



WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY  
WORKSHOPS



## WELCOME

Over the past few years, I've developed a collection of wildlife workshops focussing on three core values – unique private access to remarkable locations; repeat quality close encounters with our target species, in a variety of lighting and weather conditions, so you can build a rich and varied portfolio; and immersion in one place and culture to allow you to truly develop your photographic vision at leisure.

Groups are no more than five people to ensure the best guide-to-client ratio and 1-on-1 tuition. Help and advice will be given on camera settings in a way that is easy to understand. You will also learn about creative techniques, lighting and important field craft for approaching animals responsibly.

So whether you are looking for a daytrip close to home with puffins and gannets on the Yorkshire coast, long to see Arctic foxes in Svalbard, or want to hone your action photography skills with eagles in Spain, I tailor my workshops to suit you and your level of experience.

## ABOUT PAUL

I am a professional photographer and cameraman based in London. Specialising in wildlife and low-light photography, my work has featured in global press such as the Guardian, Daily Mail, The Times, Scotsman and National Geographic Italia.

My photos have won prizes in major competitions including British Wildlife Photography Awards, Scottish Nature Photography Awards, International Wild Bird Photography Awards, and Mammal Photographer of the Year.

I also work as a freelance shooting producer on documentaries for the BBC, ITV, Netflix, Channel 4, Discovery, and Smithsonian, among others.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Collins".

**Wildlife Photographer, Guide & TV Producer**







## BESPOKE TOURS      TALKS

Travelling in a small group allows you to meet like-minded wildlife enthusiasts and photographers. However, you may prefer a private experience to get the most out of the photographic potential of each location visited at your own pace.

All workshops featured in this brochure can be adapted for a private experience if you prefer to travel independently or with friends and family.

Please contact me to arrange a tailor-made private itinerary that suits your requirements – you choose the location, the species and the dates, and I take care of the rest. I am also constantly on the lookout for new and exciting destinations, so do get in touch if your dream photo destination is not featured.

I offer a range of talks about my photography and current tours to photo societies, nature-watching groups and universities across the UK. Talks can last anywhere from 20 to 90 minutes, covering a mix of photography skills, creative approaches, animal behaviour, and colourful anecdotes from the field.

Please get in touch via my email below to arrange a talk either in person or virtually; or visit my website where you can subscribe to my newsletter for upcoming workshops and lectures.



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**SCOTTISH SHORES**

**Location:** Edinburgh, UK  
**Departures:** Nov/Dec/Jan  
**Duration:** 1 day



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**ARCTIC ADVENTURE**

**Location:** Svalbard, Arctic Circle  
**Departures:** Jun  
**Duration:** 7 days



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**SEALS OF NORFOLK**

**Location:** Norfolk, UK  
**Departures:** Nov/Dec  
**Duration:** 4 days



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**WINTER WETLANDS**

**Location:** Gloucestershire, UK  
**Departures:** Nov/Dec/Jan  
**Duration:** 1 day



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**MACRO PHOTOGRAPHY**

**Location:** Winchester, UK  
**Departures:** Jul/Aug  
**Duration:** 1 day



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**URBAN WILDLIFE**

**Location:** London UK  
**Departures:** All year  
**Duration:** Half day



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**ABRUZZO ADVENTURE**

**Location:** Abruzzo N.P., Italy  
**Departures:** May/Sep/Oct  
**Duration:** 5 days



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**WILD MADRID**

**Location:** Madrid, Spain  
**Departures:** Jan/Feb/Mar/Apr  
**Duration:** 6 days



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**RAPTORS OF THE PYRENEES**

**Location:** Lleida, Spain  
**Departures:** Jan/Feb/Mar  
**Duration:** 6 days



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**PELICANS OF KERKINI**

**Location:** Thessaloniki, Greece  
**Departures:** Jan/Feb  
**Duration:** 5 days





# ARCTIC ADVENTURE

Wander among Arctic Foxes, Walrus and Whales on this 6-night nature photo holiday to Svalbard



Svalbard, Arctic Circle



June



7 days



5 places

Lying halfway between Norway and the North Pole, Svalbard is a wild land of glaciers and tundra, making it an irresistible destination for the artist or traveller inspired by nature. Unlike larger commercial tours, we will base ourselves for 5 full days in one location, the charming town of Longyearbyen, to make the most of its unique landscapes and help you take stunning images of walrus, whales, seabirds and resident foxes. Activities are tailored to whatever animals are active at the time of day, as well as to weather/light conditions. Each day, we will discuss options on how best to maximise your creative and wildlife viewing opportunities.

- **Stay in a traditional cabin (single-supplement)**, with friendly huskies and Common Eiders as our neighbours
- **Boat-trips and landings to a Walrus colony**, with chance of Beluga, Blue Whale, Bearded Seal and Polar Bear
- **Repeat close encounters with Arctic Foxes** that hunt around town and in the neighbouring valley
- **Water-level photography** of Red-Throated Diver, King Eider, Phalarope and Long-Tailed Duck courtships
- **Visits to nesting seabird cliff colonies** of Little Auk, Brunnich's Guillemot and Blue Fulmar
- **Experience Arctic culture, cuisine and tradition** in a historic coalmining town

<https://www.paulalistaircollins.co.uk/europe-tours-arctic-adventure>





# PELICANS OF KERKINI

Photograph the charismatic Dalmatian Pelican in Greece this winter



Thessaloniki, Greece



Jan/Feb



5 days



4 places

During this workshop, we will focus on photographing the charismatic Dalmatian Pelicans that spend the winter on Lake Kerkini. Over 5 days, you'll be able to build a stunning and varied portfolio, with the help of experienced photo guides and local fishermen who have developed an intimate relationship with the birds over many years. Exclusive daily boat trips and shoreline feed sessions – at sunrise and sunset, in mist and snow – offer unparalleled opportunities for close-up portrait, flight, and behavioural shots of these rare birds. Winter is prime time to visit Lake Kerkini, with over 100 Pelicans on the lake. So free up those memory cards – you'll need the space!

- **5 private boat trips and shoreline feeds** with Dalmatian and Great White Pelicans
- **Photo opportunities with other local wildlife** including Golden Jackals, Wild Cats and Greater Spotted Eagles
- **Visit to a major wetland** near Thessaloniki for Flamingos, Pygmy Cormorants, Kingfishers, and much more
- **Local guides** with intimate knowledge of the area, and excellent guide-to-client ratio with 1-on-1 tuition
- **Single supplement en-suite rooms** in a comfortable guesthouse by the lake
- **Editing sessions** each evening to review images





# ABRUZZO ADVENTURE

Bears, wolves, chamois and butterflies await you in this picturesque 5-day Italian nature stay



Abruzzo NP, Italy



May/Sep/Oct



5 days



5 places

With rolling hills, medieval villages, crystal-clear rivers and lush beech woodlands, the Abruzzo National Park in central Italy offers you the chance to observe the country's most iconic animals in spectacular surroundings. June is prime time for seeing the rare Marsican Brown Bears as they come to the town's cherry orchards to feed. The abundance of summer bird migrants and an alluring variety of butterflies will appeal to all naturalists. Combined with traditional cuisine and culture, this wildlife holiday offers a well-rounded Italian experience.

- **High chance of endangered Marsican Bear and Apennine Wolf** during dawn and dusk watches
- **Photograph Chamois at sunset** in the montane wildflower meadows
- **Rutting red deer** along the crystal Sangro River
- **Visits to beech forests and mountains for birds** such as Hoopoe, Rock Partridge and Lilford's Woodpecker
- **Butterfly photography** with up to 30 species thriving in the meadows around town
- **Expert Italian/English speaking guides** with up-to-date knowledge on where to spot our main targets
- **Enjoy traditional cuisine and cultural explorations** whilst staying in a medieval hilltop village

<https://www.paulalstaircollins.co.uk/europe-tours-abruzzo-adventure>







# RAPTORS OF THE PYRENEES

Photograph eagles, hawks, vultures and owls in the wild heart of Catalonia this winter



Lleida, Spain



Jan/Feb/Mar



6 days



5 places

The cry of an eagle and the whoosh of wings as it lands feet away from you! This new photography workshop targets the spectacular raptors that can be found in the mountains and plains of Catalonia – from the regal Bearded Vulture which scavenges on bones, to precision hunters such as the Goshawk and Bonelli's Eagle. Immersing ourselves in the wild heart of southern Spain, our hide sessions will take advantage of every minute of light to capture feeding, fighting and courtship behaviours. Some hides allow remote wide-angle setups, offering a uniquely intimate perspective into the spectacular events of these birds' lives.

- **5 nights' single supplement stay** in an enchanting medieval fortress town in the Pyrenees
- **Photograph up to 8 raptor, 3 vulture and 3 owl species** in mountain, steppe, lake and farmland habitat
- **Learn skills for capturing dynamic photos of birds** in flight, feeding, hunting, bathing and fighting
- **Remote wide-angle photography** with eagles and owls in their environment (guidance can be provided)
- **Private access to multiple photography hides** at ground and water level
- **Expert guidance and 1-on-1 tuition** in photography techniques, wide-angle setups, and editing





# WILD MADRID

A private sanctuary for Spain's rarest birdlife – just a stone's throw from Spain's capital



Madrid, Spain



Jan/Feb/Mar/Apr



6 days



5 places

For this workshop, we have exclusive access to a private 8000-hectare estate on the outskirts of Madrid, with a network of ground and water-level hides dedicated to photographing some of Spain's rarest creatures such as Spanish Imperial Eagle and Genet. The combination of private access (we are the only company outside of Spain that has been granted access), rare ancient holm oak woodland, a higher density of Spanish Imperial Eagles than found anywhere else in Spain, and proximity to Madrid, make this a truly unique photo destination.

- **4 nights' single supplement stay** in a charming medieval town near Madrid
- **Exclusive access and permits to the estate** and its extensive network of ground and water-level hides
- **Photograph the Spanish Imperial Eagle**, Spain's rarest and most iconic bird of prey
- **Over 20 bird photo hides** for Azure-Winged Magpie, Goshawk, Crested Tit, Iberian Shrike, Little Owl and more
- **Expert guiding and 1-on-1 tuition** from award-winning photographer and local guides
- **Photography excursions** for Ibex and nesting White Storks in the nearby mountains
- **Optional night photography for Genets** using artificial lighting setup





# SEALS OF NORFOLK

A full photographic immersion at the UK's largest Grey Seal colony



Norfolk, UK



Nov/Dec



4 days



5 places

For this winter workshop, we'll stay in a beachfront cottage with access to the UK's largest Grey Seal colony, during the height of the pupping season! Shooting from dawn to dusk under my guidance, you'll learn how to capture stunning images of seals in a variety of wintry conditions, among the sand-dunes and crashing waves. We should observe seals giving birth, tender interactions between mothers and pups, and battles between bull seals for dominance. With so much going on around us, we will spend time exploring many creative options with our cameras, from experimenting with shutter speed and backlight, to high-key black and white images. Like my "Pelicans of Kerkin" workshop, this trip targets one species to push your photography to the next level.

- **Dawn to dusk photography** to ensure the best opportunities with our seal subjects
- **Unlock your creative potential** through repeat visits to the seal colony
- **1-on-1 photo tuition** to encourage your photographic vision
- **Learn to read and predict animal behaviour** to perfect your action photography
- **Editing sessions** to review images and discuss creative possibilities





# MACRO PHOTOGRAPHY

Master close-up photography with bountiful butterflies, moths and orchids on Winchester's chalk downlands



Winchester, UK



Jul/Aug



1 day



3 places

Macro photography provides a fascinating insight into the world of insects and flowers. This full-day workshop will focus on a few chalkhill and meadow sites around Winchester for a colourful variety of lepidoptera species and orchids too. Butterflies will be our main target, with many species on the wing such as the Chalkhill Blue, Common Blue and rarer Adonis, the Brown Argus, Essex Skipper, Brimstone, and Peacock, and day-flying moths such as Six-Spot Burnet and Cinnabar. We'll make the most of the summer sun, playing with lighting conditions, colour and texture to create compelling portraits of our miniature subjects. We may also explore the nearby River Itchen for Golden-Ringed Dragonfly and Pyramidal Orchid.

- **Learn the art of macro** through composition, exposure and depth of field
- **Push your creative possibilities** with colour harmony and contrast, texture and variations of light
- **Learn advanced camera techniques** such as double exposure, high key imagery and focus stacking
- **1-on-1 photo tuition** to encourage your photographic vision
- **Photo feedback** after the session



# SCOTTISH SHORES

Photograph the spectacle of 20,000 Pink-Footed Geese and more this winter off the east coast of Scotland



Edinburgh, UK



Nov/Dec/Jan



1 day



5 places

We will spend the first part of the day at North Berwick beach, photographing a variety of shorebirds feeding along the shoreline, against the dramatic backdrop of Bass Rock. At this time of year, the morning light often gives rich golden hues, allowing opportunities to capture striking bird portraits and behaviours with a range of approachable bird species such as Purple Sandpiper, Sanderling, Black-Tailed Godwit, Ringed Plover, and Redshank. We will then head to Aberlady Bay, a protected reserve where we will look for Short-Eared Owls hunting over the sand dunes and winter thrushes feasting on sea buckthorn. At sunset, we will be in position for the spectacular dusk flight of 20,000 Pink-Footed Geese returning to roost over the Firth of Forth.

- **Fun, relaxed and creative learning** with a variety of approachable subjects
- **Master camera basics** as well as compositional tricks
- **1-on-1 photo tuition** with an award-winning guide
- **Learn to understand animal behaviour** and lighting/weather conditions to get great shots
- **Photo feedback** after the session





# WINTER WETLANDS

Dancing cranes and majestic waterfowl are among the winter highlights at WWT Slimbridge reserve



Gloucestershire, UK



Nov/Dec/Jan



1 day



5 places

The aim of this beginner class is to help you capture beautiful portraits and behavioural photos of birds found on the reserve and in its exotic collections. Every winter, the wetlands are deliberately flooded, meaning that we can expect to see up to 50,000 waterfowl – among them White-Fronted Geese, Golden Plover, Pintail, Wigeon and Lapwing. Occasionally raptors such as Peregrine, or Goshawk may hunt for sitting ducks, resulting in spectacular chases. This is also one of the best places in the country to see Common Cranes, and we will try to photograph their elegant courtship dance. Before sunset, we'll be in position at the lakeside to photograph the mesmerising sight of hundreds of Bewick's Swans flying into roost.

- **Hone your bird photography skills** with a wide range of wild and captive bird species
- **Fun, relaxed and creative learning** from the warmth of bird observation hides
- **Master camera basics** and more advanced creative techniques such as backlighting and high key imagery
- **Plentiful 1-on-1 photo tuition** with an award-winning guide
- **Photo feedback** after the session



# URBAN WILDLIFE

Photograph parakeets, grey herons and other iconic urban wildlife in the heart of London



London, UK



All Year



Half-day



5 places

During this 3 hour class in London, you'll have the opportunity to photograph many species of bird at close range in a fun and creative setting. The day will begin with a brief introduction on wildlife and flora we should find and tips on photographing birds in pose and flight. We will then head into Regents Park to photograph iconic city species such as friendly Grey Herons, courting Great-Crested Grebes, elegant Mandarin ducks, tree-dwelling Egyptian Geese and goslings, and Ring-Necked Parakeet flocks. Bird activity is highest in the morning when the lakes are often shrouded in wonderful mists, allowing possibilities for beautiful images. We may even see Tawny or Little Owls which roost in the park's oak trees, or a Kingfisher along the Serpentine.

- **Fun, relaxed and creative learning** with a variety of approachable subjects - no need for long lenses
- **Master camera basics** as well as compositional tricks
- **1-on-1 photo tuition** with an award-winning guide
- **Learn to understand animal behaviour** and lighting/weather conditions to get great shots
- **Photo feedback** after the session





## GUEST TESTIMONIALS

Here's what customers have said about their workshop experiences

"We've been on many of Paul's workshops and have always been impressed with how he can pull great photo opportunities out of unexpected situations." **Martyna and Kat**

"This has by far been one of the best experiences of my life. Paul's workshop opened my eyes to a whole new way of seeing and has given me so much joy for our natural world. I will be back." **Victoria, Arctic Adventure**

"A huge thanks to Paul for being so accommodating. He kindly adapted plans to suit my goals, and I learned so much in the process thanks to his patient guidance." **Matt, Arctic Adventure**

"Of all the workshops I've attended in the past, Paul's was definitely the best. He knew how to make it fun and interesting by executing different techniques and ideas whatever the situation. Sitting down with him afterwards to review my photos proved to be inspirational. This is a guy who knows how to work with people to get great shots, and the end product was top notch! Can't recommend enough!" **Chris, Scottish Shores**

"This workshop fitted exactly what I was looking for. The whole experience and the few days I spent with Paul were magical. I've learned new techniques. Wildlife photography was something I'd never done before but Paul made it accessible and gave me the push to keep going with it." - **Djamel, Urban Wildlife**



PAUL ALISTAIR COLLINS  
PHOTOGRAPHY



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