

Bats Ride Storm Winds While Migrating

Description

Bats are starting to get attention for their long journeys, just like birds. A new study from the <u>Max Planck</u> Institute of Animal Behavior shows how common noctule bats travel.

Researchers used special tracking devices to watch the bats. They found that bats use storms to help them fly farther and save energy.

Edward Hurme, a researcher at the institute, said the data is amazing. It shows not just where bats go, but what they feel during their flights.

How Bats Move

The study looked at 71 bats during their spring migration. These bats did not follow set paths like birds. Instead, they took different routes but mostly went northeast.

The bats can fly up to 400 kilometers in one night. They do not gain weight before flying. They need to eat each night to keep going.

Bats and Weather

Researchers saw that bats often left when storms were coming. They use the wind from storms to help with their flights.

CATEGORY

1. Sci/Tech - LEVEL1

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