

Description

Ospreys are large, distinctively shaped hawks, with slender bodies and long, narrow wings. In flight their wings form a distinct 'M' shape. Ospreys are brown above and white below. They have piercing, bright yellow eyes.

Habitat

Ospreys are found near water, either fresh or salt, where large numbers of fish are present. May be most common around major coastal estuaries and salt marshes. They nest on elevated nest sites free from predatory mammals.

Nesting

Clutch Size: 1-4 eggs
Number of Broods: 1 brood
Incubation Period: 36-42 days
Nestling Period: 50-55 days
Egg Description: Cream with reddish
brown spots.

FUN FACT

Did you know ospreys'
talons can bend
backwards so that there
are 2 claws pointing
forward and 2 in reverse
on each foot. No other
raptors have this ability.

Diet

Ospreys are the only hawk on the continent that eats almost exclusively live fish.

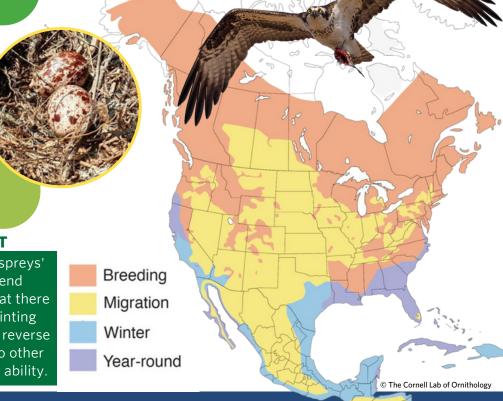
Migration

Resident to long-distance migrants.

Most ospreys that breed in North America
migrate to Central and
South America for the winter.

FUN FACT

Did you know ospreys are nicknamed "Fish Hawk" due to their diets?







Learn more about ospreys in New Jersey here