

Small Collared Sandpiper (Charadrius Dubius)



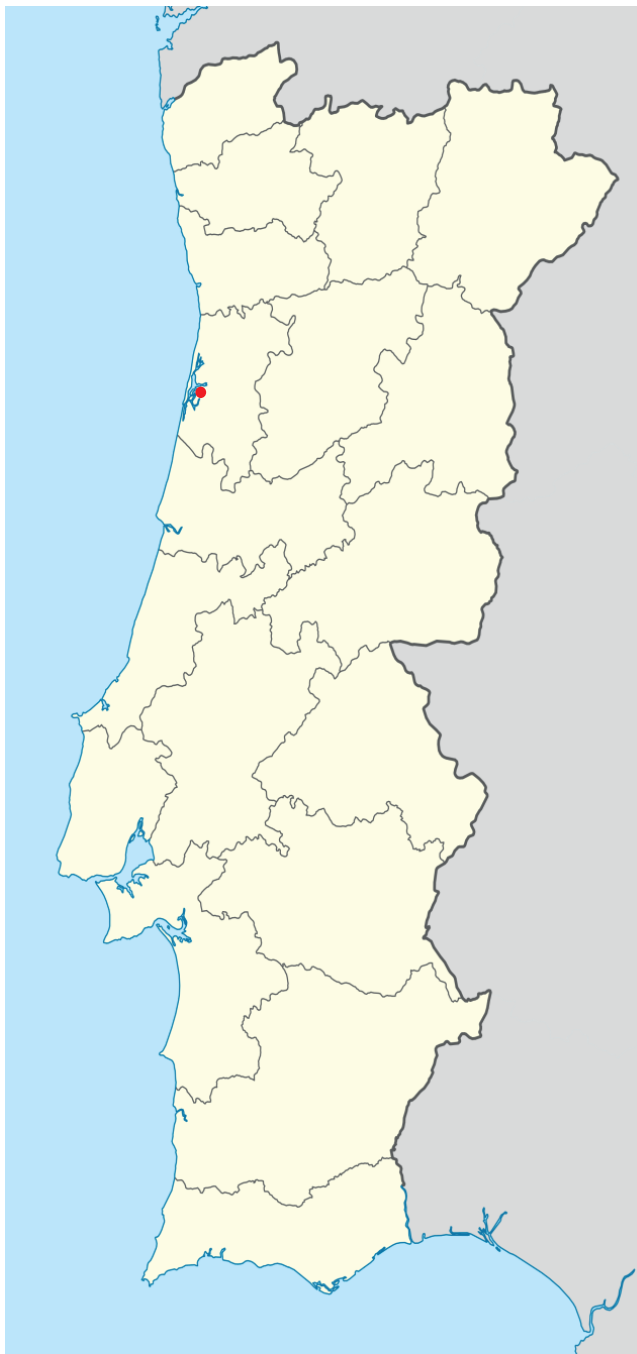
Reproduction: The nest consists of a shallow hole in the sand or gravel and is usually located close to the water. The laying, starts in April and usually 4 eggs are laid. Sometimes there's a second laying with a maximum of 3 eggs. It takes about 25 days for the eggs to hatch. The nest is incubated by both adults on half-day shifts—the male most often during the day and the female at night.

Dietary regime: It feeds mainly on insects captured in the soil or in shallow water, but also on spiders or other small invertebrates. The seeds of some plants can be a source of supplementary food.

Migration: Palearctic populations are mainly migratory, wintering in the Persian Gulf and southern Arabia, but mainly in Africa, south of the Sahara.

Characteristics: They are only 15 cm long and 42 to 48 cm wide. Plumage is typical of birds of the Charadrius genus, with a brown and back crown, two black bands joined on the head, white belly and chest, and a black collar. When they take off you can hear a characteristic “PEE-u” sound.

Threats: The loss of habitat, the extraction of sands lead to the disappearance of nesting habitats and the increase of bathers on islands keep sandpipers away. Climate change is also identified as a threat.



Erasmus+

Co-funded by the Erasmus + Programme of the European Union

Agrupamento de Escolas de Pardilhó
Portugal

Spoonbill bird: (Platalea Leuconodea)



Reproduction: the density of the nests is high, forming a single platform. The season occurs in April, and 3 to 4 eggs are laid.

Diet: They feed mainly on small fish, shellfish, crustaceans, frogs, reptiles and some plants. They feed in water that is up to 30 cm deep.

Migrations: The bird migrates in July and August to spend the winter in the Mediterranean and North Africa, but adult birds only migrate in September.

Characteristics: The spoonbill bird in Portugal has white to yellow colors, its beak resembles a black spatula with a yellow tip. It measures 80 to 90 cm in length and 115 to 130 cm in wingspan.

Threats: The main threats to this species are the loss of nesting and feeding places, due to drainage and deterioration and disturbance of wetlands. Other threatening factors are the exploitation of eggs and chicks and water pollution.

Black winged stilt; Long leg (Himantopus himantopus)

Reproduction: They nest in small colonies in simple shallow scrapes on the ground or a mound of vegetation or shrubs placed in or near the water.

The laying is from 2 to 4 olive-colored eggs with black spots, blending perfectly with the soil, and measuring 45 x 32 mm. The eggs are in the shape of a spinning top or pear, a shape suitable for rolling around their own axes.

Both sexes incubate the eggs and look after the young.

Diet: They feed mainly on aquatic invertebrates (including insects, larvae, crustaceans and worms), algae, but also on small vertebrates (tadpoles and fish). They rarely swim for food preferring instead to wade in shallow water, and seize prey on or near the surface. Occasionally, birds plunge their heads below the surface to catch sub-aquatic prey.



Migrations: They migrate within Portugal.

Characteristics: The Long-legged is an unmistakable water bird, with long orange-red legs, large wings, a short tail and a very long and straight black bill. It has black on the back of the neck, a white collar. The coloring is usually black on the back, including wings, with areas with green reflections and measures 38 cm. The Black-winged Stilt is a social species, and is usually found in small groups. The Stilts prefer freshwater and saltwater marshes, mudflats, and the shallow edges of lakes and rivers.

Threats: One of the main threats to the disappearance of this species is the abandonment of the traditional saline activity, since the salt flats are a place of rest, food and nesting for them.

Flamingo: (Phoenicopterus roseus)



Reproduction: Flamingos are a monogamous species that mate with the same individual for life. The nests, usually made of mud, are built in colonies that can gather many thousands of individuals, being on average 35 cm from each other. They usually lay 1 egg, and rarely 2. The incubation lasts from 27 to 31 days.

Diet: Flamingos feed on insects, crustaceans, molluscs, worms, protozoa, algae, seeds, plants and even small fish.

Migration: Flamingos are not true migrants, making dispersive movements along the European and African coasts of the Mediterranean, along the Atlantic coast of Portugal and also along the African coast reaching Guinea-Bissau.

Characteristics: Flamingos are wading birds, with a hooked beak, which measure between 90 and 150 cm, weigh about 2.8 kg for males, and 2.2 kg for females. Its color comes from the food rich in carotene, which are pigments that they get through algae and shrimp.

Threats: The main threats to the Flamingo is the increasing demand for them to be domesticated, which leads to their capture. Pollution is also one of the threats to the species and so is the drainage of lakes, which significantly reduces the amount of available food.