



ANIMALS & WILDLIFE

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"In every walk with nature, one receives far more than he seeks." John Muir

Surrounded by woodland and open countryside, Clovenstone is a place where nature is very much part of the experience. During your stay, you may encounter a rich variety of wildlife close to the lodges and nearby - from birdsong in the trees to quiet moments watching animals in their natural habitat. Take time to slow down, explore and appreciate the beauty of the natural world that surrounds you.

Buzzard

The Common buzzard is the UK's most common bird of prey.

Due to their large size and their brown color, they are often confused with the Red kite and the Golden eagle.

They may look the same from a distance, but the Common Buzzard has a very distinctive call, like a cat's mew, and a distinctive flying shape.

When soaring and gliding, the tail is fanned and its wings are often held in a shallow 'V'.



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Puffin

The cliffs at the Bullers of Buchan are a popular nesting site in spring for colonies of seabirds including Guillemots and Puffins.

Red Kite

This magnificently graceful bird of prey is unmistakable with its reddish-brown body, angled wings and deeply forked tail. It was saved from national extinction by one of the world's longest-running protection programmes.



It has now been successfully re-introduced to England and Scotland. Red Kites are listed under Schedule 1 of The Wildlife and Countryside Act.



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Crane

As the UK's tallest bird the common Crane is instantly recognisable with the ruffle of tail feathers and very long legs.

Their bugling call is also very distinctive.

Rosy Starling

The adult rosy starling is highly distinctive, with its pink body, pale orange legs and bill, and glossy black head, wings and tail.



Swallow

Arguably the most iconic of our summer visitors from Africa, the Swallow is a truly amazing bird and a joy to watch.

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Rough-Legged Buzzard

One of the UK's less familiar birds of prey, spends its breeding season in Arctic and Subarctic.

They move south to escape harsh winters with just a few wintering in the UK. It can be distinguished from the common buzzard by its heavily feathered legs and longer wings.



Rabbits

Rabbits are mostly active from late afternoon to the early morning.

Typically emerging about one to three hours before sunset, rabbits graze then socialise on or near the warren until dusk when they move further away.



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Red Deer

One of the most iconic animals associated with Scotland, the red deer is the UK's largest land mammal and can be spotted in almost every region in the country.



Seals

Grey seals are very common inhabitants you can see off the coastlines of Scotland.

Keep your eyes peeled in the autumn months to see if you can spot fluffy grey seal pups too!



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Dolphins

The coastal waters of Aberdeenshire are regularly inhabited by four species of cetacean; the Harbour Porpoise, Bottlenose Dolphin, White-beaked Dolphin and Minke Whale (several further species occur on an infrequent basis).

In the wild, these sleek swimmers can reach speeds of over 18 miles an hour.



Toads

Common Toads have broad, squat bodies and warty skin. They tend to walk rather than hop.

They secrete an irritant substance from their skin and puff themselves up to deter predators.





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