

# MERLIN

Merlins hunt songbirds and small shorebirds in stopover habitats along the coast, in open forests, and grasslands.



Merlins generally migrate alone, but juveniles sometimes travel in loose flocks or with Sharp-shinned Hawks.



© Rocío Landívar

This species often lives in urban landscapes where nesting sites and songbirds are abundant.

Urban populations have increased substantially over the past 30 years, leading to more mortalities from collisions with cars and buildings.



Migration pathways differ by subspecies, with some birds staying in the U.S., some traveling through Central America and the Caribbean. Others head locations throughout South America.

