



Scops owl - *Otus scops*

Most common Brescian dialect names: chiu, ciòt

Identification:

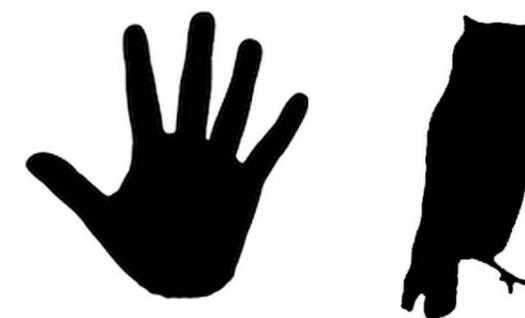
Its plumage colouring ranges from grey to brownish, growing paler on the belly. The scops owl can skillfully blend into leaf canopies thanks to its multicoloured coat.



Behaviour in the park:
it builds nests and migrates

Jan	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
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Size



Length: 18-21cm
Wingspan: 47-55cm

Habitat: it holds a preference for environments that are balmy, sparsely wooded and abundant in clearings and crops.

Ecological considerations: its overwintering areas are located in the south of the Sahara. It reaches its breeding grounds between the end of March and the beginning of April. It feeds almost exclusively on insects, especially orthoptera and lepidoptera. It is rather tricky to spot due to its mostly nocturnal habits, but its song is unmistakable: a “tiùu” sound repeated at regular intervals and often non-stop.

State of conservation: almost endangered

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per fare un albero ci vuole una rete





Great tit - *Parus major*

Most common Brescian dialect names: parisòla, sparesòla, oliia gròsa, speransi



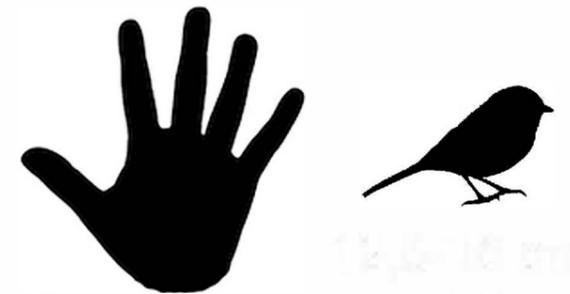
Fotografie di Giacomo Maghini e Valerio Pezzi

Identification:
Its lower body is yellow in hue and is crossed by a black stripe in the middle; its head is black, its cheeks are white, and its back is moss-green.

♂ Wider middle black stripe, especially on the belly.



Size



Length: 13,5-15cm
Wingspan: 22-25cm

Flight: rather undulating and snappy

Habitat: woodland, especially on borders, and wherever trees are growing (e.g. orchards, urban parks and gardens)..

Behaviour in the park: sedentary

Jan	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
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Ecological considerations:

it has a vivacious disposition, is daring and curious. It feeds on insects and larvae as well as seeds, especially in the winter when visiting bird feeders. It crushes large seeds with its beak while holding them in place with its claws. It nests in tree hollows and other crevices.

State of conservation: minor concern

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Chaffinch - *Fringilla coelebs*

Most common Brescian dialect names: fràanguèn, franguél, fràngol, franghèn, franguaniù



Fotografie di Valerio Pezzi e Giacomo Maghini

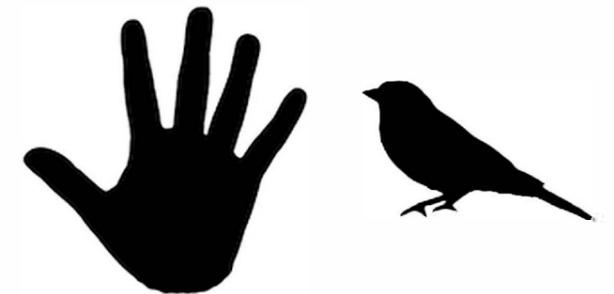


Identification:
its shoulders and wings are crossed by white stripes, which look rather distinctive when flying. The outer tail feathers are white, as well..

♂ Better-coloured livery: blue head, green rump, deep pink breast;
♀ swarthy yellow.



Size



Length: 14-16cm
Wingspan: 24-28cm

Flight: undulating

Habitat: it is capable of adapting to the most diverse environments, as long as trees are growing. It can be spotted both in urban areas and in the countryside.

Behaviour in the park:

sedentary and migrating, more commonly in autumn and winter

Jan	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
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Ecological considerations:

it feeds on seeds and fruit and supplements its diet with a substantial proportion of insects during the breeding season. It typically nests between forked branches. After the breeding season, it becomes gregarious, therefore choosing to spend its autumns and winters gathered in large flocks.

State of conservation: : minor concern

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Listen to the song of this species





Kestrel - *Falco tinnunculus*

Most common Brêscian dialèct namês: Falchèt, falchèt ròs, falchèt dê saròldê, falchitì, gainél, gaéènél

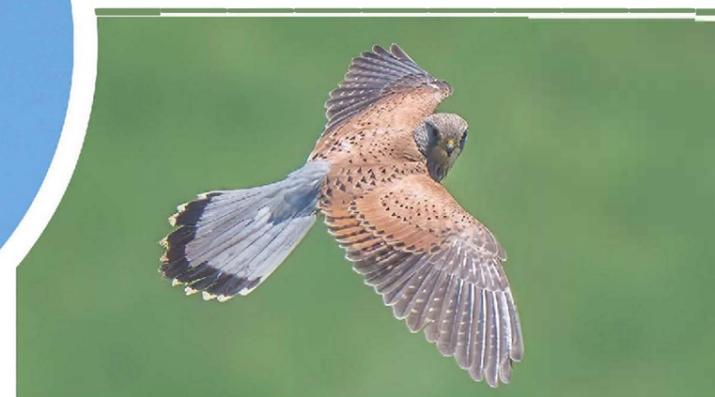
Identification:

it is a small hawk with wings often kept sharply pointed and the end of its elongated tail is crossed by a distinctive dark stripe.

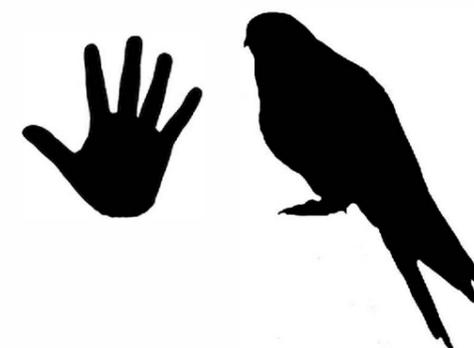
- ♂ Adults: grey head and tail, reddish coat and wings;
- ♀ youths: swarthy head, duller colours



Fotografie di Valerio Pezzi e Sergio Filippini



Size



Flight: it flaps its wings rapidly and it is capable of hovering (move know as “holy spirit“)

Lenght:	31-37cm
Wingspan	68-78cm

Habitat: when nesting, it seeks rocky faces or relatively tall man-built structures (e.g. old barns, towers, pylons, warehouses) that are close to grasslands or open hunting grounds.

Behaviour in the park: sedentary

Jan	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
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Ecological considerations:

it can be spotted perched on poles or dry branches that provide a clear view of hunting grounds. It roams around our park in search of food: mice, large insects and small reptiles. It is also hostile toward birds larger than itself, which it promptly attacks in the air, often emitting a distinctive call. While hovering, it is able to detect the ultraviolet light emitted by traces of urine left by mice in meadows.

State of conservation: minor concern.

It is returning to our cities and countryside where it was once rather widespread.

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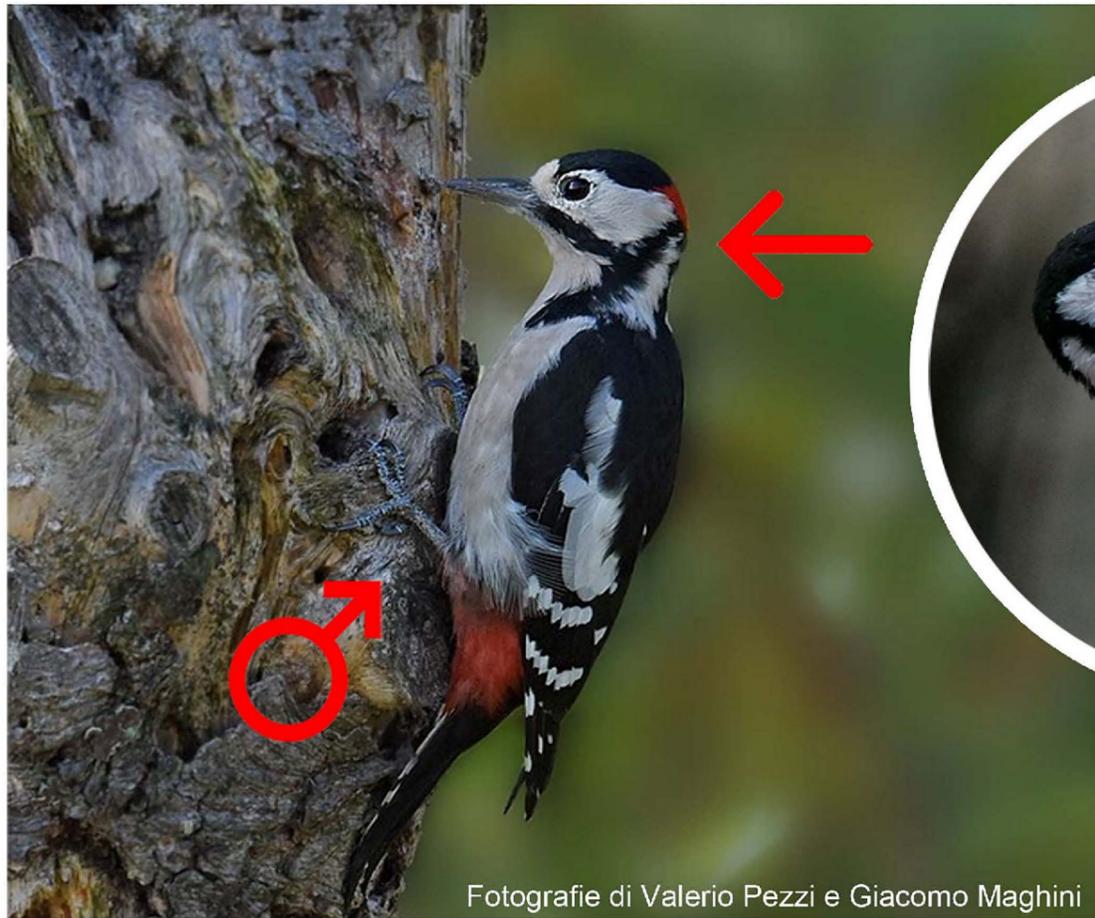
Listen to the song of this species





Great spotted woodpecker - *Dendrocopos major*

Most common Brescian dialect names: bèca-lègn, bèca-soc, pèch, tròcol, creèlot



Fotografie di Valerio Pezzi e Giacomo Maghini



Identification:

black-and-white coat with scarlet undertail.

♂ Has a scarlet spot on its nape;

♀ lacks the nape scarlet spot

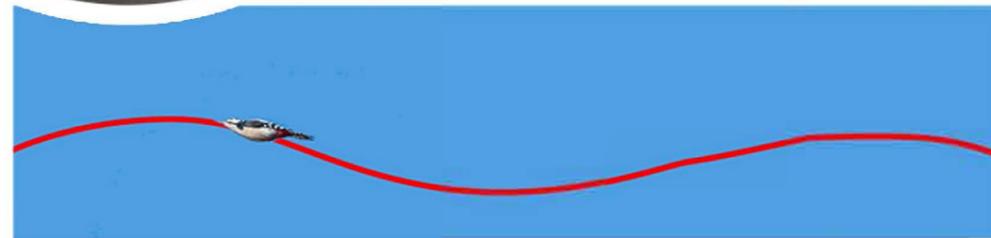
Size



Length: 23-26cm

Wingspan: 38-44cm

Flight: significantly undulating



Behaviour in the park: sedentary



Habitat: wherever medium to large trees are growing, e.g. woods, gardens, rows.

Ecological considerations:

it mainly catches wood-feeding insects, by sticking its lengthy tongue into tunnels dug with its beak; it supplements its diet with seeds, fruit and other insects. It nests in hollows dug into trunks or large branches. It is a solitary species with a distinct territoriality: it drums on trunks or hollow branches with its beak to mark out its territory, especially during the pre-breeding season (February-March). **State of conservation:** minor concern

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Listen to the song of this species





Swallow - *Hirundo rustica*

Most common Brescian dialect names: rondèna, rundinina, rondinèla, rondòla, rundin



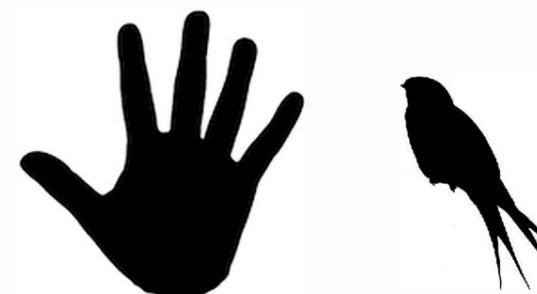
Identification:

distinctive deeply cleaved tail, black/blue back, scarlet neck, fair chest and belly.

♂ Extra long side tail feathers;

♀ and youths: short side tail feathers.

Size



Fotografie di Valerio Pezzi, Sergio Filippini, Giacomo Maghini

Flight: lengthy flights with rapid flapping followed by gliding with outstretched wings. Length: 17-19 cm (21 cm if the

Habitat: it nests in farmsteads and farm structures; it hunts for insects in meadows, open spaces and wetlands. tips of the tail are considered)
Wingspan: 32-34cm

Behaviour in the park:

it builds nests and migrates

Jan	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
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Ecological considerations: it holds a preference for agricultural environments and feeds on airborne insects. It has been adversely affected by modern farming techniques and, in local areas, by the excessive use of insecticides, as well. It builds mud nests under house roofs. During the nesting season, a pair of swallows can catch up to around 6,000 insects per day. It loves wetlands, which are richer in insects than the countryside. During the migration season, massive swallow flocks can be observed spending their nights in reed thickets.

State of conservation: almost endangered

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Listen to the song of this species





Jackdaw - *Coloeus monedula*

Identification:

its plumage is dark grey, whereas the sides of its neck and nape are of a lighter shade. Both its beak and claws are black. Its irises are baby-blue. Its call is distinctive and, as such, cannot be confused with those of other corvids.



Fotografie di Sergio Filippini

Size



Length: 30-34cm

Wingspan: 64-73cm

Behaviour in the park:

sedentary

Jan	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
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Habitat: urban and suburban areas; it occupies towers, belfries, walls, etc. In addition, it regularly travels to the countryside for food.

Ecological considerations:

it feeds on insects, invertebrates, cereals, eggs and pigeon chicks. It acts gregariously all year-round. In Castenedolo, several jackdaw pairs nest every year on the belfry and church roof. At sunset, several hundred jackdaws gather at the Santa Giustina woods to spend the night on the roosts.

State of conservation: minor concern

Flight: discernible from the Hooded Crow's due to its quicker and somewhat deeper flap.

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Listen to the song of this species





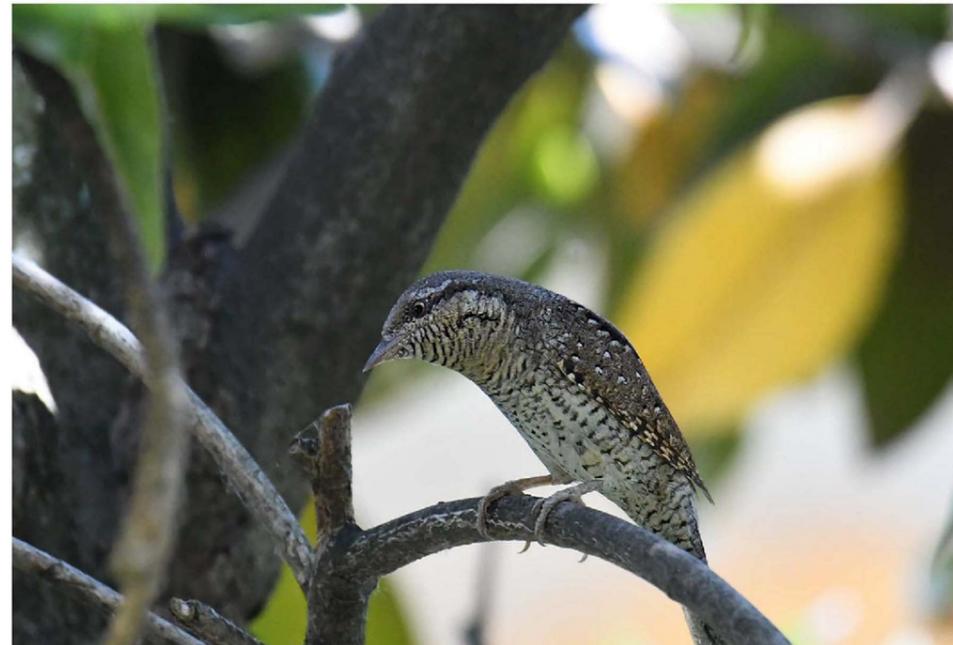
Wryneck - *Jynx torquilla*

Most common Brescian dialect names: mènacò, bèca furmighe

Identification:

the top part of its coat is brown and crossed by three lengthwise reddish stripes outlined in black; its belly is fawn-white with brown stripes; the plumage allows for great camouflage.

Fotografie di Sergio Filippini e Valerio Pezzi



Size



Length: 15-20cm
Wingspan: 25-27cm

Behaviour in the park: it builds nests and migrates

Jan	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
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Habitat: it has a preference for environments with sparse forests and rural areas with plenty of trees (orchards as well).

Ecological considerations: it is the only migrator amongst European woodpeckers. It mainly feeds on ants, which it captures by inserting its long, protractile and sticky tongue into the crevices of anthills. When frightened, it stretches out by moving and twisting its neck and crested head, and sings a hissing-like song, giving the impression of being confronted by a snake.

State of conservation: minor concern

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Listen to the song of this species





Hoopoe - *Upupa epops*

Most common Brescian dialect names: bòba

Identification:

Its plumage is truly unmistakable: its higher body is pale brown and its lower body is crossed by horizontal black-and-white stripes. Its beak is thin, elongated and slightly bent downwards. However, the most distinctive feature of the hoopoe's figure is its crest, an erectile tuft of black-tipped feathers.



Fotografia di Valerio Pezzi



Fotografia di Sergio Filippini

Flight: butterfly-like

Size



Length: 25-32cm
Wingspan: 44-48cm

Behaviour in the park:

it builds nests and migrates

Jan	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
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Habitat: it loves dry, sparsely-treed, warm and sun-soaked places and can therefore be easily spotted in orchards, meadows and vineyards, or along dirt roads, which are rather picturesque in our countryside..

Ecological considerations: It feeds on invertebrate larvae, large insects, molluscs and spiders. It is not difficult to spot even in urban green areas.

State of conservation: minor concern

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Listen to the song of this species

