Birds of the Maharees

Tacaíonn an Chomhairle Ealaíon leis an tionscadal seo. This project is supported by The Heritage Council.
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Fáilte go dtí leithinis an Mhachaire – mar a bhfuil dumhcha atá beo le bláthanna, oileáin amach ón gcósta agus talamh méith cois cósta. Bíonn cónaí ar an iliomad speiceas éan ar an leithinis i rith an tsamhraidh agus an gheimhridh. Tá an ceantar chomh tábhachtach san d'éanlaithe go bhfuil sé luaite san Eoraip mar Limistéar faoi Chosaint Speisialta Bhá Thrá Lí.

Áit ina mbíonn rath ar éanlaithe i rith na bliana ar fad

Um shamhradh neadaíonn éanlaithe sna dumhcha agus cothaíonn a ngearrcaigh. Neadaíonn an Fhuiseog agus an Riabhóg Mhóna sa mhuiríneach agus neadaíonn scata speiceas lapairí amhail an Fheadóg Chladaigh agus an Roilleach ar na tránna ciúine. Ar na hoileáin amach ón gcósta neadaíonn geabhróga, faoileáin, broighill agus éanlaithe mara eile.

Sa gheimhreadh tagann na céadta éanlaithe anseo ón Artach agus tugann an geimhreadh á mbeathú féin ar an lagtrá. Bí ag faire amach don Luatharán agus don Chuirliún (Crotach) ar an trá agus scuainí Cadhan, Faoileán, Glasán, Lapairí agus Cág Cosdearg á mbeathú féin ar an trá nó ar an bhféar cois farraige.

Bí ag faire amach leis do chomharthaí eile ar fud na leithinse a thugann eolas dúinn ar fhlóra (plandaí) agus fána (éanlaithe agus ainmhithe) agus geolaíocht ár gceantair.

Welcome to the Maharees Peninsula – a place of flower-rich sand dunes, offshore islands and coastal grassland. Many species of birds call the peninsula home in both the summer and winter months. The area is of such importance to birdlife that it is protected within Europe as the Tralee Bay Complex Special Protection Area (SPA).

A place where birds thrive all year

In summer, many nesting birds use the dunes to raise their family. Skylark and Meadow Pipit nest widely in the long marram grass, while several species of wading birds, such as Ringed Plover and Oystercatcher, nest on quiet beaches. Offshore, terns, gulls, cormorants and other seabirds nest on the islands.

In winter, many hundreds of birds journey from the high Arctic to spend the winter feeding on the shore here. Keep an eye out for Sanderling and Curlew on the beaches, and flocks of Brent Geese, gulls, finches, waders and Chough feeding on the sheltered shoreline or on coastal grassland.

Look out for other signs along the peninsula that provide information on the flora (plants), fauna (birds and animals) and geology of our area.

Mapa de leithinis an Mhachaire, ar a dtaispeántar Bá Bhréanainn agus Bá Thrá Lí agus an 'tambaló' is mó in Éirinn, an scrogall talún gainimhe a cheanglaíonn na Machairí le leithinis Chorca Dhuibhne. An chuid sin den leithinis a bhfuil dath dearg uirthi is Limistéar faoi Chaomhnú Speisialta í nó Limistéar Faoi Chosaint Speisialta, is é sin le rá go bhfuil na dumhcha, na hoileáin, na huiscí agus na héanlaithe ar an leithinis ar fad faoi chosaint speisialta.

Map of the Maharees Peninsula, showing Brandon and Tralee Bays, which define Ireland's largest 'tombolo', the narrow, sandy neck connecting the Maharees to the main part of the Dingle Peninsula. The red-shaded areas show the Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and Special Protection Area (SPA) which cover much of the Peninsula, protecting the extensive dune systems and offshore islands and waters.

An Lóma Mór Great Northern Diver

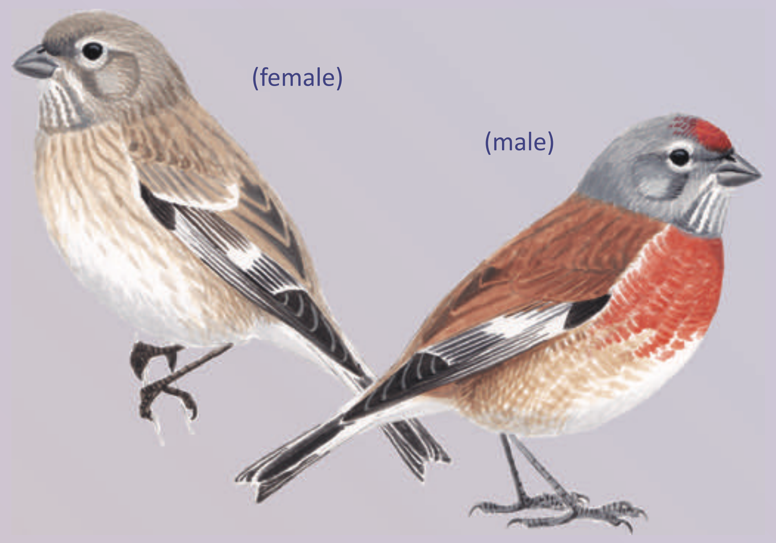
Lóma nó tumadóir mór ar féidir é a fheiscint in uiscí amach ón gcósta go déanach sa bhfómhar agus sa gheimhreadh. Formhór na n-éanlaithe geimhrithe seo neadaíonn siad san Íoslainn agus sa Ghraonlainn.

A large diving bird, seen in offshore waters in late autumn and winter. Most of the wintering birds seen here nest in Iceland and Greenland.

An Roilleach Oystercatcher

Tá an lapaire dubh agus bán seo le feiscint go coitianta i gcaitheamh na bliana ar fad, é á bheathú féin ar thránna gainimhe agus clochacha cois cósta agus uaireanta sna goirt cois cósta.

This noisy black and white wader is common throughout the year, feeding on sandy and rocky coasts, occasionally on coastal fields.



An Ghleoiseach Linnet

Neadaíonn siad ar thalamh féaraigh cois cósta agus itheann síolta fiailí. Bíonn siad le feiscint ina gcéadta i scuainí i rith an gheimhridh.

Breeds on coastal grassland, feeding on wildflower seeds. Can form flocks of more than 100 in winter.

An Faoileán Bán Common Gull

Síolraíonn na sluaite d'fhaoileáin bhána ar Oileáin an Mhachaire amach ón gcósta agus tá siad an-choitianta ar fud an chósta i rith na bliana.

Common Gulls breed on the Maharees Islands and are present along all coastlines throughout the year.

An Fheadóg Chladaigh Ringed Plover

Caitheann an Fheadóg Chladaigh an bhliain ar fad anseo ar dhuirlingí chósta na míntíre agus na n-oileán. Is féidir scuainí de bhreis is 200 díobh a fheiscint cois cósta le linn an gheimhridh.

Present all year, and nests on quiet shingle areas along the coast and on offshore islands. Flocks of over 200 can be seen on sandy coasts in winter.

Geabhróg Artach Arctic Tern

Cuairteoir a thagann go dtí Oileáin an Machaire um shamhradh agus a bhíonn go minic le feiscint ag iascach amuigh ar an bhfarraige. Caitheann siad an geimhreadh san Atlantach Theas.

A summer visitor to the Maharee Islands, often seen fishing offshore. Spends the winter in the South Atlantic.

An Gobadán Cosbhuí Purple Sandpiper

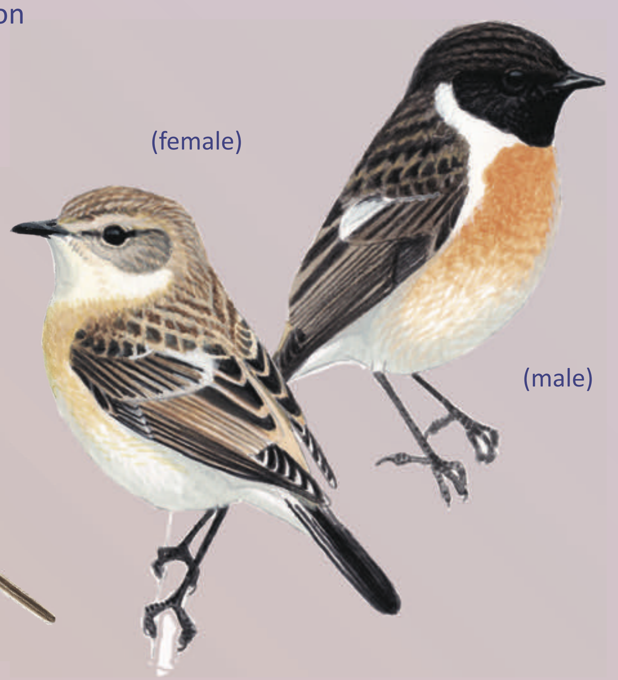
Síolraíonn siad in Artach Cheanada, téann siad ar imirce trasna an Atlantaigh san earrach agus cuireann fúthu ar thránna clochacha na Machairí.

Breeds in Arctic Canada, migrating across the Atlantic each spring and autumn to winter on rocky coasts on the Maharees.

An Riabhóg Mhóna Meadow Pipit

Éanlaithe coitianta iad ar dhumhcha nó ar thalamh féaraigh nó garbh agus deineann siad a neadacha i dtortóga féir. Ní itheann siad ach feithidí.

A common bird of dunes, grassland and rough fields, nesting in small clumps of grass. Feeds exclusively on insects.



An Caislín Cloch Stonechat

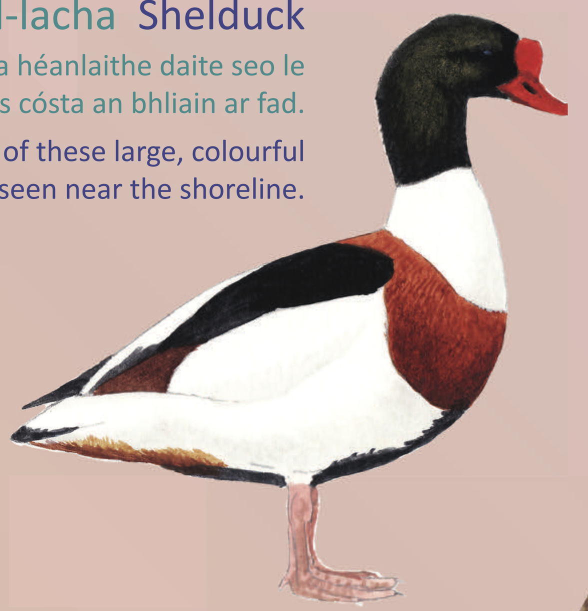
Éinín beag ildaite a itheann feithidí.

A small and brightly coloured bird which feeds on insects.

An Glhasóg Shráide Pied Wagtail

Bíonn a heireaball á shíorluascadh ag an éinín seo agus í go dícheallach á beathú féin ar fheithidí. Anseo an bhliain ar fad.

The constantly wagging tail gives this bird its name, as it busily feeds on insects. Found throughout the area all year.



An tSeil-lacha Shelduck

Bíonn na héanlaithe daite seo le feiscint cois cósta an bhliain ar fad.

Small numbers of these large, colourful ducks can be seen near the shoreline.

Cág Cosdearg Chough

Cineál caróige (crothóg) ar leith é le gob dearg agus cosa dearga air. Itheann sé ciaróga agus feithidí ar thalamh féaraigh cois cósta.

A distinctive member of the crow family with red bill and legs. They specialise on feeding on beetles and insects on coastal grassland.

Cadhan Brent Goose

Caitheann siad an geimhreadh anseo cois cósta agus ar thalamh féaraigh cois cósta. Is in Artach Cheanada a shíolraíonn siad.

A common winter visitor to the coast and coastal grassland. They breed in Arctic Canada.

An Fhuiseog Skylark

Bíonn siad coitianta i ndumhcha agus ar thalamh féaraigh sa samhradh agus iad ag ceiliúradh ar feadh tréimhsí fada go hard os cionn a gcríoch.

Common in sand dunes and grassland areas in summer, when birds sing for prolonged periods, high over their territories.

An Luatharán Sanderling

Is féidir na céadta de na gobadáin seo a fheiscint anseo sa gheimhreadh is iad ag rith thart ar na tonnta ag briseadh ar an trá. Neadaíonn siad in Artach na Rúise agus Cheanada.

Hundreds of these small, busy sandpipers can be seen in winter running just ahead of waves on sandy shorelines. They nest in the Russian and Canadian high Arctic.

An Piardálái Trá Turnstone

Coitianta ar chóstaí charraigeacha, téann siad ar imirce go dtí an tArtach chun neadú.

Common on rocky coasts and migrates to the high Arctic to nest.

An Cuirliún Curlew

Lapadán le gob fada é a chaitheann an geimhreadh anseo cois trá gainimhe agus i ngoirt féir.

A long-billed wading bird which winters here along sandy beaches and grassy fields.