

How many of these have you spotted in the forest?

SPECIES

FOREST OF DEAN



The Forest of Dean is famous for its large population of free roaming sheep derived from many breeds and include welsh mountain, speckled faced or cheviots with the occasional kerry or ryeland. The sheep have been around for hundreds of years and are likely to continue to be part of the Forest scenery.

Best time to see sheep: All year round



In Norman times, the Forest was protected as a games reserve where red, roe and fallow deer and wild boar were hunted. Today, it is only fallow or roe deer that can be found. Early morning or dusk is the time when you are most likely to see deer in the Forest.

Best time to see Fallow deer: All year round



Wild boar were once common in England, but were hunted to extinction at least 300 years ago. In recent years, small populations of wild boar have become established again in the wild, with the Forest of Dean's wild boar population now the largest that exists in England. Boars are best spotted early morning or in the evenings in the Forest of Dean.

Best time to see Wild Boar: All year round

SAVERNAKE FOREST



A small bird of prey, the Sparrowhawk is perfectly adapted for hunting birds in small enclosed woodlands. Listen out for the alarm calls of smaller birds as they spot a Sparrowhawk, alerting other birds in the area to the danger. These birds are easily spotted in Spring when males perform a 'rollercoaster' flight, climbing up and diving back down again to impress females.

Best time to see Sparrowhawks: March-May



All main deer species can be found in Savernake Forest including Red, Roe, Fallow and ever-increasing numbers of the introduced Muntjac. Deer are most likely to be seen early or late in the day when disturbance is at a minimum. If you're lucky, you might even glimpse them lying or feeding in secluded clearings

Best time to see Deer: September - October



Emerging at dusk, Savernake Forest is home to around around eleven different species of bats, including the Brown Long-Eared Bat, Whiskered Bat and Daubenton's Bat. With a total of eighteen varieties inhabiting the UK, it's rare to find so many varieties in just one place.

Best time to see Bats: June - August

SNOWDONIA



Known as a bird watcher's paradise, Snowdonia is a haven for the largest member of the crow family - the raven. The symbolic raven is jet black with iridescent feathers, and is the size of a buzzard. Spot it by its wedge-shaped tail flying and hopping around Beddgelert...

Best time to see Ravens: All year round



No one knows how the Welsh Mountain Goat came to live on the mountains of Snowdonia, but today there are about 1,000 in the National Park. Spotted by their swept back horns, long, black and white shaggy coats, and beards, you can see them teetering on rugged rock faces throughout the season, sometimes with a kid in tow

Best time to see the Welsh Mountain Goat: All year round