



KEY TO THE BATS OF JERSEY 2020



An aid to the identification of our local bats in Jersey. This key has been written for identification in-hand, but it could also help to identify roosting bats. All bats in Europe are protected and anyone who handles bats needs a licence.

KEY TO JERSEY BATS

Species	F/A mm	Normal Weight G*	Adult fur	Face & teeth	Ear/Wing	Tail/Other	Jersey Status
Vespertilionine Bats inc Pipistrellus spp, Nyctalus spp, Eptesicus spp, Hypsugo spp	Post-calcarial lobe present. Simple nose shape with nostrils that point partially sideways				Short well-spaced ears. Tragus small with rounded tip		
Common Pipistrelle <i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	28-35	4-7	Small bat. Overall dark brown with darker base. Venter slightly paler with no clear demarcation.	Dark mask on face , usually quite noticeable. Tiny P3 visible between upper canine & P4. Inner upper incisor double cusp	In 80% of individuals wing membrane has 1 undivided cell between elbow & 5 th finger. Cell above is divided. Occasionally paler trailing edge of wing	Penis grey/brown with pale median band. Dorsal side of uropatagium not densely furred.	Abundant
Soprano Pipistrelle <i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	27-33	4-7	Small bat. Dorsal fur sandy or reddish & almost unicolour. Venter slightly paler with no clear demarcation.	Pale muzzle & face, paler between eyes & ears. Teeth as common. Usually skin bulge between nostrils.	In 90% of individuals, wing membrane has undivided cell between elbow & 5 th finger & undivided cell above. Occasionally paler trailing edge of wing	Penis yellow/grey without median band. Dorsal side of uropatagium more densely furred. Yellowish area around vagina in parous females	Scarce
Nathusius Pipistrelle <i>Pipistrellus nathusii</i>	32-37	6-10	Small bat but larger than other pips. Dorsal fur brown to reddish brown. Long & shaggy especially on head/neck. Venter slightly paler, yellowish/brown	Face dark brown. Teeth as common but protocone can be clearly seen.	In 80% of individuals, cell between 5 th finger & elbow is divided by distinct bar. Occasionally paler trailing edge of wing. Ratio of 5th finger to F/A = >1.25	Dorsal side of uropatagium furred to about ½ length. Penis egg shape	Common
Kuhl's Pipistrelle <i>Pipistrellus kuhlii</i>	30-37	5-8	Small bat. Variable colouring but generally paler than other pips with dark base & sandy or beige dorsal fur. Venter is paler	Face reddish brown. Tiny P3 not visible between upper canine & P4. 1 st inner incisor only has 1 point	70% of individuals have wing cell pattern similar to common. Noticeable white band along wing margin between 5th finger & ankle.	Penis spear shaped	Scarce. Poss commoner than we think due mis-ID
Savi's Pipistrelle <i>Hypsugo savii</i>	31-38	5-9	Small bat with variable colouring. Long dorsal fur with dark base & yellowish tips. Venter well delineated white or yellowish.	Face black. Tiny P3 not visible between upper canine & P4.	Shiny black ears. Tragus widens towards tip. Post-calcarial lobe variable from broad to missing, without T-piece.	Penis bent at right angle toward tail with long dark hairs.	Vagrant. Not recorded in nearby France.

Species	F/A mm	Normal Wt g	Adult fur	Face & teeth	Ear/Wing	Tail/Other	Jersey Status
Serotine <i>Eptesicus serotinus</i>	48-58	18-25	Large, robust bat. Long dorsal fur usually dark base with pale tips. Venter slightly paler with no clear demarcation.	Face, ears & wing membranes very dark. Broad muzzle with glandular swellings each side of nostril	Robust blackish ears ~ twice as long as wide with rounded tips. Tragus shortish, rounded but longer than wide. Wings broad for manoeuvrable flight.	Post calcarial lobe narrow & without visible keel. Tail projects 6mm beyond uropatagium.	Uncommon
Leisler's <i>Nyctalus leisleri</i>	40-47	13-18	Medium sized bat. Sleek dorsal fur, dark base with red/brown tips. Neck fur long (like Lion's mane), esp. males. Venter only slightly paler	Muzzle broad but less so than Noctule. Teeth neatly regular	Robust short, rounded ears with pale base. Mushroom shaped tragus. Long narrow wings for fast flight. Ventral fur extends on to wing membrane & F/A	Penis long, narrow & covered in white hairs Post-calcarial lobe	Rare
Noctule <i>Nyctalus noctula</i>	47-59	21-30	Large robust looking bat. Thick dark fur, chestnut brown almost unicolour. Venter fur similar.	Broad dark face & muzzle. Teeth overlap	Robust short, rounded ears without pale base. Mushroom shaped tragus. Long narrow wings for fast flight.	Penis long & very narrow. Post-calcarial lobe	No Jersey records although possible calls
Plecotine Bats Inc: <i>Plecotus</i> spp. & <i>Barbastella</i>	Very large prominent ears which are joined on top of head.			Nostrils form one or two forward-pointing channels			
Grey Long-eared <i>Plecotus austriacus</i>	36-44	6-10	Medium sized bat. Long grey dorsal fur with venter sharply delineated whitish grey.	Face with dark mask. Slightly longer muzzle than BLE. Grey muzzle & face. Tidier face.	Ears very long, joined on top of head. Curved back when roosting & folded under wing in hibernation Large tragus width >5.5mm	Long thumb <6mm with short claw. Club shaped penis widens toward tip. Large eyes.	Common
Brown Long-eared <i>Plecotus auratus</i>	35-43	6-9	Medium sized bat. Long fluffy dorsal fur brown with reddish tint. Venter grey-white with brownish or yellowish tinge. Juvs can be grey	Face pinkish brown without dark mask. Ears & tragus barely pigmented. Face 'battered' looking	Ears very long, joined on top of head. Curved back when roosting & folded under wing in hibernation. Tragus width <5.5mm	Long thumb >6mm with long pointed claw. Penis thin & narrows toward tip.	Uncommon
Barbastelle <i>Barbastella barbastellus</i>	36-44	7-10	Medium sized bat..Dorsal fur long and dark , sometimes black , with frosted tips. Venter a little lighter but no clear demarcation.	Pug like muzzle. Nostrils open into a single broad channel which points directly forward. Facial skin very dark.	Ears long, robust and black, triangular in shape. Long tragus, wide at base narrowing to narrow rounded tip. 5-6 transverse folds. Button-like lobe on outer ear margin	Small post-calcarial lobe present.	No Jersey records

Myotine Bats Inc: all <i>Myotis</i> spp	Medium to long ears. Tall tragus with generally pointed tip In general, venter clearly paler than dorsum.			No post-calcarial lobe Simple nose shape with nostrils that point partially sideways			
Species	F/A mm	Normal Wt g	Adult fur	Face & teeth	Ear/Wing	Tail/Other	Jersey Status
Whiskered Bat <i>Myotis mystacinus</i>	32-37	4-7	Small lively bat. Dorsal fur dark brown with sometimes reddish or golden tips. Ventral fur dark base with pale grey tips	Dark often black face. Tendency to gape jaw when held in hand.	Ears blackish, fairly long with long, pointed tragus that usually reaches above notch. Notch on outer margin not right angled.	Penis narrow & parallel sided. Calcar extends half-way to tail.	Rare
Alcathoe Bat <i>Myotis alcathoe</i>	29-35	3.5-5.5	Tiny bat. Dorsal fur brown, reddish/brown. Ventral fur dark base, pale tips, not strongly demarcated.	Short pale muzzle & face. Nostrils heart shaped	Ears shortish & pale. Short tragus barely reaches notch	Penis narrow with slight thickening at end. Small feet & thumbs. Border of uropatagium near calcar often pale.	Rare
Brandt's Bat <i>Myotis brandtii</i>	33-38	5-7	Small bat with long ears. Long light brown dorsal fur with gold tips. Venter light grey/yellow tinge, not clearly demarcated. Young bats almost black.	Bare skin areas brownish. Nostrils heart shaped.	Lower part of tragus & ear pale. Tragus usually reaches above notch.	Penis swollen & club-shaped at tip. Calcar extends half-way to tail	Rare
Natterers Bat <i>Myotis nattereri</i>	34-44	7-10	Medium bat. Dorsal fur brown/grey, sometimes with reddish tone. Ventral fur strongly demarcated white/grey.	Long bare pinkish muzzle	Ears long (<18mm) with upward curl to tip. Long straight pointed tragus, more than half length of ear	Long S shaped calcar with bristles along trailing edge.	Uncommon
Daubentons <i>Myotis daubentonii</i>	33-42	6-10	Medium bat. Dorsal fur shiny brown, darkly bronze or reddish with clear demarcation from pale venter.	Short muzzle. Ring of bare pinkish skin around eye. Young bats have darker faces & blue/black mark on lower lip which disappears after 4-5 yrs.	Relatively short ears for <i>Myotis</i> spp. No clear notch on outer ear margin. Tragus short with blunt tip & slight forward curve. Brown ears paler inside.	Long straight tail membrane. Huge feet for trawling with long bristles.	Scarce
Geoffroys Bat <i>Myotis emarginatus</i>	36-45	6-9	Medium bat with long woolly dorsal fur, reddish tips. Venter pale yellowish brown not well demarcated	Face light brown in adults. Juvs darker	Almost right-angled notch at outer edge of ear. Tragus does not reach notch. Brown broad wings	Dark testicles. Border of uropatagium supported by straight calcar with thin hairs	Rare

Species	F/A mm	Normal Wt g	Adult fur	Face & teeth	Ear/Wing	Tail/Other	Jersey Status
Greater Mouse-eared Bat <i>Myotis myotis</i>	55-67	20-27	Large bat. Dorsal fur brown. Ventral pale, dirty white with clear demarcation	Muzzle longer & thus pointier than other <i>Myotis</i>. Light brown face darker in juvs.	Ears long (>24mm) & broad with 7/8 transverse folds. Tragus about 3 times as long as broad usually with black tip.	Broad wings, brownish membranes	No Jersey records
Bechstein's Bat <i>Myotis bechsteinii</i>	39-47	7-10	Medium bat. Dorsal fur brown, ventral with sharp demarcation, white.	Pink face. Muzzle quite long	Very long ears (>18mm) , Long straight & pointed tragus reaching ~ halfway.	Calcar straight & shortish. Last vertebrae extends beyond uropatagium.	No Jersey records
Horseshoe Bats Family Rhinolophidae	Nose structures with complex shape, consisting of horseshoe, sella, connecting process and lancet				No tragus present but well-developed anti-tragus Tail shorter or equal length to hind legs Ears with distinct point at tip Wrap wings around bodies whilst roosting		
Greater Horseshoe Bat <i>Rhinolophus ferrumequinum</i>	53-62	18-24	Unmistakeable large bat. Dorsal fur brown, grey/brown often with yellow/reddish tinge. Venter slightly demarcated pale grey/white	Complex muzzle with horseshoe & relatively small lancet.	Ears fairly large with distinct point at tip. No tragus but well-developed anti-tragus. Ear colour more homogenous than Lesser.	Bats often wrap wings partially around themselves in hibernation. False nipples in groin area	Rare
Lesser Horseshoe Bat <i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i>	36-40	4-7	Unmistakeable small bat. Dorsal fur soft & sparse, greyish.	Complex muzzle with horseshoe & relatively large lancet	Ears fairly large with distinct point at tip. No tragus but well-developed anti-tragus. Usually pale inner ear with dark rim. Broad short wings	Bats often wrap wings completely around themselves in hibernation. False nipples in groin area	Rare

- * Normal weight applies to healthy adult bats that are not pregnant, starving, recently out of hibernation or about to go into hibernation.
- Juveniles of many species have noticeably greyer colouration than adults, even after joints are ossified.
- **Red print** indicates significant features that can help identify the bat from other similar species. However, all features should be looked at.
- Status Abundant, Common, Uncommon, Scarce, Rare, No Jersey Records - related to species map created by Amy Hall
- Photos all by Miranda Collett

References

Dietz C, Kiefer A (2016) The Bats of Britain and Europe. Bloomsbury Publishing

Dietz C, von Helversen O (2004) Illustrated Identification Key to the Bats of Europe

Cornes R (2015) Bats in Jersey – Key to Features Visible in the Hand

Hargreaves D, Whitby D (2014) Slindon Bat Training course

Nottingham Bat Group, Identification of British Bats. https://nottsbatgroup.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/Identification_of_British_Bats.pdf



PIPISTRELLUS PIPISTRELLUS
Noticeable mask on face



PIPISTRELLUS NATHUSII
Long hair on head/neck



PIPISTRELLUS NATHUSII
penis



PIPISTRELLUS KUHLII
Sandy coloured fur



EPTESICUS SEROTINUS
Dark face & ears. Contrasting fur



NYCTALUS NOCTULA
Broad face, mushroom shaped tragus



NYCTALUS NOCTULA
Chestnut coloured fur, almost unicolour



PLECOTUS AUSTRIACUS
Dark mask, white/grey venter, huge ears folded back



PLECOTUS AUSTRIACUS
Longish muzzle, darker tragus



PLECOTUS AURITUS
Brown coloured fur, huge ears extended



PLECOTUS AURITUS
shorter pinkish muzzle, pale tragus



BARBASTELLE BARBASTELLUS
Dark colour, pug face



MYOTIS ALCATHOE
Ventral fur dark base, pale tips



MYOTIS ALCATHOE
Short ears for Myotis, short tragus



MYOTIS NATTERERI
Longish ears with tall, narrow tragus.



MYOTIS NATTERERI
Long S-shaped calcar with bristly edge



MYOTIS DAUBENTONII
Very large feet



MYOTIS BECHSSTEINII
Long ears/tragus, venter fur well demarcated