

## 2015 WILDLIFE EXPEDITIONS IN THE CAUCASUS (GEORGIA, ARMENIA AND AZERBAIJAN): “Between Imperials and Egyptians”



After the successful expeditions of last year, SABUKO (Society for Nature Conservation), known from conservation projects such as the Batumi Raptor Count, offers a unique opportunity to explore the wildest corners of Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan.



The aim of the expeditions is to locate nests and breeding pairs of Imperial Eagle and Egyptian Vulture to gain better insight in the population size in the Southern Caucasus. The Imperial Eagle is evaluated

as Vulnerable and the Egyptian vulture as Endangered, according to IUCN, so the data collected will be very valuable for supporting the incoming Flyway Action Plan for the Conservation of Balkan and Central Asian Populations of the Egyptian Vulture. Expeditions might also gather interesting information about other species such as new wintering and breeding grounds and new records of scarce species, as the surveys will take place in remote and rarely visited areas. For a small fee we invite you to be part of a skilled team which will explore the most remote corners of the Southern Caucasus. Join us and enjoy this unique field experience, with all expenses included in the price. Expeditions will run as it follows:



### Winter trip AZERBAIJAN 16-24 January

The lowlands of Eastern Azerbaijan are known to carry vast numbers of wintering waterfowl, among them endangered species such as the White-headed duck, Lesser white-fronted and red-breasted goose and even for the critically endangered Sociable lapwing it might be an important stopover area. However the large importance of the area relatively few is known. During these expeditions we will try to collect as much data as possible on the numbers of birds wintering in the area. Apart from waterfowl large numbers of Little bustard (estimates of several 100 000 are made) can be expected as well as Imperial and Greater-spotted Eagles, Saker Falcons, Pallid Harriers Terek sandpipers, White-tailed Lapwings, massive flocks of Calandra Larks and Exciting Asian species such as White-winged Lark (and possibly Oriental Skylark and Black Lark) and many other unexpected...

This is a collaboration with a German, Swedish and Azeri team.

**Arriving and leaving from Baku. Visa support inclusive. 800 EUR**



## Imperial Eagle monitoring



### **Imperial Eagle AZERBAIJAN 26 February - 7 March**

After the successful Imperial Eagle expeditions last year, where 35 nests of Imperial Eagle were localised, we will now head for Western Azerbaijan.

We will try to localise as much nests of Imperial eagle as possible.

This time of the year Imperial Eagles will have started building their nests and defending their territories, this is the best moment

to watch their beautiful displays, localize their territories and nests. Massive flocks of Calandra larks, Pallas' gulls, Little Bustards and raptors such Saker falcon, Black vulture can be expected as well

**Arriving and leaving from Tbilisi, Georgia. inclusive visa support for Azerbaijan 850 EUR**



### **Imperial Eagle GEORGIA 15 - 21 March**

The Imperial Eagles are already sitting on their nests but some of them might be still displaying. That is a very good moment for finding nests and watching their nesting behaviour. Spring migration starts, and loads of raptors will be spotted on the field. Apart from Imperial Eagles, massive flocks of Calandra Larks, Pallas' Gulls, Little Bustards and raptors such Saker Falcon, Black Vulture can be expected as well.

**Arriving and leaving from Tbilisi, Georgia 600 EUR**



## Egyptian Vulture monitoring

### **Egyptian Vulture ARMENIA 2 – 9 May**



During this expedition we will cross the Georgian border into Armenia, a wonderful birding country full of bird specialities. Spring is at its peak in Armenia, every bird is breeding, and the late Egyptian Vultures too. That is the moment to scan cliffs and look for their nests and territories. Many eastern specialities can be seen in Armenia around the Egyptian Vulture habitats, such as Wheatears and Nuthatches.

**Arriving and leaving from Tbilisi, Georgia 600 EUR**

### **Egyptian Vulture GEORGIA 10 - 16 May**

Also in Georgia spring is bursting, and the dry east of the country shows its best green. There we will look for Egyptian Vultures at the cliffs, surrounded by other vultures such as Black and Griffon, and also Imperial Eagles.

**Arriving and leaving from Tbilisi, Georgia 600 EUR**



### **Egyptian Vulture AZERBAIJAN 17 - 23 May**

Since the winter expedition the steppes would have changed a lot. Weather will be warmer and Egyptian Vultures will be seen foraging for carcasses and nesting on the sandy cliffs. Imperial Eagles fledglings will be already flying or ready to, and the steppes will be full of prey for other raptors as well.

**Arriving and leaving from Tbilisi, Georgia 700 EUR**

**Students get a 10% reduction**

**Contact and bookings:**

**[office@sabuko.org](mailto:office@sabuko.org)**

