

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910966172003321
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Titolo	Birds of the Strait of Gibraltar // by Clive Finlayson ; illustrated by Ian Willis
Pubbl/distr/stampa	London : , : T. & A.D. Poyser, , 2010
ISBN	9786612986383 9781472596970 1472596978 9781282986381 1282986384 9781408136966 1408136961 9781408136942 1408136945
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (561 p.)
Collana	Poyser monographs
Disciplina	598
Soggetti	Birds - Migration Birds Water birds Gibraltar Mediterranean Sea Strait of Gibraltar
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Cover; Contents; List of Photographs; List of Figures; List of Tables; Preface; 1. Introduction; 2. Migration of soaring birds; 3. Migration of other land birds; 4. Migration and wintering of waterbirds; 5. Migration of seabirds; 6. Terrestrial bird communities; 7. Wetlands; 8. The birds of the Strait-seasonality, distribution and biological importance; Appendix 1: Systematic list of the birds of the Strait of Gibraltar; Appendix 2: Dominant plant species in some habitats of the Strait of Gibraltar; Appendix 3: Mean densities of breeding birds in sites described in Chapter 6 Appendix 4: Methods used in some of the studies described in the

Sommario/riassunto

"The Strait of Gibraltar is famous as a major point of passage for Palaearctic birds migrating between their European breeding grounds and their winter quarters in Africa. Clive Finlayson, a native of the Rock and a trained ornithologist, presents a fascinating account of the region and its resident and transitory bird life. The first chapter of the book describes the area, which broadly defined includes the Coto Donana in the north and the Merja Zerga in the south, and the geographic and climatological characteristics which make it a suitable crossing place. In scope this book goes beyond the strict definition of the Strait and, following Irby's 19th Century work, examines the rich area where Europe meets Africa. The chapters which follow describe in detail the migration patterns of the principal passage species including their origins, destinations and overall numbers, showing how the precise conditions of weather and visibility affect the specific choice of route and timing of the crossing. The breeding and wintering bird communities are then considered and the ornithology of the entire region summarized. Whether or not you have ever witnessed the thousands of raptors, storks and other birds that may make this legendary crossing in a single day, this book will conjure the spirit of this extraordinary place. Delightful illustrations by Ian Willis complete an important and entertaining book. Illustrated by Ian Willis."--
Bloomsbury Publishing.
