

138 Peregrine Falcon

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Peregrine Falcon. Adult (06-X).

PEREGRINE FALCON (*Falco peregrinus*)

IDENTIFICATION

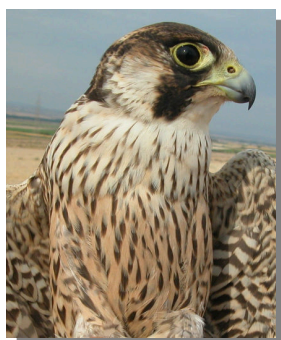
Male: 38-45 cm; **female:** 46-51 cm. **Adult** with grey upperparts; pale underparts with fine streaking; dark head with broad moustache; dark grey tail, with dark bands; long and pointed wings; dark eyes; base of bill and legs yellow. **Juvenile** with rufous and streaked under-



Peregrine Falcon. Adult: pattern of head and breast.



Peregrine Falcon. Juvenile: pattern of head and breast.



SIMILAR SPECIES

Hobby has a moustache too, but this species is smaller (35 mm) and has red "trousers".



Hobby

SEXING

In **adult** birds, **males** are usually paler than **females**, but it is not an useful characteristic on its own. All ages can be sexed by size; **male** with wing shorter than 300 mm; **female** with wing longer than 320 mm.

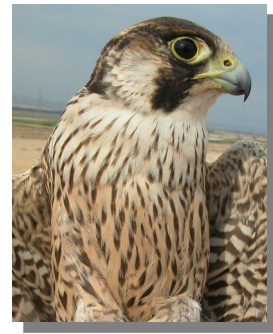
AGEING

3 age groups can be recognized:

Juvenile with feathers of wing and upperparts brown with a narrow rufous edge (missed early by wear); buff-white underparts with dark brown streaks; tail feathers with broad pale tips and rufous bars; grey bluish cere and ocular ring.

2nd year autumn/3rd year spring only if retained some **juvenile** brown feathers on upperparts and/or wing coverts admixed with grey **adult** feathers.

Adult with bluish-grey upperparts; underparts with dark bars; tail feathers with narrow pale tips and well defined dark barred; yellow cere and ocular ring.



Peregrine Falcon. Ageing. Pattern of breast: left adult; right juvenile.

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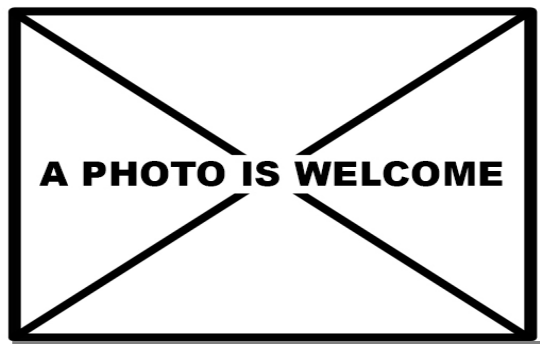
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Peregrine Falcon. Ageing. Pattern of upperparts: left adult; right juvenile.



Peregrine Falcon. Ageing. Pattern of tail feathers: left adult; right juvenile.



Peregrine Falcon. 2nd year ().



Peregrine Falcon. Juvenile (24-IX).

MOULT

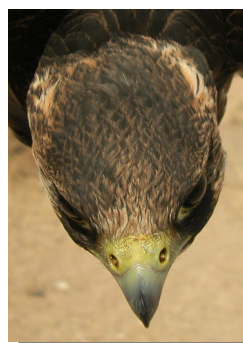
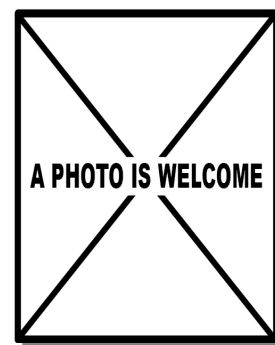
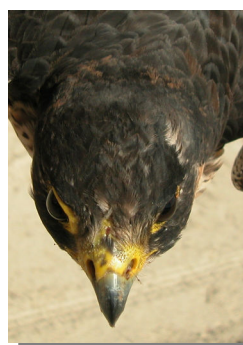
Complete **postbreeding** moult, usually finished in November. Complete **postjuvenile** moult starting from late winter in their 2nd year and usually completed in November; sometimes some **juvenile** wing coverts are retained.

PHENOLOGY

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII

STATUS IN ARAGON

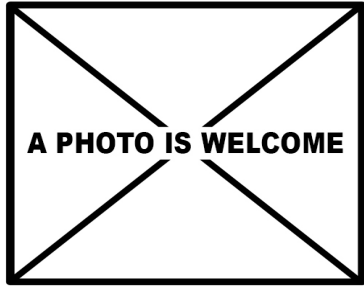
Resident, with a little contribution of wintering European birds. Breeds widely distributed through all the Region related with mountains and cliffs.



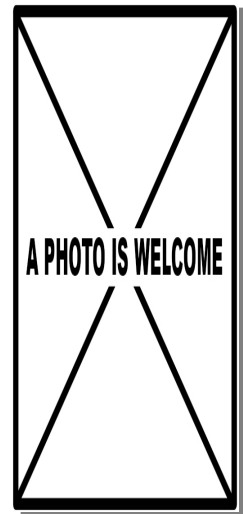
Peregrine Falcon. Crown pattern: top left adult (06-X); top right 2nd year (); left juvenile (24-IX).

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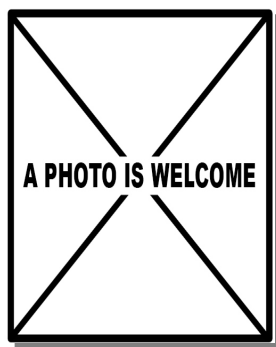
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Peregrine Falcon. Head pattern: top adult (06-X); middle 2nd year (); bottom juvenile (24-IX).



Peregrine Falcon. Upperparts pattern: top left adult (06-X); top right 2nd year (); left juvenile (24-IX).



Peregrine Falcon. Breast pattern: top left adult (06-X); top right 2nd year (); left juvenile (24-IX).



Peregrine Falcon. Adult: rump pattern (06-X).

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Peregrine Falcon. 3rd year: rump pattern (20-V).



Peregrine Falcon. 3rd year: tail pattern (20-V).



Peregrine Falcon. Juvenile: rump pattern (24-IX).



Peregrine Falcon. Juvenile: tail pattern (24-IX).



Peregrine Falcon. Adult: tail pattern (06-X).



Peregrine Falcon. Adult: pattern of primary coverts (06-X).



Peregrine Falcon. 3rd year: pattern of primary coverts (20-V).

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Peregrine Falcon. Juvenile: pattern of primary coverts (24-IX).



Peregrine Falcon. Adult: pattern of primaries (26-I).



Peregrine Falcon. 3rd year: pattern of primaries (20-V).



Peregrine Falcon. Juvenile: pattern of primaries (24-IX).



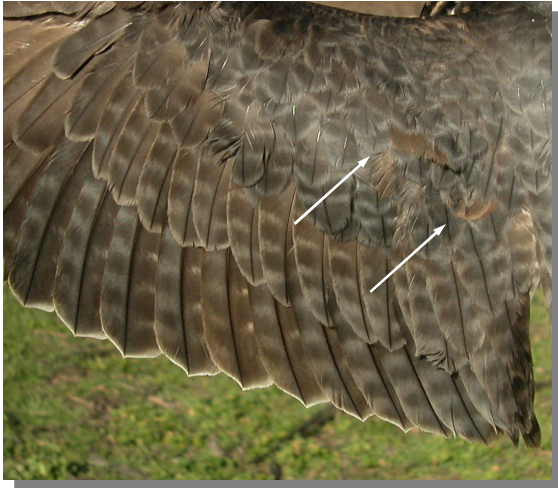
Peregrine Falcon. Pattern of tertials: top left adult (06-X); top right 3rd year (20-V); left juvenile (24-IX).



Peregrine Falcon. Adult: pattern of secondaries (06-X).

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Peregrine Falcon. 3rd year: pattern of secondaries (20-V).



Peregrine Falcon. 3rd year: pattern of wing (20-V).



Peregrine Falcon. Juvenile: pattern of secondaries (24-IX).



Peregrine Falcon. Juvenile: pattern of wing (24-IX).



Peregrine Falcon. Adult: pattern of wing (06-X).