



## **JERSEY'S BIRDWATCHING AND BIRD PHOTOGRAPHY CODE**

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Many bird species in Jersey are endangered locally or globally. Their survival depends on their chances to feed and breed safely. Birdwatching and bird photography may cause disturbance to birds, and, in certain circumstances, this disturbance might cause them harm or even death.

This code puts the interest of birds first and offers simple advice on how to enjoy birdwatching and bird photography whilst minimizing the disturbance to the birds or their habitats.

1. Stay on roads, footpaths and in bird hides to avoid going too close to birds or walking through their habitats. If a bird flies away or makes repeated alarm calls, you are too close.
2. Do not use flash when photographing birds. This might distract the birds or daze them, making them more vulnerable to predators.
3. Do not use playback or birdsong recordings to lure hidden birds out or to make them sing, especially during breeding season from February to September. Provoking this behaviour may cause unnecessary stress to the bird, make it waste vital energy, keep it from feeding its mate or young, and put it at increased risk from predators.
4. Know the law: Disturbing a wild bird, its nest or nesting area is an offence under the Conservation of Wildlife (Jersey) Law 2000.
5. Make your sightings count: Report your observations in the records book at the hides, via the Jersey Birds website ([www.jerseybirds.co.uk](http://www.jerseybirds.co.uk)) or the Facebook group 'Jersey Wildlife'.
6. If you witness anyone who you suspect may be illegally disturbing or destroying wildlife or its habitat, phone the Police on 999 or the Department of the Environment on 01534-441600.

**THANKS AND ENJOY YOUR EXPERIENCE.**

