

iNaturalistUK – Norwich 2 Tilbury Project

Why have we chosen iNaturalistUK?

It's a user-friendly platform that allows you to easily record and identify wildlife in the UK, contributing valuable data to conservation efforts by sharing your observations with a large community of naturalists and scientists, while also integrating seamlessly with the UK's National Biodiversity Network (NBN) for wider data access and verification, making it a great tool for both beginners and experienced wildlife recorders.

About iNaturalistUK

What can you record?

On iNaturalist UK, you can record observations of nature, such as plants, birds, and other wildlife:

Photos: You can upload photos of your observations. iNaturalistUK algorithm can suggest species or families if you're not sure what you've seen.

Sounds: You can record sounds of nature in the field and add them to your observations.

Signs: You can record signs of organisms, such as tracks, nests, or scat (droppings or territorial markings).

What happens to my iNaturalistUK sightings?

All records on iNaturalist from within the UK that reach 'research' grade are shared with GBIF, the Global Biodiversity Information Facility, where they can be freely viewed and downloaded subject to licensing conditions. Researchers, **local environmental record Centres**, wildlife trusts and other conservation organisations may also view and use the data to increase their knowledge and understanding of the UK's biodiversity.

What is an observation?

Observations are the basic units of iNaturalist. An observation records an encounter with an individual organism, or recent evidence of an organism, at a particular time and location. This includes encounters with signs of organisms like tracks, nests, scat, or things that just died. iNaturalist provides a place to add this information along with associated text, photos, and tags.

You should make separate observations for each separate organism you encounter. But if you take multiple pictures of the same organism during the same encounter, please combine them into a single observation. If you revisit that organism later, such as returning to a plant on a later date when it's in bloom, you should make a separate observation because it was observed on a different date.

What kind of photos or sounds should I attach to observations?

Photos or sounds attached to observations should include evidence of the actual organism at the time of the observation, observed by the user who is uploading the observation. Media used in your iNaturalist observations should represent your own experiences, not just examples of something similar to what you saw. Please do not upload photos you found elsewhere, such as online or in a book, since they don't represent your own experiences and are probably a violation of copyright law. Similarly, please do not upload screenshots from broadcasts of live cameras unless you are the owner of the live camera.

If you record an observation of a tree, then go back a day later to take another photo, please add a new Observation using the new photo, because it represents the tree at a different point in time.