

Harold Court Woods



Over 40,000 trees have been planted, some adding to the surrounding belts of mature trees and a now unusual 'Apostle's Circle'.

These were traditionally planted to represent Christ and his Apostles and here eleven horse chestnuts ring a central tree. Meadow areas are regularly mown and the pond transformed – all to provide a perfect haven for people and wildlife alike. Easily accessed from under the mainline rail bridge on Harold Court Road, Harold Court Woods is the perfect place for the residents of Harold Wood and Harold Hill. The pace is relaxed and there's often someone about to stop and chat to – it's a really friendly community green space.



Locations and information Enjoy your visit



Thames Chase



Visit Harold Court Woods

Enjoy & Discover your forests & woodlands



Public Transport:

Visit www.transportdirect.info

Car:

FREE car park on site

Post Code:

RM3 0YU

OS Ref:

TQ 558 914



Thames Chase Community Forest:

Thames Chase is part of 12 Community Forests in England. With a network of 47 sites, its aim is to help promote the creation and continuing development of greenspace on the edge of East London and South Essex. The Forestry Commission own and manage 10 community woodlands within this area.

Contact:

Forestry Commission, FREEPOST, The Forest Centre, Pike Lane, Upminster, Essex RM14 3NS
e: thameschase@forestry.gsi.gov.uk t: 01708 642 964

» To find out more about England's Forests, get the Forestry Commission's iPhone App now.

» www.forestry.gov.uk/thameschase

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Harold Court Woods

Key

-  Grass ride
-  Walkers or cyclists
-  Horses
-  Bridleway
-  Bench
-  Car Park
-  Picnic table
-  Dog bins
-  Meadow
-  Woodland
-  Urban area

0 120m
Scale



Harold Court Woods Fact File

Size: 25 ha
Walks: 3.3km
 (0.7km is un-surfaced)
Cycling: 2.6km
Horses: 1.3km and throughout
 the grassed areas
Open: 8.00am to dusk
Parking: Free
Created: 2001-3

Woodland Code: Cycle with care. Respect the peace and quiet of the woods and wildlife. Take your litter home with you. Never light fires and smokers take care. Dogs are welcome but please keep them under close control and always clean up after your pet.

Riders Code: Please walk or trot on the marked trails. Do not canter or gallop. Please do not ride on the pink paths – they are for pedestrians.

How times change!

In 1865 a Brentwood solicitor, Mr. W.R. Preston, built his residence Harold Court Mansion on the farmland that had been carved out of Upminster Common in the early 1700's. Since then the mansion has had a chequered history. First a children's home, then a county lunatic asylum and, during the First World War, a tuberculosis hospital. Later it was a part of Brentwood College of Education until, finally in the 1980's, being converted into its present use as residential flats – Harold Court House.



LINK
 Take a short walk on the bridleway to Pages Wood

What else is nearby?

Just across Nags Head Lane is Tylers Common. A short bridleway south connects to Pages Wood.

LINK
 Take a short walk across Nags Head Lane to Tylers Common

Tylers Common



What's out or about?

Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec

Wintering fieldfare and redwings
 Territorial robins
 Elder first leaves
 Kestrels hunting from perches
 Hedgehogs active
 Newts return to ponds
 Cowslips bloom
 Small copper
 Skylark song flight
 Corn cockle blooms
 Common blue butterfly
 White hairstreak butterfly
 Slow worms bask
 Dragonflies hawking
 Brown argus
 Martins and swallows gather before migrating south
 Horse chestnuts
 Autumn colours
 Elderberry & sloes on blackthorn
 Fungi proliferate
 Holly blossoms

There's plenty to see and hear throughout the year