

Winter | December — February

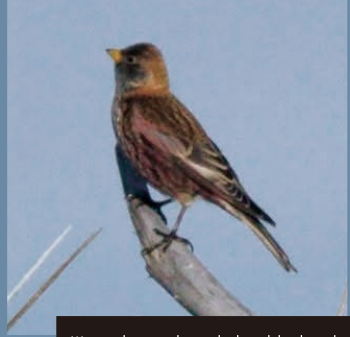
Steller's Sea Eagles and White-tailed Eagles from Russia beg for unclaimed morsels from fixed-net ice fishing on the frozen Lake Furen. Winter ducks arrive at the port and Asian Rosy Finches and Snow Buntings make their way to the grassy fields around Lake Furen.



Harlequin Duck

A sea duck with a beautiful pattern on its body.

December — February Asian Rosy Finch



Winter brings these dark red birds, which eat seeds in the short grass along the coast and roads. They travel in flocks of around 30.



Appearing at the port and near cliffs along the coastline, these birds are distinctive for their white body, straight tail feathers, and sweet chattering call.



After migrating from Russia to the comparative warmth of Hokkaido, hundreds of these birds wait in the branches of the forest until they can swoop down and beg for unclaimed morsels from fixed-net ice fishing on the frozen Lake Furen.



Long-tailed Tit

Flocks of these birds can be seen flying over the lake's edge and along the coastline.



Common Sandpiper



Common Redpoll

A not-often-seen bird with a red spot on its forehead.



December — February Snow Bunting

Arriving from Siberia in search of dunegrass seeds, these charming white birds are rather difficult to find.



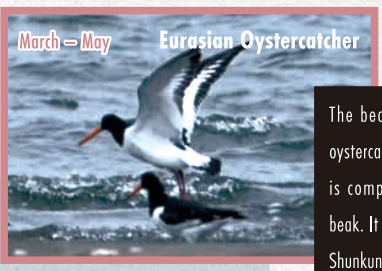
Short-eared owl

These birds swoop over grassy fields, looking for mice.

This bird is distinctive for its pin-straight tail.



Northern Pintail



March — May Eurasian Oystercatcher

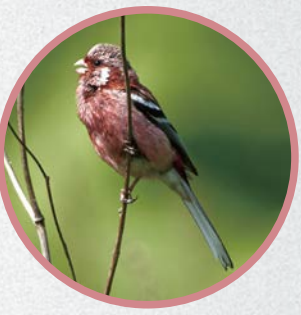
The beautiful contrast between the oystercatcher's black and white feathers is complemented by a vivid orange beak. It can be found in the shallows of Shunkunitai, eating shellfish.



Black-browed Reed warbler

This bird can be heard chirping loudly in grassy fields.

These small birds distinguish themselves with cute red feathers.



Long-tailed Rosefinch



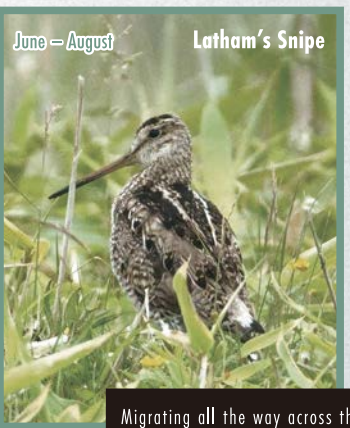
March — May Whooper Swan

Japan's largest swan, this swan arrives in Nemuro at the beginnings of spring and winter. The sight of its tail feathers held aloft, as it extends its long neck into the water for eelgrass, is nothing short of adorable.



June — August Tufted Puffin

These birds' name in the indigenous Ainu language, *etu pirka* (beautiful beak), is a fitting descriptor of their orange beaks, complemented by beautiful golden tufts above their eyes.

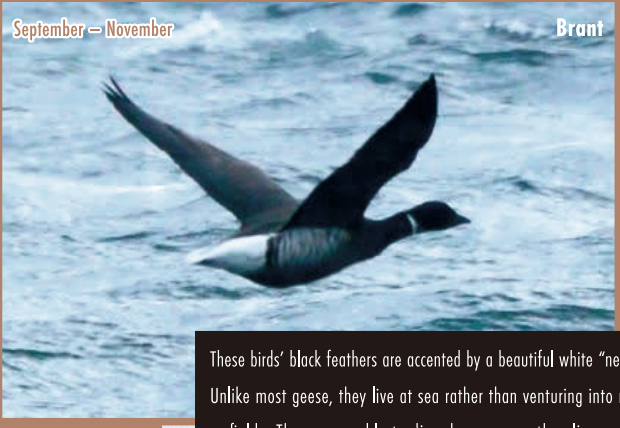


June — August Latham's Snipe

Migrating all the way across the equator from Australia, this bird is distinctive for its long beak and rounded body. Its wings sound like thunder when it swoops.

Autumn | September — November

Young Red-crowned Cranes take flying lessons, flapping their wings like their parents and gliding a short way. Young White-tailed Eagles beg for food from their parents as they prepare to leave the nest. Swans and ducks fly down from the north.



September — November Brant

These birds' black feathers are accented by a beautiful white "necklace". Unlike most geese, they live at sea rather than venturing into marshes or fields. They are unable to dive, however, so they live on marine grasses such as eelgrass.



Black Scoter

These black birds have beautiful yellow beaks and a charming whistling call.



Siberian Rubythroat

This pale green-bellied bird can be heard singing in the treetops of the forest.



Black-faced Bunting

Summer | June — August

This is the season when birds are busy caring for their babies. Small birds fly above grassy fields with insects in their beaks, and Red-crowned Cranes can be seen feeding their babies. Tufted Puffins arrive out at sea, and the local White-tailed Eagle population searches for prey from the treetops.