

Grey partridge



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Grey partridge (juvenile)

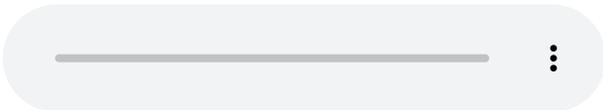
Scientific name: **Perdix perdix**

Bird family: [Pheasants and partridges](#)

UK conservation status: [Red](#)

Protected by [The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981](#)

Grey partridge call



[Patrik Aberg](#), Xeno-canto

Key information

The grey partridge is a medium-sized bird with a distinctive orange face. Flies with whirring wings and occasional glides, showing a chestnut tail. It is strictly a ground bird, never likely to be found in pear trees! Groups of 6-15 (known as coveys) are most usually seen outside the breeding season. Once very common and widespread, it has undergone serious declines throughout most of its range and is a Red List species.

What they eat:

Leaves, seeds and insects

Measurements:

Length:

30cm

Wingspan:

46cm

Weight:

390g

Population:



UK breeding:

UK breeding is the number of pairs breeding annually. UK wintering is the number of individuals present from October to March. UK passage is the number of individuals passing through on migration in spring and/or autumn.

Identifying features:

Grey partridge

Feather colour: Black Brown Cream/buff Grey Orange White

Leg colour: Brown

Beak: Black Short Curved Chunky

Natural habitats: Farmland Grassland

Similar birds:

 Red-legged partridge

Red-legged partridge

 Corncrake illustration

Corncrake

Where and when to see them

Grey partridges are traditionally found in lowland arable areas of Great Britain from the chalk areas in the south, into East Anglia, Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire, reaching into the north of England and the East of Scotland as far as Aberdeenshire. There are small populations in other parts such as the permanent rushy pastures in the north Pennines. They are largely absent from N Ireland.

* This map is intended as a guide. It shows general distribution rather than detailed, localised populations.

Resident

Passage

Summer

Winter

 Grey partridge distribution map

Grey partridge can be seen all year round.

This bird can be seen in the UK in: jan feb mar apr may jun jul aug sep oct nov dec