

Whitethroat



Whitethroat (male)



Whitethroat (female)

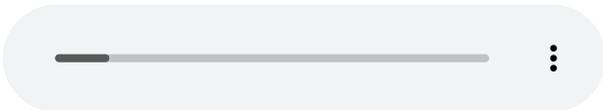
Scientific name: **Sylvia communis**

Bird family: Warblers

UK conservation status: Green

Protected by The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981

Whitethroat song audio



Bas van de Meulengraaf, Xeno-canto

Key information

The whitethroat is a medium-sized warbler, about the size of a great tit. It has quite a long tail which it flicks and cocks as it darts rapidly in and out of cover. The male has a grey head, a white throat and a brown back, and is buff underneath.

It is a summer visitor and passage migrant, with birds breeding widely, although it avoids urban and mountainous areas. It winters in Africa, south of the Sahara.

What they eat:

Insects, and berries and fruit in autumn.

Measurements:

Length:
14cm
Wingspan:
18.5-23cm
Weight:
12-18g

Population:



UK breeding: is the number of pairs breeding annually. UK wintering is the number of individuals present from October to March. UK passage is the number of individuals passing through on migration in spring and/or autumn.

Identifying features:

This bird species has different identifying features depending on sex/age/season.

Whitethroat (male)

Feather colour: Blue Brown Cream/buff Grey Orange Pink/purple White

Leg colour: Pink

Beak: Black Short Thin

Natural habitats: Woodland Farmland Grassland Heathland Urban and suburban

Whitethroat (female)

Feather colour: Blue Brown Cream/buff Grey Orange Pink/purple White

Leg colour: Pink

Beak: Black Short Thin

Natural habitats: Woodland Farmland Grassland Heathland Urban and suburban

Similar birds:



Lesser whitethroat

Where and when to see them

Whitethroats are found over most of the UK. Look in any piece of suitable habitat in summer.

* This map is intended as a guide. It shows general distribution rather than detailed, localised populations.

Resident

Passage

Summer

Winter



You can see whitethroats from mid-April to early October.

This bird can be seen in the UK in: apr may jun jul aug sep oct

RSPB reserves

[RSPB Tollie Red Kites](#)

[RSPB Canvey Wick](#)

[RSPB Sandwell Valley](#)