



Torbay Coast & Countryside Trust

COCKINGTON WOODLAND BURIAL FACTSHEET

What is green about this type of burial?

The Cockington Woodland Burial site is located within Conqueror Wood, an 18acre woodland on the Cockington estate with outstanding views over all of Torbay. The woodland and graveyard provides a good habitat for wildlife, particularly the rare Gull bunting

Do we own the plot?

Buying a burial plot does not give you any legal ownership of or right to the land.

Can I do what I want with the grave?

The Woodland Burial site is managed as a semi-natural site. **The placement of memorial items, adornments or supplementary planting of individual plots is not allowed.** This includes flowers, plants, mementoes, glass or vases. Such items will be removed without notice.

How will the site be looked after?

There is a path through Conqueror Wood to the Woodland Burial Site for vehicular access for hearses. There are paths to each of the burial glades but no paths to individual graves. The ground at the site is uneven in places. The grass in the glades and on the paths will be cut regularly over the growing season but it may, at times, be longer than a traditional local authority cemetery. This is to encourage wildlife including flowers, birds and insects.

How are the graves marked?

Each grave will be marked with a small engraved granite tablet, set into the ground, alongside the grave. The tablets will all be of the same design, ordered by Torbay Coast & Countryside Trust. The Trust will keep a Burial Ground Register.

What about double graves?

At present we are only able to offer single depth graves.

What about Cremated Remains?

There will be space at the site for the burial of Cremated Remains. Cremated Remains can be buried in a biodegradable casket or direct into the ground. Tablets will mark the grave.

Can we choose exactly where on the site the grave should be?

No, each burial will take place in the next available space in the woodland. We cannot undertake to bury family members in single plots together in the woodland.

Would we need a cardboard coffin?

Bodies must be wrapped in ecologically-approved biodegradable wrappings, no hardwoods, MDF or plastic – cardboard, recycled wood, willow or bamboo is readily available from local undertakers. Body bags or shrouds can also be used, although materials must be biodegradable. Handles on coffins should be wooden or rope, no plastic. Bodies should not be embalmed.

Can we bring our vicar?

Religious ceremonies can take place at the graveside, although the ground is not consecrated.

Is there enough parking?

A hearse can come on site and there is enough parking in the adjacent (Gallows Gate) car park for most funeral parties. With five working days' prior notice, we can arrange parking on an adjacent site for larger groups.



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Do we need to use a Funeral Director?

Not necessarily, although you may find it easier. If you do not, you would need to supply your own webbing, supports and bearers. We do not supply trestles or any other equipment.

What facilities are there on the site?

There are no toilet or refreshment facilities at the Cockington Woodland Burial site.

Can I help dig the grave?

We only allow our nominated grave digger to dig graves at the Woodland Burial Site, but families can help under the supervision of the Trust's gravedigger.

What about the stone tablet?

The tablets are made of granite, engraved with your inscription. The lettering is not filled in with colour. Inscriptions can be up to a maximum of 8 lines of text, to include the name of the deceased. There is only one tablet per plot.

How do we arrange for a Woodland Burial?

To book a burial, contact Torbay Coast & Countryside Trust on 01803 520 022 or visit our website at www.countryside-trust.org.uk/memorials to download a Woodland Burial Application Form for immediate use or an Application Form to Reserve a Woodland Burial Plot for future use.

To book a burial plot for immediate use, you need to complete the Woodland Burial Application Form and return this to us by **hand or recorded delivery**, at least **three working days** before your funeral. The Trust office is open Mon – Fri, 9am – 5pm. Please do not publicise or proceed with your funeral arrangements until you have received our confirmation and acceptance of the requested date and time.

Before we can allow a burial, we need to have received the Registrar's Green Burial Form. Please ensure that this is delivered to Torbay Coast & Countryside Trust's office at Occombe Farm, Preston Down Road, Paignton, TQ3 1RN, during working hours, or handed to a member of Trust staff or to their representative at the Woodland Burial Site immediately prior to the Burial.