

Hamlin Reservation, Ipswich

What is the best address to use to find your park, area, or trail? Argilla Road, .3 miles from Northgate Rd.

Website: <https://thetrustees.org/place/hamlin-reservation/>

Is there parking available at this location? Yes

Is there a fee for parking? No

When is parking available? Daylight hours

Is there lighting, such as street lamps, on this path? No

Is there clear signage marking the trails/paths? No

Are there benches along this path? No

Are public restrooms located near the trail or path? No

What type of setting is the path? Other: grass trail for .3 miles, then forest trail for 1+ miles

Are multiple trails/paths available at this location? No

Are maps available? If yes, where can they be found? <https://thetrustees.org/place/hamlin-reservation>

Approximate length of the walk: 1.5 miles

What type of terrain? Other: mowed grass walk to the "bridge", dirt path around Eagle Island

What is the grade of the walk? Limited hills

Rate the walk for level of exertion (1 = easy, 5 = difficult): 2

Amount of activity at the site: Isolated (few to no people)

What types of activities can be done at this location? Walking, Running/Jogging, Bird watching, Painting (the marshes)

Brief summary of the walk: A historic dike once connected Eagle Island to the mainland so livestock could graze the island's pastures. Today, wandering the gently rolling fields and marsh meadows means encountering bobolinks and other wildlife that cluster around this placid island, located in one of the least disturbed parts of the entire 25,000-acre Great Marsh. The backside of the island overlooks extensive open marsh drained by Labor-in-Vain Creek, a remote landscape isolated from the modern world. Watch wading birds such as glossy ibis and snowy and American egrets hunt for fish in this. (From Trustees website) NOTE: Just be sure to check a tide table before your trip: the property is only accessible at low tide since the "bridge" has washed away. Also, at the trailhead, there is one low place that can be muddy.

Are there any notable activities in the area that people might want to check out? <https://historicipswich.org/ipswich-visitor-center/>

Best to go at low tide and unfortunately not wheelchair or walker accessible. There are gorgeous views of the marsh and it feels very remote and uninhabited out on Eagle Island. The creek nearby has the quirky name of "Labor in Vain Creek".

Listing updated 10/27/2021