

GO FESTIVE WILDLIFE SPOTTING

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas! Take this guide on your next walk and see which natural wonders you spot.



Starlings

As the evenings draw in, starlings put on a spectacular show in the sky called a murmuration. By mid-December, their numbers are boosted by birds overwintering in the UK and they fly in their thousands.



December moth

Looking like it is dressed for the cold, the furry December moth is one of the few moths active during UK winters. To keep itself warm, the moth often vibrates its wings. Look out for it in hedgerows, woodlands and gardens.



Mountain hare

If you live in Scotland, you might be treated to a "white Christmas" by spotting this small animal. Its coat turns white in the winter to hide it from predators in the snow.



Reindeer

What could be more Christmassy than seeing Rudolph and pals? Wild reindeer were once common in the UK, but a free-ranging herd of around 150 still roams Scotland's Cairngorms.



Christmas trees

The mighty Norway spruce was brought to the UK from Scandinavia in the 16th century. Its reddish, hanging, cigar-shaped cones make them easy to spot.

