

# Photography

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Wanting to take aerial photography?

See also our section on Unmanned Aerial Vehicles.

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## Respect

- Follow the [Nature Photographer's Code of Practice](#)<sup>1</sup>.
- Photograph in a way that does not put the subject at risk<sup>2</sup> and be aware of the legal protection against disturbance that some species of animals and birds receive<sup>3</sup>.
- Abide by the [Scottish Outdoor Access Code](#)<sup>4</sup> (Scotland) or [The Countryside Code](#)<sup>5</sup> (England). These give invaluable guidance on how to respect those living, working or enjoying the coast and countryside.
- Be aware of any local bylaws and restrictions effecting access. Look out for signage and always follow the guidance displayed or guidance given by site wardens.

## Protect

- Give space to wildlife. A distance of 40-50m is usually enough for birds, or 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.
- If planning to photograph [Schedule 1 birds](#)<sup>6</sup> on the nest, or any other legally protected species at close quarters, make sure you have obtained the appropriate licences<sup>7</sup>.
- Keep to Rights of Way and designated paths to avoid trampling sensitive habitats such as dunes and 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.
- Do not damage or remove rocks, wood, plants, or trees, as they provide shelter and food for wildlife.
- After walking through dunes check your clothes for the seeds of the invasive Pirri-Pirri Bur. Take care to prise them from your clothing and put them into a rubbish bin.



## Enjoy

The Berwickshire, Northumberland, and North Tyneside coast contains nationally important landscapes, breath-taking scenery, and a rich wildlife, offering opportunities to photographers of all types and experience.

1. [www.rps.org/media/1xcnsuga/the-nature-photographers-code-of-practice.pdf](http://www.rps.org/media/1xcnsuga/the-nature-photographers-code-of-practice.pdf)
2. Risk to the subject can include risk of disturbance, physical damage, causing anxiety, increasing predation risk by your presence, and lessened reproductive success.
3. Some species of animals and breeding birds receive legal protection from deliberate or reckless disturbance. Further information on this is given in the Nature Photographers Code of Practice (see footnote 1)
4. [www.outdooraccess-scotland.scot/](http://www.outdooraccess-scotland.scot/)
5. [www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-countryside-code](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-countryside-code)
6. [www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1981/69/schedule/1](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1981/69/schedule/1)
7. For Scotland see [www.nature.scot/professional-advice/protected-areas-and-species/licensing](http://www.nature.scot/professional-advice/protected-areas-and-species/licensing)  
For England see [www.gov.uk/guidance/wildlife-licences](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/wildlife-licences)