



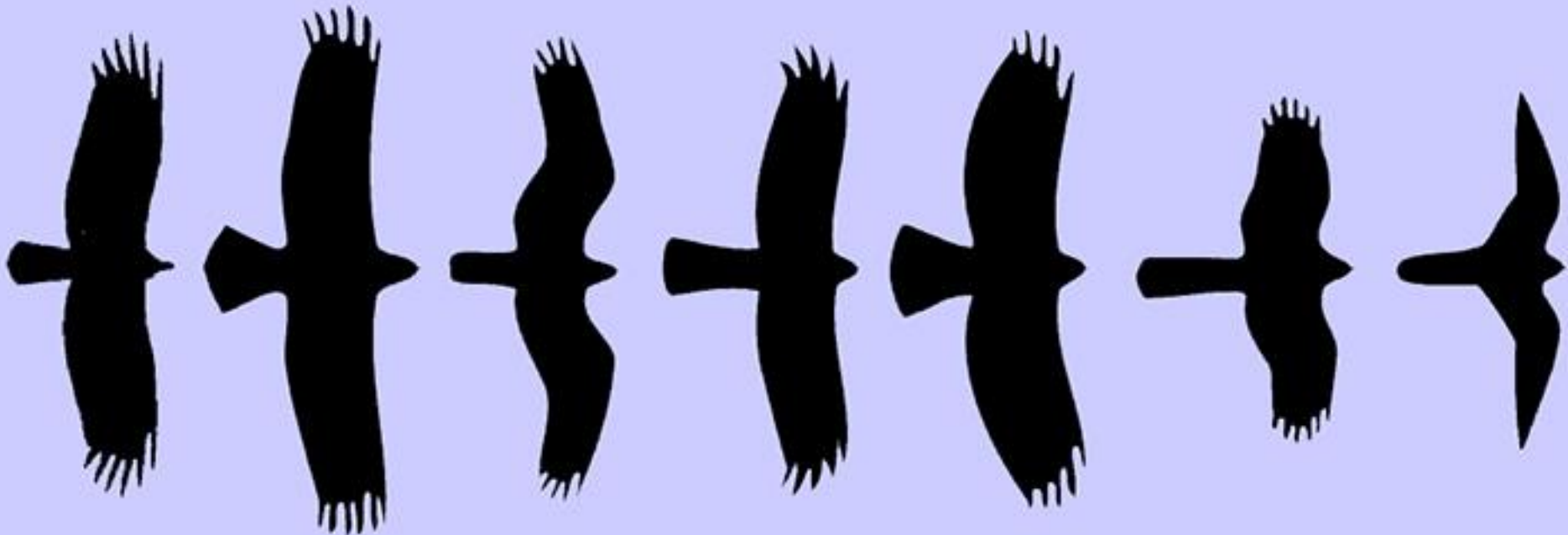
- The following pages have some identification markers for each of the Accipiters found in India
- To know more on these birds you can visit <http://ogaclicks.com/accipiters/>
- If you are interested in Coming on any of my tours or workshops please share your email id. I will keep you updated
- Mail me at [ogaclicks@gmail.com](mailto:ogaclicks@gmail.com)
- Follow me on Instagram : **ogajanak**
- You can also call me on (91)9840119078 ,  
(91) 9445219078  
(91) 6369815812

## Raptors at a glance

Raptors : Any of numerous carnivorous birds that hunt and kill other animals

Derived from Latin word *rapere* : To ravish

Characterised by Hooked Beak, Talons and Flying abilities required to hunt & kill prey



Vulture

Eagle

Osprey

Harrier

Buteo

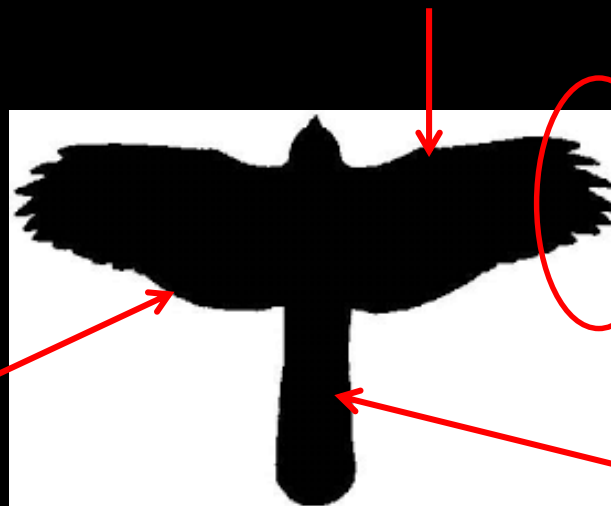
Accipiter

Falcon

## Accipiter

- ***Accipiter*** is a genus of birds of prey in the family Accipitridae
- Members of the family are grouped in Goshawks or Sparrowhawks .
- They are slender with short, broad, rounded wings and a long tail which helps them maneuver in flight. They have long legs and long, sharp talons used to kill their prey, and a sharp, hooked bill used in feeding
- They often ambush their prey, mainly small birds and mammals, capturing them after a short chase
- Females tend to be larger than males

Prominent "wrist"



5 -6 Fingers  
(primaries)

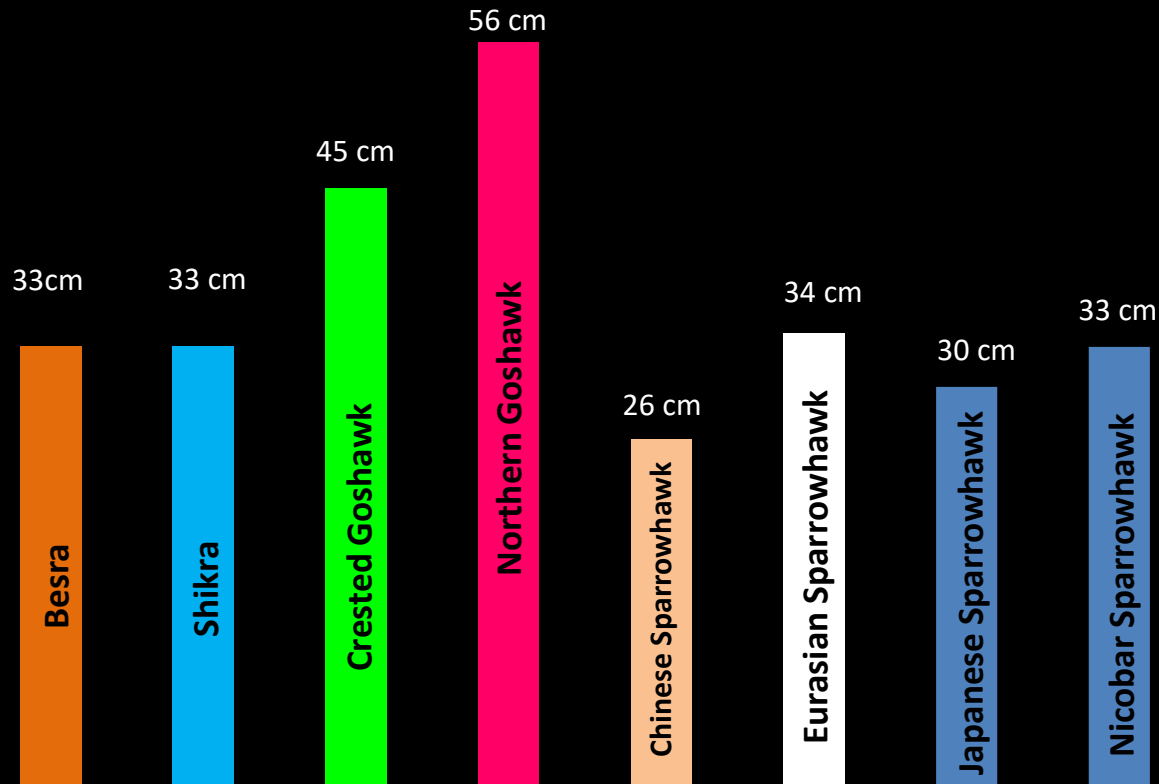
Trailing edge is curved  
outside ( rounded wing)

Long tail

# List of Accipiters found in India

Sno.	Name	Binomial Name
<b>Accipiters</b>		
1	Besra	<i>Accipiter virgatus</i>
2	Shikra	<i>Accipiter badius</i>
<b>Goshawks</b>		
1	Crested Goshawk	<i>Accipiter trivirgatus</i>
2	Northern Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>
<b>Sparrowhawks</b>		
1	Chinese Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter soloensis</i>
2	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>
3	Japanese Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter gularis</i>
4	Nicobar Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter butleri</i>

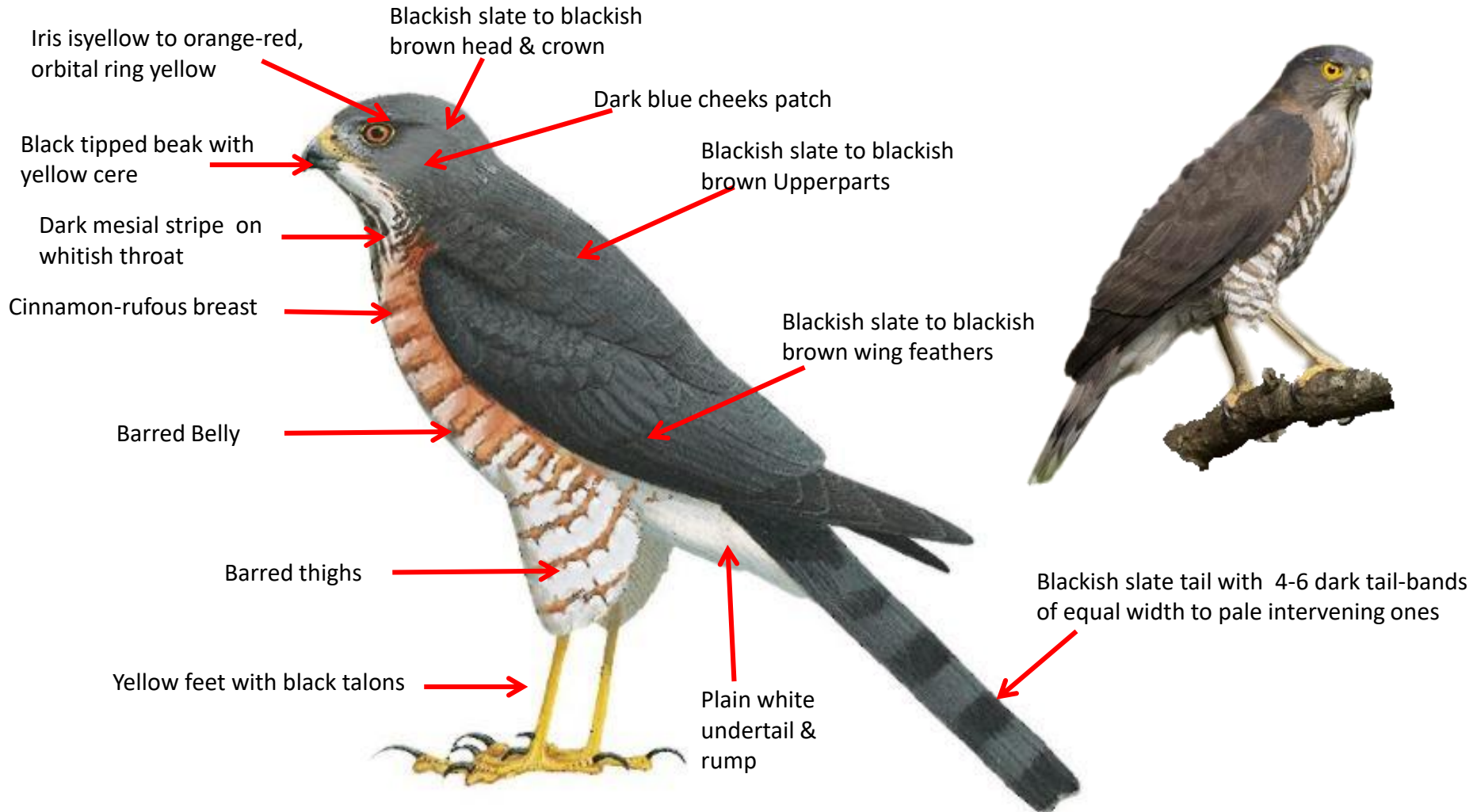
# Accipiter Height Comparison ( Avg.)



**Besra**

## Besra Identification Tips- Male

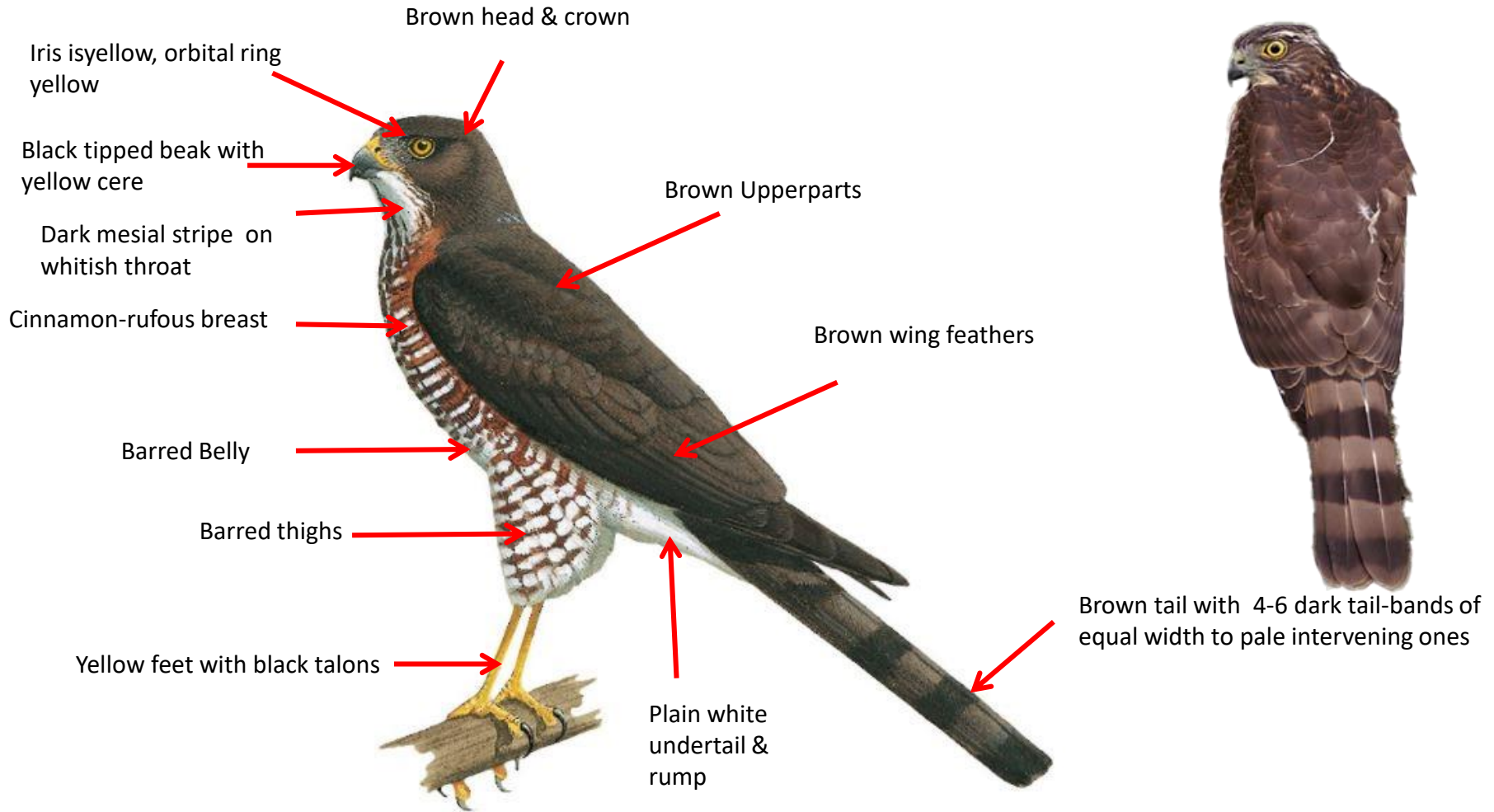
**Besra : *Accipiter virgatus* :** Resident of Himalayas, Western Ghats, South East, Central & North East India





## Besra Identification Tips - Female

**Besra : *Accipiter virgatus* :** Resident of Himalayas, Western Ghats, South East, Central & North East India

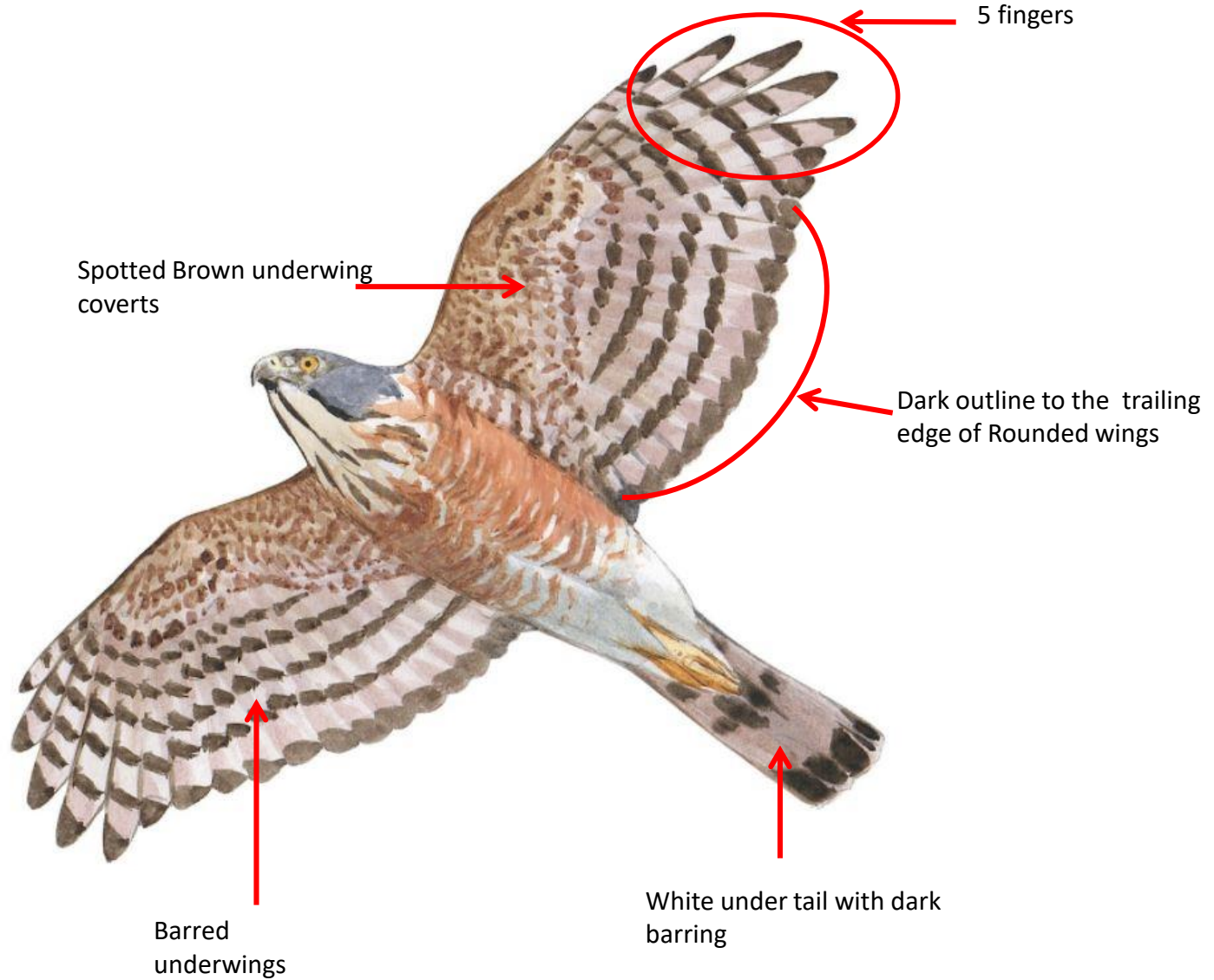






## Besra Identification Tips - Flight

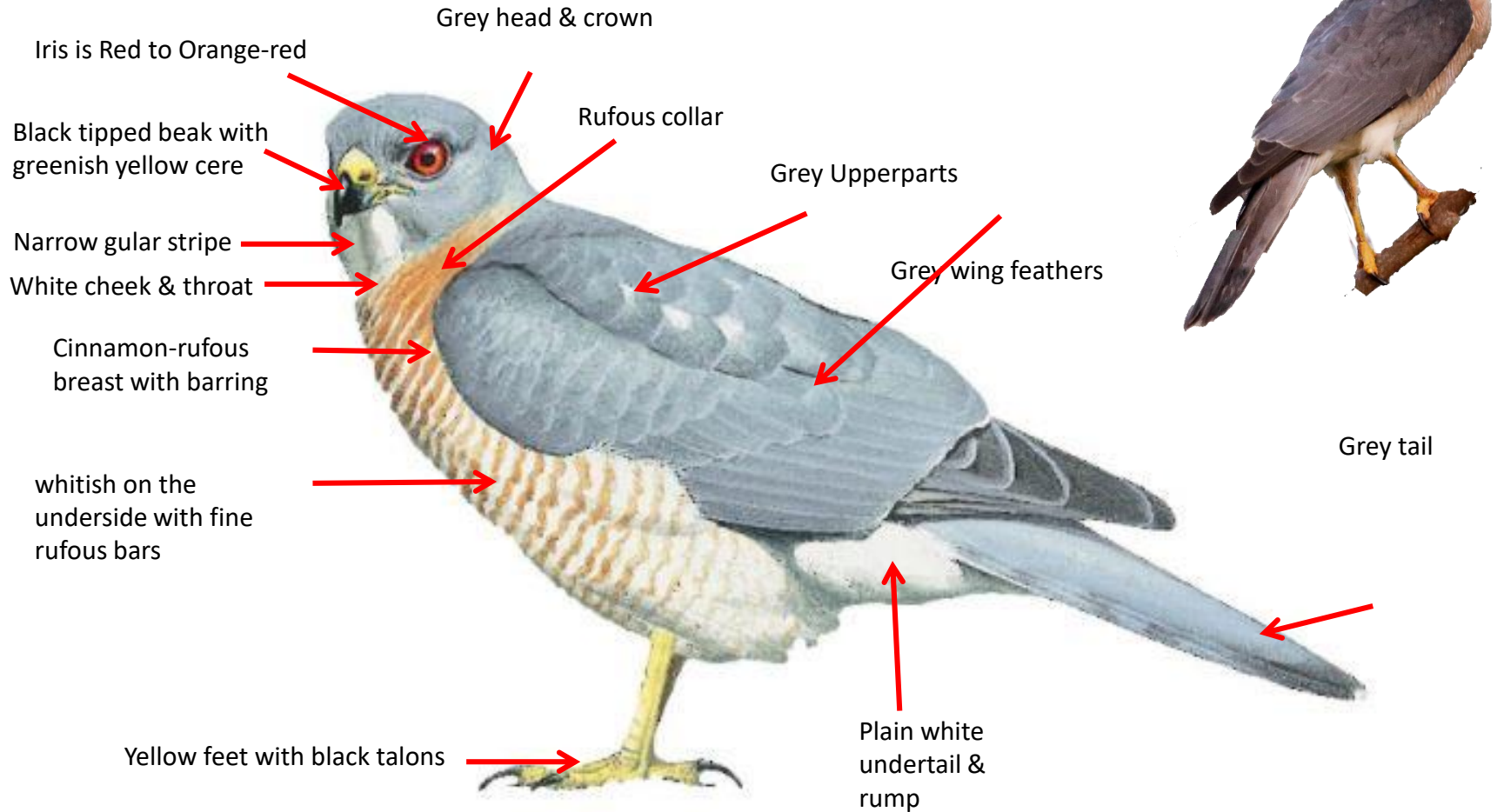
**Besra : *Accipiter virgatus* :** Resident of Himalayas, Western Ghats, South East, Central & North East India



**Shikra**

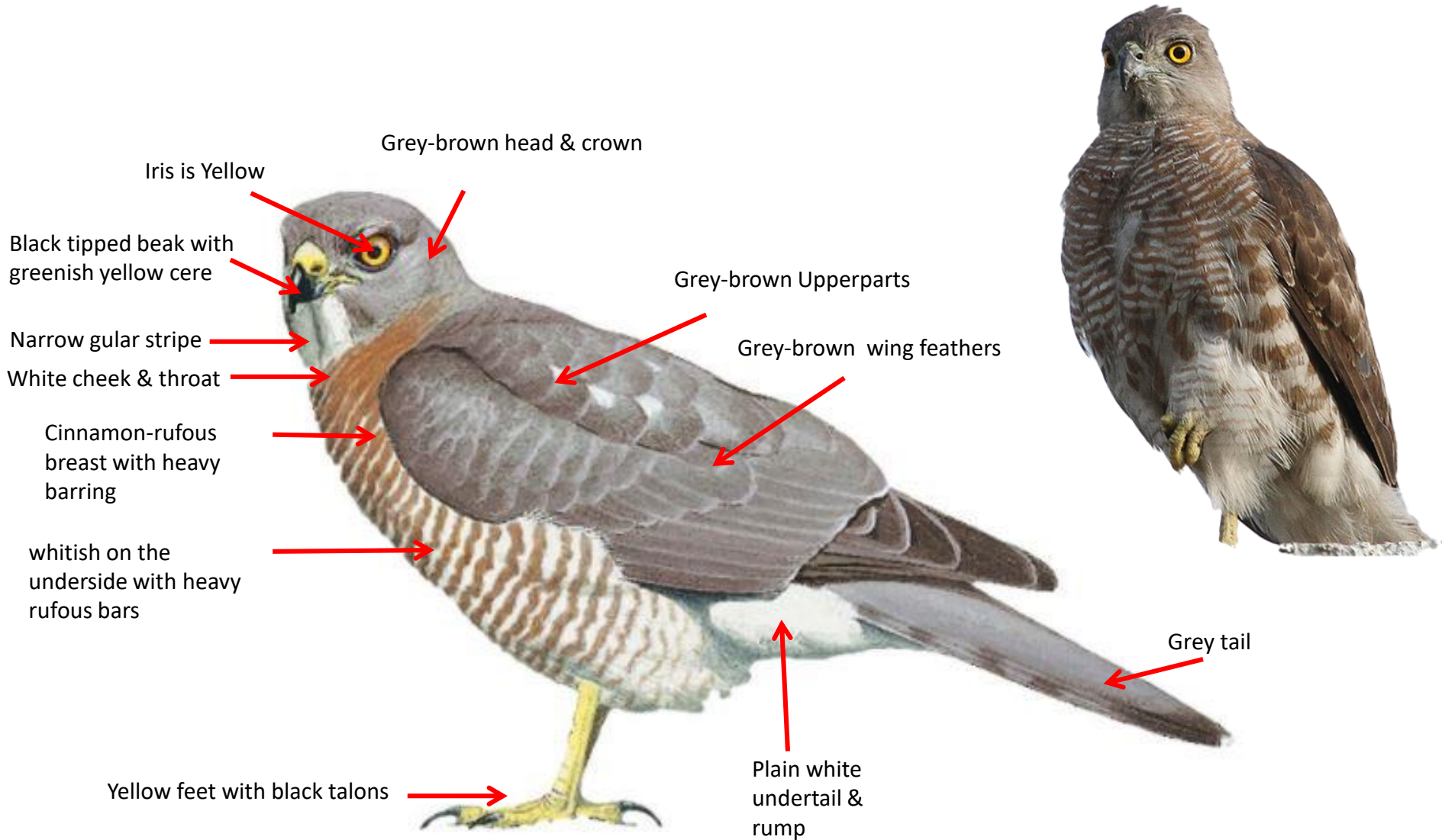
# Shikra Identification Tips- Male

Shikra : *Accipiter badius* : Widespread resident in India



# Shikra Identification Tips- Female

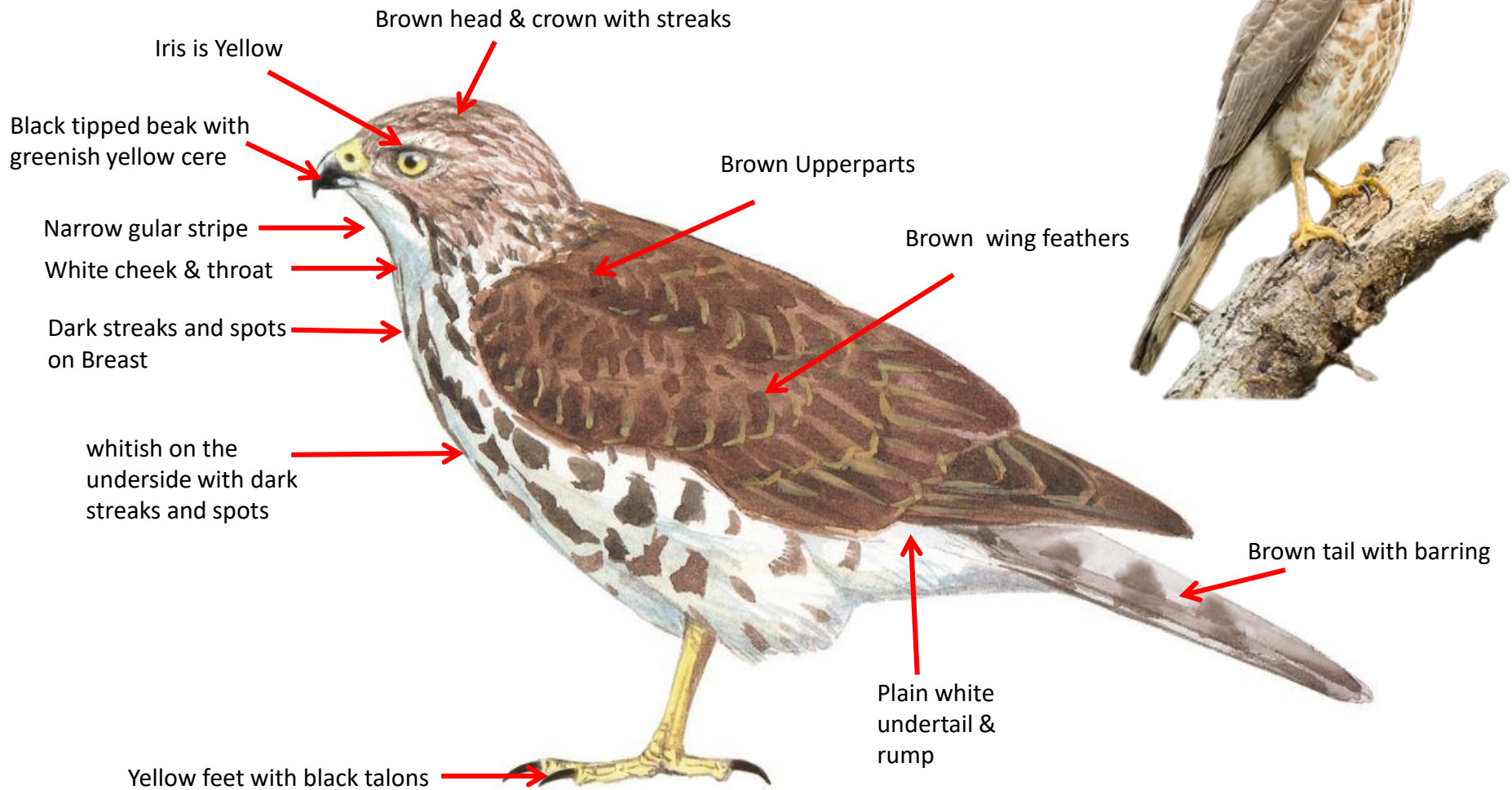
Shikra : *Accipiter badius* : Widespread resident in India





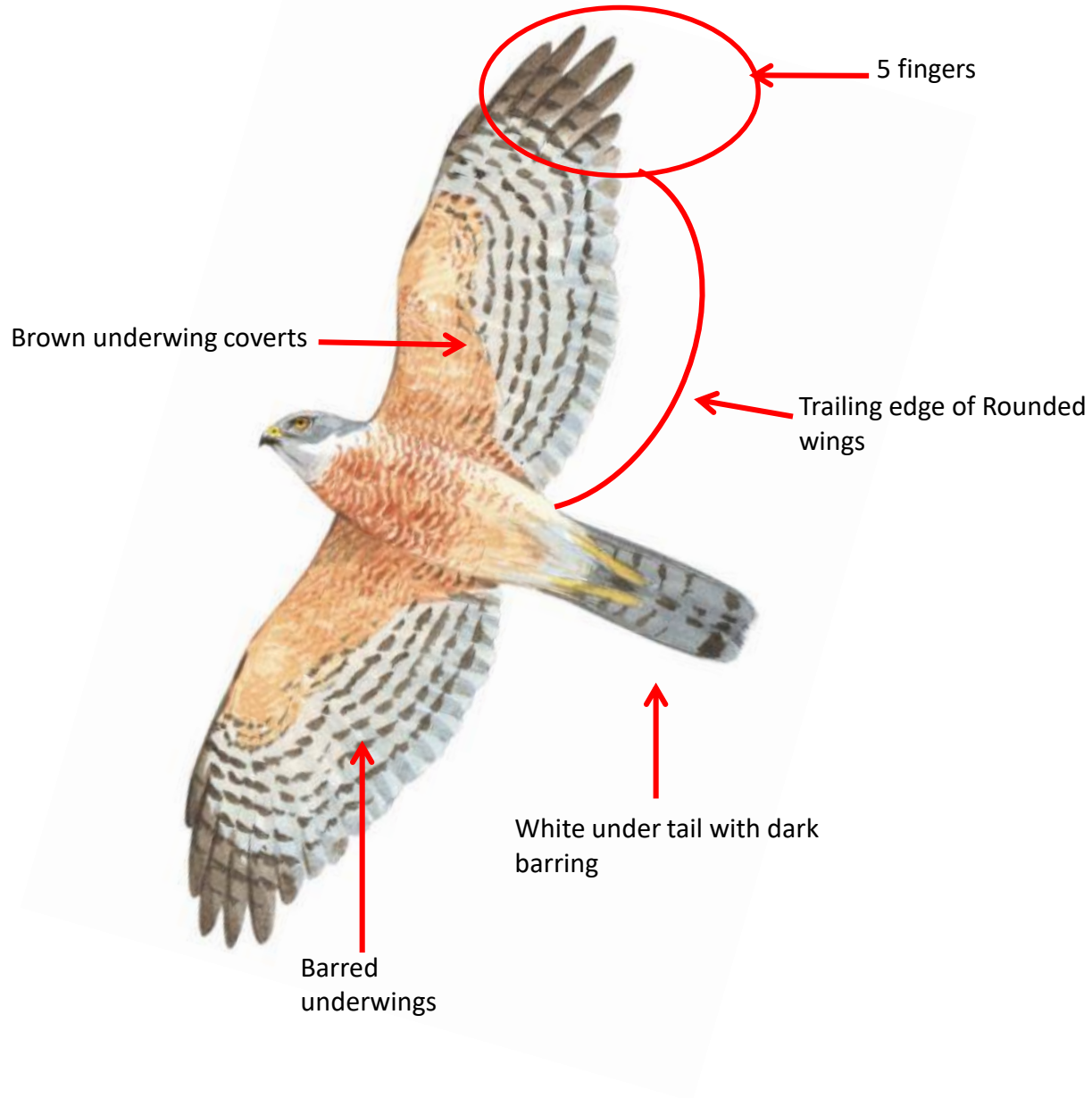
# Shikra Identification Tips- Juvenile

Shikra : *Accipiter badius* : Widespread resident in India



# Shikra Identification Tips- Flight

Shikra : *Accipiter badius* : Widespread resident in India

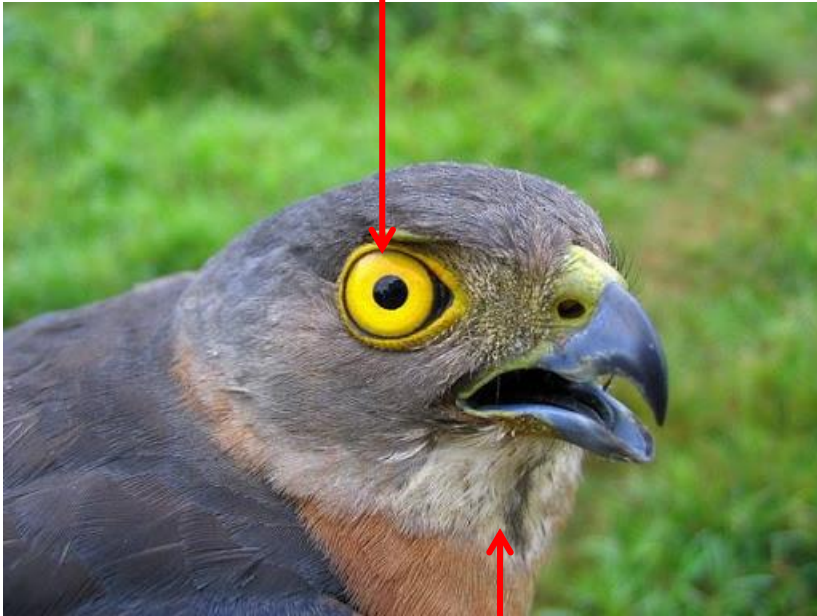




# Besra Vs Shikra : Male

BESRA

Yellow Iris



Dark Gular stripe

SHIKRA

Red Iris



Grey Gular stripe

# Besra Vs Shikra : Female

BESRA



Brown Upperparts

Banded brown tail

SHIKRA

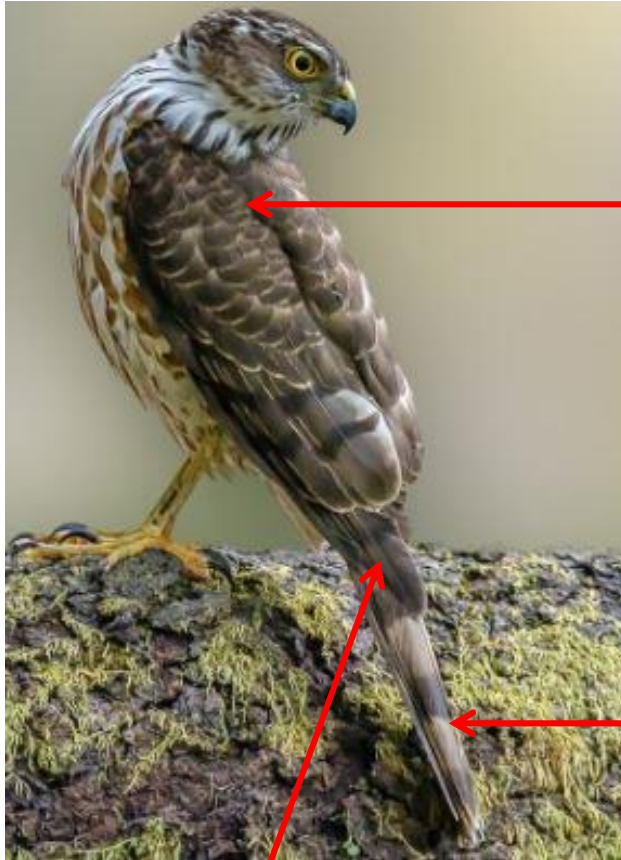


Grey Upperparts

Non Banded Grey tail

# Besra Vs Shikra : Juvenile

BESRA



Dark Brown  
Upperparts

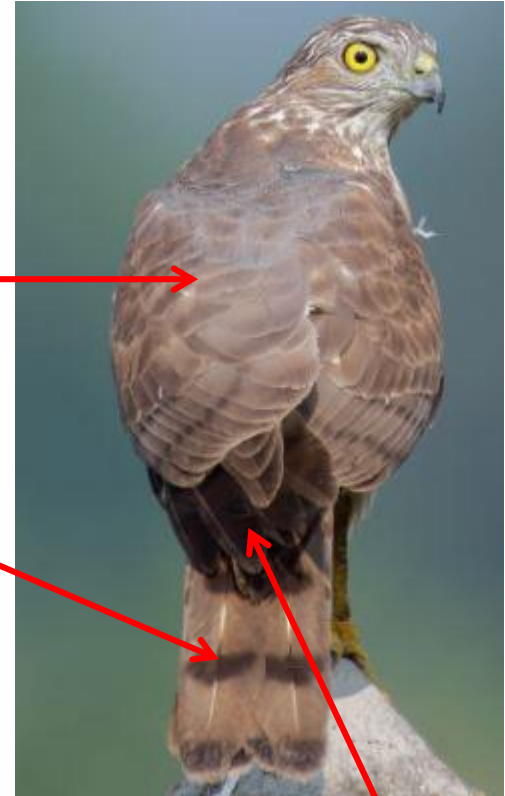
Brown Upperparts

Brown tail with  
Narrow bands

Brown tail with  
wide bands

Primary Projections is shorter  
than Half the tail

SHIKRA



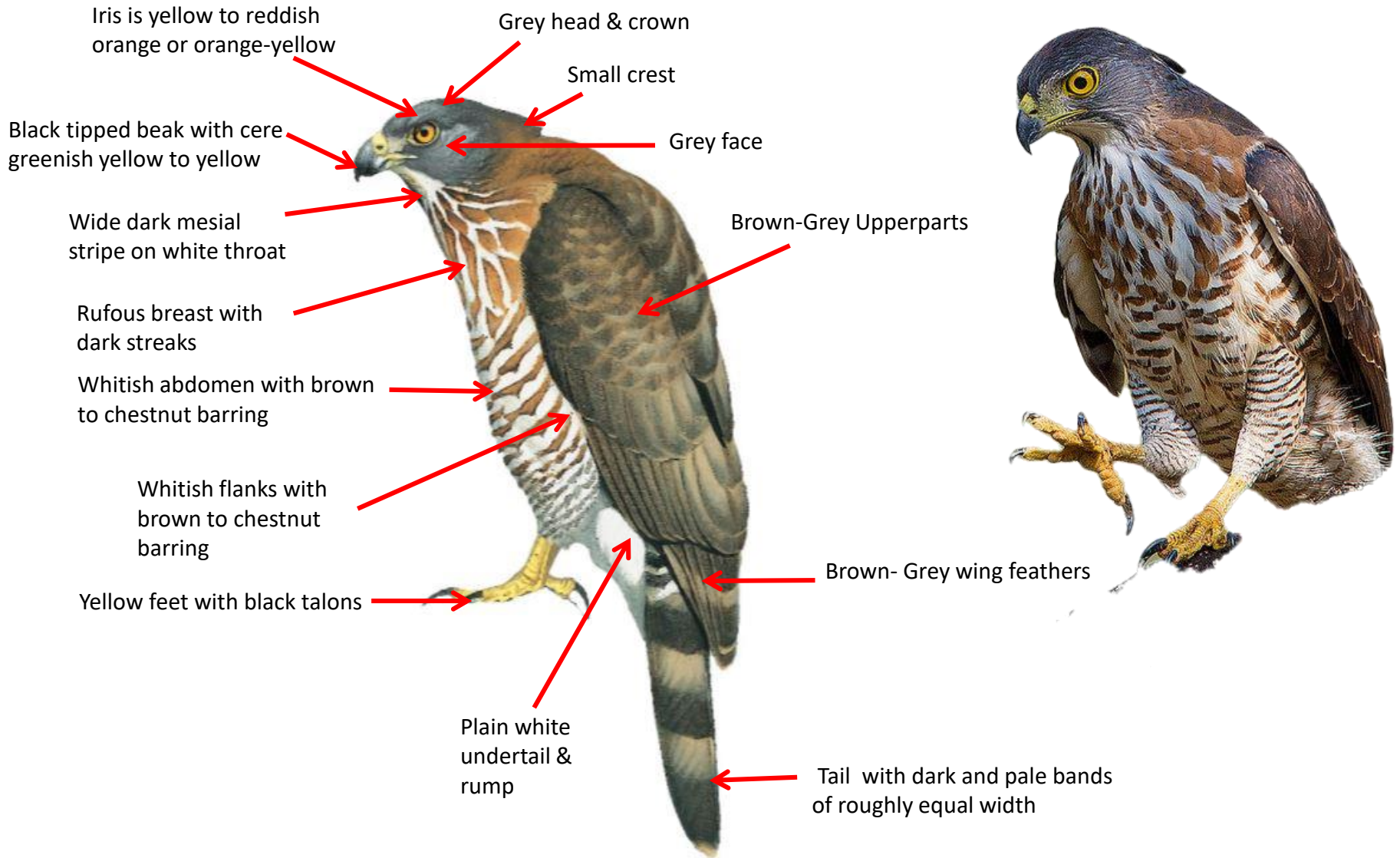
Primary Projections reaches  
nearly Half the tail

# Crested Goshawk



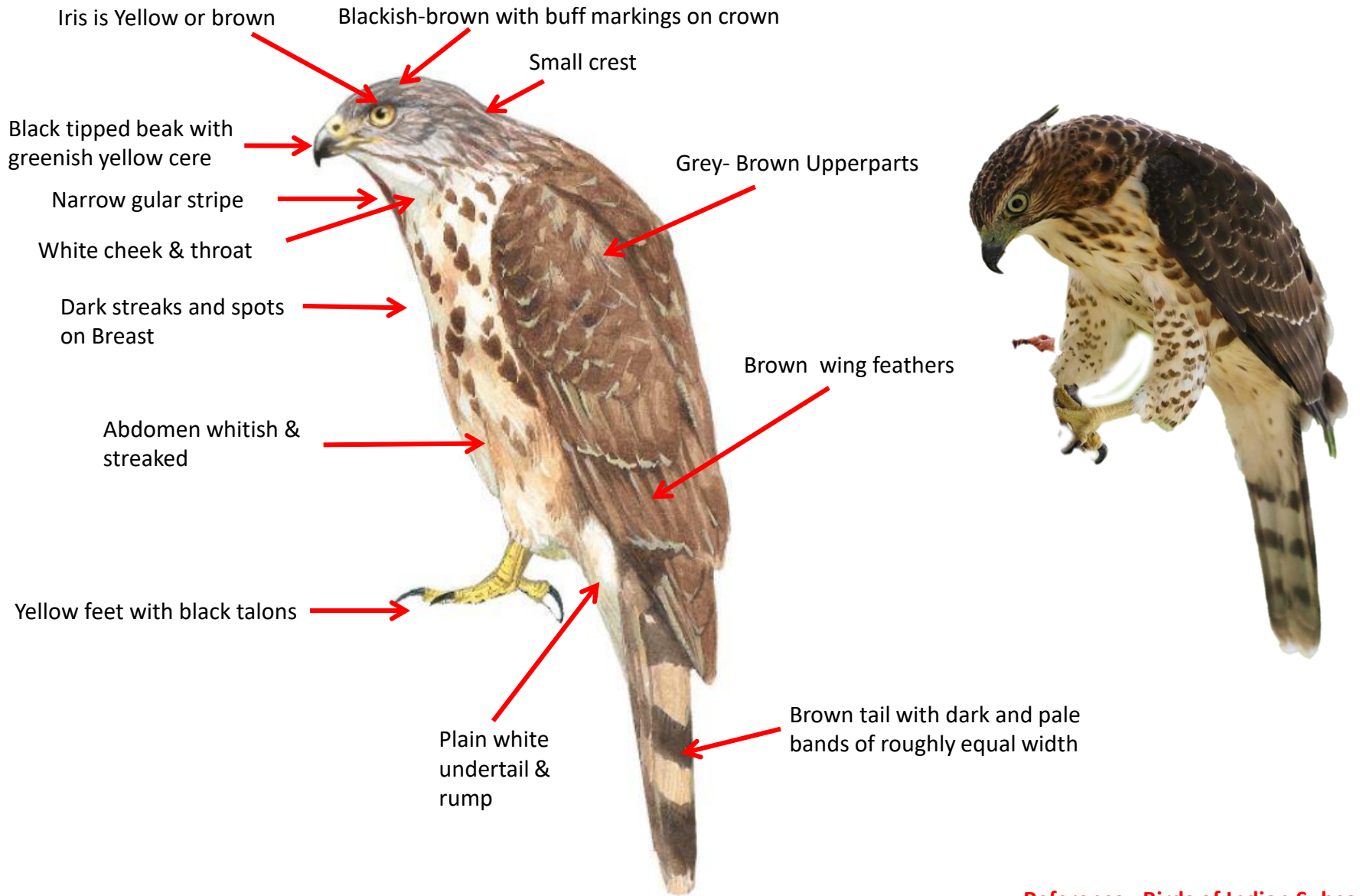
# Crested Goshawk Identification Tips- Adult

**Crested Goshawk** : *Accipiter trivirgatus* : Resident in Himalayas , South West & North East India



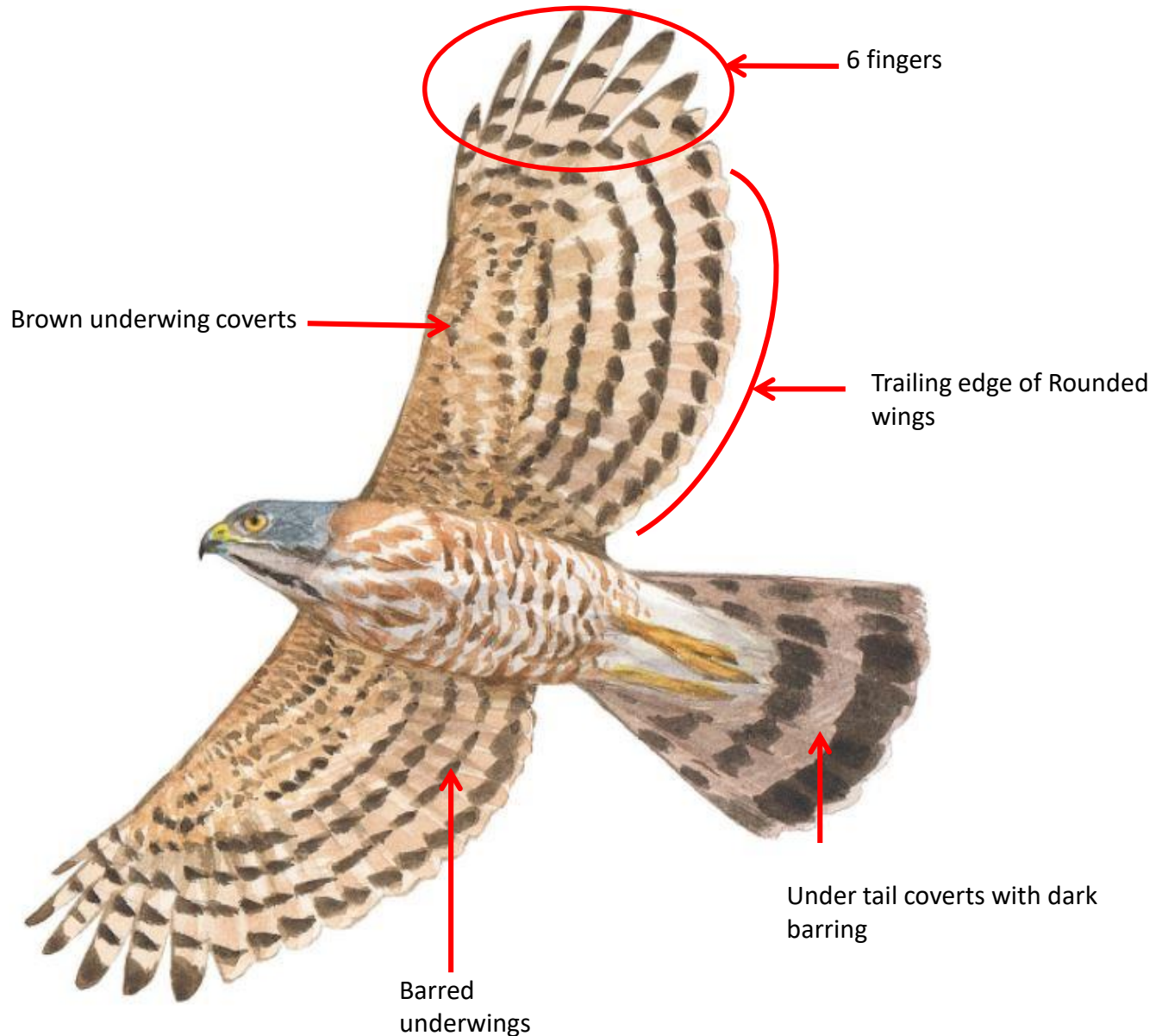
# Crested Goshawk Identification Tips- Juvenile

**Crested Goshawk** : *Accipiter trivirgatus* : Resident in Himalayas , South West & North East India



## Crested Goshawk Identification Tips- Flight

Crested Goshawk : *Accipiter trivirgatus* : Resident in Himalayas , South West & North East India

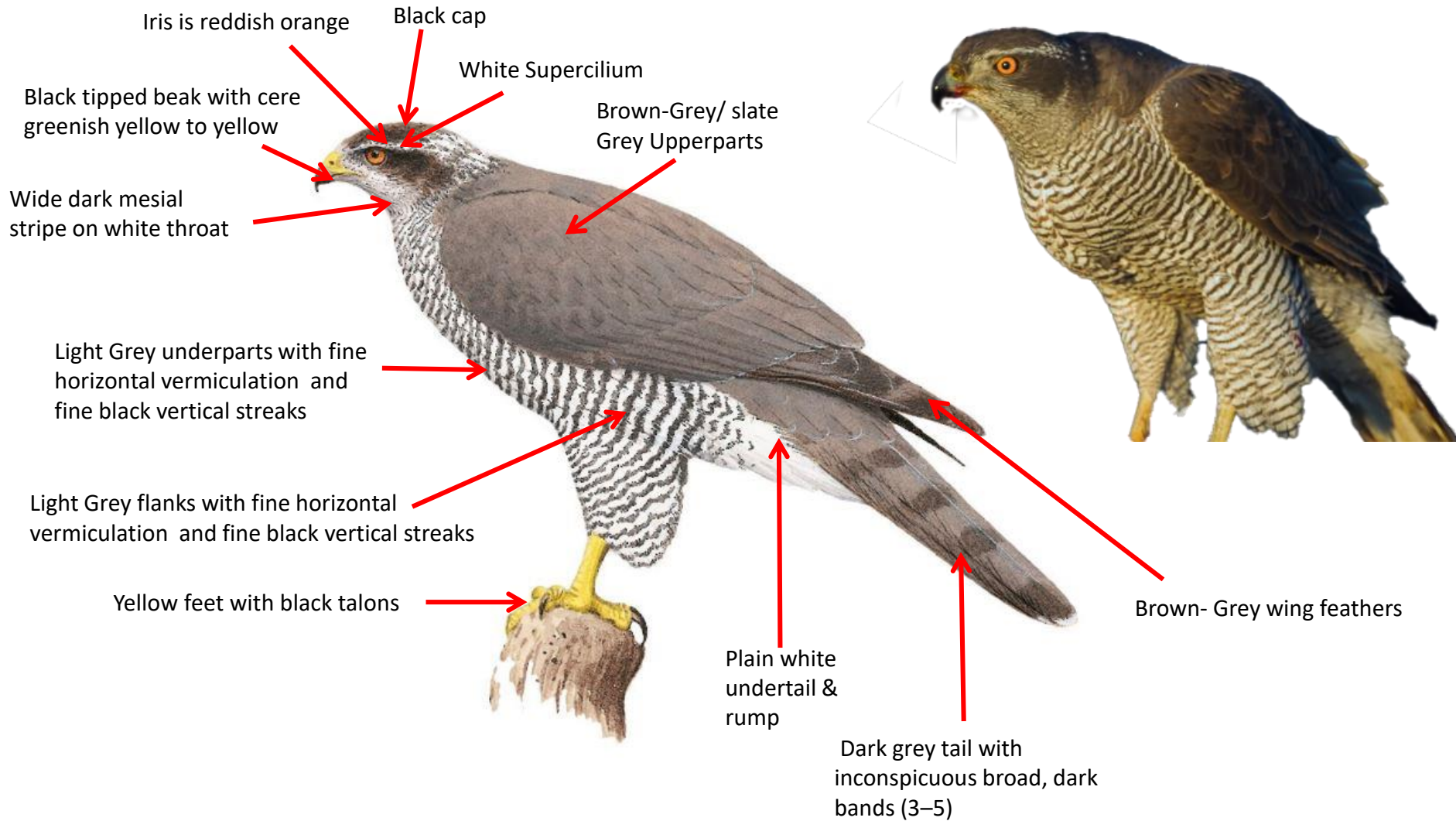




# Northern Goshawk

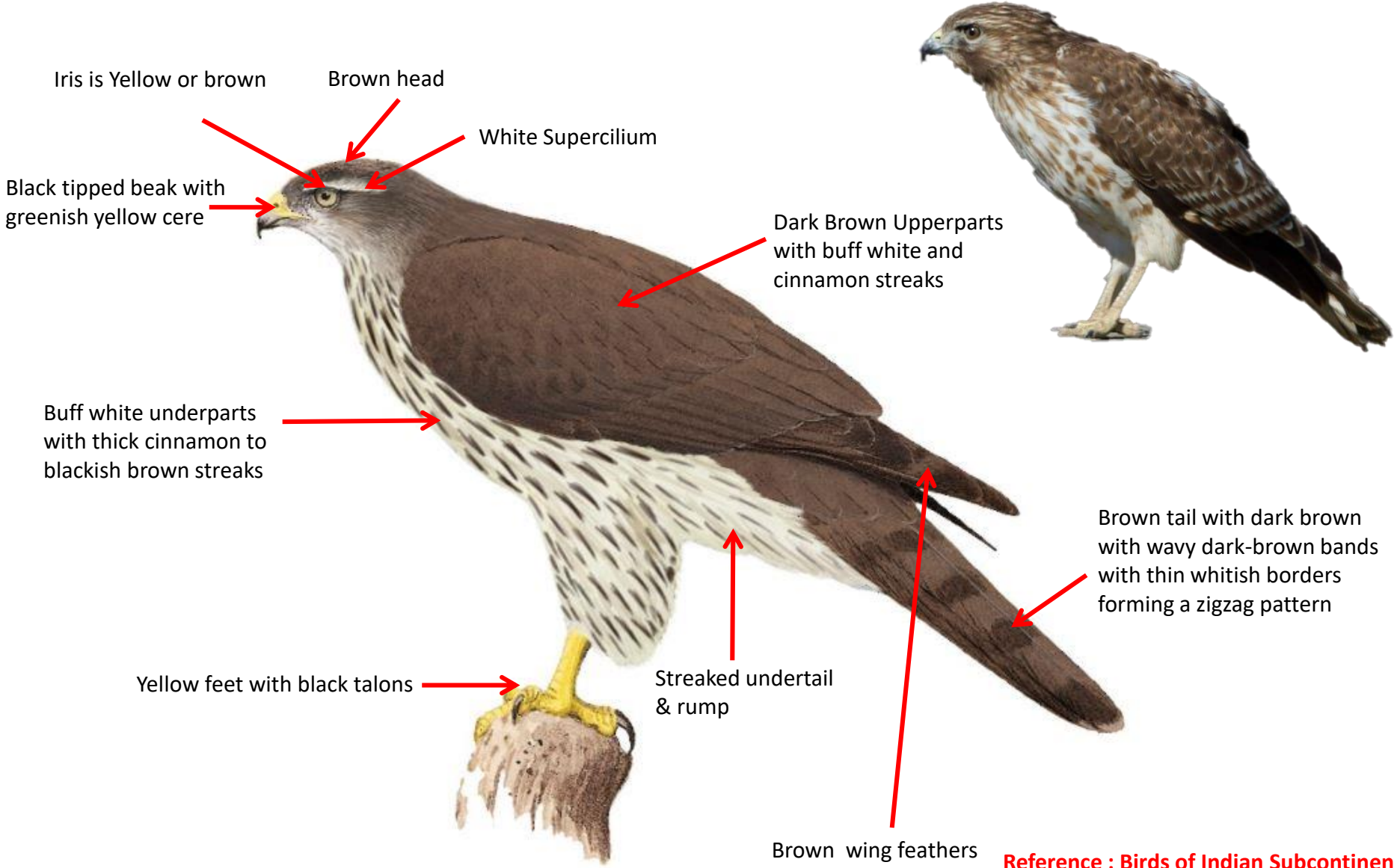
# Northern Goshawk Identification Tips- Adult

Northern Goshawk : *Accipiter gentilis*: Winter Visitor to Himalayas in India



# Northern Goshawk Identification Tips- Juvenile

Northern Goshawk : *Accipiter gentilis*: Winter Visitor to Himalayas in India



Iris is Yellow or brown

Brown head

White Supercilium

Black tipped beak with greenish yellow cere

Dark Brown Upperparts with buff white and cinnamon streaks

Buff white underparts with thick cinnamon to blackish brown streaks

Brown tail with dark brown with wavy dark-brown bands with thin whitish borders forming a zigzag pattern

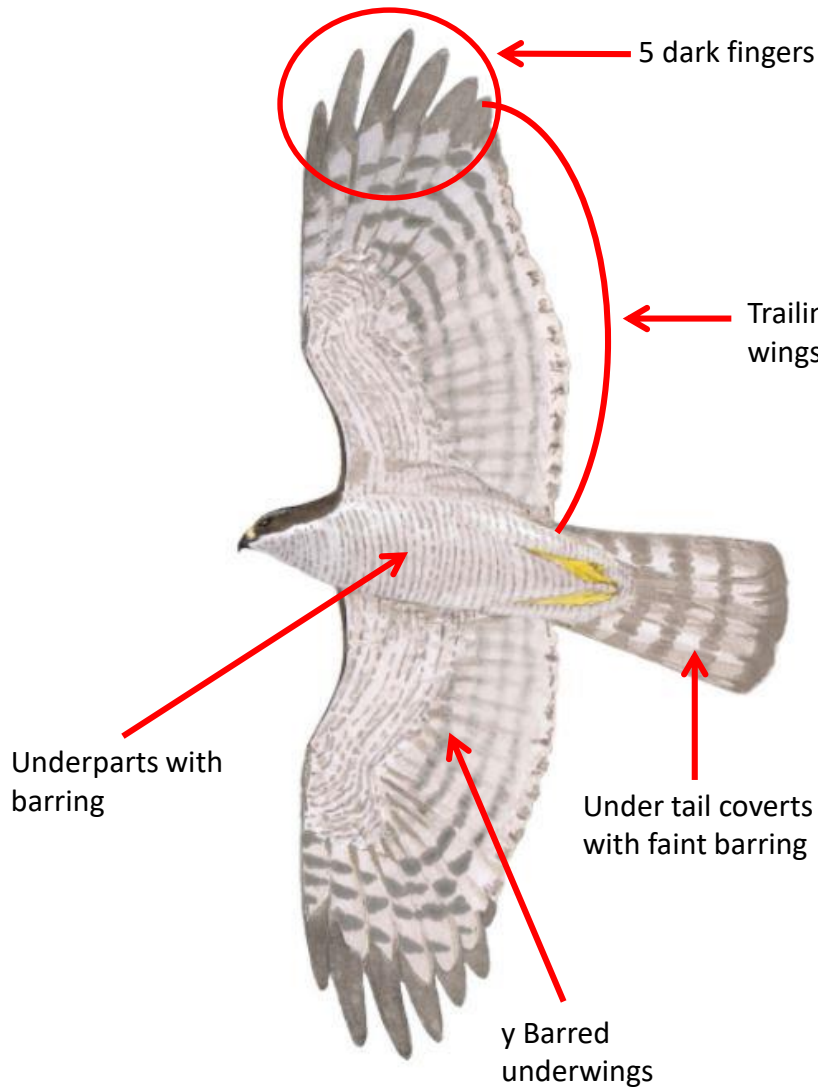
Yellow feet with black talons

Streaked undertail & rump

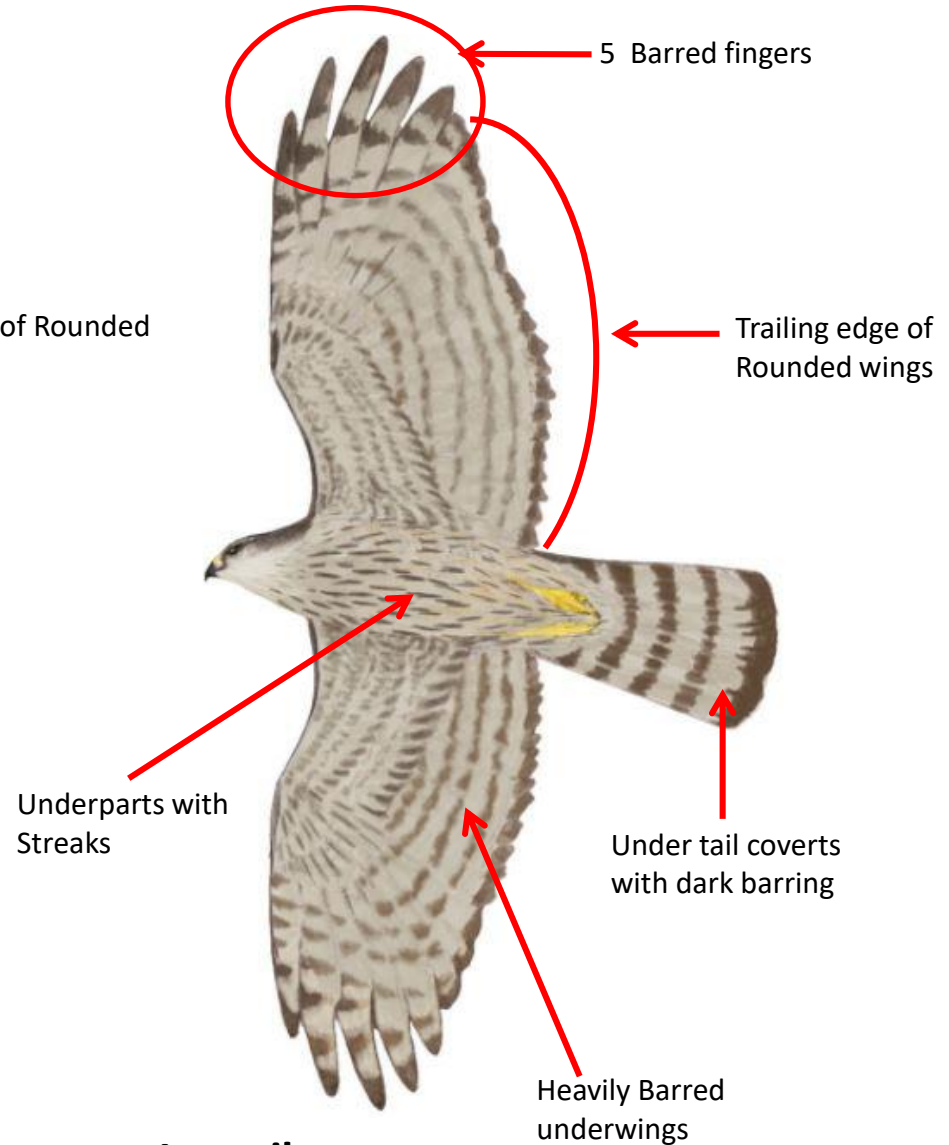
Brown wing feathers

# Northern Goshawk Identification Tips- Flight

Northern Goshawk : *Accipiter gentilis*: Winter Visitor to Himalayas in India



**Adult**

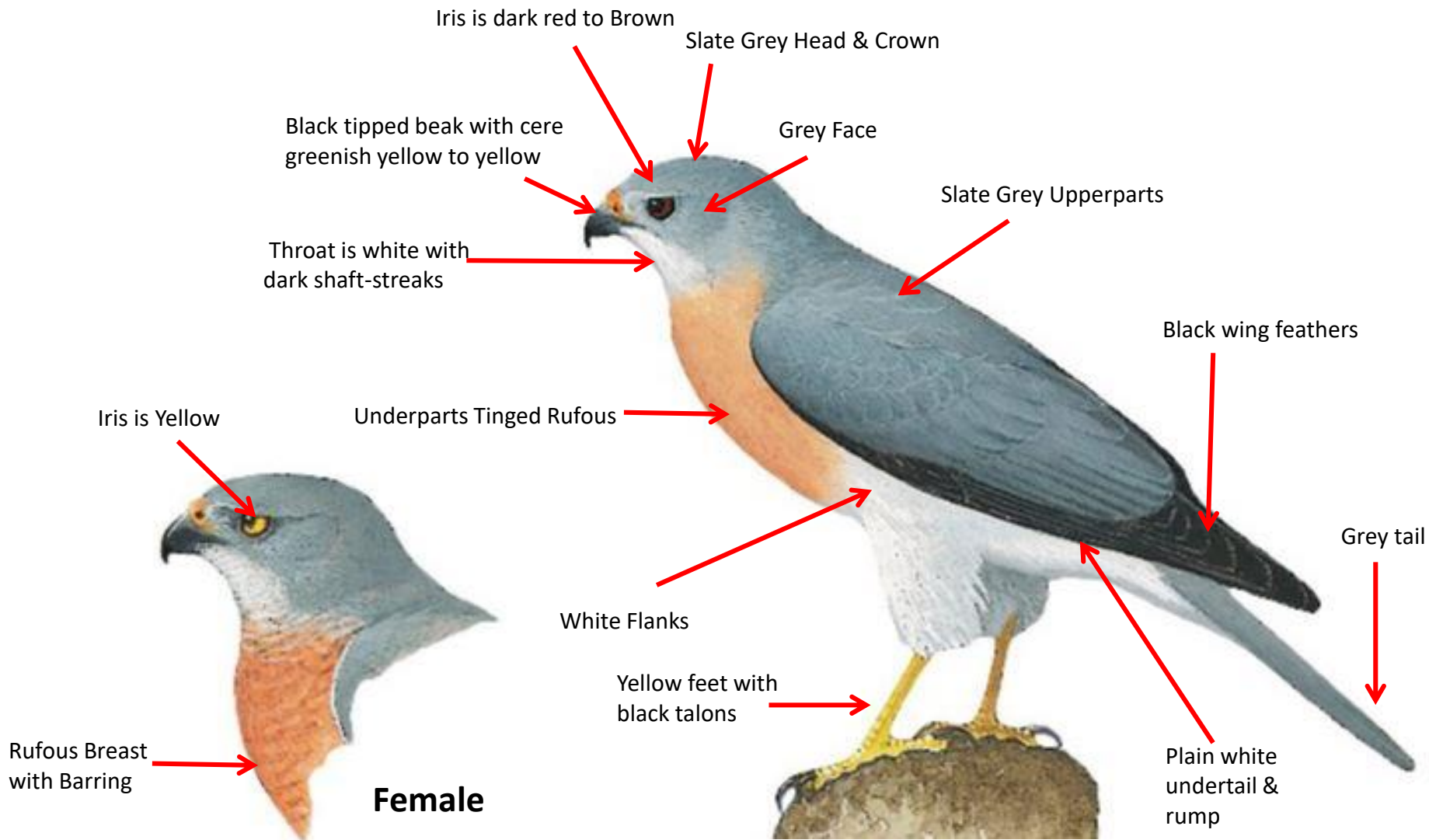


**Juvenile**

# Chinese Sparrowhawk

# Chinese Sparrowhawk Identification Tips- Adult

Chinese Sparrowhawk : *Accipiter soloensis* : Winter Visitor to Nicobar Islands in India

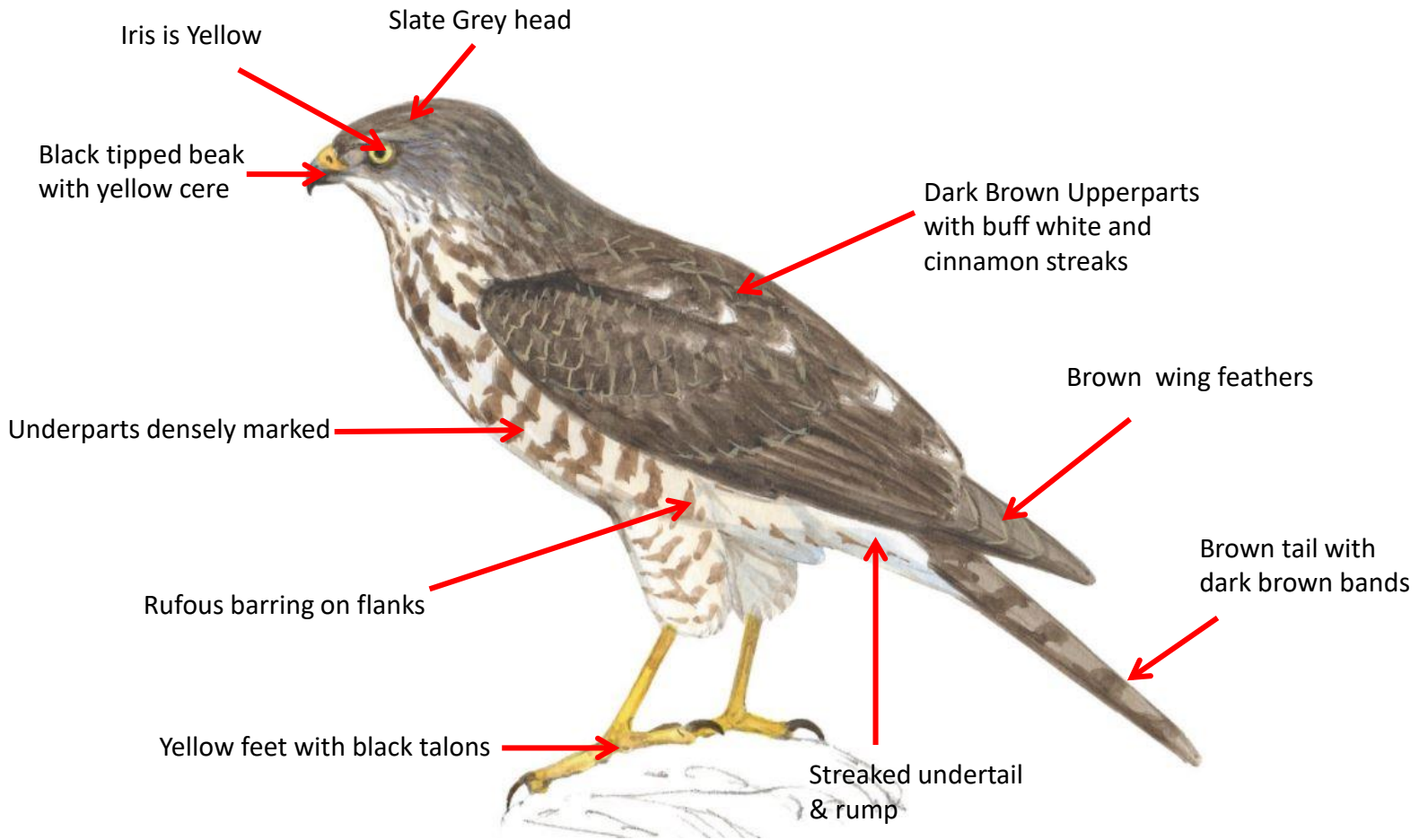


Reference : Birds of Indian Subcontinent  
Inskipp and Grimmett  
[www.HBW.com](http://www.HBW.com)



# Northern Goshawk Identification Tips- Juvenile

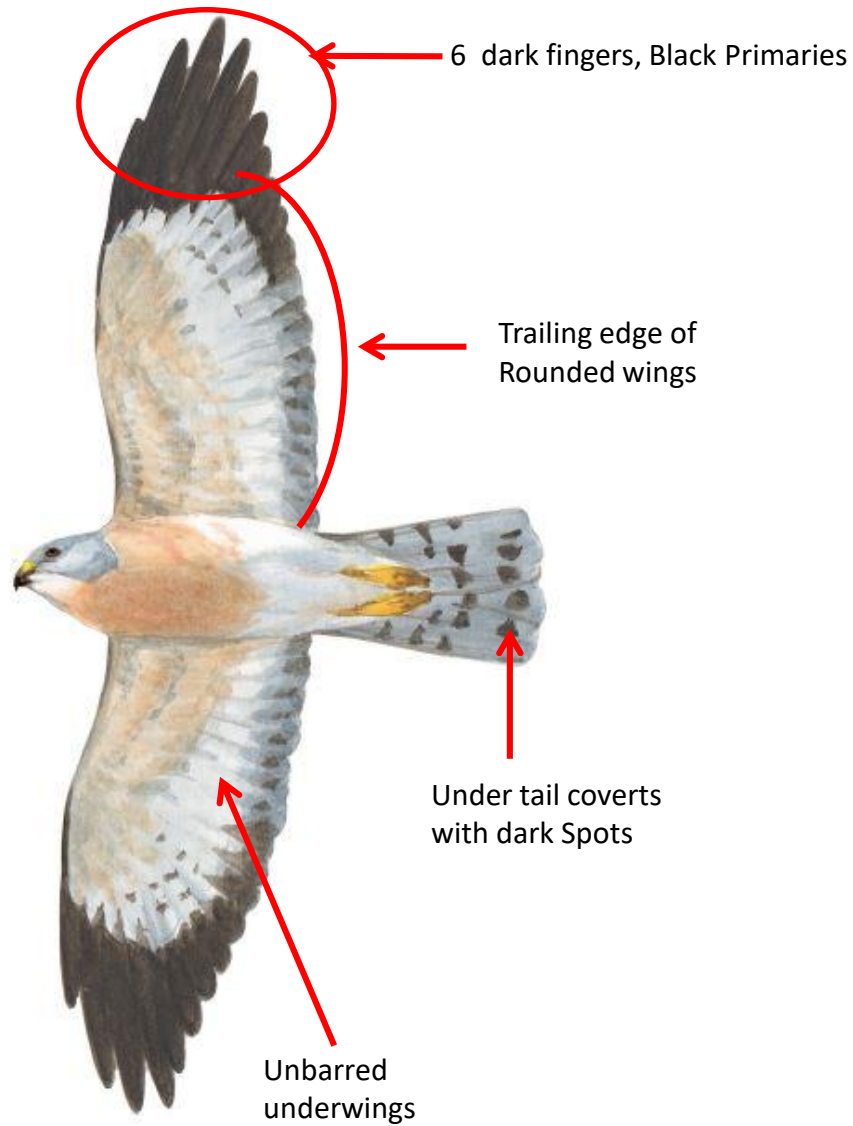
Northern Goshawk : *Accipiter gentilis*: Winter Visitor to Nicobar Islands in India





## Northern Goshawk Identification Tips- Flight

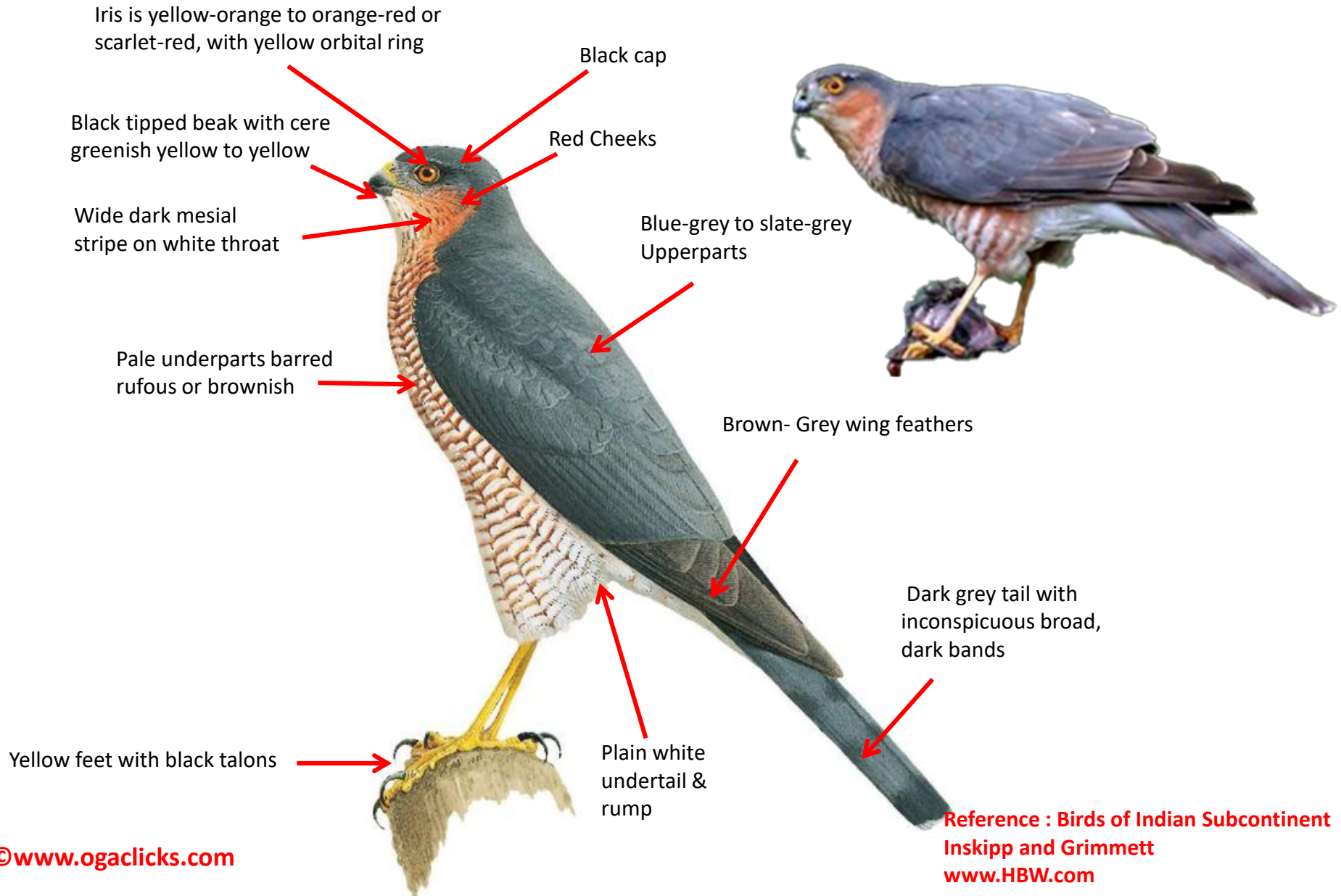
Northern Goshawk : *Accipiter gentilis*: Winter Visitor to Nicobar Islands in India



# **Eurasian Sparrowhawk**

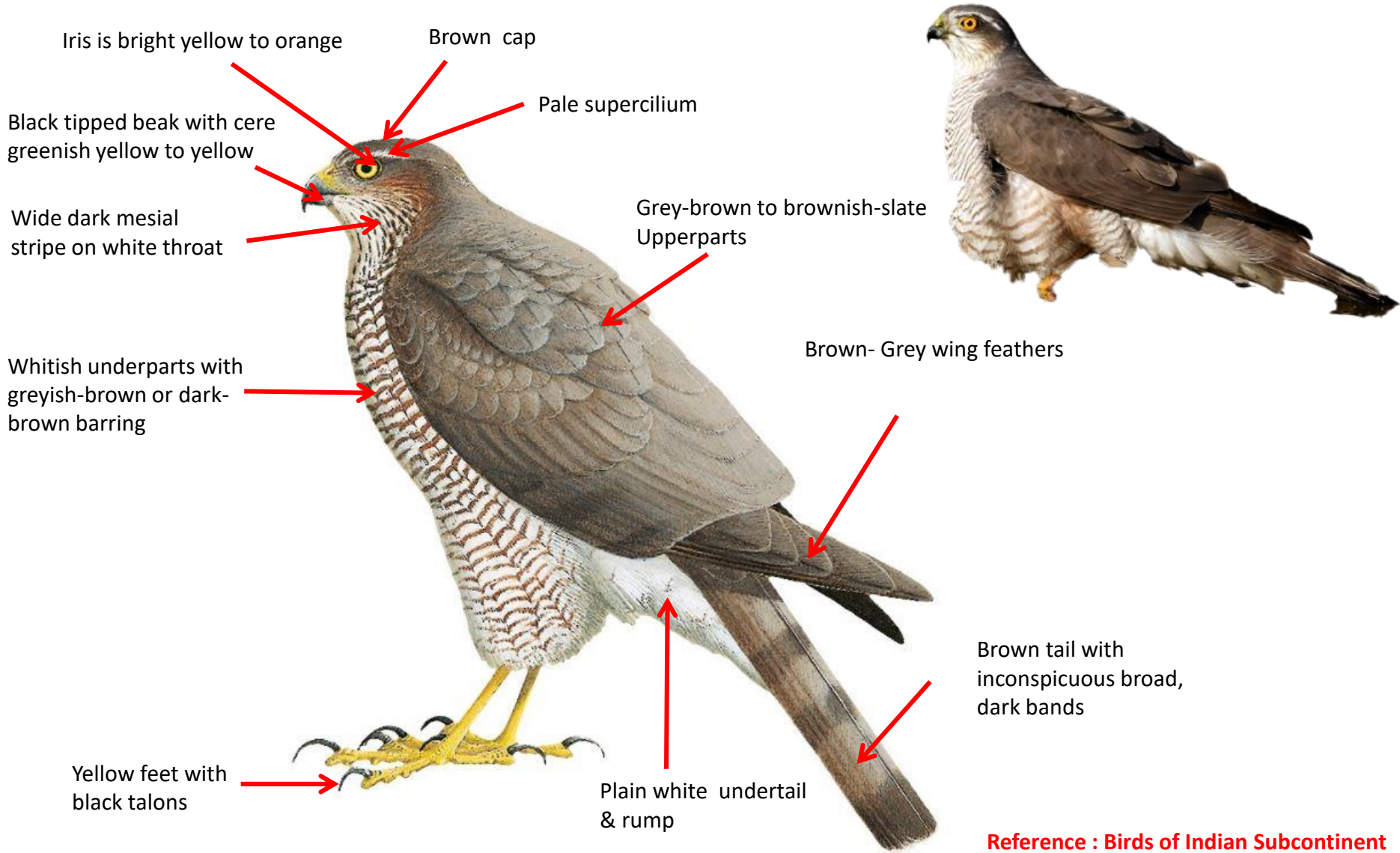
# Eurasian Sparrowhawk Identification Tips- Male

**Eurasian Sparrowhawk : *Accipiter nisus*:** Breeds in Himalayas, Winter visitor to foothills of Himalayas, hills of South & North East India



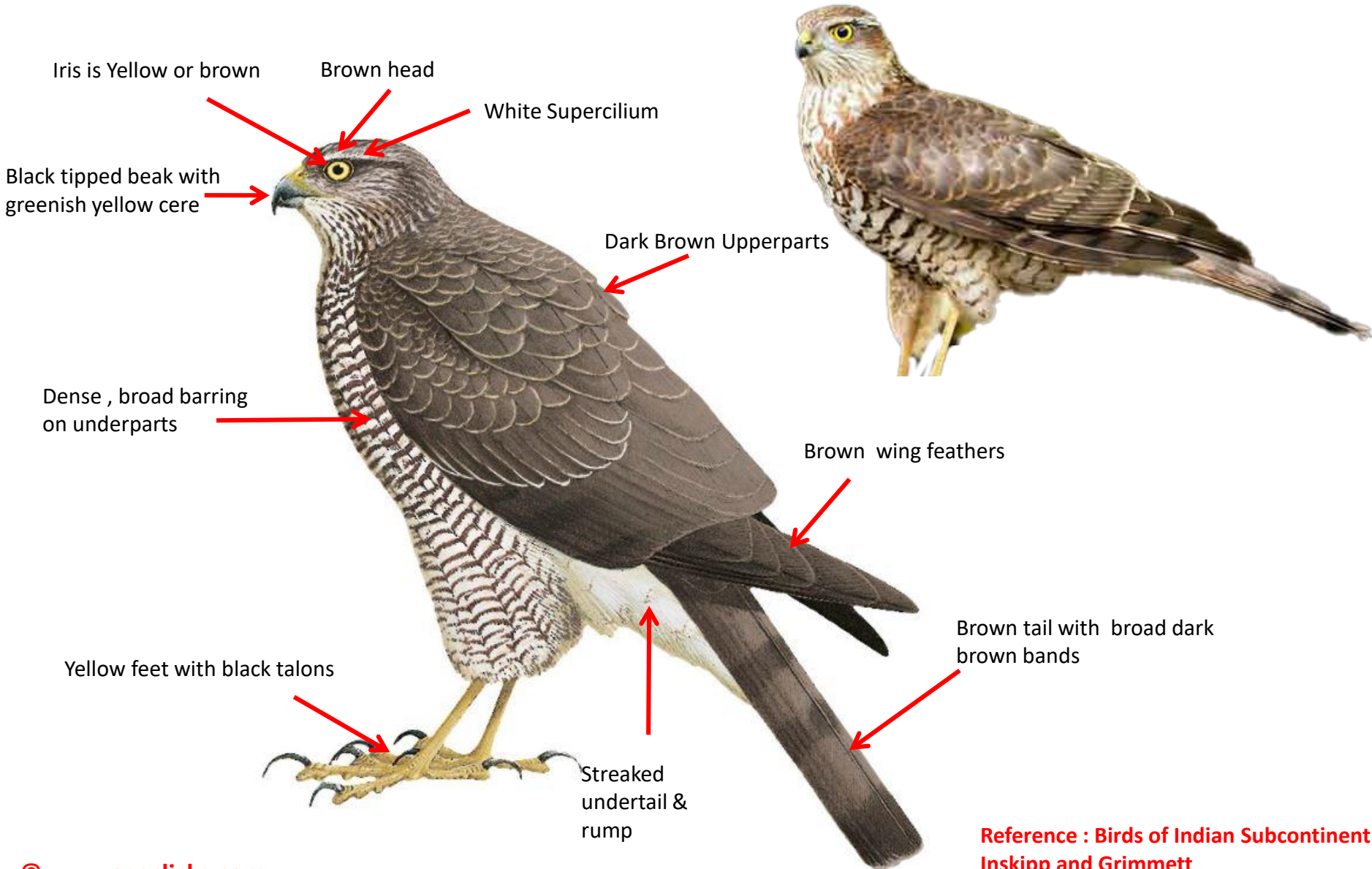
# Eurasian Sparrowhawk Identification Tips- Female

**Eurasian Sparrowhawk : *Accipiter nisus*:** Breeds in Himalayas, Winter visitor to foothills of Himalayas, hills of South & North East India



# Eurasian Sparrowhawk Identification Tips- Juvenile

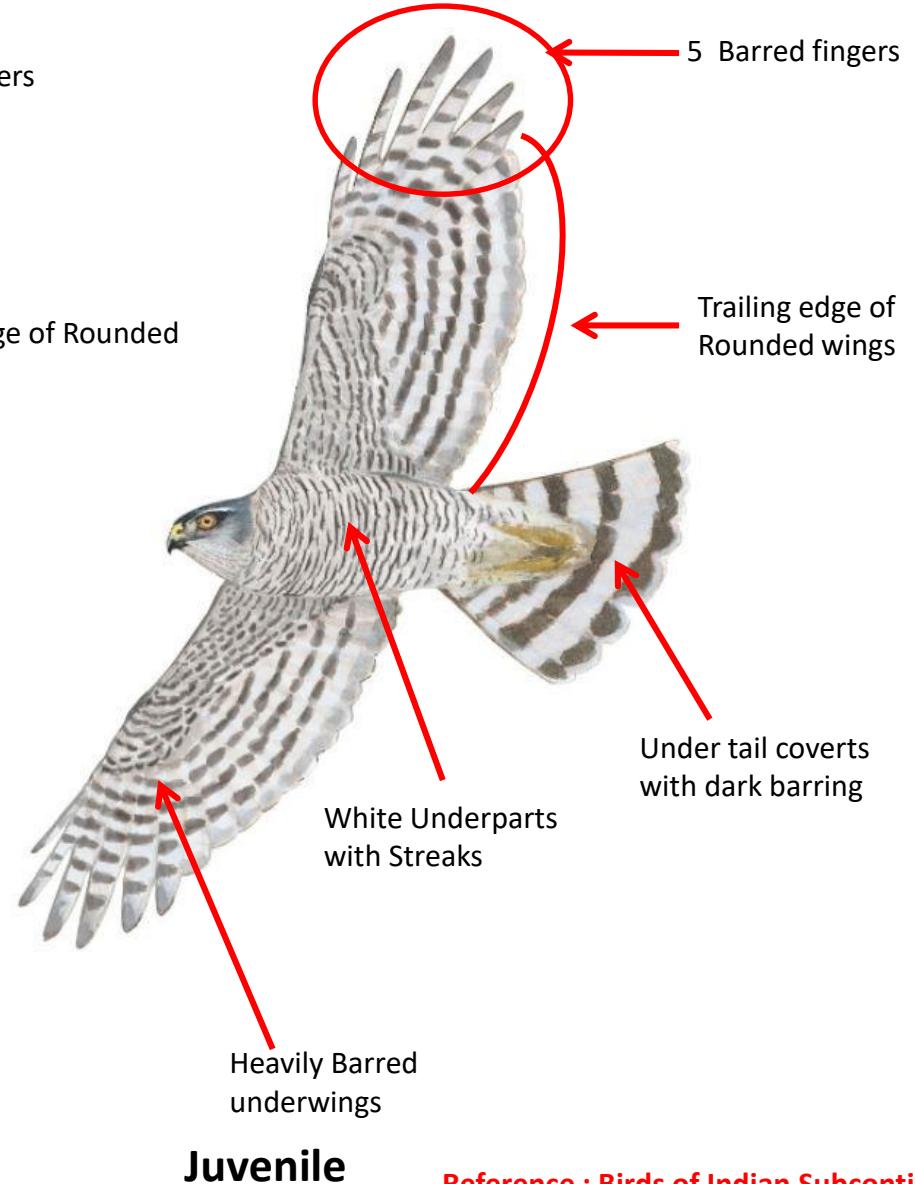
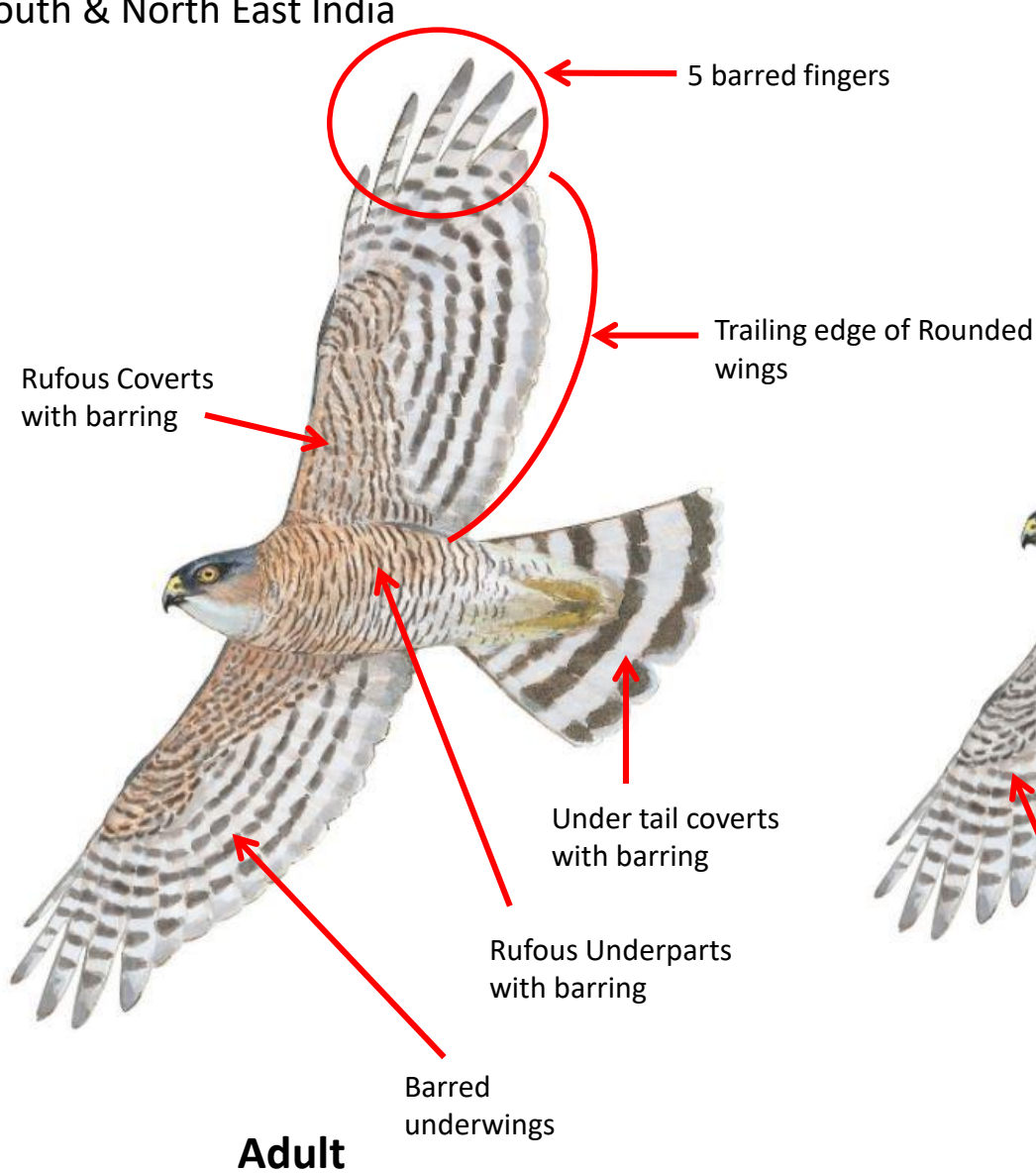
**Eurasian Sparrowhawk : *Accipiter nisus*:** Breeds in Himalayas, Winter visitor to foothills of Himalayas, hills of South & North East India





# Eurasian Sparrowhawk Identification Tips- Male

**Eurasian Sparrowhawk : *Accipiter nisus*:** Breeds in Himalayas, Winter visitor to foothills of Himalayas, hills of South & North East India

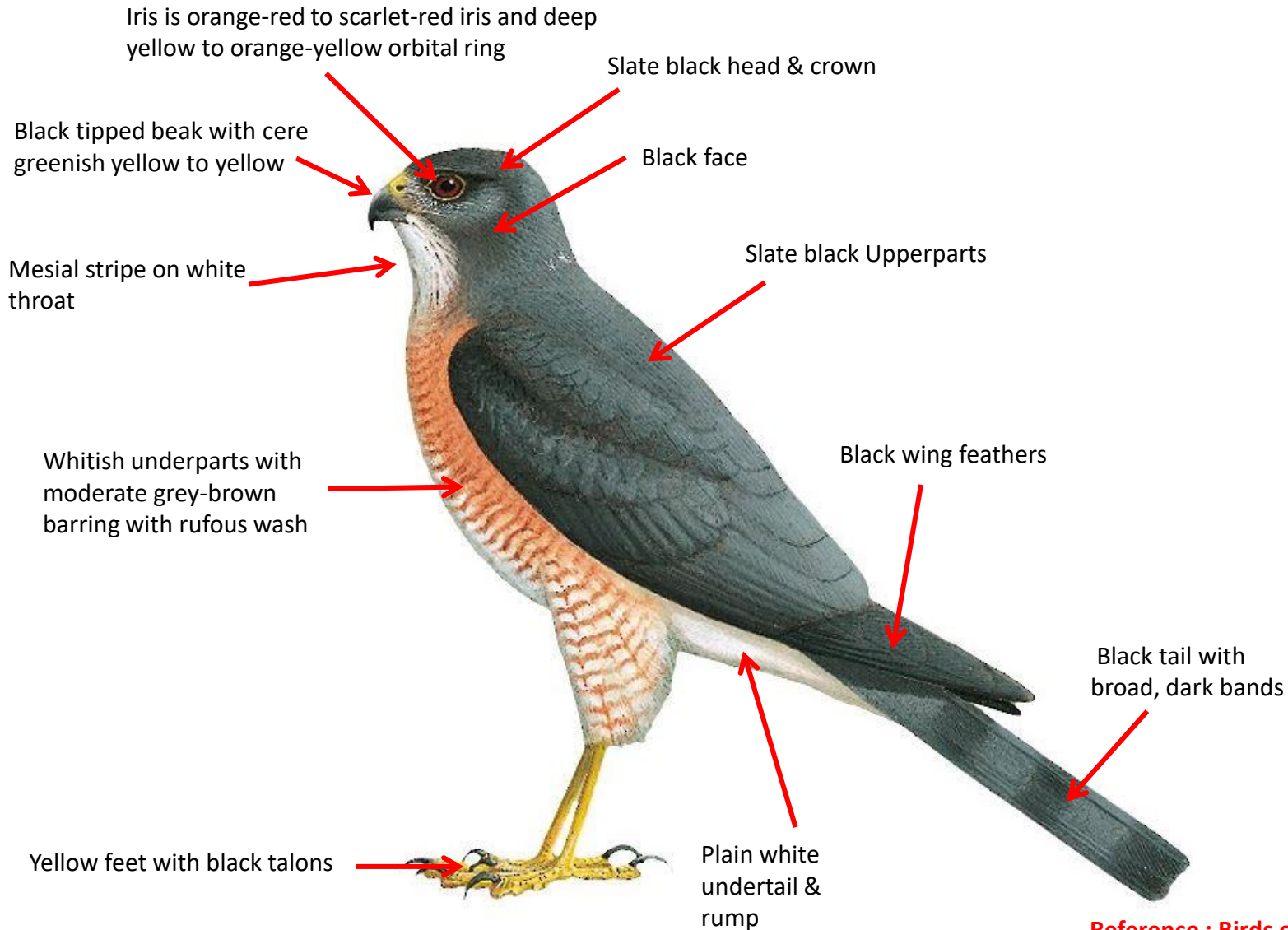


# Japanese Sparrowhawk



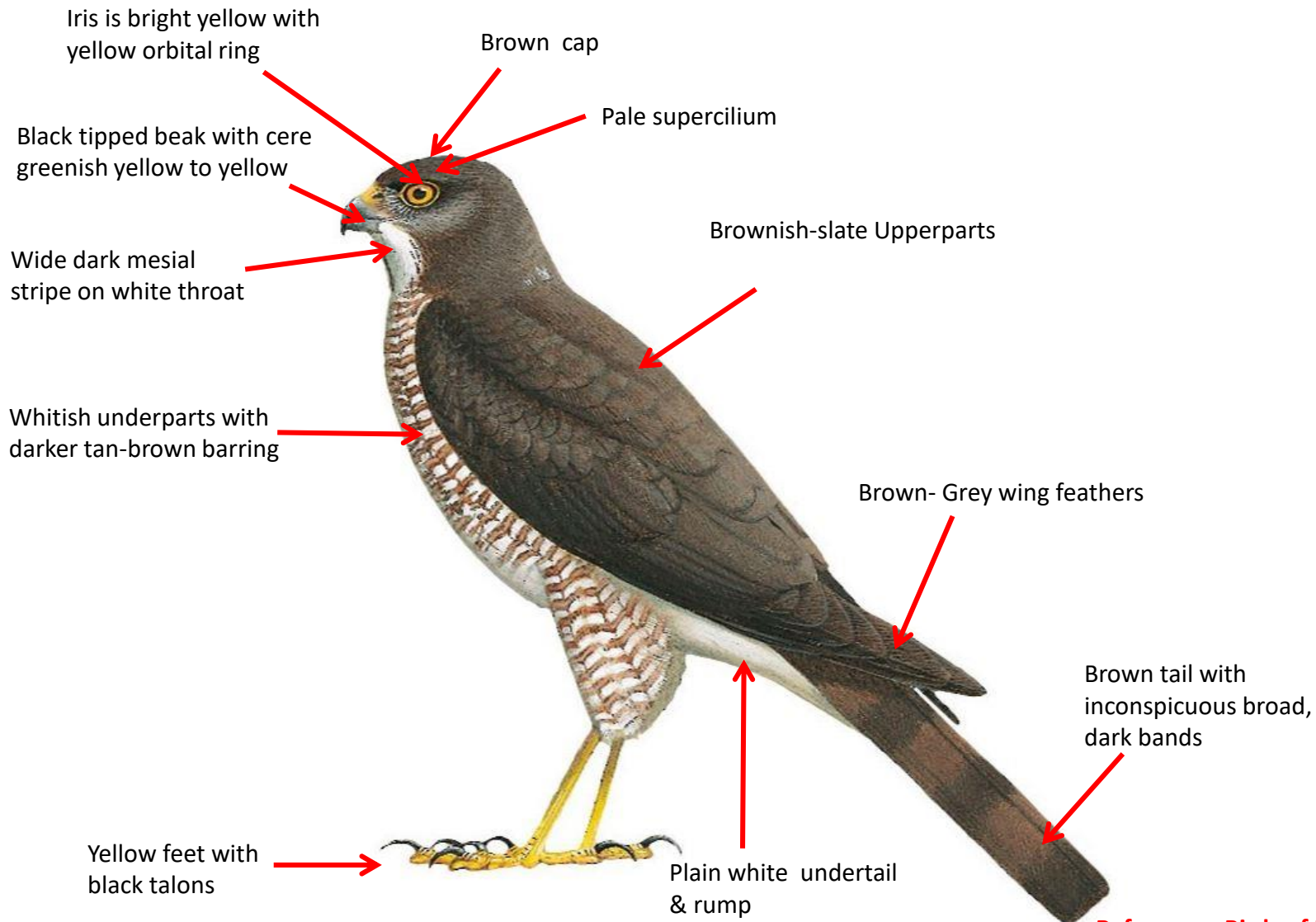
# Japanese Sparrowhawk Identification Tips- Male

**Japanese Sparrowhawk : *Accipiter gularis* :** Winter visitor to Andaman Islands in India



# Japanese Sparrowhawk Identification Tips- Female

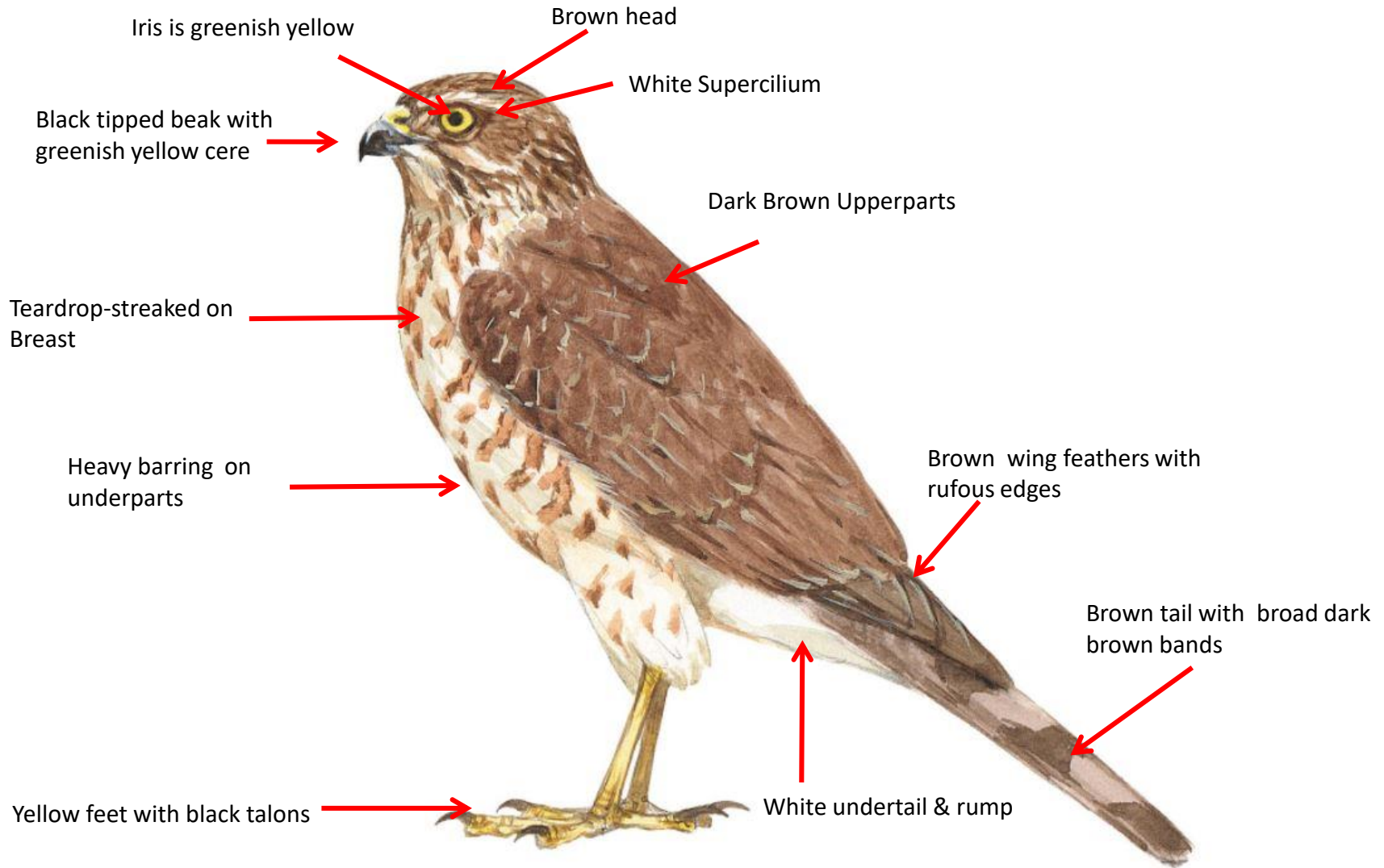
Japanese Sparrowhawk : *Accipiter gularis* : Winter visitor to Andaman Islands in India



Reference : Birds of Indian Subcontinent  
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[www.HBW.com](http://www.HBW.com)

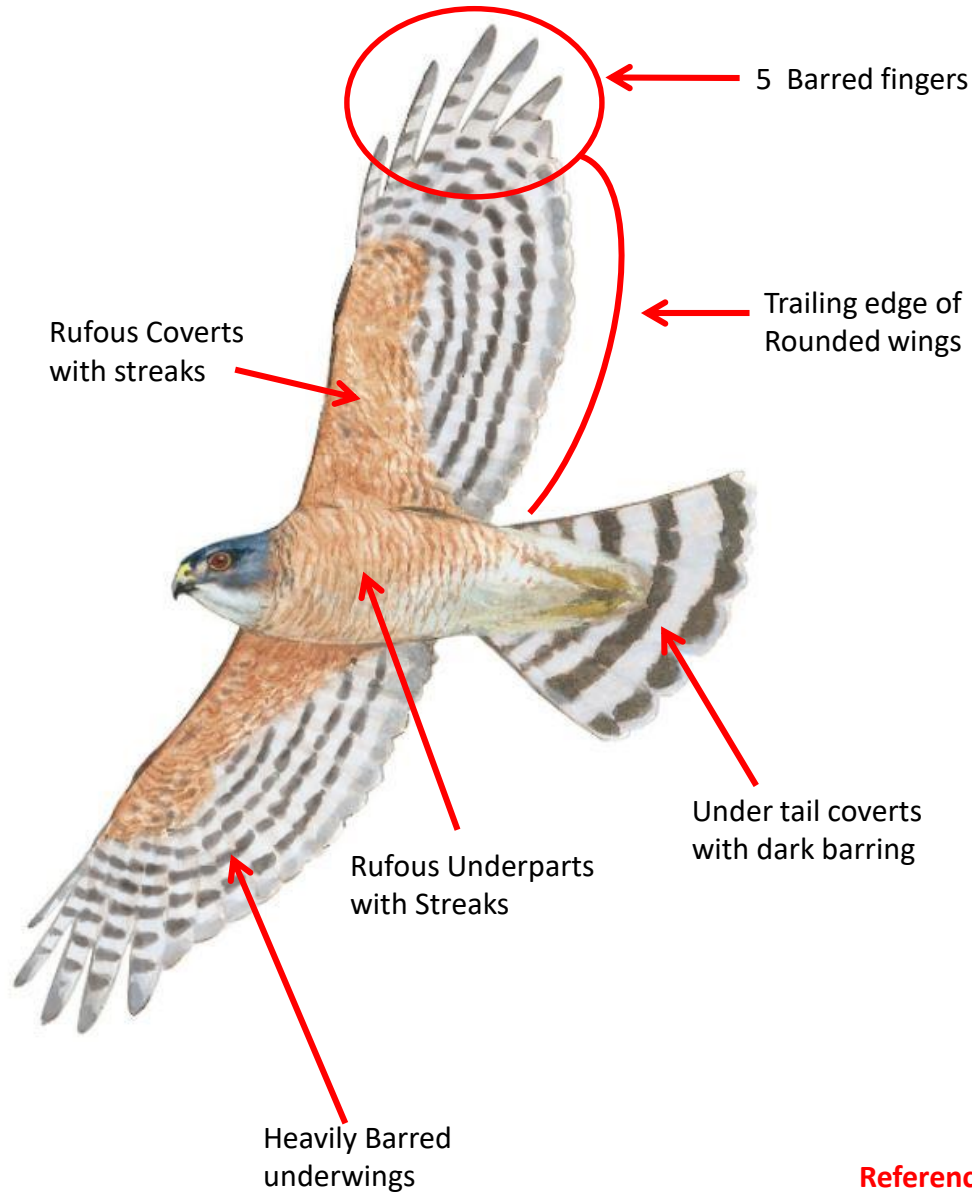
# Japanese Sparrowhawk Identification Tips- Juvenile

**Japanese Sparrowhawk : *Accipiter gularis* :** Winter visitor to Andaman Islands in India



# Japanese Sparrowhawk Identification Tips- Flight

Japanese Sparrowhawk : *Accipiter gularis* : Winter visitor to Andaman Islands in India

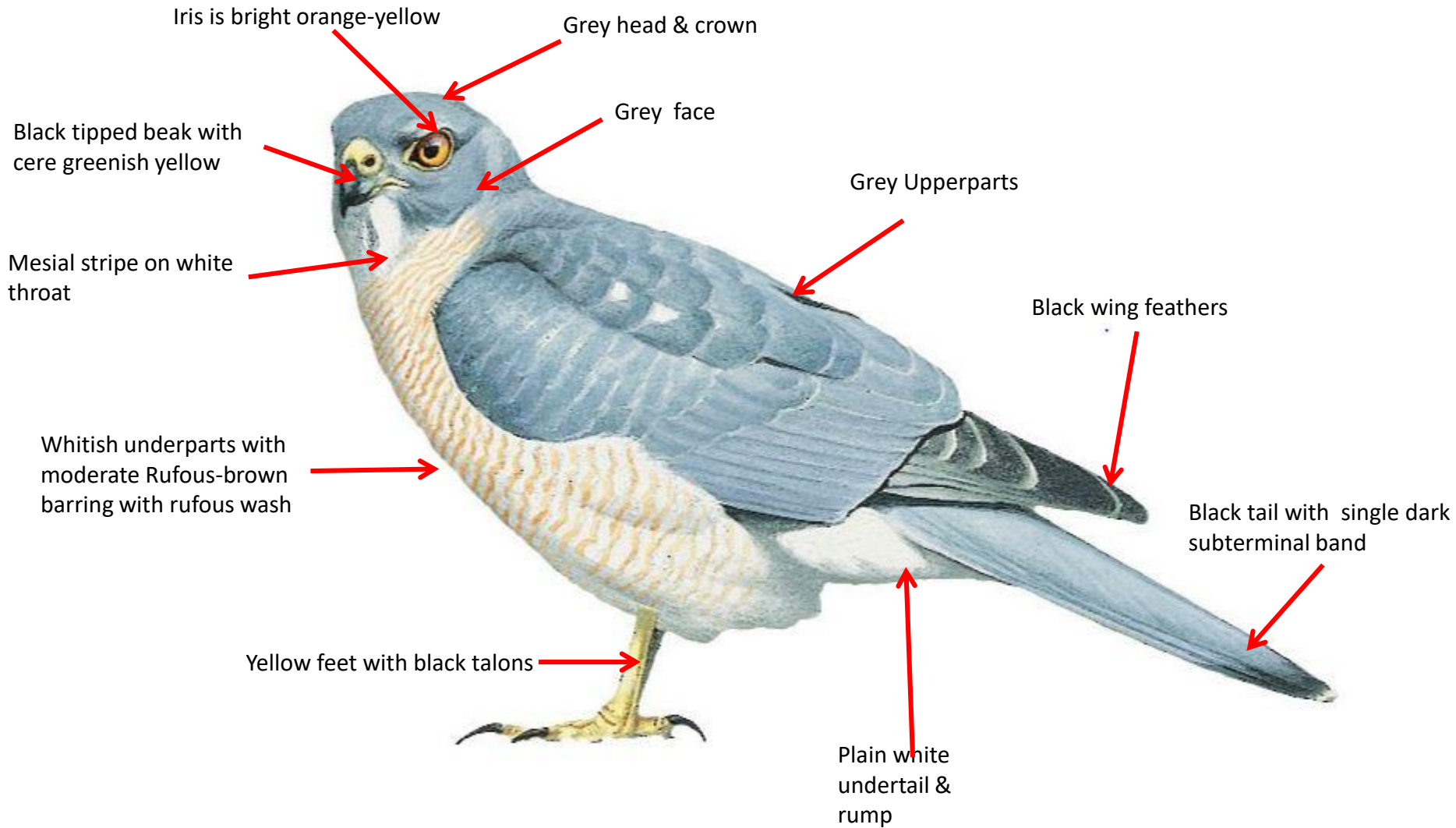


# Nicobar Sparrowhawk



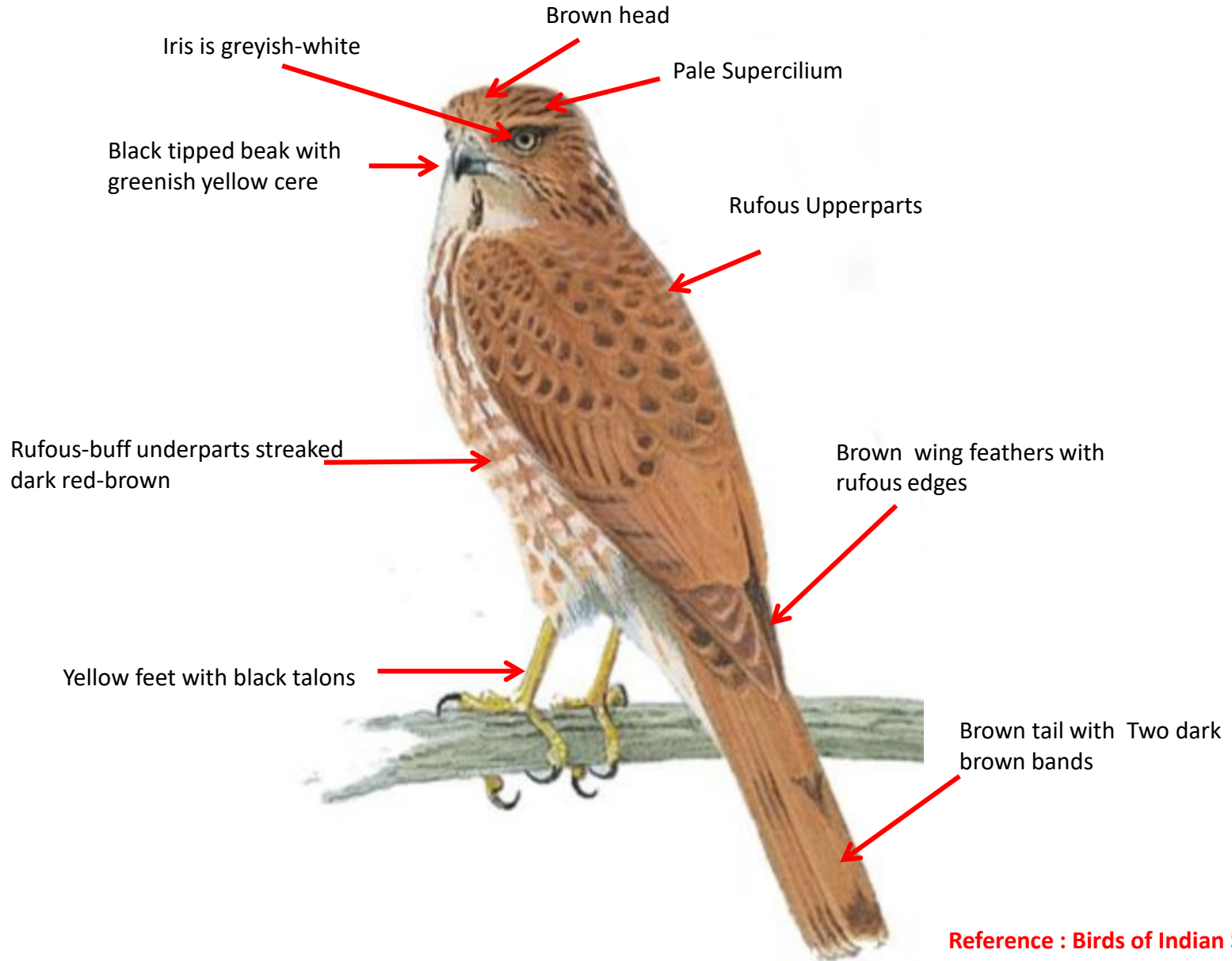
# Nicobar Sparrowhawk Identification Tips- Adult

**Nicobar Sparrowhawk : *Accipiter butleri* :** Resident of Nicobar Islands in India



# Nicobar Sparrowhawk Identification Tips- Juvenile

**Nicobar Sparrowhawk : *Accipiter butleri* :** Resident of Nicobar Islands in India



**Reference : Birds of Indian Subcontinent  
Inskipp and Grimmett  
[www.HBW.com](http://www.HBW.com)**

# Nicobar Sparrowhawk Identification Tips- Flying

Nicobar Sparrowhawk : *Accipiter butleri* : Resident of Nicobar Islands in India

