

## ***Special Protection Area for Birds - Humada-Peña Amaya and Rudrón***

WEEKEND Route

Province of Burgos

### **PLACES OF INTEREST**

- Alto Ebro and Rudrón Natural Park
- Bleak upland and steppe from Pampliega to Sotresgudo.
- Special Protection Area for Birds Humada-Peña Amaya
- Alto Ebro and Rudrón Natural Park interpretation center

### **REPRESENTATIVE BIRDS**

Steppe and rocky canyon birds.

### **ITINERARY**

#### **First day's journey**

This route begins in Pampliega, 35km from the Burgos airport.

During the first journey the traverse of Villadiego and Castrojeriz bleak uplands will be done on a vehicle. We'll be going through villages like Castrojeriz and Melgar de Fernamental until getting to Sotresgudo. This bleak upland zone is favorable to the observation of steppe birds like the great bustards, little bustards and Hazel-grouses.

Beyond Sotresgudo begins the transition from the bleak upland and the mountain, and it's where the access to the Special Protection Area for Birds begins. The steep land is rough splattered with canyons with crevices and chalky scarps where various birds of prey make their nests. Near this zone in Ordejón de Abajo, begins the ornithological hiking route of "Los cortados de Peña Ulalla" that passes through steep cliffs. Another ornithological route of interest is "El desfiladero del río Rudrón" which takes us to Hoyos del Tozo, some 20km from the previous route, from where one can go through the Rudrón river canyon, with the possibility of observing bird species like the Eurasian Griffon vultures, and the Egyptian vultures. It is interesting to also go on an extra route through this canyon, enjoying scenery places like cascades, the canyons of Hoyos del Tozo, the riverbank of Rudrón, or the view from Ceniceros.

## Second day's journey

The route continues on to the Alto Ebro and Rudrón Natural Park. This park presents an interesting contrast between the canyons and the adjoining bleak uplands. In addition, it gives shelter to 300 reproductive Eurasian Griffon vulture couples.

In Sédano, there is an interpretation center with information about the geological formation, flora and fauna of the canyon. 15km from here there are interesting villages like Valdelateja or Orbaneja del Castillo with beautifully and capriciously molded landscapes, formed by the action of the rivers.

On the way to Burgos it's worth it to stop at San Martín de Ubierna a scenic settlement and an ideal habitat for many rupicolous birds. Here is where the ornithological hiking route of "Ubierna-between the grassland and the canyon" begins.

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