



# Birdwatching in Dumfries & Galloway



£2



## QUICK REFERENCE TIMETABLE FOR SELECTED SPECIES

SPECIES	RESIDENT OR VISITOR	BEST MONTHS IN D&G	BEST TIME OF DAY OR WEATHER	SUGGESTED VIEWING SITES IN D&G
Barnacle Goose	Winter visitor	Arrive about 23 Sept Depart end of April	Dawn and dusk flights, and during day.	Two best sites: WWWT Caerlaverock and RSPB Mershead
Barn Owl	Resident	All year	Nocturnal, but sometimes seen dawn and dusk	WWWT Caerlaverock have CCTV at nest spring and summer - see Ranger Led Walks booklet for event dates in June and July, early August. Sometimes on CCTV at Drumlanrig Castle. Try Raiders Road and Loch Ken valley at dusk.
Black Grouse	Resident	All year, spring is best	Early morning	Sometimes heard in the vicinity of the Red Deer Range.
Black Guillemot	Resident (but at sea in winter)	Summer only (April to July)	Early morning, calm conditions	Portpatrick harbour is best. Also from cliff tops at Mull of Galloway, Burrow Head, Balcary.
Gannet	Spring and summer visitor	April to September	Westerly winds bring the birds closer to shore	Luce Bay, Mull of Galloway, Corsewall Point, Portpatrick, other locations on the Rhins. Less frequent in the east.
Golden Eagle	Resident	All year	Early morning	Laurieston-Gatehouse Road, Galloway Hills. Not much chance of success.
Goosander	Resident	All year		The Caul, Whitesands Dumfries. Castle Loch, Lochmaben (winter). Major rivers (summer).
Greenland White-fronted Goose	Winter visitor	Arrive October Depart end of April		Both sides of Loch Ken in vicinity of Mains of Duchrae (try the goose-viewing platform at Duchrae); also near West Freugh, Stranraer. National Trust for Scotland, Threave Kelton Mains near Threave Castle.
Hen Harrier	Resident	Winter and summer	Evening roost in winter	West Freugh area in winter. Moors north east of Stranraer, Wanlockhead & Langholm areas in summer.
Kingfisher	Resident	All year		Lower reaches of Nith, Cairn, Annan Rivers, including above and below Whitesands, Dumfries. Kingfishers are small and fast flying, look for them flying low over the water.
Nightjar	Summer visitor	June and July	Dusk only; very few places	Take part in evening guided walks near Loch Ken or Newton Stewart. See Countryside Events booklet for details.
Osprey	Spring and summer visitor	April & May August & September		Rare breeder in Galloway - nest pictures relayed by CCTV to County Buildings, Wigtown. Live CCTV images shown at WWWT Caerlaverock from another nest in the region. Also seen passing through the region, at most large water bodies.
Peregrine	Resident	All year		Sea cliffs, Galloway and Moffat Hills. Especially NTS Grey Mare's Tail for CCTV viewing of nest. Live images also relayed to Creetown Museum. WWWT Caerlaverock and RSPB Mershead in winter.
Puffin	Summer visitor	End of May, June and July only.		Only at very tip of the Mull of Galloway, small numbers only and hard to see.
Red Grouse	Resident	Early spring		Wanlockhead and Langholm areas.
Red Kite	Introduced resident	All year	Fine days, slightly windy	A signposted Red Kite Trail for vehicles in vicinity of Loch Ken. Red Kite feeding station at Ballymack Hill farm near Laurieston. Feeding time 2.00pm
Ring Ouzel	Summer visitor	Arrival end of April Depart September		Wanlockhead area.
Seabird colonies	Spring and summer	April to August		Mull of Galloway and Balcary have easiest access.
Tree Sparrow	Resident	July to May	Immediately before and after high tides	Applegartintown Wildlife Reserve, near Lockerbie - see Birdwatching book.
Wader watching	Autumn, winter and spring			Saltcot Tower at WWWT Caerlaverock on very high tides. Loch Ryan, Southernness, Carsethorn, Powfoot, Brownhouses.



Barn Owl