



Gwent Wildlife Trust

- Home
- Who we are
- What we do
- How you can help
- Nature Reserves
- Wildlife
- Volunteering
- What's on
- Discover & learn
- Holiday cottage
- Wilder Future
- Bridewell Appeal

Chiffchaff

Phylloscopus collybita

- Wildlife
- Birds
- Tits, goldcrests and warblers
- Chiffchaff



About

Chiffchaffs are birds of woodland, scrub, parks and gardens. They sing their name out loud in a simple 'chiff chaff chiff chaff' song, performed from the tree canopy. Some Chiffchaffs stay all year-round, but most migrate here from Africa, and are one of the earliest arrivals, singing their hearts out from the end of February onwards.

How to identify

Chiffchaffs are a dull green above and pale yellow below, with an off-white belly and a short eyebrow stripe. Willow Warblers and Chiffchaffs are very similar, olive-coloured warblers, so are best identified by their song: Chiffchaffs sing 'chiff chaff chiff chaff'. Willow Warblers have pale legs, while Chiffchaff legs are dark grey.

Where to find it

Widespread, mostly

Join us

Protect local wildlife



Species information

Common name
Chiffchaff

Latin name
Phylloscopus collybita

Category
Birds
Tits, goldcrests and warblers

Statistics
Length: 11cm Wingspan: 18cm Weight: 9g Average Lifespan: 2 years

Conservation status
Common.



Farmland



Heathland



Towns and Gardens



Woodland

When to find it



How can people help

During the 1960s and 1970s, Chiffchaff numbers sustained losses due to harsh conditions in their African wintering grounds, but numbers have thankfully recovered. The Wildlife Trusts manage many woodland and wetland nature reserves sympathetically for Chiffchaffs and other bird species. You can help by supporting your local Trust and becoming a member; you'll find out about exciting wildlife happenings, events on your doorstep and volunteering opportunities, and be helping local wildlife along the way.

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