

# North Pennine Bird Sites

## Site 1: Derwent Reservoir



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**NORTH PENNINES**  
One of the  
AONB family

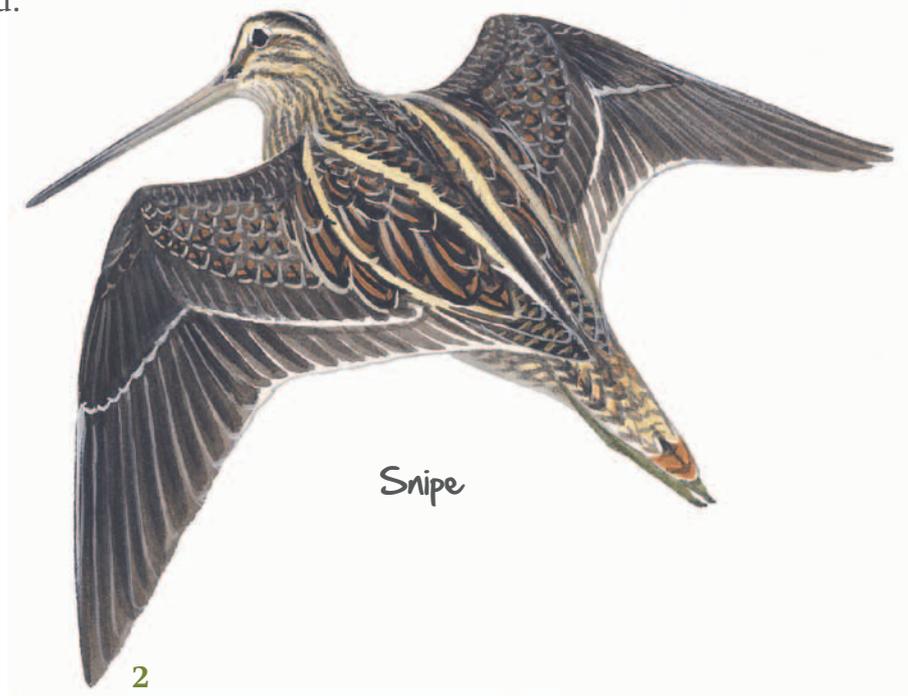
# The Birdwatchers Code of Conduct

Birds are very vulnerable to disturbance, especially during the breeding season. It is all too easy to inadvertently harm a bird or its young while trying to watch them.

For example, if an adult bird is prevented from returning to its nest, eggs or chicks may quickly chill and die. Straying from a footpath towards a nest site may also leave a scent trail that a predator is later able to follow.

To ensure that you enjoy watching birds without harming them or their young, please always follow this code of conduct:

- The welfare of the birds must come first. Disturbance to birds and their habitats should be kept to a minimum.
- Keep to footpaths, especially during the bird breeding season (March – August).
- Avoid disturbing birds or keeping them away from their nests for even short periods especially in wet or cold weather.
- Do not try to find nests. **All birds, nests, eggs and young are protected by law and it is illegal to harm them.**
- Keep dogs on a short lead.
- Leave gates and property as you find them.
- Take your litter home with you.



# Site 1

## Derwent Reservoir



Derwent Reservoir

Derwent Reservoir can be an interesting place to watch birds at any time of year. Wildfowl such as greylag goose, mallard, teal and tufted duck may be seen year-round, their numbers being swelled during autumn and winter by wigeon, pochard and goldeneye. Large flocks of gulls also congregate on the reservoir during the winter, most notably black headed, common and herring gull. Other species of interest include grey heron, goosander, cormorant and great crested grebe.

# Keys

## Easy Grade Walk

Suitable for most people: easy, comfortable walking, may be some stiles.

## Medium Grade Walk

Typically a country walk with some hills, stiles and muddy paths.  
Boots advised.

## Hard Grade Walk

Hill walk. May have steep or strenuous climbs. Rough moorland.  
Boots essential.

A guide is also provided to indicate the best times of year to see key bird species. This can be interpreted as follows:

### BEST TIME TO VISIT



Please be aware that the weather can change rapidly in the North Pennines. Always carry suitable wet weather clothing with you and remember that visibility will be poor at higher altitudes in low cloud conditions.



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Front cover illustration and all bird illustrations are by Mike Langman. Other images are © Natural England/Charlie Hedley or © North Pennines AONB Partnership.



Information is correct at the time of production (Oct 2012). Every effort has been made to ensure that information is accurate. However, the AONB Partnership and its Staff Unit cannot be held responsible for errors or omissions. Please check critical information before travel. Inclusion is not a recommendation by the AONB Partnership and in itself is not necessarily a guarantee of quality.



North Pennines AONB Partnership, Weardale Business Centre, The Old Co-op Building, 1 Martin Street, Stanhope, Bishop Auckland, County Durham DL13 2UY.

# Information Point



1:50,000 – Landranger 87  
1:25,000 – Explorer 307



Northumbrian Water visitor centre and toilets at the base of the dam (4 km). Pub, Youth Hostel and local shop in Edmundbyers (2 km)



Static viewing from the car, reservoir edge or linear routes as below.



Ruffside (NY992515)



Multi-user (walkers, cyclists, wheelchair users) path links Pow Hill Country Park with Millshield car park via the dam



Visit [www.northpennines.org.uk](http://www.northpennines.org.uk) for information on green places to stay

**P**

NZ013516 - Pow Hill Country Park

NZ009536 } Lay-bys on north  
NZ005534 } side of reservoir  
NY995528 }

One seasonal car park is available Millshield (NZ014533) and two at the dam (NZ030518 and NZ023510)



Black headed gull  
(winter)

# Directions

For access to the southern shore, park at the car park at Pow Hill Country Park. From here, walk through the gate and then 200m to the reservoir edge

A multi-user path links Pow Hill Country Park with Millshield car park via the dam

Places to view the reservoir from the road (lay-bys on the north side): NZ009536, NZ005533, NY995528

A large bird hide with wheelchair/pushchair access is located on the north shore at NZ004533. Keys for this can be obtained by contacting Durham Wildlife Trust at Low Barns Nature Reserve (01388 488728)



Derwent Reservoir

# Site 1

## Derwent Reservoir



- 1 A range of species may be seen on or adjacent to the reservoir. Winter is a good time for wildfowl, look out for mallard, wigeon, greylag goose, teal, goldeneye, pintail, gadwall, tufted duck, pochard and goosander.
- 2 Large numbers of gulls are often present, including black headed gull, common gull, herring gull, great black-backed gull.
- 3 Look out for grey heron, coot, cormorant and lapwing at any time of year.
- 4 Mixed woodland and scrub supports species such as coal tit, long-tailed tit, goldcrest and siskin. Look out for red squirrels too.



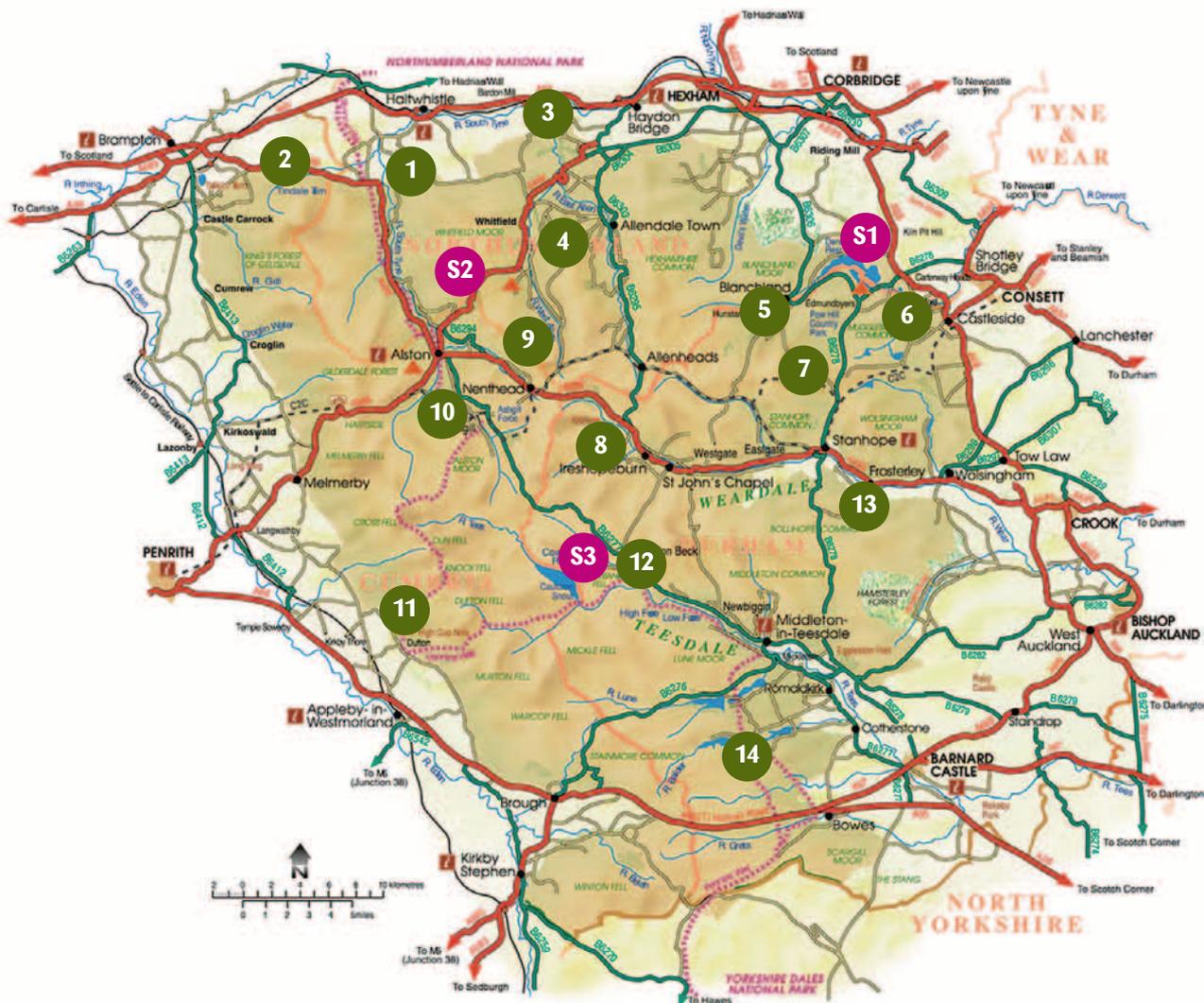
### BEST TIME TO VISIT



A telescope is recommended



# Map of the North Pennines AONB showing location of Walks and Sites



- 1 Lambley and the South Tyne
- 2 Tindale Tarn
- 3 Allen Banks and Staward Gorge
- 4 Chimneys on Dryburn Moor
- 5 Blanchland
- 6 Derwent Gorge
- 7 Burnhope Head
- 8 Cowhill
- 9 Wellhope Moor
- 10 Garrigill
- 11 Dufton Pike
- 12 Upper Teesdale
- 13 Howdon Burn
- 14 Blackton Reservoir
- S1 Derwent Reservoir
- S2 Ouston Fell
- S3 Harwood Beck and Widdybank

# NORTH PENNINES



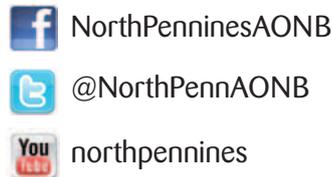
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty



The North Pennines is one of England's most special places – a peaceful, unspoilt landscape with a rich history and vibrant natural beauty. In recognition of this it is designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). The area is also a Global Geopark – an accolade endorsed by UNESCO.

Derwent Reservoir, in the Derwent Valley, is a great place to watch birds at any time of year. You'll see wildfowl (greylag geese, teal and tufted duck and mallard) all year round. Easy access paths on the south and north shores of the water make this a great destination for wheelchair users and families with pushchairs.

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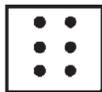


The AONB Partnership has a Green Tourism award for its corporate office

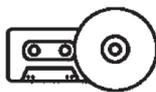


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