

# WHAT CAN YOU SPOT?



The Royal Parks are home to a wealth of different bird species, from wrens to woodpeckers, skylarks to sparrowhawks and many more. With this bird spotter guide, you can have a go at identifying some of these wonderful creatures while you enjoy a walk around the parks in London.



## BIRD WATCHING TIPS

- 1 Try out binoculars to find the most comfortable and best for your eyesight.
- 2 Invest in a field guide.
- 3 Choose a set route with several types of habitats (water, woodland, scrub and grassland).
- 4 Learn bird songs and calls for another way to identify them.
- 5 Patience is key.
- 6 Don't disturb the birds.
- 7 Keep a note of the birds you spot.
- 8 You never know what you might spot in London, so always be ready to find a bird you weren't expecting.
- 9 Consider joining a Wildlife Society or Group.





## GREAT SPOTTED WOODPECKER

Known for its drumming spring call, its shock absorbing skull allows it to hammer into wood to find insects.

1 Bushy Park

## SPARROWHAWK

This bird of prey flies at high speed through trees or just above the ground to catch birds by surprise.

2 Greenwich Park



## PIED WAGTAIL

With its long wagging tail, this small bird is often seen running across lawns or by water, searching for insects.

3 Hyde Park

## BLUE TIT

An acrobatic little bird often found searching for caterpillars on branches or dangling from buildings to find spiders.

4 Kensington Gardens





## KINGFISHER

Richmond Park has two to three breeding pairs – you may even spot one perched as it fishes over shallows.

5 Richmond Park

## CHIFFCHAFF

A type of 'leaf warbler' bird, so named because its colours match the leaves of trees and shrubs where it feeds.

6 St. James's Park



## GREY HERON

Breeding in The Regent's Park since 1968, they use their long sharp beak to stab their prey and swallow it whole.

8 The Regent's Park and Primrose Hill

## BLACK CAP

The cemetery's most common warbler has a rich and fluty song; in spring males sing proudly from prominent spots.

9 Brompton Cemetery





The Royal Parks charity protects these vital green spaces so life can flourish in our city. Registered Charity No: 1172042.

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