

President's picnic

Coombe Abbey Country Park is the venue for this year's picnic. It hasn't been easy to find somewhere suitable this year as so many places seem to have changed their access arrangements or become Events Only venues. This is actually the fourth option that we have investigated.

<https://www.coventry.gov.uk/coombe-country-park> CV3 2AB

Date - Sunday July 5th 2026

Parking is open from 5am, with the visitor centre open at 10am. Entrance is free, but there is a charge for parking. The park is to the left side of the hotel, and includes a bird hide, Go Ape, woodlands, an arboretum, hotel gardens, and various lakes. You can even prebook a Virgin Hot Air balloon flight. For more information please visit the website.

There is a Blue badge parking facility beyond the visitor centre with a charge of £2.50 per day. Parking in other areas is based on length of stay. Collect a ticket on the way in and pay before leaving at the pay station. Maps and other information are available from the visitor centre, where there is also a cafe.

The plan is to meet about Midday. Following the path to the left of the disability parking area, we plan to meet in the first open area on the left. My suggestion is that anyone wanting to visit the bird hide should arrive early and then return to the picnic area for lunch. In addition to the Visitor Centre cafe there is a kiosk and toilets just past the Arboretum, signposted Top Pool.

Friends and family are very welcome to join us. Bring your own food, and seats/ picnic blankets. Bring umbrellas if needed, but we hope that they won't be necessary.

It would be useful to have an idea of numbers, but not essential.

Looking forward to a good turn out and hoping the weather is kind to us