



This is a proposal for 7 days (6 nights) in which we'll intend to give a complete ornithological view of the National Park of the Picos de Europa in the east of Asturias, northern Spain. This is an example for a group of 4 to 8 people, from April to September, but it could be adapted to the preferences of each group in the itinerary and in the duration.

Day 1: Check-in in the Rio Aliso Country Houses.

General meeting about the routes programmed, places to visit, expectations, tips, security measures, etc



Day 2: Eagles and Vultures (Half day)

The foothills of the Picos de Europa National Park, are one of the most amazing places in the north of Spain to observe great raptors: Griffon Vulture, Egyptian Vulture, Golden Eagle, Common and Honey buzzards, Short-toed eagle and much more can be observed easily, both in flight and on the nest.

This environment contains the most spectacular Griffon Vulture nesting colonies and also some nests of Egyptian Vulture and Golden Eagle.



Day 3. The Bearded Vulture (Full day)

The Bearded Vulture is probably one of the most incredible and amazing birds that can be observed in the Iberian Peninsula. In the Picos de Europa the Bearded Vulture became extinct in the mid-20th century and, after that, could only be seen in the Pyrenees.

Since 2005, the Bearded Vulture Foundation (FCQ) has been developing a project for its reintroduction in the mountains of the National Park of the Picos de Europa. The result of this project so far has been the release of the first three young Bearded Vultures in these mountains. Their names are Deva and Leoncia and Atilano.



Today we will go to the Centre for Biodiversity and Sustainable Development "Mountains of the Bearded Vulture" in Benia de Onís, where we'll have a guided tour. After, we'll enter the National Park of the Picos de Europa to try to find the Bearded Vultures and to visit the natural habitat to which the FCQ hopes they will adapt.

Day 4. The Forest Birds. (Full day)

On day 4 our objectives will be two of the most amazing woodpeckers that live in our forests: The Black Woodpecker and the Middle Spotted Woodpecker.

To do this, we will visit ancient forests populated by old oak and beech trees where we can also enjoy other small and elusive forest birds such as buntings, shrikes, finches, Short-toed Tree Creeper, Eurasian Nuthatch, Coal Tit, Great Tit, Crested Tit and much more.



www.birdingpicosdeeuropa.com

Day 5. Alpine Birds. Trip to the National Park of Picos de Europa (full day)

In the highest walls of the National Park, it's possible to watch some of the most interesting alpine birds, like Snowfinch, Alpine Accentor, Yellow-Billed Chough, Red-Billed Chough, and Wallcreeper.

We'll drive to Fuente De in the central mountains of the Picos de Europa National Park where we will take the cable car up to the highest area on the south face of Peña Olvidada, near the mountain retreat of Cabaña Veronica, more than 2.000 m. above sea level.

This is the best environment of the Picos de Europa for seeing these alpine birds.



Day 6. Journey to the Mountain Range Protected Landscape of El Cuera (Half day)

The Mountain Range Protected Landscape of El Cuera is located between the Cantabrian sea and the first peaks of the Picos de Europa National Park. The altitude varies between 400 and 1.315 m above sea level, and it's not more than 2 Km away the sea. On a clear day the panoramic views cover more than 20 km of the sea coast to the north and the highest peaks of the Picos de Europa to the south.



The birding possibilities are varied and amazing. Vultures and other birds of prey are pretty abundant but in my opinion the little birds like pipits, accentors, wheatears and others adapted to the severe climatic conditions can help us enjoy a great birding day even more.



Day 7: Check Out and farewell

Group of 4 people : 400 € per person
Group of 8 people: 311 € per person

- The guide's services
- Insurance against accidents
- Optical equipment
- Bird guides in English and in Spanish
- Taxes
- All transport
- Centre of biodiversity entrance fee
- Cable car tickets
- Lodging in Rio Aliso Rural Houses (Self-Catering)

If the client would like, some of these birding activities can be changed for others or for free days. In that case the total price would change according to the new activities.



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Biologist and official tourist guide of Asturias ·



Binding Picos de Europa