birdwatching

IN PORTUGAL
In this guide, you will find 36 places of interest for birdwatchers and seven suggestions of itineraries you may wish to follow. Accept the challenge and venture forth around Portugal in search of our birdlife.
Portugal is situated in the Mediterranean region, which is one of the world’s most important areas in terms of biodiversity. Its landscape is very varied, with mountains and plains, hidden valleys and meadowland, extensive forests and groves, rocky coasts and never-ending beaches that stretch into the distance, estuaries, river deltas and coastal lagoons. With such a great variety of habitats, our country also presents one of the greatest diversities of birdlife in Europe, with roughly 360 regularly-occurring species.

In mainland Portugal, there are roughly 70 species whose distribution is restricted to the region of the Mediterranean basin (e.g. Greater Flamingo, Egyptian Vulture, Bonelli’s Eagle, Black-winged Kite, Collared Pratincole, Black-bellied Sandgrouse, Red-necked Nightjar, Great Spotted Cuckoo, Red-rumped Swallow, Black Wheatear, Blue Rock Thrush, Rufous-tailed Rock Thrush, Orphean Warbler, Spanish Sparrow). The coastal strip is the preferred place of migration for thousands of birds from dozens of different species. Hundreds of thousands of sea and coastal birds (gannets, shearwaters, sandpipers, plovers and terns), birds of prey (eagles and harriers), small birds (swallows, pipits, warblers, thrushes and shrikes) cross over our territory twice a year, flying between their breeding grounds in Europe and their winter stays in Africa.

In the archipelagos of the Azores and Madeira, there are important colonies of seabirds, such as the Cory’s Shearwater, Bulwer’s Petrel and Roseate Tern. There are also some endemic species on the islands, such as the Madeiran Storm Petrel, Madeiran Laurel Pigeon, Madeiran Firecrest or the Azores Bullfinch. One should also stress the importance of the Azores as a place where bird species may appear occasionally, flying in from the American continent.

Birdwatching in Portugal is also made easier by the relatively small size of the country itself, the quality of its road network, its mild climate and its high level of public safety. Being included in the strategic tourist product of Nature Tourism, birdwatching is best complemented with other important regional features, such as fine gastronomy, excellent wines and a rich cultural heritage.
Permits/Licences
If you wish to visit a protected area (National Park, Natural Park or Nature Reserve) with an organised group, you must contact the Instituto da Conservação da Natureza e da Biodiversidade (www.icnb.pt) in advance, so that they can issue you with a special permit for this purpose. If you wish to visit a private property, you must contact the owner in advance.

How do I hire a local guide?
If you wish to hire a local guide, you should look for the list of tourism companies licensed to provide this service at the Tourist Information Offices or on the Turismo de Portugal website (www.turismodeportugal.pt).

Information about accommodation, restaurants and other places to visit
You should look for this information at the Tourist Information Offices or on the websites of the Regional Tourism Boards (see pages 64 and 100 of this guide).

Useful Information

Equipment needed
- Practical, discreet clothing
- Suitable footwear for the countryside and mountains
- Binoculars
- Pocket guide for identifying birds
- Notebook or sketch book
- Patience and enthusiasm in sufficient quantities

Essential rules of conduct for birdwatchers

1. Respect local traditions and lifestyles.
2. Respect private property, close all gates.
3. Do not make any noise and do not disturb the peace of local sites.
4. Keep at a distance from the birds and watch them through binoculars.
5. Do not pick plants, capture animals or take geological samples. Only take photographs.
6. Respect the signposting of protected areas.
7. Footpaths must always be used only by small groups.
8. Do not light fires.
9. Each person is responsible for the rubbish that they produce; they should take it away with them and dispose of it in appropriate places.
10. Contact the authorities whenever you notice some irregularity.
In Portugal, there are 93 Important Bird Areas, where roughly 360 different species can be regularly observed, with their magnificent plumage and spectacular living habits. Many of these species have a very restricted distribution in Europe and the World, which makes them particularly attractive for foreign visitors.
Em Portugal existem 93 Áreas Importantes para as Aves, onde podem ser observadas regularmente cerca de 360 espécies diferentes, possibilitando de magníficas plumagens e espectaculares hábitos de vida. Muitas destas espécies têm uma distribuição muito restrita na Europa e no Mundo, pelo que se tornam atractivos para os visitantes estrangeiros.
01. Peneda-Gerês
The National Park

Description
Mountainous areas of Serra da Peneda, Serra do Soajo, Serra Amarela and Serra do Gerês, mountain scrubland and pastureland, rocky outcrops and scarpes, peat bogs, lakes, rivers and streams, oak and pine forests, riverside woodland and marshland.

Species

Interpretation Centres
- Videoiro Environmental Education Centre
  Tel. +351 253 390 110
- Porta em Lamas de Mouro
  Tel. +351 251 465 010
- Porta no Mezio
  Tel. +351 258 510 100
- Porta no Lindoso
  Tel. +351 258 578 141
- Porta em Campo do Gerês
  Tel. +351 253 351 888
- Porta em Montalegre
  Tel. +351 276 510 203

Birdwatching sites

Other attractions in the area
Flora, mammals, reptiles and amphibians, butterflies, archaeology, ethnography.

Other areas nearby
Minho Estuary 41°55’N 08°47’W
Lagoa de Bertiandos 41°46’N 8°38’W

Rufous-tailed Rock Thrush
Monticola saxatilis

*SPA Special Protection Area  **IBA Important Bird Area
02. Montesinho
Land of wolves and eagles

Description
Serra de Montesinho and Serra da Coroa, mountain scrubland and pastureland, rocky outcrops and scarps, Pyrenean oak forests, chestnut groves, riverside woodland, marshland and cultivated fields.

Species

Birdwatching sites

Other attractions in the area
Flora, mammals, reptiles and amphibians, butterflies, archaeology, ethnography.

Other areas nearby
Serra da Nogueira 41°43’N 06°52’W
03.
Douro Internacional
The great portuguese gorge

Description
Douro and Águeda rivers and tributaries, Mediterranean scrubland, rocky outcrops, river scarps, holm-oak forests, riverside woodland, marshland and cultivated fields.

Species

Birdwatching sites
Paradela, Vale d’Água, Miranda do Douro, Cércio, Barragem do Picote, Barragem da Bemposta, Lagoaça, Freixo de Espada à Cinta, Penedo Durão, Figueira de Castelo Rodrigo and Barragem de Santa Maria de Aguia.

Other attractions in the area
Flora, reptiles and amphibians, butterflies, archaeology, ethnography.

Other areas nearby
Rio Sabor 41°31’N 06°39’W
Alto Côa 40°53’N 07°04’W
The remote marvels of the north-east

ITINERARY A

Places to be visited (see map of Mainland Portugal)

1. França
2. Rio Sabor
3. Montesinho
4. Serra Serrada
5. Lama Grande
6. Rio de Onor
7. Guadramil
8. Quintanilha
9. Rio Maçãs
10. Vimioso
11. Rio Angueira
12. Miranda do Douro
13. Paradela
14. Vale da Águia
15. Cércio
16. Braciosa
17. Picote
18. Bemposta

Number of days 5
Distance 200 km

Notes
Visit the community village of Rio de Onor in Bragança, take a cruise on the river at Miranda do Douro, and visit the Foz Côa Archaeological Park.

J F M A M J J A S O N D
04.
Ria de Aveiro
Lagoons and saltpans by the sea

**Description**
Coast from Mira to Ovar, beaches, salt marshes, cane thickets, saltpans, fish cultures, tidal mud flats, canals, riverside woodland, marshland and cultivated fields.

**Species**
Common Scoter, Marsh Harrier, Purple Heron, Little Bittern, Little Egret, White Stork, Black-winged Stilt, Grey Plover, Eurasian Golden Plover, Northern Lapwing, Kentish Plover, Common Redshank, Greenshank, Dunlin, Black-tailed Godwit, Common Kingfisher, Yellow Wagtail, Great Reed Warbler, Savi’s Warblers, Common Reed Bunting, Cirl Bunting.

**Birdwatching sites**

**Other attractions in the area**
Flora, dragonflies, archaeology, ethnography.

**Other areas nearby**
Barrinha de Esmoriz 40°58’N, 08°38’W

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**Marsh Harrier**
*Circus aeruginosus*
05. Mondégo Estuary
An island in the river

**Description**
Estuary of the River Mondégo, salt marshes, cane thickets, salt pans, fish cultures, tidal mud flats, canals, riverside woodland and rice fields.

**Species**
Marsh Harrier, Greater Flamingo, Little Egret, White Stork, Black-winged Stilt, Pied Avocet, Grey Plover, Kentish Plover, Common Redshank, Greenshank, Dunlin, Common Kingfisher, Yellow Wagtail, Great Reed Warbler, Southern Grey Shrike, Common Reed Bunting.

**Birdwatching sites**
ilha da Murraceira and Rio Pranto.

**Other attractions in the area**
Flora, ethnography.

**Interpretation Centres**
Ecomuseu do Sal
(Salt Museum) of Figueira da Foz
ilha da Murraceira
Tel. +351 233 403 300

**Dunlin**
Calidris alpina

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**40°08’ N, 8°50’ W**
Coordinates
(cenral point)

**Area**
IBA 1.518ha
06. Paul de Arzila
The green and gold of the cane thickets

Description
Cane thickets, willow wood, canals, riverside woodland and rice fields.

Species
Marsh Harrier, Purple Heron, Little Bittern, Little Egret, White Stork, Purple Swamphen, Black-winged Stilt, Common Kingfisher, Common Nightingale, Great Reed Warbler, Savi’s Warbler, Southern Grey Shrike, Common Reed Bunting.

Birdwatching sites
Arzila, Lameira de Baixo, Casal das Amoreiras.

Other attractions in the area
Flora, dragonflies.

Other areas nearby
Paul da Madriz 40°07’N 08°38’W
Quinta do Taipal 40°11’N 08°41’W

Purple Heron
Ardea purpurea

Interpretation Centres
Arzila
Tel. +351 239 980 500
07.
Serra da Estrela
The high mountains

Description
Mountain massif of Serra da Estrela, watercourses at high altitude, cliffs and crags, meadowland and mountain scrubland, peat bogs, deciduous forests (Pyrenean oak and chestnut) and Scots Pine forests, riverside woodland, sclerophyllous scrubland, marshland and agricultural land.

Species

Birdwatching sites
Torre and Planalto da Torre, Cântaro Magro, Rio Zêzere, Nave de Santo António, Manteigas.

Other attractions in the area
Flora, butterflies, reptiles and amphibians, geology, archaeology, ethnography.

Other areas nearby
Serra da Malcata 40°15’N 07°02’W
Lagoons and Estuaries of the centre region

ITINERARY B

Places to be visited

- Dunes of São Jacinto
  - 01. Pateira de São Jacinto
  - 02. Murtosa
  - 03. Bocage de Salreu
  - 04. Bocage de Sarrazola

- Aveiro
  - 05. Saltpans of Aveiro
  - 06. Lagoa da Vela

- Mondego Estuary
  - 07. Ilha da Murraceira

- Fens of the River Mondego
  - 08. Quinta do Taipal
  - 09. Paul de Arzila

(see map of Mainland Portugal)

Number of days 4

Distance 150 km

Notes

Take a boat trip on the Ria de Aveiro, visit the Roman ruins of Conimbriga in Condeixa-a-Nova.
Tejo Internacional
Great eagles and vultures

Description
International Valley of the River Tagus and its tributaries, rocky outcrops and scarps, sclerophyllous scrubland, holm-oak groves and forests, riverside woodland, dams and reservoirs, cultivated fields, pastureland and fallow land.

Species

Birdwatching sites

Other attractions in the area
Flora, reptiles and amphibians, geology, archaeology.

Other areas nearby
Penha Garcia 40°01’N 06°57’W
Portas do Ródão 39°42’N 07°44’W

Interpretation Centres
Environmental Interpretation Centre in Castelo Branco
Tel. +351 272 348 140

coordinates:
39°43’N 07°15’W
(calculation point)

Area
Natural Park
23.441 ha
SPA 25.761 ha
IBA 25.764 ha
09.

Berlengas and Peniche
The island of the guillemots

Carreiro dos cações
Berlengas Nature Reserve

Description
Archipelago of the Berlengas Islands and the Peniche Coast, coastal Mediterranean scrubland, coastal scarps and crags, islets, tidal mud flats and brackish water.

Species
Red-throated Diver, Cory’s Shearwater, Manx Shearwater, Mediterranean Shearwater, European Storm Petrel, European Shag, Gannet, Peregrine Falcon, Turnstone, Yellow-legged Gull, Common Tern, Great Skua, Arctic Skua, Razorbill, Common Guillemot, Pallid Swift.

Birdwatching sites
Berlengas Islands, Cabo Carvoeiro, maritime area between Peniche and the Berlengas Islands.

Other attractions in the area
Flora, geology, scuba diving.

Other areas nearby
Lagoa de Óbidos 39°24’N 9°12’W
10. Tagus Estuary
Thousands of birds in the river and meadowland

Description
Salt marshes, cane thickets, tidal mud flats, salt pans, Tagus and Sorraia rivers, fens, willow woods, cork-oak groves, maritime pine forests, meadowland, pastureland, rice fields and other cultivated fields.

Species

Birdwatching sites
Mouchão do Lombo, Mouchão das Garças, Lezíria de Vila Franca, Catapereiro, Vala-real, Pancas, Vale de Frades, Ribeira-das-Enguias, Hortas, Alcochete, salt pans of Samouco, Paul da Barroca d’Alva.

Other attractions in the area
Flora, reptiles and amphibians, dragonflies, ethnography.

Other areas nearby
Salinas de Alverca 38°52’N 09°02’W
Ilha do Escaroupim 39° 4’N 8°45’W
Paul do Boquilobo 39°22’N 08°32’W

Pied Avocet
Recurvirostra avosetta
11. Caia and Campo Maior
The land of cranes

**Description**
Holm-oak groves, willow woods, rivers and streams, lake, olive groves, cultivated fields, pastureland and fallow land.

**Species**

**Birdwatching sites**
Ouguela, Rio Xévora, Torre, Retiro, Barragem do Caia, Santa Eulália and Rio Caia.

**Other attractions in the area**
Flora, reptiles and amphibians, dragonflies, ethnography.

**Other areas nearby**
São Mamede Natural Park
39°23’N 7°22’W
São Vicente 38°57’N 7°10’W
12.

Vila Fernando and Veiros
The plains of Alto Alentejo

**Description**

Holm-oak groves, olive groves, streams, weirs, cultivated fields, pastureland and fallow land.

**Species**


**Birdwatching sites**

Vila Fernando, Monte do Alcobaca, Monte do Texugo, Quinta do Leão.

**Other attractions in the area**

Flora, reptiles and amphibians.

**Other areas nearby**

Monforte 39º04’N 07º30’W
Alter do Chão 39º10’N 07º40’W

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**Little Bustard**

*Tetrax tetrax*
From the Floodplain to the border

ITINERARY C

Places to be visited
(see map of Mainland Portugal)

Number of days 6

Distance 300 km

Notes
Visit the Historic Villages of Beira Baixa and the Megalithic Monuments of Alto Alentejo.

Tagus Estuary
01. Hortas
02. Pancas
03. Rice fields of Giganta
04. Ponta da Erva

Going up the Tagus
05. Paul do Boquilobo
06. Portas do Ródão

Tejo Internacional
07. Rio Pônsul
08. Malpica do Tejo
09. Rosmaninhal
10. Alares

Erges Internacional
11. Segura
12. Salvaterra do Extremo
13. Marvão Castle
14. Border at Marvão

Campo Maior
15. Ouguela
16. Albufeira do Caia
17. Caia River

Plains of Elvas
18. Torre da Bolsa
19. São Vicente
20. Vila Fernando
13. Cabeção
Groves of cork-trees and birds

**Description**
Cork-tree groves, maritime pine forests, willow woods, rivers and streams, lake, cultivated fields, pastureland and fallow land.

**Species**

**Birdwatching sites**
Cabeção, Aldeia Velha, Foros do Mochó, Barragem de Montargil, Barragem do Maranhão.

**Other attractions in the area**
Flora, reptiles and amphibians, dragonflies.

**Other areas nearby**
Arraiolos 38°47’N 08°00’W
14.
Sado Estuary
The estuary of the dolphins

Description
Dunes, beaches, salt marshes, cane thickets, tidal mud flats, salt pans, River Sado and Ribeira da Marateca, fens, willow woods, cork-oak groves, maritime pine and stone pine forests, pastureland, rice fields and other cultivated fields.

Species

Interpretation Centres
Mourisca Tide Mill
Faralhão, Setúbal
Tel. +351 265 541 157

Other areas nearby
Cabo Espichel
38°25’N 09°11’W
Lagoa Pequena
38°31’N 08°09’W

Other attractions in the area
Flora, dolphins, reptiles and amphibians, dragonflies, archaeology, ethnography.
15. Lagoa de Santo André
The lagoon of the coots

Description
Dunes, beaches, cane thickets, willow woods and flood plains, maritime pine and stone pine forests, pastureland and agricultural land.

Species

Birdwatching sites
Praia de Santo André, Cerradinha, Moinho Novo, wastewater treatment plant, Monte Velho, Poços, Praia do Monte Velho.

Other attractions in the area
Flora, reptiles and amphibians, dragonflies.
16. Mourão, Moura and Barrancos Lynxes, eagles and black pigs

Description
Rivers and streams, Alqueva lake, rocky outcrops and scarps, sclerophyllous scrubland, holm-oak groves and forests, riverside woodland, olive groves, cultivated fields, pastureland and fallow land.

Species

Birdwatching sites

Other attractions in the area
Flora, reptiles and amphibians, geology, archaeology.

Other areas nearby
Requengos 38°20’N 7°29’W

Interpretation Centres
Garducho Biological Station
CEAI – Iberian Birds Study Centre, Herdade dos Guizos Mourão
Tel. +351 266 746 102

Azure-winged Magpie
Cyanopica cyanus
17. Cuba and Lagoa dos Patos
Waterfowl on the dry plains

Description
Lake and rice fields, olive groves, cultivated fields, pastureland and fallow land.

Species

Birdwatching sites
Monte dos Patos, Lagoa dos Patos, Lagoa do Peneireiro, plains of Cuba, São Matias, Monte da Apariça, Torre do Pinto.

Other attractions in the area
Flora, reptiles and amphibians, dragonflies.

Other areas nearby
Plains of Évora 38°26’N 7°56’W
18. Castro Verde
The great plain of the great bustards

Great Bustard ♦
Otis tarda

Description
Holm-oak groves, scrubland of rock-roses, rocky outcrops, streams, weirs, riparian galleries, cultivated fields, pastureland and fallow land.

Species

Birdwatching sites
Entradas, Monte do Vale Gonçalinho, Barragem do Monte Gavião, Carregueiro, Casével, Barragem da Apariça, Ribeira do Cobres, São Marcos da Atabueira, Senhora de Aracelis, Monte de Belver, Monte do Guerreiro, Rolão, Piçarras.

Interpretation Centres
Vale Gonçalinho Environmental Education Centre
LPN – Liga para a Protecção da Natureza (League for the Protection of Nature)
Castro Verde
Tel. +351 286 328 309

Other attractions in the area
Flora, reptiles and amphibians, dragonflies, archaeology, ethnography.

Other areas nearby
Guadiana Valley Natural Park
37°42’N 07°39’W
Going up the Sado River to Campo Branco

**ITINERARY D**

**Places to be visited**
(see map of Mainland Portugal)

**Number of days** 5

**Distance** 200 km

**Notes**
Take a boat trip from Setúbal to see the dolphins, visit the Roman ruins of Cetóbriga in Tróia and visit the Museu das Luzernas (Oil-Lamp Museum) in Castro Verde.

**Sado Estuary**
01. Saltpans of Gambia
02. Caldeira de Tróia
03. Comporta
04. Carrasqueira

**Heading South**
05. Lagoa de Santo André
06. Poços
07. Lagoa dos Patos

**Campo Branco**
08. Carregueiro
09. Vale Gonçalinho
10. São Pedro das Cabeças

**Mértola**
11. São Marcos da Ataboeira
12. Guerreiro
13. Serra de Alçaria Ruiva
14. Pulo do Lobo
19. Sagres Peninsula
Watching the migrations

**Description**
Coastal cliffs, beaches, Mediterranean coastal scrubland, cultivated fields, permanent pastureland and fallow land, streams, coastal lagoons and underground lagoons, small pockets of maritime pine woodland.

**Species**

**Other areas nearby**
- South-West Alentejo and Costa Vicentina Natural Park
  - 37°22′N 08°50′W
- Ponta da Piedade
  - 37°05′N 08°42′W

**Birdwatching sites**
- Ponta de Sagres, Cabo de São Vicente, Cabranosa, Vale Santo, Pinhal de Vale Santo, Torre de Aspa, Lagoa do Martinhal, Paul de Budens.

**Other attractions in the area**
Flora, dolphins and whales, reptiles and amphibians, dragonflies, archaeology.
20.
Lagoa dos Salgados
A birdwatcher’s paradise

**Description**
Coastal lagoon, dunes, cultivated fields and permanent pastureland.

**Species**
Little Bittern, Purple Heron, Little Egret, Spoonbill, Glossy Ibis, Greater Flamingo, White Stork, Gadwall, Northern Shoveler, Common Pochard, Red-crested Pochard, Purple Swamp-hen, Stone Curlew, Collared Pratincole, Kentish Plover, Northern Lapwing, Common Redshank, Black-tailed Godwit, Ruff, Sandwich Tern, Caspian Tern, Black Tern, European Bee-eater, Eurasian Hoopoe, Yellow Wagtail, Southern Grey Shrike, Azure-winged Magpie.

**Birdwatching sites**
Lagoa, Praia dos Salgados, Praia Grande, mouth of Ribeira de Alcantarilha.

**Other attractions in the area**
Flora, reptiles and amphibians, dragonflies.

**Other areas nearby**
Ria do Alvor 37°07'N 08°36'W
Monchique 37°18'N 08°35'W
21. Ria Formosa
Lagoons rich in salt, fish and birds

The area

**Coordinates**
37°01′N 07°49′W

**Area**
- Natural Park: 17,664 ha
- SPA: 23,295 ha
- IBA: 23,296 ha

**Description**
Beaches, dunes, salt marshes, canals, tidal mud flats, saltpans, fish cultures, lagoons, coastal pine groves, pastureland and cultivated fields.

**Species**

**Birdwatching sites**
Quinta do Lago, Ludo, Praia de Faro, Monte-negro, Faro and Salgados do Fialho, Fuzeta, Quinta de Marim, Saltpans of Tavira and Santa Luzia, Arraial Ferreira Neto, Cacela a Velha.

**Other attractions in the area**
Flora, reptiles and amphibians, dragonflies, archaeology, ethnography.

**Other areas nearby**
Canical de Vilamoura 37°05′N 08°08′W

**Interpretation Centres**
Marim Environmental Education Centre
Olhão
Tel. +351 286 328 309

**Purple Swamp-hen**
Porphyrio porphyrio
22. 
Castro Marim
The paradise of the flamingos

Description
Dunes, salt marshes, canals, tidal mud flats, salt pans, fish cultures, lagoons, coastal pine woods, pastureland and cultivated fields.

Species

Birdwatching sites

Interpretation Center
Castro Marim and Vila Real de Santo António Nature Reserve Interpretation Centre
Castro Marim
Tel. +351 281 510 680

Other attractions in the area
Flora, reptiles and amphibians, dragonflies, ethnography.

Other areas nearby
Sapal da Moita 37°15’N 07°26’W

Greater Flamingos •
Phoenicopterus roseus
the best of the Algarve

ITINERARY E

Places to be visited (see map of Mainland Portugal)

Number of days: 5

Distance: 160 km

Notes:
Take a boat trip in Sagres to see the birds and dolphins.

Castro Marim
01. Salt Marsh of Venta Moinhos
02. Serro do Bufo
03. Tavira

The Heart of the Ria Formosa
04. Quinta de Marim
05. Praia de Faro
06. Quinta do Lago

Heading West
07. Lagoa dos Salgados
08. Ria do Alvor
09. Monchique

Sagres Peninsula
10. Paul de Budens
11. Lagoa do Marinhale
12. Cabo de São Vicente
13. Pinhal de Vale Santo
14. Vale Santo
15. Torre de Aspa
Tourist information

Mainland Portugal

PORTO
www.portoenorte.pt

CENTRE
www.visitcentro.com

LISBON
www.visitLisbon.com

ALENTEJO
www.visitalentejo.pt

ALGARVE
www.visitalgarve.pt
Azores & Madeira
Islands of Portugal
23.
São Miguel
The largest island in the archipelago

Azores Bullfinch
Pyrrhula murica

Description
Lagoons (temporary and permanent), pastureland, peat bog, forest (natural/exotic vegetation/mixed woods), cultivated fields, coastal areas (cliffs, beaches, ports, marinas).

Species

Birdwatching sites
Serra da Tronqueira, Planalto dos Graminhais, Lagoa de São Brás, Praia da Ribeira Grande, Lagoa do Fogo, Port area of Ponta Delgada (port, marina, wastewater treatment plant), Batalha Golf Course, Beaches of Livramento/Pópulo, Caloura, Port area of Vila Franca do Campo (marina and port), Achada das Furnas (rain ponds and puddles in the region), Lagoa dos Espaiados, Lagoa das Furnas, Sete Cidades (Lagoa Azul, Lagoa Verde and Caldeira do Alferes), Mosteiros.

Interpretation Centres
Azores Bullfinch Environmental Centre, run by SPEA – Portuguese Society for the Study of Birds
Cancela do Cinzeiro Forest Park, Vila de Nordeste
Tel. +351 918 536 123

Other attractions in the area
Laurissilva Forest, peat bogs, whales and dolphins, diving.
24. Santa Maria
Wonderful birdwatching memories

**Roseate Tern**
*Sterna dougallii*

**Description**
Pastureland, forest (exotic vegetation), cultivated fields, coastal areas (cliffs, beaches, ports, islets).

**Species**

**Birdwatching sites**
Airport, Ribeira de São Francisco, Ginjal, Pedreira de Arrebentão, Cova do Areão, Anjos, Baía da Praia, Port area of Vila do Porto, Ilhéu da Vila.

**Other attractions in the area**
Diving, whales and dolphins, beaches.
25. Graciosa
One of the most interesting places for watching seabirds

Monteiro’s Storm Petrel
Oceanodroma monteiroi

Description
Pastureland, forest (exotic vegetation), cultivated fields, coastal areas (cliffs, beaches, islets).

Species

Birdwatching sites
Santa Cruz, Beach (São Mateus), Ponta da Barca, Ilhéu da Praia, Ilhéu de Baixo.

Other attractions in the area
Diving, whales and dolphins.

Coordinates (central point)
39°03’N 27°58’W

Area
SPA 2 Areas, with a total of 85 ha
IBA 4 Areas, with a total of 219 ha
26. Terceira
Watching shore birds of north american origin

Description
Lagoons, (intensive and semi-natural) pastureland, peat bogs, forest (natural/exotic/mixed vegetation), coastal areas (cliffs, ports, marinas, islets).

Species

Birdwatching sites

Other attractions in the area
Lagoons, peat bogs, diving, whales and dolphins, native flora, caves, Angra do Heroísmo – World Heritage (UNESCO).
27. Faial
The volcano of Capelinhos

Description
Pastureland (intensive and semi-natural), forest (natural/exotic/mixed vegetation), cultivated fields, coastal areas (cliffs, beaches, islets).

Species

Birdwatching sites
Caldeira, Volcano of Capelinhos, Porto Pim, Porto da Horta, Pedro Miguel (lagoons).

Other attractions in the area
Geology (Volcano of Capelinhos, Caldeira), diving, whales and dolphins.

Cory’s Shearwater
Calonectris diomedea

38°31’N 28°38’W
Coordinates (central point)

Area
SPA 2 Areas, with a total of 1.210 ha
IBA 5 Areas, with a total of 1.677 ha

G.Goddie
28.
São Jorge
The island of the fajãs

Description
Lagoons, (intensive and semi-natural) pastureland, peat bogs, forest (natural/exotic/mixed vegetation), coastal areas (cliffs, ports, islets).

Species

Birdwatching sites
Ilhéu do Topo, Ponta dos Rosais, Fajã dos Cubres, Porto de Velas.

Other attractions in the area
Peat bogs, diving, whales and dolphins, native flora, fajãs (flat land at the bottom of sea cliffs).
29. Pico

The mountain

Description
Lagoons, (intensive and semi-natural) pastur-eland, peat bogs, forest (natural/exotic/mixed vegetation), coastal areas (cliffs, ports, islets), subalpine areas.

Species

Birdwatching sites

Other attractions in the area
Lagoons, peat bogs, diving, whales and dolphins, native flora, Pico Mountain, Central Plateau, Landscape of the Pico Island Vineyard Culture – World Heritage.
39°27’N 31°07’W
Coordinates (central point)

**Area**
- **SPA** 4 Areas, with a total of 937 ha
- **IBA** 4 Areas, with a total of 937 ha

**Description**
Lagoons, (intensive and semi-natural) pastureland, peat bogs, forest (natural/exotic/mixed vegetation), coastal areas (cliffs, beaches, ports, islets).

**Species**

**Birdwatching sites**
Santa Cruz, Lajes, Lagoa da Lomba; Fajã do Lopo, Ribeira Grande, Ponta Delgada, Lagoa Seca, Lagoa Funda, Lagoa Rasa, Lagoa Branca, Ribeiro do Moinho, Ponta do Albernaz, Lagoa dos Patos, Miradouro de Craveiro Lopes, Lagoinha, Quebrada Nova, Lajedo, Fajãzinha, Aldeia da Quada, Quebrada da Muda, Fajã Grande, bird observatory at Lagoa Branca and the footpath PR-3-FLO Lagoas /Poça do Bacalhau.

**Other attractions in the area**
Flora, diving, observing whales and dolphins.
**Corvo**

The best place in Europe for watching American birds

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**Description**

Pastureland (Intensive and semi-natural), coastal areas (cliffs, islets).

**Species**


**Birdwatching sites**

Ribeira entre as Cancelas, Ribeira do Cantinho, Ribeira da Amoreira, Fojo, Ribeira do Poço de Água, Ribeira da Ponte, Ribeira do Cerrado das Vacas, Ponta do Marco, Vila Nova do Corvo, Caldeirão.

**Other attractions in the area**

Diving, observing whales and dolphins.
**The route of the Migratory Birds**

**Places to be visited**

- São Miguel: 15 September to 15 March
- Terceira: (visit to the Lagoa do Ginjal/Junco and ponds in the vicinity)

**Number of days**: 7

- **Islands**: São Miguel, Terceira, Flores, Corvo

**ITINERARY A**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day 1</th>
<th>Day 2</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01. Nordeste (visit to the Azores Bullfinch Environmental Centre – Centro Ambiental do Priolo – CAP), then taking the Tronqueira road to the viewing point</td>
<td>02. Lagoa das Furnas (walk around the lake)</td>
<td>03. Praia do Monte Verde (Ribeira Grande)</td>
<td>04. Sete Cidades (visit to the Lagoa Azul and Lagoa Verde, and Caldeira do Alferes)</td>
<td>05. Mosteiros</td>
<td>06. Porto de Ponta Delgada (walk from the old port to the wastewater treatment plant)</td>
<td><strong>Terceira</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>São Miguel</td>
<td>Lagoa das Furnas</td>
<td>Praia do Monte Verde</td>
<td>Sete Cidades</td>
<td>Mosteiros</td>
<td>Porto de Ponta Delgada</td>
<td>Paul da Praia</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes**

- Take a boat trip to observe whales and dolphins.
- Visit the volcanic caves of Algar and Natal (Terceira).
32.

Ponta de São Lourenço
The easternmost point of Madeira island

Berthelot’s Pipit ♦
Anthus berthelotii

Description
Arid peninsula with rocky cliffs and nearby islets.

Species
Plain Swift, Atlantic Canary, European Goldfinch, Berthelot’s Pipit, Common Kestrel, Common Buzzard, Common Linnet, Rock Sparrow, Common Tern, Yellow-legged Gull, Cory’s Shearwater, Manx Shearwater, Little Shearwater, Bulwer’s Petrel.

Birdwatching sites
Walk to the observatory (roughly three hours – round trip).

Other attractions in the area
Geology, flora, dolphins and whales, land shells and reptiles.

Other areas nearby
Foz da Ribeira de Machico 32°43’N 16°45’W
33.
Lugar de Baixo
The only tidal lagoon in the archipelago

Description
Saltwater pond and cane thicket.

Species
Common Sandpiper, Northern Shoveler, Dunlin, Black-winged Stilt, Black-headed Gull, Black-tailed Godwit, Grey Wagtail, Common Tern, Common Redshank, Common Ringed Plover, Eurasian Coot, Common Moorhen, Grey Heron, Little Egret, Turnstone.

Birdwatching sites
Around the lagoon.

Other attractions in the area
Architectural heritage and observing whales and dolphins.

Other areas nearby
Paul da Serra 32°45’N 17°05’W
34.
Laurissilva Forest
The wonder of nature

Native Madeira forest, characterised by the presence of different species of lauraceae, rocky areas, streams and cultivated fields.

**Species**
- Eurasian Sparrowhawk
- Common Buzzard
- Madeira Laurel Pigeon
- European Robin
- Madeira Firecrest
- Common Blackbird
- Plain Swift
- Blackcap
- Eurasian Woodcock

**Birdwatching sites**
- Fajã da Nogueira
- Balcões
- Folhadal
- Rabacal
- Fanal
- Chão da Ribeira
- Various viewing points all around the island.

**Other attractions in the area**
- Flora, butterflies, geology, ethnography.

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**Description**

**Species**
- Eurasian Sparrowhawk
- Common Buzzard
- Madeira Laurel Pigeon
- European Robin
- Madeira Firecrest
- Common Blackbird
- Plain Swift
- Blackcap
- Eurasian Woodcock

**Birdwatching sites**
- Fajã da Nogueira
- Balcões
- Folhadal
- Rabacal
- Fanal
- Chão da Ribeira and various viewing points all around the island.

**Other attractions in the area**
- Flora, butterflies, geology, ethnography.

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**Interpretation Centres**

**Ribeiro Frio Environmental Education Centre**
Parque Florestal do Ribeiro Frio
São Roque do Faial
Tel. +351 291 575 034
35.

Ponta do Pargo and Porto Moniz

**Description**
High rocky cliffs, with several fajãs, cultivated fields, pine and eucalyptus woods.

**Species**

**Birdwatching sites**

**Other attractions in the area**
Geology, flora, whales and dolphins, butterflies.

**Other areas nearby**
Paul da Serra 32°45’N 17°05’W
Achadas da Cruz 32°51’N 17°12’W
36. Porto Santo

**Description**
Arid landscape rich in undergrowth, with some ponds and streams.

**Species**
Berthelot’s Pipit, Common Ringed Plover, Eurasian Coot, Common Moorhen, Yellow-legged Gull, Rock Sparrow, Spanish Sparrow, Spectacled Warbler, Eurasian Hoopoe, Plain Swift, Whimbrel, Canary, Common Tern, Roseate Tern, Sanderling, Grey Heron, Little Egret, Turnstone, Kentish Plover.

**Birdwatching sites**
Sítio do Tanque, Praia da Calheta, Pico Castelo, Ribeiro Salgado and Porto Santo Golf Course.

**Other attractions in the area**
Geology, flora, dolphins and whales, ethno-graphy.

**Interpretation Centres**
Ecoteca do Porto Santo
Tel. +351 291 982 069
The best of the Madeira

**ITINERARY A**

**Number of days** 6

**Further information**

Between March and July, there is also a possibility (when accompanied by authorised guides) of paying a night-time visit to the nesting grounds of the Madeiran Storm Petrel, where you can hear their distinctive calls as they return to their nests.

From March to October

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**Number of days** 6

**Further information**

Further information on any of these days, you can take a boat trip (in the morning or afternoon) to observe the seabirds along the southern coast of Madeira. This service is provided by various maritime/tourist companies based in Funchal, Machico or Calheta. The best time of the year for taking such a trip is between May and September.
Tourist Information

Islands of Portugal

AZORES
www.visitazores.travel

MADEIRA
www.madeiraislands.travel
Other Informations

Other organisations

Instituto da Conservação da Natureza e da Biodiversidade
www.icnb.pt

SPEA – Sociedade Portuguesa para o Estudo das Aves
www.spea.pt

Related Sites

Aves de Portugal
www.avesdeportugal.info

Portugal Aves
www.worldbirds.org/v3/portugal.php

BioDiversity4All
www.biodiversity4all.org

Naturdata
http://naturdata.com

Cadernos de Ornitológia
http://sites.google.com/site/cadernosdeornitologia/

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