

Kingfisher

Species Description

Scientific name: *Alcedo atthis*

The Kingfisher is a colourful bird of rivers and streams. It can be spotted sitting quietly on low-hanging branches over the water, suddenly diving in to catch a small fish. Kingfishers breed near low-land watercourses and lakes that have suitable banks for burrowing nests and shallow edges for feeding. They occasionally visit gardens.

This species is classified in the UK as Amber under the Birds of Conservation Concern 4: the Red List for Birds (2015).



Photo: Jon Hawkins - Surrey Hills Photography

Key ID features

Long black bill. Female has orange patch at base

Bright blue back

Metallic copper breast



Photo: Jon Hawkins - Surrey Hills Photography