

Wolves in the UK

Wolves were once found all over the British Isles. However, hunting and the destruction of the forests where they lived caused them to die out. There have been no wild wolves in Britain since the 1700s. In this article, Chris Packham argues that it's time to bring wolves back to the UK.

Chris Packham urges UK to move towards a 'more tolerant society' that understands wolves



Chris Packham is a man on a mission to eradicate* British ignorance towards wolves.

5 The *Springwatch* presenter is urging the UK to make way for the reintroduction of the large predators in order to improve local economy, the eco-system and encourage a "sustainable* working landscape".

10 Speaking to the Radio Times, he said: "Wolves live in Portugal, Spain, Italy and in Sweden too. There have been only two fatalities since the year 2000, both in the US, and certainly none in
15 Europe. What we would like to move towards is a more tolerant society that understands the fact that to have a sustainable working landscape we need large predators."

20 However, he admitted he was having some difficulty convincing the rest of

the United Kingdom his plan was a good idea.

25 "We have lived without them in the UK for such a long time that people are very resistant to the idea of them coming back, which is a shame because we do know better and we do need them and it would be tremendously exciting.

30 "If we did have wolves – which would have to be in Scotland – and lynxes then lots of people would pay to go and see them and they would be a great asset to the community."

35 His call follows Sir David Attenborough's plea for the reintroduction of wolves into the Scottish highlands.

Glossary

eradicate — get rid of

sustainable — something that can be maintained

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