



# Wildlife Trusts Wales

Habitat explorer

Species explorer

Species A to Z

Our nature reserves

**Great Places To See**

Wildlife on the Wales Coast Path

## Great Places To See

### Otters



A selection of spectacular wildlife and natural events for any time of year.

### Otters

As with much wildlife, the best time to see them is either early morning or around sunset, but many report seeing them in the afternoon.

Otters are sensitive and will probably know you are there long before you see them. Look for paw prints, spraits (droppings), pick a vantage point and sit and wait. If you try to seek them out they will probably think you are stalking them.

These sites report regular otter sightings, plenty of signs or even recorded footage. While we cannot guarantee a visit will result in a sighting, these reserves are worth exploring all the same!

Please remember that disturbing otters or their habitat is an offence under the Wildlife & Countryside Act

### Wildflower Meadows

Often only in flower for a few weeks each year - mainly early summer (June / July). It is worth checking with the relevant local wildlife Trust to see if they are in flower before setting off.

Traditional hay meadows are one of the symbols of the countryside. Yet 95% of these meadows have been lost.

The Wildlife Trusts are passionate about restoring wildflower-rich meadows, and for good reason. They support nationally scarce and declining species of flowering plant, as well as a busy insect fauna and a community of other animals besides. The precise habitat requirements for many of these specialists are often found nowhere else, making nature reserves the last refuges for some of

...to see otters. Winter is a great time to look for signs of otters around the pond and along the reens. Also look out for birds such as snipe, teal and water rail.  
Location: 1 mile from Junction 23A of the M4: follow signs to Magor, then brown signs. Bus service 61 from Newport to reserve. Grid ref. ST 428 867

#### Montgomeryshire - Red House

With a wild wet woodland and wet riverine meadows, it's little wonder that otters love to spend time here! The reed swamp, pool and wet woodland are also home to more than 150 wetland plants, including the largest single population of sweet flag, a scarce Montgomeryshire plant.  
Location: between Garthmyl and Abermule, 250m from the Glanhafren Bridge. Grid ref. SO 170 968

#### Radnorshire - Gilfach Farm

Visitors to this Radnorshire Wildlife Trust nature reserve often report seeing otters here. Last summer a family from Liverpool saw a female and two cubs walking along the nature trail in mid-afternoon! The best time to visit is October till December when otters come to the waterfalls to chase the leaping salmon.  
Location: Off A470 between Rhayader and Llangurig to St Harmon and Pantydwr. Turning marked by brown reserve sign. Grid ref. SN 965 717

#### Teifi Marshes - The Welsh Wildlife Centre

This Wildlife Trust for South and West Wales wetland reserve sits on the banks of the Teifi river near Cligerran. A great place to see otters with a hide set in the perfect position to do so, as well as a visitor centre and nature trails. Other possible sightings include hen harrier, bittern and kingfisher.  
Location: Follow signs for The Welsh Wildlife Centre, clearly signposted from Cardigan. Grid ref: SN 184 455

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