THE CHANGING LANDSCAPE OF THE COLNE VALLEY





Points of interest/history

- A) What is now Black Park was originally heathland to the north of Langley Park. It was bought in 1738 by the 3rd Duke of Marlborough to enlarge his estate. He planted hundreds of fir trees and it was the shade cast by these stately firs that eventually gave Black Park its name. Not content with this vast parkland, the Duke engaged Thomas Greening, head gardener to King George II, to design a lake as a centrepiece for his new park. The lake was constructed in 1741 by decommissioned soldiers. In the past, the stream outlet has powered a water turbine to work a saw mill at nearby Rowley Farm.
- B) Take your time to admire the heathland views. During late spring through to early autumn, cattle from a local farm are grazed on the heathland. This is part of the management strategy for this diverse habitat which supports rare plants such as starfruit as well as many species of butterflies, dragonflies and birds including nightjars and Dartford warblers during the warmer months.
- C) Pinewood Studios are nearby. The whole park is an area of interest for film buffs as many scenes have been shot here, including parts of Harry Potter and James Bond films. Occasionally walkers have to make a detour because of filming.
- D) This large clearing is a popular picnic site and is Black Park's largest open space. There are alternative paths off to the right from here to the top end of the lake.







Enjoy a varied patchwork of woodland, heathland and lakeside at Black Park



Access: Very good paths on flat ground. No stiles.

For a much shorter route, simply follow the path around the whole lake.



Refreshments:

San Remo café beside Black Park Lake. There is also a small kiosk with limited opening hours at the end of the car park.



Public Transport:

A limited service on bus 3 from Uxbridge to Slough stops 1/2 mile east of the park on the A4007.



By Road: Black Park is signposted from the A412 Uxbridge Road. Car Park charges apply.



Postcode: SL3 3DS (approx.)

OS Grid Ref: TQ 005 833

Latitude: +51.5391, **Longitude:** -0.5521

What3Words: visa.entire.smoke

Explore the

Colne Valley Park

Countryside on your doorstep





- 1) From the car park take the first exit on the right hand side. At the lake turn left signposted "Open Space & Heathland". (A)
- 2) Keep the lake on your right until the path goes left and then right to a junction. Continue straight on signposted "Heathland" and ignore side turnings until you reach a sixway junction of paths. Take the second path on the right again signposted "Heathland" and continue for nearly ½ mile, emerging from trees into open country. (B)
- Space" and go through a kissing gate with a cattle grid beside it. Take the gravel path, re-enter woodland and at the next junction bear half right. (C) Follow the track over a small stream and through large plantations of Scots and Corsican Pines to a grassy open space on your right. (D)
- **4)** As the open space comes to an end, bear slightly left at a junction and continue ahead to a crossing of paths where a large wooden sculpture called "Folly" is sited.
- **5)** Turn right signposted "Café, Lake, Toilets & Play Area". Continue to the café which will be on your left. At the lake side turn left. Keep the lake on your right until you reach a bridge over a stream outlet which is your starting point. Here you turn left back to the car park.

