

Limekiln Gill Local Nature Reserve (LNR)

What is special?

Coastal heathland is found here. This is an extremely rare habitat in County Durham, and it contains heather, gorse and bracken. The bankside below the heathland is made of Magnesian Limestone and only specific types of flowers grow on it. These include common spotted orchid, field scabious, common rock rose and basil thyme. These wildflowers are best seen in June and July when they are in full bloom. Toadflax flowers later in the year providing a late nectar source for the insects.

Kestrel and bullfinch are often spotted and butterflies are a common sight. You are likely to see small copper, common blue and northern brown argus varieties.

From here it is only a short walk to the beach where you can watch the waves and hear them crashing onto the shore.



[more info...](#)

Contact the Countryside Service

telephone: 0191 372 9100

email: countryside@durham.gov.uk

www.durham.gov.uk/countryside



Area: 17 acres (7 hectares)

Grid Reference: NZ 454 406

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer 308

Directions: Approx 14 miles (23 km) east of Durham City centre. From the A19, head towards the A1086 Coast Road to Horden. Approx 100 metres south of junction with the B1320, take the turning for Cotsford Lane. Follow the road as far as it goes, under the railway bridge. The site entrance is on the right. Nearest postcode SR8 4HN



Parking: Car park. No disabled parking

Public transport: Services numbers 232,233 (Go Wear) to Alder Road. Approx 275m walk to the site entrance

Dogs: Allowed under control and on a lead during bird nesting season (March to August). Please clean up after your dog

Designation: Local Nature Reserve, UK Woodland Assurance Scheme certified, Special Area of Conservation, within Durham Heritage Coast

Suitable for: Walkers

Habitats: Grassland, heathland, woodland

Whilst every effort has been made by Durham County Council to ensure accuracy of information, the Council cannot accept any liability resulting from omissions or inaccuracies.

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Accessibility Statement

Paths are mown through the grass and are fairly level. Where the paths meet the edge of Castle Eden Dene they are very steep and are mainly bare earth. Care should be taken as these paths can become very slippery. A section of the coastal footpath runs around the edge of this site. This is an 11 mile linear route between Seaham and Crimdon.



Toadflax



Kestrel



Common Spotted Orchid



Common Blue



Bullfinch



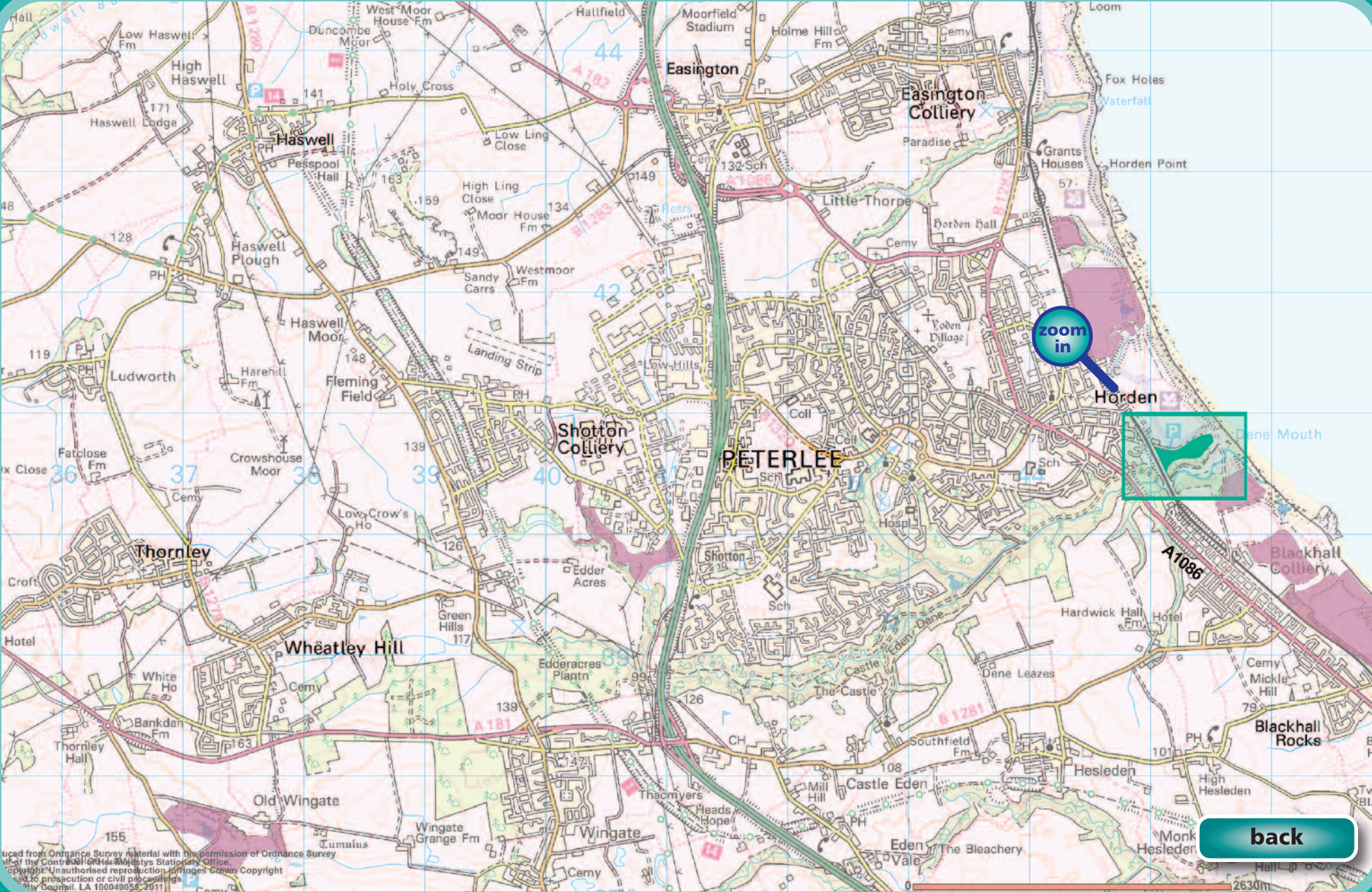
Small Copper



Northern Brown Argus

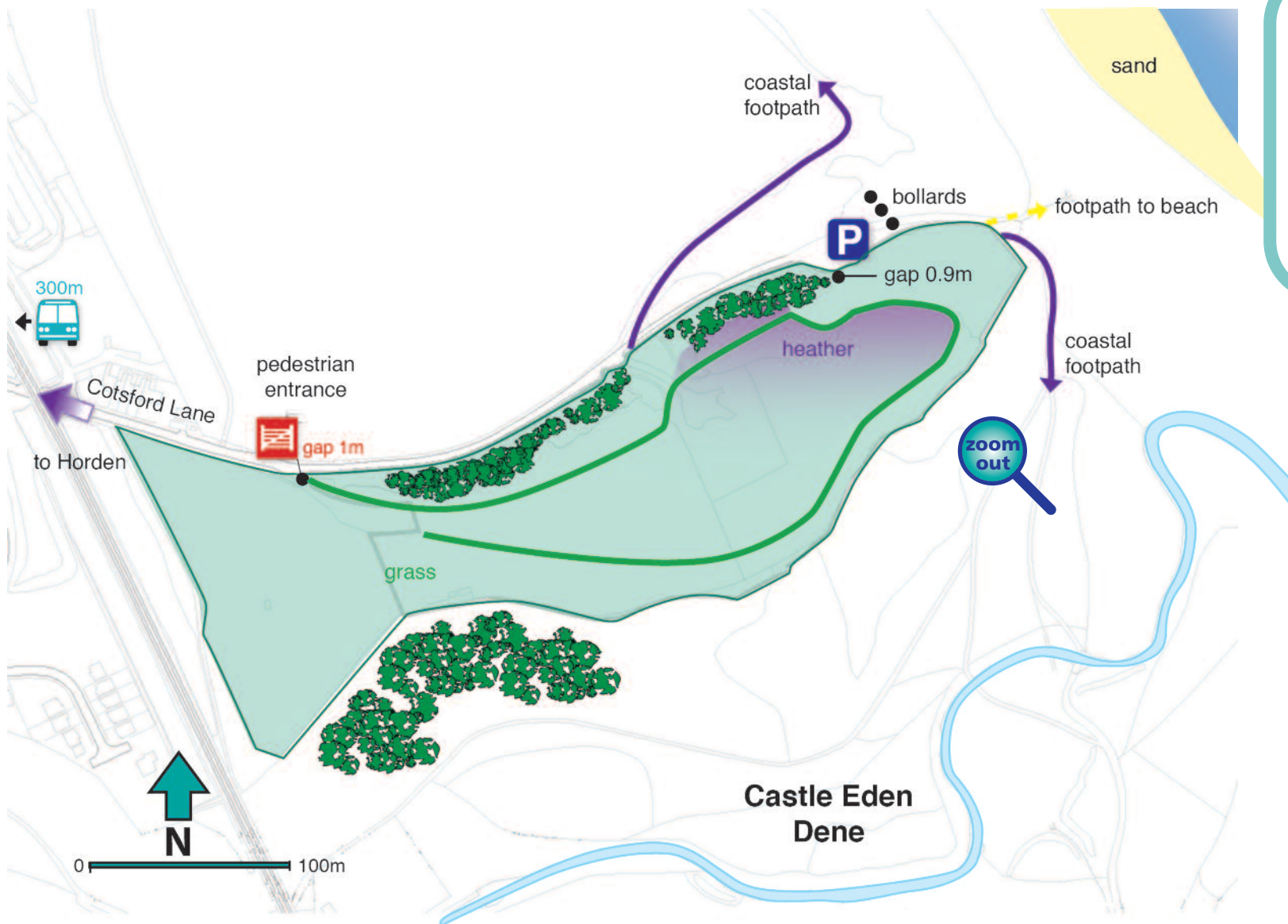
[back](#)

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[back](#)

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KEY

-  Gate
-  Parking
-  Bus Stop
-  Hard Unsealed Surface
-  Mown Grass

[back](#)