The Forest of Bowland AONB
The Forest of Bowland Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) is a
naturally protected landscape and is internationally recognised for its
special habitats and wildlife. The AONB is managed by a partnership of
landowners, farmers, voluntary organisations and local groups, who
work to protect, conserve and enhance the natural and cultural
heritage of this special area.

Much of the Access Land in the Forest of Bowland AONB is within a
Special Protection Area (SPA). This European designation recognises the
importance of the area’s upland heather moorland and blanket bog as
habitats for upland birds. Bowland’s moors are home to many threatened
species including golden plover, curlew, ring ouzel and the rare hen
harrier, symbol of the AONB.

Many people depend on the Access Land for their livelihoods, including
upland farming and game management. These rural industries have shaped
the landscape between two Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty –
Wyre and Ribblesdale, and the forest is a global resource of blanket bog.
Accidental fires may be open to the public access) and walking on site.

To add to your enjoyment and relaxation, fine food, extensive wine
list and hot tub await you, allowing you to make the most of your stay
with us.

For more information on open access visit www.countrysideaccess.gov.uk or call 0845 100 3298.
For more information about the Forest of Bowland AONB, visit www.forestonline.org.uk or the RSPB website.

For local Countryside/Ranger Services call Lancaster on 01772 534709
Wyresdale Park on 01995 604644
United Kingdom on 01200 454000

What is Access Land?
Access Land only applies to areas of open country and registered common land and is shown on Os maps (past September 2009) as open areas. It is your right to walk here safely.

Access Land can be closed during exceptional weather or conditions to prevent fires or to avoid danger to the public. Access Land is identified by the Access Land Symbol at access points. Some access points will have signage and interpretation to guide you. Never climb over or fences.

Access Land does not include rights to:
- Lower levels of buildings.
- Branches of trees.
- Low lying hedgerows and boundaries.
- cultivated land.
- Areas within 20m of a dwelling or building except the curtilage of a building, i.e.
- garden.
- Access Land may apply to numerous owners on foot, such as walking, bird watching,
- photography, running and cycling.

You must observe general and local restrictions. You must not cause any damage, drive or drive vehicles on footpaths that cross Access Land. And always respect others.

The accommodation featured in this leaflet offers a range of accommodation types. All are family run, owner managed businesses who are sympathetic to bird watching. Some are landowners who work on their farms, or within the curtilage of a building, i.e. a

The Old Post House Hotel
Family run hotel set in the heart of the district, market town of Settle. Situated close to the town and

The Priory Inn
This former priory structure is a comfortable base for anyone looking for quiet location for

The Rey Kirk Inn
Boggy areas. You can help by keeping to tracks

The Sykes Inn

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Trampers
Several of these locations can make arrangements for the use of a Tramper all-terrain electric wheeled vehicle. This can be used on public bridleways and by special permission on the south-western corner of the Forest of Bowland. Contact the Borderland Visitor Centre or Beacon Fell Country Park on 01772 534709 or the Priory Inn on 01729 741251.

The forest is a global resource of blanket bog. Accidental fires may be open to the public

Wyresdale Lakes
This beautiful upland farming area and natural lakes is situated on 22 acres of farmland.

Halsteads Barn
Halsteads Barn, Mewith, LA6 1AA

Red Pump Inn
Red Pump Inn, Bashall Eaves, LA2 8QL

Dalesbridge Barn
Dalesbridge Barn offers a comfortable base for anyone looking for quiet location for

Bleasdale Cottages
Bleasdale Cottages, Lowen Farmhouse, Bleasdale, PR3 5UJ

Mansergh Cottages
Mansergh Farmhouse, Maversley, LA2 8LT

The Gibbon Bridge Hotel
Situated in a beautiful forest of Bowland, this dog-friendly hotel offers a wide variety of accommodation, smart surroundings, delicious food and

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Chester Bridge Barn
Chester Bridge Barn, East Licthwart, PR3 5UJ

Wyreside Lakes
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Disturbance is a major problem for ground-nesting birds

This breeding season, between 1st March and 31st July, there is a particularly vulnerable area for ground-nesting birds. Disturbance may prevent them from nesting, or if nesting they may fly away from their nests, resulting in eggs or chicks. Disturbance may result in:

• Birds failing to nest
• Eggs being lost to predators
• chicks being vulnerable to predators

It is a criminal offence to disturb rare breeding birds, including hen harriers, peregrine falcons and curlews, intentionally or not. Fines of up to £20,000 and imprisonment are possible.

Hedgerow nesting areas are being monitored by Natural England, RSPB and Lancashire Countryside Service.

How to recognise a disturbed or disturbed bird

They will make a loud repeated alarm call – they don’t sound very happy and they won’t fly away.

They will approach people much closer than usual and try to distract you from the nest.

What you can do to help

• Always possible to see birds in flight, particularly when going through dense cover.
• Keep dogs and birds apart. Birds see dogs as a threat.

For the latest news on bird watching in Bowland, including web cam pictures from a hen harrier’s nesting site in the springtime, visit www.forestofbowland.com/wild_birds.asp

Toilet Facilities

Café / Tea rooms

Public House

Car Parking

Accommodation

• Access Land

The Moorland Visitor’s Code

• Be safe – plan ahead and follow your right
• Leave gates and property as you find them
• Prevent uncontrolled moorland fires
• Keep dogs under close control
• Consider other people


Natural England, RSPB and Lancashire are possible.

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• They will approach people much closer
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• Safe behaviour such as circling high above

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Birding locations to visit...

• Redchurch Woods in the southwest, Barnacre Reservoir (which is not open to the public) is an important site for exotic birds and has been used by birdwatchers to study the birds. The reservoir itself attracting wildfowl and waders and many passage migrants including common terns

• Abadoned in the west is one of the best areas for breeding waders on the upland moors, curlew, redshank, golden plover and greenshank and moorhens often seen. A few moorland fires have been set intentionally by people in the area, in order to create feeding opportunities for these birds. The reservoir itself is a great place to see redshank, golden plover and greenshank, as well as a place to see other waders and waterfowl.

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