

WILLINGTON LAKE

Covering over 12 acres, this gravel pit is our largest stillwater and since acquiring the fishing rights in 1985, SDAAs transformed this virgin lake into a noted specimen fish water. Willington Lake is a classic gravel pit with its clear waters and prolific weed growth providing an abundance of natural food to help the fish reach specimen proportions. Depths vary considerably with some areas going down to 14 feet (*see below for depth map*). The lake is part of a County Wildlife Site that attracts a range of birds and mammals, and with no public rights of way across the land you can enjoy both the fishing and local wildlife in relative peace and quiet.

The lake has produced specimen carp to mid-40's in the past, and currently holds around 150 carp with several specimens well over 30lb. In recent years over 100 top quality carp from VS Fisheries (2008, 2010 & 2014) and AJS Fisheries (2011 & 2012) have been stocked at 6-11lb to ensure the long term future of the specimen carp fishing. With the plentiful supply of natural food, these new carp have been packing on the weight each year and several of the VS Fisheries carp stocked in 2008 & 2010 have already pushed well through the 20lb barrier (*see recent stockings below*). It is best to remain mobile as locating the carp is the key to success. The carp will often move with the wind and will often be found feeding in the shallow margins during the warmer months, when a stealthy approach is required.

The lake is home to a large head of tench and bream with both species going well over 10lb. On the right day huge bags of hard fighting tench are possible either to ledger tactics or float fishing just over the marginal shelf. Locate a shoal of feeding bream and it can be non-stop action with 100lb+ bags possible. Whilst a more subtle approach and traditional baits still work for both species, they are equally happy to feed on large boilies fished on rigs intended for the carp.

During the winter many anglers target the pike population, which usually offer reliable sport when activity with the other species has slowed down. The lake holds a good head of eels and the occasional large stillwater chub is reported. Shoals of roach, rudd and perch are also present for those happy to target the smaller species.

The lake has secure gated access with the ability to park directly behind the 15 pegs along the tree lined lakeside track. Elsewhere most of the bank is open, grassed and flat, interspersed with small wooded areas.



Willy Woodfield 31lb 4oz mirror



Neil Bygrave 6 tench and a bream



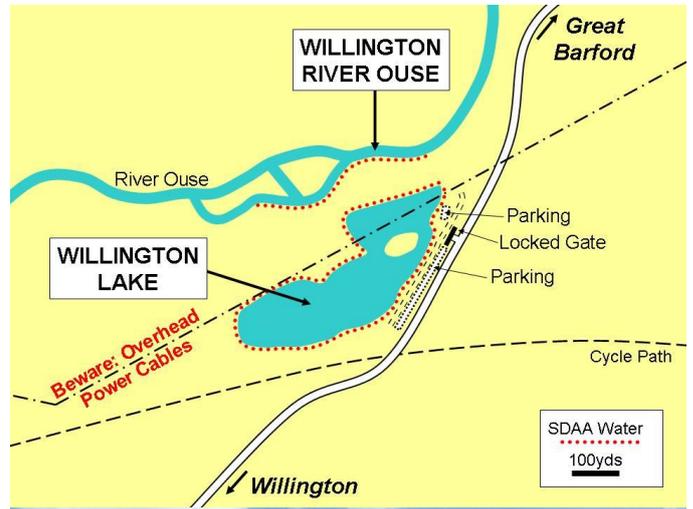
*Ivan Mardlin 25lb 2oz mirror (May 2013)
Stocked at 11lb 8oz in November 2010*

Location

- Turn off the A603 at Willington following the sign to Great Barford, which takes you along the Barford Road for approximately 1.3 miles. The lake entrance is located on the left just after crossing over the cycle path (dismantled railway) bridge. [Entrance Grid Ref TL13225090, Sat Nav MK44 3QR (Barford Road, 1 mile SW of lake)]

Species Present

- Carp, tench, bream, pike, roach, rudd, perch, eels and chub.



Willington Lake: open western arm



island (above) tree lined track (to right)

Fishery Rules

These rules apply to Willington Lake, in addition to the full set of Club rules:

- Night Permit required for night fishing
- No parking in the gateway entrance.
- Vehicles must be parked carefully off the track, as large farm vehicles require regular access along the whole track and through the gates. Never drive vehicles through the gates at either end of the track.
- Keep to the edge of any ploughed or cropped fields.
- Raking of swims is permitted, provided other anglers are not disturbed and the raked weed is left in a heap by the water's edge so that insects and invertebrates can crawl back into the water.
- The use of all leadcore is not permitted.



Mark Brookman tench 8lb



Willy Woodfield bream 11lb 12oz & 10lb 5oz

Recent Stockings

<p>November 2008 VS Fisheries C4 carp 10 mirrors plus 2 commons Average: 9lb (range: 7.5-10.5lb)</p>	 <p><i>9lb 6oz mirror (2008)</i></p>  <p><i>9lb 13oz mirror (2008)</i></p>	 <p><i>caught at 20lb (April 2012)</i></p>  <p><i>caught at 20lb (July 2011)</i></p>
<p>November 2010 VS Fisheries C4 carp 21 mirrors plus 3 commons Average: 9lb (range: 8-11.5lb)</p>	 <p><i>11lb 8oz mirror (2010)</i></p>	 <p><i>caught at 25lb 2oz (May 2013)</i></p>
<p>October 2011 AJS Fisheries C3 'scaley' carp 21 mirrors Average: 7.5lb (range: 6-10lb)</p>	 <p><i>10lb 4oz fully scaled mirror (2011)</i></p>	 <p><i>caught (March 2012)</i></p>
<p>November 2012 AJS Fisheries C3 'scaley' carp 34 mirrors plus 2 commons Average: 7.5lb (range: 6-9.75lb)</p>	 <p><i>8lb 4oz mirror (2012)</i></p>	 <p><i>caught (January 2013)</i></p>
<p>November 2014 VS Fisheries C4 carp 10 mirrors Average: >10lb (range: 8.75-11.5lb)</p>	 <p><i>11lb 4oz mirror (2014)</i></p>	

WILLINGTON LAKE DEPTH MAP

