
East Yorkshire

21-25 September 2026



Curlew Sandpiper

Join BirdGuides and embark on a remarkable five-day birding journey through East Yorkshire's scenic coastal habitats and renowned migration hot-spots. From vibrant wetlands teeming with waterbirds to the iconic promontory of Flamborough Head and the flagship RSPB reserve at Blacktoft Sands, each day promises new discoveries and rare encounters. Whether scanning the seas for passing skuas or finding scarce landbirds among coastal scrub, this tour offers an unparalleled chance to immerse yourself in the region's rich avian diversity.

Itinerary

Join us for a five-day autumn birding tour across East Yorkshire, timed to coincide with peak migration along the east coast. We'll explore top-class sites including Spurn, Flamborough Head and Blacktoft Sands, all renowned for their diversity of migrants, scarce visitors, and spectacular wetland and coastal scenery. With a flexible approach and real-time updates from the BirdGuides sightings team, we'll be perfectly placed to react to breaking rarities and changing weather – maximising our chances of encountering something truly special.

Accommodation will be at the historic 3* AA rated Cave Castle Hotel, located in South Cave for 4 nights.

Day 1: Arrival and North Cave Wetlands

Location: North Cave Wetlands

Activities: We'll meet at the hotel at 12 pm, then head out to explore the local North Cave Wetlands, which is renowned for waterbirds. Possibilities at this up-and-coming reserve include Garganey, Osprey and various waders. Return to the hotel for an evening meal and a discussion of the upcoming tour.

Day 2: Spurn and Kilnsea Wetlands

Location: Spurn Bird Observatory and Kilnsea Wetlands

Activities: Spurn is one of the UK's premier locations for autumn migration, making it our focus for the day. We'll explore the fields and scrubby habitats around Spurn Bird Observatory before heading down towards the Point. This area regularly attracts scarce migrants – including Yellow-browed, Arctic, Dusky, and Barred Warblers, Wryneck, Red-backed Shrike, Red-breasted Flycatcher, Olive-backed and Richard's Pipits – on an annual basis. We'll then finish the day at Kilnsea Wetlands to target a diverse range of waterbirds.

Day 3: Flamborough Head

Location: Flamborough Head (including North Landing, South Landing, and Old Fall Plantation)

Activities: Travel north to the famous Flamborough Head to explore this picturesque promontory, rich in ornithological history. Search for exciting migrant landbirds at North and South Landing and Old Fall Plantation, and enjoy stunning cliff views where auks, Northern Fulmar, Kittiwake, and European Shag are commonly seen. As one of the east coast's premier seawatching sites, Flamborough offers the chance to connect with passing skuas and shearwaters in favourable conditions.

Day 4: Blacktoft Sands RSPB

Location: Blacktoft Sands Reserve

Activities: Visit the RSPB's flagship Blacktoft Sands reserve to witness huge congregations of wildfowl and waders. Make use of the reserve's excellent hides to pick out scarcer species such as Little Stint and Curlew Sandpiper, and stay alert for even rarer birds if fortune smiles.

Day 5: Local sites and departure

Location: Various East Yorkshire sites

Activities: Spend the morning revisiting local hot-spots in search of any target species missed on previous days or to twitch nearby rarities. Depart between 1 pm and 2 pm, concluding the tour.

Pricing

Our East Yorkshire birding tour offers exceptional value, with the price covering comfortable accommodation, ground transportation, entrance fees to all scheduled sites and reserves, and the expertise of experienced birding guides.

Priced at £1,399 per person, a single supplement is an additional £250.

A non-refundable deposit of 20% of the total trip price, per person, is required to secure the booking. The final balance is due 60 days before the tour start date.

Included in the price:

- Accommodation throughout the tour at Cave Castle Hotel
- All evening meals from Day 1 to Day 4, and also breakfast from Day 2, through to Day 5
- Ground transportation during the tour (minibus)
- Services of an experienced birding guide
- Entrance fees to all scheduled sites and reserves

Not included:

- International flights to and from the UK
- Visa fees, if applicable
- Travel insurance

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- Beverages and lunch
 - Optional activities not specified in the itinerary

Trip Information

Tour leader

This tour is run exclusively for BirdGuides Travel by WildSpace. Your tour leader will be Arron Roberts.

Group size

Eight, plus tour leader.

Recommended items

Essential items include a good pair of binoculars, comfortable walking shoes, weather-appropriate clothing and personal medication. You may also wish to bring walking poles.

Is this tour for me?

Due to rugged terrain, this tour is unsuitable for people with reduced mobility. BirdGuides Travel tours are also unsuitable for persons under the age of 16 years old. Please talk to us before booking your trip should you require further information.

Minimum participants

This tour requires a minimum of five confirmed participants. If we do not have the minimum required number of participants, we reserve the right to cancel this tour. We will notify you not less than 30 days before the start of the tour should this be necessary.

Financial Security

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