

Fjords & Eagles - the Spectacle of the Norwegian Summer



June 30th to July 06th 2012

Spectacular White-tailed Sea Eagles at their very best.



In Conjunction with Norway-Nature and Ole Martin Dahle

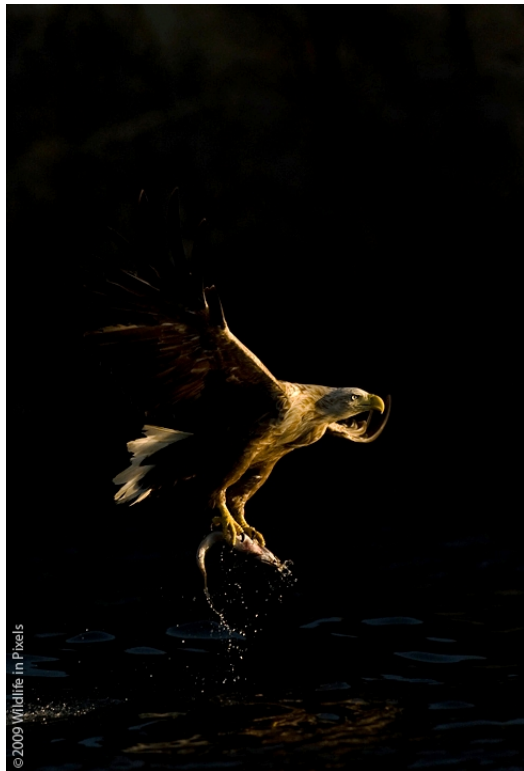
Without any shadow of doubt, this is one of the most spectacular wildlife photography experiences you will ever have, as these wonderfully graceful and majestic leviathans of the sky dive to the water to snatch coal fish just a few meters from your boat.

This particular trip is timed to coincide with the last couple of weeks before eagle chicks fledge their nest – this is the time when the parent birds are at their very busiest; on our last trip at this time we were getting as many as 14 dives for every couple we visited.

That's a LOT of photography!

We schedule boat excursions to 5 or 6 couples very early in the morning and to another 5 or 6 in the evening in order to present these fantastic birds in the very best light for photography. At this time of year there is little in the way of night time darkness, more just an hour of semi-twilight at around midnight and so the potential for highly atmospheric imagery is superb.

Also, in between boat excursions with the eagles you can have the opportunity to take to the forest hides to photograph small birds and very tame Red Squirrel.



All the images here are done on a D3 full frame camera and a 200-400 f4 Nikor



And Eagles are not the only species to look out for from the boat – the vast numbers of Herring Gull which follow us provide you with some totally unique opportunities to photograph what is a very common bird from some NOT VERY COMMON angles; as well as giving us some of the very best entertainment money can buy!



But the true star to look out for is this little chap.....



...the Arctic Skua.

Usually on the look-out for flocks of Terns feeding on Sand Eels and such like, this stunning little black pirate selects a victim and attacks it; following the Terns twisting and climbing evasive manoeuvring with such speed and agility it'll leave you stuck for words. The Tern cannot get away from its pursuer and eventually drops its meal – the Skua dips underneath the Tern, rolls on its back and catches the Terns hard-won food in its open beak.

But our guide Ole Martin can call these superb little birds to the boat and feed them in mid air with small pieces of fish – they come so close that a 200mm lens on a full frame camera is TOO MUCH.



TIMETABLE:

Ole will meet us at Vaernes (Trondheim) airport and ferry us up to our base at Lauvsnes in Flatanger.

We will most likely unpack quickly and grab a bite to eat then be off on the boat for the evening.

Evening boat trips usually start at around 6pm returning to dock at around 11pm.

Morning boat trips usually start at around 5.30am returning to dock at around 10.30am.

So sleep can be a bit problematic!

EQUIPMENT:

I would suggest the following:

2x DSLR bodies

300/400/500mm lens on a FULL FRAME body, or a 300mm on a crop body will be good for the eagles.

*A 500mm is a bit big really and makes framing the shot hard work.

*A 200-400mm f4 is ideal.

Something like a 70-200mm zoom would be ideal for close work with Skua.

A wide angle lens, ball head and cable release for landscapes if you fancy doing some.

A lightweight tripod will only be needed for landscapes – boat work is ALL HANDHELD.

CLOTHING:

Norway is rather warm at this time of year and when out in the boat the water will be mostly calm; but Ole's boat does do 18-20 knots, and when moving locations across open water there can be some occasional spray so light-weight waterproof over clothing can be a good idea.

COSTS: WORKSHOP FEE

The price for the trip is ***19,000 NKR** (approx: £2100 as of 30/11/2011) per person including all internal transport in Norway, accommodation, boat and admission fees. This fee needs to be paid in Norwegian currency as a lump sum, or as set out below.

NB: This price does NOT include FOOD or FLIGHTS.

COSTS: FOOD (Clients responsibility).

Not everyone likes to eat the same things, so rather than charge a set fee inclusive of food we find the best way to eat is to visit the Spar shop in Lauvsnes each evening to purchase provisions for sandwiches etc for consumption in the hides the following day, and for a main evening meal a visit to the Zanzibar restaurant is definitely the wisest course of action.

Plus this is a cost a lot of people like to put on their credit card.

For good basic food your entire food bill should be in the region of 2000 - 2500NKR maximum(excluding alcohol) per person.

NB: All clients in 2011 paid for their food bill at the end of the week by CC and the average bill was less than £180.

DEPOSITS & BALANCE:

NB: Fees need to be paid in **Norwegian Kroner cash.**

A non-refundable deposit of 5000NKR cash is needed to secure a place on this workshop.

The remaining balance of 14,000NKR cash **must be** paid no later than 42 days before departure (Saturday 19th May 2012).

Wildlife in Pixels MUST be notified of cancellations **BEFORE** Saturday 19th May 2012

In the event of a client **having paid in full** and needing to cancel in under 42 days a). the initial deposit remains non-refundable, and b) the balance remains non-refundable unless the client manages to sell the place on (to a third party). Wildlife in Pixels MAY HAVE a list of "reserve customers" whom the client might perhaps negotiate with; but Wildlife in Pixels undertake **NO** responsibility to find or supply the client with means to recoup any monies paid.

*** This is the total fee payable to Wildlife in Pixels and can only be paid in CASH Norwegian Kroner. No other currency, money orders, cheques or credit cards will be accepted in either part or full payment UNLESS BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT.**