

# Itinerary:



Day 1

Arrival at Sofia/Bourgas/Varna Airport and transfer to the Eastern Rhodopes

Days 2, 3 & 4

The Eastern Rhodopes

Day 5

Drive to Bourgas via the Sakar Hills

Days 6, 7 & 8

The Bourgas wetlands

Day 9

Departure

This tour can be extended to Varna lake, where we offer excellent opportunities to photograph Pygmy Cormorants and other water birds

# Wildlife Photography

April – September

This is an 8-day tour, focusing on the rich bird diversity and the beautiful scenery of the Eastern Rhodope Mountain and the Bourgas wetlands, which is intended for individual photographers and small groups (up to 6 persons).

We will start from the Eastern Rhodopes Mountains, located in southern Bulgaria near the state border with Greece. The region hosts exceptional biodiversity – a result of the impact of the Mediterranean and continental climates. The diversity of birds of prey is amazing – 36 species of the 38 recorded in Europe can be seen there.

The main photography targets here will be the birds of prey coming to feed on the carcass at the feeding places, which we manage together with the Bulgarian Society for the Protection of Birds. You stay in hides, in front of which you can get three species of vultures – Griffon Vulture, Cinereous Vulture and Egyptian Vulture, as well as some other birds of prey like Eastern Imperial Eagle, White-tailed Eagle and Black Kite. An occasional Wolf or Red Fox may turn up at the feeding table too.

We offer two hides – one holding up to 5 persons and based at the main vulture feeding place in the Eastern Rhodopes, and a second one for two photographers, located near Madzharovo and established especially for photographing Egyptian Vultures.

For the second part of the trip we will drive to Bourgas, a town on the southern Bulgarian Black Sea coast, with stops in the Sakar Hills – Bulgaria's Imperial Eagles stronghold. Besides, the roadsides dazzle with Rollers, Bee-eaters, Hoopoes, Black-headed Buntings, etc., which are usually easy to photograph.

The main focus in the area of the Bourgas wetlands will be the White Pelicans resident in the area, plus Dalmatian Pelicans, herons, egrets and waders. From our hide you will have excellent opportunities to "shoot" White and Dalmatian Pelicans, Squacco, Night and Purple Herons, Little Egret, Kingfisher, Great Reed and Cetti's Warblers and, by a lucky chance, Golden Jackal and Otter too.

In the surroundings we will guide you to good places for photographing Common, Sandwich, White-winged, Black and Whiskered Terns. You will have good chances for taking pictures of shorebirds like the Marsh, Curlew and Broad-billed Sandpipers, also Golden Orioles, Penduline Tits and many, many others.



Spoonbills



Griffon Vulture