



# Skylark



Skylark

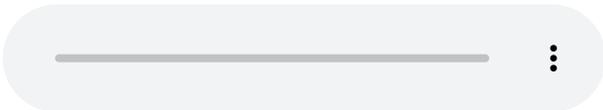
Scientific name: **Alauda arvensis**

Bird family: [Larks](#)

UK conservation status: [Red](#)

Protected by [The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981](#)

## Skylark song audio



[Patrik Aberg](#), xeno-canto

## Key information

The skylark is a small brown bird, somewhat larger than a sparrow but smaller than a starling. It is streaky brown with a small crest, which can be raised when the bird is excited or alarmed, and a white-sided tail. The wings also have a white rear edge, visible in flight. It is renowned for its display flight, vertically up in the air. Its recent and dramatic population declines make it a Red List species.

## What they eat:

Seeds and insects.

## Measurements:

Length:

18-19cm  
Wingspan:  
30-36cm  
Weight:  
33-45g

## Population:



UK breeding:

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:

## Skylark

Feather colour: Black Brown Cream/buff

Leg colour: Pink

Beak: Black Brown Short Medium thickness

Natural habitats: Farmland Grassland Heathland Marine and intertidal Upland

## Similar birds:

 Woodlark illustration

Woodlark

 Corn bunting

Corn bunting

 Meadow pipit

Meadow pipit

## Where and when to see them

Skylarks are found everywhere in the UK. Likes open countryside, from lowland farmland to upland moorland. Often inconspicuous on the ground, it is easy to see when in its distinctive song flight.

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

Resident

Passage

Summer

Winter

 Skylark distribution map

Skylarks can be seen all year round.

This bird can be seen in the UK in: jan feb mar apr may jun jul aug sep oct nov dec

# RSPB reserves

[RSPB Winterbourne Downs](#)

[RSPB Glenborrodale](#)

[RSPB Medmerry](#)

[RSPB Aghatirourke](#)

[RSPB Brodgar](#)

[RSPB Cors Ddyga](#)

[RSPB Dee Estuary - Parkgate](#)

[RSPB Mersehead](#)

[RSPB Onziebust](#)

[RSPB St Aidan's](#)

[RSPB Labrador Bay](#)

## In more depth

 [Nesting and breeding habits](#)

 [Skylark conservation](#)

 [Threats](#)

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