

Estuary Shoreline FAQs

Why a garden?

The garden invites visitors to immerse themselves in the natural environment. It will provide moments of tranquillity, allowing a unique connection with nature. Additionally, it serves as a dynamic event space and connects people into our broader reserve.

What are the specific objectives for this garden area?

The garden aims to achieve several goals:

- Wetland views: it offers an appealing wetland view from the restaurant.
- Nature connection: visitors can explore a new area and engage with nature.
- Link to wilder experiences: it physically connects to the wilder parts of the reserve to the north and west.
- Inspirational messaging: signage showcases the multifaceted benefits of wetlands.
- Undercover space: it provides an area for picnics, school visits, and corporate events.
- Audience diversity: the garden diversifies offerings to attract new audiences.

How does this fit with WWT's overall objectives?

By inspiring one million individuals to take positive action for wetlands, WWT envisions a future where people engage with wetland landscapes and their resident species. The garden will showcase diverse plants and wildlife natural to UK wetlands and encourage visitors to replicate elements of these at home.

When will the garden be ready?

While certain areas of the development may open sooner, work in the garden is scheduled until May 2025.

What happened to the flamingos in this area?

Since 2022, our Caribbean flamingos have not inhabited this space. They were thoughtfully relocated within our site. You can find the Caribbean flamingos round past our Otter exhibit and Back from the Brink tunnel.

What about our hides?

We are continually investing in our site. In 2024 we spent a lot of time and investment in our Van de Bovenkamp hide and South Lake Discovery Hide. Although currently there are no big hide projects planned, further work to improve hides will continue throughout 2025.

Will any habitat be lost?

Increasing wetlands is at the heart of all that we do as a charity. No habitat will be lost as part of these works. The new wetlands landscape will create an extensive new immersive habitat at the heart of our site. It will feature an extensive wetland wildflower meadow and associated native planting scheme, designated to create essential new habitat for pollinators and other insects.