



## London Wetlands Centre, Barnes, London, UK

A Visitor Centre:  
Creating a New Wetlands Habitat in  
the Heart of London



London Wetlands Centre is the ideal model for how humankind and the natural world may live side by side in the 21st century



### Sir David Attenborough

The Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust (WWT) is a leading UK conservation organisation preserving wetlands and their wildlife. Founder Sir Peter Scott's ambition was to create a wetlands centre in London.

In 1989 a site was identified. Four Victorian reservoirs had become redundant in Barnes. WWT entered into a partnership with the reservoir owners, Thames Water. 10 ha of the site was sold to Berkeley Homes, who became a third party to the partnership.

Since opening in 2000 the centre has become one of the most popular attractions in London.

The scheme for the visitor centre and wetlands habitat was funded by the residential development of adjacent land. JTP were masterplanners for the residential scheme and architects for the visitor centre.

#### Project Delivery

- A visitor centre, constructed from sustainable materials, located at the public entrance to the wetlands.
- Incorporation of exhibition and display spaces, a glass-walled observatory, lecture theatre, shop, gallery, restaurant and café within the visitor centre design.
- Two and three storey hides set within the landscape, away from the main building.
- One and two storey buildings grouped around a landscaped central courtyard.
- A unique blend of conservation centre and visitor attraction, drawing in 170,000 visitors per year.

#### Client

The Peter Scott Centre

#### Awards

Countryfile Magazine Award 2012  
*Favourite Nature Reserve*

The Waterways Renaissance Awards 2004  
*Heritage & Conservation Award winner*

Tourism for Tomorrow 2000  
*Global Winner for Sustainable Tourism*

Silver Unicorn Award, British Guild of Travel Writers for UK 2000  
*Best New Tourist Attraction*

RICS Award for Regeneration 2000

