



Honeyguide

W I L D L I F E H O L I D A Y S 2 0 2 0



Helping you enjoy wildlife



Helping to protect wildlife



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More information

In this brochure we give a flavour of the holidays on offer. You are welcome without commitment to have a pack of information about any holiday, including a previous holiday report and itinerary. Holiday reports are also on www.honeyguide.co.uk

Honeyguide conservation programme

£40 of the price of your Honeyguide holiday goes to a conservation body, often the bird protection society of the host country, towards its current conservation work. The societies and projects we support are described under each holiday.

Honeyguide

WILDLIFE HOLIDAYS

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Holidays for the year 2020

Welcome to the 30th season of Honeyguide Wildlife Holidays.

Regular readers of the Honeyguide brochure may realise it's a little thinner this year – one less double sheet of paper. That's mostly a practical response to lots of places on holidays being taken long before the brochure is prepared: it makes little sense to read about a holiday if it's already fully booked.

Similarly, at least three of the holidays in this brochure are half-full or more as I write, so being quick off the mark in asking about availability and booking may be wise.

All the holidays will be on www.honeyguide.co.uk, including those that are fully booked at this early stage. Keep an eye on the website or e-newsletters for any places that become available for these. Everyone is welcome to ask about holiday plans and places for future years.

These early bookings come about thanks to the many regular and loyal Honeyguiders, for which I am grateful. But it's worth saying that we are an inclusive bunch: if you haven't travelled with us for a while, or maybe thinking about it for a first time, you'll find we are very welcoming – and no natural history expertise is expected.

Spring flowers in South Africa is a new holiday, as usual with Geoff Crane, our regular leader in southern Africa. The photos – see page nine and the brochure's back page – certainly suggest a mouth-watering natural history treat.

Valencia, Menorca, Bulgaria's Western Rhodopes and the Gambia all return to the programme as part of the usual rotation of successful destinations. Crete, the Picos de Europa and Falsterbo are much the same as in 2019, reflecting their popularity.

The brochure is planned long before most flight schedules are out. Flights noted may be what we've done in the past, which often holds good, but not always. If you're aware of a suitable flight from an airport near you, please ask, and we'll think about the practicalities together.

The conservation donations with each holiday through the Honeyguide Wildlife Charitable Trust remain a special feature of what we do. We've put more than £130,000 into conservation in this way since we started, and we can all be proud of that achievement.

I hope you can join us on a wildlife holiday in 2020.

Chris Durdin

Chris Durdin
August 2019



The air holidays shown are ATOL Protected by the Civil Aviation Authority. Our ATOL number is ATOL 3253. ATOL protection extends primarily to customers who book and pay in the United Kingdom.



Our logo is a greater honeyguide (*Indicator indicator*), an African bird that guides people or honey badgers to bees' nests. Those guided and the bird then enjoy the honeycomb. Honeyguide wildlife holidays also have enthusiastic leaders to guide you to nature's best.

Find us on  ...where there are many holiday photos to enjoy.

HONEYGUIDE CHARITABLE TRUST

A donation to a local conservation project has been part of the holiday price since the start of Honeyguide in 1991. To date (August 2019), we have raised £132,482 for conservation projects, mostly in Europe.

The Honeyguide Wildlife Trust Limited was registered as a charity in June 2004, registered

charity number 1104606. The object of the charity, in summary, is "To help conserve... the natural environment and wildlife".

A benefit of being a charity is that, through Gift Aid, we can claim tax from HM Customs & Revenue against the contributions from Honeyguiders. This can raise an additional 25p in the pound, which brings in more than £1000 each year. This tops up the donations we make to the conservation projects linked to our holidays through LPO, SEO, HOS, SPEA and others.

Trustees of the charitable trust are Helen Crowder, Malcolm Crowder OBE (secretary) and Chris Durdin (chairman).

We would be very grateful if everyone booking a holiday who is a UK taxpayer could complete the simple gift aid declaration on the booking form.

We also welcome additional donations or legacies through the Honeyguide charity.

Your leadership team 2020



Chris Durdin, this year leading in **Valencia, Crete**, the **Picos de Europa** and autumn in **Falsterbo** and the **Spanish Pyrenees**, is the driving force behind Honeyguide, running holidays since 1991. For many years he combined this with his work for the RSPB in Eastern England, often the Society's spokesman, but has been concentrating on Honeyguide full-time since 2009. Chris has written a book about Norfolk's cranes and leads regular walks on his local wildlife trust nature reserve. He's also a barbershop singer. As a naturalist, Chris is an all rounder.

Valencia and Picos de Europa

Pau Lucio lives near Valencia and runs a wildlife tour company called Birdwatching Spain. Locally he is involved in conservation projects on bird migration and the importance of Spanish coastal wetlands for species such as moustached and Savi's warblers. Pau spent nine months at the Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust at Slimbridge. He also works at a nature reserve where he guides visitors through the forest and marshes. He is our regular guide in Valencia and also spends time every year in the Picos de Europa.

Chris Durdin – see above.

Crete

Chris Durdin – see above. **Rob Macklin** was formerly the RSPB's area manager on the Suffolk coast, covering Minsmere and North Warren among several nature reserves. He now lives in Devon and uses his years of experience in nature conservation as an environmental consultant.

Menorca

Chris Gibson has recently taken early retirement from Natural England where he was based in north Essex. He is an author of several wildlife books and has led many holidays for Honeyguide. He is an outstanding all-rounder, from birds through flowers to moths, and recognised as a 'naturalist of distinction' by the British Naturalists' Association. **Ivan Nethercoat** is a regular and well-travelled Honeyguide leader, including holidays in the Balearics, Crete, Estonia and the French Pyrenees. His degree, many moons ago, was in photography, and he is still a keen, now digital, snapper and very happy to help any photographers in the group.

Bulgaria's Western Rhodopes

Vladimir Trifonov, known as Vlado, is our regular local guide. He works as a botanist for the state forestry authority and is the Bulgarian authority on the spectacular Rhodope lily *Lilium rhodopaeum*. Here (right of the twin-shot) Vlado is pictured with co-leader **Tim Strudwick**, considering an ID with the help of Chris Gibson's animals book.

Falsterbo

Christopher Hall runs his own birdwatching company, New Horizons, though is planning to guide for others and leave the administrative roles behind; this partnership with Honeyguide is a step in that direction. Falsterbo is one of many birdwatching destinations he knows well and was our first choice as a joint project. His wildlife watching tours for a growing 'family' of loyal regulars means he has guided more than 150 tours worldwide. He has also been a science teacher and run birdwatching evening classes. **Chris Durdin** – see above.

South Africa

Geoff Crane is the man behind Crane's Cape Tours & Travel, both local leaders and ground agents for Honeyguide in South Africa. An experienced guide himself, he co-leads all Honeyguide's holidays in South Africa.

Spanish Pyrenees

Chris Durdin – see above. **Peter Rich**, with his wife Melanie, is our host at Casa Sarasa and also our regular co-leader in the Spanish Pyrenees. He has a wealth of local knowledge - places, people and wildlife.

The Gambia

Simon Tonkin worked as an RSPB Senior Conservation Officer for many years, specialising in the challenging job of stopping the decline of farmland wildlife. He also lectures in ornithology and has been involved in developing 'fair to nature' food products. **Niki Williamson** was a warden at the RSPB's Ouse Washes nature reserve, then worked on projects helping farmland birds in the Fens and subsequently managed the RSPB Eastern England's farm wildlife advisory team. Both are now full-time nature guides, based in the Strait of Gibraltar.



Bulbinella elegans - South Africa, Spring Flowers



Pau Lucio



Rob Macklin



Chris Gibson



Ivan Nethercoat



Tim Strudwick with Vlado Trifonov



Christopher Hall



Geoff Crane



Melanie and Peter Rich



Niki Williamson



Simon Tonkin

Our holidays have been designed with the general naturalist in mind. Beginners are especially welcome but all holidays offer much to the more experienced naturalist. Some holidays are loosely based on 'birdwatching without blinkers'; some are a mix of birds, flowers and other wildlife. Several holidays can be good for butterflies. Local history, culture and food play a part in every holiday.

The holidays lend themselves to anyone wishing to leave the organised programme to sketch, paint, write or just potter.

10 – 17 March 2020

Valencia

Birdwatching and orchids in eastern Spain



Price: £1,290 per person in twin or double room for seven nights (Tuesday to Tuesday)

Single room supplement: £120

En suite facilities

Scheduled easyJet flights London Gatwick to Valencia

Deposit: £300

Maximum number (two leaders): 14

Leaders: Pau Lucio and Chris Durdin



Glossy ibises



Ophrys lucentina

Valencia remains a little undiscovered region for British naturalists, but it offers an attractive mix of birdwatching and early season orchids. Honeyguide's local leader, Pau Lucio, lives near Valencia and his local knowledge will guide us to protected areas and wildlife hotspots in marshes, mountains and cultivations among the developed coast and intensive arable elsewhere.

Paddy fields, a huge 14,000 hectares, are the third largest wetland in Spain. Flooded in winter, we arrive after the end of the shooting season as the area begins to dry. In early March there are just a few fields with water that can be packed with birds. Our previous groups found hundreds of greater flamingos and glossy ibises, numerous egrets and quartering marsh harriers. Elsewhere there's a daytime roost of night herons.

Waders will be here and also at the salt pans of Santa Pola, which are especially good for gulls, notably slender-billed. Audouin's gulls are plentiful in Gandia's harbour, where shearwaters follow fishing boats.

The Natural Park of El Fondo is a man-made reservoir with some 70 breeding pairs of the globally-threatened white-headed duck, numerous black-necked grebes, a few introduced red-knobbed coots and perhaps marbled ducks.

Another interesting species is the rare greater spotted eagle, which uses the reserve as winter ground. This eastern European species is now a regular wintering bird in this part of coastal Spain. There aren't many of them and the chances of seeing it are probably less than 50:50 (we were lucky in 2016 & 2018); there's no better area to search.

A fourth wetland type, with reedbeds, is Pego Marshes. This is one of the many small wetlands spread along the Mediterranean coast that play a vital role for many migrants as re-fuelling places. From mid-February to June, a ringing group carries out an intensive ringing project to study the effect of climate change on resident and migrant warblers. We will attend a ringing session where we hope to see one of the resident moustached warblers and wintering species such as reed bunting, penduline tit, bluethroat, kingfisher or Cetti's warbler.

Away from the coast there is a variety of varied habitats, including botanical reserves, cork oak and the gorge of the Monnegre River. This is a moon-like landscape with birds such as blue rock thrush, rock bunting, black redstart, crag martins and maybe early breeders such as red-rumped swallow.

Our base is the rural hotel Font Salada set in orange groves, near the Pego Marshes Natural Park and just one kilometre from the coast.

Birds

Spring comes early to coastal Spain, and we expect to see early migrants such as swallows, martins and passage waders. Scrub has Dartford and Sardinian warblers. Elsewhere we hope to see Bonelli's eagle, red-billed chough, crested tit, short-toed treecreeper and firecrest. There's a chance of wintering alpine accentor.

Orchids

Abandoned orchards and mini-nature reserves hold a range of orchids, including giant, mirror, sombre bee, woodcock and sawfly. Remarkably, there are two regular hybrids of these in this area: *Ophrys x castroviejoi* is a newly described cross between mirror and sawfly orchids and *Ophrys x pielteri* is a cross between woodcock and sawfly orchids. The local *Ophrys lucentina* is here too. A Spanish version of early purple orchid, *Orchis olbiensis*, is common.

Other wildlife

We hope for warm weather to bring out a few early butterflies such as Spanish festoon, western dappled white, Moroccan orange-tip and Lang's short-tailed blue. Several flowers are called *valentina* or *lucentina* which means they are named after Valencia: the sandwort *Silene valentina* is endemic to the area and the scorpion vetch *Coronilla valentina* more widespread. One of the rarest species is the pink *Silene diclinis*.



Spanish festoon

Itinerary

Two days are very local, in and near Pego Marshes. One day has a longer journey, to El Fondo Natural Park. The other days have more typical travel times.

Conservation project

Our leader Pau's ringing group Grupo de Anillamiento Pit-Roig runs bird ringing stations in Valencia. The group is studying the survival rate and dispersion of moustached warbler. Data loggers placed on Savi's and reed warblers are tracking their migratory movements. Support pays for nets and other ringing equipment.



Audouin's gulls and Sandwich terns

Crete

Island birds and flowers in the cradle of civilisation

Crete is a magical and mysterious island. Home of Europe's earliest civilisation, influenced by many nations, yet it retains its own identity and culture of which its people are justifiably proud.

The island's position in the Mediterranean has not only played a crucial role in its history but is an important migration route for birds on their way north in spring. Crete in April is free of crowds, the days can be warm and the hillsides are full of flowers.

This, the largest and most southerly of all the Greek islands, is dominated by a backbone of mountains through which cut many deep gorges. These are as spectacular as they are rich in wildlife, be it migrant birds, nesting vultures or endemic wild flowers.

Nature and history are difficult to separate on Crete, with wildlife close to important archaeological sites. We will sample Minoan ruins at Phaestos.

We are based at the small and friendly Sophia Hotel in the small town of Plakias on the south coast. It is ideally placed for local walks and excursions and has an impressive backdrop of gorges and mountains.

Flowers

Crete's rich flora of 1600 native species includes 140 endemic to the island, such as Cretan cyclamen and Cretan ebony. In April many orchids are at their peak with Cretan bee, naked man, few-flowered, rainbow, four-spotted and bumblebee orchids among 20 or more species. Shrubs like Jerusalem sage and cistus contribute to colourful and aromatic hillsides.



Ricotia, Kourtaliótiko Gorge

Birds

The mountains and gorges of Crete are a stronghold for birds of prey, with the largest population of griffon vultures in Greece. Lammergeier, Bonelli's and golden eagles and buzzard all breed, as do crag martin, blue rock thrush, chough and raven. The hillsides and scrub support both Sardinian and the much rarer Rüppell's warbler. Many birds pass through on migration, pausing especially at wetlands, however small. These might include red-footed falcon, alpine swift, bee-eater, squacco heron, little bittern and various waders and warblers.

Other wildlife

At this time of the year there are butterflies such as swallowtail, scarce swallowtail, Cleopatra and Cretan festoon. We often see freshwater crabs; reptiles can include Balkan (stripe-necked) terrapin and Balkan green lizard.



Freshwater crab

Excursions

As well as local walks, our minibus trips this week include visits to Moní Préveli, Kourtaliótiko and Kotsiphou Gorges, Frangokastello, Spili, Ayia reservoir and, possibly, the mountain plateau at Omalós.

Conservation project

The lammergeier conservation project is run by the Hellenic Ornithological Society, BirdLife Greece. In south-east Europe, lammergeiers are now extinct in the Balkans and are only found on Crete. Alongside survey and monitoring, the long-term survival of Europe's rarest vulture is being tackled by site protection, food provision and the encouragement of traditional grazing systems.

SUPPORTING



Price: £1,450 per person in single or twin room, for a full week (Tuesday to Tuesday)

This includes taverna evening meals plus picnics or a taverna lunch

En suite facilities

Scheduled easyJet flights Gatwick or Manchester to Heraklion or Chania

Deposit: £300

Maximum number (two leaders): 14

Leaders: Chris Durdin and Rob Macklin



Squacco heron



Dragon arum at Frangokastello



Plakias Bay

24 April – 1 May 2020

Discovering Menorca

A relaxed wildlife holiday on this quiet Mediterranean island



Price: £1,490 per person in twin room for a full week (Friday to Friday)

En suite facilities.

Single room supplement: £180

Scheduled Easyjet flights Gatwick to Mahón

Deposit: £300

Maximum number: 14, with two leaders

Leaders: Chris Gibson and Ivan Nethercoat



Hermann's tortoise



Audouin's gulls

Menorca provides the perfect setting to see birds typical of the Mediterranean. A small island, a little over 30 miles long and 13 miles wide, its quiet, unhurried atmosphere complements a relaxing birdwatching holiday.

All parts of the island can be reached easily and quickly so most of the holiday can be spent in the field enjoying an array of birds among masses of flowers. It all has a charm rarely equalled elsewhere in Europe today.

While small, the island holds a great variety of habitats. The rugged coasts are spectacular and off-islands provide nest sites for the scarce Audouin's gull. Any view of the surrounding sea may reveal Cory's or Mediterranean shearwaters. Lagoons and fresh water lakes hold a variety of waders including black-winged stilts, plus egrets, herons and even the occasional flamingo.

The open countryside is full of birds. Thekla and short-toed larks and hoopoes sing from dry stone walls; stone-curlews skulk in rocky fields, woodchat shrikes, ravens and tawny pipits are often seen and quail heard.

There is never a dull moment as the sky seems frequently full of birds of prey. Menorca holds concentrations of booted eagles, Egyptian vultures and red kites.

In spring the island provides a stepping stone for birds migrating across the Mediterranean – so anything can turn up. Resident birds include blue rock thrushes, stonechats, moustached and Sardinian warblers.

Pastures, coastal rocks and sand dunes provide a range of attractive wild flowers such as mirror orchids and small tongue orchids can be abundant.

Other wildlife includes huge Egyptian grasshoppers and, in wetter areas, stripeless tree frogs and terrapins

History

The island's varied history shows well in architecture and archaeology. In the cities, a mix of architectural design reflects the result of dominance by Romans, Moslems and British.

Strange stone monoliths, known locally as Torres, date from around 1000 BC. Of later origin are mounds of rock called Talaïots. Access to these monuments is easy and they are often good places to see wildlife.



Mirror orchid

Itinerary

Excursions should include Fornells harbour and the cape and lighthouse at Cavallaria; the hill of Monte Toro; Punta Prima; Cap Favàritx; Algendar Gorge; Mahón harbour; Son Bou reedbed and dunes; the salt pans at Mongofre Nou; the seasonal wetland at Tirant; plus various short excursions or local walks.

Conservation project

The Grup Balear d'Ornitologia i Defensa de la Naturalesa (GOB – the Balearic Ornithological Group) is an active local organisation working to protect the Balearic Islands from overdevelopment. A current project is 'Agronatural Farms', promoting and encouraging wildlife-friendly farming on the island.



Menorcan olive wood gates

Picos de Europa

Mountain wildlife in stunning scenery

Imagine stepping back in time when meadows were full of flowers and butterflies, with traditional management for hay and livestock. Picture this with a backdrop of jagged limestone mountains and you have a feel for the glorious wildlife and landscape in this corner of northwest Spain.

Variety starts with the range of habitats, with a Mediterranean feel at lower levels to alpine rock-gardens, but dominated in between these by hay meadows known as some of the most diverse in Europe. Many of the 150 species of butterflies and 1500 plant species are strongly linked to the limestone, though high altitude acid peat bogs add to the variety.

Flowers

Orchids are often the first flowers studied – 20 species on Honeyguide's previous Picos visits. These orchids include burnt-tip, frog, lizard, woodcock, two colour forms of elder-flowered orchid and the unusual *Orchis langei*. There is, of course, so much more: asphodels, rock-roses, pinks, saxifrages, globularias, gentians, large-flowered butterwort, the lovely 'three-birds' toadflax *Linaria triornithophora* – the list could go on.

Birds

Griffon vultures are the most numerous bird of prey, plus a few Egyptian vultures and an outside chance of seeing one of the reintroduced lammergeiers. Short-toed eagles are possible and black kites likely on most days. Higher areas have easy to see alpine choughs and a fair chance of finding alpine accentors, snowfinches and that most intriguing of birds, the wallcreeper.

In 2019, our home village of Boca de Huérgano had a regular wryneck, nesting white storks, common redstarts and the Iberian subspecies of pied flycatcher, plus dippers on the river. Rock bunting, red-backed and Iberian grey shrikes, rock sparrow, crag martin, Bonelli's warbler and bee-eater are more birds you wouldn't expect to see in the UK.



Snowfinch



Picos de Europa



Butterflies

If you like butterflies, the Picos de Europa will appeal. Glanville, dark green and spotted are among the fritillaries. Chapman's ringlet is found only in this area. There's a good range of skippers, heaths, blues and others, given fine weather and a little patience. There's a huge range of moths, day- and night-flying, for anyone with interest and expertise, plus various interesting looking beetles, spiders and more.

Other wildlife

The Cantabrian chamois *Rupicapra pyrenaica parva* is the local subspecies of the Pyrenean chamois or isard, and is widespread, though not common, in craggy areas. Brown bears are present in the Picos but secretive and we do not expect to see them. Midwife toads call in the village. Tree frog and wall lizards are likely.

Pretty towns, rushing mountain rivers and some of the finest scenery in Europe give a charming context for the wildlife.

Holiday details

Our base is the Hotel Tierra de la Reina in the small town of Boca de Huérgano, where a Roman bridge over the River Esla is within walking distance. Excursions are a mix of local trips and drives to farther afield, including Puerto de las Señales mountain pass, Valle de Valdeón, a Spanish juniper forest, and by cable car to the high plateau at Fuente Dé.

Conservation project

This year's donation will be shared between two organisations. Asociación Zerynthia is a small Spanish NGO dedicated to the study and conservation of butterflies and the places where they live and to promoting public interest in them. A current project in northern Spain is habitat restoration to encourage white-letter hairstreaks, including planting disease resistant elms, the larval food plant. SEO (BirdLife Spain) runs a coastal yet urban nature reserve in Santander, which we visit on the way back to the airport.



Price: £1,450 per person in twin room for a full week (Monday to Monday)

Single room supplement: £100

En suite facilities

Scheduled Ryanair flights Stansted to Santander

Deposit: £300

Maximum number (two leaders): 14

Leaders: Pau Lucio and Chris Durdin



Chamois



Trumpet gentian

Price: £1,490 per person in twin room for seven nights (Friday to Friday).

Single room supplement: £100

En suite facilities

Scheduled Ryanair flights, London Stansted to Plovdiv, or easyJet flights, London Gatwick to Sofia, to be decided when schedules are available

Deposit: £300

Maximum number: 14

Leaders: Vladimir Trifonov and Tim Strudwick

26 June - 3 July 2020

Bulgaria's Western Rhodopes

Rare lilies, mountain butterflies and more



Few countries can rival Bulgaria's scenic splendour and diverse nature. The country's most valuable natural features are protected in three national parks, twelve nature parks and numerous wildlife and nature refuges.

The higher plants number about 3,500 species, including more than 400 Bulgarian and Balkan endemics and nearly 70 species of orchids. Bulgaria boasts the richest dragonfly and butterfly fauna in Europe.

This holiday concentrates on the mountains, meadows and gorges of the Western Rhodopes. The Rhodope Mountains are in southern Bulgaria, close to the border with Greece.

The mountains' pine-clad slopes are occasionally cut by rivers winding through deep gorges, one of which is the magnificent Trigrad Gorge.

Here we can enjoy birds like peregrine, alpine swift, crag martin, red-rumped swallow and dipper. Elsewhere in the forests, crags and mountain meadows of the Western Rhodopes we hope to find black woodpecker, alpine and pallid swifts, nutcracker, sombre tit, red-backed shrike and rock bunting. Wallcreepers are less reliable than they used to be, but we'll look and hope to be lucky.

The cultural heritage and traditions of Bulgaria include magnificent architecture from the 18th and 19th centuries in many towns and villages. Ancient icons, breath-taking murals and superb woodcarvings preserved in monasteries and churches, form just a part of the religious, historic and cultural wealth.

Other traditions include the tasty Bulgarian cuisine, salads especially, good local wines and, in our experience, a warm welcome in the mountain village of Yagodina. Here we are based at the family-run Hotel Yagodina, well located for walks around the village.

Flowers

Low intensity agriculture means that the Western Rhodopes have retained vast swathes of beautiful grasslands, with a dazzling array of wild flowers, a mixture of familiar species and local specialities.

In the gorges especially, there are several endemic species, one of the best known being *Haberlea rhodopensis*, which is related to African violets. Others endemics include *Valeriana montana*, Rhodope sandwort *Arenaria rhodoea*, a bellflower *Campanula orphanidea* and the saxifrage *Saxifraga stribnyi*.

There are four geum species, two foxgloves, three wintergreens, an unusual bugle *Ajuga lazmanii*, St Bernard's lily and many orchids – just a few names from so many in a rich and varied area for a botanist.

Perhaps the star species is the Rhodope lily, found only here and in nearby Greece. It's in flower-rich high mountain meadows, along with corncrakes and swarms of marsh fritillaries and other butterflies.

Butterflies

The bewildering variety – 72 species on a previous visit – includes many local or unusual species: Balkan zephyr blue, Balkan copper, powdered brimstone and poplar admiral. These mingle with butterflies found more widely in mainland Europe, such as spotted, Queen-of-Spain and Glanville fritillaries, Apollo, chestnut heath, Idas blue and more.



Fritillaries and silver-studded blues on a scat

Other wildlife

Red squirrel, pine marten and wild cat are found in the mountains, plus souslik in the lowlands. Agile frog and fire salamander occur. Among a big range of dragonflies, moths and other invertebrates, one of the most spectacular is the pennant-winged ant-lion.

Conservation project

The Rhodope lily *Lilium rhodopaeum* is a very scarce flower of the Western Rhodopes. It's found on just a handful of sites in Bulgaria and just over the border in Greece, about half of which have no official protection. Our local leader, Vlado, is the Bulgarian authority on this spectacular endemic, and with our help leads on its monitoring and conservation.



Alpine swift



Lilium rhodopaeum



Yagodina from Mt Ilya

22 August – 4 September 2020

Spring flowers in South Africa

The Cape Floral Kingdom, combined with a profusion of other wildlife in South Africa's south-western Cape

The south-western Cape of South Africa is remarkable for its range of flowers and other wildlife at almost any time, but for sheer visual impact a visit in early spring ranks among the world's most colourful natural spectacles. On this holiday we combine the floral riches of the Nieuwoudtville area with the diverse natural history elsewhere in the region – a host of birds, mammals, reptiles and other wildlife, set in glorious scenery.

Nieuwoudtville

Nieuwoudtville is called the 'bulb capital of the world' and these are part of some 1,400 plant species found on the plateau, many of which are endemic. Both specialities and spectacular displays are found on the 'renosterveld', named after the rhinoceros bush. A bonus is that this display is relatively close to the SW Cape, rather than long distance travelling to more distant parts of Namaqualand.

Those bulbs – or more strictly geophytes, with a range of underground food storage organs be they bulb, tuber, corm, or rhizome – are there to cope with dry summers later in the year. These include sand crocuses, various irises such as evening-flowered *Hesperantha* and *Babiana*, dwarf gladioli, the yellow spikes of asphodel-like *Bulbinella* and various orchids. For some the bulbs may be the stars, for others they are a supporting cast to the sheets of orange, yellow, blue and white daisies.

Our itinerary here includes nature reserves, botanic gardens and traditionally farmed areas – exactly where will depend on the vagaries of the season. Naturally all these flowers attract a range of pollinators, many types of bees, flies, beetles, moths and butterflies, as well as a few birds and rodents, which are also involved in spring flower pollination. The birds to look out for are orange-breasted sunbirds, Cape canaries and Cape sugarbird. Other birds such as blue crane, black korhaan and black harrier prey on the pollinators. Porcupines dig for bulbs, with the disturbed ground adding to the diversity.

Cape Town area

From the moment you arrive at Cape Town by air, the sheer beauty of the Cape strikes you. The spectacular Table Mountain and its adjacent hills dominate the landscape. Numerous bays and shallow lagoons add to this idyllic scene.

The spring flower show continues in the SW Cape with swathes of Cape daisies, while the fynbos proteas, heathers and pincushions are all in flower. It's the breeding season for local birds and by the coast southern right whales gather in favoured bays, joining Cape fur seals and seabirds.

Coastal species should include Cape gannet, kelp gull, swift tern, Cape, white-breasted and crowned cormorants, African black oystercatcher and white-fronted plover. Troops of chacma baboons are often encountered on roadsides and bontebok, Cape mountain zebra, eland and red hartebeest can be found at the Cape of Good Hope.

At Boulders we will visit the African penguin colony for an eyeball-to-eyeball encounter with this threatened species.



Coastal fynbos scrub holds malachite sunbirds, fiscal flycatcher and Cape siskin. Other frequent birds might include Cape robin-chat, Karoo prinia, grey-backed cisticola and southern boubou.

Kirstenbosch botanical gardens is one of the best-known gardens in the world. Situated on the slopes of the spectacular Table Mountain, it specialises in the indigenous flora of South Africa. Sunbirds abound and Cape francolin and helmeted guineafowl are often found among the colourful flowerbeds.



Cape dwarf chameleon

The West Coast National Park to the north of Cape Town is noted for its large coastal lagoon, holding many wading birds including Kittlitz's, white-fronted and chestnut-banded plovers. Greater flamingos may be mixed with South African shelducks. This time of year, areas can be swathed in flowers, especially at the Postberg Flower Reserve.

Strandfontein water treatment plant, Rietvlei and Rondevlei nature reserves offer excellent opportunities to get to grips with waterbirds.

We also have a day in the Cape Winelands, steeped in history and with elegant buildings, as well as a chance to sample and buy Cape wines.

The holiday is based on two centres, Nieuwoudtville (four nights) and Hout Bay near Cape Town (nine nights), all in the good company of Geoff Crane, Honeyguide's regular guide in southern Africa.

Conservation project

The second South African Bird Atlas Project (SABAP2) is one of the most intensive monitoring programmes ever undertaken in South Africa. Many areas are difficult to access but critically need atlas work and ongoing monitoring work for BirdLife South Africa to understand the bird conservation challenges in these remote sites.



Price: £4,900 per person in twin room for 13 nights in South Africa, plus two overnight travel days (Saturday to Friday).

Single room supplement: £300

En suite facilities.

Scheduled flights, London Heathrow to Cape Town, depending on schedules.

Deposit: £500

Number: minimum of 3, maximum 8

Leader: Geoff Crane



King protea



African penguins



Spring flowers at Matjiesfontein Farm

More information visit www.honeyguide.co.uk 9

Price: £1400 per person in twin room for five nights (Tuesday to Sunday), price does not include lunches.

Single room supplement: £120

En suite facilities

Scheduled Ryanair flights from London Stansted to Copenhagen

Deposit: £300

Maximum number (two leaders): 14

Leaders: Christopher Hall and Chris Durdin

1 – 6 September 2020

Falsterbo, Sweden

Mass migration by the Baltic coast

Ranked number six in the top thirty birding sites in Europe, with over 350 species recorded, Falsterbo should be on everyone's radar. It has been estimated that around 500 million birds leave Scandinavia every autumn, and most of them pass through Falsterbo at the southern tip of Sweden, before crossing the Øresund to Denmark and far beyond.

Falsterbo is recognised as one of the top birding sites in Europe.



Falsterbo peninsula

This vast stream of migrants makes the Falsterbo peninsula one of the greatest bird migration watchpoints. Each autumn, literally thousands of passerines including larks, pipits, wagtails, hirundines, thrushes, warblers, flycatchers, finches and buntings pass through each day, providing an amazing spectacle. Among all this action we may find scarcer species such as wryneck, red-throated pipit, bluethroat, red-backed shrike, icterine warbler, nutcracker or Lapland bunting.

Spotted flycatcher and red-backed shrikes are two migrants we'd hope to find.

Bird of prey hotspot

Falsterbo is particularly famous for raptor migration. The numbers are staggering, with mixed flocks in the hundreds every day. Virtually every European raptor is regularly recorded here, including rarities such as spotted and lesser spotted eagles and pallid harrier.



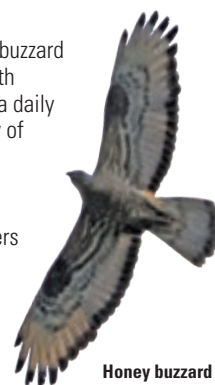
At the time of our visit honey buzzard numbers will be at a peak, with hundreds passing through on a daily basis, making a seasonal tally of around 5,000.

The coastal location gives opportunities to look for waders and seabirds.

Meanwhile, on or flying past the shoreline there can be wildfowl such as brent and barnacle geese and pintail.

Waders are likely to include grey and golden plovers, little stint, spotted redshank and wood sandpiper. On the sea we look out for eiders, velvet scoter and red-breasted merganser.

A little farther afield we can also look out for whooper swans, white-tailed and golden eagles, red kite, goshawk, white stork, common crane, Caspian tern, eagle owl, black woodpecker, marsh tit and hawfinch, so prepare for a remarkable birdwatching bonanza.



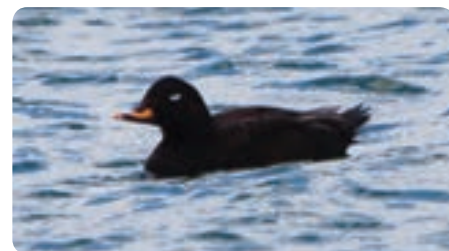
Honey buzzard



Red-backed shrike



Spotted flycatcher



Velvet scoter

Itinerary

From Copenhagen airport, it is a fairly short drive across the famous Øresund Bridge into Sweden to the charming old village of Falsterbo, within easy reach of the 'action'. Over the next few days we shall witness the daily spectacle of mass migration from Nabben at the very tip of the peninsula, as well as exploring the local coastline, woods and heathland.

Two days are away from Falsterbo at Lake Krankesjön and Fyledalen nature reserve, the latter a wooded valley with a stream and meadows where fallow deer can be seen. At the end of this spectacular break we return across the bridge to Copenhagen airport for our flight home.

Holiday details

Five nights at our holiday base, the Spelabäcken Hotel in the heart of the small village of Falsterbo. It's a family-run hotel with a 'lush and leafy' garden.

Conservation project

This holiday will support the Stop the Massacre campaign, which campaigns to protect migrant birds on their journeys across Europe. The money will go via BirdLife International's 'stop illegal bird killing' programme. Our visit to Falsterbo is particularly to see migrants, which pour through this part of Sweden into mainland Europe and beyond, reminding us all of the need for bird protection across international boundaries. BirdLife Sweden is a partner in the campaign.



Falsterbo

Spanish Pyrenees

Autumn at Berdún

A stunning landscape and a wealth of wildlife make the Spanish Pyrenees attractive in any season. Our usual holiday here is in spring, but we are ringing the changes by visiting in the autumn – still warm, but after the fierce heat of high summer – with a greater emphasis on the birds, given the season, but still enjoying other wildlife on show.

The resident birds of prey — griffon vultures and lammergeiers, for example — will be around, and the wintering population of red kites will be growing. Resident birds can include Sardinian and Dartford warblers, and the song of woodlarks is often a feature right through autumn and winter. Black redstarts are everywhere, especially in villages.

Wallcreepers are tricky to see when high in the Pyrenees in spring and summer. In autumn they descend and place like Binies Gorge can be a good place to see them. On higher pastures we look for alpine choughs, water pipits and ring ouzel. At this time of year migration through southern Europe is under way, though as always this varies according to the weather and, a little, to luck. A trickle of migrants could include swallows, warblers, wheatears and flycatchers.

Berdún itself – host to Honeyguide holidays for 30 years – is a charming, fortified village perched on a hilltop in the Pyrenean foothills. Our base is Casa Sarasa, where Peter Rich and Melanie Hallam offer a warm welcome and fine food. Peter knows the area well and we plan to add variety and local flavour with some historical or cultural interludes.

The Pyrenees may sound quite strenuous, but our itinerary is actually fairly relaxed. Anyone reasonably fit will have no trouble keeping up.



Merendera

Birds

Those mentioned above plus golden eagle, crested lark, dipper, Cetti's warbler, rock sparrow, spotless starling, chough, crag martin, blue rock thrush, crossbill, serin and many more.

Other wildlife

Mammals could include alpine marmot and isard – Pyrenean chamois – at the high tops, and red squirrel. For butterflies, there is a good chance of clouded yellow, Queen of Spain fritillary, wall brown and various graylings, such as rock and great banded, plus a range of other insects.



Clouded yellow

Flowers will be limited at this time of year but could include merendera and autumn lady's tresses.

Itinerary

Our trips, local and further afield, will be influenced by the weather, but we expect a mix of higher valleys such as Hecho, Aísa and Roncal, the area around the monastery at San Juan de la Peña, plus local exploration to the the rivers Veral and Aragón and in Binies gorge.

Conservation project

The Sociedad Española de Ornitología (Spanish Ornithological Society) manages 1600 acres of steppe, one of the most threatened bird habitats both here in the Aragón region and in Europe. Dupont's and lesser short-toed larks, pin-tailed and black-bellied sandgrouse and stone-curlews benefit from the establishment of this reserve at Belchite, near Zaragoza.

SUPPORTING



Price: £1,490 per person in a twin room for seven nights (Saturday to Saturday).

Single room supplement: £140.

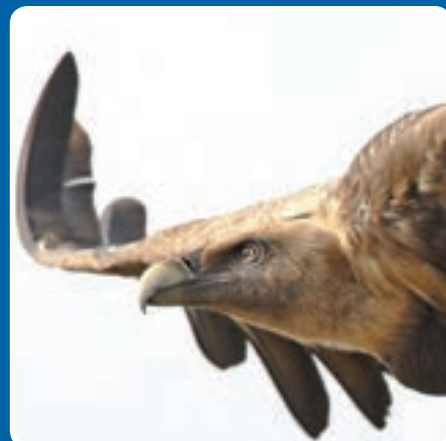
Nine rooms, two of which share a bathroom, the rest have en suite facilities.

Scheduled Ryanair flights, London Stansted to Biarritz.

Deposit: £300

Maximum number: 14, though the group size will depend on the mix of twins and singles in the group.

Leaders: Chris Durdin and Peter Rich



Griffon vulture



Crag martin



Berdún

Price: £2,800 per person in twin/double room for 11 nights, plus probable overnight return flight to UK (Thursday to Tuesday).

Single room supplement: £100

En suite facilities

Scheduled Thomas Cook Airlines flights from London Gatwick to Banjul.

Deposit: £500

Maximum number (two leaders): 12

Leaders: Simon Tonkin and Niki Williamson

3 – 15 December 2020

The Gambia

Birding West Africa with a smile

This tiny, friendly West African gem has long been a favourite with birders, and with good reason. As the gleaming Gambia River bends gently inland to form its welcoming 'grin', it provides access to teeming habitats ranging from coastal creeks to mangrove swamps to freshwater lakes, with species-rich Sahelian scrubland in between.

Occupying about the area of Norfolk and Suffolk combined, this small, accessible country embraces the shores of the languid Gambia River, which flows through its very heart before emptying into the Atlantic Ocean. Extensive protected areas interspersed with low-key traditional agriculture make for a welcoming wildlife haven, rich in eye-poppingly colourful flora and fauna.

Appealing, hospitable and easy to visit, this simply amazing birding destination provides an ideal introduction to sub-Saharan Africa, with raptors galore and a myriad of colourful and exciting target species. Bursting with life and culture, it is well-deserving of its nickname of 'Africa's Smiling Coast', not just for its geographical appearance, but also because of the genuinely warm welcome waiting for you here.

The Coast (4 nights)

Tanji Bird Reserve is made up of mangroves, dry woodland, vegetated dunes and coastal lagoons. With this range of habitats it's no wonder that over 300 bird species have been recorded here. Exploring from our eco-lodge accommodation within the park, we'll hope to see black-headed heron, white-fronted plover, Caspian and royal tern, and grey-headed and slender-billed gulls.

The coastal town of Tanji offers culture and wildlife spectacles combined, with superb up-close views of sea- and shore-birds fighting over fish discards at the lively local fish market, where fisherman barter loudly over the catch of the day from their colourfully-painted wooden fishing boats.

Tiny **Abuko Nature Reserve** was The Gambia's first protected area and is a veritable treasure chest of natural riches. Among the oil palms and *Anthocleista*, hardwoods such as mahogany and African teak remain unharmed.

Among them live vervet, red colobus and patas monkeys, not to mention a stunning array of birds such as green and violet turaco, African paradise flycatchers, palm nut vultures and giant kingfishers. In the pools lurk Nile and dwarf crocodiles.

Tendaba Safari Camp (3 nights)

The dense red and black mangrove swamps and mollusc-rich muddy banks of the **Bao Bolong River** are protected under the Ramsar convention from the northern border of The Gambia right to its scenic estuarine culmination where it joins the Gambia River.

From our base at Tendaba Safari camp on the opposite shore, we will explore the reserve's mysterious steamy creeks by boat, getting us up close to avian A-listers such as African finfoot, African blue flycatcher, malachite, pied and

blue-breasted kingfisher, goliath heron, African darter and spur-winged lapwing as well as experiencing the prehistoric sounds (and smells!) of egret and cormorant colonies.

Hides around the watering holes of **Kiang West National Park** will bring us up close to laughing doves, speckled wood doves and maybe even wintering European turtle doves. They can also bring views of some of the park's mammalian residents such as bushbucks, warthogs, and with extreme luck some of the park's reclusive wildcats such as serval or caracal.



Black-billed wood dove

Janjanbureh and around (4 nights)

Further inland, amongst Sahelian scrub and savannah grasslands, we'll meet a whole host of other bird species. Flowering and fruiting trees, such as *Pterocarpus erinaceus*, red acacia and the iconic baobab, provide a real focal point for wildlife. Here we'll look for bearded barbet, exclamatory paradise whyda, white-fronted black-chat, white-throated, little, blue-cheeked, red-throated and northern carmine bee-eater. We'll also search for the enigmatic Abyssinian ground hornbill, one of the most long-lived of all birds. At dusk we may be lucky enough to see Senegal thick-knees and long-tailed and standard-winged nightjars.

For lovers of raptors, simply looking up will bring a constant stream of delights. The diversity of raptor species in The Gambia is truly phenomenal, with over sixty birds of prey including spectacular creatures like bateleur, dark chanting goshawk, shikra, African harrier hawk, Verreaux's eagle owl and Pel's fishing owl to name just a few.



Little bee-eater

Conservation project

The Gambia Bird Watchers' Association was established in 2007. It provides a headquarters for the area's bird guides and trains the next generation of ornithologists.

In The Gambia, many important forests are still community-owned, and BWA is instrumental in setting up community reserves, training bird guides in the villages and enabling them to benefit from the preservation of forest habitat through ecotourism.



Abyssinian roller



Bearded barbet



Red colobus monkey



Egyptian plover



Malachite kingfisher



Pearl-spotted owllet

Exclamatory paradise whydah



Western branded snake eagle

Honeyguide wildlife holidays

- are all round natural history holidays, tailored to get the best out of the wildlife of each area
- go at a relaxed pace
- often stay at one place
- include good, local food
- use the best of leaders, with extensive conservation knowledge, natural history skills, good experience of the local area and the right personal skills
- are designed to benefit you, wildlife and the local people whose services we use
- include a £40 contribution from each participant to wildlife conservation

Holidays for natural history societies, RSPB local groups or other groups can be arranged.

Visit www.honeyguide.co.uk for holiday reports, photos and more.



Carbon offsets

Realistically, most of our travellers will fly. Air travel makes only a small fraction of the UK's greenhouse gas emissions at present, but that fraction is growing. Recognising this, Honeyguide has included carbon offsets in the price of our holidays since 2007 and was one of the first travel companies to do so.

It's a challenge to find carbon offset projects that achieve the 'gold standard' in terms of measuring carbon savings while also contributing to nature conservation – both are priorities for us. We have bought carbon credits that will help protect tropical forest in and near the Gola Rainforest National Park in Sierra Leone. The project is managed by the RSPB's International Department, with local partners.

For more information see www.honeyguide.co.uk.

Honeyguide booking form



Please use **BLOCK CAPITALS** and make cheques payable to Honeyguide Wildlife Holidays. Alternatively, from www.honeyguide.co.uk you can download, complete and email a 'form field PDF' version of this booking form.

Please reserve _____ place(s) on your holiday to _____

I enclose / have sent by bank transfer _____ deposit(s) at £300 (£500 for Africa) totalling: £ _____

Single room supplement(s): please book _____ single room(s) at extra each _____

I understand that the balance will become payable eight weeks (12 weeks for South Africa) before departure.

Holiday insurance company and policy number (details can be sent later, if you prefer): _____

Passport number(s), issue dates and expiry dates: _____

Title	Forenames*	Surnames	Date of birth
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

*As written on your passport. Please note or underline what you like to be known as, if different from the first name

Address: _____

Postcode _____

Telephone _____ Mobile _____ E-mail _____

Next of kin/home contact point in case of emergency (name & tel. no.) _____

Any other information (eg dietary, prescription medicines).

For a medical report form, please ask or see www.honeyguide.co.uk.

Non-Smoker ☐

Smoker ☐

Signed _____

Date _____

For couples, do you prefer twin beds ☐ a double bed ☐ or don't mind ☐

The price of all Honeyguide holidays includes £40 earmarked for a local conservation project. We would be very grateful if everyone booking could complete the following conservation contribution consent and gift aid declaration.

Please complete sections 1 and 2

1. CONSENT FOR CONSERVATION CONTRIBUTION

We agree that Honeyguide Wildlife Trust Ltd (registered charity no. 1104606) may apply £40 from the cost of this holiday on behalf of each person named on the booking form, to be donated to a wildlife conservation project in the country to be visited.

PLEASE TICK BOX

☐

Complete (a) or (b)

2. GIFT AID DECLARATION

If you pay UK income tax or capital gains tax, Honeyguide Wildlife Trust Ltd can reclaim from HM Revenue & Customs an extra 25p on every £1 donated, helping your conservation contribution go further. To qualify you must pay at least as much UK tax for the year in which you donate as the amount we are able to reclaim on your donation – currently £10 on each £40 contribution.

If you are a UK taxpayer, please give us the opportunity of increasing your donation in this way.

giftaid it

(a) Please print the name of each person on the booking form who qualifies to gift aid their contribution.

.....

.....

.....

Date.....

(b) If nobody on the booking form qualifies to gift aid their contribution, please tick this box.

☐

Thank you

Please return to: Honeyguide Wildlife Holidays, 36 Thunder Lane, Thorpe St Andrew, Norwich NR7 0PX

Honeyguide booking details



How to book: a booking is made when the completed booking form (a photocopy or emailed PDF or scan is fine) plus deposit have been received and accepted by us. We are very happy to take telephone or email bookings, to be confirmed with the form plus deposit during the week following your call / email.

Deposit and payment: £300 per person (£500 for Africa) deposit is payable by cheque or bank transfer with the booking, with the remainder due eight weeks before departure (12 weeks for Africa). Payments by credit, debit or charge cards cannot be taken.

Cancellation by you: if you have to cancel, please telephone as soon as possible and confirm in writing. The cancellation will take effect from when it is received in writing. The scale of cancellation charges below is calculated by the time period before departure.

More than eight weeks	deposit only
5-8 weeks	30% of total price
2-5 weeks	60% of total price
1-14 days; on or after departure date	100% of total price

Travel insurance should cover you (less any excess) for cancellation charges if circumstances are beyond your control, such as ill health, and more than simply a change of mind.

Cancellation by us: in the unlikely event of this happening your money will be refunded in full. A decision to cancel would normally be made at the time of reminders for the remainder of payment, i.e. eight weeks before departure.

Cancellation due to external events: if a holiday is cancelled due to events beyond our control, such as an air traffic control strike, your holiday cost will be refunded in full. However additional costs such as airport hotels, travel to the airport and travel insurance are not normally refundable. This is a plain English explanation and illustration of our 'force majeure' practice, whereby we cannot accept liability for events that we cannot reasonably foresee, including war, civil strife, natural or unnatural disasters, extreme weather conditions or the threat of any of these.

Single rooms and supplements: we don't like single room supplements but sometimes they can't be avoided, and we pass on the extra that the single room costs us. If you are willing to share but we don't find someone to share with you, you pay only half of any single supplement.

Because we have often chosen small, community-based accommodation, single rooms may not always be available. It often helps to talk it through with us at an early stage.

Information: including detailed itinerary, information on books, maps, shopping, weather etc will be supplied as part of the package for enquirers or will be sent after booking. Previous holiday reports are available for most holidays.

Flights: flights noted in the holiday details were the likeliest when the brochure went to print. However many schedules were not then out. Which airlines fly to where, and on what days, are prone to change; this may affect the flights and occasionally the dates for some holidays. Flights from other UK airports are sometimes possible: please contact the Honeyguide office. Boarding passes or booking references will be sent 1-2 weeks before departure.

We use scheduled services and cannot be held responsible for any departure delays. We are not in a position to state the aircraft type to be used.

Aircraft seats: groups are usually seated together but otherwise seats are allocated randomly. Please make any special seat requests at the time of booking.

Changes to the programme: should circumstances beyond our control make significant changes to the programme necessary we will consult you to see if these are acceptable to you.

Holiday leaders: we do our best to keep the leader named for the holiday, but we reserve the right to replace him or her in the event of illness or some other reason. When two leaders are listed, one may not accompany the holiday if there are not enough participants.

Group size: very occasionally if there is one place available on a holiday and a couple wishes to book we may go over the group size stated. The minimum is usually four.

Overnight accommodation and parking near the airport: we often cannot avoid flights that mean an overnight stay for many participants. We may be able to advise on a hotel and/or parking. If staying overnight, please consider if you wish to have an extra day on your travel insurance.

Extending your holiday: for some holidays it is possible to arrive early or stay on. Please contact the Honeyguide office for details.

Passport: a valid full passport is essential. There is additional advice on passports for Africa in our Holiday Information.

Medicines: there are restrictions on some prescription medicines overseas. General advice is to take medicines in their original packaging and your prescription, sometimes also a letter from your doctor. Please check what applies in your case.

Our price commitment: the prices of our holidays are fixed – there are no surcharges.

What the price includes: flights, airport taxes, carbon offsets, all travel and excursions, services of your holiday leader(s) and your conservation contribution are included in the holiday price. Also included are accommodation and meals – unless otherwise noted, breakfast, packed lunch and evening meal, often inclusive of wine.

What the price excludes: insurance and personal spending.

Smoking: most Honeyguiders are non-smokers. Anyone who smokes is expected to ensure this does not affect others in the group, including in the field. There is no smoking in transport, in our accommodation and at meals.

Tips and gratuities: all services in the itinerary are covered. You may wish to leave a 'thank-you' for room or restaurant staff at the end of your stay. We may organise a collection for staff to share.

ATOL terms and conditions: these T&Cs, with respect to Honeyguide's Air Travel Operator's Licence, are those that apply to all ATOL holders, as follows:

"Your Financial Protection: when you buy an ATOL protected flight or flight inclusive holiday from us you will receive an ATOL Certificate. This lists what is financially protected, where you can get information on what this means for you and who to contact if things go wrong."

"We, or the suppliers identified on your ATOL Certificate, will provide you with the services listed on the ATOL Certificate (or a suitable alternative). In some cases, where neither we nor the supplier are able to do so for reasons of insolvency, an alternative ATOL holder may provide you with the services you have bought or a suitable alternative (at no extra cost to you). You agree to accept that in those circumstances the alternative ATOL holder will perform those obligations and you agree to pay any money outstanding to be paid by you under your contract to that alternative ATOL holder. However, you also agree that in some cases it will not be possible to appoint an alternative ATOL holder, in which case you will be entitled to make a claim under the ATOL scheme (or your credit card issuer where applicable)."

"If we, or the suppliers identified on your ATOL certificate, are unable to provide the services listed (or a suitable alternative, through an alternative ATOL holder or otherwise) for reasons of insolvency, the Trustees of the Air Travel Trust may make a payment to (or confer a benefit on) you under the ATOL scheme. You agree that in return for such a payment or benefit you assign absolutely to those Trustees any claims which you have or may have arising out of or relating to the non-provision of the services, including any claim against us, the travel agent (or your credit card issuer where applicable). You also agree that any such claims may be re-assigned to another body, if that other body has paid sums you have claimed under the ATOL scheme."

Travel Insurance

Honeyguide Wildlife Holidays acts as an Introducer Appointed Representative for the purposes of your travel insurance, appointed by Global Travel Insurance Services Ltd who are authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and whose status can be checked on the FCA Register by visiting www.fca.gov.uk/register or by contacting the FCA on 0845 606 9966.

Contact details:
Global Travel Insurance Services Ltd,
59/61 Lyndhurst Road
Worthing
BN11 2DB
Telephone: 01903 235042
Fax: 01903 229389
Email: enquiries@globaltravelinsurance.co.uk
Web: www.globaltravelinsurance.co.uk

You can go to our website where you can obtain a quotation and arrange the insurance online, or download an application form. Or we can send you an application form on booking enabling you to arrange this insurance.

Beyond providing this information, we are not allowed to assist you in any way in the arrangement of your travel insurance or give any advice.

Honeyguide wildlife holidays



Cover picture: pearl-spotted owlet, The Gambia, by Simon Tonkin.

Back cover: spring flowers in South Africa, by Geoff Crane.

Other photos by:

Geoff Crane
Jean Dunn
Chris Durdin
Steve Fletcher
Chris Gibson
Christopher Hall
Pau Lucio
Ivan Nethercoat
Dawn Stevens
Simon Tonkin

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