



TOUR REPORT
NORFOLK SUMMER BREEDERS
15TH – 18TH JUNE 2026

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TUESDAY 16TH JUNE – *bright and warm, with a gentle breeze. 23C.*

We had slightly altered today's itinerary to allow for a trip to the Broads tomorrow, so began the day with a walk around the Norfolk Wildlife Trust's famous Cley Marshes. It was a sunny start to the day, and the temperature was already climbing when we started with a walk along East Bank. As we walked, we were serenaded by many singing **Reed** and **Sedge Warblers** and **Whitethroats**. On reaching the bank, we could see and hear dozens of **Avocets** in the air, clearly alarmed by a predator hidden in the grass. We watched for a while but couldn't see what it was, though a Stoat or Weasel seemed likely. There were a few other waders too including **Redshanks** and **Oystercatchers**, and a couple of **Little Ringed Plovers** made for a nice comparison with a single **Common Ringed Plover**. As we watched, we picked up a **Hobby** flying right towards us which then zoomed past us at close range and continued over the reeds towards Cley village. It was quite the view even if not for very long! A couple of **Marsh Harriers** circling with **Buzzards** made for another good comparison and our first **Spoonbill** of the trip flew past too.

Back at the visitor centre, we had a break refreshments before heading out to the hides to view the pools. We paused by a cattle field near the boardwalk which held a **Cattle Egret** largely hidden by the long grass. It did fly around regularly so we were able to see its short orange bill and black feet. From the hide, four **Spoonbills** were snoozing on an island, and did wake up from time to time, giving us a nice view of the different bill patterns of the adults and immature birds. A flyover **Great White Egrets** completed the set of egrets! It was nice to see good numbers of **Black-tailed Godwits** present, with several looking very smart in their summer plumage. More **Little Ringed Plovers** were here too, with several flying around in song flight. Finally, as we walked back to the visitor centre a pristine adult **Mediterranean Gull** flew over and rounded off a great morning.

Next, we made our way over to Kelling Heath where we ate our lunch in the car park. It didn't take us long to pick up our first target species in the form of at least two singing **Woodlarks** which were singing near the car park. After a bit of scanning, we picked one up in flight and had a nice view of its distinctive short-tailed shape. After lunch we set out across the heath in search of Dartford Warblers. As we walked between some gorse, we noticed a **Slow Worm** basking beside the path though it didn't hang around for long, then an **Adder** moved across our track just a few metres further on! We found several singing **Stonechats** and **Yellowhammers** across the heath but, despite seemingly perfect weather, the Dartfords were not playing ball today. A great bonus came in the form of several immaculate male **Silver-studded Blue** butterflies

With our search for Nightjars planned for this evening, we then headed back towards Titchwell for a rest before dinner. A few of us squeezed in a look at Titchwell Marsh for an hour first, with highlights including more **Mediterranean Gulls**, **Little Ringed Plovers** and at least 100 **Black-tailed Godwits**. A **Great White Egret** sat in a bush was more obliging than the earlier bird, but it was soon time to head back for dinner.

Once we eaten, we gathered back at the van just before dusk for our venture out to Dersingham Bog in search of Nightjars. It was a perfect evening with very light winds, and overcast skies keeping it warm, so we were optimistic. In fact, it wasn't even dark before we

first heard one churring, although we had to wait another half an hour before they began flying around. In the end we had good flight views of at least three different **Nightjars**, and **Woodcocks** were flying over roding every few minutes. A flyover **Peregrine** and two singing male **Stonechats** were also noted. It was a great way to end the day!

WEDNESDAY 17TH JUNE – *bright and very warm. 25C*

We headed to the Broads today in the hope of catching up with a couple of lingering rarities in the area. First up was a look for the **Black-winged Kite** on the edge of Sea Palling which has possibly been lingering in the Broads for a couple of years now! We parked up in a small layby and walked over to its favoured fields, and it took just a couple of minutes to find the kite perched atop a bush. It was being mobbed by **Magpies** and after a while took the air and began hunting. It was mostly scanning from telegraph wires, but we enjoyed being able to see it hovering briefly. The scope views were good, and it was great to spend time watching such a smart and extremely rare visitor.

Having had our fill, we headed over to Hickling Broad where a Caspian Tern had been seen in recent days. We quickly made our way over to the viewing platform by Brendan's Marsh where, sure enough, the **Caspian Tern** was sat among a group of **Teal**! It looked huge next to the Teal, with its bright red bill visible from quite some distance. A short while later a **Marsh Harrier** came through and put up the tern and it flew off towards the main broad. A few **Spoonbills** were also present, and a decent selection of waders included **Little** and **Common Ringed Plovers**, **Dunlin**, **Black-tailed Godwit** and a smart summer plumage Ruff. A couple of roosting gulls revealed themselves to be a second-year **Little Gull** alongside a **Black-headed Gull**, really highlighting how small a Little Gull really is!



Caspian Tern and Spoonbill!

We returned to the visitor centre for lunch where they were just unpacking a moth trap ran there the previous night. They were kind enough to give us a quick look inside and the moths included **Elephant**, **Poplar** and **Privet Hawkmoths** plus **Scarlet Tiger** and **White Ermine**. Several **Norfolk Hawkers** were flying around as we got back into the van, with one even landing on the van door!

We still had time for one more stop before making the drive back to Titchwell, so headed over to the Norfolk Wildlife Trust's visitor centre at Ranworth Broad. A pair of **Ospreys** have been nesting here for the past couple of years – the first to nest in Norfolk for 250 years! We arrived to find an adult on the nest, feeding a fish to one of the recently hatched chicks. Views were distant but good through the scope, especially when we viewed from the top floor of the visitor centre. And there was even time for an ice cream before we drove back to the hotel after a very successful day!

THURSDAY 18TH JUNE – *hot and sunny, 28C.*

It was a very warm and sunny end to the trip as we headed south from Titchwell towards the Brecks. We began at Weeting Heath and wandered over to the hides to scan for Stone Curlews. We quickly picked up a pair of **Stone Curlews** sat among the many Viper's Bugloss flowers. The haze wasn't too bad, so the scope views were excellent and they stood up and preened a few times before the haze really picked up. A young **Great Spotted Woodpecker** was feeding right in front of the hide, and a scan of the fields north of the car park added **Mistle Thrush** to our trip list.



Stone Curlew

Our next stop was to try and improve on our views of Woodlark from earlier in the trip, although sadly there was no sign in the woodland clearing we checked. There were lots of butterflies including **Small Heath** and a **Burnet Companion** moth completed a good moth list for the trip! Time was marching on however, so we soon headed over to RSPB Lakenheath Fen.

We ate some lunch when we got to Lakenheath, then walked along the river alongside the Hockwold Washes. The stand-out highlight here was at least four sightings of **Bitterns** in flight, with the last of which being a truly spectacular close-range flypast. We scanned the washes where at least a dozen **Avocets** were resting, along with **Lapwings** and **Redshanks**. A **Kingfisher** flashed past us, and we enjoyed watching a female Tufted duck with several small ducklings. Several **Marsh Harriers** were in the area, and a calling **Cuckoo** gave us a brief flight view. We looped back around to the visitor centre, walking back along the New Fen reedbed and its many singing **Reed** and **Sedge Warblers**, before skirting the south side of the reserve back towards the visitor centre, noting two **Scarlet Tiger** moths as we went. It was a nice way to end a very productive few days of birding before we headed back to King's Lynn for drop-offs and then on to Briarfields.



RSPB Lakenheath Fen

Oriole Birding

Norfolk Summer Breeders & Late Migrants

15th - 18th June 2026

Species order, names and taxonomy follows - Gill, F and D Donsker (Eds). 2018. IOC World Bird List (v 8.1).
<http://www.worldbirdnames.org/>

#	Common Name	Scientific Name	16	17	18	Comments
Anatidae (Ducks, Geese, and Waterfowl)						
1	Canada Goose	<i>Branta canadensis</i>	X	X		
2	Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>	X	X	X	
3	Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>	X	X	X	
4	Egyptian Goose	<i>Alopochen aegyptiaca</i>		X	X	
5	Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>	X	X	X	
6	Garganey	<i>Spatula querquedula</i>				
7	Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>	X	X		
8	Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>	X	X	X	
9	Wigeon	<i>Mareca penelope</i>				
10	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	X	X	X	
11	Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>				
12	Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>	X		X	
13	Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>				
14	Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>	X		X	
15	Common Scoter	<i>Melanitta nigra</i>				
Phasianidae (Pheasants, Grouse, and Allies)						
16	Red-legged Partridge	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>		X		
17	Grey Partridge	<i>Perdix perdix</i>				
18	Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>		X	X	

	Procelariidae (Petrels)					
19	Fulmar	Fulmarus glacialis				
	Podicipedidae (Grebes)					
20	Little Grebe	Tachybaptus ruficollis	X			
21	Great Crested Grebe	Podiceps cristatus		X		
	Threskiornithidae and Ardeidae (Spoonbills, Herons, Egrets and Bitterns)					
22	Spoonbill	Platalea leucorodia	X	X		
23	Bittern	Botaurus stellaris			X	
24	Grey Heron	Ardea cinerea	X	X	X	
25	Western Cattle Egret	Ardea ibis	X			
26	Great White Egret	Ardea alba	X			
27	Little Egret	Egretta garzetta	X	X	X	
	Phalacrocoracidae (Cormorants and Shags)					
28	Cormorant	Phalacrocorax carbo	X	X	X	
	Accipitridae (Hawks, Eagles, and Kites)					
29	Sparrowhawk	Accipiter nisus				
30	Marsh Harrier	Circus aeruginosus	X	X	X	
31	Red Kite	Milvus milvus	X	X	X	
32	Buzzard	Buteo buteo	X	X	X	
	Rallidae and Gruidae (Rails, Coot and Cranes)					
33	Water Rail	Rallus aquaticus			H	
34	Moorhen	Gallinula chloropus	X		X	
	Common Name	Scientific Name	16	17	18	Comments
35	Coot	Fulica atra	X	X	X	
36	Crane	Grus grus				
	Burhinidae, Recurvirostridae and Charadriidae (Thick-knees, Avocets, Plovers and Allies)					
37	Stone-curlew	Burhinus oedicnemus			X	
38	Oystercatcher	Haematopus ostralegus	X	X	X	
39	Avocet	Recurvirostra avosetta	X	X	X	

40	Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	X	X	X	
41	Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>				
42	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>				
43	Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	X	X		
44	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>	X	X		
<i>Scolopacidae (Sandpipers and Allies)</i>						
45	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>				
46	Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>				
47	Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>				
48	Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>	X	X		
49	Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>				
50	Knot	<i>Calidris canutus</i>				
51	Ruff	<i>Calidris pugnax</i>		X		
52	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>				
53	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>		X		
54	Woodcock	<i>Scolopax rusticola</i>	X			
55	Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>				
56	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>				
57	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>				
58	Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>	X	X	X	
59	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>				
60	Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>				
61	Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>				
<i>Laridae (Gulls and Terns)</i>						
62	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	X	X	X	
63	Mediterranean Gull	<i>Larus melanocephalus</i>	X	X		
64	Common Gull	<i>Larus canus</i>				
65	Little Gull	<i>Hydrocoloeus minutus</i>		X		
66	Great Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>	X	X		

67	Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	X	X	X	
68	Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>				
69	Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>	X	X	X	
70	Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>	X			
71	Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>				
72	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	X	X		
73	Arctic Tern	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>				
Columbidae and Cuculidae (Pigeons, Doves and Cuckoos)						
74	Rock Dove (Feral Pigeon)	<i>Columba livia</i>	X	X		
75	Stock Dove	<i>Columba oenas</i>		X	X	
76	Woodpigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	X	X	X	
77	Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>				
78	Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	X	X	X	
79	Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>				
	Common Name	Scientific Name	16	17	18	comments
Tytonidae and Strigidae (Owls)						
80	Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>		X		
81	Tawny Owl	<i>Strix aluco</i>				
82	Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>				
Caprimulgidae and Apodidae (Nightjars and Swifts)						
83	Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i>	X			
84	Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	X	X	X	
Alcedinidae and Picidae (Kingfishers and Woodpeckers)						
85	Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>			X	
86	Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>		X	X	
87	Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>				
Falconidae (Falcons)						
88	Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	X	X	X	

89	Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>	X	X		
90	Peregrine	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	X			
<i>Corvidae (Crows, Jays, and Magpies)</i>						
91	Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	X			
92	Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	X	X	X	
93	Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>	X	X	X	
94	Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>	X	X	X	
95	Carion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>	X	X	X	
<i>Paridae and Panuridae (Tits and Reedlings)</i>						
96	Coal Tit	<i>Periparus ater</i>				
97	Marsh Tit	<i>Poecile palustris</i>				
98	Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>	X	X	X	
99	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		X	X	
100	Bearded Tit	<i>Panurus biarmicus</i>	H			
<i>Alaudidae (Larks)</i>						
101	Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>	X			
102	Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	X	X	X	
<i>Hirundinidae (Swallows)</i>						
103	Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	X	X	X	
104	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	X			
105	House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	X	X	X	
<i>Scotocercidae, Aegithalidae and Phylloscopidae (Bush Warblers, Bushtits and Leaf Warblers)</i>						
106	Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>	H	H	H	
107	Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>				
108	Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	H	H	H	
109	Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	X	X	X	
<i>Sylviidae (Sylviid Warblers)</i>						
110	Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>	X	X	X	
111	Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>	X	X	X	

112	Grasshopper Warbler	<i>Locustella naevia</i>				
113	Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	H	H	H	
114	Garden Warbler	<i>Sylvia borin</i>				
115	Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia curruca</i>				
116	Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>	X		X	
117	Dartford Warbler	<i>Sylvia undata</i>				
	Regulidae (Kinglets)					
118	Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapilla</i>				
	Common Name	Scientific Name	16	17	18	Comments
119	Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>			H	
	Troglodytidae Sittidae and Certhiidae (Wrens, Nuthatches and Treecreepers)					
120	Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	X	X	X	
121	Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>				
122	Treecreeper	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>				
	Turdidae and Sturnidae (Thrushes and Starlings)					
123	Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	X	X	X	
124	Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	X	X	X	
125	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>		X		
126	Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>			X	
	Muscicapidae (Old World Flycatchers)					
127	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>				
128	Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	X	X	X	
129	Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>	X			
	Passeridae (Old World Sparrows)					
130	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	X	X	X	
131	Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>				
	Prunellidae (Accentors)					
132	Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>	X			
	Motacillidae (Wagtails and Pipits)					

133	Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>				
134	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>				
135	Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	X	X	X	
136	Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>	X	X		
137	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>				
<i>Fringillidae (Finches)</i>						
138	Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	X	X		
139	Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>				
140	Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>		X		
141	Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>	X	X		
142	Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	X	X	X	
143	Siskin	<i>Spinus spinus</i>			X	
<i>Emberizidae (Old World Buntings)</i>						
144	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>				
145	Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	X			
146	Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>	X	X	X	

ADDITIONAL SPECIES

147	Gannet		X			
148	Black-winged Kite			X		
149	Caspian Tern			X		
150	Osprey			X		
#	Other Wildlife		16	17	18	Comments
1	Painted Lady					
2	Red Admiral					
3	Small Tortoiseshell					
4	Chinese Water Deer					
5	Muntjac					
6	Brown Hare					
7	Silver-studded Blue					

8	Norfolk Hawker					
9	Four-spotted Chaser					
10	Elephant Hawkmoth					
11	Poplar Hawkmoth					
12	Privet Hawkmoth					
13	Scarlet Tiger					
14	White Ermine					
15	Slow Worm					
16	Adder					
17	Small Elephant Hawkmoth					
18	Burnet Companion					
19	Small Heath					