

BIRD PHOTOGRAPHY AS WE GO Kiskunsag, HUNGARY



This is not a proper trip report, but more like a colourful photographic summary, a selection of pictures which were made by our guests. This is not from one tour, but result of the last couple of years' [Bird Photography Tours](#) "as we go", based at our [Kondor EcoLodge](#). Here we visit several different areas and habitats. Although we have different specialized

hides, this is a compilation of photos were made **without hides**. Our basic programme offer is 7 days with one arrival and orientation day, spending at each different areas minimum 1 full day and on departure day an optional extra half day photography if time permits. We know the best areas where to spend time to have high chance to get the target species. Our team with our Czech friends put out hundreds of nestboxes for Rollers, Little & Scops Owls, Hoopoes and platforms for raptors such as Saker Falcon and Imperial Eagle. This really helped to boost up the populations and offers really great photo opportunities.

Day1

After arrival to Budapest Airport we do either a quick 1-1,5-hour-long transfer to Kondor EcoLodge or we check out habitats and photographing birds as we go in the Kiskunsag National Park, arriving in the evening to the accommodation. Depending on arrival time we can check some nearby areas.



Common Cuckoo by Eric Muller

Day2-6

We spend several full days on the fields, some days just at or nearby the Kondor EcoLodge while on other days we venture out to areas half or maximum one hour drive away with loads of interesting species and habitats.



Golden Oriole



Golden Oriole by Chris Massie-Taylor & Joerg Mager

The garden of Kondor EcoLodge offers a good photo opportunity of:

Long-tailed Tit Northern, white-faced form, both Common Redstart and Black Redstart, Hawfinch, Tree Sparrow, Short-toed Treecreeper, Winter Wren, European Nuthatch, Greater & Lesser-spotted Woodpeckers and even Eurasian Golden Oriole. From time to time **Eurasian Sparrowhawk** checks out the birds at the feeders. **European Turtle Dove, European Robin, Chiffchaff, Blackcap, Common Nightingale, Spotted Flycatcher, Great Tit, Blue Tit, Linnet, Chaffinch, Goldfinch and Greenfinch** is usually around.



Lesser Spotted Woodpecker



Syrian Woodpecker

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Lesser-spotted Woodpecker & Syrian Woodpecker by Chris Massie-Taylor

At nearby areas of our Kondor EcoLodge the following additional species can be seen and photographed *during a year*:



White Stork, Marsh Harrier, Montague's Harrier, Common Buzzard, Honey Buzzard, Saker Falcon, Eurasian Kestrel, Common Quail, Little Owl, Eurasian Scops Owl, Long-eared Owl, Tawny Owl, European Nightjar, Common Cuckoo, Eurasian Roller, European Bee-eater, Black Woodpecker, Syrian Woodpecker, Wryneck, European Hoopoe, Mistle Thrush, Skylark, Crested Lark, Wood Lark, Swallow, House Martin, Sand Martin, Tree Pipit, Tawny Pipit, White Wagtail, Yellow Wagtail, Whinchat, Stonechat, Northern Wheatear, Icterine Warbler, Willow Warbler, Lesser Whitethroat, Goldcrest, Yellowhammer, Siskin, Red-backed Shrike, Lesser Grey Shrike, Corn Bunting

Saker Falcon by Howard Birley

Long-eared Owls at a nearby woods



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European Nightjar, walking distance from your room; Eric Muller & Tony Coombs



Honey Buzzard by Tony Coombs and Marsh Harrier by Tibor Horvath



Montague's Harrier by Tony Coombs & by Howard Birley



Eurasian Roller & European Bee-eater by Tony Coombs



Crested Lark and Stonechat by Chris Massie-Taylor



Tree Pipit by Stuart Elsom/Sunbird Phototour and Short-toed Treecreeper by Andy Morffew



Middle Spotted Woodpecker male by Tony Coombs & Black Woodpecker male by Eric Muller



*Horváth © Tibor
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Yellow Wagtail by Tibor Horvath and Barn Swallow by Andy Morffew

During the days we will venture out to different habitats to find some more species. **Our area is between the two largest rivers in Hungary, River Danube & River Tisza.** The latter one has amazing **oxbow lakes** and **floodplains**. There are several **alkaline lakes** and also various **freshwater lakes**, plus **channels** and **dikes**. All these offer beautiful habitats for a **long list of species and large concentration of birds.**



Pygmy Cormorant & Eurasian Spoonbill; Stuart Elsom/Sunbird PhotoTour Kondor EcoLodge

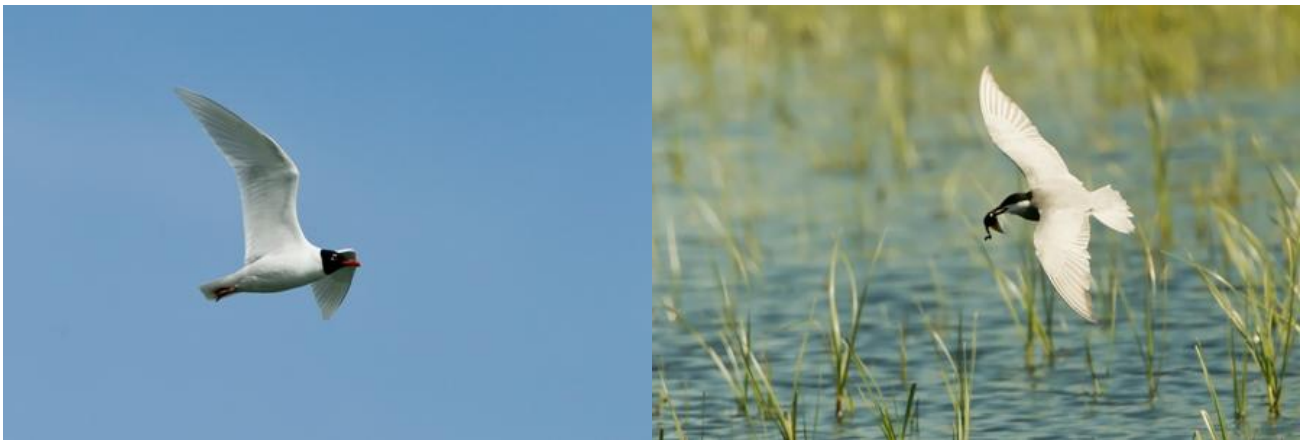
Some species which can be photographed at different habitats of the Kiskunsag National Park:

At alkaline or salt lakes, freshwater lakes, floodplains:

Pygmy Cormorant, Great White Egret, Little Egret, Grey Heron, Purple Heron, Squacco Heron, Bittern, Little Bittern, Spoonbill, Ferruginous Duck, Shoveler, Garganey and Red-crested Pochard, Spotted Crake, Black-winged Stilt, Avocet, Little Ringed Plover, Lapwing, Dunlin, Curlew Sandpiper, Ruff, Marsh Sandpiper, Wood Sandpiper, White-winged Black Tern, Whiskered Tern, Black Tern, Black-headed and Yellow-legged Gull, Mediterranean Gull, Kentish Plover (not every year), Penduline Tit, Bearded Reedling, Sedge, Reed, Great Reed, Savi's and Moustached Warbler, Bittern, Corncrake, Spotted Crake and Little Crake, White-tailed Eagle



Bearded Reedling by Tibor Horvath & Penduline Tit by Howard Birley



Mediterranean Gull & Whiskered Tern by Tony Coombs



Sedge Warbler by Pete Gilbert & Great Reed Warbler by Howard Birley



Great Reed Warbler & Savi's Warbler by Chris Massie-Taylor

Gallery Forests, Floodplain Forests, rivers, channels & dikes and line of bushes and trees around:

Marsh Harrier, Goshawk, Sparrowhawk, Common Cuckoo, Black Woodpecker, Lesser Spotted Woodpecker, Middle Spotted Woodpecker, Great Spotted Woodpecker, Grey-headed Woodpecker, Wryneck, Penduline Tit, Bearded Reedling, Great Reed, River and Savi's Warbler, Olivaceous Warbler, Common Nightingale, Bittern, Corncrake, Spotted Crake and Little Crake, European Kingfisher, Golden Oriole, White Stork, Black Stork, Common Redstart, Black Redstart, Blackcap, Lesser Whitethroat, Nuthatch, Hawfinch, Chaffinch, Goldfinch, Greenfinch, Yellowhammer, Long-tailed Tit Northern form, Barred Warbler



Olivaceous Warbler & Common Nightingale by Chris Massie-Taylor

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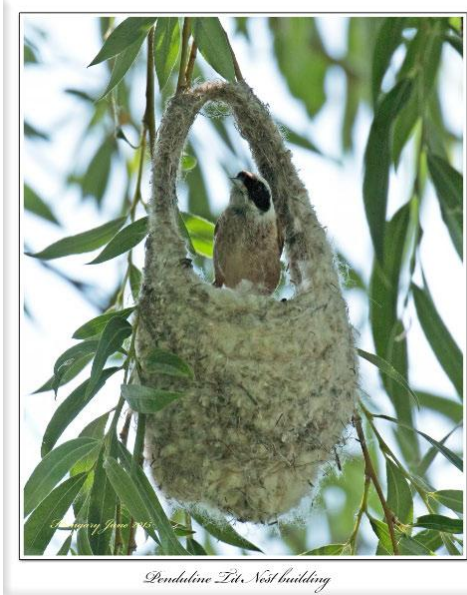
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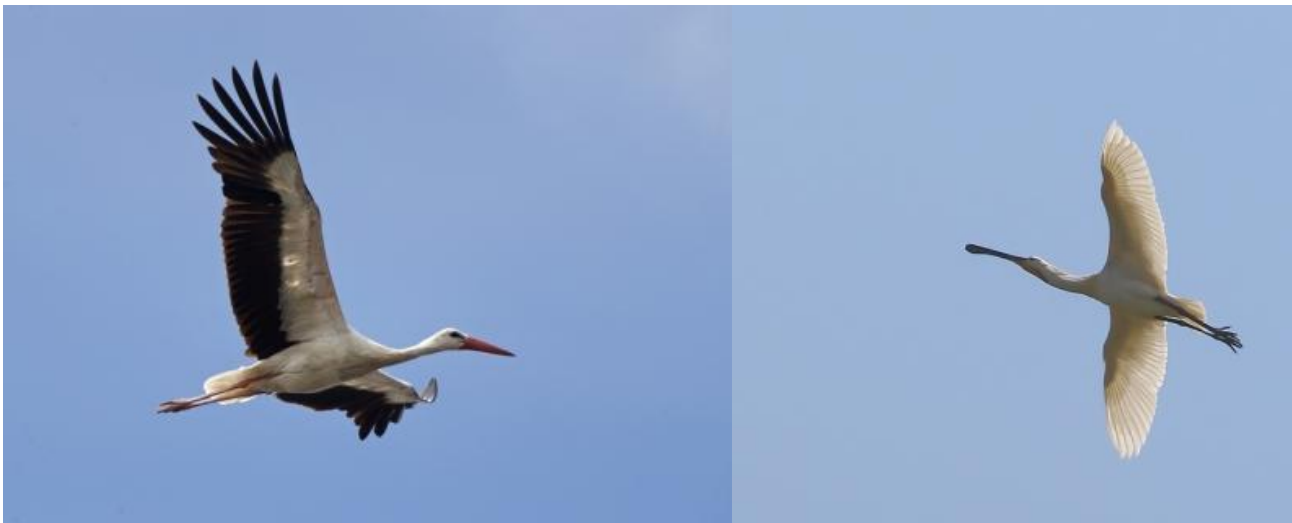
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Penduline Tit. Nest building



Penduline Tit by Chris Massie-Taylor & Barred Warbler by Tony Coombs



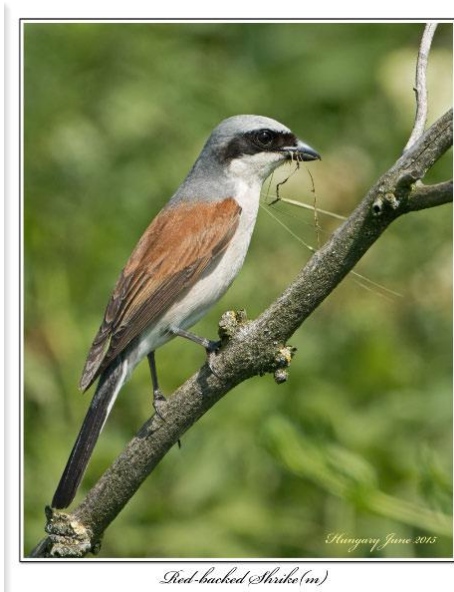
White Stork by Howard Birley & European Spoonbill by Pete Gilbert



European Kingfisher by Tibor Horvath

Grasslands, steppe like habitats, wooded pastures:

Great Bustard, Imperial Eagle, Saker Falcon, Eurasian Hobby, Red-footed Falcon, Short-toed Eagle, Turtle Dove, European Bee-eater, European Roller, Little Owl, Golden Oriole, European Hoopoe, Grey Partridge, Common Quail, Montague's Harrier, Red-backed Shrike, Lesser Grey Shrike, Tree Sparrow, Tawny Pipit, Crested Lark, Scops Owl, Eurasian Nightjar, Collared Pratincole, Corn Bunting



Red-backed Shrike(m)



Turtle Dove

Red-backed Shrike male & Turtle Dove by Chris Massie-Taylor

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Grey Partridge by Tibor Horvath & Corn Bunting by Stuart Elsom/Sunbird Photo Tour



Collared Pratincole by Sue Massie-Taylor & Howard Birley



Red-footed Falcon male & Marsh Harrier male by Peter Gilbert



Imperial Eagle by Bauke & Andreas; Red-backed Shrike by Stuart Elsom/Sunbird PhotoTour



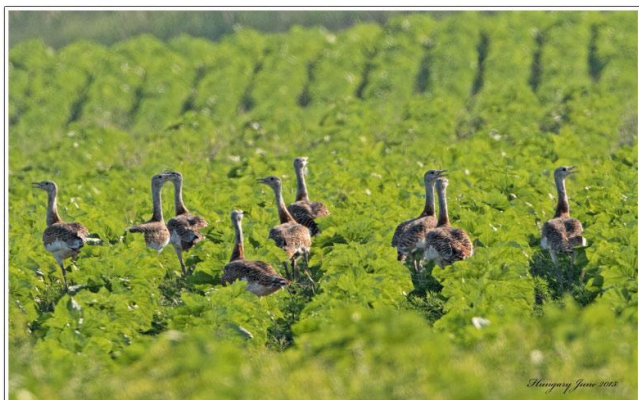
Eurasian Hobby by Stuart Elsom/Sunbird PhotoTour ; Red-footed Falcon by Peter Csonka



Marsh Harrier & Montague's Harrier by Chris Massie-Taylor



Montague's Harrier by Stuart Elsom/Sunbird Photo Tour



Great Bustard



Group of Great Bustards by Chris Messie-Taylor; Great Bustard by Tibor Horvath

Day7

After breakfast final morning Photography session at Kondor EcoLodge and/or vicinity. Midday transfer back to Budapest Airport.