



FC BARCELONA

BIODIVERSITY GUIDE FOR FC BARCELONA AT LES CORTS



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**Blaugrana
Biodiversity**

Blaugrana Biodiversity

I like to see geckos on the walls, just as I like to know that in some corner in the attic there is a den of owls; that the eaves of the roofs are filled with swallow and swift nests. So much company they provide, so many lives! (Joan Sales Uncertain Glory)

There are few places in the world where you can experience football the way you do at the Spotify Camp Nou. Both because of our unique way of doing things and our history, we are More than a Club, and because of the grandeur of the building which, in terms of square metres and volume, is one of the largest in Barcelona. When the stadium is full, the football atmosphere is overwhelming, the expectation, before the players go out onto the pitch, is so great and the excitement, during the game, so intense, that perhaps only a few realise that, at those exact moments, other living beings, which are oblivious to the sporting event but have made the stadium their habitat into which they have adapted perfectly, are on the move. They come and go, they return home. They are bats, swifts, kestrels and starlings. Something similar happens on the edges of the grounds: in the trees that surround the stadium, in the bushes and flowerbeds and on the walls of

the distinguished La Masia, there is life. It is accustomed to the hustle and bustle of match days, but it benefits from the calm that takes hold there after the match is over.

Preserving the biodiversity of the various species ensures the ecosystems stay healthy and this leads to improved well-being, safety and quality of life for humans. As far as the wildlife is concerned, the stadium is a cliff and the surroundings are an open space with trees. As such, the species found there are, on the one hand, those associated with rock habitats and, on the other hand, those that appear in sparse forest environments. In addition, another ecological factor conditions and shapes the list of species found here, and that is the fact that the stadium and its grounds are surrounded by the city. Therefore, these species must be able to coexist with the urban backdrop.

This modest guide collects the observations made during the

prospecting work to draw up the census of species present in the Barça facilities. It provides information on the reproductive status in the city of each species, indicating if they breed in the facilities. Additionally, it provides information on which of them are residents and which are only there temporarily, based on their migratory, summer or wintering status or if, despite being residents of the city, they only use this space as a feeding area. This guide also provides information about the type of nest or shelter they use, the main components of their diets, their size and basic information for the purpose of expanding knowledge about each of them and thus raising awareness on aspects of the Spotify Camp Nou and its natural heritage that are little known.



BIRDS



YELLOW-LEGGED GULL

Esp: Gaviota patiamarilla

Cat: Gavià argentat Sp

Sp: *Larus michaellus*

Status in Barcelona

Nesting

Resident

Legal status

Game species

While previously having stronger links to marine environments, this is a gull that for decades has been perfectly adapted to the city, where it leads a life, one might say, with its back to the sea. The male and female are identical. Their young take four years to acquire the glossy plumage of the adults. Its call is like a forced laugh. It eats all kinds of food: indeed, it is easy to spot it trying to hunt pigeons, either in aerial pursuit or by slowly approaching where the pigeons are eating, walking with its body flattened in a crouch. Gulls also visit landfills and rummage through bins. There are quite a few pairs in the city, around 500 in all. Gulls that nest on accessible terraces or crowded areas can be bothersome, as they fiercely defend their young with flights that can sometimes be very intimidating. They do not breed at the Spotify Camp Nou, but they often come to look for food.



Size

55-67 cm

Diet

Omnivorous

Type of shelter

Nest made of branches on cliffs and building terraces

Months in which it can be seen at the Spotify Camp Nou

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

FERAL PIGEON

Esp: *Paloma bravía*

Cat: *Colom roquer*

Sp: *Columba livia*

Status in Barcelona

Nesting
Resident

Legal status

Game species

The pigeon is the quintessential city bird. The wild variety, the one that breeds on cliffs has grey-toned plumage with marked wing stripes that are black in colour, with a dark grey head and iridescent plumage on the chest and neck. Pigeons in urban areas, which have a domestic origin, in addition to this plumage, show a wide spectrum of colours and patterns. They range from white to black through different intensities of greys and browns. Its song is the gentle chirp that can be heard anywhere in the city, where around 100,000 individuals live.

They take advantage of the endless resources that the city, intentionally or otherwise, provides to them in the form of all sorts of food scraps. They also eat seeds and blades of grass. Between matches on the Spotify Camp Nou grass, it is easy to spot groups of 20 to 40 grazing there. They breed in various spots at the stadium, which for them is like an enormous cliff face.



Size

31-34 cm

Diet

Herbivorous

Type of shelter

Nests made of branches in ledges and holes of building

Months in which it can be seen at the Spotify Camp Nou

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

COMMON WOODPIGEON

Esp: Paloma torcaz

Cat: Tudó

Sp: *Columba palumbus*

Status in Barcelona

Nesting

Resident

Legal status

Game species

The common woodpigeon is a large and robust forest pigeon, identifiable, in addition to its size, by the highly visible white markings on its neck and wings. Like other species, it is adapting to life in cities, where it finds food and safety, and so more and more can be seen here. The male and female are identical. They nest in tree branches, where they can be heard emitting a sad kind of song, an understated cooing. They can be spotted searching for acorns, buds and berries under trees and bushes in the grassy areas of parks; these are their main types of food. Works designed to make the city greener have benefited this species. Two or three pairs nest in the large pines around the Spotify Camp Nou in the Travessera de les Corts area and La Maternitat.



Size

40-42 cm

Diet

Herbivorous

Type of shelter

Nests made in trees using branches and leaf litter

Months in which it can be seen at the Spotify Camp Nou

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

EURASIAN COLLARED DOVE

Esp: Tórtola turca

Cat: Tórtola turca

Sp: *Streptopelia decaocto*

Status in Barcelona

Nesting

Resident

Legal status

Game species



Size

31-33 cm

Diet

Herbivorous

Type of shelter

Nests made in trees using branches and leaf litter

This dove is native to Asia. Throughout the 20th century, it established itself, naturally in vast areas of Western Europe. It was first recorded in Barcelona in 1989 and since then it has spread throughout the city. It nests in trees and bushes, reaching high densities in some parts of the city, while always staying in or near inhabited areas. That is why it is scarce in the wooded area of the Collserola. The male and female are identical. It has a song similar to that of the woodpigeon. Regarding food, it exhibits behaviour similar to that of the common pigeon. There are at least 6 pairs in the trees and bushes around the Spotify Camp Nou.

Months in which it can be seen at the Spotify Camp Nou

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

SWIFT

Es: Vencejo común

Cat: Falciot negre

Sp: *Apus apus*

Status in Barcelona

Nesting
Summer

Legal status

Protected species

Species that always builds its nests in human-made structures. Its morphology prevents it from landing on the ground. In fact, outside of breeding season, swifts are always flying, day and night. They even sleep while flying. The male and female are identical. Both are completely black with a light-coloured throat. They have a very distinct song, a sharp and penetrating screech, that can be heard in cities starting in early spring. It eats insects which it catches in flight. About 10 pairs breed in the stadium at various spots in the façade, in the gaps between concrete slabs, where their nests fit. Once the chicks leave the nest, they become independent from their parents. Swifts migrate to sub-Saharan Africa to spend the winter.



Size

16 cm

Diet

Insectivorous

Type of shelter

Nests made from its saliva and fibres gathered in flight. In holes within buildings

Months in which it can be seen at the Spotify Camp Nou

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

ALPINE SWIFT

Es: Vencejo real

Cat: Ballester

Sp: *Tachymartis melba*

Status in Barcelona

Nesting
Summer

Legal status

Protected species

This species has found new nesting opportunities in cities in recent decades. Previously, it was exclusively found in mountainous areas where it would nest on cliffs. In cities it breeds in tall buildings, mostly inside storm drains. As with the previous species of swift, the alpine swift's morphology prevents it from landing on the ground and outside of breeding season, it remains in the air at all times. Male and female are identical. Both are dark brown, except for the belly and throat, which are white.

They provide remarkable services to the ecosystem by eating a large number of insects that are considered pests, such as the pine processionary moth. At the Spotify Camp Nou, around 20 pairs breed inside the concrete railing at the third stand, mainly in the South Goal area and to a lesser extent in the North Goal area. In addition, this structure is used as a



Size

20-22 cm

Diet

Insectivorous

Type of shelter

Nests made from its saliva and fibres gathered in flight. In holes within buildings

roost by a variable but large number of unmated or non-reproducing individuals. During the autumn it migrates to sub-Saharan Africa, where it spends the winter.

Months in which it can be seen at the Spotify Camp Nou

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

COMMON KESTREL

Es: Cernícalo vulgar

Cat: Xoriguer comú

Sp: *Falco tinnunculus*

Status in Barcelona

Nesting

Resident

Legal status

Protected species

The kestrel is a bird of prey which is highly adapted to the urban environment. It is not uncommon for it to nest on windowsills in occupied flats, exhibiting a striking confidence, which not even the most urban and human-loving birds tend to have. The head and base of the tail are bluish-grey in the male, and brownish tones predominate in the female. They are opportunistic hunters of a wide range of prey, usually of small size, such as insects, mice, lizards and small birds, though they sometimes catch pigeons. At the Spotify Camp Nou, there is one mating pair, but not every year. Sometimes the pair will breed in the surrounding buildings, such as the La Maternitat complex. Nevertheless, they frequently visit the stadium, mainly the side section and the North Goal area.



Size

33-39 cm

Diet

Carnivorous

Type of shelter

Nests on the lower layer of buildings and cliffs in holes or on platforms.

Months in which it can be seen at the Spotify Camp Nou

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

PEREGRINE FALCON

Es: Halcón peregrino

Cat: Falcó pelegrí

Sp: *Falco peregrinus*

Status in Barcelona

Nesting

Resident

Legal status

Protected species

The peregrine falcon is an iconic, powerful-looking, grey-coloured bird, slate grey on top and striped white on the bottom, with a noticeable moustache. They were bred here in Barcelona until the end of the 1970s, when the last pair died out. A reintroduction project brought the species back at the beginning of the 21st century. Currently, 7 pairs are breeding in this city. The male is visibly smaller than the female, but otherwise they are identical. They do not breed at the Spotify Camp Nou. The nearest breeding pair is less than 700 m away, in the School of Industrial Engineers building at the UPC. As such, since the pair is so close, it is easy to spot them flying over the stadium, sometimes at great heights, from where they watch pigeons, doves, parrots or starlings, species that make up the bulk of their diet. The bird catches its prey in dizzying swoops or in chases.



Size

39-50 cm

Diet

Carnivorous

Type of shelter

Nests on the lower layer of platforms of tall buildings and cliffs

Months in which it can be seen at the Spotify Camp Nou

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

MONK PARAKEET

Es: Cotorra argentina

Cat: Cotorreta pitgrisa

Sp: *Myiopsitta monachus*

Status in Barcelona

Nesting

Resident

Legal status

Invasive exotic species

This is an exotic bird from the Americas, listed as invasive. It was first recorded in Barcelona in 1974. Since then it has spread through practically the entire city and many other places in the metropolitan area, its spread growing faster with time as a result of its adaptation to urban environments. The population took root here artificially, as the result of deliberate releases by their owners or chance escapes. Like pigeons, they take advantage of food offered by the public. They cause damage to the trees from which they pluck the sticks to build their large communal nests. The size of the nests can also affect the tree or the structure where they are built. On the grounds of the Spotify Camp Nou, parrot nests can be seen on top of the lighting towers located around the old training ground.



Size

29 cm

Diet

Herbivorous

Type of shelter

Colonies made of sticks in trees or lighting towers

Months in which it can be seen at the Spotify Camp Nou

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

MITRED PARAKEET

Es: *Aratinga mitrada*

Cat: *Aratinga mitrada*

Sp: *Psittacara mitratus*

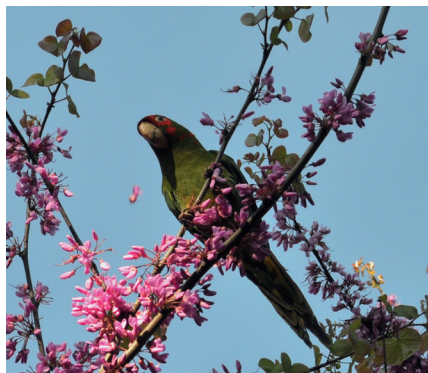
Status in Barcelona

Nesting
Resident

Legal status

Exotic species

This is an exotic bird from the Americas. The first records of it here date from 1991, resulting from individuals that escaped or were deliberately released. In Barcelona, there is evidence of reproduction in only a few locations. It does not seem to have bred in the stadium, but it is relatively common to see a flock of 20-30 individuals fly over the stadium. It almost certainly breeds either in the Les Corts cemetery or somewhere among the buildings in La Maternitat. One of the environmental impacts of this species is that it uses holes to make nests when those spaces could be used by other birds such as kestrels or owls.



Size

34-38 cm

Diet

Herbivorous

Type of shelter

Nests made of branches in holes in trees or buildings

Months in which it can be seen at the Spotify Camp Nou

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

ROSE-RINGED PARAKEET

Es: Cotorra de Kramer

Cat: Cotorra de Kramer

Sp: *Psittacula krameri*

Status in Barcelona

Nesting

Resident

Legal status

Invasive exotic species

Exotic bird from Asia and Africa. It was first recorded here in 1976, resulting from individuals that escaped or that were deliberately released. In Barcelona, there is evidence of reproduction in a handful of locations, most located along the coastal strip and a few nests in the centre of Sarrià. Due to the long journeys they make in search of food, it is not uncommon to see them around the stadium. As is true of the mitred parakeet, one of the environmental impacts of this species is that it occupies holes for nesting that could be used by other birds such as kestrels or owls.



Size

40 cm

Diet

Herbivorous

Type of shelter

Nests made of branches in holes in trees or buildings

Months in which it can be seen at the Spotify Camp Nou

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

COMMON MAGPIE

Es: Urraca

Cat: Garsa

Sp: *Pica pica*

Status in Barcelona

Nesting

Resident

Legal status

Game species

The magpie belongs to the crow family. This species is linked to agricultural areas, and it has learned to take advantage of the resources and protection offered by the city. In Barcelona there are around 700 pairs scattered throughout the city, but they are mostly found in areas with large parks or tree groves. The males are slightly larger and have longer tails than the females. It is an opportunistic and highly intelligent bird, which can eat everything from dead animals, insects, eggs, chicks, fruit, bread, grains and organic waste. On the grounds of the stadium, it breeds in the trees near La Masia, and it makes incursions inside the stadium, where it looks for scraps of food or tries to catch starling or pigeon chicks.



Size

44-48 cm

Diet

Omnivorous

Type of shelter

Large structure made of tree branches

Months in which it can be seen at the Spotify Camp Nou

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

COAL TIT

Esp: Carbonero garrapinos

Cat: Mallerenga petita

Sp: *Periparus ater*

Status in Barcelona

Nesting

Resident

Legal status

Protected species

The coal tit is associated with pine forests. It is highly abundant in the Collserola park and the bordering neighbourhoods with gardens or tree groves that have at least a few pine trees. It is also found on Montjuïc mountain. Its colouring features muted and greyish tones and it is a small bird. The male and female are identical. In the spring and summer it mainly eats insects, such as the caterpillars of the pine processionary moth. In autumn and winter it incorporates pine nuts, acorns and seeds into its diet. On the grounds of the Spotify Camp Nou, it is possible that it might have bred in the pines overlooking the Les Corts cemetery or La Masia.



Size

11,5 cm

Diet

Omnivorous

Type of shelter

Nests made of branches and moss in tree holes and stone walls

Months in which it can be seen at the Spotify Camp Nou

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

COMMON BLUE TIT

Esp: Herrerillo común

Cat: Mallerenga blava

Sp: *Cyanistes caeruleus*

Status in Barcelona

Nesting

Resident

Legal status

Protected species

This is a tit typical of forest environments but that has adapted to life in large gardens and urban parks. As such, it is found practically all over Barcelona, except in the most densely built areas. It has plumage in which bluish tones predominate. The male and female are identical. It feeds on invertebrates, mainly coleoptera (small beetles) and spiders, but supplements its diet with berries and fruits. On the stadium grounds, it is found in the North Goal area, where the largest trees are.



Size

11,5 cm

Diet

Omnivorous

Type of shelter

Nests made of branches and moss in tree holes and stone walls

Months in which it can be seen at the Spotify Camp Nou

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

GREAT TIT

Esp: Carbonero común

Cat: Mallerenga carbonera

Sp: *Parus major*

Status in Barcelona

Nesting

Resident

Legal status

Protected species

Forest bird which is highly adaptable to different environments as long as there are trees. Breeding pairs can be found in trees in the streets of Eixample, so it can be said that the species is distributed throughout the city. Its chest is an intense yellow in the male, while the female is of a more muted colour. The black line that crosses the bird is thicker in the male. Its diet in spring and summer is basically insectivorous, with a special preference for spiders, although it may consume a wide variety of prey. In autumn and winter, like other tits, it basically feeds on fruits and seeds. On the stadium grounds, it reproduces in the poplars that are right in front of the first gates of the North Goal area.



Size

14 cm

Diet

Omnivorous

Type of shelter

Nests made of branches and moss in tree holes and stone walls

Months in which it can be seen at the Spotify Camp Nou

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

BARN SWALLOW

Esp: Golondrina vulgar

Cat: Oreneta comuna

Sp: *Hirundo rustica*

Status in Barcelona

Nesting

Summer

Legal status

Protected species

Barn swallows start arriving from Africa, where they spend the winter, in the middle of March. They nest exclusively in human-made structures, mainly in rural areas. There are hundreds of pairs in Barcelona, many of which are in the centres of the old villages of the Barcelona plain, as a living memory of the rural past and as an example of the faithfulness of the species to its breeding grounds. Normally, they do not form colonies but breed in isolated pairs. Except for the length of the tail, which is longer in males, males and females are the same size. Each phrase of its song, a long and descending warble, ends with a rough and hoarse sustained note. It does not breed on the Spotify Camp Nou grounds, but individuals from nearby nests, located in Sarrià or Les Corts, come to look for food, although sightings are rare. They provide an essential environmental service as they eat mosquitoes and other insects.



Size

19-22 cm

Diet

Insectivorous

Type of shelter

Cup-shaped nests of mud under cover in buildings

Months in which it can be seen at the Spotify Camp Nou

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

CRAG MARTIN

Esp: **Avión roquero**

Cat: **RoqueroI**

Sp: ***Ptyonoprogne rupestris***

Status in Barcelona

Nesting

Resident

Legal status

Protected species

This is a resident species of swallow, which means it can be seen throughout the year, nesting mainly in steep, rocky areas practically throughout Catalonia. The male and female are identical. They have a very simple song, with few vocalisations. Until recently, the crag martin was a species seen in the city mainly in winter, as that is the time of year when most of the Catalan population of the bird moves to cooler areas of the coast, where it finds food more easily. Its diet is mostly insects that it hunts in flight. In 2019, it was sighted breeding for the first time in the city at the Spotify Camp Nou, with at least one nest located in the main grandstand area. It also bred that same year in the Basilica of the Sagrada Família. This species of martin bred again at the stadium in 2020, but there is no evidence that it did so in either 2021 or 2022.



Size

14-15 cm

Diet

Insectivorous

Type of shelter

Cup-shaped nests of mud under cover in cliffs and buildings

Months in which it can be seen at the Spotify Camp Nou

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

ROSE-RINGED PARAKEET

Esp: *Avión común*

Cat: Northern House Martin

Sp: *Delichon urbicum*

Status in Barcelona

Nesting
Summer

Legal status

Protected species

This is the smallest species of swallow. It tends to be more urban than the barn swallow, although in Barcelona it is found mostly in neighbourhoods on the outskirts. It spends the cold months in Africa. To build its nest, it chooses buildings that are not far from waterways or non-concrete open areas where it finds food and especially mud, which is its construction material. It forms colonies that can sometimes include dozens of nests. It eats insects that it hunts in flight. The male and female are identical. They have a very simple song, a short, harsh call reminiscent of the chirping of crickets. It does not breed at the Spotify Camp Nou, although there are remains of two nests at Gate 34 of Goal South. There are two colonies very nearby. One is located in the El Bruc barracks and another, with only a few nests, in the buildings of the Faculty of Economics and Business at the UB.



Size

12,5 cm

Diet

Insectivorous

Type of shelter

Spherical mud nests under eaves and cornices in buildings

Months in which it can be seen at the Spotify Camp Nou

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

SARDINIAN WARBLER

Esp: *Curruca cabecinegra*

Cat: *Tallarol capnegre*

Sp: *Sylvia melanocephala*

Status in Barcelona

Nesting

Resident

Legal status

Protected species

This is a typical Mediterranean species that can be found practically throughout the city, especially in areas where there is some shrub cover, even right in the heart of the Eixample district. Its introduction into Barcelona is relatively recent, since sixty years ago there had been no sightings of this species. The female has a grey head and is a more brownish shade than the male, which is grey with a black head and markedly red eye discs. It eats all kinds of arthropods, such as beetles, bed bugs and spiders, which it complements with berries and fruits. It breeds at the Spotify Camp Nou in the bushy area on the side, near the South Goal area.



Size

13 cm

Diet

Insectivorous

Type of shelter

A cup made from the leaves, stems and branches of a tree or shrub

Months in which it can be seen at the Spotify Camp Nou

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

COMMON FIRECREST

Esp: Reyzeuelo listado

Cat: Bruel

Sp: *Regulus ignicapilla*

Status in Barcelona

Nesting

Resident

Legal status

Protected species

The common firecrest is a woodland species found in all kinds of forests and large parks. It is the smallest bird among Catalan fauna, together with the goldcrest. Its song is very high and sharp. In the city its distribution is similar to that of the common blue tit. The characteristic coloured stripe on the head is orange in the male and yellow in the female. It takes advantage of its light weight to capture aphids, moths and spiders in the highest outer parts of trees, while acrobatically holding on to the thinner branches. It does not breed at the Spotify Camp Nou, but since it does raise its young in the large parks nearby, such as La Maternitat or El Palau de Pedralbes, it is not unusual to see it slip between the branches of the pines and other large trees in the area.



Size

9 cm

Diet

Insectivorous

Type of shelter

A cup made of leaves, stems and feathers on a tree or shrub

Months in which it can be seen at the Spotify Camp Nou

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

COMMON STARLING

Esp: Estornino pinto

Cat: Estornell vulgar

Sp: *Sturnus vulgaris*

Status in Barcelona

Nesting

Resident

Legal status

Game species

A highly adaptive bird, but which shows a preference for open agricultural environments and urban spaces. It spread to Catalonia from France during the last decades of the 20th century. In fact, the first sighting in Barcelona was in 1980. Today, it is found throughout the city. Males and females are very similar. It has a wide-ranging diet of fruits, seeds, bread, insects, and sometimes it even hunts small vertebrates such as lizards. Its song is varied. It imitates other songs, and can even accurately reproduce sounds such as the human voice and the ringing tone of a telephone. In winter, mainly in rural areas, starlings form impressive flocks that, at dusk, with their twists and turns in flight, produce a hypnotic sensation in the viewer. It breeds at the Spotify Camp Nou, mainly in the North Goal area, where there are between 5 and 10 pairs.



Size

21 cm

Diet

Omnivorous

Type of shelter

A cup made from vegetation in holes in buildings or trees

Months in which it can be seen at the Spotify Camp Nou

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

SPOTLESS STARLING

Esp: Estornino negro

Cat: Estornell negre

Sp: *Sturnus unicolor*

Status in Barcelona

Nesting

Resident

Legal status

Non-protected, non-game species

This species, in many aspects, is very similar to the common starling, but is essentially found only in the Iberian Peninsula. It also spread to Catalonia from south of the Ebro river in the last decades of the 20th century. In fact, in Barcelona, where it is found in much lower abundance than the common starling, the first breeding pair was sighted in 1990. The male and female are identical. Unlike the common starling, the spotless starling's colouring is more uniform, without blemishes and with an oil-like black. Despite these differences, they are often confused from afar. In some places, the two species live together and in fact they can hybridise. They have an equally wide-ranging diet. The spotless starling's song, on the other hand, is simpler and it does not seem to be able to imitate sounds. It breeds at the Spotify Camp Nou, at the North Goal, where there are around 5 pairs.



Size

21 cm

Diet

Omnivorous

Type of shelter

A cup made from vegetation in holes in buildings or trees

Months in which it can be seen at the Spotify Camp Nou

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

COMMON BLACKBIRD

Esp: Mirlo común

Cat: Merla

Sp: *Turdus merula*

Status in Barcelona

Nesting

Resident

Legal status

Protected species

Bird with a high capacity for adaptation that allows it to occupy different environments. The common blackbird is distributed throughout the city and can be found nesting both in the trees on the street and in parks, as well as in interior courtyards. The males are black, with an orange beak and eye disc, and the females are dark brown with a slightly mottled chest, similar to the colouration of the juveniles. The male has a fluted and melodic song. It eats earthworms, caterpillars, snails, berries and fruits. At least two pairs breed on the Spotify Camp Nou grounds.



Size

21 cm

Diet

Omnivorous

Type of shelter

Nest cup made of vegetation on bushes and trees

Months in which it can be seen at the Spotify Camp Nou

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

PIED FLYCATCHER

Esp: Papamoscas cerrojillo

Cat: Mastegatatxes

Sp: *Ficedula hypoleuca*

Status in Barcelona

No Nesting

Migrant

Legal status

Protected species

Forest bird that breeds in much of Europe and winters in tropical Africa. In the Iberian Peninsula, its nesting populations have a fragmented distribution. In Catalonia there is no definitive evidence of nesting. However, it is a common migrant, and of which there are abundant sightings in April, May and June when it comes from Africa and in August, September and October, when it goes back. The colours of the male are a combination of white and black (in some specimens dark grey), with a characteristic white patch on the forehead, while the female is white and brownish grey. It eats insects that it hunts in flight, as well as spiders and other invertebrates. In the stadium grounds it is possible to see it during its migration flights.



Size

13 cm

Diet

Insectivorous

Type of shelter

A cup made of vegetation in tree holes

Months in which it can be seen at the Spotify Camp Nou

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

HOUSE SPARROW

Es: Gorrión comú

Cat: Pardal comú

Sp: *Passer domesticus*

Status in Barcelona

Nesting
Resident

Legal status

Non-protected, non-game species

The house sparrow is the most common bird in Catalonia and among the most common in Barcelona, despite the fact that its population in the city has decreased noticeably in recent years. It is strongly linked to human presence. It takes advantage of human activity to find food and nesting sites. In the male, the black flap on the chest stands out, the extent of which appears to be associated with its physical state or its reproductive capacity. The female has duller shades, with an earthy brown colour. Its diet is highly varied and is linked to the environment where it lives. If an individual is urban-dwelling, it will prefer to feed on food scraps, seeds, fruits and some insects. It breeds in the stadium at different points along the façade, in an undetermined number of pairs.



Size

15 cm

Diet

Omnivorous

Type of shelter

Messy structure of branches in holes of buildings or trees

Months in which it can be seen at the Spotify Camp Nou

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

EURASIAN TREE SPARROW

Es: Gorrión molinero

Cat: Pardal xarrec

Sp: *Passer montanus*

Status in Barcelona

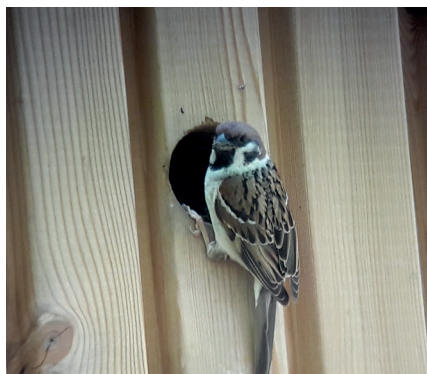
Nesting

Resident

Legal status

Non-protected, non-game species

Bird typical of rural environments, the outskirts of cities and large parks and gardens. There are three main population centres in Barcelona: the gardens and tree groves of Les Corts and Sarrià-Sant Gervasi, Montjuïc and Zona Franca and the Besòs area, which add up to around 110 pairs. Males and females are identical, with their characteristic black spot on the cheek, the crown of the head entirely brown and the white band on the back of the neck. Otherwise they look like the common sparrow. Its diet is not as strongly connected to human activity, since in the spring it is mostly insectivorous and, the rest of the year, it consumes seeds of suburban flora, such as that which grows around the stadium and in the green strip that surrounds the Les Corts cemetery. It breeds at the Spotify Camp Nou at different points along the façade and in La Masia, in an undetermined number of pairs.



Size

14 cm

Diet

Omnivorous

Type of shelter

Nests made of vegetation in holes in buildings or trees

Months in which it can be seen at the Spotify Camp Nou

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

WHITE WAGTAIL

Es: Lavandera blanca

Cat: Cuereta blanca

Sp: *Motacilla alba*

Status in Barcelona

Nesting

Resident

Legal status

Protected species

Species typical of wetlands, streams and ponds, but also, particularly in the northern part of the Iberian peninsula, found in large parks and open urban areas. In Barcelona it is found everywhere except in some sectors of the Eixample, but in the rest of the city it is well established. The male and female are practically identical, except for the lighter nape of the female. It can nest in very diverse and sometimes unexpected places, from ground level up to a certain height, taking advantage of structural holes in buildings, holes in trees, even occupying old nests of other birds. It eats all kinds of invertebrates. It is easy to spot on the stadium grounds, also within the stadium itself on the grass. It almost certainly breeds in the La Masia area.



Size

18 cm

Diet

Insectivorous

Type of shelter

Nests made of vegetation in any type of cavity

33

Months in which it can be seen at the Spotify Camp Nou

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

COMMONA CHAFFINCH

Es: Pinzón vulgar

Cat: Pinsà comú

Sp: *Fringilla coelebs*

Status in Barcelona

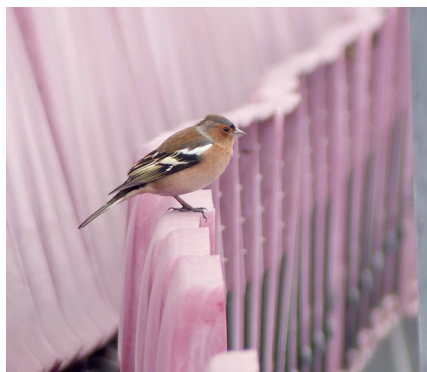
Nesting

Resident

Legal status

Protected species

Bird typically found in forests that, in Barcelona, is limited to the Collserola nature park area. There is no evidence of breeding in the city centre nor in the city's parks or gardens. In winter the population grows with individuals coming from high mountain areas of the Pyrenees and northern Europe and that is the time of year when they can be seen in various parts of the city. Both males and females have a characteristic white shoulder stripe, but they are easily distinguishable: the male's chest and underparts are salmon-coloured and his cap and nape are grey, while the hues of the female are less shiny. This species eats everything from insects to fruits and buds. The male has a varied, powerful and highly musical song. It is possible to see it on the stadium grounds during the winter, from November to March.



Size

15 cm

Diet

Omnivorous

Type of shelter

Cup-shaped nest made of vegetation on tall trees or shrubs

Months in which it can be seen at the Spotify Camp Nou

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

EUROPEAN GREENFINCH

Es: Verderón

Cat: Verdum

Sp: *Chloris chloris*

Status in Barcelona

Nesting

Resident

Legal status

Protected species

This is a squat bird, with a robust beak, that inhabits open wooded spaces such as gardens, orchards, parks and forest edges. Since Barcelona is a city with extensive tree coverage on the street, it is normal for this species to find a favourable environment here and, therefore, to be present practically throughout the city, except in the most densely forested areas. In breeding season the male exhibits a brighter colouration than the female, but they are very similar. It feeds on various seeds, but during the spring it catches insects for its chicks. The greenfinch is a bird species with a beautiful song, which is why it has been captured and caged, a practice currently not allowed. On the stadium grounds the greenfinch has bred in different spots and so it is easy to spot it or hear it sing.



Size

15 cm

Diet

Granivorous

Type of shelter

Cup-shaped nest made of vegetation on tall trees or shrubs

Months in which it can be seen at the Spotify Camp Nou

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

EUROPEAN GOLDFINCH

Es: Jilguero

Cat: Cadenera

Sp: *Carduelis carduelis*

Status in Barcelona

Nesting

Resident

Legal status

Protected species

This bird has an unmistakable appearance and bright colouring. It occupies open agricultural spaces, forest edges, wooded grasslands, and also parks and gardens. In Barcelona, except for areas with a high building density, it can be found everywhere. Males and females are the same at first glance, though in the male the red spot on the face extends slightly beyond the eye. It eat seeds, especially thistle seeds and seeds of other flowering plants. The systematic mowing of spaces where this type of vegetation (considered weeds) grows can cause harm to this species. The goldfinch is a treasured singing species. Its characteristic song consists of varied strains, which may be reminiscent of the sound of a cowbell ringing. It breeds on the stadium grounds and can be seen in the wooded area facing Avinguda Joan XXIII.



Size

14 cm

Diet

Granivorous

Type of shelter

Cup-shaped nest made of vegetation on tall trees or shrubs

Months in which it can be seen at the Spotify Camp Nou

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

EUROPEAN SERIN

Es: Serín verdicillo

Cat: Gafarró

Sp: *Serinus serinus*

Status in Barcelona

Nesting

Resident

Legal status

Protected species

The European serin is a small bird that occupies open wooded spaces where there is also suburban vegetation, which is unfairly termed 'weeds'. It is found everywhere in Barcelona except the most forested parts of the city. The male has a markedly yellow breast, as well as parts of its face, while the female's colouring is more muted. It eats seeds, but during breeding season it may catch invertebrates. It sings like its relatives (goldfinches, warblers and finches), but its song is neither as fine nor as varied. It breeds on the stadium grounds.



Size

11cm

Diet

Granivorous

Type of shelter

Cup-shaped nest made of vegetation on tall trees or shrubs

Months in which it can be seen at the Spotify Camp Nou

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec



MAMMALS

SOPRANO PIPISTRELLE BAT

Esp: Murciélago de Cabrera

Cat: Ratpenat soprano

Sp: *Pipistrellus pygmaeus*

Status in Barcelona

Resident

Legal status

Protected species

This is a small bat that occupies cracks and crevices in buildings, trees or nest boxes. It is common near waterways and wetlands, but it is also very common in cities. It is light brown in colour, with exposed skin that is distinctively light. The soprano pipistrelle forms large breeding colonies. Its diet, based on insects, and its voraciousness, which is confirmed by the large amount of prey that it can capture and ingest each day, makes it an indisputable and necessary ally of crops and the well-being of the public. In Barcelona, it is found more or less everywhere, but especially so in open spaces and large parks. During the cold months it seeks shelters unlike those used in the spring and summer. It is a nocturnal creature, mostly active at night. At the Spotify Camp Nou there are colonies in the main grandstand area.



Size

7-10 cm

Diet

Insectivorous

Type of shelter

Cracks in buildings

Months in which it can be seen at the Spotify Camp Nou

Gen	Feb	Març	Abr	Maig	Juny	Jul	Ago	Set	Oct	Nov	Des



REPTILES

COMMON WALL GECKO

Es: Salamanesca común

Cat: Dragó comú

Sp: *Tarentola mauritanica*

Status in Barcelona

Resident

Legal status

Protected species

Small reptile native to the western Mediterranean, with a marked attraction to humans. In Barcelona it can be found in any place where it finds shelter and food. Common prey includes butterflies, moths, grasshoppers, beetles and spiders, among others. It is largely nocturnal. Its colouring is variable depending on the sun exposure it receives, ranging from very light brown to almost black. If it is threatened by a predator, the gecko can detach its tail to confuse the would-be predator since the tail continues to move. The tail later grows back. In winter, the gecko's activity is greatly reduced or suspended on cold or rainy days. This gecko is found in the stadium.



Size

15 cm

Diet

Insectivorous

Type of shelter

Cracks in walls, under stones, under the bark of trees

Months in which it can be seen at the Spotify Camp Nou

Gen	Feb	Març	Abr	Maig	Juny	Jul	Ago	Set	Oct	Nov	Des

CATALAN WALL LIZARD

Es: Lagartija parda

Cat: Sargantana bruna

Sp: Podarcis liolepis

Status in Barcelona

Resident

Legal status

Protected species



Size

17 cm

Diet

Insectivorous

Type of shelter

Cracks in walls, rocks and tree trunks

Small reptile native to the south of France and the north-eastern quadrant of the Iberian Peninsula. It is found in environments with little vegetation but with an abundance of possible shelters, such as rocks, walls, logs and even human-made elements. In Barcelona it is found in parks and gardens or in buildings with a suitable design that are close to green spaces. It eats all kinds of invertebrates, including butterflies, moths, grasshoppers, beetles and spiders. It is diurnal, active during the day. Its colouration and design are highly variable: in general, its back is brown or greyish and its underside is white, yellow or reddish. In winter, its activity is greatly reduced or suspended on cold or rainy days. It is present on the grounds of La Masia.

Months in which it can be seen at the Spotify Camp Nou

Gen	Feb	Març	Abr	Maig	Juny	Jul	Ago	Set	Oct	Nov	Des

TEXT

Sergi Garcia

PHOTOGRAPHS

Galanthus;
spotless starling, by Camil Albert;
pied flycatcher, by Jordi Jiménez Febre
European serin, By David Robson
feral pigeon, by Jordi Portabella

DESIGN

FC Barcelona i
Galanthus



FC BARCELONA



Paper 100% reciclat d'elevada opacitat.
Tecnologia ColorLok. Lliure de clor.