



Christmas on the Coast

24th-27th December 2009

Staying at [Longhirst Hall](#), Morpeth, Northumberland

Christmas Eve

Welcome presentation at 6pm
Dinner 7pm

Christmas Day

9am departure
We will head for four nature reserves along Druridge Bay, with habitats including brackish lagoons, freshwater ponds, reedbeds and foreshore. The reserves include Hauxley, East Chevington, Druridge Pools and Cresswell Pond. Birds could include a range of passerines, waders and waterfowl, including Whooper Swan, Snow Bunting and Black-tailed Godwit.
Return by 4pm for Christmas dinner and quiz.
Dinner 7pm

Boxing Day

9am departure
We will start the morning on the foreshore below Bamburgh Castle, looking for Purple Sandpiper, Long-tailed Duck, Common Scoter and divers. Heading north, we will then spend the rest of the day on Holy Island, famous for wintering Brent Geese, Pink-footed Geese, Pintail and waders.
Return by 4.30 pm
Dinner 7pm

Sunday 27th

Heading south, we will spend most of the day on RSPB's new Saltholme Nature Reserve on the Tees Estuary. Ending the day in style, we will watch red kites fly into their roost in the Derwent Valley.
Return by 4.30pm for refreshments and departure by 5pm.

Leadership Party

Nick Mason, proprietor of Realbirder Tours, specialises in showing off the bird life of northern England. Nick still also works locally in wildlife conservation after a decade working for the RSPB in the region. David and Amanda Mason have been birdwatching all over the world for 25 years. David runs the Realbirder website, a birding trip report and bird photo library (www.realbirder.com).

£425 per person, including three nights en-suite accommodation, food, bird guiding and transport in Northumberland. Excludes beverages. No single supplement.