

Wildlife Photography tour in Valencia

11 – 15 February 2019



Price includes

Accommodation: 4 nights in Rural Hotels.

Meals: included from lunch day 1 to lunch day 5. Breakfast and dinner at the hotel.

Hides: 7 different photography hides

Transport: Included from/to Valencia airport

Guiding

Not included

Flights, travel insurance and personal items.

Leaders: Pau Lucio.

Group size: Maximum of 6 guests. Minimum 3 guests.

Grade: Short distance walks and easy walks. You will need to bring winter cloths as we might get temperatures below zero degrees in the Ring Ouzel and Cranes hides.

Holiday details

In this photography tour we will make the most of some of the finest photography hides in Spain. Our aim is photograph top resident raptors such as Goshawk, Bonelli's Eagles and Griffon Vultures but also stunning wintering birds like Ring Ouzels, Red Kites and Common Cranes. What's more, we will have the chance to get a good number of passerines. The soft winter light will give the perfect touch to your bird pictures!

Itinerary

Day 1. Monday 11th. Valencia Airport-Bonelli's Eagle and Quarry hide (50 min)

After greeting we will set off to our first hide where we hope to get the outstanding Bonelli's Eagle, one of the most sought-after raptors. Then, after lunch, you will be driven to the quarry hide. This is a hide designed for taking photos during the afternoon and attracts species such as Black wheatear, Little Owl, Hoopoe, Blue-rock Thrush and Common Kestrel. Later, we will set off to our accommodation near Casinos, Hotel Puerta de la Serrania.

Day 2. Photography hides: Goshawk and passerines hide.



Today, we will get in the hide before the sun rises as we have to be ready for waiting the Goshawk to come. The Goshawk usually shows up early in the morning with the first light. After photographing this stunning raptor, we will spend the rest of the day in the passerine hide (drinking pond and bird feeder). Some of the common birds include Sardinian and Dartford Warbler, Black redstart, Rock Bunting, Crested Tit, Serin and Crested Lark, among other birds. Occasionally, we also get Crossbills, Iberian Grey Shrike, Red-legged Partridge, Woodlark or Siskin.

Day 3. Photography hides: Thrushes (30 m drive)



Our main target today will be Ring Ouzels. Not only, we should get the northern subspecies *torquatus*, but also the race found in Spain, *alpestris*. We will drive high up towards Los Serranos, an interesting birding area located 1500 meters above sea level. This area is chosen for different species of thrushes in winter as there is a good density of junipers. Apart from Ring Ouzels we might get other species of thrushes such as: Redwing, Mistle Thrush and Fieldfare. Depending on the climatology, we might be able to photograph Hawfinches, Yellowhammer and Citril Finches. During the afternoon we will drive 2 hours to our next accommodation, near the famous Gallocanta lagoon. Accommodation in Hotel Calamocha.

Day 4. Photography hides: Red Kites and Common Cranes (10 m drive)

Today, we will remain all day in the hide. We will get in before the sun rises and wait for the arrival of the beautiful Common Cranes. We will also try to lure some local raptors which includes Red Kites, Marsh Harriers and Sparrowhawks. In addition, we usually get Common Snipe.

Day 5. Griffon Vultures hide (2 h 15 min)

We will start early in the morning to drive back towards Valencia to our last hide of the trip. Here, we expect to get nice photos of the Griffon Vultures feeding frenzy. A remarkable experience! During the afternoon, your guide will take you back to Valencia airport after this intense photography tour.

Cost

1300 € in shared room

Single supplement 110 €

For more information, please contact us info@birdwatchingspain.net