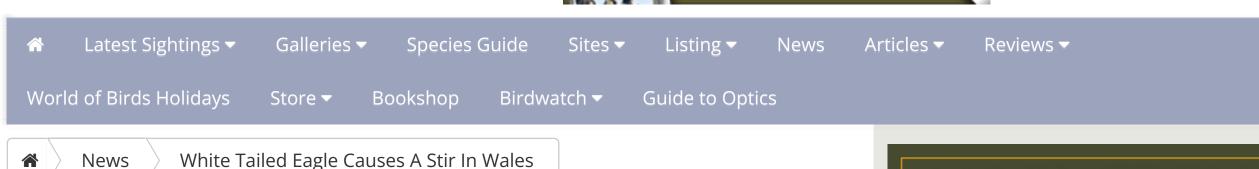
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White-tailed Eagle causes a stir in Wales

The appearance of a White-tailed Eagle in North Wales has caused a stir, with the bird thought to be of wild origin.

The immature eagle was found near Llanuwchllyn, Meirionnydd, on 3 January. It has lingered in the area and been confirmed as not of reintroduced Isle of Wight stock, boosting its credentials as a wild bird.

Farmer Rhodri Jones said one of his colleagues was first to see the bird, but did not tell him it was an eagle to begin with, because he thought his boss would laugh at him in disbelief.

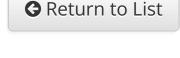


Jones added: "It stood on a rock looking down on the house for a good hour I'm sure. It was very quiet, and I went closer to get a better look, just a few hundred yards away to take a picture. There are plenty of buzzards and kites here, but this bird was nothing like those."

White-tailed Eagle formerly bred in Wales, but has been absent since the 16th century. The recent reintroduction programme on the Isle of Wight has seen birds spread throughout southern England, resulting in the first English breeding record for 240 years in 2023.

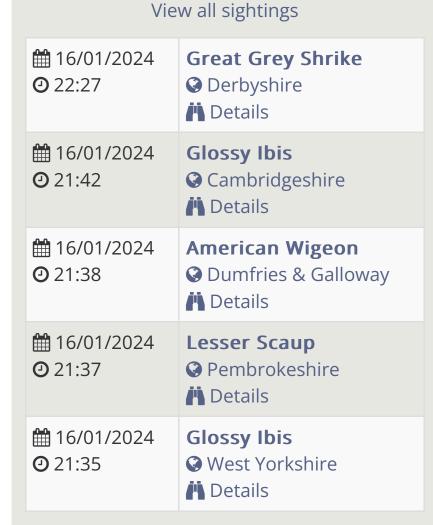
For all the latest sightings of the White-tailed Eagle, log on to www.birdguides.com/sightings - or buy a bird news subscription to keep up to speed with observations nationwide.



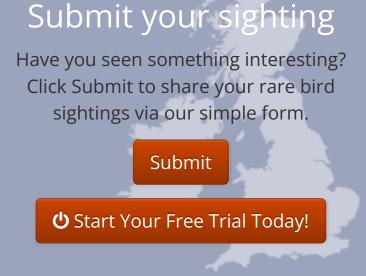




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