

## Birdstrike risk forecast for mid- till the end of May 2022

The bird migration has only a very small impact on the birdstrike rate at German airports as just a few relevant species like Eurasian hobby or European honey buzzard (see below) are still passing here. Waders are still migrating as well, but this only affects the coastal regions, while overwintering guests such as Nordic geese, swans or thrushes have completely left. The abundances of common house martins, corn buntings and common swifts are clearly increased in contrast. Swallows and swifts cause many collisions but due to their low weight just hardly any damages. These species can be found in larger heights with high air pressure but generally the occurrence of the avifauna is limited to heights of 2.000 ft now. With the exception of large breeding colonies, the reported bird flocks are usually rather small, and the home range is limited due to breeding behaviour. But wandering non-breeders of greylag geese, cranes and white storks must be expected in the areas of plain tracts and wetlands, especially in the north and east of Germany.

Sightings of species like greylag goose, rook, black redstart or cormorant are rather low by now due to breeding but especially first fledgelings of rooks will soon pose a risk at the airports. These are the breeding birds which often occur at airports or respectively in the direct environment: crows, common buzzards (see below), common kestrels (see below), common wood pigeons and pigeons, grey herons, Northern lapwings as well as swallows and Eurasian skylarks. Their occurrence must be expected at the airports manoeuvring areas at any time and regular flights across the airport or the arrival corridors can take place.

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



European Honey Buzzard (*Pernis apivorus*), above left; Common Buzzard (*Buteo buteo*), above right; Eurasian Hobby (*Falco subbuteo*), below left; Common Kestrel (*Falco tinnunculus*), below right.