

Welcome

The Wash is the UK's most important estuary for wildlife and the coastline has some of the best saltmarsh and mudflats in the country, supporting thousands of wildfowl and waders on their migration. On our cruises we see these habitats from the seaward side, allowing us to get close to the birds. In 2009 we saw over 100 species, with around 60 species seen per cruise. Sightings include waders, such as ringed plover, turnstone, dunlin, knot, redshank, black-tailed and bar-tailed godwit, as well as little egret, eider, marsh harrier, various terns, peregrine, common buzzard, gannet and kingfisher. Seals hauled out on the exposed mudbanks are also seen on most cruises.

The full list of sightings for 2009 is available on our website www.southlincsrspb.org.uk



Marsh harrier

Our cruises provide interest for all - from the avid birder to anyone with a general interest in nature. Each cruise is lead by local guides who will help with bird identification and point out places of local historical interest. Do not worry about seasickness - we have not had one case so far!

The Cruise

The cruises last 4½ to 5 hours. We board the boat at Sluice Bridge on the River Witham in Boston. After negotiating the lock we travel down river to the mouth of the Witham and out into the Wash for about a mile or so. Our return journey takes us along the River Welland, which is bordered on both sides by saltmarsh, including RSPB Frampton Marsh reserve.

Meeting Point

We meet outside the Jolly Sailor café restaurant on Witham Bank East in Boston. This is less than 50m from where Fydell Street (A1137) and the railway both cross the River Witham at the Sluice Bridge.

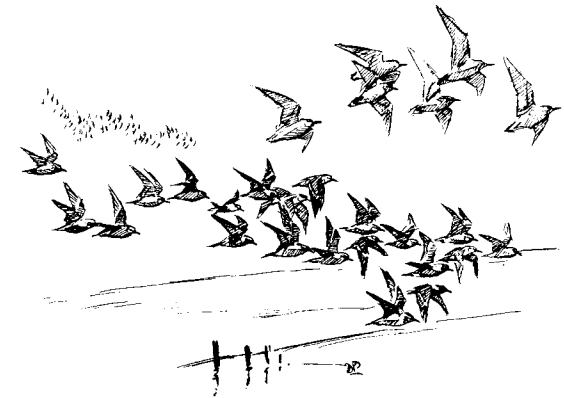
The Boat

The boat is well equipped, with seating both outside and in the lounge. Refreshments are available from the galley, including hot and cold drinks, and freshly made sandwiches and snacks.

There is a toilet on board.



The Wash Birdwatching Cruises



with

South Lincs RSPB
aboard the Boston Belle

Programme 2010

Sailing times 2010

April 10	Sat	depart	14.15
April 23	Fri	depart	11.30
May 22	Sat	depart	11.00
June 5	Sat	depart	10.00
June 7	Mon	depart	13.00
June 20	Sun	depart	10.30
July 3	Sat	depart	8.30
July 6	Tues	depart	9.15
July 18	Sun	depart	9.15
August 7***	Sat	depart	14.15
September 4	Sat	depart	12.45
September 16	Thurs	depart	10.30
October 14	Thurs	depart	9.00

*** Booking for this cruise does not open until June 14th

We would advise you to allow plenty of time to reach the departure point, as the traffic on the approach roads into Boston can be heavy.

Please arrive 30 minutes before the departure time. These times are based on the tide therefore we are not able to wait for latecomers.

If you require parking details please mark the booking form accordingly.

The RSPB South Lincs Local Group would like to keep your details to send you further information about group activities.

If you want to amend or update your details or you do not want us to use them in the way stated, please contact us at the address on the booking form.

How to book your place

To book online, go to www.southlincsrspb.org.uk, select the Cruises option, and follow the instructions provided.

Otherwise

1. Choose the cruise date(s) you require
2. Check availability by phoning us on 07531 495521
3. Complete the details on the booking form as requested
4. Send the form with your payment (cheques only) to the address shown, together with an S.A.E. for your tickets. Cheques must be made payable to South Lincs RSPB

Telephone reservations must be confirmed and paid for within 7 days

RSPB members

Adults £13.00 Child £6.50

Non-members

Adults £15.50 Child 7.50

Please quote membership number on form

In the event of a cruise being cancelled, a full refund or alternative date will be offered.

If a reservation is cancelled within 6 weeks of the cruise date, a refund will only be made if the tickets are resold.

For group bookings between 30 & 50 people, please contact us on 07531 495521.

N.B. Other dates may be available

Booking Form

Date of cruise(s)

Name

Phone No.
(in case of a cancellation)

Address

RSPB membership no.

Number of places required:

Adult

Children

Total payment enclosed

(←see panel for prices)

Parking details required Yes / No

Send to : South Lincs RSPB,
12a Howell Road,
Heckington,
Sleaford
Lincs NG34 9RX

Don't forget to enclose an S.A.E.