

BUTEO PHOTO GEAR®

Manual & safety instructions Falco Mark IV

Delivery includes:

- Falco Mark IV
- Storage bag
- Four-part fibreglass pole for roof construction
- 8 pegs, 18 cm. long, black aluminium in a storage bag
- Guy ropes
- Small bag for pegs and ropes

Safety first:

- The Falco Mark IV is a single-person hide, so never use it with more than one person!
- Secure the tent properly with the supplied pegs and guy ropes in bad weather conditions.
- Ventilate the tent sufficiently through the windows and door.
- Please ensure that you do not place the tent under trees where branches may fall or trees themselves may fall over.
- Do not use the hide during a storm or thunderstorm.
- Do not use fire in or around the hide, do not smoke.
- Do not take any risks with fire, especially in dry natural surroundings or during drought conditions.
- Do not use this product if you are under the influence of alcohol, drugs or medication.
- There is a label with a QR code in the tent. This code will take you to this website, where you can download these instructions again.
- Benel B.V. / Buteo Photo Gear accepts no responsibility for accident or injury caused by improper use of this product, failure to comply with the instructions provided in this manual, or modifications made to this wildlife photography hide.

Getting started with the Falco MIV:

1. Remove the tent from its cover:

You will see three thin, circular fibreglass poles that are attached to each other on one side.

2. Detach the poles by carefully holding the ends firmly and slowly pulling them apart, as shown in the photo below (photo 1). Hold the ends firmly (there is tension on them) and let them slowly come apart.



Photo 1, carefully pull the ends apart.

3. You can then close the open tube with the supplied cap to prevent dirt or mud from getting in, which would prevent you from closing the fibreglass pole properly later. See photo below (photo 2).



Photo 2, close the open tube with the supplied cap.

4. The tent now has three “half hoops”, which form the ribs of the tent. Place the tent in the desired location and first secure it at the corners at the front with a tentpeg at each corner (pegs included). Then do the same at the back, pulling the tent hoops upright so that the tent takes shape. If desired, you can secure the photohide even further with the extra pegs on the sides, front and rear. In rough weather, you can then secure your tent even further with the supplied guy ropes (ropes included).
5. Assemble the fibreglass pole (4 parts) and slide it through the openings between the tent and the cross poles at the top of the tent. Above the canopy at the front, a tunnel has been installed through which it can be slid (see photo 3). Secure it with the metal eyelets at the front and back (photo 3). This also gives the canopy at the front its shape.

Attach it to the tent's "ribs" using the cords attached to the roof of the tent.



Photo 3, assemble the fibreglass pole (4 parts) and slide it through the openings

Note: The fibreglass pole with the canopy attached is not always necessary. If the weather is good, you can leave it out and roll up the canopy at the front and secure it with the cords provided for this purpose.

6. The three snoots can be closed with the cord and cord stopper when not in use. Finally, twist the cord around the end one or two more times to seal everything properly (photo 4). When you start taking photos, we recommend that you first loosen them all, then place your lens through the snoot you want to use first. Once inside the tent, it is best to close the other two snoots on the inside as described, as you can then always loosen them again and use them if desired. (If you close them on the outside, this is of course not possible).



Photo 4 & 5, close the snoots you don't use with the cord and cord stopper outside/inside the hide

7. The viewing windows at the front must be opened from the outside. In bad weather, these can also be left closed, as the overlapping section keeps the window dry. All windows can be closed on the inside to keep the tent as dark as possible. We therefore recommend keeping windows that are not in use closed; the darker it is inside, the better. Once you are lying in the tent, you will notice that these small windows provide a surprisingly good view of the outside. Finally, you can also create a (small) viewing window at the back by unzipping the door slightly (the insect net can then remain closed).

8. We recommend using a groundpod or beanbag in this tent, but a tripod can also be used. For this purpose, we have added a small zip at the front (just below the lens opening), allowing you to extend your tripod leg (flat) outside.
If you are not using this zip, keep it closed. The overlapping section ensures that water drains away.
9. Entering the tent:
We recommend removing your boots when entering the tent to avoid damaging the groundsheet and to ensure greater comfort. You can store your shoes/boots in the tent's storage bag, and if you zip it closed, you can even leave it outside the tent. Your boots will stay dry and no insects, spiders or other unwanted guests will crawl in.

Accessories

Raincover:

The matching raincover has the same camouflage color/pattern as the hide itself.

The cover can be used when you leave the tent for a longer period of time, providing perfect camouflage and waterproof protection for your tent, but it can even be used in bad weather conditions to keep yourself dry while photographing. Using the rain cover creates a space between the tent fabric and the cover, offering double-layer protection against the elements, with both a hydrostatic head of 2.500 mm.

Installing the rain cover:

First, detach the last section of the fibreglass pole at the front of the hide and just let it hang down (photos 6 & 7).

Then pull the cover lengthwise over your Falco tent with the zippers closed. Next, secure the cover at each corner with the included pegs, so that the cover is tight over your tent. You can then use all the other loops to further secure the rain cover. If necessary, you can even use the guy ropes to tie everything down even more securely. When the cover is properly stretched over the tent, the zips at the front and back are neatly in place.



Photo 6 & 7, detach the last section of the fibreglass pole of the hide and let it hang down



Photo 8, the entire tent is now protected by the rain cover.

Use of the cover in rainy weather:

If you want to photograph from the hide in 'bad' weather such as rain or showers, the raincover is the perfect solution because you can still use the lens opening at the front with the rain cover on.

To do this, open the two zips left and right at the front of the raincover and roll the tent fabric upwards. You can then secure it with the cords.

Then secure the last piece of the fibreglass pole and reattach the canopy. This will allow you to use the canopy again. The canopy can be used as normal, but we recommend closing the two small viewing windows on the outside to prevent water from entering. This allows you to use the front lens opening while staying dry inside the tent. In this case, you only use the viewing hole just above your camera (which has its own little roof).



Using the tent with the rain cover, only the front lens opening can be used.