



National  
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# Coralroot Orchid at Sandcastle Haws National Nature Reserve



Coralroot Orchid grows in the dune slacks at Sandcastle Haws. It is always found growing in association with Creeping Willow as it derives much of its nutrients from a fungus that grows in association with this species.

Plants are typically less than 10cm tall and many are shorter than 5cm. They do not stand out from the surrounding vegetation. The number of flowering spikes can vary dramatically from year to year. In a typical year several hundred plants will be found but this can vary from zero to over 2000.

The species is declining in the UK. Reasons may include succession in dune slacks with few areas of pioneer habitat being created as well as changes in both climate and hydrology.

Please note: Coralroot Orchid is extremely difficult to find. To avoid any accidental damage to populations we request that all visitors book on a guided walk to see this species. We regret that we are not able to routinely give out maps and directions.

Guided Walks 2016: Sat 21 May, Weds 25 May, Sat 28 May, Weds 1 June, Weds 8 June  
(All walks 10:00 – 12:00, meet at Sandcastle Haws Car Park, LA14 4QJ). Booking essential

For more information please call 01229 462 855 or email [neil.forbes@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:neil.forbes@nationaltrust.org.uk).

[www.nationaltrust.org.uk/sandcastle-haws](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/sandcastle-haws)