

Osprey: *Pandion haliaetus*



Osprey, also called Seahawk or Fish Eagle, is a large raptor, reaching 2 ft. in length with a 6.5 ft. wingspan. This species is found on all continents except for Antarctica, nesting in any location near a body of water that provides an adequate supply of fish, the almost exclusive component of its diet. Ospreys spend winters in the south from the Gulf Coast of the United States through to Argentina. Branches, sticks and long grasses are used to build large nests in tall trees or other high places, including man-made structures. Ospreys mate for life.



This hawk has evolved specialized physical characteristics: rounded talons and spiny projections on its feet used for catching and holding slippery prey. As a result of these unique characteristics, it has been given its own taxonomic genus.

