

Bulgaria Anytime

Dates: Anytime (Apr-Jun recommended)

Guide: Local Guide

Sample Price: £1400

This sample Anytime tour takes in the most sought-after species in the varied landscapes of this interesting country. This is just one sample of a popular route, and it can be amended to suit anyone's interests or targets.



Days 1-2

Arrival and transfer Trigrad Gorge, one of the best sites for Wallcreeper. We stay here for the night before we head to the epicentre for birds of prey in Eastern Europe, the Eastern Rodopi Mountains. Later in the afternoon we will have some time to enjoy views of the valley of Arda River for Black Stork, Griffon and Egyptian Vultures, Short-toed Snake-eagle, Booted Eagle, Long-legged Buzzard, Eurasian Scops Owl, Rufous-tailed and Blue Rock-thrushes, Barred, Eastern Orphean, Sardinian and Eastern Subalpine Warblers, Cirl and Rock Buntings, Red-rumped Swallow, Eastern Black-eared Wheatear and Western Rock Nuthatch.

Day 3

It will be an active birding day. In the morning we make a trip to the spectacular Studen Kladenets Dam. A visit to the *Vultures' Restaurant* provides the delight of watching feeding vultures (Egyptian, Griffon and Cinereous Vultures, Long-legged and European Honey Buzzards, Short-toed Snake-eagle, Eastern Imperial Eagle, European Roller, Barred, Eastern Orphean, Sardinian and Eastern Subalpine Warblers, Eastern Bonelli's Warbler, Sombre Tit and Cirl and Rock Buntings. In the afternoon we continue to Krumovitsa River, where we will look for Stone Curlew, Olive-tree and Olivaceous Warblers, and Red-backed, Woodchat and Masked Shrikes.

Day 4

After breakfast we head for the foothills of the rocky cliffs by Madzharovo, observing nesting vultures, a variety of passerines, Middle Spotted Woodpecker and Short-toed Treecreeper. We then set off through Sakar Mountains, looking for Lesser Spotted, Booted and Eastern Imperial Eagles, Isabelline Wheatear, Woodchat Shrike, Olivaceous and Eastern Orphean Warblers, to the town of Sliven, where we visit a feeding place of Red-footed Falcon, Lesser Spotted and Eastern Imperial Eagles. Here are some of the largest colonies in Bulgaria of the European Souselik. Later in the afternoon we reach the Black Sea Coast and the town of Burgas.

Day 5

The area around Burgas is well known for Great White and Dalmatian Pelicans, Pygmy Cormorant, Black-crowned Night, Squacco and Purple Herons, Little Egret, Eurasian Spoonbill, Glossy Ibis, Yellow-legged and Mediterranean Gulls, Little and Whiskered Terns, Collared Pratincole, Pied Avocet, Black-winged Stilt, Great Snipe, Eurasian Penduline-tit and Savi's and Cetti's Warblers. If we have time, we can visit Cape Kaliakra for European Shag (Mediterranean race), Eurasian Thick-knee, Alpine Swift, Calandra and Greater Short-toed Larks, Olive-tree Warbler, Pied Wheatear, Tawny Pipit and Rosy Starling.

Day 6 - 7

After some final coastal birding, we head back towards Sofia, with birding close to Sofia if time allows before our departure home the next day.

Anytime Tours can be taken at a time of your choosing (subject to availability). Prices are samples based on the cheapest time of year in the recommended date-range, and assume a group of two people sharing a room (larger groups will be cheaper). Most prices include international flights (from the UK), internal transport, birding guide, 3 meals per day, accommodation, park fees and bottled water (if necessary).

All tours are subject to a formal quotation which will contain full information on what is included.