

# **Guide to organising Orchard Blossom**

## Day events and activities

Here are some ideas for possible activities and events in orchards to celebrate orchards with their blossom, beauty, bounty and biodiversity.

#### Organising an orchard event

**Orchard guided tour/ open day** – Open the orchard with timed guided tours for small groups, sale of products and various blossom activities.

**Blossom Breakfast** – Organise an early morning visit to hear the dawn chorus, see the sun rise, bathe in the fragrant blossom and have a warming breakfast bite and cup of tea.

**Blossom Picnic** – Organise a lunchtime picnic under the blossom, with family activities and games.

**Blossom Trail** – Make a trail, by bike or car, to follow the blossom between local orchards each with visits and sales of products.

**Blossom Day Fair** – Organise some local community groups and others such as artists, storytellers, craftworkers and producers to join you in celebrating orchards, fruit and blossom.

#### Spotting activities

**Spotting different fruit tree blossom** – See the **fruit tree identification guide**.

**Spotting blossom times** – Record the flowering time of common fruit tree varieties such as Bramley apple to see how it changes each year. This phenology is helpful scientists to spot how our climate is changing. Submit records to the **FruitWatch** study.

**Spotting the effect of weather on fruit blossom** – Record the min and max temperatures in the orchard to spot any A frosts and their effect on the flower buds, blossom and pollinators.

**Spotting different pollinators** – See the **Pollinator identification guide**.









Spotting wayside, hedgerow, woodland and garden wild fruit blossom around the orchard – See the wild fruit identification guide.

Spotting the birds and the bird song in the orchard using free apps.

Recording the orchard trees and their eco-benefits – for carbon sequestration, flood control and air quality using this Treezilla app.

Following a trail round the orchard – Use clues, labels, QR codes or geocaches.

### **Making activities**

Making and erecting bird boxes, bat boxes and bee homes.

Making use of fruit tree petals, such as pot-pourri, petal pictures.

Adding artworks, poems and photos to social media – Get inspired here.

#### Tasting activities

**Using apple blossom in foods and drinks** – as tea or flavourings.

**Viewing and tasting products by producers** – perhaps as juice, cider, perry, vinegar, pies, pickles, honey, chutneys or fruit leathers.







