

**COSTA BLANCA SPECIES GUIDE**

<b>SPECIES</b>	<b>COMMON/SCARCE/RARE</b>	<b>WHEN PRESENT</b>	<b>PREFERRED HABITAT</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
<b>DIVERS AND GREBES</b>				
Red throated Diver	Rare	Winter	At sea	
Black throated Diver	Rare vagrant	Winter	At sea	
Little Grebe	Common	All year	Wetlands	
Black necked Grebe	Scarce	Winter	Wetlands/at sea	Breeds
Great Crested Grebe	Scarce	Winter	Wetlands/at sea	Breeds
<b>SHEARWATERS PETRELS AND GANNETS</b>				
Cory's Shearwater	Scarce	Passage	At sea	
Balearic Shearwater	Common	Passage	At sea	
Mediterranean Shearwater	Rare	Winter	At sea	
European Storm Petrel	Rare/localised	Summer	As sea/islets	Breeds
Gannet	Common	Winter/passage	At sea	
<b>CORMORANTS</b>				
Cormorant	Common	Winter	Wetlands/at sea	
Shag (Mediterranean)	Scarce	Winter/passage	At sea/islets	Breeds in small numbers
<b>HERONS AND EGRETS</b>				
Great Bittern	Rare	Winter	Wetlands	
Little Bittern	Common	Winter/passage	Wetlands	Breeds
Black Crowned Night Heron	Scarce	Winter	Wetlands	Breeds
Cattle Egret	Common	All year	Wetlands/farmland	
Squacco Heron	Common	Passage	Wetlands	Breeds
Little Egret	Common	All year	Wetlands/coast	
Great White Egret	Scarce	All year	Wetlands/coast	Breeds in small numbers
Grey Heron	Common	All year	Wetlands	Breeds
Purple Heron	Common	Summer	Wetlands	Breeds
Greater Flamingo	Scarce	All year	Wetlands	Breeds in small numbers

SPECIES	COMMON/SCARCE/RARE	WHEN PRESENT	PREFERRED HABITAT	COMMENTS
Lesser Flamingo	Rare	All year	Wetlands	
White Stork	Scarce	Passage	Anywhere	Small numbers
Black Stork	Rare	Passage	Anywhere	Small numbers
Glossy Ibis	Rare	Winter	Wetlands	Breeds in small nos.
Spoonbill	Scarce	All year	Wetlands	
Mute Swan	Rare	All year	Wetlands	
<b>DUCKS AND WILDFOWL</b>				
Greylag Goose	Rare	Winter	Wetlands	Small numbers
Shelduck	Scarce	All year	Wetlands	Breeds
Mallard	Common	All year	Wetlands	
Gadwall	Scarce	All year	Wetlands	Small numbers
Pintail	Rare	Winter	Wetlands	Small numbers
Shoveler	Common	Winter/passage	Wetlands	Breeds
Wigeon	Rare	Winter	Wetlands	
Marbled Duck	Scarce	Summer/ passage	Wetlands	Breeds
Teal	Common	Winter/passage	Wetlands	
Garganey	Scarce	Passage	Wetlands	Small numbers
Pochard	Scarce	Winter	Wetlands	Breeds in small numbers
Red Crested Pochard	Common	Winter/passage	Wetlands	Breeds
White headed Duck	Rare	All year	Wetlands	Breeds
Common Scoter	Scarce	Winter	Wetlands/at sea	Small numbers
Velvet Scoter	Rare	Winter	At sea	
Ferruginous Duck	Rare	Winter	Wetlands	
Tufted duck	Scarce	Winter	Wetlands	Small numbers
Ruddy duck	Rare	All year	Wetlands	
Red breasted Merganser	Scarce	Winter	Wetlands/at sea	Small numbers

SPECIES	COMMON/SCARCE/RARE	WHEN PRESENT	PREFERRED HABITAT	COMMENTS
<b>VULTURES AND RAPTORS</b>				
Griffon Vulture	Rare	All year	Mountains/anywhere	Breeds
Black Vulture	Rare	Winter	Anywhere	
Egyptian Vulture	Rare	Winter	Anywhere	
Osprey	Scarce	Winter	Wetlands	
Golden Eagle	Common	All year	Mountains	
Greater Spotted Eagle	Rare	Winter	Wetlands	Small numbers
Short toed Eagle	Scarce	Passage	Dry hills/anywhere	Breeds in small numbers
Booted Eagle	Common	Winter/passage	Wetlands/anywhere	Breeds in small numbers
Bonelli's Eagle	Scarce	All year	Inland cliffs	Breeds in small numbers
Red Kite	Rare	Passage	Woodland/open country	Breeds in small numbers
Black Kite	Rare	Passage	Anywhere	Small numbers
Black shouldered Kite	Rare	Passage	Anywhere	
Marsh Harrier	Common	Winter	Wetlands	
Hen Harrier	Scarce	Winter	Plains/farmland	Small numbers
Montagu's Harrier	Scarce	Summer/passage	Wetlands	Breeds
Common Buzzard	Common	Winter/passage	Wetlands/woodlands	Breeds in small numbers
Honey Buzzard	Scarce	Passage	Anywhere	Small numbers
Sparrowhawk	Scarce	Winter/passage	Anywhere	Breeds in small numbers
Goshawk	Rare	All year	Woodlands	Breeds in small numbers
Kestrel	Common	All year	Anywhere	Breeds
Lesser Kestrel	Rare	Summer/passage	Open country, Albacete area	Breeds in small numbers
Red footed Falcon	Rare	Passage	Anywhere	Small numbers
Eleanora's Falcon	Rare	Passage	Sea cliffs	Small numbers
Peregrine Falcon	Common	Winter/passage	Sea cliffs	Small numbers
Hobby	Rare	Passage	Wetlands/open country	Small numbers - breeds?
Merlin	Scarce	Winter/passage	Wetlands/open country	

SPECIES	COMMON/SCARCE/RARE	WHEN PRESENT	PREFERRED HABITAT	COMMENTS
<b>PARTRIDGES AND PHEASANTS</b>				
Red legged Partridge	Common	All year	Anywhere	
SPECIES	COMMON/SCARCE/RARE	WHEN PRESENT	PREFERRED HABITAT	COMMENTS
Quail	Scarce	Summer/ passage	Fields	Breeds
Pheasant	Rare	All year	Farmland	
Ring necked Pheasant	Rare/localised	All year	Anywhere	
<b>RAILS AND CRAKES</b>				
Water Rail	Common	All year	Wetlands	
Spotted Crake	Scarce	Passage	Wetlands	Small numbers
Moorhen	Common	All year	Wetlands	
Coot	Common	All year	Wetlands	
Red knobbed Coot	Rare	All year	Wetlands	
Purple Swamphen	Scarce	All year	Wetlands	
<b>CRANES</b>				
Common Crane	Scarce	Winter	Wetlands/fields	Small numbers
<b>BUSTARDS</b>				
Great Bustard	Scarce	All year	Steppe, Albacete	
Little Bustard	Scarce	Winter/passage	Steppe, Alcanara area	Breeds in small numbers
<b>WADERS</b>				
Oystercatcher	Rare	Passage	Wetlands/beaches	Small numbers
Avocet	Scarce	All year	Wetlands	
Black winged Stilt	Common	All year	Wetlands	
Stone Curlew	Scarce	Winter/passage	Open country	Breeds
Collared Pratincole	Scarce	Summer/ passage	Wetlands	Breeds
Little Ringed Plover	Common	Summer/ passage	Wetlands/rivers	Breeds
Ringed Plover	Scarce	Winter/passage	Wetlands/beaches	
Kentish Plover	Common	All year	Wetlands/beaches	

SPECIES	COMMON/SCARCE/RARE	WHEN PRESENT	PREFERRED HABITAT	COMMENTS
Grey Plover	Scarce	Winter/passage	Wetlands/beaches	
Golden Plover	Scarce	Winter	Wetlands/open country	
Dotterel	Scarce	Passage	Wetlands/open country	Small numbers
Lapwing	Common	Winter	Wetlands/fields	Breeds in small numbers
Sociable Lapwing	Rare	Passage	Wetlands	
Sanderling	Common	Winter/passage	Beaches	
Knot	Scarce	Passage	Beaches	
Turnstone	Scarce	Winter/passage	Wetlands/beaches	
Purple Sandpiper	Scarce	Winter	Wetlands/beaches	
Dunlin	Scarce	Winter/passage	Wetlands/beaches	
Curlew Sandpiper	Scarce	Passage	Wetlands	
Temminck's Stint	Rare	Winter/passage	Wetlands/rivers	Small numbers
Little Stint	Common	Winter/passage	Wetlands	
Wood Sandpiper	Common	Winter/passage	Wetlands	Small numbers overwinter
Green Sandpiper	Common	Winter/passage	Wetlands/ditches	
Common Sandpiper	Common	Winter/passage	Wetlands	Small numbers overwinter
Redshank	Common	Winter/passage	Wetlands	Breeds in small numbers
Spotted Redshank	Scarce	Winter/passage	Wetlands	
Greenshank	Common	Winter/passage	Wetlands	
Marsh Sandpiper	Rare	Passage	Wetlands	Small numbers
Black tailed Godwit	Scarce	Winter/passage	Wetlands	
Bar tailed Godwit	Rare	Winter/passage	Wetlands/coast	Small numbers
Curlew	Rare	Winter/passage	Wetlands	
Whimbrel	Scarce	Winter/passage	Wetlands/beaches	
Common Snipe	Common	Winter/passage	Wetlands	
Jack Snipe	Rare	Winter	Wetlands	
Woodcock	Rare	Winter	Woodlands/dunes	Small numbers

SPECIES	COMMON/SCARCE/RARE	WHEN PRESENT	PREFERRED HABITAT	COMMENTS
Ruff	Scarce	Winter/passage	Wetlands	Overwinters in small numbers
Pectoral Sandpiper	Rare	Passage	Wetlands	
Grey Phalarope	Rare	Winter/passage	Wetlands/coast	Small numbers
Red necked Phalarope	Rare	Passage	Wetlands	Small numbers
<b>SKUAS</b>				
Arctic Skua	Scarce	Winter	At sea	Small numbers
Great Skua	Rare	Winter	At sea	Small numbers
<b>GULLS</b>				
Black headed Gull	Common	All year	Wetlands/ beaches	Breeds
Slender billed Gull	Rare	All year	Wetlands/beaches	Breeds
Common Gull	Rare	Passage	Wetlands/beaches	
Mediterranean Gull	Scarce	All year	Wetlands/beaches	Breeds in small numbers
Yellow legged Gull	Common	All year	Wetlands/beaches	
Audouin's Gull	Scarce	All year	Wetlands/beaches	Breeds in small numbers
Lesser Black backed Gull	Scarce	Winter	Wetlands/beaches	
Great Black backed Gull	Rare	Vagrant	Wetlands/beaches	
Little Gull	Rare	Winter	Wetlands/beaches	
Kittiwake	Rare	Winter	Beaches	
Little Tern	Scarce	Summer/passage	Wetlands/beaches	Breeds
Sandwich Tern	Common	Winter/passage	Wetlands/beaches	
Gull billed Tern	Scarce	Passage	Wetlands/beaches	Breeds in small numbers
Common Tern	Scarce	Passage	Wetlands/beaches	Breeds
Caspian Tern	Rare	Passage	Wetlands/beaches	Small numbers
Lesser crested Tern	Rare	Passage	Wetlands/beaches	
Black Tern	Scarce	Passage	Wetlands/beaches	Breeds in small numbers
Whiskered Tern	Common	Winter/passage	Wetlands/beaches	Breeds
<b>AUKS</b>				
Razorbill	Scarce	Winter	At Sea	Small numbers

SPECIES	COMMON/SCARCE/RARE	WHEN PRESENT	PREFERRED HABITAT	COMMENTS
<b>SANDGROUSE</b>				
Black bellied Sandgrouse	Scarce	All year	Inland plains/steppe	Breeds in small numbers
Pin tailed Sandgrouse	Scarce	All year	Inland plains/steppe	Breeds in small numbers
<b>PIGEONS, DOVES AND CUCKOOS</b>				
Rock Dove (& Feral Pigeon)	Common	All year	Anywhere	Breeds
Stock Dove	Rare	Winter	Woodlands/plains	Breeds in small numbers
Woodpigeon	Common	All year	Anywhere	Breeds
Collared Dove	Common	All year	Everywhere	
Turtle Dove	Common	Summer	Woodland/open country	Breeds
Cuckoo	Common	Summer	Wetlands/woodland	Breeds
Great Spotted Cuckoo	Rare	Summer	Around Magpies	Breeds
<b>OWLS</b>				
Eagle Owl	Scarce	All year	Ravines	
Tawny Owl	Common	All year	Woodlands	Small numbers
Long eared Owl	Scarce	All year	Pine Woods	
Short eared Owl	Scarce	Winter/passage	Wetlands/coast	Small numbers
Little Owl	Common	All year	Farmland/open country	
Barn Owl	Scarce	All year	Farmland/ruins	Small numbers
Scops Owl	Scarce	Summer	Pinewoods/village	
<b>NIGHTJARS</b>				
Red necked Nighthjars	Scarce	Summer	Pinewoods	Breeds
European Nightjar	Scarce	Summer	Scrub	Breeds
<b>SWIFTS</b>				
Common Swift	Common	Summer	Urban areas	Breeds
Pallid Swift	Common	Summer	Coast etc	Breeds in small numbers
Alpine Swift	Common	Summer/passage	Mountains/anywhere	Breeds
<b>HOOPOE, ROLLER, KINGFISHER, BEE EATER</b>				
Hoopoe	Common	All year	Anywhere	
Roller	Common	Summer	Palms/localised	Breeds in small numbers

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Kingfisher	Common	Winter	Wetlands/rivers	Breeds in small numbers
Bee eater	Common	Summer/ passage	Open country	Breeds
<b>PARAKEETS AND WOODPECKERS</b>				
Rose ringed Parakeet	Scarce	All year	Urban areas/localised	Breeds in small numbers
Monk Parakeet	Common	All year	Urban areas/localised	Breeds in small numbers
Wryneck	Scarce	Winter/passage	Open woodland	Breeds in small numbers
Iberian Green Woodpecker	Scarce	All year	Woodland/open country	Breeds in small numbers
<b>LARKS</b>				
Skylark	Common	Winter/passage	Open country/Albacete	Breeds in small numbers
Crested Lark	Common	All year	Farmland/open country	
Thekla Lark	Scarce	All year	Rocky ground	
Short toed Lark	Scarce	Passage	Stony plains/localised	Breeds
Lesser Short toed Lark	Rare	All year	Saltmarsh	Breeds in small numbers
Calandra Lark	Rare	All year	Open country/steppe	
Woodlark	Scarce	All year	Hills	
<b>SWALLOWS AND MARTINS</b>				
Sand Martin	Common	Summer	Wetlands/localised	Breeds
Crag Martin	Common	Winter	Wetlands/beaches	Breeds (localised)
Barn Swallow	Common	Summer/ passage	Anywhere	Breeds
Red rumped Swallow	Common	Passage	Anywhere	Breeds
House Martin	Common	Summer/Winter	Urban areas	Breeds winters small Nos.)
<b>PIPITS AND WAGTAILS</b>				
Tawny Pipit	Rare	Summer/ passage	Plains/coast	Small numbers
Water Pipit	Scarce	Winter/passage	Wetlands	
Meadow Pipit	Common	Winter	Wetlands	
Red throated Pipit	Rare	Passage	Anywhere	Small numbers
Tree Pipit	Rare	Passage	Anywhere	
Richard's Pipit	Scarce	Winter	Grassland	Small numbers
Rock Pipit	Rare	Winter	Coast	
White Wagtail	Common	All year	Anywhere	



SPECIES	COMMON/SCARCE/RARE	WHEN PRESENT	PREFERRED HABITAT	COMMENTS
Yellow Wagtail	Common	Summer/ passage	Meadows/wetlands	Breeds
Grey Wagtail	Scarce	Winter/passage	Water margins	Breeds
<b>WRENS AND ACCENTORS</b>				
Wren	Scarce	All year	Dense undergrowth	
Dunnock	Rare	Winter	Mountains	
Alpine Accentor	Rare	Winter	Rocky summits	Small numbers
<b>THRUSHES</b>				
Rufous Bush Robin	Rare	Summer	Low pinewoods	Breeds in small numbers
Robin	Common	Winter	Anywhere	Breeds
Nightingale	Common	Summer	Dense scrub	Breeds
Bluethroat	Common	Winter	Wetlands	
Redstart	Scarce	Passage	Anywhere	
Black Redstart	Common	Winter	Anywhere	Breeds in small numbers
Northern Wheatear	Scarce	Passage	Anywhere	Breeds
Black eared Wheatear	Scarce	Summer	Hills	Breeds
Black Wheatear	Common	All year	Rocky places	
Whinchat	Common	Passage	Anywhere	
Stonechat	Common	All year	Anywhere	
Blue Rock Thrush	Common	All year	Rocks/cliffs/ mountains	
Rufous tailed Rock Thrush	Rare	Passage	Coast/cliffs	
Song Thrush	Common	Winter	Anywhere	
Mistle Thrush	Rare	All year	Woodland	
Redwing	Rare	Winter/passage	Orchards	Small numbers
Fieldfare	Rare	Winter	Anywhere	
Ring Ouzel	Rare	Passage	Coast/Sierra Espuna	Small numbers
Blackbird	Common	All year	Woodland	
<b>WARBLERS</b>				
Garden Warbler	Rare	Passage	Woodland edges	Breeds in small nos. (?)
Blackcap	Common	All year	Gardens/woodlands	
Sardinian Warbler	Common	All year	Anywhere	

SPECIES	COMMON/SCARCE/RARE	WHEN PRESENT	PREFERRED HABITAT	COMMENTS
Orphean Warbler	Rare	Summer	Mountain pines/localised	Breeds in small numbers
Whitethroat	Scarce	Passage	Anywhere	Breeds in small nos. (?)
Spectacled Warbler	Scarce	Passage	Low scrub	Breeds in small numbers
Subalpine Warbler	Scarce	Passage	Mountains/anywhere	Breeds (localised)
Dartford Warbler	Common	All year	Scrub	
Sedge Warbler	Rare	Passage	Wetlands	
Moustached Warbler	Scarce	All year	Reedbeds/localise	Small numbers
Zitting Cisticola	Common	All year	Wetlands	
Grasshopper Warbler	Rare	Passage	Wetlands	
Savi's Warbler	Common	Summer	Reedbeds/localised	Breeds in small numbers
Cetti's Warbler	Common	All year	Wetlands	
Reed Warbler	Common	Summer/ passage	Reedbeds	
Great Reed Warbler	Common	Summer/ passage	Reedbeds	Breeds
Melodious Warbler	Common	Summer/ passage	Streams/anywhere	Breeds
Icterine Warbler	Common	Passage	Anywhere	Small numbers
Olivaceous Warbler	Common	Passage	River valleys	Small nos./breeds
Bonelli's Warbler	Common	Summer/ passage	Coast/mountain scrub	Breeds
Wood Warbler	Rare	Summer/ passage	Coast	Small numbers
Willow Warbler	Common	Passage	Anywhere	
Chiffchaff	Common	Winter/passage	Anywhere	
Iberian Chiffchaff	Scarce	Winter	Anywhere	Small numbers
<b>FIRECREST AND FLYCATCHERS</b>				
Firecrest	Common	All year	Pines/localised	
Goldcrest	Scarce	All year	Woodland/scrub	
Spotted Flycatcher	Common	Summer	Woods/gardens	Breeds
Pied Flycatcher	Scarce	Passage	Anywhere	Small numbers
<b>TITS AND TREECREEPERS</b>				
Blue Tit	Scarce	All year	Woodlands/localised	
Great Tit	Common	All year	Woods/gardens	
Coal Tit	Common	All year	Pinewoods	

SPECIES	COMMON/SCARCE/RARE	WHEN PRESENT	PREFERRED HABITAT	COMMENTS
Crested tit	Scarce	All year	Woodlands	
Long tailed Tit	Scarce	All year	Woodlands	
Penduline Tit	Scarce	Winter	Wetlands/localised	Breeds in small numbers
Bearded Reedling	Scarce	All year	Reedbeds	Small numbers
Short toed Treecreeper	Scarce	All year	Woodlands	
<b>SHRIKES</b>				
Woodchat Shrike	Common	Summer	Anywhere	Breeds
Southern Grey Shrike	Common	All year	Open country/scrub	
<b>CROWS</b>				
Jay	Scarce	All year	Mountain woodlands	
Magpie	Common	All year	Open country	
Red billed Chough	Common	All year	Mountains/cliffs/localised	
Jackdaw	Common	All year	Anywhere/localised	
Carrion Crow	Rare	All year	Mainly Albacete area	
Raven	Scarce	All year	Mountains	Small numbers
<b>STARLINGS</b>				
Common Starling	Common	Winter	Anywhere	
Spotless Starling	Common	All year	Anywhere	
Golden Oriole	Scarce	Passage	Poplar trees near water	Breeds
House Sparrow	Common	All year	Urban areas	
Tree Sparrow	Scarce	All year	Open country/localised	Small numbers
Rock Sparrow	Common	All year	Stony hills/buildings/localised	Small numbers
<b>FINCHES</b>				
Chaffinch	Common	All year	Fields/orchards	
Crossbill	Scarce	All year	Pinewoods	
Brambling	Rare	Winter	With Chaffinches	
Goldfinch	Common	All year	Anywhere	
Greenfinch	Common	All year	Anywhere	
Siskin	Scarce	Winter	Pines/localised	
Serin	Common	All year	Anywhere	

SPECIES	COMMON/SCARCE/RARE	WHEN PRESENT	PREFERRED HABITAT	COMMENTS
Linnet	Scarce	All year	Open country	
Hawfinch	Rare	All year	Orchards	Small numbers
Trumpeter Finch	Rare	All year	Arid gorges	Small numbers
<b>BUNTINGS</b>				
Snow Bunting	Rare	Winter	Grassy dunes/shingle beaches	
Reed Bunting	Common	Winter/passage	Reedbeds	
Cirl Bunting	Scarce	All year	Wooded hills/localised	
Rock Bunting	Scarce	All year	Mountains	
Yellowhammer	Rare	Winter	Anywhere	
Pine Bunting	Rare	Winter	Pines	
Corn Bunting	Scarce	All year	Farmland	
Ortolan Bunting	Scarce	Passage	Open areas	
Common Waxbill	Rare	All year	Anywhere	