

# My wild adventure

Welcome to the Wild Explorer Trail. Journey back in time through the Hill's 200 million year history. Learn why the Hill was, and still is, important for wildlife and people.

The trail is family-friendly and will take about 20–30 minutes to complete.

Start here!

**Spot the invaders**  
The summit of Robinswood Hill has had a beacon for over **500 years**, sat on top of the Hill it was a good vantage point to see invaders coming up the River Severn. The beacon would be lit and visible from the city.

**Ancient building blocks**  
Between **1890–1940** the Whitfield Brick and Tile Works quarried clay from the hill to create bricks. If you live in Gloucester your house might be made from these bricks. Visit the paths around the quarry and you may see some.

**Mooooo**  
Humans have farmed Robinswood Hill for **4,000 years**, creating current wildlife habitats. Dexter cows still graze the hill today and the wildflower meadows are cut for hay. Look for bumps in the ground here, which are old ridges and furrows, a medieval farming technique. Scan the QR code to discover how cattle and sheep help wildlife.

**Splash**  
Robinswood Hill has been an important source of fresh water for Gloucester for hundreds of years, reservoirs once sat where the car park is now until **1946**. The Hill no longer provides water to the city but has two ancient wells, and plenty of spring fed ponds – important for amphibians and invertebrates. Scan the QR code to learn how to make your own mini pond.

**Past wildlife**  
What is this creature? They have lived in Britain for over **6,000 years**. Sadly they nearly went extinct in England, but are now being reintroduced to the Forest of Dean. Scan the QR code for the answer.

**Attention!**  
During World War 2 army barracks were built at Robinswood Hill and used by the Royal Army Service Corps. The barracks were demolished but the path you are standing on was used by the soldiers. Scan the QR code to take a look at what the barracks looked like in **1960**.

**Wild Hill**  
Gloucester City Council began managing Robinswood Hill Country Park in 1972. The park was designated as a nature reserve in **2003**. The wildflower meadows and veteran trees are of particular importance. This sculpture is a lesser stag beetle. If you were a stag beetle, what would you eat, where would you live?

**I spy**  
Robinswood Hill offers amazing views of the surrounding Cotswolds and into Wales. Have a peek through the binoculars, what can you see? What do you think it would have looked like **200 million years ago**? Scan the QR code to find out.

**Badger and owl**  
Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust was formed in **1961** and is now based at Robinswood Hill. The charity is dedicated to protecting and enhancing Gloucestershire's wildlife and connecting people to nature. Scan the QR code to discover how you too can take action for nature.

**How old am I?**  
Trees are important habitat for wildlife especially ancient trees. In the **2000s**, fruit trees were planted to restore the Hill's ancient orchard. The sculptures on the trail were made from an ancient oak that blew over, but how old was it? Scan the QR code to find out how you can estimate the age of trees by hugging them.

You did it!

Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust  
Registered Charity No: 232580



The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development:  
Europe investing in rural areas supporting My Wild Adventure project

Gloucester  
City Council  
Transforming Your City

Gloucestershire  
Wildlife Trust



**Follow the Wild Explorer Trail through woodlands and meadows to discover the wildlife and history of Robinswood Hill. Can you find all 10 sculptures and unlock this 200 million year old story?**

**Attention!**

March like a soldier up and down the path

What can you spot in the pond?

*How old am I?*

Count the rings on the sculpture to find out

Stop! Look and listen for signs of wildlife on the wild Hill

*Mooooo*

Buzz like a bee through the meadows

*I spy*

Have a look through the binoculars, what wildlife can you see?

*Start here!*

**Key**

- Woodland
- Grassland
- Buildings
- Wild Explorer Trail
- Paths
- Boundary
- Café
- Toilets
- Sculpture
- Mobility scooter hire
- Car park
- Playground & sculpture field

The trail is pushchair-friendly and we have an all-terrain mobility scooter available to hire, contact us for more info.

**Thank you for completing the trail! Why not pop to the café for a bite to eat or visit [www.gloucestershirowildlifetrust.co.uk](http://www.gloucestershirowildlifetrust.co.uk) to find out about other activities.**

Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust  
Registered Charity No: 232580



The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development:  
Europe investing in rural areas supporting My Wild Adventure project

**Gloucester City Council**  
Transforming Your City

**Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust**

