Tour date:

September 14th, 2015

Name of areas visited:

Southernmost of the northern Islands in the Netherlands. On the island from 09.45 until 16.00 hrs.

Hondsbossche Zeewering: We tried but rain was too bad.

Guide: Robert de Groot

Nederlandse naam

**Aalscholver** Grote zilverreiger

Blauwe reiger

Lepelaar

Knobbelzwaan

Grauwe gans

Bergeend

**Nijlgans** 

Smient

Wilde eend

Krakeend

Wintertaling

**Tafeleend** 

Kuifeend

Eider

Bruine kiekendief

Buizerd

Torenvalk

Fazant

Meerkoet

Scholekster

Kluut

Bontbekplevier

Kleine plevier

Strandplevier

Goudplevier

Kievit

Steenloper

Drieteenstrandloper

Kemphaan

Wulp

Rosse grutto

Tureluur

Groenpootruiter

Watersnip

Kokmeeuw

Stormmeeuw

**English name** 

**Great Cormorant** 

**Great Egret** 

**Grey Heron** 

(Eurasian) Spoonbill

Mute Swan

Greylag Goose

(Common) Shelduck

**Egyptian Goose** 

(Eurasian) Wigeon

Mallard

Gadwall

(Common) Teal

(Common) Pochard

**Tufted Duck** 

(Common) Eider

Marsh Harrier

(Common) Buzzard

(Common) Kestrel

(Common) Pheasant

(Common) Coot

Oystercatcher

Avocet

**Great ringed Plover** 

Little ringed Plover

Kentish Plover

(European) Golden Plover

Northern Lapwing

**Turnstone** 

Sanderling

Ruff

**Eurasian Curlew** 

Bar-tailed Godwit

(Common) Redshank

(Common) Greenshank

(Common) Snipe Black headed Gull

(Common) Gull

Scientific name

Phalacrocorax carbo

Casmerodius albus

Ardea cinerea

Platalea leucorodia

Cygnus olor

Anser anser

Tadorna tadorna

Alopochen aegyptiacus

Anas penelope

Anas platyrhynchos

Anas strepera

Anas crecca

Aythya ferina Aythya fuliqula

Somateria mollissima

Circus aeruainosus

Buteo buteo

Falco tinnunculus

Phasianus colchicus

Fulica atra

Haematopus ostralegus

Recurvirostra avosetta

Charadrius hiaticula

Charadrius dubius

Charadrius alexandrinus

Pluvialis apricaria Vanellus vanellus

Arenaria interpres

Calidris alba

Philomachus pugnax

Numenius arquata

Limosa lapponica

Tringa totanus

Tringa nebularia

Gallinago gallinago

Chroicocephalus ridibun

Larus canus









Zilvermeeuw **Herring Gull** Larus argentatus Greater Black-backed Gull Grote mantelmeeuw Larus marinus Kleine mantelmeeuw Lesser Black-backed Gull Larus fuscus Grote stern Sandwich Tern Sterna sandvicensis Houtduif **Wood Pigeon** Columba palumbus Holenduif Stock Dove Columba oenas **Collared Dove** Turkse tortel Streptopelia decaocto Boerenzwaluw Barn Swallow Hirundo rustica Huiszwaluw House Martin Delichon urbica Graspieper Meadow Pipit Anthus pratensis Witte kwikstaart White Wagtail Motacilla alba Merel Blackbird Turdus merula Zwartkop Blackcap Sylvia atricapilla Fitis Willow Warbler Phylloscopus trochilus (Common) Starling Sturnus vulgaris Spreeuw Ekster Pica pica Magpie (Eurasian)Jackdaw Corvus monedula Kauw Zwarte kraai **Carrion Crow** Corvus corone Huismus **House Sparrow** Passer domesticus Vink Chaffinch Fringilla coelebs Greenfinch Chloris chloris Groenling Putter Goldfinch Carduelis carduelis 59 n 59 (H) = Alleen gehoord / Soorten waargenomen / Species observed Heard only Total

Weather: Reasonable, but cold for this time of the year. Sunny with clouds, as if painted by a Dutch Master. Later on really a lot of precipitation.

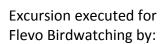
Highlight of the day: Avocet, not one but tens of them.

Despite a blown out tyre we get to the ferry in time. During the crossing we see Black-headed Gulls and Lesser Black-backed Gull. They feast on handouts by schoolkids.

De Petten: This is an area, that as an introduction to Texel's birdlife, does not disappoint. It is high tide at the moment and many birds wait for the foraging areas to become available again. Snipe, Bar-tailed Godwit, Shelduck and Spoonbill. They do have long legs, but too short to wade in deep water. So they wait, and preen and sleep. In between we find Common Redshank, Teal and Ruddy Turnstone.

Mokbaai, formerly an area where flying boats were based. The dunes to the south-west have been added to the island since 1740: Driving on we get to the end of the road, overlooking the mudflats of the Mokbaai. We see a huge group of Curlew, and Golden Plovers. From here we walk towards the viewpoint overlooking the Horsmeertjes, two fresh water lakes. There are Common Pochard on these and in the bushes surrounding the viewpoint we see Chaffinch, a Blackcap and Greenfinch. The wind is guite strong so most small birds prefer shelter we do not see many other songbirds.

We have lunch in Oudeschild, the fishing port of the island. After that we make a move to Ottersaat and Dijkmanshuizen. Two people are in the hide at Dijkmanshuizen, they mention a few birds they









have seen and we manage to see most birds they named as well: Cormorant, Yellow and White Wagtail. Teal and Shoveler, Redshank and more Snipe. A Marsh Harrier passes in the distance.

Wagejot, Lancasterdijk: More Avocets, the Japanese designed version of a shorebird, a few pencil strokes of black and white, depicting that bird. The concrete wall, which houses a colony of Sand Martins (a.k.a. Bank Swallows) is now deserted. We can see where the tunnels have been dug.

De Bol: Nice group of Spoonbills, they rest on the inland side of the dike. On the canal and lake there are Coots. Coffee at Prins Hendrik (Prince Henry, not related to the house of Windsor)

Reddingboothuis area: The Life Boat House itself is just a building, but the area around it can deliver some nice birds. Just before reaching it, a three hundred meter stretch of road runs on the seaward side of the dike. That gives us a chance to watch out over an open stretch of water.

A Sandwich Tern flies past, quickly, as if to have to reach the wintering grounds by the end of the day. The tide is going out now, and some birds are on the now exposed mud, including Sanderling and Bar-tailed Godwit. The weather now turns a bit towards being too wet. So we forfeit on leaving the vehicle. We manage to spot a female Pheasant, hiding in the side of some bushes. Dark clouds appear again.

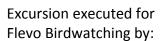
We catch the ferry and instead of returning the same, and quickest, way, we drive past the coast. But the weather turns really bad, at times rain prohibits views of more than 25 meters. A Sharptailed Sandpiper, recently reported from the area near Camperduin stays hidden. The clients do get to see some of the smaller villages on the mainland. A deluge near the Beverwijk tunnel slows us down for some time, but, reaching Amsterdam, it is dry again.





Different areas on Texel











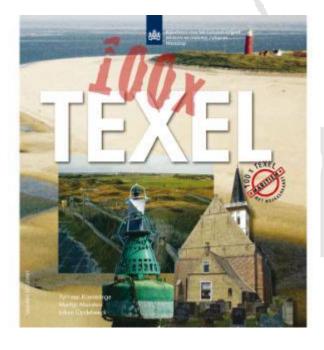
Books on Texel:



Dutch language but well illustrated.

Duinen en Mensen, TEXEL. 2013, Ed. Rolf Roos and Nico van der Wel Uitgeverij Natuurmedia, Amsterdam ISBN 9789080815803

Order via www.duinenenmensen.nl



100x Texel Maritiem, 2011, Manders, Opdebeeck, van Koeveringe

Publ.: Hoorn, Uniepers Uitgevers

ISBN 9789087410254

As an Extra: A weatherproof map (63 x 100 cm), with all the known wrecks near the island.

Order via: info@uniepersuitgevers.nl



