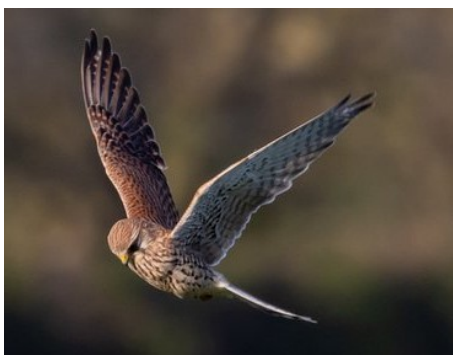


Birdstrike risk forecast for the end of September till mid October 2020

The long distance migration will soon be finished but there will be middle distance migrants over Germany till mid-October, depending on the weather. Generally the birdstrike rate at German airports is currently increasing for this reason. Swallows, black kites, European honey buzzards and white storks mostly already left Germany whereat the first Nordic geese have been seen here. The numbers of cranes occurring especially in the North and East of Germany are still rather low but flock sizes already reach thousands of individuals. Also resting or migrating abundances of starlings (see below) in flocks of up to 100.000 individuals are reported more often and at the coast there is a strong passage of waders, currently especially dunlins and grey plovers. Also Eurasian skylarks (see below) are currently migrating in south-western direction and often use the airport grounds for rest.

The migration takes place during day as well as during night and especially in the hours around dawn and dusk an increased occurrence has to be expected. Generally heights up to 10.000 ft are used but some birds can be registered in higher levels. At the airports bigger abundances of crows, starlings and gulls have to be expected and furthermore common buzzards and common kestrels (see below) regularly occur for foraging and resting there as well. Especially the shortly mown areas close to the runways and taxiways represent attractive foraging habitats.

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



Eurasian Skylark (*Alauda arvensis*), above left;
Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*), above middle;
Common Buzzard (*Buteo buteo*) above right;
Common Kestrel (*Falco tinnunculus*) below