

NATIONAL TRUST FOR SCOTLAND MEDIA RELEASE

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Wheatear arrives at St Abb's Head Nature Reserve

The National Trust for Scotland has welcomed the first female wheatears at St Abb's Head Nature Reserve in Eyemouth. Often known as a harbinger of spring, the wheatear has the longest migration of any small bird in the world with a return journey of 18,640 miles from sub-Saharan Africa.

The conservation charity protects the breeding areas at St Abb's Head for various species, from several seabirds to grey seals. Male birds will typically arrive in late March to claim the best territories before the female Wheatears arrive in April.

The small bird can often be spotted on top of the cliffs on the reserve, puffing out its chest, marking the beginning of spring. The Nature Reserve will also welcome spectacular seabird colonies including guillemots, kittiwakes and razorbills, to nest between May and June.

All National Trust for Scotland properties are currently closed to stop the spread of the coronavirus. The charity is asking people to stay home and stay safe. For more wildlife news, sign up for email updates at www.nts.org.uk. To find out more about St Abb's Head Nature Reserve, visit <https://www.nts.org.uk/visit/places/st-abbs-head>.

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Editor's Notes:

The National Trust for Scotland is the charity that celebrates and protects Scotland's heritage. It relies on the support of its members and donors to carry out its important work of caring for the natural and built heritage of Scotland for everyone to enjoy.

From coastlines to castles, art to architecture, wildlife to wildernesses, the National Trust for Scotland exists to protect the national and natural treasures we all love. To plan your visit today, enter your postcode at www.nts.org.uk.



