



Tawny Owl

All year round

Description: Nocturnal, usually heard 'hooting' more often than seen.

Habitat: Woods, parks and gardens.

Where is Hylton Dene Local Nature Reserve?

Follow the brown tourist signs to Hylton Castle for the main access off Craigavon Road, NZ357587, Sunderland. See the map for other entrances and paths. For information on local bus services please phone Traveline North East on 0870 608 2608.

Paths, gates and seats

There is open access on foot. Path surfaces vary from smooth tarmac and compacted stone to rough, with fairly steep to very steep slopes (up to D5 on the Break Free scale). Some gates and chicane barriers are suitable for single pushchair and wheelchair users, and there are steps on certain routes. There is limited seating.

Would you like to know more?

For information on Hylton Castle, the Friends of Hylton Dene and site access call 0191 548 0152.

For other information on Sunderland's countryside and to report sightings of wildlife please see our website or contact:

Countryside Team
Development and Regeneration Services
Civic Centre
Sunderland
SR2 7DN
Tel: 0191 553 8773
Email:
countryside@sunderland.gov.uk

www.sunderland.gov.uk/countryside

Photographs by www.northeastwildlife.co.uk and Hugh Clark, Bat Conservation Trust.



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Go wild...

Hylton Dene Local Nature Reserve

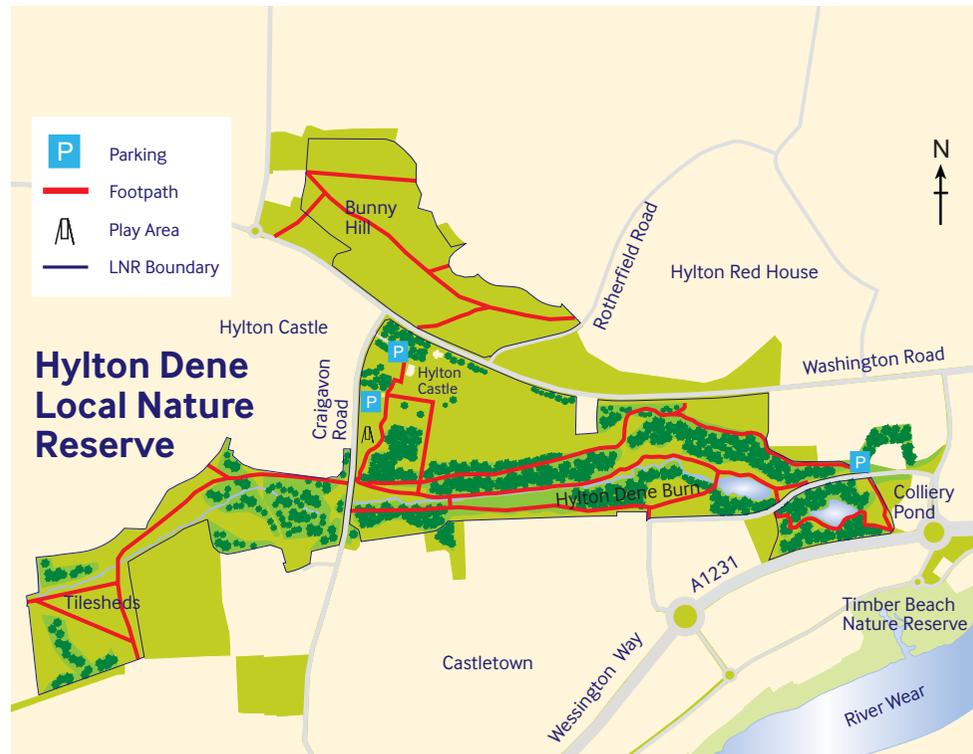


Go wild and explore Sunderland's green spaces and easy-to-visit countryside places. Sunderland City Council helps you enjoy the breath of fresh air on your doorstep with this useful guide.

Hylton Dene Local Nature Reserve is a great mix of wildlife habitats. There is the main Dene, with its ancient woodland, scrub, marsh and ponds, the Bunny Hill

wildflower and skylark meadows and Hylton Colliery Pond and Tiledsheds (with reed bed, wet meadows and birch scrub). Among the many marshland plant species you can find common valerian, marsh pennywort and wild angelica.

The old castle, chapel ruins and their more formal, parkland surroundings also offer valuable cover and sources of food for many breeding birds and mammals.



Common Pipistrelle

All year round (active: spring-autumn)

Description: Like all bats in Britain the common pipistrelle appears only when the weather is mild, flying from dusk until dawn and feeding on airborne insects.

Habitat: Woodland, farmland, parks and gardens.



Northern Marsh Orchid

June - July

Description: Leaves sometimes have spots; flowers are wine-purple with a tapering spur.

Habitat: Damp grassland, marshes and dune slacks.



Yellow (Flag) Iris

June - August

Description: Tall, with branched stems and bright, elaborate flowers.

Habitat: Marshes and by fresh water.



Meadowsweet

June - September

Description: Very fragrant flowers; leaves pinnate with 2 - 5 pairs of leaflets.

Habitat: Marshland, wet meadows and woods.



Great Spotted Woodpecker

All year round

Description: Boldly pied plumage, red under tail. Adult males have a red patch at the back of the head.

Habitat: Woods, parks and gardens.