

OPEN ALL YEAR

No two visits to the heath are alike. The scene is always changing.

Yellow gorse flowers often brighten up winter on the heath. Smell their coconut scent on warm spring days. Limestone butterflies appear on the heaths early in the year. Look out for the bright yellow males.

In June, silver-studded blue butterflies start flying, sipping nectar from the flowers of bell heather or cross-leaved heath. Dodder is a parasitic plant. You might see its pink stems wrapped around heather in mid-summer.

By August the heaths glow with purple heather and are buzzing with bees and other insects. Slow worms bask in the summer sun, but come autumn they seek out cosy places, often under a layer of dead bracken, where they hibernate until spring.



Heaths have just the right conditions for some wildlife that can't survive anywhere else in this country.