

Willow Sculpture Trail

Our Willow Sculpture Trail starts in the museum courtyard – can you spot the swifts flying away? Look out for all the willow animals on your journey around the farm.

We've marked the six locations on this map, but which animal goes where? Match up each animal to its willow dot.



pigs



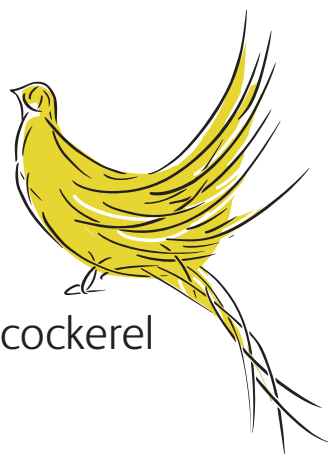
cat



buzzard



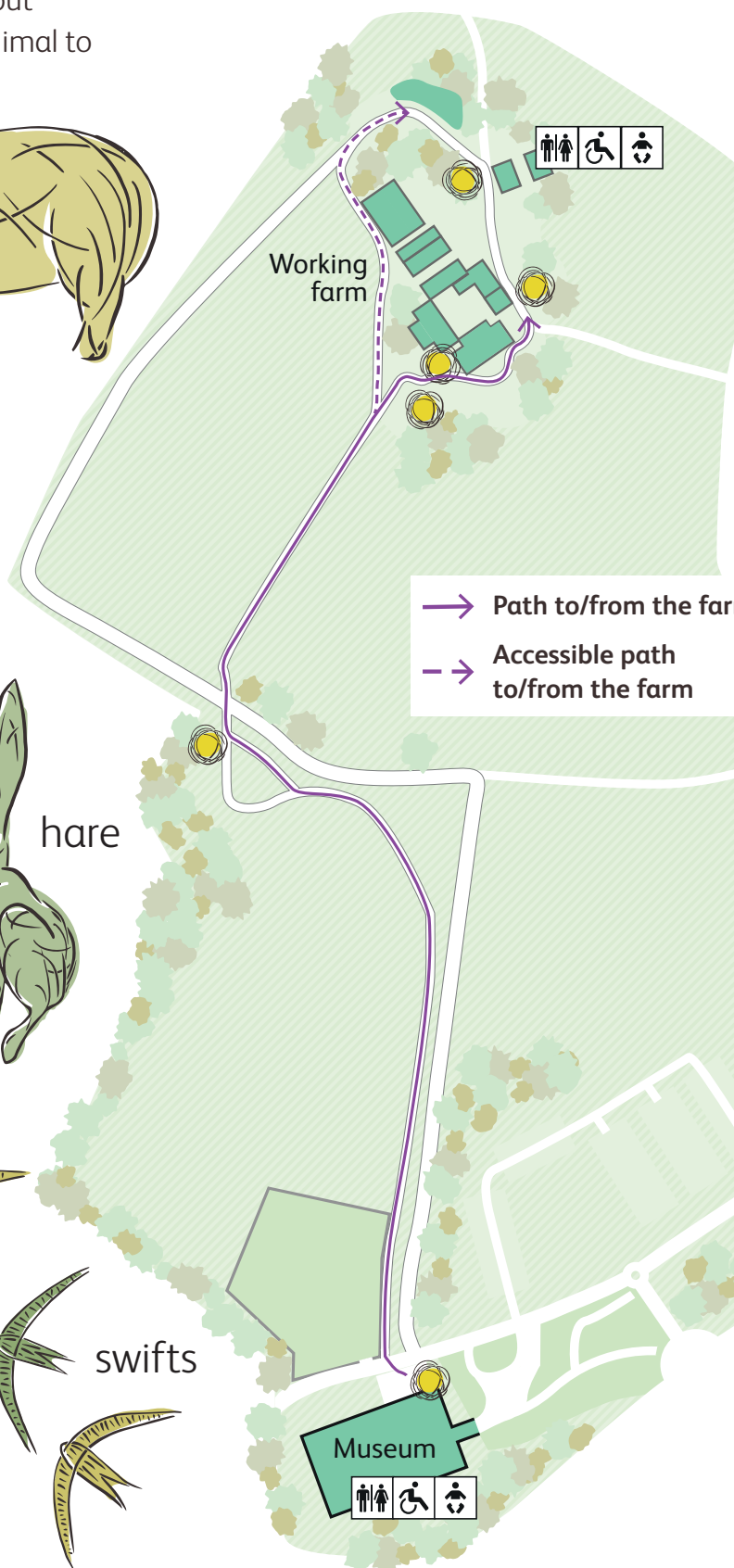
hare



cockerel



swifts



→ Path to/from the farm
- - - Accessible path to/from the farm



National
Museum of Rural Life
Scotland

Wonderful willow

There are lots of varieties of willow, from weeping willow which can grow as tall as two giraffes to dwarf willow which is barely the size of a child's hand. They are used for a wide variety of purposes:



Willow was traditionally woven to make useful items such as baskets, lobster pots, fences and even boats. You can see a willow bridle in the museum's *Land Gallery* and a baby's willow rattle in the *People Gallery*.



Animals have been known to chew willow for its medicinal properties. It contains salicin which is similar to aspirin.



Willow loves water and is sometimes one of the first trees or shrubs to be found on waterways. It is often grown there to stop riverbanks from collapsing.



Cricket Bat Willow is famous for making – yes, you guessed it – cricket bats! Wands are also traditionally made from willow shoots.



Willow can be chipped and used as a biomass fuel. It is very quick and easy to grow, making it a great renewable energy source.



Willow is very easy to grow. Try putting a cutting in a glass jar half filled with water and watch it sprout!



We'd love to see pictures from your museum visit.



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