

Birds list for the Monument

Common Name	status	Common Name	status
Greater Flamingo	M	Rock Dove	R
Glossy Ibis	M	Laughing Dove	R
Eurasian Spoonbill	M	Eurasian Collared Dove	M
Striated Heron	R	Namaqua Dove	R
Little Bittern	R?	European Roller	M
Cattle Egret	R	Common Kingfisher	R
Grey Heron	R	Green Bee-eater	R
Purple Heron	M	Blue-cheeked Bee-eater	M
Western Reef Egret	R	European Bee-eater	M
Great Cormorant	MW	Daurian Shrike	MW
Western Osprey	R	Turkestan Shrike	MW
Marsh Harrier	M	Steppe Grey Shrike	M
Common Kestrel	MW	Red-backed Shrike	M
Corncrake	M	Lesser Grey Shrike	M
Spotted Crake	M	Masked Shrike	M
Demoiselle Crane	M	Desert Lark	R
Crab Plover	R	Sand Martin	M
Black-winged Stilt	R	Barn Swallow	M
Spur-winged Lapwing	R	Red-Rumped Swallow	M
Grey Plover	MW	Graceful Prinia	R
Ringed Plover	MW	Clamorous Reed Warbler	R
Kentish Plover	R	Mangrove Reed Warbler	R
Greater Sand Plover	R	Willow Warbler	M
Common Snipe	M	Common Myna	R
Bar-tailed Godwit	M	Bluethroat	M
Whimbrel	MW	Black Scrub Robin	R
Eurasian Curlew	MW	Siberian Redstart	M
Common Sandpiper	R	Northern Wheatear	M
Curlew Sandpiper	MW	Isabelline Wheatear	R
Ruff	M	Spotted Flycatcher	M
Ruddy Turnstone	R	House Sparrow	R
Sooty Gull	R	Ruepell's Weaver	R
Slender-billed Gull	MW	Yellow Wagtail	M
Gull-billed Tern	MW	White Wagtail	M
Caspian Tern	R	Red-throated Pipit	M
Lesser Crested Tern	MS	Tree Pipit	M
Saunders's Tern	S	Tawny Pipit	M
House Crow	R		

R-resident, M-Migrant, P-passage, W-winter, S-summer

Map of Walk



There is adequate parking at the Monument.
Washrooms and toilets are available.



Other guides in this series

- Mangrove Walk
- South Beach
- The Safaa Golf Club

HSE Self Guided Bird Walk Series

King Abdullah Monument & Nature Conservation Area



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Around the King Abdullah Monument

There are several different habitats around the King Abdullah Monument which are productive for birdwatching.

This is part of the 152 hectares which KAUST designated as part of the Ibn Sina Field Research Station and Nature Conservation Area in June, 2017. This area of coastal waters and well established mangroves contains a unique marine ecosystem that KAUST is committed to protect and to promote further understanding of within the community.

There is an area of mangroves where the mangrove specialists may be found. Both Clamorous and Mangrove Reed Warblers are often calling from the bushes but both are easier to hear than see. (see map)

Several heron species are frequently seen, including the fairly common Striated Heron and the diminutive Little Bittern.

A very good area is located by walking back towards KAUST and turning off on a track at the first turning. This leads out to a quiet area where waders gather and a number of birds breed.

Species of wader often gather in the pools and Eurasian Spoonbill and other herons may be found.

Back at the monument, the hedges and trees are often productive during migration periods. Several species of shrike are regularly seen here and a number of skulking birds like thrushes and robins are seen on occasions. The lawns often have pipits and wagtails. Such rarities as Corncrake and Spotted Crake are occasionally glimpsed in the early mornings, but soon return to cover if disturbed.

There is an excellent spot where a variety of fish species can be seen. (see map) Try to get there early, before the waves start to ripple up, making the fish harder to spot.

From here gulls and terns are often observed sitting on the floating buoys off shore.

More water birds may be found on the beach, the harbour wall or in the ditch alongside the mangroves. Ospreys are often found resting on the lamp posts eating a recent catch and Marsh Harriers frequently patrol the area in times of migration.

Common Kingfishers are found in the area most often seen as a blue flash flying directly over the mangroves.



Large groups of Demoiselle Cranes are occasionally spotted flying overhead.

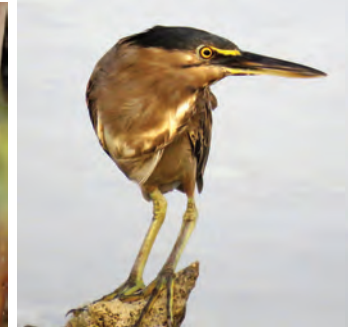
October and February are the most likely months to spot this graceful and critically endangered species. (picture below)

A complete tour of the area would take about 90 minutes allowing time to watch the birds and fish.

Key Birds in the Area



Little Bittern
Ixobrychus stellaris



Striated Heron
Butorides striata



Western Osprey
Pandion haliaetus



Corncrake
Crex crex



Yellow Wagtail
Motacilla flava



Clamorous Reed Warbler
Acrocephalus stentoreus

Marios

