

Autumn migration at Falsterbo

Falsterbo is located at the end of a narrow peninsula in south-west Sweden. Due to its unique geographical location migrant birds are literally funnelled down to the point when they have to decide to migrate across the Baltic Sea or stay until conditions are right. The birding week and itinerary is dependent on the weather situation. We mainly stay on the peninsula when the conditions are good for migration. On some days we explore the wonderful Baltic Sea coastline and several lakes and wetlands in the province of Skane.

Day 1: Clients should arrive at Copenhagen international airport on the morning of September 29th. From Copenhagen we drive across the bridge connecting Denmark and Sweden and turn south to Falsterbo, our base for the week.

Days 2-7: Falsterbo is a charming village, surrounded by wetlands, meadows and small woodlands. On the north-west side of the peninsula extends a tiny strip of land, covered with sedge and salt marsh vegetation. The migration is at the most intense from late September to the middle of October. Barnacle Goose, Brambling, Common Chaffinch, Woodpigeon, Blue Tit and Starling are the most numerous species. Eurasian Siskin, European Linnnet, Meadow Pipit, Common Eider and Eurasian Wigeon are just some of the many other species that migrate in large numbers.

The raptor migration is perhaps the most famous attraction. Here you can see most of the North European species during a

Dates

**Saturday September 29th -
Saturday October 6th 2018**

Leader: Anders Mæland

Group size: 7

Birds: 110-130

single day. Common Buzzard and Eurasian Sparrowhawk are the most numerous and in September and October the daily numbers can reach several thousands. Other common raptors at this time are Red Kite, Hen Harrier, Merlin and Eurasian Kestrel. Rarer species which occur on a regular basis include Pallid Harrier, Black Kite, Peregrine Falcon, White-tailed Eagle and Golden Eagle.

On the west side a sandy beach stretches all the way south to Nabben. East and North is an area of mudflats uncovered during low tide which attracts thousands of Dunlin and other waders. During our stay we see less common species – Little



**Broad-billed
Sandpiper**
Photo: Anders
Mæland



Black Woodpecker Photo: *Pandion Wildlife Tours*

Ringed Plover, Broad-billed Sandpiper, Curlew Sandpiper and Pied Avocet. This is also a good area for resting terns, gulls, waterfowl and pipits.

A short drive inland takes you through the countryside to beech forests, meadows and lakes. The bird fauna here is quite different from that on the Falsterbo peninsula. Some of the species you can find are Great Crested Grebe, Black and Green Woodpeckers, Bearded Reedling, Marsh Tit, Hawfinch and Common Kingfisher. Large flocks of geese rest and feed and may include Tundra and Taiga Bean Geese and increasing numbers of Greylag Geese. Another feature of the area are migrant Common Cranes which can occur in huge numbers, feeding in the meadow and fields.

The nutritious lakes Krankesjon and Vombsjøen are attractive for waterfowl and other freshwater species including Whooper Swan, European White-fronted Goose and in some autumns the rare Lesser White-fronted Goose. Many birds of prey linger in Southern Scania, waiting for ideal migration weather. With some luck

rare species like Red-footed Falcon, Lesser and Greater Spotted Eagles can be observed from strategic watching points.

Day 8: A final morning birding around Falsterbo before returning to Copenhagen for flights back to Britain.

Prices

Ground Price: £1,995
 Single room: £200
 Deposit: £200
 *Air Fare: £150

This holiday is fully inclusive of accommodation and meals, transport, permit fees, guidance, tips and taxes.

Not included: drinks, insurance, items of a personal nature. Night in Oslo and meals on the 6th

**Please refer to our terms and conditions relating to flights*