

# Kites Hill

## The reserve

Covering 40 acres within the Cotswold Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, the reserve is owned by the conservation charity World Land Trust. Originally a farm, the woodland, meadows and other habitats are now protected and managed to benefit native wildlife.

## Special scientific interest

The reserve combines grasslands with native woodland. The ancient beech woodland is part of the Cotswold Commons and Beechwoods Site of Special Scientific Interest and is recognised to be of European importance as a Special Area of Conservation.

## Conservation

The reserve has a management plan designed by WLT and The Conservation Volunteers (TCV) to protect and maintain the natural habitats. Activities include gapping up hedgerows, coppicing the hazel woodland and clearing invasive sycamore.

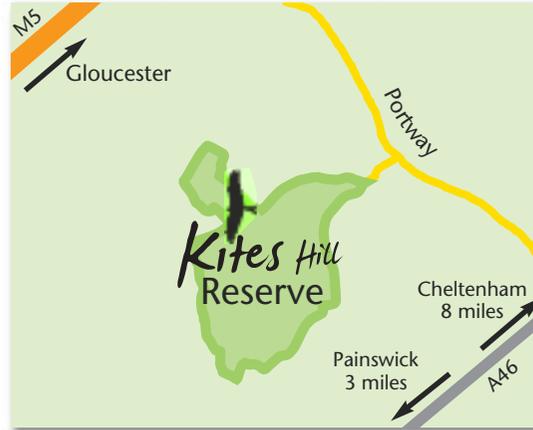
## Partnership

The Conservation Volunteers (TCV) was founded in the 1950s to encourage volunteers to undertake practical conservation work in the UK. In 2012, WLT entered into a formal partnership with TCV Gloucestershire.



## World Land Trust

WLT works with overseas conservation partners to save rainforest and other threatened habitats across the world.



## Directions

Kites Hill is off the A46 between Stroud and Cheltenham, just before Prinknash Abbey (grid reference 875133). Entrance to the reserve is off Portway. Parking very limited.

“The money that is given to the World Land Trust, in my estimation, has more effect on the wild world than almost anything I can think of.”

Sir David Attenborough, OM CH FRS.  
Patron, World Land Trust



For photo credits please see interpretation boards at Kites Hill or World Land Trust website [www.worldlandtrust.org/projects/kites](http://www.worldlandtrust.org/projects/kites)

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Saving Real Acres  
in Real Places

[www.worldlandtrust.org](http://www.worldlandtrust.org)

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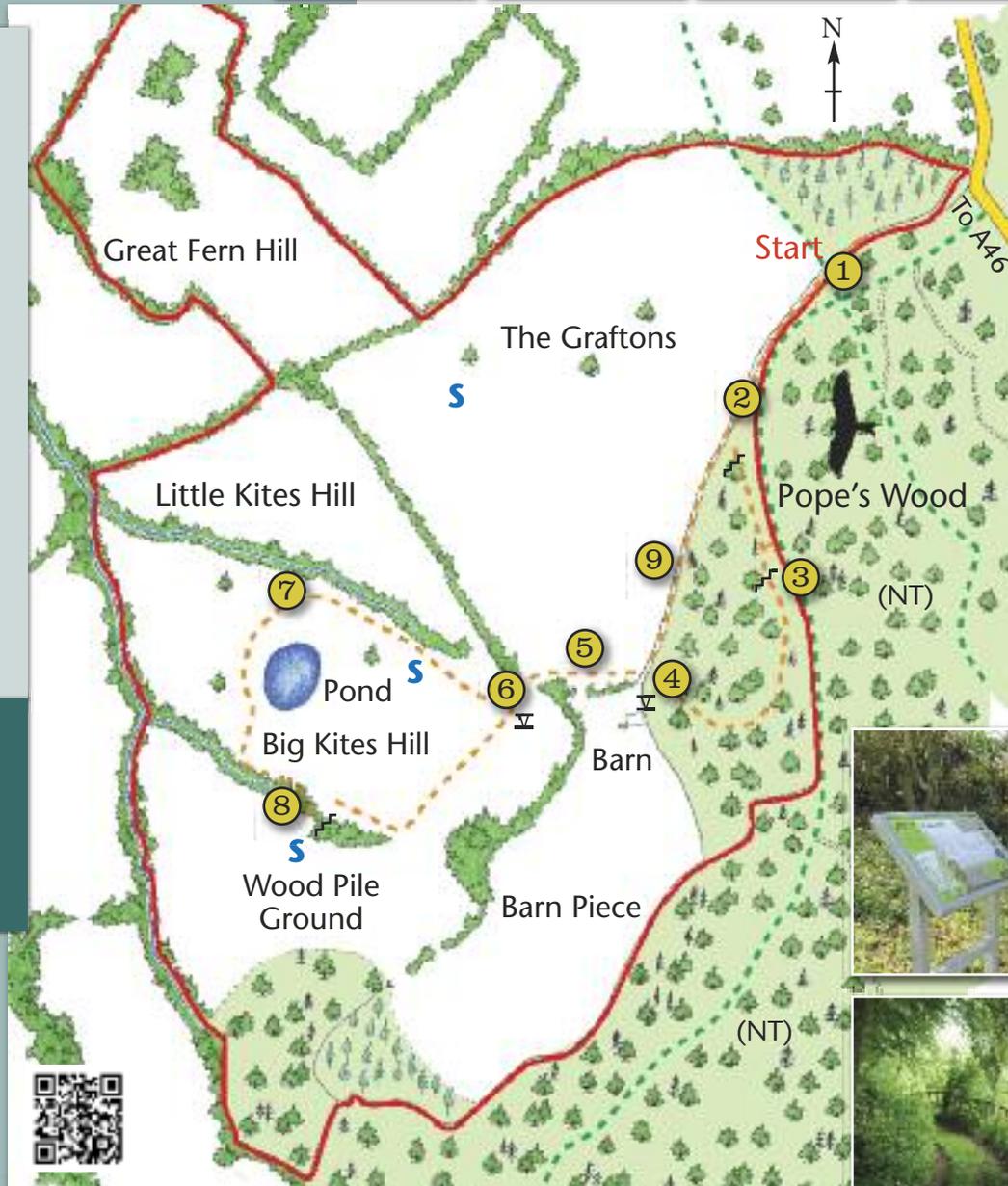


## Key

-  WLT reserve boundary
-  Nature trail
-  Public footpath
-  Tracks (no public access)
-  Woodland
-  New woodland
-  Hedgerow
-  Stream
-  Spring
-  Stiles
-  Steps
-  National Trust

Please keep to the designated paths and keep dogs on leads.

Take care on uneven ground and do not use the trail in bad weather.



## Figure of Eight Walk

- 1 Follow the track from the main information board and bench. From here you can see the whole reserve and the surrounding Cotswold Hills.
- 2 Walk along the track to a marker which indicates a footpath (dotted orange on the map) off to the left into the woodland via steps. The wood is mainly beech with some ash at the edges.
- 3 Notice the **Woodland** information board on the path in the middle of the wood.
- 4 Follow the path out of the wood onto the track near the farmyard. Cross the style and go down a bank into a large meadow.
- 5 Continue along the footpath that hugs the edge of the field and notice the **Meadows** information board.
- 6 Go through a gateway in the corner of the field. The footpath bears right towards the pond along the edge of a field, planted with oak trees.
- 7 Continue your walk to the pond, created in 2009. Notice the **Pondlife** information board.
- 8 Follow the path to the far side of the field where steps descend to an area under overhanging trees. Listen for the sound of a spring, which is enclosed. Notice the **Tracks and Signs** information board. Retrace your steps back through the gate into the main field. Head across the top of this field back towards the gate (marked 6 on the map). Retrace your steps back along the edge of the meadow (marked 5 on the map).
- 9 Take the track along the edge of the woodland with the meadow on the left towards the main entrance.

