

Thornton Reservoir

Opening Times

Reservoir: March-November (Daily) 8.00am till dusk.
November-April (Daily) 9.00am to 4.00pm.
Information Room: Weekends, Bank Holidays and school holidays only.

Parking

Three marked disabled bays on the surfaced car park close to the site entrance. Further parking, for Anglers only, adjacent to the information centre.

Trails

The entrance to the car park is on a slope, if not accessing by car. The path around the reservoir is flat and surfaced with compacted gravel. There is a small surfaced sculpture trail that leads through the woodland, but it can become very muddy after rain. There are plenty of benches along the trails for resting. The circular route around Thornton Reservoir is 2.5 miles in length, and includes a short section on the public highway (Reservoir Road), over the crest of the dam, to return to the car park.

Facilities

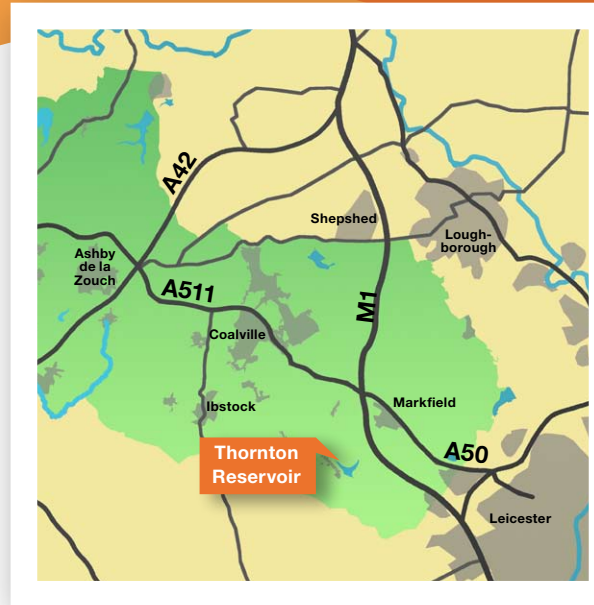
Small information room, exhibition and fishing lodge on the edge of the reservoir (sited on wooden decking with a rail). Picnic tables around the reservoir are accessible to wheelchairs. Disabled toilets are adjacent to the information centre. Light refreshments available at the fishing lodge. Fishing: fly fishery, with boat and bank angling. The fishery offers day tickets, but memberships are also available. Boats can be hired from the fishery (for anglers only) and a wheelchair-friendly boat is available, on request.
For more information, telephone the fishing lodge on 01530 230807.



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Location

Thornton Reservoir, Reservoir Road,
Thornton, Leicestershire LE67 1AR

Severn Trent Water:

01332 865081
www.moretoexperience.co.uk

The National Forest Company

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Swadlincote, Derbyshire DE12 6BA
01283 551211
enquiries@nationalforest.org
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Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this information at the time of printing. However, the National Forest Company cannot be held responsible for any error, omission or subsequent changes.

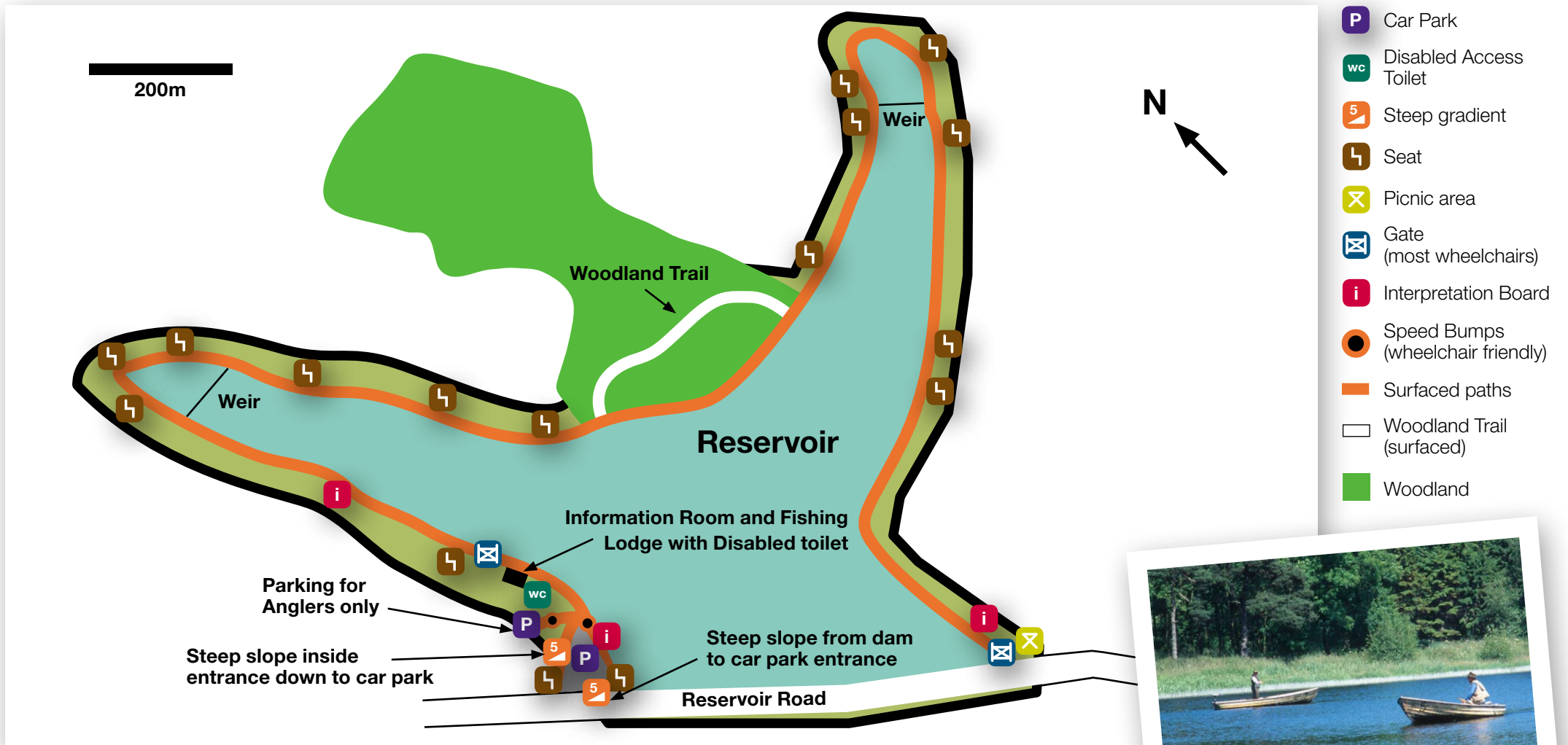
Photography: Christopher Beech and NFC

This guide is available in large print. Call 01283 551211

Thornton Reservoir

Access for All





Thornton Reservoir

Thornton derives its name from an old reference to the vegetation that grew wild around the village, hence the “Town of Thorns” or Thornton. Thornton Reservoir, now more than 150 years old, is situated on the edge of the village and is set in a picturesque valley surrounded by a landscape of rolling farmland and mature woodland. Built in 1854, the creation of the reservoir took almost seven years of planning and building works. It was originally constructed to provide water for Hinckley and Nuneaton, together with the western parts of Leicestershire, and has a total capacity of 1,320,000 m³. Water was originally abstracted from the reservoir and treated at the works at the toe of the dam.

Severn Trent Water closed the reservoir in 1982, but it was reopened to the public in 1997. The 31 hectare (75 acre) site is now a refuge for a diversity of wildlife, including mammals, birds, butterflies and dragonflies. In 2005, Thornton Reservoir was designated as a Local Wildlife Site due to its importance for wildlife. It is now a peaceful and picturesque location that offers a wide network of trails and footpaths around the reservoir and through the woodland areas. There are also links with longer trails including the Leicestershire Round, the National Forest Company’s Coal Tips to Country Parks Walk and various other public footpaths.