

Hunt House Walks and Countryside Guide

Days out from Hunt House in Kilsby, CV23 8XR. September 2026 edition. Journey times are estimates; check live routes, opening, tickets and access before travel. Links open current visitor information and maps.

Walks and countryside

Whether you fancy a short waterside stroll, a full reservoir circuit or a day among wildlife, there are plenty of outdoor options close to Hunt House. Distances and path conditions vary, so choose a route to suit the weather, footwear and energy level of your group.

Daventry Country Park 10–15 minutes

An easy local escape with reservoir views, woodland and flexible walking routes. It works equally well for a short leg-stretch, a family wander or a longer circuit.

Good to know: Parking, toilets and refreshments are available; paths and conditions vary around the wider park.

[Visitor information and booking](#)

[How do I get there? Driving directions](#)

Braunston and the Grand Union Canal 10–15 minutes

A characterful canal village with a busy marina, narrowboats and towpath walking. Guests can choose a short waterside stroll, browse around the marina or continue farther along the canal.

Good to know: Towpaths can be uneven or muddy. Food and drink are available around the village and marina, but individual opening hours vary.

[Visitor information and booking](#)

[How do I get there? Driving directions](#)

Hillmorton Locks 15–20 minutes

A relaxed local outing where visitors can watch boats pass through one of the busiest flights of locks on the Oxford Canal. The towpath gives an easy out-and-back walk with no need to complete a fixed route.

Good to know: The canal towpath is generally straightforward but may be narrow, uneven or muddy in places.

[Visitor information and booking](#)

[How do I get there? Driving directions](#)

Walks and countryside continued

Draycote Water 15–20 minutes

A reservoir with broad views, surfaced sections and a five-mile circuit for confident walkers or cyclists. Guests wanting something gentler can simply walk across the dams and return for refreshments.

Good to know: Parking, café and toilets are available. The exposed setting can feel windy and the full circuit is considerably more demanding than the short dam walk.

[Visitor information and booking](#)

Dogs Do not use the reservoir circuit as a dog walk. Check Severn Trent's designated dog areas and current access rules before bringing a dog.

[How do I get there? Driving directions](#)

Swift Valley Country Park 15–20 minutes

A quieter nature reserve on the edge of Rugby, with grassland, pools and riverside habitats. Best for guests who prefer an informal local nature walk rather than a developed visitor attraction.

Good to know: Facilities are limited and paths can be wet or uneven, so suitable footwear is sensible.

[Visitor information and booking](#)

[How do I get there? Driving directions](#)

Coombe Abbey Park 25–30 minutes

Extensive parkland, woodland and lakeside scenery designed around the historic abbey estate. Visitors can keep to an easy central stroll or explore farther into the country park.

Good to know: Visitor parking, food and toilets are available. It can be busy at weekends and during school holidays.

[Visitor information and booking](#)

[How do I get there? Driving directions](#)

Walks and countryside continued

Brandon Marsh Nature Reserve 25–30 minutes

Wetland, woodland, bird hides and nature trails make this a rewarding choice for wildlife lovers and birdwatchers. It offers a very different experience from the formal country parks.

Good to know: The visitor centre provides current access and trail information; some outdoor routes can be muddy or seasonally affected.

[Visitor information and booking](#)

[How do I get there? Driving directions](#)

Ryton Pools Country Park 25–30 minutes

Pools, woodland and meadow paths with routes of different lengths. A useful all-round recommendation for families, dog walkers and guests wanting a manageable country walk.

Good to know: Parking, toilets and refreshments are normally available; check the council page for current arrangements.

[Visitor information and booking](#)

[How do I get there? Driving directions](#)

Foxton Locks 30–40 minutes

A famous staircase of canal locks set in attractive countryside. Watch boats climb the flight, visit the museum or follow the towpath before stopping for a waterside lunch.

Good to know: Parking, toilets and refreshments are available. The site contains slopes, steps and uneven areas, although shorter waterside visits are still possible.

[Visitor information and booking](#)

[How do I get there? Driving directions](#)

Walks and countryside continued

Hatton Locks 35–45 minutes

Known as the Stairway to Heaven, this impressive flight of 21 locks gives visitors a lively canal walk with plenty of engineering interest and views across the surrounding countryside.

Good to know: A café and parking are available near the top locks. The complete flight includes gradients and a substantial walk; a short out-and-back visit is easier.

[Visitor information and booking](#)

[How do I get there? Driving directions](#)

Brampton Valley Way 30–40 minutes

A traffic-free former railway route linking Northampton and Market Harborough. It is useful for walking and cycling and can be paired with the Northampton and Lamport Railway on operating days.

Good to know: Choose a short section rather than attempting the full linear route; facilities depend on the chosen access point.

[Visitor information and booking](#)

[How do I get there? Driving directions](#)

Fosse Meadows countryside stop

Allow roughly 25–35 minutes by car from Hunt House. This is a planning estimate; choose a live route before leaving.

Fosse Meadows near Sharnford offers woodland, open grassland, wildlife areas and a children's play area. Choose a short stroll or a longer wander, then continue towards Leicester only if it suits your day.

Good to know: parking, picnic areas and toilets are listed by the council. Refreshments are available at peak times rather than guaranteed all day. Paths vary and may be muddy. Check gate closing times before setting off.

Along the way: this is a countryside detour on some routes towards Leicester, not the same place as Fosse Park shopping centre. Choose one stop if your main attraction already fills the day.

[Fosse Meadows visitor information](#)

[How do I get there? Driving directions](#)