

Vespertilio murinus Linnaeus, 1758 **Parti-coloured bat**

Measurements – Head-body length 48-64 mm; Tail length (30) 37-44,5 (47) mm; Forearm length 39-47 (50,3) mm; Wingspan 265-330 mm; Weight 10,7-17 (23) g.

Ecology – The species is associated with woodland, steppe, agro-ecosystems and towns. Roosts in buildings for both hibernation and reproduction. May occasionally roost in bat boxes and tree holes. A migrant bat, the longest move recorded is 1440 km. Feeds on small insects caught on the wing. Females give birth to two young in June-July.

Range – Occurs in northern Europe (northern limit at 65° N), central and south-eastern Europe, it is absent from Great Britain, and the Iberian Peninsula; also present in Asia east to Manchuria and, south, to Iran, Afghanistan and northern Pakistan.

In Italy it is confined to the north-east.