



The BIRDWATCHING trail



Gryon
ALPES VAUDOISES

Introduction

Welcome, young ornithologist!

On this simple walk that takes you from Barboleuse to Gryon you will discover the beautiful birds native to the region!

In this booklet, you will find a small birding guide that will help you to identify the most common birds, as well as a map to guide you along the way. Warning! Depending on the season, you may see other birds, so don't hesitate to write those down!

During the walk, you can also have fun with some games that will help you to better understand bird lifestyle and ecology. You can get the answers at the Gryon Tourism Office.

So what are you waiting for?

Grab your binoculars, your crayons and your hiking shoes, and let's go!



Tips and Tricks

Plumage and colouration

Most of the time, traits like plumage colouration and patterns are enough to identify birds. Take a close look at a bird's spots and the patterns on it's wings and tail... Even the colour of the belly, legs and bill can make a difference!



Song thrush



Eurasian blackcap



Eurasian wren

Song and call

If you listen carefully, you will notice the differences between each bird's song. Nowadays, there are plenty of tools to help you to identify birds by their songs and calls.



BirdLife
Suisse



Merlin
Bird ID



BirdNET

BirdNet

Birding Guide

Great tit



Blue tit



Crested tit



Did you know...?
The Crested tit is the
only tit with a crest!

Coal tit



Goldcrest



Did you know...?
The Goldcrest is the smallest
bird in Europe!

European robin



Black redstart



Eurasian chaffinch

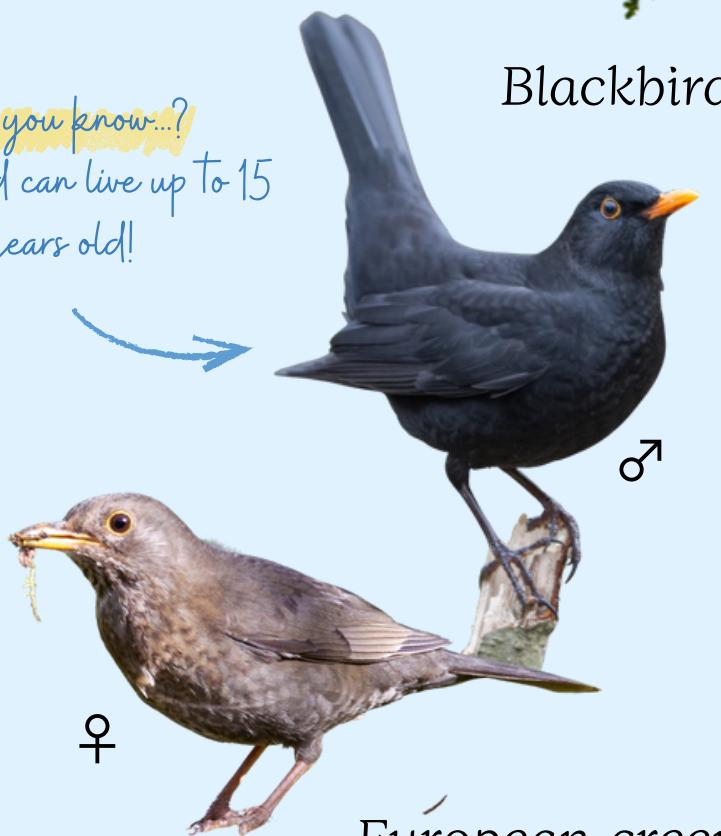


European Goldfinch



Did you know...?
Blackbird can live up to 15
years old!

Blackbird



Eurasian jay



Did you know...?
The Eurasian jay hides
acorns during the autumn so
it can eat them in winter!

European green
woodpecker



Did you know...?

Magpies are one of the only birds
able to recognize their own
reflection in a mirror!

Northern nutcracker



Magpie



Carrion crow



Common kestrel



Did you know...?
The Common kestrel
watches for prey while
hovering in the air!

Red kite



Common buzzard



Others

Bearded vulture

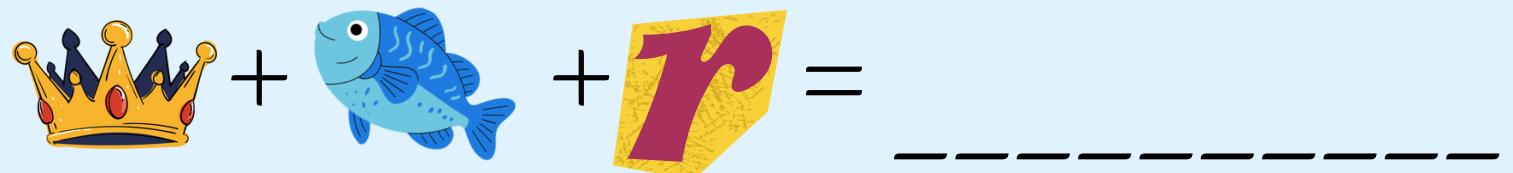
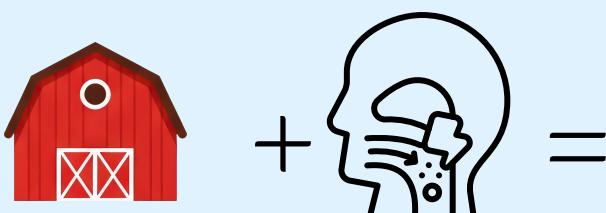


Did you know...?

The Bearded vulture obtains its reddish coloration by bathing in high iron mud!

Games

Riddles:





Birds live in nearly all habitats in the world: forests, mountains, deserts... even in the North and South Poles.

Match each bird to their habitat:



Common merganser



Black grouse



European pied flycatcher



Rock dove



Many birds migrate, meaning that they fly long distances to reach warmer countries during the winter. Barn swallows are one example: during the winter, they stay in the Southern hemisphere, and we see them again in Switzerland during the summer for breeding.

Can you help this Barn swallow to find the correct path back home, to Gryon?



Like many animals, some birds have evolved traits in response to their specific lifestyles. For example, bill shape often indicates what type of food the bird eats.

Find each bird's food-type in the word-search puzzle below, and look at their bill shape to help you:

R	Q	A	P	F	E	Q	R	P	A	O	I
D	Q	R	O	A	R	W	G	E	S	C	L
T	A	M	O	W	M	E	A	T	W	P	L
U	Z	S	L	Q	A	P	E	S	E	U	E
Y	S	E	W	H	T	S	E	A	R	S	R
E	E	R	E	E	T	H	U	R	I	Y	T
I	E	U	R	A	S	A	F	D	N	E	E
P	D	G	N	I	E	C	G	E	S	R	A
L	S	R	F	L	Z	V	J	W	E	A	R
J	Z	A	M	T	B	J	E	S	C	R	O
J	G	W	U	A	D	Z	X	O	T	M	G
A	W	N	E	C	T	A	R	N	S	K	Z



House sparrow



Great cormorant



Eurasian nuthatch



Ruby-throated
hummingbird

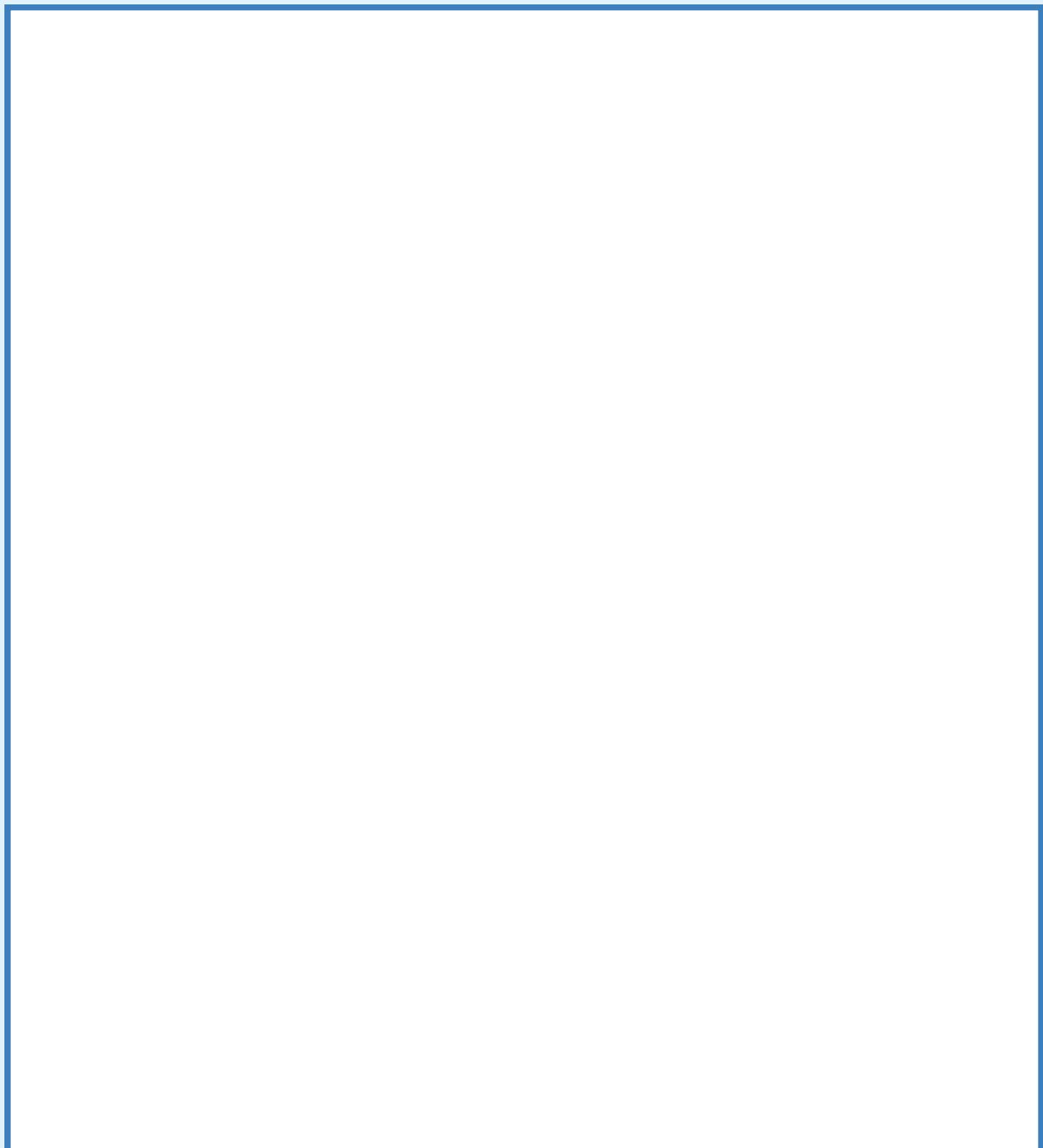


Golden eagle



What is your favourite bird?

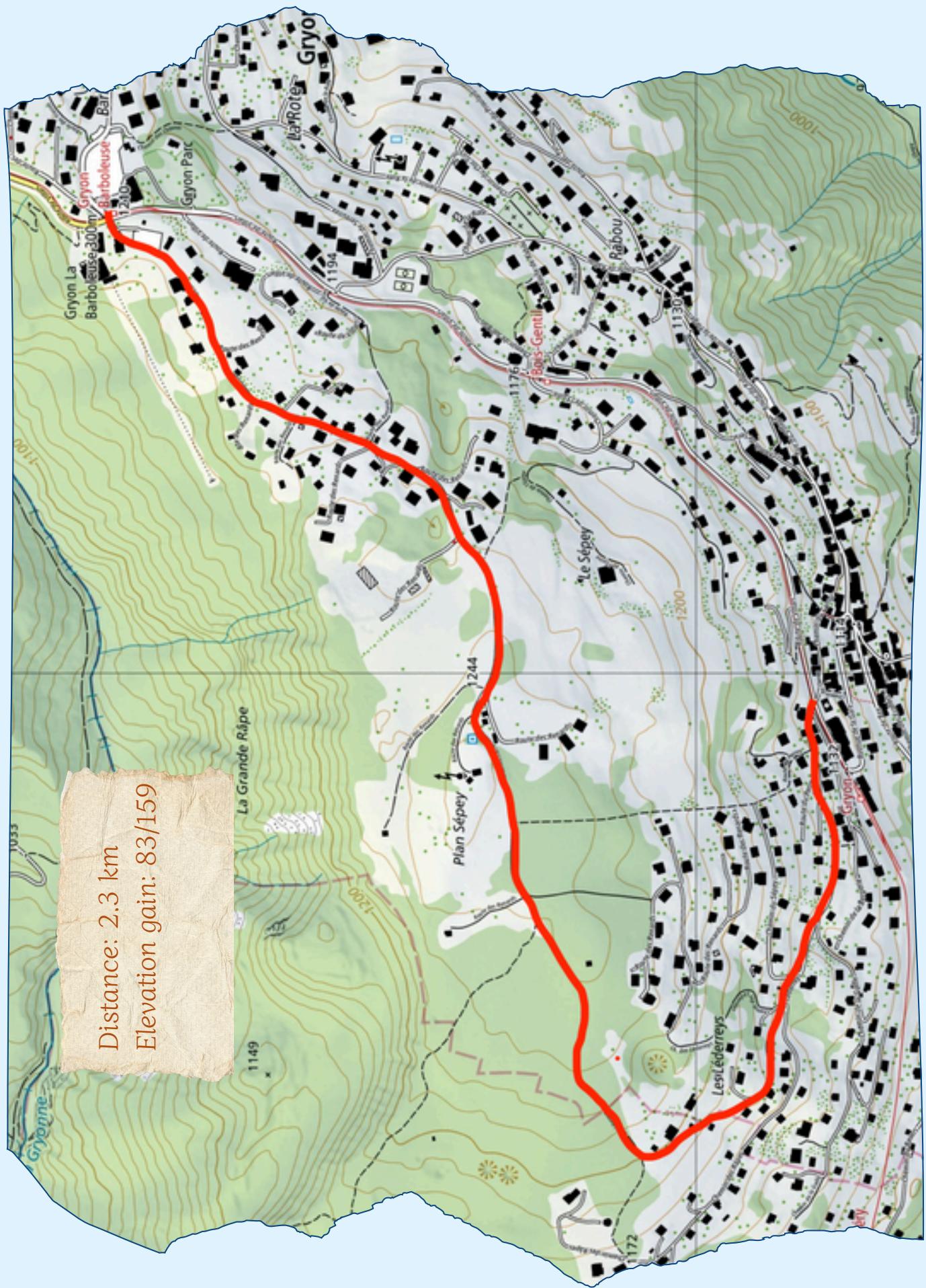
Draw it down below!



THE BIRDWATCHING TRAIL



MAP



Conception and texts: Rut Mayo, Biologist MSc.

Gryon Tourism Office

024 498 00 00

information@gryon-tourisme.ch