

Sarah's Wood

Opening Times

April-September (Daily) 9.00am - 7.00pm.
October-March (Daily) 9.00am - 4.00pm.

Parking

12 parking bays for disabled users with tarmac surface and dropped kerbs. There is a 2m overhead barrier at the entrance to the car park. Minibuses and small coaches are welcome with prior notice: telephone the Country Parks Office on 0116 3056918, 9-5pm, Monday to Friday, for details.

Trails

All paths are surfaced with tarmac, gravel or concrete, and form a series of loops around the site. Gradients are quite gentle, easy for motorised wheelchairs, but the steeper sections (marked with a gradient on the map) may be difficult for manual wheelchairs and push chairs. Benches are located at points along the trails for resting. **Please note:** There is no barrier along the canal edge so care should be taken.

Facilities

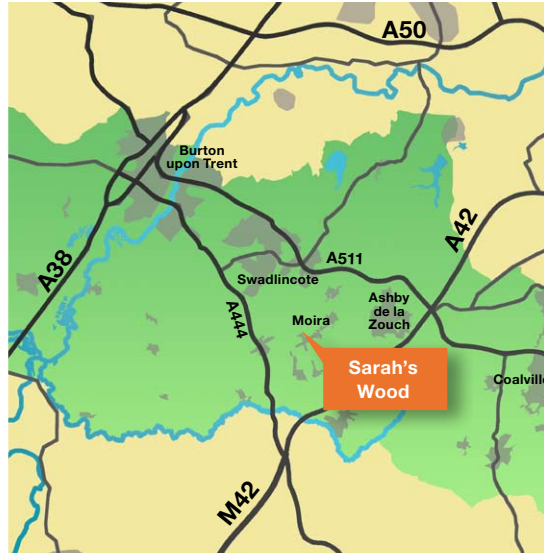
A shelter is located adjacent to the car park, and toilets are available at the cafe at the adjacent Conkers Waterside Visitor Centre.



THE NATIONAL
FOREST



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Location

Rawdon Road, Moira, Swadlincote,
Derbyshire, DE12 6GA

General Information:

Leicestershire County Council - 0116 305 6918

The National Forest Company

Enterprise Glade, Bath Yard, Moira,
Swadlincote, Derbyshire DE12 6BA
01283 551211
enquiries@nationalforest.org
www.nationalforest.org

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.

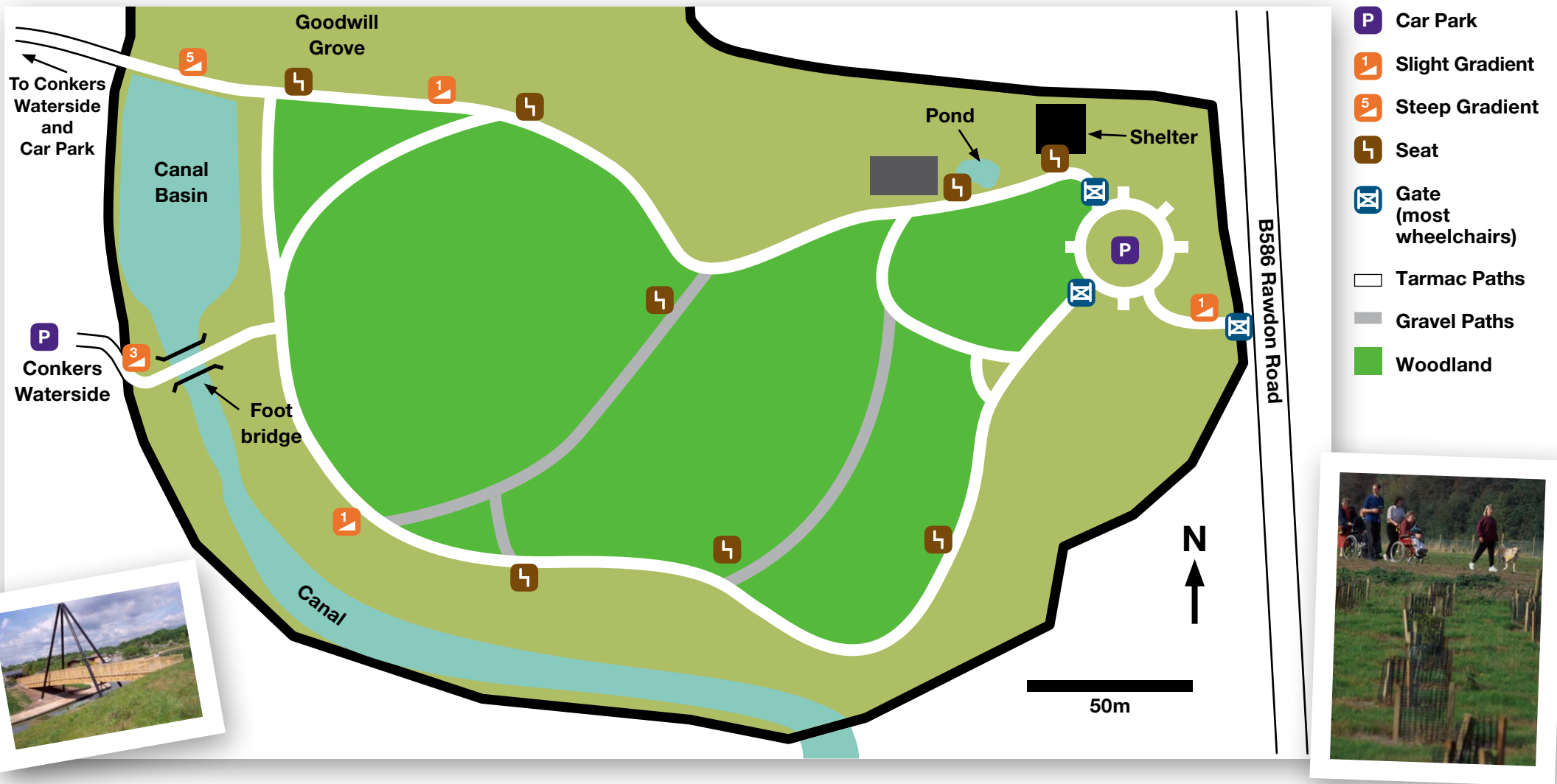
Photography: Christopher Beech and NFC

This guide is available in large print. Call 01283 551211

Sarah's Wood

Access for All





Sarah's Wood

Sarah's Wood is a 10 hectare (25 acre) woodland on the edge of Moira, designed with the aim of providing an accessible woodland for all. It was created by Leicestershire County Council, the National Forest Company and SOS (Stars Organisation Supporting Action for People with Cerebral Palsy), a charity working for children and adults with cerebral palsy. The woodland was given its name as a result of a competition run by the Leicester Mercury newspaper. The winning name was chosen in recognition of the support that Sarah Louise Goudie, a five year old child suffering from cerebral palsy, had given to the SOS woodland appeal. So, in October 1995, the new woodland was officially named 'Sarah's Wood' in her honour. SOS Member Alan Titchmarsh planted the first trees in the new woodland.

Sarah's Wood has a long and interesting history. Archaeological finds, including an Iron Age grinding stone (or quern) and a prehistoric axe handle, indicate that there has been farming of one form or another on the site since the Iron Age. Today, Sarah's Wood has transformed into an attractive woodland and wildlife haven, comprising native broadleaf trees, hedgerows and a hay meadow. Memorial trees to Mahatma Gandhi and Anne Frank are planted in the Gandhi Goodwill Grove. Sarah's Wood lies next to the restored Ashby Canal, and a footbridge provides access over the canal to the Conkers Waterside Visitor Centre.