**The Ebre (Ebro) river is the largest river of Spain.
Its waters come from the Cordillera Cantabria, the Pyrenees and Iberian water system.**

**The river tears off throughout its course, materials which are deposited as sediments during his meeting with the Mediterranean sea.
They form a delta that currently has the shape of an arrow piercing 22 km into the sea**

**This is one of the largest wetlands in Europe, just after the Camargue (France) and Doñana National Park (southern Spain).
It is named "Parque Natural" since 1983.**

**The presence of numerous dams (hydro power, irrigation) on the river has for consequence that the coast moves back since 50 years and that the water salinity increases ...
Until the late nineteenth century there was a regular practice of hunting, fishing, reed harvesting and exploitation of salt marshes.
Currently, the exploitation of rice covers 20 000 ha and is the main resource of this area.**

**From April to September, the harvest period of rice, soft water flows from the river to the land through a network of canals.
In December, doors are totaly closed, and in March, the fields completely dry by winter evaporation and can then be worked and planted..
Paradox: the salinity is higher in winter than in summer ...**

Many species of birds live there at certain times of their life. It is interesting to note that some species have changed their nesting to take advantage of the shelter offered by mature rice.

The local gastronomy is interesting ... (eel, alevins, ducks and other specialty having rice as staple diet ...).

**I made some pictures late September; my friend Nathalie (Glimmerswild) has identified:
Heron
Little Egret,
Flamingo
Cattle Egret.
Black-winged Stilt.
Good viewing.**