



Haig, Whitehaven

A selection of seasonal bird walks



Varied distances

15-35 minutes



Opening hours: All year round



FREE entrance



Car parking: Free, on site



Toilets: No



Café: No but perfect for picnic



Dogs: Must be kept on a lead at all times



Accessibility: Surfaced paths. Some sections involve 50m climb above sea level to clifftop.

Walking routes

1. Take a stroll around the horse field where tress were planted when the pit closed. There are catkins in the spring, and berries in autumn which provide shelter to birds all year round. Mistle thrush can be seen here and in summer the swallows skim along the grassy paths catching insects. **15mins**
2. Head south into the field with the Bulrushes and privet and here you will likely see or hear sky larks and black caps and stonechat. In the field to the North you may see grey Partridge as they are undisturbed here. Amongst the Privet at night you may be lucky enough to hear the Grasshopper warblers eerie calls. **25 mins**
3. On the clifftop and you will likely see Kestrels hunting and out to sea there may be gulls with Herring, and Black back gulls the most common. Further out you might spot Cormorant, Fulmar, kittiwake, Gullmot, Razor bill, terns and Gannets. If you like seeing sea birds visit St Bees North Head where there are viewing platforms onto the sea bird colonies there. **15 mins**

The countryside code

Respect - Protect - Enjoy

Respect other people:

- consider the local community and other people enjoying the outdoors
- leave gates and property as you find them and follow paths unless wider access is available

Protect the natural environment:

- leave no trace of your visit and take your litter home
- keep dogs under effective control

Enjoy the outdoors:

- plan ahead and be prepared
- follow advice and local signs



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Haig is managed by:



National Trust

4. On the clifftop fields you may see Starlings, Jackdaws or gulls eating insects and worms, in late summer flocks of Goldfinches gather to eat the thistle seeds. **10mins**
5. Towards the harbour, overlooking South shore or Golden sands you may also see redshank, turnstones, Knotts and other wading birds. In the walls at Wellington Terrace there is a nesting colony of Jackdaws that stay all year round. In the Harbour you will see Swans and geese and during winter great V's of geese can be seen following the coastline overhead in both directions as they move around the Irish sea's wetlands. Back up near Haig you may be lucky enough to see the Barn owls hunting at Dusk. **30mins+**



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