

Marbella, August 2025

NEWSLETTER





Important information regarding sea conditions and the presence of jellyfish

Please note that the sea conditions are updated daily via the flag system at the start of the lifeguards' workday (11:00 a.m.) and may vary throughout the day depending on sea conditions.

You can check real-time updates on the Marbella Town Hall website and on its official social media channels: <https://meduseo.com/v2/es/ciudad/Marbella-10072>.

Important: If there are jellyfish in the sea, a jellyfish icon will appear next to the corresponding flag. There are days when a large presence of jellyfish is noted, which makes swimming difficult in many areas.

At ProDunas Marbella, we recommend extreme caution. Check the status of the flags before going to the beach. Let's take care of ourselves and our coast responsibly!

Official Denunciation by a Member of the Public concerning the Misuse of the Dune Ecosystems area

ProDunas Marbella would like to present a public denunciation of the unsustainable situation in the Real de Zaragoza dune environment and other protected areas along the Marbella coast.

In recent weeks, we have detected illegal camping, drunks sleeping in hammocks, moving from the beach into the dune system, as well as glassware, cigarette butts, empty alcohol bottles, and assorted trash scattered throughout the natural environment.

We remind you that because of the fire risk, barbecues are strictly forbidden in all areas. We have notified the Local Police to take appropriate action against this antisocial behaviour that endangers the biodiversity, safety, and environmental health of this fragile ecosystem.

The dunes are not a nightlife or party space. They are protected habitats for birds, native flora, and vulnerable species. Every cigarette butt pollutes, every piece of waste disrupts the natural balance, and every act of irresponsibility jeopardizes years of conservation work.

We ask the public to send us photos of any and all irregularities. This way, we will be able to deal with the problem and live up to our environmental commitment. Together, we can protect the natural legacy we are fortunate to have so close at hand.



A beautiful specimen of a young Audouin's Gull (*Ichtyaetus audouinii*)

Our bird expert, Juan Caracuel, took advantage of the holiday morning to take a walk through the Marbella Dunes Ecological Reserve.

He was very lucky to photograph a young Audouin's Gull (*Ichtyaetus audouinii*) at the mouth of the Rio Real—a species considered "vulnerable" by the CNEA and native to the Mediterranean Basin.

Although its population improved significantly in the 1980s, a decline of approximately 5% per year has been observed in recent years. It breeds in scattered islands, and in Ceuta and Melilla.

Audouin's gull is a medium-sized gull characterized by its red bill with a black tip and yellow markings. Its plumage is silvery-gray, with prominent black primaries on its wings, and white markings at the tips. Finally, its dark legs are eye-catching.

It is named in honour of the French naturalist, Jean Victoire Audouin.



EMERGENCY WORK IN OUR DUNE ENVIRONMENTS



Emergency work is currently being carried out in several areas of the Marbella coastline as part of the Comprehensive Sanitation Plan. This covers the beaches and some sections of sensitive areas of the dune ecosystem.

ProDunas Marbella was informed in good time by ACOSOL about the work which was authorized by the Department of Coasts and Natural Environment. It includes the identification and cleaning of wells, as well as marking temporary access routes to let heavy machinery through, always trying to minimize impact on the sub-soil, vegetation and the dune system.

ACOSOL is aware of the impact of its work and is taking immense care, laying heavy-duty rubber mats where heavy machinery must go through. We appreciate that we were involved in all the decisions.

Please let us know of any negative developments you may observe. We will take care to ensure that all this work is carried out with maximum respect for the biodiversity of the coast and that everything is completed by the end of August.

For the past 8 years ProDunas Marbella has been asking for the Integrated Sanitation System Pumping Station in the Real de Zaragoza dune to be relocated by ACOSOL to the northernmost area of the dune. Due to administrative delays, the necessary work only got underway now. The ensuing damage to the dunes ecosystems is a result of this.

PATIENCE WHEN FACED WITH VANDALISM

Thanks to photo reports from responsible members of the public and inspections by Marbella Town Hall staff, the railings that, time and again, irresponsible people insist on breaking "just for the fun of it" can be repaired.

At the "Dunas de Artola" Natural Monument, hardly a week goes by without another report. And in the Marbella Dunes Ecological Reserve, we have the same problem. on.

We can only hope that one day we can say that a railing broke under the ravages of time and not because of vandalism. That will be the moment when we can trust that the beauty and ecological importance of our Natural Heritage truly inspire those who visit it.

Nature gives us health, peace, and happiness, but it also needs respect and commitment from everyone. Every damaged railing not only entails unnecessary public expenditure but also puts the safety of people and the protection of ecosystems at risk.

Caring for the dunes is caring for our future. Hopefully, the day will soon come when collective responsibility triumphs over vandalism.



SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER

