





# BIRDS YOU MIGHT SEE

## GULLS AND TERNS

Gulls can be hard to tell apart, particularly when they're in flight. Here's a quick guide to get you started.



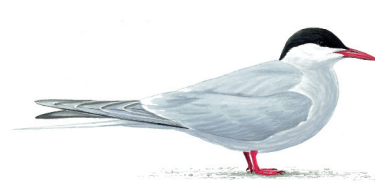
### Herring gull

These large, noisy gulls are the ones you're most likely to see close up at the seaside or in towns. Legs – pink. Bill – yellow with a red spot.



### Kittiwake

A small gull. They nest on cliffs and have a distinctive "kitti-waak" call. Legs – black. Bill – yellow.



### Arctic tern

Smaller than black-headed gulls, the two terns you are most likely to see are common and Arctic. They look similar, but common terns have longer legs and have a black tip to their bill.



### Black-headed gull

Small gull. The dark brown head fades to a black spot behind the eye in winter. Legs – red. Bill – red.



### Common gull

Not that common and quite small. Legs – yellow. Bill – yellow.



### Sandwich tern

The Sandwich tern is the largest tern in Britain. It is very white with a black cap and spiky crest, long, black bill with a yellow tip and short black legs.

## AUKS

Guillemots and razorbills crowd our cliff faces during the breeding season, while puffins nest in burrows.



### Guillemot

Some guillemots have a white ring round their eyes. This is known as bridling.



### Black guillemot

Smaller than guillemots, and black all over except for striking white patches on the wings and red feet.



### Razorbill

Similar to guillemot, but the bill is much thicker and has white markings.



### Puffin

Puffins, along with many seabirds, have suffered breeding failures in recent years, possibly due to a shortage of sand eels.

## OTHER BIRDS



### Fulmar

These look a little like small albatrosses gliding on the breeze on stiff wings.



### Gannet

Massive white birds, which travel long distances in search of food. They fold their wings and plummet into the water head first to catch fish.



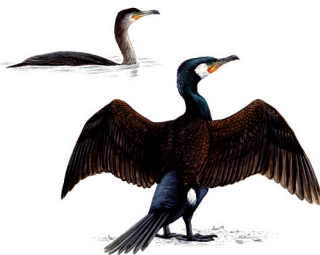
### Manx shearwater

You may spot them gliding low over the surface of the sea on straight black wings. Scotland is home to 80% of the world's population of Manx shearwaters.



### Great skua

Also called bonxies on Shetland. They often harass birds to steal food, and also kill smaller seabirds. Summer visitors only.



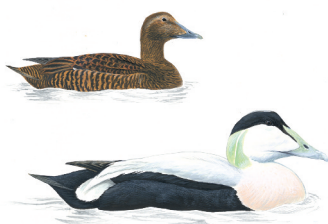
### Cormorant

Big birds often seen perched on small islands, buoys or anything sticking out of the water. They dry their wings by holding them out.



### Shag

Similar to cormorants, but smaller. In the breeding season, they develop a crest and dark green plumage.



### Eider

The UK's heaviest and fastest-flying duck. Males are a distinct black and white while the females are a dull brown.



### White-tailed eagle

Our largest bird of prey, these have an eight foot wing span. Can sometimes be seen plucking fish delicately from the surface of the sea.



### Storm petrel

Slightly bigger than a sparrow. Feeds with wings raised in a "V" and feet pattering across the waves. Often seen in flocks, following in the wake of ships.

Artwork not to scale