

**Trip Itinerary**  
**Montana Golden Eagle Migration Tour, October 3-11, 2018**

**DRAFT**

**Itinerary subject to change depending on local weather conditions**

**Wednesday, Oct 3:** Fly into Bozeman, MT. Group meets at hotel in evening (meeting time TBD).

**Thursday, Oct 4:** Depending upon the weather and actual conditions on the ground (snow cover, etc.) we will explore the high mountain meadows of the Gravelly Mountains, or travel the rural roads in the Gallatin, Shields and/or Madison valleys, searching for Ferruginous Hawk, Prairie Falcon, Golden Eagle, and perhaps an early Rough-legged Hawk. We may also visit a nearby wetland (Ennis Lake), hoping to see Trumpeter Swans, American White Pelicans, Eared Grebes, Cinnamon Teal, etc. We will have lunch in the field, and return to Bozeman for dinner and overnight lodging.

**Friday, Oct 5:** Once again we will explore the high mountain meadows of the Gravellys or nearby expansive, raptor-rich valleys, based on the local weather and site conditions. We may return to Bozeman in time to participate in the evening Bridger RaptorFest event (speaker or movie). Overnight lodging in Bozeman.

**Saturday, Oct 6:** We will participate in the Bridger RaptorFest and/or hike to the crest of the Bridger Mountains to view the raptor migration. Overnight in Bozeman.

**Sunday, Oct 7:** Full day of raptor (especially Golden Eagles!) migration watching in the Big Belt Mountains. Overnight in White Sulphur Springs.

**Monday, Oct 8:** Full migration day in the Big Belt Mountains watching the Golden Eagle migration. Overnight in Helena.

**Tuesday, Oct 9:** Visit raptor banding station at Rogers Pass; if time permits we may also explore nearby Brown's Lake. Overnight in Helena.

**Wednesday, Oct 10:** Full migration day in the Big Belt Mountains watching the Golden Eagle migration. Farewell dinner in Townsend; overnight in Bozeman.

**Thursday, Oct 11:** Fly out of Bozeman (or Helena).

PLEASE NOTE: This itinerary may be adjusted based on local weather conditions, snow cover and road access.

Notes: Half-day exploring the desert east of the Big Belts, looking for Ferruginous Hawks (alternatively we could visit the Gravellys Mtns, & Ennis Lake/Madison Valley, where we may also see Swainson's Hawks, Prairie Falcons, etc., and e) Brown's Lake (optional, depending upon weather, etc.).