

You are welcome to join us for a **half or full day birdwatching or botanic tour**. The possibilities are:

- La Albufera de Valencia
- El Hondo de Elche
- Pego Marsh
- Mediterranean and endemic plants
- Albacete
- Other tours or destinations. **Ask us!**

A **Tour** includes a guided tour in English and light refreshments. Any other costs/meal fees that are incurred during the day will be paid-for by the clients on an individual basis.

A trip to **Albacete** or **El Hondo de Elche** could involve an early start depending on the time of year. This will be discussed at the time of booking.

A maximum of 4 people can be taken at any one time but special arrangements can be made for larger groups. Sharing with other people may be necessary at certain times of the year unless specified not wanted.



Pau Lucio (Forest Engineer and MSc. in Environmental Science) was born in Gandia (Valencia). He has collaborated with **Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust** Slimbridge (UK) as a reserve warden.

He is currently involved in conservation projects about bird migration and the importance of Spanish coastal wetlands.

Coastal Wetlands: La Albufera and Pego Marsh



Slender-billed Gull

The Albufera has a surface area of 21,120 ha. The main environments are:

- **The Sandbar**, with four sub-environments: the beach, the front line of dunes, the internal dune system and the *malladas* (small salt marshes located in the dunes).
- **The Marsh**, used for growing rice.
- **The Albufera lagoon**

Some of the species that could be seen in this tour are: Purple Swamp-hen, Moustached and Savi's Warbler, Bluethroat, Red-knobbed Coot, Whiskered, Sandwich and Gull-billed Tern, Slender-billed and Audouin's Gull.

These areas also hold large breeding colonies of the *Ardeidae* family, an endemic sprow (*Dugastella valentina*) and a fish called "samaruc" (*Valencia hispanica*), in danger of extinction.

Birdwatching Valencia Region



Booted Eagle

Birdwatching and Nature Tours

More information:
www.birdwatchingvalencia.blogspot.com

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El Hondo de Elche



Black-winged Stilt

This wetland enclave (2,387 ha) has great ecological interest and significant economic value. It is surrounded by salt lagoons and irrigated land.

El Hondo is an important breeding area for the Marbled Duck, Purple Heron, Night and Squacco Heron, Avocet and Collared Pratincole. In this reserve, the White-headed Duck has one of its main population centres worldwide.

Other species which can be seen are Marsh Harrier, Osprey, Bearded and Penduline Tit, and Great Spotted Eagle.

An endemic plant *Limonium santapolense* has one of its best populations in this reserve .

Mediterranean and endemic plants



Lathyrus tremolsianus

The Mediterranean basins are considered a biodiversity hot spot. Currently there are 60 exclusive endemic plants in the Valencian region.

In our tour we will visit some botanic micro-reserves where Iberian endemic plants are located, for example: *Thymus piperella*, *Antirrhinum valentinum*, *Iberis carnosa* subsp. *hegelmaieri*, *Silene diclinis*, *Arenaria valentina*, *Rhamnus lycioides* subsp. *borgiae*, *Sideritis tragoriganum* subsp. *tragoriganum* and orchids such as *Cephalanthera longifolia*. We will also visit a cork oak forest and a Mediterranean scrubland where we will observe a wide range of medicinal plants.

Albacete



Short-toed Lark

In our tour around Albacete you will be able to see the arable farmland and steppe habitat where Calandria, Thekla Lark, Great and Little Bustard, Stone Curlew, Black-eared Wheatear and Black-bellied Sandgrouse could be found.

If we have a look in the Mediterranean shrubs we might see Dartford, Subalpine and Spectacled Warbler.

We will also visit a salt lagoon where Kentish Plover, Black-necked Grebe, Red-crested Pochard, Rock Sparrow and Greater Flamingo could be seen.