

WASHINGTON
WETLAND CENTRE
**GROUP
VISITS
GUIDE**



GREAT FOR GROUPS

Washington Wetland Centre is a fantastic day out, offering groups the chance to get close to amazing wildlife while enjoying stunning scenery in relaxing and accessible surroundings.

Seamless service

The centre has dedicated bookings staff to assist you in planning your unforgettable group day out.

Exclusive group benefits

We have an extensive range of benefits for your group of 12 or more people including:

- Generously discounted group admission rates.
- Free familiarisation trip for the group organiser.
- Free on the day entry for the group organiser.
- Plentiful free coach and minibus parking.
- Free entry for the coach driver.
- Selection of special group catering packages (please pre-book).
- A range of publicity materials to help advertise your trip to our wetland centre to your members.



Accessible for all

Washington is an accessible site with:

- Accessible pick up and drop off available outside of the visitor centre on request, provision of accessible car parking bays and toilets.
- Tarmac on main paths and plenty of places to sit and relax.
- Friendly staff who are happy to discuss your needs prior to your visit and help on the day.
- A range of accessible hides.
- Manual wheelchairs or mobility scooters available for free hire (please pre-book).
- Meet and greet service.
- Fully registered assistance dogs welcome.

Talks, tours and seasonal events

There is something new to see and do every season at Washington Wetland Centre. Add to this a range of daily talks, tours and animal feeds and your group will have a fascinating time whenever they visit.

WASHINGTON WETLAND CENTRE

Your group is sure to love this beautiful centre on the banks of the River Wear. They will enjoy getting close to amazing wildlife such as cheeky otters, majestic Eurasian cranes, exotic Chilean flamingos and some of the most endangered water birds on this planet. Your group can relax as they stroll around wildflower meadows, woods and our saline lagoon spotting herons, woodland birds, curlews and lots more.



Not to be missed!

Otterly delightful: introducing Mimi and Musa. Feeding time is fascinating; your group can learn about our Asian short-clawed otters and their wild cousins while they enjoy their delicious treats.

In the pink: with their striking pink plumage and dancing displays, our Chilean flamingos are unmissable. Find out fascinating facts at our daily talk.

Feathered feeding time: with seed in their hand and a gaggle of ducks and geese at their feet, your group will love our Ganderland and Close Encounters hand-feeding areas.

Boardwalk on the wildside: basking dragonflies, hatching common frogs and emerging newts – the warmer months turn these ponds into a wildlife hotspot.

Spectacular saline lagoon: your group can enjoy one of the rarest and most unique habitats in the UK from the Lagoon View Hide, with impressive panoramic views of the River Wear. Wildlife spotting highlights include wild otter, kingfisher and roe deer.

Hawthorn Wood haven: bullfinch, great-spotted woodpeckers and a host of other birds regularly visit Hawthorn Wood feeding station. A magical woodland sanctuary for feathered and human visitors alike.

Wader Lake wonders: binoculars at the ready for easy views of breeding avocets and lapwings (in spring), a busy common tern colony (in summer) and one of the UK's best heronries, from our four lake-side hides. Your group can find out more about our fascinating wild birds with our expert guide in the hides (selected Saturdays – see website for details).

Working wetland garden: our newest exhibit demonstrates how your group can create a rain garden at home while providing a colourful and sensory space for all to enjoy. Winner of two gold awards at the Royal Hampton Court Flower Show 2016.

Expert knowledge: your group can go on a fantastic guided tour of the centre to learn more about our history and wildlife.

Seasonal highlights and events

- **All year:** twice-monthly reserve walks (every third Saturday and fourth Sunday)

Café and shop

Round off your group's day perfectly with delicious food and drink from our Waterside café while enjoying panoramic views over the stream area and have a browse in our fabulous gift shop.



Opening times

Visit us 364 days a year – that's every day except Christmas Day.

We're open 9.30am – 5.30pm (4.30pm in winter months and 2pm on Christmas Eve) and our last admission is one hour before closing.

Coach and minibus parking

We have ample, FREE coach and minibus parking next to our centre.

Prices

See insert opposite for our special group admission rates.



To find out more:

W: wwt.org.uk/washingtongroups

T: 0191 416 5454

E: groups.washington@wwt.org.uk

Address: Tyne and Wear NE38 8LE

WHERE WE ARE

- Just four miles from the A1M (junction 64/65) and two miles from the A19, Washington Wetland Centre can easily be combined with visits to nearby Durham, Newcastle and Sunderland.
- For SatNavs, our postcode is NE38 8LE.



Connect with us on social media
@WWTWashington

Otter images: Ian Henderson/WWT
Roe Deer Image: Pink Moon Images