



## BIRDING IN SPAIN'S WILD WEST

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### **River Tormes & Sierra Ventosa, Biosphere Reserve**

Included in the Biosphere reserve of Sierras de Béjar y Francia, The river Tormes and its surrounding area has a rich biodiversity. At the village of Puente del Congosto we'll start out from the medieval castle tower and bridge over the River Tormes to see cliff-dwelling birds such as Crag Martin and Blue Rockthrush, then we'll border the river downstream through pasture, Holm Oak 'dehesa' and riparian woodland, looking out for Kingfisher, Grey wagtail, Great white Egret, Long-tailed Tit, Black-eared Wheatear, Cirl and Corn bunting, Serin, Iberian grey Shrike, Great and lesser spotted woodpecker, Woodlark, Golden Oriole, Kestrel, Griffon Vulture, Red Kite, Short-toed Eagle and Booted Eagle. After a picnic lunch we'll move on to the nearby Sierra de la Ventosa through an area of dehesa, scrub and moorland to look for Ortolan Bunting, Woodchat shrike, Subalpine warbler, Azure winged Magpie, Crested and Thekla lark, Rock and Spanish Sparrow.

All year: Crag Martin, Serin, Grey Wagtail, Blue Rock thrush, Iberian Shrike, Woodlark, Crested & Thekla lark, Dartford warbler, Red Kite, Cirl & Corn bunting, Azure-winged magpie, Great & lesser spotted woodpecker, Great White Egret, Kestrel, Griffon Vulture.

Autumn / Winter: White Stork, Bluethroat, Rock Bunting.

Spring/ Summer: Black stork, Golden Oriole, Black-eared Wheatear, Nightingale, Hoopoe, Ortolan bunting, Short-toed & Booted Eagle.