



Willow warbler

Redstart

### A bird watcher's paradise

More than 70 different kinds of birds breed around the lake in the summer.

The woodland fringes are home to redstarts, willow warblers and redpolls.



Redpoll



Oystercatcher

Oystercatchers come inland to breed before returning to the coast. Look for them on the open stony shores.



Lapwing

In winter there are up to 1,000 birds on the lake. Tufted duck, teal, goldeneye, coot, pochard, mallard and wigeon feed on submerged waterplants, seeds and insects in the shallow water at the southern end. The best view is from the public hide near Powder How.



Snipe

Common sandpipers, locally known as 'willy wickets' arrive from Africa in April.



Common sandpiper



Teal



Great crested grebe

Red-breasted merganser

You might be lucky to see the 'floating' nest of the great crested grebe, or a red-breasted merganser nest under a bush or fallen tree.

### The osprey returns



Nestcam

Until 2001, these magnificent birds of prey hadn't nested in England since the 1830s. The Lake District Osprey Partnership built a nest platform above the lake to encourage them back. We hope they continue to breed here.

Nestcam on the web at [www.ospreywatch.co.uk](http://www.ospreywatch.co.uk) and [www.bbc.co.uk/cumbria](http://www.bbc.co.uk/cumbria)  
Join the Osprey Project on Twitter@lakesospreys

### Dodd Wood

This open air nest viewpoint is three miles north of Keswick off the A591. Follow signs to Mirehouse from the A66. Walk 20 minutes uphill from the Mirehouse car park. Open all daylight hours. Staff from the Osprey Project partnership will be on hand with telescopes from 10am to 5pm every day from April to August. From here you can see the nest from a safe distance.

### Whinlatter Visitor Centre

A video link relays pictures from the nest to the Forestry Commission's Visitor Centre, north west of Keswick.



Reed bunting

Sedge warbler

Grasshopper warbler

Reed warbler

You can hear the wistful 'teu' of reed buntings and the rhythmic 'churring' of reed warblers, as well as sedge warblers and grasshopper warblers in the reed beds and rank grass.

## Bassenthwaite Lake

National Nature Reserve

### WELCOME

From Africa to the Arctic, hundreds of birds including the osprey, migrate to Bassenthwaite Lake National Nature Reserve.

Fish such as Atlantic salmon and sea lampreys come to spawn in the lake and its tributaries.

We own and manage the lake to protect this fragile habitat. It remains a haven for wildlife because much of the shoreline is private and you need permission to use the lake.

### A lake in the balance

This beautiful, fragile habitat is under threat from:

- pollution
- too much silt entering the lake
- invading plant and fish species.

The Still Waters, Bassenthwaite Lake Restoration Programme continues to do something about these desperate problems. The partners who work with us to protect the lake include: Natural England, Environment Agency, Forestry Commission, National Trust and United Utilities.

The amount of silt entering Bassenthwaite has doubled in the past 50 years.

As well as tackling phosphate levels, we work with landowners to prevent silting by reducing erosion caused by overgrazing.

To find out more about the programme and how you can help, contact the Environment Agency on 08708 506 506.

## Lake District National Park

With its world renowned landscape, the National Park is for everyone to enjoy, now and in the future.

It needs a prosperous economy, world class visitor experiences and vibrant communities, which sustain the spectacular landscape.

Everyone involved in running England's largest and much loved National Park is committed to:

- respecting the past
- caring for the present
- planning for the future

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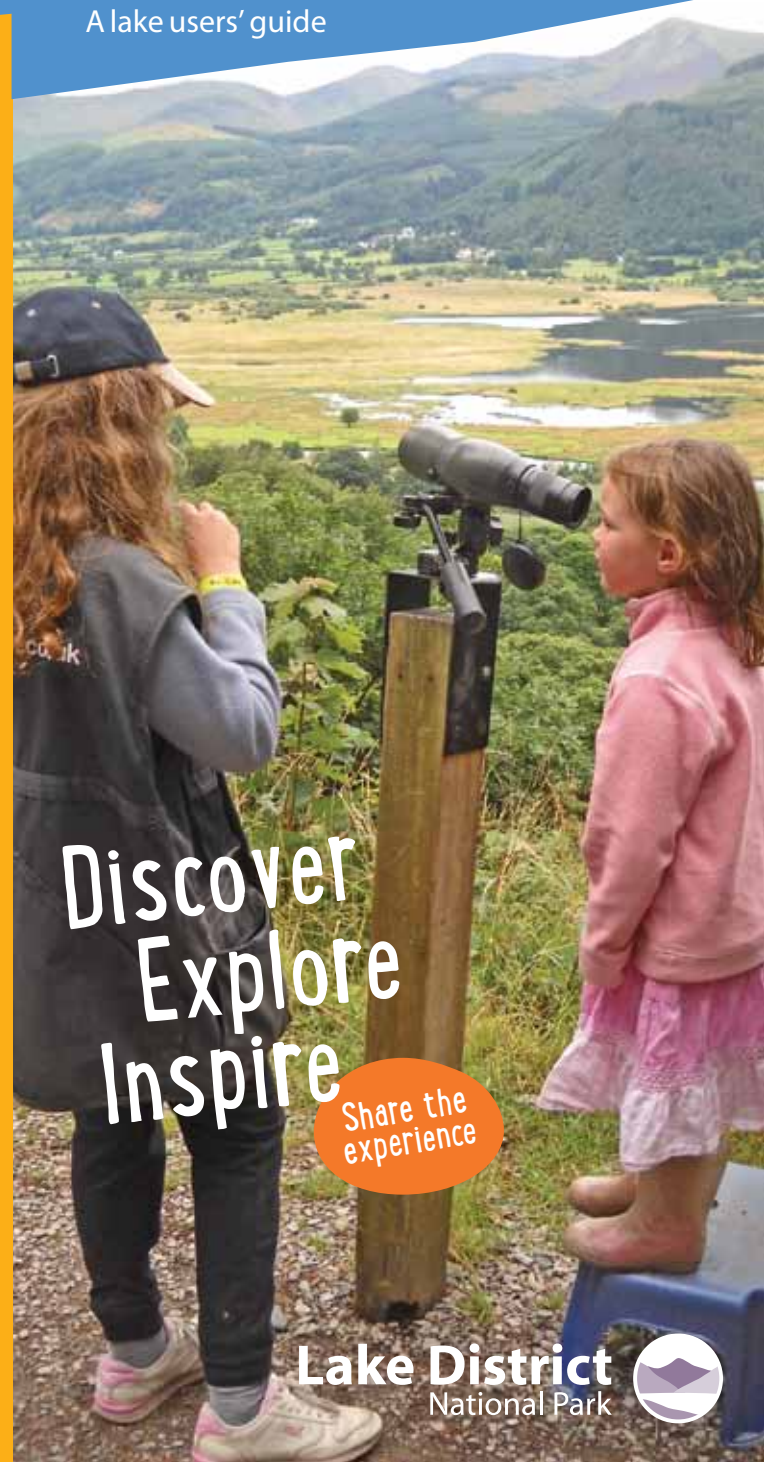
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## Bassenthwaite Lake

A lake users' guide



Discover  
Explore  
Inspire

Share the  
experience

**Lake District**  
National Park

