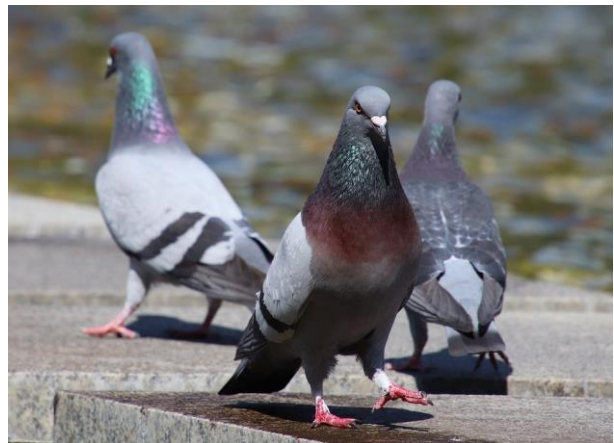


Birdstrike risk forecast for mid-April till mid-May 2024

In the coming weeks migrating bird species must still be expected at German airports and resident breeding birds on the airports manoeuvring areas additionally increase the birdstrike risk. These currently include especially Eurasian skylarks, crows, Northern lapwings and pigeons as well as small passerines. The numbers of swallows are quickly increasing as well which have a high aerial presence, occur in flocks but hardly cause damages at aircrafts due to their low weight. The first common swifts also arrive at the end of April, when the numbers of Eurasian hobbies and European honey buzzard will clearly increase, too.

In May the first mowing usually takes place on the airports transmitter areas which by experience attracts species such as common buzzard, common kestrel, white stork or grey heron, which collect injured prey or find good hunting conditions on the short-mown areas. Pigeons also use the green areas for foraging and resting and gathering. Generally, they have already started breeding, while common wood pigeons (see below) are building and tree breeders, stock doves (see below) use woods and feral pigeons (see below) occupy halls and hangars. In the meantime, the activity of most bird species is limited to daytime hours, only long-distance migrants occur at night. Though, heights of 6,000 ft are generally not exceeded, only some raptors might occur in larger heights with favourable wind conditions.

For your flight preparation please also use the birdtam chat provided under the following link <https://www.notams.faa.gov/common/birdtam.html>



Common Wood Pigeon (*Columba palumbus*, note: Young birds without white neck spot), above left; Feral Pigeon (*Columba livia domestica*), above right; Stock Dove (*Columba oenas*), below.