



Photo: Lisbon and the Tagus Estuary, by Pedro Marques

## Short-break Birds & Lisbon Programme

Lisbon and the Tagus Estuary

Birds & Nature Tours Portugal

### **Overview**

Lisbon is the only European capital located right next to a rich, globally famous, birdwatching hotspot. And some of the very best birding areas of the Tagus Estuary wetland lie only 20 minutes from the Lisbon Airport or the city centre! We have taken full advantage of this and designed our Birds & Lisbon Programme, combining the best of urban and rural highlights.

In this programme, participants can visit Lisbon by themselves (staying in a Lisbon hotel) and, guided by Birds & Nature, can also discover the wonderful bird life of the famed Tagus estuary.

This remarkable protected wetland offers an extensive bird list that includes Greater Flamingo, White Stork, Glossy Ibis, Squacco and Purple Herons, Black-winged Kite, Purple Swamphen, Little Bustard, Collared Pratincole, Pallid Swift, Eurasian Hoopoe, European Bee-eater, Bluethroat, Iberian Chiffchaff, Iberian Grey and Woodchat Shrikes, Iberian Magpie, Spotless Starling, Rock Sparrow and European Serin and an excellent selection of ducks, waders, gulls and terns.

In practical terms and after a brief flight, just 20 minutes from the city airport you can expect to be seeing Greater Flamingo, Glossy Ibis, Squacco and Purple Herons, Eurasian Hoopoe, Iberian Magpie...

Next morning you are enjoying great views of unique species, like the Jerónimos Monastery, the Belém Tower, the São Jorge Castle...

## **Itinerary**

Day 1 – Transfer from Lisbon Airport. Visit several areas and a variety of habitats within the Tagus Estuary Nature Reserve, including the inter-tidal mudflats and salt marshes of Hortas, the salt pans of Atalaya and Ribeira das Enguias and the Barroca d'Alva rice fields and pastures. Overnight stay at the Hotel Fénix Garden or Hotel Zenit, in Lisbon.

Day 2 – Day free for visiting Lisbon. Some possibilities include visits to the São Jorge Castle, Lisbon's Sé, Comércio Square, "baixa" (downtown) and Liberdade Avenue. Overnight stay at the Hotel Fénix Garden or Hotel Zenit.

Day 3 – Visit other interesting sites of the Tagus Estuary Nature Reserve, including the open fields, rice fields, reed beds, lagoons, inter-tidal mudflats and salt marshes of the Ponta da Erva area and the cork oak woodlands of Pancas. During the breeding season, we visit a heronry on the Tagus river. Overnight stay at the Hotel Fénix Garden or Hotel Zenit.

Day 4 – Day free for visiting Lisbon. Some possibilities include visits to the Jerónimos Monastery, Belém Tower, Discoveries Monument and Arte Antiga National Museum. Overnight stay at the Hotel Fénix Garden or Hotel Zenit.

Day 5 – Visit other interesting sites in the Tagus Estuary Nature Reserve, including the salt pans of Samouco and Vaza-sacos and the woods of Bate Orelhas. Transfer to Lisbon Airport for return flight.

Note: it is possible to tailor the programme to your wishes by reducing or increasing the number of days, or changing the proportion of time spent visiting Lisbon and birdwatching the Tagus estuary.

## **Prices**

880 euros per person (2 people). Price include guide fees (during the birdwatching tours), transfer from/to the airport, ground transport (in vehicles with air-conditioning during the birdwatching tours), accommodation (including breakfast) in Lisbon, free use of optical equipment (quality

binoculars and telescopes) and field guides, bird list, entrance fees to private or protected areas (during the birdwatching tours), participant's accident insurance (during the birdwatching tours) and VAT. Single supplement: 130 euros. Not included are flights, meals and items of a personal nature. Meals in selected restaurants can be included if you wish (during the birdwatching tours). Please note the price per person will be reduced as the number of participants increases.

**For enquiries, please contact us:**

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