



MID-CONFERENCE TOURS

Local Organizing Committee (with the sponsorship of Gobierno de Extremadura, Diputación de Badajoz and Ayuntamiento de Badajoz) has organized seven different birdwatching and sightseeing tours for delegated attending to EOU 2015 Badajoz. All these tours will be held on Wednesday, 25 Aug.

Please make your choice and reservation no later than 12th of July by sending an email to the indicated email address (specific to each bird-tour)

Bird- tour 1: MONFRAGÜE NATIONAL PARK.

Sponsored by Gobierno de Extremadura



GOBIERNO DE EXTREMADURA

The Monfragüe National Park is a wonderful place to visit for both ornithology and Mediterranean flora; it was declared a Biosphere Reserve by UNESCO in 2003. It is the largest and best preserved stretch of Mediterranean mountain landscape in the world. The wild mountains delimiting the Tagus and Tiétar valleys are home to oak forests and Mediterranean trees and shrubs, boulders, reservoirs and streams; it is a typically Iberian landscape that provides a home for the Park's incredibly diverse flora and fauna. Tagus and Tiétar rivers surround Monfragüe, and their waters carve in the quartzite rocky outcrops where tawny vulture colonies settle. On the riverside and watercourses live kingfishers, cormorants, or nightingales, as well as animals that live in the water such as the otter. Among birds, you will find about 400 pairs of Eurasian Black Vulture, Spanish Imperial eagle, Black Stork, Egyptian Vulture, 600 pairs of Griffon Vulture, Golden Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, and Bonelli's Eagle. Apart from these bird species, you can find other species such as the Common Buzzard, Red Kite, Short-toed Eagle, Booted Eagle, Black Kite, Black-winged Kite and the Northern Goshawk.

6:00h. Departure from Badajoz.

09.00h – 13.00h: Birdwatching

13.30h: Lunch

15.30h: Return to Badajoz

If you wish to participate in this bird-tour, please send an email to euo2015monfrague@gmail.com

Maximum: 150 people



Bird-tour 2: TAGUS INTERNATIONAL NATURE RESERVE.



GOBIERNO DE EXTREMADURA

Sponsored by Gobierno de Extremadura

The Tagus International Nature Reserve is one of the last refuges for various threatened species native to Mediterranean woodlands. This Nature Reserve in the north west of Caceres province follows the Tagus river and its tributaries, the Erjas and the Sever, which act as a natural 60 kilometer border. The Spanish part covers 25,088 hectares and is home to many species, some of which are threatened with extinction, such as the black stork, the Iberian imperial eagle and the indigenous freshwater crayfish. The indigenous fauna also includes otters, water lizards, the short-toed eagle, the golden eagle, the Egyptian vulture, Griffon vultures, Black vultures and Bonelli's eagles, and an almost endless list of other mammals and fish.

Schedule:

06:30h. Departure from Badajoz. On the way through ZEPA Sierra de San Pedro (one of the most representative habitats of this protected natural area) there will be some stops to observe some of the most representative bird species (Spanish Imperial Eagle, Eurasian Black Vulture, Black Stork, Golden Eagle and Egyptian Vulture nest).

09.00h. Arrival to Cedillo (P.N. del Tajo-Tejo Internacional). Coffee-break sponsored by the Town Hill of Cedillo

10:00 h – 13.30. Boat trip through P.N. del Tajo-Tejo Internacional. Birdwatching

13:30 h. Lunch at “Casa Manolo” (Cedillo)

15:30 h. Return to Badajoz

If you wish to participate in this bird-tour, please send an email to eou2015tajoint@gmail.com

Maximum: 50 people



Bird-tour 3: LA ROCA DE LA SIERRA.

Sponsored by Diputación de Badajoz

Schedule:

8:00h. Departure from Badajoz.

8:35h. Stop at dam of Peña del Águila. Here you can see different species of Mediterranean forest from ZEPA-ZIR Sierra de San Pedro.

9:35h. Stop at Portilla de Alpotreque, a wonderful place to see raptors such as *Aquila fasciata*, *Aquila adalberti* and *Neophron percnopterus*, among others.

10:30h. Coffee-break

11:30h. Stop at Laguna de Morantes. Very interesting aquatic habitat in a well-preserved dehesa with numerous species of herons, egrets, Anatidae and waders

12:30h. Walking tour through Dehesa Boyal de la Roca and visit to “Province of Badajoz Bird Interpretation Centre”.

13:30h. Lunch at La Roca de la Sierra and return to Badajoz.

If you wish to participate in this bird-tour, please send an email to eou2015laroca@gmail.com

Maximum: 25 people



Bird-tour 4: LA SIBERIA.

Sponsored by Diputación de Badajoz

Schedule:

8:00h. Departure from Badajoz.

09:30h. Visit “The Moheda Alta” peri-urban park's interpretation centre in Navalvillar de Pela, providing visitors with an insight into the life of the crane, pastureland and the surrounding area. Here you can observe different bird species of the Dehesa, and rice culture lands with numerous waders.

10:30h. Coffee-break

11:30h. Stop at Puerto Peña. With its beautiful landscape, consisting of dense pine and eucalyptus woods and large rock formations, it is a very valuable home for wildlife. Don't miss the opportunity to see the natural habitat of Griffon vultures, black vultures, black storks, golden eagles, Bonelli's eagles, booted eagles, peregrine falcons, goshawks and kestrels.

13:30h. Lunch and return to Badajoz.

If you wish to participate in this bird-tour, please send an email to eou2015siberia@gmail.com

Maximum: 25 people



Bird-tour 5: GREAT LAKE ALQUEVA.

Sponsored by Diputación de Badajoz

Schedule:

8:00h. Departure from Badajoz.

08:20h. Visit the Azud of Badajoz (An interesting urban ZEPA with herons and egrets)

09:30h. Visit Llanos de Olivenza (ZEPA-LIC) with important grassland or steppe bird species like great bustard, little bustard and Montagu's Harrier.

10:30. Coffee-break

11:30h. Boat trip in Great Lake Alqueva. On its sides and islands there are many bird species like spoonbills, herons and *Nycticorax nycticorax*.

13:30h. Lunch and return to Badajoz.

If you wish to participate in this bird-tour, please send an email to eou2015alqueva@gmail.com

Maximum: 25 people



Bird-tour 6: TAGUS ESTUARY (Portugal)

7:00 - Badajoz departure (Spanish time: 8:00)

9:00 -11:00 – “Sitio das Hortas”. It is one of the best spots in Tagus estuary to see shorebirds in the intertidal area during tide rise. The group will walk (about 2 km) to Alcochete through the edge of the estuary (Map 1).

11:00 - 13:45 – “Samouco salt pans”. Here we could see Kentish plovers, Black-winged stilts and Little terns in breeding plumage and juveniles. “Canto salina”; in this artisanal salt pans we could see the flocks of shorebirds coming from the estuary; other bird species: stone curlews, marsh harriers, hoopoes, etc. (Map 2)

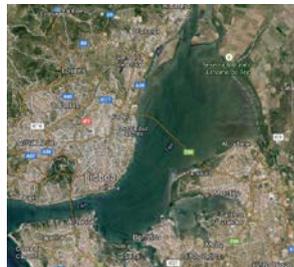
14:00 - 15:30 - Lunch in Alcochete (during the hottest part of the day).

16:20 - 18:00 - EVOA lagoons. We will pass through the rice fields, and could see Purple herons, Collared pratincoles, Glossy ibis, etc. Here the group can buy a snack (Map 3).

18:00-18:40 – “Ponta da Erva”. This is the second best spot in intertidal area (Map4).

21:00 - Badajoz arriving (Spanish time: 22:00).

*If you wish to participate in this bird-tour, please send an email to eou2015estuario@gmail.com
Maximum: 50 people*



Bird-tour 7: AZUD DE BADAJOZ



Ayuntamiento de Badajoz

Sponsored by Ayuntamiento de Badajoz

The weir that makes up El Azud de Badajoz slows the Guadiana river almost to a standstill, creating a unique ecosystem that is an ideal habitat for many endemic Spanish birds. This has led to the area being designated a Special Protection Area for Birds (SPA) and is included in the network known as Red Natura 2000.

So, if you are a bird lover, be sure to visit the permanent bird-watching site where you can see all the different species that live here. These include cattle egrets, lesser black-backed gulls, black-headed gulls, white storks and cormorants.

8:00h – 12.30h Walking tour through SPA El Azud de Badajoz

*If you wish to participate in this bird-tour, please send an email to euo2015zepadajoz@gmail.com
Maximum: 35 people*

