



Wildlife of the World Newsletter

March 2026



*Chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes*) in Kibale National Park, Uganda*

Hi ,

I'm back from a really excellent trip to Uganda, and slowly acclimatising to the rather cooler weather back home in Wales! Uganda is one of the best countries in the world for wildlife, and thanks to my impressive guide Brian Lokutae and Harriet Kemigisha of [Harrier Tours](#) who arranged everything, I've returned with photos and video of forty-one different species of mammal including; otters, lions, leopard, hyena, chimps and gorillas as well as a whole host of different birds, frogs, lizards and insect life.

It's going to take a while to sort through them all, but I've made a start and you can see a report of [chimpanzee tracking in Kibale National Park here...](#) which includes a video of the chimps in action, various monkeys and a strange assassin bug wearing a coat of dead ants!

Reports on the gorillas, giraffes, lions and mongooses will hopefully follow in the next few weeks, in the meantime I'm heading to the other side of the world for this month's featured site...

Wildlife-watching Sites

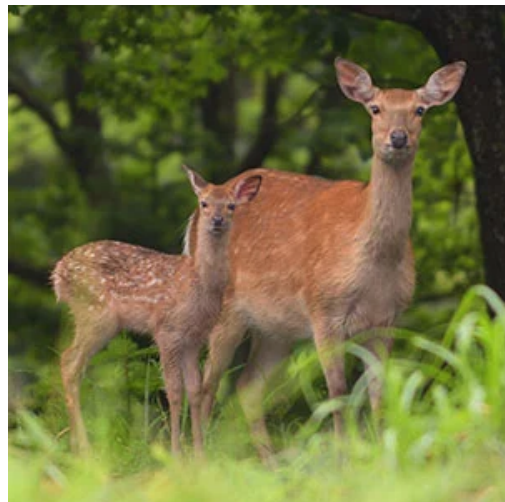
Shiretoko Peninsula, Japan



Steller's Sea Eagle (Haliaeetus pelagicus)

Japan isn't a country people usually associate with exciting wildlife, but it is actually surprisingly diverse. I've made three trips, and thoroughly enjoyed each of them, but my favourite site is the remote Shiretoko National Park on the northern island of Hokkaido.

With steep cliffs rising out of the sea and covered in dense forest, Shiretoko Peninsula is home to Japan's biggest population of brown bears. Nervous sika deer graze in woodland clearings,



Sika Deer (Cervus nippon)

In summer, albatrosses, auks and shearwaters can be seen from daily boat trips, but the stars of the show are the whales.

and at night cute little flying squirrels emerge, followed by the highly endangered Blakiston's fish owl... the biggest owl in the world!

It's the sea around the peninsula that's home to the most spectacular wildlife though.

In winter, spotted seals haul themselves out onto floes of drift ice and huge Steller's Sea Eagles pluck fish out of the freezing water with their powerful talons.

Pods of orca scour the ocean for seals and fish in the early summer and then later on huge sperm whales arrive... diving up to a kilometre in search of giant squid, octopuses and deep-sea fish. If you're lucky, you might even spot a huge brown bear scavenging along the shore.

Whatever time you visit there's always something exciting to see in this beautiful, remote corner of the north-west Pacific.



Orca (Orcinus orca)

Events and Books

I've got a busy summer ahead with several trips planned to explore the wildlife here in Wales, you can see a list of events on my website [here](#).

My fifth book on the wildlife of Japan is finally finished so hopefully it should be out by next month. In the meantime, please get in touch if you have any suggestions, comments or questions.

Until next time...

Best Wishes

Hugh



Hugh Lansdown

Wildlife Photographer and Author

Books: www.wildlifeoftheworld.com

Website: www.hughlansdown.com

Email: news@hughlansdown.com



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