

## *Your Guide to* **Tampines Eco Green**

Tucked away in the Tampines heartland is Tampines Eco Green, a 36.5-hectare ecological park that resembles a savannah with marshlands, secondary forests and freshwater ponds. The green sanctuary is home to over 75 species of birds, 20 species of dragonflies, 35 species of butterflies and 32 species of spiders. To minimise disturbance to the sensitive wildlife in the park, the area is not lit at night.

This ecologically conscious park includes features like an eco-toilet, vegetated swales, bird hides and green roofs on all the shelters. Even the park furniture was made using recycled materials and environmentally friendly products.

The park offers three trails, namely Diversity Trail, Forest Trail and Marsh Trail, that weave through the secondary forests. Along those trails, nature lovers and wildlife photographers encounter nature at close proximity inside bird hides while visitors walk or exercise on the green, easy terrain.

### **Tips for a safe and enjoyable trip**

- Dress comfortably and wear suitable footwear.
- Park your bicycle at the stands provided at the park entrance as cycling is not allowed in the park.
- Walk along the designated paths to protect the natural environment of the park.
- Do not feed the animals.
- Do your part to bring rubbish out of the park.
- Activities such as fishing, poaching, releasing of animals and those that cause pollution are strictly prohibited.
- Camping is not allowed.



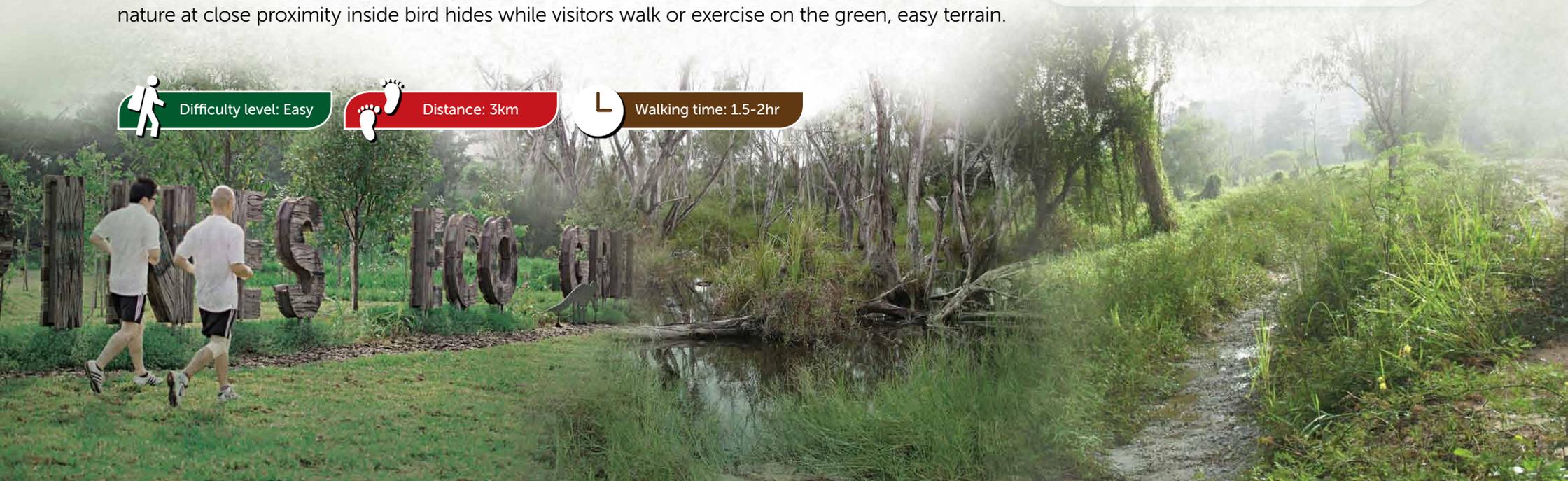
Difficulty level: Easy



Distance: 3km



Walking time: 1.5-2hr





**Legend**

- Recommended Route
- Diversity Trail
- Marsh Trail
- Forest Trail
- Waterway/Pond
- Park Connector
- Road
- Building
- Shelter
- MRT Station
- Bird Hide
- Viewing Platform
- Toilet
- Carpark
- Bus Stop



1 Freshwater Habitat



2 Eco-toilet



3 Bird Hide



4 Snags



5 Vegetated Swales and Water Catchment



6 Forest Trail

Your Guide to  
**Tampines Eco Green**



Carpark at Block 408

To Tampines MRT Station  
(20-minute walk to start point)

(15-minute walk to start point)  
2N 28 29 293 553

Tampines Avenue 9



1. Freshwater Habitat



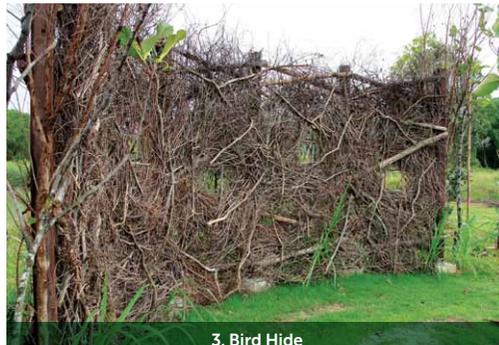
Common Parasol



Blue Dasher



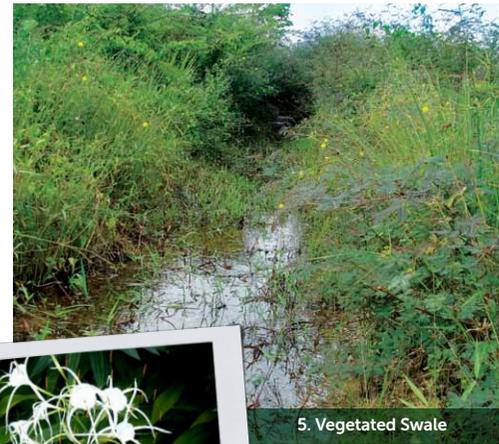
2. Eco-toilet



3. Bird Hide



4. Snags



5. Vegetated Swale



Spider Lily

#### ▶ 4 Snags (Diversity Trail)

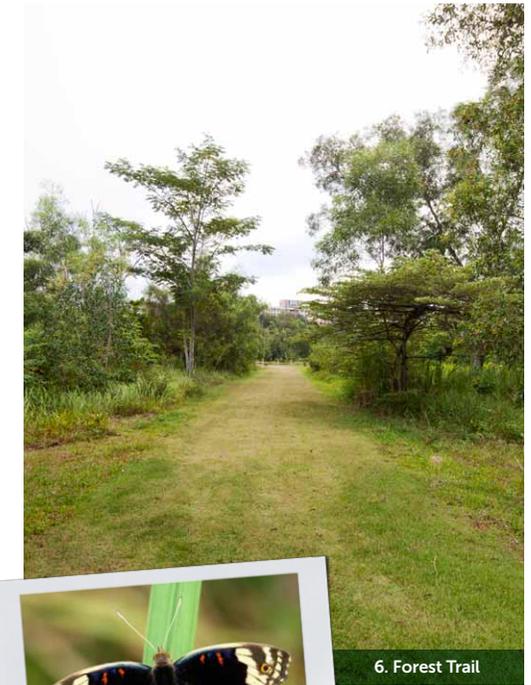
Snags are standing dead trees that are situated away from footpaths and not removed from their natural environment. They serve as important nest sites for birds such as woodpeckers and are also a food source for many birds, as dead wood contains numerous microorganisms.

Snags also form an interesting landscape that offers a contrasting view from the rest of the manicured park greenery.

#### ▶ 5 Vegetated Swales and Water Catchment (Marsh Trail)

At more than 0.8km, Marsh Trail is the shortest trail in the park. Broad, shallow canals called vegetated swales can be found here. These natural drains help to channel excess surface runoff away from the ground. A vegetated swale is dry during the dry season.

The sides of the swale are gently sloped and filled with plants and small stones. The gentle slope and plants slow down the speed of the flowing water. This helps reduce soil erosion. They also serve as a natural form of filter before the rainwater reaches the water catchment ponds. Spider Lily (*Crinum asiaticum*) and Mangrove Fern (*Acrostichum speciosum*) are examples of plants used for this purpose.



6. Forest Trail



Blue Pansy

#### ▶ 6 Forest Trail

Walk along the 1km Forest Trail and you will feel a drop in your surrounding temperature as the trail becomes shadier. Trees border the trail and lush canopies stretch ahead. Several species of butterflies like the Blue Pansy (*Junonia orithya wallacei*) and Common Grass Yellow (*Eurema hecabe contubernalis*) can be spotted here.

*We hope you have enjoyed your walk on this trail. To get up close and personal with nature, embark on the trail at Admiralty Park.*

[www.nparks.gov.sg/eguides](http://www.nparks.gov.sg/eguides)  
[www.facebook.com/nparksbuzz](https://www.facebook.com/nparksbuzz)

#### ▶ 2 Eco-toilet (Off Diversity Trail)

The eco-toilet is the first of its kind in Singapore's public parks. It is a waterless, chemical-free system that converts human waste using bacteria and wood shavings into compost. Do not worry; this eco-toilet is odour-free as it has a good ventilation system. Biodegradable cleaning agents are used to keep the toilet clean and hygienic too.

Apart from being able to conserve water and convert waste into fertiliser, this water-sensitive urban design is also cheaper to build as compared to a conventional toilet.

#### ▶ 3 Bird Hide (At the junction of Marsh Trail and Diversity Trail)

The structures here are bird-watching hides made out of twigs and branches. A bird hide allows you to camouflage yourself so that you can observe wildlife, especially birds, at close proximity without alarming the creatures with your presence.

With the large variety of birds in this park – 75 different recorded species – for you to observe and discover, a bird hide is the best place to be in. Look out for the Purple Heron (*Ardea purpurea*), the tallest bird seen in this park. It can grow up to 1m in height.

## START POINT

### ▶ 1 Freshwater Habitat (Diversity Trail)

Begin your journey at the shelter near the main entrance of the park. Stretching for 1.2km, the Diversity Trail offers an easy walk with views of different flora and fauna along the way. Here, you will find dense woods flanking both sides of the trail with tall trees towering over you.

Take a short walk down the unique, soft footpath carpeted with Manila Grass (*Zoysia matrella*) until you find the viewing platform from which you can get a good look at the freshwater pond. At first sight, the pond seems to be devoid of life, but as you move forward to take a closer look, you will be amazed by the sheer number of life forms living in and around the pond. The ideal habitat for dragonflies, the pond attracts species like the Common Parasol (*Neurothemis fluctuans*) and the Blue Dasher (*Pachydiplax longipennis*).