

Welcome to the Pyrenean Bird Center

What is the PBC?

Situated in the heart of the medieval town of Aínsa, on the access route to the Ordesa and Monte Perdido National Park, the Pyrenean Bird Center provides specialised information on the observation and photography of carrion-eating birds of prey in the Sobrarbe district.

It is located in the Pyrenean Fauna Eco Museum, managed by the Lammergeier Conservation Foundation, which hosts an inspiring exhibition on Pyrenean biodiversity, and is hence an unmissable stop-off point for birdwatchers and nature lovers in the Pyrenees.

Photographing scavengers from our hide



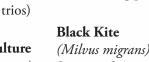
The Pyrenean Fauna Eco Museum and

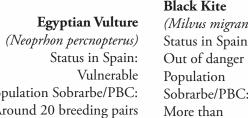
Our protagonists

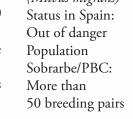
The Sobrarbe district is amongst the best destinations in the world for the observation and photography of scavenger birds. The abundance of these species is due to the presence of extensive livestock farming; specific feeding sites; and a combination of geographic and climatic conditions that are highly favourable to these magnificent creatures.



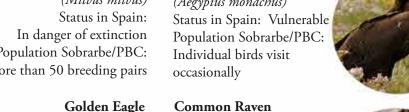
(Gypaetus barbatus) Status in Spain:















Status in Spain: Out of danger

species, whilst allowing you to enjoy some of the most beautiful scenery in the Pyrenees.

PBC Observation points and itineraries

1. Feeding site for scavenger birds in Aínsa

(the Revilla viewpoints)

(Escuaín valley rivers)

(the bird of prey viewpoint)

to photograph nature's secrets

If you love nature and our birds of prey then you cannot afford to miss the opportunity of visiting our hides. Here you can watch the

marvellous spectacle of the vultures banquet, an unforgettable experience with Griffon Vultures, Lammergeiers, Egyptian Vultures

and kites that cannot fail to impress you. If you prefer "active"

observation, then you can walk along a series of different trails with

interpretive signs that will aid you in your observation of these

Code of ethics for birdwatchers

Respect for the natural world should prevail over any activity carried out in this environment. As nature-lovers we should maintain the highest ethical standards at all times, aiming to serve as an example of integrity and correct behaviour for society

- 1. Knowledge reduces negative impact. Birdwatchers should mak themselves familiar with the behaviour, biology and requirements
- 2. We should serve as an example for others, obtain the necessary permits, and be familiar with the regulations governing the area
- 3. Getting too close to birds should be avoided. It disturbs them and causes stress, intimidation and changes in behaviour.
- 4. Special care should be taken at times when birds are more vulnerable, such as the nesting season and during periods of harsh
- 5. Centers that keep animals in captivity are governed by specific regulations that we must be aware of and adhere to. The educative and conservation aims of these centres should prevail over any other purpose.
- 6. If we observe any breach of regulations or questionable behaviour on the part of other birdwatchers then we should report it to the relevant authorities.
- 7. It is important to note the details of any ringed or marked birds we observe and to transmit this information to the PBC. It is very helpful for tracking purposes and for the conservation

the Pirinean Fauna Eco Museum

The Pirinean Fauna Eco

Follow us into the Pyrenean mountain range

Get to know the Pyrenees in the video

itive wildlife!

ZOOLOGICAL

Observe live but

and get to know

how and why

they got here!

ecoverable bird

thanks to a lifelike scale model, and discover th

projection "The Mountains of the Lammergier'

Museum is an initiative created and managed by the Spanish Foundation for the Conservation of the Bearded

And furthermore:

- Summer service of guided nature visits to observe Pyrenean wild birds of prey in their environment, organized within the framework of he Lammergier Recuperation Programme in Aragón.
- Sales point of nature books, guide books, craftwork, and souvenirs of the Pyrenean wildlife.

Information and reservations

irineos Bird Center/ Eco Museo de la Fauna Pirenaica el. (00 34) 974 500597

omuseo@quebrantahuesos.org tps://pirineosbirdcenter.quebrantahuesos.org



Other activities at the Pyrenean Bird Center

-Photographic sessions and filming from dedicated hides. -Birdwatching itineraries for the observation of other mountain species. -Activities in nature: group accommodation and training courses related to

COLLABORATE WITH OUR PROJECT

Over the last three decades the Lammergeier population in the Pyrenees has tripled, even though the species is still classified as "in danger of extinction". Our current challenge is to repopulate other Iberian mountain ranges from which the species has disappeared. If you want to help this species and other disadvantaged

birds, you can easily collaborate with our work

Become a member of the FCQ

- Visit the Pyrenean Bird Center and Fauna Eco Museum and tell others about them
 - Stay in our biological monitoring station "Monte Perdido"

Local authorities who have supported this work: Aínsa-Sobrarbe, El Pueyo de Araguás, Puértolas, Tella-Sin and Plan.

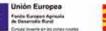


in the following ways:

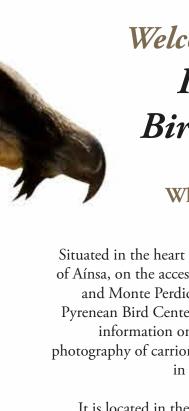






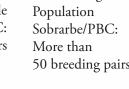






Status in Spain: Out of danger In danger of extinction Population Sobrarbe/PBC Population Sobrarbe/PBC: More than round 30 reproductive units 150 breeding pairs (made up of pairs or trios)

(Neoprhon percnopterus) Status in Spain Status in Spain: Out of danger



(Milvus milvus) (Aegypius monachus)











Feeding site for scavenger birds in Aínsa

> **PHOTOGRAPHIC** HIDES AVAILABLE

Urban centre of Aínsa. Leave your vehicle in the carpark beside the Ara River bus stop. Walk up the path beside the Meson de l'Aínsa hotel, in the direction of Morillo de Tou.

42° 24′44.91" N 0° 08′24.57" E



Photographic hides inside the feeding site.

An adult Lammergeier in flight.

ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE IN THE BES OBSERVATION SITE FO AMMERGEIERS IN THE

de Revilla'



From Aínsa, take the A-138 towards France.

In Hospital de Tella take the turning on the

turning on the left towards Revilla. The trail

the road bends sharply, 500m from Revilla.

N 0° 08'31.62" E Altitude: 1,207m

long with an upward climb of 100m.

Principal observation viewpoint:

42° 36′03.022 N 0° 07′44.842 E

Start point: 42° 35′51.65"

Altitude: 1,240m

starts by the information panels located where

left towards Tella, and further on take the next



The "Monte Perdido" biological monitoring tation, specialised accommodation for dwatchers and naturalists.





Particularities

environmental One of the sectors that provides the richest birdlife of the entire Pyrenean area, due to the marked difference in altitude and the diversity of habitats contained in a very small space (from Mediterranean woodland to high-altitude pine forests). There are other walks in the area, such as the Ascension of the Peña Montañesa, or the Espelunga Chapel trail. The nearby San Victorián Monastery offers guided visits at certain times of the year.



From Aínsa, take the local road towards Pueyo de Araguás and Torrelisa. Park in the dedicated area opposite the village of Torrelisa, identifiable by its information panels and picnic tables.

The slopes of the Peña Montañesa.

42° 27′36.67" N 0° 11′18.59" E Altitude: 884m

'Mirador de

las rapaces

A HIGH DIVERSITY OF

BIRDS AND A TRANQUIL

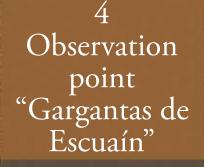
ENVIRONMENT.

T THE FOOT OF THE PE

MONTAÑESA MOUNTAI

he path winds through the extensive Holm Oak forests on the slopes of the eña Montañesa Mountain, in a circular Fashion. It is 7km in length and runs close to the cliffs, permitting the observation of both rock- and forest-dwelling birds. An easy-to-follow leaflet explaining the route s available from tourist accommodation in Pueyo de Araguás, and also at the PBC.

Both rock- and forest-dwelling birds, such as Lammergeiers, breeding colonies of Griffon Vultures, Egyptian Vultures, Peregrine Falcons, Red Kites, Goshawks Short-toed Snake Eagles, Booted Eagles, and European Honey Buzzards.



ORDESA AND MONTE PERDIDO NATIONAL PARK

Observatory at the supplementary feeding site.

environmental This sector is located within

the Ordesa and Monte

special protection rules

apply. There are clearly

information panels

Perdido National Park, and

printed restrictions on the

provided, which indicate

that one must keep to the

path near the feeding site

and not disturb the birds.

The signs will take you to a

wooden observatory, which

contains information panels

and an explanation of how

to participate with bird

sightings made. In the

tracking by giving

available at:

information on any

Particularities

Winter landscape in the Gargantas de Escuaín.

n Aínsa, take the A-138 towards France. In

oundabout, towards Puértolas. On arrival there

continue to Escuaín. Park about 100m before the

Escalona take the turning on the left at the

village, beside the information panels, and

continue on foot via the forest trail.

0° 07′42.46" E Altitude: 1,227m

0° 05′54.81" E Altitude: 1,521m

Observation point: 42° 36′46.71" N

Follow the woodland trail from the valley until

known as La Corona (approx. 1h and 15mins by

foot, 4.8km, change in elevation +320m). The

the Sierra de las Sucas on the right, and winds

through meadows, abandoned cultivated areas,

high density of Lammergeiers belonging to

Griffon Vulture, Red Kite, Egyptian Vulture, and,

exceptionally, the Black Vulture. Also present are

Golden Eagles; Red-billed and Alpine Choughs,

oblems in winter, particularly from December

March. On such occasions the park rangers

move the feeding site to more accessible points.

different age groups. Scavengers such as the

All year round, although snow may cause

and pinewoods, before arriving at the target

route leaves the mouths of the Escuaín rivers and

you arrive at the end in an area of pastureland,

Start point: 42° 35′44.61" N

A group of Griffon Vultures at the supplementary

mountain, forest,

and alpine birds.

la Inclusa' MOUNTAIN BIRDS PYRENEAN TRADITION AND

Observation

point

"Paso de

General picture of the feeding site. **AUTHENTICITY**

om Aínsa, take the A-138 towards France. In

Altitude: 1,042m

feeding site specifically for carrion-eating birds, supplied with meat by local herdsmen cavengers are continually present at this site, since its position in a river canyon with high

A colony of Griffon Vultures; both adult and uvenile Lammergeiers are habitually present; a pair of Egyptian Vultures; Red and Black Kites; and Ravens. A good place for observing other rock-dwelling species such as the Golden Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, Alpine Swift, Eurasian Crag Martin, Blue Rock Thrush, and Wallcreeper

PIRINEOS BIRD

All year round, though warm clothes are ecommended in winter because the observation oint is in the shade of the cliffs and onsequently temperatures are low. There are o fixed days for food supply to the site.

environmental The Inclusa Pass opens the

Particularities

door to one of the valleys

where livestock farming and other traditional agricultural activities are still carried out. Its position, between rocky cliffs and various mountain ranges, make it an important observation point for Lammergeiers of different ages. Both this observation point, and the valley in its entirety, are amongst the best places for sighting Pyrenean

Salinas take the A-2609 to the valley of Gistaín. Go through the three tunnels on the roadway on the way to Plan. On emerging from the third tunnel, park the car in the lay-by situated on the first curve, before arriving at the bridge that crosses the river Cinqueta.

42° 33′57.79" N 0° 17′27.39" E

cliffs on either side favours the frequent presence of a variety of rock-dwelling species, whether or not food has been recently supplied.

(the latter outside the breeding season).



the use of photographic hides with spy glass installed. These hides are located within the feeding site itself, which enables the observation, photography and filming of emblematic avian scavenger species at distances of less than 20 metres from the food To book the hide for observation or photography

call the PBC (0034

974500597). Included is a

complementary visit to the

Pyrenean Fauna Eco Museum

where the PBC is based, in the

other exhibits, you will find a

Aínsa castle. Here, amongst

disabled, live birds of prev.

group of permanently

approaching the feeding site you will see an observation point opposite. This is 150m away from the site, cordoned-off by a line of cypress trees, and there is an information panel.

Altitude: 534m

well used by Griffon Vultures. Egyptian Vultures and Red Kites are also very likely to be seen, and two pairs of Lammergeiers visit on a regular basis.

The site is accessible all year round, though it is advisable to contact the PBC to find out the day and hour of the food deliveries. Migratory species, such as the Egyptian Vulture and Red Kite, are not present in winter.

Ordesa and Monte Perdido National Park, has a variety of outstanding geological faunisitic, and botanical features. The Lammergeier Conservation Foundation's studies (consult the PBC).

An easy walk of about 1 km. When

A feeding site specifically for scavengers. When food has been deposited the site is

environmental This valley, nestled in the

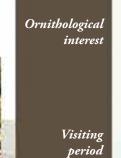
"Monte Perdido" Biological Monitoring Station is located in the village of Revilla. This provides accommodation for training courses and environmental

The path runs along the left hand margin of the mouths of the Escuain rivers, and is halfway up the cliff, which permits magnificent views of the rivers from the dedicated viewing platforms. The walk is 2kms

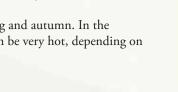
The indiscutable star of this trail is the Lammergeier. Thanks to the supplementary feeding site nearby, the valley supports a high density of individuals. Other rock-dwelling raptors present include: Golden Eagle, Griffon Vulture, Egyptian Vulture, and Peregrine Falcon.

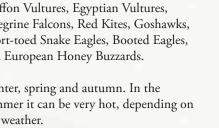
The site is accessible all year round. During the summer months of July and August, the Lammergeier Conservation Foundation provides a guided visit service (information in the PBC).





Winter, spring and autumn. In the summer it can be very hot, depending on he weather.





village of Escuaín there is a park office, open from Easter through to October. More information is

www.aragon.es/ordesa