



### Gadwall

Though a little dull at first sight, these ducks have beautifully patterned feathers if you see them close up.



### Mallard

A familiar sight, the male mallard is more striking whilst the female is camouflaged to keep her safe whilst she sits on the nest.



Repetitive squeaky quack

### Shelduck

These large ducks can be territorial during breeding season, defending 'their' patch of the water from other birds.



### Tufted duck

These smart little ducks dive underwater for their food. Watch the stream of bubbles as they swim below the surface.



## Spotter Guide



# WETLAND BIRDS

See how many of these water birds you can spot from one of our lake, lagoon or riverside hides.



High-pitched piping call

### Avocet: Feb-Sept

These dainty waders can be feisty and territorial. They feed by sweeping their bill side to side through the water.



### Black-tailed godwit

One of the larger waders, the males are a colourful rusty orange in breeding season and grey the rest of the year.



### Grey heron

Usually seen hunting in shallow water, these large birds nest in trees. A nesting group is known as a 'heronry' and they are noisy.





Loud bubbling call

### Curlew: Sept-Mar

Their beaks mimic the shape of worms' burrows, enabling them to catch food in the mud. Large numbers roost here at night.



### Common tern: Apr-Aug

An elegant bird, they catch small fish by diving into water and bring them back for their partner and chicks.



### Redshank

A distinctive little bird easily spotted by their bright orangey red legs. They also have a long red beak with a black tip.



### Black-headed gull

These birds only have a black head in the summer. In winter they have a white head with black 'ear' smudges.



Also called peewits after their call

### Lapwing

Recognisable by their striking plumage and unusually rounded wings in flight, they were once common but are now in decline.



### Greylag goose

A common sight, these mottled grey geese are the bulkiest of our native geese and can be seen around the UK.



### Snipe: Feb-Sept

A tricky bird to spot, these small well camouflaged waders skulk around the waters edge close to cover.



Honks, barks and whistles



### Canada goose

Canada geese are easy to spot by their long necks and black and white heads. They are very noisy and not native to the UK.



Noisy whistling call when flying



### Oystercatcher

A shellfish specialist, these waders have moved further inland in recent decades and can often be found on wetlands.



### Eurasian teal

Our smallest duck, the teal dabbles on the waters surface to find seeds and small insects to eat.

