

# Programme

This trip coincides with the main migration season in southern Sweden and will be based in two major birding sites: on the Falsterbo peninsula, one of Europe's main hotspots for migrating passerines, birds of prey and waders and on Öland, a 3.5 hour drive in comfortable vehicles from Falsterbo and a famous birdwatching site. We will also visit some cultural sites on both trips, and bird the interior of Skåne (Scania), the southernmost province of Sweden. Ringing demonstrations will be held at Ottenby and either at Falsterbo or a private site nearby. We may be accompanied by one or two local experts over dinner one night. Don't forget your camera!

The trip is arranged by AviFauna Naturresor – [www.avifauna.se](http://www.avifauna.se), with 40 years experience of arranging birding trips worldwide. AviFauna is the largest bird tour operator in Scandinavia and runs c. 50 trips a year. AviFauna is a member of the professional travel agencies' organisation, SRF, and comply with EU regulations for arranging package trips.

## General outline of the trip

This trip is in a relaxed pace and will focus on bird migration. The exact schedule of the days will be decided by weather and recent bird reports to maximise the experiences. There may be some early mornings. Transports are usually within an hour's duration, except for the drive to and from Öland when a car ride of 3.5 hours, interspersed with one or two birding breaks, will take place. On one day we may venture further away from Falsterbo and may have a transport of up to 90 minutes. Vehicles used will be spacious minivans, with room for a reasonable amount of luggage and a maximum of 7 participants in each. The vehicles are driven by the tour leader and, if more than 7 people join the trip, an assisting tour leader.

**Food.** Full board from dinner on the arrival day to lunch the final day. Dinner is always a three course meal with non-alcoholic beverage (alcohol available at own expense). Breakfasts are usually served in restaurants but may be packed for the field on single days. Lunches are usually as lunchboxes. We can cater to most diets.

**Accommodation.** *The following hotels are planned, but may be changed to at least the same standard in rare cases.*

- Falsterbo: *Höllviksnäs möten och mat* – [hollviksnas.nu](http://hollviksnas.nu). A 15 minute drive from the migration point and with plenty of migrant birds passing over it.
- Öland: *Gammalsbygårdens Gästgiveri* – [gammalsbygarden.se](http://gammalsbygarden.se). A 20 minute drive to Ottenby, situated in a small village on the edge of the IUCN World Heritage Site of Alvaret. The Baltic Sea is a short walk away.

All rooms are with ensuite bathrooms.

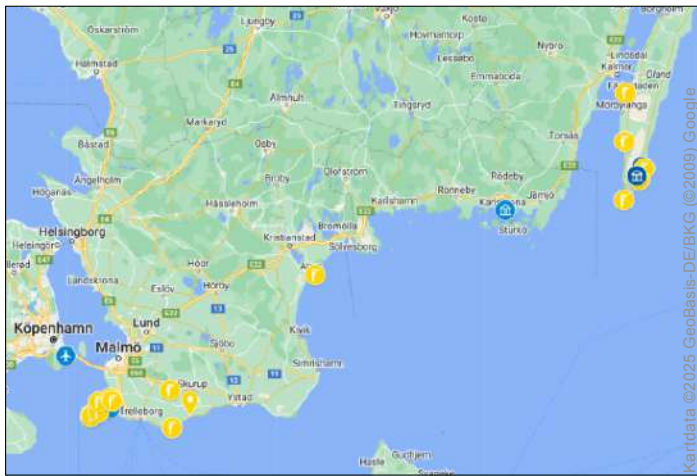
**Weather.** The weather at this time of the year is usually nice, but preparedness for rain is advised. Temperatures may be between 10 and 20 °C, with chillier early mornings and nights. There is often a wind, not necessarily strong. Expect also sunshine and bring sunblock.

## Highlights – birds

Black-throated and Red-throated Divers, ducks and waders on migration, migrating raptors such as Honey Buzzard, Black Kite, Pallid Harrier, perhaps Spotted or Lesser Spotted Eagle, resident White-tailed Eagles, strong migration of Yellow Wagtails, Tree Pipits, Chaffinches and Bramblings, pipits and resting tropical migrants with a good chance of Red-breasted Flycatcher. It is also a good time for rarities from Siberia if the weather has been favourable. A full species list will be provided before the trip which can be used in the daily log calls. The tour leader will be equipped with both local and national bird alerts.

## Highlights – other things

On Öland we will be given a guided tour of the fantastic site of Eketorps borg, an ancient fort. You will travel on the bridge between Denmark and Sweden, of International TV series fame. In Scania we will also visit one of Sweden's major ringing sites and see bird ringing/banding in action and we will visit both the Falsterbo and Ottenby bird observatories. On our trip to Öland we will stop for lunch at the Naval Museum of Karlskrona and be given a guided tour.



**Clothing.** Waterproof and windproof, light, clothing is recommended to bring along, also a warm sweater or two. Sturdy walking boots and/or -shoes are also recommended. Weather can be quite summer-like and warm at this time of the year, but one never knows beforehand.

**Our communication.** We will contact you once the trip has reached the minimum number of participants and then you may make your travel arrangements. More detailed information, list of group member's names and what to bring will also be sent out then. Before that we will require you to fill in a registration form including contact details to next of kin, travel insurance number and consent issues regarding appearing in photographs and sharing names among your co-participants.

### Included in the price:

- Full-board from dinner arrival day to lunch final day. Three-course dinners. Alcoholic beverages not included.
- Bed in double room, unless single room is booked.
- All transports from and to Copenhagen airport, including road tolls.
- Tips to restaurants, hotels and guides.
- Tour leader from AviFauna. If more than 7 participants also one assisting tour leader/driver. Tour leaders also have telescopes with them.
- Vehicle drivers.
- Species list before the trip for preparations.
- Trip report with short diary and species list after the trip.
- Entrance fees for visits specified in the programme.

### Not included in the price:

- Trip from your home to Copenhagen airport and back.
- Hotel nights that may be required due to unfavourable connections.
- Items of a personal nature, such as laundry and porters etc
- Compensation for food expenses if participant chooses not to take part in the group's activities.
- Expenses due to late arrival to the trip.
- Insurance and protection for trip cancellation.
- Visa fees, if required.

### Meeting point for the trip:

Copenhagen Airport where you will be picked up and left after the trip. It is possible to be dropped off for the return at Kalmar and pickup/drop-off in Malmö is also possible.



"Långe Jan" lighthouse at Ottenby, Öland



## Day-to-day programme

*Note that we may switch the programme on some days as we wish to optimize the bird-watching in relation to weather.*

**20 September.** Pickup at Copenhagen airport early afternoon, earlier if flight arrival times admit. We drive over the bridge, renowned from the TV Series "The Bridge", to Sweden and our accommodation c. 45 minutes away. Evening birding nearby.

**21 September.** Birding in and around Falsterbo all day. Illustrated talk in the evening focussing on the migration over southern Sweden.



*Migrating Honey Buzzard at Falsterbo*

**22 September.** Morning visit to a ringing station c. 45 minutes away from our accommodation. Morning and midday in the lake district, for raptors. Evening at Foteviken.

**23 September.** We explore the Falsterbo peninsula all day, sites according to weather and birds.



*Yellow-browed Warbler at ringing station*

**24 September.** Morning birding depending on what more we would like to see and then drive to Öland (3.5 hours) with stops on the way. Lunch in Karlskrona. Evening birding on Öland.



*Brent Geese over the Baltic Sea*

**25 September.** Ottenby Bird Observatory in the morning, birding depending on weather and birds but mainly around this area. We will scan along the coast, which can be impressive if seabird migration is on, or spend time in the large, isolated forest north of the point which harbour many resting migrants. A guided tour of the bird observatory is also planned.



*Pallid Harrier*

**26 September.** Birding at various sites on Öland, Visit to the archeological site of Eketorp after some morning birding – rest of day birding at the many sites in the southern half of Öland depending on bird reports and weather.

**27 September.** Depart Öland after breakfast, arrival at Copenhagen Airport c 3 pm.

## Booking conditions

**Please read these carefully before booking! We follow the Directive (EU 2015/2302) of the European Parliament.**

We apply general terms and conditions for package tours as agreed between the Swedish Consumer Agency and the Swedish Travel and Tourism Industry Cooperation Organisation (SRF). We also follow the Package Travel Act and the Travel Guarantee Act. In the unlikely case of disputes that cannot be resolved with the customer, we follow the decision of the General Complaints Board (ARN). The following conditions are to be regarded as a clarification of the general conditions and the special conditions applied by AviFauna Naturreisor.

**Registration.** A registration for a trip is binding only when the registration fee is paid. The exception is when registering later than 61 days before departure when a written registration is considered binding immediately.

**Single room.** The single room price is shown on the booking page for the trip. If we have an uneven number of travellers and you are placed in a single room even though you have not booked a single room (so-called involuntary single room), you pay half the single room cost.

**Prices.** AviFauna reserves the right to increase the basic price of a trip by a maximum of 8% in compliance with EU law (caused by rises in taxes, fuel costs and currency rates only). Should the basic price be increased by more than this, we will contact the participants and refunds are possible.

**Connecting trip.** The location and time indicated in the travel description on the website is always preliminary. A connecting trip to the destination may not be booked before the AviFauna office has given the go-ahead for the trip and communicated the exact time and place of connection. Normally this letter is sent a few months before departure. In some cases, it may be necessary to start the connection the day before the start of the trip. If a connecting ticket is booked before the notification from AviFauna, the traveler is responsible for any additional costs, as well as in cases where the connection requires expenses for extra hotel nights and the like.

Final payment of the trip itself must be received by AviFauna no later than 60 days before the start of the trip.

**Cancellation.** The traveller has the right to cancel the trip as follows. If the cancellation is made earlier than 60 days before departure against payment of a cost corresponding to the registration fee. If the cancellation is made thereafter but earlier than 30 days before departure, against payment of a fee equivalent to 50% of the price of the trip. If the cancellation is made thereafter, against payment of a charge equivalent to 100% of the price of the trip. Special cancellation rules may apply to individual trips. If so, this is stated clearly in connection with the program text.

**Cancellation protection.** AviFauna does not provide cancellation protection. You are strongly advised to see to that yourself.

**Cancelled trip.** If the number of fully paying participants is lower than that stated for the respective trip, it may be cancelled. This will be announced as early as possible. All funds paid will be refunded in that case or if AviFauna has to cancel for any other reason.

**Travel insurance.** Please note that you yourself are obliged to have travel insurance, it is not included in the price of the trip. If you have a diagnosed illness, this may mean restrictions on what your travel insurance covers. As an alternative to taking out travel insurance via your home insurance, you can also buy separate travel insurance, search online for companies that offer it. Proof of insurance must be presented and you must enter the insurance number in the registration form.

**Complaints.** In the rare occasion of complaints, they must be made in writing and be available to AviFauna within one month of the end of the trip. If an irregularity occurs, it must be reported to the tour leader on site as soon as possible, who then initiates AviFauna's process for complaints and will try to solve it immediately. If it cannot be resolved you will be contacted by the office upon your return home. If we cannot agree, we encourage you to report us to the General Complaints Board (ARN), whose recommendations we are obliged to follow.

**Passport.** On trips where a passport is required as an identification document, it is the responsibility of the traveler to ensure that the passport is valid for the country's specified number of months after returning home from the trip.

Regarding **vaccinations**, it is the customer's responsibility to ensure that those required for entry are met.

**The program of the trip.** What is described in the travel information and the program is a preliminary arrangement. Changes to it may occur depending on weather, local occurrences of animals or other factors that the tour leader on the trip deems important to get the maximum benefit from the trip. For example, it can also entail exchanging a restaurant lunch for a picnic lunch or changing specific hotels.

**Tour guide.** In rare cases, a tour guide may be replaced by an equivalent tour guide. Such an exchange does not constitute a ground for a refund.

**Seats in vehicles.** We cannot guarantee special seats in vehicles, instead we try to rotate the seats among the participants, especially when we are watching wildlife from our vehicles. If you are prone to motion sickness, you should bring antidote and not expect to be able to reserve a certain seat.

**Wild animals.** The species listed in the program should be seen as an indication of what can be seen on the trip and not a guarantee of what is seen. If you want to assess the likelihood of a particular species, we welcome you to contact our office for more information.

**Group size.** Group size is specified on each trip. It can happen that we carry out a trip with fewer participants than the specified minimum number, but never with more than stated.