NATURALLY BEAUTIFUL, NATIONALLY PROTECTED

Welcome to the North Devon Coast National Landscape. This is nationally designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty to conserve and enhance the 171 km² of distinctive and dramatic coastal landscapes of North Devon and Torridge. At its centre is Braunton Burrows, the core of the North Devon UNESCO Biosphere.

The landscape varies from wild coastal cliffs, spectacular waterfalls and rocky coves to sand dunes and beaches, wooded combes and valleys with sheltering villages.

Within the National Landscape there are many places to explore and activities to try. This map is designed as a guide to show you what's on offer and to encourage you to head out and explore!


Clifftop flowers

Torridge Beaches

- **Abbotsham Cliff** – Pebbles/rocks. Access from Coast path – 2km from Westward Ho! or 1km Footpath down from Abbotsham Court (limited parking).
- **Blackpool Mill** – Pebbles. 1.5 km walk from Hartland Quay along Coast Path, steep in places. Access via steps.
- **Blegberry Beach** – Pebbles. Access via Coast Path, 2km walk from Hartland Quay, steep in places.
- **Bucks Mills** – Rocks/pebbles with sand at low tide. Limited parking (20 cars) 650m walk. Access via steep path and slipway.
- **Clovelly** – Shingle. Access via road, Coast path or through visitor centre. Parking at Visitor Centre.
- **Greencliff** – Pebbles/shingle. Access from Coast path – 3km from Westward Ho! or by 800m Footpath from Greencliff Farm (limited roadside parking or pay at Farm).
- **Hartland Quay Beach** – Rocks/pebbles with sand at low tide. Access via slipway, parking at Quay.


Speke's Mill Waterfall

Torridge Beaches

- **Mouthmill** – Rocky. Access through woods from Coast path – 2km from Brownsham (NT) or 3km from Clovelly.
- **Peppercombe** – Pebbles/shingle with sand at low tide. Access via Footpath through valley. Nearest parking 3km in roadside layby near Horns Cross.
- **Spekes Mill Mouth** – Pebbles with sand at low tide. 1.4km walk from Hartland Quay along Coast path. Access via steep steps.
- **Welcombe and Marsland Mouth** – Rocky/shingle. Access down slipway from NT car park (12 spaces).
- **Westward Ho!** – Sandy with pebble ridge. Access via slip way in Westward Ho! or via Sandymere footbridge over the pebble ridge on Northam Burrows. Parking in Westward Ho! or on Northam Burrows Country Park (summer charge).


Northam Burrows

Torridge Circular Walks

All walks downloadable from www.northdevoncoast-nl.org.uk/explore

9. **Westward Ho! A Dynamic Coastline**, 5.5km, Moderate. **Start:** on pebble ridge.
10. **Abbotsham and Westward Ho! Cultural Trail**, 9km, Easy to Moderate. **Start:** Seafield car park, Westward Ho!
11. **Westward Ho!, Seafield and Cornborough Easy Access Trail**, 1.4km, Easy. **Start**: Seafield car park, Westward Ho!
12. **Bucks Mills Cultural Trail**, 9km, Moderate. **Start**: Bucks Mills car park.
13. **Brownsham and Clovelly Cultural Trail**, 9km, Moderate. **Start**: Brownsham car park
14. **Hartland Cultural Trail**, 5.5km or 9.5km, Moderate to Strenuous. **Start**: Hartland Quay car park.
15. **Hartland and Pattard Wood**, Easy Access Trail, Easy. **Start**: Hartland village car park.


Blackchurch Rock at Mouthmill


Grey seals





North Devon Coast National Landscape
- A road
- B road
- Minor road
- South West Coast Path
- Tarka Trail
- Tarka Line (railway)
- Woodland
- Dunes
- Sandy beach in National Landscape
- Pebble beach
- Cliffs
- Rocks
- Stream
- ▲224m High point
- Tourist Information Centre
- Ferry service

Wildlife watching areas
- Bats
- Birds
- Seals
- Lizards and snakes
- Butterflies
- Flowers
- Marine mammals

Heritage sites
- Hillfort
- Museum
- Countryside Centre
- World War 2 site
- 19th Century limekiln
- Historical mining
- Bronze age Neolithic site

Activities
- Rockpooling beach
- Watersports
- Seasonal RNLI lifeguard cover
- Boat trip
- National Landscape self-guided walk

Activities
- Woodland
- Ilfracombe Aquarium
- Parkrun
- National Trust site
- Blue Flag Beach

(N.B. not all minor roads are marked on this map)

Guide to a good day out

Follow the Countryside Code – respect, protect and enjoy:

- Be safe – plan ahead and follow any signs
- Leave gates and property as you find them
- For the protection of plants and animals take your litter home
- Keep dogs under close control and always clean up after your dog
- Consider other people

Finally – take only photographs, leave only footprints!




Putsborough Beach

LOCAL INFORMATION

North Devon Coast National Landscape – www.northdevoncoast-nl.org.uk

Bus Services – www.stagecoachbus.com

Events in the National Landscape – www.northdevoncoast-nl.org.uk/events

North Devon Tourism information – www.visitdevon.co.uk/northdevon

North Devon UNESCO Biosphere – www.northdevonbiosphere.org.uk

Devon Environmental Viewer – www.devon.gov.uk/environment/environmental-maps

Surfline – www.surfline.com

Tide Times – www.tidetimes.org.uk

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DISCOVER OUR WILDLIFE

From bluebells at Brownsham to porpoises at Morte Point there is accessible wildlife for everyone to see and enjoy throughout the year within the North Devon Coast National Landscape. Explore the strandline on sandy beaches for shells, seaweeds and mermaid's purses.

The rocky shores have some of the most extreme environments for animals. Find anemones, shrimps and crabs sheltering in the pools at low tide. Up on the cliff tops you can spot seabirds and maybe seals or porpoises offshore. Behind you on the downland or heathlands are flowers, birds, bees and butterflies. The coastal woodlands provide every shade of green with Spring flowers or Autumn colours.

Check out the different seasons and these particular highlights to look out for:



Small copper butterfly

Spring / early Summer

Bluebells – Hartland Abbey, Brownsham, Lee Valley, Berrynarbor and Worthygate Wood, Buck's Mills

Flowering cliffs with pink thrift, white sea campion and yellow kidney vetch at Baggy Point, Morte and Bull Point, and along the Hartland coast

Peregrine falcon – Hartland Quay and the coast between Mortehoe and Ilfracombe

Fulmar – Lee Bay in spring and early summer

Wheatear – on any of the points and rocky clifftops

Strawberry anemones and the green/purple Snakelocks anemones in shallow rockpools in mid-beach areas

Summer

Flowering sand dunes – Braunton Burrows, Croyde, Northam Burrows and Woolacombe Warren

Flowering Culm grasslands – at Bursdon Moor, Hartland

Harbour porpoise – off Downend Point, Saunton and Mouthmill

Spider crabs moulting & mating near shore on Saunton, Croyde or Woolacombe beaches

Autumn

Grey seals – Morte Point and Lundy Island

Sanderling – Saunton Sands from September to March

Blue-rayed limpet – on low shore kelp at Lee, Ilfracombe, Hele and Combe Martin beaches

Winter

Migrating seabirds and waders – Taw Torridge estuary at The Skern at Northam Burrows Country Park and Crow Point near Braunton

Curlew, golden plover and lapwing – anywhere on the Taw Torridge estuary

Wildlife Trails to Download

These three trails will reveal the homes of some of our coastal creatures:

Woolacombe Wildlife Trail – www.northdevoncoast-nl.org.uk/resources/woolacombe-wildlife-trail-coastal-creatures

Ilfracombe Wildlife Trail – www.northdevoncoast-nl.org.uk/resources/ilfracombe-and-hillsborough-wildlife-trail-coastal-creatures

Northam Burrows Country Park Wildlife Trail – www.northdevoncoast-nl.org.uk/resources/northam-burrows-country-park-wildlife-trail-coastal-creatures

Coastal Creatures Spotter Guide – www.northdevoncoast-nl.org.uk/resources/coastal-creatures-spotter-guide



Peregrine falcon

Wildlife in Detail

North Devon has many museums, centres and attractions that contain stunning displays, activities and exhibitions about our local wildlife:

- **Ilfracombe Aquarium** – from Exmoor to the Sea with live exhibits and displays
- **Combe Martin Museum** – includes geology, mining and marine exhibits, plus rockpool rambles (summer)
- **Ilfracombe Museum** – includes seabirds, seaweeds and shells
- **Mortehoe Museum** – heritage and tractor & trailer rides to the coast (summer)
- **Braunton Countryside Centre** – nature on Braunton Burrows and Marsh, bat trail (www.devonbatproject.org)
- **Museum of Barnstaple and North Devon** – coast explorer and wildlife exhibits
- **Northam Burrows Visitor Centre** – dunes, coast and family activities

Heritage in the Landscape

Whilst looking for wildlife you may see evidence of how humans have influenced their habitats and landscapes. Most visible are the enclosed fields surrounded by ancient Devon hedgebanks, with isolated windswept trees and small pockets of woodland. These provide wildlife corridors for dormice, bats and birds alongside the flowering verges of country lanes.

Inland, the skyline is marked by ancient burial mounds whilst along the coast, promontory hillforts have been home to strategic defences from the Iron Age to the Twentieth Century including WW2 and Cold War uses. Some of the major sites are shown on the maps. Devon's maritime heritage is reflected in the historic harbours, quays and fishing villages that pepper the coast such as Hartland Quay and Clovelly.

For more detailed information about heritage sites please see the downloads for Walks 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 10, 12, 13 and 14, or on our website www.northdevoncoast-nl.org.uk/our-landscape/heritage

North Devon Circular Walks

All walks downloadable from www.northdevoncoast-nl.org.uk/explore

1. **Silver, Smoke and Strawberries** - Combe Martin's Industrial Heritage, 9.5km, Challenging. **Start**: Kiln car park, Combe Martin.
2. **Hillsborough Cultural Trail**, 2.5km, Moderate. **Start**: Swimming Pool car park, Ilfracombe.
3. **Wreckers, Railways and Rockpools – Ilfracombe and Lee Bay Cultural Trail**, 14km, Moderate to Strenuous. **Start**: Landmark Theatre, Ilfracombe.
4. **Lee Valley and Bull Point Cultural Trail**, 8km, Moderate to Strenuous. **Start**: Small car park near beach.
5. **Georgeham and Putsborough Easy Access Trail**, 2.2km, Easy. **Start**: Georgeham.
6. **Croyde and Saunton Down Cultural Trail**, 5.5km, Moderate. **Start**: Croyde Village car park.
7. **Braunton Burrows Nature Walk**, 3km, Easy. **Start**: Sandy Lane car park.
8. **Braunton Burrows History and Nature Walk**, 4km, Moderate. **Start**: Broadsands / Crow Point Toll Road car park.



Bird's-foot trefoil, Northam Burrows

North Devon Beaches

- **Barricane** – Shingle/sandy. Access via steps. Limited parking on esplanade or 10 min walk from Woolacombe car parks.
- **Broadstrand** – Sandy. Public Right of Way access down 240 steep steps. There is free parking in Berrynarbor village car park about half a mile away.
- **Combe Martin** – Sandy. Access slope from Kiln car park or slipway off A399.
- **Combesgate** – Sandy/rocks. Access via steps, limited parking along Esplanade or Woolacombe car parks 1km away.
- **Croyde** – Sandy. Slope from main beach car park, pathway and steps from Downend, or across rocks from Sandleigh Tea Rooms (NT). Access mid beach via Footpath from village. Parking: NT Baggy Point; Croyde Burrows; Croyde Village and Downend.
- **Hele Bay** – Shingle. Slipway near Hele car park.
- **Ilfracombe Harbour** – Sand. Access from slipway or stairs.
- **Lee Bay** – Rocky with sand at low tide. Access ramp and small walkway across the higher shore. Parking round village.
- **Putsborough** – Sandy. Access from beach car park down steps or steep ramp.
- **Rapparee** – Patchy sand with rocks. Access via steep steps down the cliff. Parking – Cove car park, Larkstone or Swimming Pool in Ilfracombe
- **Saunton** – Large, sandy beach, access from car park down slipway or via a 50 min walk across Braunton Burrows from Sandy Lane car park.
- **Tunnels Beach** – Rock/sand. Access charge. Natural open-air swimming pool.
- **Woolacombe** – Sandy. Access via slipway or steps from main car parks or from Marine Drive across the dunes.



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