

WMBC FIELD TRIPS

Detail for Bulletins about the Arranged Field Trips

FIELD MEETINGS

Coaches for these depart from Cambridge Street, Birmingham City Centre, promptly at the time stated. Food and drink should be brought as required. Appropriate clothing and footwear to guard against the elements is recommended.

To book or for further information please contact:

Liz Palmer **01827 54557** or **07947 456448** **wmbcfieldtrips.liz@westmidlandbirdclub**

Please note that the coach can become fully booked (48 is possible) but non arrivals on the day can prevent those on a waiting list the chance to enjoy the day. Could members please contact Liz – however late – if they have to cancel their booking. On Sunday morning ring Liz's mobile, 07947 456448

We are very pleased that Liz Palmer is to take over the organisation of Field Trips. Anyone else willing to help? We would welcome further volunteers!

Sunday 06 Jan 2019

Rutland Water

Depart: 07:00 AM. Expected return: 06:30 PM. Cost: £22

Prime inland reservoir with lagoons, marshy margins, fields and woodland to provide a wide range of species to start the year. The cost includes reserve entrance fee.

Sunday 03 Feb 2019

St Aidan's RSPB

Depart: 07:00 AM. Expected return: 07:00 PM. Cost: £21

We visit a new venue to enjoy a now prime RPB reserve. In addition to offering many wintering wildfowl and waders, often disturbed by a Peregrine, Marsh Harriers quarter reedbeds and grassland, and Short-eared Owls hunt over the hillsides. Additional residents include Bittern and Skylark. A stimulating winter birding experience in prospect! RSPB card required or charge may be payable.

Sunday 10 Mar 2019

Forest of Dean

Depart: 07:00 AM. Expected return: 07:00 PM. Cost: £19

The regular visit to this Gloucestershire site at the time of peak activity offering prospect of displaying Goshawk, finding Hawfinch, Dipper and Crossbill, admiring spectacular Mandarin and what chance of Great Grey Shrike again?

Sunday 28 Apr 2019

Fairburn Ings

Depart: 08:00 AM. Expected return: 07:30 PM. Cost: £21

A first visit to a now established RSPB reserve with an enviable reputation. In addition to breeding Bittern, Bearded Tit, Cetti's warbler and Little Egret, Spoonbill have an established breeding record and recently Black-necked Grebe have done also! With resident Willow Tit, Kingfisher, Grey Heron and a Tree Sparrow colony an excellent birdlist is in prospect! RSPB card required or charge may be payable.

Sunday 26 May 2019

Nagshead RSPB

Depart: 08:00 AM. Expected return: 07:30 PM. Cost: £19

No Welsh trip this year but this prime attractive RSPB reserve in the middle of the Forest of Dean should still yield Wood Warbler, Pied Flycatcher, Redstart and possibly Tree Pipit. Spotted Flycatcher as well as other summer migrant warblers are present and birds of prey, e.g Goshawk, are a possibility. RSPB card required or charge may be payable.

Sunday 23 Jun 2019

Lakenheath

Depart: 07:00 AM. Expected return: 07:30 PM. Cost: £21

In search of rare British breeding birds the extensive reedbeds harbour Bearded Tit, Bittern, Common Crane, Marsh Harrier and Kingfisher as well as other migrant warblers. Hobby hunt over the reeds and river for dragonflies. Don't forget your RSPB card or charge of £3 is payable.

Sunday 08 Sep 2019

Frampton Marsh RSPB

Depart: 07:00 AM. Expected return: 07:30 PM. Cost: £21

A further visit to this now renowned coastal wetland reserve with reedbed, large freshwater scrapes and wet grassland that was enjoyed by all. At migration time a wide range of wader species and interesting passerines can be expected. RSPB card required or charge of £2 payable.

Sunday 06 Oct 2019

Gibraltar Point

Depart: 07:00 AM. Expected return: 07:30 PM. Cost: £22

A mix of fresh and saltwater marshes, sand dunes and shore on the northern edge of the Wash and beside the North Sea attracts waders, wildfowl and seabirds as well as passage migrants and rarities. Reserve entrance fee is included in the cost.

1st - 3rd November 2019

Norfolk Weekend at L'etrance Arms Hotel Hunstanton.

£72-50 per person per night, £50 deposit required per person. Please send deposits to: Liz Palmer, 58 Fontenaye Road, Coton Green, Tamworth. B79 8JU, to be received by 20th September 2019.

Meet 6.30 Friday 1st November for dinner at 19.00. Various birding hotspots will be visited over the weekend depending on weather and what's about.

There is optional sea watching before breakfast on both days and this usually produces some interesting birds.

Sunday 01 Dec 2019

Ham Wall RSPB / Shapwick Heath

Depart: 07:00 AM. Expected return: 07:00 PM. Cost: £22

Another first visit to an exciting and developing RSPB reserve. Search the trackside scrub and alders for Goldcrest and maybe Firecrest as well as tit and finch family species including Siskin and Redpoll, and other woodland species. The wide range of wildfowl is augmented by the likely presence of herons such as Little and Great White Egrets as well as Grey Heron and Bittern, with Glossy Ibis and Cattle Egret possible. Bearded Tits and Marsh Harriers add to the mix. The nearby Shapwick Heath area increases the possibilities with potential for wader species. A Starling murmuration at the end of the day could complete the experience. RSPB card required or charge may be payable.