

WILD WALK

Use the blue route for the Wild Walk



Kestrel's Cafe

Are your eyes as sharp as a bird of prey? Then you can easily spot the food that kestrels like to eat.

L	K	L	R	M	S	L	G
C	R	R	W	N	O	A	B
H	U	K	A	E	X	T	D
G	E	I	S	L	Y	N	H
S	L	U	G	T	Y	X	L
W	O	R	M	E	C	K	B
M	V	J	W	E	R	H	S
B	N	T	A	B	F	V	G

BAT
MOUSE
SLUG

WORM
BEETLE
SHREW
SNAIL

MOTH
SKYLARK
VOLE

Welcome to Hounslow Heath - hectares of historic heathland in the ♥ of Hounslow. Get active outdoors and connect with the nature on your doorstep!



Stag Beetle

Stag Tag

Choose one person to become the male stag beetle by using their hands as pretend antlers. They then beetle around trying to tag someone else with their antlers. That person then becomes the stag and has to go catch someone else.



Hedgehog

Hiding Hedgehog

One person pretends to be a spiky hedgehog and curls up in a ball. Without peeping she slowly counts to 20. The rest of the group pretend to be slugs (the hedgehog's favourite food) and slither off to hide. The hedgehog will then uncurl and find his food.

Help the heathlands! This habitat is even rarer than rainforest and supports so much wildlife - bees, adders, sphagnum moss and me - the Dartford Warbler!



London Borough
of Hounslow

Have you tried the **HISTORY HIKE**?

Go to www.hounslow.gov.uk/hounslowheath for more info and free downloads.

You'll find 15 posts along the way

WILD WALK

1. Fox

I am such a handsome beast with my reddish brown fur, long, bushy tail, tipped with white. Male foxes are called dogs and females are called vixens and our babies are called cubs. Part of our success is that we eat almost anything!

2. Hairy dragonfly

If you are lucky enough to see me up close, I really am hairy. Like other dragonflies I catch my insect prey mid-air and can hover and fly backwards. I spend most of my life as a nymph underwater and only a month or so as an adult dragonfly.

3. Water vole

People sometimes confuse me with a rat, but I am far more distinguished with my chestnut-brown fur, rounded nose, small, rounded and furry tail. You can sometimes hear me 'plop' into water where I like to swim.

4. Palmate newt

Shallow ponds on Heaths are our favourite place to live as we particularly like acidic water. You can tell me apart from the other two types of newt here in the UK as I have webbed back feet and a short spike on the end of my tail.

5. Goldcrest

I am one of the smallest birds here in the UK. As my name suggests, I have a yellow and black stripe on my head which has an orange centre on males. My thin beak is perfect for picking small insects from between pine needles.

6. Adder

You can recognise me by my zigzag markings. Thanks to my special jaw I can eat things which are even wider than my head! I like to swallow my prey whole. Unlike most reptiles I don't lay eggs, but give birth to tiny snakes.

7. Common Toad

My toady friends and I have broad, squat bodies and rough, warty skin which varies in colour from brown, grey and olive green to sandy-colours. We tend to walk rather than hop and spend most of our life away from water, except when mating.

8. Song thrush

If you listen hard, you may hear my melodic song. You can tell it is me, as I repeat everything...I said I repeat everything. I like to eat snails, worms and berries and I leave empty snail shells next to stones I use as anvils.

9. Stag beetle

Not only do I look spectacular, I am also one of the largest and rarest beetles in Britain. I get my name because the male's large jaws look just like the antlers of a stag. I spend most of my lifecycle (up to 7 years) as a larvae in dead wood.

10. Kestrel

I am a small, chestnut brown bird of prey with a hooked bill. You may see me hovering and hanging in the breeze as I look for food. I like to use other birds' nests rather than make one for myself.

11. Hedgehog

I have a special coat which has around 6,000 spikes and they protect me from enemies when I curl up in a ball. I am nocturnal and can wander up to 3km a night. I also snooze (hibernate) throughout the winter.

12. Emperor Moth

The male moths are brighter than the females and can often be seen flying during the day. Like most moths the females fly at night. Caterpillars are green with yellow hoops and love to eat the heather here on Hounslow Heath.

13. Muncjac

I am a small hump backed deer, a bit larger than a fox. I am not native to Britain, and was introduced here back in the 20th Century from China and Taiwan. If you listen carefully you can hear me 'bark'; I sound a bit like a dog.

14. Green hairstreak butterfly

I am the only green butterfly in the UK and on sunny days I like to sunbathe on various plants up here on the heath and sometimes the males can be seen chasing each other and spiralling downwards in the air.

15. Dartford Warbler

I am a small, dark bird with a long tail, cherry red breast with white specks and a special red ring around my eyes. If you are lucky you may see me perched high on a gorse bush or hear my unusual rattly, scratchy song.



London Borough
of Hounslow

Go to www.hounslow.gov.uk/hounslowheath
for more info and free downloads.