The European Network for Ornithological Tourism (RETO)
Cultural route of the cranes

European Network for Ornithological Tourism

Tourism Network Of Nature-Watching Space

1998-2000

2004-2008

2009-2011
LOCAL ACTION GROUP

LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS – ENTREPRENEURS – TOWN COUNCIL

INHABITANTS
Cultural route of the cranes

Local Action Groups

Adri Jiloca Gallocanta (Aragón, Spain)
Adegaso (Gállego-Sotón, Aragón, Spain)
Omezyma (Mezquín-Matarraña, Aragón, Spain),
La Serena (Extremadura, Spain)
Natural Park of Schaalsee (Mecklenburg, Germany)
Swedish Crane Working Group (Skaraborg, Sweeden).
The Rural Economy and Agricultural Society of Skaraborg (Sweeden).
La Creuse (Limousin, France)
Ludwigslust, (Germany)
Nort-West-Mecklenburg, (Germany)
Rügen (Mecklenburg, Germany),

Description of the project

Objectives

Personal meeting and discover-sharing concerns and objectives of the other.
To create a cultural route around a common bird, the crane
Cultural route of the cranes

Main actions

• Promotional video around the migration of the cranes and the people who live in these territories.
• Crane concerts
• Changes between ornithologist, young people, associations, artisans and farmers.

Difficulties

• Language barriers
• Different mentalities
• Complicated attitudes

Results

• 9 transnational meetings
• 2 Crane Festivals (Gallocanta, Rügen)
• 1 promotional video
• 1 travelling exhibition “Nature’s Spirits”

Added value of the project

• At this time, the whole project, to do TNC with other countries.
Naturally, the participation of all groups is not the same for all actions or the degree of involvement, since each has characteristics different from the other, either in structure, objectives and priorities, funding calls or infrastructures. At the moment when everyone will be ready to do in this way, each group will be able to take initiatives in one of the actions with the knowledge of rest. **Leader review 1999**
Local Action Groups

- 15 spanish
- 2 french

Description of the project

The main **objective** is the creation of network around Special Protection Areas, Important Bird Areas, Natural Parks...

- **Specific Objectives**
  - Increase transnational cooperation
  - Sustainable development looking for the balance between tourism and nature
  - Encourage local people to work in
  - Change of knowledge
  - To have more conscience into environmental themes
  - To increase natural tourism
  - Support the associations
Main actions

MANAGEMENT

PROMOTION
- M.I.C. / Communication Plan
- Official project presentation

ENVIRONMENTAL
- Environmental information to the local territory
- Nature Classroom
- Conference of Environmental Voluntary people
- Environmental training

TOURISM
- Elaboration of a strategy of tourist development; creation of a tourist products
- Study and implantation of systems of tourist management, formation of the tourist sector and edition of a manual of good practices.

NEW TECHNOLOGIES
- Migranet

2004-2008
Official presentation
Agriculture Ministerium of Spain
2005
European Network for Ornithological Tourism

Promotion: Brochures +20,000 units
European Network for Ornithological Tourism

Site web www.retoeurope.com
+200,000 visitors
CD Environmental for schools
+10,000 units
Environmental volunteer journey
+35 people
European Network for Ornithological Tourism

Class nature
+1500 students
European Network for Ornithological Tourism

Formation for entrepreneurs + 100 businessman
European Network for Ornithological Tourism

Strategy, training for business man
+ 15 touristic products

ASISTENCIA TÉCNICA PARA LA ELABORACIÓN DE UNA:

“ESTRATEGIA PARA LA CREACIÓN DE UNA RED DE ESPACIOS DE TURISMO ORNITOLÓGICO”

Estudio y Bases Para la Implantación de Sistema De Gestión Turística.
Manual de Buenas prácticas.
Orientaciones para la Formación del empresariado RETO.

Accion formativa de RETO

Marzo 2007
European Network for Ornithological Tourism

Fairs, Exhibitions
+ 10 national / international

Fio Monfragüe (Spain) 2005-2008
European Network for Ornithological Tourism

Fairs, Exhibitions
+ 10 national / international

British Birdwatching Fair (UK)  

Expotural (Madrid)  
2006 - 2007
Fairs, Exhibitions
+ 10 national / international
Fiera Internazionale Birdwatching (Italy) 2007
European Network for Ornithological Tourism

Famtrips / workshops
Results

Spain – Aragon
Cranes, Lammergeiers & Wallcreepers
12 November to 19 November 2013
Principal Leader: Steve West

Maximum of 14 clients (two leaders with more than seven clients).

2013 Cost: £1,499 single room supplement £100

Early November sees the gathering of thousands of Common Cranes at their single most important stopover site in Western Europe. These birds breed in the steppes and marshes of Scandinavia, Finland and Russia. Some will be making a short stop on their southward migration, which will take them to the puszczas of Extremadura, while others will stay around Gallofiente to benefit from the safe haven provided by the lagoon and the food available in the surrounding fields. We shall be treated to one of the world’s great spectacles as these birds fly in large flocks overhead, trumpeting as they go. Our local guide Steve West will also help us explore some great habitats where we can look for some of the special birds of Spain. Who cannot be tempted when there is mention of Dupont’s Lark, Bonelli’s Eagle, Great Bustard, Lammergeier, Wallcreeper, Black Woodpecker and Cirl Finch? We stay at three very comfortable and well located hotels. At this time of year the day length is getting shorter and the birds are active, feeding up before winter arrives. This tour is packed with some great birds and some little-visited locations. Why not travel with Steve and see why we think this itinerary is such a winner.
European Network for Ornithological Tourism

Spain – Aragon

Crane, Lammergeiers & Wallcreeper

Tuesday 12 November – Tuesday 19 November 2013

Principal Leader: Steve Wood

Cost: £1,498 single room supplement £160

European Network for Ornithological Tourism offers a unique opportunity to see some of the world's greatest characters at close range in Spain. This year's event will take place in the Basque Country, offering visitors a chance to meet some of the most impressive bird species in Europe. The event will feature guided tours, lectures, and workshops, providing an opportunity to learn more about the region's rich bird life. Visitors can expect to see many different species, including the charming Black Stork, the majestic Goshawk, and the rare Lammergeier.

Tour Itinerary

Days 1 & 2: We arrive in London or regional airports and make our way to Bilbao. We then board our flight to San Sebastian and transfer to the hotel for a welcome dinner. In the morning, we will take a short hike in the coastal mountains to see the beautiful Basque coastline. After breakfast, we will visit the site of the famous Basquekeypress, where we can see some of the most impressive bird species in Europe.

Days 3-4: We will take a train to Bilbao to see the Oñati Kortxalak and visit the Oñati Kortxalak. We will then travel by train to the Basque Country, where we will visit the Bird of Prey Centre and see some of the most impressive bird species in Europe. After lunch, we will visit the site of the famous Basquekeypress, where we can see some of the most impressive bird species in Europe.

Days 5-7: Today, we will visit the Basque Country, where we will visit the Bird of Prey Centre and see some of the most impressive bird species in Europe. After lunch, we will visit the site of the famous Basquekeypress, where we can see some of the most impressive bird species in Europe.

Accommodation

Comfortable accommodation in hotels and apartments in scenic locations.

Transport

Motor coaches provided by the organizers.

Inclusions

All flights, meals, accommodation, transport, entry fees, and transfers from the airport to the hotel.

Greetings

Good afternoon, everyone! Today is the start of our tour in Spain. We are excited to see some of the most impressive bird species in Europe. Today, we will visit the Basque Country, where we will visit the Bird of Prey Centre and see some of the most impressive bird species in Europe. After lunch, we will visit the site of the famous Basquekeypress, where we can see some of the most impressive bird species in Europe.

To make a booking please call Ornitholidays on 01794 519485.
LEARN SPANISH IN WILD SPAIN! - LA MONTANA PALENTINA

Tour Code: E3P22

An 8-day opportunity for aspiring Spanish speakers to improve their Spanish and enjoy the birds, mammals and other wildlife in La Montana Palentina, a wild and beautiful corner of northern Spain.

8 days from £1195 (inc flights)

85084

BOOK HOLIDAY NOW

Village: Spain

TOUR DOWNLOADS

Tour Summary
Tour Itinerary
Tour report - September 2014
Tour report - September 2010

CAN I HELP YOU?

Andy Tucker
Operations Manager
Email Andy
733051
61902

TOUR FOCUS

TOUR LEADERS

Byron Palacios

TOUR REVIEWS

A very good trip for improving my
European Network for Ornithological Tourism

Wild Spain - La Montana Palentina

Naturetrek Tour Itinerary

Day 1
Flay Santander & transfer to Cordovilla
Day 2-7
The Palentina Mountain
Day 8
Return Santander, fly London

Dates
Thursday 7th June - Thursday 14th June
Cost
£1,185 (London/London), £1,095 (Santander/Santander)

Single room supplement: £150

Grading
Grade 5. Some longer optional walks sometimes involving substantial altitude gain, but not generally over difficult terrain.

Focus
Birds, mammals, plants

Tour Itinerary

The cottages lie on the edge of a small village, in the hills and forest of the Palentina Mountain. The area is full of wildlife and is ideal for birdwatching. The cottage is surrounded by large areas of forest, with many bird species living in the area. The area is a great place for birdwatching and nature photography.

Day 1
Cordovilla do Aguilar

We depart mid-morning today from London to Santander, a two-hour flight. At Santander we pick up our minibus and drive south for an hour and a half to the small town of Aguas de Campoo. Here we will stay overnight. The next day we will drive to our first cottage.

Day 2-7
Cordovilla do Aguilar

The cottages are very small, consisting of two rooms, one large room and a small kitchen. The large room has a large picture window with views over the surrounding countryside. The cottages are full of wildlife, with many bird species living in the area. The area is ideal for birdwatching and nature photography.

Food & accommodation included in the price

All food and accommodation is included in the price.
Difficulties

• Ambitious project / objectives
• Few French groups not connected between them and with Spanish groups
• To have other countries
• To have enough businessman to create the network
• To recover the funds of some partners
• To have continuity to finish better
• Financial, administrative and legal restrictions

Results

• More than 30 national and international presentations of the project.
• More than 100 schools and 10,000 students
• More than 200,000 visitors in the web
• More than 100 businessman formed
• More than 30 touristic products created
• Two other cooperation projects had been created

Added value of the project

• Application of the Leader philosophy
• Technical and professional staff (LAG’S) and implication of the public target
• Monitoring and evaluation by the Secretary General of Tourism of Spain
Local Action Groups
30 spanish LAGS

Description of the project

Objectives
The aim is to equip rural areas of planning strategic principles from participatory, cooperative and commissioning sustainable socio-economic value values of the Natura 2000 network.

Main actions
- Knowledge and analysis of Tourism experiences nature observation
- Training sessions and exchange of knowledge and experience
- Defining a global strategy and developing strategic
- Territorial and global plans
- Promotion
Difficulties
• It was a huge field work
• No funds for personal staff
• Not enough time to develop the plans

Results
• More than 300 meetings with local businessman
• More than 15 official presentations
• 28 strategic territorial plans, 1 global plans

Added value of the project
• Well sized
• Knowledge from Leader II
• Same base more partners

2009-2011
The European Network for Ornithological Tourism (RETO)

Basic pillars of the project

*Personal*: To have a cooperation team full time
It’s necessary to have specific and stable staff with specific and stable founds

*Building the project*: Study the limitations of a project / of a LAG
To prepare so well the preliminary plan
Involve local actors
Links with Public Administration
Look for (good vs interesting) partners
Communication
Need to give results to civil society

*Timming*

*End of the project*: Evaluation of the project
Sharing the knowledge

*Reflections*: Evolution of a Project in 10 years (Trasnational till national Project)
Conclusions

- **Partners from Europe at the beginning, partners from Spain at the end.** Administrative/bureaucracy; and legal difficulties. Different countries, different times, different mentalities...

- **Cooperation is the way to develop the whole territory.** Leader program is not only to give subventions.

- **It’s important to build an European mentality.** European global vision for the citizens.

- **We’ve tried to work in European Directives to develop from the territory.** Nature 2000 Network is a tool that should be develop by Administration. Please use us! (Bottom up)

- **Cooperation is not only a complement of Leader.** is a real and strategic way to obtain the results of the Development Rural Program of each territory and in network.

- **Cooperation could help to develop the territory but is not the solution to fix all problems.** This axis contribute to develop the strategy of it.

- **If you work hard, you have well results.** We need a little bit money, good partners, work in network with local people, continue with the enthusiasm, being happy with our work.
“That’s all Folks!”

Thanks for your kind attention