

Common Blackbird *Turdus merula*

When to look:

August to end of February,
breeding season is
September to January

Grey-brown with some
streaks or mottling



Female:
Dull yellow-brown
beak and orange to
yellow ring around
its eye

Male:
Black all over

Deep orange to yellow
beak and narrow ring
around its eye

Similar species:

Common Starlings are 4 to 5cm smaller and shinier black in summer, with whitish feather tips and a black bill in winter. Males doesn't have the orange to yellow ring around its eye.

Another black bird won't have the distinctive orange to yellow eye ring.

Images courtesy of Matteo Di Nicola (male) and Arto Hakola (female)