

NATURE WATCHING EXPERIENCES

THE ECOTOURISM CLUB IN SPAIN



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Ecotourism Observatory

eco
tourist *in Spain*

ECOTOURISM CLUB
IN SPAIN



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FUENTES DEL NARCEA. ON THE TRAIL OF THE WANDERING BEAR.



We propose a walk in Fuentes de Narcea, where you'll be able to relish in a real paradise for lovers of nature and wildlife.

The protagonists are the landscape, the silence broken only by birdsong and the tracks and signs which tell us all about our fauna: where and how they live, from the smallest reptiles to the largest mammals such as wolf and bear. And with patience...we may even get to see them!

ecotouristinspain.com/muniellos-fuentes-de-narcea-en/

ecotouristinspain.com/on-the-trail-of-the-bear/



A BOAT TRIP TO DISCOVER THE GREAT RECORD OF THE EARTH.

The 13 km of cliffs in the Basque Coast UNESCO Global Geopark have a spectacular formation of rock layers known as Flysch deposits, which in the manner of a large encyclopaedia show us over 60 million years of the history of the Earth.

You can walk along these cliffs or go on a boat trip and sail across time, and discover the thin black layer that indicates the impact of a giant asteroid and the wholesale extinction of the dinosaurs.

ecotouristinspain.com/basque-coast-geopark/

geoparkea.eus/en/guided-tours/essential-flysch?lang_code=en

SOBRARBE - PYRENEES UNESCO GEOPARK. A SEA OF MOUNTAINS.

Sobrarbe is located in the heart of the Pyrenees.

Written in these rocks is the history of the Pyrenean mountain range, 550 million years filled with astounding natural events. Ancient ranges, arid deserts, deep seas, tropical deltas...all the secrets of the origins of the mountains can be read in Sobrarbe through its network of Geo-routes. Some of these encompass the very best viewpoints for observing and photographing Bearded Vulture and other scavenging raptors.

ecotouristinspain.com/sobrarbe-pirineos-geopark/

pirineosbirdcenter.quebrantahuesos.org/?lang=en



ORCHIDS OF LA GARROTXA'S VOLCANIC ZONE.

The region of La Garrotxa is home to more than 50 species of wild orchids, present due to a great wealth of different habitats, from mountain meadows to limestone terrain and volcanic soils.

Under the guidance of an expert, you can observe and photograph a multitude of orchids, as well as a large variety of flora and fauna, such as *Charaxes jasius*, the Two-tailed Pasha butterfly, *Lucanus cervus* the Stag beetle, the European crayfish or the endemic flower *Polygala vayredae*.

ecotouristinpain.com/the-flora-and-fauna-of-the-natural-parks/

en.turismegarrotxa.com/home/



ALTO TAJO – MOLINA GEOPARK. ACCOMPANY THEM ON THEIR FLIGHT.

If you visit the Alto Tajo – Molina Geopark, you will find one of the clearest skies in the whole of the Iberian Peninsula.

Along its network of geo-routes, you will come across remote areas where birds reside among strocky cliffs in gullies eroded by the Tajo and Gallo rivers, home to large communities of rock-dwelling raptors such as Griffon vulture, Egyptian vulture, Peregrine falcon and Bonelli's eagle.

ecotouristinspain.com/geopark-comarca-molina-alto-tajo/

THE EBRO DELTA, A BIRDS' PARADISE

This Natural Park offers a landscape of great biological wealth whose diversity in flora and fauna is of incalculable value.

This Biosphere Reserve houses some of the most important marine bird breeding colonies of the Mediterranean.

Its mild winters attract hundreds of species, with huge concentrations in the lagoons and flooded rice fields.

We invite you to discover the more than 350 species which have made of the Delta their natural habitat.

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ecotouristinspain.com/c/ebro-delta+observing-nature/



MENORCA, JEWEL OF THE WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN.



Menorca breathes peace and nature. Its high state of conservation, its vast array of habitats and its location add up to make it a fantastic and special place for nature lovers. Flyway for millions of migratory birds, with 1400 species of plants, (7% endemic), a large variety of marine birds such as the Balearic Shearwater, a wealth of invertebrates and its particular geology make it a perfect destiny in which to relish the wild life in privileged surroundings.

ecotouristinspain.com/menorca-biosphere-reserve/

menorcawalkingbirds.com/birdwatching/



CABAÑEROS NATIONAL PARK, THE SPANISH SERENGETI.

To lose oneself in its territory, observe its inhabitants and delight in over 1000 botanical species: an amazing experience.

Discover the best preserved Mediterranean woodland of the Iberian Peninsula. Its heart: the 'Raña', a plain that disappears in the horizon, like an African Savanna to the south of Madrid.

Thousands of wild Red deer share the territory with many other mammals. Black vulture, Spanish Imperial eagle, more than a hundred species of interest.

Wild nature to delight in at anytime of year!

ecotouristinspain.com/cabaneros-en/



TABLAS DE DAIMIEL NATIONAL PARK, THE ISLAND OF WATER.

Where the water is bordered by land with a huge ring of vegetation, life is sustained within it and its more than 30 islets.

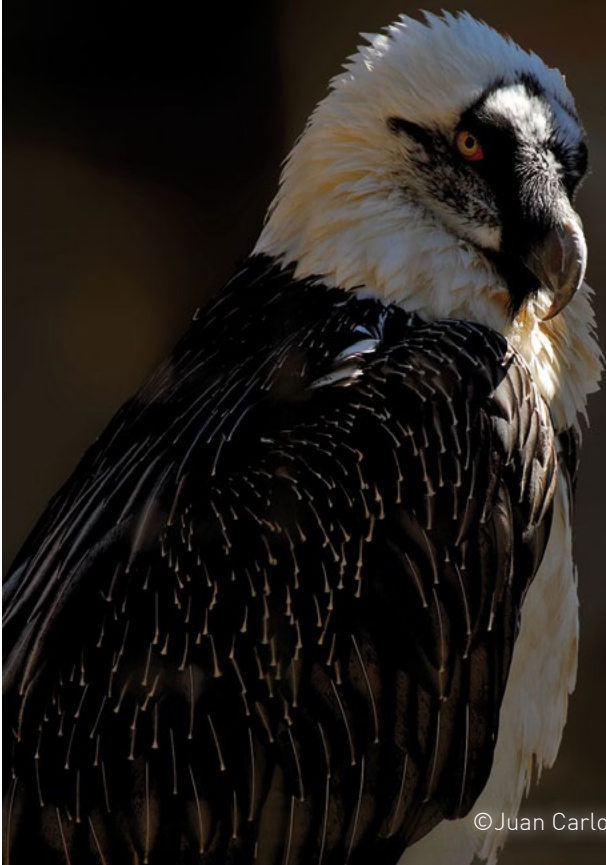
The largest floodplains in La Mancha, 2 hours south of Madrid, where rain is scarce and nevertheless here we find a world of fresh and brackish waters intermingling in a flooded expanse.

This is what makes the Tablas de Daimiel unique. It is a refuge for wildfowl, waders and steppe-land birds, with over 240 species.

An Island of Water!

ecotouristinspain.com/tablas-daimiel-en/

SIERRA DE CAZORLA. THE BEARDED VULTURE FLIES AGAIN.



One of Europe's largest protected areas, and one of the most important Biodiversity hotspots on the Continent, located to the northeast of Andalucía.

High mountain vistas, Mediterranean woodland, mighty rivers, ancient trees, endemic plants and insects, and raptors mean a visit to this Natural Park leaves nobody indifferent.

You'll be able to see the Bearded vulture, which, thanks to the efforts of ecologists, administration, tourism companies and farmers has come back from the brink.

Come, enjoy and collaborate with us!

ecotouristinspain.com/sierra-de-cazorla-en/

www.sierrasdecazorlaseguraylasvillas.es/en/

SIERRA ESPUÑA: THE KINGDOM OF THE GOLDEN EAGLE.

Sierra Espuña is a Natural Park in the centre of the region of Murcia, where the beauty of the high mountains combines with pine forests steeped in history. These mountains are a paradise for a multitude of forest birds, and where the undisputed Queen is the Golden Eagle.

Come with us to photograph these majestic birds from inside a comfortable hide. It is also an ideal place to observe and photograph woodland raptors.

ecotouristinspain.com/sierra-espuna-en/

ecotouristinspain.com/photo-logistics-en/





SIERRA NEVADA. BOTANY'S SISTINE CHAPEL.

Sierra Nevada, with more than 80 botanical endemisms, is in one of the territories with the highest percentage of species exclusive to our continent, with more than 10% of Andalucía's flora being endemic.

Glacial lagoons, dolomitic sands and semi-deserts make up some of its most valued landscapes.

Mountain birds, endemic insects and butterflies and Iberian Ibex make it all the more attractive.

Discover it with us!.

www.ecoturismosierranevada.com/en

ecotouristspain.com/c/sierra-nevada-en+observing-nature/



ARACENA AND PICOS DE AROCHE, THE LAND WHERE THE MIGHTY FLY

In southwest Spain, above a sea of woodland, reigns the largest silhouette of Europe's skies. This is an ideal breeding habitat for the continent's largest bird, the Black vulture, which nests in these cork oak groves and lives alongside traditional activities such as breeding of Iberian pig and cork harvesting.

Other raptors share this territory which boasts a huge botanical diversity, and the most varieties of fungi in Europe.

Come and enjoy us, discover the North of the South!

ecotouristinpain.com/sierra-aracena-picos-arache-eng/

ecotouristinpain.com/vultures-land/

DOÑANA

THE GREAT SANCTUARY FOR BIRDS



Its location at the meeting point between the old European continent and Africa make it the most important wetland in Europe. It is home to over 400 species of birds, of which 130 regularly breed in the Park.

Its geolocation make it suitable as a wintering area for northern European birds and numerous African birds which use the area in winter as well as in the spring.

It is also one of the best places to discover the Iberian Lynx.

Altogether a huge treat for your eyes!

ecotouristinspain.com/donana-en/

ecotouristinspain.com/donana-an-ideal-site-to-enjoy-ecotourism/

UNIQUE ECOSYSTEMS, FASCINATING BIODIVERSITY, VOLCANO AND DESERT: LANZAROTE

Observation of steppe-land and migratory birds in volcanic areas close to-Africa, with a surprising diversity of endemic insects and vascular plants. Singular and original activities on offer, organized locally, to personally experience the biodiversity and landscapes of the island.

The Biosphere Reserve of Lanzarote is the essence of an island with its own soul and personality.

ecotouristinspain.com/lanzarote-en/

ecoturismo.lanzarotebiosfera.org/las-aves-de-lanzarote-en-varios-idiomasy/

LA PALMA, REFUGE OF ANCIENT WOODLAND AND PRIMITIVE PIGEONS.



The pseudonym “Green Island”, used to describe the Biosphere Reserve of La Palma, refers to the grandeur of its forests which cover most of its surface, and of which its endemisms are undoubtedly the Jewels in the Crown.

Of note are the Canaries’ endemic pigeons: *Columba bollii* (Dark-tailed Laurel-pigeon) y *Columba junoniae* (White-tailed Laurel-pigeon), which maintain the best populations in La Palma. Both inhabit the relict forests of Laurisilva, Bolle’s pigeon being particularly dependent on this habitat.

Come out and discover them.

ecotouristinspain.com/biosphere-reserve-la-palma/
www.lapalmabiosfera.es/en

LA GOMERA. THE PLEASURE OF WATCHING DOLPHINS AND WHALES IN THE WILD.

The sea to the southwest of the island of La Gomera provides the best natural habitat for a large variety of cetaceans.

23 species of whale and dolphin can be seen here, the Short-finned Pilot whale being the most frequent.

The trips organized to see them are made with a maximum respect.

The traveller can also delight in the panoramas sculpted by the volcanoes of the island: a real treat for the senses.

ecotouristinspain.com/garajonay-gomera-en/

gomeraexperience.com/en/home/

CONTRIBUTE TO THE CONSERVATION OF THE SPANISH IMPERIAL EAGLE.

Have you ever been close to the most powerful weightlifter on Earth?

Visit the Águilas de Fuente Empedrada center run by the Aquila Foundation, a non-profit organization which looks after injured raptors, with a captive breeding program and investigations into avoiding raptor electrocution.

You can stay in the rural cottage in the middle of the Llanos de Oropesa Special Protection Area for Birds. (Great Bustard, Little Bustard, Spanish Imperial Eagle, Black Shouldered Kite).

ecotouristinspain.com/iberian-imperial-eagle-conservation/





What is Ecotourism?

Ecotourism is a kind of travel in which we can gain a more intimate knowledge of natural areas in a responsible way, respecting ecological balance, minimizing our environmental impact, and enjoying them through activities offered by companies committed to their conservation. When we practise ecotourism not only do we get to know, experience and appreciate the places we visit, but we also protect their worth (natural, cultural, ethnographic, gastronomic, etc.), and as such actively favour the socio-economic sustainability of the local population.

Who are we?

The Ecotourism Club in Spain groups together destinations and companies which guarantee, by fulfilling a series of requirements, their commitment to conservation and local sustainable development. That is why it has created its own brand “Ecotourist in Spain” and the website www.ecotouristinspain.com, where you can find protected areas, accommodation and companies which offer their tourism services, as well as experiences and activities committed to the preservation of the area in which they take place.



Are you an Ecotourist?

-If you are enthusiastic about landscapes, biodiversity, culture, gastronomy, and you are happy to know that your trip contributes to their conservation.

-If you love bird-watching, seeing flora, or discovering geological sites guided by professionals who work for their conservation.

-If you wish to stay with friends or family in accommodation which help to conserve the area you visit.

-If you visit Mother Nature on foot, by bicycle, on horseback, or in a canoe, respectfully discovering her secrets thanks to local professionals...

...congratulations: YOU'RE AN ECOTOURIST! and now you have a reference point to seek destinies, activities and companies which comply with these requirements.

WILL YOU COME AND VISIT?

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