

# BIRDING CADIZ



ORNITHOLOGICAL TOURISM GUIDE OF THE PROVINCE

ENGLISH



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# CADIZ, TOURIST DESTINATION



The **province of Cadiz** is set in Southern Europe, to the southernmost tip of the Iberian Peninsula. It is a diverse territory in all respects. The prehistoric remains are abundant, with some important international representations of Palaeolithic and Neolithic art.

Its capital city, Cadiz is considered to be the oldest city in Europe. It was founded by the Phoenicians more than 3000 years ago. Due to its strategic location it has been invaded by Carthaginians, Romans and Arabs among others. These civilizations, in one

way or another, have left part of their legacy in our culture.

Cadiz also has a **privileged climate**, with more than 300 days of sun a year and some of the best preserved coastlines in Andalusia, as well as a rich variety of festivals and traditions which are intensively celebrated.

All this, makes Cadiz a major tourist destination, where the traveller can find the widest range of opportunities to have an unforgettable visit. It is here where nature tourism acquires a relevant role.

The ornithological importance of the province of Cadiz has been known since time immemorial.



The Palaeolithic cave paintings of birds, found in caves and natural shelters as those in the Tajo de las Figuras, in Benalup, confirms this. Some centuries ago, in 1868 the lieutenant colonel L. Howard L. Irby arrived to Gibraltar. He is considered to be the pioneer of ornithology in the Strait. He gave the first descriptions of the bird migration in the **strait of Gibraltar** as well as the magnificent richness of the extinct lagoon of La Janda. Others, like Verner or Chapman and Buck followed in his footsteps, claiming the ornithological treasures of our territory.

Despite this, birdwatching and the study of birds is a relatively recent interest in our country. However, we may say, without fear of error, that **Andalusia** was a pioneer in bird preservation in Spain.

ORNITHOLOGICAL TOURISM GUIDE OF THE PROVINCE



In the mid-1950s a group of young scientists, including professor Francisco Bernis and José Antonio Valverde, who can be considered the fathers of ornithology in Spain, discovered and protected Doñana for science. They were together with Mauricio González-Gordon, from Jerez de la Frontera, who was one of the owners of Doñana. His interest for ornithology came from his British inheritance. Genealogically, many winemakers

In 1999 the province of Cadiz was again a pioneer as it was launched the first guide exclusively focused on a protected natural space. It is called "Aves del Parque Natural Sierra de Grazalema", which has been translated into English and German, as a commitment to the development of ornithology as a touristic value in our province.

Nowadays, there is a group of infrastructures such

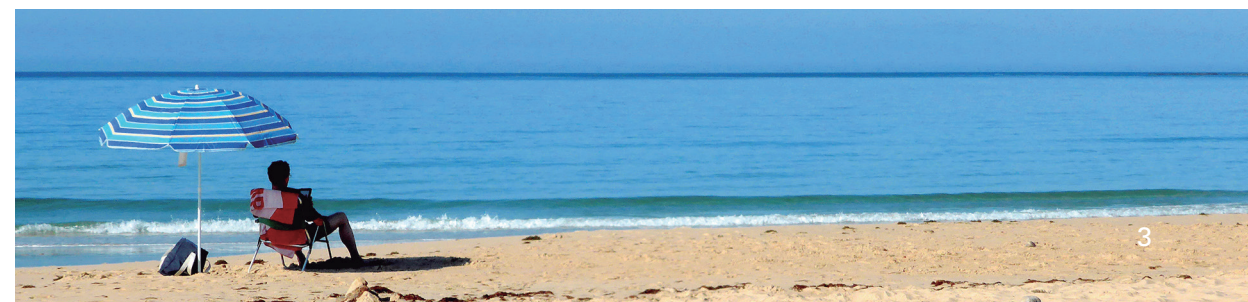


of that area come from the British Isles. Some years later, the **Spanish Society for Ornithology (SEO)** was created and from then on, little by little we have managed to get where we are now.

In 1994 the first company in Spain exclusively intended to coordinate the development of **ornithological tourism**, as well as bird preservation, was created, and it was founded here, in the province of Cadiz by two young ornithologists from this province.

as observatories and signposted routes which, along with publications of all kinds, make birdwatching easier. Furthermore, there are incipient **companies** operating on the development of ornithological tourism which offer high quality services.

Last but not least, it is fair to mention here the work done in the last decades by **NGOs**, which have worked for the study and preservation of birds in the province of Cadiz.







# NATURAL CÁDIZ

Lesser Kestrel

The province of Cadiz is the last territory in the South of Continental Europe, only a step towards the African continent. Geographically, its location on the Strait, the existence of important river basins, the altitudinal gradient from the Atlantic coast to the Mountains or the most rainy place of the Spanish peninsula together with extensive dry farming crops, make it a province with a **high diversity of habitats and landscapes**. Woods, countryside, beaches, lagoons, cliffs, coastal wetlands, meadows, salt marshes... they all create an exclusive natural mosaic.

Two plant formations deserve special attention. On one side, you have the **"pinsapar"** of Grazalema mountain range. The "pinsapo" *Abies pinsapo* is an endemic fir tree in a few mountain ranges in Andalusia, a relic of the Quaternary, which has here, alone with Las Nieves Mountain Range, the only

populations in the world. On the other side, in Los Alcornocales there are enclosed valleys where small streams run which are called **"canutos"**. These are Riparian forests, heirs to the subtropical jungle or laurel forest, existing during the Tertiary Age, unique in continental Europe.

This paradise of diversity needs to be preserved for future generations. Therefore, there is a **wide network of protected natural spaces** in the province of Cadiz. In these spaces, the sustainable use of natural resources is made compatible with the scientific study of its species and the public access of all those who want to enjoy them. In the province of Cadiz, Red Natura includes 37 places of community importance LIC, from large natural parks to the most representative natural sites with a total surface of 279,000 hectares, which is almost the 38% of the province.

Among all the species, birds have a special role. The group of above-mentioned characteristics makes it one of the territories with bigger **bird diversity** all year long. The list of bird species which have been seen is very long, counting those rare and occasional, it includes almost **400 species**.

Many of them are migratory, they cross from Europe to Africa through the Strait of Gibraltar and they use the different habitats of our province to feed and rest. It is estimated that around 35-40 million birds do this every year. Only a part of these travel during the day, as most of little passerines are night migrators. However, these species, among which **soaring birds** stand out, offer one of the most attractive spectacles of nature. This also make our province one of the best places in the world to enjoy **bird migration**.

Nevertheless, there are not only birds in our province but also other species which any nature lover should not miss the opportunity to see, such as the



Common Rhododendron

**Common Chameleon**, known as the Andalusian dragon, in the Cadiz Bay, the **Spanish Ibex** in the Grazalema mountain range, the **Egyptian Mongoose** or the **European Otter**. **Whale** watching in the Strait, with distinctive species such as the Killer Whale and the Sperm Whale, is another interesting activity, which also gives us the opportunity to admire seabirds in close proximity. There are also highly sought insect species. The most remarkable ones are some butterflies and dragonflies such as the Splendid Cruiser which has important populations in some of the rivers of Los Alcornocales.



Splendid Cruiser



Killer Whale



Common Chameleon





# EXCITING BIRDS

## Northern Bald Ibis *Geronticus eremita*

Catalogued as critically endangered at a global level. Thanks to a recent reintroduction Project, the province of Cadiz hosts the only breeding population of Europe. Undoubtedly, the best place to see it is in **Barca de Vejer**, where there is a colony in the ledges of a small sandstone Cliff, as well as in several places near it which they use to feed.



## Bonelli's Eagle *Aquila fasciata*

Sedentary raptor, endangered and declining. There is an important population in the province of Cadiz. It breeds in rocky mountains with accessible cliffs and surrounding hunting open lands. The **Grazalema Mountain Range** is a good place to see it. However, **La Janda** is probably the best place in the province.



## Little Swift *Apus affinis*

It has recently colonised Europe from the Strait of Gibraltar. It bred before in **Cueva del Moro**, Sierra de la Plata, where we can occasionally see it. The **Harbour of Chipiona**, which hosts the only breeding colony, offers the best opportunities. Present throughout the year, it is easier to see it in winter at dawn or late in the evenings.



## Iberian Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus ibericus*

Summer species. It prefers mature forests of genre quercus or mixed. In Sierra de Grazalema, **La Garganta Verde** or the **river of El Bosque** are good spots to sight it. In Los Alcornocales, **Picacho Ascent**, **Valdeinfierno** or the **Old Road of Los Barrios-Facinas** can be also seen. In the Strait of Gibraltar, **Ornipark** is a good choice too.



## Black Wheatear *Oenanthe leucura*

Sedentary species. Easy to detect due to its reliant character. It prefers rocky areas with some shrubs and few trees, usually close to humans. It is one of the emblematic species in the Sierra de Grazalema. They never miss places such as mountain pass of **Las Palomas**, the first part of the route of the **riverbank of Gaidovar** or **Manga de Villaluenga**.



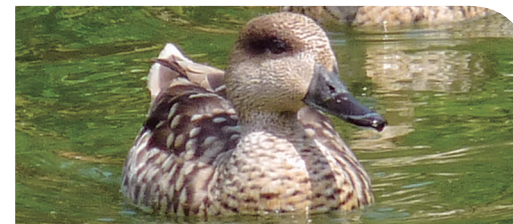
## Spanish Imperial Eagle *Aquila adalberti*

Sedentary species, in high risk of extinction and endemic in the Iberian Peninsula. Currently, its populations are increasing and expanding thanks to preservation and reintroduction projects. The best place, without any doubt, to see it, is **La Janda**. During migration periods juvenile individuals are usually seen from the observatories.



## Black-winged Kite *Elanus caeruleus*

It is a small sedentary raptor which appeared in our province in the 80s. It prefers dry farming areas with few trees or open forests. Some good places to catch a glimpse of it are the **surroundings of San José del Valle**, the vicinity of the **Lagoons of the Cadiz Bay**, the **Lagoon of Medina**, and **La Janda**, of course.



## Marbled Teal *Marmaronetta angustirostris*

Very rare species in the world. Catalogued as critically endangered in the Iberian Peninsula. It has its main breeding nucleus in the salt-marshes of the Guadalquivir. It can be seen in the **lagoons of Espera**, **Puerto de Santa María** or **Puerto Real** in our province. However, the **Codo de la Esparraguera** is the best choice of the province.



## Red-knobbed Coot *Fulica cristata*

Resident species, catalogued as critically endangered in Spain. Calculations have shown that there are around 20-30 pairs in the province of Cadiz. It shares its habitat with the Coot. The **Lagoons of Espera** and the **Lagoon of Medina** are the best places to see it. It can be sometimes seen in other sites such as the **Lagoons of Puerto de Santa María** or **Puerto Real**.



## Slender-billed Gull *Chroicocephalus genei*

Rare in the Mediterranean region. Partially migratory. It selects brackish wetlands, principally saline, to breed. In the Cadiz Bay, some good spots to see it are **Tres Amigos-Rio Arillo** and **Salt marshes of La Tapa**. **Salt marshes of Bonanza** usually offers excellent sights. Inland, **Mesas de Asta** holds an important colony.



# HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE



White-rumped Swift

In order to show all the birds sightings possibilities in the province, we have divided the territory into seven areas, which approximately coincide with the existing regions.

Los Alcornocales Natural Park, despite belonging to several counties, has been considered as a whole, due to its homogeneous and large habitat as well as for being a very important emblem of our province.

In the general map the location of every zone can be seen, as well as the sighting spots related to that place and the number of those pages which refer to it. There are several spots which, despite being located outside these areas, are interesting enough so as to be included. These sightings spots, which appear in the general map, do not appear in zone maps. However, information about them is included not only in the texts but also in the map key.

Bird migration phenomena in the Strait of Gibraltar deserve a special treatment. That is the reason why it has its own section which includes a map with the best bird watching spots and also a text explaining how to choose the most adequate observatory. Furthermore, there are some illustrations of the main soaring species with their phenology as they pass along our province.

Every area is presented in two pages. First, we acknowledge some of the general characteristics of the area and the reason why it is so important for birds. After that, we highlight the best places for bird watching, in bold, as well as some of the most interesting species which can be seen. In addition, there is a detailed map and its correspondent key map. Each map has a number, which in the text comes after the name of the sighting spot, in brackets, in order to help us to find it not only in the text but also in the key map. Those spots, not included in the map but in the text or the key map, are marked with an asterisk (\*).

In addition to the name of the place, the map shows some basic information: the town or towns where the spot is and the coordinate references, which generally refer to a bird watching spot or the beginning of a route. To facilitate interpretation, several icons show what kind of place we are referring to:



Bird observatory (with facilities)



Bird watching spot (no facilities)



Walking route



Car route with stops



Recreational areas

In the case of a route, both car and walking, the approximate distance in kilometres we should cover to make the most of it is shown. If nothing is said, the route is lineal and the distance refers only to one way. Otherwise, it is shown as circular. If it is necessary more than one icon may appear. We have included photos of every place, showing its most characteristic landscape in the header, as well as several photos of the most representative species.





# DOÑANA SURROUNDINGS

*An Orchard in everyone's land*

Slender-billed Gull

On the Cadiz bank of the mouth of the Guadalquivir River, in the northeast corner of the province, some of the most interesting places for birdwatching are found. Just opposite Doñana National Park, from the rocky coast and beaches of Rota to Trebujena's marshes, a notable variety of ecosystems fit together like the pieces of a puzzle, reaching high values of biodiversity. A big part of the enclaves of Sanlúcar de Barrameda belong to Doñana Natural Park.

Let's start in Rota, where the residential development **Costa Ballena (1)** has recently emerged as a hotspot for birdwatching, particularly gulls. The principal pond and surrounding gardens, located just a few metres from the beach, are used as a rest zone for a big number of Gull species which migrate and mostly winter, in this area. From among a long list, the Common Gull is one of the regulars. However, more rare species such as the Ring-billed Gull, the Iceland Gull or the Franklin's Gull tend to frequently appear, too.



Squacco Heron

Following the coast to the North, we reach Chipiona. An African specie, very rare in Europe, which is present the whole year, the Little Swift, has been found in the **Fishing Harbour (2)** building a place to breed creating the most important colony of our latitudes. On the adjacent beach and its rocky intertidal the key species are, once again, gulls, terns and waders. Curlews and Whimbrels, turnstones, sandpipers and plovers are abundant, together with a good representation of terns and gulls. The Caspian Tern and the Great Black-backed Gull, in winter, or the Lesser Crested Tern in migration periods, are the most wanted and, occasionally species such as the Glaucous Gull or the Caspian Gull can be seen.



Pied Avocet

In Sanlúcar de Barrameda, the **Salt Marshes of Bonanza (3)** are a must-see. Thousands of waders use them both to feed and rest. The Slender-billed Gull, the Gull-billed Tern or the Little Tern are numerous in summer. The Greater Flamingo and the Pied Avocet are always present, while the Osprey is an ha-

bitual wintering. In spring, when many waders show their breeding plumage, it is quite a great spectacle to see the reddish tone of the Curlew Sandpipers or the Black-tailed Godwits, among others, together with some other visitor as special as the Red-necked Phalarope.



Purple Heron

In the **Lagoon of Tarelo (4)**, artificially made, we can watch some interesting species. It holds large populations of wildfowl in winter, among which we can look for the Ferruginous Duck or the Marbled Teal. The Red-crested Pochard and the White-headed Duck are abundant. Herons are the other important inhabitants and, with the exception of the Eurasian Bittern, it is possible to see all the European species, sometimes even on the same day.

The small existing breeding colony, located in a small island just opposite the observatory, also hosts some pairs of the Eurasian Spoonbill and Glossy Ibis. The route continues through the **Pinewood of Algaida (5)** where it is possible to detect small forest passerines and several raptors such as the Red Kite and the Black Kite which live together there.

Finally, the so-called **Codo de la Esparraguera (6)**, puts the icing on the cake. Here the star is, undoubtedly, the Marbled Teal which has, in this wetland, one of its rare stable breeding populations in the western Mediterranean. Besides the omnipresent Greater Flamingos, we can also find a lot of wildfowl, herons and raptors. It is an excellent site to see all Chlidonias species in spring and, among passerines, the Spectacled Warbler and the Lesser Short-toed Lark stand out, both present in the marshes.



**1.- Costa Ballena (Rota).**  
Coord.: 36.692739, -6.421134.

**2.- Fishing Harbour (Chipiona).**  
Coord.: 36.745160, -6.431627.

**3.- Salt Marshes of Bonanza (Sanlúcar de Barrameda).** Coord.: 36.817652, -6.334978. 3,5 Km.

**4.- Lagoon of Tarelo (Sanlúcar de Barrameda).**  
Coord.: 36.847166, -6.317613.

**5.- Pinewood of La Algaida (Sanlúcar de Barrameda).** Coord.: 36.847159, -6.317576 4,5 Km.

**6.- Codo de la Esparraguera (Trebujena).**  
Coord.: 36.898946, -6.294301 3,2 Km.



Purple Swamphen



# CADIZ COUNTRYSIDE

## A full color painting

It is mainly composed of large extensions of dry farming. This territory located in the north of the province, draws its ornithological importance not only from the presence of steppe land birds but also from the group of reservoirs and small lagoons dotted here and there which attract many interesting species.

One of them is **Mesas de Asta (1)**, located right in the middle of the steppe in Jerez. This zone normally goes unnoticed but it has interesting ornithological surprises. Part of the old floodable zone of the wetland of Haza de la Torre has been recently recovered. It holds the most important breeding colony of Common Gull-billed Tern in Andalusia as well as the 40 % of Andalusian population of Slender-billed Gull. The Red-knobbed Coot, the Kentish Plover, the Collared Pratincole, the Common Shelduck or the Osprey are others species present. Surrounding crops are excellent habitats for birds such as the Montagu's Harrier, the Eurasian Thick-knee or the Little Bustard.

Further east we can find the **Los Tollos Lagoon (2)**, right in the border of the province of Seville. It has been recently

restored. Rails, crakes, wildfowls and herons are numerous there, especially in winter and migration periods, as well as those waders which prefer this type of inland wetlands.



Little Bustard

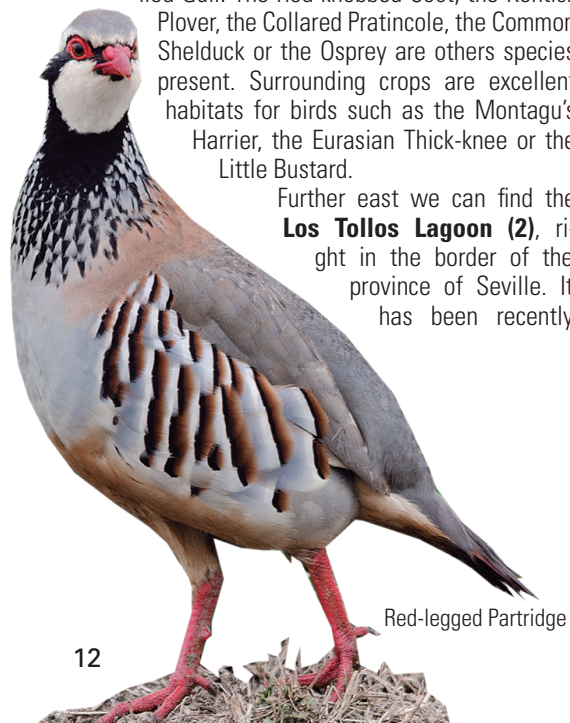


Thekla Lark

The Greater Flamingo, the Purple Swamphen, the White-headed Duck, the Ferruginous Duck and the Whiskered Tern are other interesting species which can be seen there. It also hosts a good number of wintering Short-eared Owl.

The **Endorreic complex of Espera (3)**, consisting of three small lagoons with different characteristics, offers the possibility of watching interesting species such as the Ferruginous Duck, the Red-knobbed Coot or the White-headed Duck. These lagoons receive important concentrations of wildfowl during winter and migration periods. Moreover, adjacent fields are very interesting for passerines and raptors like the Montagu's Harrier.

Near there we can visit **the end of the reservoir of Bornos (4)**. This location is protected as a Natural Site. This area, where river Guadalete flows, stands out as the largest Taranjal (forest of *Tamarix* sp.) in Europe. The size and luxuriance of this forest provides an incredible nesting enclave



Red-legged Partridge



1.- **Mesas de Asta** (Jerez de la Frontera).  
Coord.: 36.792538, -6.163675 .



2.- **Los Tollos Lagoon** (Jerez de la Frontera): Coord.:  
36.847307, -6.021204 2,5 Km.



3.- **Endorreic complex of Espera** (Espera). Coord.:  
36.870143, -5.855032 2,7 Km.



4.- **The end of the reservoir of Bornos**  
(Bornos, Arcos de la Frontera y Villamartín).  
Coord.: 36.851124, -5.666228 2,1 Km.



5.- **Cañada de la Cordillera** (Villamartín). Coord.:  
36.877161, -5.643830 12 Km.



\* **Road Medina Sidonia-Arcos de la Frontera**  
(Medina Sidonia, Paterna de Rivera,  
San José del Valle y Arcos de la Frontera).  
Coord.: 36.488823, -5.903319 31,5 Km.  
● (See location on the map on page 9)

for important colonies of herons, especially the Eurasian Spoonbill, the Common Little Bittern, the Squacco Heron or the Black-crowned Night-heron, as well as other species such as the Great Cormorant. Again, waterfowls wintering has a big importance. Besides this, it has the biggest breeding concentration of the Isabelline Warbler in the South of the Iberian Peninsula.

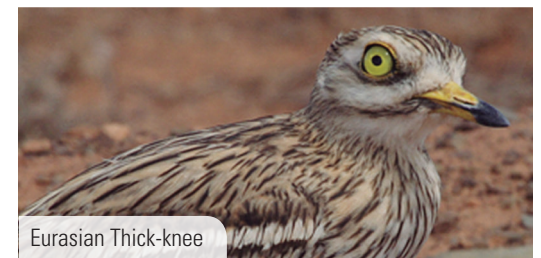
Finally, in order to look for steppe land birds we recommend two different car routes, due to the large extension of land we have to cover. The first route runs through the path known as **Cañada de la Cordillera (5)**, in the surroundings of Villamartín. There we can find one of the best breeding areas of the province for the Montagu's Harrier. The second one, which is longer, is the **road Medina Sidonia-Arcos de la Frontera (\*)** which runs through places as interesting as the north of San José del Valle, the last location of the province to host the Andalusian Hemipode, and the Junta de los Ríos. We may enjoy watching, with a little bit of luck, some species like the Eurasian Thick-knee or the Little Bustard, as well as many typical species of these habitats such as the Black-winged Kite, the Thekla Lark or the Calandra Lark.



European Bee-eater



Montagu's Harrier



Eurasian Thick-knee



# GRAZALEMA MOUNTAIN RANGE

## Flying high

This impressive limestone massif, located on the northeast of the province, has lots of geological, flora and fauna attractions, unique in Cadiz. There, rains have created one of the roughest mountain ranges in the Andalusian geography. Its characteristics make many of the birds which we can find there, really difficult to see in any other part of the province.

Let's start in **The Reservoir of Zahara (1)**, in the north of the Natural Park, where it is possible to see herons, grebs and other wildfowl, along with the Southern Grey Shrike and the Thekla Lark. Just a few kilometres from there, next to the town, we find the route of **La Garganta Verde (2)** that leads us through a spectacular gorge. In its walls there is an important colony of Griffon Vulture and it is a good place to see scrubland and forest passerines, like the Iberian Chiffchaff or the Short-toed Treecreeper.



Subalpine Warbler



Common Rock-thrush

Further south, the winding road goes up, from the **Mountain Pass of Los Acebuches (3)**, to the **Mountain Pass of Las Palomas (4)**. As well as the omnipresent raptors, among which the Golden Eagle stands out, this is a fantastic place for rocky birds and

high mountain birds. In winter, there are Alpine Accentor and Ringed Ouzel in the route of Cerro Coros. From the mountain pass we can see Rock Bunting, Black Wheatear and, in summer, Alpine Swift and Rock Thrush. From that point the route goes down to Grazalema. Not far away, towards Benamahoma, we have the **Mountain Pass of El Boyar (5)** and **Los Llanos del Campo (6)** from where several routes can be followed. Both are located in a narrow valley between mountains. Their hillsides offer good opportunities to see passerines and raptors such as the Bonelli's Eagle and the Egyptian Vulture..



Black Wheatear



Alpine Swift

Back in Grazalema we can make some stops in the road along the **Riverbanks of Gaidovar (7)**. This area, where there are many orchards, attracts many species such as the Iberian Green Woodpecker and especially passerines. The nearest part to the town is a good place to look for Black Wheatear in the rocky area.

In Villaluenga del Rosario we will find two different zones of interest. The valley itself, known as the **Manga de Villaluenga (8)**, hosts such interesting species as the Southern Grey Shrike, the Red-billed Cough, the Rock Sparrow, the Black Wheatear or the Rock Thrush. This last bird is relatively easy to find here, often per-



Bonelli's Eagle

ched on lighting posts or cables. A route starts near the Hermitage that goes through an oak holm wood and it ends in **Los Llanos del Republicano (9)**, a suitable place to see forest and open area passerines, like the Subalpine Warbler. Another good place to see this kind of species, including the Orphean Warbler, is the route of **the Roman Road of Benaocaz-Ubrique (10)**.

The gallery forest of the **river of El Bosque (11)** is excellent for species such as the Golden Oriole, the Iberian Chiffchaff, the Western Bonelli's Warbler or the Cetti's Warbler. It may be interesting to visit the **Botanical Garden El Castillejo (12)**, in the town of el Bosque, with the presence of the Crossbill among others.

Finally, outside the Natural Park, the Natural Reserve of **The Rock of Zaframagón (\*)** is located in the last foothills of the Grazalema mountain range. The highlight here is its spectacular rock, measuring almost 600 metres tall. Its ornithological interest is due to raptors principally. In its rocky walls we can find the biggest colony of Griffon Vulture in eastern Andalusia and one of the biggest in the Iberian Peninsula. Besides this, it also hosts other important raptors such as the Egyptian Vulture, Bonelli's Eagle, the Peregrine Falcon the Eurasian Eagle-owl.



Iberian Green Woodpecker



- 1.- **The Reservoir of Zahara de la Sierra.** Coord.: 36.848545, -5.396345. 0,3 Km.
- 2.- **La Garganta Verde** (Zahara de la Sierra). Coord.: 36.808523, -5.392153. 1 Km.
- 3.- **Mountain Pass of Los Acebuches** (Grazalema). Coord.: 36.801099, -5.389621.
- 4.- **Mountain Pass of Las Palomas** (Grazalema). Coord.: 36.787789, -5.376647. 0,6 Km.
- 5.- **Mountain Pass of El Boyar** (Grazalema). Coord.: 36.754785, -5.394134.
- 6.- **Llanos del Campo** (Grazalema). Coord.: 36.757527, -5.455964.
- 7.- **Riverbanks of Gaidóvar** (Grazalema). Coord.: 36.763534, -5.359674. 9,0 Km.
- 8.- **Manga de Villaluenga** (Villaluenga del Rosario). Coord.: 36.694415, -5.389917. 3,5 Km.
- 9.- **Los Llanos del Republicano** (Villaluenga del Rosario). Coord.: 36.695583, -5.378976. 4 Km.
- 10.- **The Roman Road of Benaocaz-Ubrique** (Benaocaz). Coord.: 36.699196, -5.422525. 3,4 Km.
- 11.- **River of El Bosque** (El Bosque). Coord.: 36.761825, -5.506318. 5,0 Km.
- 12.- **Botanical Garden El Castillejo** (El Bosque). Coord.: 36.764712, -5.498796. 0,3 Km.
- \* **The Rock of Zaframagón** (Olvera). Coord.: 36.955948, -5.331274. 5,7 Km.  
(See location on the map on page 9)



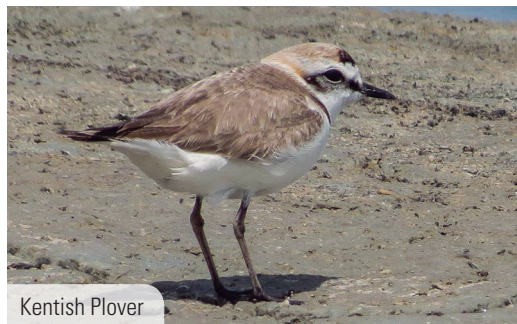


# THE CADIZ BAY

*The kingdom of water*

Greater Flamingo

In the centre of the Atlantic coast of the province, we find a complex system of wetlands around the Bay of Cadiz. In the Natural Park of that name, we can see a mosaic of marshes and intertidal zones, salt pans, salt ponds, beaches and dunes, pine forests and scrublands. Waders are the key actors in these salty environments, which can hold around 70,000 individuals during migration periods, along with a great variety of gulls, terns, herons and wildfowl. The Greater Flamingo, the Eurasian Spoonbill and the Osprey can be easily watched as well.



Kentish Plover

In the South, the path of **Tres Amigos-Río Arillo (1)** leads us to a high ornithological interest enclave which has been recently restored. From the starting point of the path the Greater Flamingo, the Pied Avocet or the Black-winged Stilt can be seen. We can enjoy, along a very easy walk that leads to an observatory, other waders such as the Kentish Plover, several sandpipers, plovers and shanks, the Little Tern or the Slender-billed Gull. The Eurasian Spoonbill is normally also present. Just opposite the road **Salt pans Dolores (2)** is located. From that site we can see the most interior part of the bay. A lot of waders, such as



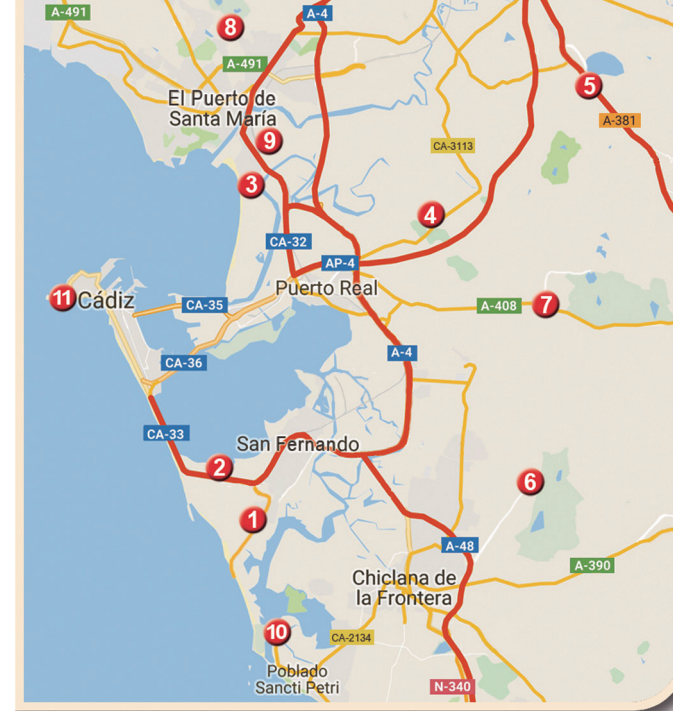
Little Tern

Eurasian Curlews, Bar-tailed Godwits, Grey Plovers and Ruddy Turnstones use these intertidal muds as feeding areas. Several species of terns also feed and rest there. In winter, this site holds a good number of wildfowl, mainly Eurasian Wigeons, Great Crested and Black-necked Grebes.

In the north we find **Los Toruños (3)**, a small peninsula created by the river Guadalete that holds one of the most well preserved salt marshes, as well as, the only unspoilt beach in the area. The Kentish Plover and the Little Tern, among other species, live there in their breeding season. In winter, gulls, terns and waders, like the Eurasian Oystercatcher, take over the beaches. Shrubs areas are excellent sites to watch passerines and the endangered Mediterranean Chameleon. This path links to the Algaida pine forest, on the other side of river San Pedro, with a wooden bridge.

The drained down marshes adjacent to **Pinar de las Yeguas (4)** surprise ornithologists. They are excellent for larks, including the Lesser Short-toed Lark. Fresh water contributions from a small stream create a unique environment in the bay where the Iberian Yellow Wagtail or the Collared Pratincole breeds. The Glossy Ibis and several species of herons can be easily seen.

In the surroundings of the Bay, **The Lagoon of Medina (5)** and **Endorreic complex of Chiclana (6)**, **Puerto Real (7)** and **Puerto de Santa María**



**(8)** are an exceptional complement not only in habitats but also in species. Besides the native lacustrine birds, including rails, crakes, wildfowl, herons and some raptors, its main value lies in being an essential location for the preservation of some species such as the White-headed Duck, the Red-knobbed Coot, the Marbled Teal or the Ferruginous Duck.



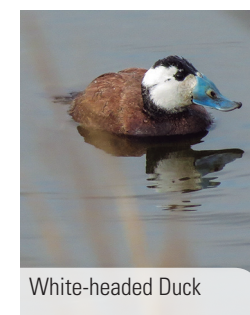
Black-winged Stilt

Other interesting places are **Salt pans of La Tapa (9)**, on the banks of the Guadalete River. They host an amazing tern summer roost where the Roseate Tern and the "Orange-billed" Terns are usually seen. **Sancti-Petri (10)** is perfect to enjoy a large area of natural marshes in an excellent state of conservation which is used by thousands of waders.

Finally, the rocky intertidal of **La Caleta beach (11)**, located right in the middle of the city of Cadiz, attract species such as the Ruddy Turnstone and the Purple Sandpiper, a regular wintering. Moreover, it is a good spot to watch passing seabirds.



Eurasian Spoonbill



White-headed Duck

**1.- Tres Amigos-río Arillo** (San Fernando). Coord.: 36.44492, -6.2261393. 36.446061, -6.233621. 9 Km.

**2.- Salt pans Dolores (Cádiz).** Coord.: 36.458487, -6.230545. 3,1 Km. 36.465010, -6.226688. 36.464141, -6.240309.

**3.- Los Toruños** (Puerto Santa María). Coord.: 36,572969 -6,216625. 5,2 Km.

**4.- Pinar de las Yeguas** (Puerto Real). Coord. inicio: 36.554153, -6.133567. 1,5 Km. circular. Coord. fin: 36.561938, -6.144281. 1,3 Km.

**5.- The Lagoon of Medina** (Jerez de la Frontera). Coord.: 36.613533, -6.058488. 2,1 Km. 36.613871, -6.048801.

**6.- Endorreic complex of Chiclana:** Lagunas de Jeli y Montellano (Chiclana de la Frontera). Coord.: 36.455458, -6.081499. 2,6 Km.

**7.- Endorreic complex of Puerto Real:** Laguna del Taraje (Puerto Real). Coord.: 36.525650, -6.084083. 3,3 Km.

**8.- Endorreic complex of Puerto de Santa María:** Lagunas de Juncosa y Salada (Puerto de Santa María). Coord.: 36.636661, -6.227347. 1,3 Km.

**9.- Salt pans of La Tapa** (Puerto Santa María). Coord.: 36.593646, -6.217506. You need a special permission to access

**10.- Sancti-Petri** (Chiclana de la Frontera). Coord.: 36.396515, -6.206104.

**11.- La Caleta beach** (Cádiz). Coord.: 36.528666, -6.309177.





# LOS ALCORNOCALES

## The last tropical sanctuary in Europe

This Natural Park covers a wide strip of land that runs from the North to the South of the province between Grazalema and Estrecho Natural Reserve. It hosts the biggest cork-oak forest in Spain, which is in very good conditions in spite of its human cork exploitation. Its landscapes variety, its fauna as well as its Mediterranean and riverbank vegetation are unique in the Iberian Peninsula. The main species are raptors and forest passerines.



Western Bonelli's Warbler



Greater Whitethroat

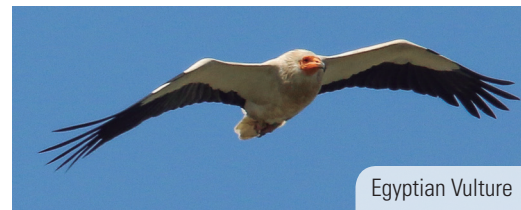
In the North, in Aljibe mountain range, the second-highest range in the province, we will find the **Route of Picacho ascent (1)**, which is the highest mountain and emblem of the park. The first part of the route goes through riverbank forest; oak-cork and gall-oak forests where we can see, not only forest raptors but also such interesting species as the Western Bonelli's and the Iberian Chiffchaff. The second part of the route with their rocky and bare soils is perfect for rocky species.

The **Reservoir of Barbate (2)** is one of the few places where we can see water and wading birds, as well as raptors. It is difficult to access its riverbanks so a good way to see them is to stop in one of the bridges in the A-381 highway. We can see one of the nests of Osprey from there. This specie, thanks to a reintroduction program, has been breeding again in our province for several years. Another attraction of

this site is the possibility of watching the White-rumped Swift which breeds in the vicinity.

The **Valdeinfierno (3)** route is in the south of the Park. We have the opportunity to appreciate one of the most famous "canutos" of Los Alcornocales. A "canuto" is a laurel forest that survives thanks to a unique microclimate in these latitudes. The Western Bonelli's Warbler or the Treecreeper are abundant and the Iberian Chiffchaff can be also watched. Part of the route is adapted for disabled people.

Not far, we can find the **Old Road of Los Barrios-Facinas (4)**, which runs along some of the best preserved areas of the park. Raptors are abundant, including the Bonelli's Eagle, as well as many passerine species. The route of San Carlos del Tiradero plunges into a magnificent gallery forest, where the Tiradero stream flows throughout the year. You need a special permission to access there with a vehicle.



Egyptian Vulture

A few kilometres from there, the **Castellar Castle (5)** and its winding road with excellent sights over the cork-oak forest and the Strait of Gibraltar, offer us good opportunities to see raptors, including a small colony of Lesser Kestrel.

Towards the North, the surroundings of Jimena de la Frontera are a good place to see birds. The **Road of Jimena de la Frontera-Lomas de Camara (6)** is particularly interesting. Its course allows us to go through a large variety of habitats and watch a wide



Griffon Vulture



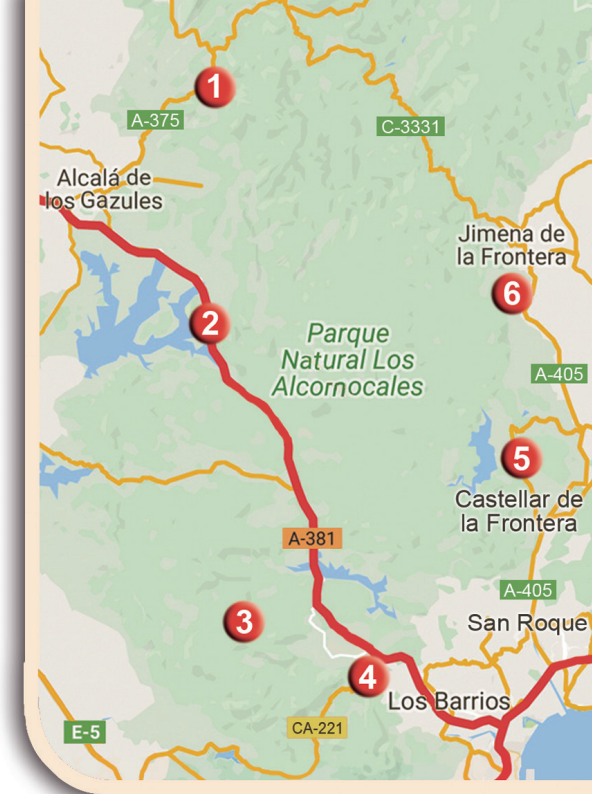
Common Hoopoe



Short-toed Treecreeper

range of different species such as the Woodlark, the Dartford Warbler, the Rock Bunting or, some winters, the Rock Sparrow.

On the coast, the **The Estuary of Guadiaro River (\*)**, located in Sotogrande Residential Area (San Roque), is the only wetland on the Eastern coast of Cadiz. Despite its small size, only 35 hectares, and due to its characteristics, more in keeping with Mediterranean than Atlantic ones, it is an area with great ornithological wealth. Among all the species we can see there, we can highlight the Purple Swamphen, some species of herons and rails, the Osprey, the Kentish Plover, a variety of gulls and terns and passerines such as the Penduline Tit. The beach is a good place to watch seabirds in both winter and summer.



- 1.- **Route of Picacho ascent** (Alcalá de los Gazules). Coord.: 36.522054, -5.650215. 3,3 Km.
- 2.- **Reservoir of Barbate** (Alcalá de los Gazules). Coord.: 36.384780, -5.654388.
- 3.- **Valdeinfierno** (Los Barrios). Coord.: 36.226942, -5.610431. 1,5 Km. circular.
- 4.- **Old Road of Los Barrios-Facinas** (Los Barrios-Tarifa). Coord. inicio Los Barrios: 36.209613, -5.543574; Coord. inicio Tarifa: 36.159705, -5.639280. 16,0 Km. You need a special permission to access with a vehicle.
- 5.- **Castellar Castle** (Castellar de la Frontera). 36.319730, -5.452616. 0,3 Km. circular.
- 6.- **Road of Jimena de la Frontera-Lomas de Camara** (Jimena de la Frontera). Coord.: 36.424498, -5.452815. 11,0 Km.
- \* **The Estuary of Guadiaro River** (San Roque). Coord.: 36.278367, -5.282276. 0,6 Km.  
(See location on the map on page 9).





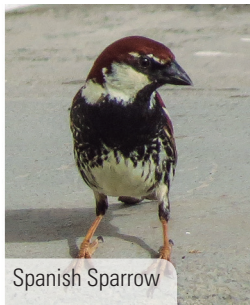
# LA JANDA REGION

## The jewel of the crown of Cadiz

In the centre of the Atlantic coast of Cadiz, near Barbate river, there is a collection of highly interesting habitats for some bird species, including some considered unmissable for ornithologists. Pine forests, cliffs, beaches and marshes offer many possibilities to visitors. La Janda Lagoon stands out among the rest. This is one of the key places in our province for bird watching.



Collared Pratincole



Spanish Sparrow

The route of **Roche Cliffs and Pinewood (1)** is appropriate for seabird watching and also some species of raptors. The beginning and the end of the route, Roche Cape and Torre del Puerco, are observatories used by the Limes Platalea project to monitor the migration of the Eurasian Spoonbill.

Further south, the coast between **The Mouth of River Salado (2)** and Conilete stream, is a good place to see gulls, terns, waders and other seabirds. Moreover, inland, grassland and dry farming areas are highly frequented by steppeland species.

The area of **Trafalgar Cape (3)** lighthouse, located next to Caños de Meca, is an excellent watchtower to enjoy seabird migration. Besides this, shallow puddles normally formed in the isthmus are widely used by a large number of waders.

We may find in Barbate surroundings, on one side the natural site of **Pinewood of la Breña and the Cliffs of Barbate (4)**, a good number of forest species, including the Red-necked Nightjar, and also enjoy wonderful sights over the Atlantic Sea while we watch its herons colony or the flight of the Peregrine Falcon. On the other side, intertidal muds of the **Marshes of the river Barbate (5)** host very important concentrations of gulls, terns and waders, especially in winter and migration periods. Among some of the species which are easily seen we can highlight the Audouin's Gull, the Gull-billed Tern, the Black Tern or the Collared Pratincole.

We recommend exploring the extensive **Vejer and Conil Countryside (6)** by car. Due to its spots of wild olives clear forest, it is an excellent place to watch raptors, including the Spanish Imperial Eagle, the Bonelli's Eagle or the Black-winged Kite. Other key species of the area are the steppe land birds among which we can highlight the presence of the Little Bustard, the European Roller, the Eurasian Thick-knee and the Montagu's Harrier.

We reach **La Janda (7)**, a wide valley among mountain ranges which formerly held the biggest interior wetland of the Iberian Peninsula and the richest ecologically speaking of all Europe. However, it still retains its high value for birds. Waders are well represented especially those typical inland species. Another important group is the one of the wading birds; we can practically see all the species of this group, many of which breed together in a single big colony. Furthermore, the number of wintering Common Crane is normally over a thousand of individuals. There is no doubt, however, that raptors, including both diurnal and nocturnal ones, are the principal attraction. We



Eurasian Eagle-owl

are correct to state that it is possible to see all European species here, including the rarest ones such as the Lesser Spotted Eagle or the Pallid Harrier. Undoubtedly, the most chased are the Spanish Imperial Eagle and the Bonelli's Eagle which are present in good numbers. All this, along with a great number of passerines, such as the Spanish Sparrow or the Black-eared Wheatear, creates a place not to be missed.



Glossy Ibis

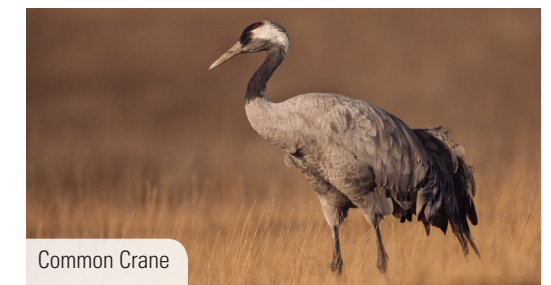
Last but not least, a small colony of the Northern Bald Ibis exists, after a reintroduction project, in **La Barca de Vejer (8)**. This species, that leaves no one indifferent, can also be seen in **Montenmedio (9)** and in several livestock installations located opposite **Barbate beaches (10)**.



Northern Bald Ibis



- 1.- **Roche Cliffs and Pinewood** (Conil de la Frontera). Coord.: 36.295403, -6.140017. 4,0 Km.
- 2.- **The Mouth of River Salado** (Conil de la Frontera). Coord.: 36.270031, -6.087250. 3,0 Km.
- 3.- **Trafalgar Cape** (Vejer de la Frontera). Coord.: 36.182810, -6.034762.
- 4.- **Pinewood of la Breña and the Cliffs of Barbate** (Barbate). Coord.: 36.186842, -5.955265. 2,0 Km.
- 5.- **Marshes of the river Barbate** (Vejer de la Frontera). Coord.: 36.241532, -5.948596. 8,5 Km.
- 6.- **Vejer and Conil Countryside** (Coord.: 36.260851, -5.965180. 27,0 Km.
- 7.- **La Janda** (Tarifa y Vejer de la Frontera). Coord.: 36.211039, -5.789797. 30,0 Km.
- 8.- **Barca de Vejer** (Vejer de la Frontera). Coord.: 36.254021, -5.956892.
- 9.- **Montenmedio** (Vejer de la Frontera). Coord.: 36.245926, -5.903996. 1,4 Km.
- 10.- **Barbate beaches** (Barbate). Coord.: 36.173662, -5.894908.



Common Crane





# THE STRAIT OF GIBRALTAR

*And in the South of the South...more birds*

This region which covers the north shore of the Strait possesses a wide variety of habitats which permit birds to feed, rest and breed. Located in the main flight route of Western Europe, its geographical characteristics, between two seas and two continents, make it one of the biggest world sanctuaries for bird-watching.



Rüppell's Vulture

In the western sector of the Estrecho Natural Park, La Plata Mountain range is well worth a visit. The sights from the high zones are spectacular and its rock walls as well as its Mediterranean scrubland host several interesting species. The ascent which leads to the **Silla del Papa (1)**, highest point of the strait and enclave of a pre-roman necropolis, offers the possibility of watching raptors and rocky passerines. Furthermore, the road viewpoints, which lead us to the **Cueva del Moro (2)**, are good places to see the migration of soaring birds if the East wind is blowing. The Griffon Vulture, the Egyptian Vulture and the Peregrine Falcon nest in their mountain cliffs and the Blue Rock Thrush is always present. The

White-rumped Swift and the Little Swift, which have been breeding in the cave for some years, can be seen from time to time.

In the northeast of the city of Tarifa we find the **Los Lances Beach (3)** whose ornithological attraction makes it a must for birdwatchers. Three rivers debouch in this beach, creating an important coastal lagoon which, together with the grasslands, attract many bird species. Gulls, terns and waders are the best represented groups, among which we can highlight the Audouin's Gull or the Kentish Plover. The Lesser Crested Tern is a regular in the migratory passage together with other species even more rare such as the Dotterel. Larks such as the Greater Short-toed Lark or the Calandra Lark are abundant. Moreover, it is an excellent site to watch the migration of soaring birds, bee-eaters and swallows when the moderate east wind blows.



Tawny Pipit



Common Bulbul

In Huerta Grande, between the natural parks of Los Alcornocales and Estrecho, besides its visitor center, we discover **Ornipark (4)**, a place focused on environmental education, which shows children the interesting world of birds. The exclusive botanical characteristics of these zones, known as "canutos", make them unbeatable places to watch forest passerines such as the Iberian Chiffchaff and the Western Bonelli's Warbler.



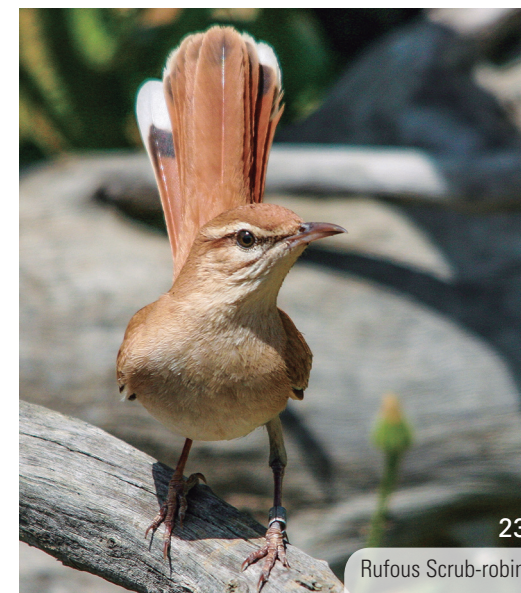
On the east, In the Bay of Algeciras, we will find the **Estuary of the River Palmones (5)**, another important place for birds, especially in migration periods and in winter. The marshes, intertidal zone and coastal dunes attract lots of wildfowl species, herons, gulls, terns and waders. The Eurasian Spoon-bill is always present in small numbers. It is the most important wintering area for the Osprey in the Strait. Besides this, there is an observatory in the **Torrejon Park (6)** from where there is an excellent panoramic sight of all the area. In spring, it is easy to see the Great Spotted Cuckoo and several species of warblers in the forest and scrubland. It is also a good place to see migration with the west wind. The Spanish Sparrow is a rare breeding bird in the near orchards.



Scopoli's Shearwater

The **Princesa Sofía Park (7)**, located in the center of La Línea de la Concepción, next to the border of Gibraltar, proves to be an excellent place for bird-watching, mainly for all kinds of passerines during the migration periods. Some species hard to see in any other places, can be easily seen here, especially in spring. Some of the most interesting ones are the Woodchat Shrike, the Redstart, the Pied Flycatcher, the Western Bonelli's Warbler, the Subalpine Warbler or the Orphean Warbler.

- 1.- **Silla del Papa** (Tarifa).  
Coord.: 36.123562, -5.764874.
- 2.- **Cueva del Moro** (Tarifa).  
Coord.: 36.101193, -5.791639.
- 3.- **Los Lances Beach** (Tarifa).  
Coord.: 36.024466, -5.616950.1,2 Km.
- 4.- **Ornipark** (Pelayo-Algeciras).  
Coord.: 36.079587, -5.504026. 0,3 Km.
- 5.- **Estuary of the River Palmones** (Algeciras)  
Coord.: 36.167378, -5.439392. 0,7 Km.
- 6.- **Torrejon Park** (Algeciras)  
Coord.: 36.169224, -5.443256. 0,6 Km. Circular.
- 7.- **Princesa Sofía Park** (La Línea de la Concepción).  
Coord.: 36.158162, -5.345075. 0,5 Km. Circular.



Rufous Scrub-robin





Short-toed Snake-eagle

# THE MIGRATION PHENOMENON

Bird migration is a **phenomenon of Nature** that even today still fascinates mankind, from expert ornithologists to the youngest beginner. Every year hundreds of millions of birds from **more than 200 hundred different species** which breed in the Palearctic Region travel, at the end of summer and autumn, to their wintering quarters located in tropical Africa and the Mediterranean region, to come back the following spring. **Two big barriers** hinder these movements, the Mediterranean Sea and the Sahara desert. Birds are forced to find those routes which let them optimise their effort, and at the very same time, minimise risks. This defines which are known as migratory routes or flyways. The province of Cadiz is included in not one, but two of these routes, the East Atlantic flyway and the Mediterranean/Black Sea flyway.

The **geographic characteristics of the Strait of Gibraltar**, located between the Mediterranean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean, and two continents, Africa and Europe, make this place a strategic enclave for bird migration. On one hand, many land species, especially diurnal migrants which try to avoid long

travel over the sea, are rerouted by the coast to the Strait of Gibraltar which is a natural funnel in both directions North and South. On the other hand, seabirds, which on the contrary avoid flying over land, find here the only way to get in or out of the Mediterranean Region.

Bird migration in the province of Cadiz is practically visible every month of the year. Only December and June are wintering and breeding months respectively. However, certain months of the year account the largest numbers of individuals as well as the highest diversity of species.

**Spring migration** takes place between **mid-February and May**. March is the best month for raptors and storks, except for the European Honey-buzzard, which passes in high concentrations at the beginning of May, and the Griffon Vulture, which passes mostly in May. For passerines and similar birds, April is, without any doubt, the best month, although there are species which pass a bit earlier like the Subalpine Warbler and others which arrive later such as the White-rumped Swift or the Rufous Scrub-robin. Seabirds, for their part, generally cross the Strait

between February and April, although there are differences among some species. The Scopoli's Shearwater, the Northern Gannet, auks and some gulls, for example, migrate in February and March, while terns or skuas a bit later.

After breeding birds perform the **autumn migration** which takes place, between **July and November**. September is probably the best month of the year. In September we can find the highest diversity of species, especially soaring birds and passerines, and most of species have their highest numbers in this time of the year. Nevertheless, there are exceptions such as some passerines which leave in August and most of the Presaharian birds which do not arrive till October. Among the soaring birds, two of the most abundant species, the White Stork and the Black Kite, principally cross in August. Likewise, the best months to **see seabirds** are **October and November**. The Balearic Shearwater, a critically endangered species, deserves a special mention, as its migratory cycle defies the normal established order. This species has its autumn migration in May and June, leaving the Mediterranean to spend summer

in the Vizcaya Gulf, from where it comes back during autumn.

Numbers can be extraordinary. More than **46 species of soaring birds** have been sighted. During the autumn migration, for example, just raptors and storks exceed 600,000 individuals of 30 different species on average. Flocks of more than 15,000 white storks have been seen. More than 30,000 Black Kites or 25,000 European Honey-buzzards have been counted in a single day. 100 species of seabirds have been spotted, half of them being common. In October and at the beginning of November just the Scopoli's Shearwater is around 500,000 specimens and the endangered Balearic Shearwater more than 20,000. For their part, among diurnal passerines, the migration of swallows, martins and swifts can be spectacular with a total of hundreds of thousands of specimens each season and a maximum of 15,000-20,000 birds in a single day. The number of nocturnal migrators, principally small passerines, is estimated in 30-35 million birds, many of those rest and feed in the area during the day, before and after crossing these two big geographical barriers.



# Migration Observatories

When we want to see migration, especially active diurnal migration, there are several **strategic spots** that offer better sightings than others, depending principally on local weather conditions. These spots have become observatories over the years. Selecting the right one is vital to enjoy this spectacular phenomenon, although it is not always easy to choose and the Strait is not an exception.

To start with, not all the species come from the same direction. Some clear examples can be the White Stork or the Montagu's Harrier, more abundant in the western half, while falcons or the European Honey-buzzard are more abundant in the eastern half.

As the **time of the year**, during spring migration the observatories located on the coast, such as the ones in Punta Carnero or Punta Camorro, usually get better sightings as the birds often arrive tired and flying very low. During the autumn migration the inland observatories, especially those located in migratory corridors such as the ones in Cazalla or El Algarrobo, are the best ones.

The **time** is also important. Soaring birds need, more than other species, thermal updrafts. This makes the central hours of the day, generally between 11:00 and 15:00, the best ones. However, seabird migration is more interesting in the morning, usually from 9:00 to 13:00. There are more variations of passerines and related species although some groups such as finches, prefer the first hours of the day.





Finally, and probably the most important aspect to take into account is the impact which **local wind conditions** have on migration flows. In the Strait and near areas, this impact is especially significant due to the funnel effect which the orography of the zone has on the two dominant winds, east wind or west wind.



Osprey

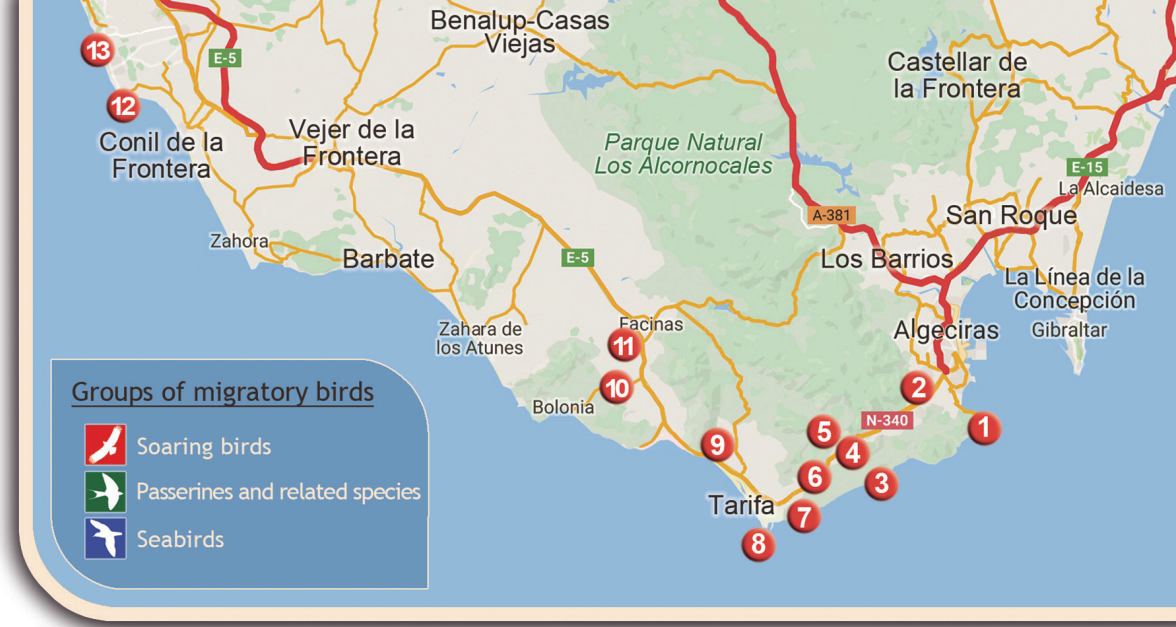
As a general rule, we may say that the east wind moves birds to the western sector while the west wind moves them to the eastern sector, this is increased by how strong and how long the wind is. A

special situation is produced when strong winds last several days. In that case, soaring birds need to wait till weather conditions are favourable to cross the Strait, so when this happens we can see massive and spectacular concentrations of birds.

The Strait of Gibraltar has a wide network of **observatories**, many of them with the appropriate infrastructure for such purpose. Among the most important ones, **Cazalla** stands out. It is near Tarifa. It is undoubtedly the best observatory because it works almost in any condition. It is perfect for soaring bird sightings, not only in spring migration but also in autumn, particularly with the east wind. Another one among the best is **Algarrobo**, with excellent views over the Algeciras Bay and The Rock of Gibraltar. This observatory is unbeatable during the autumn migration with the west wind. In spring, **Punta Carnero** is one of the most visited, especially when the moderate west wind blows. Located at one end of the Bay of Algeciras; it covers a good part of the migration flow after crossing the Strait. Birds usually reach this part flying very low. **Facinas**, located in the western sector of the strait of Gibraltar, is a perfect place to watch the spectacular autumn migration of the White Stork between the end of July and the first fortnight of August. If we are interested in watching seabirds, the **Tarifa Island** is the best spot in the Strait of Gibraltar. Its location allows to control big part of the migration between the Mediterranean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean. The culminating moment takes place between October and November; it also has good numbers in March and April.



Booted Eagle



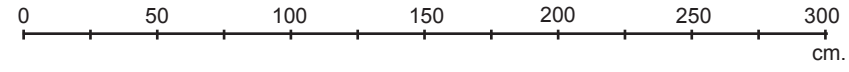
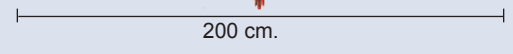
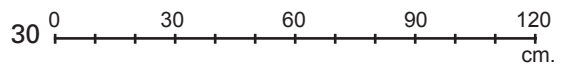
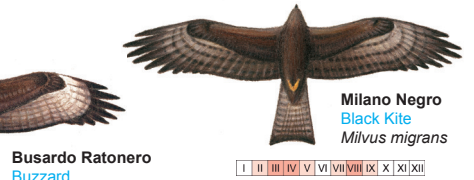
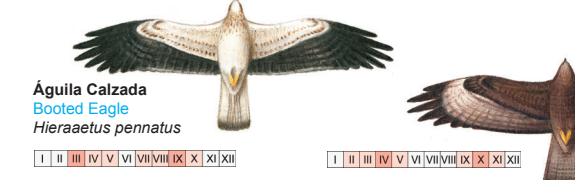
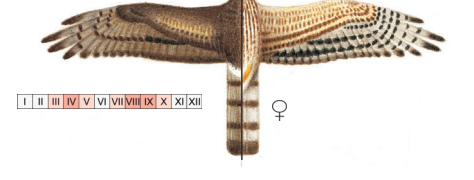
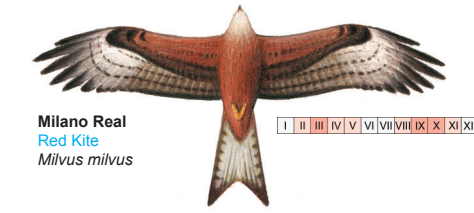
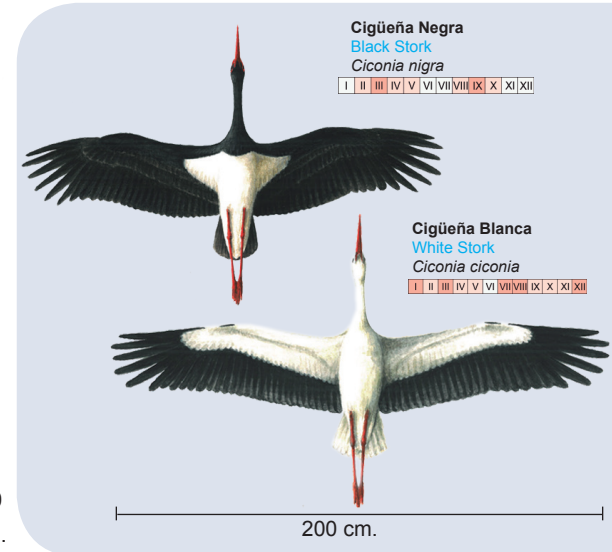
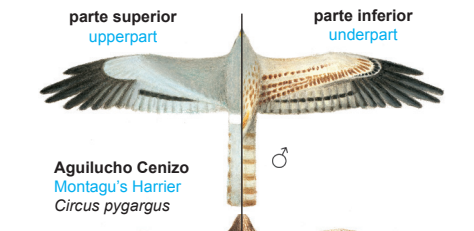
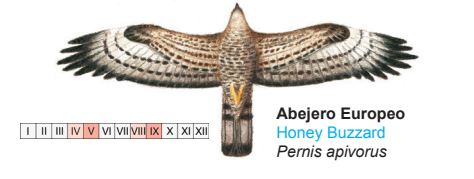
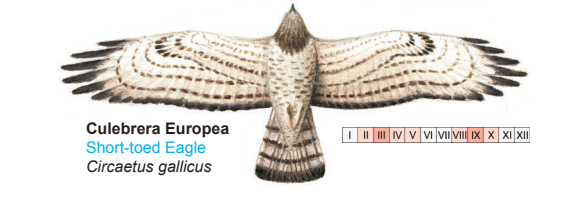
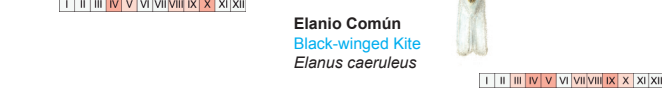
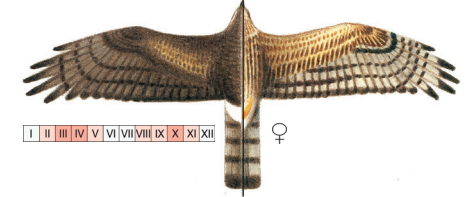
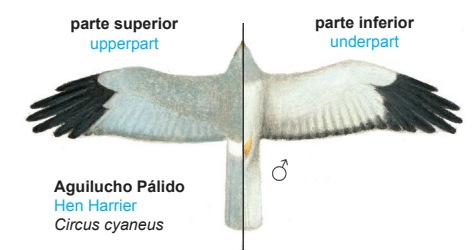
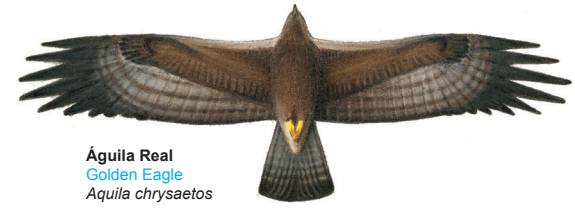
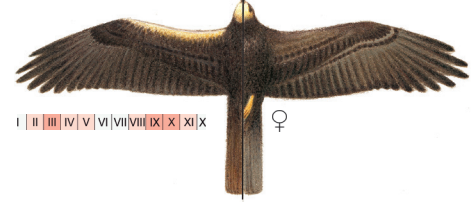
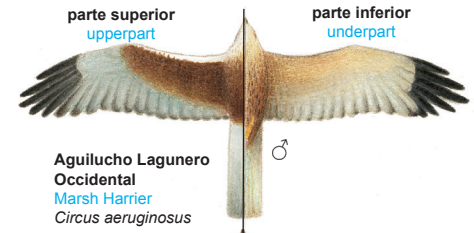
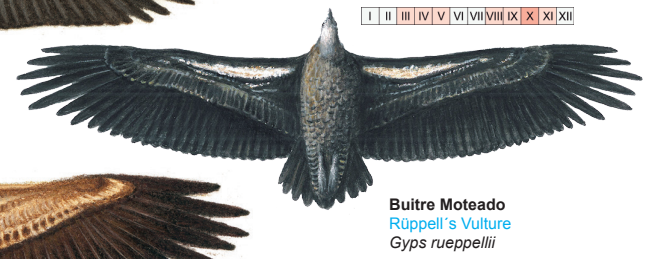
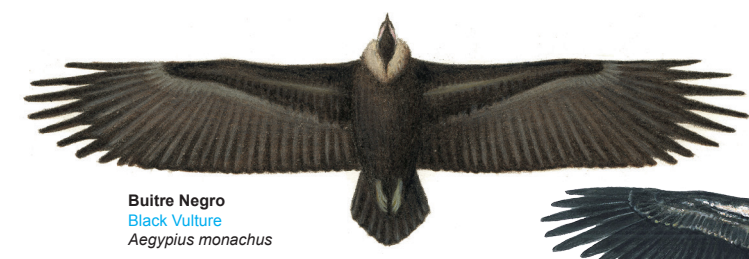
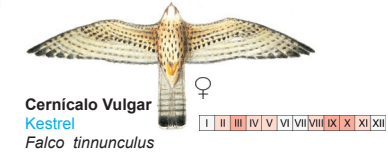
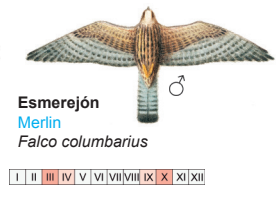
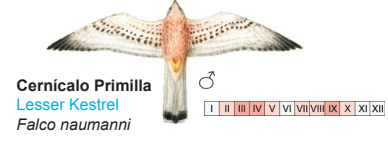
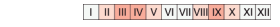
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|    |    |  | 1. <b>Punta Carnero</b> (Algeciras). Coord.: 36.076140, -5.429131.   |
|    |    |   | 2. <b>Algarrobo</b> (Algeciras). Coord.: 36.090257, -5.483996.   |
|    |    |  | 3. <b>Guadalmesí</b> (Algeciras). Coord.: 36.036292, -5.522693.  |
|    |   |   | 4. <b>El Mirador</b> (Tarifa). Coord.: 36.054028, -5.550456.   |
|   |   |   | 5. <b>Cabrito</b> (Tarifa). Coord.: 36.055443, -5.553504.  |
|  |  |   | 6. <b>Cazalla</b> (Tarifa). Coord.: 36.033120, -5.577273.  |
|  |  |   | 7. <b>Punta Camorro</b> (Tarifa). Coord.: 36.014177, -5.587388.  |
|  |  |   | 8. <b>Tarifa Island</b> (also called De Las Palomas). Coord.: 36.001004, -5.609989.<br>Se necesita autorización de la Guardia Civil. |
|  |   |   | 9. <b>La Peña</b> (Tarifa). Coord.: 36.064624, -5.647966.  |
|  |   |   | 10. <b>Mountain pass of Bolonia</b> (Tarifa). Coord.: 36.101376, -5.732809.  |
|  |  |   | 11. <b>Mountain pass of Facinas</b> (Tarifa). Coord.: 36.132421, -5.713078.  |
|  |  |   | 12. <b>Roche Cape - Limes Platalea</b> (Conil de la Frontera).<br>Coord.: 36.302294, -6.146728.                                      |
|  |  |   | 13. <b>Tower of El Puerco - Limes Platalea</b> (Chiclana de la Frontera).<br>Coord.: 36.331192, -6.161316.                           |



# SOARING BIRDS IN FLIGHT

PHENOLOGICAL CHART KEY

- Migration season
- Maximum migration period





# SPECIES Top 100 IN THE PROVINCE OF CADIZ

Anywhere in the world, there are always certain species more attractive than others for ornithologists. Those species, in a certain way represent those places. They are habitually endemic species, very rare or difficult to see in any other part of the planet. Due to this, they become major objectives for ornithologists who, of course, do not want to miss them during their visit.



In this list we have selected 100 species, which can be considered the most important ones in the province of Cadiz, from an ornithological point of view. For each species, on the first column it is shown its status in the province, and the following columns contains the presence/absence and status of each species in a particular area of those included in this guidebook. **Capital letters** represent species relatively easy to see, because of their abundance or just because they are easy to find. **Small letters**, on the other hand, are used for those species which are less accessible due to their scarcity or elusive behaviour.

**R** = It can be seen throughout the year.  
**E** = It breeds in the area but is absent in winter. It can be normally seen in migration periods.  
**M** = Species which are only present during migration periods.  
**W** = Present in winter and generally, also during migration periods.

- The province of Cadiz
- Doñana Surroundings
- Cadiz Countryside
- Grazalema Mountain Range
- Cadiz Bay
- Los Alcornocales
- La Janda Region
- The Strait of Gibraltar



## English name

## Scientific name

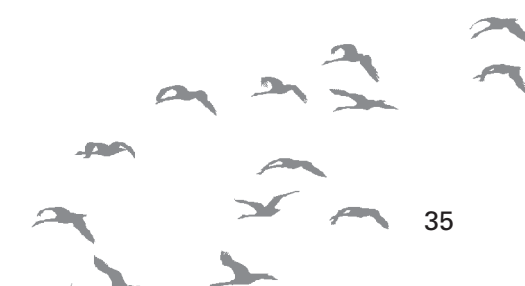
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<input type="checkbox"/> White-headed Duck	<i>Oxyura leucocephala</i>	R	R	R		R			
<input type="checkbox"/> Marbled Teal	<i>Marmaronetta angustirostris</i>	r	r	r		r			
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-crested Pochard	<i>Netta rufina</i>	R	R	R		R			
<input type="checkbox"/> Ferruginous Duck	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>	r	w	r		r			
<input type="checkbox"/> Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>	R	R			R		m	m
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-necked Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus ruficollis</i>	E	E	E	e	e	E	e	E
<input type="checkbox"/> Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>	E			E				m
<input type="checkbox"/> White-rumped Swift	<i>Apus caffer</i>	e					e	e	e
<input type="checkbox"/> Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>	r	R						r
<input type="checkbox"/> Pallid Swift	<i>Apus pallidus</i>	E	E		E	E		E	E
<input type="checkbox"/> Great Spotted Cuckoo	<i>Clamator glandarius</i>	e	m					M	m
<input type="checkbox"/> Purple Swamphen	<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>	R	R	r		R	r	R	
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-knobbed Coot	<i>Fulica cristata</i>	r	r	r		r			
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Crane	<i>Grus grus</i>	W	w					W	
<input type="checkbox"/> Little Bustard	<i>Tetrax tetrax</i>	r	r	r				r	
<input type="checkbox"/> Scopoli's Shearwater	<i>Calonectris diomedea</i>	M				m			M

<input type="checkbox"/> Yelkouan Shearwater	<i>Puffinus yelkouan</i>	m								m
<input type="checkbox"/> Balearic Shearwater	<i>Puffinus mauretanicus</i>	M				M				M
<input type="checkbox"/> Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>	M	w			w		m	M	
<input type="checkbox"/> White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	R	R	E	E	R	R	E	R	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>	R	R	r		R		M	M	
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Bald Ibis	<i>Geronticus eremita</i>	R						R		
<input type="checkbox"/> Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	R	R			r		R		
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Little Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>	E	E	E		e		E		
<input type="checkbox"/> Black-crowned Night-heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	R	R	E		M		E		
<input type="checkbox"/> Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>	e	e	e		e		e		
<input type="checkbox"/> Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	E	E	E		E	E	E		
<input type="checkbox"/> Great White Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	w	w			w		w		
<input type="checkbox"/> Eurasian Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus oediconemus</i>	R	w	R		W		R	w	
<input type="checkbox"/> Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>	R	R	r		R		R	m	
<input type="checkbox"/> Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	R	R	R		R		R	M	
<input type="checkbox"/> Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>	R	R	r		R		R	R	
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-necked Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>	m	m							



<input type="checkbox"/> Collared Pratincole	<i>Glareola pratincola</i>	E	E	E	e	E	E	
<input type="checkbox"/> Slender-billed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus genei</i>	R	R	R	R			
<input type="checkbox"/> Mediterranean Gull	<i>Larus melanocephalus</i>	W	w		w	w	W	
<input type="checkbox"/> Audouin's Gull	<i>Larus audouinii</i>	W	M		w	w	W	
<input type="checkbox"/> Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>	E	E		E	M	M	
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>	E	E	E	M	m	m	
<input type="checkbox"/> Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>	E	E		M	m		
<input type="checkbox"/> Lesser Crested Tern	<i>Thalasseus bengalensis</i>	m	m		m		m	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eurasian Scops-owl	<i>Otus scops</i>	E		e	E	E	E	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eurasian Eagle-owl	<i>Bubo bubo</i>	R		R	R	R	R	
<input type="checkbox"/> Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	R	W	R	w	R	w	M
<input type="checkbox"/> Black-winged Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>	R	r	R			R	
<input type="checkbox"/> Egyptian Vulture	<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>	E	M		E		E	
<input type="checkbox"/> Short-toed Snake-eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>	E	E	E	e	E	E	E
<input type="checkbox"/> Rüppell's Vulture	<i>Gyps rueppelli</i>	m					r	m
<input type="checkbox"/> Griffon Vulture	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>	R			R	R	R	
<input type="checkbox"/> Lesser Spotted Eagle	<i>Clanga pomarina</i>	w					w	m
<input type="checkbox"/> Spanish Imperial Eagle	<i>Aquila adalberti</i>	r					r	
<input type="checkbox"/> Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	r			r		w	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bonelli's Eagle	<i>Aquila fasciata</i>	R		r	R		r	r
<input type="checkbox"/> Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraetus pennatus</i>	E	E	e	E		E	E
<input type="checkbox"/> Pallid Harrier	<i>Circus macrourus</i>	w					w	m
<input type="checkbox"/> Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>	E		E		E	E	E
<input type="checkbox"/> Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>	r						r
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>	E	R	e	E	e	M	M
<input type="checkbox"/> European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>	E			E		E	E
<input type="checkbox"/> European Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>	e		e			m	m
<input type="checkbox"/> Iberian Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus sharpei</i>	R		R	R		R	r
<input type="checkbox"/> Lesser Kestrel	<i>Falco naumanni</i>	E			E		E	E
<input type="checkbox"/> Calandra Lark	<i>Melanocorypha calandra</i>	R	r	R		R	R	R
<input type="checkbox"/> Greater Short-toed Lark	<i>Calandrella brachydactyla</i>	E	E			E	E	E
<input type="checkbox"/> Lesser Short-toed Lark	<i>Calandrella rufescens</i>	r	r					
<input type="checkbox"/> Thekla Lark	<i>Galerida theklae</i>	R	r	r	R	r	R	R
<input type="checkbox"/> Eurasian Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>	R			R		W	W
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Cecropis daurica</i>	E	E	E	E		E	E

<input type="checkbox"/> Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>	E	e	E	e	e	E	E	E
<input type="checkbox"/> Iberian Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava iberiae</i>	E	E	E		E		E	E
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus barbatus</i>	r							r
<input type="checkbox"/> Alpine Accentor	<i>Prunella collaris</i>	w			w				
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Rock-thrush	<i>Monticola saxatilis</i>	e			e				
<input type="checkbox"/> Blue Rock-thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>	R			R		R	R	R
<input type="checkbox"/> Rufous Scrub-robin	<i>Erythropygia galactotes</i>	e		e				e	e
<input type="checkbox"/> Black Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe leucura</i>	r			r				
<input type="checkbox"/> Black-eared Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe hispanica</i>	E	E		E		E	E	E
<input type="checkbox"/> Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
<input type="checkbox"/> Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
<input type="checkbox"/> Isabelline Warbler	<i>Hippolais opaca</i>	E	E	E					E
<input type="checkbox"/> Melodious Warbler	<i>Hippolais polyglotta</i>	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
<input type="checkbox"/> Iberian Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus ibericus</i>	E			E		E		E
<input type="checkbox"/> Western Bonelli's Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus bonelli</i>	E			E		E		E
<input type="checkbox"/> Orphean Warbler	<i>Sylvia hortensis</i>	E			E		E	E	E
<input type="checkbox"/> Greater Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>	E		E	E		E	E	M
<input type="checkbox"/> Dartford Warbler	<i>Sylvia undata</i>	R			R	r	R		r
<input type="checkbox"/> Spectacled Warbler	<i>Sylvia conspicillata</i>	e	e			e		e	
<input type="checkbox"/> Subalpine Warbler	<i>Sylvia cantillans</i>	e	e		e				M
<input type="checkbox"/> Sardinian Warbler	<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
<input type="checkbox"/> Short-toed Treecreeper	<i>Certhia brachydactyla</i>	R	R		R		R	R	R
<input type="checkbox"/> Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>	E			E		E	E	E
<input type="checkbox"/> Southern Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius meridionalis</i>	R		w	R		r		
<input type="checkbox"/> Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>	E	e	E	E	e	E	e	e
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<input type="checkbox"/> Spotless Starling	<i>Sturnus unicolor</i>	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
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<input type="checkbox"/> Common Rock-sparrow	<i>Petronia petronia</i>	R			R		w	w	
<input type="checkbox"/> Rock Bunting	<i>Emberiza cia</i>	R			R		R		r
<input type="checkbox"/> Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>	R			R		R	R	R







# ORNITHOLOGICAL TOURISM COMPANIES



**ANBI Andalusian Bird Island**  
 Telf: 0034 629 474 945  
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**Birding The Strait**  
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 Desde 2013



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 www.ornitour.com  
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**Oxyura Birdwatching**  
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## Associations, organizations and NGOs



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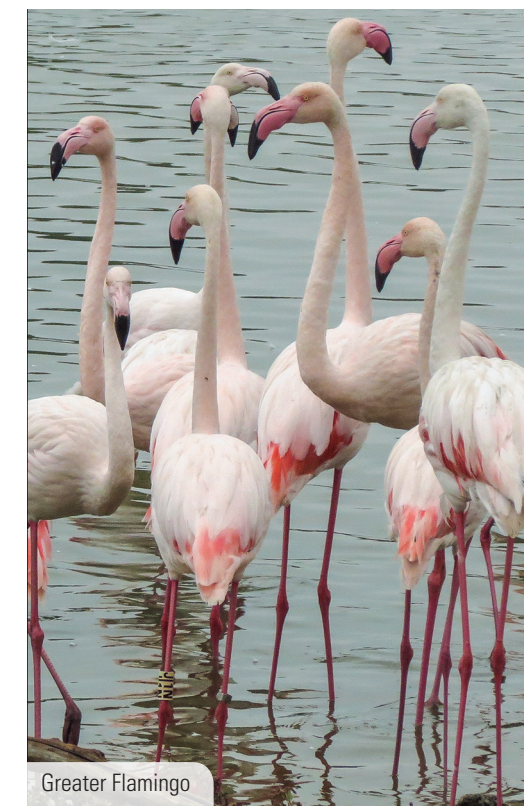
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Greater Flamingo





Sardinian warbler

## DO'S AND DON'TS

- 1** We must take into account that the welfare of birds ALWAYS comes first.
- 2** All birds are protected by law (42/ 2007 Natural Heritage and Biodiversity Law)
- 3** Due to the vital importance of the habitats of birds, all our activities must not harm them.
- 4** Bird tolerance to human disturbance is different depending on the species and the season. We must not disturb them at any moment, but especially in the breeding season. The same happens in winter, when adverse conditions cause them a loss of energy difficult to resist. We must also pay special attention during the migration periods.
- 5** If we find an endangered species breeding and we think it needs protection, we can report it to the adequate authorities and associations which appear on page 37 of this guide. We must avoid commenting it in other groups of people which may harm the nest or disturb adults.
- 6** If we use vehicles, we can park on the existing parking areas, trying not to block other vehicles' circulation, or the entrance to private properties. In the province of Cádiz there are gates also called "angarillas" made of tree branches and barbed wire at the entrance of rustic properties. Either we go on

foot or by car, we must leave them open or closed, exactly the way we found them

**7** We must respect landowners. Do not trespass without previous permission.

**8** Birds and nature photography is increasingly popular on account of digital photography. Bird searching and "hides" preparation may negatively affect birds and their habitats.

**9** Much of the knowledge we have about species nowadays is the result of the sum of the sightings of many ornithologists who have voluntarily shared them. Because of this, it would be really interesting if our sightings were shared to reach a better knowledge, protection and preservation of birds.

**10** Let's do what we would like others to do in our area. Following simple rules, as well as good behaviour will turn ornithologists into real ambassadors of birds and their habitats.

*Reference:*  
**"Manual SEO/BirdLife de Buenas Prácticas Ambientales en Turismo Ornitológico".**

# Online information

### **www.birdcadiz.com**

This web portal is intended exclusively to birds in the province of Cádiz. It includes: ornithological routes, lists of birds in the province, news, agenda, outstanding sightings, and everything which is related to ornithology in the province of Cádiz. As well as wide information from SOS Birds, with basic recommendations in case an injured bird requires our help.

**SOS Birds. Contact phone: 670 946 198**

### **www.ventanadelvisitante.es**

This web portal includes information and a guide to visit all the natural spaces in the province of Cadiz and Andalusia.

It provides a **Visit Guide** in the **Activities** section, where you can **search** any Natural Park, space, or route you are interested in.

### **www.cadizturismo.com**

This web Portal provides tourist information in the province of Cádiz. Information about its capital city, its cities and towns, how to get there, what to see, what to eat, where to stay in the province, communications, touristic routes, leisure activities, guides and publications, etc.

### **www.andalucia.org**

Web portal which provides information on each Andalusian province and their cities and towns, their gastronomy, sports, beaches, routes, natural spaces, accommodation... and everything you need to plan your trip.



Alpine Swift



## Birding Cádiz

### Publishing

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**David Barros:** p. 5 Common Rhododendron and Killer Whale. p. 6 Northern Bald Ibis, Iberian Chiffchaff and Black Wheatear; p. 7 Marbled Teal and Red-knobbed Coot; p. 10 Pied Avocet; p. 12 Thekla Lark; p. 14 Landscape; p. 16 Greater Flamingo and Kentish Plover; p. 17 Black-winged Stilt, Eurasian Spoonbill and White-headed Duck; p. 18 Landscape; p. 19 Griffon Vulture, Common Hoopoe and Short-toed Treecreeper; p. 20 La Janda rice fields and Spanish Sparrow; p. 21 Eurasian Eagle-owl and Northern Bald Ibis; p. 22 The Strait of Gibraltar and Rüppell's Vulture; p. 36 Ornithologists; p. 41 Greater Flamingo. **Rubén Barros:** p. 1 and 44 Eurasian Spoonbill; p. 6 Little Swift; p. 10 Slender-billed Gull; p. 12 Little Bustard; p. 14 Red-billed Chough, Subalpine Warbler and Black Wheatear; p. 16 Little Tern; p. 18 Western Bonelli's Warbler, Greater White-throat and Egyptian Vulture; p. 20 Collared Pratincole; p. 21 Glossy Ibis; p. 22 Tawny Pipit; p. 23 Rufous Scrub-robin; p. 28 Osprey and Booted Eagle; p. 42 Sardinian Warbler. **Antonio Calvo:** p. 32 Ornithologists. **Alex Colorado:** p. 6 White-rumped Swift; p. 13 Montagu's Harrier. **Javier Elorriaga:** p. 22 Common Bulbul; p. 24-25 Short-toed Snake-eagle. **Marcos Ferrer:** European Bee-eater (front cover); p. 12 Red-legged Partridge; p. 13 European Bee-eater. **Juan Antonio Gómez:** p. 7 Slender-billed Gull; p. 11 Purple Swamphen. **Miguel González:** p. 4 Lesser Kestrel. **Francisco Jiménez:** p. 7 Black-winged Kite; p. 13 Eurasian Thick-knee. **Bartolomé Muñoz:** p. 21 Common Crane. **Juan Luis Muñoz:** p. 14 Common Rock-thrush. **José María Niebla:** p. 6 and 15 Bonelli's Eagle; p. 7 Spanish Imperial Eagle; p. 11 Purple Heron; p. 14 and 43 Alpine Swift; p. 15 Iberian Green Woodpecker. **José Rodríguez:** p. 10 Squacco Heron. **Yeray Seminario:** p. 23 Scopoli's Shearwater. **Sophie Triay:** p. 26-27 Ornithologists. **Stock del Patronato Provincial de Turismo:** p. 2 Horse race in Sanlúcar de Barrameda, sunflower fields and Vejer de la Frontera; p. 3 Wine cellar in Jerez de la Frontera, view of Olvera, Cadiz cathedral and beach scene; p. 12 countryside scene (**Juan Tébar**).

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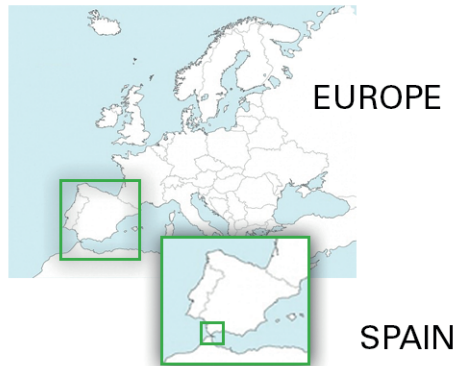




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