

Eurasian Griffon Vulture

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About Eurasian Griffon Vulture:

- It is a **large Old World vulture** in the bird of prey **family Accipitridae**.
- It is one of the **largest birds in the vulture family** and is **Europe's second-largest bird**.
- **Scientific Name: *Gyps fulvus***
- **Distribution:**
 - It has a very **large range**, across the **Middle East, North Africa**, and **Europe**, from **India** to Portugal and Spain
 - They are most commonly **found in countries that border the Mediterranean**.
- **Habitat:**
 - They live in areas of **mountains, plateaus, shrubland, grassland**, and semi-desert, **usually in warm climates**, but **also in harsher conditions of cold, rain, mist, and snow** to secure

particularly favourable breeding or foraging conditions.

- They tend to **avoid forests, lakes, wetlands, and marine waters.**

- **Features:**

- The griffon vulture is **93-122 cm long** with a **2.3-2.8 m wingspan.**
- Adult birds are identical with a **white head, neck** and **'feathery' ruff-like collar.**
- **Its body and upper wings are pale brown.**
- They are **social birds**, often **gathering in large groups** to feed on a single carcass.

- **Conservation Status:**

- **IUCN: Least Concern**

Q1) What are Old World vultures?

The Old World vultures are a group of birds belonging to the family Accipitridae. The birds live in the “Old World” continents of Europe, Asia, and Africa. The vultures are not closely related to the New World vultures but only superficially similar to these birds due to convergent evolution. The Old World vultures lack a keen sense of smell unlike their New World counterparts.

Source: [Rare Eurasian griffon vulture spotted at Delhi biodiversity park](#)

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/eurasian-griffon-vulture/>

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