

## What's special about this tour?

- See thousands of Common Cranes at their most important stopover site in Western Europe.
- Search for Wallcreepers as they descend to accessible areas in the Pre-Pyrenees.
- See Spain's mountain birds such as Lammergeiers, Black Woodpeckers, Citril Finches. Then enjoy plains and wetland birds galore too.

## When?

- **Bespoke tours from l**ate February March and November-early December. Please ask about your dates.
- <u>Fixed tour dates</u>: (i) Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> February Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2019 (ii) Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2019 (iii) Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> November 2019

**Key species**: Little Bustard, Great Bustard, Black Wheatear, Iberian Green Woodpecker, Eagle Owl, Golden Eagle, Booted Eagle, Alpine Accentor, Blue Rock Thrush, Rock Bunting, Crested Tit , Lammergeier, Wallcreeper, Citril Finch, Black Woodpecker, White-throated Dipper, Alpine Chough, Pin-tailed Sandgrouse, Black-bellied Sandgrouse, Dartford Warbler, Black Wheatear, Hen Harrier, Red Kite, Common Kingfisher, Penduline Tit, Kentish Plover, Audouin's Gull, Whiskered Tern, Greater Flamingo, Eurasian Spoonbill, lots of waders and ducks, Bluethroat and Moustached Warbler.

## **ITINERARY**



Days 1 to 3: Meeting at Barcelona, the birding starts big on the plains near Lleida. We finish in the beautiful Sierra de Guara, where we stay for three nights.

Here we visit a number of sites where both Lammergeiers and Wallcreepers are regularly encountered. We bird along the mountain roads and valleys, exploring tracks and streams for the local birdlife. Here and in the high Pyrenees the mountain scenery will be spectacular.

Days 4 and 5 : En-route to our next hotel we will follow the path with the most birds! This will include the Monegros plains, and a brief visit to the ruins of Belchite. The next day we visit the Gallocanta area to admire the large flocks of Common Cranes, many raptors, and more. We also make a scenically delightful gorge walk.

Days 6 and 7: We make our way to our hotel in the Ebro Delta, where we stay for two nights. En-route we plan to visit a local gorge where Spanish Ibex roam, an interesting wetland which is often full of ducks, and some delightful ancient olive groves in els Ports mountains. Our last full day of birding we will spend searching for birds in the Ebro Delta, among ricefields, sea bays, reedbeds, sandy beaches and lagoons.

**Day 8:** We leave the Ebro Delta after some last birding and then make our way back to Barcelona.

<u>Price</u> (per person as part of a group of 4 people, consult for other possibilities): **1,475 euros** Single room supplement 165 euros

