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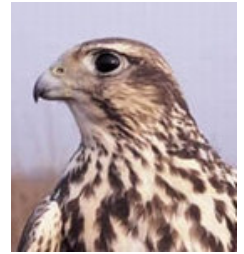
## **1-day raptor-day 2010**

### **Itinerary Gerecse and Vértes Mountains**

*These Saturdays we will devote to the most impressive and powerful birds the raptors. We will visit different reviers and feeding areas in order to see Imperial Eagle and Saker. If weather is favourable we will have a reasonable chance to see other raptor species like Honey Buzzard, White-tailed Eagle, Short-toed Eagle and Montagu's Harrier.*

Our tour will start at 7.30 at the hotel, where we will pick you up. In the morning we will drive to Gerecse and Vértes Mountains to see various raptors.

During this special birdwatching, we are going to visit such attractive raptor reviers and feeding areas (on the edge of the protected areas of Danube-Ipoly National Park), where we have a very good chance to see the fascinating and enormous *Imperial Eagle* as well as the simple plumaged, but beautiful and appealingly self-confident *Saker*. (Please note that our observation spot can change even in the last minute, depending on the weather and the bird-movements.)



*Saker*

Close to the observation places we can see the main prey of these raptors: the souslik that is already close to extinction in many European countries and its population has strongly decreased in Hungary, too. Beside the two target bird species mentioned above, we can observe other species like *Short-toed Eagle*, *White-tailed Eagle*, *Montagu's Harrier*, *White* and *Black Stork*.



*European Souslik*

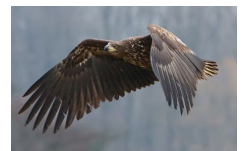
There is a great difference between spring and summer trips, so it worth to try both for raptor fans.

During the trip in *spring* the eagles are still in the last phase of the hatching, while falcons are already feeding their nestlings. In this period the parent birds show and extreme activity, protecting the revier or fetching food continuously. We can see spectacular revier fights, food passing and if we are really lucky also prey catching.



*Imperial Eagle*

At the time of our *summer* trip if nesting was successful, the young eagles leave the nest in these days, while the falcon nestlings had left the nest for over a month and they are already learning the art of flight. It is exciting and captivating to see the birds' first and at the same time determining movements in the nature. In this period the parents are very active: they defend the revier, fetch food and teach the young birds to fly. The success of this one day trip depends mainly on the right weather conditions, as the spectacular movements of raptors are greatly influenced by the strong wind or rainfall. If the weather is suitable, our birds of prey are going to move continuously in the air and will provide a whole day's spectacle. It is advised to have suntan oil and a cap or hat with you for this day.



*White-tailed Eagle*