Get wild at Hawkhope and the Belling

The north shore of Kielder Water is one of the quieter parts of Kielder Water & Forest Park. This, coupled with a unique mixture of habitats – deciduous and coniferous woodland, the lake and its shore – makes it ideal for wildlife. Tread quietly and carefully and you may be rewarded with close encounters of the wilder kind!

The sheltered bay on the far side of the Belling is one of the Kielder ospreys’ favourite early morning feeding grounds. If the water is still and clear they can easily spot breakfast swimming below the surface. Look out for them between April and August.

Dawn and dusk are good times to look out for roe deer feeding in grassy clearings.

The pine woods on the Belling are the ideal habitat for Britain’s smallest bird, the goldcrest. Keep an eye out for it as it nips in and out of branches hunting for small insects.

Go wild with the app!
You can follow this walk using the Viewranger app. It includes GPS directions, information and audio clips on what to look out for:

www.viewranger.com
Make sure you download before you visit.

How to get there
The walk starts from Hawkhope car park, at the northern end of Kielder dam.
OS grid ref NY 708 883
Postcode for sat navs: NE48 1BH, which gets you to Yarrowmoor on the south end of the dam.

Thank you to our partner Forestry Commission England for use of the Ordnance Survey based mapping.

All details were accurate at the time of going to print Jan 2019.
Please refer to www.visitkielder.com for updates.
**The Belling & Wave Chamber**

Easy first ½ mile along the Lakeside Way. Paths on the Belling peninsula can be rough and muddy in places, with a couple of steep climbs (this section and the track up to the North Haul Road are not suitable for wheelchairs or buggies).

This well waymarked walk takes you to the Belling peninsula from where there are fine views across Kielder Water. Here you’ll also find the Wave Chamber, a small stone building in which sound and light are projected from the surface of the water.

From the car park follow the Lakeside Way west for ⅔ mile/1km. Look out for the waymarker taking you left on to the Belling.

Turn right at the fork and follow the anti-clockwise circuit around the peninsula.

Back at the Lakeside Way turn right and then immediately left, to climb a rough track up to the North Haul Road. Turn right.

Watch out for forestry vehicles along this stretch. After ⅔ mile/1km look for the waymarker taking you right, along a narrow path back to the car park.