To identify some of the wildlife you might encounter when exploring our 240 acre site, check out the following apps and websites:



Birds of Britain Pro



Flowers of Britain

rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/wildlife-guides/identify-a-bird/butterfly-conservation.org/butterflies/identify-a-butterfly wildlifetrusts.org/wildlife-explorer/wildflowers gloucestershirewildlifetrust.co.uk/wildlife-explorer

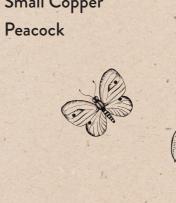
For more information on rewilding, you can also visit: rewildingbritain.org.uk



Butterflies and Moths

As well as many more bees now populating our meadows, you'll often encounter some of our native butterflies and moths as you walk around the estate...

Butterflies	Moths
Common Blue	Cinnabar moth
Meadow Brown	Udea Luteali
Gate Keeper	Yellow Shell
Brown Argus	Silver Y
Small Tortoiseshell	Grass Veneer
Small White	Lead Belle
Large White	W. 4
Small Skipper	W. W.
Green-veined White	Sold A
Painted Lady	Too My
Small Copper	4
	ASIN MARKET MARK





Animals

Rewilding encourages woodland animals and mammals to return to the landscape in larger numbers.

The following have been spotted throughout our 240 acres here at Calcot...

Brown Hare

Rabbit

Mole

Field Vole

Bank Vole

Field Mouse

Hazel Dormouse

Harvest Mouse

Brown Long-eared Bat

Weasel

Stoat

Fallow Deer

Roe Deer

Common Pipistrelle Bat

Muntjac Deer

Red Fox

European Badger

Grey Squirrel

Pygmy Shrew

Common Shrew

European Hedgehog



Rewilding helps nature to thrive and makes our outside spaces a better place to be!

Rewilding can breathe life into our natural landscapes... we can start to reverse centuries of ecological damage.

We can help nature to recover too. 56% of species in the UK are in decline and 15% are threatened with extinction.

Across Britain, many places where you would expect wildlife to thrive have been reduced to wet deserts. The seabed has been stripped of its living creatures. Deforestation has caused the loss of numerous large mammals and farming adversely affects the habitats of our birds and insects.

This is what we're doing at Calcot to help...





Abit of background

Around 25 years ago, Calcot purchased part of a neighbouring strawberry field. Around that time, the decision was made to create a wildflower meadow.

We consulted Charles Flower, a strong advocate of wildflower planting. He advised on the necessary steps and seed mixes that should be sown, pointing out that it would take time for the meadow to establish itself.

About 15 years later, Calcot purchased the farm next door, including 240 acres of intensively-farmed arable land. Our long time gardening and wild life guru Steve convinced us of the huge environmental potential in extending our re-wilding project across the whole acreage, and we set about a project which began with the process of turning the extensive area into fully organic grassland.

We have four fields: A strawberry field (directly below the hotel), Linseed (the largest field), Calcot Bottom, which is connected to the fourth field, Union Gorse.



The fields were inhabited by organic sheep and organic Aberdeen Angus cows for a number of years. This method of farming created a lovely patchwork of grasslands.

During the intervening years, we continued to plant large numbers of native trees in shelter belts and copses around the land. In 2011, we looked into the idea of creating a new woodland as part of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Woods scheme. Planting began in Autumn 2012, with 230 native trees planted in a large area of open ground in the middle of the woodland.

Three years ago, we began to spot increasing numbers of rare and endangered farmland birds such as Wheat Ears, Corn Buntings, Linnets, Yellowhammers and Meadow Pipets. We also have an increasing population of Skylarks, with over 40 young identified in the summer of 2019.

The woodland is left pretty much to itself, with only minimal maintenance. We are also leave other areas around the grounds undisturbed, helping to create a wild, unspoilt habitat for numerous animals and birds. There are plans to add more planted areas (shelter belts and copses) around the site.

We're hoping this important project will create a wonderful wildlife habitat for the future!

Birds

As well the more common British birds, we've also hosted some of the more rare and engdangered farmland birds here at Calcot. Here's what we've spotted...

Spotted Flycatcher Corn Bunting Yellowhammer Wheat Ear Meadow Pipet Linnet Whitethroat Blue Tit Stock Dove Pheasant Carrion Crow Kestrel Blackbird Chaffinch Fieldfare Starling Mistle Thrush Long-tailed Tit Song Thrush Stonechat Skylark Great Spotted Woodpecker Woodpigeon Goldfinch Magpie Sparrow Hawk

Buzzard

Blackcap

House Martin

Greenfinch

Woodpigeon

House Sparrow

Pied Wagtail

Robin

Wren





A recent study of the abundant wildflowers spotted on the estate this year includes the following...

Lady's Smock Red Campion Cowslip Pyramid Orchid Margoram Common Spotted Orchid Common Broomrape White Dead Nettle Ribwort Plantain Greater Plantain Common Sorrel Yellow Rattle Sow Thistle Birdsfoot Trefoil Black Medick Dandelion Hogweed Rosebay Willowherb Wild Carrot

Common Eyebright St John's Wort

Colt's Foot Hedge bedstraw

Common Knapweed

Ragwort

Ground Ivy

Bee Orchid

White Clover

Knapweed

Mouse Ear

Eyebright

Red Clover

Oxeye Daisy

Comfrey

Yarrow

Hedge Woundwort

Convolvulus

Roundleaved Cranesbill

Malva Moschata

Tufted Vetch

Common Poppy Great Willowherb

Guelder Rose

Red Bartsia