

CURRENT STATUS OF SEABIRDS IN CROATIA



ATELIER
ALBATROS



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Croatian "islands" in numbers

- ✓ Approximately **1246 islands** (various sources)
- ✓ Area **3259 km²**
- ✓ **4398 km of coastline** (islands only)
- ✓ Size from **406 km²** down to very small (depending on definition...)
- ✓ Inhabitans only on 66 (with several seasonally)



And the islands are

- ✓ Great majority of islands are karstic, developed on limestone
- ✓ Only several are sandy, sandstone or of volcanic origin
- ✓ Vegetation is various, from bare rocks to allepo pine or holm oak forests
- ✓ All islands were connected to mainland during the last ice age



Species account

Again, depending on definition what is a seabird?

Only breeding species included in this presentation

Large number of wintering or passage species

But numbers relatively small compared to Atlantic part of Europe

Small number of shallow water species (e.g. terns, ducks, waders)



Scopoli's Shearwater

Calonectris diomedea diomedea

14 colonies discovered

1000 – 1500 pairs

Southern Adriatic

Half of the population on one island



Yelkouan Shearwater

Puffinus yelkouan

9 colonies discovered

350-500 pairs

Southern Adriatic

All in mixed colonies with Scopoli's Shearwater



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(Mediterranean) Shag

Phalacrocorax aristotelis desmarestii

2000 pairs

More numerous in Northern and Central Adriatic

Breeding in colonies up to 200 pairs strong or solitary



Yellow-legged Gull

Larus michahellis

Abundant , widespread and increasing species

More than 50 000 pairs

Recently started to breed on the large buildings



Audouin's Gull

Larus audouinii

50 – 70 pairs

Southern Adriatic only

Small groups breeding inside Yellow-legged Gull colonies

Constantly shifting breeding locations



Other species

Common Tern (widespread, less than 100 pairs)

Little Tern (localised, less than 30 pairs)

Eleonora's Falcon (localised, 60-70 pairs)

Peregrine Falcon (widespread, app. 100 pairs)

