

Nature Awareness Badge

Benefits and Threats

Objectives

By the end of the badge, Guides will be able to:

- ☐ Explain why nature is important and why we should protect it.
- ☐ List threats to nature across the world.
- ☐ Describe threats to Maltese nature and conservation measures taken.

Patrol Tasks:

Compulsory

- ☐ Visit Foresta 2000
- ☐ Learn about a conservation project in Malta, the threat to nature the project is trying to overcome and how they do that. Invite a representative from a conservation NGO in Malta to deliver a workshop/presentation at your guide center or do group research online.

Choice: Choose 3 options*

- ☐ Learn about how we impact wildlife in our daily lives, in Malta, and what can be done to reduce our effect the environment:
 - ☐ Make a poster highlighting the issues you find and discuss what can be done to help with a representative from a conservation NGO in Malta
- ☐ Learn about what ecosystem services are and why we need them by watching an audio visual presentation
- ☐ Participate in a migration game to learn about the challenges that birds face passing through Malta from Europe to Africa and back.
- ☐ Learn about Foresta 2000 nature reserve, what are the benefits of the site and the threats which it faces.
 - ☐ Take part in a group discussion with a representative from BirdLife Malta about how sites like Foresta 2000 benefit the environment and the challenges faced.
- ☐ Participate in a photography competition with the objective to photograph:
 - ☐ An environmental threat
 - ☐ Contrast between natural and manmade

Individual Tasks*:

- ☐ Give a presentation to your school, friends, or family about Foresta 2000 nature reserve. You could:
 - ☐ Explain about why it is an important protected area and the threats facing it
 - ☐ Show photographs of Foresta 2000 to relate a key message such as no littering or protect nature etc

- Bring your family or friends to Foresta 2000 and give them a guided tour around the reserve
- Learn more about seabirds found on Malta
 - Visit a cliff site at specific times of the year such as Majistral, Rdum tal Madonna or Ta'Cenc at dusk and try to hear sea birds that live in the cliffs. This can be part of a night hike.
 - Take part in a talk or activity about the different species
 - Talk to a seabird expert about the species found on the island and what they do to protect them
 - Take part in a boat trip to see the seabirds in their natural habitat
- Create a nature diary whilst completing the badge.
 - This can include interesting facts, drawings or photographs of what you found at the nature reserve, any activities you took part in and how you felt whilst taking part. Your nature diary can also include any nature that you find in other locations or any ideas you have to make local areas more nature friendly.

***Additional resources online**

To book your visit to Foresta 2000 nature reserve:

Email: education@birdlifemalta.org

Phone: 2134 7645 (ext 503)