

Welcome to

Hughenden Walks



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Visitor Information

Admission

Admission to the park and woodland walks is free. All dogs are welcome in the park and woodland but only assistance dogs are allowed in the house and formal garden. Dog owners are respectfully requested to maintain close control of their dogs on a lead when passing through fields with live-stock grazing. Please pick up after your dog and take home to help keep the countryside tidy.

Directions

Hughenden Manor is 1.5miles (2km) to the north of High Wycombe, on the west side of the A4128, before reaching the village of Hughenden Valley.

Parking

There is limited on-site parking available. There is a possibility of delays on busy days.

Visitors with Disabilities

Certain ground floor areas of the house and the formal gardens are generally accessible to wheelchairs. It is recommended to contact the property in advance for information. The woodland walks are not recommended for wheelchair access.

Refreshments and Shop

The restaurant is located in the stable yard and serves an excellent choice of snacks or freshly cooked meals.

Toilets

These can be found in the stable yard next to the restaurant and the shop.

Points of Interest

The Coffin Path

This ancient track was used to transport the deceased from Naphill village to the church on the Hughenden Estate. Evidence suggests that it almost certainly marks the edge of a Saxon field boundary.

Pet Cemetery

Coningsby Disraeli, nephew of Benjamin and heir to Hughenden Manor, erected gravestones for his pet dogs, as was the fashion in Victorian times, and created a small cemetery which can be found at the top south west corner of the park.

D'Israeli Monument

This imposing obelisk stands on a hill overlooking the Manor. It was commissioned by Mary Anne Disraeli as a surprise for Benjamin and commemorates his father Isaac (who spelt his surname differently to his son).

Disraeli Family Tomb

The church of St. Michael and All Angels is alongside the main drive through the park (not owned by the National Trust). It is the final resting place of Benjamin Disraeli and other family members. In addition there is another occupant who was a special friend of Disraeli, Mrs. Brydges Willyams. The tomb is outside, against the east wall of the church.

Saw pits and Marl pits

There are numerous pits alongside the woodland paths, particularly in Flagmore Wood and Woodcock Wood. These pits range in size from the smaller saw pits (5m x 3m) to larger pits that were used for extracting marl (chalk) to make lime for adjusting the acidity of the farmland.



The Seasons

Things to look for on your walk

Whatever the season, there is much to discover about the park and woodland that comprise the Hughenden Estate. With many stunning views of the attractive landscape, Hughenden is a place to visit throughout the year.

Hughenden in Spring

Look out for the display of wild flowers along the south-facing wild flower bank next to Hanging Wood. You can see primroses, cowslips, dog violets, buttercups, wild strawberries and many others. In Woodcock Wood you will find a wonderland of bluebell glades.

Hughenden in Summer

The broad-leaved trees are at their best with superb specimens of horse chestnut, walnut, lime, oak and sycamore to be found in the park. At the bottom of the park runs a chalk stream which rises towards the village of Hughenden Valley. In the woods the majestic beech trunks supporting a shady canopy of leaves. In open areas you may see whilst in the woods you can hear birdsong echoing around the tree-lined paths. If you are lucky you may catch sight of the muntjak deer that live in the woods.



Bluebells



Chalk stream



Muntjak deer

About

Hughenden Manor

Nestling in the beautiful Chiltern Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and just a short distance from High Wycombe town centre is Hughenden Manor. This impressive house is the perfectly preserved country home of the prominent Victorian statesman and Prime Minister, Benjamin Disraeli. Hughenden Manor offers a glimpse into the private life of Disraeli and his wife Mary Anne who came to live here in 1848.

The Park and Woodland

The Hughenden Estate has much to discover, from extensive woods and the remains of ancient forest, to open parkland and working arable farmland. Many of the broad-leaved trees planted by Disraeli survive along with some of the field maples that pre-date the parkland.

A walk through Hanging Wood and Flagmore Wood today still evokes the tranquil atmosphere of Disraeli's time. As you walk through the enchanting woodland and rolling countryside you will encounter abundant flora and fauna. Wild spring flowers, dancing butterflies and many birds including red kites soaring overhead can be found at Hughenden.

D'Israeli Monument



Ancient forest



Red Kite



© Chilterns Conservation Board / Chris Smith

Hughenden in Winter

When it snows at Hughenden the woodland becomes a winter wonderland. Everything is still and there is little evidence of plant or animal life. You may be lucky to find animal or bird tracks in the snow. At this time of year the birds you might see include fieldfare, redwing and mistle thrush. Along the path through the German Forest the evergreen trees provide a splendid realisation of Disraeli's vision of northern Bohemia, transported to Hughenden. The conifers, yews and laurels planted among the beech create year-round interest.



Hughenden in Autumn

A Chilterns beech wood dressed in the flaming golds and reds of autumn is a truly breathtaking sight to behold. As you walk along the woodland paths look out for the bright red holly berries or the berries that adorn the yew trees in the German Forest. Keep a careful eye on the carpet of leaves in the woods and you may see mushrooms and toadstools. You will also discover fungi on and around the piles of dead wood that are left to support an incredibly complex web of insect and animal life. Look for evidence of badgers, grey squirrels and rabbits.



A Winter Wonderland



To High Wycombe

Enter the wood and after about 100m bear left up a slope. At the top head right and go past the newly installed woodchip boiler. Turn left to return to the car park via the stable yard.