

## CORS DYFI Dyfi Osprey Project



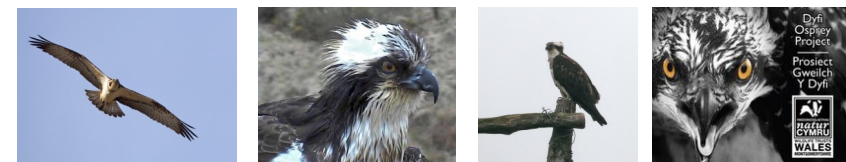
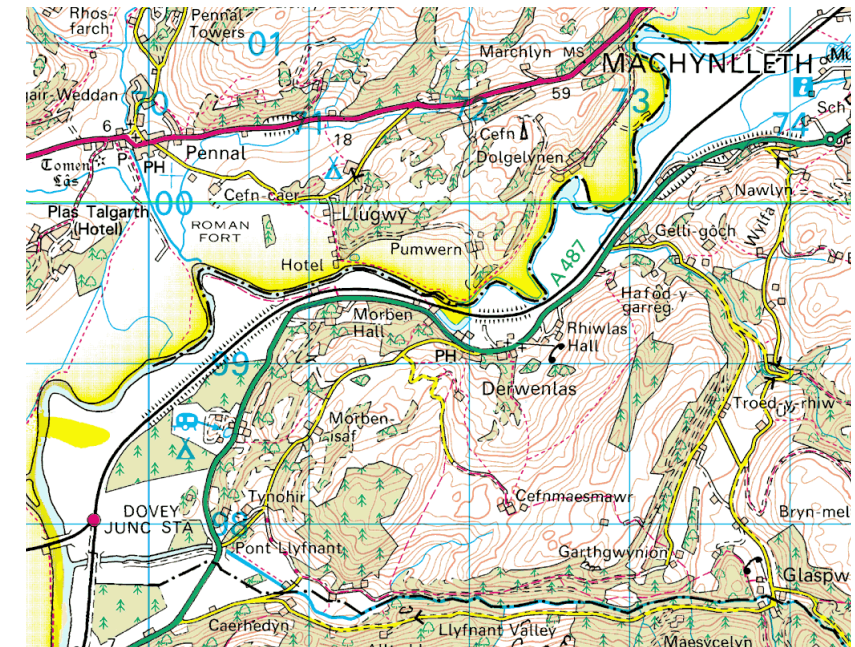
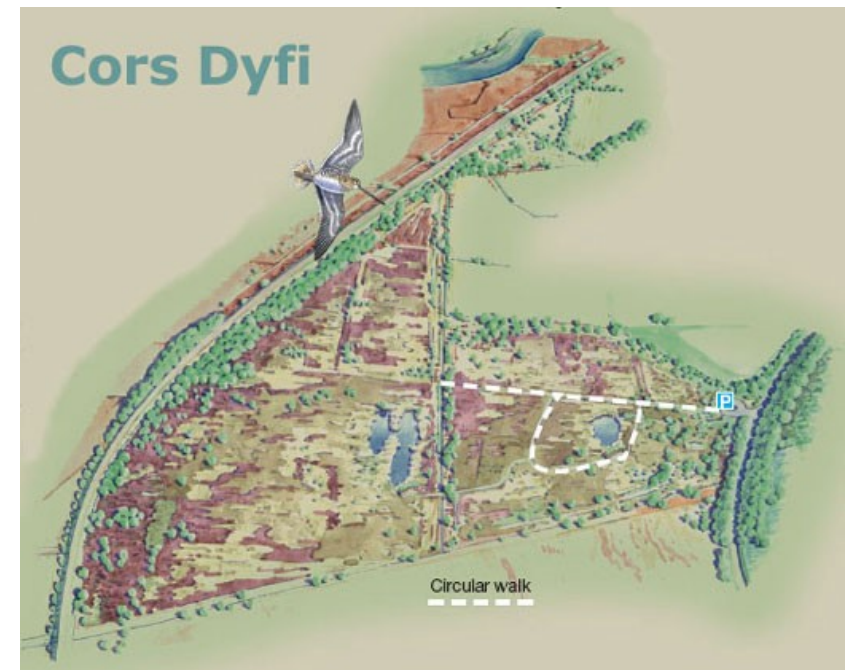
To get to Cors Dyfi turn left towards Aberdovey, drive through the village and on to Machynlleth. On reaching Machynlleth drive through the town passed the clock tower on to the A487 south towards Aberystwyth. 4 Miles along this road you will see the entrance to Dyfi Osprey project on your right hand side just after Morben Isaf caravan park.

The Dyfi Osprey Project is open 10am-6pm between April and August. There is a visitor centre where you can see images from the nest on three large plasma screens then head to the hide where you can use telescopes to view the birds at the nest site. Enjoy a walk around the reserve where you can see eight species of Warblers, Common Lizards and bank voles. If you are lucky you might get a sighting of the elusive Otters or Dormouse. Meet our herd of Water Buffalo and watch them as they graze or swim in the pool.

In April 2011 a female osprey laid an egg, the last recorded breeding in the area was 1604. The birds nest is built on top of a telegraph pole, in 2009 the project attracted 25,000 visitors. The osprey is Wales rarest bird of prey and it is amazing that there are now 2 breeding pairs.

This site used to be within the Dyfi Estuary's tidal range and would have been covered twice a day by the sea. Over the years, silt gradually built up to a level above the high water mark, meaning that the land could be claimed for grazing. During exceptionally high tides the site is still prone to flooding.

Other interesting wildlife which can be seen includes over 100 bird species which were recorded from the tower hide including Merlin, Common Crane and Goldcrest and some stunning footage of the ospreys on the nest; over 100 species of moth including the Saltern Ear (new record for the county), dormice, adders, newts, a host of insects and spiders and over 80 plant species including Bog Myrtle and Royal Fern.





## ABOUT OSPREYS

### Overview

Seen in flight from below the osprey has white or slightly mottled underparts. The long wings are angled, bending at the 'wrist' which has a black patch contrasting with the white wing linings, and at a distance it could be mistaken for a large gull. This spectacular fish-eating bird of prey is an Amber List species because of its historical decline (due to illegal killing), and low breeding numbers.

### Where to see them

Its main UK stronghold is in Scotland - nest sites with public viewing facilities are at Loch Garten, Speyside, and Loch of the Lowes, Perth. It recently began breeding in England at Bassenthwaite, Cumbria, where there is a public viewpoint, at Rutland Water (where it was introduced), and a pair can also be found in Wales in the Glaslyn valley where there is a public viewpoint. Can be seen at almost any large body of freshwater during spring and autumn migration.

### When to see them

Birds arrive back from Africa in late March and April, leaving again in August and September.

A specialised, fish-eating bird of prey, most akin to the buzzards or eagles in general appearance.

It has a long hook on the bill, used for tearing apart fish, and has specially adapted legs and feet, with an outer toe that can turn backwards, spiny scales on the soles of the feet and remarkably long, arched, pointed claws, all ideal for grasping muscular fish. It catches fish by diving. There is just one species, very widely spread around the world.

