

Cape Verde, Land of the Creole

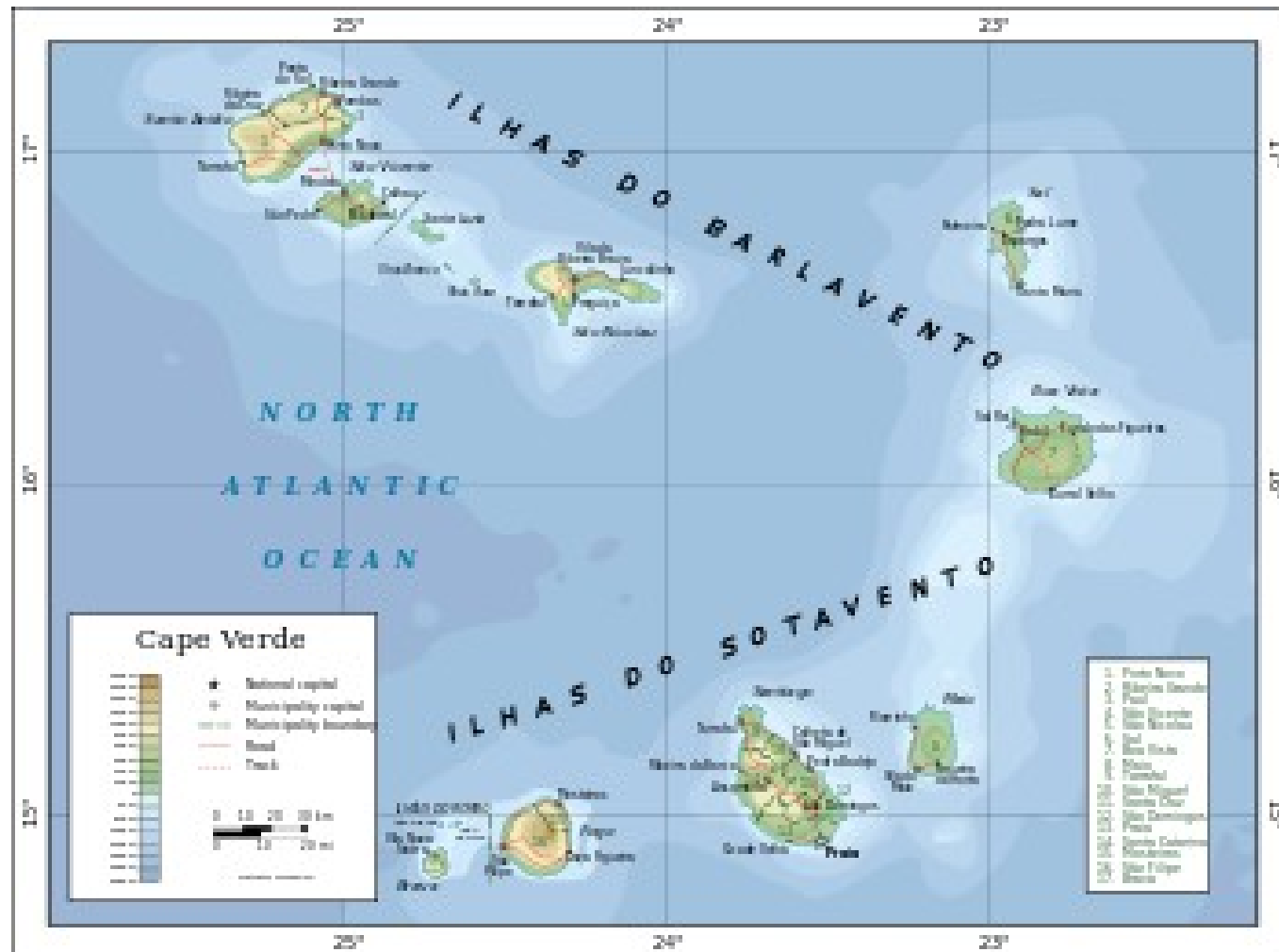
Nick Rossiter

Talk to Hexham Rotary Club
23 March 2015



CAPE VERDE





Cape Verde Overview

- 10 volcanic islands in Atlantic, 15°N-17°N, 400 miles off Senegal on W African coast
- Tropical, moderated by ocean, 23°C(Feb) - 29°C(Sep)
- Spawning ground for hurricanes
- In NE trade winds (Barlavento)
- Semi-desert, intermittent rain August-October
- Currencies: €, CVE (CV Escudo)
- Languages: Portuguese (official), CV Creole
- Population: 525,000

History

- Uninhabited!
- 1456: Discovered by Genoese/Portuguese
 - named after Cap-Vert on Senegal coast
- 1462: Santiago established as Portuguese town
- 16th-18th centuries: prospered through slave trade with its ideal position
- 19th century: decline with that of slave trade
- 1975: Independence from Portugal
- Current: limited natural resources; attempt to build tourism; diaspora; relatively free culture

My visit

- 7/3 – 28/3 (March) 2013
- For exploration, walking, birdwatching
- Visited Barlavento group
- 3 islands
 - Sal
 - São Vicente
 - Santo Antão
- Flew MAN-LIS-SID



Sal

- Name means Salt, still some live pans today
- Santa Maria is popular beach destination
- Some similarity to Fuerteventura (Canary Islands)
 - Massive beaches with surf
 - Flat landscape
 - Strong, steady NE winds
 - All wind/sea sports popular, especially kite-boarding
 - Substantial modern hotels
- Over-developed by 2008, crash in prices











East Atlantic Flyway for Waders



Waders galore

- Sal
 - 17 types
 - 320 birds (many duplicates)
- São Vicente
 - 14 types
 - 256 birds (many duplicates)
- Santo Antão – none
- Overall
 - 20 types of 576 birds (many duplicates)







São Vicente

- Internal flight SID-VXE by SATA
- Mindelo is capital town: 93% of population
 - Large deep natural harbour
 - Cruise liners
- Some similarity to Las Palmas (Gran Canaria, Canary Islands)
 - Business hub, important port
 - Rugged scenery, few wide beaches
 - Straits exposed to brisk NE trade winds
- Less affected by boom and bust than Sal

















FINANCIAMENTO DA UNIÃO EUROPEIA











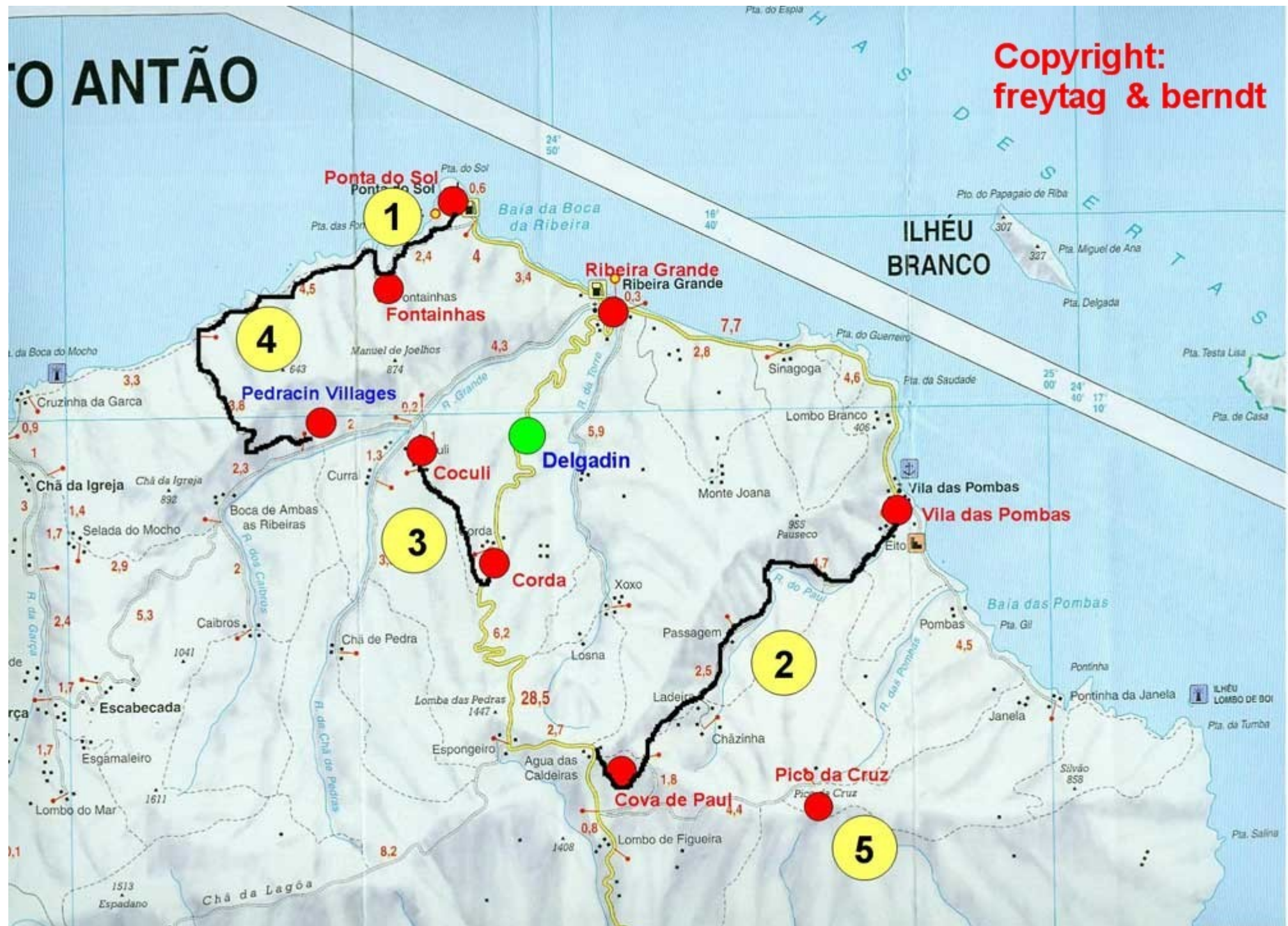
Santo Antão

- Largest island in Barlavento group
- No functioning airport, relying on ferries
- Some similarity to La Palma (Canary Islands)
 - Very rugged with dark volcanic rock
 - Spectacular landscape
 - Strong, steady NE winds
 - Beaches underdeveloped
 - Ecotourism flavour
- Relies on fishing, inventive agriculture and ecotourism



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Raptors – 7 Types (67 birds)

- Sal
 - 3 types
 - 7 birds: Kestrel *alexandri* (4), Osprey (2), Peregrine *madens* (1)
- São Vicente
 - 4 types
 - 26 birds: Kestrel *neglectus* (20), Osprey (3), Black Kite (2), Peregrine *madens* (1)
- Santo Antão
 - 4 types
 - 34 birds: Kestrel *neglectus* (22), Buzzard *bannermani* (5), Egyptian Vulture (4), Osprey (3)





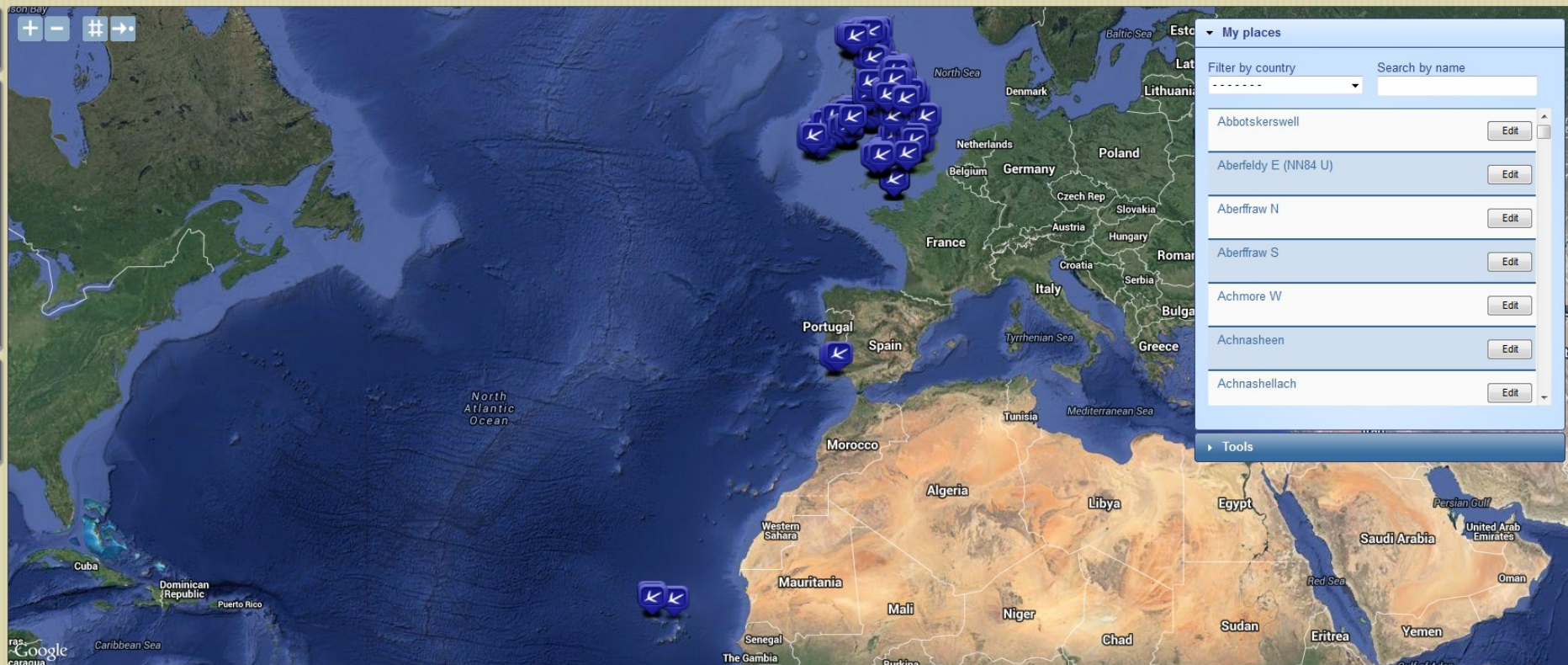
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Tools

| | | | | |
|------------------|-------|-------|--------------------------------------|------------|
| Thu, 28 Mar 2013 | 23:00 | | Hexham Town/Tyne Green (NY96 H) | 1 species |
| Wed, 27 Mar 2013 | 11:50 | 16:00 | Sal Santa Maria | 9 species |
| Tue, 26 Mar 2013 | 12:00 | 16:00 | Sal Santa Maria | 13 species |
| Mon, 25 Mar 2013 | 11:00 | 13:00 | Sao Vicente Monte Verde | 3 species |
| Mon, 25 Mar 2013 | 14:00 | 15:00 | Sao Vicente Mindelo | 2 species |
| Sun, 24 Mar 2013 | 12:05 | 14:05 | Sao Vicente Sao Pedro | 9 species |
| Sun, 24 Mar 2013 | 14:45 | 17:00 | Sao Vicente Mindelo | 5 species |
| Sat, 23 Mar 2013 | 13:00 | 17:00 | Sao Vicente Mindelo | 17 species |
| Fri, 22 Mar 2013 | | | Stocksfield E (NZ06 Q) | 1 species |
| Fri, 22 Mar 2013 | 12:00 | 13:00 | Santo Antao Porto Novo | 2 species |
| Fri, 22 Mar 2013 | 09:00 | 11:00 | Santo Antao Pedracin Village | 1 species |
| Thu, 21 Mar 2013 | 11:15 | 16:45 | Santo Antao Pedracin Village | 10 species |
| Wed, 20 Mar 2013 | 09:45 | 16:30 | Santo Antao Ponta do Sol to Cruzinha | 9 species |
| Tue, 19 Mar 2013 | 10:00 | 15:05 | Santo Antao Paul Valley | 11 species |
| Mon, 18 Mar 2013 | 09:30 | 18:00 | Santo Antao Pedracin Village | 10 species |
| Sun, 17 Mar 2013 | 10:00 | 16:00 | Sao Vicente Mindelo | 6 species |
| Sun, 17 Mar 2013 | | | Sao Vicente - Santo Antao | 2 species |
| Sun, 17 Mar 2013 | 18:30 | 19:30 | Santo Antao Ribeira Grande | 3 species |
| Sun, 17 Mar 2013 | 18:00 | 18:30 | Santo Antao Porto Novo | 1 species |
| Sat, 16 Mar 2013 | 13:00 | 16:30 | Sao Vicente Mindelo | 26 species |
| Fri, 15 Mar 2013 | 11:00 | 16:00 | Sao Vicente Mindelo | 10 species |
| Thu, 14 Mar 2013 | 10:30 | 15:00 | Sao Vicente Mindelo | 23 species |
| Wed, 13 Mar 2013 | 10:00 | 14:00 | Sal Santa Maria | 11 species |
| Wed, 13 Mar 2013 | 15:00 | 16:30 | Sal Espargos | 1 species |
| Tue, 12 Mar 2013 | 11:00 | 15:00 | Sal Santa Maria | 12 species |
| Mon, 11 Mar 2013 | 10:30 | 15:00 | Sal Santa Maria | 6 species |
| Sun, 10 Mar 2013 | 11:00 | 17:30 | Sal Santa Maria | 16 species |
| Sat, 09 Mar 2013 | 10:00 | 14:00 | Sal Santa Maria | 14 species |



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BirdTrack Partners



Add records - step 2 of 2 (View Mode)

Santo Antao Paul Valley, Tue, Mar 19, 2013

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Birds

| Species | Present | Count | Optional |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------|-------------------|
| Cattle Egret (<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 4 | + |
| Little Egret (<i>Egretta garzetta</i>) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 1 | + |
| Common Kestrel (<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 2 | + |
| Osprey (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 1 | + |
| Common Buzzard subspecies - <i>Buteo buteo bannermani</i> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 2 | + |
| Rock Pigeon (<i>Columba livia</i>) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 12 | + |
| Alexander's Swift (<i>Apus alexandri</i>) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 5 | + |
| Brown-necked Raven (<i>Corvus ruficollis</i>) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 10 | + |
| Blackcap (<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 30 | + |
| Spectacled Warbler (<i>Sylvia conspicillata</i>) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 6 | + |
| Iago Sparrow (<i>Passer iagoensis</i>) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 8 | + |

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Creole DNA

- Overall 57% African (West), 43% European (Portuguese)
 - <http://www.asemana.publ.cv/spip.php?article53184>
- Breakdown:
 - Male haplogroup Y (father of father of father of ...) 84% Europe/N Africa, 16% sub Sahara
 - Female mitochondrial (mother of mother of mother of ...) 7% Europe/N Africa, 93% sub Sahara
 - https://www.isfg.org/files/d11ee269e2a628310ac7d560ae567e5249b8b73b.03017709_432317187118.pdf