

BirdWatch Ireland's Mayo branch outings for 2026

Date	Venue	Hope to see?	Guide / Leader
Sat 24/01/26	S. Mayo turloughs	Wintering waterbirds	Mick Oates
Sun 22/02/26	Louisburgh Sea Loughs and Shore	Wintering water and sea birds	TBC
Sat 21/03/26	Killala	Feeding wader and ducks including shelduck	Nual O'Malley Jon Freestone
Sat 19-26/04/26	Clogher Bog Walk	Sand martins in nesting wall and other returning migrants	Michael Kingdom
Sat 10/05/26	Tourmakeady woods & waterfall	Dawn Chorus ; dipper and little grebes, woodland birds	Colin Guilefoyle
May (Date TBC)	Anagh Marsh	Sedge warblers, lapwing, snipe, phalarope	TBC
Thursday 4/06/26	AWAY DAY - Inishbofin	Corncrakes. Option to stay overnight	TBC
Sun 5/07/26	Aughris Head, Co. Sligo	Cliff nesting seabirds	TBC
Late Aug to early Oct	Seawatch from Kilcummin, Erris or Anagh Head. Date and site dependent on the wind and weather. Late notification		TBC
Sat 21/11/26	Rostaff Turlough +/- Shrule	Wintering geese, swans and ducks	Mick Oates
Sun 13/12/26	Clew Bay	Wintering Waterbirds	TBC
Winter	<u>Murmuration</u> - site and time dependent on their roost, weather, accessibility etc.. Last minute notification		

BWMayo host about one outing per month. Our outings are mainly at weekends alternating between Saturday and Sunday, morning or afternoon. Most involve a quiet walk whilst spotting birds. For our sea watch we will sit and scan the sea for birds on their migration along the East Atlantic Flyway. International Dawn Chorus Day is the first Sunday in May. This is a Bank Holiday weekend and includes Mayo Day, so we avoid this date for our dawn chorus walk. In autumn and winter, we avoid the dates of the Irish Wetland Bird Survey (IWeBS).

The times are not been stated. For coastal outings, it should depend on the tides. The time and meeting place will be decided about 2 weeks in advance. Local press, tourist offices and other organisations are notified. Late changes and short notice events will be posted on WhatsApp **“BWMayo Info”** and on as many of our media platforms as possible.

For reasons of safeguarding, children must be accompanied. Non-members of Birdwatch Ireland (BWI) are welcome on all our events except those involving a boat or ferry. (*This is a requirement of BWI's insurance cover.*) Events will be cancelled if there is a METÉireann weather warning for the area.

Please use WhatsApp **“BWMayo Chat”** to post your sightings and arrange impromptu outings with branch members. If you know a good area of Mayo for birdwatching and you are able to guide a group, send your suggestion to birdwatchmayo@gmail.com. Attendees will be able to assist with bird identification. When guiding, you can state your preference for the weekend day and am/pm.