

## Caring for Brent Reservoir

We're the charity working to protect and bring to life this 250-year-old network of canals and rivers spanning England and Wales. Not so long ago many canals were abandoned, and some lost forever. Today, with your support, wildlife is recovering, history is alive, boats are plentiful and spending time in this environment is contributing to our health and happiness.

Our mission is to keep this extraordinary network of canals and rivers alive, teeming with wildlife, transforming places they run through and enriching all of our lives. Your support today could help us care for London's canals, rivers and many more places, for today and generations to come.

DONATE



Please support our work & donate today

SCAN ME



The task of protecting the finest examples of working industrial heritage including Brent Reservoir and the wildlife that calls it home, is growing all the time. As a charity we need you by our side more than ever. Please support our work today.

Registered with



FUNDRAISING  
REGULATOR



Canal &  
River Trust

Making life better by water

## Keeping history alive

Built in 1835 by the Regent's Canal Company to supply water via the Paddington Arm of the Grand Union Canal, Brent Reservoir was a destination for entertainment and recreation during the latter part of the 1800s. The site saw the first greyhound races with mechanical hares, Britain's first formal cycle race and the ill-fated launch of the first parachute balloon. It was also used by naturalists in the 1920s until the 'Sunbathing Riots' in 1930.

While you can still see sailing boats, the site is now an important breeding ground for birds – 250 species of birds have been recorded here.

Discover lots of fun things to do with the family by and on the water. Go to [canalrivertrust.org.uk/explorers](https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/explorers)

Enjoy

Take Action

Volunteer

Donate

[canalrivertrust.org.uk](https://canalrivertrust.org.uk)

Registered charity no. 1146792

March 2023



Canal &  
River Trust

## Welcome to Welsh Harp (Brent Reservoir)

An oasis of calm in the city.



We're the charity making life better by water

This Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) is an oasis of calm away from the busy streets, just the place to escape the bustle of urban life.

**Visit us at:**  
Birchen Grove car park, NW9 7NX

 Allow 1–2 hours for your visit



**Find your way around**

-  café
-  pub
-  bench/picnic area
-  play area
-  Environment Centre
-  sailing
-  canoeing
-  parking
-  London Underground station
-  railway station

**N**  
Map not to scale:  
covers approx.  
1¼ miles / 2km

**Stay SAFE**  
**Stay Away From the Edge!**  
For more information on visiting safely:  
[canalrivertrust.org.uk/safety](http://canalrivertrust.org.uk/safety)

Details correct at time of print, please check before travelling.

## 5 things to do at Welsh Harp (Brent Reservoir)

- 1** Take binoculars, stop at the bird hides and watch the many wetland birds that can be found here.
- 2** Relax and enjoy a waterside picnic.
- 3** Stroll around the reservoir and feel the benefits of spending time by water.
- 4** Try out stand-up paddleboarding, there are frequent taster sessions on the reservoir.
- 5** Explore the variety of habitats.

### Did you know?

The reservoir is known locally as Welsh Harp after the historic pub which stood nearby until the early 1970s and was once one of London's most popular venues.

