

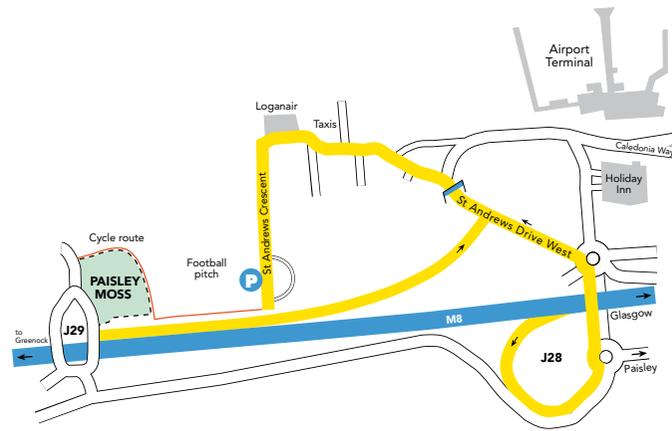
First impressions are not always the whole story!

Forming part of Glasgow Airport and bounded by motorway slip roads, Paisley Moss is a hidden oasis for wildlife. A remnant of a larger site, it is now a Local Nature Reserve and contains ponds, mossy marshes, reeds and sedge beds supporting hundreds of different animals and plants. The site is maintained by careful management organised and carried out by a dedicated team of local people and airport staff. You are welcome to visit the reserve which is open to the public throughout the year. This leaflet has been produced to help you discover this wildlife haven and enjoy its hidden treasures.

Please remember that Paisley Moss is a fragile environment that requires special care from its visitors:-

- Please keep to the marked route around the Moss- ground nesting birds and delicate plants can easily be damaged.
- Do not cross any fences - airports and motorways are dangerous.
- Dogs should be kept on short leads at all times.
- Take only photographs: leave only foot prints.

Burnet moths



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Location Map

Directions are signposted from the Airport road system. Parking is available on St. Andrew's Crescent and the Moss is a ten minute walk from the bus stops in front of the Terminal Building.

Paisley Moss is owned by BAA Glasgow. The site was declared a Local Nature Reserve by the former Renfrew District Council in 1993. The reserve is now managed by a partnership between Glasgow Airport, Renfrewshire Council, Scottish Natural Heritage and the Scottish Ornithologists' Club. For further information please telephone Carts Greenspace on 0141 842 5272.

BAA Glasgow



Paisley Moss
Local Nature Reserve

Renfrewshire
Council

SCOTTISH
NATURAL
HERITAGE



Photographs: Cover photograph reproduced by kind permission of Graham Burns. Inset photographs courtesy of Graham Burns, Norman Tait, Steve Edwards and BBA Glasgow.

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Cover inset photographs Northern Marsh orchid, Common Blue butterfly.

Welcome to

PAISLEY MOSS



LOCAL
NATURE
RESERVE



A Moss For All Seasons

Right through the year there is something new and exciting to be experienced at Paisley Moss Local Nature Reserve.

Only an hour is needed to enjoy a circular walk around the reserve, starting and finishing at the entrance off St. Andrew's Crescent. Welly boots are recommended at all times of the year.

SPRING

Look out for blobs of frog spawn in ponds and wet hollows beside the path. Reed Buntings are establishing territories with a simple three note song. Later, Sedge Warblers arrive from Africa and the males' strange medley of grating notes and melodic phrases emanates from the undergrowth. The patches of fluffy, white headed Common Cotton-grass are emerging between the sedges and rushes. Meanwhile, queen bumble bees are looking for suitable nest holes.



Grey Heron



Large Red damselfly



Orange Tip butterfly

SUMMER

Damselflies of iridescent blue or flaming red are patrolling over the swamp beds, hunting for insects. Other insect eaters are members of the plant kingdom: inconspicuous sundews ensnare insects on their sticky leaves. The purple and mauve flower

spikes of marsh orchids are dotted across shorter grassland patches, whilst the brilliant Common Blue butterfly is attracted to these same spots on warm days. On hot, sunny days in late summer the popping seed pods of gorse and broom punctuate the chorus of grasshoppers.



Yellow Flag Iris

AUTUMN

The wary Common Snipe have returned. When disturbed, the rising bird takes off with a distinctive zig-zag flight. As the vegetation dies back, a beautiful but subtle patchwork quilt of colours and hues is revealed - formed by the twenty-two different types of grass and eleven types of sedge growing at Paisley Moss.



Common Snipe

WINTER

Paisley Moss is well known for its wintering Jack Snipe. Small numbers arrive from the northern edge of Scandinavia and Russia to spend the winter days secretively roosting in the sedges, before leaving at night to feed elsewhere. Sometimes, unexpectedly, a fox will slink out of the vegetation. Seemingly oblivious to humans, perhaps it is patrolling its territory or already looking for next year's mate.

