

## SMILE, LAUGH, AND PLAY YOUR WAY TO AN UNFORGETTABLE DAY OUT!

**Hold on tight:** there's a *fantastic day* ahead of you at Castle Espie. Enjoy splashing, playing, feeding, climbing, getting up-close-and-personal to some of nature's most *wonderful wildlife*.

We've acres of *adventure* to flutter hearts, including Ireland's largest collection of native and exotic birds; ducks and geese from *around the world*; our annual arctic arrivals; and the *wonders* of our woodland walk.

Add to that our Brent play barn for *little explorers*, pond creatures, a magical sensory garden, and you're left with an *unforgettable* award-winning family day out.

## FLY INTO OUR FUN EVENTS

Get set for 363 days of discovery. Big or small, (feathered or not), you're all welcome to enjoy the special events and seasonal highlights that makes Castle Espie Wetland Centre a firm family favourite.

### LITTLE ONES FOR LITTLE ONES

Our *duckery* is a very special place, where our cutest and fluffiest residents live. Many are not even born yet! You may even see one hatch. *Aaaaah!* (summer months)



### WILD SUMMER HOLIDAYS

Pond dipping, wildlife watching and bug hunts - your *summer adventure* is waiting.



### A SPELLBINDING HALLOWEEN

Our *Spellbound Festival* is always a scream! Spooky stories by the fire, creepy crafts, games and ghoulish fancy dress. Visit us, if you dare.

### HERE COMES SANTA

Have a *magical Christmas* at Castle Espie as we host Santa and his team of busy elves, letter writing, crafts and storytelling - not forgetting the toasted marshmallows!

Fly over to [www.wwt.org.uk/castle-espie-events](http://www.wwt.org.uk/castle-espie-events) for more details.

## EVERYTHING YOU NEED FOR AN UNFORGETTABLE DAY OUT

### HOW TO FIND US

FREE PARKING

- **Our address** is 78 Ballydrain Road, Co Down, N Ireland, BT23 6EA.
- **By car** - We are 2.5 miles from Comber on the Ballydrain Road, off the A22 Comber/Killyleagh Road. From Belfast follow the A22 towards Comber until you reach the roundabout. Turn right on to the A22 Comber/Killyleagh/Downpatrick road then turn first left at the Ballydrain Road.
- **By bike** - Enjoy a 20% discount in The Kingfisher Kitchen if you arrive by bicycle. We have a bike rack in front of the visitor centre - please bring your own lock.
- **By air** - We are a 30 minute car/taxi journey from George Best Belfast City Airport.

### WHEN WE'RE OPEN

- Visit us *363 days a year* - that's every day except Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.
- We're open *10am-5pm* all year round (until 5.30pm on summer weekends and bank holidays). Our last admission is one hour before closing.

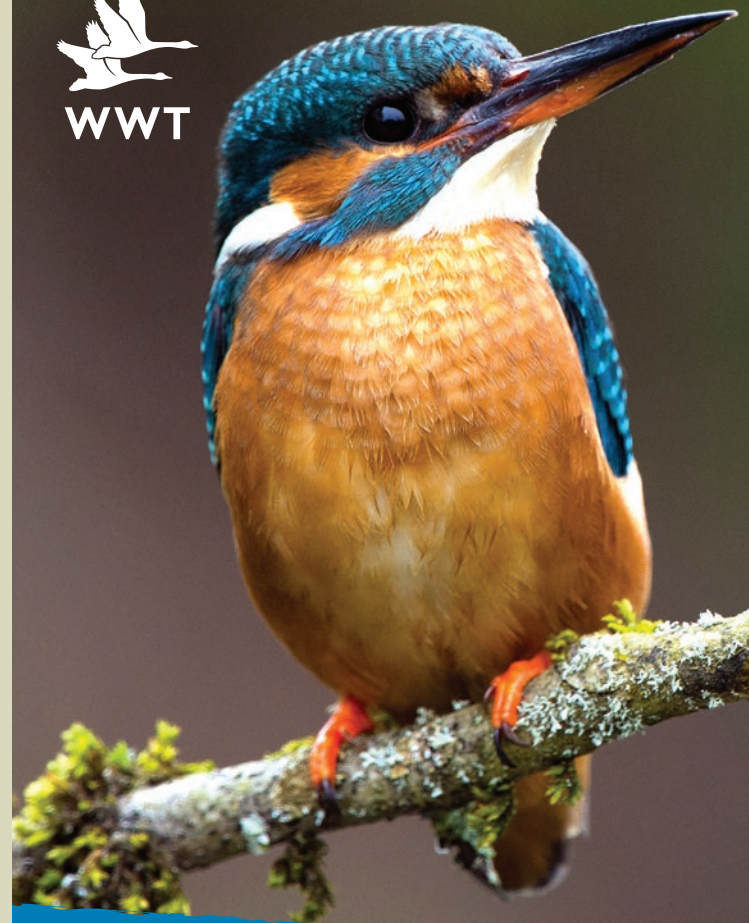
KINGFISHER KITCHEN  
OPENS AT 9.30AM!

### GET IN TOUCH

- **Call us** on 028 9187 4146
- **Email us** at [info.castlespie@wwt.org.uk](mailto:info.castlespie@wwt.org.uk)
- **Connect with us** on Facebook, Twitter [WWTCastlespie](https://twitter.com/WWTCastlespie) and Instagram [@wwtcastlespie](https://www.instagram.com/wwtcastlespie)

WWT is the *leading conservation* charity that protects, preserves and promotes *wildlife* and *wetlands*. Come along, *explore*, get close to the *animals*, enjoy *Unique experiences* and learn about these *amazing habitats*.

WWT reg charity, Eng & Wales, no. 1030884 and Scotland no. SC039410



## GET CLOSE TO NATURE

at Castle Espie Wetland Centre

OPEN 363  
DAYS OF  
THE YEAR



"A lovely afternoon out with children. Lovely views and great activities for the kids. Finished off with a great cup of tea in the welcoming cafe. Very friendly staff."

JFMP22  
Trip Advisor



# IMAGINATIONS WILL FLY AT CASTLE ESPIE

Plan your adventure at [wwt.org.uk/castle-espie](http://wwt.org.uk/castle-espie)



IMPROVED FOR 2018

## THE POND ZONE

Explore our ponds and discover real and amazing underwater life – you never know what you might find. Ideal for kids (and big kids too!).



## THE SECRET SWAMP

Past the wishing tree, over the wall, and into a woodland world where mossy glades, mucky marshes, tree house adventures and a swamp of dazzling green awaits – how many fairy doors can you find?

## THE ART OF CONSERVATION

With beautiful work from local artists, our light and airy gallery makes the fabulous finishing touch to your day.

Image: Kathryn Callaghan



## A GARDEN OASIS FOR THE SENSES

This is herb-scented heaven with birds playing, a wiggly wormery and ant farm, the splash of a rill pond, plus our big old redwood tree with his thrilling-to-touch spongy bark.



“Didn’t even know this hidden treasure existed! Was a fantastic day out and my 3 year old loved it too!”  
Lynsey Willis, Facebook Review



## BRENT PLAY BARN

Arctic-themed slides, a hide and seek fox’s den, a giant brent nest, arctic animal rockers - and it’s all exclusively for explorers under 115cm tall. Getting them home may be a problem.



## FEATHERED FEEDING TIME

With seed in your hand and a group of ducks and geese (including light bellied brent geese) at your feet, giggles of delight are inevitable in our Close Encounters area.



## GO WILD IN THE WOODS

A woodland adventure where kids can burrow in a badger’s sett, dash the log obstacle course, forge a den, and fly high on the rope swing.

## BIRD’S EYE VIEWS!

For fabulous views of Strangford Lough, it has to be our Lime Kiln Observatory or our renovated Brent Discovery Hide. Come September, they’re the ideal spots to watch the return of the Brent Geese.



## THE KINGFISHER KITCHEN

Treat yourself to home-cooked hearty breakfasts, seasonal specials, light lunches, Castle Espie classics and afternoon teas, while you enjoy unrivalled views of Strangford Lough.



WE'RE BUGGY AND WHEELCHAIR FRIENDLY



FREE PARKING