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## Responsible Bird Photography

Due to digitalisation in the field of photography, bird photography is experiencing a revival, increasing the number of outstanding photographs of birds. However, the most attractive photograph is of no value if it has been taken at the cost of a bird or its habitat.

Considering a few simple rules of conduct, we take care of and support the concerns of animal and habitat conservation.

Thank you very much for your understanding and consideration for nature and birds!

### Code of Conduct

When photographing birds, their welfare and the conservation of their habitats, including other animal and plant species living within them, have absolute priority.

### Species Conservation

- Minimize disturbances to birds. Please keep your distance to avoid birds taking flight.
- Special care must be taken so as not to disturb breeding or feeding birds. Pay attention to the behaviour of adult birds. Birds that give a warning call feel disturbed.
- Avoid noise and do not disturb birds by imitating their calls or songs. This causes unnecessary stress for birds.
- Please avoid using the camera's flash for birds.
- Disturbances in winter are serious: Birds must not be disturbed in their feeding areas and roosts.
- By all means, adhere to legal requirements for the conservation of species.
- Many nature reserves have public hides from which you can photograph birds in their natural environment without disturbing them.
- When feeding birds in winter, make sure that the food is appropriate for the species, that the offered food cannot be soiled by droppings or get wet. If dead birds are found near the feeding site, feeding must be stopped immediately. After thorough cleaning, feeding should only be resumed within 2–3 days.
- If you have a birdbath, remember to keep it clean. Clean the birdbath and renew the water regularly.

### Conservation of the Area

- By all means, adhere to legal requirements for the conservation of habitats and especially to the rules of nature reserves.
- Pay attention to no driving signs and do not obstruct paths with your vehicle.
- Respect the rights of landowners by using public roads, paths and trails.
- If you pitch a camouflage tent, ask the landowner for permission. Here too, pay attention to the code of conduct.

### Role Model

- Respect the rights of fellow nature lovers performing their activities and work in nature.
- When travelling or on holiday, behave just as respectfully towards nature as you would do at home.
- Be an example to others with your responsible behaviour. Please politely point out to others their possible misbehaviour.

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