



come across the few remaining marsh areas along this part of the Mediterranean coast since most have been drained and converted into arable land. This marshland, densely covered in reeds and bulrushes serves as a refuge for a variety of fauna and numerous species of birds which, whether permanent or seasonal visitors, enjoy this protected habitat. The **kentish plover** (*Charadrius alexandrinus*) is a vulnerable bird in this area. They make their nest on the beaches only. The most frequent species of this natural space are the **marsh harrier** (*Circus aeruginosus*), **kingfisher** (*Alcedo atthis*), **wagtails** (*Motacilla spp.*), **eurasian coot** (*Fulica atra*), **moorhens** (*Gallinula chloropus*), **crested lark** (*Galerida cristata*), or **little ringed plover** (*Charadrius dubius*). Down the riverbed, you might occasionally find **mallard** (*Anas platyrhynchos*) and **black-winged stilt** (*Himantopus himantopus*). Among canes and ditches you may easily see and hear the **european reed warbler** (*Acrocephalus scirpaceus*) and **common nightingale** (*Luscinia megarhynchos*).



**Yellow wagtail** (*Motacilla flava*)  
**Common Blackbird** (*Turdus merula*)  
**Common nightingale** (*Luscinia megarhynchos*)



**Alpine swift** (*Tachymarptis melba*)  
**Eagle owl** (*Bubo bubo*)  
**Peregrine falcon** (*Falco peregrinus*)

# Most frequent species in our Ecosystems

## Salobreña-Lobres valley

The valley is almost entirely enclosed within a vast alluvial plain formed by the River Guadalfeo and consisting of post-orogenic, miocenico and quaternary material and flanked by a mountain range running parallel to the coast such as the Sierra del Chaparral hills to the west and the Sierra de Escalate hill to the north-east. Separating both is the Tajo de los Vados gorge, where the bed of the river Guadalfeo narrows and passes through. In the centre of the plain are two dolomite crags of differing heights: Monte Hacho (73m) and the Salobreña headland (110m), where a town has been established since Phoenician times. The River Guadalfeo which runs from the north to the south of the municipality, collects a great deal of water and snow from the southern slopes of the Sierra Nevada and has created this fertile valley of such ecological richness and birdlife where in former ages there was a delta. Most frequent species are **yellow wagtail** (*Motacilla flava*), **common blackbird** (*Turdus merula*), **european goldfinch** (*Carduelis carduelis*), **common nightingale** (*Luscinia megarhynchos*), **hoopoe** (*Upupa epops*), **cattle egret** (*Bubulcus ibis*), **house sparrow** (*Passer montanus*), **red avadavat** (*Amandava amandava*), **red-rumped swallow** (*Cecropis daurica*), **european robins** (*Erithacus rubecula*), and **serins**



**Cattle egret** (*Bubulcus ibis*)  
**Red-rumped swallow** (*Cecropis daurica*)  
**Common kestrel** (*Falco tinnunculus*)



**Serin** (*Serinus serinus*)  
**Red avadavat** (*Amandava amandava*)  
**Rock dove** (*Columba livia*)



(*Serinus serinus*). Close to the river gorge (Tajo de los Vados), on the rocky walls and valley close by you can find **bonelli's eagle** (*aquila fasciata*), **eurasian eagle owl** (*bubo bubo*), **peregrine falcons** (*falco peregrinus*) or **alpine swift** (*tachymarptis melba*).

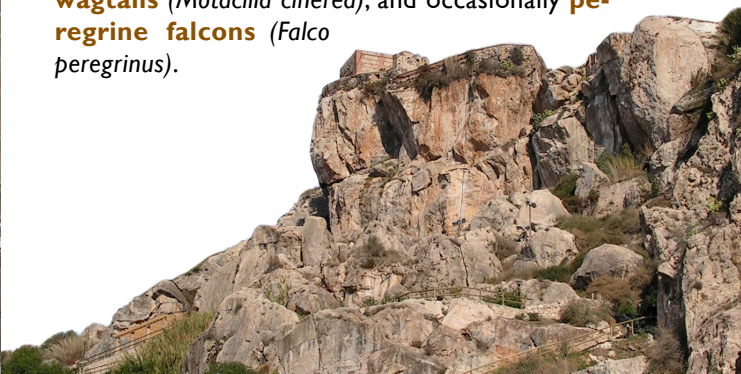


**Little owl** (*Athene noctua*)  
**Barn owl** (*Tyto alba*)  
**Barn swallow** (*Hirundo rustica*)



## Gambullón Gorge

From La Fuente Park take the Camino del Gambullón pathway at the foot of the steep cliff below where the Albayzín neighbourhood is located. From here, the view of the castle and old white houses sitting 98 metres up on the rock is quite extraordinary. The rock caves in this area are home and nesting places to **common kestrels** (*Falco tinnunculus*), **blue rock thrush** (*Monticola solitarius*), and **little owls** (*Athene noctua*). Take the ascending walkway. The area is also good for watching **barn owls** (*Tyto alba*), **crag martins** (*Ptyonoprogne rupestris*), **rock doves** (*Columba livia*), **barn swallows** (*Hirundo rustica*), **sardinian warblers** (*Sylvia melanocephala*), **grey wagtails** (*Motacilla cinerea*), and occasionally **peregrine falcons** (*Falco peregrinus*).



## KEYPOINTS FOR THE SIGHTING

- WALK IN SILENCE
- USE BINOCULAR OR TELESCOPE
- GO OUT AT DAWN AND DUSK
- RESPECT WILDLIFE AND PRIVATE PROPERTIES

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# SALOBREÑA

COSTA TROPICAL

Bird guide

## Introduction

The Granada coastline is more than 60 kms long with almost 40kms of beaches, coves, valleys and cliffs. Rocky areas with sheer drops to sea-level alternate with narrow stretches of coastline scattered with beaches. Other places offer a number of possibilities as far as the fauna is concerned, providing shelter and food during the different seasons of the year, in addition to nesting places and migratory stops

## La Caleta cliffs

From Plaza Lavadero you can follow the path that takes you between the rocky shore and the clear blue Mediterranean. This part of the village is the perfect place to enjoy a beautiful sunset and (if you fancy something a bit more active) it's also a great place for snorkeling and diving. After a few minutes you will find the little Caletón cove, which is just past around the rock. If you then take the pathway from El Caletón Beach and up the hill you'll see a small tree, the **carob** (*Ceratonia siliqua*). Close by the **european goldfinch** (*Carduelis carduelis*) can be seen. This is a good setting. The **crag martin** (*Ptyonoprogne rupestris*) sleeps by the rocky cliffs, and might be seen in the afternoon flying close to the shore. Around these slopes and by the pathway you will be able to see **eurasian oystercatchers** (*Haematopus ostralegus*), **whimbrels** (*Numenius phaeopus*), **little egrets** (*Egretta garzetta*), and **common sandpipers** (*Actitis hypoleucos*), according to the seasons. They do not abound but they are regular visitors. Around these cliffs, a variety of seabirds like **black-headed gulls** (*Larus ridibundus*), **yellow-legged gulls** (*Larus cachinnans*), **great cormorants** (*Phalacrocorax carbo*), **northern gannets** (*Morus basanus*), **sardinian warblers** (*Sylvia melanocephala*) and **terns** (*Sterna sandvicensis*) are frequent visitors at this side of the bay. And, if you are lucky, you might even see the odd family of **dolphins** (*Tursiops truncatus*) on the look-out for an easy lunch.



**Whimbrel**  
(*Numenius phaeopus*)



**Little egret**  
(*Egretta garzetta*)



**Northern gannets**  
(*Morus bassanus*)



**Black-headed gull**  
(*Larus ridibundus*)



**Yellow-legged gull**  
(*Larus cachinnans*)



**Crag martin**  
(*Ptyonoprogne rupestris*)



**Moorhen**  
(*Gallinula chloropus*)



**Mallard**  
(*Anas platyrhynchos*)



**European reed warbler**  
(*Acrocephalus arundinaceus*)



**Eurasian coot**  
(*Fulica atra*)



**Cormorant**  
(*Phalacrocorax carbo*)



**Kentish plover**  
(*Charadrius alexandrinus*)

## Mouth of the river Guadalfeo

Leave Salobreña Casa de la Cultura Square and find the way between the supermarket and La Fuente park. Then, we turn left along a concrete path which leads us to the first section of the walk through the fertile plain until we get to the riverbed. We descend towards the rivermouth, beginning the coastal stretch of the walk. At this point we

