

Day Coach Trip to Potteric Carr – **A Yorkshire Wildlife Trust reserve**

Saturday 11th May 2019

Cost: £17 per person members, £20 per person non-members.

Potteric Carr is an area of low-lying land to the south east of Doncaster, which cover 200 hectares and forms the floodplain of the River Torne. The site is fabulous for birdwatching with marsh and water birds being particularly numerous. Over 230 species of birds have been recorded and 102 species have bred, with over 65 species breeding each year. A major extension to the site was designed to enhance this and has already resulted in breeding Marsh Harriers and Bitterns. Spring and autumn are exciting times as a wide range of migrant birds can arrive at any time.

Potteric Carr's marshes support a wide range of plants providing a spectacle of colour throughout the summer. Plants include Greater and Lesser Spearwort, Water Soldier, Water Violet and Southern Marsh Orchid. The disused railway embankments, constructed from magnesian limestone, encourage plants such as Common Spotted and Bee Orchids and Old Man's Beard, Britain's only Wild Clematis.

Great Crested and Palmate Newts are present in some of the pools and toads are common. Mammals include Water Shrew, Water Vole, Harvest Mouse and Roe Deer. The nature reserve is excellent for insects and other invertebrates too, with impressive lists of moths, spiders, beetles, bugs and hoverflies. Purple Hairstreak and Brown Argus are among the 28 species of butterfly to have been seen, with 21 species of dragonfly noted.

There are a range of hides all-round the reserve and you'll find cattle, Hebridean Sheep and Roe Deer on the grassland areas.

Please visit the website to find out more information:

<https://www.ywt.org.uk/nature-reserves/potteric-carr-nature-reserve>

The coach will depart promptly from the regular pick up point at the Hob Inn in Bamber Bridge at 07.30 and will leave Potteric Carr at 16.15. The journey is approximately 2 hours.

Entry to the reserve is free, providing that you bring a membership card from one of the UK wildlife trusts. You do not have to be a member of the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust. For non-members there will be a group entry rate of £3 per person. There is a lovely café, with a deck overlooking the reserve, which, not surprisingly, does delicious cakes and local farm ice cream.

Bring all your usual gear, sun cream and INSECT REPELLANT – I can't stress this enough!

Potteric Carr Recce Bird Sightings

3rd June 2018

Mute Swan	Pink Footed Goose
Canada Goose	Shelduck
Mallard	Gadwall
Pochard	Shoveler
Tuffed Duck	Black Necked Grebe
Little Grebe	Great Crested Grebe
Cormorant	Little Egret
Grey Heron	Marsh Harrier
Common Buzzard	Hobby
Moorhen	Coot
Avocet	Lapwing
Redshank	Black Headed Gull
Great Black Backed Gull	Lesser Black Backed Gull
Wood Pigeon	Greater Spotted Woodpecker[h]
Skylark [h]	Dunnock
Robin	Song Thrush [h]
Blackbird	Blackcap
Whitethroat	Sedge Warbler [h]
Cetti`s Warbler [h]	Reed Warbler
Willow Warbler	Chiffchaff
Wren	Great tit
Blue Tit	Long-Tailed Tit
Nuthatch	Magpie
Jay	Jackdaw
Carrion Crow	Chaffinch
Goldfinch	Bullfinch
Reed Bunting	[h] = Heard