

Champions of the Flyway 2017– Event Lineup

The Champions of the Flyway project is back and we are proud to continue waving the flag of bird conservation along the Flyways. Following a great campaign in 2016 in which we raised over \$80,000 for projects tackling the illegal killing and trapping of birds in Greece, we are happy to team up with **Doğa Derneği** (Birdlife Turkey) to try and tackle some of the burning issues on the ground in Turkey.

Following a successful fundraising campaign we will once again assemble in Eilat in late March 2017 to race for the Champions of the Flyway crown. The race itself will take place on **Tuesday March 28th 2017** and the awards ceremony will take place the following morning. We are excited to welcome many new teams and followers and are grateful for the continuing (and growing) support of our sponsors.

The Champions of the Flyway lineup of events has become one of the key factors for publicity and awareness for the project. The power of many like-minded people coming together at the heart of the Flyway is immense and carries a very long way.

Below is the lineup of events for the 2017 COTF race. Teams registering for the race are expected to be present at these events to ensure the success and volume of the project.

23-24th March 2017 – Arrival of teams to Eilat. All teams (or most team members) must aim to be in Eilat no later than March 24th.

24 March 2017 – Team scouting begins. (Optional) joint scouting with the SPNI birders and the Eilat festival groups. Teams may choose to do their own scouting as well.

25 March 2017 – 19:00 – "COTF meets Artists for Nature" event. In this special COTF opening event we will host the artists for nature foundation artists and enjoy an exhibition of sketches from the Artists for Nature trip. The event will include several speakers, a logistical briefing towards the race and more.
Sponsored by LEICA.

26 March 2017 – 20:00 – COTF opening dinner at the Eilat Birdwatching Park – Hosted by ZEISS

28 March 2017 - 00:01: Race begins

19:00: Finish line opens.

23:59: Finish line closes, all teams must submit their checklists by this time!

29 March 2017

10:00: 2016 COTF awards ceremony and closing event at the HILTON Hotel.
Sponsored by Swarovski Optik