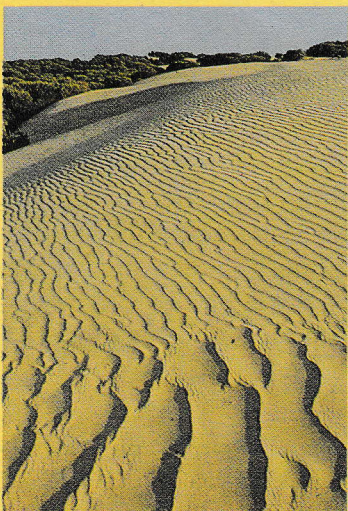




DOÑANA

PARQUE NACIONAL

INFORMATION



RED DE PARQUES NACIONALES



IMPORTANCE OF DOÑANA

There are many different reasons that justify the importance of Doñana National Park, but it is essentially due to the extraordinary variety of wild life which is to be found there, including its unique cultural value.

From the point of view of the wild life, *Doñana provides an extremely important zone for wintering* as a link in the migratory routes and as a *breeding ground* for numerous species of birds, taking in more than 250 species between the migratory ones and the sedentary ones and thousands of each individual species. On one hand *Doñana is the last important refuge for species that are on the verge of extinction* like the Imperial Eagle, Lynx, Purple Gallinule and Crested Coot. Besides this *it is a resting place* for the large population of other species like the Mongoose, Flamingo, Heron, Spoonbill, etc.

This special richness is due to the peculiar characteristics of Doñana: Its gentle climate during most of the year, its geographical situation between two continents, its wide extension and productivity, its inaccessibility, its good state of conservation, its large variety of habitats and different contrasts.

As far as landscape is concerned, Doñana presents three different environmental systems: beach-dunes, sandy dry stable areas or «cotos» (or «matorral») and marshes. Each of these possess their own characteristics both ecological and biological, sharply defined and valued, having its own biotopes or different habitats.

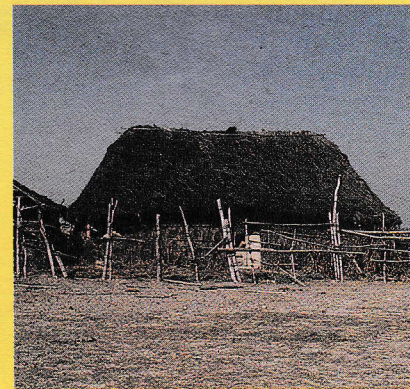
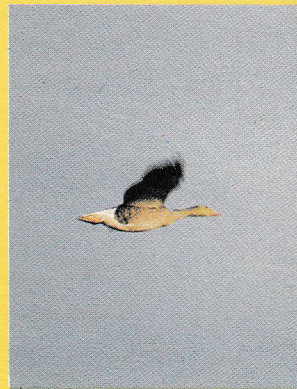
The marshes of Doñana are considered to be the

most important wetland of Spain, and are classified in the MAR project as having exceptional importance among the existing marshes in Western Europe and Northern Africa. Besides this, Doñana National Park is classified by the UNESCO as a Reserve of the Biosphere (MAB), and in 1985 was awarded the Diploma of Europe.

Lastly, *the cultural values of Doñana* must be mentioned; among them the *peculiar way of life of its inhabitants*, which has remained practically the same up to the present time, characterised by a perfect adaptation to the local natural resources, reflected in the type of dwelling («choza»), traditional uses of land (charcoal, bee-keeping, vegetable growing, etc.), being nowadays an example of ethnological testimony.

MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fishing and Food (MAPA) is responsible for the Administration of the Park



through the Institute of the Conservation of Nature (ICONA).

The management and administration of the Park is under the responsibility of a Director, who is advised by a team of qualified people to help him. He also counts on the support of a team of forest rangers to watch over the Park and specialized staff to deal with the public (information and care of visitors).

Public participation in the management of the Park



is ensured by a «Patronato», which is formed by 32 members representing the Administration, local landowners, farmers and conservationist organizations.

Some services (touring, shopping and café) are provided by a cooperative formed by local people, so that the restrictions imposed by the conservation measures in the Park are compensated in some degree.



ADDRESSES AND TELEPHONES OF INTEREST

DOÑANA NATIONAL PARK

Administrative Center «EL ACEBUCHE».

21760 Matalascañas. Huelva.

Telephones: EL ACEBUCHE: (955) 44 87 01

LA ROCINA: (955) 44 87 14

SERVICE OF ICONA IN ANDALUCIA

Plaza de España. Sector IV.

41071 Sevilla.

Telephone (95) 455 72 10.

ICONA NATIONALS PARKS DEPARTMENT

Gran Vía de San Francisco, 35.

Madrid.

Telephone (91) 347 61 75.

ENVIRONMENT AGENCY OF THE JUNTA DE ANDALUCIA

Avda. Eritaña, 1.

41071 Sevilla.

Telephone (95) 455 05 50.

DOÑANA BIOLOGICAL STATION OF C.S.I.C.

(Council of Scientific Research)

Avda. María Luisa, s/n. Pabellón de Perú.

41071 Sevilla.

Telephone (95) 423 23 40.

INFORMATION AND TOURISM OFFICE - HUELVA

Vázquez López, 5.

Huelva.

Telephone (955) 25 74 03.

INFORMATION AND TOURISM OFFICE - SEVILLA

Avda. de la Constitución, 21.

41004 Sevilla.

Telephones (95) 422 14 04 or 421 81 57.

MUNICIPAL OFFICE OF TOURISM

INFORMATION - MATALASCAÑAS

Sector 4.

21760 Matalascañas (Huelva).

Telephone (955) 43 00 86.

HOW TO SEE DOÑANA

The National Park of Doñana offers various services including conducted tours in Land-Rovers, foot paths and different centres which can be visited.

At present the following services are available:

1. Tours to the interior of the Park

The interior of the Park can only be visited in Land-Rovers owned by «Cooperativa Marismas del Rocío», consisting of 70 km. around the Park.

Tickets must be booked in advance by letter or by ringing the following no. (955) 43 04 32 and included the necessary permit.

Current price is given when you make your reservation. The vehicles leave from the Reception Center «El Acebuche» twice a day, morning and afternoon, and the tour lasts approximately four hours.



2. Centers open to the public

No permission is necessary to visit these Centers and no charge is made.

A) Information Center «La Rocina», located 1 km. from the village of El Rocío, on the main road Almonte-Matalascañas: a) Telephone (955) 40 61 40; b) Information service; c) Projection Hall; d) Foot path «Charco de la Boca».

B) ACEBRON PALACE, located 7 km. along a secondary road from the Rocina Center: a) Guide service; b) Exhibition Room («Man and

Marshes»); c) Foot pat «El Charco del Acebrón».

C) RECEPTION CENTER «EL ACEBUCHE», located 1.5 km. from the main road Almonte-Matalascañas, km. no. 29: a) Telephone (955) 43 04 32; b) Reception and Information Service; c) Projection Hall; d) Exhibition Room; e) Foot Path «Laguna del Acebuche»; f) Coffee shop and souvenirs.

For further information and confirmation of time-table both for the Centers and the trips to the interior of the Park we recommend you to contact us at these telephone nos. (955) 43 04 32 or (955) 40 61 40.

3. Educational Service

There is an educational program, with specialized teachers, available to schools. This program is revised and modified annually, for this reason schools that are interested are requested to apply for information by letter or by telephoning.

LOCATION AND EXTENSION

The National Park of Doñana, one of the biggest and most well known of the nine National Parks in Spain, is located in the SW of the country, extending over Sevilla, Cádiz and Huelva provinces.

