

Seabird centre wins top award



Chief Executive of the Scottish Seabird Centre, Tom Brock (left) and Malcolm Roughead, Chief Executive for VisitScotland, along with youngsters from the centre's education programme. Photographer: Gareth Easton

One of Scotland's leading wildlife centres has swooped to land tourism's highest accolade.

The Scottish Seabird Centre, twice winner of BBC Countryfile's Nature Reserve of the Year, has once again received a five-star grading from VisitScotland's Quality Assurance (QA) Scheme in recognition of its exceptional standards.

The QA Scheme is a benchmark for quality across the tourism industry and operates across accommodation, visitor attractions and food sectors.

The conservation and education charity, located in North Berwick, opened in 2000 and has seen significant development to ensure the optimum visitor experience, customer service and hospitality possible.

The main focus for the attraction is the Discovery Centre which features interactive cameras on the local islands, including the Bass Rock and Isle of May national nature reserve, enabling visitors to zoom in on the live wildlife action.

There is different wildlife to see throughout the season, including gannets, puffins and seals. There is also a 3D Wildlife Theatre Film Experience and seasonal events to encourage visitors young and old to engage with nature in a fun, yet sustainable way.

The centre's Seabird Café, offering views across the Firth of Forth, uses the best locally-sourced East Lothian produce and has received Taste Our Best accreditation from VisitScotland.