

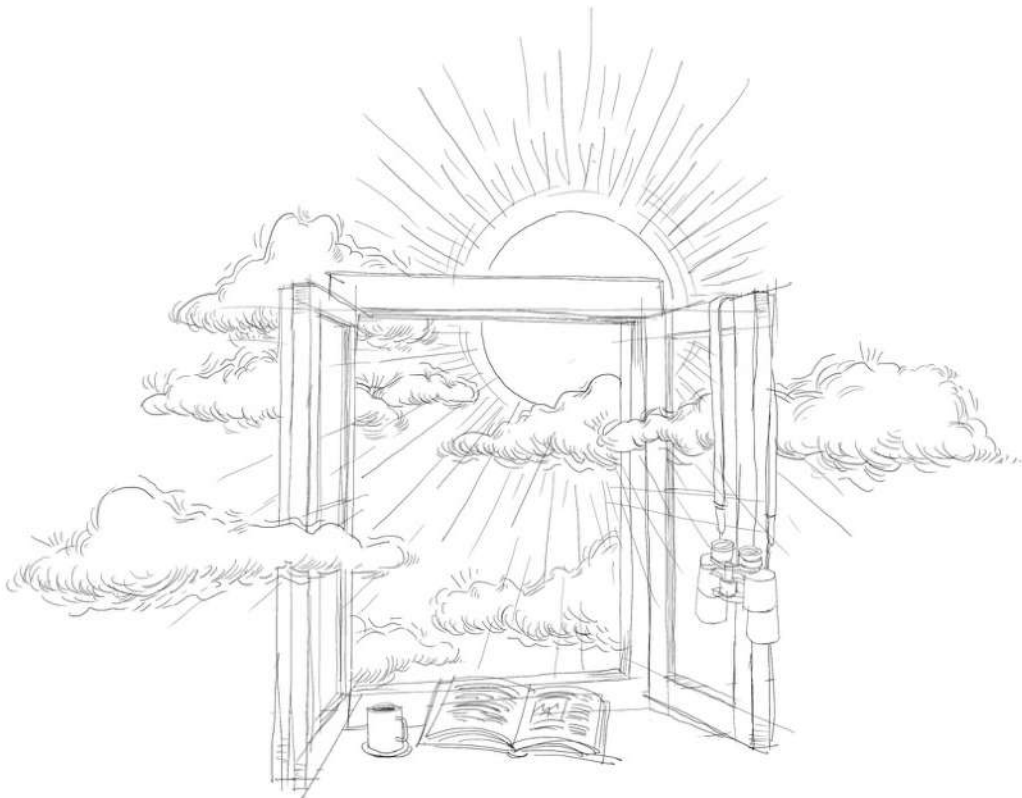
Window Birds

Urban Ornithology :
Cities & Living Beings



To see...

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The City at a Glance

In the past few weeks, a lot of friends have asked me: “what’s this bird I’m seeing / hearing from my window ?” There is a large variety of species that we can watch from our windows. A hovering shape, a backlighted figure, a colorful stroke flying around, a dot in the sky. Ornithologists call that a *garden list*, or a *window list* – the list of birds you can spot and recognize without even stepping outside.

In cities, nature’s sounds have become merely a background, a white noise. We have tuned out. Not only have we grown used to not hearing; we have stopped listening. Yet, without the car’s traffic and the grey sound of our activities, the city is not quiet. It warbles, trills, babbles, chatters, cries, croaks, whistles, hoots, sings...

But today, our attention has shifted. Anyone of us will instinctively recognize the shape of a logo, even from far away, or in small print at the bottom of a poster. An American study, conducted in 2014, by Discover the Forest, the US Forest Service, and the AD Council showed that North-American children, aged between 4 and 10, can recognize and distinguish thousands of different brands at first glance – but are not able to identify the leaves of ten plants from their immediate area.

In France, 61% of the human population lives in cities. Our collective imagination and sensitivities to nature are circumscribed to our urban way of life. We have lost touch with the diversity of species whom we share and cohabitate our spaces with.

For me, being an architect and observing birds is part of the same pleasure: looking at the world and always being on the lookout for constant change – opening the senses to the immediate environment and the greater territories shared between beings. The city must once again become an environment conducive to the blossoming and nature proliferation of life. Buildings should be planted like trees to activate biodiversity in our cities.

This document is meant to be a launchpad – an introductory guide and an invitation to anyone to look out for the 55 urban birds that we can easily see from one’s home. It’s a window, a means to be aware of one’s immediate environment and to bring our attention to the multitude of motions that surrounds us. To watch birds in the city is to learn to see again. It is not about how to see but how to deploy our perspective both in a literal and figurative sense. It is a gateway to explore what co-exists with us and the bigger ecology we are all a part of.



Antonin Yuji Maeno

April, 2020 – France

To see anywhere.

Birds that are easy
to see from the
windows, in the
trees, in the bushes,
on the roofs...

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Common Blackbird | *Turdus merula*

Size : 27 cm

Wingspan : 34 to 38 cm

Weight : 80 to 110 g

Lifespan : 16 years old

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)

Song: [Lien](#)

The ordinary position of the Blackbird is quite straightened, the tail in the extension of the body. On the ground, when it searches for food, it has a more horizontal attitude.

Perched and in alarm, it straightens the tail and drops the wings. The young fledge 12 to 13 days after hatching. The parents still feed them for three weeks, and they are independent after a month.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



Photo: Unknown — [Lien.Source](#)

Eurasian Blue Chickadee | *Cinastistes Caeruleus*

Size : 12 cm
Wingspan : 12 to 14 cm
Weight : 9 to 12 g
Lifespan : 15 years old

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)
Song: [Lien](#)

The Eurasian Blue Tit is a very active and very agile little bird. It is constantly on the move in search of her food. It has her own way of evolving by adopting acrobatic positions thanks to its clawed fingers.

Despite their small size, they are fighters and know how to be aggressive towards intruders of the same size who compete with them, in particular for nesting sites. At night, the Blue Tit stands in ivy or dense hardwoods, but also in sheltered places like hollows or holes when the weather is bad.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



Photo: Unknown — [Lien Source](#)

Great Chickadee | Parus major

Size : 14 cm
Wingspan : 23 to 26 cm
Weight : 16 to 21 g
Lifespan : 15 years old

Detailed Description : [Lien](#)
Song : [Lien](#)

It live with its siblings and other species of chickadees, and even other passerines like the nuthatches and the creepers, loose troops which wander in search of food in all the environments provided with trees.

This is called "chickadee's watch." This gives them an advantage in terms of protection against predators, but also in the discovery of food sources.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



Photo: Unknown — [Lien.Source](#)

Wood Pigeon | Columba Palumbus

Size : 45 cm
Wingspan : 75 to 80 cm
Weight : 450 to 520 g
Lifespan : 16 years old

Detailed Description : [Lien](#)
Song : [Lien](#)

Outside the breeding season, wood pigeons gather in large groups. They perform parade flights with steep climbs using rapid wing beats, then they flap their wings one or more times before sliding downhill, with the wings extended horizontally and the tail extended. They rise and land with loud clapping flaps of the wing.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



© Frédéric Pelsy

Photo : Frédéric Pelsy — [Lien Source](#)

Biset Pigeon | Columba Livia

Size : 34 cm
Wingspan : 63 to 70 cm
Weight : 240 to 300 g
Lifespan : 6 years old

Detailed Description [Lien](#)
Song : [Lien](#)

The Biset pigeon is fast and agile, making frequent turns and deviations in the air. Often, it flies at very low altitude above fields or the water surface, but also at a great height, especially during large band gatherings from summer.

The size of the laying is generally 2 white eggs, sometimes 1 and very rarely 3. It is also not certain that some laying of 3 eggs are from the same female. Incubation, which lasts between 17 and 19 days, is mainly the responsibility of the female, although the male collaborates for short periods.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



Photo : Marc FASOL — [Lien Source](#)

Stock Dove | Columba Oenas

Size : 34 cm
Wingspan : 63 to 69 cm
Weight : 250 to 340 g
Lifespan : 13 years old

Detailed Description : [Lien](#)
Song : [Lien](#)

After the breeding season, it often mixes with wood pigeons, rooks crows and Eurasian jackdaws, but it is sometimes seen living in a specific group of around 20 individuals. Species living in Western Europe are sedentary while populations from the North and East migrate to the West and South.

In Europe, it could be confused with the Biset Pigeon. The bright white rump typical of the Biset Pigeon or its domesticated descendants are absent in the pigeon.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



Photo : Unknown — [Lien.Source](#)

Domestic Sparrow | *Passer Domesticus*

Size : 18 cm
Wingspan : 25 cm
Weight : 30 to 39 g
Lifespan : 13 years old

Detailed Description : [Lien](#)
Song : [Lien](#)

Since the 1980s, a marked decline in the bird population has started in large cities, in Europe as well as on the American continent, due to changes in agricultural practices and methods of rotation,

This is the case of Paris intra muros where the House Sparrow is disappearing. The increasingly dense modern urban habitat no longer provides the sparrow with enough to eat normally and the renovation of the buildings deprives it of its nesting sites.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



Photo : Unknown — [Lien.Source](#)

Starling Sansonnet

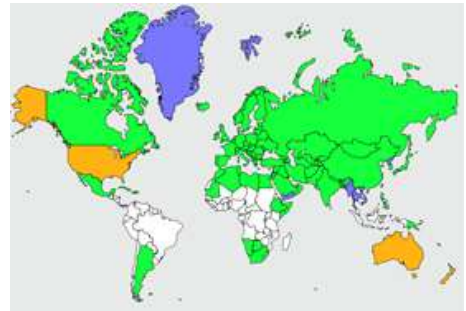
 | *Sturnus vulgaris*

Size : 21 cm
Wingspan : 31 à 40 cm
Weight : 60 à 96 g
Lifespan : 15 ans

Detailed Description : [Lien](#)
Song : [Lien](#)

The new adult plumage, just after the end of summer moult, is characterized by black feathers with a pale tip (white, cream, even russet), which gives the bird a characteristic speckled appearance. As these coverts wear down throughout the winter, the spots gradually fade to give way to a brilliant black nuptial plumage, with green or purplish reflections depending on the places.

The starling likes to imitate the song of many species of passerines and non-passerines.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



Photo : Marek Szczepanek — [Lien Source](#)

Hedge Sparrow | Prunella Modularis

Size : 14 cm
Wingspan : 21 cm
Weight : — g
Lifespan : 9 years old

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)
Song: [Lien](#)

The Hedge Sparrow evokes a sparrow by its warm brown coat marked with black, from where a possible confusion, but it is distinguished immediately by the delicacy of its beak.

The Hedge Sparrow's love life is quite tumultuous, which is not surprising from a bird so discreet in ordinary times. The follow-ups showed the existence of extramarital relationships and supernumerary partners.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



Photo: Unknown — [Lien.Source](#)

Eurasian Magpie | Pica Pica

Size : 50 cm

Wingspan : 56 to 61 cm

Weight : 145 to 240 g

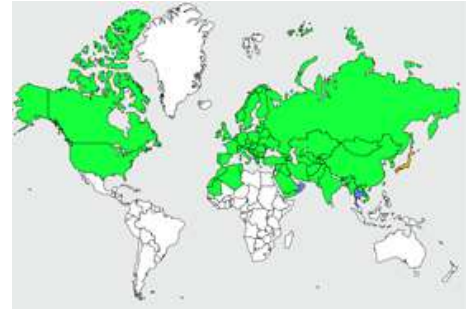
Lifespan : 15 years old

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)

Song: [Lien](#)

The Eurasian Magpie is easy to observe, for example when it strolls along a lawn or a garden square. The swings in their body is quite characteristic. When they want to go faster, they jump on both legs at the same time.

The construction of the nest is a long-term work which requires the couple long weeks of work, up to 5 to 6. And this monumental nest, despite its relative durability, will only be used once for reproduction.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



Photo: Unknown — [Lien.Source](#)

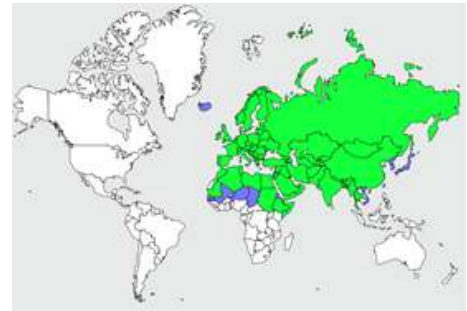
Black Redstart | *Phoenicurus Ochururos*

Size : 15 cm
Wingspan : 23 to 26 cm
Weight : 14 to 20 g
Lifespan : 8 years old

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)
Song: [Lien](#)

The bird is most often seen perched on an open support (stake, wire, bush, low branch of a tree) from where it monitors the surrounding soil to locate its prey on which it melts in direct flight. On the ground, it moves while hopping.

For any occasion, it nervously waves the tail vertically with a curious mechanical movement. When worried, it flies away from an easy and direct flight towards a refuge, tree, building or rock.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



Photo : Bob Eade — [Lien.Source](#)

Carrion Crow

Corvus Corone

Size : 53 cm

Wingspan : 92 à 100 cm

Weight : 450 to 600 g

Lifespan : 20 years old

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)

Song: [Lien](#)

For the adults birds, the new plumage is shiny and shines in the sun with even blue or green reflections. With wear, it becomes dull, brownish.

The carrion crow can be confused with two other black corvids, the Northern raven and the Rook. The first is larger, with a stronger beak. The second has a similar size to that of the crow, but the adult has the gray beak of different shape (higher at the base and more pointed) with an area of bare light gray skin around its base.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



Photo : Unknown — [Lien.Source](#)

Common Kestrel | Falco Tinunculus

Size : 39 cm

Wingspan : 65 to 82 cm

Weight : 154 to 314 g

Lifespan : 16 years old

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)

Song: [Lien](#)

The beak of the Common Kestrel is short and curved from the base. Sometimes called Emouchet or Mouquet in our countryside, the kestrel owes its name to its high cry. Tinnunculus comes from the Latin *tinnio* and means "tinkle, make a clear sound".

The populations are in decline almost everywhere, undoubtedly because of the constant intensification of agriculture, removing the meadows in which they like to hunt.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



Photo : Aurélien Audevard — [Lien](#) **Source**

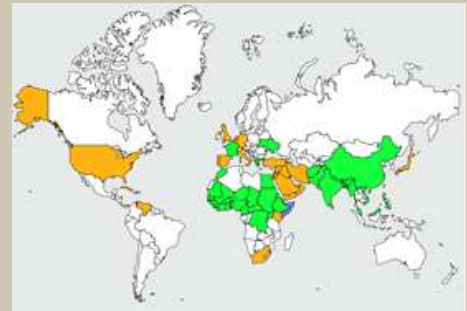
Rose-ringed Parakeet | *Psittacula krameri*

Size : 43 cm
Wingspan : 42 to 48 cm
Weight : 95 to 140 g
Lifespan : 30 years old

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)
Song: [Lien](#)

The Rose-ringed Parakeets frequent a wide variety of wooded habitats ranging from semi-deserts to fairly light jungles. They are mainly found in the lower regions but in Asia, they can climb up to 1600 meters above sea level. In Africa, it rises higher, for example up to 2,000 m in Ethiopia.

On the other hand, in Europe, the populations resulting from captivity are mainly urban and reproduce in the parks.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■

Incredible but true !



Photo : Unknown — [Lien Source](#)



Photo : Wikimedia Commons - User : Jastrow — [Lien Source](#)

Peregrine Falcon

| Falco Peregrinus

Size : 50 cm
Wingspan : 95 to 115 cm
Weight : 750 to 1300 g
Lifespan : 17 years old

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)
Song: [Lien](#)

During the nuptial period, the two partners engage in aerial games: chases, dizzying dives, loopings, quite spectacular. During vertical dives from a very high height, its speed can exceed 350 km / h.

The beak is provided with denticulation at the upper mandible that is observed in all falcons. This kind of "tooth" would allow them to more easily kill their prey by cutting the ligaments of the cervical and the spinal cord, when they bite it in the neck after capture.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■

Nests in the Olympiades in Paris!



Photo : Unknown — [Lien Source](#)



Photo : Maison de l'estuaire, Nolwenn Briand, Christian Bulle — [Lien Source](#)

Eurasian Collared Dove

Streptopelia Decaocto

Size : 32 cm
Wingspan : 47 to 55 cm
Weight : 125 to 225 g
Lifespan : 16 years old

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)
Song: [Lien](#)

Essentially a granivorous species, it adds to its ordinary, as soon as the warm weather arrives, some flowers, insects, buds that it consumes with greed. She drinks by suction and does not need to throw her head back to swallow.

They are very gregarious birds often seen in pairs. During the nuptial period, the turtledoves continue in flight, and are particularly touching when perched on a wire, they give reciprocal "kisses" on the head, the neck and the nape.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■

The pigeon's hot cousin !



Photo : Cr dit : Shutterstock / DR — [Lien Source](#)

Parks and gardens.

The sparrows used to flying over lawns, exploring the edges and jumping between thickets.

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Short-toed Treecreeper | *Certhia Brachydactyla*

Size : 12 cm
Wingspan : — cm
Weight : 8 to 12 g
Lifespan : 9 years old

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)
Song: [Lien](#)

Like woodpeckers, short-toed creepers search for food, clinging to trunks and branches whose crevices and moss they carefully inspect for tiny insects. Always busy, they move with agility, like mice, against the bark of trees.

Like woodpeckers, they lean on their rigid tail to climb along the trunks. Their habit is to inspect the trees from bottom to top, from the trunk to the twigs, turning in a spiral along the trunk. Like the nuthatch, they cannot descend and hunt in all positions. Their fine, arched beak is not made to cut into bark or hammer, but only to creep into cracks.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



Photo: Aqualune 83 — [Lien Source](#)

Eurasian Nuthatch | *Sitta Europaea*

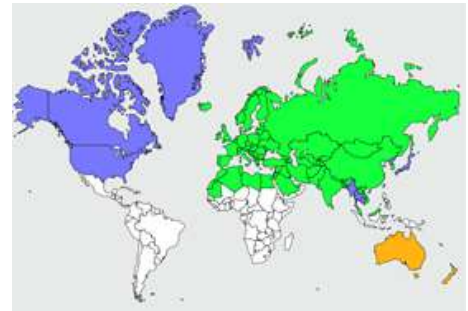
Size : 14 cm
Wingspan : — cm
Weight : 19 to 24 g
Lifespan : 9 years old

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)
Song: [Lien](#)

It is very active and very agile in the trees. Its robust legs provided with 4 fingers with curved nails like claws allow it to grip the bark effectively, even the smoothest. Because of this, it is able to move in any direction along the trunks and branches, including upside down, which the pecks never do.

To open a hard seed, it pecks at the seed trapped between the legs or in a bark gap. She is able to crack hazelnuts.

Another behavior of the species, which moreover has earned it its specific name, is the habit it has of masonrying the entry hole of the nesting cavity to restrict it to its size and thus remove bothersome competitors like starlings.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



Photo: Unknown — [Lien Source](#)

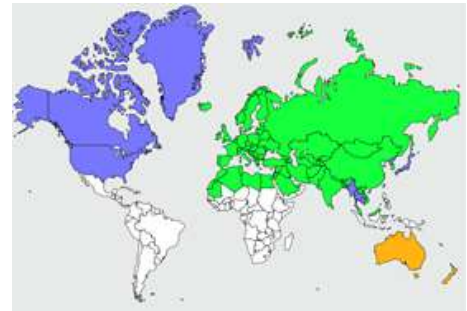
European Green Woodpecker | *Picus Viridis*

Size : 33 cm
Wingspan : 40 to 42 cm
Weight : 180 to 220 g
Lifespan : 7 years old

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)
Song: [Lien](#)

A curious sneer catches our attention. A European Green Woodpecker moves away from its undulating flight, punctuated by sound "kiak". This is generally how the first contact with the species, which is not particularly fierce, is simply discreet when it is on the ground to feed, because of predators. It is indeed on the ground that this woodpecker searches for food based on insects. In urban areas, it is classic to observe it hopping on the lawns, completely uncovered but remaining attentive to its environment.

Unlike variegated woodpeckers, whitefish and others, this woodpecker only works with wood for nesting. It does not drum either, unlike another woodpecker, the ash, which gives him this territorial sound manifestation.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



Photo : Maries Elemans, Naturalis Biodiversity Center, License CC BY-NC. — [Lien Source](#)

Great Spotted Woodpecker | Dendrocopos Major

Size : 24 cm
Wingspan : 34 to 39 cm
Weight : 70 to 98 g
Lifespan : 11 years old

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)
Song: [Lien](#)

The Great Spotted Woodpecker is an exclusive arboreal. It needs trees in all phases of his life. It finds his food there, it establishes his nest there. It has a typical picid flight, alternating phases of energetic beating and closed wing breaks. It gains altitude with the first and loses a little during the seconds, resulting in a wavy flight.

The bird actively searches for insect larvae that it extracts from the wood with its beak and tongue, working from the bottom up along the trunks and branches. It is known to occasionally attack broods or broods of other cave species such as chickadees, including enlarging the access hole with a beak, for example a nest box.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



Photo: Unknown — [Lien Source](#)

Lesser Spotted Woodpecker | Dryobates Minor

Size : 16 cm
Wingspan : 25 to 27 cm
Weight : 18 to 22 g
Lifespan : 7 years old

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)
Song: [Lien](#)

This variegated little woodpecker cannot be confused with another species. The size of a sparrow, the great spotted woodpecker has black and white plumage, crossed transversely on the wings and back.

The woodpecker tongue is tapered, very long, slimy and provided with numerous tact corpuscles, the small, flat and pointed end of which is adorned with small hooks. It may be projected far ahead.

It is a bird that excels in the art of climbing. The peaks accomplish their climbs by burying their curved nails in the bark of the trees and then leaning on their tail, perform small jumps.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



Photo: Unknown — [Lien Source](#)

Eurasian Blackcap | *Sylvia Atricapilla*

Size : 14 cm
Wingspan : 23 cm
Weight : 14 to 20 g
Lifespan : 7 years old

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)
Song: [Lien](#)

The Eurasian Blackcap is a common bird, not really shy, easy to spot in the spring by its song but less easy to observe.

The usual contact call of the Eurasian blackcap is a dry and punchy "tac", a bit like the noise produced by two pebbles that collide.

It is issued in series, the pace of which accelerates in the event of danger or a neighborhood conflict. The nest is built by the couple. It is made of intertwined dry twigs and herbs, often held by spider silk. The whole is quite small and requires 2 to 5 days of work.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



Photo: Marc Fasol — [Lien Source](#)

Goldcrest

Regulus Regulus

Size : 9 cm

Wingspan : — cm

Weight : 5 to 7 g

Lifespan : 7 years old

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)

Song: [Lien](#)

The Goldcrest is, with its congeners with triple stripe, one of the two smallest birds in Europe. It weighs only 5 grams. At first glance, it is a tiny hyperactive green bird. It is still fluttering and flapping its wings outside the canopy, always moving on lower perches, changing trees and bushes, waving its wings and tail.

The Goldcrests are very vulnerable during cold winters, and their numbers may decline. During the harsh winters, these birds feed all day and sleep together at night, close to each other in dense vegetation.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



Photo: Unknown — [Lien Source](#)

Common Chaffinch

 |

Fingilla Coelebs

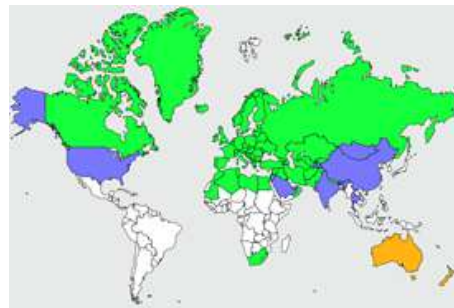
Size : 14 to 16 cm
Wingspan : 26 cm
Weight : 17 to 30 g
Lifespan : 14 years old

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)
Song: [Lien](#)

The Common Chaffinch is a readily gregarious bird, except during reproduction. At this time, it becomes territorial and the males strongly defend their territory, marking it with their song. This is why males most often sing prominently on a high perch.

On the ground where it searches for food, the Common Chaffinch moves by hopping. When it is not on the ground, it is connected to woody plants. It is arboreal for reproduction. The nest is built on a branch, generally fairly well camouflaged.

It is a large migrant capable of flying long distances.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



Photo: Unknown — [Lien Source](#)

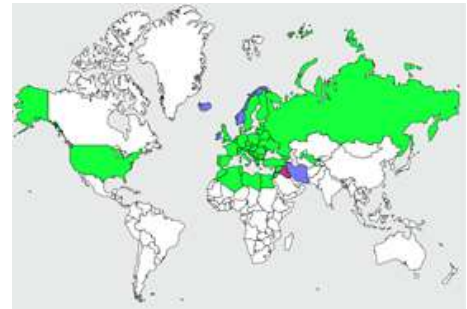
European Serin | *Serinus Serinus*

Size : 12 cm
Wingspan : — cm
Weight : 10 to 14 g
Lifespan : 9 years old

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)
Song: [Lien](#)

The European Serin is a partial migrant and therefore returns to its breeding grounds quite early in the season, in late March to early April in France for example. It signs his return from migration with his typical sizzling song, a sign that the good days are here.

Males are the first to reoccupy the territory. As soon as the females arrive, they are assailed by their partners, all dressed in yellow, who pursue their assiduity, seek to seduce them by their song, their swaying nuptial flight and their physical expressions (straightened body, hanging wings, tail raised, throat feathers spiky).



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



Photo: Unknown — [Lien Source](#)

European Greenfinch | Chloris Chloris

Size : 16 cm
Wingspan : — cm
Weight : 25 to 34 g
Lifespan : 13 years old

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)
Song: [Lien](#)

The European Greenfinch, like all finches, has a wavy, direct and powerful flight, punctuated by cries. "Long distance" trips correspond to this scheme. During the courtship display, the male performs a gliding and fluttering flight, with slow flaps of the wings widely spread.

The European Greenfinch is a common bird. Very anthropophilic, it does not fear humans and is fairly well known to the general public, because it is common in urban parks and gardens and is frequent in winter feeding stations.

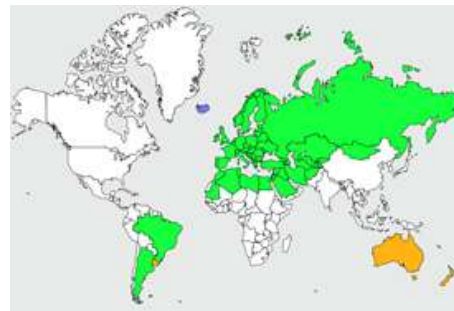


Photo: David Meier — [Lien Source](#)

European Goldfinch | *Carduelis Carduelis*

Size : 14 cm
Wingspan : — cm
Weight : 14 to 18 g
Lifespan : 8 years old

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)
Song: [Lien](#)

The European Goldfinch is a small passerine, smaller in size than a sparrow and easy to recognize. Indeed, the adult has a blood red face and a large lemon-yellow area on the wing.

On the wings, this yellow is found on the outer vexils of the primary flight feathers, on the alula and at the wrist. This is reflected on the closed wing by a very visible longitudinal yellow line.

We can observe groups of several dozen birds flitting together, feeding together in tall grass or on seed bearing trees.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



Photo: Unknown — [Lien Source](#)

Common Chiffchaff | *Phylloscopus Collybita*

Size : 142 cm
Wingspan : — cm
Weight : 6 to 9 g
Lifespan : - ans

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)
Song: [Lien](#)

The Common Chiffchaff feeds on insects and spiders collected from branches and leaves. It can also feed on fruit. It is a stirring bird and not very shy. It flies non-stop in the branches. It lives all over Europe and migrates south at the end of September.

The completely closed round nest is made of dry leaves and twigs and built by the female alone. The male then helps him take care of the young. The feeding frequency can vary between 255 and 470 bites per day.

It has fairly dark legs, which makes it different from the Pouillot fitis. It has a pale eyebrow which is not very visible



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



Photo : Gérard Verdrière — [Lien Source](#)

Song Thrush

 |

Turdus Philomelos

Size : 23 cm

Wingspan : 33 to 36 cm

Weight : 65 to 90 g

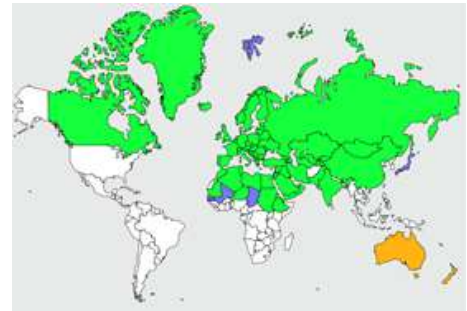
Lifespan : 14 years old

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)

Song: [Lien](#)

The Song Thrush has long wings allowing it to migrate for a long time. The fast and powerful beats allow for easy boom and cruise flight. Migrants mainly fly at night high enough above the ground. In the morning, the birds that stop dropping at high speed towards woody plants which will ensure their safety.

The Song Thrush is a common species. However, it is a discreet and stealthy bird, very fearful most of the time. Its close observation is not easy because it flees at the slightest alert.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



Photo: Unknown — [Lien Source](#)

European Robin | Erithacus Rubeluca

Size : 14 cm
Wingspan : 20 to 22 cm
Weight : 16 à 22 g
Lifespan : 15 years old

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)
Song: [Lien](#)

The most frequent cry is a "tick" of metallic excitement, often repeated in staccato and which expresses a form of anxiety. It uses his "red" plastron as a warning device and does not hesitate to exhibit it on all occasions when it is a question for him of asserting his rights, real or usurped. Territorial males thus confront each other, high chest, while vocalizing abundantly in order to defend the limits of their domain.

The European robin feeds on the ground. It spots its prey from a low perch and captures it after a short approach flight. More rarely, it moves on the ground by hopping and scanning the earth's surface.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



Photo: Wouter Marck — [Lien Source](#)

Eurasian Wren

Troglodytes Troglodytes

Size : 10 cm
Wingspan : 13 to 17 cm
Weight : 8 to 13 g
Lifespan : 6 years old

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)
Song: [Lien](#)

The Eurasian Wren is one of the smallest passerines on the old continent. In no way complexed by its tiny size, the Eurasian Wren is a petulant and furtive bird, constantly in motion, who likes to give voice. Although camped in evidence on a support, the tail raised, head straightened, it declaims its sonorous stanzas to the cantonade. Considering its size, the power of the song surprises. The phrase is very stereotypical and invariable within the species: males have the same repertoire.

The name of the genus Troglodytes comes from its nest that it in a ball with a lateral opening, very typical. As it is often leaned against a rock wall or a wall, it evokes a cave dwelling.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



Photo: Randers Fjord — [Lien Source](#)

Eurasian Jay

| *Garrulus Glandarius*

Size : 36 cm
Wingspan : — cm
Weight : 140 to 190 g
Lifespan : 18 years old

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)
Song: [Lien](#)

Unlike the majority of the corvid family, the Eurasian Jay has colorful plumage that draws attention.

Like all corvids, the jay is omnivorous. The seeds provide subsistence in the bad season.

It is not for nothing that it is called Eurasian Jay because it is fond of acorns which constitute almost 50% of its food in summer then it hides in autumn for winter.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



Photo: Unknown — [Lien Source](#)

Long-tailed Orite | Aegithalos Caudatus

Size : 16 cm
Wingspan : — cm
Weight : 7 to 8 g
Lifespan : 8 years old

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)
Song: [Lien](#)

Rarely observed alone, the Long-tailed Orite (or Chickadee) spends most of its life in a family group. She rarely ventures far away and stays in the same industry for years. His sociable manners allow him to survive in winter: by hugging against each other along a branch, the ruffled plumage, these birdies lose as little heat as possible.

No map available.

It ranks among the best builders in the kingdom of birds, and despite the fact that it is one of the smallest birds by size, its nest is large, reaching on average 20 cm by 12. The surface is perfectly masked by scraps of bark, cobwebs and cocoons of insects, so that camouflaged, the nest goes completely unnoticed.

Un des meilleur oiseau architecte !



Photo : Unknown — [Lien Source](#)

European Crested Tit

Lophophanes Cristatus

Size : 12 cm
Wingspan : — cm
Weight : 10 to 13 g
Lifespan : 5 years old

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)
Song: [Lien](#)

The crested tit is not shy, but it does not like to be exposed. At the end of winter, the male displays flight or raises its hoopoe by vibrating its wings.

From September, the great crested tits join other small deer birds, chickadees, wren and creepers, which join the bad season in search of food.

The great tit is a sedentary species. Many hardly ever leave their territory. It is strictly European, nesting from the Iberian Peninsula to the Urals. It is even lacking in most of Italy and, in Great Britain, only lives in Scotland in ancient pine forests.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■

New Yorker's Stylists are known to be jealous of him ...



Photo : Gilbert Schaffhauser — [Lien Source](#)

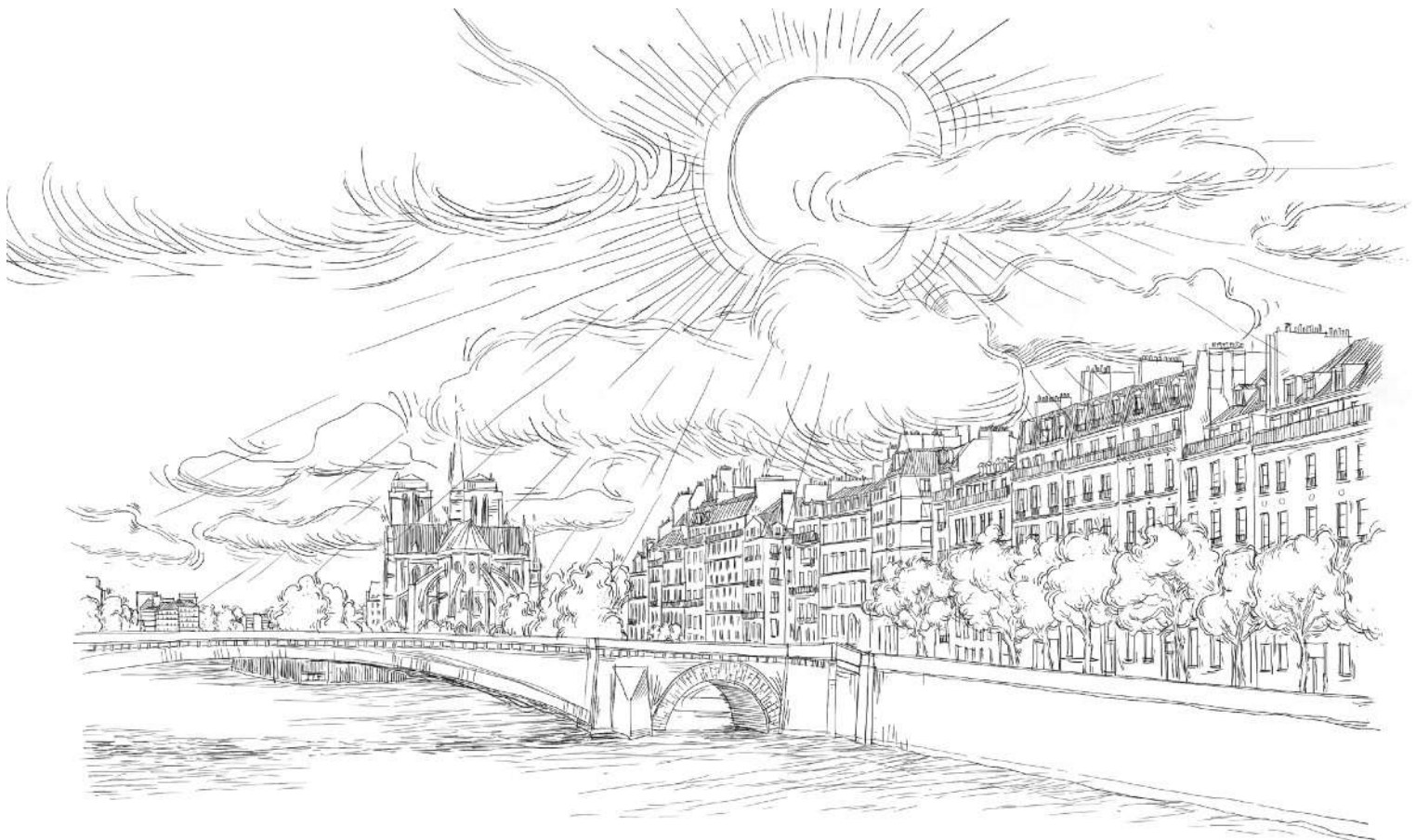
Near the Seine, lakes, and canals.

Aquatic wings that can be seen near Parisian bodies of waters.

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A jackpot of fun feathers :

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European Herring Gull | *Larus Argentatus*

Size : 67cm
Wingspan : 135 to 145 cm
Weight : 750 to 1250 g
Lifespan : 32 years old

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)
Song: [Lien](#)

Spring displays are the subject of a fairly complex ceremonial during which herring gulls utter a fairly noisy elongated call while lowering and raising their heads alternately, their beaks wide open.

It is sociable in all seasons. Nesting, like the search for food in landfills, is in fact the object of large gatherings.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



Photo: Unknown — [Lien.Source](#)

Lesser Black-backed Gull | *Larus Fuscus*

Size : 61 cm
Wingspan : 124 to 127 cm
Weight : 650 to 1000 g
Lifespan : 26 years old

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)
Song: [Lien](#)

Barely larger than the Herring Gull, but smaller than the Herring Gull, the brown gull has a dark gray to black coat, the rest of the body being white. The legs are yellow to orange-yellow. The beak is yellow and thin, with a red spot on the lower mandible.

The chick, or greyish, has a light, brown striped down. It will be fed until the age of 42 days. When hungry, it hits the red spot on the adult's beak, causing regurgitation.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



Photo: Unknown — [Lien.Source](#)

Black-headed Gull

Chroicocephalus Ridibundus

Size : 43 cm

Wingspan : 94 to 110 cm

Weight : 225 to 350 g

Lifespan : 32 years old

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)

Song: [Lien](#)

Adult plumage will only be acquired in the 3rd calendar year. Meanwhile, we are witnessing the evolution of the plumage which gradually loses the initial brown, character of immaturity, to become more and more gray and white. The brown cap is in principle the prerogative of birds at least two years old.

The Black-headed Gull is monogamous and faithful to the nest site where it returns each year. Courtship is at its peak when the male regurgitates food from the female. Mating takes place immediately after.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



Photo : Adrien Mauss — [Lien Source](#)

Great Cormorant | Phalaracrocorax Carbo

Size : 100 cm
Wingspan : 130 to 160 cm
Weight : 2000 to 2500 g
Lifespan : 20 years old

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)
Song: [Lien](#)

The great cormorant feeds mainly on fish. It dives to capture its prey with the beak, and is able to stay underwater for more than a minute. It brings the fish back to the surface to stun him by shaking him and toss him up in the air to turn him over before swallowing them.

This species is gregarious and nests in colonies on cliff ledges, in trees, on coasts or inland.

The great cormorant flies with firm beats and occasional glides.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



Photo : JJ Harrison — [Lien Source](#)



Photo : Olavi Holmijoki — [Lien Source](#)

Mallard Duck | *Anas Platyrhynchos*

Size : 65 cm

Wingspan : 75 to 100 cm

Weight : 850 to 1400 g

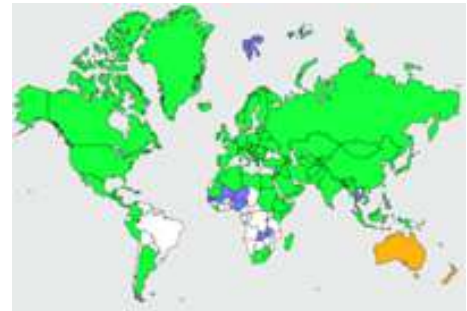
Lifespan : 29 years old

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)

Song: [Lien](#)

The courtship displays the male showing off his brilliant feathers. It swims around the female with his neck stretched out and then projects his head back onto her back. It also raises its body on the water with the swollen chest and rejects a little water by the beak while it emits a slight whistle.

Then it quickly erects its tail two or three times. At the end, it bristles the feathers of his head, stretches his neck just above the water and there it swims in all directions, as if it were crazy! Mating takes place in the water after an elaborate display.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■

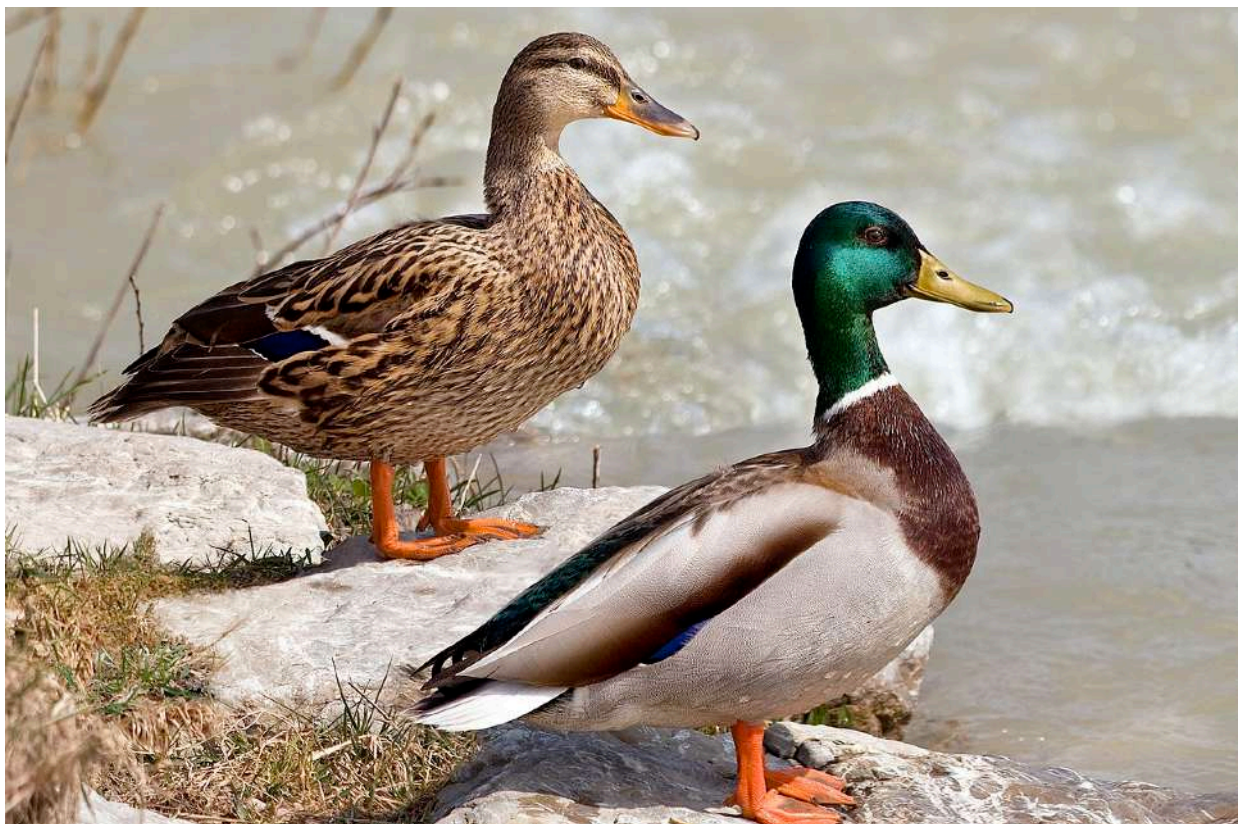


Photo : TITTA HON JAGAR — [Lien Source](#)

Ruddy Shelduck | Tadorna Ferruginea

Size : 71 cm
Wingspan : 121 to 145 cm
Weight : 925 to 1500 g
Lifespan : - ans

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)
Song: [Lien](#)

The ruddy shelduck is a large duck with an entirely tawny orange plumage, with the exception of the head which is much lighter. The head-body transition is made by a small black collar for the male. It is absent in the female. The wings are black and white with a small green mirror in its central part. Beak, legs (quite long), flight feathers and rump are black.

The breeding population in the EU does not exceed 50 pairs. Modification of wetlands and hunting in wintering areas are the greatest threats to the species.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



Photo : Unknown — [Lien Source](#)

Eurasian Coot

| Fulica Atra

Size : 39 cm
Wingspan : 70 to 80 cm
Weight : 575 to 800 g
Lifespan : 18 years old

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)
Song: [Lien](#)

The coot has a very rich repertoire. We often hear them at night when they fly by emitting a species sneezing. They emit metallic, resonant, quarrelsome and explosive cries, particularly harsh and sharp when they are agitated, which happens quite frequently.

Dives very often in search of food; Swim slowly, nodding. It regularly tilts up to 2 meters deep to feed, sometimes up to 4 or 5 meters. It defends its territory vigorously by rushing against intruders.

It will also often steal food from other coots.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



Photo : Marc Solari — [Lien Source](#)

Common Moorhen | Gallinula Chloropus

Size : 38 cm
Wingspan : 50 à 55 cm
Weight : 260 to 373 g
Lifespan : 15 ans

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)
Song: [Lien](#)

The gallinule lives near the fresh or brackish waters of wetlands where vegetation is abundant and emerging, with banks offering cover. It is found near ponds, calm rivers, marshes and lakes, and also in the waters of urban parks.

To feed, it pecks on the surface of the water in emerging vegetation. It plunges its head, wades and can dive for food, especially the seeds and roots of aquatic plants.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



Photo : Unknown — [Lien Source](#)

Grey Wagtail | Motacilla Cinerea

Size : 20 cm

Wingspan : 29 cm

Weight : 14 to 22 g

Lifespan : 3 years old

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)

Song: [Lien](#)

The grey wagtail is very dependent on water, especially running water, often near homes and bridges. It nests along torrents and rivers of hills and mountains, both in woodland and in open environment. Outside the nesting season, it reaches the lower regions, including the coasts and estuaries. We can then meet it at the edge of almost all types of aquatic environments

It feeds mainly on aquatic insects and their larvae as well as many small aquatic animals. It traverses rocks or gravelly banks, or wanders near the basins, capturing its prey on the ground and at the edge of the water.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



Photo : Unknown — [Lien Source](#)

White Wagtail

| Motacilla Alba

Size : 19 cm
Wingspan : 30 to 32 cm
Weight : 18 to 27 g
Lifespan : 10 years old

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)
Song: [Lien](#)

The White Wagtail is an anthropophilic bird remarkable for its silhouette (long tail and short wings) and its colors. It is part of what used to be commonly known as Hochequeues. Indeed, as with his sisters, his long tail is agitated by frequent vertical movements.

The flight of the gray wagtail, like that of all wagtails, is a typical very undulating flight, alternating fast beats of the short wings on the rise and fold of the wings on the descent.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



Photo : Unknown — [Lien Source](#)

Gray Heron

| Ardea Cinerea

Size : 98 cm
Wingspan : 175 to 195 cm
Weight : 600 to 1200 g
Lifespan : 25 years old

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)
Song: [Lien](#)

The Gray Heron frequents all fresh or brackish waters provided they are full of fish. In the off-season, it also frequents agricultural environments in its hunt for rodents and other terrestrial prey. For reproduction, it seeks wooded areas with large trees to establish its nest (forests, riparian forests, poplar plantations, groves and parks).

The Gray Heron is basically a gregarious bird at all times. Conversely, when they are fishing, they become very solitary and territorial and strongly defend their fishing areas against intruders. Prosecutions are then frequent.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



Photo : Marcel Burkhardt — [Lien Source](#)



Photo : Patrick Derennes — [Lien Source](#)

Common Pochard | *Aythya Ferina*

Size : 58 cm
Wingspan : 72 to 82 cm
Weight : 700 to 1100 g
Lifespan : 10 years old

Detailed Description : [Lien](#)
Song : [Lien](#)

It is one of the most common diving ducks in Europe. In France, 60,000 milouins overwinter but there are only about 5,000 left to nest in the spring. Winter visitors arrive from October and leave in March and April.

It does not like to fly and prefers to dive to escape the danger. This is not surprising because it must, to take off, take its momentum by running on the surface of the water while energetically flapping its wings. However, once in the air, the Pochard progresses in a rapid and direct flight, often adopting a 'V' formation.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■

A jackpot of fun feathers !



Photo : Thomas Hochebner — [Lien](#) [Source](#)

Tufted Duck | *Aythya Fuligula*

Size : 47 cm
Wingspan : 67 to 73 cm
Weight : 550 to 900 g
Lifespan : 15 years old

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)
Song: [Lien](#)

In winter, it pushes forays into cities where it is mainly found on large bodies of water in parks or near bridges that cross rivers.

This diving duck finds most of its food below the surface. Its immersion generally lasts between 10 and 20 seconds. Powered by its large webbed legs, it can descend to 7 meters deep. It is sociable, even during the breeding season: its nest is often close to that of seagulls and terns.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■

A jackpot of fun feathers !



Photo : Didier Bracard — [Lien Source](#)

Great Crested Grebe | Podiceps Cristatus

Size : 61 cm
Wingspan : 85 to 90 cm
Weight : 750 to 1200 g
Lifespan : 10 years old

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)
Song: [Lien](#)

It is a rather shy bird. This excellent swimmer and diver can sink 20 m (usually 4-6 m) for up to 3 minutes. It is also capable of traveling several tens of meters underwater.

It flies rather low, quickly activating the wings, neck and legs extended. The legs serve as a rudder, both in the air and in the water. It is very noisy. In parade, it emits a loud, trumpeting and snoring croaking, slowly repeated. The young people make insistent little cries.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■

A jackpot of fun feathers !



Photo : Unknown — [Lien Source](#)



Photo : Unknown — [Lien Source](#)

With the warm and sunny days ahead...

Common Swift	56
Barn Swallow	57
Common House Martin	58

Mainly near the Seine :

→ Sterne Pierregarin	59
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They will be migrating directly from Africa in the Spring season. The first swallow of the year and the first Swift's screams are always a big moment.



Common Swift | Apus Apus

Size : 17 cm
Wingspan : 42 to 48 cm
Weight : 38 to 45 g
Lifespan : 21 years old

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)
Song: [Lien](#)

In cruising flight, their speed is 50 to 60 km / rh, but during rampant chases, frequent in this species, we even talked about speeds approaching 200 km / h over a short period of time. Conversely, the swift is capable of very effective brutal braking, for example when it arrives at the nest at high speed. One has the impression that it will smash against the facade, but at the last moment it performs a resource while braking with all its feathers.

These birds are physiologically and energetically cut to remain in flight without landing for very long periods, several months for example. Thus, an adult black swift can theoretically remain in permanent flight from August of one year to April of the following year, that is to say from one breeding period to another, which is simply phenomenal. The necessary rest would be taken during flights planned at altitude at night.

Another extraordinary ability of this bird, its ability to "sleep" in flight without having to land. You can easily observe for yourself the beginning of the phenomenon on the evening of beautiful summer days. We see the noisy bands of swifts gradually rise in the sky at dusk until they lose sight of them and their ears. Studies, thanks to radar among other things, have shown that these birds remain at high altitude, up to 2000 m, all night and descend again in the morning. It is thought that they must "sleep" while hovering in the ascending drafts.

On the breeding grounds, in case of prolonged bad weather, they are able to enter lethargy in the nest for several days while fasting. Their temperature drops and they live in energy saving until the return of favorable conditions. It is the only group of birds to practice this form of "hibernation".



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



Top Photo : Franck Renard — [Lien Source](#)
Middle Photo : Unknown — [Lien Source](#)
Bottom Photo : Unknown — [Lien Source](#)

Barn Swallow | Hirundo Rustica

Size : 18 cm
Wingspan : 32 to 34 cm
Weight : 16 to 25 g
Lifespan : 16 years old

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)
Song: [Lien](#)

With its streamlined body, its sickle wings, its forked tail and its wide distribution, the Barn Swallow can be taken as a model of the Hirundinidae family.

The majority of Barn Swallows are migratory and will spend the winter in tropical or equatorial environments. The return of birds from Western Europe takes place in mid-March and continues in April.

The male generally arrives first and its song signals its return. The nesting territory is reoccupied without delay. At the end of the season, the post-nuptial gatherings on the wires, very visible in the villages, are a prelude to the departure for migration which takes place in September and continues at the beginning of October.

The nest is built by the couple with mud which it collects at the water's edge. The birds make dumplings out of them, which they deposit little by little, thus giving the nest a typical grainy appearance. They include dry twigs which will ensure its solidity and cohesion. It is a permanent nest that can be reused for several years. More than 1,100 trips may be necessary to build it. Anecdotally, there have been reports of swallows taking hairs from the back of a cat to garnish their nest. When the weather is favorable, eight days are enough to complete the work.

Adults are always looking to reinforce an existing nest rather than building a new one, resulting in competition at the start of the season to recover the best nests.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



Top Photo : Jean Paul Leau — [Lien Source](#)
Middle Photo : #weevil — [Lien Source](#)
Bottom Photo : Unknown — [Lien Source](#)

Common House Martin | *Delichon Urbicum*

Size : 14 cm
Wingspan : 26 to 29 cm
Weight : 15 to 21 g
Lifespan : 15 years old

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)
Song: [Lien](#)

The window swallow is a gregarious and sociable species, nesting in colonies often with numerous birds. Sociability can be judged by the proximity of nests which are often contiguous in a colony and can even overlap, and also by the grouping of individuals in nests for the night. It was noted that more than a dozen adult-sized swallows, (up to 13), could group together at night in a single nest.

It is far more adapted to the aerial environment than the ground or the Rustic House Martin. It hunts what is called aerial plankton, that is to say the small flying *entomofauna* insects which occupy the air space up to heights of more than 50 meters. This is the reason why we most often see it moving high in the sky, which allows it to hunt and traverse across the city, forests, lakes or countryside.

It does not have the constraint of the Rustic which prefers to hunt in open environments for the larger insects – closer to the ground. From this point of view, it is more closely related to the Black Swift in the environment it shares and thrives within.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



Top Photo : R. Dumoulin — [Lien Source](#)
Middle Photo : Julien Daubignard — [Lien Source](#)
Bottom Photo : Unknown — [Lien Source](#)

Sterne Pierregarin

 |

Sterna Hirundo

Size : 39 cm

Wingspan : 72 to 83 cm

Weight : 90 to 150 g

Lifespan : 25 years old

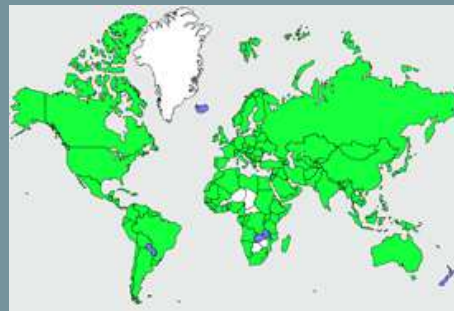
Detailed Description: [Lien](#)

Song: [Lien](#)

The Sterns, sometimes called sea swallows, are birds with long wings and graceful flight. Their head is covered with a black cap while the rest of their plumage is white and ashy, like seagulls.

The Common Tern is a noisy bird with a flexible and elegant flight. She is a summer visitor (April to September).

It feeds on small fish which it catches by diving into the water in spectacular fashion.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■

Mainly near the Seine !



Photo : Marc Fasol — [Lien Source](#)

SUPER beautiful rarities!

If you see one of these,
you really have to get
really excited, take lots of
pictures, and call me
RIGHT AWAY!

→ Wallcreeper	62
<i>Seen in 2004 on the walls of the pantheon - ornithologists still dream of it!</i>	
→ Eurasian Whryneck	63
<i>Seen at the Grand Moulins gardens</i>	
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<i>Seen at the Grand Moulins gardens</i>	



Wallcreeper

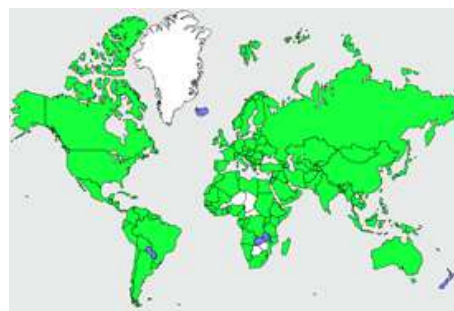
Tichodroma Muraria

Size : 17 cm
Wingspan : — cm
Weight : 15 to 20 g
Lifespan : - ans

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)
Song: [Lien](#)

The only species representative of its family, the scale tichodrome or wall tichodrome (lat. : tichos: walls) is a small mountain bird with broad rounded wings with large carmine-red spots and large white dots.

Its undulating and fairly capricious flight like butterflies. Its long beak allows it to extract crevices of all kinds of insects, spiders and other invertebrates.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



Photo : Unknown — [Lien.Source](#)

Wallcreeper

Tichodroma Muraria



Photo en haut à gauche : Unknown — [Lien Source](#)

Photo en haut à droite : Unknown — [Lien Source](#)

Bas Photo : Unknown — [Lien Source](#)

Eurasian Wryneck | *Jynx Torquilla*

Size : 17 cm
Wingspan : 25 à 27 cm
Weight : 30 to 45 g
Lifespan : 10 ans

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)
Song: [Lien](#)

Torcol owes its name to the curious way it twists its neck and turns its head in all directions. The anteater torcol feeds mainly on ants. Its beak hides a pinkish tongue several centimeters long, which remains curled when it is not feeding. This language is sticky. It pushes it into the sandy soil and thus collects ants, his favorite dish.

If the torcol is threatened or disturbed, it twists and its neck stretches and twists to the extreme, spiky crest, giving the bird an astonished air. In addition, it associates with these postures whistles similar to those of snakes, discouraging possible predators.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■



Photo : René Dumoulin — [Lien Source](#)

Bluethroat

Luscinia Svecica

Size : 15 cm
Wingspan : 23 cm
Weight : 15 to 23 g
Lifespan : 8 years old

Detailed Description: [Lien](#)
Song: [Lien](#)

The Bluethroat feeds on low vegetation to catch insects. When it is on the ground, it turns over the leaves and the ground to expose the small invertebrates hiding there. It also catches flying insects.

During courtship display, the male often sings while performing display flights. It deploys its tail like a fan to highlight its red feathers. During the laying, the male remains less than a meter from her, and follows her if she leaves the nest. Mating takes place under the cover of vegetation.



Present / Nested ■ Re-established ■
Established ■ Rare / Occasional ■

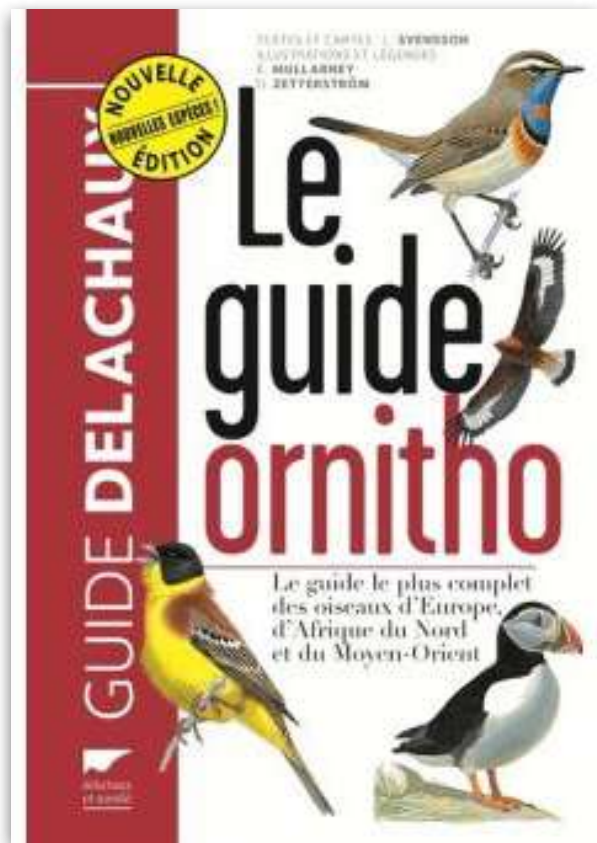


Photo : Unknown — [Lien Source](#)



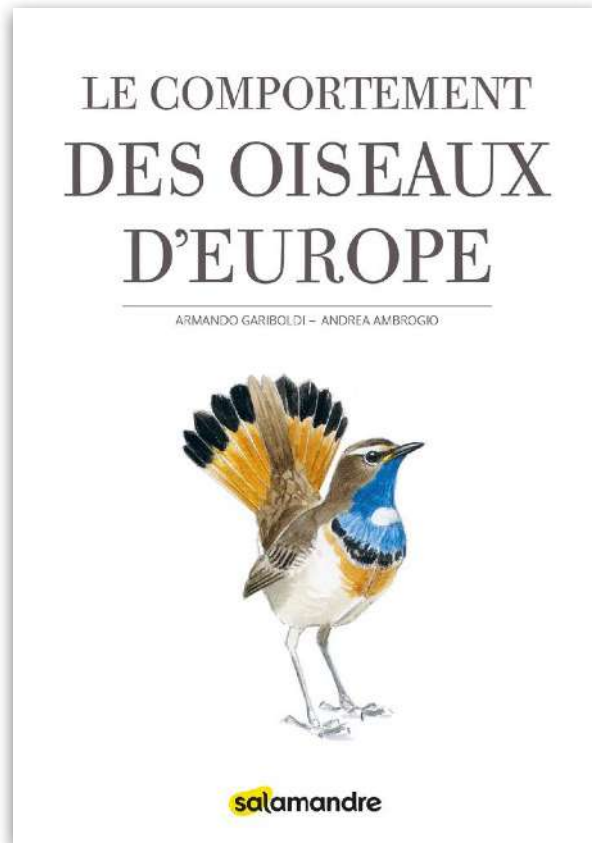
Photo : Tormod A. — [Lien Source](#)

Reference books and further reading:



Reference guide to identify European birds:

- [iPhone app](#)
- [Android App](#)



Bird's behaviors drawn:

- [Salamander Editions](#)

The text content of this guide comes from:

<https://www.oiseaux.net/>

To identify bird's songs, you can also explore:

<https://www.xeno-canto.org/>

To see birds in the city...

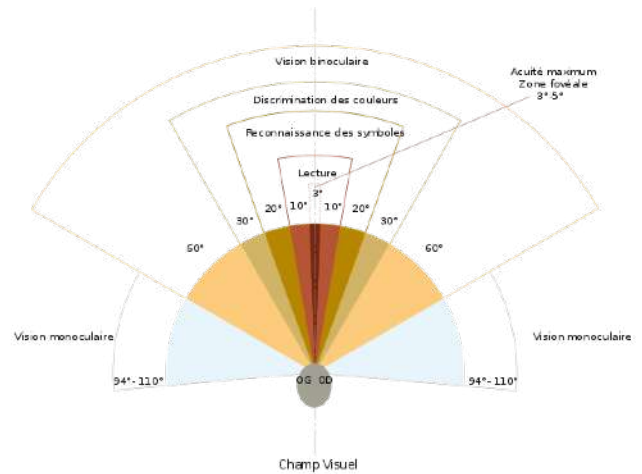
Most of the time, the identification of a bird is based on immediate and intuitive observations that pop in the field of vision in a split second. Identifying a bird is all about interpreting quickly and gathers fragments of partial information.

The American ornithologist David Sibley, writer of the main North-American reference guides, describes perfectly that tricky process: *"We base ourselves on a sort of subjective impression - the way a bird moves, how it turns its head, how it flies, all of this seen from different angles and sequences. [...] All of this is combined to create the unique impression of a bird. [...] It's natural and instinctive. After a lot of practice, you watch the bird and it triggers small changes in your brain. It looks like it... You know what it is at a glance."**

*Gladwell, M. (2006). *Blink: The power of thinking without thinking*. Paperback edition.



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The glance system...

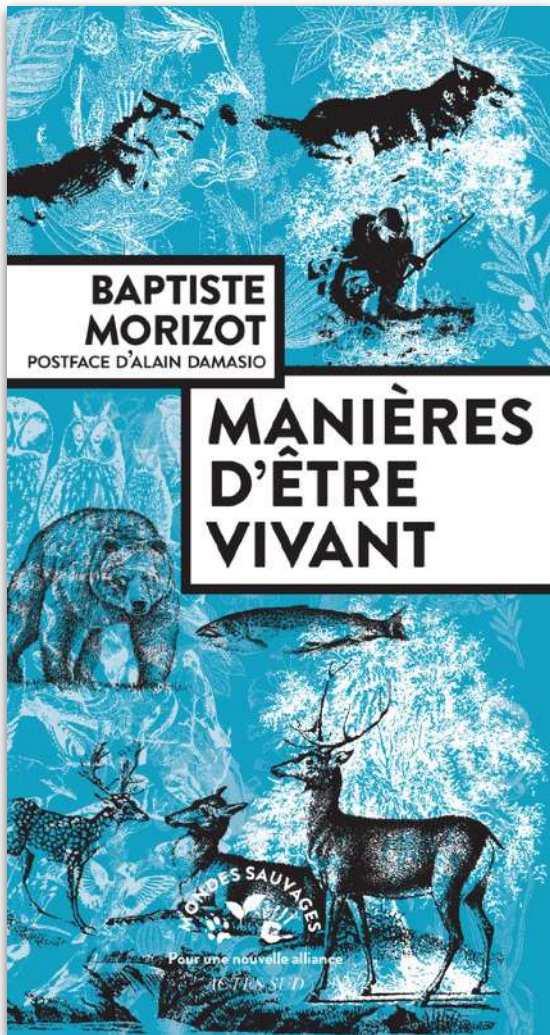
The ocular system can be divided in two different ways of seeing: the foveal vision in which the eye stops on a fixation point (on 200 to 400 ms) to get high resolution details, and the peripheral vision that gives global impressions from the whole field of vision.

The peripheral vision processes up to 100 images by second (instead 3 to 4 for the foveal vision). It therefore allows an ultra fast perception of motions, and gives very quickly a general impression of a visual situation, and allows the foveal vision a slower and more detailed analysis.

The peripheral vision covers more than 99% of the field of vision and uses 50% of the optic nerve and visual cortex.

To observe birds is about opening one's sensibility and sight availability to other forms of life.

To rethink our relationship with living beings:

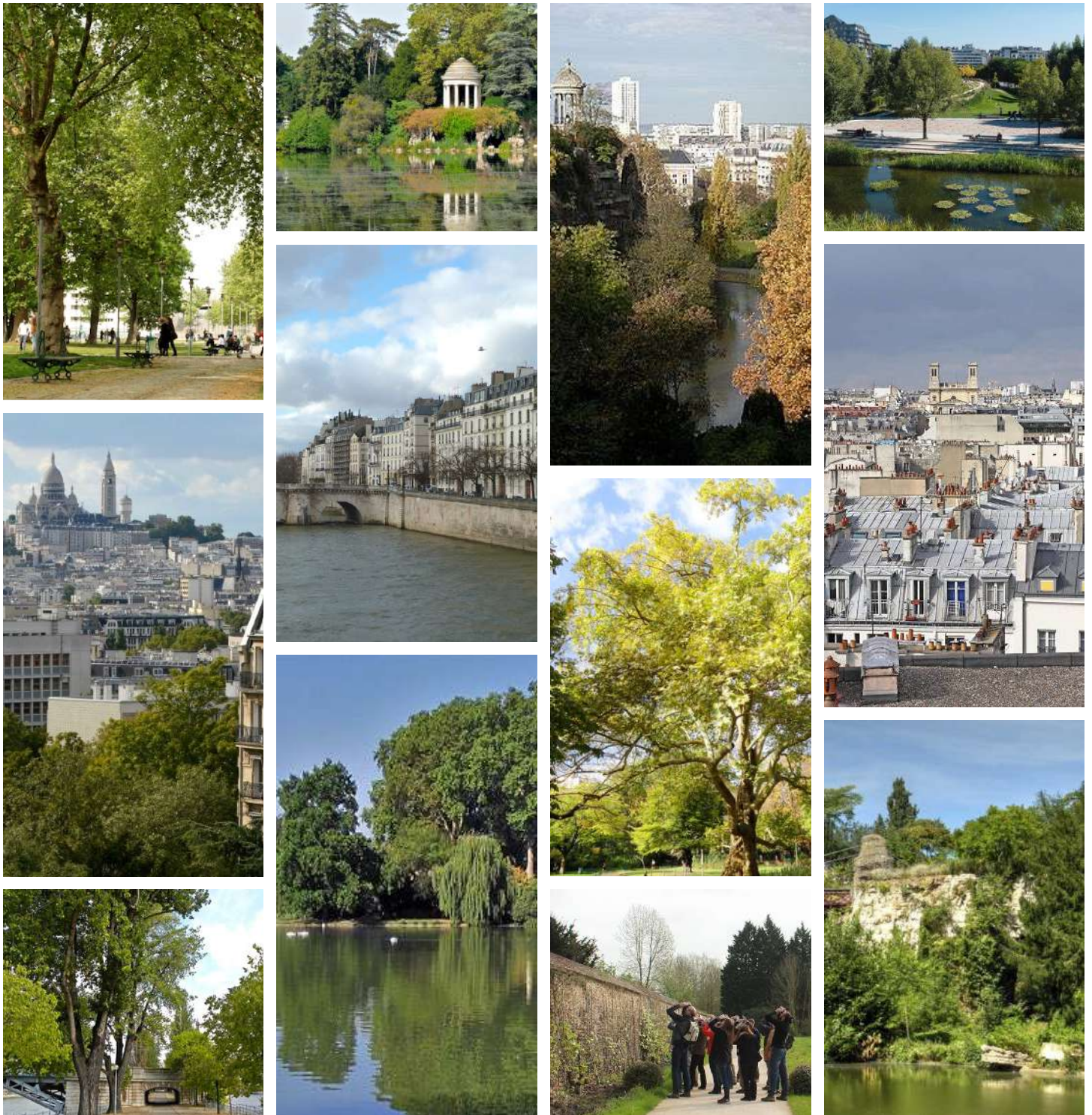


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Think about this fable: a species seceded. She declares that the ten million other species of the Earth, its relatives, are part of "nature". Namely: not beings but things, not actors but the decor, some resources close to hand. One species on one side, ten millions on the other, and yet one family, one world. This fiction is our heritage. Its violence has contributed to ecological upheavals. This is why we have a cultural battle to give considering the importance to restore to the living. This book intends to build on it. By going to track the animals on the ground, and the ideas that we have of them in the forest of knowledge. Can we learn to feel alive, to love ourselves as alive? How to imagine a policy of interdependencies, which combines cohabitation with otherness, with the fight against what destroys the web of the living? It's about getting to know each other: thinking of the people of Earth, including humans, like ten million ways of being alive.

— Ways to be alive

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Cohabitate and reinvent our relationships with others living creatures.

I thank my two co-confined Fiona McGown and Agathe Peyrat for their love of writing pieces, and my friend Maxime Zucca for his ornithologist precisions.

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