



Wildflower Identification - Neutral and calcareous grassland Old Sarum

A 1 day course giving participants;

- the ability to identify the wildflowers in semi-improved neutral and calcareous grasslands, using simple features
- a good understanding of key indicator species
- an introduction to yellow composites

Details

Wildflower Identification - Neutral and Calcareous Grasslands Old Sarum and Figsbury Ring, Salisbury

This training day will familiarise participants with wild flowers commonly encountered in the countryside, as well as the more specialist species associated with species-rich calcareous grassland. No keys will be used, but we will aim to get a handle on the main families of flowering plants in the UK, to help identification skills. The workshop will be carried out in stunning hill-forts surrounding Salisbury, and provide the opportunity to discuss some of the conservation management issues of these habitats, and how wildflowers can be used as indicator species of the habitats they live in.

The day will start by covering many of the species that are commonly encountered while surveying neutral grassland before moving on to the nearby Figsbury Ring, a SSSI with unimproved grassland and extremely diverse grassland flora with the chance to see and learn several species of orchid.

At both sites as well as being shown species participants will carry out quadrat monitoring in small groups to revise what we have seen.

Feedback from previous courses

'Dom has a great way of imparting knowledge. Humour makes things easier to remember!'

'Just right for an audience of mixed knowledge levels'

'Really interesting course and I feel I have learned a lot and wish to continue learning.'

'Really well-organised and well-designed course. Lots of info but also lots of practice.'

[CLICK HERE TO BOOK](#)

Schedule

The day will focus on calcareous and neutral grasslands, covering species-rich chalk grassland, species-poor improved grassland and marshy grassland on the Avon Floodplain

9.50 Arrival at Old Sarum

10.00 First tutorial session – improved grassland

10.45 Mesotrophic grassland

12.30 Lunch (or shorter if weather bad)

1.15 Species rich chalk grassland at Figsbury Ring

3.45 Departure

What to bring

- ▶ Notebook
- ▶ Water, lunch and snacks, firm boots (some steep banks). Please wear long trousers for the second day to minimise exposure to ticks (on this day there is a short amount of walking involved, and some ground will be boggy). There is the option to get a pub lunch on the second day.
- ▶ £2 for parking at Old Sarum

Any problems on the day please call Dominic Price on 07968 (786390)

Please inform us of any medical requirements/conditions we should be aware of prior to the course.

Directions

Day 1

Old Sarum is signed off the A345 2 miles north of Salisbury. Meet in the main car park (where there are loos). Address: Castle Road, Salisbury, Wiltshire - SP1 3SD. There is a £2 charge for parking.

Google maps - click [here](#)

After lunch we will move over to Figsbury Ring - SP4 6DU

Google maps - click [here](#)

Despite being close it is easy to get lost between sites, so please bring map or postcode.

Please try to be prompt, so we can start on time! But if you are unavoidably detained we will spend the first hour within site of the carpark, so don't panic.

If you would like to come by train we can offer lifts to/from Salisbury station.

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