



Black Grouse Bonanza

24th-27th April 2009

Staying at [Brunswick House](#), Middleton-in-Teesdale

Celebrate spring with the spectacular upland birds of the North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, one of the best areas in Britain for Black Grouse and breeding wading birds like Snipe and Redshank.

Guests in 2008 saw some wonderful sights, including upto 20 black grouse displaying, merlin catching a curlew chick, ring ouzel singing and dippers feeding young. Click [here](#) for a link to last year's trip report.

Friday 24th April

Welcome presentation at 6 pm.

Dinner 7pm.

Saturday 25th April

6 am Optional pre-breakfast black grouse lek visit close to the hotel.

9 am A full day exploring Teesdale, the most beautiful of the North Pennine dales. We will walk through the meadows and pastures of the upper dale looking for breeding waders and their young, Black Grouse, Dipper, Merlin, Goosander, Peregrine.

Return to the hotel for 6pm for 7.30 dinner.

A short after dinner drive may be offered (if the weather is good) to see Woodcock displaying.

Sunday 26^h April

We will spend the morning at RSPB's Geltsdale Reserve will allow us to explore the full range of upland habitats present on this 5000ha site. We will learn a little about the management of the reserve from RSPB staff and look for some of the reserves special birds, including black grouse, waders and birds of prey.

In the afternoon we will explore the South Tyne valley, starting at Lambley Viaduct, a great vantage overlooking the River Tyne, giving treetop views of woodland birds and raptors as the air warms.

Back to the hotel for 5pm. After dinner, a late evening walk to try to see otters may be offered

Monday 27th April

Heading east we will explore the Derwent Valley, hoping for close views of the newly arrived pied flycatcher, wood warbler and redstart. Heading down the valley in the afternoon we should see red kite.

Return to the hotel for refreshment and departure by 5pm.

Price

£360 per person, includes en-suite accommodation (no single supplement), all food, transport and bird guiding during the holiday. Beverages are not included