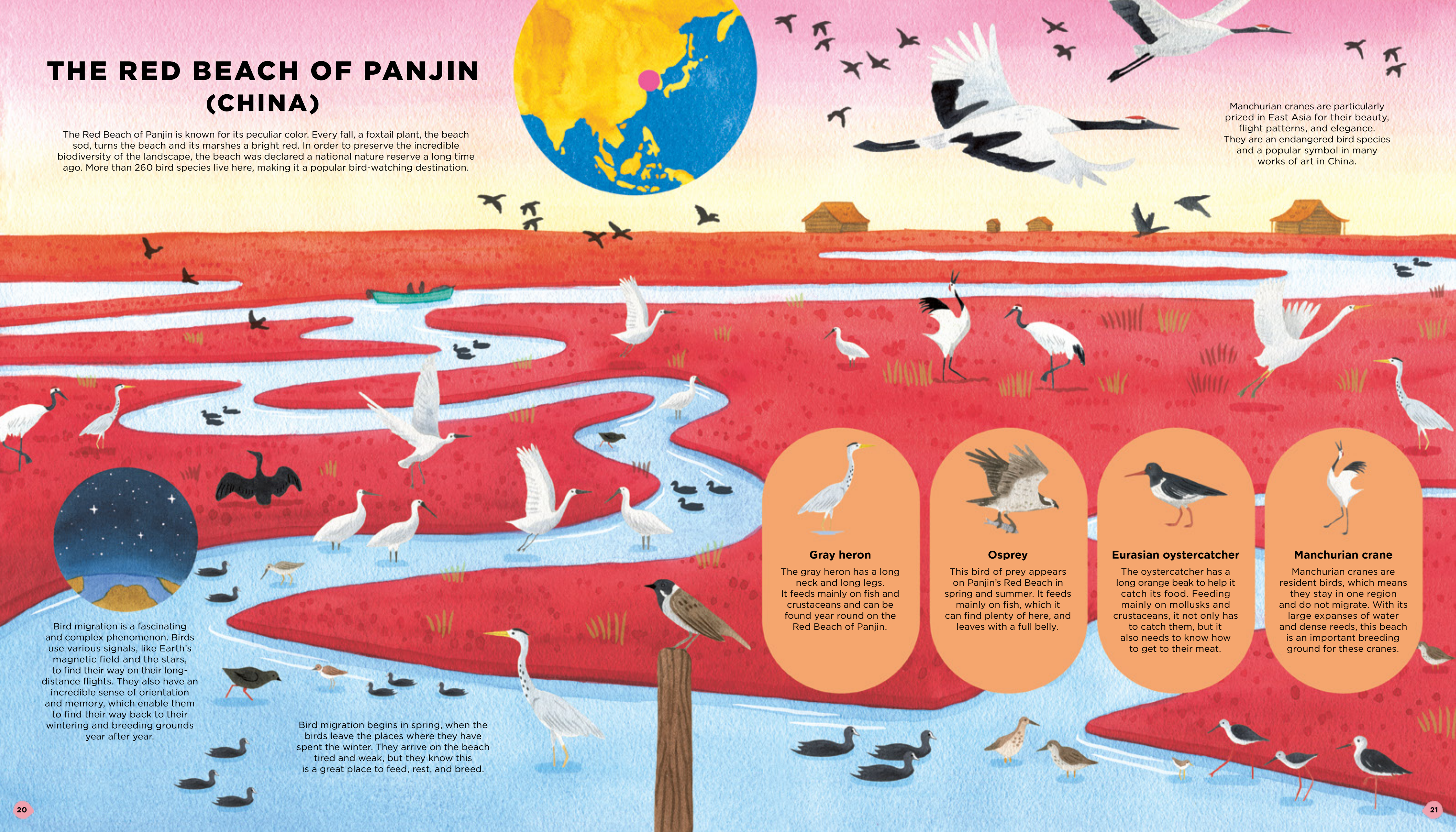


# THE RED BEACH OF PANJIN (CHINA)

The Red Beach of Panjin is known for its peculiar color. Every fall, a foxtail plant, the beach sod, turns the beach and its marshes a bright red. In order to preserve the incredible biodiversity of the landscape, the beach was declared a national nature reserve a long time ago. More than 260 bird species live here, making it a popular bird-watching destination.



Manchurian cranes are particularly prized in East Asia for their beauty, flight patterns, and elegance. They are an endangered bird species and a popular symbol in many works of art in China.



Bird migration is a fascinating and complex phenomenon. Birds use various signals, like Earth's magnetic field and the stars, to find their way on their long-distance flights. They also have an incredible sense of orientation and memory, which enable them to find their way back to their wintering and breeding grounds year after year.

Bird migration begins in spring, when the birds leave the places where they have spent the winter. They arrive on the beach tired and weak, but they know this is a great place to feed, rest, and breed.



### Gray heron

The gray heron has a long neck and long legs. It feeds mainly on fish and crustaceans and can be found year round on the Red Beach of Panjin.



### Osprey

This bird of prey appears on Panjin's Red Beach in spring and summer. It feeds mainly on fish, which it can find plenty of here, and leaves with a full belly.



### Eurasian oystercatcher

The oystercatcher has a long orange beak to help it catch its food. Feeding mainly on mollusks and crustaceans, it not only has to catch them, but it also needs to know how to get to their meat.



### Manchurian crane

Manchurian cranes are resident birds, which means they stay in one region and do not migrate. With its large expanses of water and dense reeds, this beach is an important breeding ground for these cranes.