

**FORT VIC FORAY**  
FORT VICTORIA  
COUNTRY PARK,  
PO41 0RR

**FREE EVENT  
FOR ALL AGES**

**EXPLORE THE  
WEST SIDE  
STORY OF THE  
ISLE OF WIGHT  
BIOSPHERE**

**WILDLIFE DISCOVERY  
& NATURAL HISTORY**

**BIRDWATCHING &  
WOODLAND WORKS**

**SEAGRASS, SEASHORE &  
FOSSIL WALKS + MORE!**

**11am - 4pm**

**SAT 24th SEPTEMBER**

Parking is limited so please share a car, bring your bike, bus it (no. 7 to West Hill Lane + ½ mile walk) or enjoy a hike!

Wellies advised!  
Children - please bring your grown-ups.

FORT VICTORIA  
COUNTRY PARK  
PO41 0RR

THE COMMON SPACE  
@TheBayTCS

COMMON SPACE  
Fort Victoria  
Interreg  
France (Channel) England  
EUROPEAN UNION  
European Regional Development Fund  
Isle of Wight

Fort Vic Foray has been funded with financial support from the European Interreg France (Channel) England programme as part of the "UNESCO Sites Across the Channel" (USAC) project.  
Designed by MooksGoo

Event 2:

Fort Vic Foray

Fort Victoria, Yarmouth, Isle of Wight

24<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Fort Vic Foray was organised for USAC by The Common Space. The day-long event was set across the whole of Fort Victoria and the Country Park, using the building to host a one day mini-natural history museum and as a backdrop for visiting organisations, the coastline and foreshore for nature, arts and information and start-point for the walks and talks, and the woodland for nature play and forest school.

# Contributing Organisations

The Common Space

Fort Victoria Ranger & Fort Victoria Concessions

Isle of Wight Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Shademakers UK

iWatchWildlife

Isle of Wight Natural History & Archaeological Society

Young NatureWatch IW

Project Seagrass

Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust (fundraising team)

Bird Aware Solent

Zoologica

Isle of Wight Learning Wild & Volunteers

Wight Coast Fossils

Teresa Grimaldi – Artist

**Pop-up Natural History Museum** – a hands-on and curated ‘museum’ and science lab showcasing Island wildlife with the help of microscopes and a MicroEye, specimen jars and offering an amazingly detailed look at the invertebrate life in the surrounding area (including the Fort car park!). The Museum made use of the Fort’s arched ‘Corner Room’.

**Woodland Learning and Forest School** activities in the Fort Victoria Owl Glade – Designed to promote nature connection and support wellbeing, as well as drawing people from the coast and green into the woods. Collaborative activities such as the campfire, arts and play, even Nordic Slings encouraging people to spend a longer time in the woodland.

**Coastal Walks** – exploring the shoreline, learning about Fort Victoria’s fossils and local (and living!) marine wildlife.

**Local conservation initiatives** (challenges and successes!) explored with talks, displays and experts on hand including the Reddish Buff Moth conservation programme, and the work of Wight Swifts. Also talks and demos on moths and moth-trapping for recording species. On-the-day species records collated.

**Bird-watching** and recording. Telescopes and binoculars, ID activities and expert advice on the Solent’s bird populations, resident and migratory.

Island and Solent to **beyond the Biosphere conservation initiatives** – learning about importance of **seagrass**, locally and globally in advance of the Project Seagrass/WWF trials and innovation programme.

**Palaeontology** – Island fossils displays and learning from young Island palaeontologists.

**Arts workshops** – Natural materials collaborative woven sculpture and seaweed prints plus the Creative Biosphere folkloric project Beastie Trails on display.

# Print, Press and Publicity

- Press release and event details sent to 75 recipients including all Island media – print, radio and online, regional BBC and ITV Meridian, ferry provider Wightlink and Island tourism organisations, and to all Island primary schools.
- Event Listings on Visit Isle of Wight and On The Wight.
- Event promotion advertorial at On The Wight.
- Facebook events page set up and co-shared with Fort Victoria.
- Event shared across all Facebook Isle of Wight events pages including Love the Isle of Wight (mainland focus, Island Community and wildlife/nature groups).
- Freshwater and Yarmouth Parish and Town Councils contacted and event shared on their channels.
- Printed poster distributed around West Wight including Yarmouth Tourist Centre and West Wight Community Centre, Freshwater.

<https://onthewight.com/learn-more-about-the-isle-of-wight-biosphere-at-the-fort-vic-foray/>

<https://events.onthewight.com/fort-victoria-country-park/2022/09/24/fort-vic-foray>

<https://birdaware.org/solent/events/fort-vic-foray-yarmouth-isle-of-wight/>

## Learn more about the Isle of Wight Biosphere at the Fort Vic Foray

Celebrate the Isle of Wight Biosphere later this month at the Fort Vic Foray with wildlife discovery, bird watching, woodland walks, seagrass, seashore and fossil walks

Be the first to add your thoughts in the comments section ↓



Explore the West (Wild) Side Story of the Isle of Wight Biosphere on Saturday 24th September (11am – 4pm).

The Common Space and Arc are co-hosting this gentle exploration of West Wight's wildlife and landscape as part of the UNESCO Sites Across the Channel programme and with thanks to EU Interreg funding secured by the Isle of Wight Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty towards encouraging sustainable tourism in Biosphere sites.

### What to expect

A family day out, the Fort Vic Foray brings with it a chance

### Sponsored feature

Monday, 12th September, 2022  
10:51am

By Feature Writer

ShortURL: <http://wig.ht/2pwc>

Filed under: Sponsored Feature,  
West Wight, What's On

## JOBS ON THE WIGHT

### COMMUNITY RESILIENCE CO-ORDINATOR X2

Part Time - Newport, Cowes, East Cowes - Community Action IW

### COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR

Part Time - Ventnor, Niton, Whitwell, South Wight - Community Action IW

### GRANTS MANAGER

Permanent - Newport - Hampshire & Isle of Wight Community Foundation

[See more jobs >>](#)



**LIFEBOAT LOTTO**

### LATEST NEWS

No evening service on Island Line due to staff sickness 21, October 2022

Another chance to see Born to be a Weather Wizard this Friday night 21, October 2022

A new Floating Bridge is still on the table, says Cabinet member for transport 21, October 2022

'Gagging order' on legal settlement for FB6 failures 'totally unacceptable' says East Cowes councillor (updated) 21, October 2022

Cowes Floating Bridge: Legal dispute now ended, but settlement figure will remain secret 20, October 2022

Multimillion-pound bid submitted for proposed new special school 20, October 2022

## Post-Event Social Media Write-up

We're pleased to report feedback that Fort Vic Foray was a great day for people of all ages - and that there are new opportunities for more engagement and Biosphere-y activities coming up!

Richard Grogan, Head of the IW AONB summed it up, 'These events will continue to show visitors and residents, that not only is there a wonderful diversity to the animals and plants on the Isle of Wight, but that there are people who care about them and that they can be those people too!'

Thanks very much to the IW AONB, Fort Victoria and the Fort Victoria Country Park Ranger, Bird Aware, Nature Works, Project Seagrass who came all the way from Wales, iWatch Wildlife team and the IWNHAS volunteers, Zoologica, Wight Coast Fossils, artist Teresa Grimaldi and Lily George and Shademakers!

Fort Vic Foray was funded with thanks to the IW AONB and the European Interreg France (Channel) England programme within the framework of the "UNESCO Sites Across the Channel" (USAC) project. This programme looks towards encouraging sustainable tourism in Biosphere sites and each of the places chosen for these celebrations, Branstone, Fort Victoria and soon Hullabaloo at Sandown Bay.

[#IWBiosphere](#), [#IsleofWight](#) [#Biosphere](#) [#USAC](#) [#FortVictoria](#) [#FortVicForay](#) [#wildlife](#) [#nature](#) [#discovery](#)  
[#coast](#) [#biodiversity](#) [#conservation](#) [#sustainabletourism](#)



Visitors to the Foray – approximately 300, online reach - several thousand! The event came just after a period of national mourning so may have had a larger in-person turn-out otherwise.



David Trevan  
It was a great day! ...  
Like Reply Hide 2 w

Jim Baldwin  
Great summary of a super event 🙌 ...  
Love Reply Hide 2 w

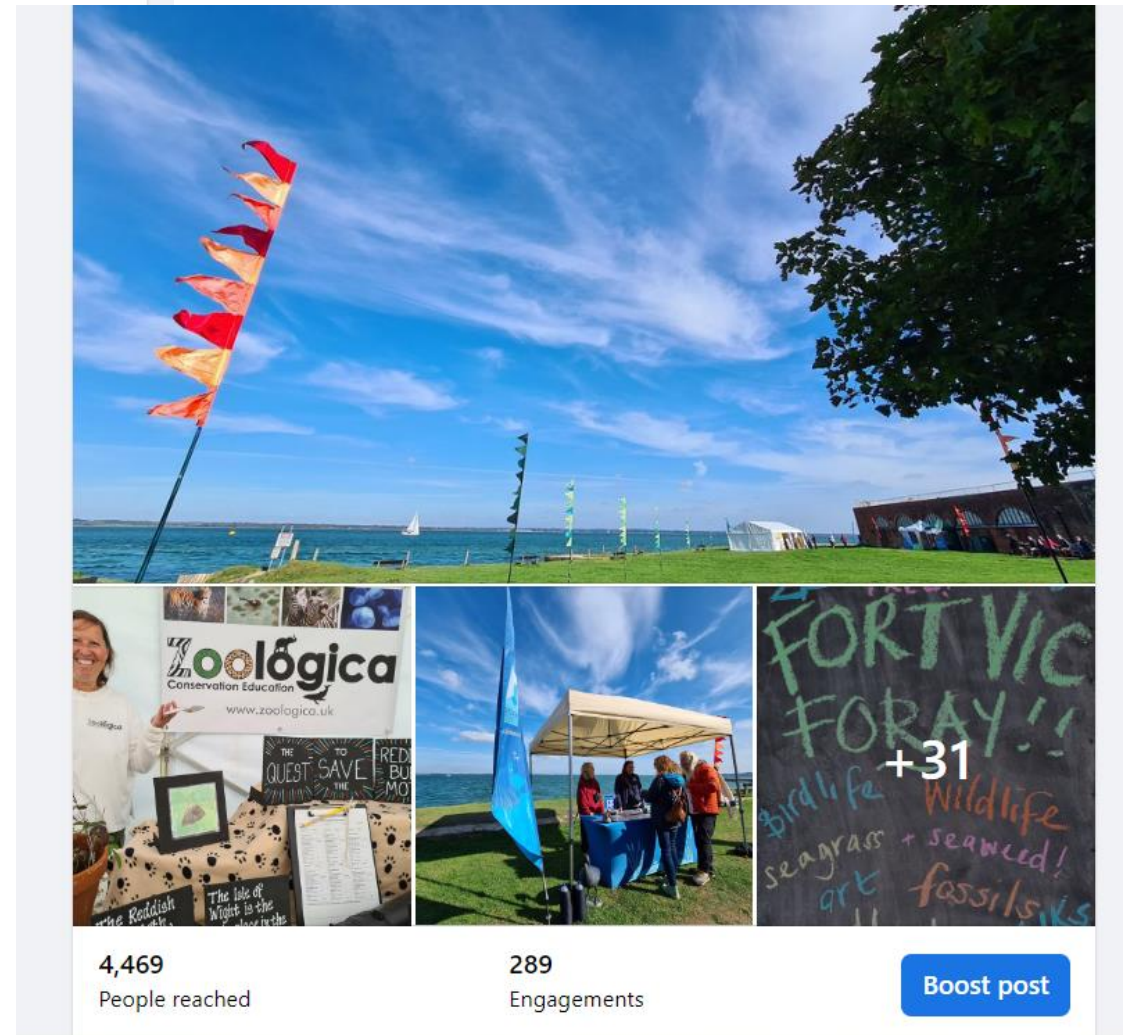
Author  
The Common Space  
Jim Baldwin thank you! x ❤️ ...  
Like Reply Commented on by Claire Hector ⓘ 2 w

Tracy Dove  
It was such an enjoyable day 😊 ...  
Love Reply Hide 2 w

Author  
The Common Space ...  
Like Reply Commented on by Claire Hector ⓘ 2 w

Bird Aware Solent · Follow  
Thanks for having us we had a great day 😊 ...  
Like Reply Hide 2 w

iWatchWildlife · Follow  
Fantastic write up 🙌 🤔 ...



4,469  
People reached

289  
Engagements

Boost post

+31

zooLogica  
Conservation Education  
www.zoologica.uk

THE QUEST TO SAVE THE RED BUZZARD

Seagrass art

Wildlife + seaweed!

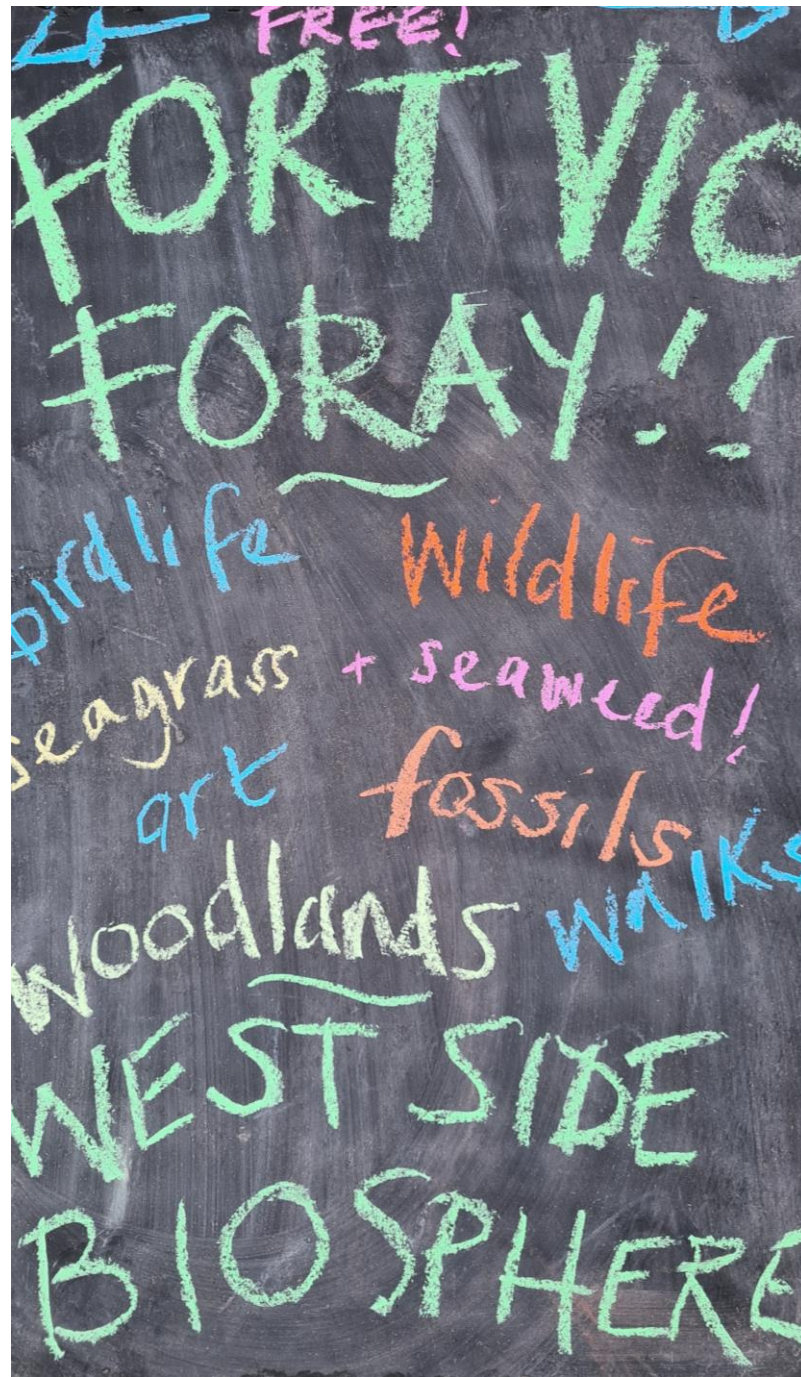
fossils etc

FORT VIC FORAY!!!

Fort Vic Foray was filmed for the IW Biosphere website and uploaded to the IW Biosphere YouTube Channel - [Fort Vic Foray Film](#)







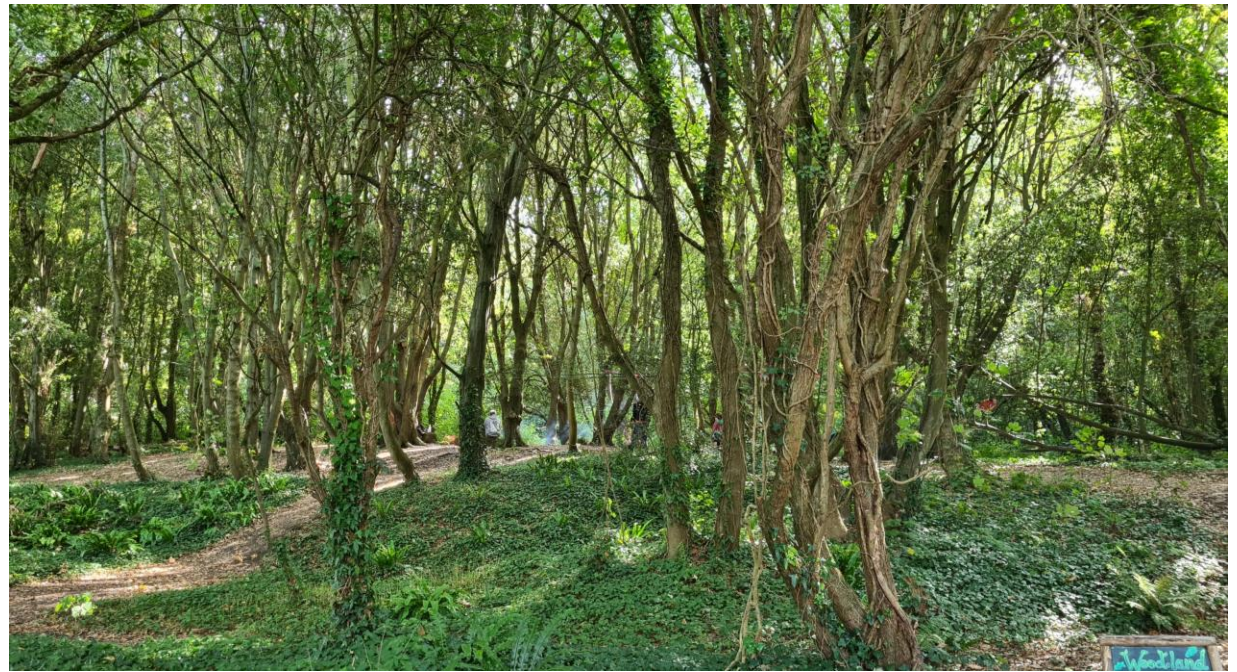




































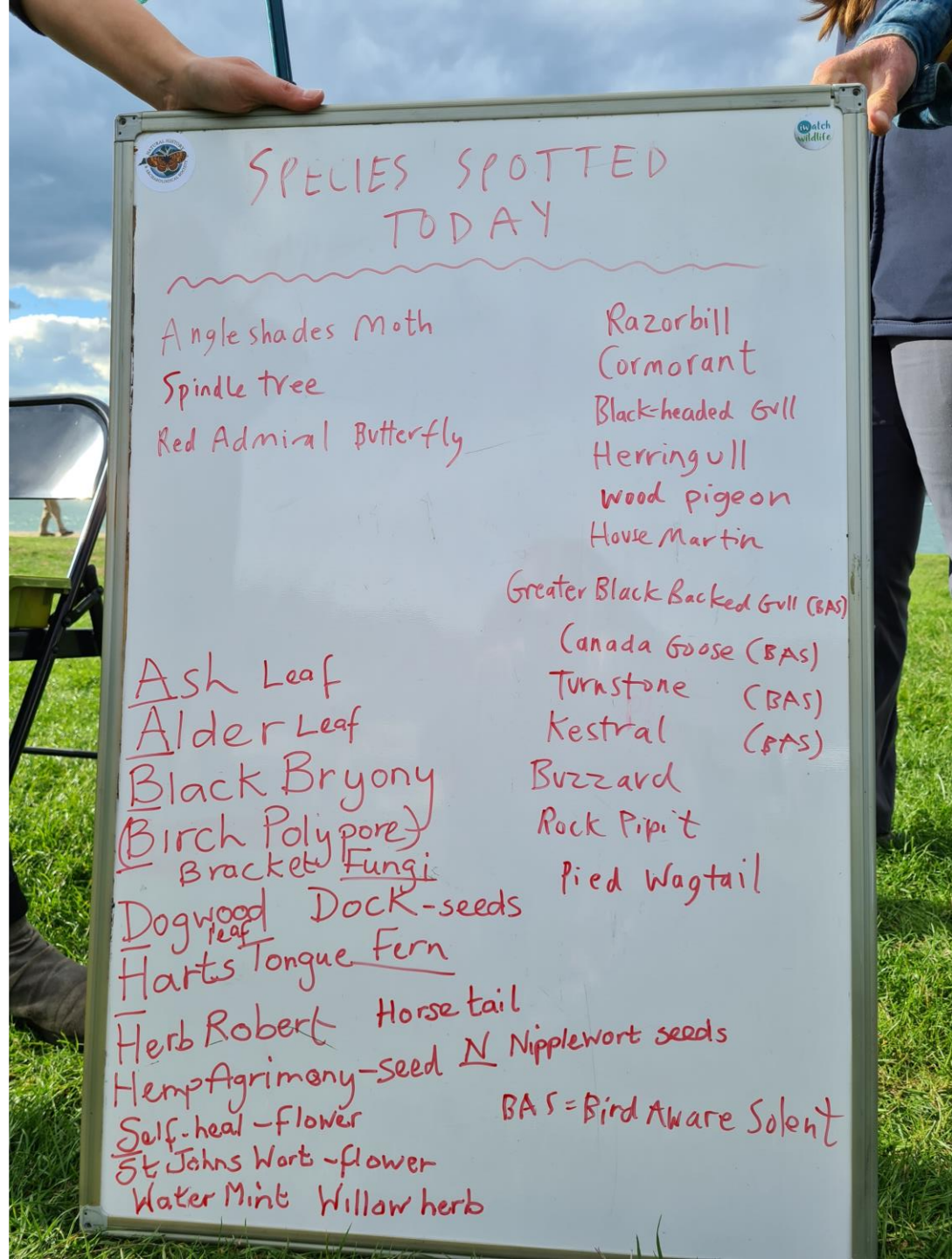






**SPECIES SPOTTED TODAY**

Angle shades Moth	Razorbill
Spindle tree	Cormorant
Red Admiral Butterfly	Black-headed Gull
	Herringull
	wood pigeon
	House Martin
	Greater Black Backed Gull (BAS)
	Canada Goose (BAS)
Ash Leaf	Turnstone (BAS)
Alder Leaf	Kestral (BAS)
Black Bryony	Buzzard
(Birch Polypore)	Rock Pipit
Bracket Fungi	Pied Wagtail
Dogwood	Dock-seeds
Harts Tongue Fern	
Herb Robert	Horse tail
Hemp Agrimony-seed	N Nipplewort seeds
Self-heal-flower	BAS = Bird Aware Solent
St Johns Wort-flower	
Water Mint Willow herb	



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