

Keep an eye out for flocks of birds, they might not be the only ones looking for fish



Oystercatchers and Sanderlings in flight by Ken Crossan, the Caithness Collection

Otters are semi aquatic, and don't live in the water all the time



Otter and fish by WDCS/Charlie Phillips

If you're lucky enough to see dolphins play, I'm sure you'll marvel at their sheer exuberance!



Dolphin watching at Chanonry Point by WDCS/Charlie Phillips



Common seal by Ken Crossan from The Caithness Collection

The Wild Coastal Trail

The Scottish Highlands have some of the world's best places to watch whales and dolphins from the shore. In order to help you enjoy our wonderful marine wildlife, we have created a Wild Coastal Trail introducing you to the best sites around our coastline.

Join me and discover eight specially selected places on the Trail. Use this leaflet to find each place, then either call me from there or you can find out more at www.highland.gov.uk/countrysiderangers. You can download the Wild Coastal Trail booklet from there too.



Wild Coastal Trail Slighe Cladaich Fhiadhaich

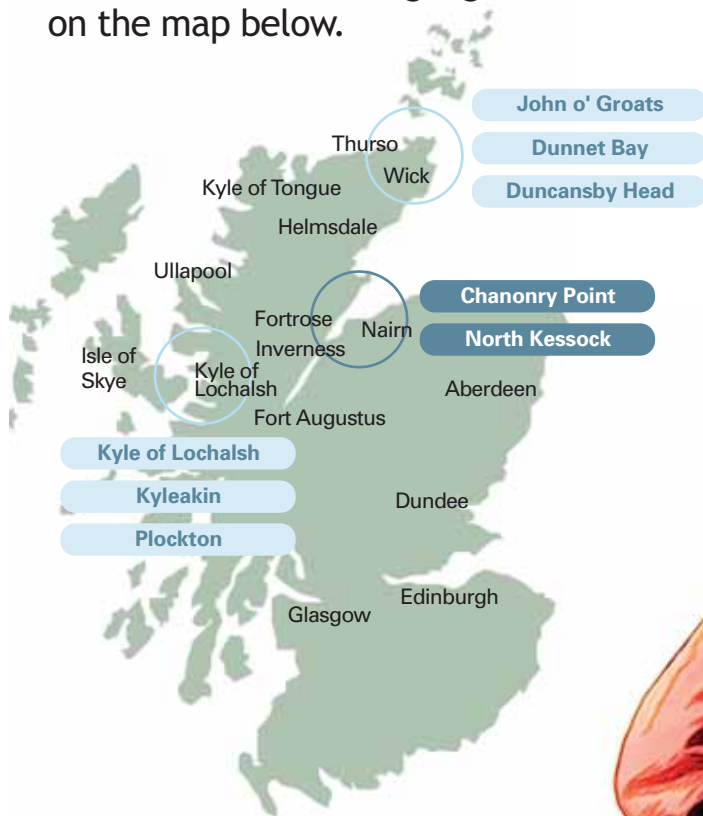
Hello, Cameron the Ranger here!
Why don't you join me to learn more about our Highland coastal wildlife?



Cameron the Ranger ©

Inner Moray Firth
Linne Mhoireibh A-staigh

I'd like to be your guide at some special places on the Wild Coastal Trail. Why don't you visit me at the sites highlighted on the map below.



The Inner Moray Firth

Inverness is a busy small city and the capital of the Highlands. Here the River Ness enters the Moray Firth. With more than 800 kilometres of coastline, the Moray Firth is the largest inlet of its kind in Scotland. It opens out into the North Sea and is one of the most important places on the UK coast for watching whales and dolphins. As well as coastal wildlife watching opportunities there are also wildlife watching boat trips operated from various locations around The Firth.

North Kessock and Chanonry Point are two important locations, not only for viewing the Moray Firth's resident population of dolphins, whose acrobatic antics are a joy to behold, but also for seals, porpoises and other coastal wildlife.



Cameron the Ranger ©

And you should get to know my colleagues, the Countryside Rangers. They run many events and guided walks which aim to help raise awareness and encourage appreciation of the scenery, wildlife and heritage of the Highlands. These events are aimed at local communities and visitors alike.

Further details about the Countryside Rangers can be found at www.highland.gov.uk/countrysiderangers and they'll be delighted if you get in touch.

Remember to keep in touch with me at www.facebook.com/thewildcoastaltrail

How to find us

Chanonry Point

0901 549 0038

Calls cost 75p + network extras

Call Cameron and he'll describe what you might see here

Travelling via the A9, take the A832 exit at the Tore roundabout and drive to Fortrose. In Fortrose, turn right at the signpost for the golf club and Chanonry Point. The golf course is on either side of the road. There is a small car park at the end of the road. The interpretation panel is located near the water's edge in the car park. (NH 748556) Please note that the car park becomes very congested at busy times so please drive carefully and park with consideration for local people and other visitors.

North Kessock

0901 549 0039

Calls cost 75p + network extras

Call Cameron and he'll describe what you might see here

Travelling from the south along the A9, cross the Kessock Bridge just north of Inverness. Take the first left, signposted tourist information and Dolphin and Seal Centre. There is ample car parking. There is no access to the car park from the southbound carriageway of the A9. Instead, cross the Kessock Bridge and go all the way round the roundabout, then re-cross the bridge northbound. The interpretation panel is located in the car park. (NH 657478)

Callers must be 18+ and have the bill payer's permission. The Highland Council receives 40p from each call and this will be used to maintain and develop the Wild Coastal Trail. Service Provider Monster Communications Ltd, helpline 08456521070.

