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Dene Bank Wood County Durham

A secluded, mainly deciduous woodland with a small stream, varied terrain, and lots of broadleaved trees.

Details

Price: £65,000 Freehold

Location: Hart, Near Hartlepool, County Durham

Size: Just over 4 ½ acres for sale
OS Landranger: OS No 93
Grid ref: NZ 465 370

Nearest post code: TS27 4SB

Local manager

Liz & Dan Watson 07970 116 515 liz@woodlands.co.uk



Description

Located on the edge of Silverhill Plantation, Dene Bank Wood is bordered by woodlands and grazing land and has a quiet and secluded feel. With mixed terrain, it has level areas, picturesque viewpoints gathering the sun, tracks and banks that slope down to a small stream. Although seasonal, it flows in all but the very driest weather, down through the wood, before it merges with Bellows Burn outside of the wood boundary.

The wood is a delightfully varied mix of broadleaved trees of various ages and a handful of pines. Coppiced stools of <u>hazel</u>, <u>oak</u>, and ash are dotted through, with <u>sycamore</u>, <u>beech</u>, wych elm and willow (following the line of the burn,) all contributing to a timeless quality.

Much of the woodland floor has <u>native ferns</u>, along with some large lady-fern and hart's-tongue fern popping up here and there along the banks of the water course. Elsewhere, bramble, bracken and dog's mercury – often an indicator of limestone soils, ivy and fragrant <u>honeysuckle</u> abound, twining up trees and offering nesting sites to birds and a food source to bees and other insects.

The purchasers of the woodland will be asked to enter into a <u>covenant</u> to ensure the quiet and peaceful enjoyment of adjoining woodlands and meadows.

Trees

Oak, ash, sycamore, hazel, wych elm, willow, pine and beech.

Wildlife

A haven for birdlife in the shelter of the dene, with plenty of feeding opportunities, cover and nest sites, many species can be observed from <u>buzzards</u> overhead, sparrowhawks using the undulating landscape to hunt, <u>tawny owls</u>, <u>woodcock</u> and other game birds to small birds such as tits, <u>robins</u> and <u>wrens</u>.

Deer are frequent visitors too with roe deer using game trails through the wood. Brown hare are also present.

Features

- A small burn with ferns and willows.
- · South facing banks.
- · Some level areas.
- Lovely views into the Dene.
- A rustic bench with a pleasant outlook.

Access, tracks and footpaths

Access is from the A19 and then along Bellows Burn Road to the shared woodland entrance.

A shared stone track then gives access to the woodland via a ford across the burn. There is space to park at the entrance to the wood. From here, access around the wood is on foot, meandering up the bank through some clearer areas.

There is a public footpath within the wood, following the line of the burn. This path connects to the Hart to Haswell walkway which runs outside the northern boundary of the wood.

Rights and covenants

There is one public right of way within the wood.

The sporting rights are included in the sale.

Our standard covenant will apply.

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Activities

The wood is ideal for wildlife observation and conservation-based activities such as birdboxes or trail-cams.

More level areas may be suitable for occasional family camping or using as a base for coppice management operations and exploring the <u>Durham Heritage Coast</u>.

There is excellent coppicing potential for stick products for garden, allotment and craft use as well as opportunities for home firewood collection.

Local area and history

Although Hartlepool is a port with a rich industrial past, the surrounding landscape features pretty villages in rolling magnesian limestone hills, countryside that has seen little development. This area lay outside the Durham coalfield to the north.

The nearby village of Sheraton is situated by Bellows Burn, and now bisected by the A19 road. In medieval times there was a more sizable settlement here, first recorded in 1050 AD under the name 'Scurafaton'. In the 19th century Sheraton was part of the Parish of Monkhesleton. The open field system and archaeological remains are a <u>scheduled ancient monument</u>.

The dene is essentially a limestone gorge carpeted with layers of glacial clay, sand and gravel. It was carved by the water from melting ice at the end of the last period of glacial activity and reaches the coastline at the sands of Crimdon Dene Beach. Crimdon has been a popular place for holiday makers for many years. From the 1920's miners came to Crimdon for their annual summer holidays. Crimdon Beach is a very important breeding ground for the Little Tern, one of Britain's rarest sea birds. These birds arrive every year in May from West Africa and the site is monitored by volunteer wardens who erect temporary fencing to protect the eggs and chicks from predators.

How to find this woodland

You are welcome to visit this wood by yourself, but please ensure that you have a copy of these sales details with you - many of our woodlands do not have mobile phone reception or internet access so we recommend either printing the details or downloading them to your phone/tablet/laptop.

Do remember to also check that it is still available for sale. If you have seen the woodland and wish to be accompanied on a second more detailed visit please contact our local manager.

Directions

Directions

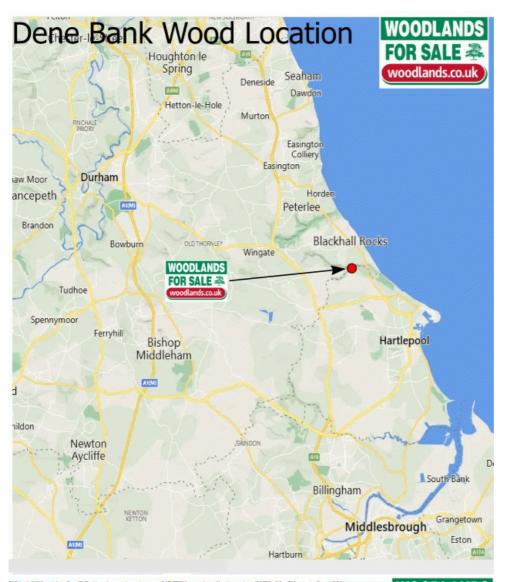
Just 8 miles from Harlepool and 13 miles from Durham.

- Turn right onto Bellows Burn Lane, signed to Hulam and Nesbitt, 1 mile north of the A179 Hartlepool exit.
- After 1-mile bare left and continue on Bellows Burn Lane.
- After 1/3 of a mile arrive at farm track on the right, do not continue straight on to Nesbitt Hall.
- Follow the farm track with hedge to the left down hill to the shared wood gate where there is a Woodlands for sale sign. There is space to park here without blocking the gate, then access is on foot following the track.

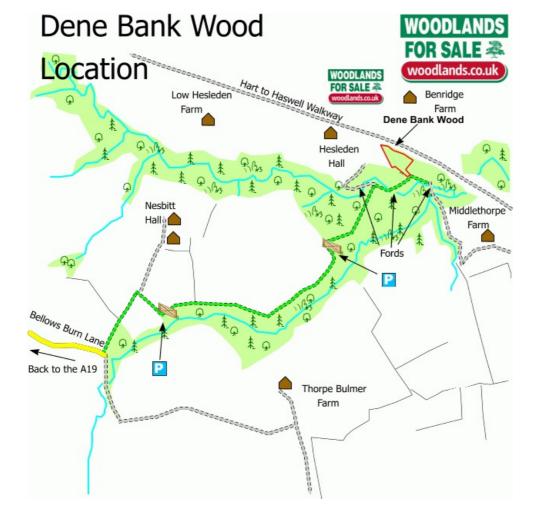
For vehicle access through the first gate contact Dan Watson on 07970 116515 for gate combination. Please keep the gate locked at all times.

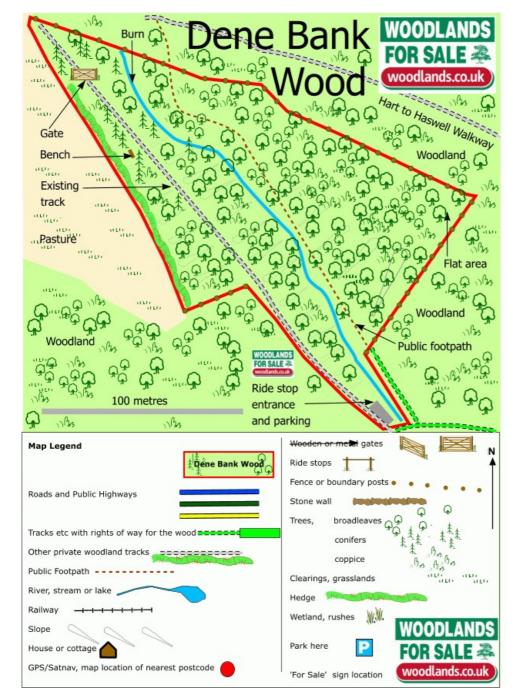
- Follow the track for a little over half a mile until it bends sharp left and then park to the right or left of the track in the spaces provided.
- On foot, continue to follow the track, climb gate and walk into the wood.
- Continue straight on and down hill through the wood for about 500 metres following the track down hill and to the right before reaching a ford.
- Cross the ford and follow the track to the right. The ride stop for Dene Bank Wood is further 100 metres and to the left

Are indicated by red markings on posts along the northern and eastern edges; all other boundary markings are on trees.









Our regional managers are often out working in our woodlands, so if you email an offer and want to be sure it has been received, please phone our manager on his or her mobile phone. The first offer at the stated price which is accepted, whether by phone or email, has priority.

Please take care when viewing as the great outdoors can contain unexpected hazards and woodlands are no exception. You should exercise common sense and caution, such as wearing appropriate footwear and avoiding visiting during high winds.

All woodlands are sold at a fixed price, and include free membership of the <u>Small Woodland Owners Group</u> and the <u>Royal Forestry Society</u>, as well as £300 towards paying for a course (or courses) to help with managing and enjoying your woodland.

These particulars are for guidance only and, though believed to be correct, do not form part of any contract. Woodland Investment Management Ltd hereby give notice under section 21 of the Estate Agents Act 1979 of their interest in the land being sold.