

MORECAMBE BAY  
Sense of Place Toolkit

# Seasonal Highlights



## MORECAMBE BAY – seasonal highlights

NR = nature reserve

NNR = National Nature Reserve

### Birds

(all year round with winter and spring peaks, found all around the bay with great viewing places along the four main estuaries, riverside walks, main promenades and hides at large wetland reserves)

	best place to see	best time to see
arctic, little and sandwich tern	South Walney NR, Fowney and Hodbarrow	Spring
avocet	Leighton Moss NR	Spring
bartailed godwit	Hest Bank	Winter
bearded tit	Leighton Moss NR	Autumn
bittern	Leighton Moss NR	Winter/spring
cormorant	Any coastal location	Year round
curlew	Morecambe/Heysham	Winter
dipper	Fast flowing main rivers	Year round
dunlin	Cockerham	Winter
egret	Estuaries and saltmarsh	Year round (most in Autumn)
eider	South Walney NR	Year round
fulmar guillemot kittiwake leaches petrel	Heysham Head	Autumn and after a storm
redshank	Kent estuary, Morecambe roosts	Year round, most in Winter
hawfinch	Sizergh Castle	Spring
heron	Main rivers	Year round
kestrel	Piel Island	Spring
kingfisher	Main rivers – River Bela at Dellam	Spring
knot	Morecambe Stone Jetty	Year round
lapwing	Lune Estuary and Aldcliffe nature reserve	Winter/Spring
little egret	Lune Estuary and Lane End, Pilling	Year round
marsh tit	Arnside & Silverdale AONB and Sizergh in Witherslack	Spring
mute swan	Lancaster Canal	Year round
osprey	Foulshaw Moss NR, River Kent Estuary	Spring/Summer
oystercatcher	Morecambe and other estuaries and sea fronts	Year round
peregrine	Rossall Point, Humphrey Head	Spring
pink footed geese	Lane Ends, Pilling	Winter
shelduck	South Walney NR	Winter
starling (mermerations)	Leighton Moss NR	October - December
teal	Leighton Moss NR	Year round
wigeon	South Walney NR	Winter
goosander	Kendal	Year round
marsh harrier	Leighton Moss	Year round



**Reptiles and amphibians**

(find these in dunes (toads), and mosses for other amphibians)

	best place to see	best time to see
slow worm	Meathop Moss NR	Summer
common lizard	Nichols Moss NR	Summer
adder	Foulshaw Moss NR	Summer
natterjack toad	Sandscale Haws NNR	March - July

**Butterflies, Moths and Dragonflies**

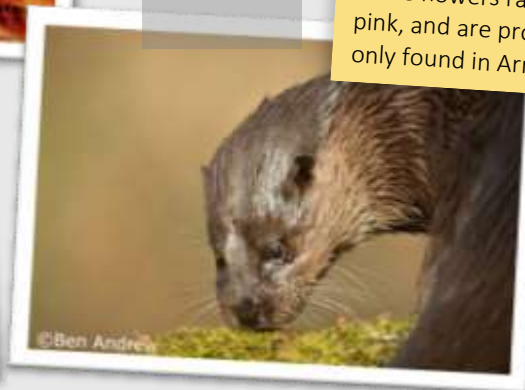
(mostly in spring and summer, find them in bogs and mosses, and limestone grasslands and pavements)

	Best Place to see	Best Time to see
green hairstreak butterfly	Arnside&Silverdale AONB	May-June
emperor moth	Foulshaw, Nichols and Meathop Moss NRs	May-June
pearl bordered fritillary	Whitbarrow NNR,	May-June
small pearl bordered fritillary	Eggerslack Woods	June
high brown fritillary	Arnside&Silverdale AONB	May-June
northern brown argus		June-July
large red damselfly	Foulshaw, Nichols, Meathop, Leighton, and Heysham Moss NRs	June- early August
brown hawker dragonfly	Foulshaw, Nichols and Meathop Moss NRs	July -August
black darter dragonfly	Roudsea Moss NNR and Winmarleigh Moss NR	July – August
white faced darter dragonfly	Foulshaw Moss NR	July - August
November & December moths	Arnside&Silverdale AONB	November - December



**FASCINATING FACTS**

The Mezerium orchids around Arnside are an unusual variation, with white flowers rather than pink, and are probably only found in Arnside



**Flowers and trees**

(found in dunes, saltmarsh, limestone grasslands, and woodlands in spring and summer)

	best place to see	best time to see
bee orchid	Sandscale Haws NNR and Heysham NR	April-May
dark red helleborine	Whitbarrow NNR and Gait Barrows	Summer
early marsh orchid	Sandscale Haws NNR	Spring
early purple orchid	Arnside&Silverdale AONB	April-May
fly orchid	Arnside & Silverdale AONB	June
green winged orchid	Humphrey Head NR	May
lady's slipper orchid	Gait Barrows NNR	May
Lancastrian whitebeam	Latterbarrow NR and Humphrey Head NR	Year round
marsh orchid	Arnside&Silverdale AONB	Summer
mezerium orchid	Arnside&Silverdale AONB	Summer
pyramidal orchid	South Walney NR	Summer
sea holly	North Walney NNR	Summer
sea lavender (common, lax, rock)	Barnaby Sands NR and Walney	Summer
sundew	Meathop Moss NR, Foulshaw Moss Nr, Heysham Moss	Summer
Walney geranium	North Walney NNR	Summer
wild daffodils	Brigsteer Woods	March-April
wild ransoms (garlic)	Arnside & Silverdale AONB	March-April
Limestone shrubs – spindle, viburnum, wayfaring tree	Roudsea, Whitbarrow	October (in colour)

**Mammals and fish**

(found all around the bay in the woodlands, wetlands, mosses, beaches, rivers and sea)

	best place to see	best time to see
dormouse	Roudsea Woods NNR	Very secretive
red deer	Foulshaw Moss and Leighton Moss NRs	Spring and Autumn
red squirrel	Roudsea Woods NNR	Spring/summer
otter	Leighton Moss NR, main rivers	Year round
grey seal	South Walney NR	Year round but great in Winter
porpoise	Rossall Point	Year round
dolphin	Rossall Point	Year round
salmon	Heron Corn Mill, Force Falls	Late September/October

