



## **Tico Tours**

### **United Kingdom: Ultimate UK Breeding Bird Tour**

#### **Duration- 14 Days**

Expect around 175-200 species

Dates to be confirmed through May-July

For 6-8 participants (+Tour Leader/Guide/Driver)

**INTRODUCTION:** This 14-day tour focuses on the extremely bird-rich areas of East Anglia, Yorkshire, Northumberland and Scotland with the aim of connecting with the many resident and migrant species that spend the breeding season within the country. The tour has three bases, Norwich in Norfolk, York in North Yorkshire and Abenethy in the Scottish Highlands. Not only will this tour connect with some amazing birds it will also take place in, and pass through some of the UKs most beautiful natural and man-made landscapes such as the Norfolk Broads, the Yorkshire Coast and the Scottish Highlands, York Minster, Edinburgh Castle and Anwick Castle (of Harry Potter fame!), however in spite of all of the above it is the birds that will take centre stage on this tour.

We will spend the duration of the tour visiting a wide range of habitats, all of which have some very highly sought specialist species which will form the main focus of this tour such as *Whooper Swan, Great Bittern, Red Kite, Hen Harrier, Western Marsh Harrier, White-tailed Eagle, Golden Eagle, Northern Goshawk, Merlin, Peregrine Falcon, Capercaillie, Red Grouse, Black Grouse, Rock Ptarmigan, Golden Pheasant, Black-necked Grebe, Slavonian Grebe, Red-throated Diver, Black-throated Diver, Pied Avocet, Common Crane, Egyptian Goose, Mandarin, Common Scoter, Surf Scoter, Velvet Scoter, Water Rail, Mediterranean Gull, Yellow-legged Gull, Caspian Gull, Barn Owl, Short-eared Owl, Long-eared Owl, Ringed-necked Parakeet, Rock Dove, Common Kingfisher, Lesser Spotted Woodpecker, White-throated Dipper, Dartford Warbler, Firecrest, Bearded Reedling, Hawfinch, Eurasian Tree Sparrow, Twite, Scottish Crossbill, Parrot Crossbill, Common Crossbill, Snow Bunting and Corn Bunting.*

Furthermore, we will endeavour to track down the following migrant species that breed within the UK such as *Red-necked Grebe*, *Eurasian Spoonbill*, *Corncrake*, *Spotted Crake*, *Common Quail*, *European Nightjar*, *Osprey*, *Montagu's Harrier*, *Honey Buzzard*, *Eurasian Hobby*, *Common Cuckoo*, *European Turtle Dove*, *Black-tailed Godwit*, *Bar-tailed Godwit*, *Black Tern*, *Garganey*, *Red-crested Pochard*, *Eurasian Dotterel*, *Stone-Curlew*, *Whimbrel*, *Greenshank*, *Wood Sandpiper*, *Little Stint*, *Temminck's Stint*, *Black Redstart*, *Nightingale*, *Golden Oriole*, *Woodlark*, *Cetti's Warbler*, *Little Gull* and *Little Tern* set amongst a background of common – but no less impressive migrants such as *Common Sandpiper*, *Green Sandpiper*, *Spotted Redshank*, *Little Ringed Plover*, *Ringed Plover*, *Common Swift*, *Barn Swallow*, *House Martin*, *Sand Martin*, *Tree Pipit*, *Yellow Wagtail*, *Northern Wheatear*, *Whinchat*, *Stonechat*, *Ring Ouzel*, *Common Redstart*, *Blackcap*, *Garden Warbler*, *Common Whitethroat*, *Lesser Whitethroat*, *Sedge Warbler*, *Reed Warbler*, *Grasshopper Warbler*, *Wood Warbler*, *Common Chiffchaff*, *Willow Warbler*, *Pied Flycatcher* and *Spotted Flycatcher*.

Attention will be paid to the UK's breeding seabirds that abound along the many miles of coastline with key species including *Manx Shearwater*, *Shag*, *Great Cormorant*, *Long-tailed Skua*, *Arctic Skua*, *Pomarine Skua*, *Great Skua*, *Fulmar*, *Kittiwake*, *Atlantic Puffin*, *Common Guillemot*, *Black Guillemot*, *Razorbill*, *Arctic Tern*, *Roseate Tern*, *Common Tern*, *Sandwich Tern*, *Leach's Petrel*, *European Storm-Petrel* and *Northern Gannet*.

The above species will be set amongst the common resident species such as *Mute Swan*, *Canada Goose*, *Greylag Goose*, *Little Grebe*, *Great Crested Grebe*, *Common Shelduck*, *Tufted Duck*, *Common Goldeneye*, *Common Pochard*, *Northern Shoveler*, *Northern Pintail*, *Eurasian Wigeon*, *Common Teal*, *Gadwall*, *Goosander*, *Red-breasted Merganser*, *Grey Heron*, *Little Egret*, *Grey Partridge*, *Common Pheasant*, *Red-legged Partridge*, *Sparrowhawk*, *Common Buzzard*, *Common Kestrel*, *Eurasian Oystercatcher*, *Northern Lapwing*, *European Golden Plover*, *Common Redshank*, *Eurasian Curlew*, *Ruff*, *Woodcock*, *Common Snipe*, *Black-headed Gull*, *Common Gull*, *Lesser Black-backed Gull*, *Great Black-backed Gull*, *Tawny Owl*, *Little Owl*, *Common Wood Pigeon*, *Stock Dove*, *Eurasian Collared Dove*, *Skylark*, *Grey Wagtail*, *Pied Wagtail*, *Rock Pipit*, *Meadow Pipit*, *Eurasian Robin*, *Duncock*, *Long-tailed Tit*, *Willow Tit*, *Marsh Tit*, *Blue Tit*, *Great Tit*, *Goldcrest*, *Great Spotted Woodpecker*, *Green Woodpecker*, *Common Blackbird*, *Mistle Thrush*, *Song Thrush*, *Nuthatch*, *Eurasian Treecreeper*, *Common Magpie*, *Eurasian Jay*, *Western Jackdaw*, *Carrion Crow*, *Rook*, *Raven*, *Eurasian Bullfinch*, *European Greenfinch*, *Eurasian Goldfinch*, *Common Linnet*, *Eurasian Siskin*, *Lesser Redpoll*, *Common Reed Bunting*, and *Yellowhammer* amongst others.

The UK has an amazing track record of national rarities during the spring. Some of the tour will be spent along the coastal locations likely to turn up some of these rarities, during our time spent at these locations we will keep an eye out for something extra special such as *Purple Heron, Glossy Ibis, Cattle Egret, Great White Egret, White-winged Tern, Whiskered Tern, Collared Pratincole, Red-footed Falcon, Alpine Swift, Pallid Swift, Hoopoe, Wryneck, Bluethroat, Citrine Wagtail, Red-rumped Swallow, Red-backed Shrike, Woodchat Shrike, Lesser Grey Shrike, Marsh Warbler, Great Reed Warbler, Icterine Warbler, Eurasian Bee-eater, Common Rosefinch* and *Ortolan Bunting* given right weather conditions.

**Price:** £3,700.00/\$5,750.00 (based on 6 people) or £3,350.00/\$5,220.00 (based 8 people)

**Single Supplement:** £600.00/\$935.00

**Price includes:** All accommodation, breakfast and boxed lunch, all guiding, all transport (and fuel) when in the UK (including boats and any internal flights in Scotland), all reserve entrance fees.

**Price does not include:** International flights to/from UK, evening meals (allow £10.00 - £30.00 per night), items of personal nature, travel insurance, optional extra drinks, gratuities.

### **Ultimate UK Breeding Bird Tour: Southwest Extension**

**INTRODUCTION:** A three day tour extension can be added to this tour to visit the southwest of England where three restricted range key target species *Cirl Bunting, Red-billed Chough* and *Balearic Shearwater* will be searched for. There is also further opportunity for some of the species mentioned above such as *Great Bittern, Quail, Cetti's Warbler, Dartford Warbler, Bearded Tit, Cattle Egret, Great White Egret, Hawfinch, Hobby, Red-footed Falcon, European Nightjar, Montagu's Harrier, Honey-Buzzard* to be seen, amongst a great many common resident and migrant species. This extension also provides the opportunity to see the highly impressive Stonehenge World Heritage Site.

**Price:** £500.00/\$780.00 (based on 6 people) or £450.00/\$700.00 (based 8 people)

**Single Supplement:** £600.00/\$935.00

**Price includes:** All accommodation, breakfast and boxed lunch, all guiding, all transport (and fuel) when in the UK, all reserve entrance fees.

**Price does not include:** International flights to/from UK, evening meals (allow £10.00 - £30.00 per night), items of personal nature, travel insurance, optional extra drinks, gratuities.