Oxhey Woods

4.1 km (2.6 miles) · about 2 h 00 min with stops · **Start:** Oxhey Woods car park, Prestwick Road · **Underfoot:** Woodland paths, muddy after rain. Take care crossing Prestwick Road and Oxhey Drive.

Through the estate's ancient woods, past the old names on the 1870s maps and the bluebells of Nanscot Wood.



1. **Oxhey Woods car park.** The start of the one-kilometre easy-access sculpture trail. The woods were declared a Local Nature Reserve on 13 June 1997.
2. **Beck Mason's Wood.** Beck Mason's Wood, in the west of the central woods, keeps its old name and is on Natural England's revised ancient woodland list. Look for old hornbeam stubs along the banks.
3. **The Plantation.** The northern woods keep names from the maps of the 1870s: The Plantation, Old Hangings, Young Hangings and Little Furze Field.
4. **Old Hangings.** In 1889 H. J. Foley walked a quiet gravel road through these woods, the line of today's Oxhey Drive, among oaks, hornbeam, birch, larch and rhododendron.
5. **Abbott's Wood.** The southern woods: tall, open oak over younger birch, keeping the name of the Abbot's Wood of the 1872 sale.
6. **Nanscot Wood.** Hazel coppice under mature oaks, full of bluebells in spring. Head back west through Abbott's Wood to the car park.

The route follows paths and pavements where they exist and crosses open grass where they don't. Check the ground as you go and keep to public land. Map data © OpenStreetMap contributors (ODbL). Ancient woodland © Natural England copyright 2026. Contains OS data © Crown copyright and database rights 2026, OS AC0000851168 (Open Government Licence v3.0). Stop notes are drawn from the sources listed at southoxhey.org.