Where to find Fungi?

The short answer to this is – everywhere.

<u>This link</u> to a British Mycological Society page states that fungi can be found - In the Arctic where it's cold, in the Tropics where it's hot, in deserts, oceans and rivers - and even in Space! Fungi were found growing on the Russian space station Mir! And <u>this link</u> to a BBC page states that amongst other things that fungi get up to, that our feet contain more than 200 types of fungi.

For those of us living in, or having an interest in the area of Rockingham Forest there are lots of places where fungi can be found. They can be seen at all times of the year but are most prolific later in the year – September to November.

Corby as a new town was built on part of Rockingham Forest and therefore gardens and road side verges can often be home to varieties of grassland fungi. My walk to the town from Danesholme through Beanfield estate is often very rewarding with several different fungi to be seen at different times of the year.

In preparing this list of places to visit to look for fungi I have been surprised by how many places there are that are freely open for public access. I am sure that I will have missed some good sites from this list without even considering other privately owned land in this area. The most obvious and possibly most prolific areas for fungi are woodland. We are privileged to live in an area with a lot of Ancient Woodland particular areas worth visiting are: -

Fineshade Wood Forestry England

OS map ref. - SP980983 Sat Nav Postcode: NN17 3BB

Well worth a visit with areas of broadleaved ancient woodland and conifers to explore with good visitor amenities.

Wakerley Great Wood Forestry England

OS map ref. - SP 961987 Sat Nav Postcode: NN17 3BA

Lots of interesting fungi to see with a picnic area and car park.

Bedford Purlieus NNR Forestry England.

OS map ref. - TL 04048 99593 - There is a car park off the A47

<u>Old Sulehay and Ringhaw</u> BCN (Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire & Northamptonshire) Wildlife Trust

OS map ref. - TL 054 980

A SSSI site, both parts are worth visiting being very different woodland, grassland/quarry. Parking not too easy. See also this website's <u>Places to Visit page</u>

Collyweston Great Wood & Easton Hornstocks NNR – Natural England

OS grid ref. – TF019003. Access to these woods is by permit only - from Natural England

<u>Hazelwood & Thoroughsale Woods</u>, North Northants Council
OS map ref. - SP876892 More information from North Northants Council <u>here</u> and more here. Parking at the boating lake. A good range of fungi can be seen.

<u>King's Wood LNR</u> - North Northants Council & BCN Wildlife Trust OS map ref. - SP 866 872 The wood I know best with lots of fungi to be seen.

<u>Great Oakley Meadow</u> Near Corby - BCN Wildlife Trust OS map ref. - SP 863 856 Small meadow but worth visiting for grassland fungi.

<u>Fermyn Woods</u> Near Brigstock – Forestry England OS map ref. - SP953849 Sat Nav Postcode: NN14 3HS

<u>Glapthorn Cow Pastures SSSI</u> - Nr Oundle, BCN Wildlife Trust OS map ref. - TL006903. See also this website's <u>Places to Visit page</u>

<u>Short Wood and Southwick Wood</u>, Glapthorn near Oundle - BCN Wildlife Trust PE8 5BD

<u>Collyweston Quarries</u> Nr Stamford - BCN Wildlife Trust OS map ref. - TF 005 037 See also this website's Places to Visit page

Rothwell Gullet Nr Rothwell - BCN Wildlife Trust OS map ref. - SP 807 818

<u>Wansford Pasture & Standen's Pasture</u>, Wansford Nr Peterborough - BCN Wildlife Trust SSSI site.

<u>Stoke Wood End Quarter</u> Nr Desborough - BCN Wildlife Trust OS map ref. - SP 800 859 - SSSI site.

<u>Tailby Meadow LNR</u>, Desborough - BCN Wildlife Trust OS map ref. - SP 800 859

<u>King's Cliffe Millenium Wood</u>, Willow Lane, King's Cliffe PE8 6XT - Woodland Trust. OS map ref. - TL002978

<u>Barnack Hills and Holes NNR</u> Natural England, Barnack, Stamford PE9 3EU OS map ref. - TF076046

Southey Wood Peterborough Forestry England OS map ref. - TF106028

Burghley Park Stamford Peterborough PE9 3JX OS map ref. - TF048070 https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/visiting-woods/woods/burghley-estate/

Castor Hanglands NNR Natural England, Peterborough OS map ref. - TF116014