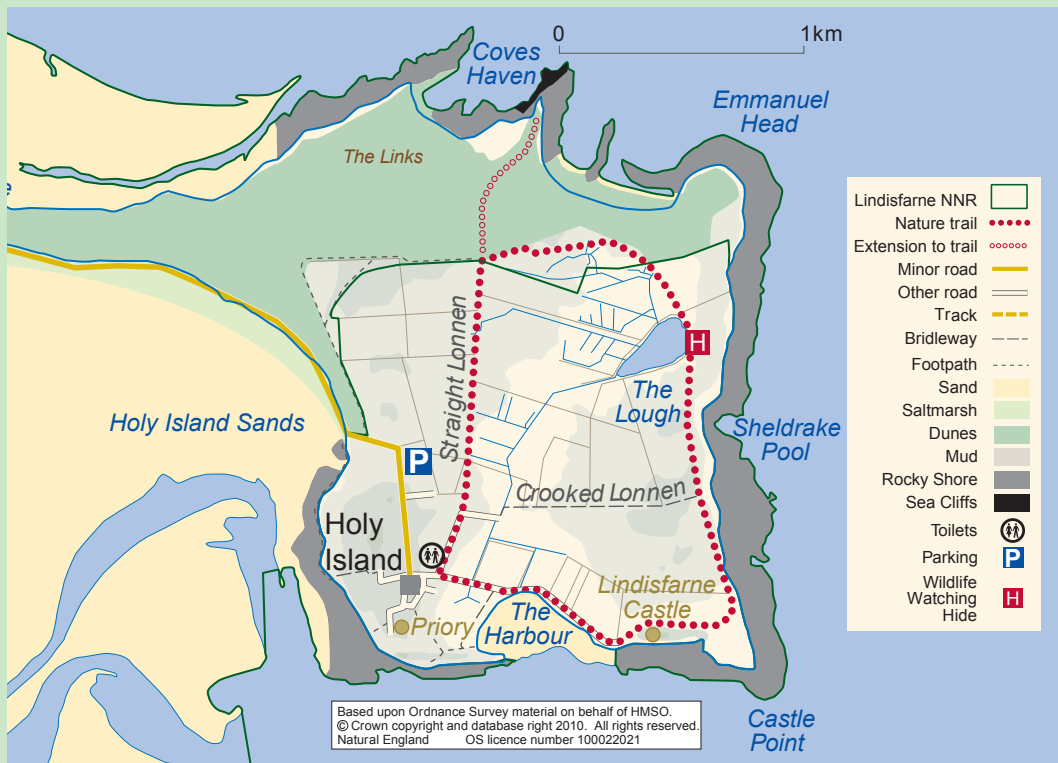


Willow Sculpture Trail

Discover and enjoy 8 willow sculptures sited on the
Lindisfarne Nature Trail - a circular route of 5km/3miles





The Lindisfarne Nature Trail

The Lindisfarne Nature Trail takes in a variety of habitats found within the Lindisfarne National Nature Reserve over 5km (3 miles) of flat or gentle terrain. Allow between 1.5 and 3 hours to complete the trail. Whilst the trail follows established tracks for the most part, it can become muddy in places.

The Willow Sculptures

Throughout the summer months, eight willow sculptures adorn the Lindisfarne Nature Trail. These larger-than-life sculptures were created by Anna Turnbull of Biteabout Arts and 40 members of the public to celebrate the natural heritage of Lindisfarne. The subjects of the sculptures were chosen to reflect key species for the National Nature Reserve.

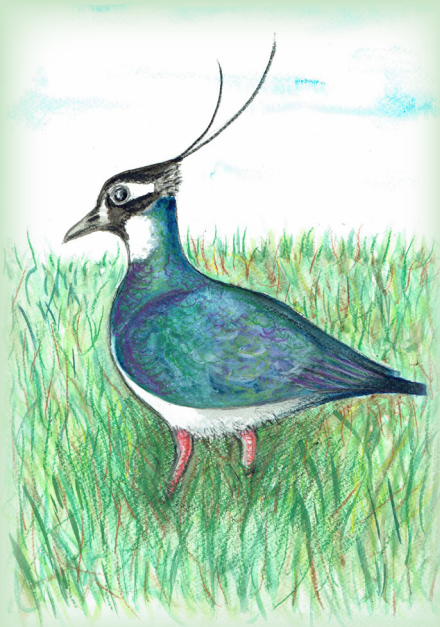
**Find out more about this fauna and flora in this leaflet.
 And can you spot all the sculptures on your walk?**

Willow Sculptures on the Lindisfarne Nature Trail

Peewit

The lapwing, known locally as a 'Peewit' because of its drawn-out 'pee-wit' call, is a wading bird with broad, rounded, black and white wings, a dark green back and a distinctive long crest.

Lapwings are present on Lindisfarne all year though numbers greatly increase in autumn and winter with migrating birds from the continent.



Arctic Tern

This small bird is a champion long distance flyer - migrating further than any other. A recent study demonstrated that these small but incredibly agile birds spend November to March feeding in the Southern Ocean, off the coast of Antarctica, before returning north once more to the Northumberland Coast. The Arctic tern made of willow is fishing; its wings drawn back, hovering, before it plunges into the water.



Eider Duck Creche

Eider ducks have a unique connection to Lindisfarne's most famous inhabitant, St Cuthbert, the 7th century saint, who folk tradition suggests, protected them from harm, giving rise to their local name - the 'Cuddy Duck'. Slightly larger than a mallard duck, the eider is a sea duck that lives around rocky coasts, as in spring-time they require low-lying land close to the sea for nesting. Sociable birds, eider are often seen in groups just off shore - the males are coloured black and white, and the females are a mottled brown with black. Broods of eider often join together in creches cared for by a few female ducks, and it is this behaviour of the Cuddy Duck that has been recreated in willow.



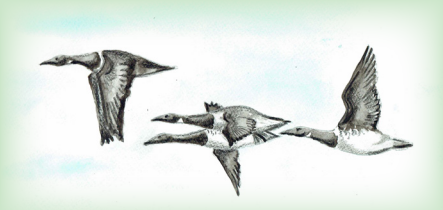
Swallows

Swallows are summer visitors to Lindisfarne. They migrate from Southern Africa, a journey that takes them six weeks to complete, arriving every April to breed. The swallows made of willow are prospecting for a nesting site. A nest cup is made of mud and lined with feathers and grass by both the male and the female. A brood of 4 - 5 chicks is common, and Mum and Dad are kept busy as the chicks require an abundance of 6,000 flying insects a day!



Light Bellied Brent Geese

The willow sculpture of the light-bellied brent geese depicts four geese in flight. Lindisfarne National Nature Reserve (NNR) is the most significant overwintering place for East Atlantic Light-bellied Brent geese in the UK with a third of the world population recorded in recent years. The geese are drawn by the extensive mudflats and eelgrass beds which provide a nutrient rich food supply during the cold winter months. The birds leave Lindisfarne in April.



Dark Green Fritillary Butterfly

The flower-rich dune grasslands of Lindisfarne NNR provide the perfect environment for a host of insects including dark green fritillary butterflies. With a wingspan of nearly 7 cm, this fritillary is a large butterfly whose upper sides are a golden orange-brown colour, patterned with black spots and crescents. The undersides of its wings are dark green with white spots. Lindisfarne is a key site for this species in the British Isles; most visible in July and August when they reach adulthood.



Short-eared Owl

This owl is unusual in that it be seen throughout the day. They often rest on high dune ridges among the marram grass. Up to a dozen have been seen during autumn and winter in recent years.



Lindisfarne Helleborine

The dunes support a rich diversity of plants, including 11 species of orchid. Recent genetic studies have found that one of these species, the Lindisfarne helleborine orchid is only found within the dune grasses of Lindisfarne, making it an unique plant. The orchid grows to between 15 - 30 cm in height, and can be distinguished by small green flowers with white lips, in flower from late June to mid-July.



Lindisfarne National Nature Reserve

On the edge of Britain, land and water meet. Shifting sands and tides combine to create 3,500 hectares of dunes, saltmarsh, rocky shore, sand and mudflats of Lindisfarne National Nature Reserve, home to a fascinating array of wildlife. The Reserve is managed by Natural England in consultation with local residents, farmers and an advisory committee.

Find out more about our work at www.lindisfarnennr.blogspot.co.uk or call us on 01289 381 470.

We all have a role to play in making sure this amazing Reserve continues to prosper for future generations to enjoy. We welcome responsible dog owners and this includes keeping dogs on a lead or at heel all times (even on the beach) to avoid disturbance to birds and grazing livestock.

Peregrini Lindisfarne Willow Sculpture Project

The willow sculpture project is a community creative arts project led by the Peregrini Lindisfarne Landscape Partnership and developed in partnership with the Lindisfarne National Nature Reserve, artist Anna Turnbull and the Northumbria Basketry Group. Northumberland County Council's Community Chest Grant Scheme funded the materials for the sculptures.

The Peregrini Lindisfarne Landscape Partnership, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund as part of their national Landscape Partnership Programme, has carried out a wide variety of conservation and engagement projects over the life of the project (2015-17).

Lindisfarne NNR Office - 01289 381 470

Photos: NE & JJD



Made from 100% recycled material