



## Peregrine Falcon Fact Sheet

### Identification Tips

#### Measurements:

- Length: 15-20 inches Wingspan: 36-44 inches
- Large falcon
- Long, pointed wings extend to tail tip at rest
- Short, dark, hooked beak
- Weight: 530-1600 grams (18.71-56.48 ounces)

#### Adult:

- Black cap and moustache
- Pale throat and breast
- Barred belly
- Gray upperparts
- Underwings barred black and white
- Long, thin tail with gray and white bands

#### Immature:

- Dark brown cap and moustache
- Dark brown upperparts
- Streaked underparts

### Taxonomy

- Kingdom: Animalia
- Phylum: Chordata
- SubPhylum: Vertebrata
- Class: Aves
- Order: Falconiformes
- Family: Falconidae
- Subfamily: Falconinae
- Genus and species: *Falco peregrines*



Peregrine Falcon  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

## Nest Information

- Location: scrape on a high cliff ledge or building ledge
- Number of broods: 1
- Days spent incubating: 29-32
- Days until young fledged: 35-42
- Clutch size: 3-4

## Diet:

Almost Exclusively: Birds, including ducks

## Speed

Falcons can reach speeds up to 200 mph in a stoop (dive).

## Range

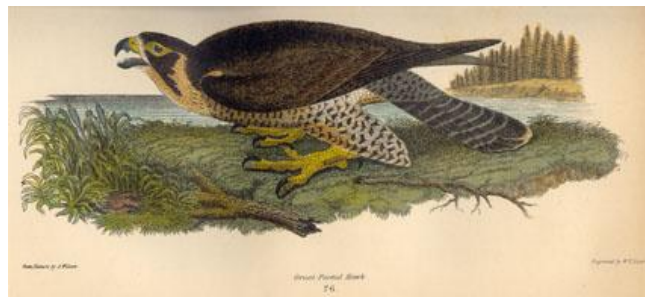
Found on every continent except Antarctica

Summer:

- Widespread in North America

Winter:

- Widespread in Central America and South America



**Wilson's American Ornithology Color Plate, 1877**

## References:

Smithsonian National Zoological Park Migratory Bird Center  
<http://nationalzoo.si.edu/ConservationAndScience/MigratoryBirds/>

U.S. Fish and Wildlife  
<http://www.fws.gov/endangered/recovery/peregrine/>

USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center  
<http://www.mbr-pwrc.usgs.gov/Infocenter/i3560id.html>