

Waterfowl

Written by Administrator

Tuesday, 10 July 2012 12:20 - Last Updated Friday, 27 July 2012 12:47

Waterfowl

Hungary is a popular waterfowl hunting destination in Europe as it has plenty of natural and artificial water surfaces. Among the huntable waterfowl species mallards are found in the greatest numbers in Hungary. The annual mallard bag is between 35 000 and 40 000. Farm rearing of mallards is also on a high standard in the country. 90 000 to 100 000 birds are released on hunting grounds annually specifically for hunting purposes. Teals, golden-eyes, bean geese and greater white-fronted geese only pass through the country and this way their availability is unpredictable and highly dependent on weather conditions. The annual bag of these species is around 11 000.

Waterfowl hunting can be undertaken successfully in almost every county of Hungary, however, chances are especially good in county Fejér, Győr-Moson-Sopron and Jász-Nagykun-Szolnok.

Hunting season:

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Mallard, teal, Eurasian coot 1 September – 31 January

Common golden-eye 1 October – 31 January

Bean goose, greater white-fronted goose 1 October – 31 January

Hunting methods:

Waterfowl can be hunted individually from shooting stands or shooting pits. However, hunting for farm-reared birds offers the greatest enjoyment as on such hunts there are no time or bag limits. Therefore, depending on the size of the group a bag of even 500-1 000 birds can be attained a day. In the case of natural bird stocks a limit of 8 birds/person applies to duck species and coots, and a limit of 4 birds/person to different geese.

Recommended shot size for ducks: 3-3.5 mm; for geese: 4-4.5 mm

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Waterfowl hunting can be combined with pheasant and collared dove hunting.