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Bird Watching

National Parks Georgia





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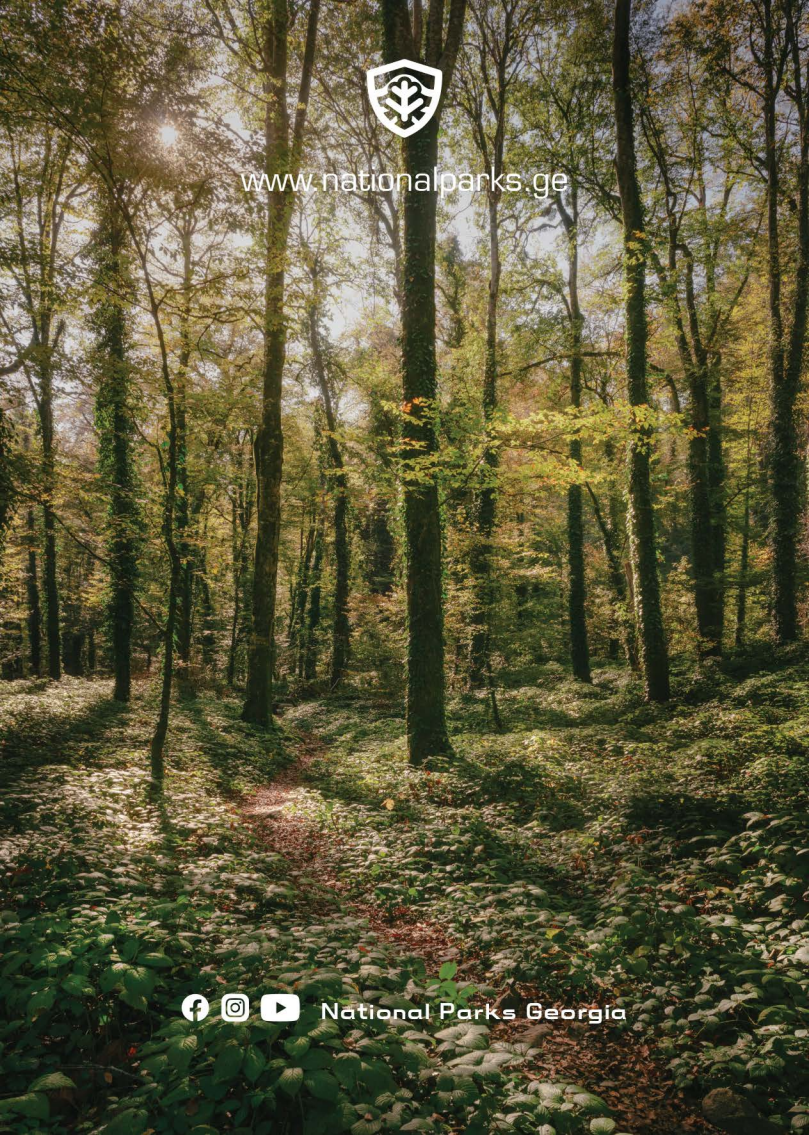
Georgia's unique geographical location and climatic conditions determine the abundance of migratory birds, creating unforgettable impressions for birdwatchers. Georgia is considered one of the largest migratory corridors for birds of prey in the world. Every year, more than 1,000,000 birds travel through Georgia to the warm southern countries and then return to their native lands. Accordingly, the region attracts more and more tourists and scientists each year who are interested in this area.

In Georgia's protected areas, at different times of the year, it is possible to observe waterfowl, resident, and migratory birds from specially constructed observation towers.


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Kolkheti National Park

Kolkheti National Park, recognized as a UNESCO World Natural Heritage Site, is one of the most outstanding and unusual places in Georgia. At different times of the year, it promises completely unique and diverse sights. Here, you can enjoy the beauty of Colchic forests and wetlands dating back millions of years, the flowering of water lilies, and the lush green forests intertwined with Colchis ivy and lianas. Against this backdrop, you can observe water birds and the migration of migratory birds. Throughout the year in Kolkheti National Park, it is possible to observe up to 50,000 rare and unique waterfowl, resident, and migratory birds.


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Lagodekhi National Park

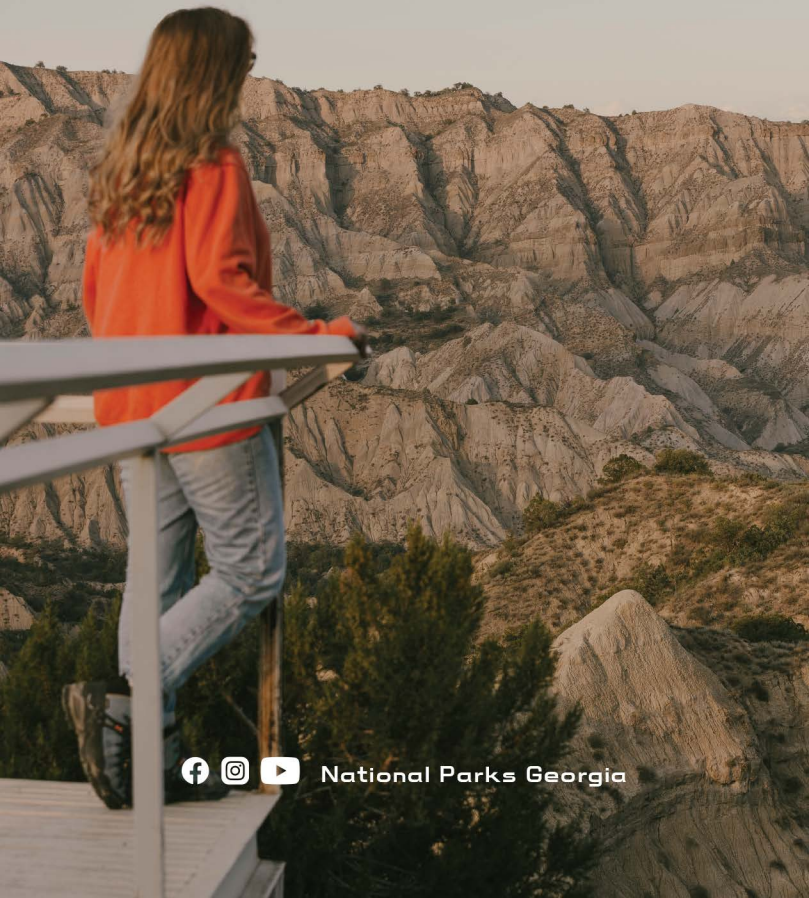
Lagodekhi protected areas with their uniquely rich nature, and the home of waterfalls and birds, fill the trip with emotions and unforgettable memories! Over the alpine meadows, you may encounter golden eagles, bearded vultures, and griffon vultures.

The Caucasian grouse and the Caucasian snowcock are resident birds found only in the Caucasus. There are also many kestrels and buzzards, as well as several species of owls.

Of the 7 species of woodpeckers found in Georgia, 6 can be observed here, including the great spotted woodpecker, white-backed woodpecker, lesser spotted woodpecker, middle spotted woodpecker, black woodpecker, and European green woodpecker. The area is also home to the Red-fronted Serin and Ring ouzel. During the warm season, the striking wallcreeper inhabits mountainous areas and descends to the lowlands with the onset of winter.

Eurasian golden orioles, white-throated dippers, tits, winter wrens, chaffinches, Common cuckoos and woodpeckers make the forests of Lagodekhi a truly special destination for visitors.

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Vashlovani National Park

When traveling to Vashlovani National Park, it is recommended to take binoculars with you, as the birdlife here is highly diverse. In Vashlovani, flocks of thousands of rosy starlings can be observed. Numerous other small birds can be found here: sparrows, goldfinches and chaffinches. In winter, large flocks of little bustards can be seen.

The birdlife of Vashlovani stands out both for its diversity and its significance.

Of the 135 bird species recorded in Vashlovani and its surrounding areas, 26 are birds of prey, all of which are included in Appendix II of the Bern Convention as strictly protected species.

It is also worth noting the relatively large populations of common pheasants and chukar partridges.

Vashlovani is also an important habitat for the following species: black stork, saker falcon, lanner falcon, sparrowhawk, long-legged buzzard, eastern imperial eagle, griffon vulture, cinereous vulture, Egyptian vulture, ruddy shelduck, Eurasian thick-knee, wallcreeper, black-bellied sandgrouse, and European turtle dove.


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Javakheti National Park

The abundance of exotic birds adds a special charm to the completely different and unique beauty of Javakheti. Throughout the Caucasus, Javakheti is distinguished by numerous lakes and swamps. It is rare in the world to find places like Javakheti, where an area of wetlands and so many lakes come together at such an altitude above sea level. It is recognized as a site of global importance for migratory and resident birds. Approximately 240 species are recorded here, including 40 resident species, while the rest are migratory.

Paravani, Madatapa, Saghamo, Bughdasheni, Khanchali, and Kartsakhi Lakes are real domains of waterfowl. Only here in Georgia you can meet the nesting white stork, common crane, Dalmatian pelican and great white Pelican. You can see huge colonies of Armenian gulls in the area. On the shores of the Javakheti lakes and in the swamps there are many common snipe, great snipe, northern lapwing and black-winged stilt. If you are lucky, you will also catch sight of greater flamingos in these areas.


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Kobuleti National Park

In the unique peatland of the Kobuleti Protected Areas, large numbers of migratory and wintering birds gather in autumn and spring. Among them are the grey heron, great egret, western marsh harrier, common buzzard, eastern imperial eagle, ruff, Eurasian oystercatcher, Eurasian oystercatcher, mute swan and others. If you observe carefully, you may also spot the beautifully common kingfisher and the rare European pond turtle.

The Kobuleti Protected Areas are recognized as a UNESCO World Natural Heritage Site, where traveling is interesting and enjoyable at any time of the year. In addition to spending your summer on the Black Sea coast, you can explore ancient refugium of northern plant species that have survived since the Ice Age, witness the migratory bird route between Eurasia and Africa, and discover rare and unique species protected under the Red List of Georgia. Kobuleti Protected Areas are protected under the Ramsar Convention, which focuses on the conservation of wetlands that are important for migratory birds and waterbird species.


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Tusheti National Park

Tusheti Protected Areas are distinguished by a diversity of birds, where approximately 180 species have been recorded. Among the species represented, about 52 are permanent residents and nesting species throughout the year. Among them are Caucasian endemics: the Caucasian snowcock and the Caucasian grouse. 54 are migratory species and are observed in the area during autumn and spring.

18 bird species found in Tusheti are included in the Red List of Georgia, among which the saker falcon is classified as critically endangered. At the same time, some of the species found here are included in the IUCN Red List: 3 species — the Egyptian vulture, saker falcon, and the steppe eagle — are endangered, while 2 species the eastern imperial eagle and the greater spotted eagle are vulnerable.

The inaccessible cliffs of the Tusheti Protected Areas serve as nesting sites for birds of prey and scavengers, including the cinereous vulture, griffon vulture, bearded vulture, northern goshawk, Eurasian sparrowhawk and golden eagle. Other raptors found here include several species of owls, common kestrel, common buzzard, and peregrine falcon.


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Mtirala National Park

In the unique natural environment of Mtirala National Park, recognized as a UNESCO World Natural Heritage site, it is possible to see many bird species. A significant bird migration route—the Eastern Black Sea Flyway passes near the park, and Mtirala National Park serves as a convenient resting place for migratory birds.

A total of 155 bird species have been recorded in the area. Twenty bird species are protected under the Red List of Georgia. Five species—the eastern imperial eagle, the steppe eagle, the greater spotted eagle, the saker falcon and the Egyptian vulture —are listed as vulnerable or endangered in the IUCN Red List.

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Chachuna National Park

Chachuna Managed Reserve is located in the heart of the Caucasus' biodiversity and is rich in endemic and threatened bird species. It also serves as an important corridor for migratory birds.

The area holds significant conservation value at both national and international levels. It includes tugai-type floodplain forests, arid and semi-arid ecosystems, and belongs to the Emerald Network with a buffer zone. The territory has been approved by the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention.

For many bird species, this region is important as a wintering site. During winter, flocks of little bustards can be observed here. The great bustard also overwinters in the area.

Despite its relatively small size (4,697 ha), Chachuna Managed Reserve hosts 268 bird species, 23 of which are included in Georgia's Red List as well as the IUCN Red List.

Birdwatchers have the opportunity to observe rare and threatened species listed in Georgia's Red List, including eastern imperial eagle, bearded vulture, cinereous vulture, griffon vulture, little bustard, Egyptian vulture, little owl, greater spotted eagle, saker falcon, lesser kestrel and others.





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