

**11220 Common Redstart** (*Phoenicurus phoenicurus*)



Redstart. Spring. Adult. Male (02-V).

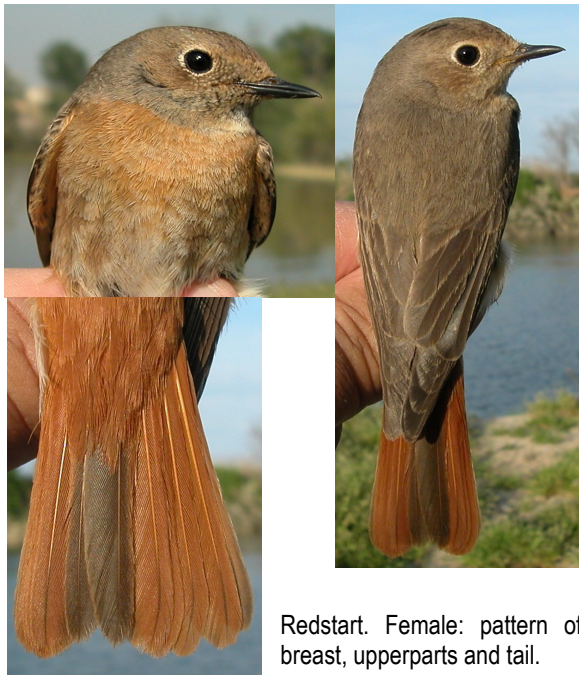
**COMMON REDSTART** (*Phoenicurus phoenicurus*)

**IDENTIFICATION**

13-15 cm. **Male breeding** with black forehead and throat; white band on forehead and supercilium; grey upperparts; brown grey wings; **female** and **male** in **autumn** with brownish upperparts; without black on head and throat (**females**) or with hidden black (**males**); both sexes with red tail and chestnut flanks.



Redstart. Male: pattern of head.



Redstart. Female: pattern of breast, upperparts and tail.

**SIMILAR SPECIES**

**Adult male** unmistakable. **Female** and **juvenile** recalls a **Nightingale** which is bigger and without dark central tail feathers. **Female** and **juvenile** Redstart have grey upper and underparts.



Nightingale



Black Redstart. Female

**SEXING**

**Male** in **breeding** plumage with white forehead and black throat; reddish breast; greyish upperparts. In **autumn**, **adult** and **1st year males** with black feathers on throat tipped white; white band on forehead is hidden (**adult**) or missing (**1st year**). **Female** without white on forehead and lacking black on throat; orange breast; brownish upperparts (**CAUTION:** some **females** have a plumage which resembles a **male**, but feathers on throat never have black bases). **Juveniles** cannot be sexed using plumage pattern.





Redstart. Autumn. Sexing. Pattern of head: top male; bottom female.



Redstart. Autumn. Sexing. Pattern of breast: left male; right female.



Redstart. Autumn. Sexing. Pattern of head: top adult male; middle 1st year male; bottom female.



Redstart. Autumn. Sexing. Pattern of breast: top adult male; middle 1st year male; bottom female.

### AGEING

3 age groups can be recognized:

**Juvenile** with fresh and speckled plumage.

**1st year autumn/2nd year spring** with moult limit between moulted inner greater coverts and buff-brown **juvenile** retained (**CAUTION:** it's a limit easy to see in **males**, with greyish moulted feathers, but very difficult in **females**, with moulted feathers only slightly tinged darker greyish); tail feathers with pointed tips.

**Adult** without moult limits on wing; tail feathers with rounded tips (**CAUTION:** in **spring**, ageing in **females** is very difficult: check differences in wear and colour between greater coverts).

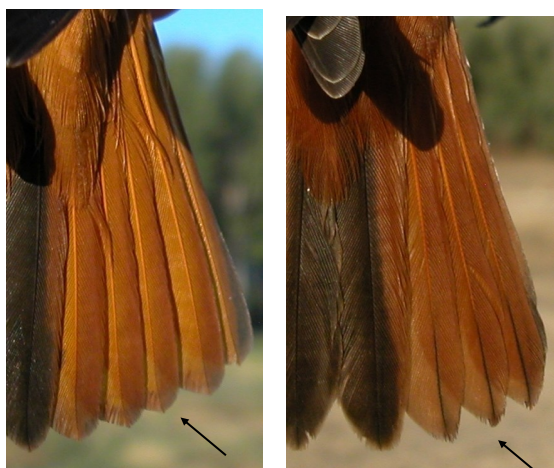




Redstart. Ageing. Pattern of breast: left adult; right juvenile.



Redstart. Ageing. Pattern of upperparts: left adult; right juvenile.



Redstart. Ageing. Pattern of tips of tail feathers: left adult; right 1st year.



Redstart. Male. Ageing. Moulting limit on greater coverts: top adult; bottom 1st year.



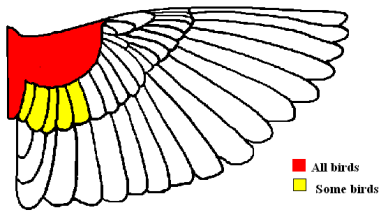
Redstart. Female. Ageing. Moulting limit on greater coverts: top adult; bottom 1st year.

### MOULT

Complete **postbreeding** moult, usually finished in September. Partial **postjuvenile** moult involving body feathers, lesser and median coverts and some inner greater coverts; exceptionally some birds include tail feathers, tertials and inner secondaries; usually finished early September.



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Redstart.  
Extent of  
postjuveni le  
moult.

**PHENOLOGY**

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

- Summer visitor
- Resident
- Wintering
- On passage



Redstart. Spring. 2nd year. Female (12-IV)



Redstart. Spring. Adult. Female (26-IV).



Redstart. Spring. Juvenile (01-07).



Redstart. Spring. 2nd year. Male (23-IV).



Redstart. Spring. Adult. Head pattern: top male (02-V);  
bottom female (26-IV).



**11220 Common Redstart** (*Phoenicurus phoenicurus*)



Redstart. Spring. Head pattern: top 2nd year male (23-IV); middle 2nd year female (13-IV); bottom juvenile (01-07).



Redstart. Spring. Adult. Breast pattern: left male (02-V); right female (26-IV).



Redstart. Spring. Breast pattern: top left 2nd year male (23-IV); top right 2nd year female (13-IV); left juvenile (01-07).



Redstart. Spring. Adult. Upperparts pattern: left male (02-V); right female (26-IV).



Redstart. Spring. Upperparts pattern: top left 2nd year male (23-IV); top right 2nd year female (13-IV); left juvenile (01-07).





Redstart. Spring. Adult. Tail pattern: left male (02-V); right female (26-IV).



Redstart. Spring. Tail pattern: top left 2nd year male (23-IV); top right 2nd year female (13-IV); left juvenile (01-07).



Redstart. Spring. Adult. Male: pattern of wing (02-V).



Redstart. Spring. Adult. Female: pattern of wing (26-IV).



Redstart. Spring. 2nd year. Male: pattern of wing (23-IV).



Redstart. Spring. 2nd year. Female: pattern of wing (13-IV).



**11220** Common Redstart (*Phoenicurus phoenicurus*)



Redstart. Spring. Juvenile: pattern of wing (01-07).



Redstart. Autumn. Male. 1st year (15-VIII).



Redstart. Autumn. Male. Adult (06-IX).



Redstart. Autumn. Female. 1st year (23-IX).



Redstart. Autumn. Female. Adult (06-IX).



Redstart. Autumn. Adult. Head pattern: top male (06-IX); bottom female (06-IX).





**11220** Common Redstart (*Phoenicurus phoenicurus*)



Redstart. Autumn. 1st year. Head pattern: top male (15-VIII); bottom female (23-IX).



Redstart. Autumn. Adult. Breast pattern: left male (06-IX); right female (06-IX).



Redstart. Autumn. 1st year. Breast pattern: left male (15-VIII); right female (23-IX).



Redstart. Autumn. Adult. Tail pattern: left male (06-IX); right female (06-IX).



Redstart. Autumn. 1st year. Tail pattern: left male (15-VIII); right female (23-IX).



Redstart. Autumn. Adult. Upperparts pattern: left male (06-IX); right female (06-IX).

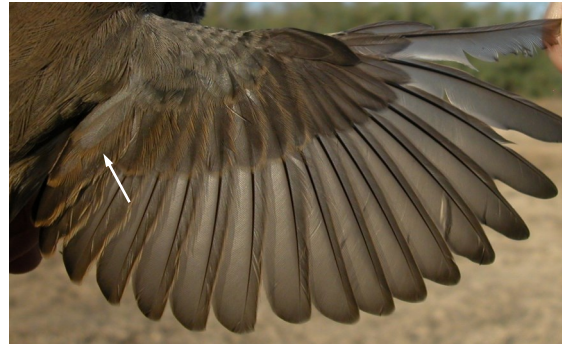


Redstart. Autumn. 1st year. Upperparts pattern: left male (15-VIII); right female (23-IX).





Redstart. Autumn. Adult. Male: pattern of wing (06-IX).



Redstart. Autumn. 1st year. Female: pattern of wing (23-IX).



Redstart. Autumn. Adult. Female: pattern of wing (06-IX).



Redstart. Autumn. 1st year. Male: pattern of wing (06-IX).