

Cyprus Bird Camp Autumn 2022 – Programme

Background

Cyprus Bird Camp in Tatlisu (Akanthou) is a joint initiative of Society for Protection of Birds (KUŞKOR) and Birdlife Cyprus. It aims to engage young Cypriots from across all of Cyprus in the environment through ornithology and demonstrates how our organisations use the study of birds to monitor the environment at local and global scales.

Cyprus Bird Camp is funded by the Ornithological Society in the Middle East, the Caucasus and Central Asia (OSME) Youth Development Fund, which is designed to support and sponsor young bird conservationists across the OSME region. Since 2016, OSME Youth Fund has helped arrange and run youth Bird Camps in Azerbaijan and Lebanon. The focus of the bird camps is to get young birdwatchers and naturalists from different communities together to learn and exchange experiences.

The camp will take place at the Step Out Cyprus campground and will be guided by experienced KUŞKOR ornithologists and camp instructor Hüseyin Haşmetoğlu who is also an experienced teacher.

All camping equipment, binoculars are provided, and participants are fully catered for.

Dates: Friday 4th November to Sunday 6th November

Age restrictions: 14 to 18 years

Kit List:

Suitable shoes/trainers for outdoor walking

Jeans/walking trousers

Shorts

Swimwear

Sun hat

Sun cream

Insect repellent

Successful applicants must complete and return the Cyprus Bird Camp In case of Emergency questionnaire by Tuesday 1st November.

For information contact: christia.alexandrou@birdlifecyprus.org.cy



Camp schedule

Friday 4th November: Bus leaves 14:30 from Ledra Palace

15:00 - 18:30 Arrival and greeting at Step out Cyprus campground, pitching tents, settling in and orientation.

18:30 – 20:00 Dinner and dishes.

Saturday 5th November

08:00 Breakfast and briefing.

09:00 – 11:00 **Birdwatching in Five – Finger Mountains.** Learning to use binoculars to locate and identify songbirds and identifying birds by their call and song. Looking for bonellis eagles and other exciting species.

12:00 – 14:00 Counting wetland and coastal birds at **Famagusta Wetlands.** Here we will use telescopes to see and count large waterbirds like ducks, herons, and flamingos. We may also see some shorebirds and gulls.

15:00 – 19:00 Mist netting demonstration at Step Out. If we are back before dark, we hope to catch some winter songbirds like robin, stonechat, blackcap and black redstart. We will continue after dark aiming to see scops owl and/or little owl. This is a great opportunity for the participants to see wild birds in the hand and understand international research on bird migration.

19:00 – 20:00 Dinner and dishes

20:30 – Mist netting demonstration (owls)

Sunday 6th November

06:00 – 09:00 – Mist netting demonstration continues from first light (optional)

09:00 – Breakfast and pack up camp

11:00 – 13:30 Guided birdwatching at Haspolat (Mia Milia) Sewage works

14:00 Bus back to Nicosia and check point