



Karl-von-Closen
Gymnasium
Eggenfelden



The Northern bald ibis

Also known as the Waldraup in Germany

General informations



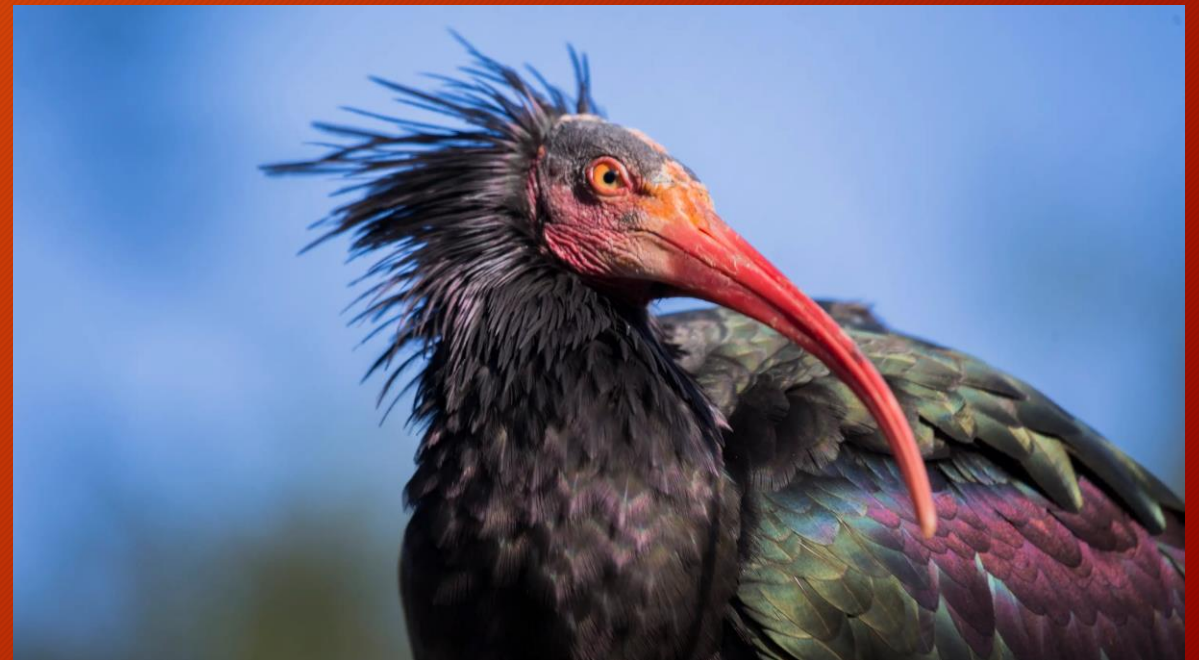
- Member of the Ibis family
- 70-80cm tall
- Weight between 1 and 1.5kg
- Wingspan up to 125cm
- No difference in appearance of male and female birds
- Nurture: Insects, larvae and earthworms
- Live in colonies
- Endangered from extinction
- Many resettlement programs in Europe (e.g. Burghausen)



Appearance



- Plumage: black, with an iridescent, green and violet sheen
- Head: unfeathered, framed by a tuft of prolonged feathers
 - Young birds: head covered with grey plumage, missing or not fully developed feather tuft
- Legs: red and without feathers
- Beak: red, curved and slim



Habitat

- Wild colonies: Morocco, Syria
- Human-dependant colonies: Turkey, Spain, Austria, Germany
- Increasing zoo population, e.g. Nürnberg (Germany)
- Feeding habitat: Green- and farmland
- Breeding habitat: Steep rock cliffs with niches



Breeding (happens annually)



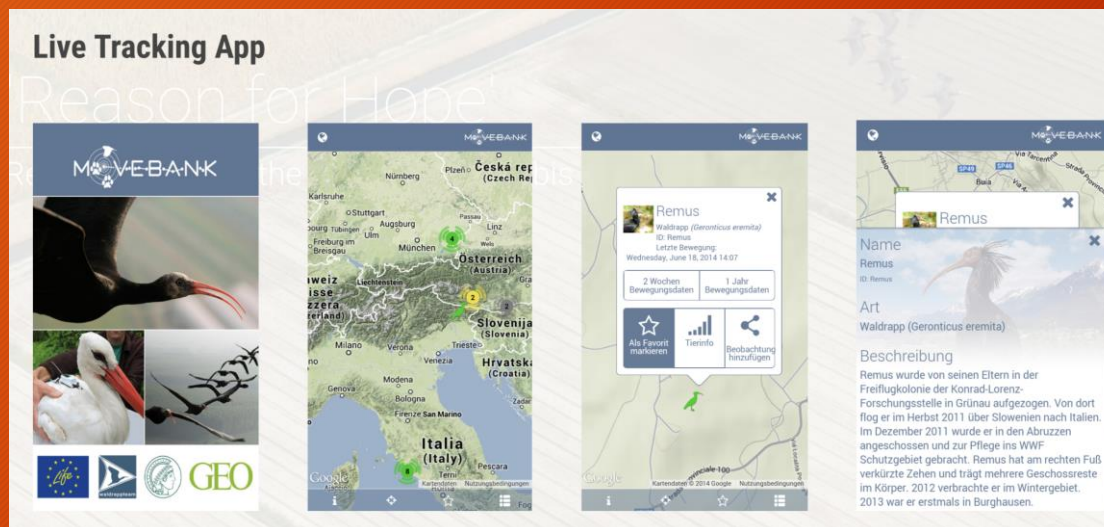
- Breeding in colonies
- Develop close partnerships, do not live monogamous
- Equal participation in the breeding process
- Lay up to four eggs
- Breeding period: 26-28 days
- Hatching of nestlings within intervals of 1-3 days
 - → development of rank order
 - → reduction of aggression among the chicks
- Nestlings: fully fledged after 42-50 days



Migration



- Migratory bird
- Autumn, winter: Not enough food in breeding areas
- → Overwintering in warmer regions
- Reintroduced colonies: have to learn migration routes with human support



Video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fY053HyXQsQ&t=193s>

