

Summary of National Hunting Regulations: Tunisia



Updated in October 2014

HUNTING AND TRAPPING LEGISLATION/ RESOURCES

Name of main legislation: law 1988-20 or Forest Code of April 13, 1988 (Code Forestier du 13 avril 1988), modified through the law 2009-59 of July 20, 2009

Year of publication: 2009

Supporting legislation: Annual Decree issued by the Ministry of Agriculture setting the conditions for the organisation of hunting during the coming season

Legislation updates: with regard to the hunting decree annually

Hunting legislation (web link):

Forest code and its implementation rules (in French): <http://www.droit-afrique.com/images/textes/Tunisie/Tunisie%20-%20Code%20forestier%202010.pdf>

Annual hunting decree 2013/2014 (in French): <http://www.flehetna.com/fr/rapports-journalistiques/publication-journal-officiel/1449-publication-du-03-septembre-2013-arrete.html>

Authority in charge of controlling hunting (web link): Ministry of Agriculture, Directorate of Forestry

Major inconsistencies or loopholes detected (if yes please describe): None

Derogations (on EU Birds Directive and/or Bern Convention): N/A

HUNTING AND TRAPPING: METHODS AND RESTRICTIONS

	Legal methods/restrictions	Notes
Hunting	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Licensed hunting is permitted during a certain season and for certain species (see table below)- Restrictions: no light, no trap, no communication device, no buckshot, no hunting from vehicle, some firearms (e.g. with silencers, night vision scopes, automatic and semi-automatic guns, air rifles, 9mm carbines, rifled guns, etc.), no hunting in national parks, nature reserves and game reserves.	Hunters are organised in regional hunters associations and pay an annual fee (30 TND for national and permanent residents and 100 TND for temporary residents)

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Trapping

- Capture of female Eurasian Sparrowhawk for hawking is authorised for members of the Falconers Association in the Nabeul Governorate (Cape Bon)
- Capture of a limited number of young falcons at the nest is authorised for 4 members of the hawkers association annually.
- Capture of other protected species is prohibited
- Capture of Starlings and Sparrows in State forest is allowed in the framework of crop protection

Sparrowhawks trapped must be declared immediately at the nearest forestry station. They have to be ringed immediately and released within the 7 days following the hunting closing date of migratory Common Quail (usually around 15/06). Any other species trapped has to be released immediately but must also be declared to the nearest forest station.

A hawker: falconer may only obtain one licence per year for hunting with a Sparrowhawk/Falcon which allows him to detain one Sparrowhawk/Falcon.

Falcons removed from the nest are ringed. The annual maximum total number of falcons allowed to be taken from nests is 4 for the entire Tunisian territory.

Hawkers and falconers must be members of the Falconers Association in the Nabeul Governorate.

Only nationals may become members of the Falconers Association.

Hawkers and falconers pay an annual fee of 10 TND.

HUNTING SEASONS AND SPECIES

Open Hunting Season	Legally huntable species	Notes
Late September – late November (on Sunday and bank holidays)	<p>Sedentary species Barbary Partridge, Common Quail, Rock Pigeon, Sandgrouse , Larks (no species indication)</p> <p>Migratory species Common Wood-pigeon</p>	<p>Hunting possible with Sparrowhawk (which is contradictory to the rule that all Sparrowhawks must be released in the same year during the 7 days following hunting closure, around 15/06, for migratory Common Quail) or Falcon, but only on Friday and Saturday.</p> <p>Quota: 6 Partridges and 20 Sandgrouses per hunter and per day.</p> <p>In all gouvernorates, except protected areas and hunting reserves.</p>
Late October – late March (everyday)	<p>Migratory waterbird species Common Snipe, Mallard, Northern Pintail, Eurasian Wigeon, Northern Shoveler, Garganey, Common Teal, Common Pochard, Tufted Duck, Common Coot, Greylag Goose, Common Moorhen, Common Lapwing, Plovers (no species indication)</p>	<p>From one hour before sunrise until one hour after sunset. Within a limit of 30m from the shores of the wetlands.</p> <p>In all gouvernorates, except protected areas and hunting reserves.</p>
Early November – late March (everyday)	<p>Migratory species (1) Thrushes (no species indication) and Starlings (no species indication) Eurasian Woodcock</p>	<p>Thrushes (essentially Song Thrush) and Starlings (essentially Common Starling) only in 11 Gouvernorates: Ariana, Manouba, Ben Arous, Nabeul, Zaghouan, Bizerte, Béjà, Jendouba, Le Kef, Siliana et Sfax. Eurasian Woodcock only in 8 gouvernorates: Manouba, Ben Arous, Nabeul, Zaghouan, Bizerte, Béjà, Jendouba et Le Kef.</p>
Early April – Mid-June (everyday)	<p>Migratory species (2) Common Quail</p>	<p>Hunting with Sparrowhawk only in the Nabeul Gouvernorate (Cape Bon)</p>
Mid-July – early September (in afternoon from Monday to Saturday, all day for Sunday and bank holidays)	<p>Sedentary and migratory species Rock Pigeon, Doves (no species indication)</p>	
Late July – late September (on Sunday and bank holidays)	<p>Sedentary species Sandgrouse (no species indication)</p>	

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TRAPPING SEASONS AND SPECIES

Open Trapping Season	Legally trapped species	Notes
1 st March to 1 st May	Female Eurasian Sparrowhawk for hawking with fixed or mobile nets	<p>Must be released at the latest 7 days after the closing of the migratory quail hunting. In the event that the holder of the Hawk would like to keep its bird after that date, he may benefit from an extension of detention granted by the administration and subject to presentation of a vaccination certificate of the bird against diphtheria and the commitment of the holder to ensure all the conditions necessary and satisfactory to the birds detention.</p> <p>Exhibition of Sparrowhawks others as in the officially allowed festivals are prohibited.</p> <p>Bunting is used to attract Sparrowhawk, it must be released after</p>
	Young falcons (no species indication) taken from the nest	The General Directorate of Forests decides annually from which nests falcons may be taken. Up to 2 young falcons can be taken from the same nest, but only if the nest contains at least 3 young falcons. In the case that there are only 2 birds in the nest only one may be taken and if there is only one it must be left in the nest.

TRADE AND PEST SPECIES

Legal trade	Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trade of protected species is prohibited - Trade of game species is prohibited 	Furthermore, are prohibited at all times, the destruction, capture, selling, advertising for sale, purchase, the transport and the detention
Legislation on "pest species"	Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Administrative hunting beat to predators and pest to agriculture can be organised if crop are harmed - Land owners can kill Sparrows (no species indication) and Starlings (no species indications) at any time if they are considered pests and a threat to crops. 	Trapping of Starlings and Sparrows in State forest areas is subject to the specification approved by order of the Minister of Agriculture (decree from 28/03/2001).

BirdLife Partner: Association 'Les Amis des Oiseaux'

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