

GIBRALTAR'S BARBARY PARTRIDGE

The Barbary Partridge is a very secretive, terrestrial bird.

It is a colourful bird with bright coloured feathers on each side.

They are well camouflaged to protect them from attack.

Barbary Partridges are hard to spot because there are only a few left in Gibraltar.

Does anyone remember this stamp?

This is a picture of a Gibraltar stamp showing a picture of a Barbary Partridge.

We need to take care of our natural environment. It is the home of our wildlife.



Gibraltar's Barbary Partridge (Latin Name: *Alectoris Barbara*)

Gibraltar's Barbary Partridge is thought by many to be Gibraltar's "National Bird". Gibraltar is the only place in the whole of mainland Europe where these birds can be found. Gibraltar is also the only place in Europe where the hunting of these birds is banned.

Barbary Partridges are endangered in Europe and require open areas in order to survive. This habitat is becoming less common in the Upper Rock.

The European Commission Birds Directive is a document which talks about the conservation and protection of all wild species in Europe. It also states that areas of habitat should be protected and named as Special Protected Areas (SPA) to help take care of endangered birds. The Gibraltar Nature Reserve is classified as a Special Protected Area, providing a variety of habitats for the Barbary Partridge. By protecting their home, we can preserve, maintain and even restore the number of Barbary Partridges living in Gibraltar.



ISSUES THREATENING THE BARBARY PARTRIDGE

- * There are a lot of feral cats living in the Gibraltar Nature Reserve. Cats like to hunt and our Barbary Partridges and their chicks are easy prey for these hunters.
- * A lot more illegal chicken coops are appearing in the Upper Rock. These can transmit diseases to our Barbary Partridges and they can even fight over food.
- * There has been a loss in recent years of some of the natural habitat for the Barbary Partridges. This means less space for the birds to move around in and live in.