



Bluebells

Bluebells are in bloom in late April/early May. You can find them locally (nature permitting!) at the following places. Check websites etc before visiting.

Letchworth

Bluebells can sometimes be spotted in the International Garden Cities Institute garden! 296 Norton Way South, Letchworth Garden City (Open every Friday and Saturday 10am to 5pm, or by appointment at any other time).

<http://www.gardencitiesinstitute.com/>

Hitch Wood, near Hitchin

The waymarked Bluebell Walk starts at the car park on the B651 south of Hitchin (Map Ref TL198239)

The walk winds through the woods and there are several benches where you can relax and admire the sheets of bluebells under the oak trees.

Hopkyns Wood (Situated next to Tewin Orchard)

Hopkyns Wood is a shady oak and hornbeam wood with ground flora dominated by bluebells and garlic-smelling ransoms in springtime. Map Ref: TL268155

Sherradspark Wood, Welwyn Garden City

The main area of bluebells is in the northern part of the woods. Car park in Rectory Road, off the B197 opposite the Red Lion (Map Ref TL 228142) or Pentley Park near Templewood School (Map Ref TL 235142). Access at all times, with a good network of paths and seats.

Pryor's Wood (also known as Box Wood), Stevenage

Lying on the outskirts of Stevenage, an impressive mixed woodland rich in wildlife. In places the woodland is carpeted with bluebells and dog's mercury, particularly under the hornbeam trees. From Stevenage take the A1072 (Martins Way) until it meets Gresley Way, to the right. The reserve entrance is a short way along Gresley Way, on the left, to the right of a large gate. (Map Ref TL264264)

Ashridge Estate, between Aylesbury and Hemel Hempstead

A huge area of woodlands with beautiful bluebell displays between late April and mid May. Plenty of waymarked trails, including an easy access trail. Visitor Centre (Tel: 01442 851227) open daily dawn to dusk. Free mobility vehicles (book in advance). Postcode HP4 1LT
Website: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/main/w-ashridge

Stocking Springs Wood, Wheathamstead

In spring the woodland floor is a carpet of bluebells and wild daffodils. On the B653 from Wheathamstead to Lemsford, take the left turn towards Codicote. The wood is about 2km along this lane on the left on a bend in the lane. Park in the small lay-by opposite. Map Ref: TL202153

Heartwood Forest, near Sandridge, St Albans

A new native forest, currently being created and restored by the woodland trust over 10 years. The site, in the heart of London's Green Belt, already boasts four remnants (covering 45 acres) of precious ancient woodland, and is home to species such as rare butterflies and English bluebells. Visitors can currently explore hundreds of acres of newly accessible land, including the four pockets of ancient woodland. The remaining areas are still being farmed, but as new areas are taken under the care of the Trust, they will be opened up to visitors to explore.
Website: www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/en/our-woods/heartwood/Pages/latest-news.aspx?wood=5622
Contact Tel: 01476 581111

Post Wood (Presdales Wood)

An ancient woodland. In spring, a rich carpet of bluebells can be found here, as well as a wonderful display of pinky-white anemones in the open glade. Map Ref: TL359129

Old Park Wood, Harefield

Explore Old Park Wood Nature Reserve and enjoy the fantastic carpets of bluebells. Behind Harefield Hospital (Map Ref TQ 049913)

Harrocks Wood, near Rickmansworth.

Spring brings a fantastic display of bluebells along with celandine and primrose. Map Ref: TQ066977

Gobions Wood, North of Potters Bar.

Gobions Wood is a rich site which is primarily woodland but includes grassland, hedges, ponds and other wetland areas. Much of the woodland is ancient. The remnants of a landscaped 'Pleasure Gardens' created in the 1760s can still be seen. There is a dazzling display of bluebells and wood anemones in the spring. Map Ref: TL 249038

Longspring Wood

Amongst the bluebells there are lovely beech, ash and hazel trees. Longspring Wood is near Kings Langley. (Map Ref: TL 091 035)
<http://www.hertswildlifetrust.org.uk/reserves/longspring-wood>

Wormley Wood and Nut Wood

Many bluebells to see. If you are a birdwatcher, bring binoculars. (Map Ref: TL317057) Hoddesdon, near Hertford.
<http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/visiting-woods/wood/4067/wormley-wood-nut-wood/>