

Wildlife Facts for National Parks

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Special species: the wonderful plants and creatures you can find in National Parks

- The Broads is home to Britain's largest native butterfly, the brightly-coloured Swallowtail
- Dartmoor is the only place in Britain where you can find the Bog Hoverfly, a species that mimics the appearance of a bee
- The rare amphibious River Jelly Lichen thrives in the clean waters of Exmoor's River Barle
- Ospreys returned to the Lake District in 2001 and have bred there every year since
- The New Forest is home to the largest breeding population of Dartford Warbler in the UK
- Autumn visitors to the North York Moors coast can spot Minke, Fin, Sei, Pilot and Humpback Whales
- Northumberland contains the best site in England for rare species of colourful Waxcap Fungi
- The Peak District is the only place in the world where the Derbyshire Feather-Moss grows
- The Alcathe bat, only discovered in the UK in 2010, can be found in the woodlands of the South Downs
- The Yorkshire Dales holds the only wild site in the country for the beautiful Lady's-Slipper Orchid



A Swallow Tail Butterfly in the Norfolk Broads

Precious places: National Parks are concentrated pockets of our most important habitats

- The Broads is Britain's largest protected wetland, with wildlife-rich fen, estuary and grazing marsh
- The southernmost blanket bogs in Europe are found in Dartmoor
- Exmoor has irreplaceable ancient woodlands, and the longest stretch of coastal woodland in England
- The high fells of the Lake District are England's stronghold for montane habitats and arctic-alpine plants
- The New Forest holds the most extensive area of lowland heathland remaining in Europe
- The North York Moors protects the largest continuous expanse of heather moorland in England
- The cleanest rivers in England are sourced in the hills of Northumberland
- The upland ash woodlands of the Peak District are the largest of their type in Great Britain, and of international importance
- The chalk grassland found in the South Downs supports 30-40 species in just one square metre
- Almost 1/3 of England's remaining upland hay meadows, rich in wildflowers, are in the Yorkshire Dales



Coastal Heather Moorland in the North York Moors

Nurturing nature: How National Park Authorities and their partners are giving wildlife a helping hand

- The Broads Authority uses special lightweight vehicles to manage wetland areas, and the waste vegetation cuttings generated are used to improve farmers' soils and create bioenergy
- Thanks to recent blanket bog restoration works co-ordinated by Dartmoor National Park Authority, breeding dunlin have increased by 37%
- Exmoor National Park Authority is part of the Exmoor Knotweed Control Project, safeguarding habitats including rivers, streams and meadows by treating invasive knotweeds on over 1,000 sites
- The Arctic Alpine project, jointly led by the Lake District National Park Authority, is studying and protecting the special montane heath habitat
- The New Forest National Park Authority has surveyed over 20,000ha of habitat for heathland birds and breeding waders
- The North York Moors National Park Authority's Farm Scheme spent £7m over 25 years on funding farmers to carry out conservation work
- The Border Uplands project, led by Northumberland National Park Authority and partners, is connecting up bogs, moorland and grassland habitats to improve their value for wildlife
- 650ha of clough woodland has been created through projects supported by the Peak District National Park Authority over the last 3 years
- The Nature Improvement Area led by the South Downs National Park Authority has restored nearly 1,000ha of chalk grassland since 2012
- The Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority has an ambitious native woodland programme that has already seen over 700ha planted

For more information please visit www.nationalparksengland.org.uk

National Parks England, Can Mezzanine, Borough, 7-14 Great Dover Street, London SE1 4YR
T: 020 3096 7979 E: enquiries@nationalparksengland.org.uk