

Thorncombe Woods

Thorncombe Woods is a magical pocket of mixed woodland and heath is listed on the Ancient Woodland Inventory. The 26 hectare mixed woodland and heath site is home to a great diversity of trees including mature Oaks, Sweet Chestnut and Beech. The woodland gives way to Black Heath, an area of heath in restoration with its own herd of Dartmoor ponies. Rushy Pond, famous from Thomas Hardy works, is home to amphibians and dragonflies and a hunting ground for resident grass snakes as well as being a watering hole for the ponies and other wildlife. Running through the site is a well preserved Roman road. This Scheduled Ancient Monument, would have stretched from Dorchester to Badbury Rings.

Contact

Telephone	01305 251228
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Website	http://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/countryside-coast-parks/country-parks-and-visitor-centres/hardys-birthplace-visitor-centre/thorncombe-wood-local-nature-reserve.aspx

Venue

Venue address	Thorncombe Woods Higher Bockhampton Dorchester Dorset
Postcode	DT2 8QH
Locality	West Dorset

Other information

Availability	Weekend All year Weekday Daytime Term Time School Holidays
Additional Information	The site is also adjacent to Hardy's Cottage, birthplace of novelist and poet Thomas Hardy. Black Heath is now a small fragment of the once famous Hardy's Egdon Heath and Rushy Pond is mentioned in 'The Withered Arm'.

Some activities and family support services listed in our directory may be cancelled, postponed, or running in a different way due to coronavirus restrictions. Please contact providers to check for information about any changes.