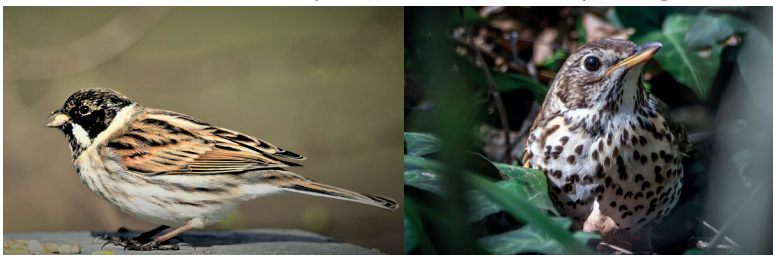


# Did you know?

Chertsey Meadows is a wide, open space popular with families and dog walkers. It's meadow walking at its best, with wetlands, ponds, open water, woodland, a large play area plus Thames-side picnic tables all waiting to be discovered.

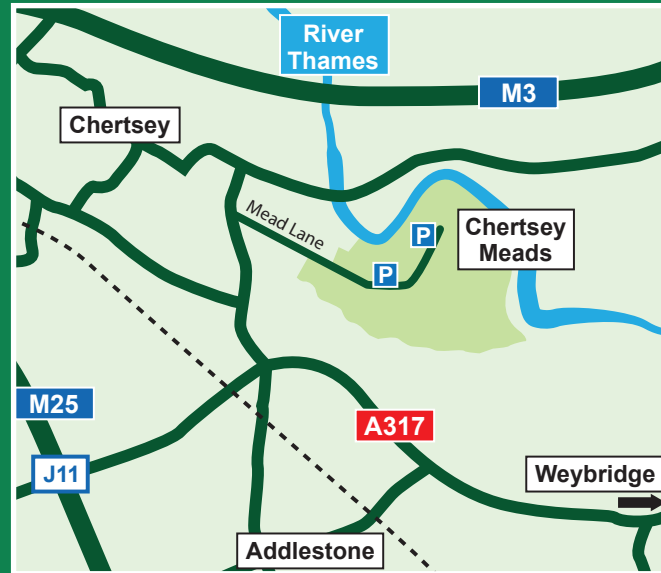
- 1 This 73-hectare meadow supports over 400 species of plants giving a spectacular display in spring and summer.
- 2 Calcium carbonate deposited by floodwaters over thousands of years has been a factor in creating the unusual expanse of grass seen here. There are several wildflower species that are normally found in chalky regions.
- 3 The current management of the grassland involves an annual meadow cut with the trimmings removed. Cuttings left on site would cause soil enrichment, smother plants, and prevent seeds from germinating.
- 4 More than six kilometres of grassy footpaths are mown frequently to allow for easier visitor access to both the picnic tables and play areas.
- 5 The Reed beds need careful rotational management to create a varied structure which will benefit birds such as the Reed Bunting while preventing the Common Reed from completely taking over.
- 6 The name 'Mead' is an old word for meadow, and in 1859, 'The Book of The Thames' claimed that the site produced "the best hay in England".



 Reed Bunting

 Song Thrush

## We are here



Find Chertsey Meadows at Mead Lane, Chertsey.

Entrance to the site is at:

**OS grid reference:** TQ 0548 6620

**what3words** ///ideal.stand.bills

Chertsey Meadows is owned and managed by Runnymede Borough Council, assisted by the Chertsey Meadows Management Liaison Group which advises on the conservation, management and recreational use of the Meadows.

Runnymede Borough Council

Tel: **01932 838383**

Email: [openspace@runnymede.gov.uk](mailto:openspace@runnymede.gov.uk)

[www.runnymede.gov.uk/parksandopenspaces](http://www.runnymede.gov.uk/parksandopenspaces)

Chertsey Meadows is one of 70 Suitable Alternative Natural Green Spaces in the region. These provide a natural environment for recreation away from the Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area.

Find out more about other Suitable Alternative

Natural Green Spaces at:

[www.tbhpartnership.org.uk](http://www.tbhpartnership.org.uk)

# Explore Chertsey Meads



**Children's play ship!**

**Two picnic areas**

**Free parking**

**Runnymede**  
BOROUGH COUNCIL 

# Welcome to Chertsey Meads

There is a detailed plan in place to guide the management of this site to enhance biodiversity.

Chertsey Meads is bordered by the River Thames to the north and east, and the River Bourne to the south. They provide beautiful views but the site can be wet or even under water at times.

Please choose suitable footwear to explore all areas of the site.

