

# PEREGRINE FALCONS

## What to do if you suspect peregrines are on your building!

### By David Morrison of the London Peregrine Project

Peregrines are a high profile species that have a tendency to perch on a high point or corner of a building or structure and as such are usually highly visible and at times very audible. This document is designed to help Building Managers/Supervisors in the event that they encounter peregrines, or indeed would like to attract them.

Peregrines are protected by the Wildlife Laws, coming under the Schedule 1 Act; this protects them from any disturbance at or near the nest including dependant young. There is no exact definition as to 'near'.

### If you discover or suspect you have peregrines

If you discover or suspect that your building/structure is being used by a peregrine or even a pair please contact the Hawk and Owl Trust immediately. This is especially important in the breeding and licencing period, (February 1<sup>st</sup> to August) try not to access your roof, a licenced individual from the Trust will do this to confirm the presence of peregrines and additionally if they are breeding.

Other signs of presence could well be prey remains at the base of your building/structure from recent or even old kills; these are usually the first signs of regular use and even occupancy. Male peregrines (Tiercels) and female peregrines( Falcons) are large Crow sized birds with the Falcon again being a 1/3 bigger than the Tiercel. Peregrines are highly territorial and in urban areas will hold to territory all year round, especially with a constant food source (feral pigeons).

Below is a photo of a Peregrine Falcon, the only other urban dwelling raptor likely to be encountered will be Kestrel, Peregrines are larger birds

### The next step

After a Trust individual has visited and you would like to encourage breeding, a nest tray or nest box can be discussed if your building/structure is suitable for the birds. Ideally roofs with Mobile Phone Masts should be avoided as this will lead to access issues.

Additionally if you are trying to attract peregrines to your building or structure please contact the Hawk and Owl Trust.

For further information please contact [www.londonperegrines.com](http://www.londonperegrines.com)

Good Luck!

Dave