

Cyprus Bird Watching Tours - BIRD is the WORD - Paphos, Limassol, Troodos, Larnaca, Famagusta, Nicosia, Agia Napa 12-16/02/2018

On the second day we ventured to the east. We started at Cape Greco that held many Cyprus and Spectacled warblers. We found another Isabelline Wheatear here accompanied by a stunning male Blue Rock Thrush. Chukar Partridge were the only other species of note here and so we moved on to the football fields ... which was in use that day so we then ventured to Oroklini. On the way we saw a big group of Eurasian Stone Curlew in flight along the motorway at the Xylofagou football pitch.



Blue Rock Thrush - Cyprus Bird Watching Tours Bird is the Word © Matt Smith All Rights Reserved

Oroklini Lake held quite a few species present, maybe the best were two extremely early White-winged Terns in Summer Plumage frantically feeding in the water. After checking both hides and channels we continued to the Dolphin Rocks beach which had 5 Sandwich Terns feeding, resting and bathing very close to shore providing fantastic photo opportunities. Also here was 3 Mediterranean Gulls, an Adult in Summer plumage, one heading into Summer plumage and a 1cy bird.



Greater Flamingo - Cyprus Bird Watching Tours Bird is the Word © Matt Smith All Rights Reserved



White-winged Tern - Cyprus Bird Watching Tours Bird is the Word © Matt Smith All Rights Reserved



Sandwich Tern - Cyprus Bird Watching Tours Bird is the Word © Matt Smith All Rights Reserved



Mediterranean Gull - Cyprus Bird Watching Tours Bird is the Word © Matt Smith All Rights Reserved



Sandwich Tern - Cyprus Bird Watching Tours Bird is the Word © Matt Smith All Rights Reserved



Sandwich Tern - Cyprus Bird Watching Tours Bird is the Word © Matt Smith All Rights Reserved

We stopped here to eat lunch and then continued on to the Airport area. Menou Pools had many Greater Flamingo present and all very well fed and pink. One of the adults was accompanying two youngsters from last year and provided great photo opportunities. On the other pool there was a big group of gulls, mostly Armenian but with a few Heuglin's Gulls. The Sewage Pools were the quietest I had seen them. Only species of note here were 2 Northern Pintail, a few Common Pochard and around 30 Black-necked Grebe. Some in full summer plumage but too far for photo. As we were leaving a few Caspian Gulls flew in, also a Eurasian Curlew flew in and landed nearby. We then ventured around the Salt Lake of which as we joined back on to the motorway a Northern Goshawk flew over the car very low coming from the direction of the Salt Lake, a female bird that I thought was a buzzard at first due to her size. An odd place to see this arboreal species, but then they do move around a bit in winter. We then finished at the Kamares Aquaduct which has some construction going on. The aquaduct area was pretty good, here we had Spur-winged lapwing, a young Peregrine Hunting pigeons, flocks of Teal, many Water Pipit, around 4 Common Snipe and our first Little Egret. The East held 64 Species.



Heuglin's Gull (Central 2) - Cyprus Bird Watching Tours Bird is the Word © Matt Smith All Rights Reserved