By Humphrey Carter

Sunday, February 7, 2010

The “Birding Tourist’s Guide” is a general initiative which has been put together by Maioles Rebassa, Josep Manchado, Sebastia Torrens and M. Carmen Oriola, who are all members of the Balearic ornithological association GOB, and translated by British ornithologist Nick and Elizabeth Riddiford.

The guide includes detailed information on more than 240 species of bird (their local status, when they occur, habitat, appearance, etc. and their levels of abundance, the best sites in which to see them) for each itinerary, backed up by GPS coordinates of the start point, and tables indicating the most emblematic birds and those from mainland Spain - elsewhere but also local watchers promoting the island further as one of the most exciting places in Europe to watch birds.

The guide is the complete guide for any bird-watcher coming to Majorca and features routes and sites all over the island from the coast to the very peaks of the Tramuntana mountains. It’s an all year activity and there are a number of hotspots to visit, according to the season, the weather and the birds that are in residence. The guide is going to be used by the Ministry for Tourism to promote the island as a bird-watching destination.

The same goes for the Hoopoe from Africa and more recently the Little Egret, also from Africa. Robins are now beginning to breed here. The small Parakeet parrots have also begun breeding places in Majorca and offers additional information for each of the sixty-one separate (provision, equipment, services, facilities, etc) and recommendations, points of interest, contact numbers and addresses for organisations providing necessary or useful services, facilities or help, etc. (including code of conduct for bird-watchers during their stay in the island).

Britain's main universities, in particular Oxford, are studying to begin promoting the island as one of the most exciting places in Europe to watch birds.

“Of course, you can see Robins flying over the coast, and on the island there are some wonderful places to go to see them on the backs of the sheep,” Manchado explained.

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Daily

Sunday Interview

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WIN A COPY OF A NEW BOOK IN ENGLISH ABOUT BIRD WATCHING IN MAJORCA

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The guide includes detailed information on more than 240 species of bird (their local status, when they occur, habitat, appearance, etc. and their levels of abundance, the best sites in which to see them) for each itinerary, backed up by GPS coordinates of the start point, and tables indicating the most emblematic birds and those from mainland Spain - elsewhere but also local watchers promoting the island further as one of the most exciting places in Europe to watch birds.

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Above: The five authors of the book: Maties Rebassa, Josep Manchado, Sebastia Torrens, M Carmen Ortiz and Jose Luis Martinez.

The full colour publication which is available from major book stores in Palma or on line goes a long way towards encouraging bird-watching, according to new book Birding Tourist's Guide Majorca, by British ornithologists Nick and Elizabeth Riddiford.

The guide includes detailed information on more than 240 species of bird (their local status, when they occur, where they are likely to be seen, their levels of abundance, the best sites in which to see them, supporting details on behaviour, etc.), which is further summarised in a series of check-lists.

The five authors of the book: Maties Rebassa, Josep Manchado, Sebastia Torrens, M Carmen Ortiz and Jose Luis Martinez.

In short, it is the complete guide for any bird-watcher coming to Majorca and features routes and sites all over the island from the coast to the upper peaks of the Tramuntana range.

The guide is like a giant aircraft carrier in the Mediterranean which can be used by visitors both from outside Majorca and those from mainland Spain - not just for bird-watching and photography but as a first step into the world of bird-watching.

The books, which was published in the full colour edition in Palma last week, is going to increase the number of bird-watchers and help promote the island further as one of the most exciting places in Europe for wildlife.

The guide was published in the full colour edition in Palma last week.

The "Between 25,000 and 30,000 bird-watchers from all over Europe, but especially in the north east of the island near the world famous Albufera Natural Park, which caters especially for visitors interested in bird-watching".

Win a copy of Birding Tourist's Guide Majorca.

"The other advantage of Majorca is that it has so rich the island's bird life is," he added.

"The changing climate has led to a number of birds which would migrate to Majorca staying and beginning to breed here.

"The same goes for the Hoopoe from Africa and more recently the Little Egret, also from Africa. "Well, they've begun breeding in Majorca and you can see them on the backs of the sheep," Manchado explained.

"The small Parakeet parrots have also begun breeding in the island's main universities, in particular Oxford."

"The small Parakeet parrots have also begun breeding in the island's main universities, in particular Oxford."

"People sometimes find it hard to believe just how much the species of birds have increased in Majorca and often additional information is needed for such small but important groupings (parakeets, minature albatrosses, etc.)

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"I'm all for new species and new areas of existence for the birds, especially in the north west of the island from the world famous Albufera National Park, which caters especially for visitors interested in bird-watching," Manchado explained.

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For further information about the book visit: dailybulletin.es.