

## Families and children - National Trust

However old your children are, the National Trust provides a warm welcome for families at its properties.

Many places have children's guides, trails or quiz sheets and fun family events. You can look out for ghosts at [Fountains Abbey, Yorkshire](#) or hunt for mini-beasts at [Wicken Fen, Cambridgeshire](#), meet Mrs Garnett at [Kedleston Hall, Derbyshire](#), or dress up as a knight at [Corfe Castle, Dorset](#).

The Trust has lots to offer families, including:

- Places with fun areas to play: [mazes](#) and [play areas](#)
- Family friendly facilities at many of our properties
- [Dan the Pest Detective and other online games](#)
- [Activity packs](#)
- [Fun events for families](#)
- [Trusty the Hedgehog](#)
- Bring it all to life with National Trust [family membership](#)

## Play areas

- [England](#)
- [Wales](#)
- [Northern Ireland](#)

Here's a selection of National Trust places which have play areas for children.

### In England

#### Buckinghamshire

- [Waddesdon Manor](#) has a small children's playground near the house with swings

#### Cambridgeshire

- [Wimpole Home Farm](#) has an adventure playground for 5-11 year olds and a working farm

#### Cheshire

- [Lyme Park](#) has an adventure playground and in the park you can see the deer or visit the lake where Darcy emerged in the BBC production of Pride and Prejudice
- [Quarry Bank Mill](#) has new features in the adventure playground for 5-11 year olds
- [Tatton Park](#) has an adventure playground, working farm with rare breeds and 1,000 acres of parkland to run wild

#### Cornwall

- [Lanhydrock](#) has a great adventure playground tucked out of the way at the end of the car park, with a wobbly bridge, monkey bars and stepping-stones

#### Derbyshire

- [Calke Abbey](#) has a small children's play area for under 8's in the courtyard area near the restaurant with a slide and fort

## Devon

- [Castle Drogo](#) has a children's play area, as well as a croquet lawn (there is a charge) usually open June – September
- [Killerton](#) has a children's play area, and a discovery centre (check beforehand for opening hours). The grounds include extensive woodland walks, a rustic summer house and Bear's Hut (which was actually once home to a pet bear!)

## Dorset

- [Kingston Lacy](#) has three children's play areas within the parkland shelter belt along the woodland walk

## Herefordshire

- [Berrington Hall](#) has a children's play area with a willow tunnel and two rare breed sheep

## Lincolnshire

- [Belton House](#) has a fantastic large woodland adventure playground complete with under-6 coral. The miniature train offers rides through the pleasure grounds

## Liverpool

- [Speke Hall](#) has a children's play area at Home Farm Visitor Centre, next to the picnic area, with a range of equipment

## Northumberland

- [Cragside](#) has a fantastic adventure playground with swings, climbing nets, an aerial slide and tunnels in Crozier car park
- [Wallington](#) has an adventure playground in West Woods

## Norfolk

- [Blickling Hall](#) has a small children's play area in the walled garden with wooden stepping stones and climbing bars

## Shropshire

- [Attingham Park](#) has a children's play area and environmental activity room in the park

## Suffolk

- [Ickworth House](#) has a challenging children's play area and a family 'trim trail' in the woods
- [Sutton Hoo](#) has a modern playground with a zip slide (aerial runway) for older children as well as bouncy rockers for smaller ones. They also have a ship-shaped hole for families to play in, reflecting the Anglo-Saxon ship excavated in 1939 with all the treasure in it

## Surrey

- [Polesden Lacey](#) has a fantastic new wooden play area, tucked away in the woods - challenge yourself to get all the way across without touching the floor! There is also a new nature hide

## Warwickshire

- [Charlecote Park](#) has a small wooden children's play area with a maze and a fort near the carriage collection

## Yorkshire

- [Beningbrough Hall](#) has a brilliant wooden playground, including swings, slides, tyre tunnels and rope bridges
- [East Riddlesden Hall](#) has a themed children's playground (within the tariff area) including a climbing 'wall' depicting the Airedale Heifer, swings, slide and animal rockers
- [Nostell Priory](#) has a children's play area just outside the tea-rooms with slide, swings and stepping stones (in the tariff area)

## Wales

- [Chirk Castle](#) has a children's play area close to the ticket office with climbing ropes, tyres and wooden logs
- [Penrhyn Castle](#) has a woodland adventure playground with stepping stones, a climbing net and a chain bridge
- [Plas Newydd](#) has a children's play area in the woods

## Northern Ireland

- [Castle Coole](#) has a small wooden adventure playground beside the grand stable yard for aged 10 and under
- [Castle Ward](#) has a playground for under 10s and an adventure playground for older children
- [Crom Estate](#) has a children's play area near the visitor centre in the orchard area with monkey bars and a seesaw
- [The Argory](#) has an adventure playground for the under 10s and a sculpture trail

## Younger children

### Trusty the Hedgehog

Trusty the Hedgehog is the National Trust mascot, helping children learn about the environment and wildlife.

He has his own website at [www.trusty.org](http://www.trusty.org). This includes games, competitions and activity sheets. Children can write to Trusty about what they got up to at one of our properties. Some letters and competition entries are added to the site.

Trusty also makes special appearances at events all over the country, from time to time. Look out for him at [family-friendly events](#).