

Birdwatching: The Common Crane



Some rules for observing cranes

You should arrive at least an hour before sunset. Please allow for sufficient time for your way from the car park to the observation post.

1. Use the observation posts in the region in order to watch crane flying in at their resting and sleeping areas.
2. Keep calm and be silent
3. You should use light intense binoculars magnifying 8x56 or 10x42 maybe even 15x42. A spotting scope at 30x80 is also much to be advised, please consider using a tripod for more stability.
4. Bird photography only with light intense fixed focal length, but only as long as available lights allows for taking shots at all. No flash photography. Over ISO 1600 the shots are rendered useless. At that point it is better to just watch and enjoy the wonderful cranes.
5. Always keep your distance. The flight distance is rather high, on average between 200 to 300 m.
6. All cranes with heads up in the air means the birds feel quite significantly be disturbed. Expect the entire group to fly away immediately.
7. During daylight observe the cranes from your car when the birds are on the fields feeding. Use camera double bean bags to rest long fixed focus lenses properly on the doorframe of your car.