

The beak is bluish at its base, and black towards its extremity: the toes are yellowish, and the talons rather black. The iris of the eye is a beautiful and lively light brown. The female differs from the male in its colours not being so deep.

The griffard possesses much strength, courage, and boldness: he attacks the other birds of prey that approach the spot he has marked out for his abode, and where he chooses to reign in tyrannical supremacy: he will not suffer any to be in his vicinity: he pursues them and does not quit them until he has forced them to fly, and yield entirely to him the empire of destruction which he has established around. Like all tyrants, his character is gloomy and distrustful: he perches upon the tops of the most elevated trees, whence his wandering gaze may be directed to a great distance. The various species of small antelopes and hares form his ordinary nourishment. When he has killed one of these innocent animals, troops of ravens and vultures arrive from all parts to share the prey with him; but his fierce and menacing posture, even on the body of his victim, is sufficient to keep at a distance this troublesome legion of cowardly and voracious birds.

The griffards are generally found in couples.

The