



# Activity Map Letchworth & Baldock

where to walk, cycle  
& have fun outdoors in:  
Letchworth, Baldock,  
Radwell, Norton, William

## Other leaflets

### The Great North Way:

The Great North Way, National Cycle Network (NCN) Route 12 which passes through Hertfordshire is a thirty two mile leisure cycle route which links Potters Bar, Hatfield, Welwyn Garden City, Stevenage, Letchworth and Baldock.

You may not want to cycle all of the route, but why not ride part of it? You could even cycle one way and take the train back.

### Letchworth Garden City Greenway

This route offers excellent opportunities for people of all ages to enjoy the open air through walks and recreational facilities. Along the way there are many things to do and places to visit. The Greenway is a circular 13.6 mile (21.8km) route around Letchworth for walkers, in parts wheelchair users, cyclists and horses. It is shown in part on the map overleaf, to see the full route ask for the Garden City Greenway Map & Guide: [www.greenway.org.uk](http://www.greenway.org.uk)



Other leaflets in this series can be downloaded or ordered free of charge at:

[www.hertsdirect.org/walkingandcycling](http://www.hertsdirect.org/walkingandcycling)



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## Parks, woodland & nature reserves



### Broadway Gardens [B3]

In 2003, North Hertfordshire District Council chose 'Broadway Gardens' as the new name for Kennedy Gardens after a public poll. The gardens were enhanced in 2004 to include a magnificent fountain, a new paved area for public events together with substantial replanting of trees, shrubs and hedges in the Gardens and along Broadway Walk.



### Howard Park [C3]

The park is named after the social reformer Ebenezer Howard who famously advocated a new kind of town, combining the advantages of cities and the countryside while eliminating their disadvantages. Letchworth Garden City was his first project and Howard Park opened in 1911, was the first official public park in the new town.



Broadway Gardens Letchworth



### Icknield Way Path [A3]

The Icknield Way is unique among long distance tracks because it can claim to be the oldest road in Britain. Extending from Ivinghoe Beacon in Buckinghamshire to Knettishall Heath in Norfolk, it is a prehistoric pathway that was ancient even in Roman times. Dotted with archaeological remains, it survives as splendid tracks and green lanes along the chalk 'spine' of England



### Ivel Springs [E1]

As the name suggests, the River Ivel rises here from chalk springs and is fed by more springs downstream between Baldock and Radwell. The springs and adjacent meadowland are now being managed for wildlife conservation after widespread dumping in the 1950's destroyed much habitat.



Norton Pond



Broadway Gardens Letchworth



Radwell Meadows



### Norton Common [C2]

Norton Common is ideal for walks, picnics and enjoying various leisure activities. You will find a heated outdoor swimming pool\*, bowls, putting, tennis, a children's play area and a large wooded area that is the home of the town's most famous 'wild' residents - the black squirrels and muntjac deer. Pix Brook stream runs through the Common.

\* For details see 'Letchworth Outdoor Pool' on: [www.stevenage-leisure.co.uk](http://www.stevenage-leisure.co.uk)



### Norton Pond [D1]

The pond, fed from local springs, is famous for its newts and is a popular watering hole for many different bird species. A host of wildlife can be seen here including dragonflies, damselflies, water beetles, three-spined sticklebacks, common frogs, toads, water boatman, pond snails, pond skaters and crustaceans.

This open space provides links for walkers to the Grange and Standalone Farm as well as Arlesley and Hitchin.



### Radwell Meadows [D1]

Radwell Meadows features an award-winning children's play area with picnic tables and fixed barbecues. It has been specially designed to improve existing animal and plant habitats and create many new ones.



### Standalone Farm [B2]

A piece of the pre-Garden City estate, Standalone Farm is a working 'open' farm set in 170 acres and features pigs, sheep, goats, cows, hens, ducks - and of course Sam and Webster the shire horses.

The exhibition barn contains 70 bird specimens, mammals, animal skulls, model dinosaurs, creepy crawlies and a working beehive. Outside you can view wildlife from specially constructed hides. A pleasant picnic area is located next to an outdoor children's play area and indoor picnic facilities are also available. [www.standalonefarm.com](http://www.standalonefarm.com)



### Willian Arboretum [C5]

The Willian Arboretum contains over 30 different tree varieties carefully selected to thrive on the underlying damp acidic soils. There is an interpretation board on site to help you find out more about the various species planted here.

A picnic area and car parking facilities can be found at Manor Wood, just a few minutes walk away. A sculpture of Telford Morton (1916-2001), a Letchworthian of great note who had a deep love for the countryside, will be seen along the stretch of pathway between Manor Wood and Willian Arboretum. In addition, a short walk in the direction of Letchworth Gate will reveal panoramic views of Hertfordshire along the way.



### Wymondley Wood [C5]

Wymondley Wood features a special nature conservation and field study area adjacent to existing and newly planted forest environments. These very mixed plantations, together with their grassy and flowery margins, provide food and cover for a wide variety of wildlife all year round - a marked contrast to the surrounding arable fields.

The woodland is primarily Oak and Hornbeam and was planted in two stages between 1997 and 2000. This involved the planting of over 5,000 locally grown trees and shrubs and the creation of the car park and footpaths within the site to provide access for all.



Weston Hills



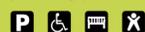
## Parks & playgrounds

### Baldock



#### Avenue Park [E2]

A lovely big park with large playground, sandpit, paddling pool and tennis courts.



### Letchworth



#### Baldock Road Playing Fields [D3]

Toddler playground and climbing frames for older children are at the far end, plus masses of space for ball games, running around, riding bikes etc.



#### The Greenway, Grange estate [B1-C1]

The Greenway path here is nice and flat for cycling along, traffic-free, and in a parkland setting.



#### Howard Gardens [C3]

Fantastic playground with play equipment, sandpit and paddling pool in summer. Easily accessible from town centre on Norton Way South.



#### Broadway Gardens [B3]

Located on Broadway, this open space is great for letting children burn off energy after a visit to the library close by. Great for picnics and football.



#### Norton Common [C2]

A large open space with an outdoor swimming pool, play area, and a skateboard ramp for older kids. Also great walks on the paths beside the streams.



#### Radwell Meadows [D1]

A great area for wildlife with a huge pond, usually with lots of ducks, swans and geese. Playground, picnic tables and fixed barbecues (take your own fuel).



## Museums



### Letchworth Museum & Art Gallery [B3]

Housed in an attractive Edwardian building facing Broadway Gardens, the museum comprises galleries devoted to local wildlife and archaeology of the people who have lived in this area from prehistory to 1903. There are also monthly changing exhibitions, plus a lively programme of events and workshops.

Opening hours: Open daily 10am to 5pm. Closed Wednesdays, Sundays and Public Holidays.



### First Garden City Heritage Museum [C3]

This is the world's leading archive and information point on the development of Letchworth Garden City, and the early Garden City Movement.

The museum tells the story of the movement from its origins to the present day. It is housed in a beautiful and unique building designed in 1907 by the architect Barry Parker.

Opening Times: Monday to Saturday 10am - 5pm. Admission: 50p for residents, £1 for non-residents.



### Baldock Museum [F2]

Baldock was founded by the Knights Templar around 1148, on the site of an earlier Iron Age and Roman town. The town was formerly an important coaching, malting and brewing town and the museum has a permanent display of its history from Roman times.

Opening Times: Wednesday from 11.00am to 1.30pm and Sundays - 2.00pm to 4.00pm. Groups may visit at other times by appointment.

Admission: 25p for adults.



Letchworth Garden City town centre



Letchworth Garden City town centre



Baldock market



Baldock town centre

## Other places of interest

### St Mary's Church [E2]

This church in Baldock has a dedication to St Mary the Virgin. The east end of the chancel dates from the 1200s, when it was built by the Knights Templar, much of the rest of the building being completed about 1330. The south chapel, clerestory and north porch were built at later dates, the latter being added in the 19th century. The bell tower which was built around the 15th Century provides a picturesque view of the town and Weston Hills.

## Useful links

**Local public transport information**  
[www.intalink.org.uk](http://www.intalink.org.uk)  
[www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk)

**Cycling to local stations**  
Cycle parking is provided or you can take your bike on most trains  
[www.firstcapitalconnect.co.uk](http://www.firstcapitalconnect.co.uk)

**Hertfordshire County Council**  
[www.hertsdirect.org](http://www.hertsdirect.org)

**North Hertfordshire District Council**  
[www.north-herts.gov.uk](http://www.north-herts.gov.uk)

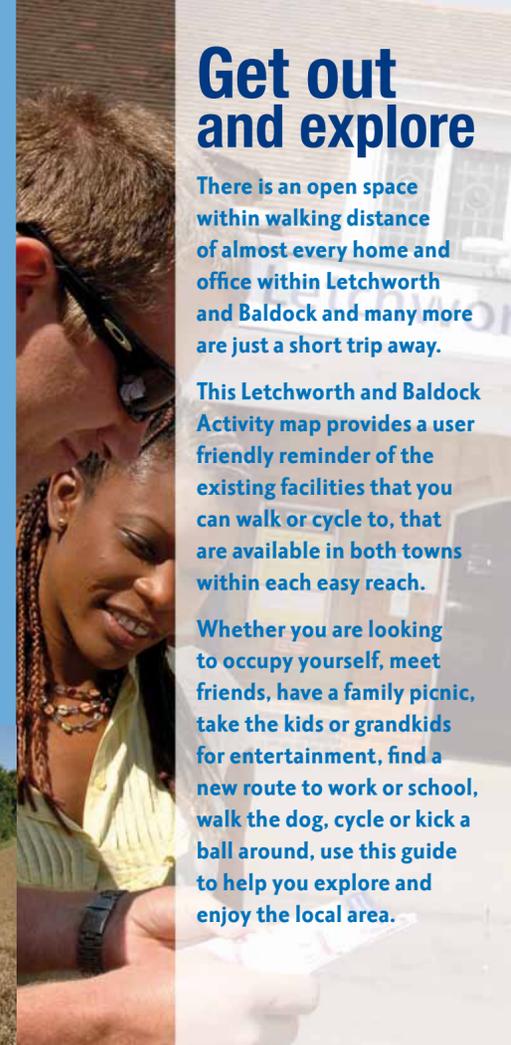
**Local cycle maps**  
[www.hertsdirect.org/walkingandcycling](http://www.hertsdirect.org/walkingandcycling)

**Cycling Touring Club, Herts**  
[www.ctcherts.org.uk](http://www.ctcherts.org.uk)

**Local cycle shops**  
[www.trisports.co.uk](http://www.trisports.co.uk) [C3]  
[www.customriders.com](http://www.customriders.com) [E2]  
[www.pedalsforbaldock.co.uk](http://www.pedalsforbaldock.co.uk) [F1]

## Facilities KEY

- Parking
- Wheelchair Access
- Cycle Paths
- Seating
- Children's Play Area
- Footpaths
- Waymarked Footpaths
- Nature Reserve
- Leaflet Available
- Information Panel
- Bridleway
- Picnic Area
- Toilets
- Cafe



# Get out and explore

There is an open space within walking distance of almost every home and office within Letchworth and Baldock and many more are just a short trip away.

This Letchworth and Baldock Activity map provides a user friendly reminder of the existing facilities that you can walk or cycle to, that are available in both towns within each easy reach.

Whether you are looking to occupy yourself, meet friends, have a family picnic, take the kids or grandkids for entertainment, find a new route to work or school, walk the dog, cycle or kick a ball around, use this guide to help you explore and enjoy the local area.



Standalone Farm Norton Common





Standalone Farm



Standalone Farm



Standalone Farm



Standalone Farm



Standalone Farm



Radwell Meadows



Norton Pond



Norton Common



Weston Hills



Willian

### Key


1 mile 1 kilometre