

# Birding Languedoc

non-profit organisation supporting local wildlife



## 2022 Birdwatching & Wildlife Tours in the Languedoc

France offers a fabulous range of wildlife just an easy train-ride away and nowhere more so than the Languedoc-Roussillon region, which stretches from the high plateaux of the Eastern Pyrenees in the south via the vineyards and coastal lagoons of the Western Mediterranean in the middle to the Minervois hills in the north. This diversity of habitats is home to an impressive range of wildlife in a relatively small area. Interesting resident birdlife (*Bonelli's eagle, Blue rock thrush, Sardinian warbler, Eagle owl* to mention but a few) is complemented in the spring and autumn by spectacular migration (*White stork, Black kite and Honey buzzard* – as well as tens of thousands of hirundines and passerines), whereas summer nesting visitors add some exotic touches of colour (*Roller, Bee-eater and Golden oriole*). The area also boasts over 80 species of orchids and more than 150 species of butterflies together with interesting reptiles, dragonflies and mammals.

**Our guess is that many people are itching to travel but want to stay closer to home in these strange Covid times... So where better to go than the sunny south of France to enjoy brilliant birding and wildlife, soak up some sunshine and enjoy delicious local food and wine!**

**Nothing beats local knowledge** and our English-speaking guide and bilingual tour leader are both long-term Languedoc residents, with an intimate understanding of the local conditions and wildlife.

Our **small group fixed price tours vary in length and cost** and we hope you will find one to suit. However, if you prefer to travel with a group of people you know, why not **privatise one of our advertised tours** for your birding club or a group of friends. You can also ask for a **tailor-made itinerary to suit your group's interest and budget**.

Birding Languedoc tours are relaxed but focussed and we go out of our way to find charming high-quality accommodation. Prices are all inclusive except for travel and we offer a special **#lowcarbonbirding discount to participants traveling by train**.

As Languedoc specialists, we are passionate about our local wildlife and love sharing "our patch" with fellow birders and natural history enthusiasts. We will do our utmost to make sure you get the most out of a trip here.

### **New this year:**

**Spring birding for Women:** provides a safe space for women birders who sometimes find themselves isolated and intimidated if they are a lone woman on a trip with exclusively male clients, tour leader and guide.

**Orchids of the Aude – Part One:** offers a unique opportunity to discover some of the 90 species of wild orchid that have been recorded in the Aude county of southern France. The group will be guided by a local orchid specialist and a botanist.

**Butterflies and Birds of the Eastern Pyrenees:** developed in partnership with the Catalan Pyrenees regional park and guided by a local butterfly expert – this trip includes some sites unknown to other tour operators.

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## Tour programme 2022

If small group tours are not for you, another option is to organise your own independent holiday to coincide with one or more of our **guided day trips in English**, allowing you time to explore on your own **and** benefit from a day or two out with our experienced local guides. This makes the perfect combination for a great value-for-money birding trip to the Languedoc with plenty of things to do and see for non-birders. The spring day trip programme is available on our website from January and the autumn programme from late July.

See the appropriate tour page on the Birding Languedoc website: [www.birdinglanguedoc.org](http://www.birdinglanguedoc.org) for more detailed information.

If you are interested in joining a trip, please complete the [Booking Request Form](#) and do get in touch by email: [birdinglanguedoc@gmail.com](mailto:birdinglanguedoc@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

We only ask for a deposit once a trip has enough participants to be confirmed.

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Price pp from**</u>
25-28 Feb	BLWWW-22	Winter Weekend looking for Wallcreeper	690€
21-25 March	BLMSBW-22	March Spring birding break for women*	960€
25-29 April	BLASBF-22	Spring birding & wild flowers* - w/Dominic Couzens	960€
9-13 May	BLORCH-22	Orchids of the Aude - Part 1	960€
16-23 May	BLMGBW-22	Gourmet Spring Birding & Wine in the Med*	1,680€
14-21 July	BLJBBP-22	Butterflies & Birds of the Eastern Pyrenees	1,680€
Sept Dates tbc	BLABPN-22	Autumn Birding Pyrenees & Narbonnaise*	1,680€

\* Trips marked with an asterisk are run in partnership with the Narbonnaise regional park.

\*\*As of 3/02/2022 the exchange rate is approximately 1.19€ to the British pound. Therefore, dividing the prices mentioned above by 1.19 will give you the GBP equivalent. **Our trips are however, sold in euros.** When the trip is confirmed, you may choose to pay the full amount, rather than just the deposit, in order to avoid exchange rate fluctuations and remove any uncertainty as to how much the trip will cost you.

\*\*\* All Birding Languedoc trips are sold by fully bonded tour operator L'Authentic France.