



Autumn bird photo safari

Destination: Oulu region, Finland

Focus: Bird photography

Grading: Moderate walks only – max 1000 meters one way

Group size: 4 - 6 photographers

Time: 29 September - 4 October 2020

Price: 2495 € / person

Finland in autumn is a great destination for bird photographers!

In September 2020, we start our 14th season of Eagle feeding at our Eagle site in Utajärvi. This will attract both Golden Eagles and White-tailed Eagles together with many Ravens to visit the site. Eagle images taken here will stand out from the crowd - there will be autumn colours in the ground vegetation and in the trees!

We also have photography hides at a forest feeder in Liminka. In late September, a trusty visitor Goshawk with plenty of other birds visit the feeder in good light and they can be photographed with autumn coloured trees as a background.

A lot of birds gather together in wetlands around Oulu to fill their energy supplies for long migration ahead. Cranes and Whooper Swans gather by hundreds and depending on the weather, different species of Geese gather in fields. We will set up portable photography hides for these and other wetland species. Hen Harriers are usually numerous in meadows of Liminka bay and we will try to bait them down for photographic opportunities.



Waxwing

We will photograph Black Grouse at their autumn lek if possible - imagine the autumn colors as a background for this intense action!

If the year is good for Rowanberries we should get good numbers of Waxwings in September. September can also be good for Owl photography – but that depends on the year!

In addition, autumn is an excellent time to photograph Northern lights - Aurora Borealis - in Finland. In October the lakes are not frozen yet so there might be good chances to photograph them with a nice foreground with Auroras reflecting in open water!

Highlights

Golden Eagle, White-tailed Eagle, Goshawk, Eurasian Crane, Whooper Swan, Hen Harrier, Black Grouse, Hazel Grouse, Pygmy Owl, Hawk Owl, Three-toed Woodpecker, Black Woodpecker, Lesser Spotted Woodpecker, Nutcracker, Waxwing, Crested Tit, Long-tailed Tit, Bullfinch, Yellowhammer, Aurora Borealis

For more information:

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Day 1 Arrive to Oulu

Tour will start in the afternoon at Oulu airport from where we make our way to Villa Finnature. An evening photography excursion on arrival.

Days 2 - 3 Utajärvi

Same program for the next two days: We have early breakfast at Villa Finnature and departure to our Eagle hide in Utajärvi. Two whole days in our pro-hide for Golden and White-tailed Eagles. Common Ravens also abound at the site. The hide is equipped with heating and a dry toilet.

Days 4 - 5 Oulu

The next two days are spent in the forests and wetlands of Oulu region where numerous possibilities and targets will depend on what is around at the time of our visit. Possibilities include wetland hides at Liminka Bay for Common Crane, Whooper Swan and Hen Harrier, and forest hides for Northern Goshawk, Nutcracker, Crested Tit and Brambling. In the wider forest area opportunistic photography could produce Black and Hazel Grouse, Eurasian Three-toed Woodpecker, Black and Lesser Spotted Woodpeckers, Bohemian Waxwing and, if lucky, Hawk Owl and maybe even Great Grey and Eurasian Pygmy Owls. We will possibly spend a morning or two at a Black Grouse autumn lek!

Day 6 Departure from Oulu airport

After a final morning of photography the tour will end at Oulu Airport in the afternoon.



Hawk Owl



Golden Eagle

Photos: Jari Peltomäki Layout: Kaisa Peltomäki

For more pictures: [Finnature's Flickr Gallery](#)

Price includes: Finnature guiding throughout the tour, all meals, accommodation and land transportation from Oulu airport.

Accommodation: Villa Finnature's single rooms with shared facilities

Food: Local restaurants / Villa Finnature

Leader: Finnature guide

Possible extensions: Brown Bear, Wolverine & Wolf photography in Kuhmo. Whooper Swan, Siberian Jay and Siberian Tit in Kuusamo.

Booking: shop.finnature.com

Recommended flights: We recommend to arrive to and depart from Oulu in the afternoon.

Please notice: The itinerary might change due to weather conditions or bird situation. Unfortunately we cannot guarantee any of the species, but our expert Finnature guides do their utmost to ensure the best possible photography opportunities during the tour.

Official Package travel trader (Organiser) and Travel agent Registration number: 1193/05/MjMv

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