

# WREN FACTSHEET



Wren, *Troglodytes troglodytes*

Wrens are tiny birds, easily recognised by their upturned, or cocked, tail. Although Wrens are tiny they are not quite Britain's smallest birds, being a little bigger than the Goldcrest and Firecrest. Despite the wren's small size it has extremely loud song which is very easily identified. You are almost certain to hear its high pitched song featuring a rapid 'churring' theme on any walk through the woods in late winter and spring.

Wrens can be found in woodland and gardens or heathland, as these tiny birds inhabit a wide variety of habitats. Severe winters can decimate the population in Britain, but the recent trend towards milder winters has seen them flourish.

They have a chestnut-brown, faintly barred back and paler, also barred flanks. Their chest is buff coloured. They are common and widespread throughout Britain.

Wrens spend most of the day hunting alone through dense ground cover and hedges. At night, and especially in winter, they may roost together – 46 have been counted in a nestbox!

Males build a domed nest, which the female lines with feathers. She lays and then incubates five or six eggs. They often have two broods in one year. Wrens are generally monogamous, but if food is plentiful males may breed with more than one female.

## What does it eat?

Insects and spiders.

## When will I see it?

All year round.

## Where will I see it?

In the flower border/herb garden, the meadow and woodland areas, the hedge, the shrubs and nesting or roosting in a nestbox. Also parks, woods, hedgerows, marsh edges, reedbeds, cliffs and rocky islands.



Information taken from RSPB website.