

Birdstrike risk forecast for the beginning till mid-October 2026

Due to increased bird migration of many species towards the south and south-west, an increased birdstrike risk must be expected at German airports and in the vicinity. Migratory birds occur both during the day and at night, while the highest activity often takes place around dusk and dawn. Most species generally use heights below 8,000 ft, though geese and cranes in particular might occur up to cruise height. Most long-distance migrants have already left Germany, however, short- and middle-distance migrants still occur very frequently and often in large flocks. These are currently thrushes (see below), but also starlings, cranes, grey plovers, Nordic ducks, black redstarts and Eurasian skylarks (see below). Many of these species appear throughout Germany and migrate south / south-west on a large scale. Grey plovers and Nordic ducks particularly move along the coasts, whilst cranes are found in the north and east of Germany.

Migrating species sometimes use the grassland areas of the airports for resting and feeding, so that large flocks must always be expected. In addition, local commuting flights between resting, roosting and foraging areas also pose a risk, although, heights below 600 ft are generally used, meaning that especially the airports maneuvering areas might be in particular affected by strikes.

For your flight preparation please also use the birdtam chart provided under the following links <https://www.davvl.de/unsere-leistungen/birdtam> or https://www.flysafes-birdtam.eu/composite_track.html.



Fieldfare (*Turdus pilaris*), above left; Mistle Thrush (*Turdus viscivorus*) above middle; Song Thrush (*Turdus philomelos*), above right; Redwing (*Turdus iliacus*), below left; Eurasian Skylark (*Alauda arvensis*), below right.