

Center Parcs: Drawing people closer to nature

Center Parcs is at the forefront of sustainable tourism in the UK. Starting out in the Netherlands, the company now has five active-lifestyle holiday villages across Britain. LDA Design played a key role in the delivery of two of Center Parcs' 'forest villages,' starting with our early work at Longleat and more recently Woburn.

We took Woburn from site selection, through masterplan optioneering to design. We led the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), prepared all public consultation material and gave evidence at public inquiry, including on rights of way diversions.

LDA Design also provided key inputs into the construction phase management plan, coordinated habitat creation and mitigation strategy and prepared the long-term village management and forest plan. Post consent, we were involved in the discharge of reserved matters and in the preparation of construction designs for the first phase of the development.

Key to the success of the design was the integration of the lake, core visitor facilities and over 700 forest lodges into expansive areas of retained forestry. A car-free environment allows visitors to experience a real sense of living in the forest.



Client
Center Parcs

Location
Woburn, Bedfordshire

Partners
Edmond Shipway, NTR Planning, Holder Mathias, JDA

Services
Environmental Planning, Masterplanning, Environmental Impact Assessment, Landscape Architecture

Area
162ha

Schedule
Ongoing

¹ New lake at the centre of the forest village

² Forest lodges