

New Forest woodlands have impressive displays of vibrant autumn colours. Enjoy a walk in the woods and see what different types of fungi you can spot. **Please look but don't pick fungi.** 



## Help us to protect the New Forest's fungi:

• Some fungi are poisonous or rare. Please look but don't pick.

- Commercial collecting of fungi is not allowed. If you suspect or see commercial fungi picking please call the Forestry Commission on 0300 067 4600 (24 hours).
- Foray leaders must apply for permission for educational excursions from the Forestry Commission in advance. Clear guidelines will be issued with any permission.

## Contact:

Forestry Commission England, The Queen's House, Lyndhurst, Hampshire SO43 7NH.

Tel: 0300 067 4601

For more details go to: forestry.gov.uk/newforestfungi

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Cover image: Turkey tail

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Thank you for

helping us to

protect the New

Forest's fungi.

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## The New Forest has a rich wildlife environment, recognised by its status as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

It is a wonderful place to see fungi, a stronghold for many rare and endangered species, and even some still being discovered that are new to science.

Fungi are essential to the New Forest's ecosystem and 'web of life' – which is why we are asking you not to pick fungi from this special place.

Besides being essential rotters and recyclers, they provide food for some animals and are vital to many invertebrates to enable them to complete their life cycles. Also, fungi are great to just admire and they are marvellously photogenic too.





Find out more about the incredible fungi found here by joining one of the educational fungi events that have permission to take place on Forestry Commission land. These events allow a limited, small amount

of fungi to be picked to help identify their features and discover more about the many species of fungi.

Thank you for helping us to protect this special place. Commercial collection of fungi has always been prohibited – it is an offence under the Theft Act 1968 to do so without the permission of the landowner.

## **Fungi Facts**

Fungi cannot make their own food using energy from sunlight, but grow by absorbing food and water from their surroundings – most importantly from living and dead plants, and animals.

2 Many fungi live on the roots of trees and other plants. This is known as a mycorrhizal association (from the Greek 'myco', meaning fungus, and 'rhiza', root). The fungi help the plant take up more nutrients by increasing the effective surface area of the roots and in turn take sugars from the plant.

**3** Woodland fungi such as types of *Amanita*, *Boletus, Lactarius and Russula* will only grow with certain trees (a helpful guide when identifying the fungi). It may surprise you to know that many trees grow less well without fungi.