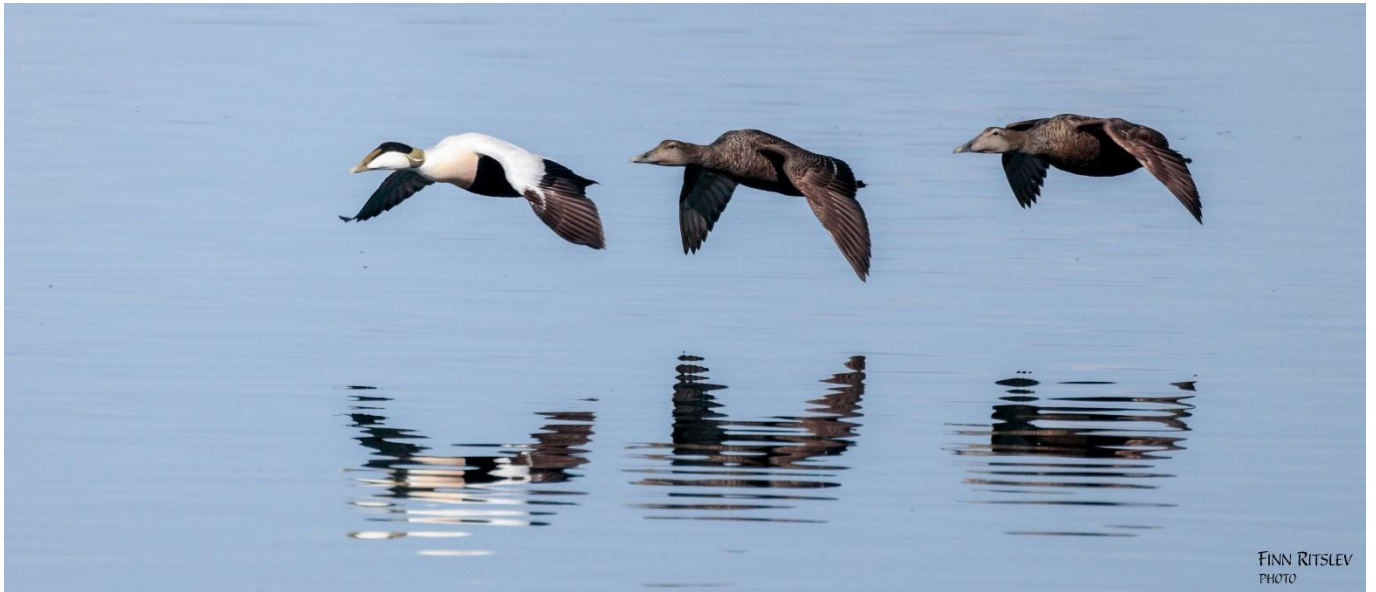


Around The Year Around Sildehøjgaard in Jyllinge

A Story of a Fjord, in Birds



This document contains short descriptions and photos of birds and animals that you might see on Sildehøjgaard in Jyllinge and at most 10 min. walking distance away from the path along the fjord.

The few photos that have not been taken by me are marked by an olive-green border.

I have taken the majority of the photos in this document. My photos do not have a border. They have been taken either from the garden or from the trail following the shoreline 400m towards the marina, along the outer pier and back along the path following the coastline past our lawn to 2-300m south of Sildehøjgaard. I walk this route every day with my dog. Very few photos taken before April 2021.

Highlighted yellow text are comments specific to my photos.



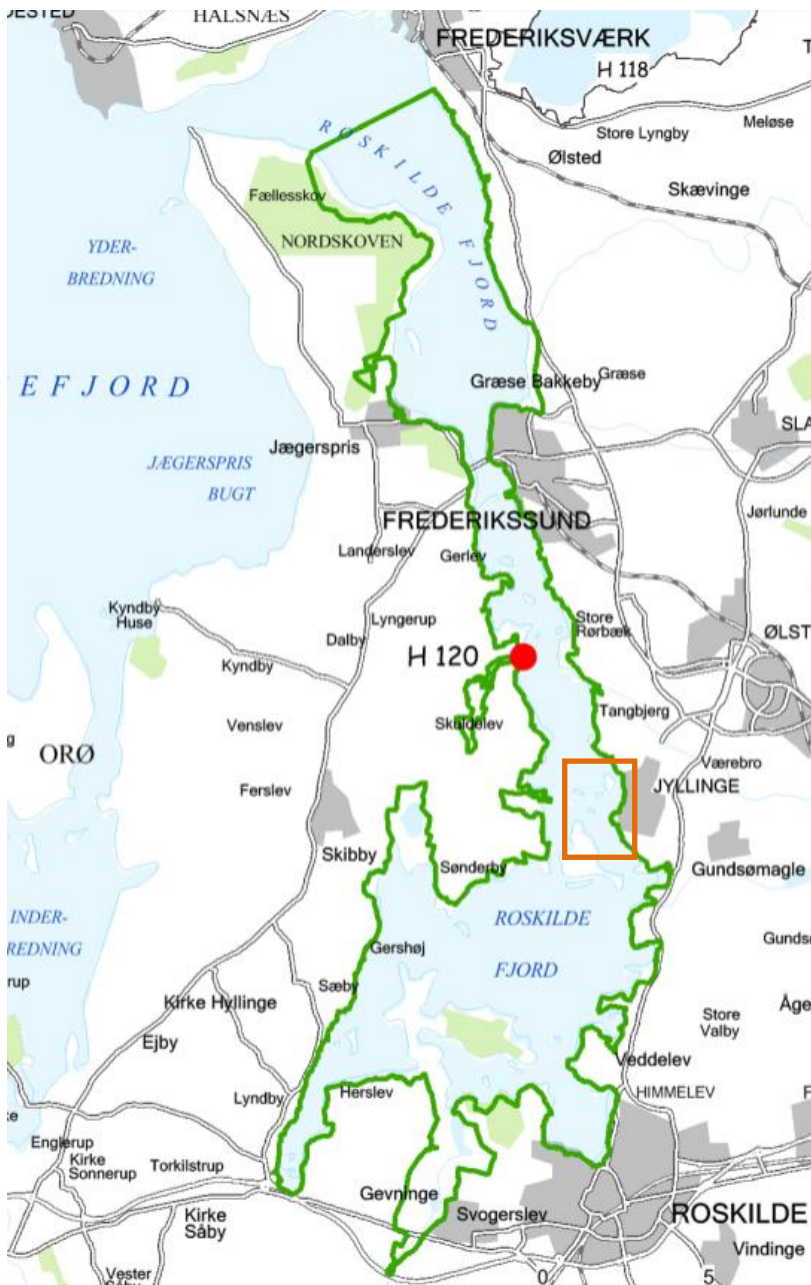
	Cameras	Lenses
2016	Canon 80D (24 Mpx APS-C)	
2020		EF 70-300mm f/4-5.6 IS II USM
2021-03-02	Canon RP (26 Mpx FF)	
2021-05-10		RF 600mm f/11 IS STM
2021-08-12	Canon R6 (20 Mpx FF)	
2021-11-26		RF 800mm f/11 IS STM
2022-09-17	Canon R7 (32.5 Mpx APS-C)	
2022-12-28	Canon R6 Mark II (24 Mpx FF)	
2023-07-24		RF 100-500mm f/4.5-7.1 IS USM
2024-06-07		RF 1.4x Extender

Last update: 2025-01-24

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Roskilde Fjord is an EU Special Protection Area and an EU Habitat Area. It is 14,810 ha., of which 71% is maritime.

The designation of hunting- and disturbance-free areas is a result of Roskilde Fjord's status as a Special Protection Area. An area is considered to be of international importance for a species if more than 1% of its northwestern European population regularly spends time there. The following species are in this category: *Mute swan* (3.5%), *greylag goose* (1%), *Tufted duck* (5.8%), *common Goldeneye* (1.8%), *common merganser* (3.2%), *Coot* (1.1%), and *Whooper swan* (1.5%).

4-5,000 birds breed on the small islets in Roskilde Fjord during the breeding season made up of 25-30 waterfowl species dominated by gulls, terns and Mute swans.

Outside the breeding season the area attracts 30-60,000 roosting and foraging birds and during some winters even more.

For the sake of nesting birds it is prohibited to enter the small islets in Roskilde Fjord as well as the South-Eastern part of the island Eskilsø during the bird's breeding season from April 1st to July 15th. This includes traffic (e.g. rowing / sailing) within a 50-meter zone around Eskilsø and the islets.

Birds marked with an * in front of the name and green background are listed in the European Environment Agency's list of protected species for Roskilde Fjord classified under the Birds Directive.

You can find many details on fauna, birds, fish, etc. from Roskilde Fjord here:

<http://www.frederikssund1.dk/roskildefjord/UK/> ()

There are more links in the back of the document.



Towards the Fjord, Eskilsø (8-900m) and Østskoven in Hornsherred(2 km)



I was some 100 m from the beach when I took the photo with 24mm wide angle.

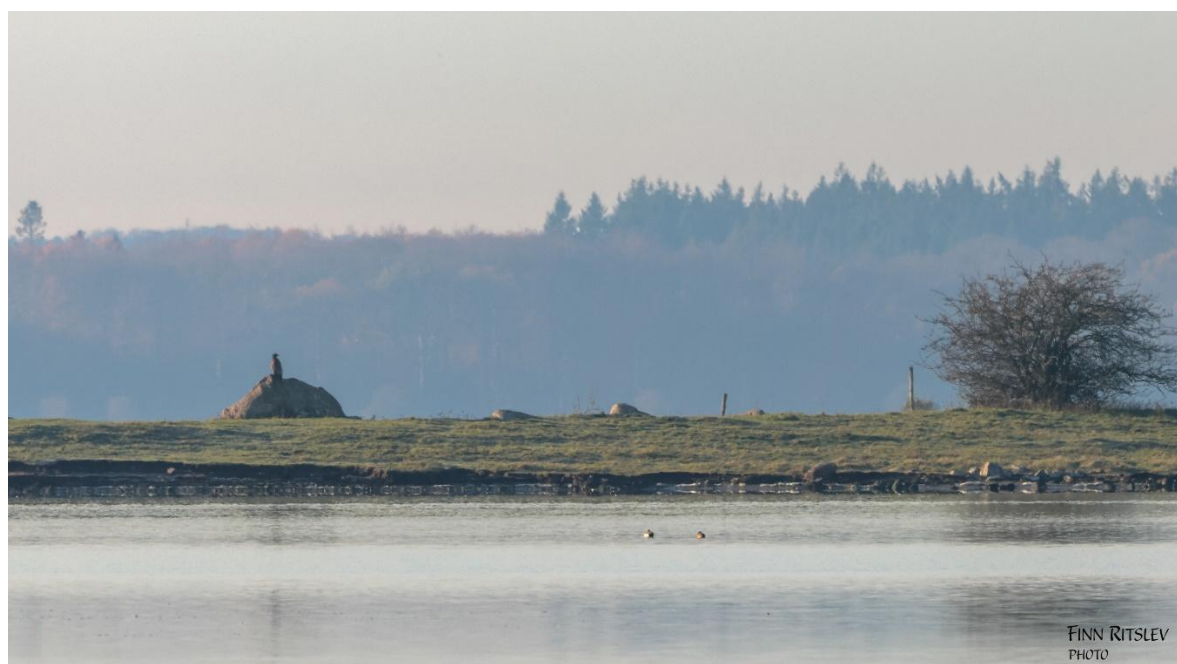
The distance from the shoreline to Eskilsø in the background is 800 m. Sildehøjrevet (Herring Reef - the stone reef) extends 400 m into the fjord before turning north-west. Just west of the northern part of the reef is Silderenden, where the Viking ships sailed 900-1,300 years ago when going to and from Roskilde 12 km to the south. The photo was taken on a day with low water in the fjord. The majority of the year the reef is completely covered with water.

To the left of the lawn towards the fjord is a large blackberry bush, where many photos of songbirds in this document have been taken.

From the reed forest and left (south) bordering the lawn is a few meter wide narrow beach meadow with meter tall *Lådden Dueurt* (*Epilobium Hirsutum*) – *Greater Willowherb* – *Zottiges Weidenröschen*. We have only a few spots with a sandy beach, the rest is made up of small stones and boulders on a sandy bottom.

To the right in the photo at the end of the lawn is the start of a reed forest that extends 500m north to Jyllinge Marina. Here I have many times this summer listened to and photographed Reed warblers. Furthermore, most of the year large flocks of Coots might be swimming close to the reeds.

Below: *White tailed eagle* on a boulder on the long southern peninsula of Eskilsø.



Water Birds on Roskilde Fjord

Swans



***Knopsvane** (*Cygnus olor*) | Mute swan | Höckerschwan |
Cygne tuberculé

Wingspan: 208-238 cm

Length: 152 cm

Weight: male 12 kg
female 10 kg



Population of 100-200 swans breed on Roskilde Fjord in the waters around Eskilsø and Jyllinge holme. The first cygnets appear early June.

Overwintering: 4,000. The great majority of the migrants arrives late autumn and leave February-March.

2021-04-19:

The Mute swan sitting on the stone was tagged on the leg 24 years ago.



2025-01-03: A cloudy windswept winter morning



2022-01-04: Mute swans flying over Sildehøjgaard on their way from the fields towards the water of the fjord.



2021-02-14 (right): Mute swan landing in the fjord in a cold February where large parts of the fjord were frozen.



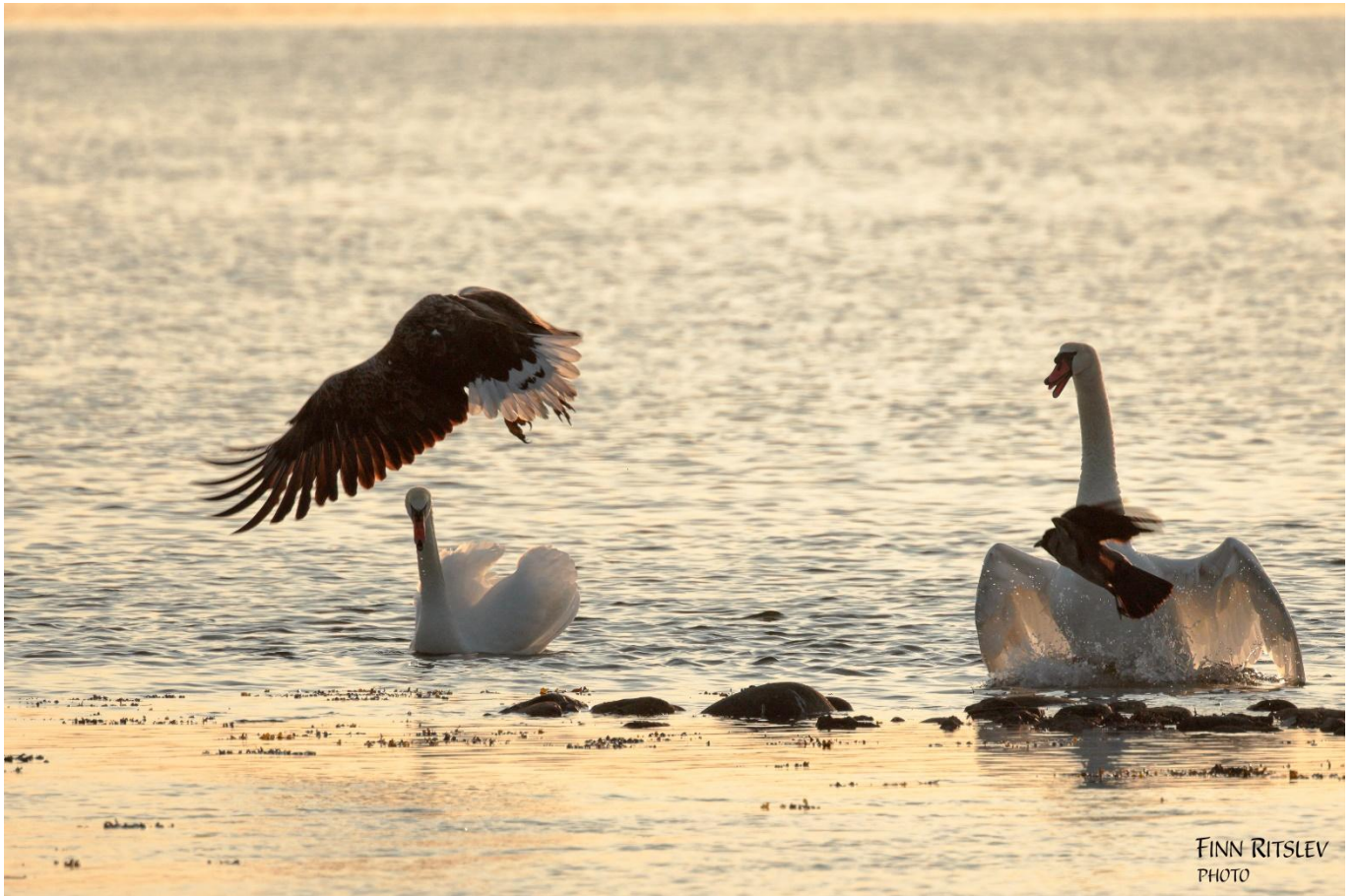
2024-04-21: Mating season



2024-05-03: Mute swan landing on the fjord.



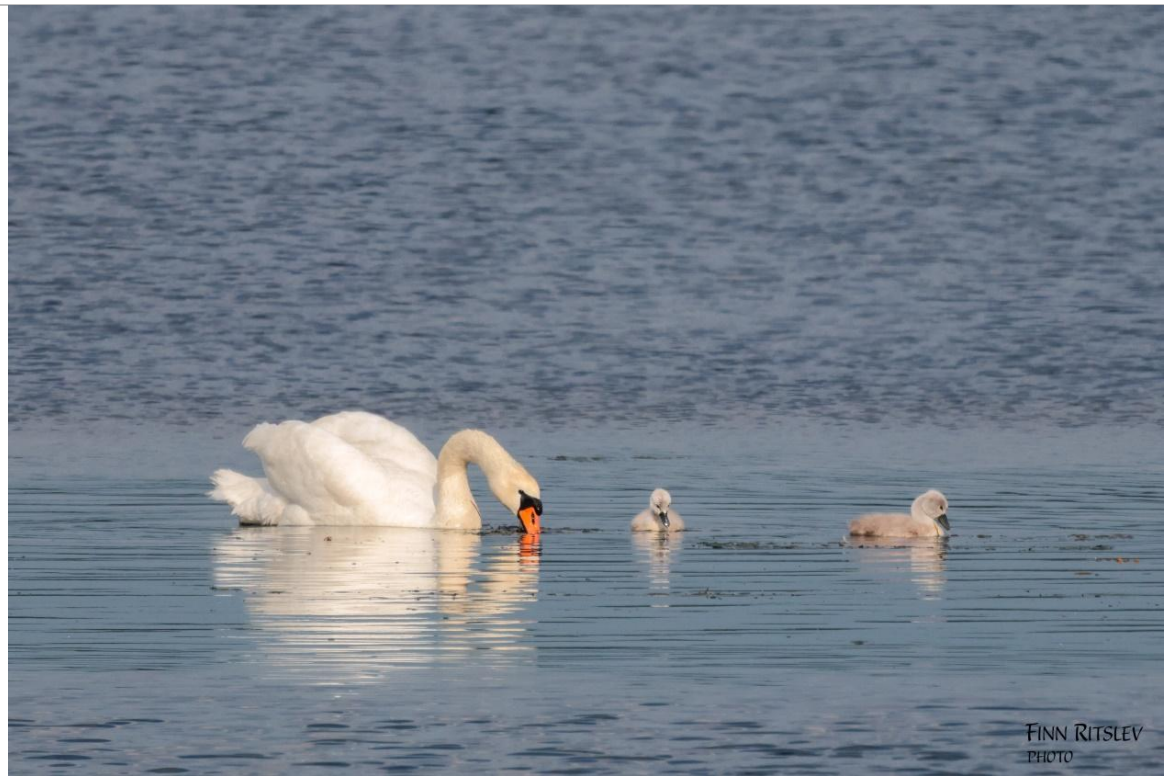
2021-05-27: Mute swans and white tailed eagle at sunset.



2021-05-21:
Juvenil swan that still has some of last
year's gray feathers.



2023-06-15:
Mute swan
with cygnets.



2021-06-20: "Shot" shortly after heavy rainfall - ... and after that sun and a change to a strong westerly wind. The swans are eating eelgrass (*Zostera marina* - DK: ålegræs) 100 m from the coastline where the sandy bottom drops from knee deep to a depth of 2-4 m (deep blue with white caps). The "hill" in the background is Bolund - 4 km south of the lawn.



2023-07-01: Chick seeking shelter on a windy day.



2021-07-28: Grownup with seven cygnets on the way to Eskilsø.



2021-09-21: Low flying synchronized Mute swans.

2021-12-14: Low flying Mute swans over the middle of the fjord with Eskilsø in the background.





Sangsvane (*Cygnus cygnus*) | Whooper swan | Singschwan | Cygne chanteur

Wingspan: 218-243 cm
152 cm
male 10-11 kg
female 8-9 kg

Population of 800-1,000 migrant overwinter in the fjord arriving northern Finland and northwestern in November when the ice closes the waters and leaving in March.



Length:
Weight:

swans
from
Russia

2022-10-10: Juvenil whopper swans.



2021-12-09: Three whoper swans standing on the sandy bottom of the fjord 100 m from our beach on a cloudy, gray winter day. The water level was 50 cm below normal due to strong easterly winds the preceeding days.



2021-12-11: Whoper swan nursing a flock of Coots.



2021-12-26: Flock of grownups and juvenil whoper swans on a frosty slightly foggy day.



2022-01-06: Whoper swan flying quite low over Sildehøjgaard on its way from having flown over the fields towards the waters of the fjord.



2022-01-14: Small flock of whooper swans on a sunny winter day.



2023-03-16: Flying north



2023-03-21: Flying north - leaving Roskilde Fjord for the summer.



Geese



Blisgås (*Anser albifrons*) | white-fronted goose | Blässgans | Oie rieuse

Wingspan: 130-165

cm

Length: 70 cm

Weight: male 2.1-2.5

kg

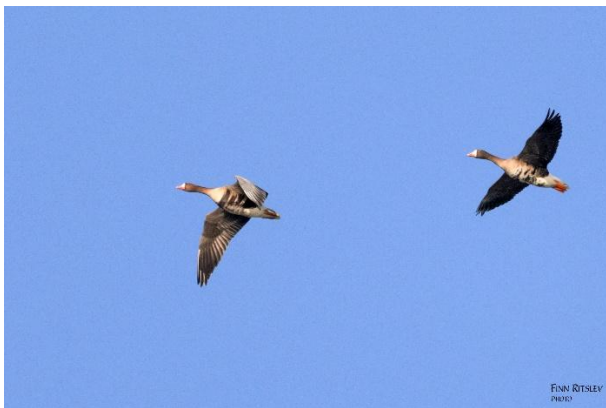
female 1.9-2.2

kg

Breeds in Northern
Siberia. Seldomly seen
in Denmark



2023-01-10: Flying just over the farm buildings



2022-03-13: White-fronted geese flying close to Sildehøjgaard.





Bramgås (*Branta leucopsis*) | Barnacle Goose | Graugans |
Bernache nonnette



Wingspan: 132-145 cm
Length: 63 cm
Weight: male 1.6-2 kg
female 1.5-1.8 kg

Flies disorganized when flying in large flocks while greylag geese flies in a V-shaped formation like pro-bikers in Tour-de-France,

2021-10-24: Flying just behind our Northern hedge.



2023-11-12:
Excerpt from one of the 4-5 flocks each with 100-100++ Barnacle Geese flying high over our farm building even though they were approachi9ng the waters of Roslikde Fjord



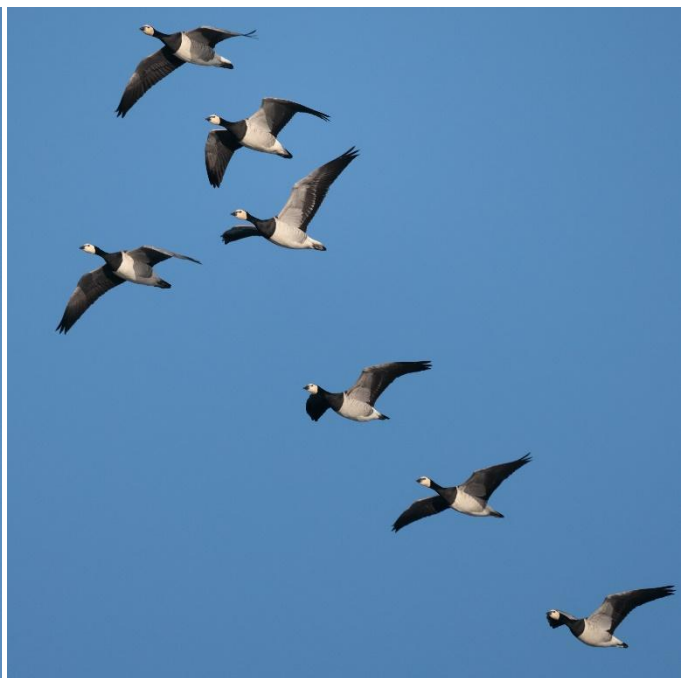
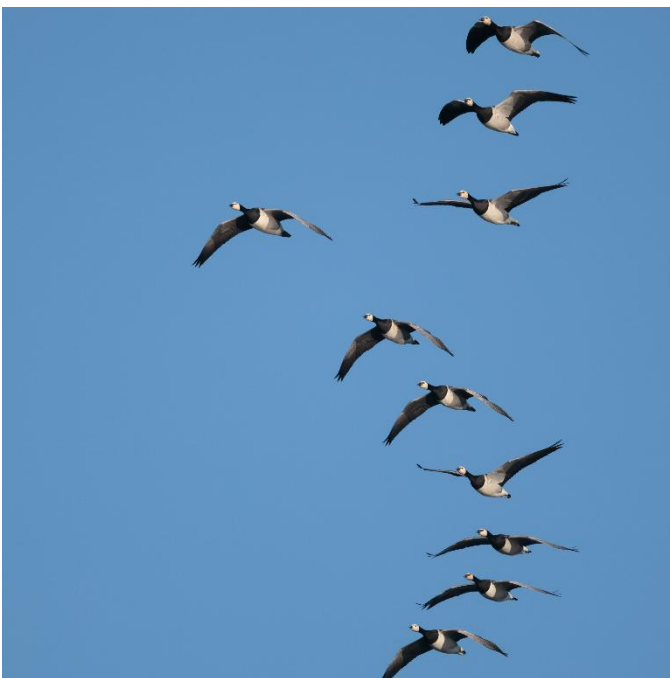
2022-01-21: Large flock grassing in the fields between our lawn and the hedge 200m to the south.



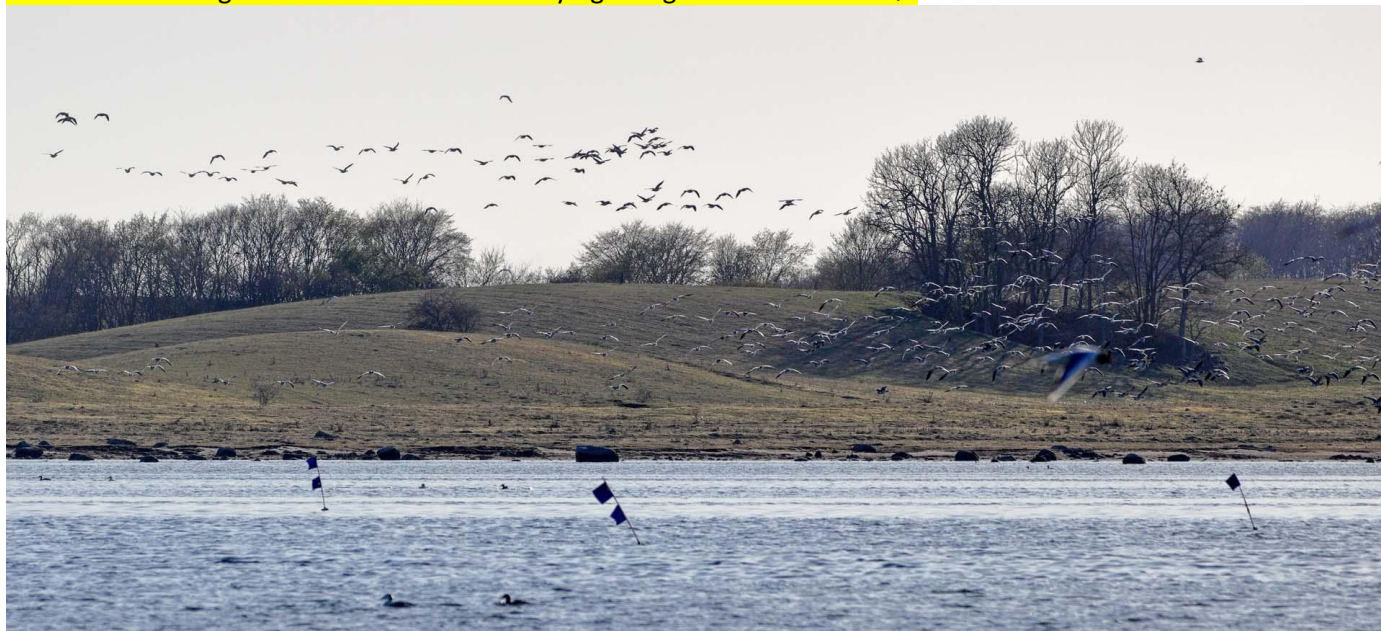
2022-01-22: Flying directly over the farm buildings.



2021-04-03: Heading west over Roskilde Fjord towards our farm buildings



2021-04-20: A large flock of Barnacle Geese flying along the coast of Eskilsø.



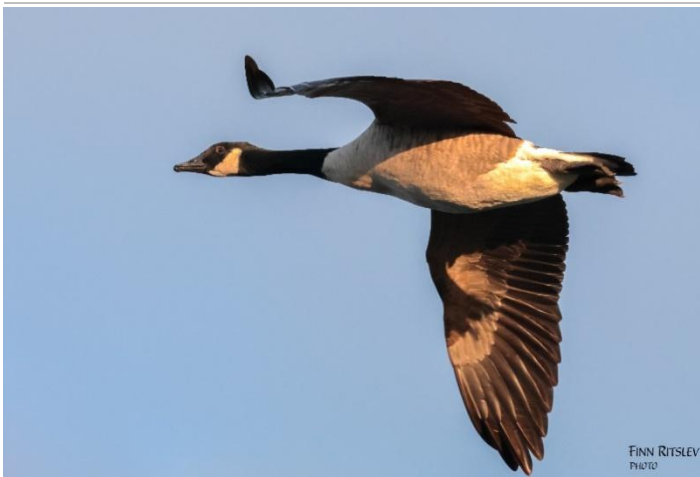
2023-04-30:



2021-05-17:
Barnacle Geese flying over the fields south of
Sildehøj and 300m east of here.







Canadagås (*Branta canadensis*) | Canada goose |
Kanadagans | Bernache du Canada

Wingspan: 150-180 cm
Length: 95 cm
Weight: male 4.7-5 kg
female 4.3-4.5 kg

2021-10-18: Canada geese swimming 100m from the path along the fjord on a misty morning.



2023-02-19: Canada geese swimming closer to Eskilsø being overflown by Common Goldeneye





***Grågås** (*Anser anser*) | Greylag goose | Weißwangengans | Oie cendrée

Wingspan: 147-180 cm

Length: 80 cm

Weight: 3.4-3.7 kg

Small population breeds in Roskilde Fjord.

The majority of greylag geese spend their summer in Northern Sweden and the winter in Holland and southern Spain.

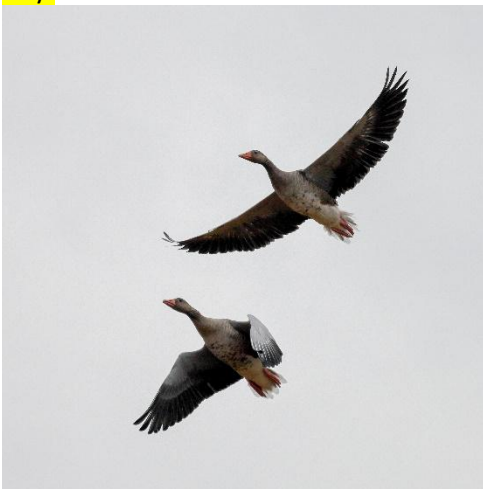
However, quite a few overwinter in Denmark.



Some 20,000 greylag geese are seen around Roskilde Fjord in the months August-September and roughly half as many during the winter months December-February.

2021-07-28 09:01:

Large flocks of Greylag geese start arriving to Roskilde Fjord from Northern Sweden every year towards the end of July.



2021-07-28 09:05:



2021-07-28 09:24: The geese below were part of a flock of 500+ geese that flew 1 km south of me towards Eskilsø. The trees in the background are Boserup Skov some 5 km further south.



2024-08-20 18:55: The fields around our property had just been harvested and flocks of geese on their way from Eskilsø to our neighborhood. They all flew between our property and Snekkevej to the north of us.



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2015-08-21: Greylag geese foraging the fields south of Sildehøjgaard.

Roskilde Cathedral 11km to the south can barely be seen in the horizon 1/5 from the right.



2017-08-30: Large flock of Greylag geese over the buildings an early morning.

One of my first photos of birds taken before it became a serious hobby Jan-Feb 2021.





2021-09-20:
Greylag geese in
synchronized
flying from
Eskilsø over the
fjord towards
our lawn.



2021-11-24 9:48: Flock
of Greylag geese landing
in the fields east of
Sildehøj (away from the
fjord).

2021-11-24 9:50:
Greylag geese with
the Bronze Age
grave Sildehøj in
the background.



2021-12-03: Greylag geese fleeing to the fjord from the fields just south of the lawn.



2021-12-07: Greylag geese foraging 200 m south of the lawn.



2024-08-21: Close to sunset



2022-12-09: Shortly before sunrise.



2021-12-21: Greylag geese resting on the stone reef stretching from our lawn.



2021-12-26: Flying just outside the reed bed on a frosty winterday.



2021-12-26: Gnæk – gnæk - gnæk



sidewind at Tour de France.

2021-05-26:
Greylag geese flying over the fjord towards Eskilsø.

2021-04-10 (left):
V-formed formation typical for flying Greylag geese.
Note the synchronizing of wings that optimizes the
uplift from the goose in front – like bikers exposed to



2023-04-15: Close to the time of the year where the
greylag gees flies north to breed.





Hættemåge (*Chroicocephalus ridibundus*) | Black-headed gull |

Lachmöwe | Mouette rieuse

Wingspan: 94-105 cm

Length: 36 cm

Weight: 225 – 350 g

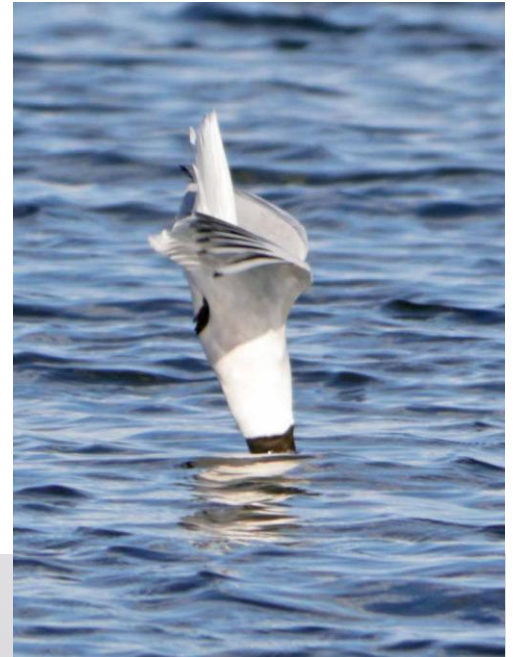
Some 100s breed on the small islets of Roskilde Fjord.



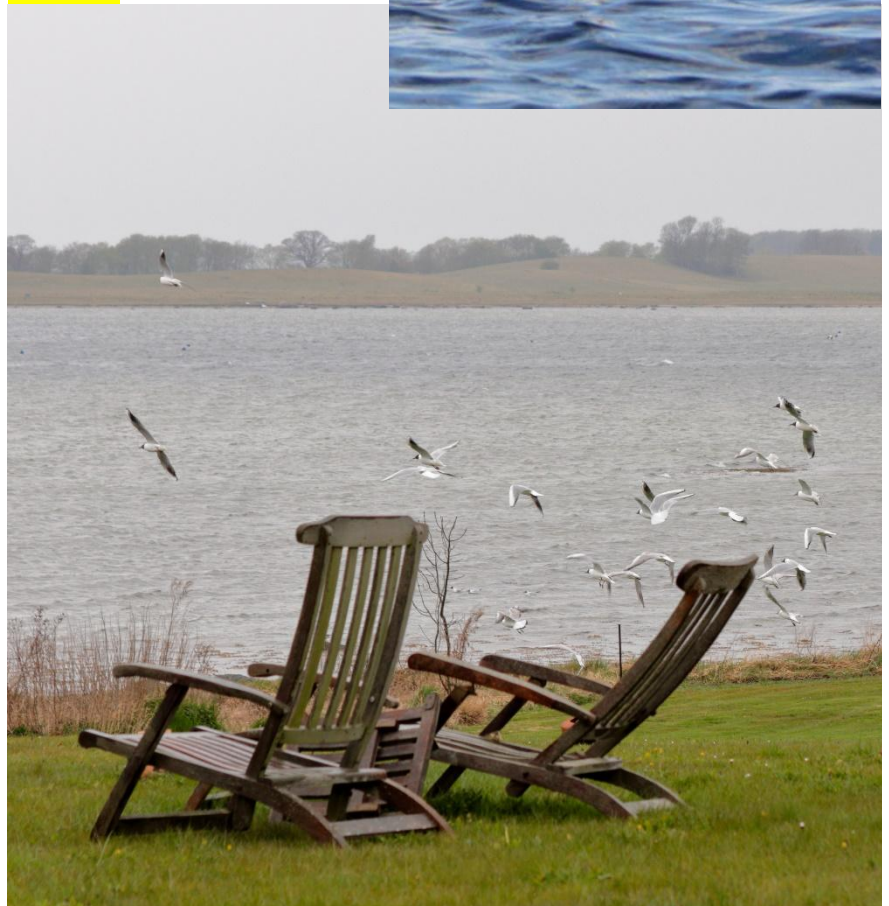
Characteristics:

White head with a dark spot at the ear during winter while chocolate brown hood during summer.

2021-04-25:
Diving gull.



2021-05-04 (below):
Large Crowd that had just left the lawn.



2021-07-24: Split second before the gull is diving in the fjord.



2021-09-19 (background): Black-headed gull landing on the water.
Winter clothing: white head with a dark spot at the ear.





Sildemåge (*Larus fuscus*) | Lesser black-backed Gull | Heringsmöwe |
Goéland brun

Wingspan: 128-148 cm

Length: 55 cm

Weight: 650-1,000 g

Looks like Svartbag (*Larus marinus*) | Great Black-backed Gull.

But the Lesser Black-backed Gull is smaller, has a smaller beak, and yellow legs.

2022-04-11: Lesser black-backed Gull with an eel.





Stormmål (*Larus canus*) | Common gull | Möwe | Mouette

Wingspan: 106-125 cm

Length: 41 cm

Weight: 300-500 g

Looks like a small herring gull but [rounder head
+ more slender beak
+ black eyes
+ black tip on the outermost wing feather].



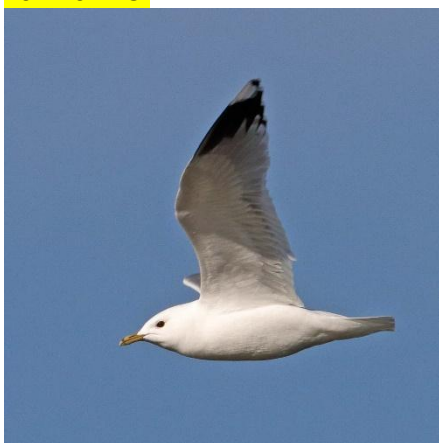
Population of several 100s breed on the small islets of Roskilde Fjord.

Seen all months of the year.



2021-05-01:
Diving gull.

2021-04-28:



2021-06-02:
Common gull on a calm fjord.



2021-06-02:



2021-06-12: Cherry-picking from the trees the driveway.



2021-06-16: Two gulls standing on one leg on the roof ridge awaiting sunset.







Svartbag (*Larus marinus*) | Great black-backed gull | Mantelmöwe | Goéland marin

Wingspan: 150-170 cm
Length: 70 cm
Weight: 1.15-2.15 kg

Characteristics:
[gray-black back
+ flesh colored legs].

The largest member of
the gull family in
Europe.

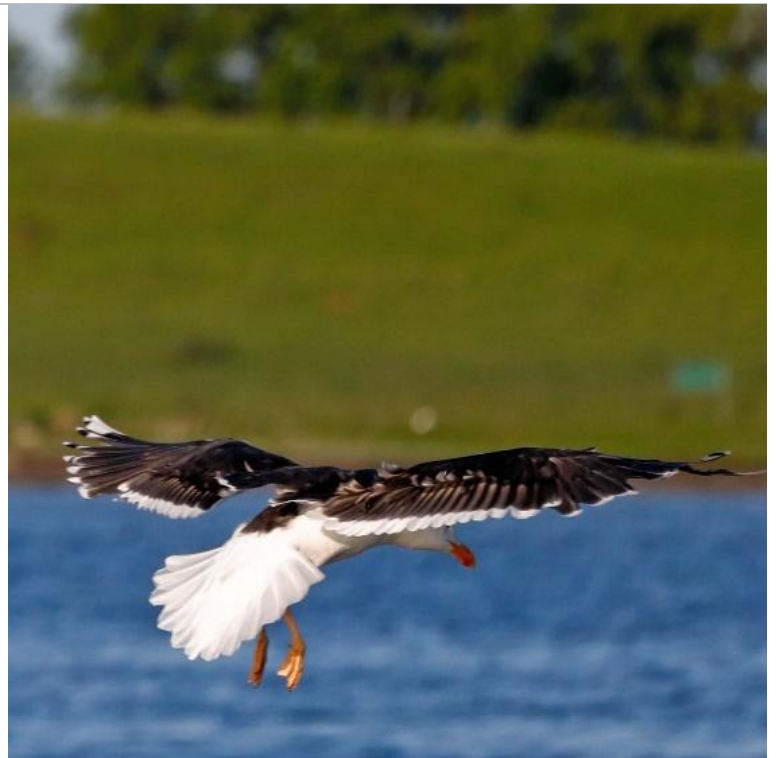


A small population of 30-50 breed on the small islets of Roskilde Fjord.

2023-01-16: 2K Great black-backed gull flying along our coastline. The adult has dark charcoal grey back and top of wing.



2021-05-28: Adult Great black-backed gull landing on the fjord 100-150m from Sildehøjgaard.



2023-02-04: Photo from an early winter morning.



2022-03-15: Courting on the short promontory 200m to the south



2202-03-15: Lift-off from the short promontory 200m to the south.



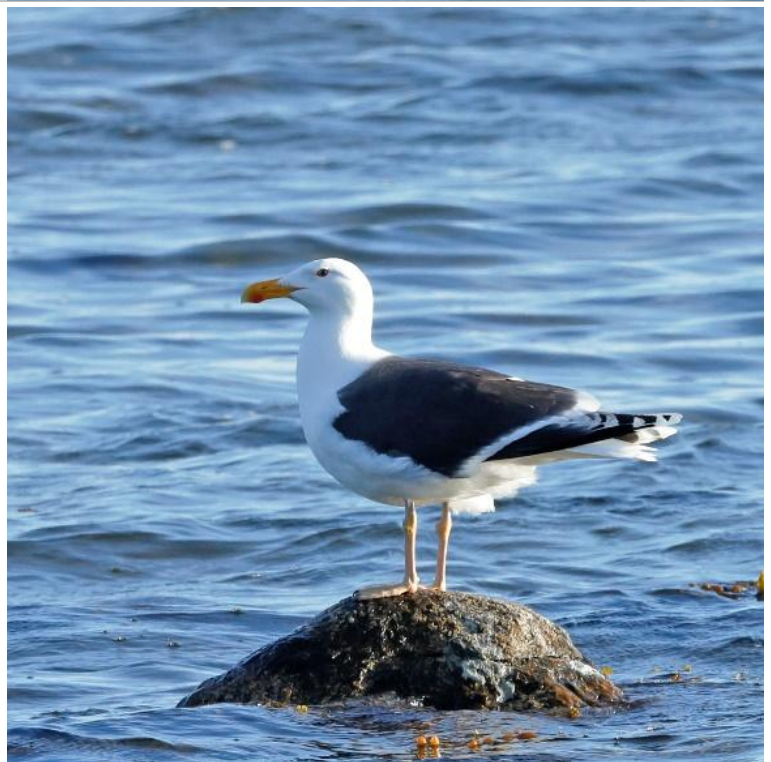
2021-06-16:

Great black-backed gull lift-off after having been swimming around fishing boat for a while in the middle of fjord.



2021-06-16:

Great black-backed gull on a boulder 50m from the lawn and immediately after flying towards Eskilsø.





2021-07-29: Lift off just outside the lawn.



2021-08-01:..“Shot” while floating in the air over the house.



2024-09-28: Great black-backed gull over the fjord.



© Finn Ritslev



Sølvmåge (*Larus argentatus*) | Herring gull | Silbermöwe |
Goéland argenté

Wingspan: 130-158 cm
Length: 60 cm
Weight: 750-1,250 g



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PHOTO

The herring gull looks like common gull but

- [flat head
- + strong yellow beak with orange dot below
- + “evil” yellow eyes
- + silvery top
- no black dot on tip of the outermost wing feather].

Population of 1,500-2,000 breed on the small islets of Roskilde Fjord



2023-04-02: Herring gull with a clam



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PHOTO



FINN RITSLEV
PHOTO



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PHOTO

2020-05-17 (left):
Herring gull with a common mussel in its beak.



2020-05-29 (left):
Herring gull preparing to fish in the fjord.



2021-06-07:
Herring gulls
leaving the
lawn.



2021-06-13: Herring gull resting on the lawn.



2021-07-21: Series with two Herring gulls hunting a third that holds a biscuit on the beak.



2021-10-29: Young Herring gull shortly after the last move of the lawn in 2021.



2021-11-06: This herring gull for shure didn't like having the Crow around on the lawn.





2023-11-12: Young Herring gull on the top of the flagpole.





Terns



***Dvärgterne** (*Sternula albifrons*) | Little tern | Zwergseeschwalbe | Sterne naine

Wingspan: 48-55 cm

Length: 24 cm [yellow beak with black tip]

Weight: 50-65 g

Not seen on Roskilde Fjord for more than twenty years. At its peak 30 breeding pairs on Lilleø and the south-eastern part of Eskilsø.

Population in Europe decreased because of habitat loss, pollution and human disturbance.

The species is a migratory bird that winters in Western Africa or as far as South Africa.



***Fjordterne** (*Sterna hirundo*) | Common tern | Flußseeschwalbe | Sterne pierregarin

Wingspan: 82-95 cm

Length: 35 cm

Weight: 80-150 g

The Common tern arrives to Denmark late April and leaves in August-September for the coasts of Western Africa or even South Africa.

Small population breeds on the small islets of Roskilde Fjord.

Hard to distinguish from Artic tern.

The Common tern has an orange/reddish beak with a black tip, rather short side tail feathers, the black top on the head goes directly over in the white feathers of face and under body, and longer legs.

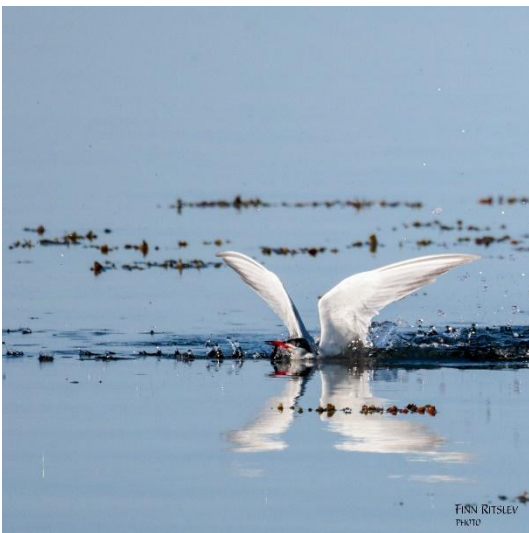
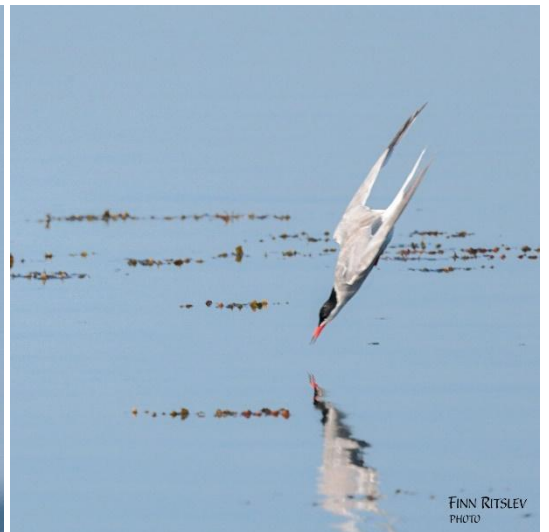
2024-05-08: Common tern and Eider-male



2023-06-14: Common tern fishing close to our beach



2023-06-14: Succesfull fishing close to our beach





2021-07-20:

From a group of three Common terns that all were fishing close to the reed bed. However, I only "shot" one at a time.



2023-07-20: Fishing just outside the reeds.



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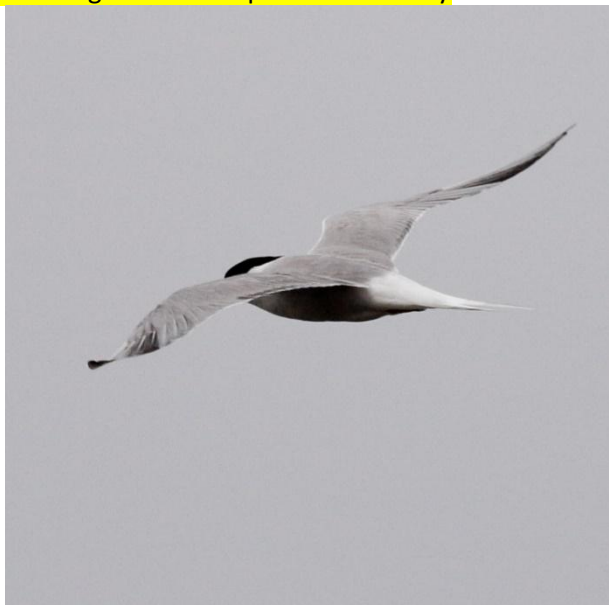
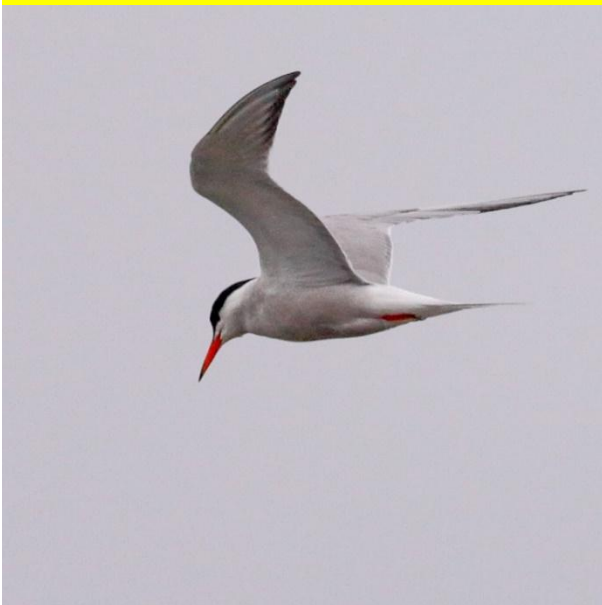


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2022-07-21: Common tern fishing close to our beach –50-75 m away.



2021-07-28: There were two Common terns – but I never got both sharp simultaneously.



2024-07-31: Common tern (distance 50m)

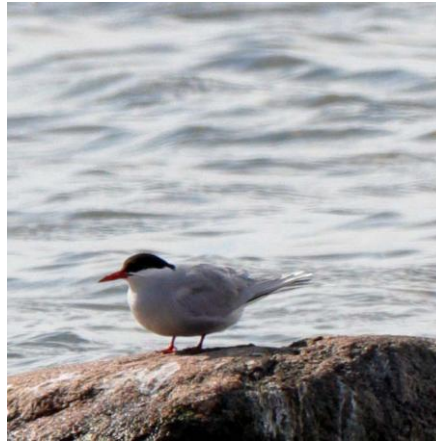


2024-08-02: Common tern fishing between Sildehøjgaard and the marina (distance 100m)





***Havterne** (*Sterna paradisaea*) | Arctic tern | Küstenseeschwalbe | Sterne arctique



Wingspan: 80-95 cm
Length: 35 cm
Weight: 80-120 g

Characteristics:

- [red beak with black peak in May
- + long tail
- + short red legs]

2021-04-28 (right):
Arctic tern sitting on boulder in the fjord – likely a female waiting to be fed by the male.



Small population breeds on the small islets of Roskilde Fjord.

The Arctic tern is a migratory bird that arrives to Denmark in late April and leaves in August. Their migration (like that of the



Common tern) follows the Atlantic coast of Europe, but they go further south and some of them reach Antarctica, a trip of more than 17,000 km.

2021-04-30:

Arctic terns “shot” from our shoreline only two days after my first observation that year – one catching a fish on the fly some 10m from the sitting tern.

The tern on the boulder sat there observing the flying tern for at least 5 min. while the other was fishing. However, the sitting bird never received anything !!



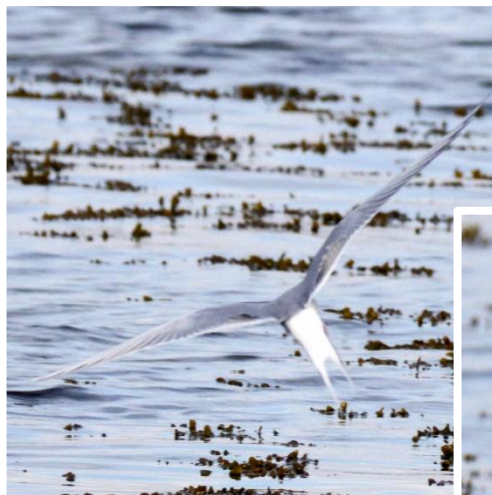


2024-05-03: Arctic tern in typical fishing position



2024-05-05: Male Arctic tern on his way for more fish for the female on the boulder





2021-05-07:
Arctic tern landing on boulder on the reef stretching out from Sildehøjgaard. It left after only resting a few seconds.



2021-05-18:
The photo to the right shows how the tern uses its tail to initiate a sharp turn away from the shore. Furthermore, note the very long tail fins.



2023-06-30: Arctic tern bringing a small fish to its chicks



FINN RITSLEV
PHOTO



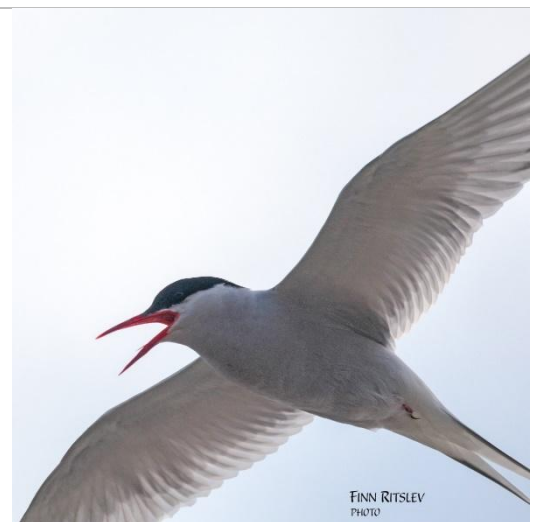
2024-06-13: Arctic tern on its way from the marina and south along the coastline



2024-06-13: Arctic tern on fishing close to our costline - .3/4 sec between the first and the last photo !!



2023-06-30: Arctic tern flying 8-10m above me trying to harrass me as the chicks apparently were in the neighborhood.



2023-07-01: Arctic tern over the Northern outer pier of the nearby marina



2023-07-01: Juvenil Arctic tern at the nearby marina



2023-07-01: Juvenil Arctic tern diving for fish at the nearby marina.



2022-07-03: Learning juvenil Arctic terns fly:





2022-07-03: Juvenil Artic terns that have been flying for just a few weeks



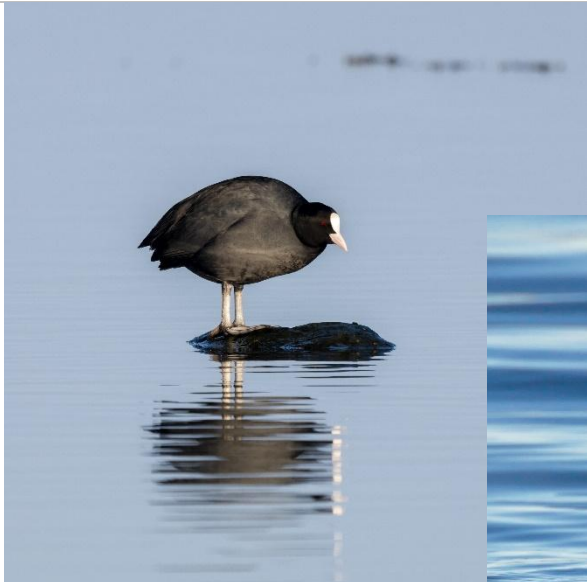
2023-07-07: Flying along the coastline



2023-07-07: Arctic tern fishing from the Northern other outer pier of the marina







***Blishøne** (*Fulica atra*) | Coot | Wasserhuhn | Foulque

Wingspan: 70-80 cm

Length: 38 cm

Weight: male 750-900 g
female 500-800 g



The grown-up birds winter in lakes and fjords in Denmark while the young birds migrate to Holland, Belgium and Germany.

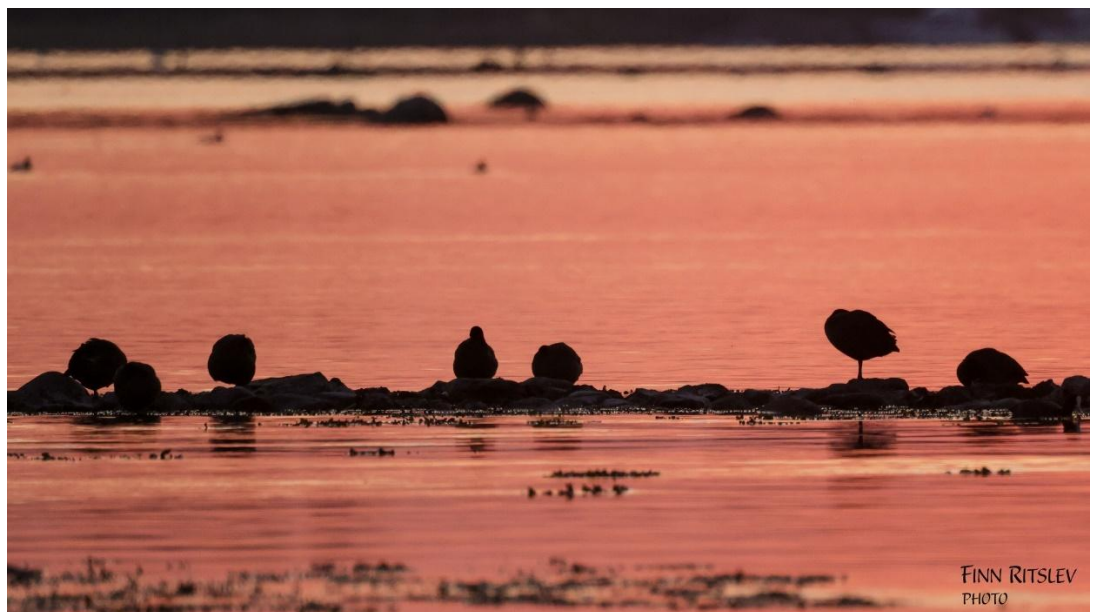
During the winter the population on Roskilde Fjord can grow to many thousands.



From late September and through winter, we might have flocks of several hundred Coots outside the reed bed or 200m from our coast on the open water of the fjord.



2023-05-13: Sildehøjrevet at sunset.



2021-06-08 (left):

Coot fouraging at sunset from its favorite place on the stone reef.

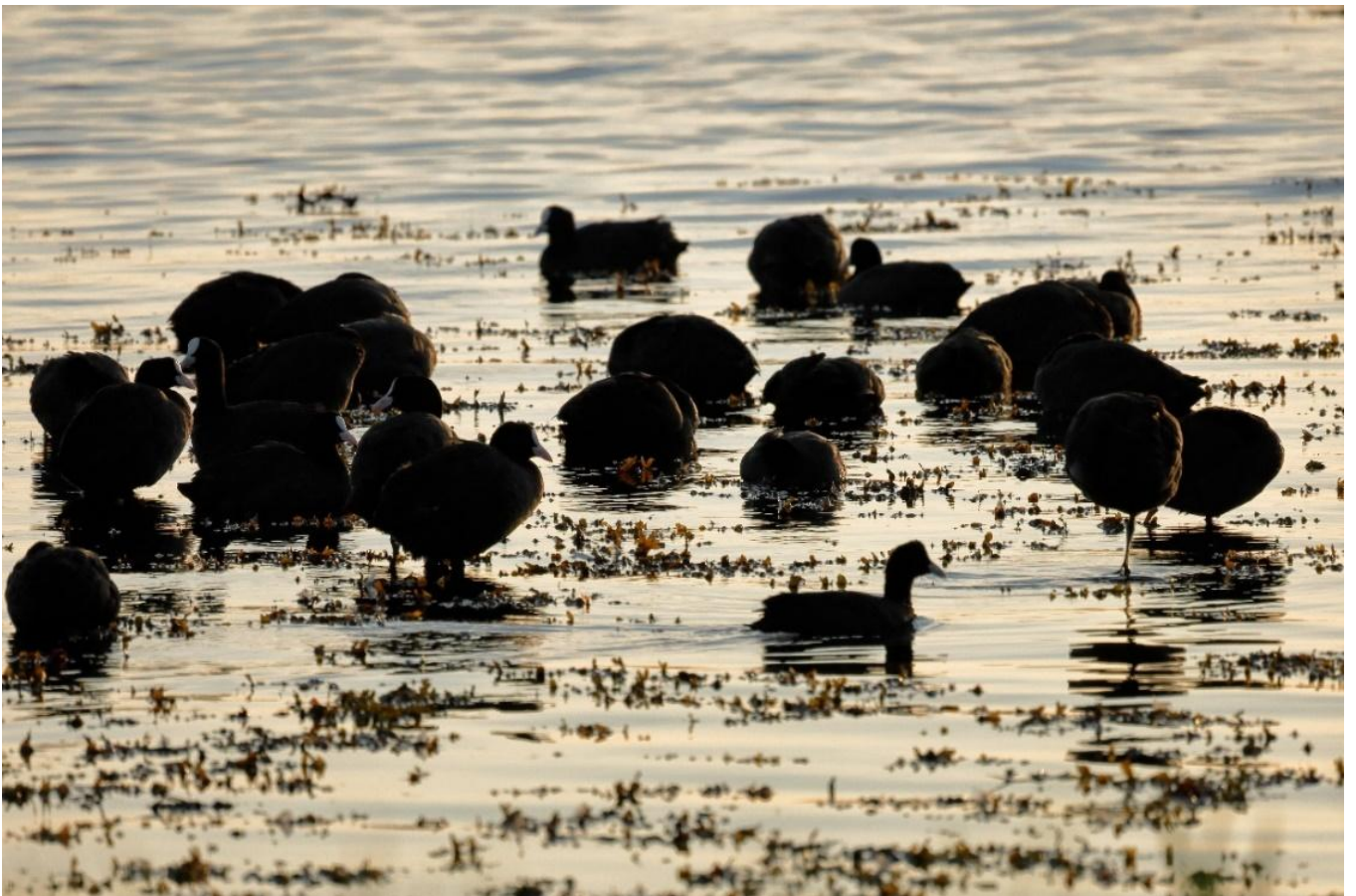


2021-06-12 (right):

Flock of Coots swimming against the waves just outside the reed bed on quite a windy day.



2021-06-22: Sunset



2021-06-23: Landing in the middle of a flock of Coot always present next to the reed bed.



2021-08-18: One of my first photoes with the EOS R6 was a Coot flying outside the lawn aiming for the reed bed.



2021-09-30: Large flock of Coots running for Roskilde Cathedral 11 km to the south.
Most likely because a White Tailed Eagle was flying over the fjord.



2021-11-05: Several hundred Coots swimming on the low sandy part of the fjord.



2021-11-09: Flock close to the reed bed neighboring the lawn.



2021-11-14: On many mornings during up to 500 Coots were passing by swimming southwards. Here they are close to the long peninsula with Oddestenen that stretches far out in the fjord south of here.





Ederfugl/edderfugl (*Somateria mollissima*) | Common eider | Eiderente | Eider

Wingspan: 80-108 cm

Length: 60-70 cm

Weight: 1.2 - 2.8 kg

Population of 1,200 eiders breed on the small islets of Roskilde Fjord.

30% of the Northwestern European stock of eiders is wintering in Denmark.

Arrives to the fjord in February and leaves when the duckling can fly late July.

Common eider females and chicks can be hard to see when they are swimming far out on the fjord. They are mostly foraging on low water 50-150 m from the coast line. They eat predominantly common mussel.



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2023-02-28 (early morning): Female and male flying just above the water of the fjord.



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PHOTO



2024-03-09 08:25: Male Common Eiders courting a female



2023-03-26: Female Common Eider. It's seldom that the tip of the wing touches the surface of the water.



2023-03-31: Male and female swimming in the marina



2023-03-31: Close to the coastline



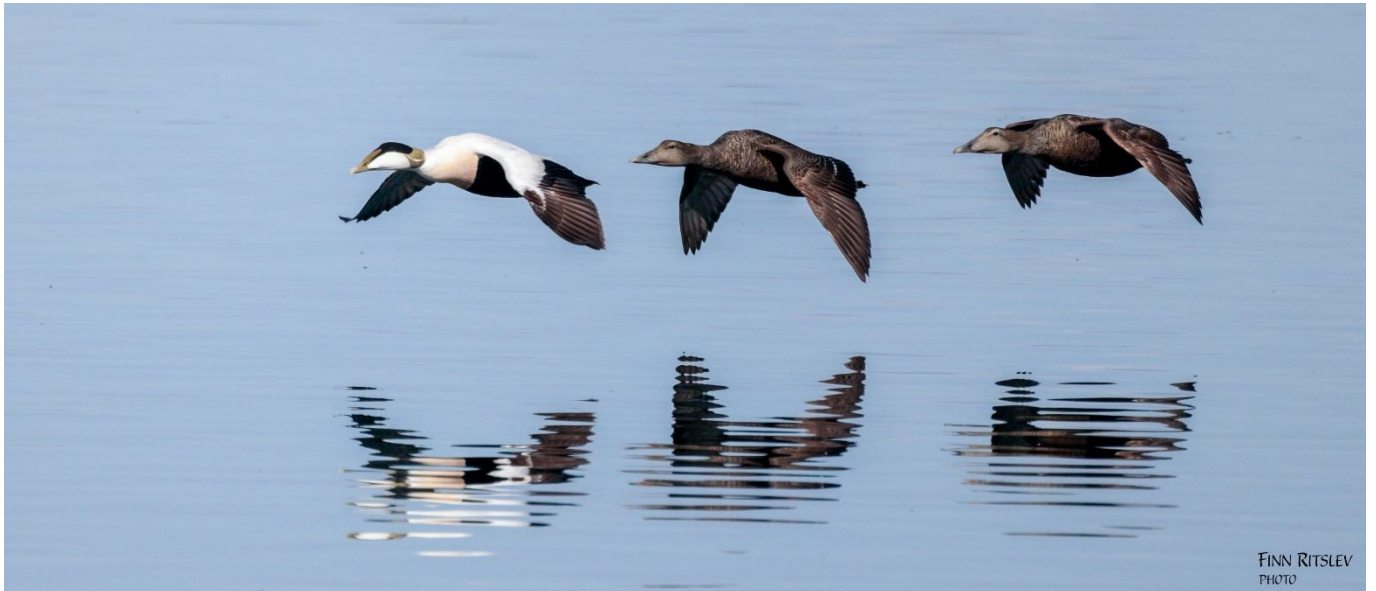
2021-04-23: Male and female eiders.



2023-04-23: Taken from the outer pier of the marina.



2023-04-28: Male Eider and two females taken from the marina.



2021-05-06 (early morning):

First "shot" of chicks 2021. "Shot" two flocks both with chicks swimming 20m from our shoreline. This one with 2 female + 3 male, the other with 3 female + 1 male.



2021-05-07 (right):

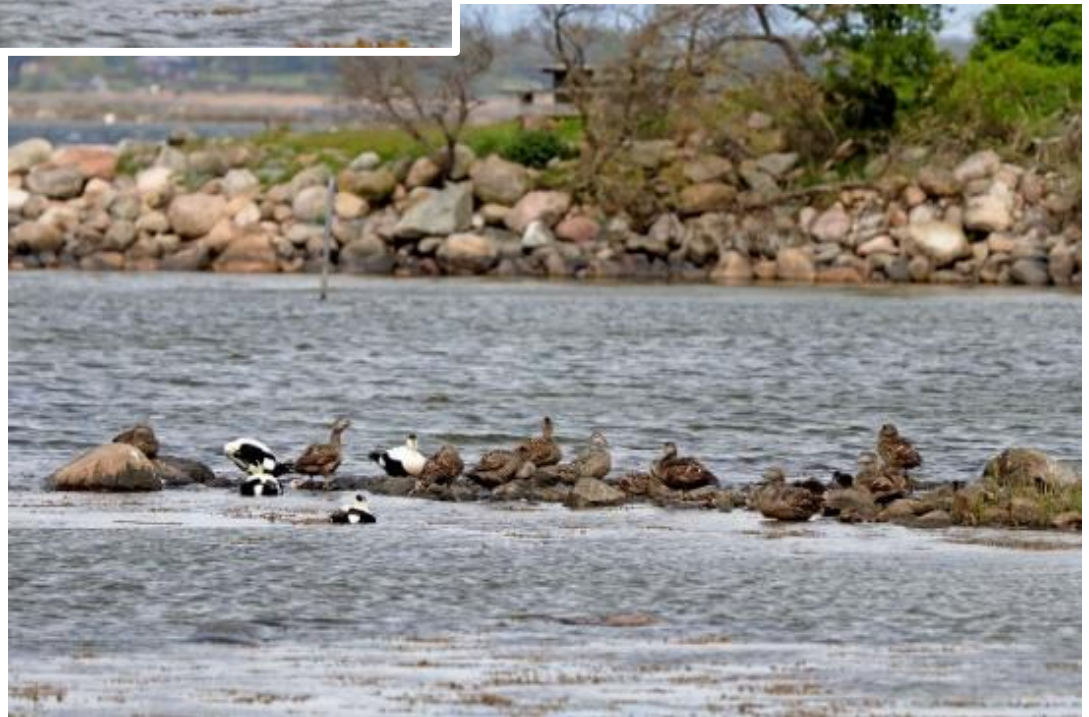
Group of 3 males + 6 female + 7 chicks. Last year, same place, also in early May, I took a similar photo of eiders with chicks.



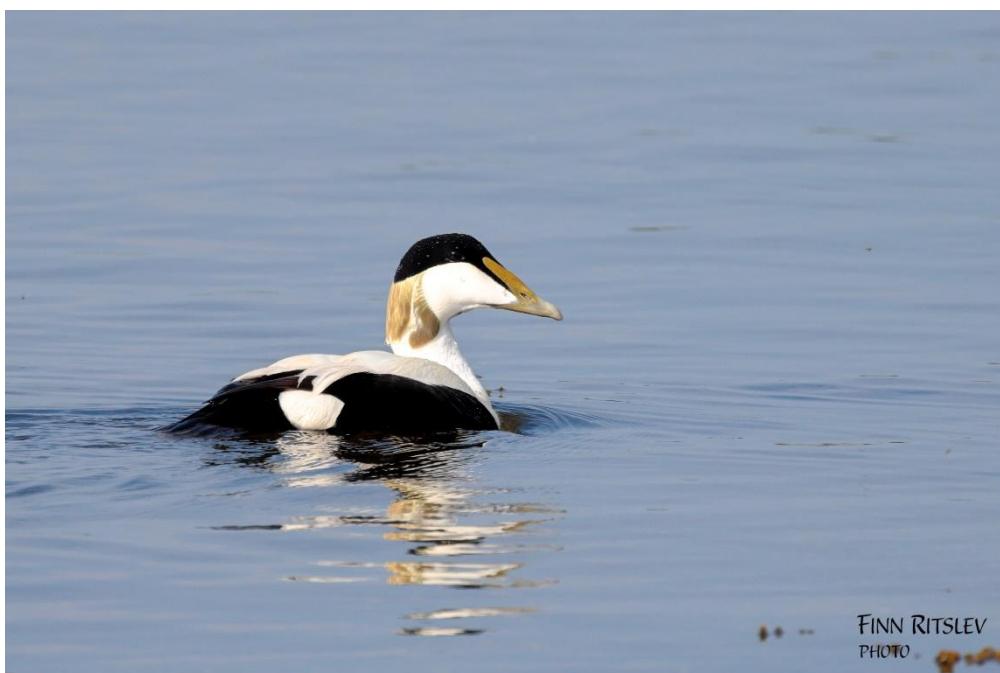


2021-05-11:

Male + females + chicks on land and in the water on the small islet just south of the marina.



2023-05-21: From the marina



FINN RITSLEV
PHOTO

2021-05-24 (early morning):

Eider kindergarden - flock of 25+ chicks + 5 female + 2 male on a day with calm sea.



2024-05-25: Eider-females and juvenils 200m to the south



2021-05-31: Low flying female eiders.



2021-06-03:

Three female eiders taking care of a flock of more than 40 chicks 75m from our coastline – and no males!

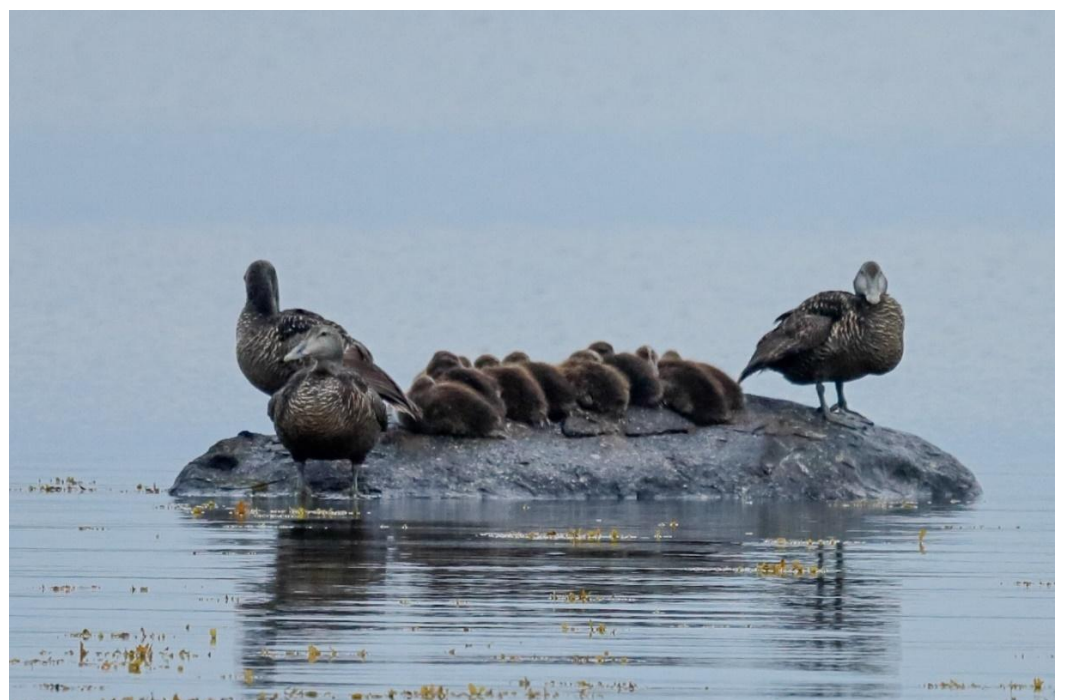


2021-06-13:

Windy summer day - 9 m/s wind and gusts of 15-17 m/s – just like the preceeding day.



2021-06-30: Three female eiders protecting a flock of young chicks.





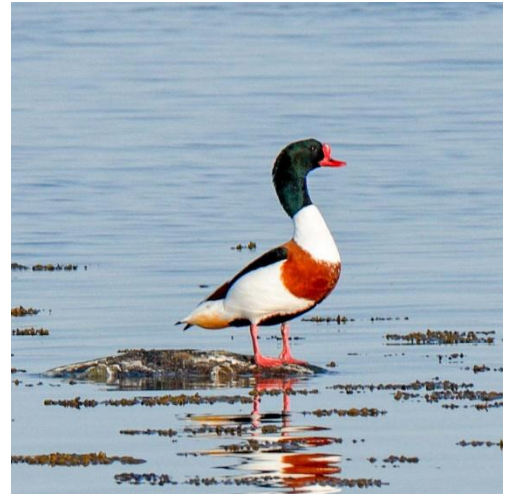
Gravand (*Tadorna tadorna*) | Shelduck | Brandente | Tadorne de Belon

Wingspan: 110-133 cm

Length: 61 cm

Weight: 1.1 – 1.45 kg

Small population breeds on the small islets of Roskilde Fjord. However, not regularly.



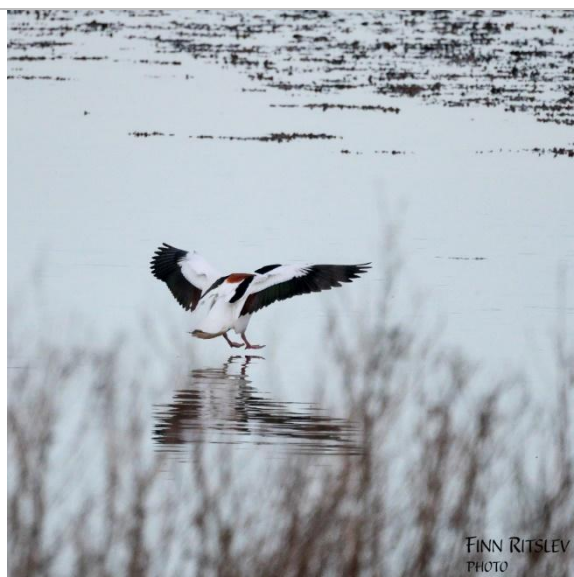
Population of around 100 breeds on the fjord.

Overwintering: 100s.

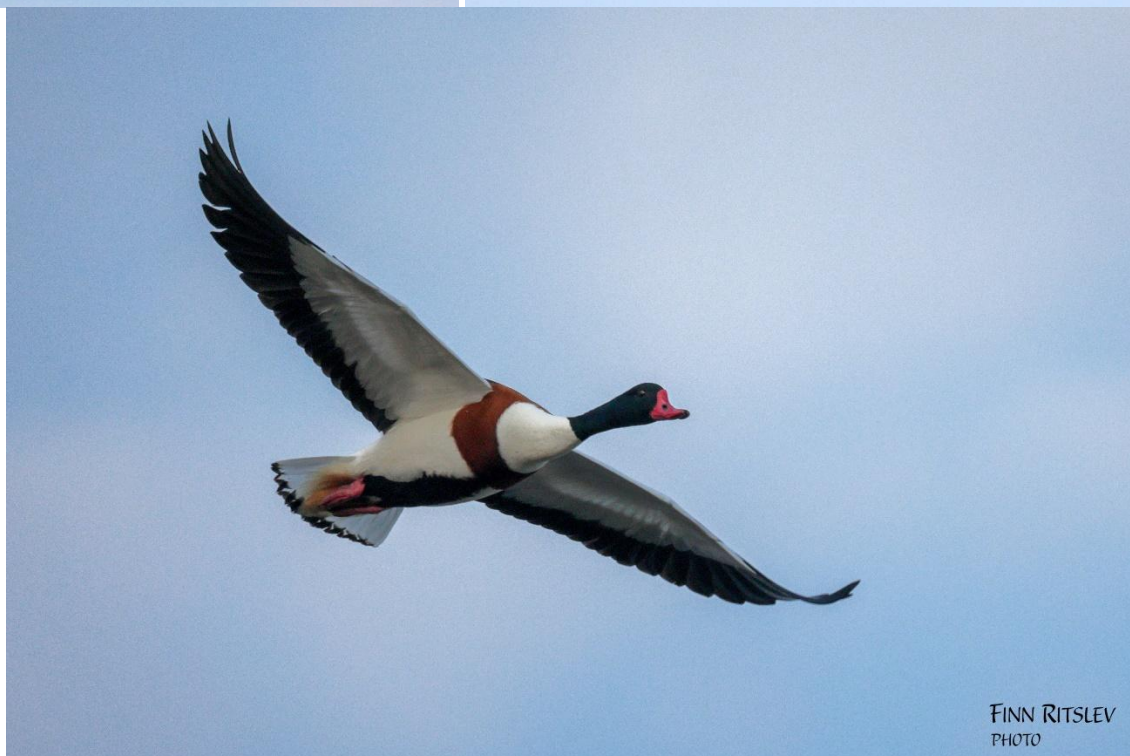
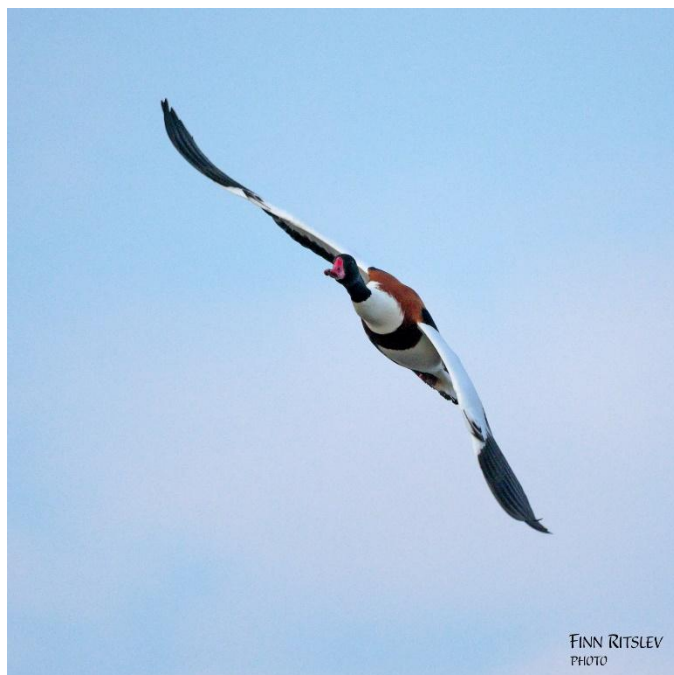
2022-04-06: Leaving the lawn together with Wigeons.



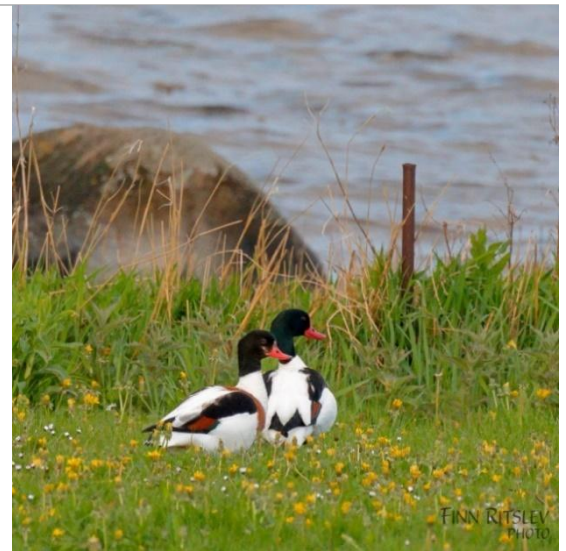
2023-04-29: Landing just outside the lawn.



2023-05-15: Circling over the reed bed.



2022-05-12: Grassing on the lawn



2021-05-20: Low flying Shelduck flying parallel to the shore south of Sildehøjgaard.



2021-04 and 2021-05:

Most of the spring I observed one couple. However, on a few days 2-3 couples.



2021-06-05:

Flying parallel to the shoreline.



2021-07-22:

Flying parallel to the shoreline.



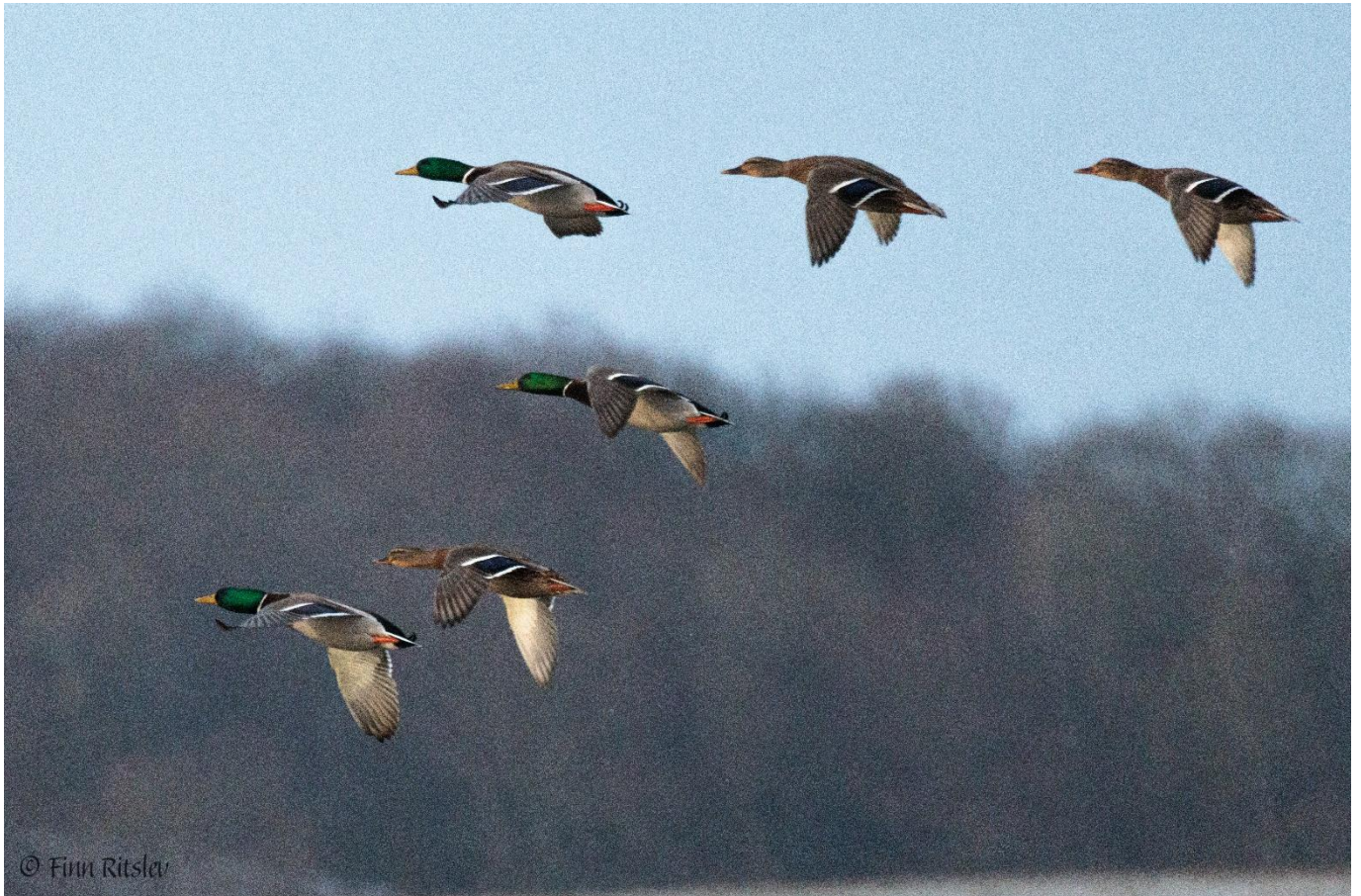


Gråand (*Anas platyrhynchos*) | Mallard | Northern stockente | Canard colvert



Wingspan: 81-98 cm
Length: 58 cm
Weight: 850-1,450 g
Small population breeds on the small islets of Roskilde Fjord.
Overwintering: 100s.

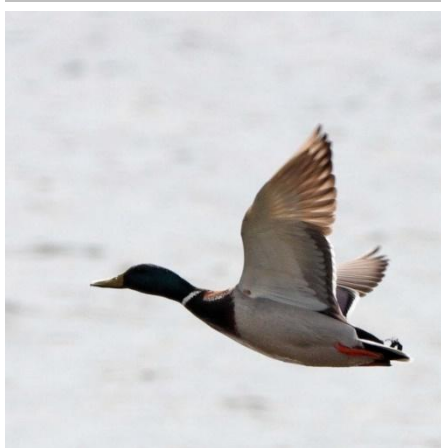
2023-01-04: Male and female Mallards flying along our coastline on an early morning



2023-01-08: Couple resting just outside the reeds south of the marina.



2021-04-15: Mallards (female followed by male) swimming just outside the "harbor" at the end of the lawn.



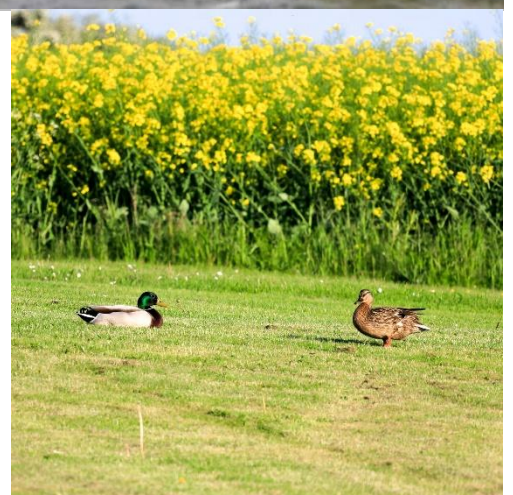
2021-04-28 15:38: Series of male Mallard chasing a female Mallard.

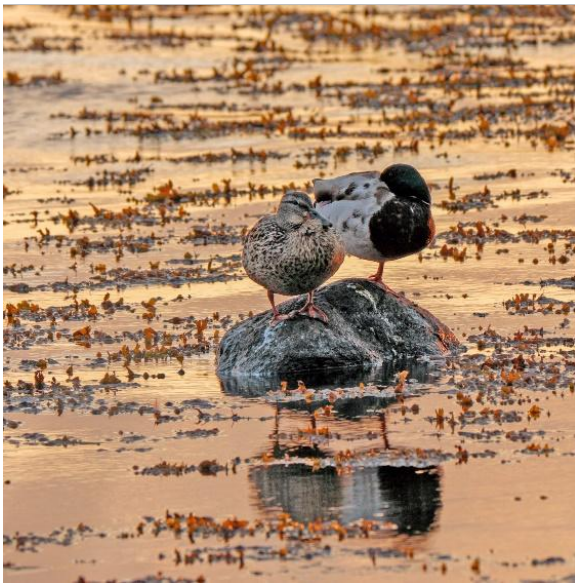


2021-05-19: Male hiding between the boulders where we have a small fresh water spring under the weeping willow in front of the reed bed.



2021-05-29:
Mallard couple on the lawn in 20m from of the apartment and 50m from the water.



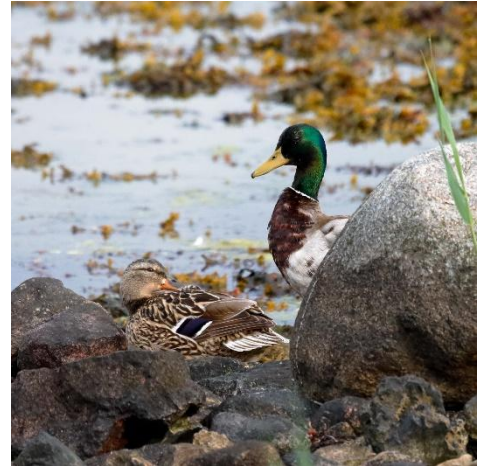


(Left) 2021-06-01 sunset:

The Mallards started resting in the middle of the lawn. Later they decided for a boulder some 10m from the shore on the stone reef close to reed bed.

(Right) 2021-06-02 morning:

Behind the boulder of the small nature "harbor" next to the reed bed.

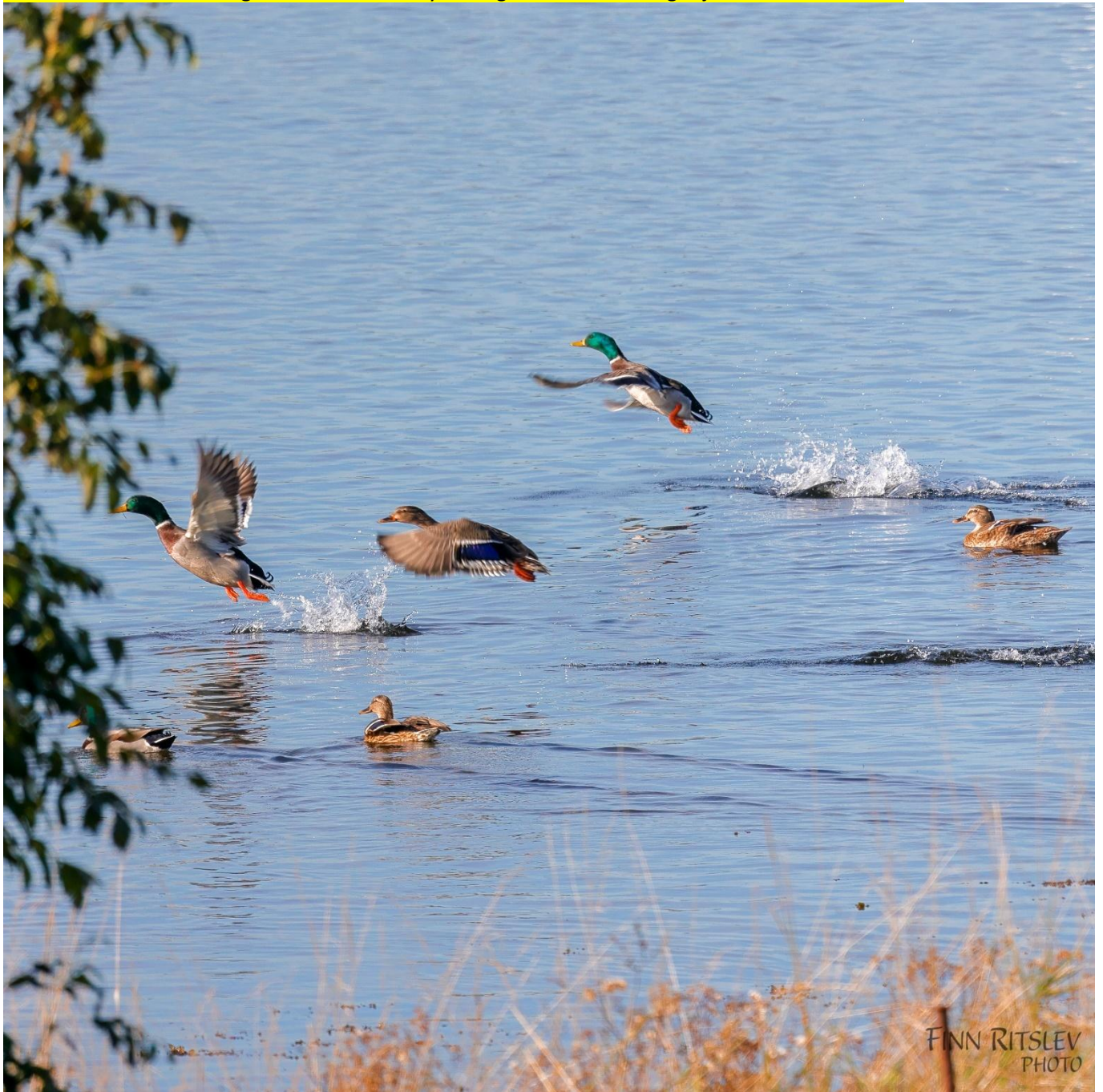


2021-07-07 afternoon:

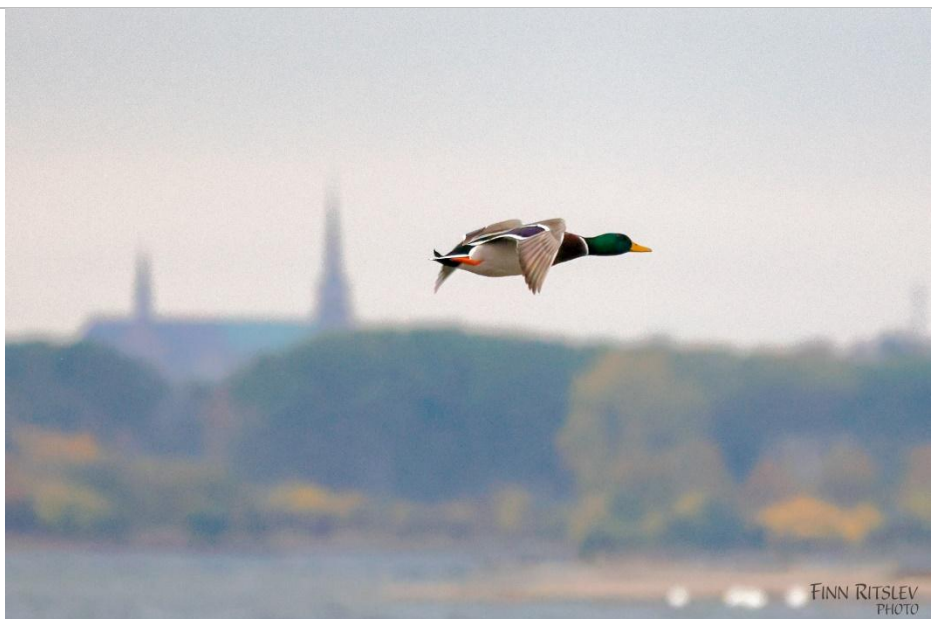
Female and three weeks old chicks quickly swimming away from our narrow sandy beach as I came too close to them – likely resting on the shore.



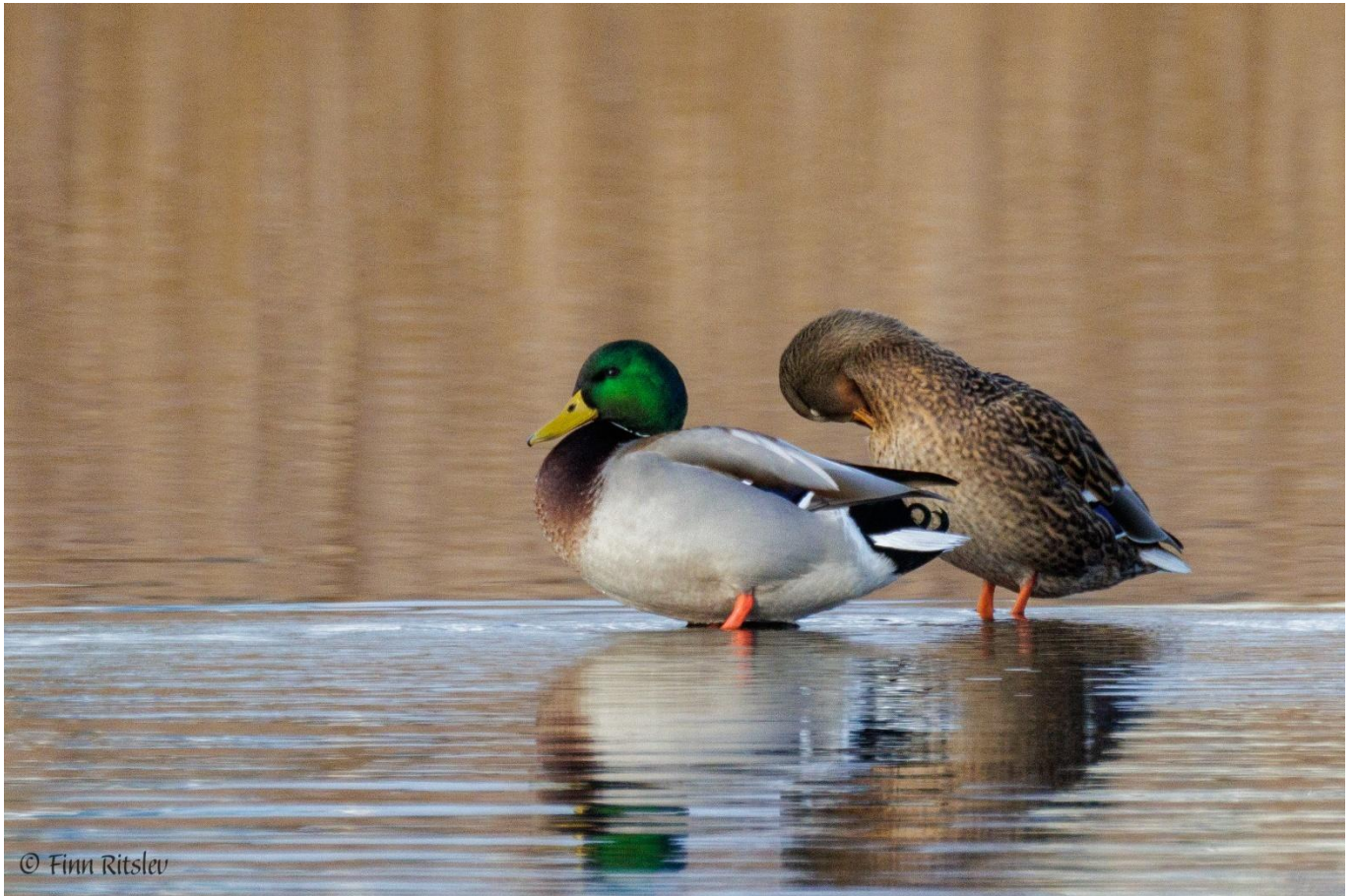
2021-10-07: Flock leaving us after most likely having rested for the night just outside the lawn.



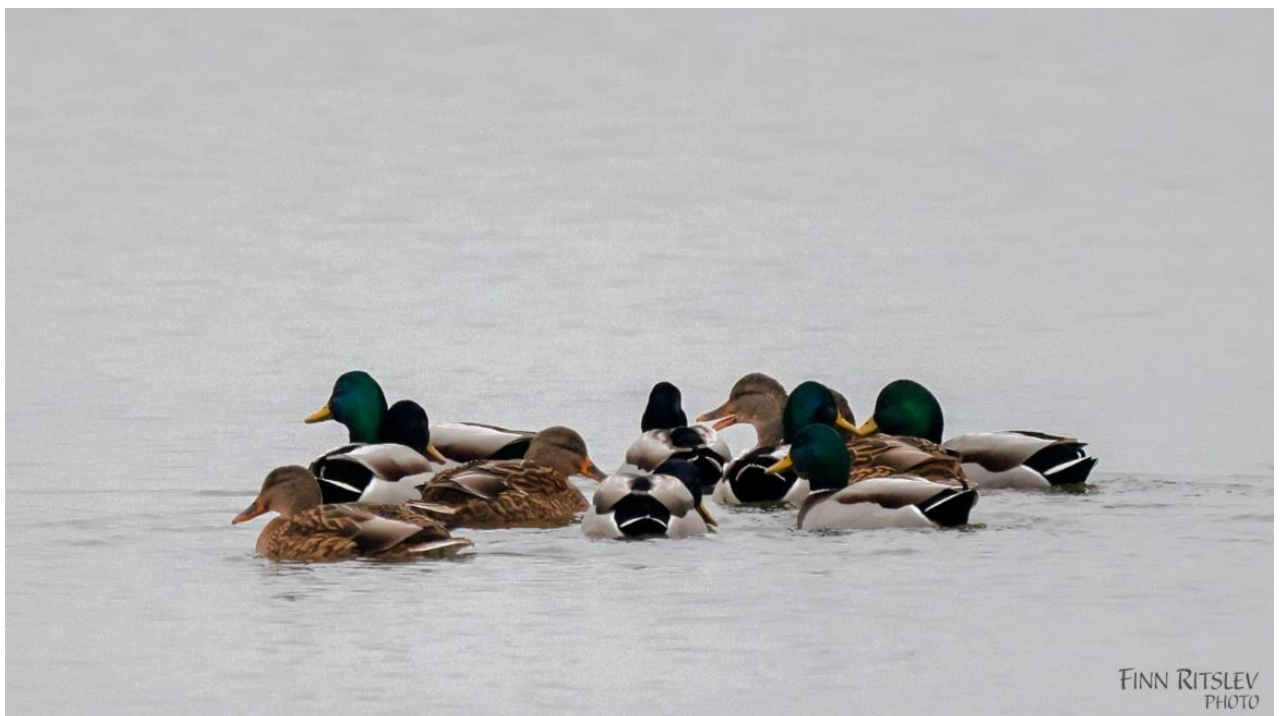
2021-10-24: Flying over the fjord along the shore with Roskilde Cathedral in the background.



2024-12-03: Male and female on the small islets south of the marina



2021-12-10: Crowded flock 50-100m from the coastline just south of Sildehøjgaard.





***Hvinand** (*Bucephala clangula*) |

Goldeneye | Schellente |

Garrot à oeil d'or

Wingspan: 65-80 cm

Length: 46 cm

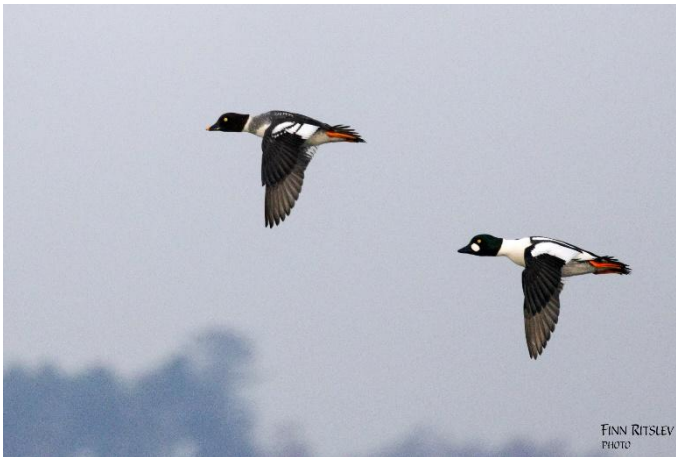
Weight: male 820-1,150 g

female 600- 900 g

Overwintering: 5-8,000.

Most arrive to Denmark in November and return to Finland and Northern Russia in March-April.

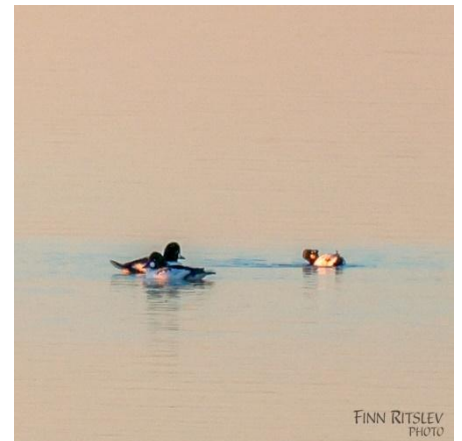
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(Left) 2023-02-09:
Female
Goldeneye
followed by a
male

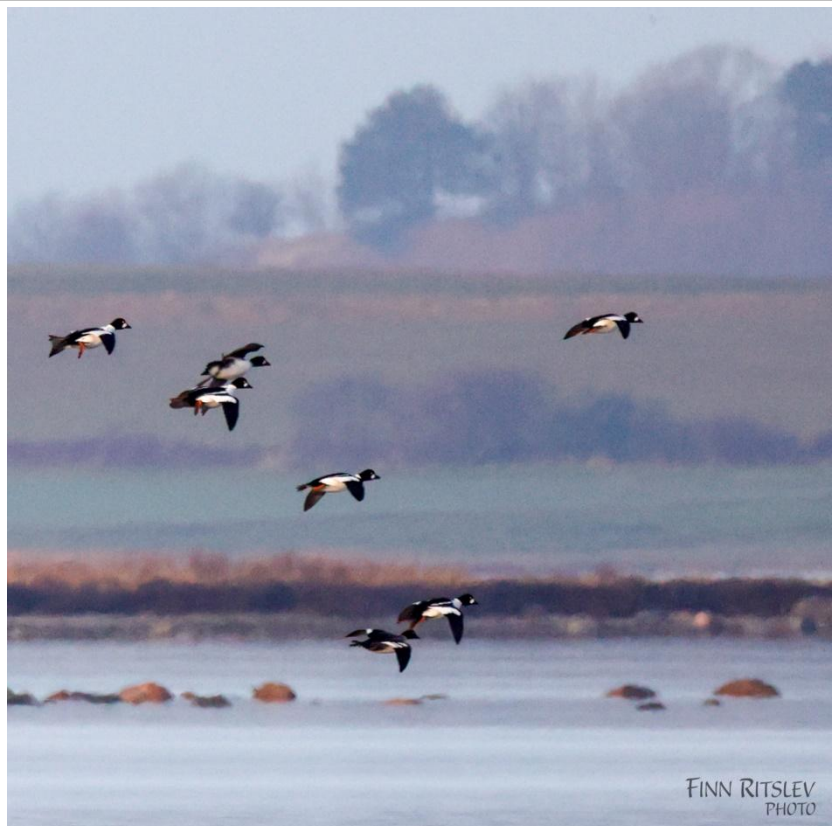
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(Right) 2021-11-22 morning: Flock of Goldeneyes swimming where the fjord is deep.



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2021-12-14: Flock of Goldeneyes preparing for landing just North of Eskilsø close to Jyllinge Holme.



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PHOTO

2021-12-26:
Goldeneyes
floating 100 m
from Eskilsø.



FINN RITSLEV
PHOTO



FINN RITSLEV
PHOTO



FINN RITSLEV
PHOTO

2022-01-03: Flock of Goldeneyes in the middle of the fjord on a windy day with Eskilsø in the background.



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PHOTO



2022-01-13: Goldeneye
landing 2-300m from the
coastline.



2022-02-14: Male Goldeneyes



2022-02-21: Male





***Knarand** (*Anas strepera*) | Shoveler | Löffelente | Canard chipecau

Wingspan: 84-95 cm

Length: 51 cm

Weight: male 700-900 g
female 650-850 g

Very small population on
Roskilde Fjord.



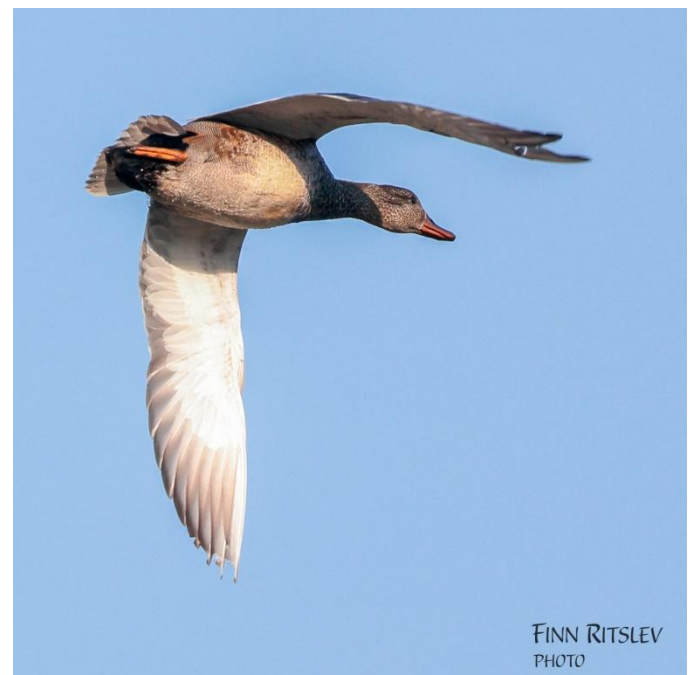
2021-05-21:

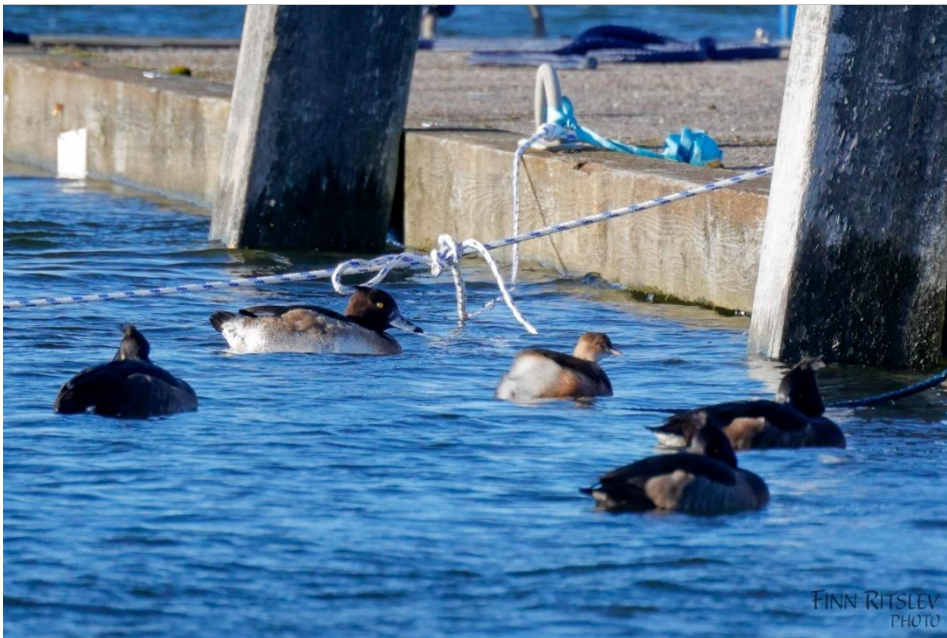
Female Shoveler followed by male
towards a belt of bladder wrack.

Swimming just outside our lot on
top the stone reef that stretches
way out in the fjord from the lawn
next to the reed bed.

2023-03-10: Female and male Shovelers in the Marina in Fehmern-Süd.







Lille lappedykker (*Tachybaptus ruficollis*) | Little Grebe | Zwergtaucher | Grèbe castagneux

Wingspan: 40-45 cm

Length: 27 cm

Weight: 100-200 g

2022-01-17: Lonely little grebe seeking shelter in the marina together with four female ducks from gale strong winds.

2023-11-20: From the marina.



2023-02-13: From the marina taken shortly after sunrise while overcast:



... and 45 min later in full sun:



2023-03-16: From the marina taken 1½ hour after sunrise while overcast.
I don't know what kind of small fish that it had caught.





Lille skallesluger (*Mergellus albellus*) | Smew | Zwergsäger | Canard chipeau

Wingspan: 55-69 cm

Length: 41 cm

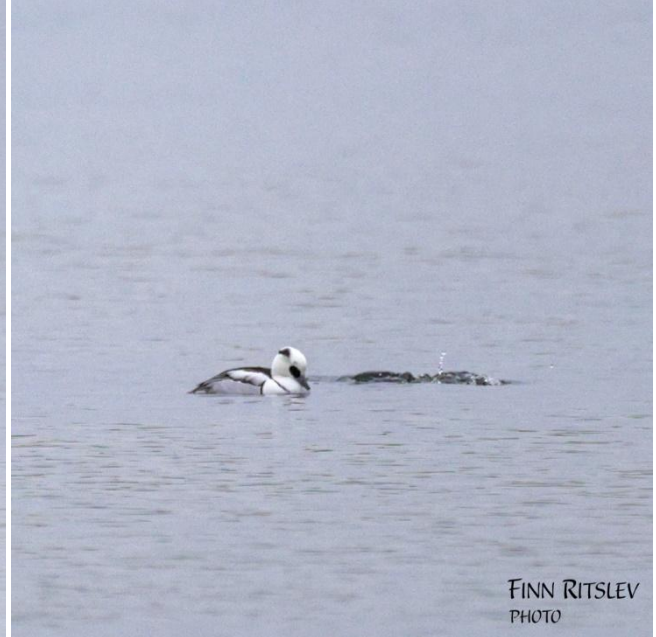
Weight: male 600-800 g

female 500-650 g

The only living member of the genus *Mergellus*. This genus is closely related to *Mergus* and is sometimes included in it, though it might be closer to the Goldeneyes (*Bucephala*).

2,000-5,000 migrates to Denmark from Finland and Northern Rusland. The total NorthWest and Central European population estimated at 28.000–41.000 birds.

2023-01-23: Lonely Smew surrounded by Golden Eyes 400m from our coastline.





Pibeand (*Anas penelope*) | Wigeon | Pfeifente | Canard pipe

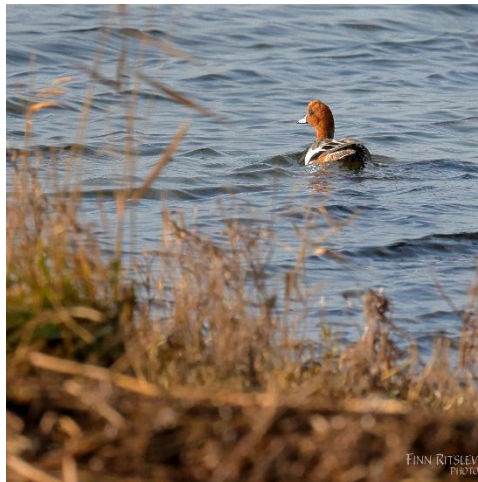
Wingspan: 75-86 cm

Length: 46 cm

Weight: 500-850 g

Breeds regularly in

Peaks with 1,000s
in March-April.



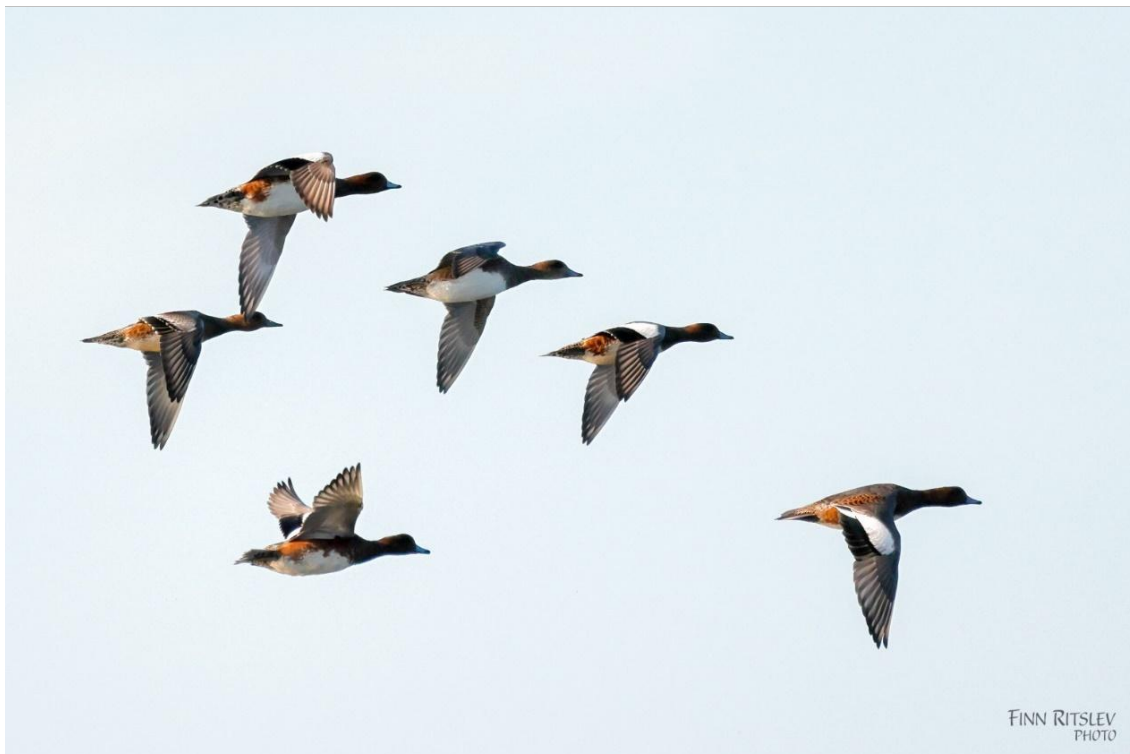
very small number on Esbjerg.

of migrating Wigeons in September-October and

2021-09-20 (left): The first Wigeons have returned from their summer migration to Northern Scandinavia. The flock was eating where the bottom drops from knee deep to 2-5 m deep water.



2021-09-29:
Flying parallel to
the coastline
close to of the
lawn

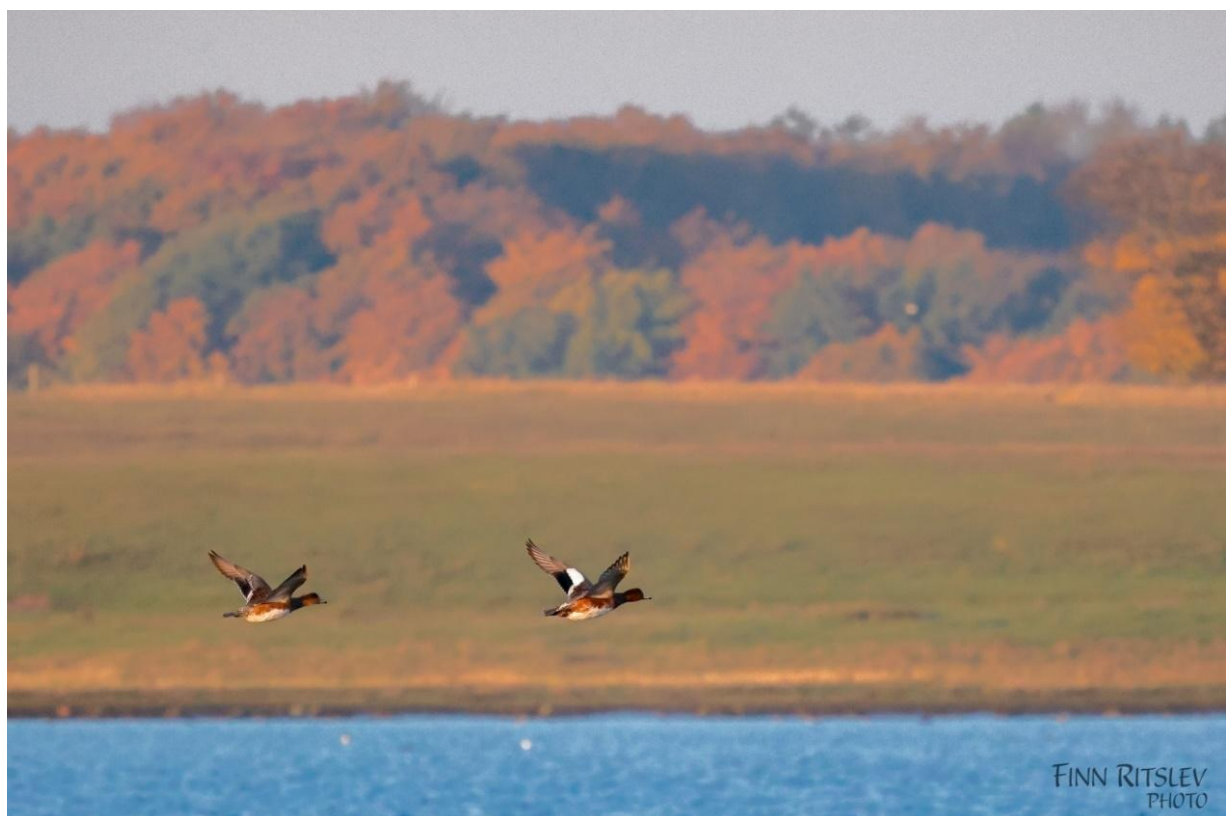


2021-10-19: Two males and a female below flying parallel to the coast next to the lawn.



2021-10-24: Landing 150 m from the coastline where the fjord is still knee deep.

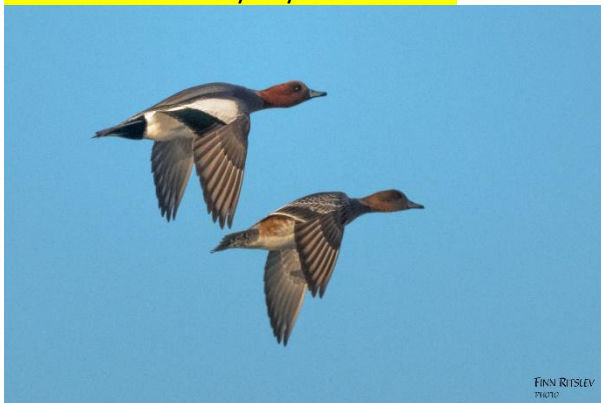
2021-10-25: Fall colored trees on Eskilsø just across from Sildehøjgaard.



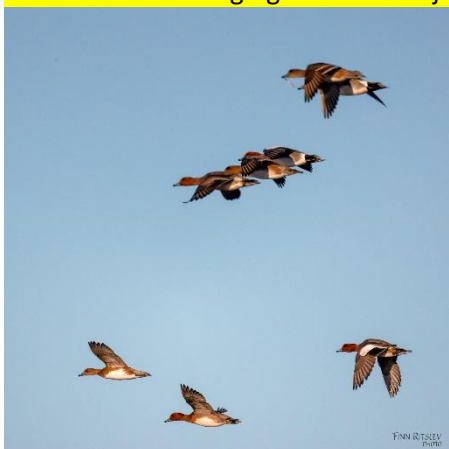
2021-11-15: Busy eating sea weeds 100m from our coast line.



2022-12-16: A frosty day in December



2021-12-27: Foraging in the fields just north of Sildehøjgaard on a frosty winterday.





2021-01-15:
Excerpt from flock of maybe 100 Wigeons that was grassing on our lawn while covered with wet snow. Below a large flock of Wigeons leaving the waters just behind our redbeds a week earlier.

2021-01-07: Flock of Wigeons leaving the waters just behind our redbeds.



2022-03-02: Large flock just south of our lawn



2021-03-22:

Flock of 50+ Wigeons grassing on our lawn. The photo was taken shortly before they left Denmark for their breeding grounds in the north.



2023-03-28: Flying close to the reeds.



Skeand (*Spatula clypeata*) | Northern shoveler | Löffelente | Canard souchet

Wingspan: 70-84 cm

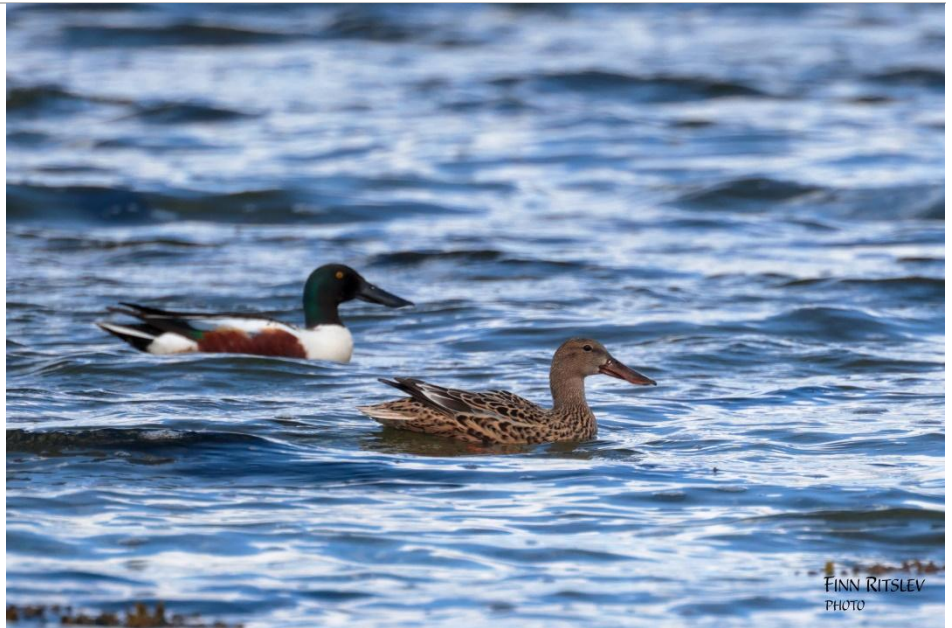
Length: 51 cm

Weight: 500-700 g

Only a few breed in Denmark.

Smaller than Mallards.

2023-05-03:



2023-05-03: Flying over the fjord 200m south of the lawn





***Stor skallesluger** (*Mergus merganser*) | Common merganser | Gänsesäger | Harle bièvre

Wingspan: 82-97 cm
Length: 62 cm
Weight:
male 1.55-1.65 kg
female 1.05-1.25 kg

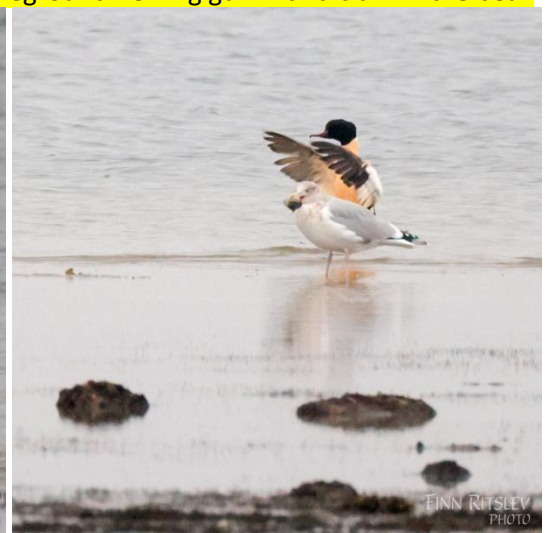
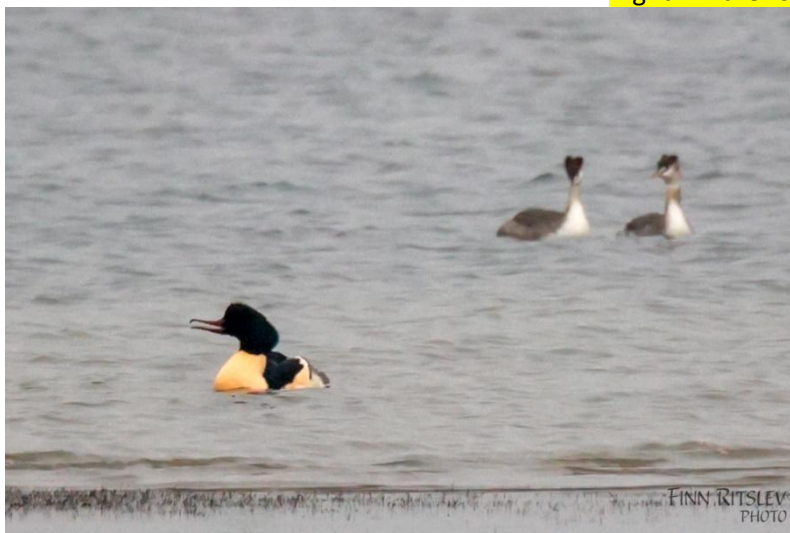


Only a few 1,000 are overwintering.
Most migrants are from Finland and arrives in November.

2021-12-09: Male Common merganser 100 m from the coastline on an overcast winter day with low water level.

Left: In the background two Great crested grebes.

Right: In the foreground herring gull with a clam in the beak.



2021-12-09: Common merganser 100 m from the coastline on an overcast winter day with very low water level.
Female in front followed by three male.

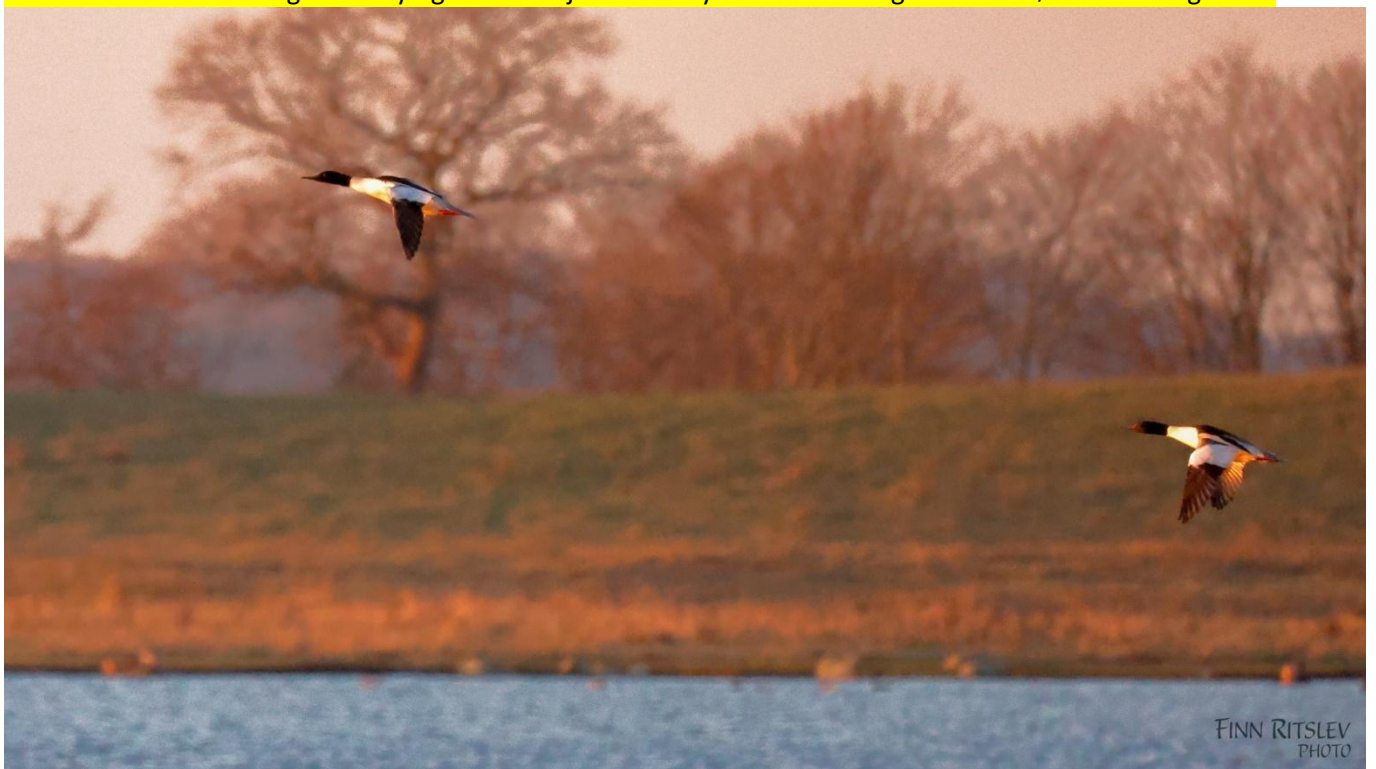


2021-12-10: 50+ Common merganser swimming parallel to the coast on the flat water 50 m from the coast.



2021-12-20:

Two male common merganser flying over the fjord a sunny winter morning with Eskilsø in the background



2023-01-13: Male common merganser shot 3 min. after sunrise.

(Right) 2022-01-11:
Female and male common merganser



(Left) 2022-03-13:
Female Common merganser behind a Coot on a sunny day.



2023-02-13: Female and male Common merganers taking off from the nearby marina (Jyllinge Lystbådehavn).

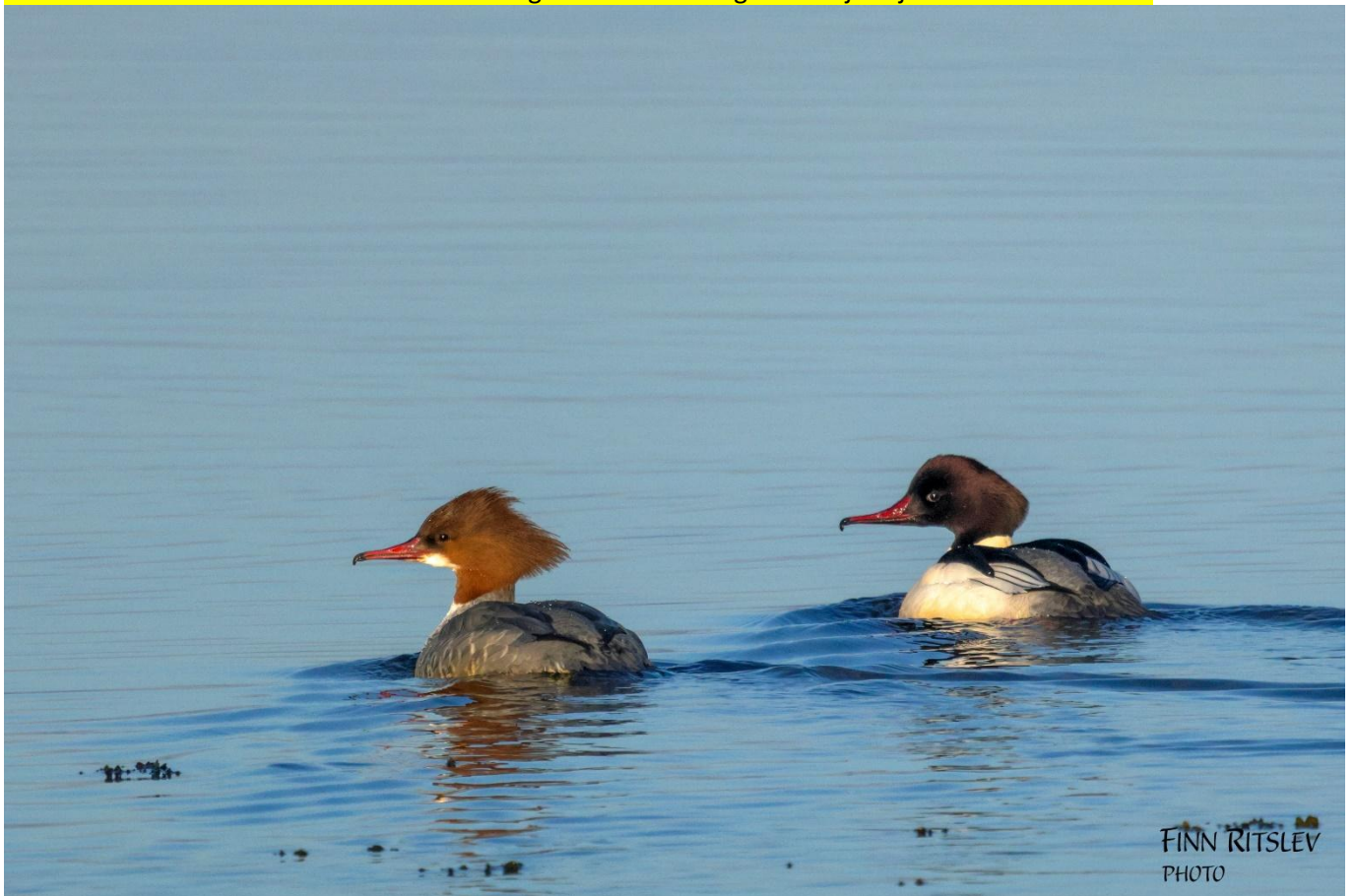




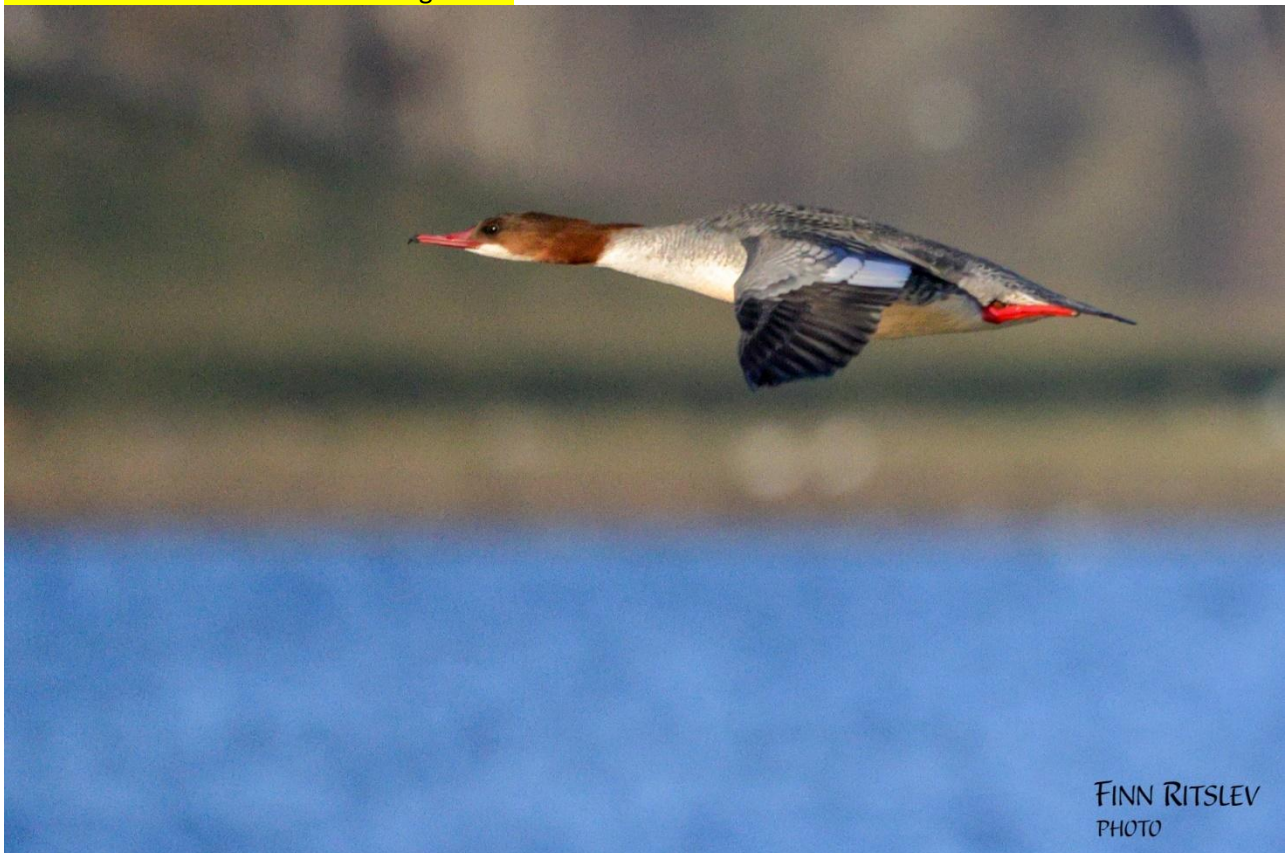
2023-02-21: Male and female Common merganser taking off from the nearby marina

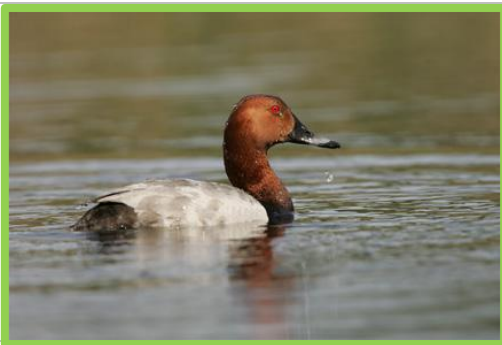


2023-03-02: Female and male Common merganser swimming on the fjord just outside the lawn.



2023-03-04: Female Common merganser





Taffeland (*Aythya Aythya ferina*) | Common pochard | Tafelente | Fuligule milouin

Wingspan: 72-82 cm

Length: 46 cm

Weight: 700-1,000 g

A frequent visitor during the winter.



Toppet lappedykker (*Podiceps cristatus*) | Great crested grebe | Haubentaucher | Grèbe huppé

Wingspan: 46-51 cm

Length: 48 cm

Weight: 750-1,200 g

2021-11-14:
Two great crested grebe swimming behind a large flock of Coots on a gray and misty day in November.



2021-11-15: Flock of maybe 20 swimming in the middle of the fjord between Eskilsø and this side of the fjord 500m south of Sildehøjgaard.

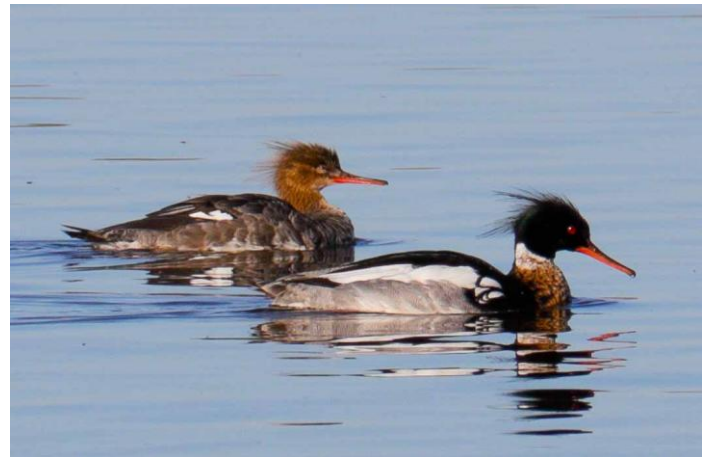
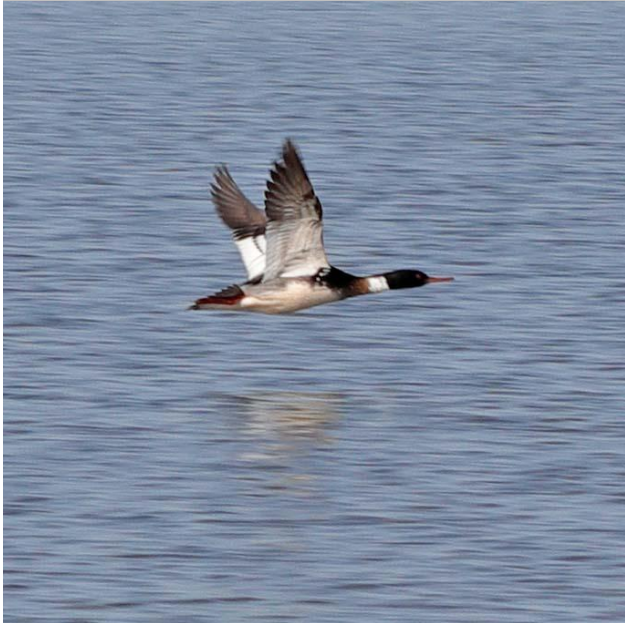
2021-11-16: Same area as the day before, but they were swimming way behind the Coots.





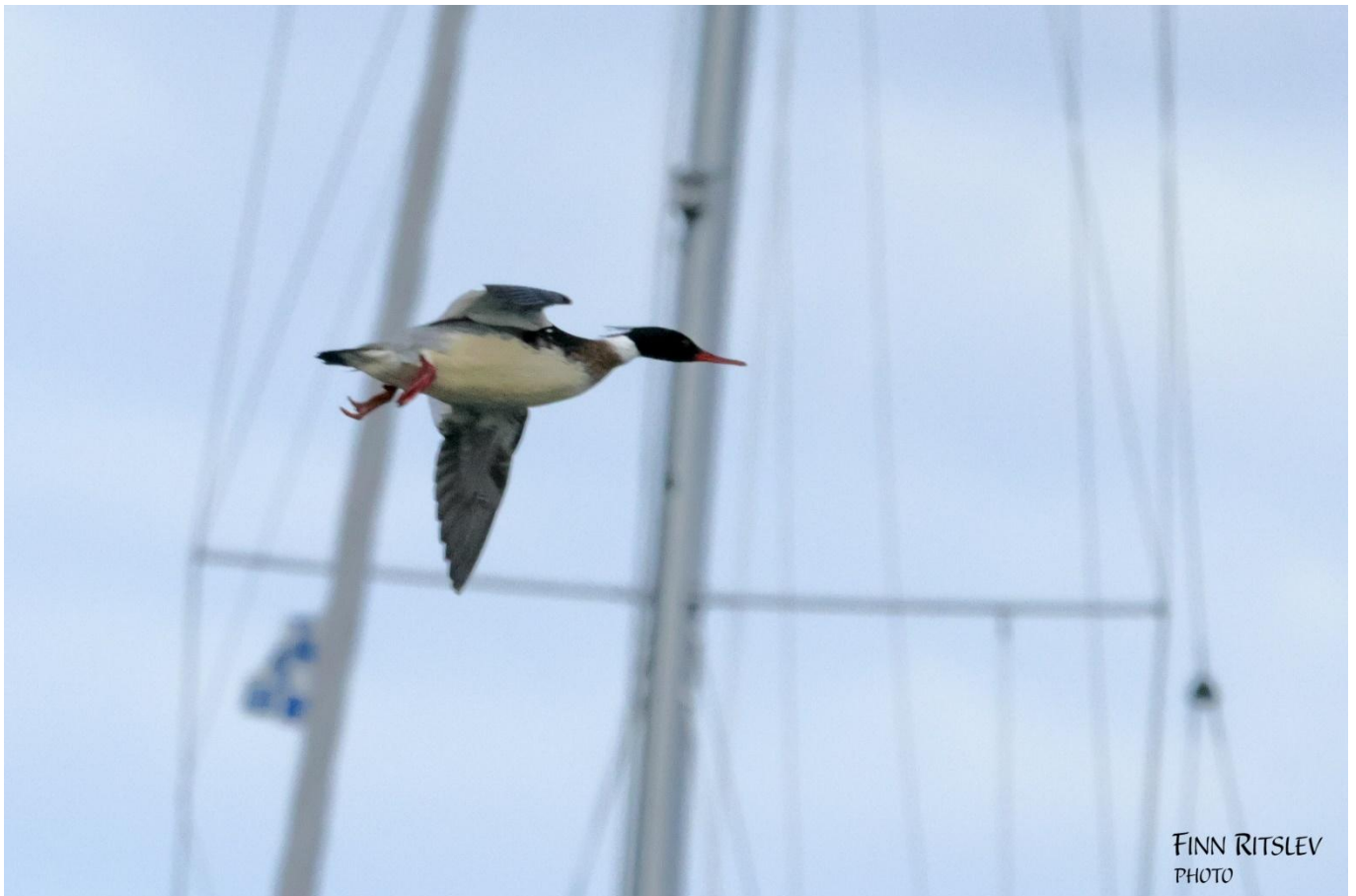
Toppet skallesluger (*Mergus serrator*) | Red-breasted merganser | Mittelsäger | Harle huppé

Wingspan: 67-86 cm
Length: 55 cm
Weight: male 600-800 g
female 500-650 g
Male has black top while female has brown top.



20-30,000 Red-breasted merganser arrives October-November. Some stays while other migrate further south.
Population of 2-3,000 breeds in Denmark, mostly in fjords and other protected coastal waters.

2023-02-25: Red-breaster merganser shot over the marina.

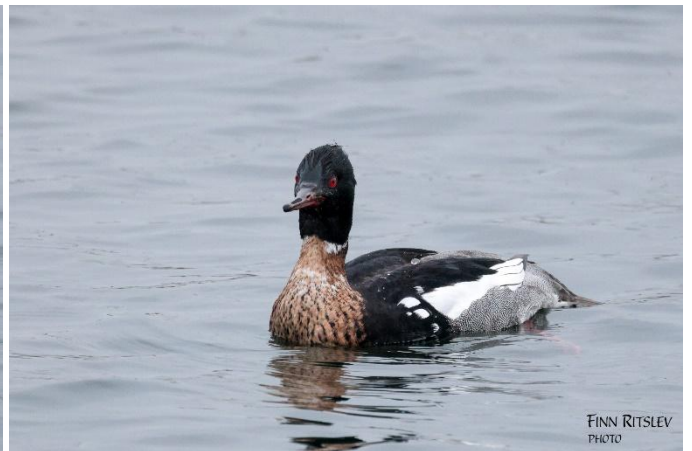


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2023-03-14 8h44: Male Red-breaster Merganser shot just outside the outer pier of the marina on a misty morning.



2023-03-31: From the nearby marina-

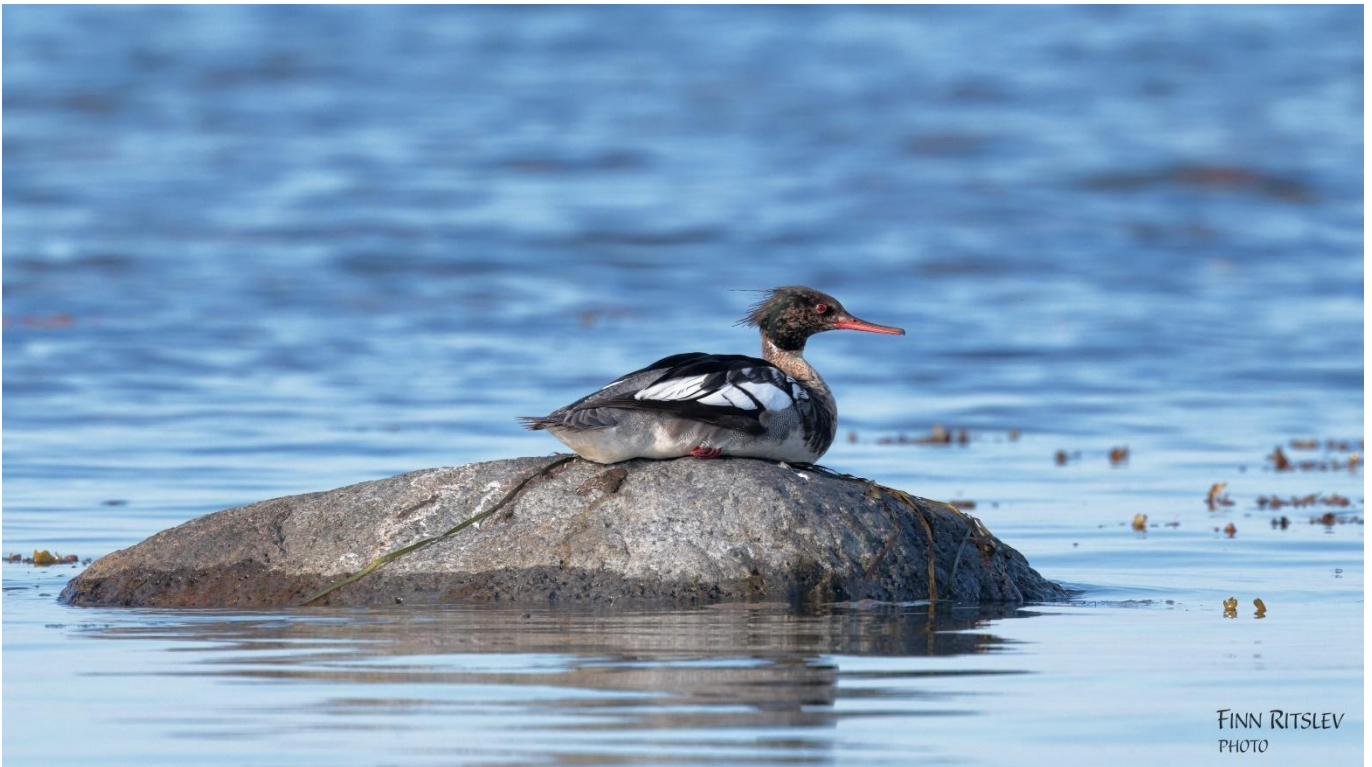


2021-05-11 (below + right):

Female and male swimming in the small "harbor" bordered by boulders just outside our lawn.

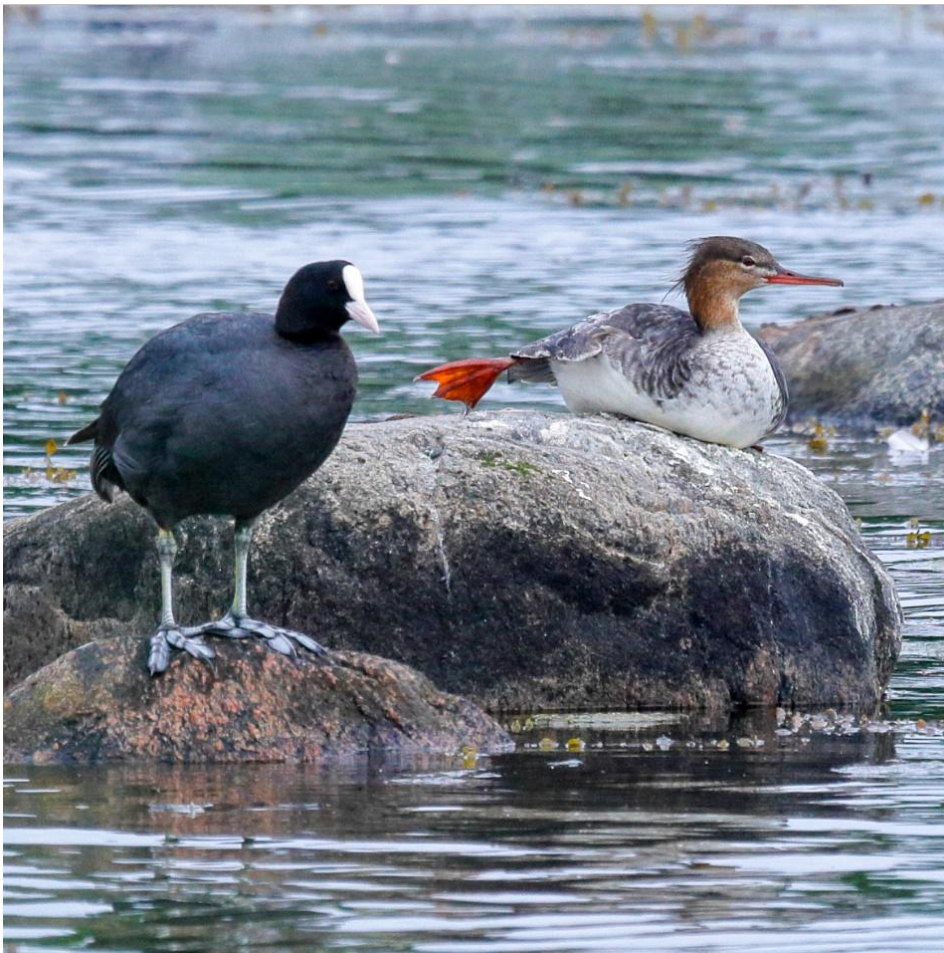


2024-06-17: Male Red-breaster Merganser on boulder south of peninsula 200m south of Sildehøjgaard



2021-06-18: Male and female flying 50-70m from the shore. Shot from the border of the lawn.



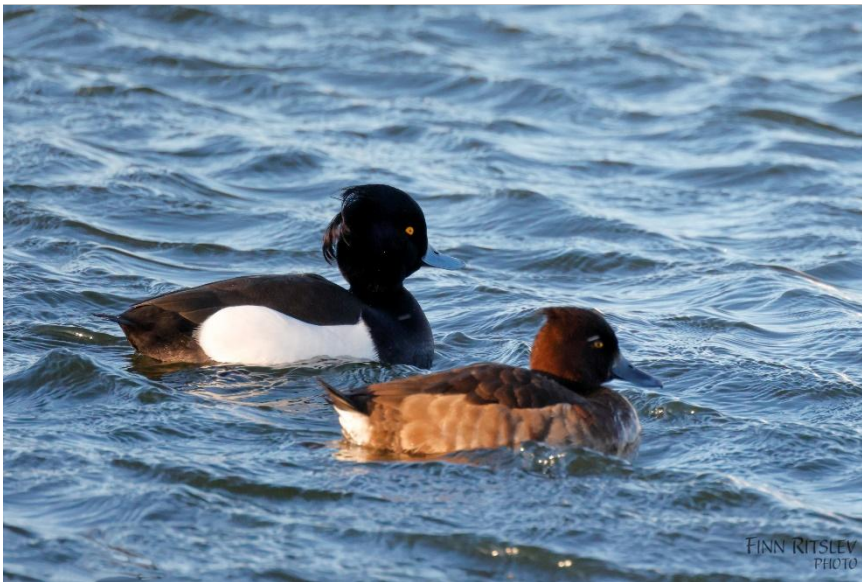


2021-07-07:
Female Red-breasted merganser
and a Coot on the islet next to
the marina.

2021-10-04: Series with a Red-breasted Merganser “shot” outside the reed bed south of the marina.







Troldand (*Aythya fuligula*) | Tufted duck |
Reiherente | Fuligule morillon



Wingspan: 67-73 cm
Length: 43 cm
Weight: 550-900 g

As many as 35,000 (3-5% of North Western Europe's population) are

overwintering on Roskilde Fjord. Most arrive from Northern Russia and Scandinavia in November and returns March-April.

2022-01-17:

Tufted ducks seeking shelter in the marina 500 m from Sildehøjgaard on a winter day with gale force wind.



2222-01-18: Female Tufted duck in the nearby marina.

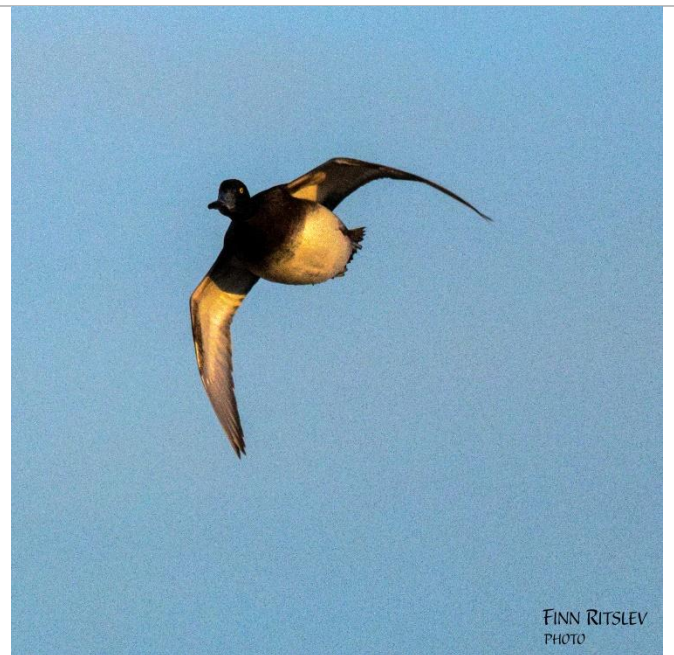


2022-01-19: Male Tufted duck in the nearby marina.

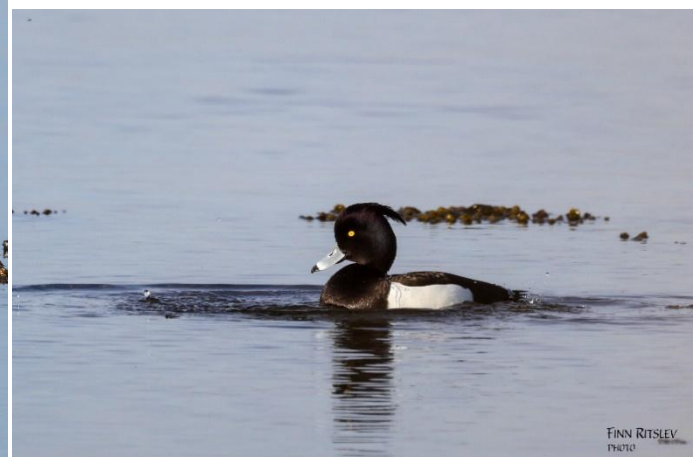
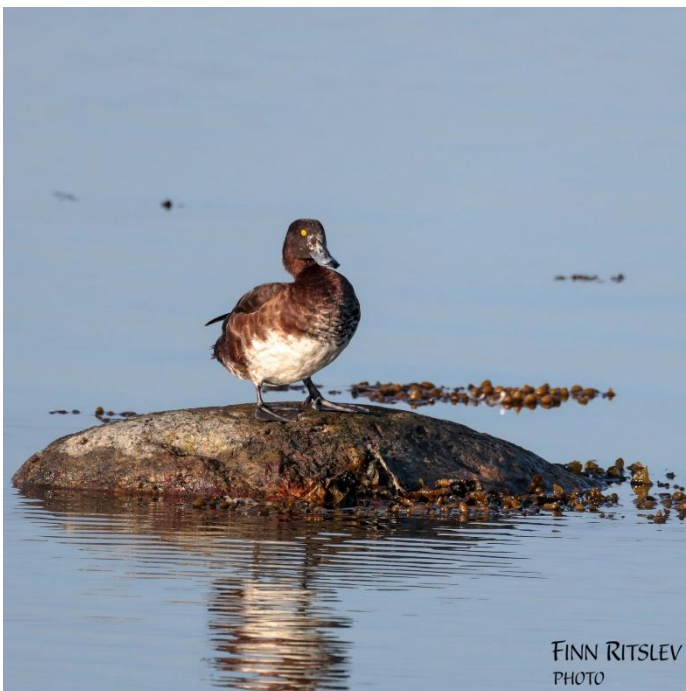


2022-12-27: Shot an early winter morning:
Male Tufted duck over the nearby marina.

2023-04-15: Male Tufted duck



2023-04-17: Male and female Tufted duck just outside the reeds next to the marina.



Other Water Fowl



Almindelig ryle (*Calidris alpina*) | Dunlin | Alpenstrandläufer |
Bécasseaux variables

Wingspan: 35-40 cm

Length: 18 cm

Weight: 40-50 g



2021-12-14: Flock of Dunlins on a stone reef (Hesteholm) that is mostly above the water together with two swans and a black-headed gull in winter colors.



2022-11-20:
Hundreds of
Dunlins resting on
the stone reef
(Sildehøjrevet)
midway between
the coast and
Eskilsø. Coots and
a single male
Tufted duck in the
foreground.



2023-02-21: On the outer pier of the marina.





Fiskeheire (*Ardea cinerea*) | Gray heron | Fischreiher | Héron cendré

Wingspan: 150-175 cm

Length: 90 cm

Weight: 1.6-2 kg

There are some larger colonies breeding in trees around Roskilde Fjord.

Most Danish herons migrate during the winter to ice free rivers and lakes in Northern Europe.

2024-09-03:

Quite frequently, one or more Gray herons are fishing on the stone reef stretching out from Sildehøjgaard.

2025-01-04: Landing in the reeds just south of the marina on a cold winter morning.



2024-10-05:
Early morning
takeoff



2024-10-17: Gray heron with a viviparous blenny (DK: ålekvappe)



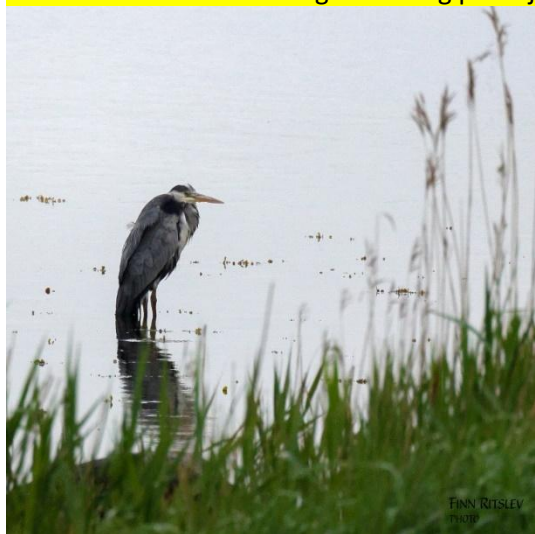
2021-05-27:
Gray heron jumping from boulder to boulder close to the stone reef stretching out from Sildehøjgaard.



2022-05-31: Heron landing on the short promontory 200 m south of the lawn.



2022-05-31: Heron leaving its resting place just outside the lawn close to the reed bed.



2021-05-31: On a sunny warm day.





2021-08-03: Resting on the islet south of the marina.

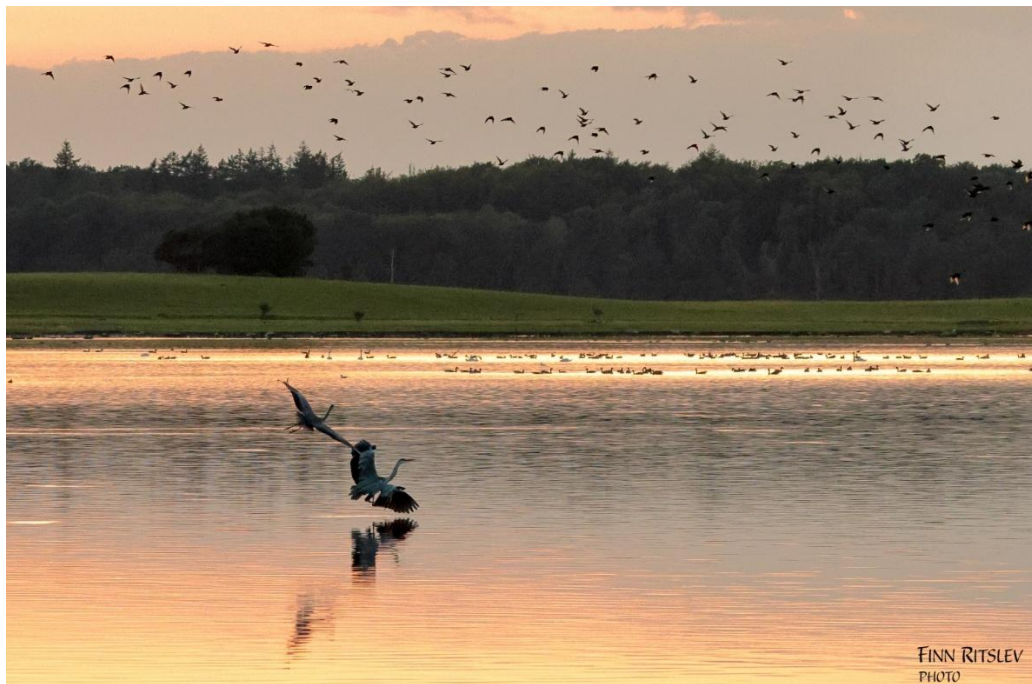
2021-08-06:
Lift-off



2024-09-17: Low flying Heron



2023-08-20: At sunset – Eskilsø (900mm away) and Østskoven in Hornsherred (2km) in the background



2021-08-21: Preparing to land on a boulder in the fjord.



2021-09-25: Ready to land in the fields south of the lawn.



2021-10-07 (morning): Flying between a flock of swans and our coastline on a day that started with morning fog.

2017-10-30:

Taken after strong NW-winds had resulted in the water level to rise 1-1.5m above normal. The stone reef stretching several 100 m out in the fjord from our lawn was completely under deep water.



2022-11-08: Heron landing on the short peninsula 200m south of Sildehøjgaard.



2021-12-09: Landing on the stone reef stretching our from the reed bed.



2021-12-09: From the small islet south of the marina





Hvidklire (*Tringa nebularia*) | Greenshank | Grünschenkel | Chevalier aboyeur

Wingspan: 53-60 cm
Length: 31 cm
Weight: 140-270 g

2021-08-07
(early morning):
Sitting on a stone just outside the

lawn.

2021-08-27 On a cloudy day.



2023-10-27 Flying/sitting on the short peninsula 200m south of the lawn.





***Klyde** (*Recurvirostra avosetta*) | Avocet | Säbelschnäbler |



Avocette élégante

Wingspan: 77-80 cm

Length: 43 cm

Weight: 250-400 g

Small population of 50-100
breed on Roskilde Fjord.

The species is a migratory
bird that winters in
Southern Europe and
Western Africa.

2024.06-08: Avocet shot just south of Sildehøjgard





Mudderklire (*Actitis hypoleucos*) | Common sandpiper | Flußuferläufer | Chevalier guignette

Wingspan: 32-35 cm

Length: 20 cm

Weight: 40-60 g

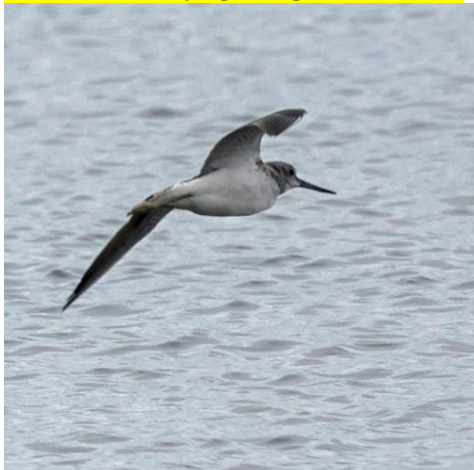
2021-07-20:

Sitting on the beach 200+m south of here.

2021-08-07: Common sandpiper on a stone in front of a Gray heron on the short peninsula 200m south of our lawn.



2021-08-27: Flying along the coastline



2022-07-22: Resting on a boulder





Rødben (*Tringa totanus*) | Common redshank | Rotschenkel | Chevalier gambette

Wingspan: 45-52 cm

Length: 28 cm

Weight: male 85-140 g
female 110-155 g

One of the most common Danish waders.

2021-08-23:

One of three redshanks foraging 200+m south of here.



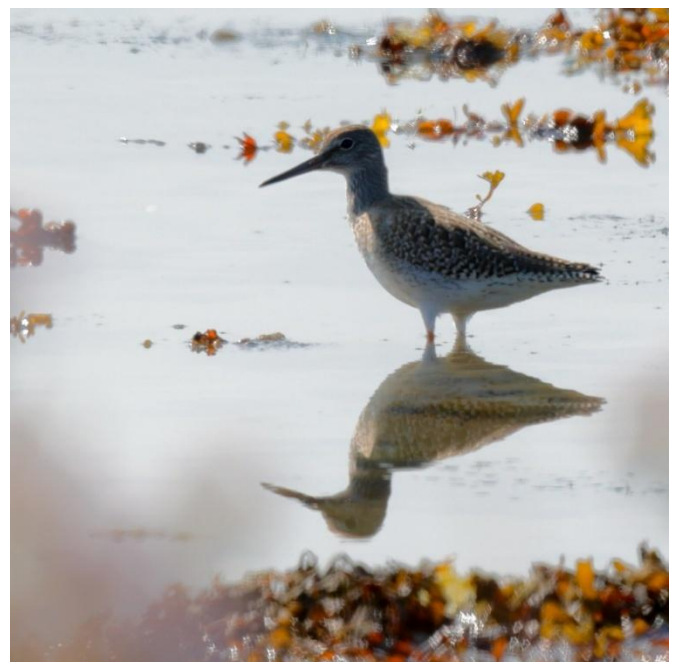
2024-08-18:



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2021-08-24: Fouraging south of here.



2021-08-29: Eskilsø in the background



2022-09-21:



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2022-10-16: On the
shoreline



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2023-11-17: Landing on the short peninsula to the south of Sildehøjgaard.





Skarv (*Phalacrocorax carbo*) | Cormorant | Kormoran | Cormoran



Wingspan: 130-160 cm
Length: 90 cm
Weight: 2.0 – 2.5 kg
Cormerants breed at Bognæs north of Roskilde some 8 km south of Jyllinge. They fly fast at low altitude

just over the surface of the fjord. Either towards north away from the nesting places or south and back to the nest. Seldomly, they do their fishing between Jyllinge and Eskilsø.

Arrives to Denmark from central Europe in March.



2021_05-27 (left):
Cormorant drying its wings sitting on a boulder in the fjord just outside the reed bed.

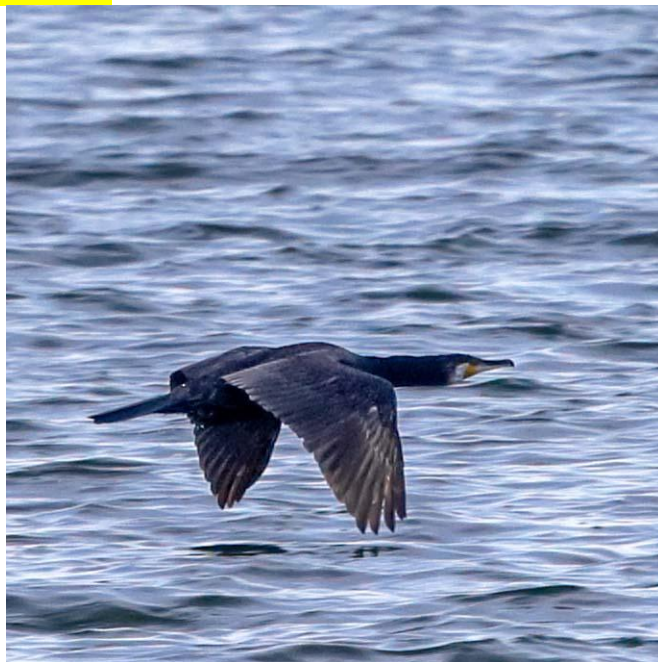
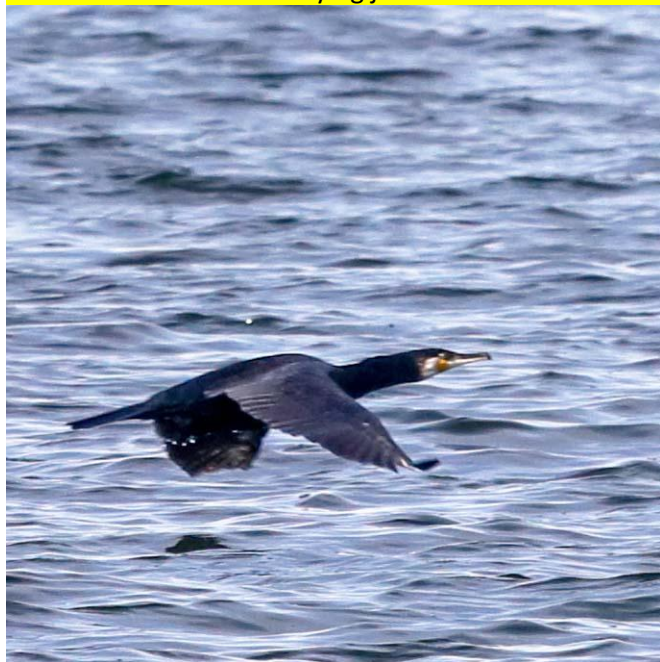
Cormorant s can often be seen flying at high speed either between Sildehøjgaard and Eskilsø either towards north or to the the south towards Roskilde.



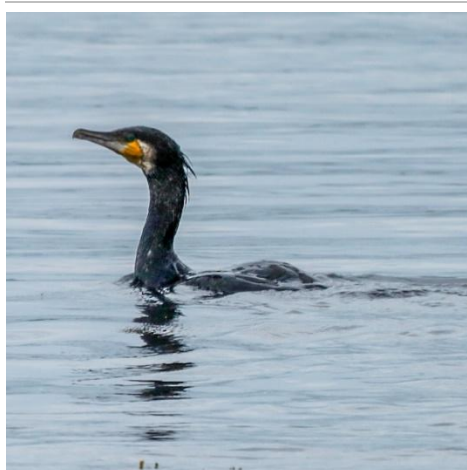
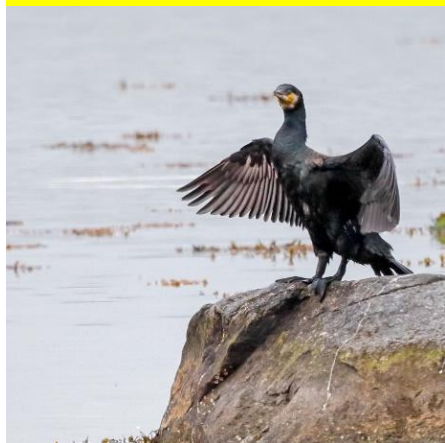
2021-05-05 (right):
On windy overcast days with 7-10 m/s. Cormerants, male eiders on Hesteholm 300m ashore.



2021-05-24: Cormerant flying just over the water towards north.



2021-05-27: Take-off from boulder in the fjord – “quite elegant” !!



2021-06-21:
Swimming close
to the reed
bed.

2021-06-23:
Eel catcher.



2021-07-08: Landing on the fjord

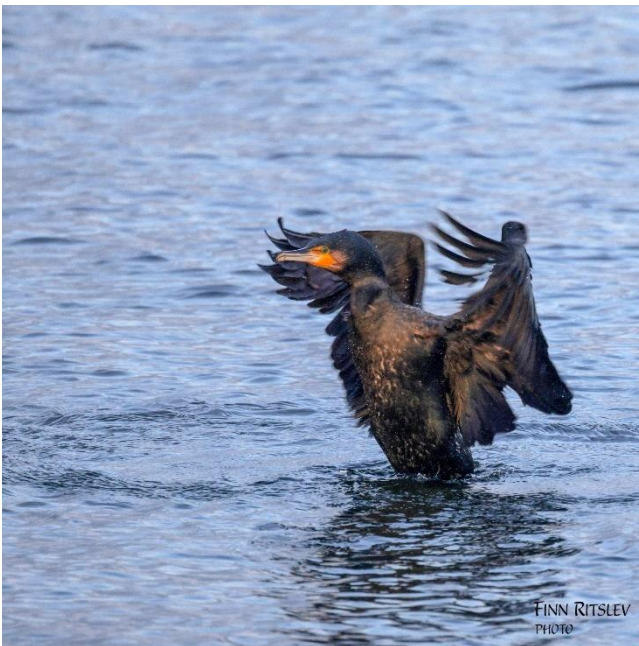


2021-10-26: Flying in the middle of the fjord against a background of with the trees on Eskiø in autumn colors.

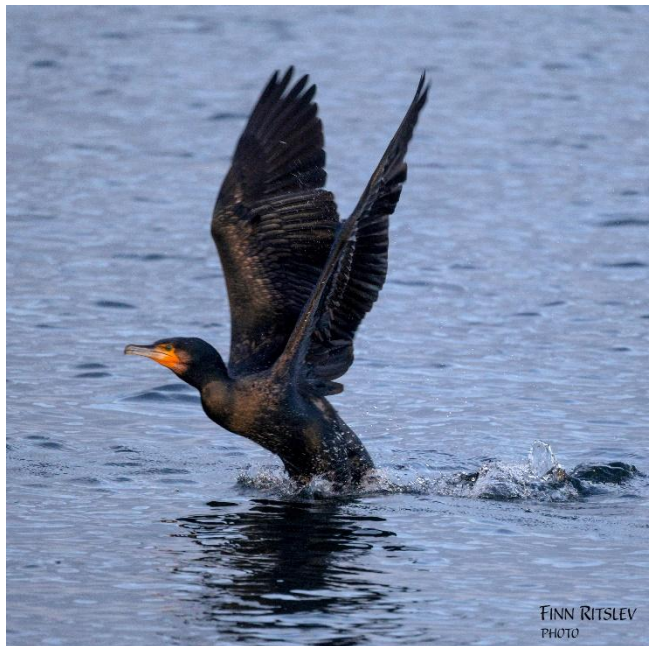


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2023-01-07: Take-off just outside the marina.



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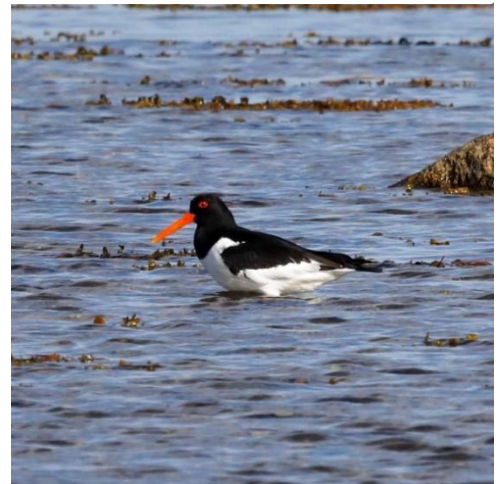


Strandskade (*Haematopus ostralegus*) | Oystercatcher | Austernfischer | Huïtrier

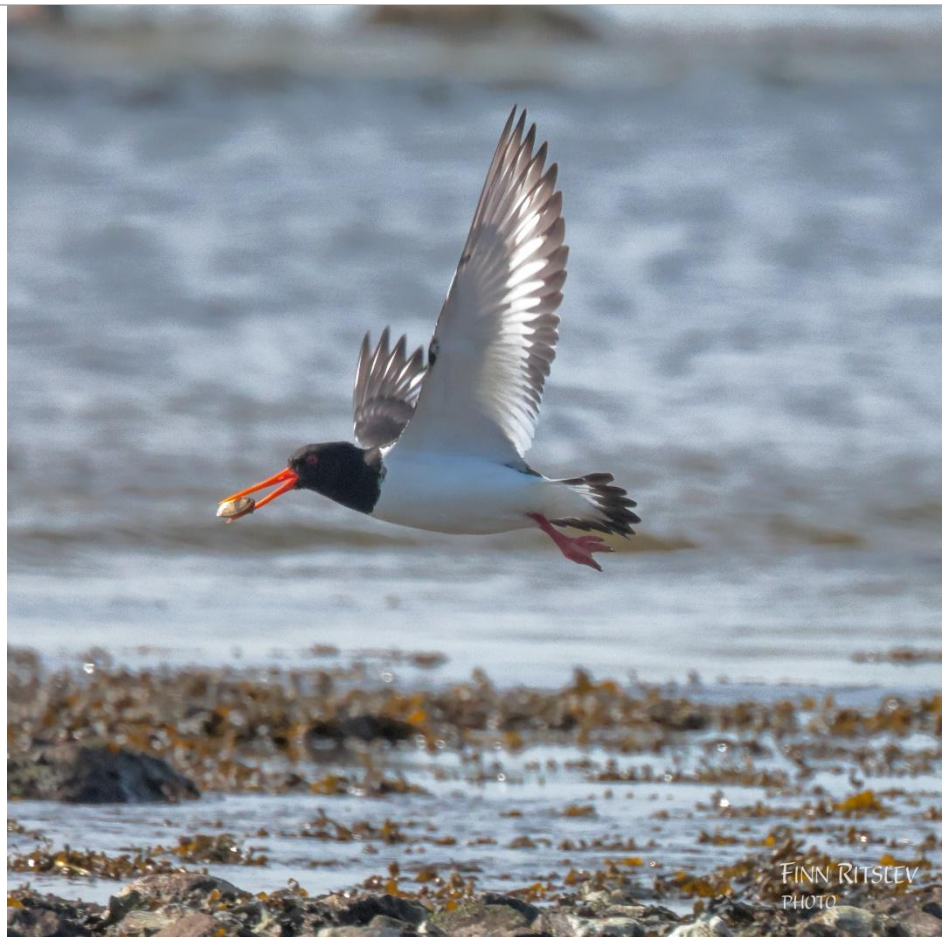
Wingspan: 80-86 cm
Length: 43 cm
Weight: 400-700 g
Some 100 breed on Roskilde Fjord.



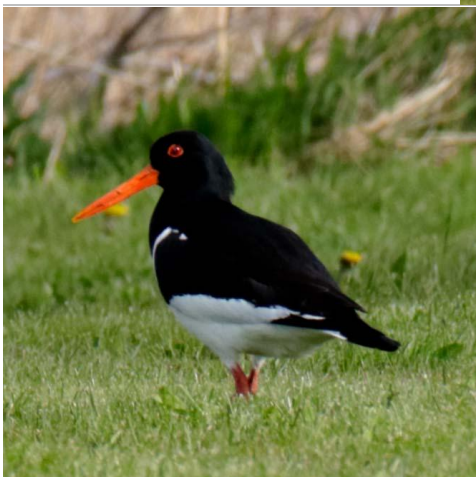
Most of the photos of Oystercatchers have been taken from the lawn.



2024-03-18: "Eurasian
Oystercatcher" with an oyster



2020-05-16: A dozen+
Oystercatchers on the lawn.



2021-05-08:

2021-06-13:
On a stormy day – a day after
cutting the lawn





Storspove / Stor regnspove (*Numenius arquata*) | Eurasian curlew |
Grosser Brachvogel | Courlis cendré

Wingspan: 80-100 cm
Length: 55 cm (of which 9-15cm beak)
Weight: male: 575-800 g
female: 675-950 g

2021-12-09:

2022-12-01: Circling around me in a 100m circle over the fields and the fjord an early gray winter morning.



2023-01-16: Eurasian curlew on the meadow of Eskilsø 900m just across the fjord.



2023-09-09: Eurasian curlew flying just to the south of Sildehøjgaard





Sølvheire (*Ardea alba*) | Gray white egret | Silberreiher | Grande aigrette



Wingspan: 143-169 cm
Length: 85-100 cm
Weight: 950-1,600 g

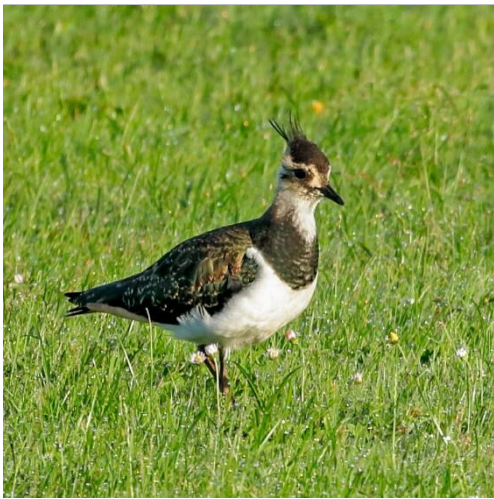
Do not breed in Denmark but might be seen during the summer period.

2021-10-01:

The gray white egret was fishing on the short peninsula 200m south of our lawn. The Gray herons are often sitting on the

boulders.





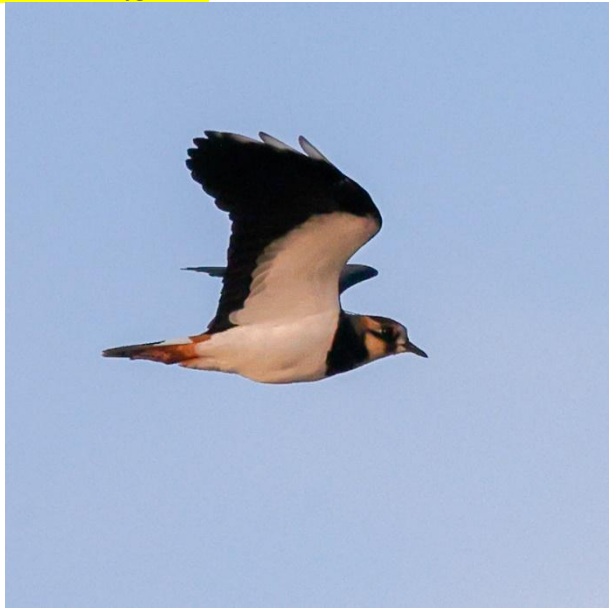
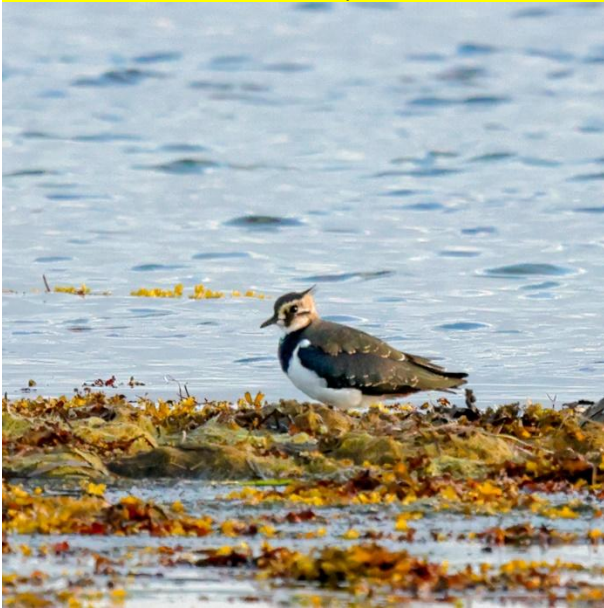
Vibe (*Vanellus vanellus*) | Lapwing | Kiebitz | Vanneau

Wingspan: 70 - 76 cm

Length: 30 cm

Weight: 150-310 g

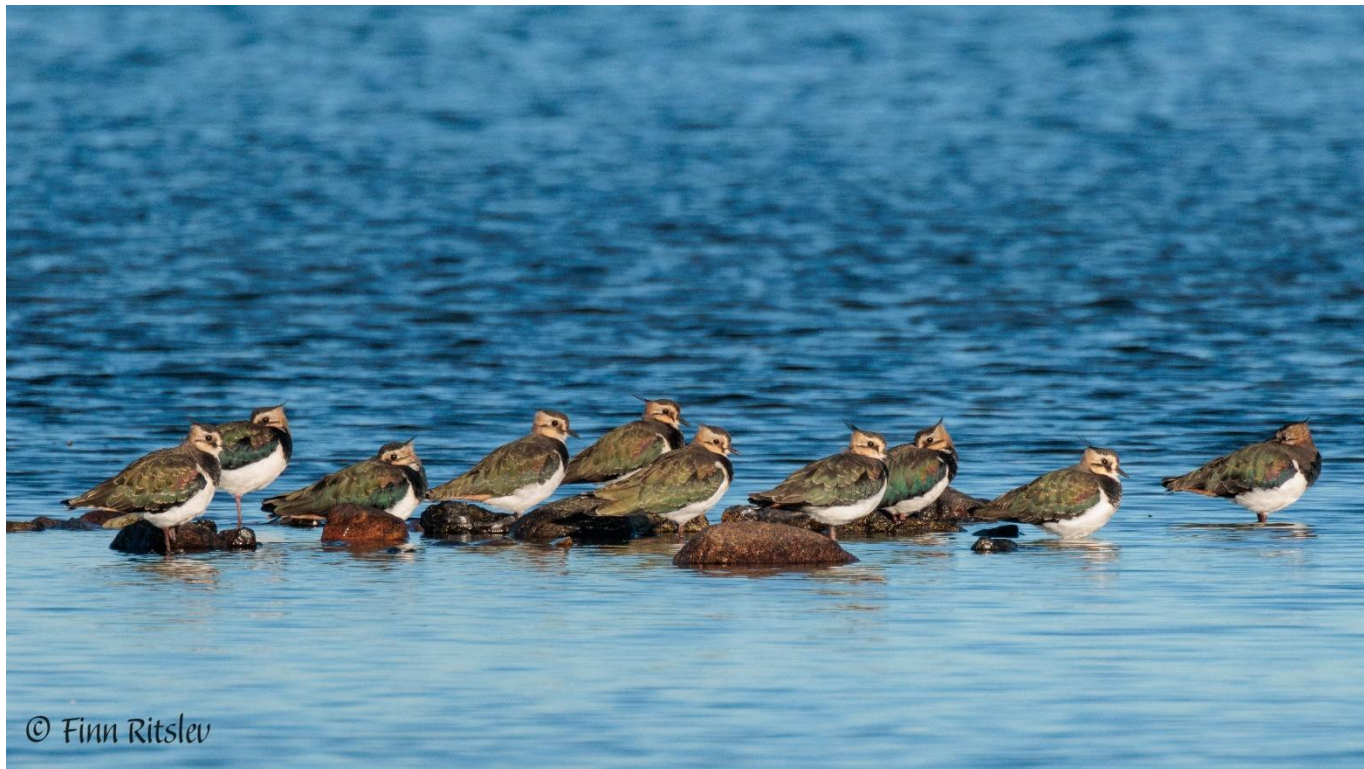
2021-09-04: From the short peninsula 200m south of Sildehøjgaard.



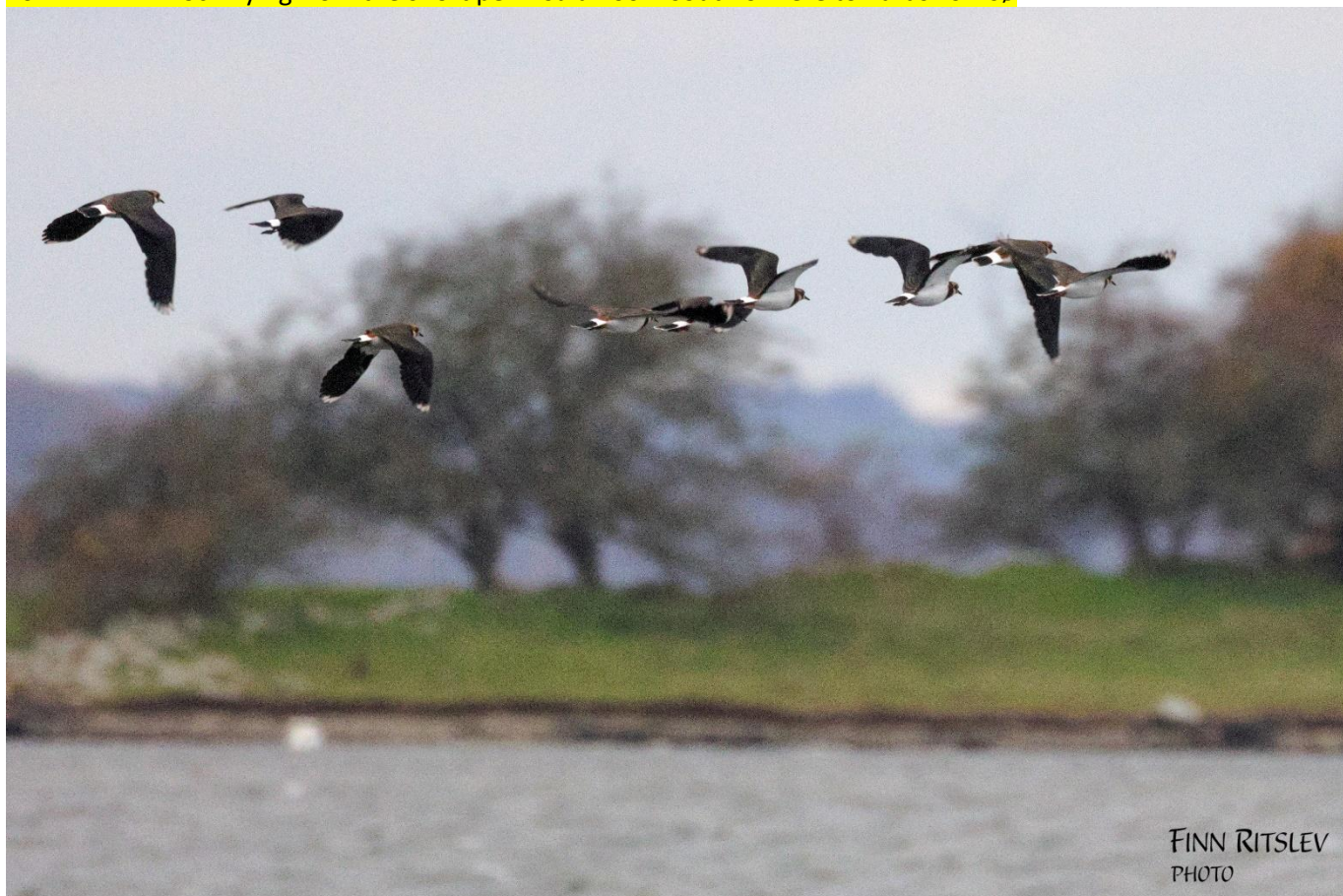
2021-09-09:
Flock flying from
the short
peninsula 200m
south of here
towards towards
Eskilsø to the
west of the
beach.



2024-10-03: Flock resting on the peninsula 200m south of our property.



2022-11-17: Flock flying from the short peninsula 200m south of here towards Eskilsø.



Birds in the Garden



Agerhøne (*Perdix perdix*) | Partridge | Rebhuhn | Perdrix

Length: 28-32 cm
Weight: 350-450 g



2023-04-27: Hiding on the borderline between the bed with Portland roses and the path leading to Sildehøjgaard.



2018-08-26:
Flock of 12 Partridges fleeing our lawn
around the blackberry bush for the fields
south of Sildehøjgaard.



2021-11-17: Taken from the master bath room through one of the windows on a gray November morning. The whole flock was 10-12 Partridges.





Bjergirisk (*Linaria flavirostris*) | Twite | Berghänfling |
Linotte à bec jaune

Wingspan: 22-24 cm

Height: 13,5 cm

weight: 13-18 g

2022-12-17:

Flock of 20-30 Twites sitting in mirabel tree in the hedge south of our lawn on a frosty day.





Blåmeise (*Cyanistes caeruleus*) | Blue tit | Blaumeise | Mésange bleue

Wingspan: 17,5-20 cm

Height: 11,5 cm

weight: 9-12 g

2021-05-01:

Blue tit foraging in the branches of an oak tree next to the weeping willow down at the ruin.



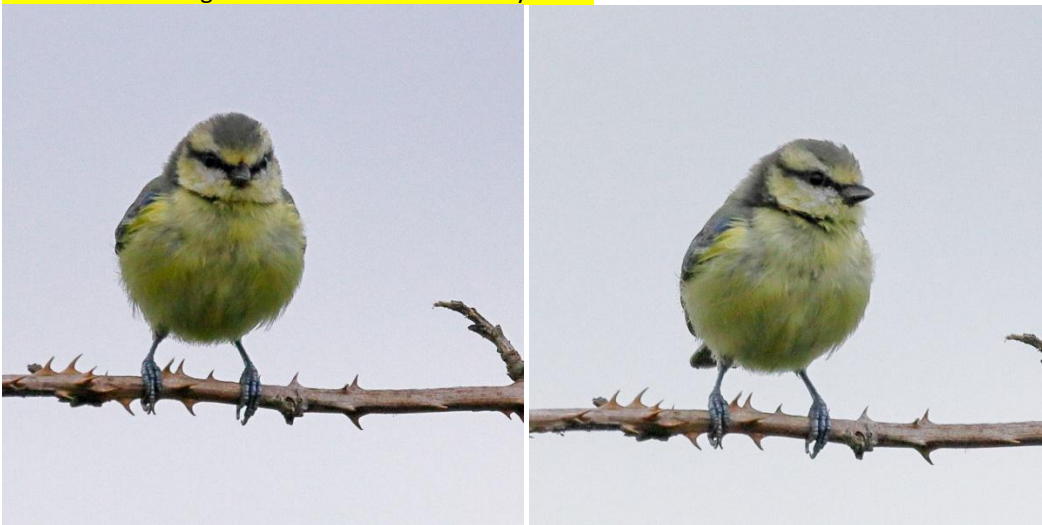
2023-05-14: Blue tit making jump from straw to straw with a spider



2021-07-05: Blue tit feeding a chick. The next day the chick had left the nest.



2021-08-07: Young Blue tit in the the blackberry bush.



2021-09-04:



2024-12-05: At a feeder on the terrasse.



2021-12-21: Blue tit "cherry-picking" crab apples from the tree next to the terrasse.





Bogfinke (*Fringilla coelebs*) | Chaffinch | Buchfink | Pinson des arbres

Wingspan: 24,5-28,5 cm

Height: 15 cm

Weight: 19-24 g

One of the most common birds breeding in Denmark.

21-05-06:

Singing before the trees got leaves.

2023-03-14 (late afternoon): Male Chaffinch feeding below the crap tree next to our terrasse.



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2023-04-02: Male Chaffinch singing in the shadows in marple tree close to the terrasse.



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2023-04-29: Male and female



2021-10-23 (early morning): Chaffinh in top of the neighbor's 8m tall spruce tree (backlight).



2021-11-12: Female Chaffinch sitting in the top of the neighbor's spruce next to the tall thuja hedge.



2024-12-09: Chaffinch feeding on our terrasse



2021-12-10:
Two male
Chaffinches
sitting in the
hedge 200m to
the south on a
cold gray
December day.





Bynkefugl (*Saxicola rubetra*) | Whinchat | Braunkehlchen |
Traquet tarier

Wingspan: 21-24 cm
Height: 12.5 cm
Weight: 16-24 g

2023-08-17: Whinchat
sitting in the blackberry
bush



2023-09-06 (morning): Whinchat sitting in the reeds just north of Sildehøjgaard





Digesvale (*Riparia riparia*) | Bank swallow | Uferschwalbe |

Hirondelle de rivage

Wingspan: 26,5-29 cm

Height: 12 cm

Weight: 12-18 g

Brown top and white bottom. Note the brown chest band.



2021-05-26: Small flock of Bank swallows hunting at very low altitude over the fjord.

2021-07-28:
Swallows distracting a Common Kerstel while it hovers in the same position (Danish: muse) over the courtyard of our farmhouse.





Dompap (*Pyrrhula pyrrhula*) | Eurasian bullfinch | Gimpel, auch Dompfaff | Bouvreuil pivoine

Wingspan: 22-29 cm

Height: 15 cm

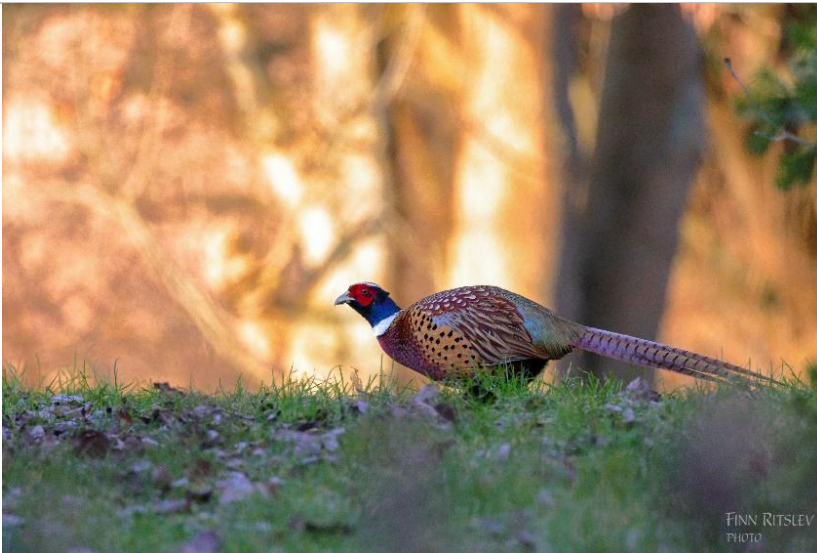
weight: 21-27 g

2023-11-13:

Male Bullfinch sitting in the young marple tree next to the backberry bushes.

2023-11-29: Feeder with sun flower seeds.





Fasan (*Haematopus ostralegus*) | Pheasant | Fasan | Faisan

The adult male is 60–89 cm long including a tail of almost 50 cm.
Females are 50–63 cm long including a tail of around 20 cm.

2023-01-27:

The Pheasants hide in the hedgerow to the north. Sometimes the male can be seen walking in the garden or on the dirt road.

2023-03-02:
Pheasant-
male on the
wall of the
ruin.



2023-04-23: Walking on the outside of the Thuja hedge to the south.



2024-12-08: Female Pheasants on our lawn close to the reeds.



2023-12-13: Female Pheasant sitting in hedge near terrasse.





Gransanger (*Phylloscopus collybita*) | Chiffchaff | Zilpzalp |
Pouillot véloce

Wingspan: 15-21 cm

Length: 11 cm

Weight: 6-9 g

Looks very much like "løvsanger", but its song deviates significantly. It sounds like "tjif-tjaj", "tjif-tjaf", ... with a short break between the sounds.



2023-04-07: Chiffchaff singing in top of 12-15m nearly flowering elm tree.

2023-04-03: Male chiffchaff singing an early frosty morning in a butterfly bush early Spring



2023-04-16: Male singing in the beech tree in the round-about.



2024-04-17: Male in the beech tree in the round-about



2021-05-12: Singing in one of the tall maple trees in blossom close to the wooden shed.





2021-06-06:
Chiffchaff chick hiding in the
leaves in the "forrest".

2020-06-20:
Chiffchaff chick performing
acrobatics in the gazebo.



2021-07-02: Juvenil Chiffchaff.



2024-08-05: Chiffchaff with various larvaes and a spider





2024-09-15: Sitting in a bush at the marina.

2021-10-02: Chick sitting in the gazebo.



2021-10-07: Sitting in the thuja hedge.





Grønirisk (*Carduelis chloris*) | Greenfinch | Grünfink | Verdier

Wingspan: 24,5-27,5 cm

Height: 14,5 cm

weight: 25-34 g

2023-04-05
(left): Male

2021-05-07
(right):
Female



2023-02-13: Male and female Greenfinch in top of maple tree.



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2023-04-23: Female and male Greenfinch



2023-04-30: Male Greenfinch in the top of a maple tree



2023-05-03: Male Greenfinch in the shadows against the sun.



2021-05-12: Male Greenfinch a shady afternoon.



2020-05-30:
Male Greenfinch singing in
the top of 12m ash tree.

2020-06-03:
... and sitting in the weeping
willow.



2021-11-11: Sitting in a
bush where the gravel
road starts at Snekkevej.



Gulspurv (*Emberiza citrinella*) | Yellowhammer | Goldammer | Bruant jaune

Wingspan: 23-29,5 cm

Height: 16,5 cm

weight: 24-30 g

2021-12-14: Series from a flock of Yellowhammer was sitting in the hedgerow 200m south of the lawn.





Gråkrage (*Corvus cornix*) |
Hooded Crow | Krähe |
Corneille

Wingspan: 93-104 cm

Height: 47 cm

weight: 540-600 g

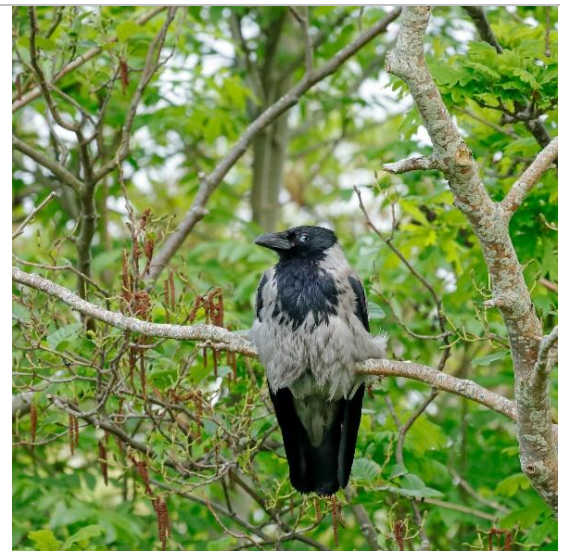
There are always a few Crows
year around in our garden. They
chase birds of pray away but
never the song birds.

Often they jump around on the lawn close to the grass mover to find insects.





20-05-31:
A sunny day at the beach.



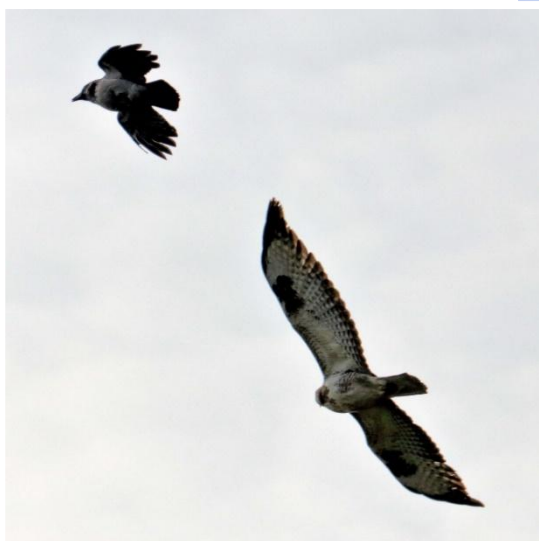
2020-06-04:
"Bird-of-pray"
position.



Crows can be quite aggressive and are not afraid of attacking larger birds of prey.

2021-05-02:
Series taken while walking along the shoreline south of Sildehøjgaard. The chase went on for 25 seconds before Buzzard gave up.





2024-08-11:



2021-10-24: Low flying Crow following the coastline along the fjord.

2021-10-29: Hooded Crow eating an apple.



2023-10-18: Hooded Crow chasing buzzard



2023-11-06: Hooded crow chasing young goshawk.





Gråspurv (*Passer domesticus*) | House sparrow | Haussperling | Moineau domestique

Wingspan: 21-25 cm
Length: 16-18 cm
weight:
22-32 g



2023-01-27: Male House sparrow taken at the outer pier of the marina



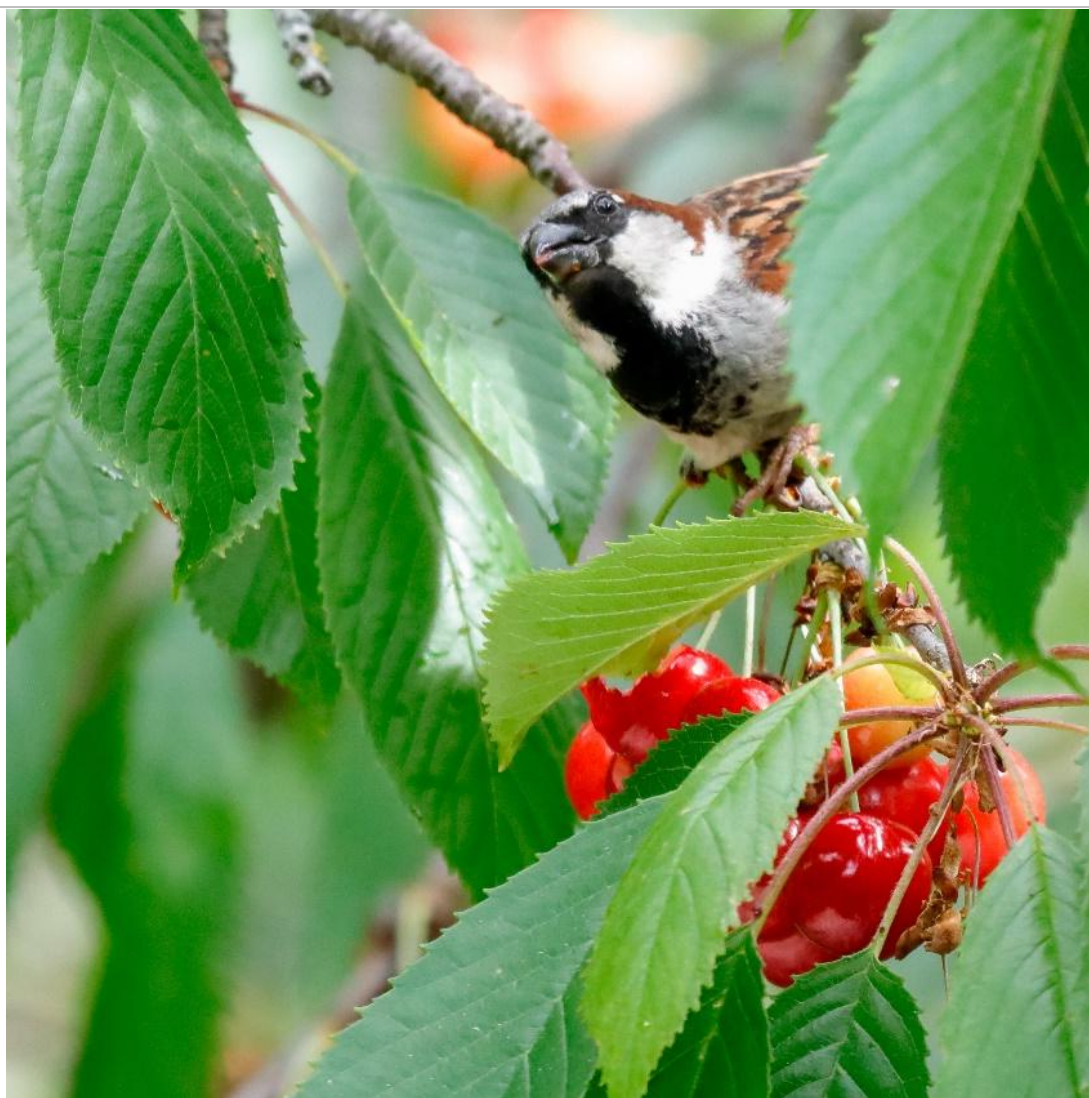
2023-02-15: Male House sparrow sitting in the blackberry bush south of the lawn



2022-05-06: Female House sparrow in thorn close to the terrasse and ... 2022-05-10: in the blackberry bush



2021-06-10: Male House sparrow picking cherries.





Grå fluesnapper (*Muscicapa striata*) | Spotted flycatcher |



Grauschnäpper noun |
Gobemouche gris

2021-05-12:
Sitting in maple tree.



Gul vipstjert (*Cuculus canorus*) | Yellow wagtail | Gelbe Bachstelze |

Bergeronnette printanière

2021-05-18 (left):
Male Yellow wagtail in the
flowering rapeseed “shot”
from the old “kirkesti”
(Church trail) passing
Sildehøj 300m from
Sildehøjgaard.



2021-05-22 (right):
Female Yellow wagtail.



2021-06-20:

Yellow wagtail running on the lawn an early morning. Mostly we see the White
wagtail on the lawn more or less daily – and like Crows – they are less shy than
most other birds around us.

2023-04-26: Yellow wagtail on the lawn





Gærdesanger (*Curruca curruca*) | Lesser Whitethroat | Klappergrasmüche | Fauvette babillarde

Wingspan: 16,5-20,5 cm

Length: 13,5 cm

Weight: 10-16 g



2024-04-17: Lesser Whitethroat in top of the blackberry bush



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2021-06-11: Lesser Whitethroat in top of the blackberry bush





2021-08-16: One of my first "shots" with the Canon R6 was this Lesser Whitethroat in the blackberry bush.





Gærdesmutte (*Troglodytes*

troglodytes) | House wren |

Zaunkönig |

Troglodyte mignon

Wingspan: 13-17 cm

Length: 12 cm

Weight: 8-13 g

The second smallest bird in Denmark. Only the Goldcrest is smaller.

However, a great singer.

2024-05-23 and 2024-04-21: On the roof ridge and in blossoming crap apple tree next to the terrasse.



2021-06-04 Chick being feed sitting on a dead branch in the "forrest".



2024-06-16: House wren on the roof ridge



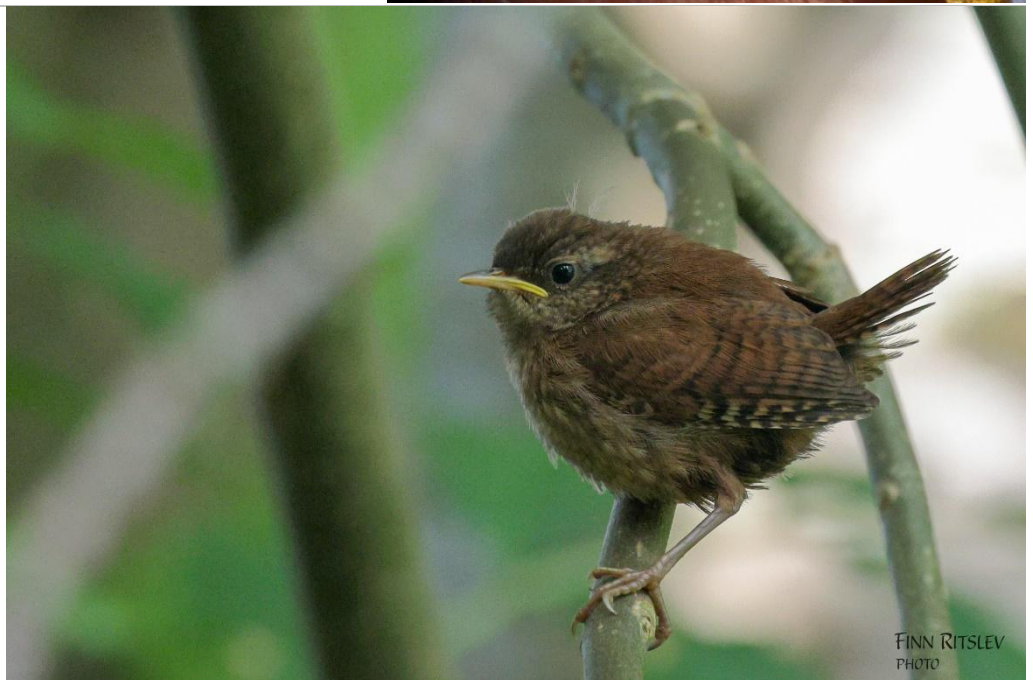
2021-06-30 (left):
House wren sitting in the gazebo.



21-11-07 (right):
On the roof ridge ready to take-off.



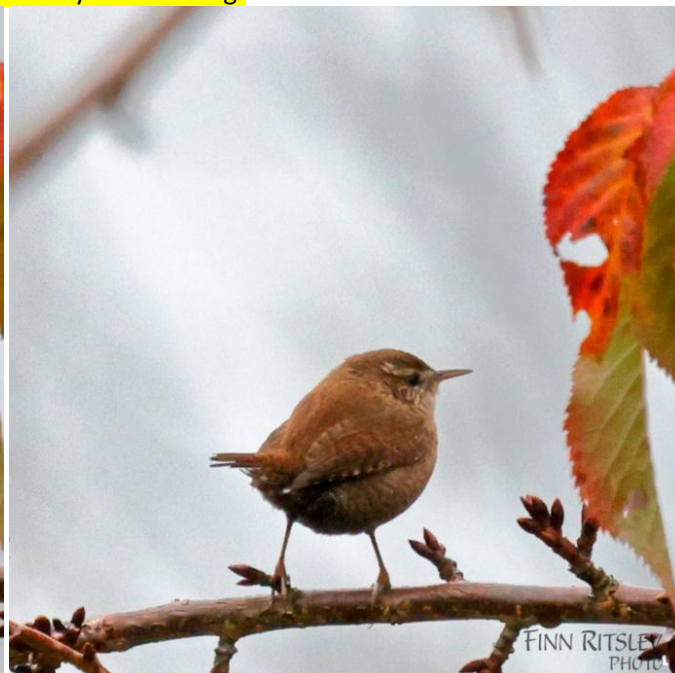
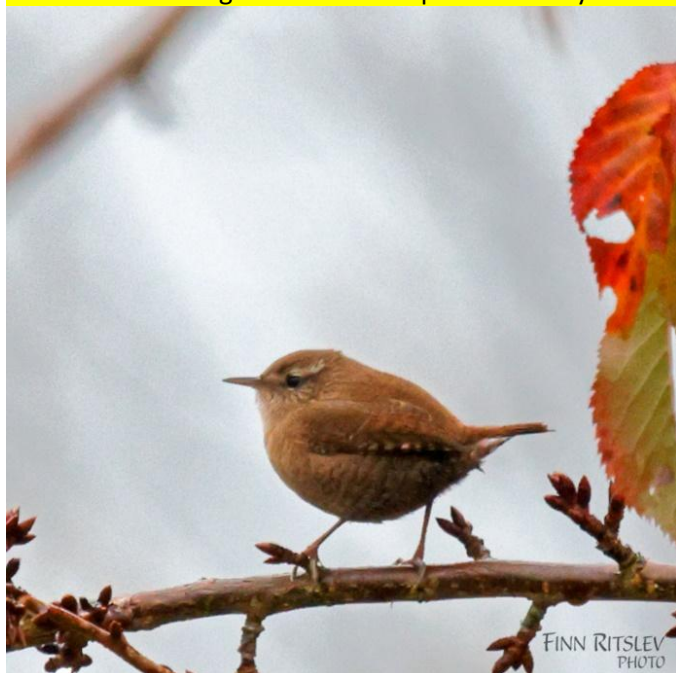
2024-07-04: Chick hiding in
the trees behind to the
ruin.



2024-10-21: Sitting in the large rose in the middle of the courtyard



2021-11-08: Sitting in one of the Japanese cherry trees a cloudy fall morning.



2021-10-08: Scouting on the gable above the door of the master bedroom and shortly after on the roof ridge.





2021-12-11: An early frosty winter morning.



2021-12-19: Sitting in the large ash tree on the lawn.



Gøg (*Cuculus canorus*) | Cuckoo | Kuckuck | Coucou

Wingspan: 55-65 cm

Length: 33 cm

Weight: 105-130 g

Starts singing mid-May.

2024-05-10 07:09: Cuckoo an early morning over the reed bed

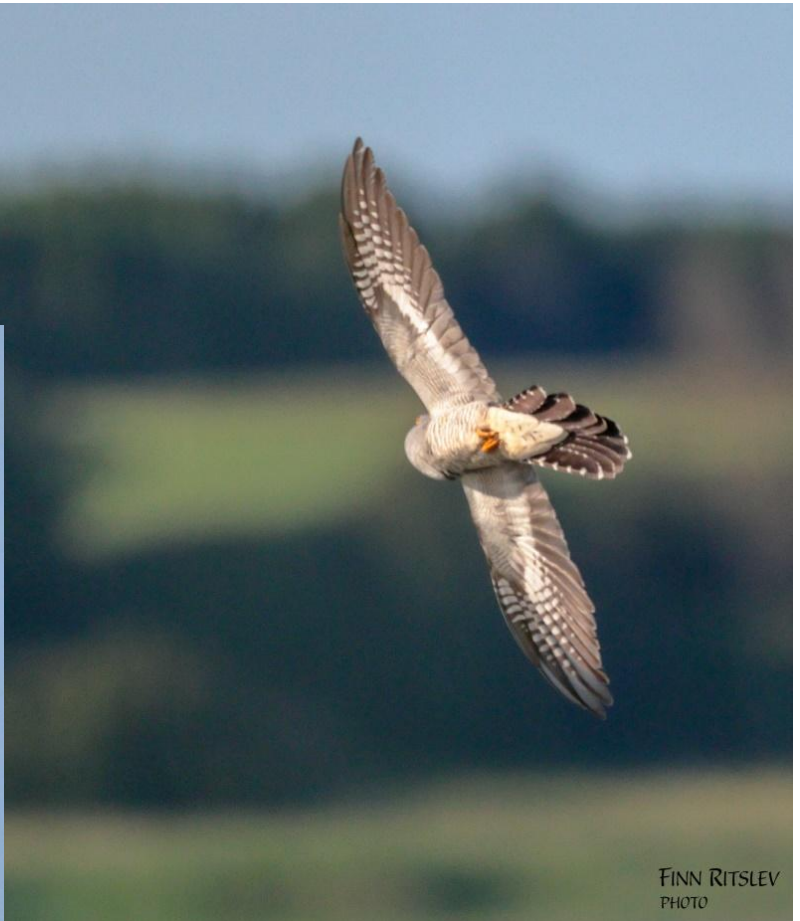


2024-05-21: On its way between the tree in our lee belt and the trees 300m to the North



2023-06-20 (right): Frequent visitor during May and June – often just hidden in the trees.

2023-06-26 (below): Harrassed by a Barn swallow.



2023-06-28: Backlighting Cuckoo.





Husshakade (*Pica pica*) | European magpie | Elster | Pie

Wingspan: 52-60 cm
Length: 46 cm (6") [25 cm of which is the tail]
Weight: 180-240 g

2021-05-11:
We have only few magpies in our garden. My guess it is due to the aggressive Crows around our garden.



Hvid vipstjert (*Motacilla alba*) | White wagtail |
Weiße Bachstelze | Bergeronnette grise

Wingspan: 25-30 cm
Length: 17-19 cm
Weight: 18-30 g

One of the most common birds in Denmark.

Arrives to Denmark March/mid-April and leaves by Sept./early Oct.

2022-07-15(left):
White wagtail on the roof ridge

2024-07-03
(right):
White wagtail on the roof ridge.



2023-03-27: From the outer pier of the nearby marina.



2023-04-25: Sitting on a newly cut lawn



2021-05-01: Male White wagtail with what looks like feathers in the beak.

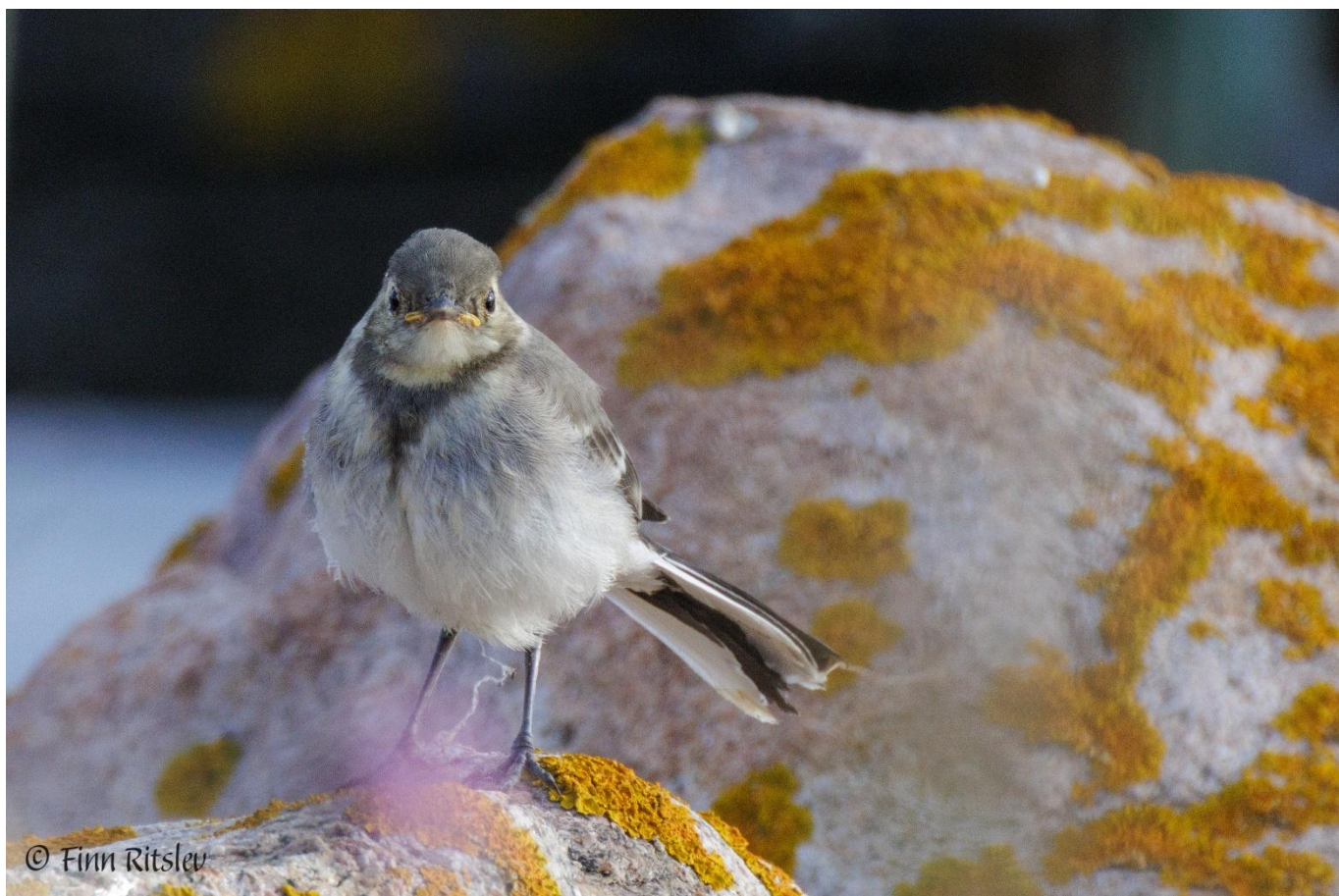


2021-06-10:
Male White wagtail walking in the courtyard.

2021-07-14:
White Wagtail walking in the courtyard close to the entrance an afternoon with more than 30 degC.



They had their nest under the roof quite near our front door.



Isfugl (*Alcedo atthis*) | Common kingfisher | Eisevogel | Martin-pêcheur d'Europe

Wingspan: 24-26 cm

Length: 16 cm

Weight: 40-45 g

2022-12-27: Sitting on bulwark in the nearby marina.





Jernspurv (*Prunella modularis*) | Hedge sparrow | Heckenbraunell |
 Accenteur mouchet

Wingspan: 19-21 cm
 Length: 14 cm
 Weight: 19-24 g

2023-04-13 (left):
 Singing in the blackberry
 bush.

2022-03-24 (right):
 Singing in the blackberry
 bush.



2023-04-04: Male singing in the blackberry bush.



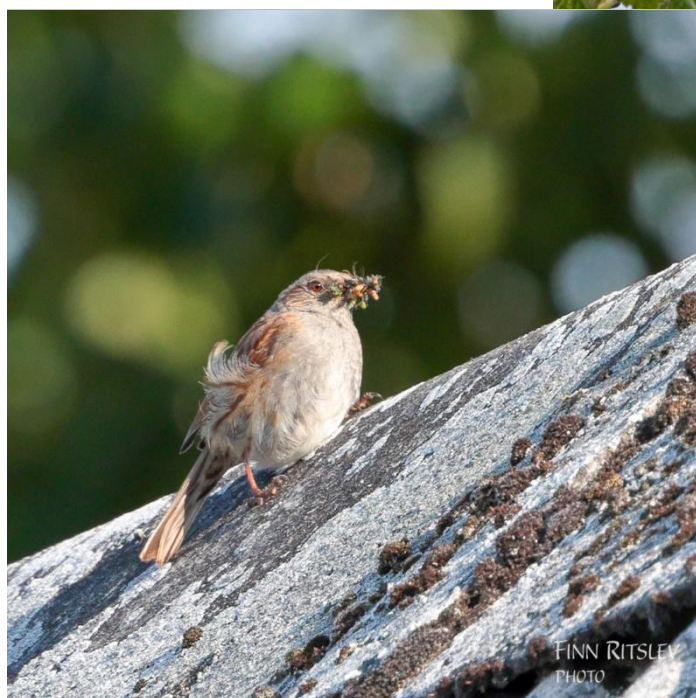
2022-04-11: Male Hedge sparrow singing in the cherry trees nearing blossom.



2022-04-26: Male singing in the backberry bush.



2023-05-03: In the backberry bush.



2024-06-18: Hedge sparrow with insects for its youngsters.



Kvækerfinke (*Fringilla montifringilla*) | Brambling | Bergfink | Pinson du Nord

Wingspan: 25-26 cm

Height: 15,5 cm

Weight: 23-29 g

Looks like Chaffinch (bogfinke).

Mainly seen as guest during winter.

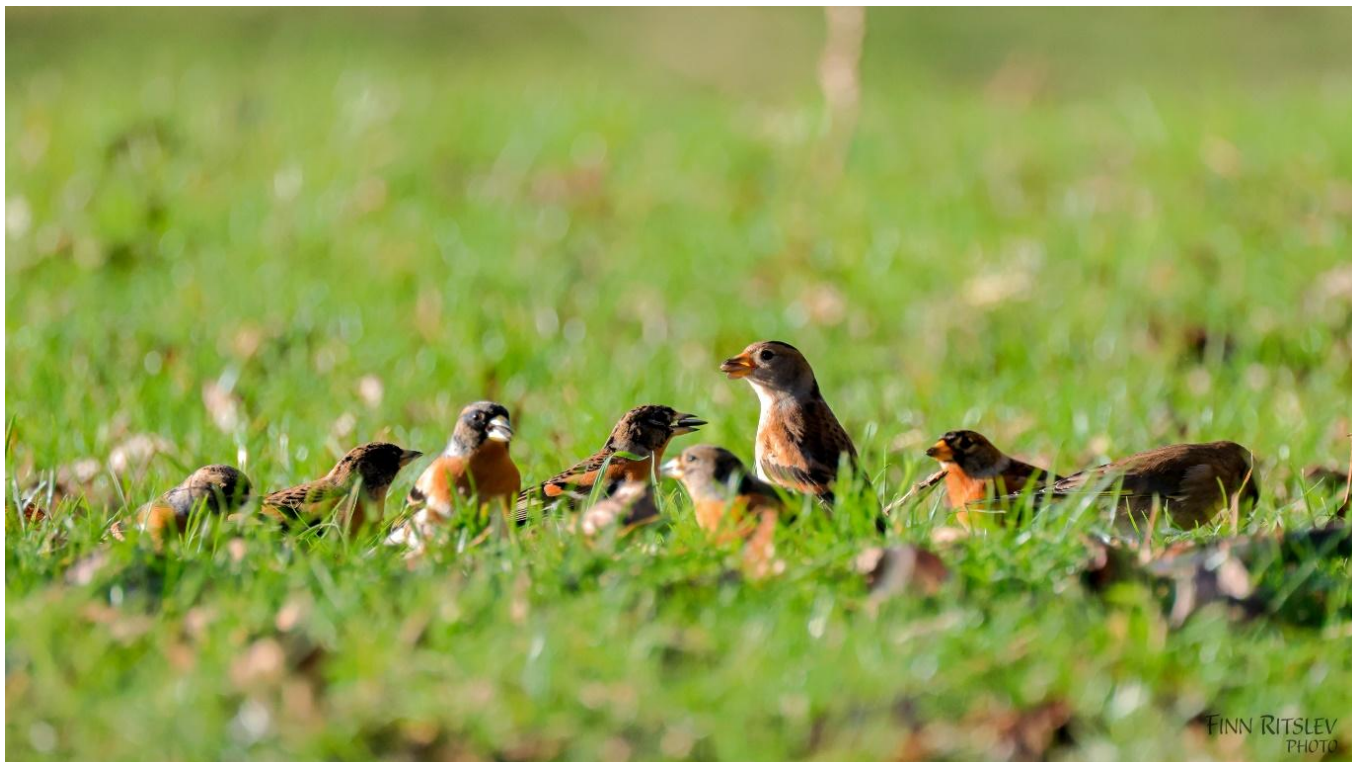


2021-12-21: Feeding in the crap apple tree next to the terrasse.



2021-12-27: Sitting in the crap apple tree.





Kærsanger (*Acrocephalus palustris*)



Marsh warbler | Sumpfrohrsänger |
Rousserolle verderolle

Wingspan: 18 - 21 cm
Length: 12,5 cm
Weight: 11-15 g

Looks very much like Reed warbler (rørsanger). Best recognized on a song that is very varied - emulating some of the 200 birds in Africa where they stay during the winter. Underbelly whitish yellow-beige.

2024-06-13 Marsh Warbler in the reed bed between us and the marina



2021-06-09: Female Marsh warbler in the blackberry bush



2023-06-25: Marsh warbler sitting on “lodden dueurt” bordering the reed bed south of the marina.
I even got video of the bird singing.



2024-07-01: Marsh warbler singing in hawthorn bush 200m north of Sildehøjgaard



2023-07-07: Marsh warbler sitting in the blackberry bush





Landsvale (*Hirundo rustica*) | Barn swallow | Rauchschwalbe |
Hirondelle rustique



Wingspan: 32-34,5 cm
Length: 19 cm [blue upperparts and a long, deeply forked tail]
Weight: 16-25 g
Arrives to Denmark late April; gather in large crowds in the fall before flying south to spend the winter in Southern Africa.

2023-05-03: From the outer pier of the marina.



2024-05-09: Barn swallow on a couldy windy afternoon





2021-05-17:

Couple of Barn swallows sitting on an electric fence 300m from here.



2021-05-18:

Female Barn swallow sitting on the the roof ridge and calling from before 07:00 in the morning to well past 11:15. This repeated itself several times during some of the subsequent days.



2021-05-20:

During summer and early autumn the Barn swallows often fly at up to 70 km/h just cm above the lawn while – mostly after we have moved the grass.





2021-05-26:

Barn swallow on its way through the pathway between the buildings for the nest under the roof.

2021-06-09:

On the nest.



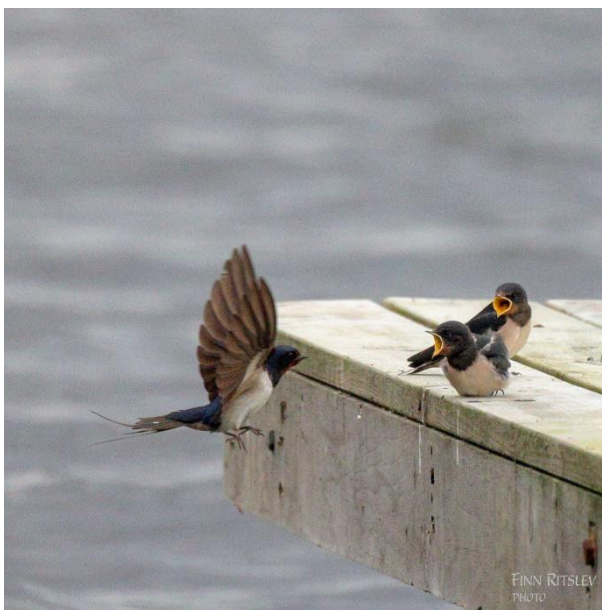
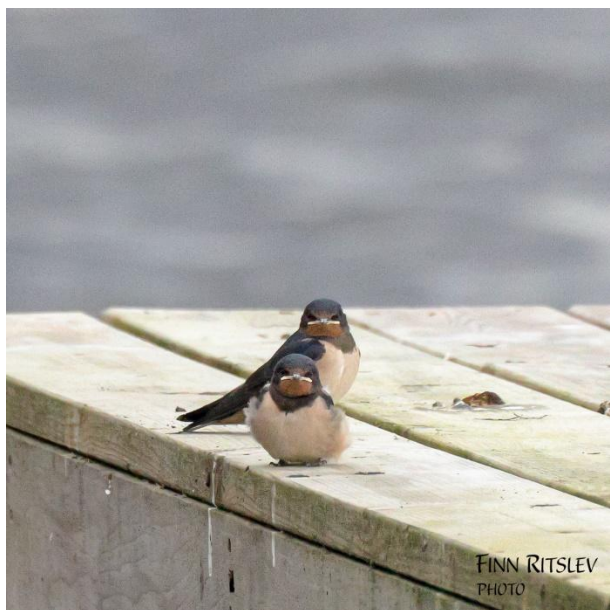
2021-05-28:



2022-05-31: Chasing mosquitos just over the surface of Roskilde Fjord



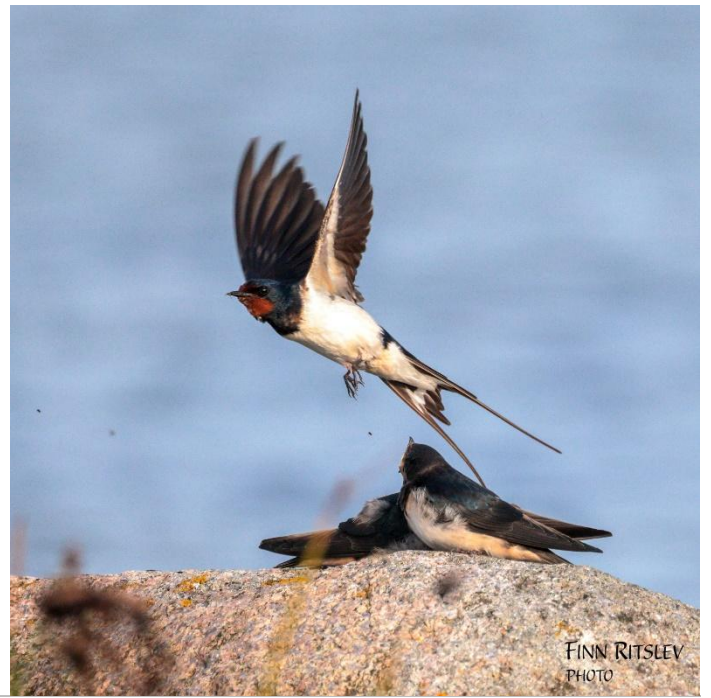
2022-05-31: Barn swallow feeding chicks and flying away.



2023-07-05: Three juvenil Barn swallows being fed on a boulder just outside Sildehøjgaard.







2023-08-12: Sitting in the blackberry bush.





Løvsanger (*Phylloscopus trochilus*) | Willow warbler |
Fitis | Pouillot fitis

Wingspan: 16,5-22 cm

Length: 11 cm

Weight: 6-10 g

One of the most common
Danish singers.



Looks much like a
“gransanger”, but it sings
very differently.





Munk (*Sylvia atricapilla*) | Eurasian blackcap | Mönchsgrasmücke | Fauvette à tête noire



2021-05-09:
Male blackcap sitting way up
in one of our ash trees.



2021-05-09: ... and here sitting way up in one of the linden-trees.





2021-05-30:

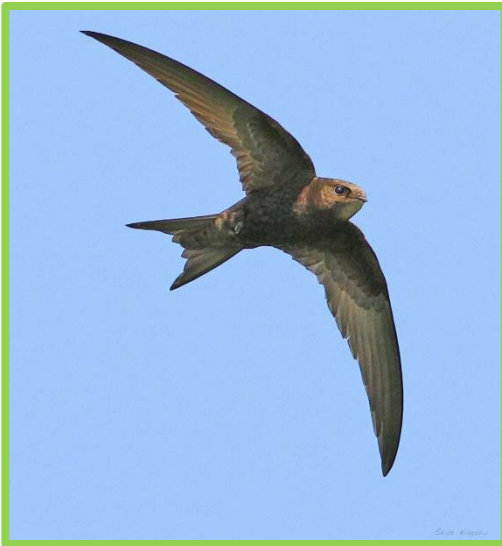
Female blackcap in the top of elm tree eating and then flying downwards. On the the last photo with one or two mosquitoes in the beak.



2021-05-31:

Female blackcap sitting 5-12m away on the lawn north of the northern building wing of the farmhouse.

.



Murseiler (*Apus apus*) |
Common swift |
Mauersegler | Martinet
noir

Wingspan: 42-48 cm
Length: 16-17 cm
Weight: 36-50g

2021-05-26:
Flock of 100s flew on the lee side of
the northern windbreak of trees
chasing mosquitos. The next day they
were all gone.

2021-06-14:
A small flock returned and flew over the buildings.



2021-08-08: Flock of 30-50 common swift flew over trees and buildings.



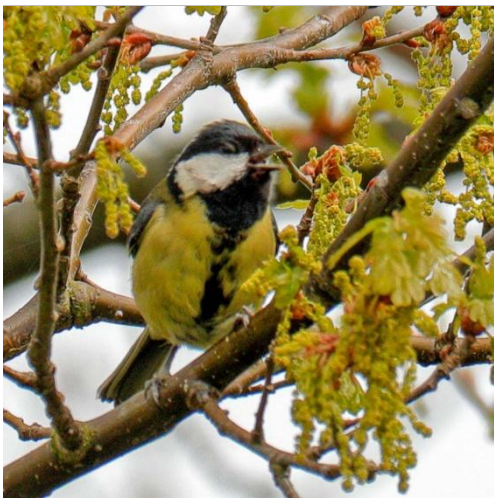


Musvit (*Parus major*) | Great tit |
Kohlmeise | Mésange
charbonnière

Wingspan: 22,5 - 25,5 cm

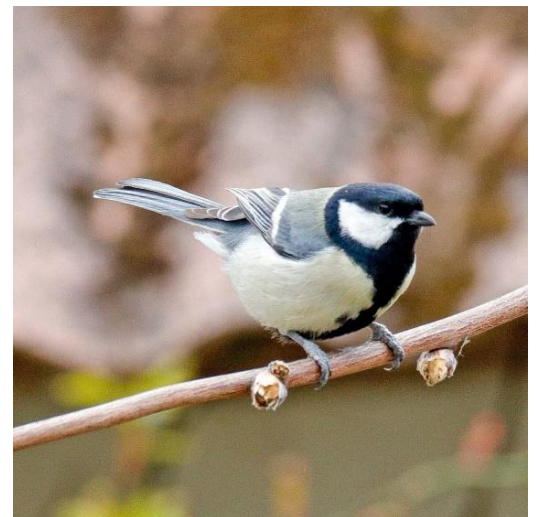
Length: 14 cm

Weight: 16-21 g

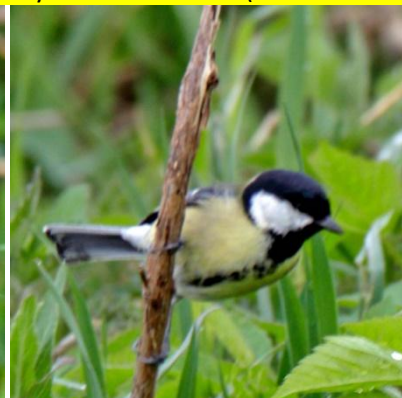


2021-04-27 & -05-07:
Great tit with very weak
colors on chest and back
compared to those
normally seen in
Denmark.

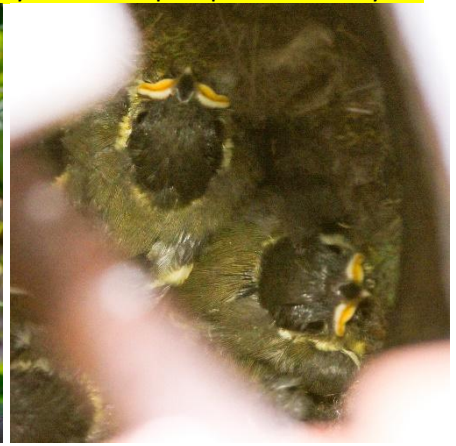
Sitting in the wisteria
behind the water pump
in the courtyard.



2021-05-12: Sitting in remains of last years willowherb (lodden dueurt)



2021-06-09: The Great tit with weak colors has chicks at the top of the rusty old water pump in the courtyard.



2021-06-17: Chick of Great tit sitting in the mirabelle tree neighboring the reed bed.



2021-07-02: Juvenil Great tits in the Japanese cherry tree.



2021-09-29: Great tit jumping around in the New Dawn rose at the main entrance.



2021-10-29: It did not take long before a Great tit had found this food stall with the fjord as the background.





Ring-/Skovdue (*Columba palumbus*) | Woodpigeon | Ringeltaube | Pigeon ramier



Wingspan: 75 - 80 cm
Length: 41 cm
Weight: 450-520 g

2021-05-01: Resting
in a nest in the
weeping willow.

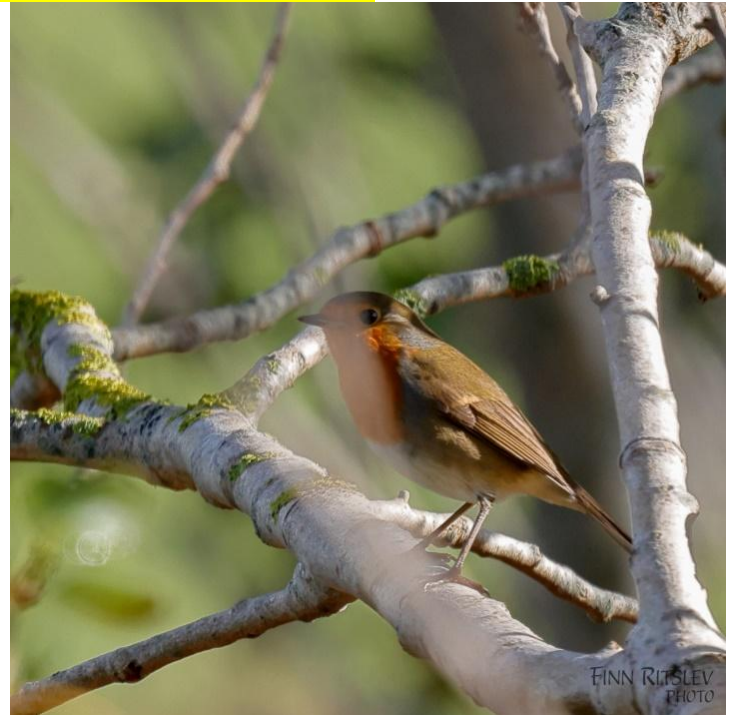




Rødhals / rødkælk (*Erithacus rubecula*) | European robin |
Rotkehlchen | Mésange charbonnière

Wingspan: 20 - 22 cm
Length: 14 cm
Weight: 16-22 g

2021-10-07 (below): Sitting partly hidden by a branch in one of the poplars south of the marina.



2021-11-06: Sitting in the blackberry bush.



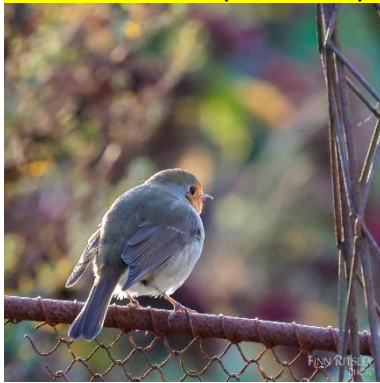
2021-11-10 (right): Singing in rose bushes in the roadside of Snekkevej next to the gravel road.

Taken a gray misty morning and not cropped; I was only 5-6 m from the singing bird.

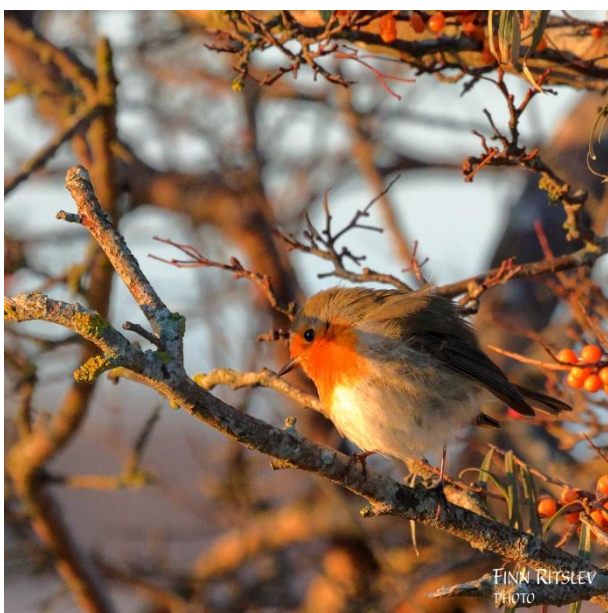




2021-12-06: Sunny winter day with lots of sun. However, the photo to the right taken the next day.



2022-12-15: An early winter morning with frost in the air



2021-12-21: An early frosty winter morning.



2022-01-22: Sitting close to where the birds are being fed.



2022-03-05: Last photo of the winter season.





Rødstjert (*Phoenicurus phoenicurus*) | Redstart |
Gartenrotschwanz | Rouge-queue



Wingspan: 20,5-24 cm
Length: 14 cm
Weight: 12-20 g

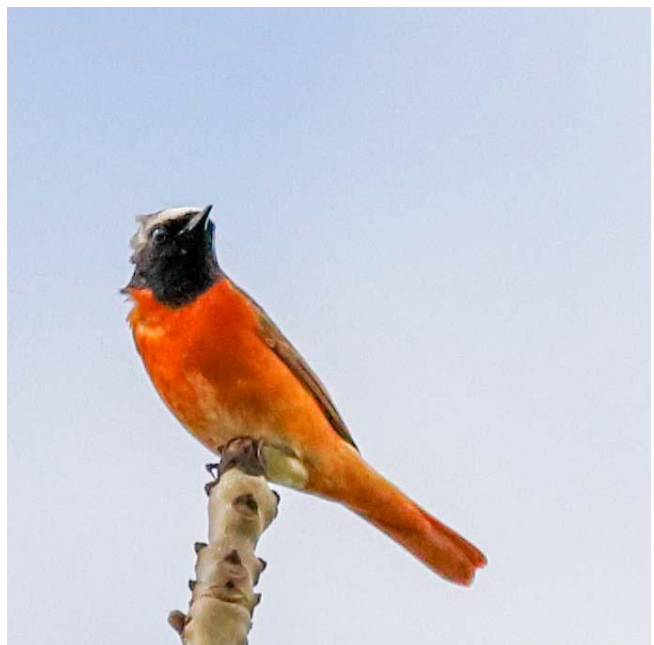
One of the most colorful birds in Denmark.

2021-05-16 (right): This male flew into the ivy growing along the wall in the courtyard where they had a nest in 2021.

2022-04-26: First photo of the season.
Male Redstart in top of maple tree.



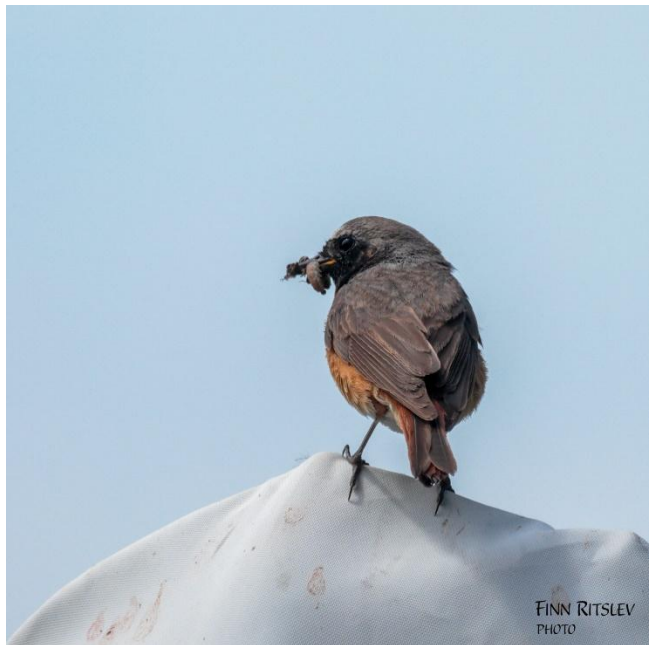
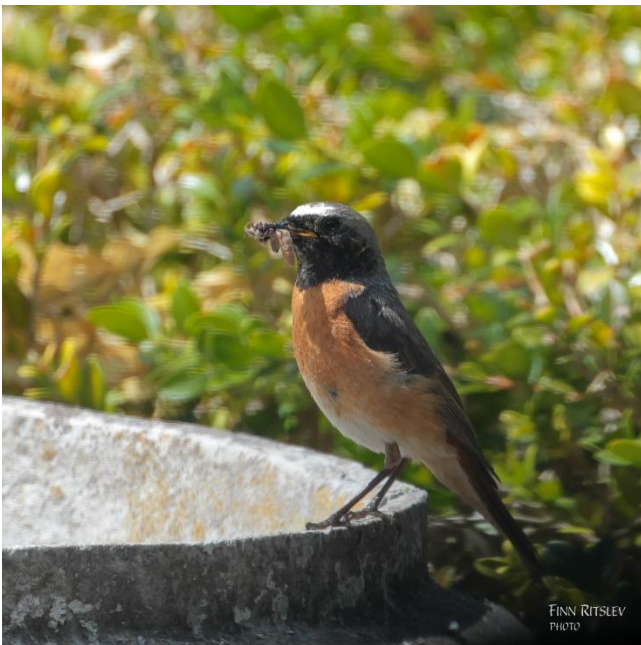
2021-05-18: Male Redstart sitting on the roof ridge and 15 min later 30m away in top of 10-15m tall mapple tree next to the driveway.





2023-06-13: Female Redstart in the courtyard.

2023-06-15: Male Redstart on our terrasse in front of the kitchen.



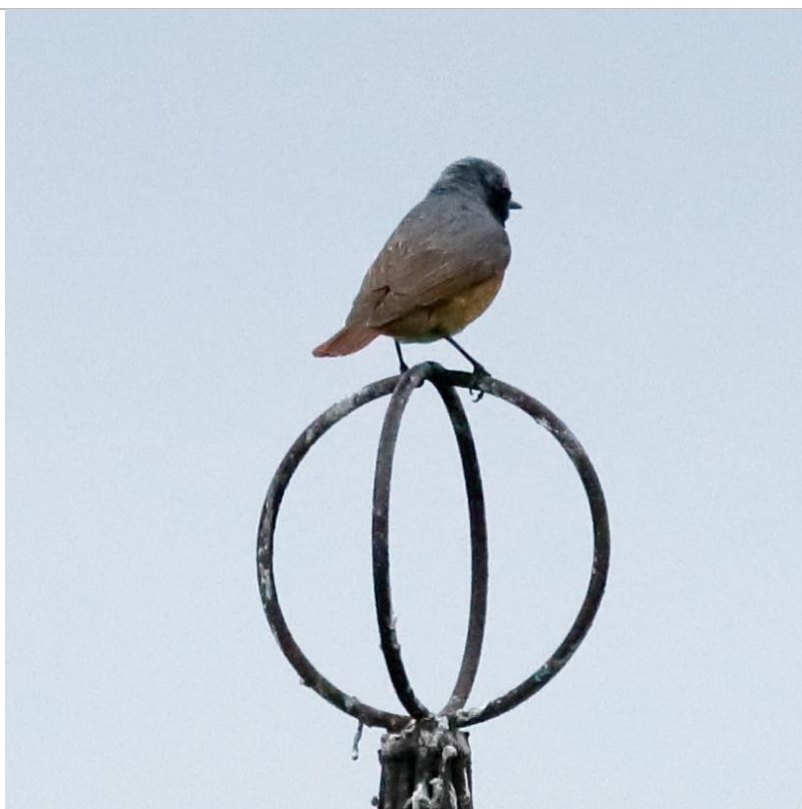
2021-06-21: Male with grass hopper in the mouth sitting in the paperbark maple tree in the courtyard.



2021-06-22: Both the male and the female Redstart were active from 04:00 in the morning until around lunch mainly in the courtyard plants.



2021-06-23: Male Redstart in the top of the gazebo overlooking the water in the fjord.



2022-07-21: Juvenil Redstart.
Last photo of the summer season.



Rørsanger (*Acrocephalus scirpaceus*) | Reed warbler | Teichrohrsänger | Rousserolle effarvatte

Wingspan: 17 - 21 cm

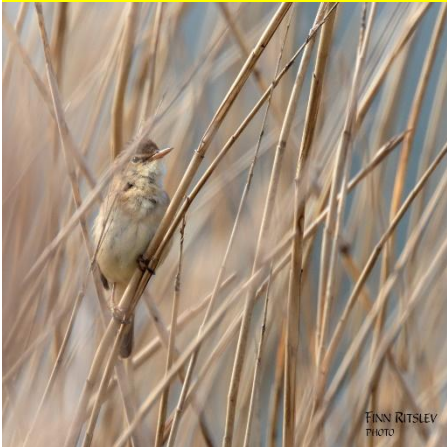
Length: 12,5 cm

Weight: 10-15 g

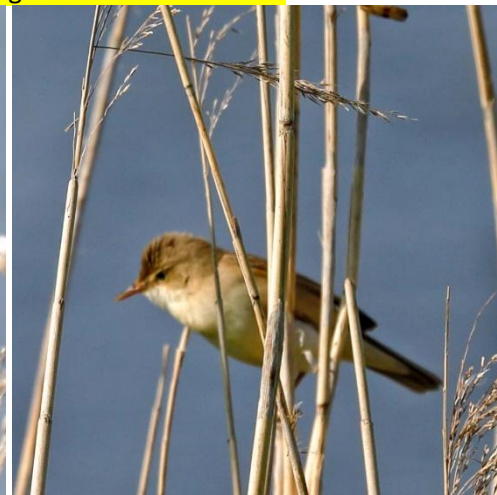
Very common in reed beds in all of Denmark. However, they are seldomly seen. It sounds like *terr-terr-terr-ti-ti-ti-ty-ty-terr-terr-terr-terr*.

Reed warblers and **Marsh warblers** look much alike and can only be distinguished by their song that later being far more varied.

2023-05-21: Reed warblers singing in the reed bed south of the marina and from outside our lawn



2021-06-03: Sitting in the few reeds that grew south of the lawn.



2021-06-08: Singing in the reed bed.



2021-06-09: Singing and flying.

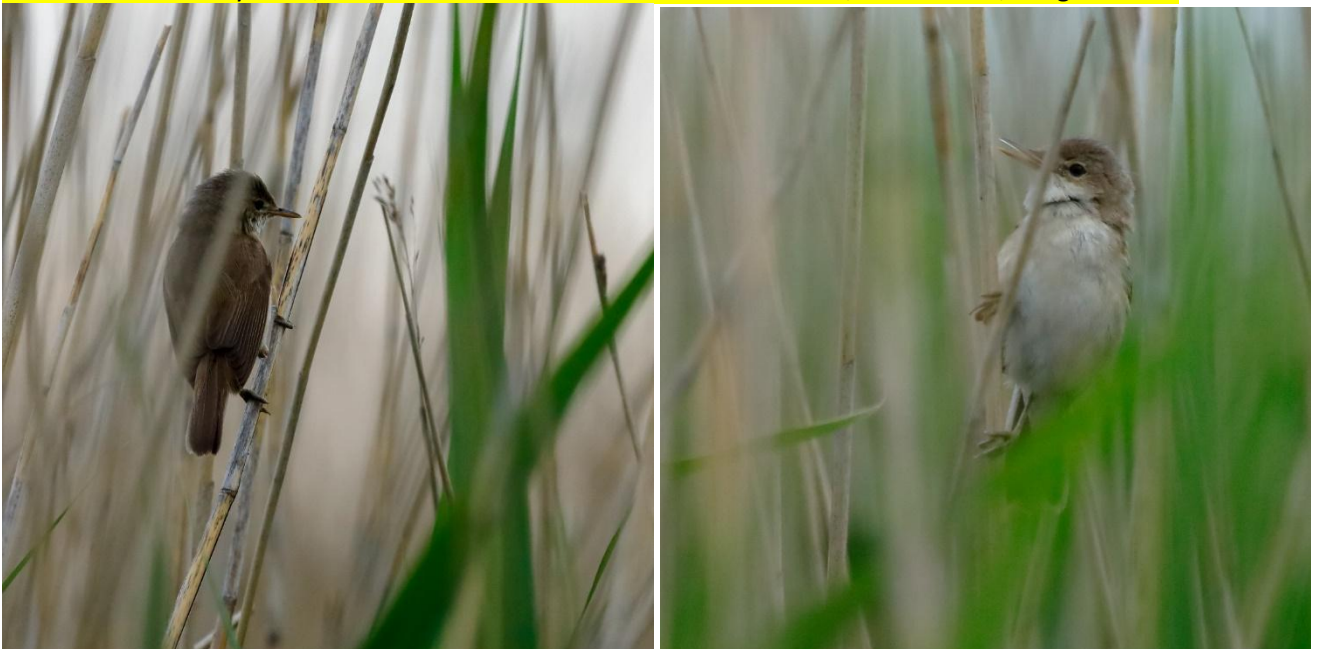


2021-06-10: Singing in the reed bed:



2021-06-24: The closest I have been to a Reed warbler – or any other songbird for that matter – 5-8 m. And all the dry straws and green leaves made it very difficult to get the bird in focus.

Characteristics: Grey head, a white throat and whitish-buff underneath, brown back, wings and tail.







Rørspurv (*Remiz pendulinus*) | Reed bunting | Rohrammer |
Bruant des roseaux



Wingspan: 16 - 17,5 cm
Length: 11 cm
Weight: 8-11 g

2021-04-30 (right):
Juvenil male in the
blackberry bush near
the water. He has not
yet changed from
youth to adult colors.

2021-06-02: Male Reed bunting.



21-06-24: Female Reed bunting in the reed bed.



21-07-06: Juvenil Reed buntings.



2021-07-09 morning: Juvenil Reed bunting.





Råge (*Corvus frugilegus*) | Rook | Saatkrähe | Corbeau freux

Wingspan: 81 - 99 cm

Length: 46 cm

Weight: 460-520 g

Size like a Crow but has black blue metal feathers.

Long black powerfull beak that is bare at the "root". Black legs.

2021-09-12: Rook being chased by Magpies.



2025-01-11: Flock of 50-100 Rooks on their way over the fjord towards Eskilsø 1 km away. Quite a windy day.



2024-08-02: Rook over the lawn close to the Marina.



2022-09-18:
Sitting in the
top of ash tree.





Sanglærke (*Alauda arvensis*) | Eurasian skylark | Feldlerche | Alouette des champs

Wingspan: 30-36 cm
Length: 18 cm
weight: 33-45 g

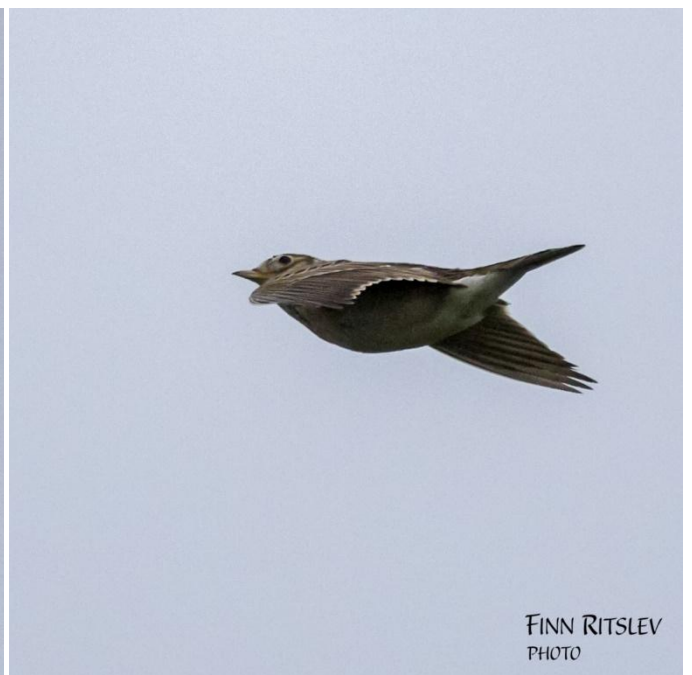
2022-04-09: Flying 40-60 m away high over the nearby fields.



2023-04-09: Flying 40-50m over the nearby fields.



2023-04-16: Flying from field to the south and over Sildehøjgaard.





Sivsanger (*Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*) |
Sedge warbler | Schilfrohrsänger |
Phragmite des joncs

Wingspan: 17 - 21 cm

Length: 13 cm

Weight: 10-13 g

Only few in Denmark.

2024-07-30: Sitting in the reeds.

© Finn Ritslev



Siagger (*Turdus pilaris*) | Fieldfare | Krammetsvogel |
Grive litorne



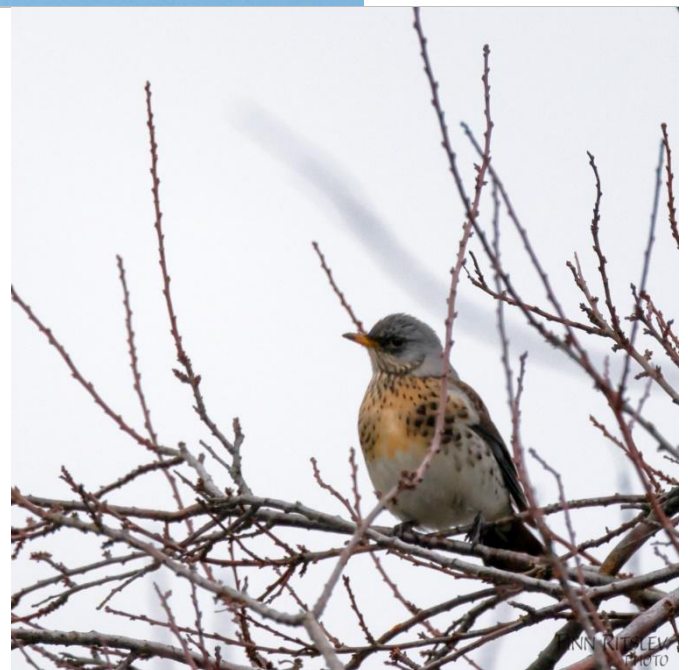
Wingspan: 39-42 cm

Length: 26 cm

weight: 80-140 g

FINN RITSLEV
PHOTO

2022-01-22: Sitting in tree in the fence 200m to the south.



FINN RITSLEV
PHOTO



Skovspurv (*Passer montanus*) | Tree sparrow | Feldsperling |
Moineau friquet

Wingspan: 20-22 cm

Length: 14 cm

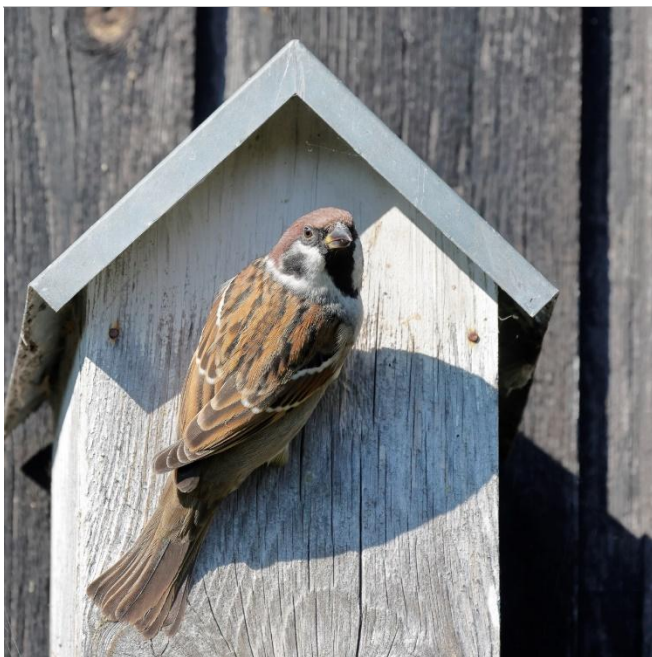
weight: 19-25 g

Known from common sparrows on the black spot on the white cheek as well as on the chocolate brown cap.



2022-01-03: Sitting in one of the Japanese cherry trees at the round-about.





2021-09-20: The hole to the bird cage looked too small for this Tree sparrow.

2021-09-24: The cage was located close to the japanese cherry tree in which it sat just a few days later.





Skærpiber (*Anthus petrosus*) | European rock pipit | Wasserpieper | Pipit maritime

Wingspan: 22,5-28 cm

Length: 17 cm

weight: 21-30 g

2023-03-29: Sitting on one of the boulders on the beach.





Snespurv (*Plectrophenax nivalis*) | Snow bunting | Schneeammer |

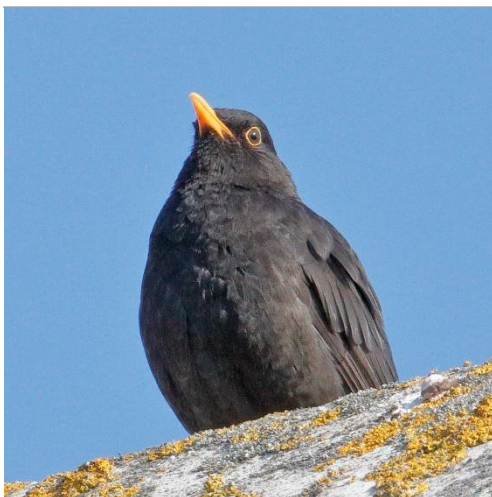
Bruant des neiges

Wingspan: 32-38 cm

Height: 16,5 cm

weight: 26-40 g

2022-03-05: Snow bunting sitting on boulder on the beach.



Solsort (*Turdus merula*) | Blackbird | Amsel | Merle

Wingspan: 34 - 38,5 cm

Length: 25 cm

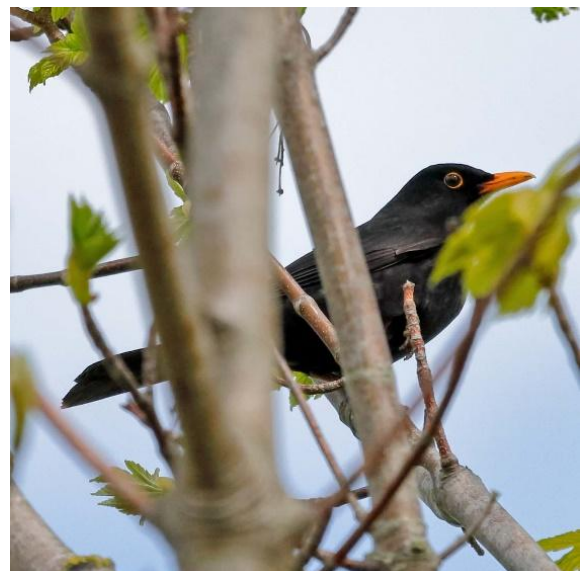
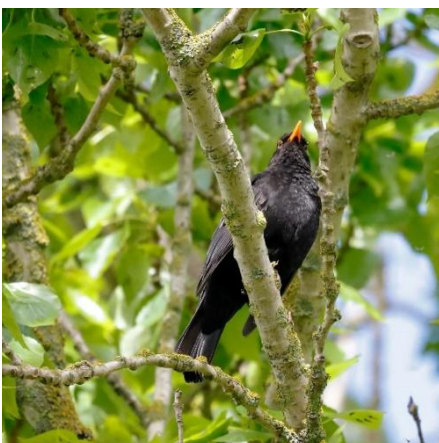
Weight: 80-110 g

The most common bird in Denmark.



2021-05-21:

Blackbird sitting on a branch in the maple tree just south of the buildings. The leaves are just starting to unfold.





2021-06-11: Juvenil Blackbird sitting on the stones under the cherry trees in the driveway.

2021-06-12: Cherry-picking in the driveway.



2023-11-18: Blackbird fasting in the crap apple tree at the terrasse.



FINN RITSLEV
PHOTO



Stenpikker (*Oenanthe oenanthe*) | Northern wheatear | Steinschmätzer | Traquet motteux



Wingspan: 26-32 cm
Length: 15 cm
Weight: 17-30 g

2021-08-05:
Juvenil wheatwear sitting
300m south of here.

2021-09-01: Northern wheatear on the short peninsula 200m to the south.



2023-09-05: Taken on the outer pier of the marina.





Stillits (*Carduelis carduelis*) | Goldfinch | Stieglitz |
Chardonneret élégant

Wingspan: 21-25,5 cm

Length: 12 cm

Weight: 14-18 g

One of the most colorful birds in Denmark.

2021-05-06:

Two Goldfinches are sitting in the gazebo located south of the buildings.



2021-05-14 (left): Sitting in the top of maple tree.



2021-06-01 (early morning) :
Stillits sitting on the lawn just south of the master bed room.





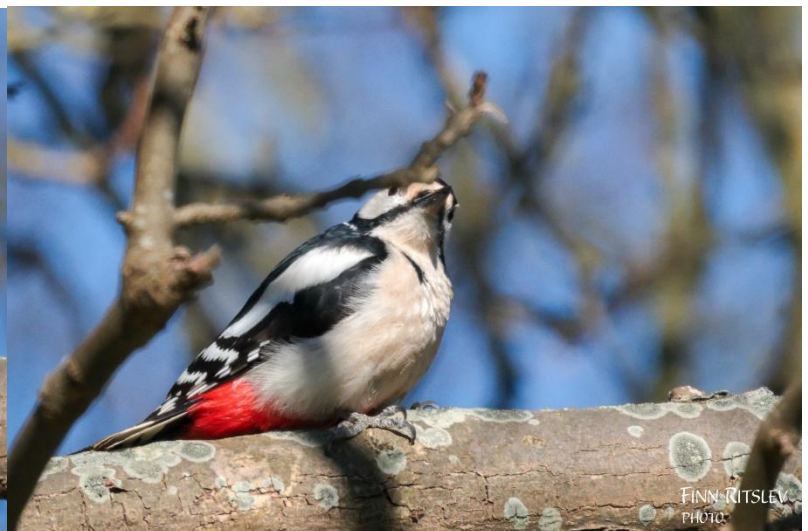
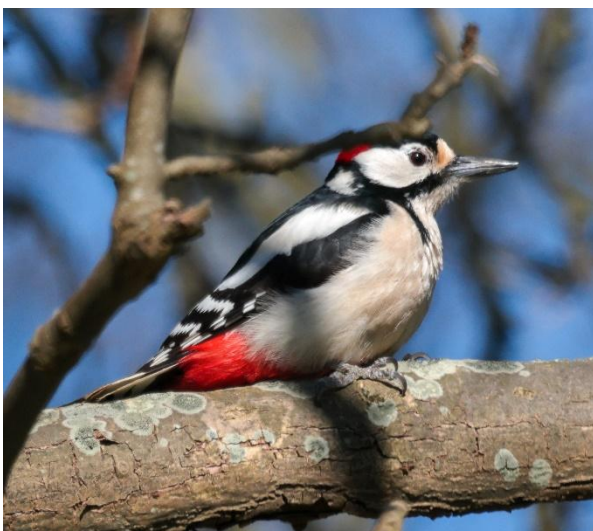
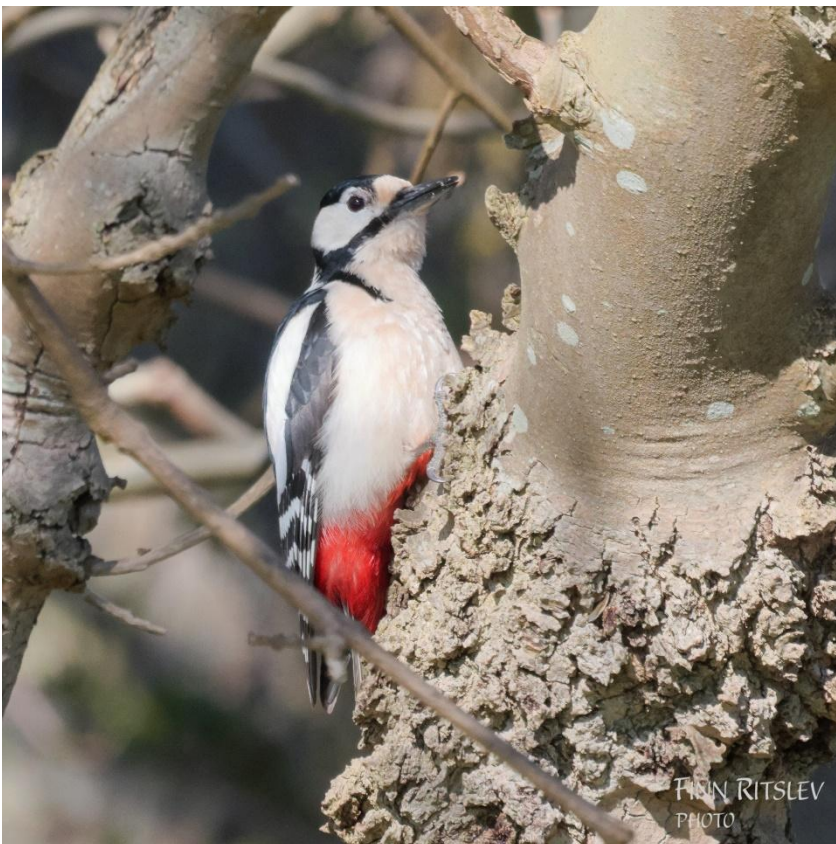
Stor flagspætte (*Dendrocopos major*) | Great spotted woodpecker | Buntspecht | Pic épeiche

Wingspan: 34-39 cm
Length: 23 cm
Weight: 70-90g

2021-11-12: Eating from feeder hanging in the crap apple tree at the terrasse.



2023-04-02:





Stær (*Sturnus vulgaris*) | Star | Star | Étourneaux tar

Wingspan: 37-42 cm

Body: 21 cm

Large flocks plunder the cherry trees in the driveway every year in less than 24 hours.



2021-06-03 (left):
The first Star of the year sitting in the top of the weeping willow.



2021-06-11 (right):
Juvenil Star in the backberry bush.

2012-06-12: Cherry-picking in one of the trees in the driveway.



2023-08-02: Shortly before sunset on an overcast evening.



2021-08-20: Shortly before sunset one of the many flocks of Stars that were resting for the night in the reed bed.



2021-08-23: Juvenil Star sitting in the blackberry bush together with a Tree sparrow.



2021-09-03 (sunset): Stars preparing for “black sun” over the reed bed.





Tornirisk (*Linaria cannabina*) | Common linnet | Bluthänfling | Linotte mélodieuse

Wingspan: 21-25,5 cm
Length: 13,5 cm
Weight: 15-20 g

2021-07-10 (left):
Male (left) and female
(right) in the top of
blackberry bush.

2021-05-01 (right):
Male Common linnet
sitting the branches of a tree next to the weeping willow at the fjord.



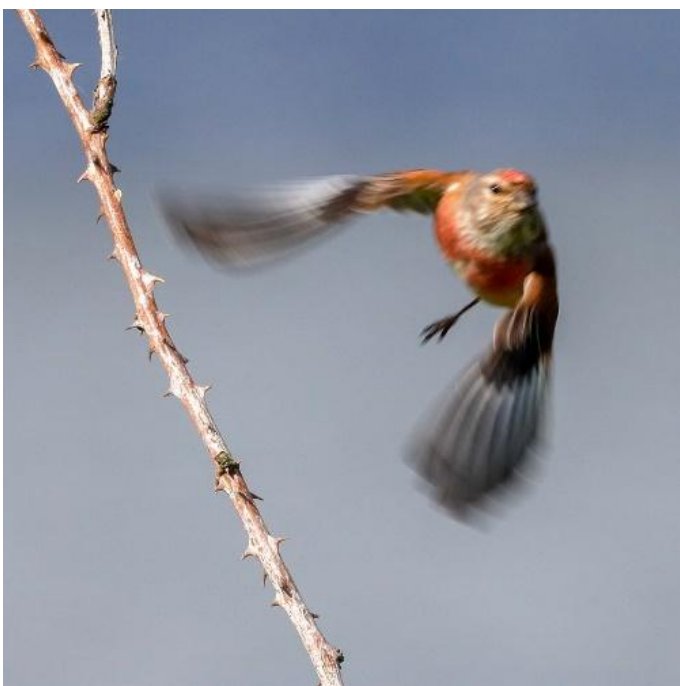
2024-05-04: Male Common linnet from the back



2021-05-24: Male and female Common linnet “shot” through the bedroom windows:
Eating 30m from the blackberry bush where they had their nest.



2021-06-03: Male Common linnet.



2021-06-03: Female Common linnet sitting in the blackberry bush.



2021-06-05: Male and female –sitting on a twig in the top of the the blackberry bush in full sunlight.



2021-06-11: Common linnet, male and female, sitting in the blackberry bush on an overcast day.



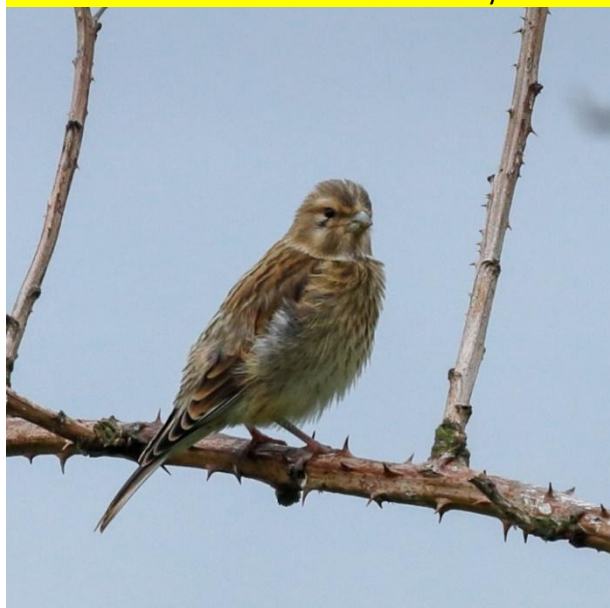
2021-06-17:
Male
Common
linnet sitting
on branch in
the
blackberry
bush and
leaving it.



2021-06-23: Female (left) and male (right) pair of Common linnets resting in the thuja hedge to the east.



2021-06-23 (left):
Juvenile Common linnet in the blackberry bush.



2021-06-24 (right):
Male linnet in the blackberry bush.



2021-07-06:
Male Common
linnet in the the
blackberry bush.



2021-08-06:
Likely a young
male Common
linnet.





Tornsanger (*Curruca communis*) | Whitethroat | Dorngrasmücke | Fauvette grisette



Wingspan: 13 - 15 cm
Length: 14 cm
Weight: 12-18 g

2021-05-01:
Male Whitethroat

The male has a grey head, a white throat and a brown back, and is buff underneath.

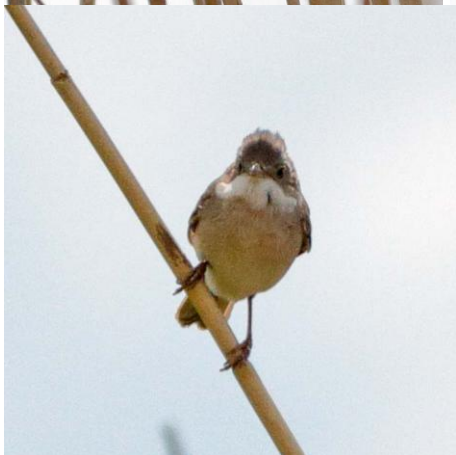
2021-05-14: Flying Whitethroat - most likely a male courting a female.



2023-05-15: Male Whitethroat



2021-05-19: Series of Whitethroat singing in the reed bed bordering the lawn.



2021-06-08 (right):
Sitting in the blackberry
bush with an insect in the
beak.



2024-05-25: Male Whitethroat at the marina.



2021-05-27: Male Whitethroat singing in the reed bed bordering the lawn.



2021-06-05: Male Whitethroat sitting on a dead branch in the top of the blackberry bush.



2021-06-15:

Two Whitethroats foraging in the reeds just north of the lot close to the trail between reed and field.





2021-07-22:
Female
Whitethroat with
a grasshopper in
the beak for her
chicks.



2024-08-05: Young Whitethroat in the blackberry bush.



2021-08-29: Male Whitethroat

Birds of Prey



Blå kærhøg (*Circus cyaneus*) | Hen harrier | Kornweihe | Pygargue à queue blanche

Wingspan: 100-120 cm

Length: 47 cm

Weight: male 300-400 g

female 400-700 g

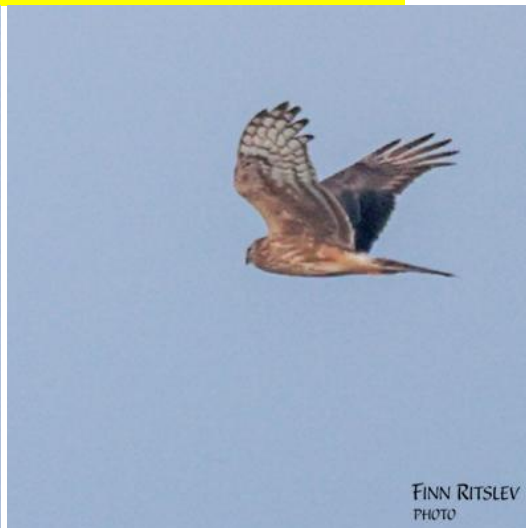
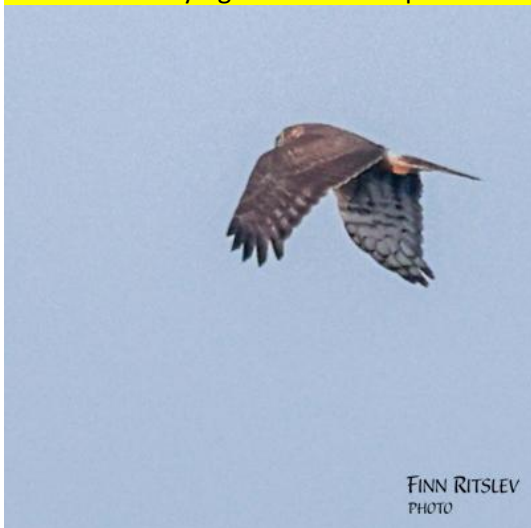
Rare migrating birds seen March-May and again August-November.

2021-12-17: Juvenil Flying low over the reed bad at the end of the lawn. Reddish-brown slightly striped body underside. Dark arm swing feathers on top. Wide white upper bump, long tail and 5 fingers with black tips in wide hand, floating low over reed bed.

Unfortunately the focus was at the reed in front and not on the bird !



2023-04-06: Flying southwards – photo on a distance of 400m – far from ideal.





Duehøg (*Accipiter gentilis*) | Goshawk | Hühnerhabichte | Autour des palombes

Wingspan: 98-117 cm

Length: 50-60 cm

Weight: male 600-1.000 g
female 900-2.000 g



2023-11-06: Over the fields north of the trees to the north of Sildehøjgaard

2023-11-06: 80-100m east of the reed bed and north of Sildehøjgaard.





Fiskeørn (*Pandion haliaetus*) | Osprey/Sea Hawk | Fischadler |
Balbuzard pêcheur

Wingspan: 145 - 165 cm

Length: 55 cm

Weight: male 1.2-1.75 kg

female 1.2- 2.05 kg

2022-07-18: Shot from the shoreline just south of here.

The Osprey was 100 m away - perfect shot angle/cloud cover.





Havørn (*Haliaeetus albicilla*) | White-tailed eagle | Seeadler |
Pygargue à queue blanche

Wingspan: 200 - 245 cm

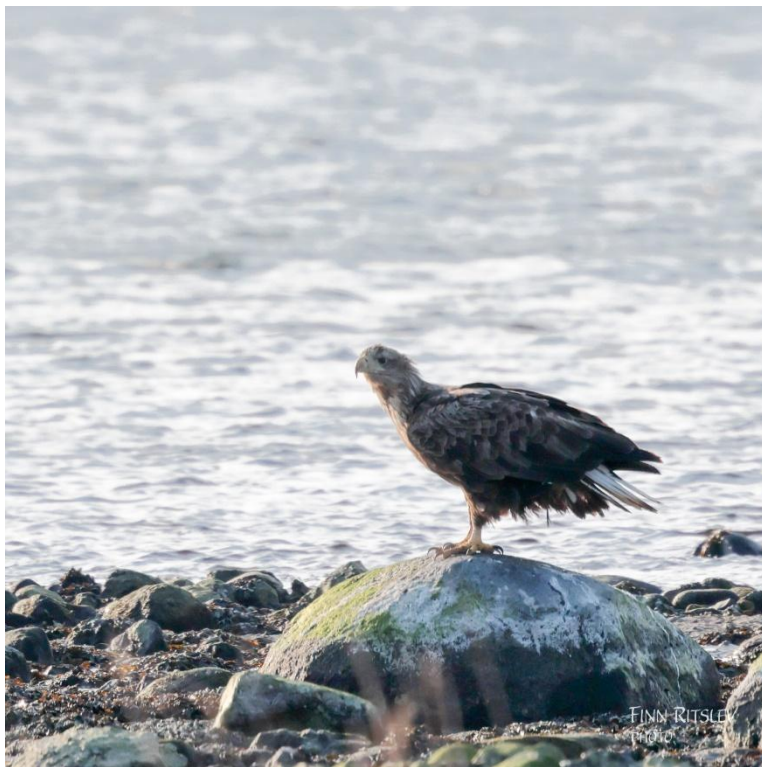
Length: 70 - 90 cm

Weight: male 3.1 - 5.5 kg
female 4.1 - 7 kg

The White-tailed eagle is the largest bird of prey in Northern Europe. Among Danish ornithologists nicknamed "the flying door" (Danish: *den flyvende dør*).

In the colder months there is a good chance of seeing White-tailed eagles on Roskilde Fjord in the area around Eskilsø and Jyllinge Holme.

Three couples was reported in 2018 breeding at Bognæs north of Roskilde, in Jægerspris Nordskov (on the other side of Eskilsø when seen from our lawn), and respectively in a forest area east of Skibby.



2024-03-11 morning: Old White-tailed Eagle sitting on a boulder 200m south of Sildehøjgaard.

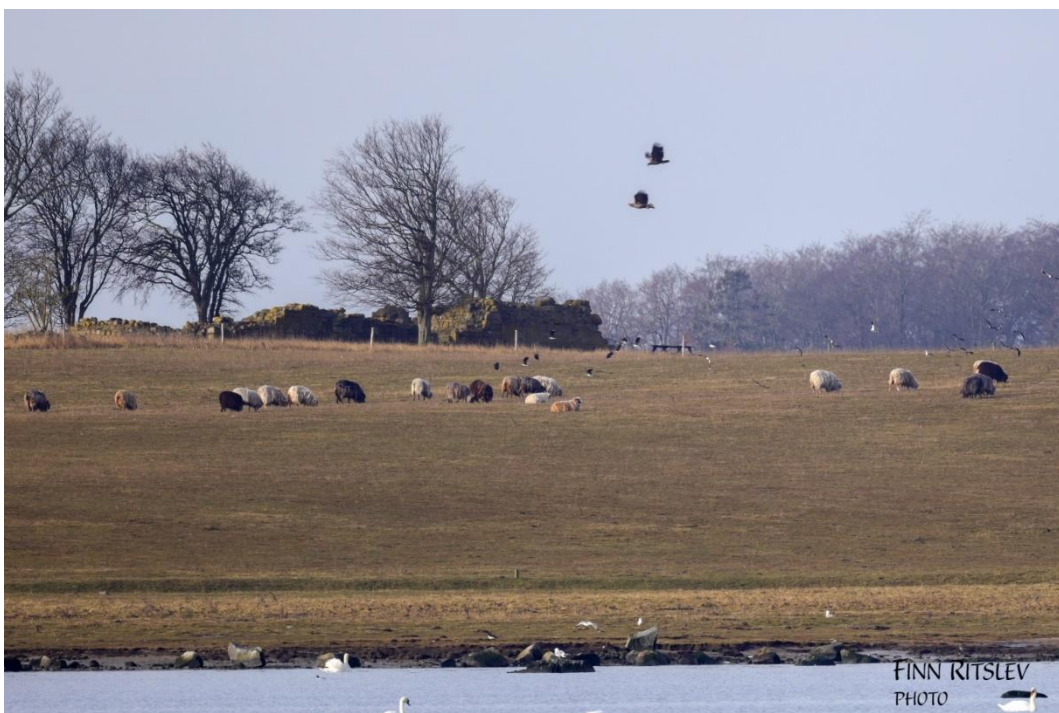
20 sec later 400m away flying towards Roskilde to the South.



2023-04-11 late afternoon: White-tailed eagle over the fjord
Flying midway between our coast and Eskilsø some 400-450m away. Harrased by Black-headed gull.

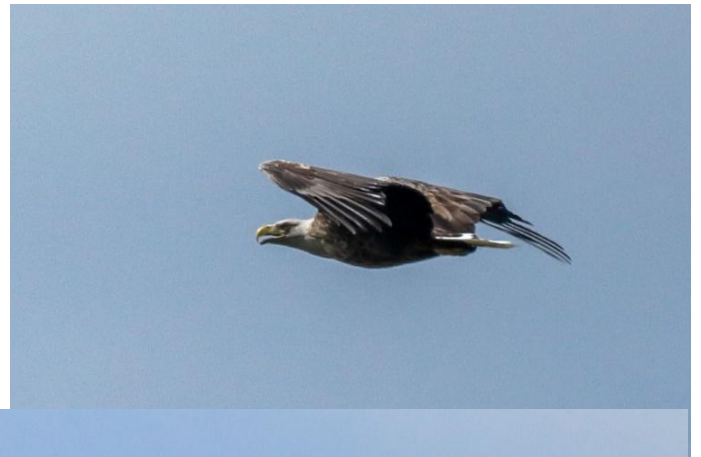


2023-03-16: Two young White-tailed eagles flying over the grassing cattle close to the cloister ruin on Eskilsø
1,000m from our coastline.



2021-06-16:

White-tailed eagle flying over the fjord and parallel to the coastline - likely to Bognæs 6 km to the south.



2021-06-24:

White-tailed eagle flying parallel to Snekkevej from the fjord and towards Gundsømagle.
It flew over Sildehøjgård.



2021-07-22:
Lucky strike.



2021-11-09: Fifth observation in 2021 of the White-tailed eagle.

Flying from Eskilsø and towards the East on an overcast day. Scared the h... out of a flock of several hundred cots that ran/flew over the water to gather in two very densely populated groups.





2022-02-15 11h59:43: White-tailed eagle hunting Barnacle Geese over Eskilsø 1.3 km away.

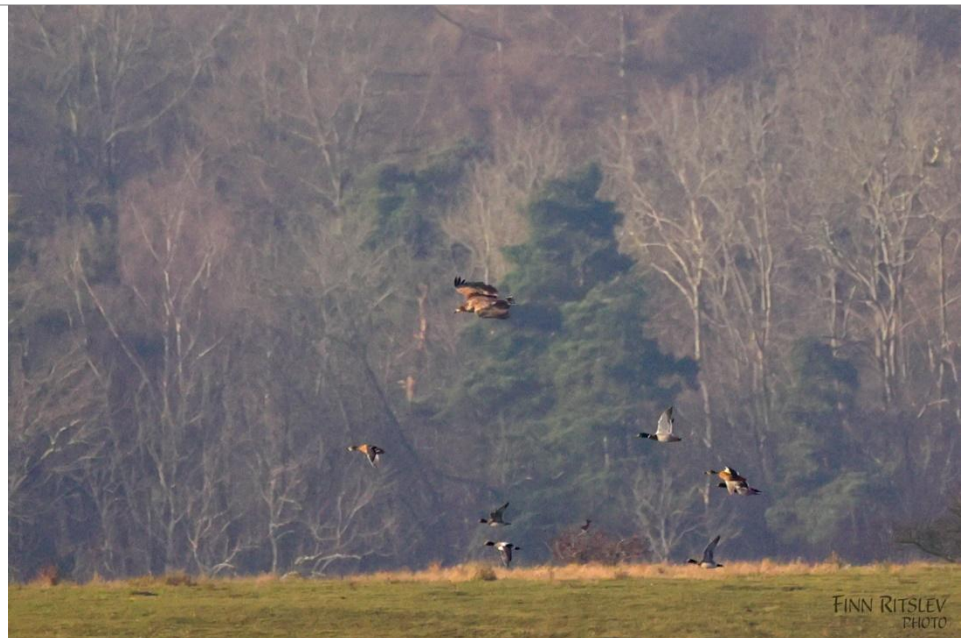




2022-02-15 12h00:57: There are two White-tailed eagles on the photo to the right. One flying towards the Barnacle Gees and the other flying 10-15 m above ground - just over faster flying ducks.



2022-02-15 12h00:57: White
tailed eagle flying 10-15m above
the ground - passing flying ducks

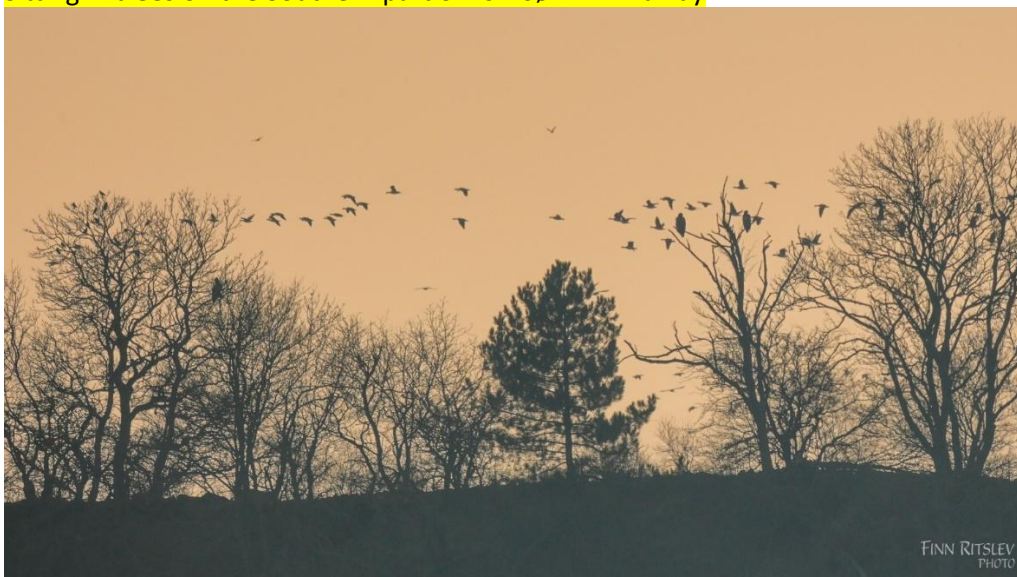


2022-02-15 12h00:58½: White
tailed eagle flying even closer to
the ground.

Unfortunately this was my last
photo in the series but the
slower eagle did not seem to
catch up with the ducks fleeing
at 60-70 km/h.



2022-03-16 16h56: Three white tailed eagles at sunset watching geese flying over the fjord to the south.
Sitting in trees on the Southern part of Eskilsø 1.1 km away.



2022-03-24 09h52: White tailed eagle sitting in a tree on the Southern part of Eskilsø 1.1 km away.

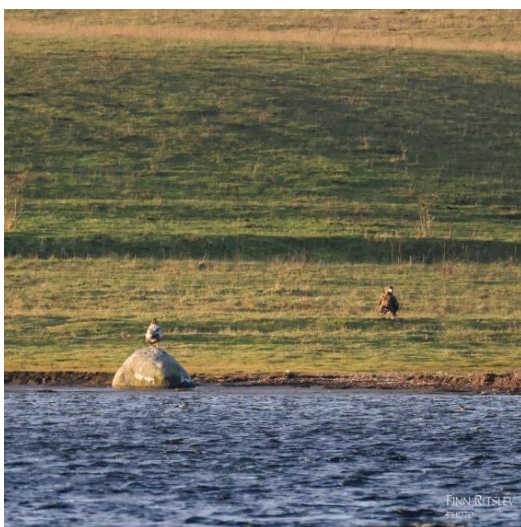
The tree fell during storm with galeforce winds late January 2023.



2022-04-01: White tailed eagle flying 6-700m from the coastline.



2023-01-05: Two white tailed eagles feeding in front of the cloister ruin on Eskilsø



2023-01-05: Juvenil white tailed eagle over the meadow on Eskilsø – distance 1,000m.



2023-02-12: Juvenil and older white tailed eagle playing over the fjord 500m from our lawn.





Musvåge (*Buteo buteo*) | Buzzard | Bussard | Buse

Wingspan: 113 - 128 cm [with "five fingers"]

Length: 54 cm

Weight: male .55-.85 kg

female .7-1.2 kg

Breeds in Denmark.

Large flocks of migrating young Swedish, Norwegian and Finnish Buzzards can be seen towards the end of September crossing Roskilde Fjord at Eskilsø and Jyllinge Holme.



2021-01-14:

Taken an early morning in the middle of the winter season.



2021-05-02:

Series of a Crow chasing a Buzzard from an early morning. For the entire series please see Krage (Crow).





2021-10-06: Crow chasing a bussard away from Sildehøjgaard and 200m to the south of here.



2021-10-11: One of two bussards flying around the trees in our northern hedge and the farm buildings.



2021-10-11: ... and being chased away by a Crow.



2021-10-19: Bussard flying low over the fields towards the reed bed and close to the trees of the northern hedge.



2021-10-19: Bussard being hunted by a Crow between the trees in our northern hedge and Snekkevej.



2022-01-09: "Shot" over the fields south of Sildehøjgaard and then over the fjord towards Eskilsø on a snowy day.



2022-01-20: From
the trail along the
fjord



RF 800mm f/11





Rørhøg (*Circus aeruginosus*) | Marsh harrier | Rohrweihe |

Busard des roseaux

Wingspan: 110 - 125 cm

Length: 52 cm

Weight: male .40-.65 kg

female .55-.80 kg

In some years breeding on
Eskilsø and in the reed
beds of Roskilde Fjord.



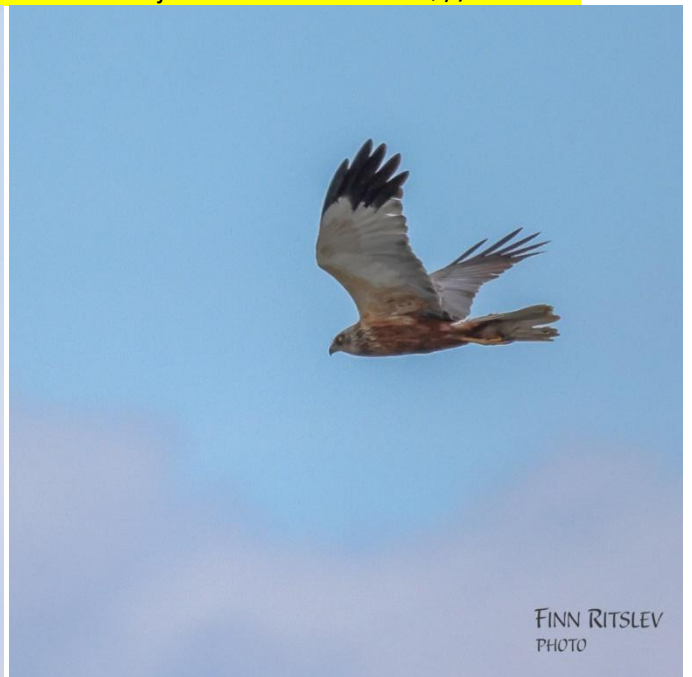
2022-03-24: March Harrier flying towards north over the fjord 200m; taken from the outer pier of the marina.



2021-05-08:

Series of a Marsh Harrier hunting over the reed bed between Sildehøjgaard and the marina. The harrier made several rounds over the reed bed but never captured anything. Floated with outstretched wings in a long arc starting close to the tall poplar trees south of the marina, over the reed bed, and then out over the fjord. Ended up heading from the reed and over the fjord towards Eskilsø.







Spurvehøg (*Accipiter nisus*) | Sparrowhawk | Sperber | Émouchet

Wingspan: 65-80 cm

Length: 33 cm

Weight: male 110-195 g
female 185-340 g

2021-08-26 (right):
Sparrowhawk hunting
swallows over our
buildings.



2023-05-04: Male Sparrowhawk watching in the garden to the south



2023-05-04: Male taking off



2021-08-27:

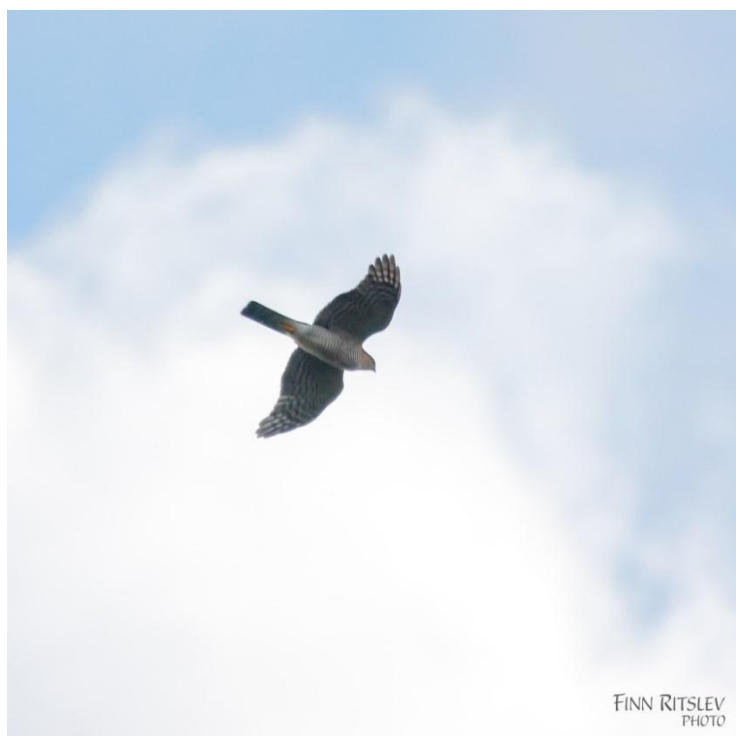
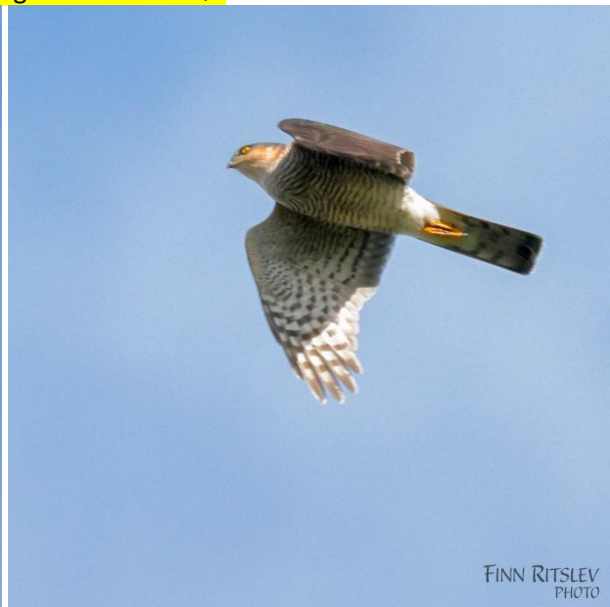
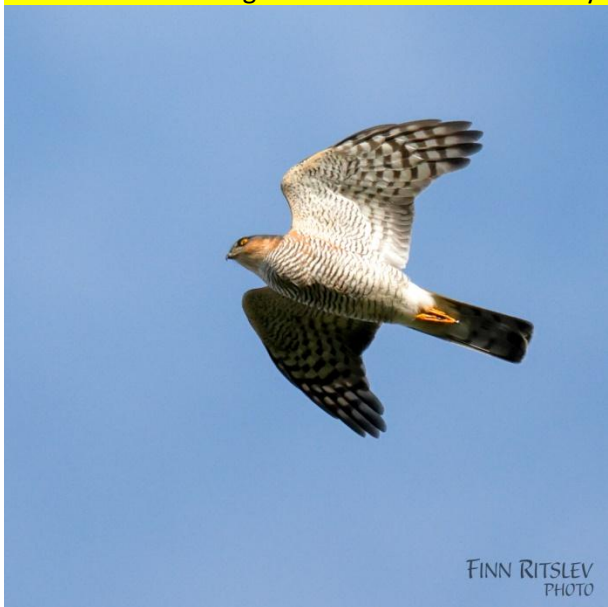


2021-08-28:



FINN RITSLEV
PHOTO







Tårnfalk (*Falco tinnunculus*) | Common Kerstel | Turmfalke | Crécerelle

Wingspan: 65-80 cm

Length: 34 cm

Weight: male 190-240 g (gray crown + blue-gray tail)

female 220-300 g (mostly brown tail with broad black tip)

2021-05-18:

Common Kerstel hunting over the reed bed just north of Sildehøjgaard

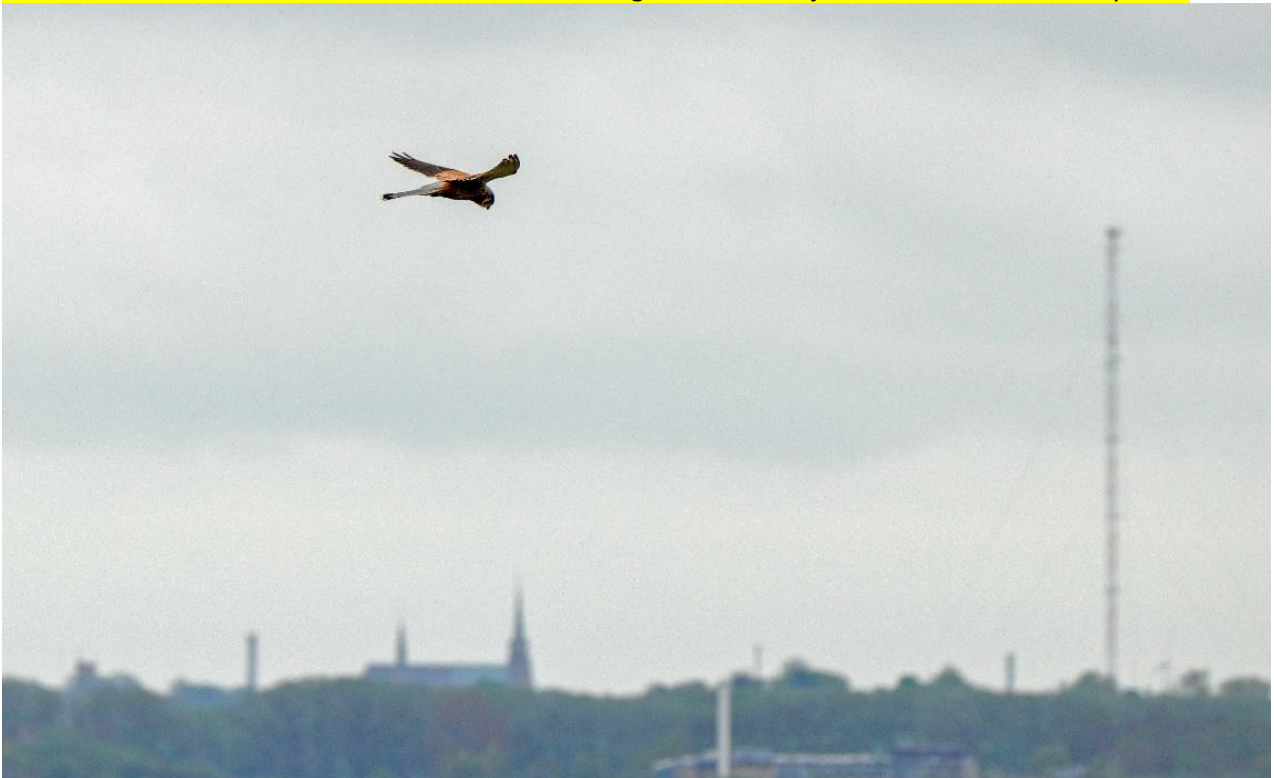
Kestrels float over the same spot (Danish: "muse") 8 to 40 meter over the ground while striking fast with the wings and spreading the tail like a fan.



2021-06-19: Kerstel with a mice or mole in the claws. Floating 10-20 m above the trees in the northern windbreak of the property.

2021-05-15:

Kerstel - with Roskilde Cathedral in the back – floating still in the air just behind the blackberry bush.



2021-05-23 sunset:

Male Kerstel floating in the air over the reed bed just north of Sildehøjgaard with the head in a low position scouting for pray on the ground.



2021-06-07:

Male Kerstel hunting over the reed bed with heads low scouting for pray.



2021-06-13:

Male Kerstel hunting over the reed bed and ended heading for the marina where this was shot.

2021-06-23:

Female Kerstel hunting just behind the tall trees in the northern hedge.



2021-07-28: Female Kerstel being hunted by Bank swallows. I “shot” the Kerstel at three occasions that day !!!





2021-07-29: Female Kerstel eating a wood mouse on the lawn.



2021-08-01 (morning): A daily visitor during the past week. This was the first time on the roof ridge.



2021-08-01 (noon): Start of the dive for the prey on the ground.





2021-08-21:

Sitting in the fields just south of Sildehøjgaard.



2021-08-28: Sitting on the parabole antenna.



2021-09-11: Kerstel with a mouse in its claws flying over the fields south of Sildehøjgaard.

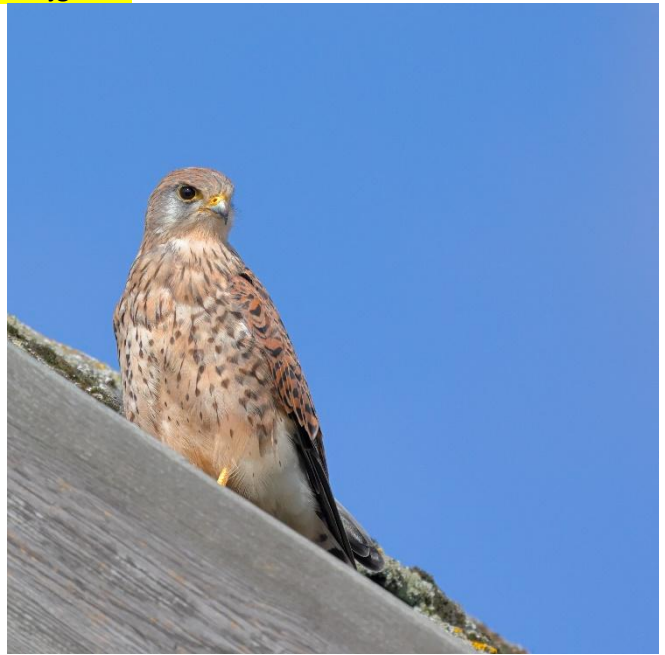


2021-09-11: ... and just minutes later being chased by Crows.



2021-09-21: Chased away by Crows.







2021-10-17: Going for the kill by diving towards its target in the reed bed.



2021-10-17 (an hour before sun set): End of day (female).



2025-01-04: Female Kerstel hunting 300m south of Sildehøjgaard. This female was hunting over multiple locations for more than 8 min over the same fields. Typically







2022-01-11: Female Kerstel standing still in the air (Danish: "muse") at the hill top of the dirt road leading down to Sildehøjgaard.





Vandrefalk (*Falco Peregrine*) | Peregrine falcon | Wanderfalke | Faucon pèlerin

Wingspan: 95 - 115 cm

Length: 40 cm (female 46 cm)

Weight: male 600 - 750 g

female 900 – 1.300 g

2022-07-19: Shot from the shoreline.

The young falcon was 100 m away - perfect shot angle/cloud cover.



Mammals in the Garden



Dværgflagermus (*Pipistrellus pygmaeus*) | Bat | Fledermaus | Chauve-souris

Wingspan: approx. 21 cm
Body: 4 cm

Seen 20 min. after sunset and early morning during the Summer months.

Breeds in neighboring farm buildings.



Hare (*Lepus europaeus*) | Hare | Feldhase | Lièvre

Head and body length can range from 60 to 75 cm.

2021-02-22: Might be seen in the morning or evening on the lawn or on the dirt road.



2021-07-21 (right):
Along the border of lawn and the wild plants at the fjord.



2021-12-11: Hare hiding in the first snow of the winter just south of Snekkevej.

2024-04-08: On the fields north of the property.





Mosegris/Vandrotte (*Arvicola amphibious*) | Water vole | Ostschermaus | Vole européenne sur l'eau

Length: 15-20 cm + tail of 5-7 cm

Mammal adapted to a subterranean lifestyle close to slow moving water, e.g. in reed beds.

Mainly vegetarian, feeding primarily on succulent vegetation. During winter on roots, bulbs, etc.



Muldvap (*Talpa europaea*) | Mole | Maulwurf | Môle

Length: 12-16 cm

Mammal adapted to a subterranean lifestyle.

Feeds mainly on worms.

Not seen in very sandy earth or areas where the water table is very close to the surface.

Disrupts the lawn mainly late summer through winter.



Rådyr (*Capreolus capreolus*) | Roe deer | Reh | Chevreuil

Length: 0,9 to 1,3 m

Sholder height of 60–90 cm.

2022-06-27 (left): On the lawn in front of the reeds.



2023-11-06 (right): Not seen that often and mainly in the morning/evening/night close to the reeds or in the bushes.



Ræv (*Vulpes vulpes*) | Red fox | Fuchs | Renard

Length: approx. 70 cm plus a tail of 40 cm

2021-05-06:

Fox passing under our weeping willow an early afternoon. More often seen in the garden evening/night.

Some of the Fish Found in Roskilde Fjord



Blåmusling (*Mytilus edulis*) | Common mussel | Miesmuschel | Moules marinières

The mussel is the most numerous and biologically important bottom dweller in the fjord and there are dense populations almost everywhere. They are not very big but there are a lot of them.

The volume of water that passes through the fjord's mussel population every day is equivalent to twice the total volume of water in the fjord, but it is of course largely the same water they filter all the time.



Havørred (*Clupea harengus*) | Heerring | Meerforelle | Truite de mer

The sea trout has become more common in the fjord in recent years. This is due largely to a determined release programme, and to the greater purity of water in the fjord and in streams.



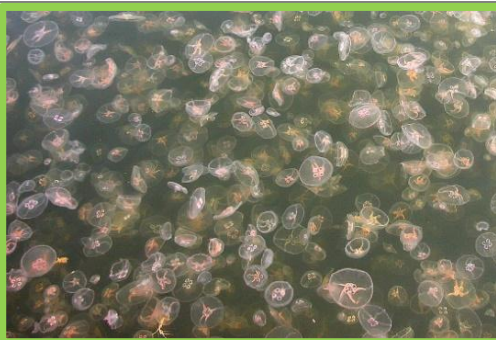
Hornfisk (*Belone belone*) | Garfish | Seestern | Orphie

The garfish come into the fjord to spawn in spring and early summer. At that time of the year anglers swarm around the narrow passages in the fjord, and often have something to take home for dinner. They just happen to come into the fjord when the White-tailed eagles have young, and as these fish are often to be seen near the surface of the water they are easy prey for the eagles, which often use them to feed their young.



Sild (*Clupea harengus*) | Sea trout | Hering | Haring

Herring take second place, by weight, in both the northern and southern parts of the fjord. Herring fishing in the fjord is not very important.



Vandmand (*Aurelia aurita*) | Moon jellyfish | Mondquallen | Méduse lunaire

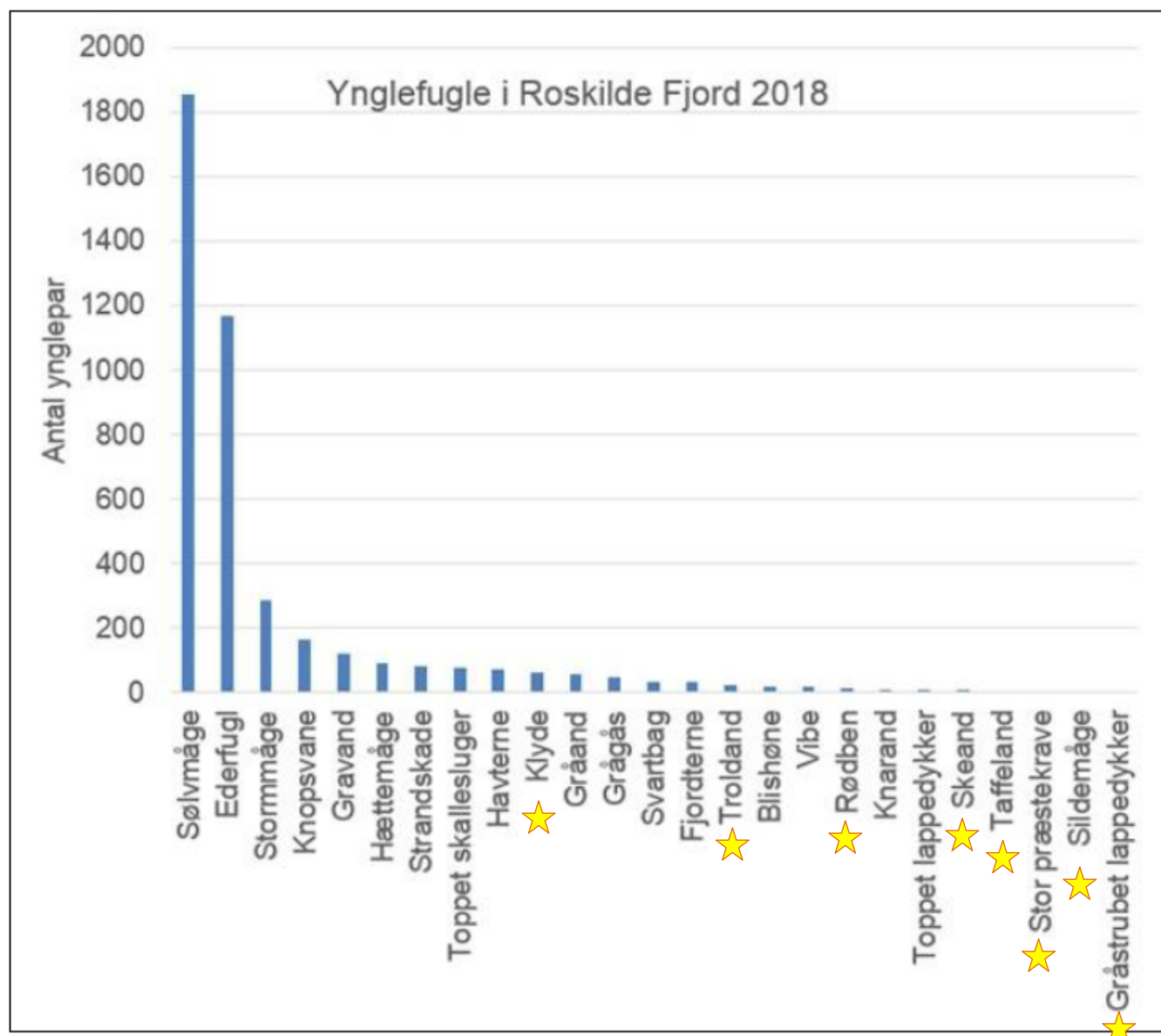
In recent years there has been a rapid increase in the jellyfish population in the fjord. They live independently of one another, but they often gather in dense shoals. They live on zooplankton and fry but are not themselves eaten by other species and are therefore at the top of the food chain.



Østers (*Ostrea edulis*) | Oyster | Auster | Huître

There are no oysters in Roskilde Fjord nowadays but in the Stone Age, 7-8,000 years ago, there were big oyster beds at narrow points in the fjord. These beds now form sizeable layers of oyster shells, up to more than 10 metres in depth. They are in the narrows by Frederikssund, by Kølholm, and **on the west coast of the fjord from Jyllinge Holme to Selsø Hage**, and a few other places.

Statistics - Breeding Birds in Roskilde Fjord



Figur 4-1: Hyppighedsfordeling for ynglende fugle (vandfugle) i Roskilde Fjord 2018.

Source: https://nationalparksbjerglandernesland.dk/media/250108/roskilde-fjord-rapport-2018_final.pdf

Other Links

<https://naturbasen.dk> (DK)

<https://www.jaegerforbundet.dk/vildt-og-natur/artsleksikon/andefugle/> (DK)

<https://fuglebilleder.dk/havens-fugle/> (DK)

<https://fuglebilleder.dk/skovens-og-engens-fugle/> (DK)

<https://www.dof.dk/fakta-om-fugle/danmarks-fuglestemmer-video> (singing birds)

<https://dofbasen.dk/ART/art.php?art=02600&sorter=&arter=V%E6lg+art> (DK)

<https://dofbasen.dk/atlas/guides/Generelt/Fuglekalendareren%20til%20Atlas%20III%202014-2017.pdf> (DK)

https://www.naturephoto-cz.com/gransanger-picture_da-11922.html

Swans and Geese			
Latin	Dansk/Danish	English	Deutsch
Anser albifrons	Blisgås	White-fronted goose	Blässgans
Anser anser	Grågås	Greylag goose	Weißwangengans
Branta canadensis	Canadagås	Canada goose	Kanadagans
Branta leucopsis	Bramgås	Barnacle Goose	Graugans
Cygnus cygnus	Sangsvane	Whooper swan	Singschwan
Cygnus olor	Knopsvane	Mute swan	Höckerschwan
Gulls and Terns			
Latin	Dansk/Danish	English	Deutsch
Chroicocephalus ridibundus	Hættemåge	Black-headed gull	Lachmöwe
Larus argentatus	Sølvmåge	Herring gull	Silbermöwe
Larus canus	Stormmåge	Common gull	Möwe
Larus fuscus	Sildemåge	Lesser black-backed Gull	Heringsmöwe
Larus marinus	Svartbag	Great black-backed gull	Mantelmöwe
Sterna hirundo	Fjordterne	Common tern	Flußseeschwalbe
Sterna paradisaea	Havterne	Arctic tern	Küstenseeschwalbe
Sternula albifrons	Dværgterne	Little tern	Zwergseeschwalbe
Ducks			
Latin	Dansk/Danish	English	Deutsch
Anas penelope	Pibeand	Wigeon	Pfeifente
Anas platyrhynchos	Gråand	Mallard	Northern stockente
Anas strepera	Knarand	Shoveler	Löffelente
Aythya ferina	Taffeland	Common pochard	Tafelente
Aythya fuligula	Troldand	Tufted duck	Reiherente
Bucephala clangula	Hvinand	Goldeneye	Schellente
Fulica atra	Blishøne	Coot	Wasserhuhn
Mergellus albellus	Lille skallesluger	Smew	Zwergsäger
Mergus merganser	Stor skallesluger	Common merganser	Gänsesäger
Mergus serrator	Toppet skallesluger	Red-breasted merganser	Mittelsäger
Podiceps cristatus	Toppet lappedykker	Great crested grebe	Haubentaucher
Somateria mollissima	Ederfugl/edderfugl	Common eider	Eiderente
Tachybaptus ruficollis	Lille lappedykker	Little Grebe	Zwergtaucher
Tadorna tadorna	Gravand	Shelduck	Brandente

Other Waterfoul			
Latin	Dansk/Danish	English	Deutsch
Actitis hypoleucos	Mudderklire	Common sandpiper	Flußuferläufer
Ardea alba	Sølvhejre	Gray white egret	Silberreiher
Ardea cinerea	Fiskehejre	Gray heron	Fischreiher
Calidris alpina	Almindelig ryle	Dunlin	Alpenstrandläufer
Haematopus ostralegus	Strandskade	Oystercatcher	Austernfischer
Phalacrocorax carbo	Skarv	Cormorant	Kormoran
Tringa nebularia	Hvidklire	Greenshank	Grünschenkel
Tringa totanus	Rødben	Common redshank	Rotschenkel
Vanellus vanellus	Vibe	Lapwing	Kiebitz
Birds from the Garden			
Latin	Dansk/Danish	English	Deutsch
Acrocephalus palustris	Kærsanger	Marsh warbler	Sumpfrohrsänger
Acrocephalus scirpaceus	Rørsanger	Reed warbler	Teichrohrsänger
Alauda arvensis	Sanglærke	Eurasian skylark	Feldlerche
Alcedo atthis	Isfugl	Common kingfisher	Eisvogel
Anthus petrosus	Skærpiber	European rock pipit	Wasserpieper
Apus apus	Mursejler	Common swift	Mauersegler
Carduelis carduelis	Stillits	Goldfinch	Stieglitz
Carduelis chloris	Grønirisk	Greenfinch	Grünfink
Columba palumbus	Ring-/Skovdue	Woodpigeon	Ringeltaube
Corvus cornix	Gråkrage	Hooded Crow	Kræhe
Corvus frugilegus	Råge	Rook	Saatkræhe
Curruca communis	Tornsanger	Whitethroat	Dorngrasmücke
Curruca curruca	Gærdesanger	Lesser Whitethroat	Klappergrasmücke
Cyanistes caeruleus	Blåmejse	Blue tit	Blaumeise
Dendrocopos major	Stor flagspætte	Great spotted woodpecker	Buntspecht
Emberiza citrinella	Gulspurv	Yellowhammer	Goldammer
Erithacus rubecula	Rødhals / rødkælk	European robin	Rotkehlchen
Fringilla coelebs	Bogfinke	Chaffinch	Buchfink
Fringilla montifringilla	Kvækerfinke	Brambling	Bergfink
Haematopus ostralegus	Fasan	Pheasant	Fasan
Hirundo rustica	Landsvale	Barn swallow	Rauchschwalbe
Linaria cannabina	Tornirisk	Common linnet	Bluthänfling
Linaria flavirostris	Bjergirisk	Twite	Berghänfling

Motacilla alba	Hvid vipstjert	White wagtail	Weißer Bachstelze
Muscicapa striata	Grå fluesnapper	Spotted flycatcher	Grauschnäpper noun
Oenanthe oenanthe	Stenpikker	Northern wheatear	Steinschmätzer
Passer domesticus	Gråspurv	House sparrow	Hausperling
Passer montanus	Skovspurv	Tree sparrow	Feldsperling
Parus major	Musvit	Great tit	Kohlmeise
Perdix perdix	Agerhøne	Partridge	Rebhuhn
Phoenicurus phoenicurus	Rødstjert	Redstart	Gartenrotschwanz
Phylloscopus collybita	Gransanger	Chiffchaff	Zilpzalp
Phylloscopus trochilus	Løvsanger	Willow warbler	Fitis
Acrocephalus schoenobaenus	Sivsanger	Sedge warbler	Schilfrohrsänger
Plectrophenax nivalis	Snespurv	Snow bunting	Schneeammer
Prunella modularis	Jernspurv	Hedge sparrow	Heckenbraunell
Remiz pendulinus	Rørspurv	Reed bunting	Rohrhammer
Riparia riparia	Digesvale	Bank swallow	Uferschwalbe
Sturnus vulgaris	Stær	Star	Star
Sylvia atricapilla	Munk	Eurasian blackcap	Mönchsgrasmücke
Troglodytes troglodytes	Gærdesmutte	House wren	Zaunkönig
Turdus merula	Solsort	Blackbird	Amsel
Turdus pilaris	Sjagger	Fieldfare	Krammetsvogel
Birds of Prey			
Latin	Dansk/Danish	English	Deutsch
Accipiter gentilis	Duehøg	Goshawk	Hühnerhabichte
Accipiter nisus	Spurvehøg	Sparrowhawk	Sperber
Buteo buteo	Musvåge	Buzzard	Bussard
Circus aeruginosus	Rørhøg	Marsh harrier	Rohrweihe
Circus cyaneus	Blå kærhøg	Hen harrier	Kornweihe
Falco tinnunculus	Tårnfalk	Common Kerstel	Turmfalke
Haliaeetus albicilla	Havørn	White-tailed eagle	Seeadler
Pandion haliaetus	Fiskeørn	Osprey/Sea Hawk	Fischadler