

# WILD LUCANIA

South of Italy  
Potenza - Basilicata - Italy

N° max clients each year  
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Opening period  
All year round

Accommodation  
Affiliated accommodation close to the reserve  
- Agriturismo Zia Elena, Armento (Pz)  
[agriturismodaziaelena.it](http://agriturismodaziaelena.it)

Contacts  
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4  
Photo Hides

50  
Hectares



WILD LUCANIA



# THE RESERVE

*In the Italian  
Wolf's kingdom*

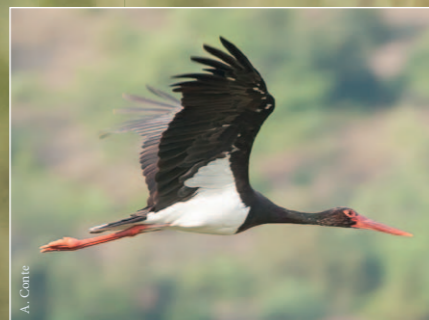
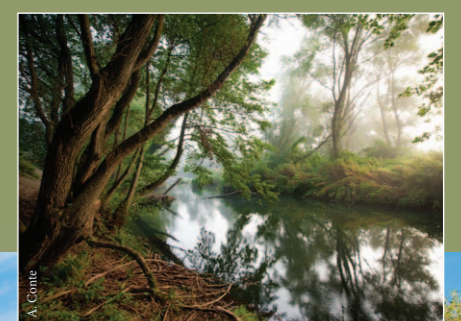
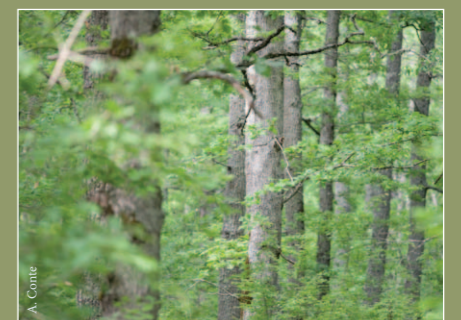
In collaboration with:



The WILD LUCANIA widespread reserve is located in the very heart of Appennino Lucano-Val d'Agri-Lagonegrese National Park, a large protected area situated in Basilicata, whose perimeter includes some of the highest summits of the Lucanian Apennines, delimiting the upper valley of the river Agri. Being close to Pollino and Cilento National Parks, it represents a connection and an area of precious environmental continuity. The reserve is also close to the impressive Murge plateaux of San Lorenzo: spectacular conglomerate pinnacles created by the erosive action of the Agri, river that has shaped the entire hill turning it into a gorge reminiscent of an American canyon. Here Griffon and Egyptian vultures, Peregrine, Black Storks and lots of other interesting rare species nest.

A still uncontaminated land, where to find wild rivers, ideal habitat for Otter, and the Raparo mountains, where Apennine Wolf is present. At only a few kilometres from the reserve lies the evocative landscape of Aliano's "calanchi" (barren, sandy soiled, rocky hills), which can be easily visited. In less than an hour driving it's possible to reach the wonderful town of Matera, European capital of culture 2019, and home to hundreds breeding pairs of Lesser Kestrel; in 40 minutes driving there is the beautiful Ionian seacoast and in an hour the village of Maratea, with its picturesque coastal and mountain landscapes.

The reserve consists of different kinds of habitats; from the holm-oak wood to the mediterranean scrub, from the mountain meadows (with Brachypodium, Bromus, etc.) to shrubs areas (with hawthorn, Spanish broom, European Wild Pear; dog-rose). All these habitats host endemic species and very important populations of Egyptian Vulture, Black Stork, Red Kite, Otter, the endemic Apennine Yellow bellied Toad and Spectacled Salamander. Because of that all the area represents one of the most important locations in southern Italy for biodiversity conservation. In spring mediterranean wild flowers and particularly wild orchids abound here.



# ENDEMISMS & RARITIES



Wild orchids are a particularly threatened group because of their ecological peculiarities that make increasingly difficult for them to find suitable habitats. Inside the park there are about 18 genera and 65 species of wild orchids (100 species for the whole Basilicata are known). Many of them are endemic, such as: *Ophrys argolica* subsp. *pollinensis*, *Ophrys pseudoatrata*, *Ophrys holosericea* subsp. *posidonia*, *Ophrys fusca* subsp. *lucana*, *Epipactis meridionalis*. Orchids tours can be easily organized.

CALENDAR **S O N D J F M A M J J A**



*The best place in southern Italy where to watch wildlife*

In the area of the reserve there are several amphibians and reptiles of great conservation importance, as endemic southern Italy or particularly rare species. These species are the Apennine yellow-bellied toad (*Bombina pachypus*), the Italian stream frog (*Rana italica*), the Spectacled salamander (*Salamandrina terdigitata*), the Four-lined snake (*Elaphe quatuorlineata*), the Italian Aesculapian snake (*Zamenis lineatus*), the Italian crested newt (*Triturus carnifex*)

CALENDAR **S O N D J F M A M J J A**



# PHOTO HIDES

*Here Griffon and Egyptian vultures, Lanner Falcon, Black Storks and lots of other interesting rare species nest.*



Hides have been built using mainly wood and (like all the SKUA Nature's Hides) avoiding toxic or damaging materials or substances, in total respect of the surrounding protected nature. All of them have been designed ad hoc for this location and offer great comfort in every season, thanks to an insulation system made with local natural materials. All the hides have glasses and have been placed in strategic sites, each one in a different kind of habitat (one of them is at an altitude of 950 meters ) in order to guarantee the highest possible number of species. Here there are 3 drinking hides for different species and a partially buried hide for vultures, kites and more.

The local coordinator and photographer is glad to welcome you in this precious southern Italy habitat and show you all the photographic opportunities offered by this wild and evocative land.

INFO [skuanature.com](http://skuanature.com) - [wildphoto@skuanature.com](mailto:wildphoto@skuanature.com)

## NOT ONLY PHOTOGRAPHY

The goal of our project is the continuous monitoring of endangered birds of prey of the southern areas of the Appennino Lucano National Park. A deep knowledge of the habits of Red Kites, Griffon Vultures and Egyptian Vultures is essential to assess their condition and plan new actions in order to protect them.



# PHOTOGRAPHY



The warm and colorful light that it's possible to find in this part of Italy (similar to the kind of light typical of Spain) gives to pictures a magic touch. Close pictures of Red kite landing or vultures fighting or curious red foxes are just some opportunities offered by these hides, as well as natural behaviour scenes of common life of species as, for example: Red and Black Kite, Eurasian Griffon, Egyptian Vulture, Common Buzzard, Marsh Harrier, Short toed Eagle, Raven, Magpie, Hooded Crow, European Stonechat and Whinchat, Red backed and Woodchat Shrike, Blackcap, Blue and Great Tits, Linnet, Subalpine Warbler; Corn and Cirl Bunting, Red Fox ... And Wolf!

CALENDAR **S** **O** **N** **D** **J** **F** **M** **A** **M** **J** **J** **A**

