

100+ Birds Costa del Sol Birdwatching Challenge (2016.05.18)
by BIRDAYTRIP
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Another amazing birding day around Malaga province with 106 recorded species!

Click here for the complete list of birds: <http://www.birdaytrip.es/blog/item/559-100-birds-costa-del-sol-birdwatching-challenge-2016-05-18>

What a marvellous song from the Nightingale in the early morning silence. It seemed as if the Scops Owls, Red-necked Nightjars and Tawny Owls lowered their voices not to disturb the Nightingale's musical reign.

It was the beginning of a very intense day that went on at El Torcal in the month of the Melodious Warbler.

The Fuente de Piedra lake does not show the splendour of rainy years but it still shows the elegance of Gull-billed Terns, Red-crested Pochards, Avocets and Black-winged Stilts. I was so glad to witness the arrival of the Great Reed Warbler!

How hot it was at the farmlands! How can Crested, Short-toed and Calandra Larks stand these conditions?

And back to the mountains at El Chorro, where we were looking for the tick on the Bonelli's Eagle and the Dartford Warbler... Got them!

We were pretty close to the 100 and this time, at Rio Grande again, the prize went to a White Wagtail that flew away from me before I could immortalize it.

We finished at Zapata where we found the Night Heron and, at last!, ticked the Bee-eater though some of the common birds at this time of year did not want to run into us this time...



Spectacled Warbler (*Sylvia conspicillata*)



Spanish Terrapins (*Mauremys leprosa*)



Curlew Sandpiper (*Calidris ferruginea*)



Black-winged Stilt (*Himantopus himantopus*)



Short-toed Lark (*Calandrella brachydactyla*)



Farmlands



Crested Lark (*Galerida cristata*)



Spanish Sparrow (*Passer hispaniolensis*)



Thekla Lark (*Galerida theklae*)



Bonelli's Eagle (*Aquila fasciata*)



Dartford Warbler (*Sylvia undata*)



Night Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*)