

Walks: video B

Serge Mercier is genuinely passionate. Passionate about nature, about animals and walking.

Nathalie: "Do you go walking often?"

Serge: "As often as possible. We try to go...let's say 2 or 3 times a month."

Nathalie: "Do you also go walking in winter?"

Serge: "Oh yes! Yes. We take snowshoes, we go up in the Alps and we walk in the snow, yes."

Nathalie: "What sort of things happen during a walk?"

Serge: "Well you hear plenty of birds. If you pay attention..."

Well, we saw falcons earlier on, we saw...we saw swallows, we saw some little passerines. I can't make out, I can't make out what those are there.

Er... If you're lucky, [you might see] a pair of Bonelli's eagles that are apparently here, but I've not seen them yet.

There is a very fine bird of prey called a short-toed eagle that I've only seen once.

So there are some real rarities here...that we enjoy seeing.

And then, well, there are the birds that I told you about earlier, you'll see gulls, you'll see seagulls.

Er... once I came across a Eurasian Hoopoe... It was magnificent."

Nathalie: "Have you ever got lost during one of your walks?"

Serge: "We almost managed it once in Corsica. Er...Well...We...me, I've always got a map. I try to travel as light as possible..."

Look! There was a bird that just went by there...So a compass, a map. er...

you always check the weather to see if you should be careful. Er, so you try...to take precautions, you see, you always have to be careful."

Nathalie: "Right tell me about your longest and most beautiful walk. The most beautiful or the longest."

Serge: "We often say that it will be the next one! But er...for me it's probably the one before!

No, we did some amazing walks not long ago up above Barcelonnette, in the Alps of 'Haute-Provence', where you're getting into the Mercantour [region]. It's...it's glorious! You can do 6,7 hour walks there.

(Then again)it could be today, because a walk depends on your state of mind, the people you are with... er... Here today, I... you didn't know the area, but I'm happy to have brought here, you know!

It's a great thing [to do]. For me, it's a pleasure to bring you to the places I love, that's all."