Northam Burrows Country Park is a beautiful expanse of common land popular with visitors throughout the



year. Situated at the mouth of the Taw/
Torridge Estuary, the
Burrows is surrounded by spectacular coastal scenery and is part of the North Devon Coast Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The park also lies within the UNESCO

Biosphere Reserve and is a Site of Special Scientific Interest that is home to many rare plants and animals.



Torridge District Council manages Northam Burrows as a country park and access is provided year round. With 253 hectares of countryside to explore the Burrows is perfect for walking. Dogs are welcome

but need to be controlled around wildlife as well as the sheep and horses that graze the coastal pasture. Golf is another popular pursuit. The Royal North Devon Golf Club has the oldest links course in England and have played on the Burrows since 1853. Pedestrians are able to cross the course, but please be aware of games being played.

The Pebble Ridge is a famous natural landmark that runs along the western edge of the Burrows and protects it from the sea at high tide. At low tide the sea retreats to reveal the golden sand of Westward Ho! beach that stretches over 2 miles. The beach has been awarded the Blue Flag for excellent water quality and facilities. It is lifeguarded in the summer with typically calm waters suitable for swimmers and people learning to surf.

'Potwalloper' is a local term that originates from 1701 when the right to vote depended on owning a second fire place for cooking (to boil a pot!). In 1716 this status was

linked with the right to graze livestock on Northam Burrows. Common grazing is a practice that remains today and is something that has helped to preserve the park's unique environment.

Northam Burrows consists of several habitats perfect for novice and expert nature enthusiasts.

Rockpools at the southern end of Westward Ho! beach hide all sorts of creatures amongst the seaweed and underneath pebbles. Shore Crabs, Prawns



and Blennies dart about the pools while Anemones, Mussels and Limpets stick to the rocky shore.

The sand dunes of Northam Burrows are home to some



rare and wonderful plants. Water Germander and Sea Stock are only found here and a few other sites in England. Meanwhile Lizards are commonly seen basking in the sunshine and Skylarks soar above their nests in tussocks of Marram Grass.

The salt marsh is locally known as the Skern and attracts hundreds of wading birds feeding on the creatures found buried in the mud. Curlews, Oystercatchers, Redshanks and Dunlins use long beaks to dig out their meals. In the winter Brent Geese patrol the shoreline eating the algae. Other rare and occasionally exotic species can be found on this fantastic feeding ground; drawing bird watchers from all over the country.

Guided walks run throughout the year and guide books can be purchased from the Burrows Centre.

Where to Find Us



Northam Burrows is located 5 minutes from the A39 at Bideford bridge. From here take the A386 to Northam and follow the signposts to the vehicle entrances.

Seasonal Toll Fees

Daily Car	£4.00
Evening Car/Motorcycle	£2.00
Minibus/ Car & Trailer	£6.00
Coach/ Minibus & Trailer	£9.00
Weekly Ticket	£15.00
Season Ticket	£40.00

Booking Fees

Educational trips can be arranged for various groups. Contact the Burrows Centre to make a booking.

Group Booking £25.00

For more information contact us on 01237 479708 or visit www.torridge.gov.uk/northamburrows



Northam Burrows Country Park

Information & Events 2019



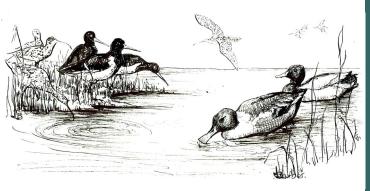
The Burrows Centre

Open to the public from late May to early September, I lam-5pm. There are toilets & a gift shop, as well as exhibitions with interactive displays. The centre assistants can provide visitors with local information and guidebooks can be purchased from the shop to help you to explore the park and its surroundings.



All events and walks will meet at the Burrows Centre unless stated otherwise. All children must be supervised by an adult. Please wear sensible footwear and suitable clothing, especially for seashore activities.

All events and walks are free of charge but there is a toll for vehicles entering the park.





What's on

July Ship to shore Tuesday 23rd July 2pm - 4pm

Make your own mini boat and learn about ship wrecks and shipbuilding around North Devon.

A pirate's life for me Thursday 25th July 2pm - 4pm

Come and create a pirate outfit and search for buried treasure!

Big butterfly count Tuesday 30th July 2pm - 4pm

Take part in the world's largest butterfly survey and join the rangers for an afternoon of butterfly counting and crafts.

<u>August</u>

Stunning sand sculptures

Thursday 1st August 2pm - 4pm

Join the rangers for a fun competition building sand sculptures with a summer theme.

Meet on the beach at Sandymere bridge (near the lifeguard hut).

Flying high Tuesday 6th August 2pm - 4pm

Come and create a paper glider, parachute or kite and learn about the WWII anti-glider defences on the Burrows. Part of North Devon Coast AONB's Coastal Heritage project.

Late summer plant walk Thursday 8th August 2pm - 4pm

Late summer is the best time of year to find the sweet smelling plants on the Burrows.

Tideline treasure hunt Tuesday 13th August 2pm - 4pm

Search the beach with the rangers for natural treasure and make a shell necklace or wind catcher. Will you be the champion and build the tallest 'leaning tower of limpets'?!

Meet on the beach at Sandymere bridge (near the lifeguard hut).

Rockpool ramble

Thursday 15th August 2pm - 4pm

Discover the weird and wonderful plants and animals that call the rockpools home. Meet the rangers at Westward Ho! slipway.

Seashore safari

Tuesday 20th August 2pm - 4pm

Join our rangers to explore the diverse habitats of the rocky shore on a walk from the beach to Mermaid's pool. Meet at Westward Ho! slipway.

Bumblebees in the Burrows Thursday 22nd August 2pm - 4pm

Search the dunes for mini-beasts and build your own bee house.

Every dog has its day

Tuesday 27th August 2pm - 4pm

Join the rangers for a fun family dog show with silly competitions. Will your dog be the fastest? The prettiest? The best dressed?

Fleecy fun

Thursday 29th August 2pm - 4pm

Use natural sheep's wool (from the Burrows' living lawnmowers) to make a work of art. Try your hand at preparing and spinning fleece.

Wartime Westward Ho!

Photographs, footage and artefacts from the Northam Burrows and Westward Ho! area during World War II. This temporary exhibition will be on display until 1st September.

Aftermath of war - Braunton artist Brian
Chugg painted the decaying beach defences of
North Devon after WWII. His work is on display
Tuesday 9th July - Saturday 10th August

Part of the Devon D-Day project

