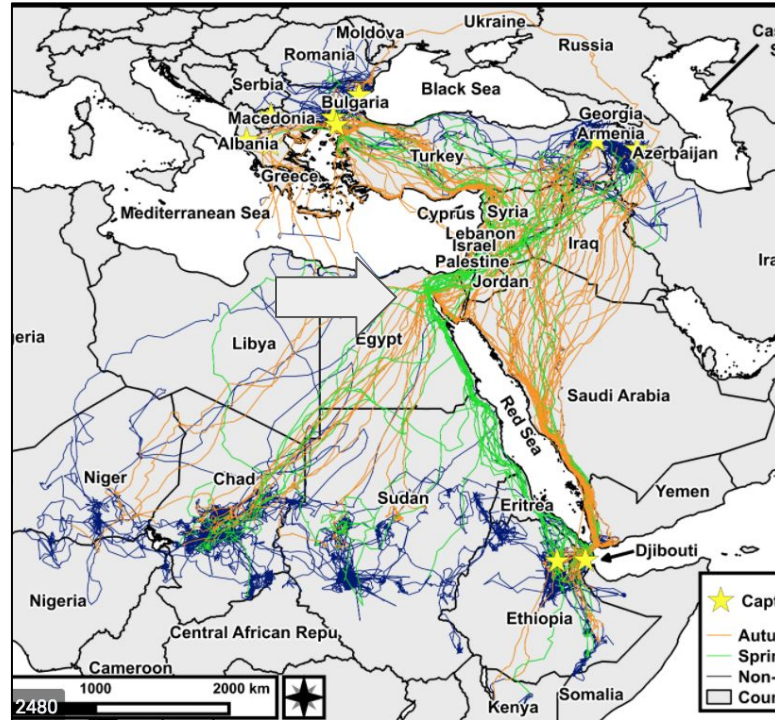


# Birding in Israel: An Experience

Israel is one of the best birding locations in the world as it is located on a global flyway.

# Israel is the best place in the world to watch hawk migration

Israel is the biggest flyway for many bird species.



Desert heat creates thermals and helps birds save energy.

# Eilat: Israel's premier spring birding hot spot



- Large concentrations of birds are found here

# European Honey-Buzzard

- The most abundant hawk during early May, when I visited



Lots of Hawks - Each speck is a hawk in the sky



# Eilat: Birds Besides Hawks



< Flamingoes  
(Greater  
Flamingo)

Shorebirds >  
(Black-necked  
Stilt)



Herons >  
(Glossy Ibis)



- I saw all three of these species in Eilat
- Amazing fallouts of these birds as well as passerines also occur.

# Jerusalem Bird Observatory: Bird Banding

- My family stayed in Jerusalem most of the time we were in Israel
- I could walk to see birds being banded any day during migration
- I saw a porcupine



# Jerusalem Birding: Gazelle Valley

- A 65 acre park with a large pond
- I went most here most weekdays
- Had a really nice bird blind
- Had many Gazelles





# Israel Birding: Notable Bird Species



Hooded Crow



Eurasian Hoopoe



Palestine Sunbird

These are common birds which I found interesting

# Israel Birding: More Notable Bird Species



European Goldfinch



Chukar



European Bee-eater

# Israel Birding: Laughing Dove vs. Mourning Dove



Mourning Dove: top, Illinois

Laughing Dove: bottom, Israel



In Illinois, the doves mourn, while in Israel,  
they laugh!

# Conclusion

- Israel has a huge diversity of bird species, especially during migration
- Israel is the best hawk-watching site in the world, but is also home to many other forms of excellent birding.
- Thanks for listening!

# References

[https://www.google.com/search?q=eilat+bird+migration+map+vulture&tbm=isch&ved=2ahUKEwj5i466hKvrAhVF5KwKHbZvDY4Q2-cCegQIABAA&oq=eilat+bird+migration+map+vulture&gs\\_lcp=CgNpbWcQA1DDX1jqZ2C4aGgAcAB4AIABRIgB7gOSAE4mAEAoAEBqgELZ3dzLXdpei1pbWfAAQE&sclient=img&ei=ixQ\\_X7maNsXlswW237XwCA&bih=766&biw=1119&safe=active#imgrc=y16mGUmObp9LVM](https://www.google.com/search?q=eilat+bird+migration+map+vulture&tbm=isch&ved=2ahUKEwj5i466hKvrAhVF5KwKHbZvDY4Q2-cCegQIABAA&oq=eilat+bird+migration+map+vulture&gs_lcp=CgNpbWcQA1DDX1jqZ2C4aGgAcAB4AIABRIgB7gOSAE4mAEAoAEBqgELZ3dzLXdpei1pbWfAAQE&sclient=img&ei=ixQ_X7maNsXlswW237XwCA&bih=766&biw=1119&safe=active#imgrc=y16mGUmObp9LVM)