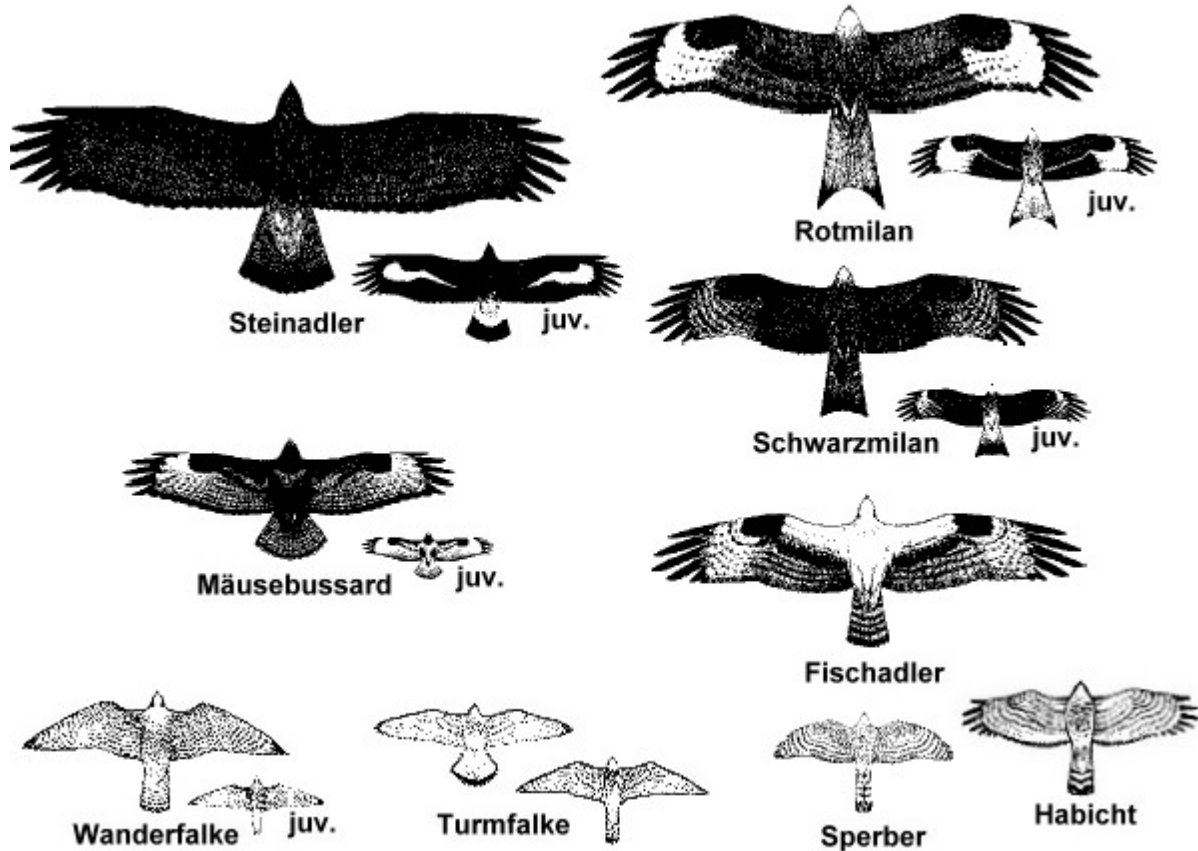




Guide to Hunting in Germany

08m – PREDATORY BIRDS (*GREIFVÖGEL / RAUBVÖGEL*)



(1) Eagles (*Adler*)

The **Golden Eagle (*Steinadler*)** is the most common of the eagles. Primarily found in mountainous areas, but sometimes, particular in winter, in woods and fields.

Golden Eagles are usually seen alone or in pairs. They hunt by searching mountainsides and fields from low flight.



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Golden Eagle (*Steinadler*)





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The **White Tailed Eagle** (*Seeadler*) prefers coastal areas or large inland waters.



White Tailed Eagle (*Seeadler*)



Osprey (*Fischadler*)



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(2) Buzzards (*Bussarde*)

The Buzzard is much larger than the crow and has long, broad wings, a short tail, and a massive head. Buzzards glide over open country, attacking their prey on the ground. Buzzards never attack while in flight.



Common Buzzard (*Mäusebussard*)

The **Common Buzzard (*Mäusebussard*)** is one of the most frequently seen predatory bird, often seen perched in a tree or standing in fields during the winter months.

The Common Buzzard is a large bird with a slow, lumbering flight. Its wings are broad, and its wingspan large. Their body is heavy, with a short, fan-shaped tail.



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Rough-legged Buzzard (*Raufußbussard*)

The **Rough-Legged Buzzard (*Raufußbussard*)** is similar to the Common Buzzard except for its feathered legs. It is a winter visitor from countries to the north and east of Germany.



Honey Buzzard (by John Gould, *The Birds of Great Britain*, 1862 - 1873) (*Wespenbussard*)

The **Honey Buzzard (*Wespenbussard*)** nests in open forests with clearings. It plunders the nests of wasps.



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(3) Falcons (*Falken*)

Falcons generally are smaller than crows, with long, pointed wings and long tails.

Falcons are superb flyers. The falcon's head is round with large, dark eyes. A tooth like projection at the underside tip of the upper part of the beak (*Falkenzahn*) can be seen.

The lower beak has an indentation allowing the single-toothed beak to close.



Kestrel (*Turmfalke*) Naumann, *Naturgeschichte der Vögel Mitteleuropas*, 1905 / female (l) and male (r)



Kestrel (*Turmfalke*) stalking prey from above



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Peregrine Falcons (by John James Audubon, between 1827 and 1838) (*Wanderfalke*)



Wanderfalke returning from a successful hunt

The **Peregrine Falcon (*Wanderfalke*)** is roughly the size of a crow. It is found in North America, as well as in Germany. The Peregrine Falcon is the swiftest of all falcons and can kill a bird in midair by its strike. The Peregrine Falcon also is one of the favorites in the sport of falconry. This bird has long, pointed wings, a body narrower than that of the goshawk, and a pointed tail slightly shorter than its body. The Peregrine Falcon hunts by flying well above its prey before diving or plunging to make the kill.



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Hobby (*Baumfalke*)

The **Hobby (*Baumfalke*)** is slightly smaller than the Peregrine Falcon. It hunts small birds and large insects in flight and breeds in the nests of crows.

(4) Hawks (*Habichte*)

In flight, the Hawk displays a long tail and broad stubby wings. The Hawk is swift in flight, frequently hunting between trees and bushes to ambush its prey.



Young (l) and mature (r) Goshawks (by Thomas Gilbert Pearson, between 1910 and 1914) (*Habichte*)



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The **Goshawk (*Habicht, Hühnerhabicht*)** is probably the most destructive to game.

As one of the larger hawks, the Goshawk has short, broad, powerful wings and a long tail. The Goshawk flies rapidly, glides between strokes of its wings, and maneuvers easily through dense forests by using its long tail as a rudder.



The Rabbit 'Just missed him' (by G. E., Lodge, 1898)



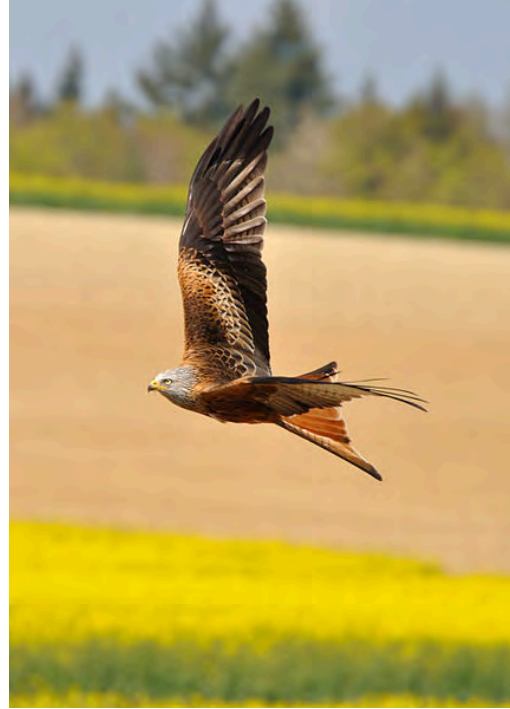
Sparrow Hawk (*Sperber*), after hunting and in flight

The **Sparrow Hawk (*Sperber*)** is smaller than the Goshawk but is capable of hunting birds up to the size of a pigeon. The Sparrow Hawk frequents gardens during the winter months.



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(5) Kites (*Milane*)



Red Kite (*Rotmilan*), in flight

The **Red Kite (*Rotmilan*)** is a large swallow-tailed bird with broader wings and a longer body than the Peregrine Falcon. The Red Kite is easily identified by its reddish color and swallow-tail. Red Kites feed partly on carrion.



Black Kite (*Schwarzmilan*), in flight

The **Black Kite (*Schwarzmilan*)** is smaller and darker than the Red Kite. The swallow tail is not as pronounced.



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(6) Harrier (*Weihen*) The Harrier is about the same size as the Common Buzzard. The Harrier glides or sails low over the ground with its wings held in a V-position as it searches for food. Harriers nest on the ground.



Hen Harrier (*Kornweihe*)



Montagu's Harrier (*Wiesenweihe*)

From the book Naumann, *Naturgeschichte der Vögel Mitteleuropas*, 1905

The **Hen Harrier (*Kornweihe*)** nests in open country and moorlands. It is also seen hunting over marshes and swamps.

The **Montagu's Harrier (*Wiesenweihe*)** is found in marshes, moors, heaths, and cultivated land. This is the smallest and most elegant of the Harriers with quite narrow, pointed wings and very buoyant flight.



Western Marsh Harrier (*Rohrweihe*), in flight

The **Marsh Harrier** nests in large, dense reed-beds, seen over open fields and marshes.



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(7) Owls (*Eulen*) There are three species of Owls in Germany, all are fully protected.

Owls (*Kaeuze*)



Tawny Owl (*Waldkauz*)



Little Owl (*Steinkauz*)

The **Tawny Owl (*Waldkauz*)** is roughly the size of a Buzzard. There is a grey- and brown- feathered species.

The **Little Owl (*Steinkauz*)** is smaller than the Tawny Owl, about the size of a Jay, and has yellow eyes.



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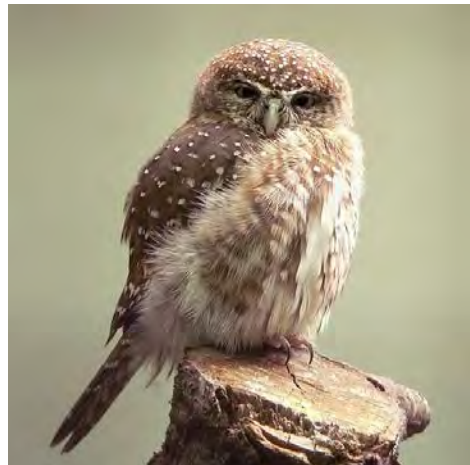
Boreal Owl or Tengmalm's Owl (*Rauhfußkauz*)



Eurasian Pygmy Owl (*Sperlingskauz*)

A little bigger in size than the Little Owl is the **Tengmalm's Owl (*Rauhfußkauz*)**

The **Pygmy Owl (*Sperlingskauz*)** is the smallest Owl in Germany.



Eurasian Pygmy Owl (*Sperlingskauz*)



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Long Eared Owl (*Waldohreule*)



Short Eared Owl (*Sumpfohreule*)

The **Long Eared Owl (*Waldohreule*)** is the most common owl in Germany. Its body is smaller and more elegant than the Tawny Owl's.

The **Short Eared Owl (*Sumpfohreule*)** is slightly bigger than the Long Eared Owl and the ears are almost invisible.





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Barn Owl (*Schleiereule*)

The **Barn Owl (*Schleiereule*)** lives close to towns and farms under barn roofs, in church towers, but also in hollow trees.



Eurasian Eagle Owl (*Uhu*)

The by far biggest Owl, about three times the size of a Tawny Owl, is the **Eagle Owl (*Uhu*)**. This large, mottled, gray and brown Owl is 15 to 18 inches tall, with two small tufts of feathers (ears) on top of its head.



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(8) Crows / Jays (*Krähen / Häher*)



Common Raven (*Kolkrabe*)

The **Raven (*Kolkrabe*)** is about twice the size of the common crow with a massive black bill and wedge-shaped tail. The Raven can be seen in Schleswig-Holstein and in the alpine and Black Forest regions. In flight the Raven often soars and glides.



Jackdaw (*Dohle*)

The **Jackdaw (*Dohle*)** is a noisy bird seen in large flocks often with rooks and starlings. The Jackdaw is smaller than the Carrion Crow and can be recognized by its head. Jackdaws frequently use walls and towers in cities for breeding.



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Alpine Chough (*Alpendohle*)

The **Alpine Chough (Alpendohle)** has a yellow bill and reddish feet. It can be found in whole Alpine region.



Rook (*Saatkrähe*)

Most **Rooks (Saatkrähen)** are winter visitors to Germany from the east. They arrive in large flocks. Rooks are similar in appearance to the Carrion Crow, but feed exclusively on insects and plants.



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Carrion Crow (*Rabenkrähe*)

The **Carrion Crow (*Rabenkrähe*)** is the most common of the Crow species, appearing all over Germany. The Carrion Crow plunders birds nests and its diet includes wild birds, domestic chickens, hares, rabbits, carrion, insects, and plants.



Hooded Crow (*Nebelkrähe*)

The **Hooded Crow (*Nebelkrähe*)** is distinguished from the Carrion Crow and Rook by its ash-gray back and a grayish under part. The Hooded Crow is a winter visitor to Eastern Germany.



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Magpie (*Elster*)

The **Magpie (*Elster*)** is easy to recognize by its distinctive black and white coloring and long tail. The Magpie's eating habits are similar to those of the Carrion Crow. The Magpie builds a covered nest in tall trees, thorn bushes, and hedgerows.



Jay (*Eichelhäher*)

The European **Jay (*Eichelhäher*)** is similar to, but larger than, the North American Blue Jay. It has brilliant colored feathers of blue, red, black, and white, which often adorn the hats of hunters. Hunters detest the jay because it is destructive and shouts an alarm said to be understood by all wildlife.