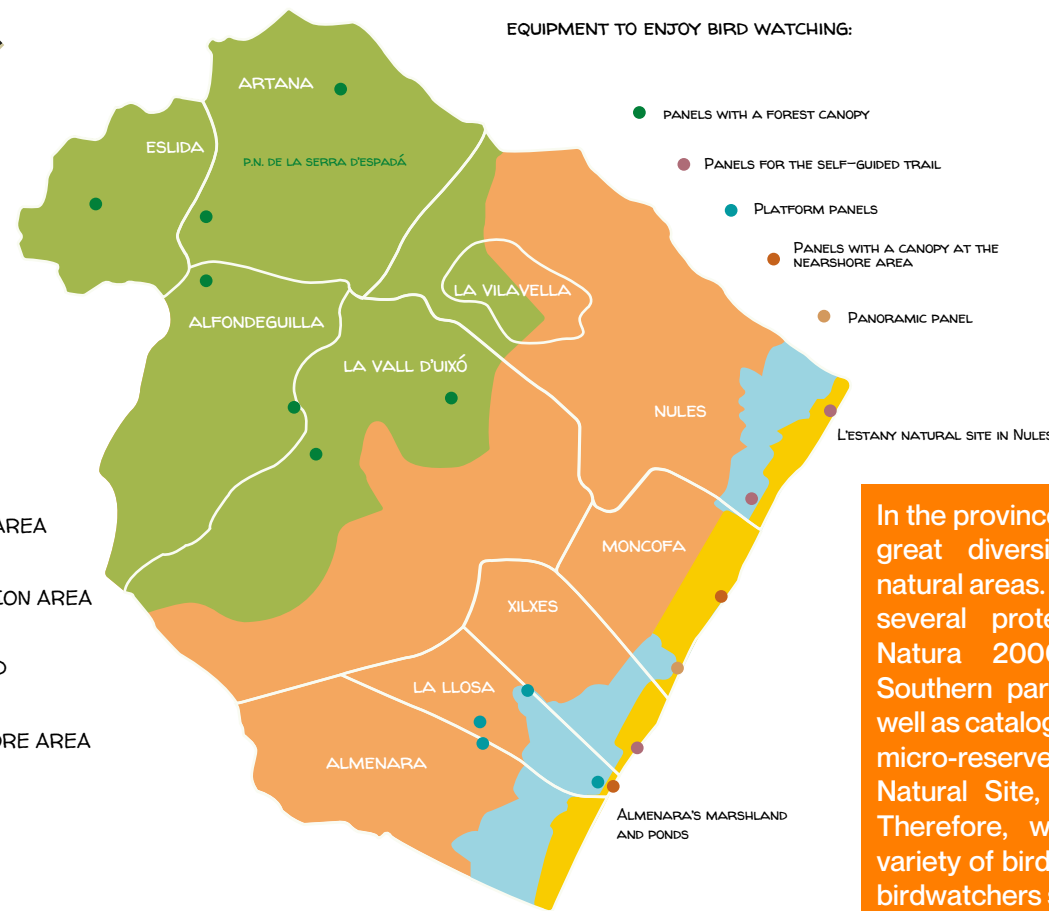




- FOREST AREA
- TRANSITION AREA
- WETLAND
- NEARSHORE AREA



In the province of Castellón, there is great diversity in its protected natural areas. In particular, there are several protected areas of the Natura 2000 Network in the Southern part of the province, as well as catalogued wetlands, several micro-reserves of flora, a Municipal Natural Site, and a Natural Park. Therefore, we can find a great variety of birds, including many that birdwatchers specifically seek out.



Eleonora's falcon

## HIGHLY SOUGHT AFTER

The small territory of Castelló Sud, which you can visit in just a few days, boasts at least 193 species of birds, 34 of which are considered to be of great ornithological interest:



Eurasian eagle-owl

# BIRDWATCHING

Birds in Castelló Sud



## WETLAND

First off, we have the lagoons and the large marsh in Almenara, which contains more than 2% of the reed bed habitat, as well as grasslands, meadows, steppes, dunes, and two flora micro-reserves. It is notable for the presence of birds such as the black-winged stilt, the whiskered tern, and the cattle egret. Next, the Estany de Nules is a small Municipal Natural Site with a coastal lagoon made up of an abundant spring of water, which forms a refuge for aquatic birds, a resting place for migratory birds, and a breeding ground for nesting birds.



## NEARSHORE

There are different types of coastal areas such as the beaches of Almenara or Xilxes (mainly sandy ones) and the beaches of Nules and Moncofa (pebble and gravel beaches). There is also a municipality, La Llosa, with both types of beaches. Birds such as the Balearic shearwater, Audouin's gull, the black-billed tropicbird, and the Kentish plover await us there.



## FOREST

The Serra d'Espadà natural park is a protected area made up of high peaks with deep ravines full of springs and cork oak forests. Birds of prey stand out here, such as the rare and endangered Bonelli's eagle. In the forests, we can see the short-toed eagle, the booted eagle, and the goshawk. Other birds that are commonly seen in this mountain range are the jay, the robin, the crossbill, and the chaffinch.



NAME	HABITAT	PRESENT IN THE VALENCIAN COMMUNITY
Ferruginous duck ( <i>Aythya nyroca</i> )	Wetland	Rare vagrant
Black-necked grebe ( <i>Podiceps nigricollis</i> )	Wetland	Scarce winterer and vagrant
Scopoli's shearwater ( <i>Calonectris diomedea</i> )	Shoreline	Moderate vagrant
Mediterranean shearwater ( <i>Puffinus yelkouan</i> )	Shoreline	Moderate winterer and vagrant
Balearic shearwater ( <i>Puffinus mauretanicus</i> )	Shoreline	Common winterer and vagrant
Eurasian bittern ( <i>Botaurus stellaris</i> )	Wetland	Scarce winterer
Squacco heron ( <i>Ardeola ralloides</i> )	Wetland	Scarce vagrant and rare winterer
Purple heron ( <i>Ardea purpurea</i> )	Wetland	Scarce nester and vagrant
Glossy ibis ( <i>Plegadis falcinellus</i> )	Wetland	Abundant vagrant and winterer
Western marsh harrier ( <i>Circus aeruginosus</i> )	Wetland	Moderate vagrant and winterer
Montagu's harrier ( <i>Circus pygargus</i> )	Mountain/inland	Moderate vagrant
Bonelli's eagle ( <i>Aquila fasciata</i> )	Mountain/inland	Scarce resident
Osprey ( <i>Pandion haliaetus</i> )	Wetland	Scarce vagrant and winterer
Eleonora's falcon ( <i>Falco eleonora</i> )	Mountain/inland Wetland	Scarce vagrant
Water rail ( <i>Rallus aquaticus</i> )	Wetland	Localised scarce resident
Spotted crake ( <i>Porzana porzana</i> )	Wetland	Scarce vagrant
Baillon's crake ( <i>Porzana pusilla</i> )	Wetland	Rare vagrant

NAME	HABITAT	PRESENT IN THE VALENCIAN COMMUNITY
Red-knobbed coot ( <i>Fulica cristata</i> )	Wetland	Sporadic presence and nesting
Collared pratincole ( <i>Glareola pratincola</i> )	Wetland	Scarce and very localised nester, common vagrant
Kentish plover ( <i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i> )	Wetland and shoreline	Localised and scarce resident and breeder
Lymnocyptes minimus ( <i>Lymnocyptes minimus</i> )	Wetland	Scarce vagrant and winterer
Eurasian whimbrel ( <i>Numenius phaeopus</i> )	Shoreline	Scarce vagrant and winterer
Temminck's stint ( <i>Calidris temminckii</i> )	Wetland	Scarce vagrant and winterer
Marsh sandpiper ( <i>Tringa stagnatilis</i> )	Wetland	Scarce vagrant, rare winterer
Audouin's gull ( <i>Ichthyaeetus audouinii</i> )	Wetland and shoreline	Abundant vagrant and winterer
Whiskered tern ( <i>Chlidonias hybrida</i> )	Wetland	Scarce breeder, moderate vagrant, rare winterer
Scops owl ( <i>Otus scops</i> )	Mountain/inland Wetland	Moderate breeder
Eurasian eagle-owl ( <i>Bubo bubo</i> )	Mountain/inland	Moderate breeder
Red-necked nightjar ( <i>Caprimulgus ruficollis</i> )	Mountain/inland Wetland	Moderate breeder and vagrant
Iberian green woodpecker ( <i>Picus sharpei</i> )	Mountain/inland	Common resident
Richard's pipit ( <i>Anthus richardi</i> )	Wetland	Rare winterer
Western Orphean warbler ( <i>Sylvia hortensis</i> )	Mountain/inland	Scarce vagrant and breeder
Eurasian jay ( <i>Garrulus glandarius</i> )	Mountain/inland	Common resident
Corn bunting ( <i>Emberiza calandra</i> )	Mountain/inland	Common nester, moderate vagrant