

Background: Red deer (Danny Green/2020VISION). Above, left to right: Cuckoo (Jon Hawkins/Surrey Hills Photography); Heather (Tom Marshall)



Blacka Moor is a great place to see wildlife in every season. The reserve is home to a wide variety of wildlife including the majestic red deer, common lizard, green hairstreak butterfly and moorland birds including wheatear, stonechat, whinchat and tree pipit. The enchanting upland woodland and the scattered scrub on the moorland edges support a diverse bird population including cuckoo, spotted flycatcher, redstart, wood warbler and woodcock. Ancient woodland plants such as bluebell, greater stitchwort and ramsons carpet the woodlands in spring.

Wildlife

Blacka Moor nature reserve nestles on the doorstep of Sheffield and the edge of the Peak District. 181 hectares of wildlife-rich landscape is characterised by its mosaic of woodland, scrub, heathland, streams, wetlands and grasslands. Blacka Moor forms part of the internationally important landscape of the Eastern Peak District Moors, which is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). Special features of the area include its breeding birds, upland vegetation, lower plants, invertebrates and geological features.

The open heathland is home to bilberry, cranberry and three different species of heather, while in the damper areas you will find cushions of sphagnum mosses, cotton-grass and bog asphodel. The pastures are grazed by sheep, as they have been for centuries, creating the right conditions for a regionally-important grassland fungi community: over 100 species have been found here.



Blacka Moor was given to the City of Sheffield by local philanthropist J. G. Graves in the 1930s. He said of Blacka Moor: "I find much satisfaction in the thought that this splendid piece of natural open countryside, which affords views of moorland scenery unsurpassed in grandeur by any other spot in the neighbourhood of Sheffield, will be kept in its present state."

Although it has an untamed feel, historic records and field remains show that Blacka Moor was used for arable and livestock farming as well as industries such as lead smelting and quarrying, with the woodlands being managed to supply them. Late medieval lead-smelting remains are present on Bole Hill, and the area is designated as a Scheduled Monument. In 1263 the land passed to the monks of nearby Beauchief Abbey who established a monastic priory and thriving farmstead in Strawberry Lee Pastures. The farmstead operated for over 600 years. Blacka Moor has been cared for by Sheffield & Rotherham Wildlife Trust since 2001.

History

Access

Walkers, runners, cyclists and horse riders are all welcome to visit and enjoy the reserve. There is an extensive network of public footpaths and bridleways through the site, but the topography of Blacka Moor means that many routes around the reserve require steep uphill climbs.



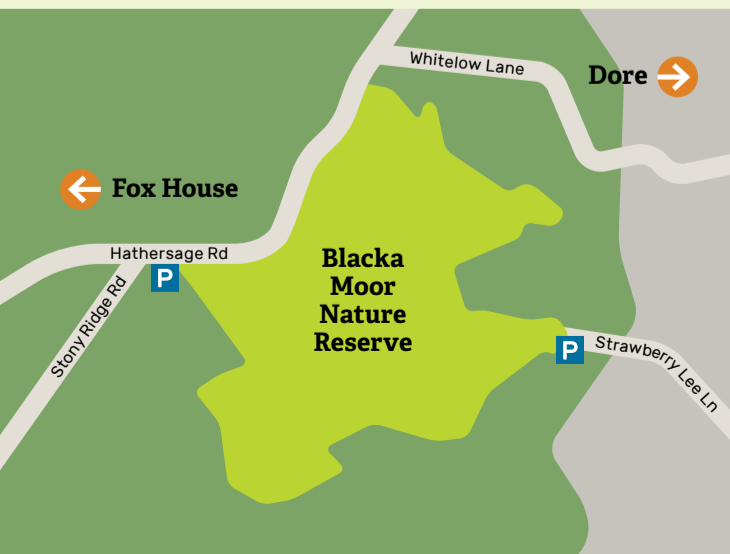
Dog walking: Please keep dogs on a short lead from 1 March to 31 July.

This will protect ground-nesting birds and prevent grazing livestock from being disturbed. If you feel threatened by cattle we advise that you let go of the lead.

How to get there

Bus numbers **65**, **271** and **272** all stop opposite the nature reserve on Hathersage Road (A625).

Car parking is available at Stony Ridge (SK277806) off Hathersage Road and also at Strawberry Lee Lane (SK295802).



About us

This beautiful nature reserve, here as a place for wildlife to thrive and us all to enjoy, is cared for by Sheffield & Rotherham Wildlife Trust. Your support makes this possible. Thank you.

We work with communities in Sheffield and Rotherham towards a better future for wildlife, people and the green spaces we love, including Blacka Moor.

Join us today or make a donation at wildsheffield.com

Thank you for supporting us!

Contact us

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Email: mail@wildsheffield.com

Write to us:
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37 Stafford Road, Sheffield S2 2SF

Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust is a registered charity. Charity no.700638.

Cover photo: Stonechat (Ben Hall/2020VISION)



Sheffield & Rotherham



Blacka Moor



Sheffield Moors Partnership



DORE Village Society



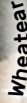
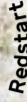
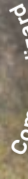
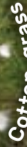
Viridor Credits Opportunities for Communities

For nature, for everyone



Blacka Moor

Nature Reserve



0.5 km

To join today or make a donation please visit

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For nature, for everyone