



FIELD GUIDE
TO THE SOARING BIRDS
IN LEBANON

FIELD GUIDE

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Acknowledgment

Lebanon is considered a major bottleneck for migratory soaring birds. This book “Migratory Soaring Birds in Lebanon Field Guide” is an achievement for birds and biodiversity in Lebanon. It collates all relevant data on migratory soaring birds, helping bird watchers to differentiate between the various species.

For this achievement, many thanks are extended to Mr. Edgard Chehab, Ms. Jihan Seoud, Mrs. Joelle Salameh, and Mrs. Yendi Ghossein from the Energy and Environment Programme – UNDP for their support and cooperation. Special appreciation is directed to Dr. Saleem Hamadeh – MSB project manager in Lebanon and his team for the support they provided to the Society for the Protection of Nature in Lebanon-SPNL and their cooperation towards the production of this book.

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Thank you all for your cooperation and support that made the production of this important scientific resource a reality for Lebanon!

Bassima Chafic Khatib



SPNL Assistant
Director General

Assad Adel Serhal



SPNL Director General
Global Councillor - BirdLife International

Executive Summary

Lebanon is considered a major bottleneck for migratory soaring birds by well-known ornithologists. This book “Migratory Soaring Birds in Lebanon Field Guide” summarizes the detailed scientific information needed by bird watchers in order to differentiate between the various species!

The book is divided into 8 main chapters, as follows:

Section One: Learn the Basic Bird Body Parts

Section Two: Bird Watching Tools

Section Three: Migration Dates for Soaring Birds in Lebanon

Section Four: Conservation Status of MSBs in Lebanon

Section Five: Table of MSBs Features

Section Six: Soaring Bird ID Table

Section Seven: Soaring Bird Guide Information

Section Eight: List of Soaring Birds Naming

Section Seven is the main section which provides detailed scientific information on the different migratory soaring bird species in Lebanon. It highlights the family, the distinctive features of size, shape, color, beak, wings, tail, legs, and its relevant behavior, calls, habitat, and the country where it could be found breeding. The remaining chapters are complementary sections that support and complement the overall picture.

The structure of this field guide is introduced in a different simpler way than usual. It guides you through the bird features collected in the field which collectively leads to the correct identification of the migratory soaring bird species.

The book “Migratory Soaring Birds in Lebanon Field Guide” is an important scientific resource collating all available scientific data for identifying migratory soaring bird species in Lebanon; presented in an innovative simpler approach!

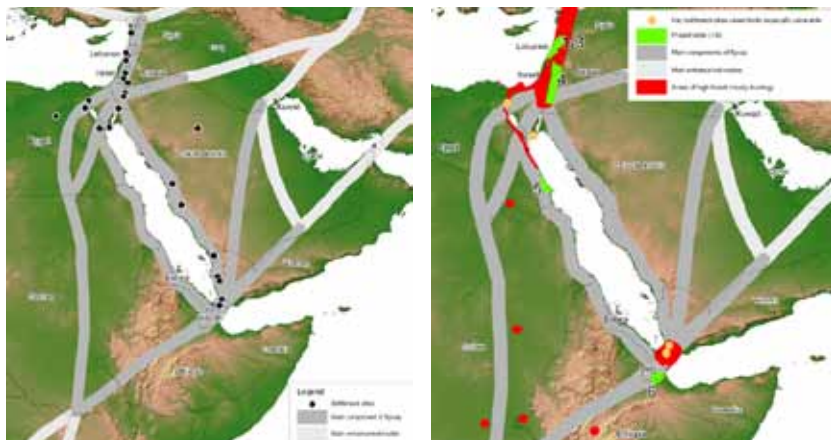
List of Abbreviations

KSA	Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
MSBs	Migratory Soaring Birds
SBs	Soaring Birds
IBAs	Important Bird Areas
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
UAE	United Arab Emirates

Introduction

Lebanon has been characterized as a ‘bottleneck’ site, as it lies on one of the most important flyways for migratory soaring birds (MSBs) in the world. Significant numbers of MSBs, over a million, many of which are globally threatened, fly through this corridor migrating back and forth each spring and autumn, from Europe and Asia, where they breed, to winter in Africa.

Migrating soaring birds such as the White Storks (*Ciconia ciconia*) fly through the Lebanese sky each spring summing up to 500,000 birds yearly, and more than 50,000 Lesser Spotted Eagles (*Aquila pomarina*) each autumn. Birds such as the Crimson-winged Finch (*Rhodopechys sanguinea*), which in turn are of restricted regional or global distribution, also occur in Lebanon.



Despite the good “bird occurrences” in Lebanon, lamentably lack of management in urban and rural development is leading to the loss of roosting and feeding habitats. Moreover, the long - lived, popular, unrestrained Lebanese hunting habit, have had and is still causing a great toll on MSBs, due to the large number of hunters and un-controlled hunting practices. Therefore, bird conservation in Lebanon should be raised to become one of the foremost conservation priorities.

After three years of research and studies funded by MAVA Foundation, from March 2005 through February 2008, conducted all over the Lebanese territory, and based on BirdLife’s global IBA criteria, and with efforts of SPNL and Arocha Lebanon, 15 Lebanese locations were declared by BirdLife International as IBAs.

IBAs are key sites for conservation, small enough to be conserved as a whole and characterized by one or more of the following attributes: they should have significant numbers of one or more globally threatened species; they should be one of a set of sites that together hold a number of species of restricted occurrence; they should have exceptionally large numbers of species that are either migratory or congregate in large numbers.

A: Important Bird Areas - Global importance

A1. Species of global conservation concern

The site regularly holds significant numbers of a globally threatened species, or other species of global conservation concern.

A2. Restricted-range species

The site is known or thought to hold a significant component of the restricted-range species whose breeding distributions define an Endemic Bird Area (EBA) or Secondary Area (SA).

A3. Biome-restricted species

The site is known or thought to hold a significant assemblage of the species whose breeding distributions are largely or wholly confined to one biome.

A4. Congregations

- i. The site is known or thought to hold, on a regular basis, $\geq 1\%$ of a biogeographic population of a congregatory waterbird species.
- ii. The site is known or thought to hold, on a regular basis, $\geq 1\%$ of the global population of a congregatory seabird or terrestrial species.
- iii. The site is known or thought to hold, on a regular basis, $\geq 20,000$ waterbirds or $\geq 10,000$ pairs of seabird of one or more species.
- iv. The site is known or thought to be a 'bottleneck' site where at least 20,000 storks (Ciconiidae), raptors (Accipitriformes and Falconiformes) or cranes (Gruidae) regularly pass during spring or autumn migration.

B: Important Bird Areas - Middle Eastern importance

B1: Regionally important congregations

The site may qualify on any one of the three criteria listed below:

- i. The site is known or thought to hold $\geq 1\%$ of a flyway or other distinct population of a waterbird species.
- ii. The site is known or thought to hold $\geq 1\%$ of a distinct population of a seabird species.
- iv. The site is a 'bottleneck' site where over 5,000 storks, or over 3,000 raptors or cranes regularly pass on spring or autumn migration.

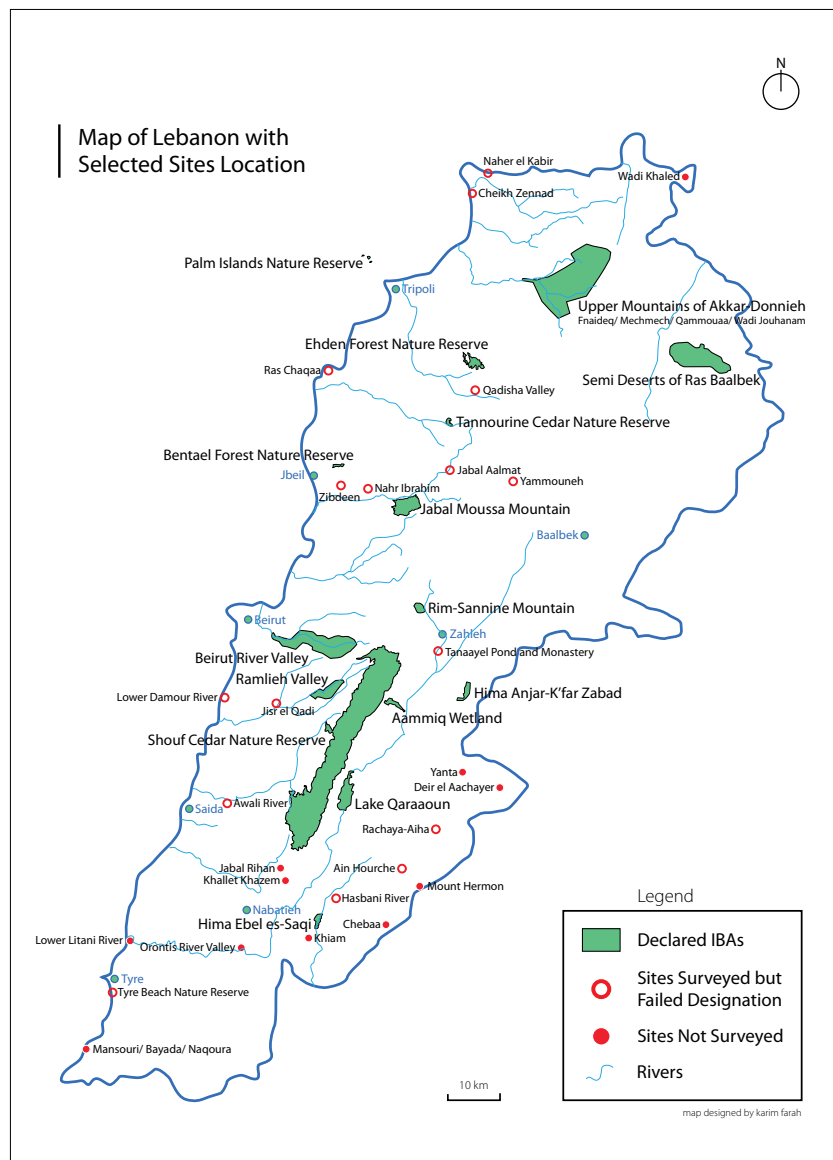
B2: Species with an unfavourable conservation status in the Middle East

The site is one of the five most important sites in the country/territory for a species with an unfavourable conservation status in the Middle East (threatened or declining throughout all or part of their range in the region) and for which the site-protection approach is thought to be appropriate.

B3: Species with a favourable conservation status but concentrated in the Middle East

The site is one of the five most important sites in the country/territory for a species with a favourable conservation status in the Middle East but with its global range concentrated in the Middle East, and for which the site-protection approach is thought to be appropriate.

IBA Criteria for sites in the Middle-East (taken from:
http://www.birdlife.org/datazone/sites/middle_east_criteria.html)



Bottlenecks

Conservationists are far from able to assist all species under threat, if only for lack of funding. This places a premium on priorities: how can we support the most species at the least cost? One way is to identify birds hotspots (such as important areas for roosting or feeding and important spots for bird gathering and agglomerating before continuing migration to destination) or bottlenecks (narrow areas along the flyway created by various factors) where exceptional concentrations of species at risk are undergoing exceptional threats. This opens the way for a 'silver bullet' strategy on the part of conservation planners, focusing on these hotspots in proportion to their share of the world's species at risk.

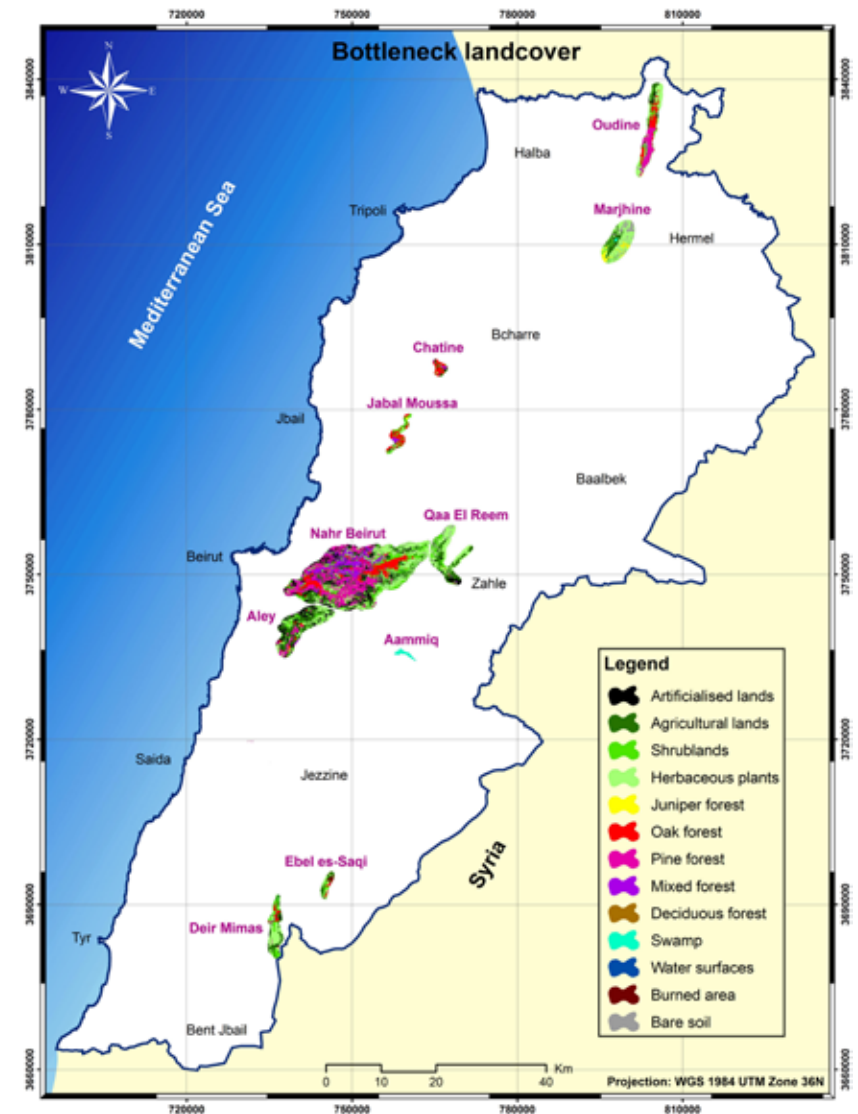
Of the 399 known bird species in Lebanon (Ramadan-Jaradi *et al.*, 2008), 40 raptors (including at least 1/3 non true-soaring species), 5 soaring non raptor species, 2 semi-soaring non raptor species are recorded in Lebanon (Ramadan-Jaradi, *unpubl.*). Apart from the falcons, the globally threatened migratory soaring birds are six species: One endangered, two vulnerable and three near threatened species. Of the pelicans, one species is vulnerable (Ramadan-Jaradi, 2008). The list of threatened species is subject to changes from one year to another and, in all cases, substantial funds are yearly spent to keep these threatened species from becoming extinct. Other migratory soaring bird species are rare or insufficiently known, but also in need of protection. Otherwise they will end on the list of threatened species before their probable disappearance.

The identification of bottlenecks/hotspots for the soaring birds paves the way to better manage the bird conservation from a national and international perspective. In practical terms, it will prove invaluable for prioritizing species protection and framing effective conservation plans for individual taxa which appeal at both a policy and public interest level. Subsequent to the above, a study was conducted in Lebanon by an ornithologist (Ghassan Ramadan-Jaradi) to prioritize the list of bottleneck/hotspot sites and select from them the ones with highest priorities in order to develop guidelines for their land-use and

recommendations for their inclusion in the existing National Physical Land Use Plan (NPLP). The study used the following criteria:

- 1) The site is already an international bottleneck located within Lebanon (according to the classification of BirdLife International).
- 2) The site is already a regional bottleneck located within Lebanon (according to the classification of BirdLife International).
- 3) The site is a depression situated along a mountain ridge that makes birds crossing easier. In addition, this depression should be situated above 600 m (according to the classification of Fornasari *et al.* (2000)).
- 4) The ridge crossed should be almost perpendicular to the main migratory flow.
- 5) The mountain pass might lie on the shortest route between consecutive areas of migratory birds' concentration or 2 congregatory IBAs.
- 6) The bottleneck site lies at the intersection of two main national migratory flyways (This 6th criterion is adopted after certain adaptation of the international criterion by replacing the intersection of the international flyways by the intersection of the national flyways).
- 7) The site could be but not necessarily an old traditional netting site, hunting hide or recovery area of birds.
- 8) The bottleneck is where higher densities of ringed birds do traditionally occur.
- 9) The bottleneck is a recipient of funneled birds at an aerial traditional point into a valley, line of hills, valley cliff edges.
- 10) The bottleneck is any site where the migration is abnormally concentrated and where most birds pass.

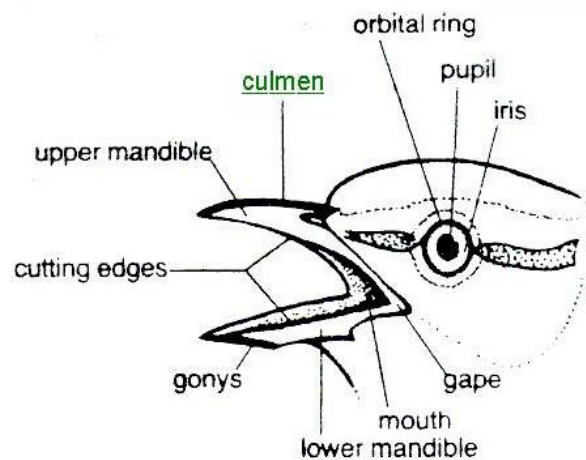
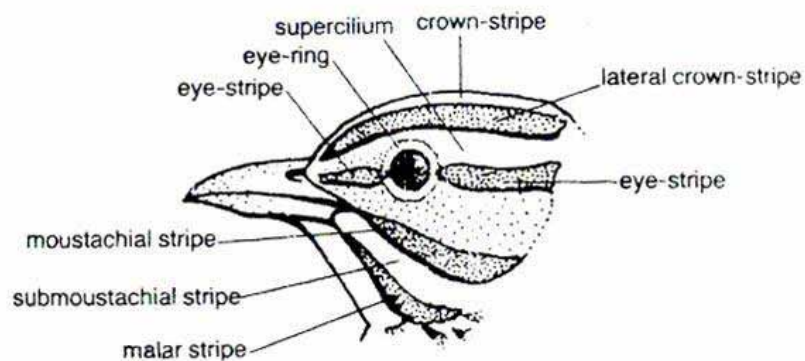
Subsequent to the above, the study prioritized the list of bottleneck/hotspot sites and selected from them the ones with highest priorities. Furthermore, the study developed guidelines for their land-use and recommendations for their inclusion in the existing National Physical Land Use Plan (NPLP).



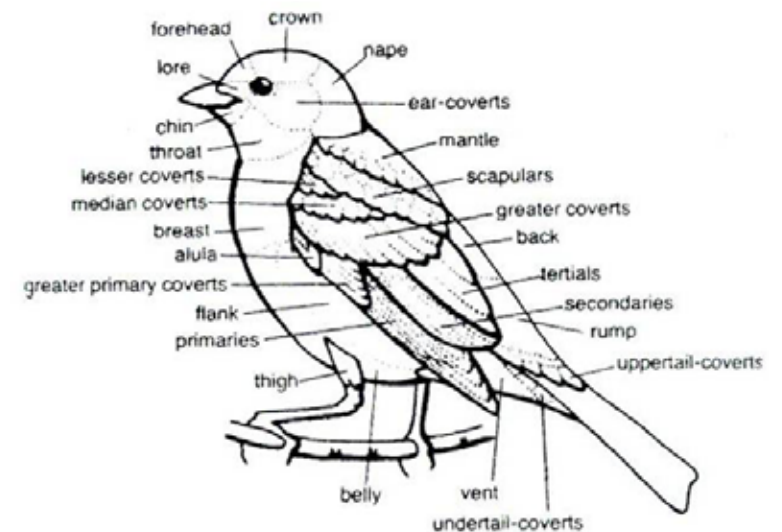
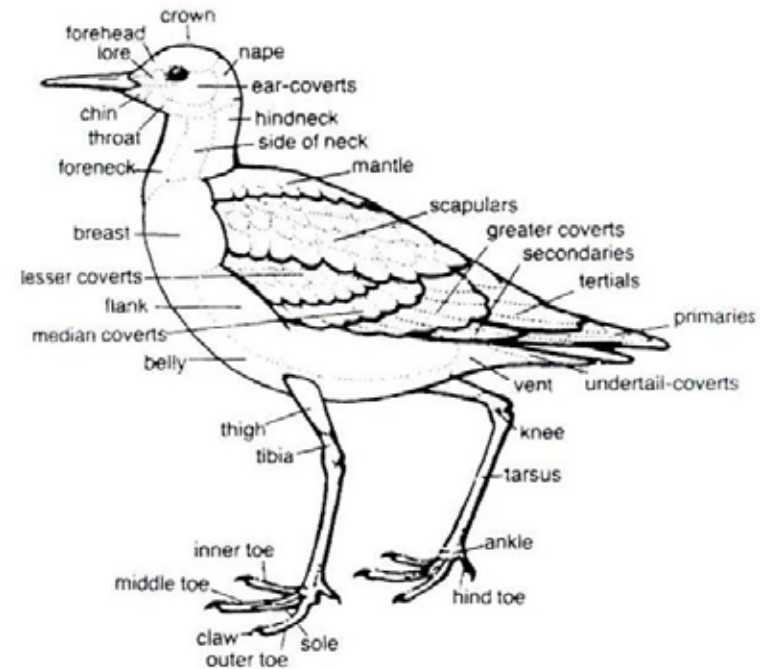
I. Learn the Basic Bird Body Parts

Every inch of a bird's body has a name. In the diagrams below, the bird's body is divided into three labeled parts: the head, body and wings. The two diagrams of each part will assist you in learning how to identify the detailed parts of the bird's body.

i. The Head

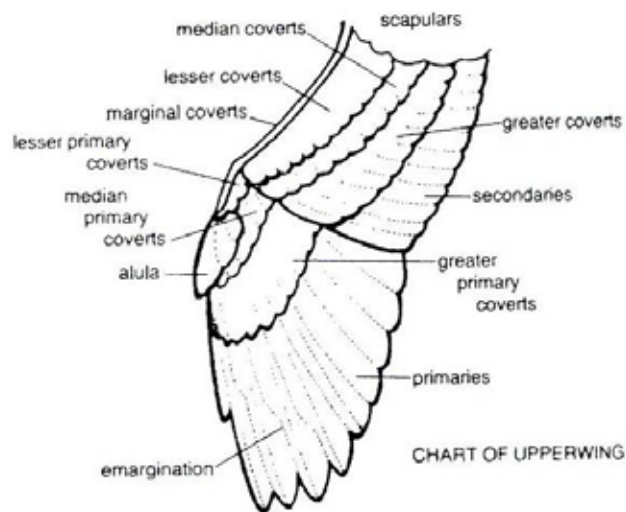


ii. The Body

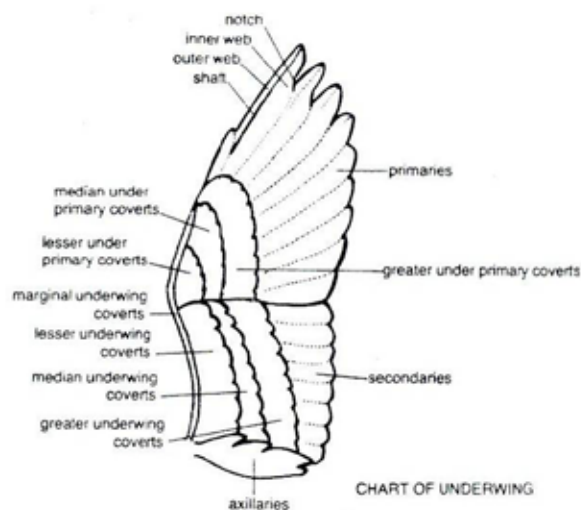


iii. The Wings

1. Wing Upper Division



2. Wing Lower Division



II. Bird Watching Tools

People of all ages, from all walks of life, watch birds with interest that range from occasional pleasure viewing to an outright passion resulting in lengthy trips and major investments. But one thing all bird watchers share, is the excitement generated when learning to use the bird watching equipment, that are binoculars, telescopes and field guides, all of which satisfy our need to discover.

i. Binoculars

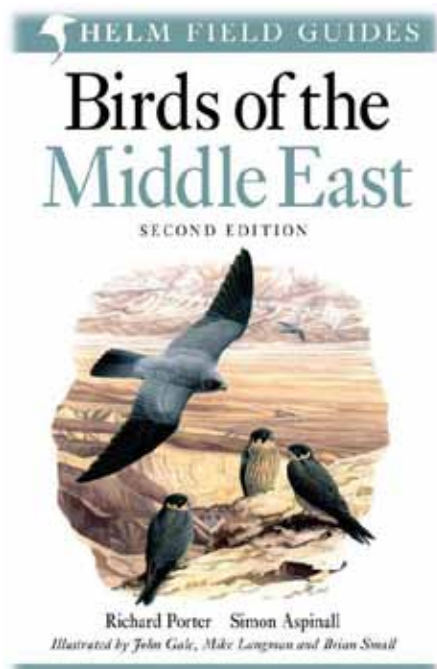
Binoculars are precious bird identification instruments, for both beginner and professional bird watchers. Because of their large light-gathering capacity and the typical wider spacing of the lenses than the human eye, binocular images are brighter, more detailed and more three-dimensional than normal vision. The simple act of lifting them and looking through their lenses helps to provide better detailed views of the birds and make their identification easier by fetching them closer to the watcher's eyes from hundreds of feet away.



ii. Field Guides

The Field Guide to the Migratory Soaring Birds of Lebanon can help you identify all of the soaring birds you see. The Field Guide is a comprehensive book with species pictures and colored illustrations, descriptions, bird calls, habitat information, all of which help in the identification of birds.

The Field Guide is pocket sized, compact and rugged enough for field use. It is organized according to the bird identification criteria, each chapter corresponding to one criterion and including the silhouette illustrations that show a representative criterion from each type. The chapters towards the end of the MSBs Field Guide include detailed and further information regarding each species.



Using the Field Guide

Using the field guide is simple, and with practice, one should at least be able to narrow down the identification to the correct family, according to the procedure below:

- Browse through the field guide before heading out to the field, in order to get familiarized with species that

might be encountered. In addition, it helps enhance the understanding of the Guide's format.

- Using the binoculars, focus on each feature of one bird at a time.
- List the observed criterion in form of letters and numbers based on the provided lists of criteria. Features and characteristics are listed in alphabetical order. This quickly limits choices in working out identities of unknown birds.
- After marking all the observed bird criteria, and listing the numbers and letter, scan the final table "Bird ID table" which provides all possible characteristics related to each bird and match the combination of letters and numbers to the birds listed.



Step by Step through the SB Field guide

Bird Identification Guide

What to look for?

Habitats

1. Costal
2. Deciduous
3. Deserts
4. Fields
5. Foothills
6. Forests
7. Grassland
8. Mountain
9. Near water
10. Old buildings
11. Plains
12. Rocks
13. Rubbish dumps
14. Steppe
15. Wadis
16. Wetlands
17. Woodlands

Tail

Forms:	Colors:
1. Broad	a. Black
2. Bushy	b. Blue
3. Forked	c. Brown
4. Long	d. Grey
5. Medium length tail	e. Pale
6. Narrow	f. White
7. Short	
8. Square cut	
9. Stocky	
10. Wedged	

Shapes

1. Oval
2. Elongated oval
3. Rhombus like
4. Elongated rhombus like

Sizes

1. Small
2. Small – medium
3. Medium
4. Medium – large
5. Large

Wings

Forms	Colors
1. Broad	a. Black
2. Curved	b. Blue
3. Deeply fingered	c. Brown
4. Long	d. Grey
5. Narrow	e. Pale
6. Pointy	f. White
7. Round tip	
8. S – shape	
9. Straight	

Beaks

Forms:	Colors:
1. Arched	a. Black
2. Hooked	b. Blue
3. Large	c. Grey
4. Long	d. orange
5. Pointy	e. Pale
6. Short	f. Red
7. Straight	g. Yellow

First one should get acquainted with the systematic organization of the guide:

It is organized according to the bird identification criteria

Under each criterion, one will find a list of features written in alphabetical order; numbered or linked to a combination of numbers or letters.

While in field observing, one sees a soaring bird with black and white, broad, deep fingered S-shaped wings. Directly the observer should open the guide to where wings are indicated and according to alphabetical order, search for the observed features and write what is seen in letters and numbers.

In this case one should write as following;

Wings: 1, 3, 8, a, f

And so with the other criteria, when all observations are noted, or at least enough to identify the bird, the combination of all criteria should be compared and matched with the Bird ID Table.

The Bird ID Table

Birds	Call	Size	Shape	Color			Wings	Tail	Beak/Cere	legs	Behavior	Habitat
				M	F	J						
Black Kite	8-2	2	3		3	5-b	1-7-3-e	1-3-8-c	2-6-a/e	2-4-c	1a-1c-3b-4a	9-13-17
Black Stork	23	5	3		1-6	3	1-3-9-a	7-a	4-5-7-f	3-d	1a-1d-1f	6-12-16
Bonelli's Eagle	16	5	1		1-5-a	5-a	1-7-a	5-8-e	2-6-a/e	2-4-c	2d-4a	3-5-8-11
Booted Eagle	15	3	3		3-5-6		1-3-a	5-8-a-e	2-6-a/e	2-4-c	3a-3e-4c-5d	2-6
Common Buzzard	21	4	3		3-5-a		1-3-7-f	1-5-e	2-6-a/e	2-5-c	2b-4f	8-11-17
Common Kestrel	11	2	1		3-5-b	5-b	4-5-6-c-e	4-6-a-e	2-6-a/g	2-5-f	2b-3d-3g	3-8
Eastern Imperial Eagle	Ø	5	3		1-5-a	1-5-c	1-3-4-8-a	1-5-8-a	2-6-a/e	2-5-c	4a-4c-5a	3-5-11-13-14-16

After all the combination are written, go back to the Bird ID table to identify the observation:

For example: If you get a combination as such:

call: 15, size: 3, shape: 3, color: 3-6
wings: 1-a, tail: 5-e, behavior: 5d, habitat: 6

Or as such:

15, 3, 3, 3-6, 1-a, 5-e, 5d, 6

Then the most probable observed bird is the **Booted Eagle**

With practice the
identification
becomes faster

After all the combinations are written, go back to the Bird ID table to identify the observation:

For example: If you get a combination as such:

Then the most probable observed bird is the **Booted Eagle**

iii. Notebooks / Co-Field Guides

Always carry your Field Guide along with a notebook and pen/pencil. This is a method for capturing information in a way that can be easily used by yourself and others anytime.



Taking Notes



When you make a significant observation, you should record the following information:

- ✓ Date
- ✓ Start and finish time
- ✓ Weather conditions
- ✓ Site
- ✓ Habitat type
- ✓ Observed species
- ✓ Number of individuals
- ✓ Behavior

Sketching

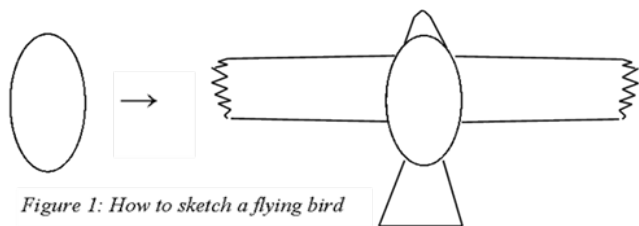


Figure 1: How to sketch a flying bird

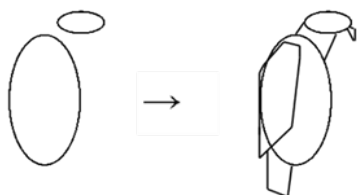


Figure 2: How to sketch a perching bird

In addition to taking down notes and details of all sightings, draw quick sketches such as these figures.

Keep in mind:

- ✓ A pencil is preferred for drawings and recordings so that the chances of them smudging, if the notebook gets wet, become less.
- ✓ Make a labeled sketch to illustrate what you describe. Do this at the time of sighting, and NOT later. Description



of birds has always been difficult if not confusing. Birds come in all sorts of features of which some may not be as common.

- ✓ During breeding, certain birds wear their breeding plumages and become brightly colored. In such cases, it becomes difficult to identify the birds.
- ✓ Juveniles may at times appear different from adults and are in most cases mistaken to other species.



III. Migration Dates for Soaring Birds in Lebanon

Species	Autumn				Spring			
	First Arrival	Peak	Last Arrival	Status	First Arrival	Peak	Last Arrival	Status
White Pelican	.Jul 17	Oct.-1 10 .Nov	.Nov 25	Reg	.Feb 15	Mar.- 15 29 May	June 15	Reg
Dalmation Pelican	.Nov	.I.D	.Nov	V	.Mar	.I.D	.Apr	V
White Stork	.Jul 15	Aug.- 17 .13 Sep	.Nov 10	Reg	.Feb 20	Mar.- 10 .10 Apr	June 12	A
Black Stork	.Aug 15	Sep.- 15 .3 Oct	.Nov 28	Reg	.Feb 15	Mar.- 15 15 May	June 30	C
Crane	.Sep 10	Oct.- 15 .15 Nov	.Dec 15	Rare	.Feb 15	Feb.-20 27 .Mar	May 15	A
Demoiselle Crane	.Oct 1	.I.D	.Nov 31	V	Mar 1	.I.D	.Mar 31	V
Honey Buzzard	.Aug 4	Aug.- 28 .15 Sep	.Nov 22	A	.Mar 18	Apr.-25 28 May	June 17	R
Black Kite	.Jul 22	1-15 .Sep	.Dec 15	C	.Feb 20	Mar.- 7 25 .Apr	June 19	C
Egyptian Vulture	.Aug 15	Sep.- 10 2 Oct	.Nov 15	Rare	.Feb 20	.Apr 5	May 31	Rare
Griffon Vulture	.Sep	.I.D	.Oct	Rare	.Feb	.I.D	May	Rare
Black Vulture	.Oct 10	Oct.-4 26 .Nov	.Dec 5	V	.Feb 10	.Mar 1-15	May 4	V
Short-toed Eagle	.Aug 17	Sep.- 23 .13 Oct	.Nov 21	C	.Feb 10	Feb.-5 28 .Apr	May 20	C
Marsh Harrier	.Jul 24	Sep.- 10 .5 Oct	.Nov 28	C	.Feb 15	Mar.- 20 10 May	June 4	.Reg
Hen Harrier	.Aug 29	15-31 .Oct	.Nov 28	Reg	.Feb 15	.Mar 1-15	.Apr 27	Reg
Pallid Harrier	.Aug 26	Sep.- 20 .10 Oct	.Nov 28	Reg	.Mar 3	Mar.- 22 .15 Apr	May 25	Rare
Montagu's Harrier	.Aug 10	3-13 .Sep	.Nov 10	Reg	.Mar 1	.Apr 6-25	June 3	Reg
Goshawk	.Sep 21	Oct. – 15 .15 Nov	.Dec 3	Rare	.Feb 24	Mar.- 15 .15 Apr	May 27	Rare
Sparrowhawk	.Sep 4	2-15 .Oct	.Nov 28	Reg	.Feb 22	.Apr 10-25	June 2	Reg
Levant Sparrowhawk	.Sep 1	14-26 .Sep	.Nov 20	A	.Mar 9	.Apr 18-28	May 29	Reg

	Autumn				Spring			
Steppe Buzzard	.Aug 10	Sep.- 25 .10 Oct	.Nov 29	C	.Feb 4	Mar.- 22 .15 Apr	June 26	C
Long-legged Buzzard	.Aug 28	.Oct	.Nov 28	Reg	.Feb 15	Mar.- 15 .15 Apr	May 15	Reg
Lesser Spotted Eagle	.Aug 22	Sep.- 29 .5 Oct	.Nov 5	A	.Feb 22	Mar.- 20 .10 Apr	June 3	C
Greater Spotted Eagle	.Sep 12	5-20 .Oct	.Nov 28	Reg	.Feb 26	Mar.-2 1 .Apr	.Apr 27	Reg
Steppe Eagle	.Aug 29	Oct.- 17 .17 Nov	.Dec 15	Rare	.Jan 15	Feb.-3 20 .Apr	May 29	Reg
Imperial Eagle	.Sep 9	Oct.-10 5 .Nov	.Nov 28	Reg	.Feb 15	Feb.-15 26 .Apr	May 25	Reg
Booted Eagle	.Aug 21	10-30 .Sep	.Nov 28	Reg	.Feb 20	Mar.- 27 .20 Apr	June 10	Reg
Osprey	.Aug 9	Sep.- 17 .10 Oct	.Nov 28	Rare	.Feb 15	Mar.- 22 .25 Apr	June 5	Rare
Lesser Kestrel	.Aug 15	1-15 .Oct	.Nov 15	Reg	.Feb 7	Mar.- 15 .15 Apr	May 25	Rare
Kestrel	.Aug 15	Sep.- 26 .26 Oct	.Nov 28	Reg	.Feb 7	Mar.- 15 .15 Apr	June 15	Reg
Red-footed Falcon	.Aug 27	Sep.- 25 .15 Oct	.Nov 30	C	.Mar 28	Apr.-28 15 May	June 5	Rare
Merlin	.Oct 5	Oct.-7 28 .Nov	.Nov 14	Rare	.Feb 15	15-31 .Mar	.Apr 7	Rare
Hobby	.Aug 25	Sep.- 15 .3 Apr	.Nov 18	Reg	Mar 11	.Apr 14-21	June 20	Reg
Elenora's Falcon	.Sep 3	Sep.- 15 .15 Oct	.Dec 8	Rare	.Apr 7	May 1-9	June 29	Rare
Lanner Falcon	.Sep 15	Sep.- 15 .15 Oct	.Nov 28	Rare	.Feb 15	15-31 .Mar	May 15	Rare
Saker Falcon	.Sep 8	15-31 .Oct	.Nov 30	Rare	.Feb 13	.Mar 7-21	May 24	Rare
Peregrine Falcon	.Jul 26	Sep.- 12 .11 Oct	.Nov 28	Rare	.Feb 15	.Apr	June 17	Rare

Source: www.wildlebanon.org/en/pages/.../a_migration_dates.doc

Listed by Birdlife International as *Vulnerable*

Listed by Birdlife International as *Conservation Dependent*

Listed by Birdlife International as *Near Threatened*

Abbreviations	
A	Abundant
C	Common on passage
Reg	Regular on passage
Rare	Rare on passage
V	Vagrant on passage
.I.D	Insufficient Data

Note: Dates on this chart are approximate and are to be used as guides. The first and last arrivals are extreme dates in which individual species may be identified in Lebanon.

IV. Conservation Status of MSBs in Lebanon

IUCN Red List Status

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), is the world's main authority on the conservation status of species.

The **IUCN Red List of Threatened Species**, was first found in 1963, it constitutes the world's inventory of the global conservation status of biological species.

The IUCN seeks to re-evaluate the categories of species every five years if possible, or at least every ten years.

A series of Regional Red Lists are produced by countries or organizations, which assess the risk of extinction to species within a political management unit.

* *BirdLife International authorizes Birds' conservation Status for IUCN.*

Conservation Status

Legend Key	Red List Category
	Extinct (EX)
	Extinct in the Wild (EW)
	Critically Endangered (CR)
	Endangered (EN)
	Vulnerable (VU)
	Near Threatened (NT)
	Least Concern (LC)
	Data Deficient (DD)
IUCN Red List category for species.	

Species are classified in groups:

Extinct (EX) – No individuals remaining.

Extinct in the Wild (EW) – Known only to survive in captivity, or as a naturalized population outside its historic range.

Critically Endangered (CR) – Extremely high risk of extinction in the wild.

Endangered (EN) – High risk of extinction in the wild.

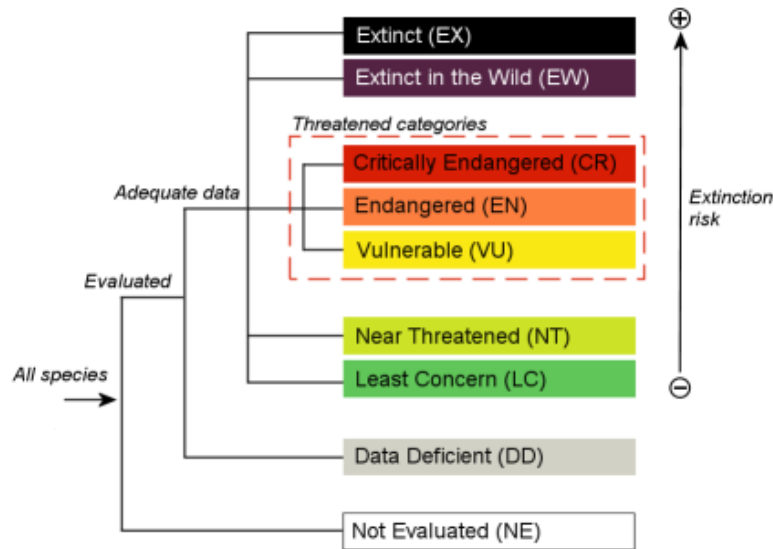
Vulnerable (VU) – High risk of endangerment in the wild.

Near Threatened (NT) – Likely to become endangered in the near future.

Least Concern (LC) – Lowest risk. Does not qualify for a more at risk category.

V. Tables of MSBs Features

List the observations according to the following tables of features. Remember to look for the desired feature according to alphabetical order.



When discussing the IUCN Red List, the official term «threatened» is a grouping of three categories: Critically Endangered, Endangered, and Vulnerable.

Tail	
Forms:	Colors:
1. Broad	a. Black
2. Bushy	b. Blue
3. Forked	c. Brown
4. Long	d. Grey
5. Medium length tail	e. Pale
6. Narrow	f. White
7. Short	
8. Square cut	
9. Stocky	
10. Wedged	

Shapes	Wings	
1. Oval	Forms	Colors
2. Elongated oval	1. Broad	a. Black
3. Rhombus like	2. Curved	b. Blue
4. Elongated rhombus like	3. Deeply fingered	c. Brown
	4. Long	d. Grey
	5. Narrow	e. Pale
	6. Pointy	f. White
	7. Round tip	
	8. S – shape	
	9. Straight	
Sizes		
1. Small		
2. Small – medium		
3. Medium		
4. Medium – large		
5. Large		

Calls	Habitats
1. Aack – ack – ack	1. Costal
2. Chae – chae – chae	2. Deciduous
3. Cheep – cheep	3. Deserts
4. chek-chek-chek	4. Fields
5. Chit –it – it – it – et – it	5. Foothills
6. Chuck – uk – uk – uk	6. Forests
7. Crow like (barking)	7. Grassland
8. Gull – like	8. Mountain
9. Kee – wick	9. Near water
10. Kee – yo	10. Old buildings
11. Kee –kee – kee (shrill)	11. Plains
12. Ki – ki – ki	12. Rocks
13. Kjie – Kjie – Kjie (loud hourse)	13. Rubbish dumps
14. Klee – klee – klee	14. Steppe
15. Kli – Kli – Kli	15. Wadis
16. Klu – KluKlu – Kluee	16. Wetlands
17. Kraee-Kraee-KKraee	17. Woodlands
18. Krrllaa – Krrllaa	
19. Krrlll – Krrlll	
Beaks	
	Forms: Colors:
20. Peee – lu	1. Arched a. Black
21. Peeooo (mewing)	2. Hooked b. Blue
22. Piih – eh	3. Large c. Grey
23. Rasping	4. Long d. orange
24. Vay – ee	5. Pointy e. Pale
25. Wray – e	6. Short f. Red
26. Yewk – yewk	7. Straight g. Yellow
27. Yiiee	
28. Yip (dog like)	

Behavior				
1. General	2. Flight	3. Wingbeats	4. Wings	5. Glides
a. Flock	a. Effortless soaring	a. Deep	a. Arched	a. Fast
b. Legs stretched beyond tail	b. Hovering	b. Elastic	b. Contour – hugging	b. Long
c. Maneuvering tail	c. Low flight	c. Interspersed	c. Flat	c. Short
d. Neck outstretched	d. Stooping	d. Loose	d. Kinked	d. Steady
e. Runs down pray	e. Swift flight	e. Powerful	e. Quivering	
f. Slow walk	f. Swooping / plunge	f. Quick	f. Raised	
	g. Undulating	g. Shallow		
	h. V-Shape soaring	h. Slow		

Legs	Colors
Forms:	Colors:
1. Fleshy	a. Black
2. Hooked	b. Orange
3. Long	c. Pale
4. Semi-webbed	d. Red
5. Short	e. White
6. Trousers	f. Yellow
7. Webbed	

Color	Form
1. Black	a. Barred
2. Blue	b. Patched
3. Brown	c. Streaked
4. Grey	
5. Pale	
6. White	

VI. Soaring Bird ID Table

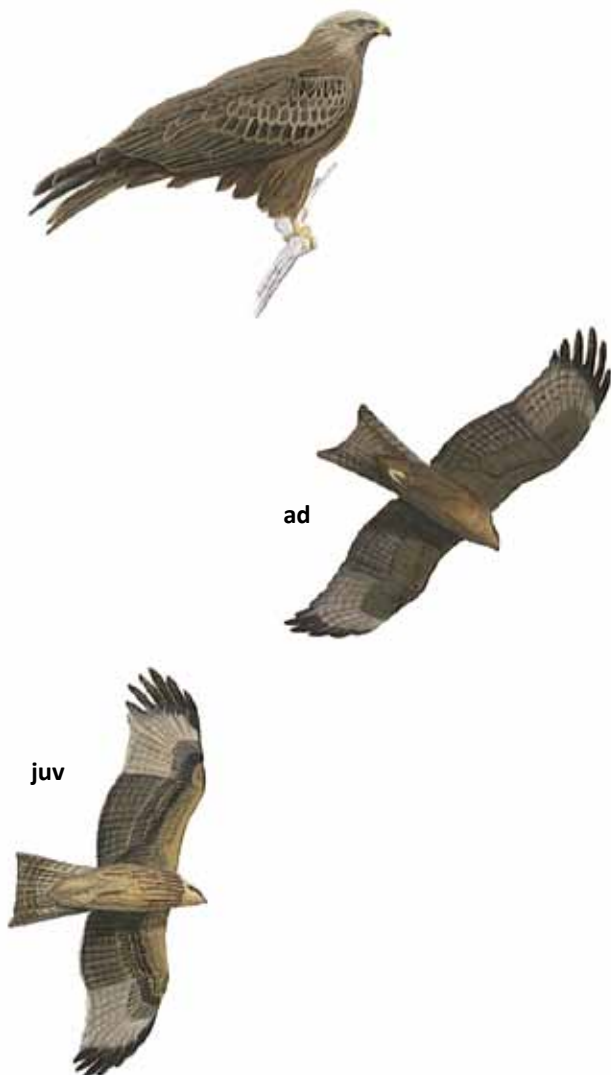
Birds	Call	Size	Shape	Color			Wings	Tail	Beak/Cere	legs	Behavior	Habitat
				M	F	J						
Black Kite	8-2	2	3	3		5-b	1-7-3-e	1-3-8-c	2-6-a/ e	2-4-c	1a-1c-3b-4a	9-13-17
Black Stork	23	5	3	1-6		3	1-3-9-a	7-a	4-5-7-f	3-d	1a-1d-1f	6-12-16
Bonelli's Eagle	16	5	1	1-5-a		5-a	1-7-a	5-8-e	2-6-a/ e	2-4-c	2d-4a	3-5-8-11
Booted Eagle	15	3	3	3-5-6			1-3-a	5-8-a-e	2-6-a/ e	2-4-c	3a-3e-4c-5d	2-6
Common Buzzard	21	4	3	3-5-a			1-3-7-f	1-5-e	2-6-a/ e	2-5-c	2b-4f	8-11-17
Common Kestrel	11	2	1	3-5-b		5-b	4-5-6-c-e	4-6-a-e	2-6-a/ g	2-5-f	2b-3d-3g	3-8
Eastern Imperial Eagle	∅	5	3	1-5-a		1-5-c	1-3-4-8-a	1-5-8-a	2-6-a/ e	2-5-c	4a-4c-5a	3-5-11-13-14-16
Egyptian Vulture	∅	1	3	1-6		3-5-a	3-4-5-6-a-f	7-10-f-d	2-4-e	5-4-c	1a-3a-4a-4c	1-8-13-15
Eleonora's Falcon	13	3	3	1-5-a		3-5-a	2-4-6-a	4-6-a	2-6-a/ e	2-5-c	1a-2b-2d	1-12-16
Eurasian Griffon Vulture	∅	5	3	1-5		5	1-2-3-4-a	1-7-8-a	2-4-a/ a	2-6-a	2a-3a-3h-4d	8
Eurasian Hobby	∅	1	3	4-c		3	2-4-5-6-a	5-6-a	2-6-a/ g	2-5-c	2e-3e-5a	4-17
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	∅	1	1	2-3-4-a		3-a-b	1-3-7-a-f	4-8-a-f	2-6-a/ e	2-5-c	3c-3f-5c	17
Eurasian/ Common Crane	18-19	5	1	4-1		3	1-3-7-a-f	2-7-a	4-7-e	3-a	1a-1d-2h-3e-5b	4-14-16
European Honey-Buzzard	20	5	3	4-a	3-a	3-5-a	1-3-7	4-6-a-f	2-6-a/ c	2-5-c	2f-4e	17
Golden Eagle	∅	5	3	3-5-a		3-6-b	1-3-8-c	1-5-a	2-6-a/ e	1-2-5-c	3b-3e-4f	3-8-11
Great White Pelican	∅	5	3	1-6		3-4	1-3-4-a-f	7-f	1-4-5-d	1-5-7-f	1a-3h	1-16
Greater Spotted Eagle	28	5	3	3		3-5-b	1-3-a-e	1-5-c	2-6-a/ d	2-5-6-c	4a	13-16

Birds	Call	Size	Shape	Color			Wings	Tail	Beak/Cere	legs	Behavior	Habitat
				M	F	J						
Hen Harrier	4-5-6	3	3	4-6	3-6-c		4-6-a	4-6-e-f	2-6-a/ e	2-5-c	2c-2h-4b	4-16
Lanner Falcon	17-25	5	3	1-4-a		3-c	4-7-a	5-a-c	2-6-a/ e	2-5-f	1e-2d-3h	3-8-11
Lesser Kestrel	2	1	3	2-3-4-6-a			4-5-6-c-e	5-6-10-e	2-6-a/ d	2-5-b	2b	10-12
Lesser Spotted Eagle	28	3	3	3-b		3-6-b	1-3-c	1-5-c	2-6-a/ e	1-2-5-c	4a	6-8-9-11
Levant Sparrowhawk	9	1	1	2	3-a	3-4-c	1-3-6-a-e	5-6-e	2-6-a/ e	2-5-c	1a	11-15
Long-legged Buzzard	21	5	3	2-3-6-a		3-5-a	1-3-7-c-e	1-5-e	2-6-a/ e	2-5-c	2b-3b-4d-4f	3-8-11-14-17
Merlin Falcon	Ø	1	1	1-2-c		3-5-a	5-6-2	5-6	2-6-a/ c	2-5-c	2c-3c-3f-5c	3-4-11-14-16
Montagu's Harrier	Ø	1	2	4-c	3-a	3	3-4-5-c	5-6-e	2-6-a/ e	2-5-c	2c-3e	4-16
Northern Goshawk	8	4	1	4-6-a		3-b-c	1-3-7	5-6	2-6-a/ e	2-5-c	1e-3g	6
Osprey	3-26	4	1	1-6		6	3-4-5-6-a-f	5-8-a-f	2-6-a/ b	2-5-e	2b-3g-4a-5d	1-9
Pallid Harrier	Ø	3	3	4-6	5-c	3-5-a	4-6-a-e	4-6-e	2-6-a/ g	2-5-f	2c-2h	3-4-7-14
Peregrine Falcon	1	5	3	1-6-a		1-6-b	1-2-6	5-9	2-6-a/ e	2-5-c	2d- 3f-3g	6-8-13-16
Red-footed Falcon	Ø	2	3	4	5-a	-	2-4-6	4-6	2-6-a/ d	2-5-b	3d	11-13
Red Kite	21	4	3	3-6		3-5-c	1-3-4-c	3-4-c	2-6-a/ g	2-5-c	1c-2a-4a	17
Short-toed Snake-eagle	10	3	3	3-6-a			1-3-4-6	5-8	2-6-a/ a	2-5-c	2b- 3b-3h	3-5-11
Steppe Eagle	7	5	3	3-4-a		3-5-b	1-3-4-7-c	1-5-c	2-6-a/ e	2-6-c	4a-4c	3-5-13-14-16
Western Marsh-harrier	12-24	5	3	1-3-6	3-6-b	3	1-3-4-7-c	4-6-8-c-f	2-6-a/ a	2-5-c	3g-4f	4-16
Western White Stork	Ø	5	4	1-6		6	1-3-4-a-f	7-f	4-5-7-f	4-d	1b-1d	4-11-16
White-tailed Eagle	14	5	1	1-3-6-c			1-3-4-5-c	7-10-f	2-3-e/ e	1-2-5-f	3a-4a/4c	1-9-16

VII. Soaring Birds Information Guide

Know more about soaring birds after identification

Black Kite



Family: Accipitridae

Size: medium - large

Shape: Rhombus like

Color:

Adult: Dark brown from above, dark head and pale panel across upperwings coverts, less noticeable. Dark brown uppertail and minimal white on primaries, below.

Juvenile: Pale feather tips on mantel and shoulders, boldly dark spotted breast. Paler belly and diffused dark band to tail. Whitish tips to greater upperwings coverts.

Beak: Pale yellow cere, and hooked, Black upper and lower mandible.

Wings: Broad, round tip wings. And has 6 free outmost primaries. Wing span: 135 - 150.

Tail: broad, rectangular corners.

Legs: Short, pale yellow and hooked talons

Behavior: Elastic wingbeats. Soars and glides on slightly arced wings, and maneuvers tail when scanning for food. Form flocks at rubbish dumps, and at night -roosts outside breeding season.

Calls: Gull-like, high pitched whinnying descending ; drawn-out yieerr.

Habitat: woodland, near water, rubbish dumps.

Migrant breeder: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kurdistan, Palestine, Turkey

NOTE: Passage hatched. Scarce in winter. Birds in East Arabia are probably Black-eared Kite.

Black Stork



Family: Ciconiidae

Size: Large

Shape: Rhombus like

Color:

Adult: Glossy black above, and white below.

Juvenile: Browner and less glossy

Beak: long, straight, red, and pointed beak

Wings: Broad, straight leading edge. Deeply fingered primaries. Wing span: 150.

Tail: Short, round-cornered.

Legs: Red long legs

Behavior: seen in pairs or small flocks, walks slowly and steadily on the ground, and flies with its neck outstretched.

Calls: Rasping call

Habitat: Damp forests, marshes and rocky river margins. Nest in woodlands or crag fields during migration.

Migrant breeder: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Iran, Kurdistan, Turkey

NOTE: Passage hatched; Occasional in winter in south Arabia. Vagrant in Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, UAE

Bonelli's Eagle



Family: Accipitridae

Size: Large

Shape: Oval

Color:

Adult: Dark underwings, whitish underbody, pale tail, black band at tip, and white patch on mantle, and white leading edge of wing.

Juvenile: Pale rust beige, pale flight feathers with fine dark barring. Pale translucent primaries and blackish wing tips. Narrow dark bar underwing forming a “comma” like form.

Beak: : Pale yellow cere, and hooked, Black upper and lower mandible

Wings: Broad, round tip. Wing span: 150 - 165.

Tail: long, almost square cut

Legs: Short, pale yellow and hooked talons

Behavior: Soars on flat or slightly arched wings, glides with carpals pressed forward, and trailing edge of wings straight. Often hunts in pairs. Stoops at great speed.

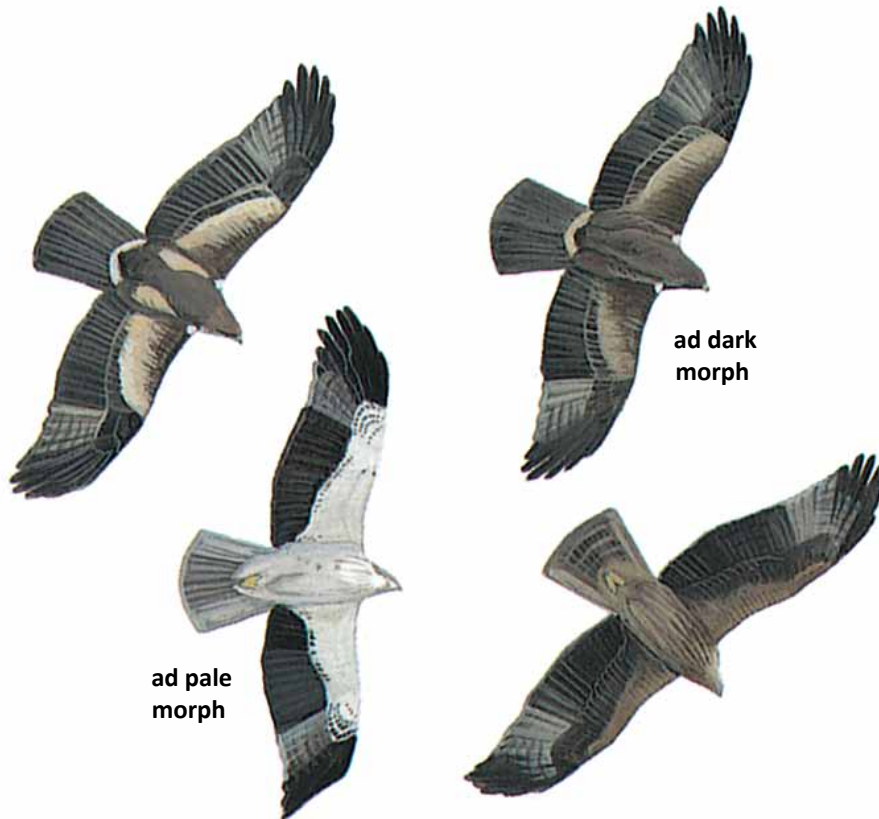
Calls: usually silent except in display and near the nest. Drawn out *klu-kluklu-kluee*

Habitat: Rocky mountains, forested foothills, in winter plains and semi-deserts.

Residence: Cyprus, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, KSA, Oman, Palestine, Turkey, UAE, Yemen

NOTE: Formerly bred in Syria. Winter dispersal hatched

Booted Eagle



Family: Accipitridae

Size: Medium-sized

Shape: Rhombus like

Color: Dark and pale morphs

Pale morphs: creamy white underparts, blackish flight feathers, kite-like panel on upperwings, pale scapulars and uppertail-coverts, white spots at neck base. Darker base to flight-feathers and paler inner primaries.

Dark morphs: similar to pale morphs from above. But from below dark brown or reddish brown with black band through center of underwings.

Beak: Pale yellow cere, and hooked, Black upper and lower mandible

Wings: Ample deeply-fingered wings; 6 free outmost primaries. Wing span: 110 - 130.

Tail: Square cut

Legs: Short, pale yellow and hooked talons

Behavior: Deep and powerful wingbeats, steady glides, soars on flat wings; does not hover.

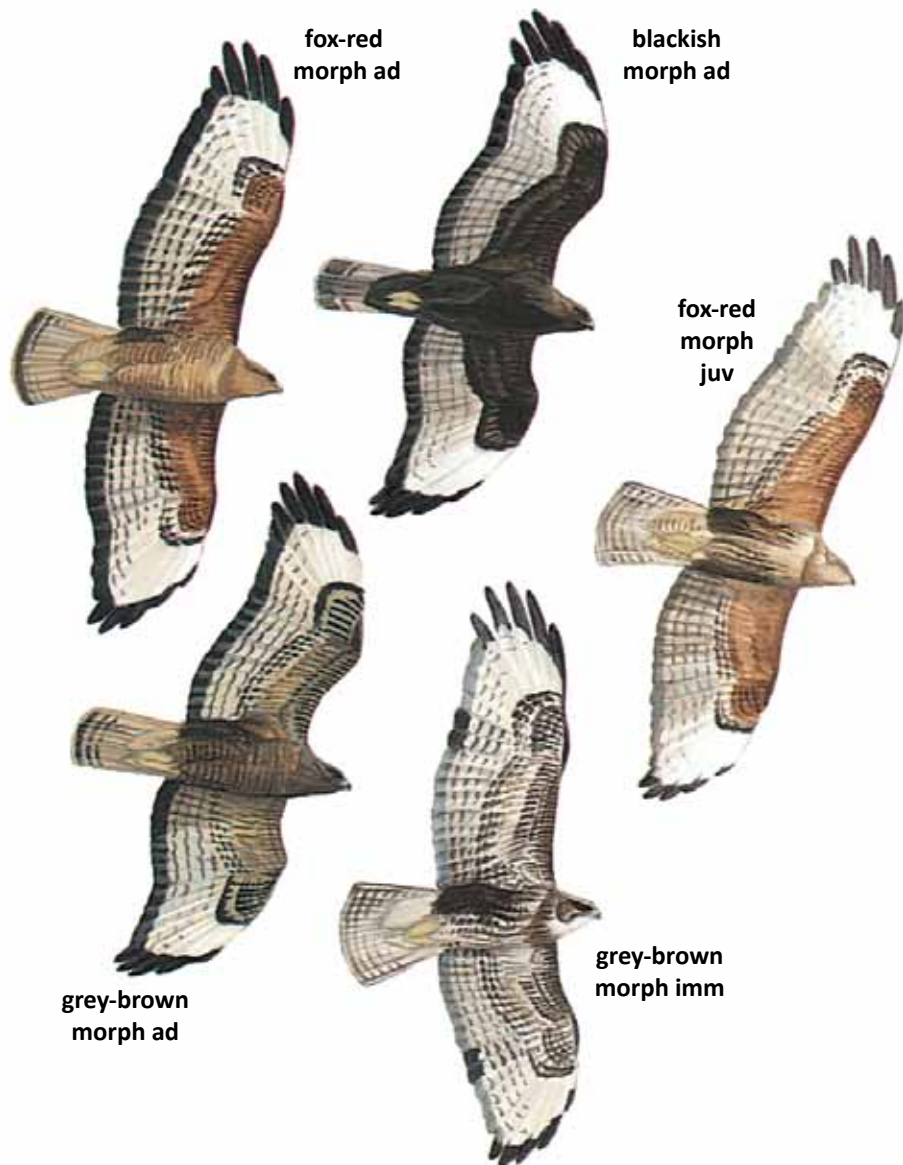
Calls: a sharp *kli-kli-kli*.

Habitat: Deciduous and pine forests; more open country outside breeding season.

Migrant breeder: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Iran, Iraq, Kurdistan, Lebanon, Turkey

NOTE: Passage hatched. Few winter in Near East and Arabia

Common Buzzard



Family: Accipitridae

Size: Medium to large

Shape: Rhombus like

Color:

Above: Rich brown, brown arms, light colored through the primary coverts, and patched greater coverts.

Below: brown neck, barred breast, light uppertail coverts.

Beak: Pale yellow cere, and hooked, Black upper and lower mandible

Wings: Broad, round tips . Wing span: 115.

Tail: relatively short, broad and cornered.

Legs: Short, pale yellow and hooked talons.

Behavior: Soars on raised wings, and may hover when hunting.

Calls: Mewing *Peeooo*

Habitat: Any habitat on passage/ winter, woodlands, plains, mountain slopes with trees.

NOTE: Not mapped due to confusion with Steppe Buzzard

Common Kestrel



Family: Falconidae

Size: Small to medium.

Shape: Oval

Color:

Adult: Reddish-brown upperparts, contrasts with darker flight-feathers. Male has black spots on back and wing-coverts, lacks blue-grey greater upper-coverts. Females, similar to males, with greyiness on head, tail-base and uppertail-coverts.

Juvenile: Paler brown, with thin white fringe to greater coverts.

Beak: Bright yellow cere, and hooked, Black upper and lower mandible

Wings: long narrow, fairly pointed wings. Wing tip formula, primary 10 shorter than P8 and equaling P7. Wing span: 70 -78.

Tail: Long, slightly narrowing tail.

Legs: Short, bright yellow and hooked talons.

Behavior: Shallow loose wingbeats, and persistent hovering. Active flights alternates with glides, soaring and frequent hovering. Nests in hole, ledge on cliff, or building. Uses old nests of other birds.

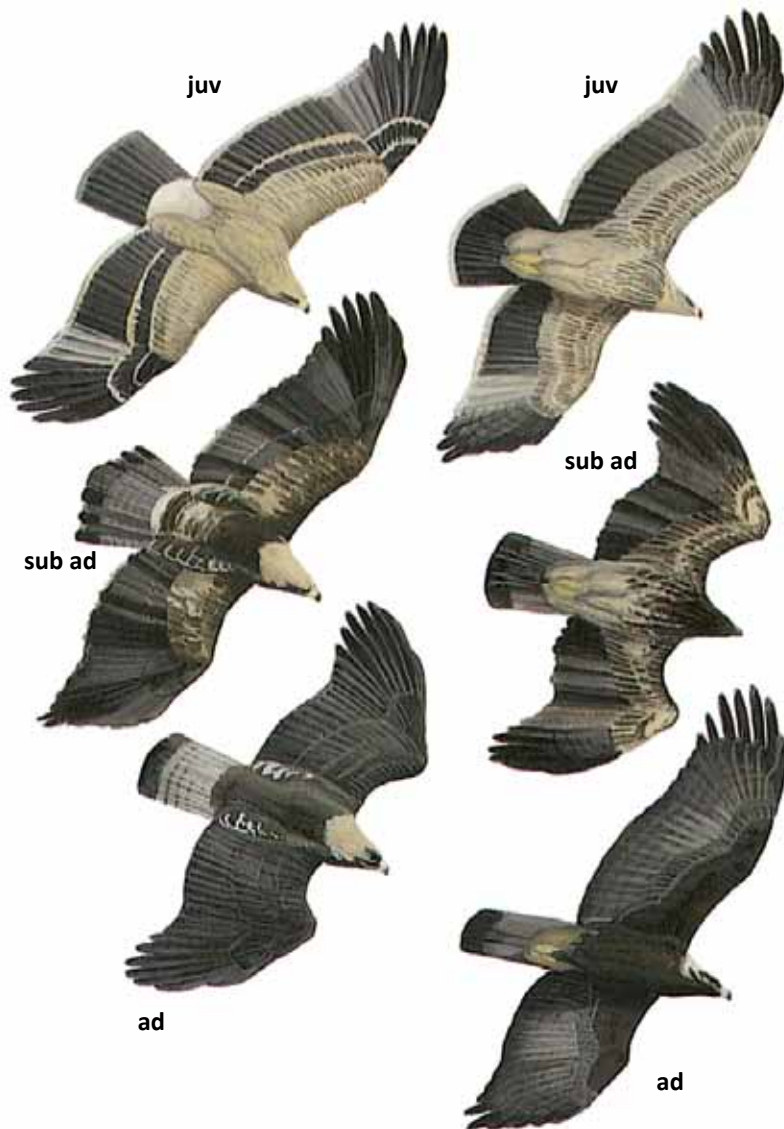
Calls: Shrill *Kee-kee-Kee*

Habitat: Open country with trees, mountains, and semi-deserts.

Residence: Everywhere in the Middle East

NOTE: Partial migrant

Eastern Imperial Eagle



Family: Accipitridae

Size: Large

Shape: Rhombus like

Color:

Adult: Blackish brown plumage, contrasting yellow-white hindneck, pale uppertail with broad black band and white braces.

Juvenile: Dark-streaked breast forming pectoral band, contrasting the un-streaked yellow-buff rear body. Distinct pale wedge on inner primaries below. Creamy lower back and rump

Beak: Pale yellow cere, and hooked, Black upper and lower mandible.

Wings: long, ample hand, with deep-fingered wing tip - long P7. Juvenile has broader, more "S" shape curved rear edge to wings. Wing span: 190 - 210.

Tail: Relatively long, and rectangular cut, sometimes broadens.

Legs: Short, pale yellow and hooked talons.

Behavior: Parallel edged wings held flattish, often closed narrow tail when soaring. Juvenile, sometimes slightly lifts wings while soaring, but arches during fast gliding.

Habitat: Open plains and foothills with wood. In winter, steppes, marshes, wooden deserts or semi-deserts, or dumps.

Residence: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Iran, Turkey

NOTE: Formerly bread in Cyprus, where now vagrant. Passage winter hatched

Egyptian Vulture



Family: Accipitridae

Size: Small

Shape: Rhombus like

Color:

Adult: White underparts with black flight feathers; secondaries greyish-white above. Small pointed head.

juvenile: Mid-brown below, with blackish dark brown above, with creamy bars on wing-coverts. Pale rump and whitish uppertail-coverts.

Beak: long, hooked at the tip.

Wings: Pointed, third primary being the longest. Wing span: 155.

Tail: White, wedged-shape tail (adult). Wedge-shaped tail, grey-brown, tipped paler (juvenile).

Legs: Relatively long, claws are long and straight. The third and fourth toes are slightly webbed at the base.

Behavior: Soar on flat to slightly arched wings, active flight has many deep wingbeats between glides. Often in flocks. Nest on cliffs.

Habitat: mountains, wadis, and open country, dumps, and sometimes foreshore.

Residence: KSA, Oman, UAE, Yemen

Migrant breeder: Armenia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, Syria, Turkey

NOTE: Partial migrant to south Iran. Passage hatched. Vagrant in Qatar.

Eleonora's Falcon



Family: Falconidae

Size: Medium-sized

Shape: Rhombus like

Color:

Adult: Pale morphs, darker underparts and dark unmarked underwing-coverts contrasting with pale-based, unbarred flight feathers. Dark morphs, uniform blackish brown, underwing-pattern, dark primaries above.

Juvenile: Both morphs, paler brown than adult pale morphs. Dark underwing-coverts contrasting with paler flight feathers which have darker trailing edge. Also thinner moustache.

Beak: Short, blackish hooked beak. Pale yellow cere

Wings: long, pointy wings. Wing span: 97.

Tail: long, round cornered tail

Legs: Short, pale yellow and hooked talons

Behavior: Hunts in flocks, at dusk. Catches insects in flight. sometimes hovers. Capable of tremendous stoops. Breeds late summer, feeds young on autumn migrants.

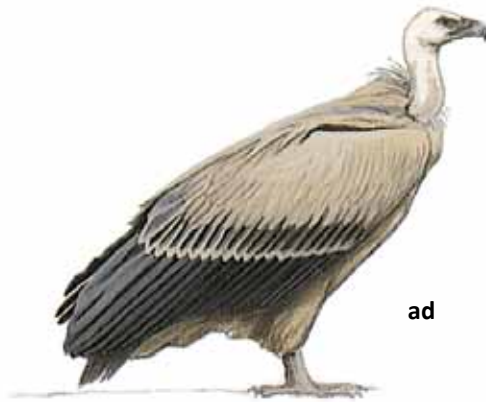
Calls: Loud hoarse *Kjie-Kjie-Kjie* - when breeding.

Habitat: Colonial, nesting in holes on rocky islands and sea-cliffs, often hunts over wetlands.

Migrant breeder: Cyprus and Turkey

NOTE: Formerly bred in Lebanon. Passage hatched. Vagrant in Jordan, Eastern KSA, UAE

Eurasian Griffon Vulture



ad



Family: Accipitridae

Size: Large

Shape: Rhombus like

Color:

Adult: Gingery-buff above. Below, contrasting with dark flight-feathers.

Juvenile: Paler brownish-yellow on rear underwing-coverts.

Beak: Long, blackish. Hooked at the tip.

Wings: Long, broad, deeply-fingered wings. Curved trailing edge. Wing span: 245 - 270.

Tail: Short, broad, square-cut tail.

Legs: Relatively short, dark, and hooked claws.

Behavior: Soars effortlessly for long periods on raised wings. Active flight with very slow, deep wingbeats; glides on kinked wings. Sociable. Nests colonially, in caves or cliff-ledges.

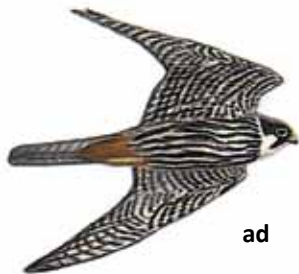
Habitat: Mountains, occurs over all types of country in search for food.

Residence: Cyprus, Iran, Jordan, KSA, Palestine, Syria, Yemen

Migrant breeder: Iran, Iraq, Turkey

NOTE: Formerly bred in Lebanon. Passage, winter and dispersal hatched; but rare in much of Arabia.

Eurasian Hobby



Family: Falconidae

Size: Small

Shape: Rhombus like

Color:

Adult: Slate-grey upperparts, uniform tail, outstanding moustache and eye-catching white cheeks. Densely streaked underparts with red thighs and undertail-coverts.

Juvenile: Browner above, with pale feather fringes and absence of red thighs and undertail-coverts.

Beak: Short, blackish hooked beak. Bright yellow cere.

Wings: Scythe-like, pointed wings. Wing span: 74 - 92.

Tail: Relatively short and round cornered tail.

Legs: Short, pale brown and hooked talons

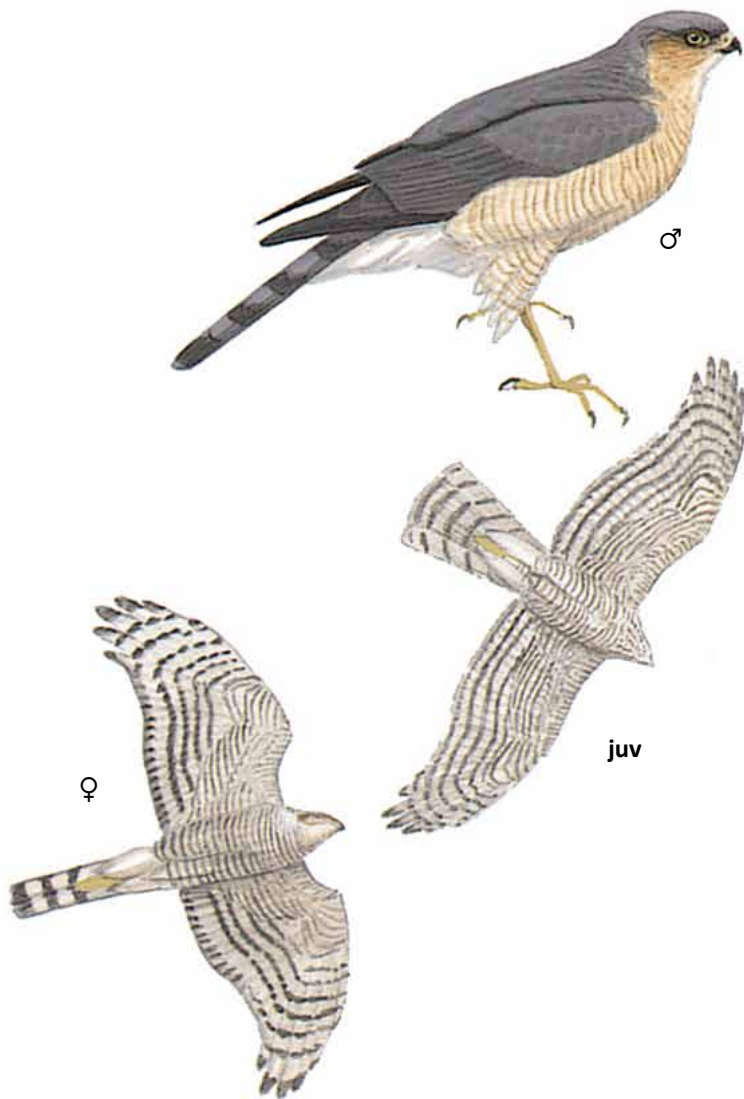
Behavior: Swift flight and agile, strong steady wingbeats, short fast glides. Accelerates when hunting, but more relaxed when catching insects. Rarely hovers. Nests in old bird nests, often crow's.

Habitat: Scattered woodlands, cultivated areas with trees.

Migrant breeder: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Iran, Iraq, Cyprus, Jordan, Kurdistan, Lebanon, Palestine, Turkey

NOTE: Passage hatched

Eurasian Sparrowhawk



Family: Accipitridae

Size: Small

Shape: Oval

Color:

Adult: Male, Blue slate grey from above, barred reddish brown from below. Female is ash grey from above, barred reddish brown from below - Pale underwings but no dark tip

Juvenile: Brown above, patched throat and upper breast and/or barred below.

Beak: Relatively short, pale yellow cere, and hooked, Black upper and lower mandible.

Wings: Similar to goshawk, but straight trailing edge. And blunter wing tips. 5 free out most primaries. Wing span: 60 - 80.

Tail: Relatively long and square cut

legs: Short, pale yellow and hooked talons.

Behavior: Quick wingbeats, interspersed with short descending glides. Slow wingbeats while hunting.

Habitat: Woodlands, open countries with trees.

Residence: Turkey, Iran, Lebanon, Syria, Palestine.

NOTE: Passage and winter hatched.

Eurasian/Common Crane



Family: Gruidae

Size: Large and majestic

Shape: Oval

Color:

Adult: Grey plumage, with contrasting black flight feathers, black head, and upper neck. White stripe from eye down to side of neck.

juvenile: Brownish head without contrasting head pattern.

Beak: Pale brown, long, and pointy.

Wings: Broad, round wings, with 5 free outmost primaries.

Tail: Bushy at rear-end on ground.

Legs: long black talons, extended to the back in flight

Behavior: Often soars forming “V” shape. Forms flocks in winter and while migrating. Neck extended in flight, with powerful wingbeats, combined with long glides.

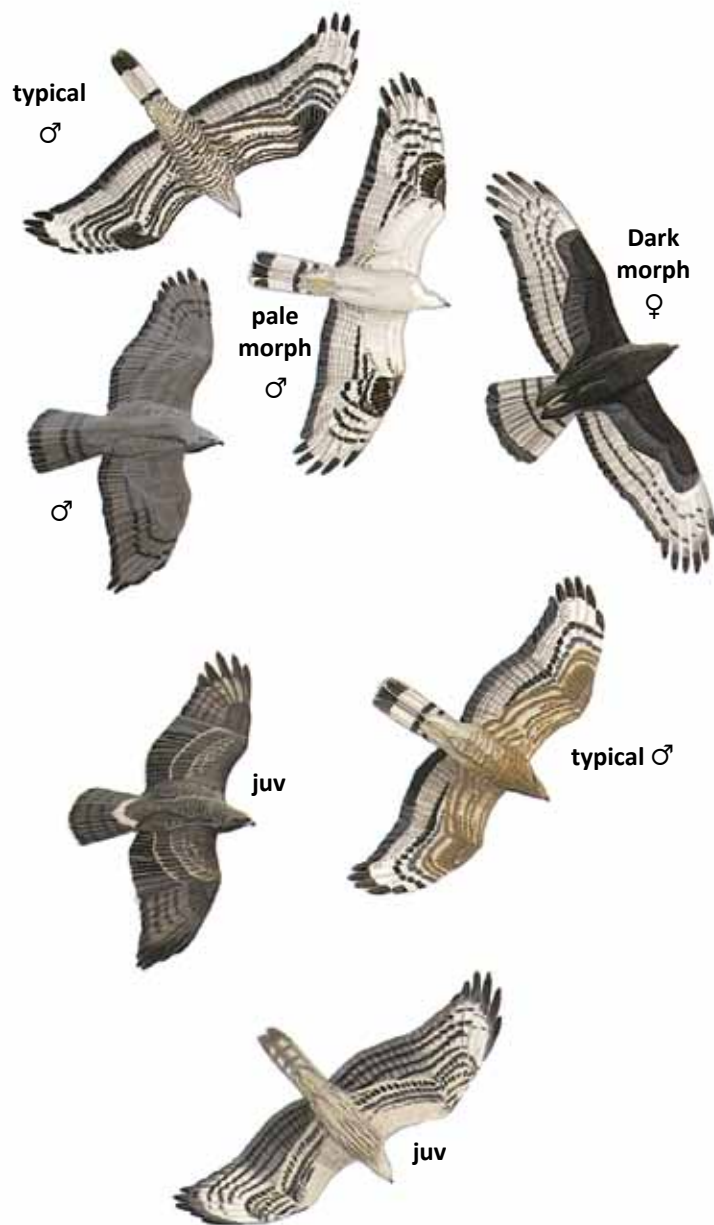
Calls: loud carrying trumpeting; *Krrllaa-Krrllaa...* or *Krrlll-Krrlll*

Habitat: Wetlands, fields, and steppe.

Residence: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Iraq, Kurdistan, Turkey

NOTE: Passage and winter hatched, but very local in winter. Vagrant in Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, Socotra, and UAE

European Honey-Buzzard



Family: Accipitridae

Size: Large

Shape: rhombus like

Color:

Adult: Male greyish head and upper parts. Female browner. Below, some are dark and some are white, mostly barred on body and coverts, black carpal-patches. Black trailing edge, and bars at base.

Juvenile: Dark brown, reddish brown, or creamy white. With dark carpal-patches and narrow whitish crescent. Three evenly spaced bars on flight feathers.

Beak: grey cere, and hooked, Black upper and lower mandible

Wings: Broad rounded tips, with 5 free outmost primaries. Wing span: 135 - 150.

Tail: long round corners, males have it broad, as for females it is narrow.

Legs: Short, pale yellow and hooked talons

Behavior: Wing quivering; looks as if the bird is clapping its wings together above its head. Steep plunge, and upward swoop.

Calls: a clear *Peee-lu*

Habitat: Woodlands, wide spread passage.

Migrant breeder: Turkey, Iran.

NOTE: Passage hatched, but rare in east Arabia.

Golden Eagle



Family: Accipitridae

Size: Large

Shape: Rhombus like

Color:

Adult: Dark brown, has rust-yellow hind neck, pale panel across upperwing-coverts. Dark barred, blackish-tipped greyish flight feathers, showing a greyish area on outer wing above and greyish tail with blackish band at tip.

Juvenile: White patches in primaries and inner tail. Tail with broad black band at tip

Beak: Relatively short. Pale yellow cere, and hooked, Black upper and lower mandible

Wings: Broad, slightly “S”-curved rear-edge of wings. Rather fingered. Wing span: 190 - 230.

Tail: Fairly long tail, broadens in flight. Fairly round cornered

Legs: Short and fleshy pale yellow legs and hooked talons

Behavior: Powerful flight with flexible wingbeats, soars and glides on markedly raised wings. Often hunts in tandem. Nests on rocky ledge, and sometimes in trees.

Habitat: Barren or wooden mountains, plains and semi-deserts with trees

Residence: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, KSA, Kurdistan, Oman, Palestine, Syria, Turkey, UAE

NOTE: May breed in Yemen. Formerly bred in Lebanon. Some winter dispersal. Vagrant in Cyprus and Kuwait.

Great White Pelican



Family: Pelecanidae

Size: Large; with huge wingspan

Shape: Rhombus like

Color:

Adult: White with contrasting solid black flight feathers. Has short shaggy crest on nape. Dark eye surrounded by naked rosy skin.

juvenile: Clear dark grey-brown upperparts.

Beak: Long bright orange-like beak, with a downwards arc, as opposed to the shorter.

Wings: Long, large, and broad, deeply fingered wings. Wing span: 270 - 330.

Tail: Short, broadens in flight

Legs: Relatively short, fleshy, and yellow legs. Webbed talons.

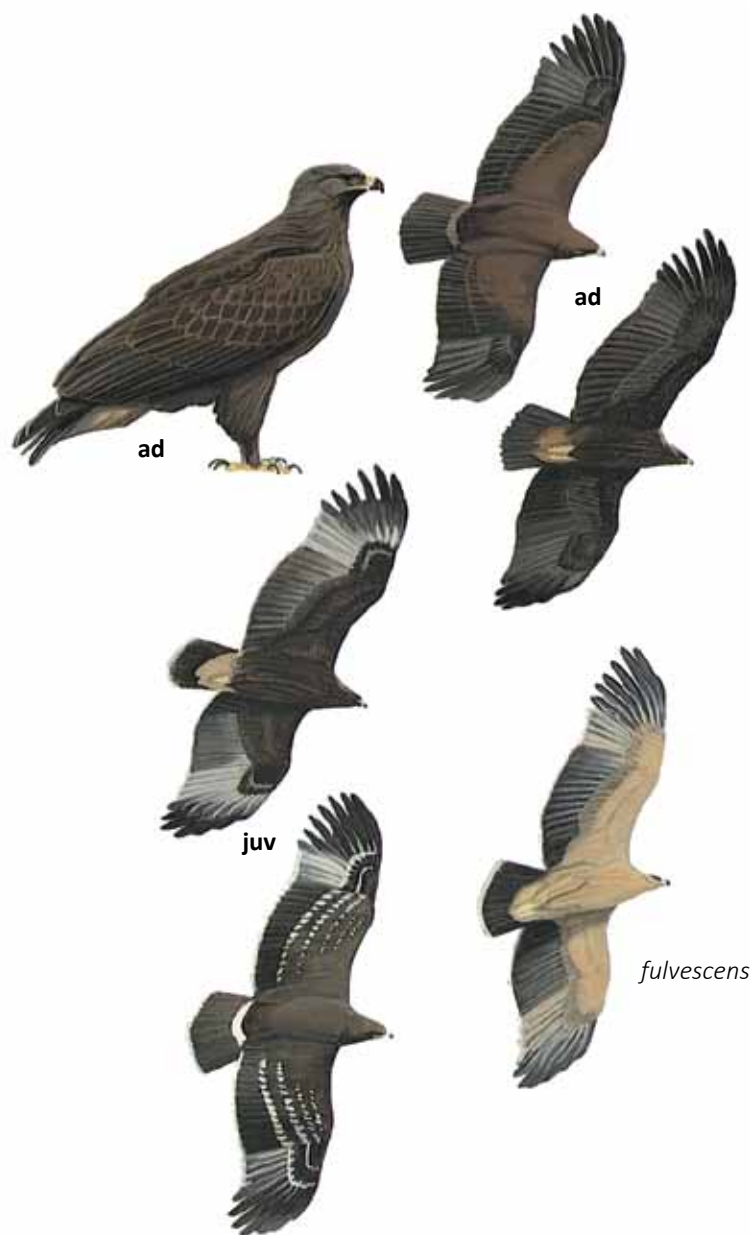
Behavior: Flight consists of few slow wingbeats followed by a glide. Flocks fly in regular line or circular. Nest colonially in reeds.

Habitat: Large inland wetlands, and shallow costal lagoons.

Migrant breeder: Kurdistan and Turkey

NOTE: Bred in Kuwait. Passage hatched; some in winter south Turkey. Vagrant in Bahrain, Oman, Socotra, and UAE.

Greater Spotted Eagle



Family: Accipitridae

Size: Large

Shape: Rhombus like

Color:

Adult: Dark brown below, flight feathers similarly dark or shade paler. Leading underwing-covert sometimes blackish-brown. On upperwing, mid to dark brown coverts, sometimes contrasts with darker mantle.

Juvenile: Blackish-brown below with paler flight feathers. Blackish-brown upperwing has one to three covert bars, often creating pale panel. Large diffuse primary patch formed by whitish primary shafts and pale inner primaries.

- Irrespective of age, secondaries below may have thin dense bars.

Beak: Yellowish-orange cere. Hooked beak tip, and black upper and lower mandible.

Wings: Relatively broad and parallel wings, with slightly broad hands, and deep fingered. Wing span: 155 - 180.

Tail: Medium-length tail. Broadens in flight, slightly cornered.

Legs: Short, light trousers legs. Pale yellow and hooked talons

Behavior: Active flight relatively heavy, soars and glides on arched wings with primaries more or less lowered

Calls: Dog-like yip.

Habitat: Near wetland and rubbish tips

NOTE: Passage and winter hatched. Vagrant in Cyprus.

Hen Harrier



Family: Accipitridae

Size: Medium-sized

Shape: Rhombus like

Color:

Adult: Male has clear-cut white uppertail-coverts, uniform pale grey upperparts, head and upper breast and extensive black wing-tips.

Juvenile: Juvenile, like female Hen Harrier, have brownish with white uppertail coverts. Whitish or rusty-yellow streaked underparts. Juvenile, also has pale tips to greater upperwing coverts.

Beak: Pale yellow cere, and hooked, Black upper and lower mandible.

Wings: Relatively long and slightly pointed wingtip. Wing span: 100 - 120.

Tail: Relatively long, narrow, and rectangular like.

Legs: Short, pale yellow and hooked talons

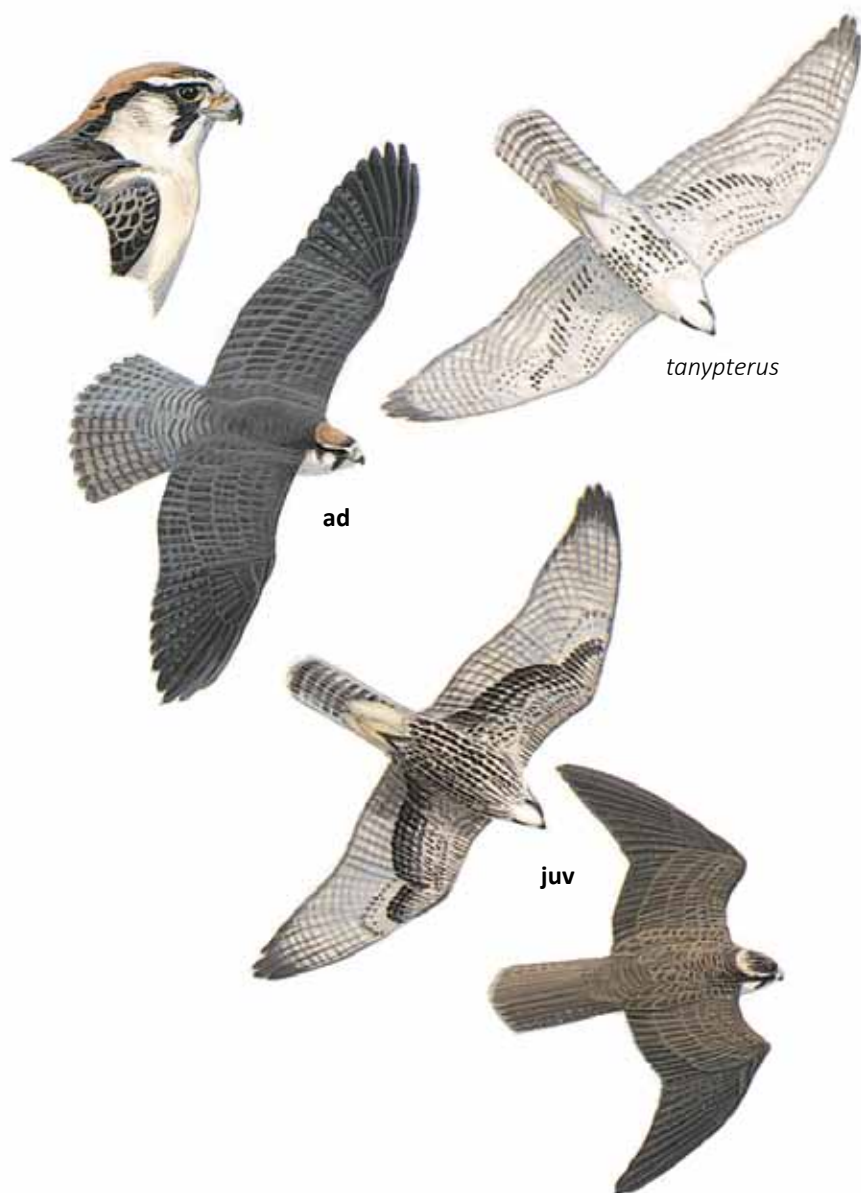
Behavior: Low, contour-hugging, flight; wings in a shallow "V" like form. Voices while it glides over its hunting ground. Nests on ground.

Calls: Female gives a whistled *pii-h-eh* when receiving food from the male, alarm call is *chit-it-it-it-et-it*. Male calls *chek-chek-chek*; a more bouncing *chuk-uk-uk-uk* during display flight.

Habitat: Marshes, meadows, and farmlands.

NOTE: Passage and winter hatched, but rare in south Arabia. Vagrant in Bahrain, UAE, and Yemen.

Lanner Falcon



Family: Falconidae

Size: Large

Shape: Rhombus like

Color:

Adult: Barred greyish upperparts, distinctly barred uppertail, black forehead band, clear-cut narrow black eye stripe, obvious moustache, and spot-bars on flacks. Crown un-streaked, creamy-buff, chestnut, or pale reddish-brown rear crown and nape.

Juvenile: Dark brown above with boldly streaked underparts, and rear underwing-coverts. Unbarred closed uppertail.

Beak: Pale cere, and hooked, Black upper and lower mandible

Wings: Long wings, slightly blunt-ended when soaring. Wing span: 95- 115.

Tail: Relatively long tail

Legs: Short, yellowish and hooked talons

Behavior: Moderately slow, stiff wingbeats; faster when hunting. Stoops or runs down prey . Soars with wings level or slightly up-curved.

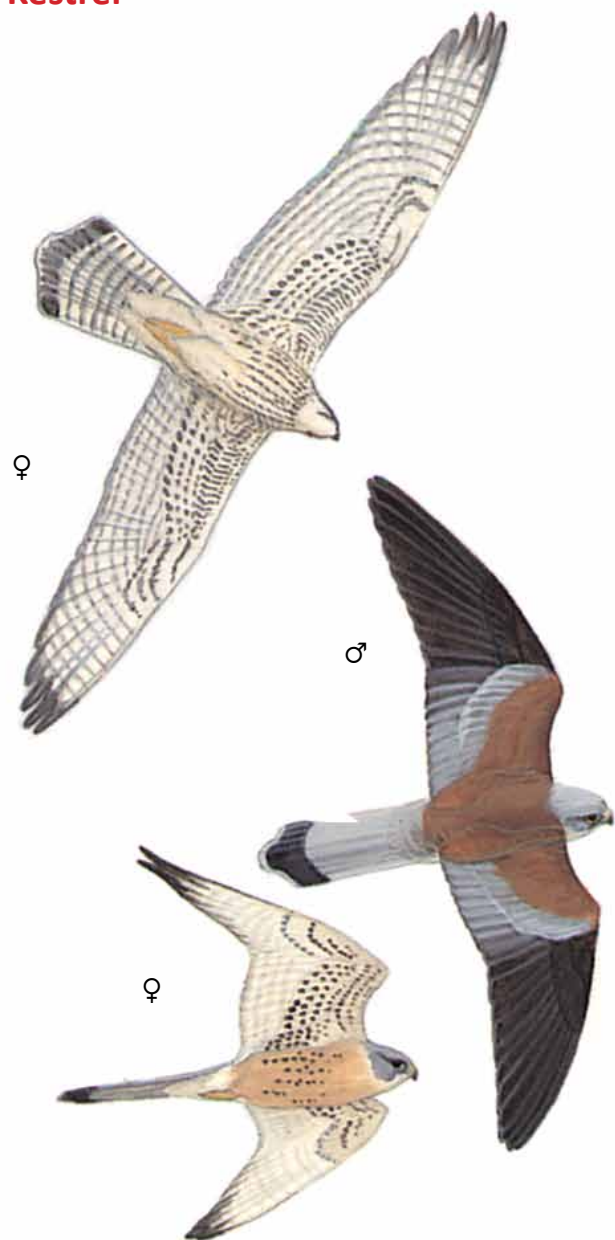
Calls: harsh "wray-e". At breeding site, a slow, scolding "Kraee-Kraee-KKraee"

Habitat: Mountains, plains, and semi-deserts

Residence: Bahrain, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, KSA, Kurdistan, Turkey, Yemen

NOTE: Declining. Formerly bred in Syria. Rare dispersal hatched. Vagrant in Cyprus and Iraq.

Lesser Kestrel



Family: Falconidae

Size: Small

Shape: Rhombus like

Color: Male has unmarked reddish-brown above, blue-grey greater coverts. Head ash-grey. White underwing contrasting with dark wing-tip from below, and creamy-buff body, with small black spots. Female has slightly whiter, less barred flight feathers below, fewer and smaller black spots on underwing coverts, and greyer uppertail-coverts.

Beak: Bright orange cere. Hooked beak tip, and black upper and lower mandible.

Wings: Long, narrow, slightly pointed wings. Primary 10 (P10) longer than P8, and clearly longer than P7. Wing span: 63- 74.

Tail: Relatively long wedge-shape tail

Legs: Short, orange and hooked talons

Behavior: Less persistent hovering, mostly taking insects in flight. Sociable at breeding sites and on passage. Hunts over open country. Often nests colonially in roof holes, walls or rocks.

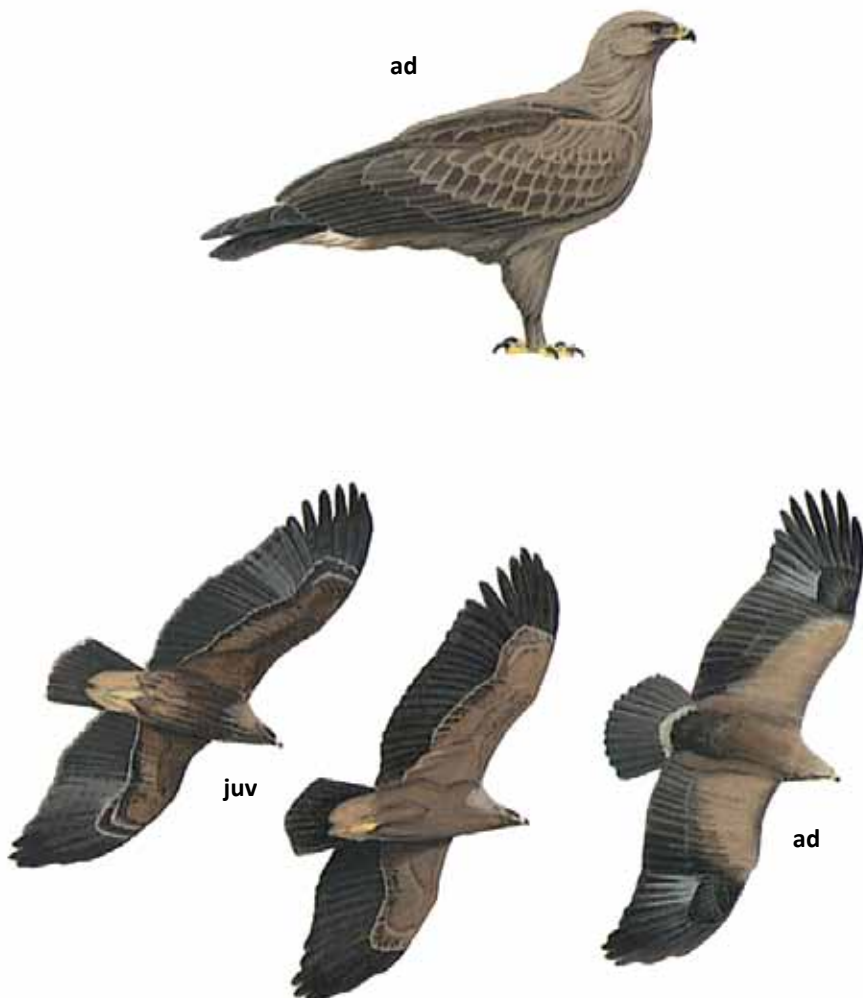
Calls: Rasping, tri-syllabic *chae-chae-chae*

Habitat: Old buildings, rocky canyons

Migrant breeder: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kurdistan, Lebanon, Palestine

NOTE: formerly bred in Cyprus. Passage hatched.

Lesser Spotted Eagle



Family: Accipitridae

Size: Medium

Shape: Rhombus like

Color:

Adult: Brown, shows contrast between pale upperwing coverts and darker brown mantel, underwing-coverts paler than flight feathers. A neat pale patch at base of primaries above and small creamy area on uppertail coverts.

Juvenile: Dark, warm brown below with flight feather of same shade or slightly darker (coverts never darker than flight feathers). Darker head, rusty-yellow spot on nape. Narrow white bar on greater upperwing coverts and distinct whitish inner primary-patch.

Beak: Pale yellow cere, and hooked, Black upper and lower mandible.

Wings: Relatively narrow. Short P7, partly deeply fingered wings, and relatively small hands. Wing span: 145 - 165.

Tail: Narrow, medium-long tail, round cornered, and broadens in flight.

Legs: Short, fleshy, pale yellow and hooked talons.

Behavior: Active flight relatively heavy, soars and glides on arched wings with primaries more or less lowered. Breeds in forests, lowlands, and mountains; usually near water.

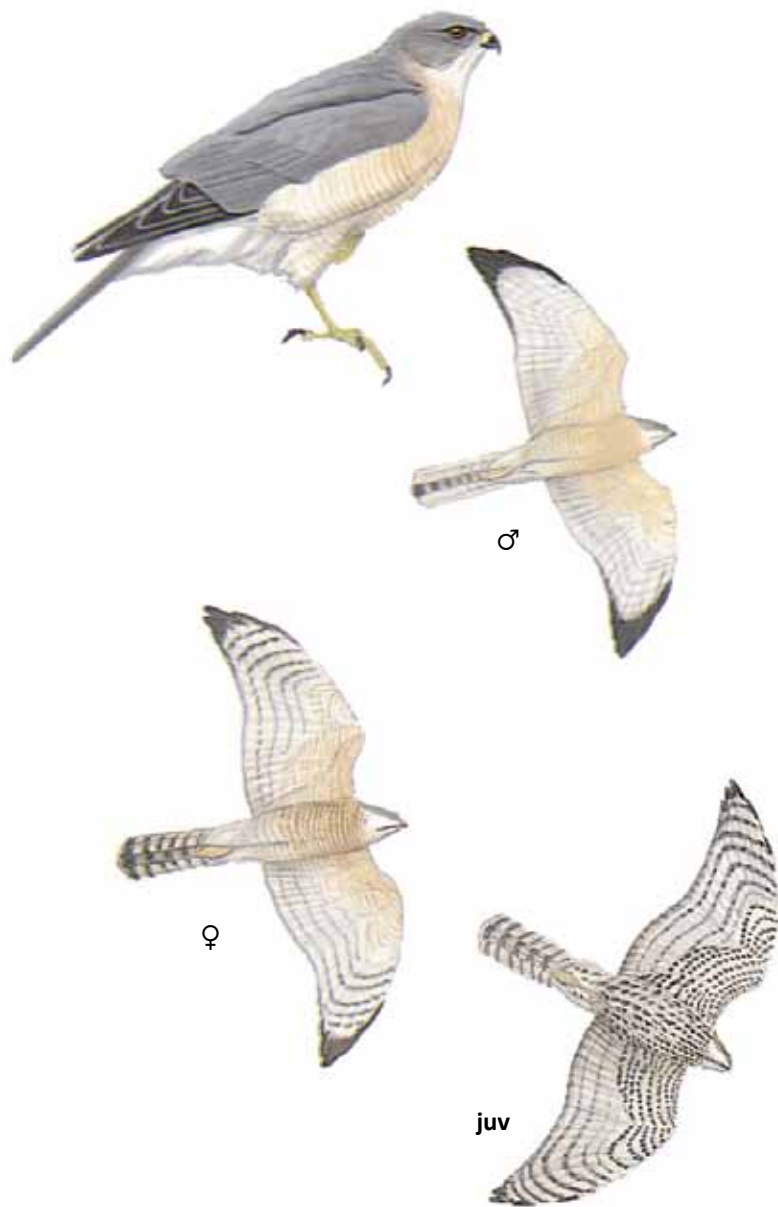
Calls: Dog-like *yip*.

Habitat: Forests, lowlands, and mountains; usually near water.

Migrant breeder: Iran and Turkey.

NOTE: Passage hatched. Vagrant in Kuwait, Oman, KSA, UAE, and Yemen.

Levant Sparrowhawk



Family: Accipitridae

Size: Small

Shape: Oval

Color:

Adult:

Male: Blue grey on the above, blackish wing tips, plain central tail feathers, and white underwing with black tips.

Female: Browner, closed uppertail, has dark subterminal band, and distinctly barred bellow, with contrasting dark wing tips.

- Both have black throat-streak and greyish cheeks.

Juvenile: grey-brown, and closed tail banded from above. Below, longitudinal spots, almost forming lines on breast, and dark throat-streak.

Beak: Pale yellow cere, and hooked, Black upper and lower mandible.

Wings: Pointed wings, 4 free outermost primaries. Wing span: 65 - 80.

Tail: Relatively long, round cornered tail

Legs: Short, pale yellow and hooked talons

Behavior: Forms flocks on migration, and secretive while breeding.

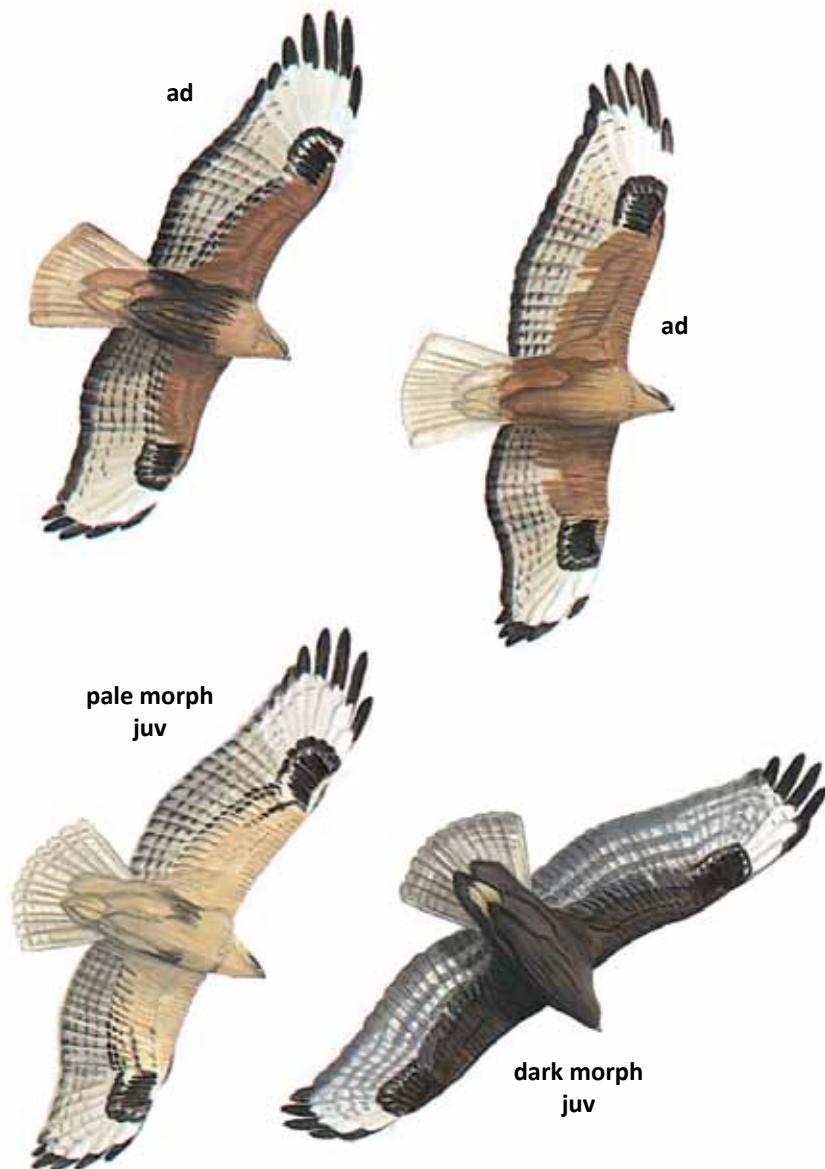
Habitat: Lightly wooded hills, plains and wadis.

Calls: sharp *kee-wick*

Migrant breeder: Turkey, Iraq, and Iran.

NOTE: Formerly bred in Lebanon, passage hatched, but rarely in KSA, vagrant Cyprus, Qatar, and UAE.

Long-legged Buzzard



Family: Accipitridae

Size: Large

Shape: Rhombus like

Color:

Adult:

From above, creamy white, reddish brown, blackish (and underwing coverts). The blackish forms coarse dark bars on flight and tail feathers. Below, Pale head and breast, becoming darker towards the belly. Pale sandy or reddish-brown upperwing coverts, unbarred pale rusty-orange uppertail and large black carpal-patches.

Juvenile: finely barred outertail, and diffused dark trailing edge to underwing. Some are almost white with bold carpal patches and dark rusty brown belly/belly side.

Beak: Pale yellow cere. Hooked beak tip, and black upper and lower mandible.

Wings: Broad, fairly rounded tip, deeply fingered. Wing span: 130 - 155.

Tail: relatively long, and round cornered tail.

Legs: Short, pale yellow and hooked talons

Behavior: kinked wing position when gliding and flexible wingbeats, soars on raised wings, sits notably, and soars/hovers when hunting.

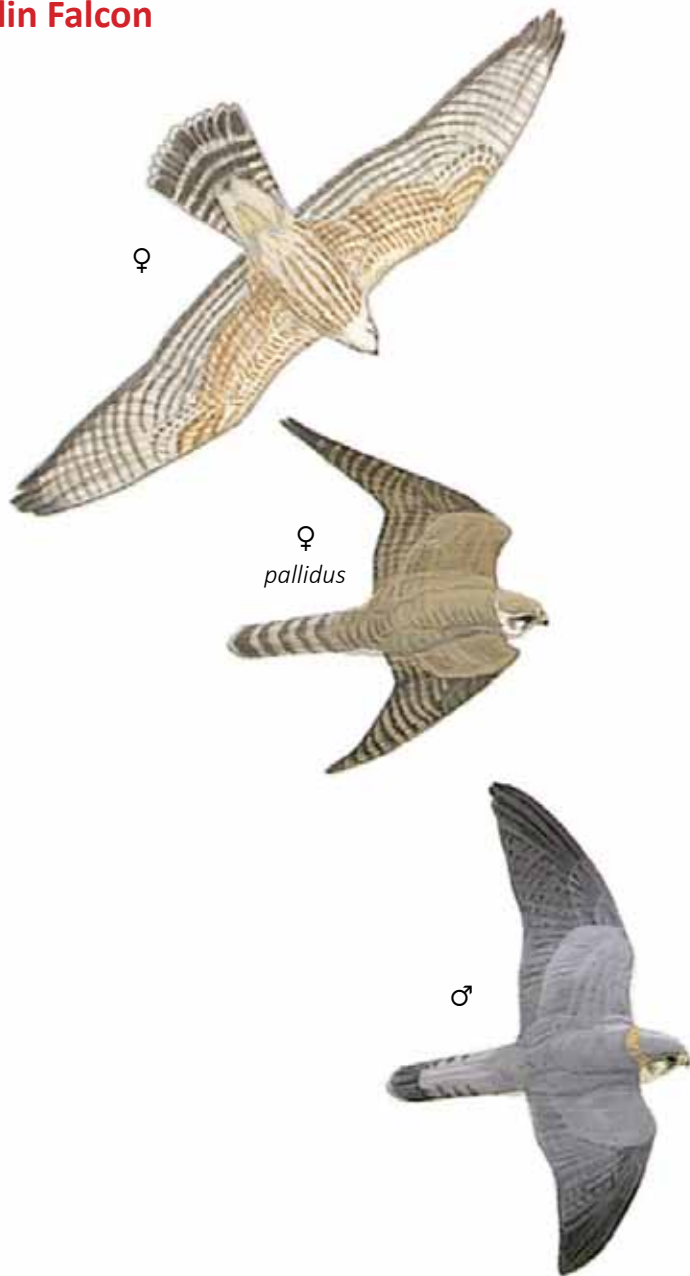
Calls: Mewing *Peeooo*

Habitat: plains, bushy steppe, semi-deserts, mountains, and woodlands.

Residence: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Cyprus, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, KSA, Kurdistan, Lebanon, Palestine, Oman, Syria, Turkey, UAE, Yemen

NOTE: Winter and passage hatched.

Merlin Falcon



Family: Falconidae

Size: Small – smallest falcon in the region

Shape: Oval

Color:

Adult: Male is blue-grey upperparts, with blackish primaries. Broad black tail-band and ill-defined head pattern. Underparts buffy or whitish with dark streaks, or sometimes with rich reddish spotting.

Juvenile: Juveniles, like female, are brownish above, creamy below with dark streaks or dense dark spotting, with a diffuse moustache, barred primaries above and five pale/dark bands of equal width on uppertail.

Beak: Greyish cere, and hooked, Black upper and lower mandible.

Wings: Short, pointed wings. Wing span: 55 - 65.

Tail: Medium-length tail

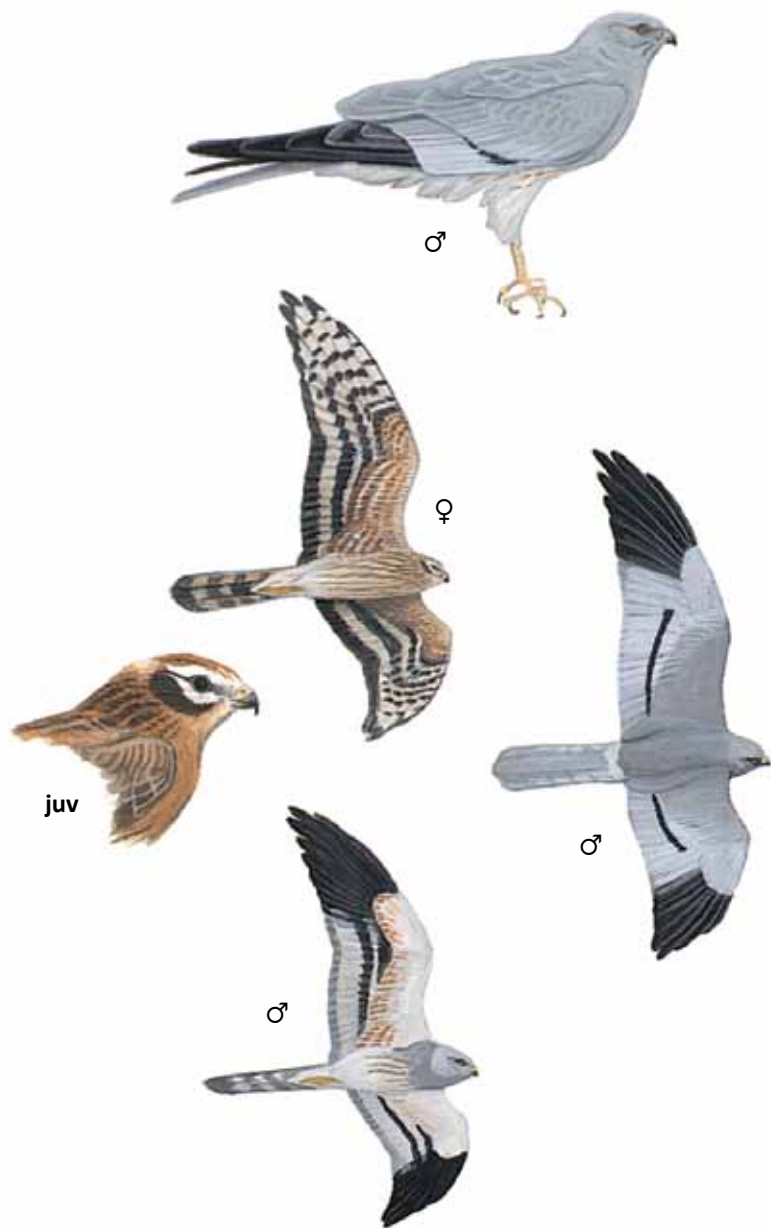
Legs: Short, pale yellow and hooked talons

Behavior: Speedy flight with fast wingbeats, interspersed with short glides. Hunts usually low over ground with undulating flight changing direction, followed by a straight attack.

Habitat: Open country. Steppes and semi-deserts, marshes, farmlands, and plains.

NOTE: Passage and winter hatched. Rare in south-west Arabia. Vagrant in Bahrain and Oman.

Montagu's Harrier



Family: Accipitridae

Size: Small

Shape: Rather elongated oval.

Color:

Adult: Male has grey back and inner wing, silver grey outerwing with extensive black wing-tip. Black band on secondaries above and two below. Red-brown streaks below dark grey upperbreast.

Female, show reddish-brown upperparts, well-spaced dark bands across pale secondaries and evenly-barred primaries from base to tip with dark trailing edge to hand. Pale underwing-coverts and auxiliaries show uniform bold reddish-brown bars.

Juvenile: Dark reddish-brown to yellowish below, largely unstreaked. Dark fingers and trailing edge below, otherwise pale finely barred from base to tip.

Beak: Pale yellow cere, and hooked. Black upper and lower mandible.

Wings: Relatively long and narrower wings and pointed hands. Wing span: 97 - 115.

Tail: Relatively long, round cornered tail and narrow.

Legs: Short, pale yellow and hooked talons

Behavior: Particularly graceful flight. Powerful and elegant wingbeats. Flies low, and usually holds wings in positive dihedral. Both solitary and sociable.

Habitat: Marshes and farmland in winter, or passage through any open country.

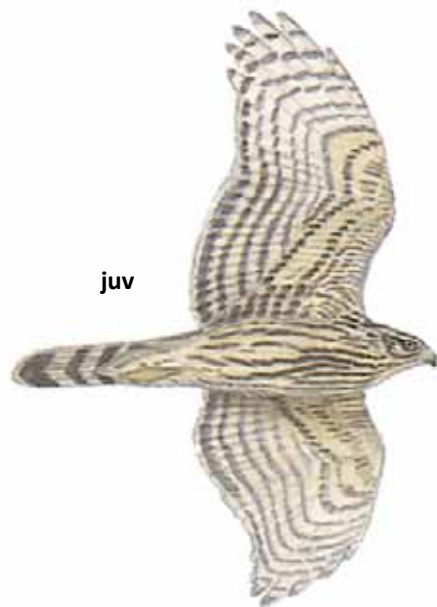
Migrant breeder: Iran and Turkey

NOTE: Passage hatched, some in winter through out south Arabia.

Northern Goshawk



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juv

Family: Accipitridae

Size: Medium-large

Shape: Oval

Color:

Adult: Dark grey from above, and barred dark-grey and white from below.

Juvenile: Dark brown above with pale irregular patterns on ear-coverts. Rusty-yellow underparts, boldly streaked darker.

Beak: : Pale yellow cere, and hooked, Black upper and lower mandible.

Wings: Broad based and relatively pointed. Wing span: 90 - 125.

Tail: Broad based, rounded tip

Legs: Short, pale yellow and hooked talons.

Behavior: Runs down prey on ground, display flight with soft wingbeats in shallow waves.

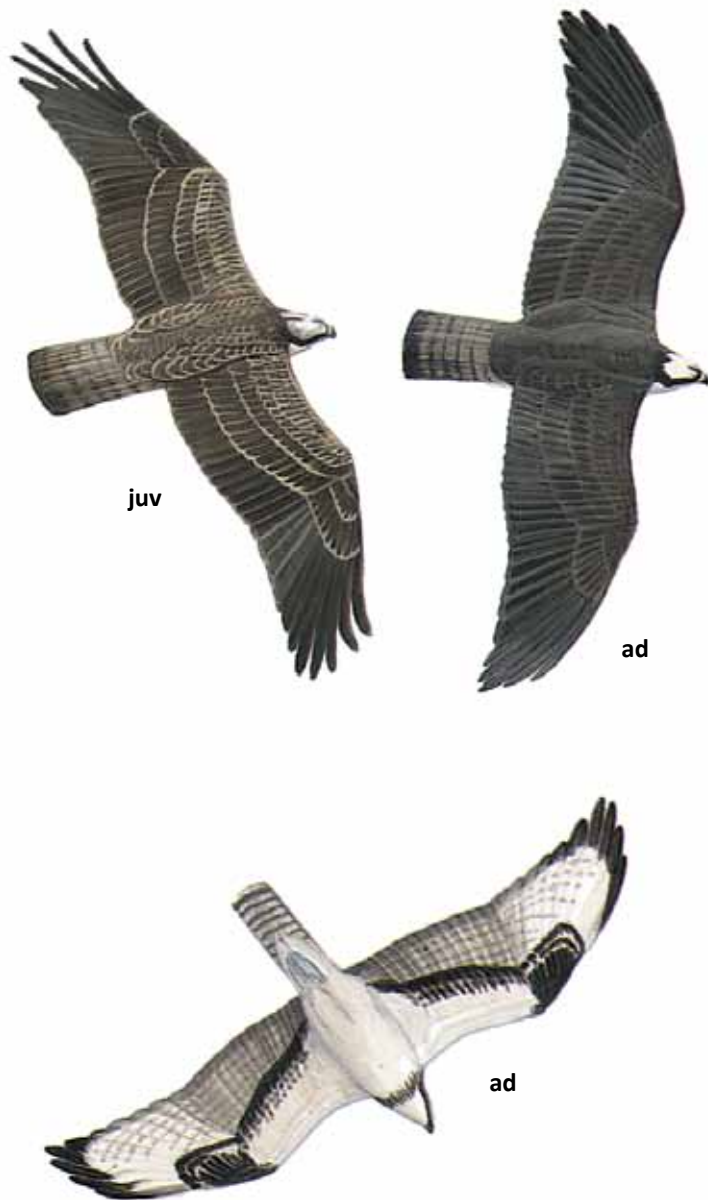
Calls: Gull-like call, is sometimes heard

Habitat: Woods, particularly coniferous, often near open country.

Residence: Coastal KSA, Cyprus, Lebanon, Iran Turkey.

NOTE: winter hatched, but rarely hatch in Kuwait, KSA, Syria, vagrant Iraq, Oman, UAE

Osprey



Family: Pandionidae

Size: Medium to large

Shape: Oval

Color: White under-surface with black carpals and band through center of underwing, white crown and dark eye mask. Juvenile has whitish scales and white line on greater coverts above.

Beak: Short, hooked, dark beak. Blue cere.

Wings: Long, narrow wings, with 4 free outmost primaries. Distinctly angled when gliding. Wing span: 145 - 165.

Tail: Short, rectangular cut tail.

Legs: Short, white legs. Hooked talons.

Behavior: flies with steady, shallow wingbeats, glides on smoothly curved wings. Hovers over water for fish, dives with splash feet-first. Nests in trees or sea-cliffs, remote islands, ruins, old wrecks and sometimes in scattered groups.

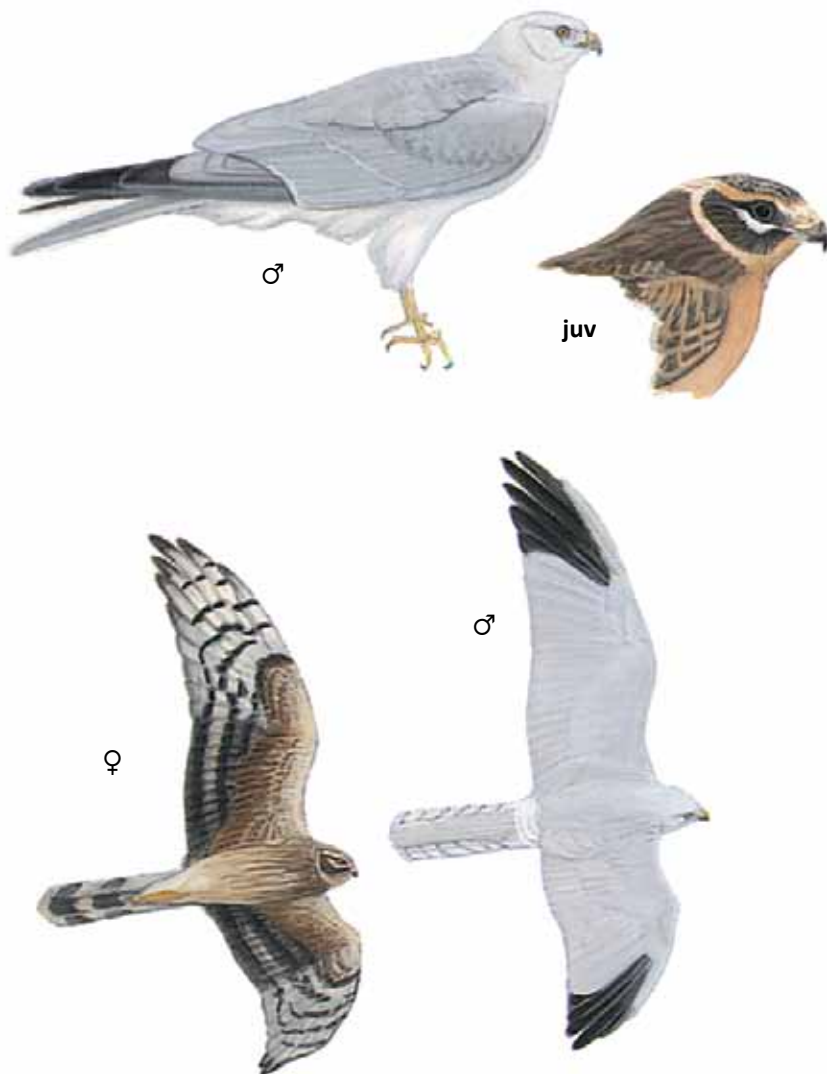
Calls: a series of sharp whistles, described as *cheep, cheep* or *yewk, yewk*.

Habitat: Near water, inland or costal.

Residence: Bahrain, Iran, KSA, Oman, Qatar, UAE, Yemen

NOTE: Bred in Turkey. Passage hatched, winters on costs.

Pallid Harrier



Family: Accipitridae

Size: Medium-sized

Shape: Rhombus like

Color:

Adult: Males are pale grey above, without clear-cut white rump. Whitish head and underparts, with black wedge on wing-tip. Female, pale dark-streaked collar, less spacing between dark bands on secondaries below, with pale bands becoming darker towards body. Primaries below, often pale contrasting with darker secondaries and lacking distinct dark trailing edge. Bases of primaries are unbarred, creating pale boomerang like surrounding darkish coverts. Pale leading arm, with most of the underwing coverts dark streaked, and lacking distinct pattern. Streaks on underparts largely confined to upperbreast, contrasting with pale rear-body.

Juvenile: Broad pale collar, bordered by brown neck, premiers below evenly barred from base to tip, often with pale boomerang at primary bases; fingers never all dark.

Beak: Yellowish cere, and hooked, Black upper and lower mandible.

Wings: Relatively long wings, slightly broad and pointy wings. Wing span: 95 -117.

Tail: Relatively long tail, narrow and round cornered.

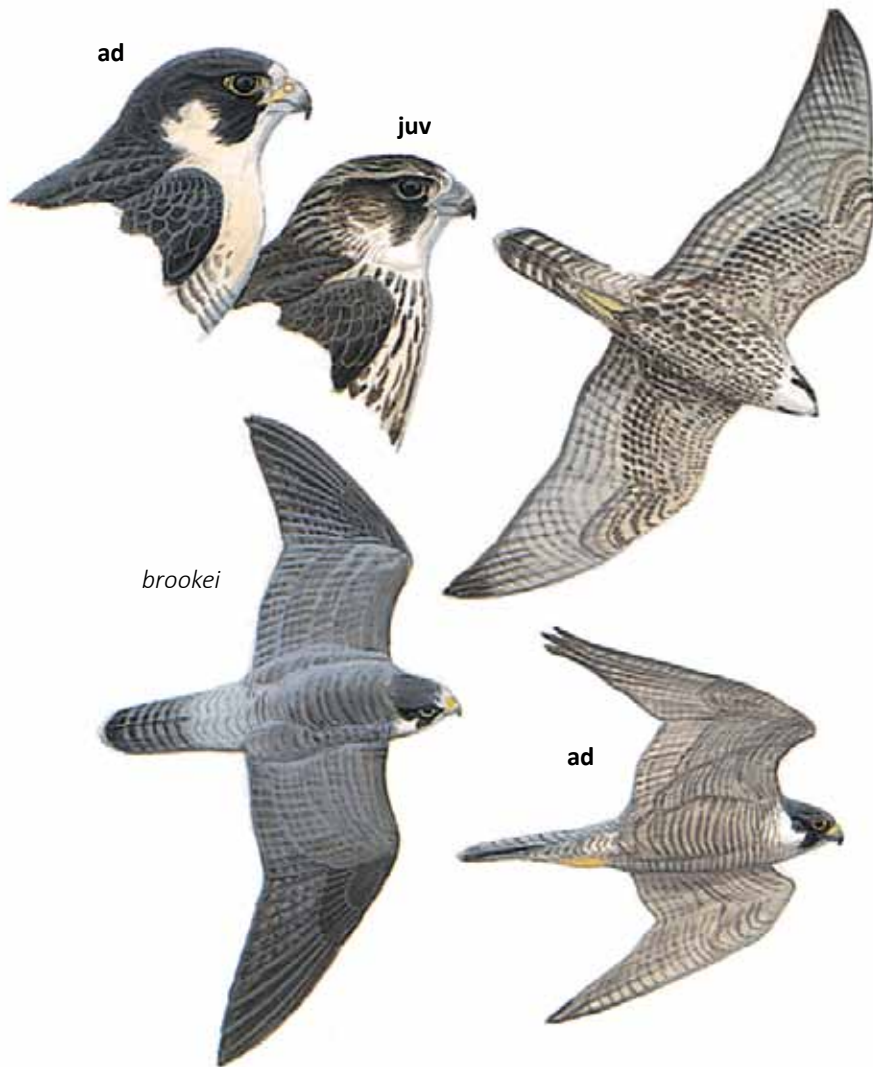
Legs: Short, yellowish and hooked talons

Behavior: Wings held in a shallow V in its low flight. Nest on ground.

Habitat: Steppe, grassland, agricultural fields, sand deserts

NOTE: May breed in turkey and Iran. Passage and winter hatched.

Peregrine Falcon



Family: Falconidae

Size: Large

Shape: Rhombus like

Color:

Adult: Black crown and bold moustache, contrasting with white throat and cheeks, barred underparts, white upper breast and uniform underwing.

Juvenile: Smaller whitish cheek-patch, and uniform underwing

Beak: Short, pale cere. Hooked, black upper and lower mandible

Wings: Broad-based, sharply tapering wings. Wing span: 85 -120.

Tail: Stocky, relatively short tail.

Legs: Short, pale yellow and hooked talons

Behavior: Fairly quick, shallow, stiff wingbeats. Long fast stoops when hunting.

Calls: Alarm loud, scolding *Aack-ack-ack*

Habitat: Mountains, forests, cliffs. Outside breeding season, in marshes and wastelands.

Residence: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Cyprus, Iraq, Kurdistan, Syria, Turkey, Oman

NOTE: Formerly bred in Palestine. Passage and winter hatched.

Red Kite



Family: Accipitridae

Size: Medium-large

Shape: Rhombus like

Color:

Adults: Reddish-brown upper tail and wing coverts. Have white primary flight feathers which contrast with the black wing tips and dark secondaries.

Juvenile: Buff breast and belly.

Beak: Short, bright yellow cere. Hooked. Black upper and lower mandible

Wings: long, broad wings, with slightly pointed tip. 5 free outmost primaries. Wing span: 145 -155.

Tail: Long, deeply forked, rusty-red tail.

Legs: Short, pale yellow and hooked talons.

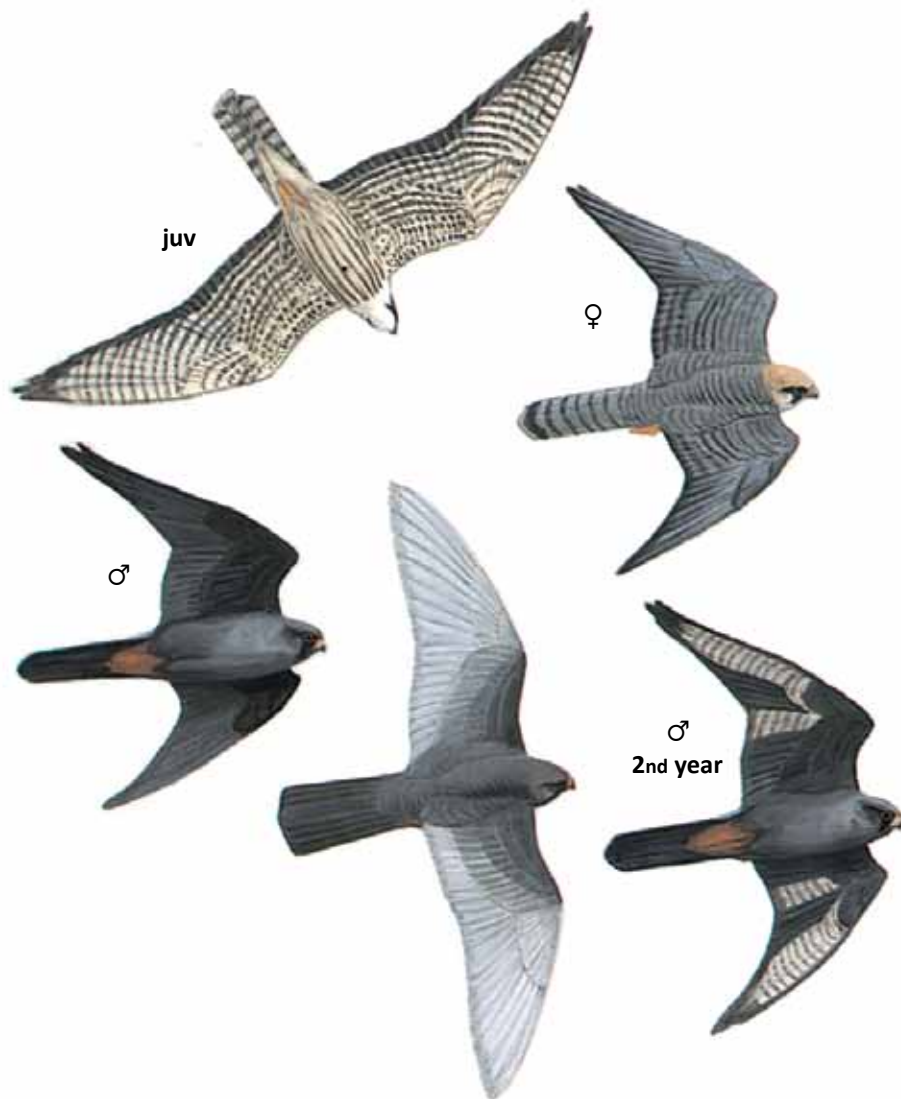
Behavior: Light and graceful soaring and gliding on arched wings and constantly maneuvered tail.

Calls: a thin piping, similar to but less mewling than the Common Buzzard.

Habitat: Open country with woodland.

NOTE: Passage and winter hatched. Vagrant in Cyprus, Iraq, Jordan, and Palestine.

Red-footed Falcon



Family: Falconidae

Size: Medium to small

Shape: Rhombus like

Color:

Male: Uniformly slate-grey with silvery primaries above, red thighs and undertail-coverts, and blackish underwing coverts.

Female: Rusty yellow underparts and head. Dark eye-mask and barred tail, yellow-buff underwing has dark trailing edge.

Beak: Short, bright orange cere. Hooked. Black upper and lower mandible

Wings: Relatively long and pointy wings. **Tail:** relatively long, round cornered tail. Wing span: 73.

Legs: Short, bright orange and hooked talons.

Behavior: Loose wingbeats. sociable. Hunts flying insects. Alternating with spells of hovering.

Habitat: Plains with trees, bushy wastelands.

NOTE: Passage hatched. Vagrant in Iran, Kuwait, and UAE.

Short-toed Snake-eagle

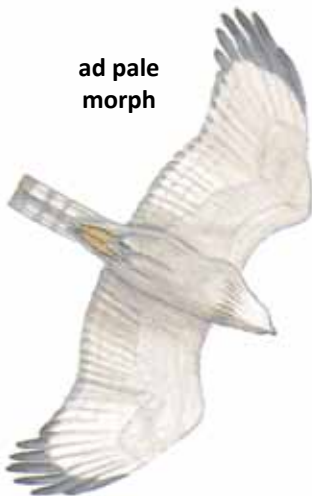
ad dark
morph



ad typical



ad pale
morph



Family: Accipitridae

Size: Medium-sized

Shape: Rhombus like

Color: Whitish underparts variably spotted and barred. Some are nearly all whitish, others with contrasting dark head and upperbreast.

Beak: Short, dark cere. Hooked. Black upper and lower mandible

Wings: Long, broad, and slightly pointed tips. Wing span: 165 - 180.

Tail: Relatively long, square-cut tail

Legs: Short, pale brown and hooked talons

Behavior: Flies with slow, flexible wingbeats, soars on flat or slightly lifted wings and hovers regularly. Nests in tree or cliff.

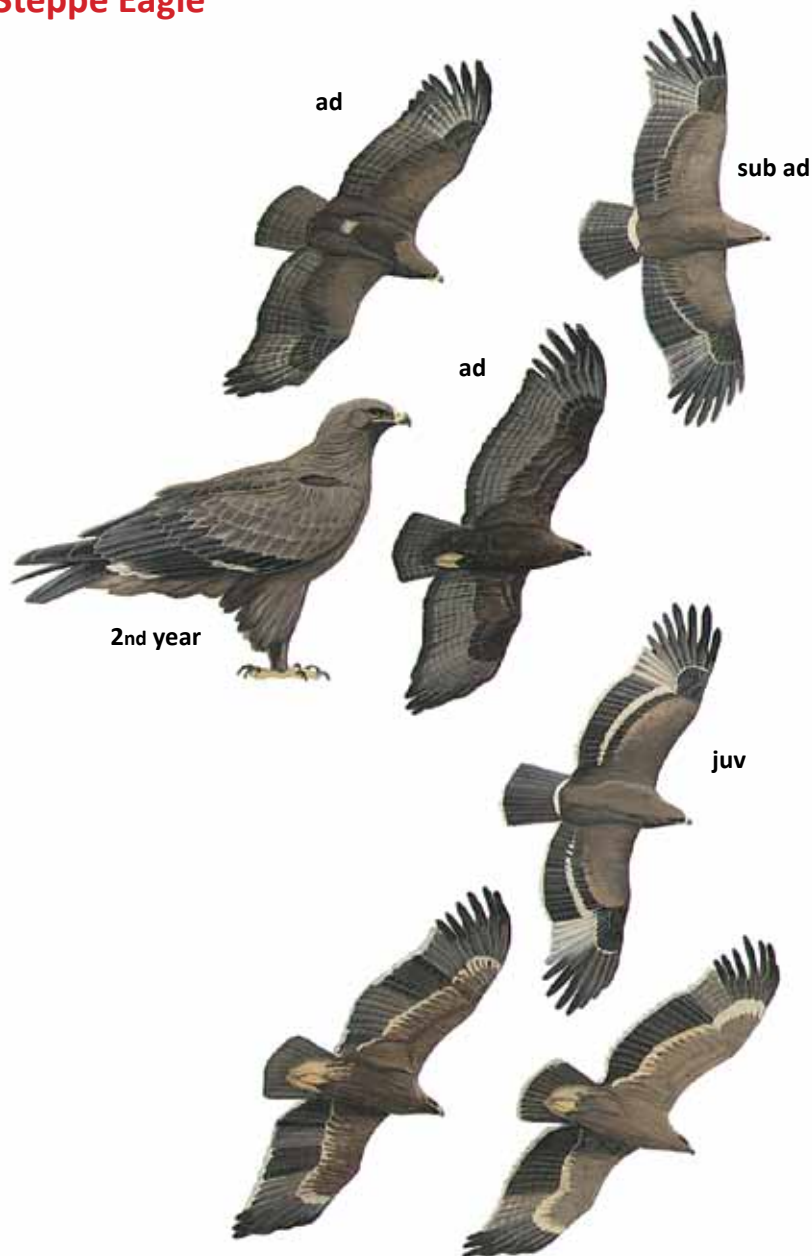
Calls: Whistling, disyllabic *Kee-yo*, with long ascending start and short descending finish.

Habitat: Open wooded plains, stony foothills, semi-deserts.

Migrant breeder: Iran, Iraq, Jordan, KSA, Lebanon, Palestine, Syria, Turkey, UAE

NOTE: Arabian breeders may be resident. Passage hatched.

Steppe Eagle



Family: Accipitridae

Size: Large

Shape: Rhombus like

Color:

Adult: Dark brown with uniform underwing and paler or darker flight feathers, with well spaced dark bars and clear cut band on trailing edge. Large dark carpal-patch. Grey-brown tail, boldly barred and with broader band at tip.

Juvenile: Pale brown with broad white band through underwing. Above, large primary-patch and dark rump.

Beak: Short, pale cere. Hooked, black upper and lower mandible

Wings: Long, deeply fingered wings. Wing span: 175 - 210.

Tail: Relatively short tail, broadens in flight and round cornered.

Legs: Heavy trousers. Talons are pale yellow with hooked claws.

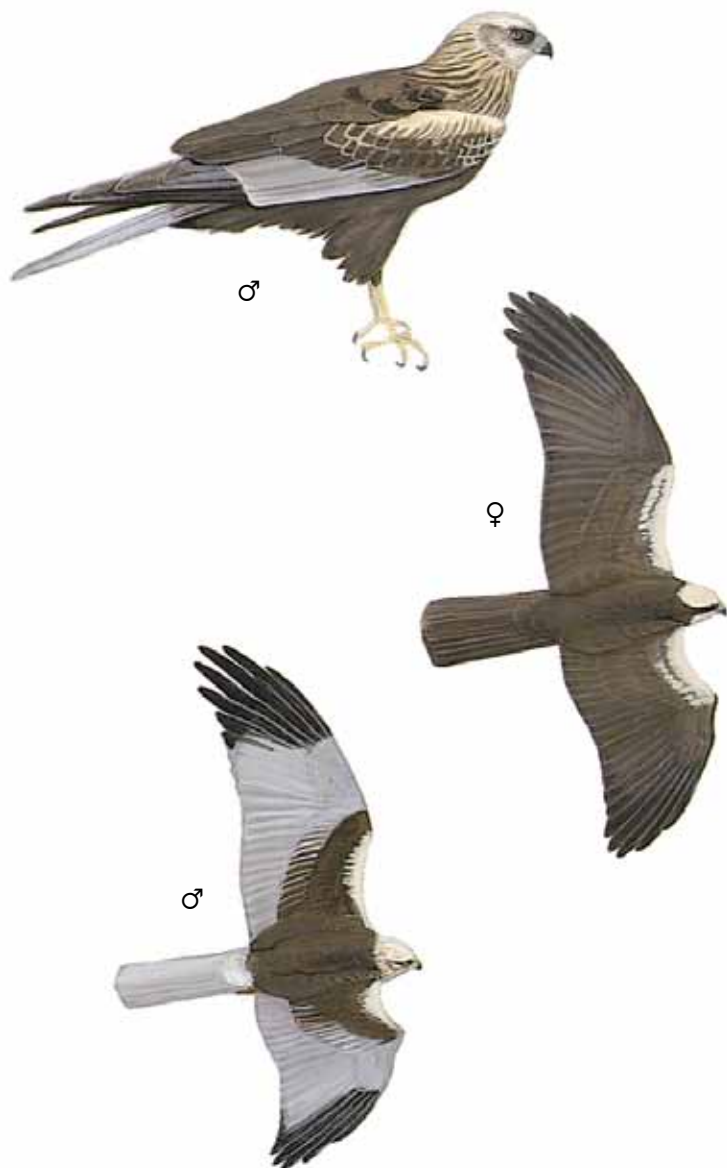
Behavior: Heavy flight, often soars on flexed, flattish wings. Can soar and glide on arched wings with lowered hands.

Calls: Sounds like a crow barking, but it is rather a silent bird

Habitat: Open steppe, semi-desert, foot-hills, marshes, and also in rubbish dumps.

NOTE: Passage and winter hatched, but often rare.

Western Marsh-harrier



Family: Accipitridae

Size: Large

Shape: Rhombus like

Color:

Adult: Male, has tri-colored wings; underwing white, but tip black, and rear body red-brown. **Female,** dark brown with crown, throat and breast spot, yellow-white.

Juvenile: All blackish-brown, usually with rusty-yellow on head.

Beak: Short, dark cere. Hooked. Blackish brown upper and lower mandible.

Wings: Broad, rounded tip wings. 5 free outmost primaries. Wing span: 115 - 130 .

Tail: Long, rectangular cut and round cornered.

Legs: Relatively short, pale yellow and hooked talons

Behavior: Wavering low glides on raised wings when hunting.

Calls: High pitched lapwing-like *Vay-ee*, when displaying. And *Ki-Ki-Ki* and feeble, high “begging” whistles.

Habitat: Marshes, reed-beds, and farmlands.

Residence: Iran, Iraq, and Turkey

Migrant breeder: Armenia, Kurdistan, Iran, Lebanon, and turkey.

NOTE: Formerly bred in Palestine, Jordan, and Syria. Passage and winter hatched.

Western White Stork



Family: Ciconiidae

Size: Large

Shape: Elongated Rhombus like

Color:

Adult: White plumage with black flight feathers,

Juvenile: Duller white plumage, and duller red bill and legs.

Beak: Red, long, and straight bill (beak),

Wings: Broad long wings, and deeply-fingered. Wing span: 170.

Tail: All white short tail, broadens in flight.

Legs: Long and red, with skinny pointed talons.

Behavior: In flight, neck is extended and legs protrude beyond tail. Clatters bill when greeting mate at nest. Nests on buildings and trees.

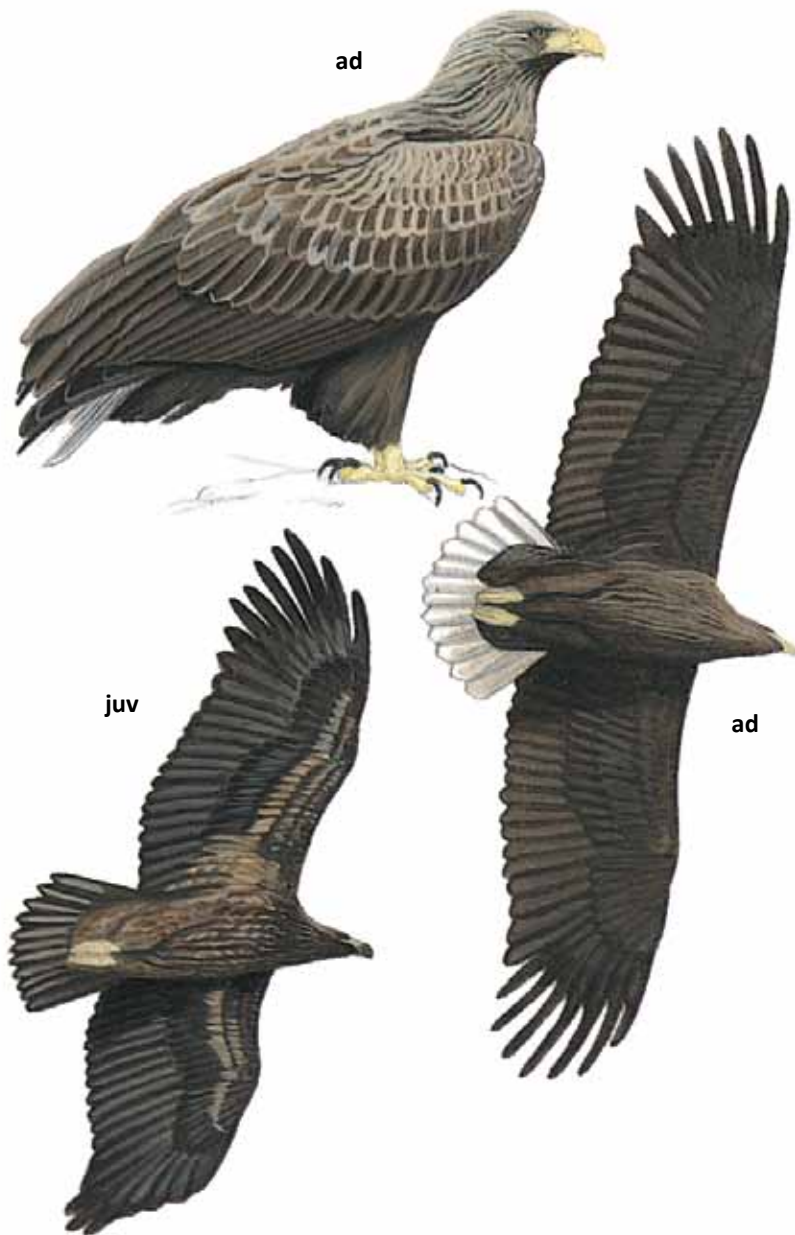
Calls: Usually silent.

Habitat: Wetlands, plains, and farmland.

Migrant breeder: Iran, Iraq, Palestine, and Turkey.

NOTE: Passage hatched, some over winter. Vagrant in Socotra.

White-tailed Eagle



Family: Accipitridae

Size: Large and bulky

Shape: Oval

Color: Blackish head and neck, with rusty-brown dark-streaked underparts. Closed tail looks dark, but whitish feather center shows when spread.

Beak: relatively long, bulky, pale yellow, hooked beak

Wings: Adult with broad parallel-edge wings. Juvenile, has curved trailing edge wings. Broad arm, and relatively narrow hand. Wing span: 190 - 250 .

Tail: Short white wedge-shape tail

Legs: Short, large, yellow legs, and hooked talons.

Behavior: Soars and glides on flattish or slightly arched wings. Active flight with long series of heavy wingbeats. Nests in tall trees, on cliff or pylon.

Calls: Loud, ringing *Klee-Klee-Klee*.

Habitat: Wetlands, rivers, lakes and coasts.

Residence: Iran and Turkey

NOTE: Rare former breeder in Iraq, Palestine, and Syria. Vagrant in Cyprus, Kuwait, Lebanon, and KSA.

VIII. List of Soaring Birds Naming

Common and Scientific name listed by Family

Family: Accipitridae

	Common Name	Scientific Name
1	Northern Goshawk	Accipiter gentilis
2	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	Accipiter nisus
3	Levant Sparrowhawk	Accipiter brevipes
4	Common Buzzard	Buteo buteo
5	European Honey-Buzzard	Pernis apivorus
6	Long-legged Buzzard	Buteo rufinus
7	Booted Eagle	Hieraaetus pennatus
8	Eastern Imperial Eagle	Aquila heliaca
9	Short-toed Snake-eagle	Circaetus gallicus
10	White-tailed Eagle	Haliaeetus albicilla
11	Lesser Spotted Eagle	(Aquila pomarina (pomarina
12	Greater Spotted Eagle	Aquila clanga
13	Steppe Eagle	Aquila nipalensis
14	Bonelli's Eagle	Hieraaetus fasciatus
15	Golden Eagle	Aquila Chrysaetos
16	Montagu's Harrier	Circus pygargus
17	Pallid Harrier	Circus macrourus
18	Hen Harrier	Circus cyaneus
19	Western Marsh-harrier	Circus aeruginosus
20	Black Kite	Milvus migrans
21	Red Kite	Milvus milvus
22	Egyptian Vulture	Neophron percnopterus
23	Eurasian Griffon Vulture	Gyps fulvus

Family: Ciconiidae

	Common Name	Scientific Name
1	Black Stork	Ciconia nigra
2	Western White Stork	Ciconia ciconia

Family: Falconidae

	Common Name	Scientific Name
1	Eleonora's Falcon	Falco eleonora
2	Eurasian Hobby	Falco subbuteo
3	Lanner Falcon	Falco biarmicus
4	Peregrine Falcon	Falco peregrinus
5	Red-footed Falcon	Falco tinnunculus
6	Merlin Falcon	Falco columbarius
7	Common Kestrel	Falco tinnunculus
8	Lesser Kestrel	Falco naumanni

Family: Gruidae

	Common Name	Scientific Name
1	Eurasian/Common Crane	Grus grus

Family: Pandionidae

	Common Name	Scientific Name
1	Osprey	Pandion haliaetus
2	Great White Pelican	Pelecanus onocrotalus

FIELD GUIDE
TO THE SOARING BIRDS
IN LEBANON