



WALK 3

 **Time:** 2hrs / 2.5hrs

 **Distance:** 5.8km / 7km

Rivers, brooks and lakes

Experience the various landscapes of the Water Park in one walk. A delightful woodland trail by the Swill Brook, then across open meadows to the infant River Thames, and crystal clear lakes. Great wildlife all year round with dragonflies in summer, nightingales in Spring and a wonderful variety of visiting waterbirds in Winter.



Start: Neigh Bridge Country Park

At **(A)** exit from car park to road and turn right, cross over Spine Road and go down Minety Lane opposite for 800m – please proceed with caution as road is narrow with no footpath. Turn through wooden gate at entrance to Swillbrook Lakes Nature Reserve on left opposite small layby at **(B)**.

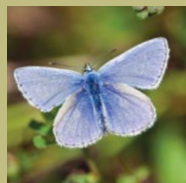
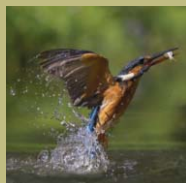
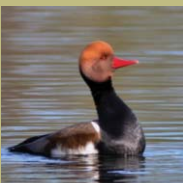
Follow narrow path along lake edge, go through small gate at point **(C)** and follow footpath with Swill Brook on right. Continue through wooden gate on right at edge of lake. Follow path to **(D)**, going over bridge to interpretation panel, then path across field. Route turns away from lake, with woods on left. At **(E)**, where trees converge, go into next field and take right hand path around field boundary to footbridge over brook, along Otter Corridor towards Pike Corner **(F)** and turn left at interpretation panel.

Follow path straight on, then with interpretation panel on left at **(G)**, go over stile to join Thames Path.

Shortest route

Turn left along River Thames with river on right, ignoring gateway on right, to metal footbridge at **(H)**. Over footbridge turn left along lane to meet Spine Road, and left, cross road to Neigh Bridge.

Wildlife Watch



From left to right: Red Crested Pochard, Nightingale, Kingfisher and Common Blue Butterfly.

Longer route

Turn right along River Thames. After 450m, left at footpath sign over footbridge at **(I)** and follow path. At junction of paths **(J)**, turn left, follow path (not gravel track) keeping Lake 37 on right. Walk along bank for 500m – after metal hut turn left through gap in the hedge **(K)**. Turn right, follow path through scrub. Keep straight ahead to gravel track. Turn left then take grass path immediately on right **(L)** and follow to stile in hedgerow onto Spine Road. Cross road, and turn left back to Neigh Bridge Car Park.

