



PAUL ALISTAIR COLLINS
PHOTOGRAPHY

ABRUZZO ADVENTURE

ITINERARY

The following is a proposed itinerary, subject to animal activity and weather conditions.

Day 1

After meeting in Rome, we will transfer by car for approximately 1½ hours to Pescasseroli, a picturesque village in the heart of Abruzzo National Park.

Our accommodation is ideally located close to open plains and meadows where Apennine Wolves may be seen hunting Red Deer and Wild Boar. Once settled in, we will have a welcome talk covering the park's wildlife, as well as how to conduct ourselves as responsible tourists and photographers in this fragile environment.

We will spend our first evening exploring the surrounding area in search of Apennine Wolves and Marsican Bears, staying out until after sunset to make the most of the evening light and maximise our chances of late-day sightings.

We will then enjoy a hearty dinner together at a traditional restaurant in Pescasseroli, followed by an introduction to the local fauna and an overview of our creative and respectful approach to wildlife photography.

Day 2

We will leave before sunrise to search for Apennine Wolves and Marsican Bears, the two apex predators for which the park is renowned. Our search will take us through the plains, meadows and fruit orchards.

We will use every method at our disposal to maximise our chances, from checking the area before your arrival and keeping up to date with park warden sightings, to using fieldcraft, camera traps, thermal imaging cameras and spotting scopes.

While we wait, we should encounter plenty of other wildlife, including noisy Rock Partridges, rutting Red Deer and groups of Wild Boar.

Around midday, we will return to Pescasseroli for lunch. In the afternoon, we will search for herds of Apennine Chamois, a charismatic species of mountain

<https://www.paulalistaircollins.co.uk/abruzzo-wildlife-photography-tour>



PAUL ALISTAIR COLLINS
PHOTOGRAPHY

antelope. Our search will take us on a beautiful, gentle climb through beech forest and into a valley overlooking scenic Lake Barrea.

Day 3

The morning will be another early start, maximising our chances of encountering Marsican Bears and Apennine Wolves in the best light. We will continue exploring the plains, meadows and surrounding woodland before finishing around midday.

After lunch, either in town or out in the field, we will spend the early afternoon photographing **Red Deer during the rut**, including opportunities to capture them bathing in the crystal-clear Sangro River.

The surrounding oak and beech forests are also home to a variety of birdlife, and we may encounter Dippers, Hoopoes and Wrynecks. We will also keep an eye out for Fire Salamanders.

In the evening, we will split into two smaller groups for a further session searching for Marsican Bears in the meadows.

Dinner in Pescasseroli.

Day 4

Today we will enjoy a slightly more leisurely start, targeting Red Deer and birdlife around Pescasseroli before exploring some of the park's more secluded areas in search of Wolves and Bears.

By this stage, we will have built up a good understanding of the local wildlife and its movements, allowing us to adapt our approach and make the most of potential encounters.

In the higher mountain areas, we will scan the peaks for Griffon Vultures, Golden Eagles and Rock Partridges, while flocks of Alpine Chough may also be seen moving across the mountainsides.

Day 5

We will rise early once again to search for **Apennine Wolves**. We may not have to travel far, as wolves can sometimes be found almost on our doorstep.

At most, we will walk for around 30–60 minutes to reach our lookout point. We know of four separate wolf packs in this area, giving us excellent opportunities to encounter them during the morning.

<https://www.paulalistaircollins.co.uk/abruzzo-wildlife-photography-tour>



PAUL ALISTAIR COLLINS
PHOTOGRAPHY

We will once again use all the fieldcraft and equipment at our disposal to locate and follow the wolves while maintaining a respectful distance and minimising our impact on their behaviour.

Day 6

Our final morning will begin with a sunrise session in search of **Apennine Wolves and Red Deer**, making the most of our last opportunities for wildlife photography in the park.

After the morning session, we will return to collect our luggage before beginning the journey back to Rome for your onward travel home.