



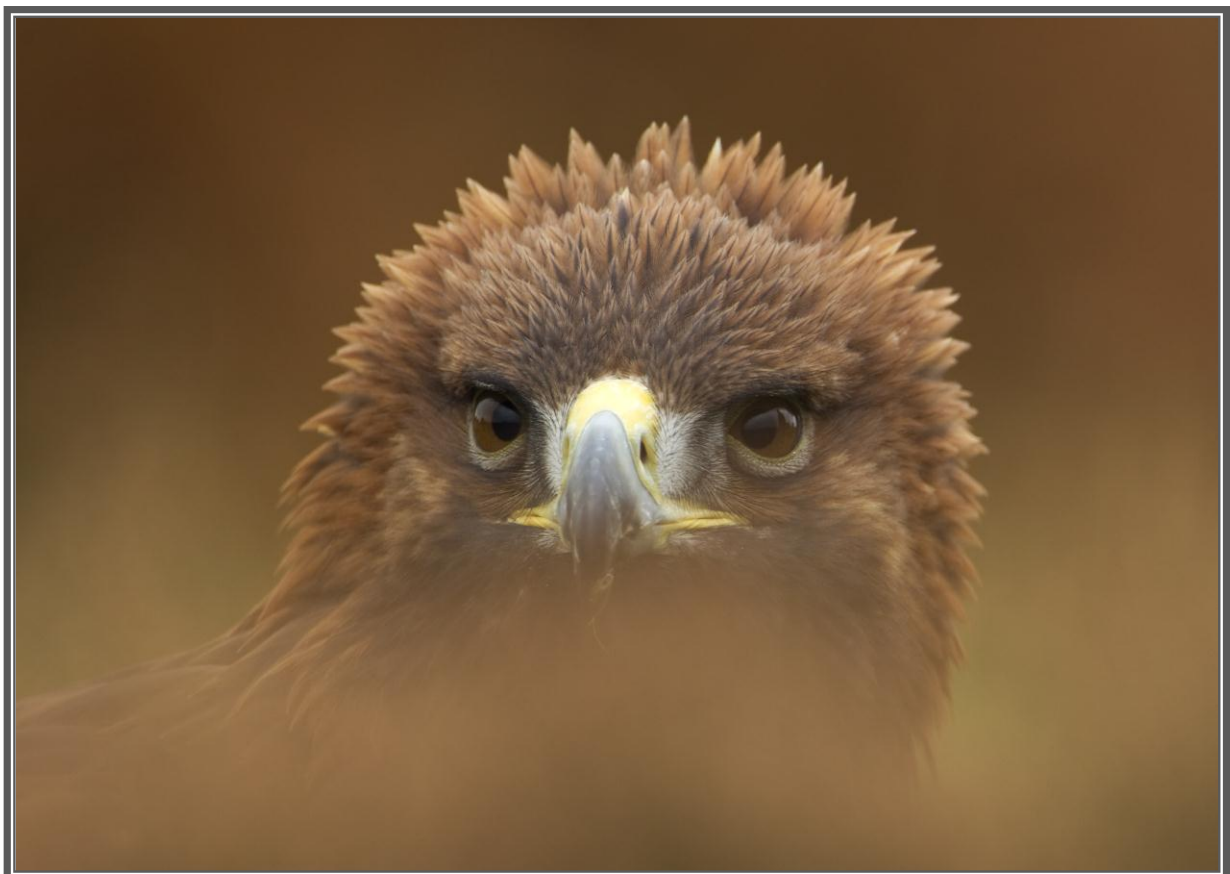
**Deer and Birds of Prey, 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> October 2012**



## Itinerary

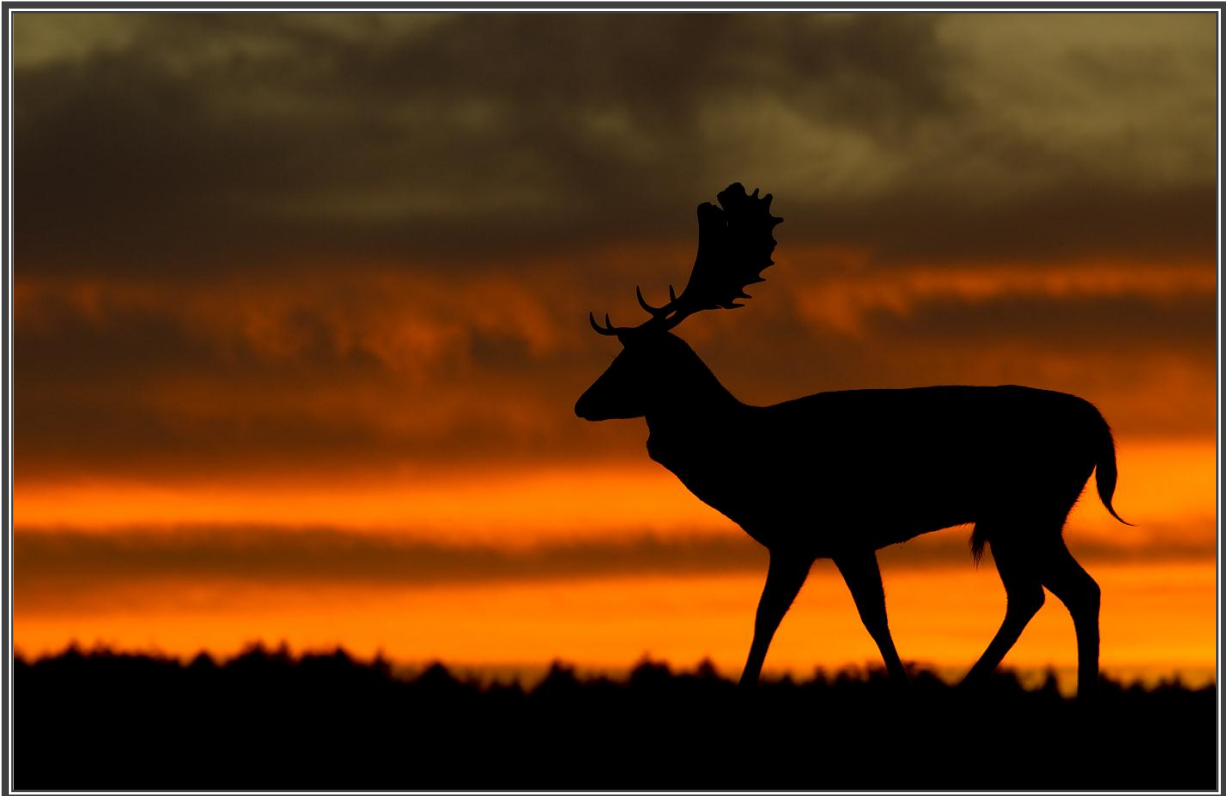
### Tour Leaders: Danny Green and Edwin Kats

**Day 1:** We are all due to arrive at Danny's home address. This will be easier because most people have a Sat Nav and I have a postcode. We will then transfer to our location for the captive bird of prey session. We will be working until late afternoon with a number of birds from Golden Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, Eagle Owl, Barn Owl, Little Owl and Buzzard, this list is not finalised and our falconer Richard might have something else for us on the day. We make the images and the birds look as natural subjects and Richard and I have worked together for many years so he knows what to expect working with photographers. We will stop at lunch time for our packed lunch and the evening we will then transfer to our guest house to check in and for our evening meal. After dinner I will be giving a short AV presentation.



**Day 2:** It's an early start in the morning and Linda our host at the guest house will provide a continental breakfast. The mornings at Bradgate are in my opinion the best time to photograph the rutting deer and it is therefore important to be in position before the sun comes up (which means getting up at around 5.30). We have organised this trip to coincide with the peak of the red and fallow deer rut so will get lots of opportunities for photography throughout the day. At lunch time we head back to the Horseshoe Cottage for lunch. We will then go back into the park for the afternoon session and stay until dusk so it is a long day but will take plenty of breaks throughout. Again back to our Guest house in the evening for our main meal and if people are not too tired we review some images from the first two days.

**Day 3:** Again it's an early start in morning to try and get the best light and activity and the day will be more or less a repeat of the previous day and will go on until dusk, but if you have a long drive home you are free to go when you please throughout the day.



### **What to Bring**

Our accommodation is set in beautiful surroundings right next to the entrance of the park and offers luxury with a warm and homely experience in a recently restored, award winning, 200 year old stone farmhouse and barns in Leicestershire's beautiful Charnwood Forest. Their website is [www.horseshoecottagefarm.com](http://www.horseshoecottagefarm.com) so if you need their address or telephone number you will find it here. All bedding and towels are provided so you simply need to bring yourself, any special dietary requirements you may have – please let me know if there's anything you can't/won't eat!! In terms of clothing you'll obviously need some warm and weather-proof clothing. The vast

majority of your time will involve spending time outside and the weather can change and can be cold at this time of the year. The following items are very much recommended - a good pair of strong waterproof walking boots, good waterproof overtrousers. For the top half it's very much a question of having several layers available - I tend to go for a t-shirt, thin jumper, fleece and then my waterproof coat at hand as necessary. The weather is difficult to predict at this time of the year, it could be cold especially in the early morning and then gets warmer as the day progresses, so bring hats and gloves as well. Also it might be worth considering bringing a thermos flask for tea and coffee which you can fill up at the guest house before we leave in the mornings.



### **Camera Equipment**

In terms of camera kit you'll need the longest lens you have (300mm or 500mm would be my recommendation/choice) and then some supplementary lenses for other opportunities such as a 24-70mm for landscapes and then maybe an intermediate zoom (70-200 or 100-400) so that you don't miss anything in terms of opportunity. My main lens will be a 500mm F4 because even though we can get close to some of the deer we will get more natural shots by being that little further away. I always use a tripod so bring one if you have one. Bring plenty of compact flash cards with you as well because if we get a good day you will take alot of images.

During the evenings we will have a chance to critique and look at individuals work if you so wish so feel free to bring anything you'd like to share on either a laptop or memory pen/CD.

All meals are provided throughout the three days with lunch back at the farmhouse on the Saturday and Sunday, home cooked evening meal on the Friday and Saturday nights and a continental breakfast on the Saturday and Sunday mornings. Also a packed lunch is provided on the Friday and again if you could let me know what you don't/do like or any special dietary requirements that would be a great help.

My contact number in the build up to and for the duration of the trip is 07951 945433, and my home number is 01509 551768. Please don't hesitate to contact me even if you think it is a minor question I am here to help.



I have spent my life in Bradgate Park and know it like the back of my hand, it is a fantastic experience to witness the rut and I am really looking forward to showing you around my local patch and you are in for a remarkable experience.

*Danny*

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