



# SOCIETY OF AVIAN PALEONTOLOGY AND EVOLUTION



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Circular

10<sup>th</sup> International Meeting of the Society of Avian Paleontology and Evolution  
Málaga (Spain), May 25-29, 2020

**Meeting Website:** <https://sape2020.com>

### Organizing committee

Francisco José Serrano (Chair), *Spanish Royal Academy of Sciences*

Paul Palmqvist (Co-Chair), *Universidad de Málaga*

Borja Figueirido, *Universidad de Málaga*

Antonio-Román Muñoz Gallego, *Universidad de Málaga*

Alberto Martín-Serra, *Universidad de Málaga*

Juan Antonio Pérez-Claros, *Universidad de Málaga*

Alejandro Pérez-Ramos, *Universidad de Málaga*

Guillermo Rodríguez Gómez, *Universidad de Málaga*

Sergio Ros-Montoya, *Universidad de Málaga*

M<sup>a</sup> Patrocinio Espigares, *Universidad de Málaga*

Guillermo Navalón, *University of Oxford, UK*

Jesús Marugán-Lobón, *Universidad Autónoma de Madrid*

Fernando Escaso, *Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia (UNED)*

Francisco Ortega, *Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia (UNED)*

### Scientific committee

Alyssa Bell, *Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, USA*

Luis M. Chiappe, *Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, USA*

Anusuya Chinsamy-Turan, *University of Cape Town, South Africa*

Jorge Cubo, *Sorbonne Université, France*

Daniel J. Field, *University of Cambridge, UK*

Michael Habib, *University of Southern California, USA*

Jesús Marugán-Lobón, *Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Spain*

Jingmai O'Connor, *Institute of Vertebrate Paleontology and Paleoanthropology, China*

Marco Pavia, *Museo di Geologia e Paleontologia Torino, Italy*

Adam Smith, *Campbell Geology Museum, USA*

Francisco J. Serrano, *Spanish Royal Academy of Sciences, Spain*

Claudia Tambussi, *Universidad Nacional de Córdoba, Argentina*

Alexander Vargas, *Universidad de Chile, Chile*

Trevor Worthy, *Flinders University, Australia*

Nikita Zelenkov, *Russian Academy of Sciences, Russia*

## **Preliminary Schedule**

Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> – Registration. Evening “ice breaker” in the roof terrace of the Rectorate Building

Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> – Registration. Welcome. Opening Lecture (Prof. Cheng-Ming Chuong, University of Southern California). Scientific Sessions

Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> – Scientific Sessions. Keynote Talk (Prof. Jesús Marugán, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid). Old town guided tour

Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> – Half-day excursion to Natural Reserve “Desembocadura del Guadalhorce” (birdwatching and ringing). Scientific Sessions.

Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> – Scientific Sessions. Poster Session. Auction. Plenary Meeting. Closing Banquet.

Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> – Post-meeting excursion to the trail of “Caminito del Rey” (breathtaking hiking) and natural reserve of “Laguna de Fuente de Piedra” (birdwatching).

## **Registration and conference fees**

The registration form (available in the meeting website) must be filled out and sent to our email ([info@sape2020.com](mailto:info@sape2020.com)).

The conference fee is 150 EURO until April 25<sup>th</sup> (200 EURO afterwards), and it includes: registration fee, welcome pack (including the abstracts volume), ice breaker party, coffee breaks, guided tour in the old town, and half-day ornithological excursion. Pre- and post-meeting trips, and the closing banquet are optional and they are charged separately.

- Closing banquet: 25 EURO

- Pre-meeting trip to Cuenca (2 days/2 nights): 300 EURO per person in double shared room; 400 EURO per person in single room.

- Post-meeting excursion to “Caminito del Rey” and “Fuente de Piedra” (full day): 25 EURO

Total amount must be paid by bank transfer to the account below. Please, include your full name in the transfer concept, and select the option “free of charges for the receiver account”.

Name of account/account holder: FRANCISCO JOSE SERRANO ALARCON

Name of bank: CAJA RURAL DEL SUR

Address of bank: CALLE INGENIERO DE LA TORRE ACOSTA, 7 – 29007  
MALAGA (SPAIN)

IBAN: ES3231870421625263216110

BIC / Swift / Routing number: BCOEESMM187

The receipt of the bank transfer must be sent together with the registration form to our email ([info@sape2020.com](mailto:info@sape2020.com)). Once the payment is verified, registration will be confirmed via email.

## **Deadlines**

Proposals for symposia: March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Pre-meeting Field Trip registration: March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020

Abstract submission: April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Discounted registration: April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Extended manuscripts submission for Proceedings: August, 2020

## **Proceedings**

We are pleased to announce that 10<sup>th</sup> SAPE meeting and the subsequent proceedings will be dedicated to Professor José Luis Sanz, recognizing his outstanding contributions to the paleontology of birds and other dinosaurs.

The proceedings of the meeting will be published in a thematic issue of the journal *Geobios* (Elsevier). Extended manuscripts of the communications presented at the meeting should be submitted shortly after, in August 2020. The peer-review process for this thematic issue will follow the same procedure than *Geobios* uses for standard manuscripts, via the Elsevier-EVISE web site of the journal.

## **Symposia or special sessions**

Proposals for symposia must be sent to [info@sape2020.com](mailto:info@sape2020.com) before March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020. If necessary (depending on how many proposals we get and how many talks are offered for each symposium) a selection will be made by the scientific committee.

## **Scientific communications**

Both oral and poster communications are invited. We encourage presentations on all aspects of Avian Paleontology, Morphology, Paleobiology, Taxonomy, Systematics, Evolution, and theoretical issues.

Abstracts must be sent as Word document to [info@sape2020.com](mailto:info@sape2020.com) before 15<sup>th</sup> April indicating if it will be presented as a Poster or Oral presentation. The document should be formatted for one half A4 page, with 1.0 line spacing, and set in 10 point Arial font. It must include (in this order): title (upper case, bold), authors and affiliations (italics), and the main text. Authors and affiliations must be connected through superscript numbers. Illustrations will not be accepted. References, if any, should be given in brackets in the text, rather than as a list at the end. All abstracts will be single-reviewed by the Scientific Committee. A volume including all abstracts will be available at the beginning of the meeting.

Example:

## THE EFFECT OF LONG-TERM ATMOSPHERIC CHANGES ON THE MACROEVOLUTION OF BIRDS

Francisco J. Serrano<sup>1,2</sup>, Luis M. Chiappe<sup>2</sup>, Paul Palmqvist<sup>3</sup>, Borja Figueirido<sup>3</sup>, John Long<sup>4</sup>, José L. Sanz<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Spanish Royal Academy of Sciences, Madrid, Spain. <sup>2</sup>Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, Los Angeles, USA. <sup>3</sup>Departamento de Ecología y Geología, Universidad de Málaga, Málaga, Spain. <sup>4</sup>School of Biological Sciences, Flinders University, Adelaide, Australia. <sup>5</sup>Unidad de Paleontología, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Madrid, Spain.

Atmospheric conditions are critical for a range of biological functions—locomotion among others—and long-term changes in these conditions have been identified as causal for different macroevolutionary patterns. Here we examine the influence of variations in atmospheric O<sub>2</sub> concentration, temperature, and air density on the power efficiency, as it relates to locomotion, during the evolutionary history of birds. Specifically, our study centers on four key evolutionary events: (1) the body mass reduction of non-avian theropods prior to the rise of birds; (2) the emergence of flapping flight in the earliest birds; (3) the divergence of basal pygostylians; and (4) the diversification of modern birds. Our results suggest that a marked increase in atmospheric O<sub>2</sub> and density during the Middle Jurassic—coeval with a trend in miniaturization—improved the power efficiency of the dinosaurian predecessors of birds. Likewise, an increase in these conditions is hypothesized as having played a major role in the diversification of early pygostylians during the Early Cretaceous. However, our analyses do not identify any significant paleoatmospheric effects on either the emergence of flapping flight or the early cladogenesis of modern birds. Extinct birds flew within the range of atmospheric conditions in which modern birds fly but varying past conditions influenced their flight performance. Our study thus highlights the importance of considering paleoatmospheric conditions when reconstructing the flight efficiency of the forerunners of modern birds [Serrano et al. 2019: *Gondwana Res.*, 65, 86-96].

### Auction

Members are encouraged to bring reprints, books, casts or any other items to be auctioned. The auction benefits SAPE and allows the Society to provide aid for travel to meetings.

### Venue

The meeting will be held at the Rectorate Building of the University of Malaga, a neo-Mudéjar style building located in the heart of the old town. Malaga is the capital of the Costa del Sol and one of the major cities in Spain, with an impressive history and an even more interesting present. Its excellent weather and beaches combined with its impressive heritage and network of world-class museums make Malaga an ideal venue for the 10<sup>th</sup> International Meeting of SAPE.

### How to get to Málaga

Málaga city is the center of an important communications hub, so getting here is easy, whatever the transport you want to use. Additional information to that provided below can be found in the website [www.malagaturismo.com](http://www.malagaturismo.com)

#### Airport

The Málaga-Costa del Sol Airport is one of the most important in Spain and has connections to major cities worldwide. Located just eight miles from the city's Historic Quarter, it is renowned for its modern terminals and extensive shopping areas. Málaga airport receives around 13

million passengers a year, making it the gateway of Andalusia. Currently, more than 60 airlines use its facilities.

Website: <http://www.aena.es/es/aeropuerto-malaga/index.html>

You can arrive from the airport to Málaga downtown using:

*Suburban train:* The airport has an underground station for Cercanías Málaga commuter trains, connecting it with Málaga and providing this way better communications with the city center. The station is located at the arrivals area of Terminal 3. Trains run every 20 minutes between Málaga City and Fuengirola City via Málaga Airport.

(<http://www.aena.es/en/malaga-airport/train.html#1237554421651>)

*Bus:* There is a bus station located underground at the airport. It can be reached from the arrivals level of the transportation hub or from arrivals in terminal 3, which can be accessed from all terminals.

(<http://www.aena.es/en/malaga-airport/city-buses.html#1237554407937>)

*Taxi:* The airport has a well-signposted taxi rank outside the arrivals area of Terminal T3.

(<http://www.aena.es/en/malaga-airport/taxi.html>)

### Railway

Málaga's María Zambrano Station is one of the most important Southern Spain railway communication hubs. In fact, Málaga is connected to Spain's major cities through the Spanish High Speed (AVE) network. Its central location and excellent communications with other forms of transport make Málaga Station an important departure and arrival point when planning a visit to the city.

RENFE (National Railway Service) website: [www.renfe.es](http://www.renfe.es)

### Bus

The bus station operates with companies that have routes to destinations to the cities and villages of Malaga, Andalusia and, at national level, all over Spain. Furthermore, it also operates with companies that serve routes to and from Europe and can even provide tickets and stop offs for the north of Africa.

The bus station is situated in a central location, making transfer to other forms of transport simple and easy. In fact it is right next to the train station, as well as on the airport bus route.

Website: [www.estabus.emtsam.es](http://www.estabus.emtsam.es)

### **Accomodation**

Málaga is a very touristic place, so it accounts with lots of hotels of different categories in the town center, near to the Rectorate Building where the meeting will be held. We have got advantageous rates for meeting attendants in three hotels:

- Hotel Don Curro (3\*) <https://www.hoteldoncurro.com>

This hotel is located in the old-own center, only 5 minutes walking to the Rectorate Building.

Special rates for the meeting attendants:

Double room with breakfast, 92 EURO per night (tax included)

Single room with breakfast, 80 EURO per night (tax included)

To reserve and benefit of special rates, please, contact with [universidadmalaga@viajeseci.es](mailto:universidadmalaga@viajeseci.es) and identified yourselves as SAPE meeting attendants.

- Hotel Don Paco (3\*) <https://www.hotel-donpaco.com>

This hotel is very close to the train station, and 20 minutes walking to the Rectorate Building.

Special rates for the meeting attendants:

Double room with breakfast, 85 EURO per night (tax included)

Single room with breakfast, 65 EURO per night (tax included)

To reserve and benefit of special rates, please, contact with [reservas@hotel-donpaco.com](mailto:reservas@hotel-donpaco.com) and identified yourselves as *SAPE meeting attendants*.

- Hotel Zeus (2\*) <https://www.hotel-zeus.com>

This hotel is close to the train station, and 20 minutes walking to the Rectorate Building.

Special rates for the meeting attendants:

Double room with breakfast, 80 EURO per night (tax included)

Single room with breakfast, 60 EURO per night (tax included)

To reserve and benefit of special rates, please, contact with [reservas@hotel-zeus.com](mailto:reservas@hotel-zeus.com) and identified yourselves as SAPE meeting attendants.

The following list includes some other hotels and hostels in the center, near to the Rectorate Building:

- AC Hotel by Marriott Malaga Palacio (4\*)

<https://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/agpmg-ac-hotel-malaga-palacio/>

- Hotel NH Málaga (4\*)

[https://www.nh-hoteles.es/hotel/nh-malaga?utm\\_campaign=local-gmb&utm\\_medium=organic\\_search&utm\\_source=google\\_gmb](https://www.nh-hoteles.es/hotel/nh-malaga?utm_campaign=local-gmb&utm_medium=organic_search&utm_source=google_gmb)

- Hotel Molina Lario (4\*) <https://www.hotelmolinalario.com>

- Hotel Venecia Málaga (3\*) <https://www.hotelveneciamalaga.com>

- Malaga Hotel Eliseos (3\*) <http://hoteleliseos.es/>

- Hotel Carlos V Málaga (2\*) <http://www.hotel-carlosvmalaga.com>

- Hotel Boutique Teatro Romano (2\*) <http://www.hotelteatroromano.com>

- Oasis Backpackers Hostel Malaga <https://www.oasismalaga.com>

- Alcazaba Premium Hostel Málaga <https://www.alcazabapremiumhostel.com>

- The Lights Hostel <http://www.thelights.es/>

## **Closing banquet**

The conference banquet will take place at Friday 29<sup>th</sup> night, in a charming roof terrace with impressive views over the old town of Málaga.

The cost of the dinner is 25 EURO per person. To attend, please tick the appropriate box in the REGISTRATION FORM and add the quantity to the total amount to be paid by bank transfer. Later inscriptions must be consulted with the organizing committee.

## **Field trips**

### **Pre-meeting Field Trip to Cuenca (May 23-25)**

Two-day trip to the town of Cuenca, located at the mid-east of Spain. Cuenca has a well-preserved old town that was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1996, highlighting its Gothic Cathedral and the Hanged Houses. Looking into the natural landscapes, Cuenca offers astonishing views. The geographical situation of Cuenca, built in the top of a mountain between two gorges made by the Júcar and Huécar rivers, gifts the city with amazing views. Mountains surrounding Cuenca provide fantastic Mesozoic fossil sites, highlighting the Konservat-Lagerstätte from Las Hoyas. The gastronomy is another remarkable attraction of Cuenca, highlighting the world famous “Manchego cheese”. The preliminary schedule for the trip is following:

- Saturday 23<sup>th</sup> – Train from Málaga to Cuenca (approximately 3 hours). Visit to the Paleontological Museum. Old town guided tour. Dinner at restaurant of local food.
- Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> – Visit to the Early Cretaceous fossil site of Las Hoyas. Other activities to be determined.
- Monday 25<sup>th</sup> – Train from Cuenca to Málaga (approximately 3 hours)

Costs of this trip are 300 EURO per person (in a double room), or 400 EURO per person (in an individual room). This includes train tickets, room for two nights in 4-star hotel with breakfast, museum tickets, old town tour, and bus transport for excursions.

To participate in this activity, please tick the appropriate box in the REGISTRATION FORM and add the quantity to the total amount to be paid by bank transfer. Send the registration form and the copy of the bank transfer to [info@sape2020.com](mailto:info@sape2020.com)

This trip is limited for a group of 30 people, so the participation will be established in order of registration. We will inform in the section of the pre-meeting trip of the website about the status (registration open or closed). If 30 attendants are reached before the deadline expires (March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020), registration will be closed. Please, check the status in the website ([www.sape2020.com/pre-meeting/](http://www.sape2020.com/pre-meeting/)) before your registration and payment.

### **Mid-meeting Excursion (May 28<sup>th</sup>)**

Early in the morning we will take a short route by bus to the Natural Reserve “Desembocadura del Guadalhorce”. This place is the estuary area of the river Guadalhorce that ends in the Mediterranean Sea. There, we will enjoy watching birds that are typical of lacustrine and sea environments (waders, ducks, rails, ospreys, spoonbills, gannets, gulls, terns, and more). We will also enjoy ringing birds trapped in nets, mainly small passerines.

This half-day excursion (4-5 hours) is free and includes a pack lunch for each attendant. To participate in this activity, please tick the appropriate box in the REGISTRATION FORM. Later inscriptions must be consulted with the organizing committee.

#### **Post-meeting Excursion (May 30<sup>th</sup>)**

In the morning we will take a 1-hour-route by bus to get to the entry of “El Caminito del Rey”. This is a breathtaking hike pathway that passes through a canyon (Gorge “Desfiladero de los Gaitanes”) carved by the Guadalhorce river, which at some points is only 10 meters wide and 700 meters deep. This spectacular route is almost 8 km long, and takes 3-4 hours to be crossed. Griffon vultures are easily watched during the hike. More information can be consulted in the web <http://www.caminitodelrey.info/>

Once the route is finished we will take the bus to go for lunch at a restaurant with Andalusian food. After lunch, we will get the natural reserve of “Laguna de Fuente de Piedra” (1 hour by bus). This saline lagoon is home of one of the largest colony of flamingoes to be found in Europe. We will enjoy of flamingoes and other inland lacustrine birds through a guided visit around this lagoon. After the route, we will enjoy of a tasting of local food in the visitors center. Finally, we will come back to the town center of Málaga.

The cost of this excursion is 25 EURO per person and includes bus transport, tickets for “El Caminito del Rey”, lunch at restaurant, guided visit to “Laguna de Fuente de Piedra”, and tasting of local food. To participate in this activity, please tick the appropriate box in the REGISTRATION FORM and add the quantity to the total amount to be paid by bank transfer. Later inscriptions must be consulted with the organizing committee.

**Further information will be provided in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Circular at April-May 2020.**

**Looking forward to see all of you in the meeting.**

**Sincerely,**

Francisco J. Serrano,

*Chair of the Organizing Committee of SAPE 2020*

*Juan de la Cierva Postdoctoral Researcher, Spanish Royal Academy of Sciences, Madrid (Spain)*

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