

Birding at El Chorro and the Mouth of the Guadalhorce (2016.09.06)
by BIRDAYTRIP
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Mark and I had a wonderful meeting with Vultures and Alpine Swifts in the mountains, and White-headed Ducks and Flamingos at the river.

Click here for the complete list of birds observed: <http://www.birdaytrip.es/blog/item/595-birding-at-el-chorro-and-the-mouth-of-the-guadalhorce-costa-del-sol-malaga-andalucia-southern-spain-2016-09-06>

The south of Spain is going through a severe heat wave from Africa. Fortunately, it was not too hot in the morning when we climbed to the cliffs at El Chorro. The way up was fantastic, with great views of Common Crossbill, Rock Bunting, Black Wheatear, Blue Rock Thrush and a Short-toed Eagle sitting on a pylon. We had some glimpses of Short-toed Treecreeper, Sardinian and Dartford Warbler as well.

The Griffon Vultures were sitting on the cliffs today so we decided to visit La Encantada for some better views of their majestic flights. They, along with the Alpine Swifts, did not disappoint us at all, and we enjoyed such a very close presence that we could hear them flying around us.

The heat was severe at the Mouth of the Guadalhorce but the hides provide wonderful shelter. Lots of highlights here like the White-headed Duck, Audouin's Gull, fantastic flights and dives of the Kingfisher, several Balearic Shearwaters in the distance, Hoopoe, Flamingos and a flock of Glossy Ibis trying to decide where to land.

Despite the heat, Malaga always offers good opportunities for great birding. Just need a hat, sunscreen, a bottle of water and your bins...



Griffon Vulture (*Gyps fulvus*)



Blue Rock Thrush (*Monticola solitarius*)



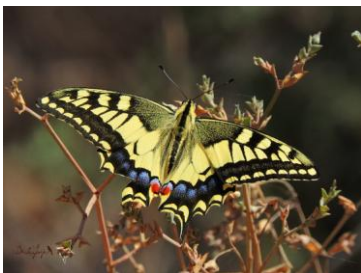
Black Wheatear (*Oenanthe leucura*)



Short-toed Eagle (*Circaetus gallicus*)



Griffon Vulture (*Gyps fulvus*)



Swallowtail (*Papilio machaon*)



First Snipe (*Gallinago gallinago*) of the season!!!



Little Egret (*Egretta garzetta*)



Banded Groundling (*Brachythemis impartita*)



Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*)



Common Sandpiper (*Actitis hypoleucos*)



Lesser Black-backed Gull (*Larus fuscus*)



Bar-tailed Godwit (*Limosa lapponica*)