide breeding grounds for great crested newts, dragonflies and damselflies.



Brimstone



Blackcap



Hawthorn



Jew's ear fungus

Great Fen

Ramsey is a gateway to the Great Fen, a developing landscape around two existing nature reserves with the aim of creating a huge wetland area for wildlife and for people. The Great Fen is one of the largest restoration projects of its type in Europe. On Ramsey's doorstep, it is already a haven for wildlife with bird hides and trails for the public to enjoy as well as the Countryside Classroom at Ramsey Heights, where there is a wide range of events and activities, as well as school and adult learning programs.



www.greatfen.org.uk

www.discoverramsey.co.uk

Ramsey

Open for Discovery



Upwood Wildlife Trail

Approx 9.5km/6 miles
2hr 30mins



Discover the wealth of wildlife

Park in High Street near to St Peter's Church in Upwood, and start your walk along the footpath opposite Upwood Village Hall. This leads into Bentley Close, which you should follow around to the right.

1 Walk along the footpath between bungalows no. 7 and 9, and over the stile. Go diagonally across the meadow to the right of the Oak trees, through the gap in the hedge and over the wooden bridge. Keeping the hedge on your right, walk around the edge of the field, down a few steps and over another stile.

2 Looking ahead from the stile you have just crossed, go straight on to the next stile. Go around to the right, following the edge of the field. In the corner of the field you will come to Lady's Wood.

For the shorter walk, meander quietly through the trees using the footpaths, then retrace your steps back to Upwood.

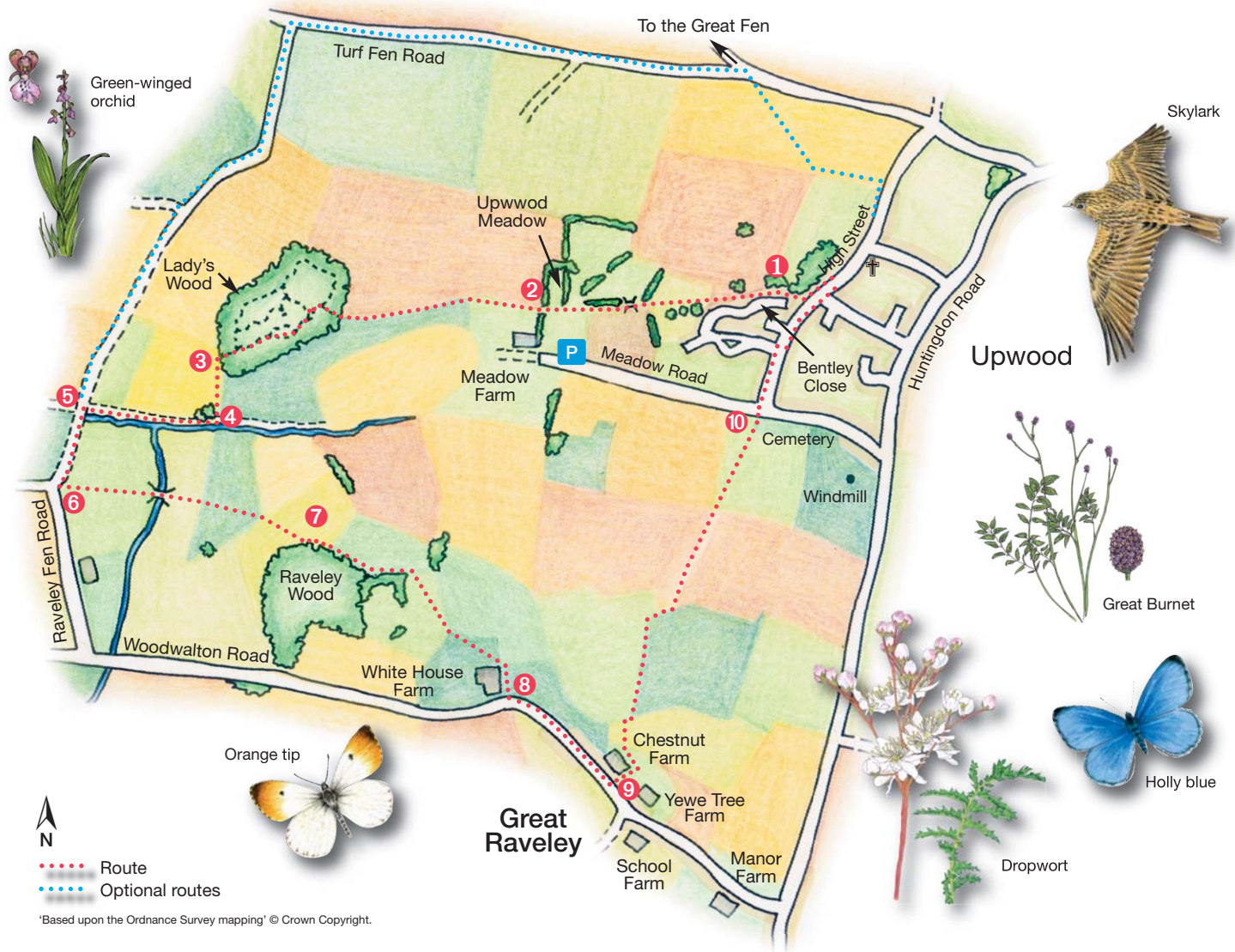
To continue the longer walk, whilst exploring Lady's Wood, always take the left hand fork in the path and you will come out of the trees at the opposite side of the woods.

3 Climb the stile and turn left. Beyond Lady's Wood bear right towards the small clump of trees ahead of you. This will open onto a wide track.

4 Turn right, there will be a drainage ditch on your left. Walk for approximately 250m to a crossing of farm tracks.

5 Turn left along the farm track. After approximately 100m you reach a junction of 5 paths.

Optional route. Turn right into Raveley Fen Road (walking parallel to Lady's Wood,) back to Upwood following the footpath signs. This route is uneven and very exposed.



Based upon the Ordnance Survey mapping © Crown Copyright.

6 Looking into the field on your left, there are 2 footpaths sign posted. Take the right hand path, heading to Raveley Wood and Great Raveley. Walk across the field, over the bridge and straight on through the gap in the hedge, and across the middle of the next arable field. Go over the bridge and stile, walk across the field to the edge of Raveley Wood. Listen to the noise from the rookery!

7 With Raveley Wood on your right, follow the footpath signs gently up hill and towards the barns of White House Farm, over the stiles onto Woodwalton Road.

8 Turn left and walk along the road, through the village. Remember to walk on the right hand side of the road to face the oncoming traffic.

9 Turn left beside the post box, over two stiles plus a bridge and another stile. Following the arrows across the meadow, bear right towards the gap in the hedge.

10 Go over the stile towards Meadow Road. Bear left along High Street, across Helens Close and Thatchers Close back to Upwood Village Hall.