

FOREST OF DEAN & WYE VALLEY

Early Spring Birding

"In Comfort & Style" March 17-21



Birding Areas & Highlights

The Forest of Dean. The largest area of continuous woodland in the region, consisting of Pedunculate Oak, Beech & Sweet Chestnut admixed with conifers, heathland, lakes & streams.

Here occur the very localised Hawfinch and even rarer Lesser-spotted Woodpecker, together with Crossbill, Siskin & Redpoll, plus Marsh Tit, Nuthatch & Treecreeper, with many of these woodland species found within the Nagshead RSPB Reserve.

Great Grey Shrike often winters in the "clearings", whilst Mandarin Duck & Little Grebe, Grey Wagtail & Dipper frequent the ponds & adjacent streams. At *Fancy View Watch Point*, superb Goshawk soar & display over the open woodland, together with Buzzard & Raven.

Also visiting the excellent Dean Heritage Centre to understand & appreciate the history, geology & ancient mining within the region.

The Wye Valley. At Symonds Yat, enjoy stunning views of the River Wye below as it zig-zags through steep woodland & limestone cliffs. Here Peregrine breed on the cliff ledges, whilst Red Kite & Goshawk soar over the hills across the River.

Accommodation

Lunchtime arrival for 4 nights stay at the gorgeous *Tudor Farmhouse Hotel*, situated in the village of Clearwell on the edge of The Forest of Dean.

Surrounded by countryside, elegant and intimate, with stone walls & timber frames, the Hotel boasts beautiful bedrooms and excellent food served from its award winning 2 AA rosette restaurant, all locally sourced. It is truly a delight!

Perfectly situated to explore the various areas within The forest of Dean plus visiting the beautiful Wye Valley.

Late morning departure on the last day.



Cost: £1195 (s/s £245)

Deposit: £200

B/L due: Jan. 17

Included: 4 nights dinner, bed & breakfast at the *Tudor Farmhouse Hotel*, entrance to Dean Heritage Centre & all transportation & full guidance .

Not included: Travel insurance, lunches, drinks, gratuities & personal items.
(NB: Cost based on 7 guests min.)