

Birds at Llanishen & Lisvane Reservoirs in 2024

	SPECIES	First date	Last date	Max count	Status	Comments - <i>status and comments are only relevant in respect of the Reservoir sightings</i>
1	Canada Goose	7 Jan 2024		185	Common	Seen on most days throughout the year, especially late May to July when flock of moulting birds present.
2	Greylag Goose	11 Jan 2024		7	Frequent visitor	Occasionally seen amongst the Canada Geese.
3	Mute Swan	1 Jan 2024		6	Resident	Pair present throughout year on Lisvane Res but did not breed.
4	Shelduck	11 Nov 2024	11 Nov 2024	1	Scarce visitor	
5	Mandarin Duck	2 Oct 2024		1	Scarce visitor	
6	Shoveler	1 Sep 2024		2	Winter visitor	
7	Gadwall	8 Mar 2024		1	Winter visitor	
8	Wigeon	8 Jan 2024		7	Winter visitor	
9	Mallard	1 Jan 2024		14	Resident	
10	Teal	3 Aug 2024		1	Winter visitor	
11	Pochard	2 Jan 2024		7	Winter visitor	Oct 2023 - Mar; Sept
12	Ring-necked Duck	1 Jan 2024	31 Dec 2024	2	Scarce visitor	A male and female present from Jan to 21 Apr, the female returned on 25 Nov and remained until end of year and into 2025.
13	Tufted Duck	1 Jan 2024		194	Resident	Present throughout the year, most numerous in winter months. A pair bred on one of the rafts on Lisvane Res, successfully raising 4 juveniles.
14	Scaup	22 Sep 2024	22 Sep 2024	1	Scarce winter visitor	
15	Lesser Scaup	1 Apr 2024	1 Apr 2024	1	Rare	This bird commuted between Reservoirs and Cardiff
16	Common Scoter	3 Aug 2024		1	Scarce visitor	
17	Goldeneye	25 Nov 2024	25 Apr 2024	1	Winter visitor	Most years
18	Goosander	15 Feb 2024		5	Scarce visitor	Recorded several times during the year but seldom stayed for more than an hour.
19	Pheasant	1 Jan 2024		1	Resident	
20	Swift	27 Apr 2024	12 sept 2024	10	Summer migrant	May-Sept
21	Cuckoo	26 May 2024		1	Summer migrant	
22	Feral Pigeon	1 Jan 2024		2	Resident	
23	Stock Dove	24 Feb 2024		1	Resident	
24	Woodpigeon	1 Jan 2024		500	Resident	Each month, but with large flocks flying over in spring and autumn migration
25	Collared Dove	7 Jan 2024		1	Resident	
26	Coot	1 Jan 2024		200	Resident	Present throughout year. Most leave in spring for breeding grounds elsewhere but some stay and breed on the islands or heaped weed. Many of the chicks are lost to predation gulls and crows.
27	Little Grebe	1 Jan 2024		38	Resident	Not seen in May when they head off to breeding
28	Red-necked Grebe	11 Jan 2024	11 Feb 2024	1	Rare	
29	Great Crested Grebe	1 Jan 2024		20	Resident	Numbers build up in spring with several pairs attempting to nest on piles of weed.
30	Black-necked Grebe	31 Aug 2024	5 Dec 2024	3	Rare	2 Sept - 16 Sept; and 3 migrating through on 5 Dec
31	Golden Plover	6 Nov 2024	6 Nov 2024	2	Rare	Fly over
32	Ringed Plover	19 Aug 2024		15	Scarce visitor	15 flew over on 6 Sep 24
33	Little Ringed Plover	4 Apr 2024	4 Apr 2024	1	Scarce migrant	Fly over
34	Lapwing	4 Nov 2024	4 Nov 2024	6	Uncommon visitor	Fly over
35	Whimbrel	30 Apr 2024	30 Apr 2024	8	Scarce migrant	Fly over
36	Curlew	3 Jul 2024		1	Uncommon visitor	Fly over
37	Grey Phalarope	2 Dec 2024	2 Dec 2024	1	Rare	Flew through very quickly touching the water for seconds
38	Common Sandpiper	1 Jan 2024		8	Common migrant	Each month
39	Green Sandpiper	22 Jul 2024		1	Uncommon visitor	
40	Redshank	17 Apr 2024	17 Apr 2024	1	Uncommon visitor	
41	Black Tern	28 Sep 2024	7 Oct 2024	1	Scarce migrant	
42	Arctic Tern	6 Sep 2024	6 Sep 2024	1	Scarce migrant	
43	Black-headed Gull	1 Jan 2024		86	Common visitor	Not seen Apr - Jun when they head off to breeding
44	Mediterranean Gull	18 Jul 2024		1	Scarce visitor	
45	Common Gull	11 Jan 2024		1	Winter visitor	
46	Herring Gull	1 Jan 2024		15	Resident	Seen most visits
47	Yellow-legged Gull	6 Feb 2024		1	Common visitor	
48	Great Black-backed	3 Sep 2024		1	Uncommon	
49	Lesser Black-backed	1 Jan 2024		110	Resident	Seen every visit
50	Black-throated Diver	9 Dec 2024	17 Jan 2025	1	Rare	9 Dec 2024 - 17 Jan 2025
51	Great Northern Diver	1 Jan 2024	15 Jan 2024	1	Rare	29 Oct 2023 - 15 Jan 2024
52	Gannet	11 Jul 2024	11 Jul 2024	1	Rare	Fly over. Only the second ever recorded at the Reservoirs.
53	Cormorant	3 Jan 2024		8	Resident	
54	Little Egret	2 Jan 2024		1	Common	
55	Grey Heron	1 Jan 2024		2	Resident	Each month
56	Osprey	19 Aug 2024	19 Aug 2024	1	Rare	Fly over
57	Sparrowhawk	11 Jan 2024		1	Resident	
58	Goshawk	29 Jan 2024		1	Uncommon	
59	Red Kite	6 Mar 2024		1	Frequent visitor	
60	Buzzard	1 Jan 2024		2	Resident	Seen most months. A pair bred in woods adjoining Llanishen Reservoir.

	SPECIES	First date	Last date	Max count	Status	Comments - <i>status and comments are only relevant in respect of the Reservoir sightings</i>
61	Kingfisher	1 Jan 2024		2	Resident	Most months but hard to find during breeding seen although seen fishing and feeding juvs.
62	Great Spotted	1 Jan 2024		3	Resident	Attempts to breed in neighbouring woods
63	Green Woodpecker	1 Jan 2024		2	Resident	
64	Kestrel	13 Aug 2024		1	Uncommon visitor	
65	Peregrine	12 Jan 2024		1	Frequent visitor	
66	Ring-necked Parakeet	29 Dec 2024	29 Dec 2024	1	Uncommon visitor	Fly over
67	Jay	1 Jan 2024		1	Resident	
68	Magpie	1 Jan 2024		4	Resident	Seen every month
69	Jackdaw	1 Jan 2024		110	Resident	Seen every month
70	Rook	15 Feb 2024		1	Frequent visitor	
71	Carrion Crow	1 Jan 2024		25	Resident	Seen every visit
72	Raven	15 Jan 2024		4	Resident	
73	Coal Tit	1 Jan 2024		1	Resident	
74	Blue Tit	1 Jan 2024		1	Resident	Each month
75	Great Tit	1 Jan 2024		2	Resident	
76	Skylark	17 Oct 2024		1	Passage migrant	
77	Sand Martin	8 Mar 2024		~100	Summer Migrant	Mar - Sept
78	Swallow	26 Mar 2024		10	Summer Migrant	Apr - Oct
79	House Martin	3 Apr 2024		~100	Summer Migrant	Thru to 29/8/2024
80	Long-tailed Tit	1 Jan 2024		8	Resident	
81	Willow Warbler	24 Mar 2024		2	Summer Migrant	Apr - Sept
82	Chiffchaff	8 Mar 2024		6	Summer Migrant	Mar - Nov
83	Sedge Warbler	3 Aug 2024		1	Summer Migrant	
84	Reed Warbler	3 May 2024		1	Summer Migrant	
85	Blackcap	6 Feb 2024		2	Summer Migrant	Apr to Aug
86	Firecrest	2 Apr 2024	2 Apr 2024	1	Scarce visitor	
87	Goldcrest	1 Jan 2024		1	Resident	
88	Wren	1 Jan 2024		1	Resident	
89	Nuthatch	1 Jan 2024		1	Resident	
90	Treecreeper	6 Feb 2024		1	Resident	
91	Starling	1 Jan 2024		1	Resident	
92	Song Thrush	1 Jan 2024		1	Resident	
93	Mistle Thrush	1 Jan 2024		2	Resident	Each month
94	Redwing	1 Jan 2024		1	Winter visitor	Nov - Mar
95	Blackbird	1 Jan 2024		4	Resident	
96	Fieldfare	4 Nov 2024		4	Winter visitor	4 Nov only
97	Spotted Flycatcher	3 Sep 2024	21 Sep 2024	6	Summer migrant	On passage
98	Robin	1 Jan 2024		1	Resident	Each month
99	Whinchat	26 Aug 2024		1	Scarce migrant	Flew in with Sand Martins
100	Stonechat	11 Mar 2024		1	Scarce visitor	
101	Wheatear	2 Sep 2024	8 Sep 2024	1	Passage migrant	
102	House Sparrow	2 Jan 2024		1	Resident	
103	Dunnock	1 Jan 2024		1	Resident	
104	Grey Wagtail	1 Jan 2024		6	Resident	
105	Pied Wagtail	11 Jan 2024		8	Resident	White Wagtail sub-species 22 Mar 24
106	Meadow Pipit	1 Jan 2024		10	Winter visitor	
107	Tree Pipit	13 Sep 2024	13 Sep 2024	1	Passage migrant	
108	Chaffinch	1 Jan 2024		1	Resident	
109	Bullfinch	12 Jan 2024		1	Resident	
110	Greenfinch	8 Feb 2024		1	Resident	
111	Linnet	11 Mar 2024		1	Frequent visitor	
112	Goldfinch	1 Jan 2024		30	Resident	
113	Siskin	1 Jan 2024		10	Winter visitor	
	Total species seen during 2024	113				Records collated by Nick McNeil-Watson, Simon Lawrence and Phil Bristow. All birders, reservoir rangers and members of the public who reported their sightings throughout the year are warmly thanked for contributing.
						Version 2 dated 12 Jun 2025