



RSPB Bempton Cliffs Site Guide - Accessible Tours

Located on the spectacular Yorkshire coast lies the majestic Bempton Cliffs. Impressive at any time of the year, it's home to one of the UK's top wildlife spectacles. Around half a million seabirds gather here between March and October to raise a family, creating England's largest seabird city.

Clinging to tiny ledges on a towering, chalk cliff-face metres away from the North Sea, you'll find **Gannets, Kittiwakes, Razorbills** and **Guillemots** nesting. Meanwhile **Puffins** find shelter in burrows, nooks and crannies to raise their young. The sights, sounds, smells and views are simply unforgettable.

But it's not all about the cliffs. In spring and summer **Corn Buntings, Skylarks** and **Linnets** breed in the grassland and scrub where land meets the sea, while **Short-eared Owl's** hunt under wide open skies in winter.



Bempton Cliffs – Steve Race

What Can You See?

Spring

Breeding seabirds start to return, including **Northern Gannets, Atlantic Puffins, Guillemots, Razorbills, Northern Fulmars, Black-legged Kittiwakes, Herring Gulls and European Shags**. Farmland birds such as **Eurasian Skylarks, European Tree Sparrows, Common Linnets, Meadow Pipits, Reed Buntings and Corn Buntings** can be seen. Meanwhile **Western Barn Owls** are often spotted and early morning visits may provide sightings of **Roe Deer**. On calmer days, it's not unusual to spot **Harbour Porpoises** out to sea. Look out for displays of beautiful **Red Champion** along track sides too.

Summer

The seabird breeding season is in full swing as nearly half a million seabirds cling to the cliffs. Breeding **Tree Sparrows, Common Whitethroats, Corn Buntings, Eurasian Skylarks, Common Linnets, Reed Buntings, Rock Pipits and Meadow Pipits** are often viewed at Bempton too. A range of the more common butterflies may be seen on sunny days, along with day-flying moths such as **Cinnabars, Burnet Moths** and occasionally **Hummingbird Hawkmoths**.



Atlantic Puffin – Steve Race

Autumn

In the Autumn, most of the seabirds have gone, but the **Gannets** are here into October. The autumnal migration gets underway and can be very exciting at Bempton Cliffs owing to its coastal location. **Short-eared Owls** begin to arrive to stay for the winter and there's the arrival of migrants such as **Willow Warblers, Chiffchaffs, Whitethroats, Lesser Whitethroats, Reed Warblers, Sedge Warblers, Goldcrests, European Stonechats, Whinchats, Northern Wheatears** and **Common Redstarts**.

Winter

Winter is usually a quieter time of year, but a small number of **Short-eared Owls** and **Barn Owls** can usually be seen. The wildlife garden at the RSPB reserve offers food and shelter to a range of more common garden birds, as well as well as a colony of rare **Tree Sparrows**.



Short-eared Owl – Richard Baines

Accessibility Information

RSPB Bempton Cliffs have an accessibility guide which is worth taking a look at first: [CLICK HERE](#). There is also customer support so if you can't find all the information you need, feel free to contact them directly on: 01262 422212. Bempton RSPB have made a video of their site aimed at access to see the video [CLICK HERE](#)

You will also find a summary of how to access the site and what you will find there, below.

How to get there

You'll find RSPB Bempton Cliffs Reserve at:

Cliff Lane

Bridlington

YO15 1JF, UK.

If you find it easier to look at a location on Google Maps, you'll find the location right here: [CLICK HERE](#)

Access by car

Head to Bempton village from the A165. Once in the village, RSPB Bempton Cliff Reserve is well signposted.

Access by public transport

Bus

There is no bus service to Bempton village or the reserve.

Train

The nearest train station is at Bempton, which is on the Hull – Scarborough line. There is a walk of around 1 ¼ miles from the station to the reserve.

Taxi

You can also pre-book a connecting wheelchair-accessible taxi to collect you from the station. RSPB Bempton Cliffs recommend 1st Line taxis on 01262 400150.

Car Parking

The car park has 11 Blue Badge spaces, which can be found immediately outside the visitor centre.

Access to reception, toilets, retail area, indoor seating and café

There is level access from the main entrance to the welcome desk, visitor centre toilets, retail area and indoor seating area. They offer a complimentary ticket policy for personal assistants.

Hearing Loops

At Bempton RSPB reserve they have a hearing loop in the shop and café, plus access to a portable loop at the welcome hut.

Assistance dogs

Assistance dogs are welcome. All dogs are welcome on the reserve, but they must be kept on leads at all times. This is to ensure that ground nesting birds are not disturbed, and also to ensure the safety of dogs on the cliff top.

Toilets

Disabled toilets are located on the ground floor of the visitor centre and are accessible during opening hours. You'll find the opening hours here: www.rspb.org.uk/days-out/reserves/bempton-cliffs/opening-times

Cafe

The café is open daily, 10.30am-3.30pm for takeaway refreshments. There is a self-service food cabinet where food and drink can be accessed from a seated position. There is limited indoor seating and tables available. Staff and volunteers are available to assist if needs be.

Outdoor seating and picnic areas

There is level access from the carpark to the outdoor seating area. All picnic tables have space for wheelchairs.

Mobility support

RSPB Bempton Cliffs has one Trampler mobility scooter and one standard mobility scooter available to hire. There are also two push wheelchairs, should you prefer using these instead. All are free but a donation towards their maintenance would be appreciated. 

Wheelchairs and scooters must be booked before your visit. To do this, click on the link: [CLICK HERE](#) and head to the 'Customer Care Support' section.

Viewing points and accessible trail

There are six safe cliff-edge viewing platforms. Most viewpoints have benches nearby.

Close to the visitor centre, you will find The Grandstand Trail which has a hard surface and three accessible viewpoints adapted for wheelchairs. It is 1000 metres long.

RSPB Bempton Cliffs website

Here is their website for further information: www.rspb.org.uk/days-out/reserves/bempton-cliffs

Yorkshire Coast Nature – here to help

Yorkshire Coast Nature is a small independent nature tourism company. Every member of our team lives locally and is passionate about wildlife. We believe strongly in delivering eco-tourism with a direct benefit for wildlife and provide annual grants to nature conservation organisations. When you use one of our services you can be assured that you are helping wildlife.

Our tour leaders are highly experienced in the field of natural history and enjoy sharing their knowledge with others. They are friendly, adaptable and sensitive to the needs of individual clients. We are confident that you will enjoy their company as well as their expertise.

Some of our scheduled tours are suitable for people with accessibility challenges, the best way to find what is suitable for you is to contact us directly (see below).

We also offer tailor-made, guided tours at Bempton Cliffs and other sites. For more info [CLICK HERE](#)

All of our wildlife guides are highly experienced, while Richard Baines and Margaret Boyd are Accessibility Champions.

YORKSHIRE COAST NATURE CONTACT INFORMATION

Please do not hesitate to contact Richard Baines (Wildlife and Birdwatching trips) on 07747753260 or Steve Race (Wildlife Photography workshops) 07767761260

Or email us at info@yorkshirecoastnature.co.uk if you have any questions.