

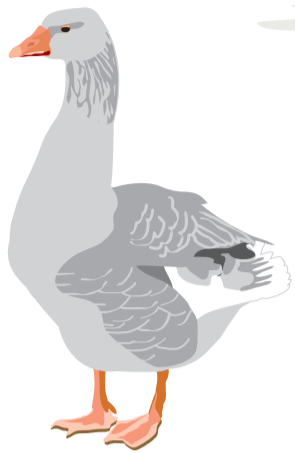
Guilbneach Curlew

This large brown wader with a long down curved bill is present on Rum throughout the year. It breeds in most of the glen bottoms and it's bubbling song is a pleasant addition to a spring day.



Gèadh-glas Greylag goose

Rum's Greylag Goose population is resident all year and numbers 50 or 60 individuals. The main group lives around Kinloch feeding on improved farmland. They are more widespread in summer when they disperse to breed.



Naosg Snipe

These well camouflaged waders are usually only seen when they are flushed from under the feet taking flight at the last minute. Being a common breeder the strange drumming display is frequently heard from dusk till dawn.



Siolta-dhearg Red-breasted Merganser

This 'sawbill' duck is present on Rum all year and is best seen in Loch Scresort where it dives and hunts for fish. Very few Merganser chicks survive on Rum as they are easily predated by gulls.



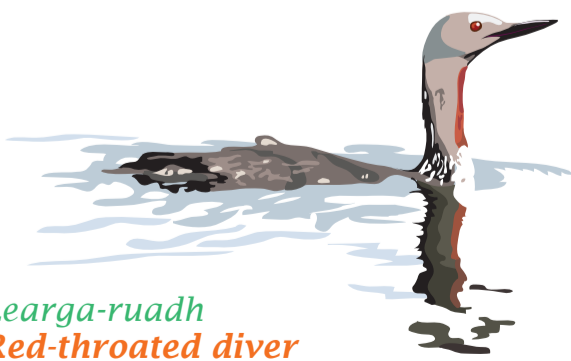
Sgarbh-an-sgumain Shag

This seabird is a common breeder around the shores of Rum often in association with other species such as guillemot, razorbill and kittiwake. It is often confused with the cormorant which is much rarer on the island.



Learga-ruadh Red-throated diver

Breeding on hill lochs red-throats are also common around the coast in the summer months especially in Loch Scesort. Their eerie wailing song and guttural flight calls can be heard throughout the breeding season



Discover Rum's Birds

Feel free to wander freely on Rum while bird watching - there are no access restrictions. There are several trails around Kinloch village, and for the more adventurous longer walks to Harris or Kilmory. If venturing out into the hills please be aware that the terrain is rugged and remote and stout footwear and sensible clothing should be worn. Please be aware that many of Rum's birds are sensitive to disturbance during the breeding season April-July inclusive.

Isle of Rum Community Trust

The Isle of Rum Community Trust was set up to foster community development on the Isle of Rum. Our priorities include providing secure affordable housing, building a solid economic base for the local community, providing essential facilities and to work in harmony with our natural heritage.

For more information:

www.isleofrum.com
www.snh.org.uk
email info@isleofrum.com
Tel: 01687 462026

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Gille-Brìghde Oystercatcher

This noisy black and white wader is a common breeder around the coast of Rum on shingle or sandy beaches. The eggs and chicks are well camouflaged and easily trodden on so be careful where you're stepping when on the beach!



Colc Eider

Rum's commonest duck, the eider breeds around the coast and can be seen on the sea close inshore. Striking black and white males display in spring and early summer. Chicks often group together to form large crèches.



Isle of Rum Birds



Discover the island's diverse bird life

Fachach-bàn Manx shearwater

Rum contains arguably the largest colony of this summer visiting seabird in the world. Over 60 000 pairs fly into their nesting in burrows under cover of darkness to avoid predation. Look out for them on the ferry crossing.



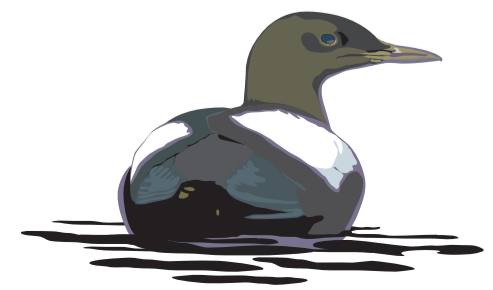
Faoileag-bheag-an-sgadain Common gull

Breeding in the sand dunes at Kilmory and Shamhnan Insir these gulls become noisy and upset if you approach the colony too closely. Herring, Lesser-black Back and Greater-black Back gulls are also common breeders around the coast.



Gearra-glas Black guillemot

Known as the Tystie this small auk is a common breeder around the coast of Rum in rocky crevices. It's population is probably below capacity due to the predation of eggs by introduced brown rats.



Iolaire-mhara
White-tailed
Eagle

Rum was chosen for the re-introduction of this huge bird of prey back to the UK. The birds that were released on Rum spread out along the West Coast of Scotland and became the founding members of Scotland's small but increasing population.



Fitheach
Raven

This is the largest of the crow family and about nine pairs nest on the island. They are the acrobats of the skies and often turn completely upside down when flying. Eggs are laid early in March and young are on the wing by May.



Iolaire-bhuidhe
Golden eagle

A few pairs of this majestic bird of prey are present on Rum. They are normally shy of people and are usually spotted soaring high over the island's mountains and ridges, often being mobbed by hooded crows and ravens.



Clacharan
Stonechat

A small but colourful bird the stonechat is a common breeder on the moorlands of Rum. The call is similar to two pebbles being knocked together hence the name. It's close relative the whinchat is much rarer on the island.



Merlin in flight

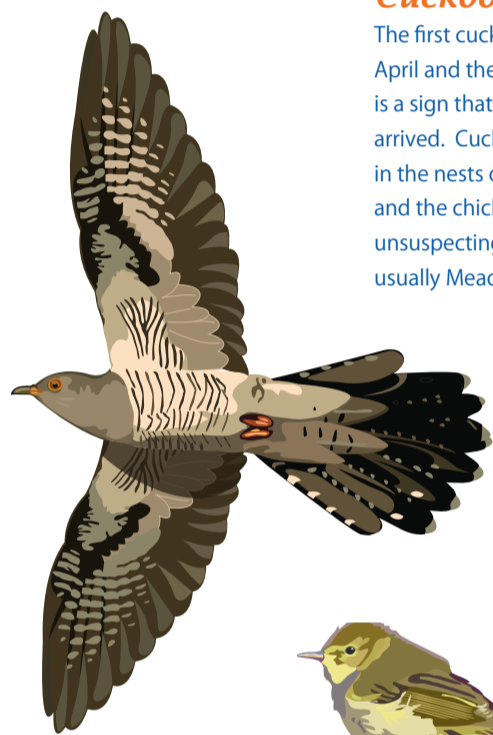


Mèirneal
Merlin

This dashing falcon, Europe's smallest bird of prey is a rare breeder on Rum. It hunts over open ground using speed and agility to catch small birds such as Meadow Pipits and insects like moths and dragon flies.

Cuthag
Cuckoo

The first cuckoos return in April and their distinctive call is a sign that spring has finally arrived. Cuckoos lay their eggs in the nests of other small birds and the chick is reared by the unsuspecting foster parents, usually Meadow Pipits on Rum.



Ceileiriche-ghiuthais
Willow warbler

This small summer migrant is very common in the woodland and scrub of Rum. It is best identified by its distinctive song which fills the air on a spring morning walk. Amazingly this tiny bird migrates to Africa for the winter.

Dreathann-donn
Wren

Found from the top of the island's mountains to the rocky shoreline and habitats as varied as gardens, woodland, moor and scree this amazing little bird can be seen on a walk anywhere on Rum at any time of the year.



Feadag-bhuidhe
Golden Plover

This beautifully spangled medium sized wading bird breeds on the hills and moors of Rum. Its mournful and lonely calls and song are sometimes the only sound on an early spring moorland walk.

Crionag-bhuidhe
Goldcrest

Britain's smallest bird is present on Rum in both summer and winter in woodland habitats. It can often be seen in flocks with other island residents such as blue, great and coal tits.



Riabhadh-mhonaidh
Meadow pipit

This small brown streaked bird is present all over the island in summer and is the main host of the cuckoo. The very similar rock pipit is common around the coast usually seen close to the rocky shore



Fidhleir-bòrd-an-locha
Common sandpiper

This small wader is a summer visitor and breeds close to water such as rivers and lochs. It has a distinctive tee wee call and often stands on a prominent perch bobbing away.



Starrag
Hooded crow

A common breeder throughout the island, an angry raucous 'hoodie' is often the first sign that an eagle is close by. Large flocks are present in winter scavenging on food put out for cattle and horses.



Brù-gheal
Wheatear

This small bird is a common summer visitor to open moorland and coastal habitats throughout the island. The males are strikingly coloured and are easily recognised in flight by the white rump patch.

