

Rare white kites spotted!

'Unusual pair grace Mid Wales forests'

Public and experts alike have been treated to **a rare glimpse of a pair of White Kites at Nant-yr-Arian forest visitor centre in Ceredigion**. Arriving for the centres daily kite feeding time at 3pm, the pair is understood to be only **one of 10 in Wales** that have this unusual pale colouring.

Only one chick in every 100 is hatched with this beautiful light, almost white plumage, so it is remarkable that two have been spotted at the same place at the same time. The RSPB have no record of White Kites breeding and it has been suggested that this could mean that the gene could possibly be linked to infertility.

Red Kites have become synonymous with Mid Wales, the symbol of Powys, due to years of successful breeding programmes that brought the breed from the brink of extinction. The birds are now making this beautiful rural area their home.

You can come and look out for these beautiful rare birds, along with around 30 spectacular Red Kites, Buzzards and Carrion Crows, as a few examples, everyday at the Nant-yr-Arian Visitor Centre, Ceredigion, Mid Wales just off the A44. The centre offers visitors a chance to get closer to the birds by providing a set feeding time at 3pm, the ideal opportunity to see these stunning and rare birds.

For more information on Mid Wales, its many events and attractions, free e-cards and ideas for a fun day out, visit www.gomidwales.co.uk.

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Editors notes:

For more information on Mid Wales, to include free journo visits or for exclusive features, contact PR Account Manager, Abi Whitfield, on 01970 636415 or email: abi@fbagroup.co.uk

For a full list of events in Mid Wales, please email abi@fbagroup.co.uk

10 things you didn't know about Mid Wales!

1. Mid Wales, made up of Powys, Ceredigion and Southern Snowdonia, is nationally important for water-sports and mountain biking. Coed y Brenin near Dolgellau has world class mountain biking – second only to California according to a recent vote. The area also offers fantastic cycling, fishing, golf, horse-riding and much much more!
2. Cadair Idris, the second tallest mountain in Wales is found in Mid Wales. After Snowdon, Cadair Idris is the most popular mountain in Wales for walkers and climbers.
3. Owain Glyndwr the famous 15th century statesman established his Parliament in Machynlleth. The long distance walk Glyndwr's Way takes in some of the most beautiful scenery in the UK.
4. The Mawddach estuary near Barmouth was described by Charles Darwin as the most beautiful view in the world
5. Portmeirion, the Italianate Village near Porthmadog and a very popular attraction, was the location for the television series 'Cold Feet' and 'The Prisoner'
6. Llanwrtyd Wells is the smallest town in the UK (but makes up for it with wacky events)
7. The only family of bottle nosed dolphins in the UK can be found in Cardigan Bay
8. The first Eisteddfod in Wales (literary and music festival which is unique to Wales) was held in Cardigan Castle in the 12th century
9. Dylan Thomas based his famous play Under Milkwood on the village of New Quay in Ceredigion
10. Llyn Tegid is the longest natural lake in Wales and England and is the only place in the world where the 'Gwyniad' fish can be found.