

Birdwatching

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 Sign-up to **BirdTrack**
 This is a free and convenient way of storing your bird records online, it lets you keep up to date with what others are seeing, view the latest trends, and contribute your data to science.



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Respect

- Follow the **Bird Watchers Code**¹ to ensure that you respect others and put the interests of birds first.
- Think about the welfare of wildlife and local people before passing on news of a rare bird, especially during the breeding season.
- Be aware of any local access restrictions and always follow guidance on signage or from site wardens.
- Abide by the **Scottish Outdoor Access Code**² (Scotland) or **The Countryside Code**³ (England). These give invaluable guidance on how to respect those living, working or enjoying the coast and countryside.
- Gates and property should be left as you find them **N.B. Sometimes gates are left open to give animals access to food and water.**
- Bin your litter or take it home; it spoils the beauty of the place for others and can be dangerous to wildlife.



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Protect

- Give space to wildlife. 40-50m is usually enough for birds, 100m for seals. If birds or animals react to your presence by becoming watchful, moving or flying away or making repeated alarm calls, then you're too close.

N.B. High tide is a particularly sensitive time for birds, as they are limited to where they can go.

- Never use sound recordings to attract a bird.
- Keep to designated paths and Rights of Way, to avoid trampling sensitive habitats such as saltmarsh.
- Some areas may be fenced, either permanently or temporarily, to protect habitats or vulnerable species such as ground nesting birds. Please respect such areas and do not enter.

Enjoy

The Berwickshire, Northumberland and North Tyneside coast has bird interest throughout the year. It includes internationally known birding locations such as the Farne Islands, Lindisfarne, and St Abbs Head, as well as a range of more local birding sites.

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Remember
Breeding season:
 1st Mar – 30th Aug
Wintering season:
 1st Nov – 31st Mar



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1. www.bto.org/sites/default/files/u10/downloads/taking-part/health/bwc.pdf
 2. www.outdooraccess-scotland.scot/
 3. www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-countryside-code