

Birdwatching

The best places for bird watching



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Hrhov West Birdwatching Tower

State: Slovakia
Region: Košice
District: Rožňava Cadaster: Hrhov
Localization : 48° 35' 51.31"N 20° 44' 57.48"E

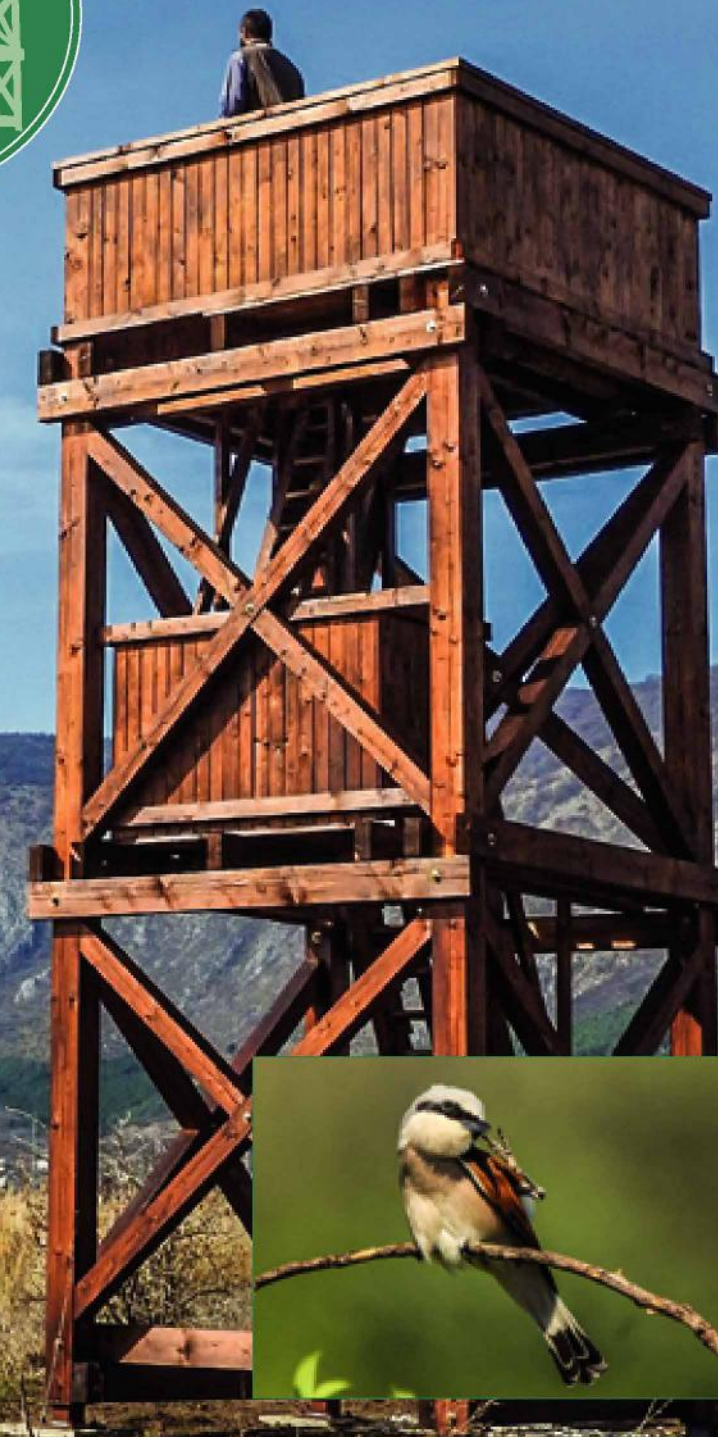
The 12 m high birdwatching tower is accessible on foot, following a 5-minute walk from the coach stop at the trunk road. From its eastern side, one may see the breeding colony of grey herons, while in the reed bed, one may see breeding western marsh harriers, Eurasian coots, mallards, great reed warblers or even little bitterns. Among the leaves of willows and poplars, one may see - using binoculars - the Eurasian penduline tit, the great spotted woodpecker, the lesser spotted woodpecker, the grey-headed woodpecker, the Eurasian golden oriole and the spotted flycatcher.



Hrhov East Birdwatching Tower

State: Slovakia
Region: Košice
District: Rožňava Cadaster: Hrhov
Localization : 48° 35' 41.46"N 20° 46' 30.42"E

From the 7 m high birdwatching tower, one may see the eastern part of the "Large Hrhov Fishpond", the northern slopes of plateau Dolný vrch [Lower Range] and the exceptional relief - from a landscape specialist's view - of the foothill of the plateau Horný vrch [Upper Range] with the "amphitheatre" of Hrhov. To access the tower, turn to the access road from the trunk road. At the site, one may observe species typical to wetlands, such as the western yellow wagtail, the common reed bunting, the sedge warbler, the marsh warbler or Savi's warbler; however, it provides a possibility to monitor also species of agricultural areas, such as the Eurasian skylark, the yellowhammer, the common quail, the European stonechat, the red-backed shrike and - in winter - even the great grey shrike.



Turniansky pond

State: Slovakia
Region: Košice
District: Košice okolie Cadaster: Turňa nad Bodvou
Localization : 48° 36' 1.49"N 20° 51' 58.93"E

The pond is part of a special protection area. It is the most important breeding area of wetland birds in the territory of the Slovak Karst. The thick vegetation around the lake provides a safe refuge and a breeding location for the birds. The birds may be best seen from the dam on the south or from the pasture in the east. Interesting species of the area include the western marsh harrier, the great crested grebe, the little grebe, the common pochard, the ferruginous duck, the tufted duck, the eurasian bittern, the water rail and the mute swan.



Bird Ringing Station Drienovec

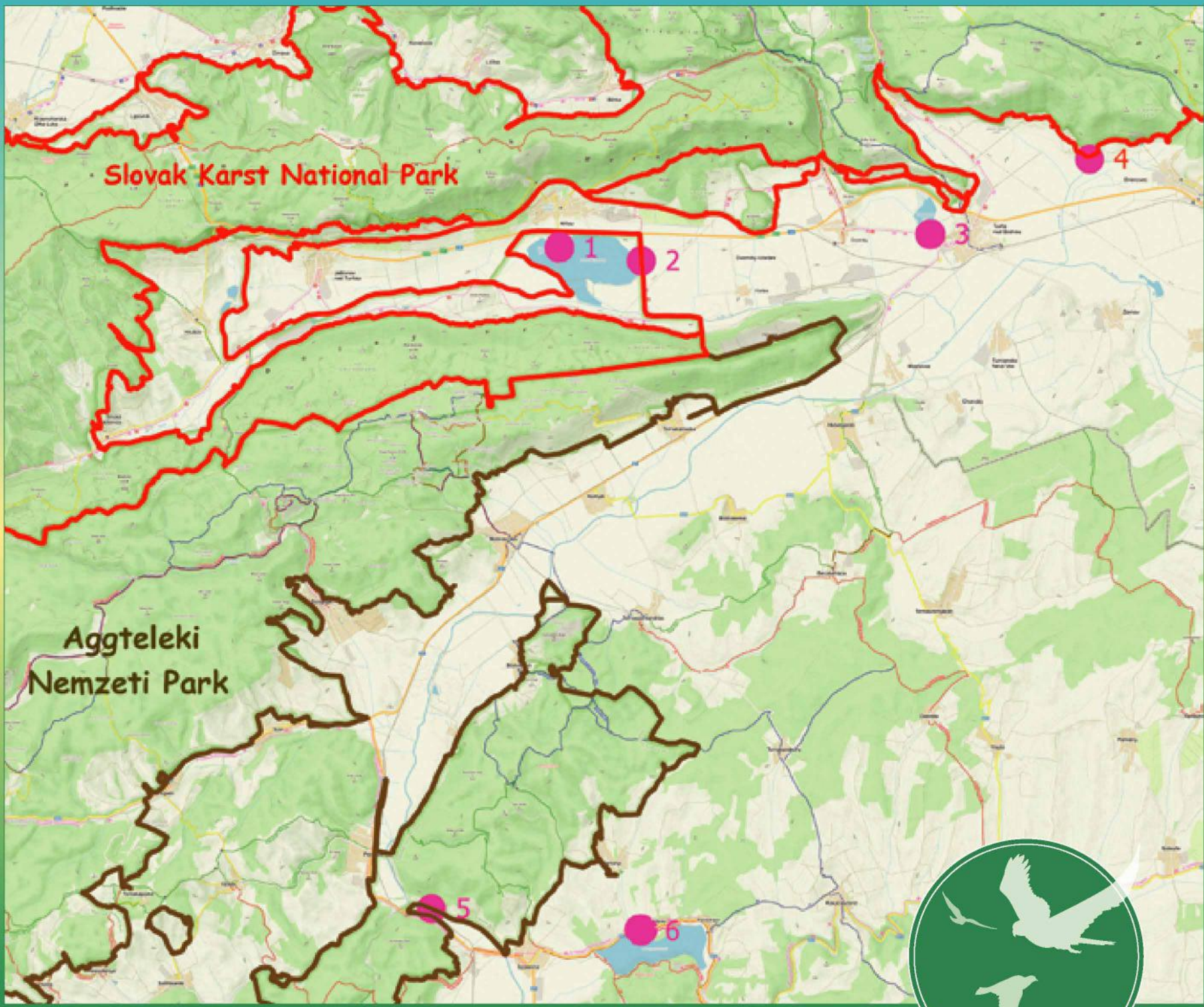
State: Slovakia
Region: Košice
District: Košice okolie Cadaster: Drienovec
Localization : 48°36'57.8"N 20°54'59.98"E



The Drienovec Bird Ringing Station was established in 2006. Ornithologists monitor the spring arrival of migrating species from March 22 to April 25 every year. The autumn migration monitoring season starts on August 14 and lasts until November 5. The most commonly used monitoring method is catching and ringing (affixing ornithological rings) of the birds. The station is located west of the village of Drienovec, near a karst spring situated at the south foothill of the Jasov plateau. Annually, approx. 15 000 birds get ringed.

The most frequently ringed bird species include the Eurasian blackcap, the European robin, hawfinch, common chiffchaff, willow warbler, lesser whitethroat, common whitethroat, Eurasian blue tit, song thrush, common blackbird, dunnock. More than 120 species have been identified here until now. The Bird Ringing Station is open to the public, but entrance is subject to a permission of the Slovak Karst National Park Administration. Please note that dogs are not allowed to enter the territory.





Bódva Valley Bird Ringing Station



State: Hungary
 County: Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén
 District: Edelény Cadaster: Szalonna
 Localization : 48°27'35"N 20°42'29"E

The Bird Ringing Station is located between the villages of Szalonna and Perkupa, on the bank of the river Bódva. The hillsides along the valley are most covered with closed turkey oak-oak forests and hornbeam-oak forests, while at the bottom of the valley, there are meadows for hay and moorlands, used and unused fields, shrublines and the cut-off parts of the streambed of the river Bódva.

The Bird Banding Station is active from mid-August to the end of October; here, in addition to getting know bird ringing, one may also observe the birds using Bódva Valley as a migration path. Among the captured birds, many interesting species have already been identified (such as the rock bunting or the European nightjar), along with real rarities (including the yellow-browed warbler, Pallas's leaf warbler, red-flanked bluetail or the common rosefinch). Early in autumn, rare birds of prey (including the short-toed snake eagle, the lesser spotted eagle or the osprey) migrate along the valley.

The bird ringing station is also a permanent location of the International Bird Days.



Birdwatching tower at the Rakacai reservoir



State: Hungary
 Region: Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén
 District: Edelény Cadaster: Rakaca
 Localization : 48°27'12,97"N 20°46'34,26"E

The most significant wetland habitat in the surroundings of the Aggtelek Karst is accessible using the paved road leading from Szalonna to Rakaca. Until now, more than 180 bird species have been identified here. For many species, this is the only appropriate breeding location in the surrounding area; other species have their largest breeding population here (these include the great crested grebe, the little bittern, the Eurasian bittern, the western marsh harrier, the little crane, the bearded reedling, etc.). Along the banks, there are long reed and cattail beds, with many passerine birds living there. In the shallower parts, foraging black storks, grey herons and great egrets are often visible. In the migration period, it is an important stop of divers, ducks (such as seaducks), common mergansers and seagulls. Many very rare species have been found here (including the red phalarope, the black-legged kittiwake and the citrine wagtail).

The birdwatching tower at the water reservoir provides a great opportunity to discover the world of birds.





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