

Erme Estuary

Recommended Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ)



Status: Under Consideration



Squat lobster, Dominic Flint

Fact file

The Erme is a narrow, sheltered estuary approximately 6.5km long. Bound by dense woodland, this drowned river valley is remote and unspoilt. Mixed habitats abound in this small estuary, from sandy seabed to areas of exposed bedrock. The shoreline is similarly varied, from shingle and cobble habitats to the beautiful sands of Wonwell beach.

At low tide, the estuary serves as an important foraging ground for birds and crustaceans. At high tide the estuary offers protection and shelter for juvenile fish. Like other estuaries in the south-west, this site is important for its function as a nursery area for fish species, with sea trout using the area for spawning.

The rare European eel has also been reported in surveys along with a population of otter! Designation of this site would be a huge victory for charismatic species such as these.

Support this MCZ today!

wildlifetrusts.org/MCZ/erme-estuary

Location



 Recommended MCZ

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Recommended Marine Conservation Zones



Erme Estuary

1.32km²

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Help us secure more Marine Conservation Zones

UK seas have the potential to be some of the most wildlife rich on Earth, but ambitious protection is needed to reverse the decades of decline.

Great progress has been made in securing protected areas at sea but there's still work to be done.

With your help we can make sure that our seas are given the protection they need to thrive once again!

- Join our supporters and become a Friend of MCZs today (it's free!) wildlifetrusts.org/MCZFriends
- Find out more about Marine Conservation Zones. wildlifetrusts.org/MCZs
- You can also send us any information or sightings you may have of this MCZ to marine@wildlifetrusts.org



The Wildlife Trusts

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wildlifetrusts.org



"With proper protection, UK seas have the potential to be teeming with incredible life and colour, supporting thriving livelihoods and wildlife for generations to come. The return to Living Seas will, however, only be possible with an ambitious third tranche of Marine Conservation Zones."

Tony Juniper
President
The Wildlife Trusts