Bird Migration & Nature Festival of Strait of Gibraltar





I. - LOCATION

Its geographic position, between Africa and Europe, makes the Strait of Gibraltar one of the key locations worldwide to observe Bird Migration.

30 Million Birds, belonging to 380 different species are crossing the Strait of Gibraltar in spring and autumn every year.

But the Straits have more to offer than only birds: there are wild, virgin, rocky coasts with fascinating rock formations, Macaronesian Laurel Forests (Laurisilva, the only ones in Mainland Europe), giant dunes, dolphins, whales and white sandy beaches.

The Strait of Gibraltar is a true paradise for every nature lover.



II. – THE STRAIT OF GIBRALTAR AS A NATURAL CROSSROADS AND NATURE OASIS.

The Strait of Gibraltar is a natural environment of constant change, it has been said that every naturalist should come and visit at least once in a lifetime.

Beside the two great seasonal bird migrations each year, we have the chance to observe many other species, such as dragonflies and butterflies. Sea currents bring in waters rich in plankton attracting sardines, tunas and squid. Those in turn attract the formidable Orcas and deep swimming Humpbacks. You can observe amphibians leaving their winter shelters, migrating to ponds and rivers in the forest to reproduce.

This spectacular natural richness is right here and we would like to invite you to the Bird Migration and Nature Festival to enjoy it. With education and awareness we aim to preserve it for many generations still to come.



III. -ORGANIZATION.

Huerta Grande Eco Resorts is coordinating and planning the Bird Migration & Nature Festival, which takes place in Huerta Grande, Pelayo (10 km from Tarifa).

The aims and ideas of the Festival are to attract the attention of Travel Agents, clubs and associations working in the Sector of Nature Tourism and Photography. We would like to introduce all the visitors to the spectacular natural beauty the Straits of Gibraltar has to offer.

IV-DATE AND GENERAL DETAILS.

The Festival will take place from the 27th to the 30th of March 2014. We will set up small marquees to accommodate exhibitors. There is a coffee shop/bar on site with a social terrace from which bird migration can be observed.

We offer a fully equipped conference room and accommodation (self-catering or half board) in our rural country cottages and wooden cabins. There will be lots of activities organised. Photography workshops, guided excursions through the natural parks of Alcornocales and the Estrecho, whale watching and the visit to a *muladar* (vulture feeding station).







V. - SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES. Talks and Chats:

• Talks will be held by our national and international guests on a wide range of subjects, such as conservation, migration, photographic excursions around the world, and ethics of nature tourism.



Guided tours and field trips:

- Photography workshop: visit of a *muladar* to capture at close quarters the spectacle of vultures feeding. (MARTIN IGLESIAS).
- Whale watching with (FIRMM).
- Excursions to *Llanos de Juncal* a highly protected area of the natural park Alcornocales and a visit to *Guadalmesí* Observatory (OSMUNDASUR).

Conservation projects:

- Share the release of recently recovered birds (CREA -Junta de Andalucía).
- Presentation of the Conservation program which receives 20% of the entry fees from the Festival.

Activities in Huerta Grande:

- Presentations of new photographic and optical material. Web ORYX.
- Bird ringing. 14KM Charity association.
- Exhibitions of Photos and Sculptures by local artists.
- Activities and workshops... and much more!



VI.- PROGRAM PROPOSAL.

BIRD MIGRATION & NATURE FESTIVAL PROGRAM PROPOSAL HUERTA GRANDE, Thursday 27th to Sunday 30th March 2014									
	THURSDAY, 27	FRIDAY, 28	SATURDAY, 29	SUNDAY, 30					
8:00 h.		Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast					
9:00 h.		Field Trip With FIRMM WHALE WATCHING	Field Trip WithRAMÓN NAVARRO & MARTÍN IGLESIAS PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP IN DUNGHILL	Field Trip WithOSMUNDASUR LLANOS DEL JUNCAL Y OBSERVATORY EL CABRITO					
12:00 h.		Activities with Swan or Sotogrande School Opening of tents, workshops, banding, bird watching, sculptures exhibition and photos.	Opening of tents, workshops, banding, bird watching, sculptures exhibition and photos. European launch optical material MARTIN IGLESIAS-CANON-SWAROVSKI	12:00 h. Reading Huerta Grande Declaration 12:15 h. Tribute to Fernando Barrios Partida 12:45 h. Releasing Recovered Birds/CREA 13:00 h. Farewell & Closing - Consejeria de Medio Ambiente. Junta de Andalucía					
00-16:00 h.			LUNCH / RECESS						
16:00 h.	INAUGURAL LECTURE Miguel Delibes de Castro Chairman of Participation Council of Doñana	"Conservation of migrants on breeding grounds in upland England". David Morris. RSPB	Chat Andreas Meißner-ÖKOWERK Stewardship, management and conservation OR Chat Luis Costa Sociedade Portuguesa para o Estudo das Aves SPEA						
1 6:45 h.	John Emmanuel Cortés Minister of Environment of Gibraltar. Member of Gibraltar Ornithological & Natural History Society (GONHS)	Chat of Eduardo de Juana/ Javier Elorriaga - Sociedad Española de Ornitología SEO	Chat of Miguel Ferrer/MIGRES Foundation						
17:3 0 h.	"Turtle Dove migration & conservation in the western flyway". Simon Tonkin. Operation Turtle Dove.	Stephen Daly "German ornithologist preferences"	Chat of FIRMM "Whalewatching: tourism & conservation".						
18: 15 h.	PHOTO EXPEDITION Yeray Seminario: Belice	PHOTO EXPEDITION Beltrán Ceballos: Nueva Zelanda	PHOTO EXPEDITION Antonio Sandoval Photo tour ¿Para qué sirven las Aves?						
19:00 h.	WINE & TALKS Presenter: Yeray Seminario Strait of Gibraltar	WINE & TALKS Presenter: Beltrán de Ceballos Where it goes Doñana?	WINE & TALKS Presenter: Miguel Ángel Maneiro What do we want from Estrecho Natural Park?						
20:00 h.	Discus <mark>sion</mark> pannel: Huerta Grande Declaration	Discussion pannel: Huerta Grande Declaration	Discussion pannel: Huerta Grande Declaration						
20:30 h.	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner						
21:30 h.			LIVE MUSIC - CONCERT						

6

VII.- ENTRY FEES.

The Bird Migration and Nature Festival is a private initiative based on a non profit organisation.

With this event we hope to rise the awareness of how precious the local eco-system is. Our vision is to create a project with longevity and we hope that these seeds of ideas will grow to a great cork oaks.

7.1.- ACCESS:

With a very affordable entry fee of 5€ per adult and 2€ per child per day our visitors have access to all the talks and exhibitions within the festival.

The excursions such as whale watching, the visit to the vulture feeding station and the excursion to the natural parks cost 10€ per person.

	DAILY ACCESS	BONUS 4 DAYS
Adult	5€	10€
Children	2€	5€

Children under 12 accompanied by an adult.

20% of all the entry fees will go back into a conservation project.

7.2.- STANDS:

Huerta Grande will set up marquees 3x3m on the lawn just in front of the coffee shop and the terrace. The marquees will have electricity, a table and a chair. They can be rented at a price of 250€ for the 4 day duration of the festival.





IX	IX PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION OF MARQUEES/TENTS									
	CHILD AREA	FIRMM	SEO MIGRES SPEA	GOHNS	RSPB					
	TERRACE	MARTIN IGLESIAS								
						ANDALUSIAN WILDERNESS				
						HUERTA GRANDE				

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