Cranes in Agamon Hula
Oded Degany
Photograph, 2018

Oded Degany is a passionate photographer. For the past 15 years, Oded has focused mainly on underwater, natural, and religious rituals photography. The beauty and the richness of cultural and natural phenomena captivate Oded’s heart and intrigue him to share his view of the earth’s wonders and promote religious tolerance and nature conservation.

He holds a BA degree in Physics from the Technion–Israel Institute of Technology, an MBA from Tel Aviv University, and an MSc in Biological Thought from the Open University of Israel. Recently he has started studies toward a PhD in religious studies at Tel Aviv University.

This photo was taken in February 2018 in Agamon Hula. In the background is the snowcapped Mount Hermon.

Due to Israel’s unique geographical location – situated on the junction of Africa, Europe, and Asia, and between the Syrian African Rift and the Mediterranean coast – and it’s strong environmental awareness, more than 500 million migrating birds cross its skies every year, making it one of the largest bird migration routes in the world.

Altogether about 120,000 cranes are estimated to migrate through Israel each winter. They construct platform nests in shallow water and grasslands habitats, which is why Agamon Hula is a perfect location for them. Governmental feeding stations feed the cranes up to eight tons of corn each day. Those stations serve two objectives: preventing the cranes from damaging the agricultural fields and provide them with food and shelter in an area that is not known for its bird-friendly reputation.

[oded.degany@gmail.com]