

ORNITHOLIDAYS' TOUR TO PORTUGAL AT LEISURE
Hills, Plains & Lagoons in Autumn

16 – 23 September 2012



Leader: Frank McClintock

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A Personal Diary

Sunday 16th September 2012

Sheila came in over an hour late but everyone else arrived more or less on time, so once Sheila had arrived I quickly briefed everyone and we moved off sharply to the hide at San Lourenço Golf Course.

On the way we saw really close Azure-winged Magpies and noted that they were very uncommonly confiding in the false habitat of the millionaire's estate of Quinta do Lago - normally they are very shy. While watching these we also saw a Eurasian Hoopoe searching in its jerky gait for insects on the cut lawns in front of one of the sumptuous empty villas.



Arriving at our little parking place near the hide we parked the van, narrowly missing a Chameleon crossing the road. I ushered it across the track, explaining to the whole group how rare these animals were – despite my many years in the field my sightings had still to reach into double figures - and how lucky they'd been to see it. Once it was safely in the undergrowth the other side of the track, we took a few photos and started to walk on to the hide itself.

It was hot and sunny, and we aimed to have our picnic in the shady hide while waiting for interesting stuff to turn up, but the picnic bag was wickedly heavy.

While Margaret helped with the picnic, the rest of the group saw quite a few different species including the only Grey Plover, Eurasian Curlew and Whiskered Tern we would see during the week, and, notwithstanding my assurance less than five minutes earlier, Ann and Alan found a further two Chameleons ... so much for the guide then!



Once everyone had arrived at the hide we soon saw a Little Bittern and Little Egret and had wonderful views of a Common Kingfisher, which was fishing from a stand of reeds right in front of us. Azure-winged Magpies flew past, a Glossy Ibis made a fleeting appearance and there were also Little and Great Crested Grebes, a lone Eurasian Wigeon, hundreds of Eurasian Coot and Lesser Black-backed Gulls and a few Common Moorhens. We had beautiful views of a Purple Swamphen and also several sightings of Black-headed Weavers, an escaped cage-bird that

is now established in the area and expanding rapidly.

We stayed there for an hour before heading back to the car, (with, thankfully, a lighter picnic basket), and headed along the coast to Salgados, a very threatened coastal lagoon 20 minutes further west.

Here we saw Greater Flamingo, Eurasian Spoonbill, Northern Shoveler, a Eurasian Teal, some Common Pochard, Mallard and Gadwall, Pied Avocet, Black-winged Stilt, Little Ringed, Ringed and Kentish Plovers, a few Ruddy Turnstones and Sanderlings in amongst a flock of Dunlin, a couple of Common Sandpipers, a Common Redshank with a few Black-tailed Godwit, about six



Black Terns that flew up and down in front of us picking insects off the top of the water and, last but not least, a Ruff that walked nonchalantly backwards and forwards barely 4m away along the edge of the lagoon.

We'd been there twenty minutes or so when a fellow birding friend of mine, João Ministro, turned up



alongside us with the suggestion that we kept our eyes skinned for some Audouin's Gulls that had been seen a few days earlier; no sooner suggested than seen, with a beautiful example in amongst the Lesser Black-backed Gulls and Greater Flamingos right in front of us.

It had been a long day for most, so once we'd had a good look, we left for our base for the coming week, Quinta do Barranco da Estrada, to be met by Daniela, my wife, who was to wow us with her culinary skills for the next seven nights.

Monday 17th September 2012

Today was a "Rest Day" of sorts, but we started before dawn with a slow walk through the Corte Brique Valley before breakfast. Unfortunately the day, although warm, started overcast, with a light mist that obscured visibility, but in Portugal most action takes place early on before the sun gets too warm, and there was still enough activity to keep us occupied. We headed north to start with and it wasn't long before we heard a small flock of Common Waxbills in amongst a sunflower crop, and while we stopped to get a good view a Eurasian Hoopoe started preening itself in a small quince tree behind.

Carrying on along the bottom of the valley, a Grey Heron flew overhead towards the lake and Eurasian Collared Doves played "Chicken" with a Black-winged Kite in a tall, dead, bare poplar standing beside the stream. The Black-winged Kite was far more interested in the hundreds of Corn Buntings, Common Linnets, sparrows and Crested Larks that were busily searching the fields on either side of the track along which we were walking, and we had fun watching him leave his perch and hunt several times before he left for good.

The sun was now streaming into the valley and the temperature was rising so we turned east and south to make the most of the shade and light. With the sun against us in the meantime we stumbled upon a Little Owl that was quite unperturbed by our 10m proximity and watched us with haughty disdain from a track-side post.

There were some small patches of bramble and scrub lying below us now and Sardinian, Subalpine and Dartford Warblers chattered away amongst them while a male Common Stonechat kept watch from a branch waving above, with his mate seen in the field below. She drew our attention to the first of many Whinchats we were to see throughout the week as a massive fall of this species along with, Northern Wheatears and Spotted and Pied Flycatchers, swept through the region on migration.

Walking on past a small cork wood, we were lucky enough to see both Eurasian Nuthatch and Short-toed Treecreeper when we stopped to watch a small mixed flock of tits; we saw both Blue and Great but only heard a family flock of Long-tailed Tits working their way through the upper storey of the trees.



A lone Southern Iberian Shrike watched from its prominent perch as we came out of the trees again alongside a field of stubble, while a mixed flock of Common Chaffinches and European Goldfinches scoured the field for seeds some distance away and a Zitting Cisticola sang its repetitive call overhead.

Crossing the stream again on the way back to the van, the brownest of all LBJs, a Garden Warbler, gave us stunning views in a small cork tree and it was a hungry but fulfilled group that finally got back to the Quinta for a late breakfast at 10.00.

The rest of the day was spent relaxing in the Quinta's grounds, getting to know the way around, eating delicious food and preparing for the big following day when we were going to visit the plains of the Alentejo lying just to the north east of us.

Tuesday 18th September 2012

It was an early start for the day on the plains and we left the Quinta at 05.30 having had a full breakfast. Leaving on time meant arriving on time in Castro Verde for a quick coffee stop prior to getting to the best place to start just as the sun was beginning to break the horizon.

The right place was a low hill in the middle of a seemingly empty plain of grassland, but being in the right place didn't mean that we'd see what we were looking for, Great Bustards, and we spent several minutes anxiously scanning the surrounding open countryside. Flocks of Cattle Egrets flew overhead from their roosting sites but of Great Bustards there was no sign no matter how hard we looked and we were preparing to get back into the van and try somewhere else when Ann said "Oh, look, there they are", and sure enough there were four of them in one of the fields below us about 500m away. So well camouflaged were they that they'd escaped detection for 10 minutes from all seven of us. We'd have to do better than that!

But our luck and skill changed soon afterwards with great views being had by all of some Calandra Larks and Red-legged Partridge.



Following on from these we quickly came across an exaltation of Stone Curlews, about 10 of them lying low on the outskirts of a small farm, and then some more Great Bustards followed by a flock of 25 much harder birds to come across, Black-bellied Sandgrouse. There was a lot of activity going on all around us, Corn Buntings and Northern Wheatears seemingly on every post and tussock, so having watched it all for quite a time we had a welcome stop in a café in the nearby village.

After a coffee we carried on eastwards across the open rolling grasslands towards a scattered forest of Holm Oaks in the distance, and quickly came across the first of several Tawny Pipits that we were to see during the day. At this time of year out here on the plains, camouflage is absolutely essential as there are so many raptors around on the watch for the unwary and most LBJs had an eye constantly trained on the heavens and any other danger spots.



We

continued through the wood, seeing a Little Owl on the way, and eventually reached the Pulo do Lobo, a bottleneck of the great Guadiana, where the whole river is constricted through the throat of a two metre wide waterfall. Apart from the stunning scenery, this is also a good place for several different species of bird uncommon in the area, notably Blue Rock Thrush and Rock Bunting, but this time we were unlucky with only a fleeting glance of Rock Bunting and no Blue Rock Thrush that we could see at all. On the other hand we had lovely views of Eurasian Crag Martins as they scooped insects out of the air beside our heads in between clinging to the precipitous rocks around us as we enjoyed one of Daniela's filling picnics under the shade of a small ash tree.

Filled but chastened with the thought that we'd dipped on the Blue Rock Thrush, we got back in the van and climbed up out of the valley again into the bright sun. It was becoming uncomfortably hot and we all benefited from 20 minutes rest in the car with the air-con blasting away as we followed a kettle of Eurasian Griffon Vultures as they boiled lazily westwards on the thermals, while Montagu's Harriers drifted across the grasslands on both sides of us. We'd seen several buzzards during the morning and this continued in the afternoon, but just before finally starting to head home again, there was one pair that, though very far off, didn't look quite right, so I took a couple of quick shots; just as well, as, upon blowing up the shot on the computer back at the Quinta, they turned out to be a pair of Bonelli's Eagles, one a juvenile mobbing a second year immature with food in his gizzard.



However, this was a discovery yet to come and we came back to the tarmac road still feeling slightly short-changed by missing out on the Blue Rock Thrush. We shouldn't have been so worried as, out of the blue, a female hopped off the road as we whizzed past. A three-point turn saw us trying to get a better view, but with no joy for despite a thorough search of the surrounding rock and wood piles in a nearby builder's yard, we never saw it again.

We reached the Quinta, tired, hot but pleased with a truly memorable day's birding, at 16.00, just in time for a good cuppa and relax before dinner.

Wednesday 19th September 2012

We had another early start today, but a much more civilised one, which saw us leaving the Quinta at 06.30 to climb the mountains to the south all the way up to Foia. This is the highest spot in southern Portugal at 900m and attracts species hard to find anywhere else. This time was no exception.



Stepping out of the van we were, literally, assailed – there's no other word for it – by a cloud of Northern Wheatears and Woodlarks, and, in amongst them we were lucky enough to find quite a number, at least seven, Rufous-tailed Rock Thrushes. There was a Common Kestrel sitting serenely catching the morning sun high up on one of the parabolic dishes and a Rock Bunting gave us excellent views sitting quietly in a bramble bush beside the car.

We walked down a small road bordered by scrub cistus, rhododendron, heather and bramble with a few scattered trees in amongst which there was a noisy gathering of Ring Ouzels, just arrived from



migration and squabbling over the first berries of the autumn, and we also spent some time comparing the differences between female Sardinian Warblers and Common Whitethroats both of which showed well in the early morning light, as also did a Dartford Warbler and a lone

European Turtle Dove that bobbed and jinked up a valley below us.



Leaving Foia behind, we dropped down towards the west coast through Aljezur, stopping for a snack and a coffee as we came down off the hills. Turning south along the coast road we travelled down to Carapateira and had an early picnic lunch on the cliffs. It was warming up considerably by this time, about 30° or so, but was incredibly windy on this exposed part of coast and some of us were having difficulty keeping ourselves from being swept off the edge, so we didn't stay long, but while we were there we saw Northern Gannets migrating south along the shore with a few Manx Shearwaters in amongst them, and a pair of Audouin's Gulls flew overhead heading north.

Continuing south to Vila do Bispo, (noticing both Spotted and Pied Flycatchers along the way), we got off the tarmac road again and approached the Beliche Plain from the north.

We quickly came across a large scattered flock of Red-billed Chough feeding in the fields on both sides of us, while Corn Buntings, Crested Larks, Zitting Cisticolas, Willow Warblers, European Goldfinches and Yellow Wagtails scattered to right and left as we drove slowly south down a bumpy track.

Once on the Beliche Plain itself we'd hoped to find some Little Bustards, but in this we were unlucky. However, we did find some Lesser Kestrels, a pair of Common Ravens, a Tawny Pipit, a pair of Whinchats and some Greater Short-toed Larks, which made up for it.

Following this we drove home due north along the coast, picking up Iberian Grey Shrikes, a Eurasian Nuthatch, Common Linnets, Western Jackdaws, European Jays and a Black-winged Kite along the way.

Thursday 20th September 2012

Today was an 'at Leisure' Day and after the last few days of solid birding most of us welcomed it with a lovely lie-in. Alan of course was up before the lark and his diligence paid off with a Common Redstart being seen in the garden along with our first European Robin of the year. This species migrates within its range, and so southern Portugal has very few during the hot summer months, but during the winter they seem to be everywhere.

Friday 21st September 2012

We left just before 05.30 after a quick breakfast and got to Santo André just before 07.00 where we had a quick coffee stop before heading out to the lagoon where we arrived at 07.30. Just as we drove in a Merlin flashed past and, once we'd piled out of the van and set ourselves up, we were able to watch a pair of Western Marsh Harriers quartering the reed beds below us.

We stayed an hour and a half at this first stop and while there we were lucky enough to see both Bar-tailed and Black-tailed Godwits, Black-winged Stilts and, very surprisingly, a collection of at least five Great Egrets on the far shore.



This was surprising simply because this species is only rarely found in Portugal, its normal range seldom stretching west of Italy, and though I had seen them here often enough beforehand, I'd never seen five together.

After some time we moved south along the shore of the lagoon hoping to come across an Osprey, but unfortunately we had no luck on that score. There were plenty of Greater Flamingos, Glossy Ibis, Eurasian Spoonbills and Great



Cormorants, a raft of over 30 Little Grebes, a small flock of Red-crested Pochard in amongst some Gadwall and Mallards on the other side, an embarrassment of Eurasian Coots in the middle and both Sandwich and Black Terns were cruising up and down the lagoon.

Leaving the lagoon to travel south along the coast we came across a Common Buzzard and shortly afterwards a Black-winged Kite. This species, a relatively recent arrival from Africa and once uncommon hereabouts, seems to be thriving in

Iberia, and I recounted how I'd even seen one on the northern side of the Pyrenees within the last year.

We stopped at Porto Covo further down the coast where we spied Northern Gannets out at sea, Black Redstarts along the cliff-tops and Western Jackdaws in the village itself before we took some time out at a small café. Continuing across Três Marias Plain, we were unfortunate not to come across more Greater Short-toed Larks, but as it was even warmer than yesterday, topping out at 32°C once the sun had burnt off the morning haze, they were probably seeking some shade.

Arriving in the Cork Wood on the far side of the plain we came across Eurasian Nuthatch, Short-toed Treecreeper, Common Chaffinch, Great and Blue Tits and Red-legged Partridge as well as the ubiquitous Spotted and Pied Flycatchers before we started to wend our way home to the Quinta, where we arrived just in time for tea at 16.00.

Saturday 22nd September 2012

This morning was a late start as we were going to explore a beautiful valley only half an hour's drive from the Quinta and we set off at 07.00. Arriving at the valley itself we parked the van and set off on foot for a small hike so that we'd be at the head just as the sun broke into it over the hills. It was surprisingly chilly, but once the sun cleared the ridge behind us the temperature rose steadily, although it was a good 7°C cooler than yesterday.



As the light flooded into the valley it seemed to come alive; a pair of Common Redstarts was much in evidence, but there was also a small flock of European Serins, some Cirl Buntings, Great, Blue and Long-tailed Tits, Eurasian Nuthatches, Azure-winged Magpies, Spotless Starlings, a European Green Woodpecker and several Woodlarks.



It had been a beautiful morning and we'd seen a great deal, but tummies were rumbling all around so it wasn't long before we decided to head home again for breakfast. As we left in the van, Sheila somehow saw an incredibly well camouflaged Moorish Gecko on the trunk of a cork tree; as an example of its superb survival tactic it was second to none – and that could just as well be said of Sheila's eyesight too!



Sunday 23rd September 2012

We had breakfast at 06.15 and were in the car by 07.00 to leave for the airport. Although just concentrating on the trip down to the airport and not birding at all, we couldn't help but notice a Short-toed Eagle flying low across the road in front of us as if to wish us well and "God Speed".

The group, a happy one throughout the week, went their separate ways once we arrived at the airport at 08.30.

Acknowledgements

First of all I'd like to thank all members of the group themselves. It was such a happy week and that was due in no small part to all the group's members understanding, support and time-keeping. Having said that, we also couldn't have been as happy as we were without Daniela's wonderful organisation and cookery skills,

nor without the efficiency of Ornitholidays themselves, especially Nigel and Sandy in the office. My sincere thanks go out to all of you.

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December 2012

Weather

Sunny and hot throughout the week, with some misty mornings, but with the temperature averaging 30°C.

CHECKLIST OF BIRDS SEEN DURING TOUR

No of days recorded	Abundance Scale (max. seen on 1 day)
1 2h means seen on 1 day and heard on 2 other days	1 = 1 – 4 individuals
	2 = 5 - 9
	3 = 10 - 99
	4 = 100 - 999
	5 = >1000

SPECIES	No of days recorded	Abundance Scale	SCIENTIFIC NAME
Mallard	3 1h	3	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>
Gadwall	2	1	<i>Anas strepera</i>
Eurasian Wigeon	1	1	<i>Anas penelope</i>
Eurasian Teal	1	1	<i>Anas crecca</i>
Northern Shoveler	2	3	<i>Anas clypeata</i>
Red-crested Pochard	1	1	<i>Netta rufina</i>
Common Pochard	3 1h	3	<i>Aythya ferina</i>
Red-legged Partridge	3	4	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>
Little Grebe	1	1	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>
Great Crested Grebe	1	1	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>
Manx Shearwater	1	1	<i>Puffinus puffinus</i>
Northern Gannet	2	3	<i>Morus bassanus</i>
Great Cormorant	2	2	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>
European Shag	1	1	<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>
Little Bittern	1	1	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>
Cattle Egret	4	3	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>
Little Egret	2	2	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>
Great Egret	1	2	<i>Casmerodius albus</i>
Grey Heron	5	3	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>
White Stork	1	3	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>
Glossy Ibis	2	2	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>
Eurasian Spoonbill	3	2	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>
Greater Flamingo	2	3	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>
Eurasian Griffon Vulture	1	3	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>
Short-toed Eagle	1	1	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>
Booted Eagle	1	1	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>
Bonelli's Eagle	1	1	<i>Hieraaetus fasciatus</i>
Western Marsh Harrier	2	1	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>
Montagu's Harrier	1	1	<i>Circus pygargus</i>
Common Buzzard	3	1	<i>Buteo buteo</i>
Black-winged Kite	3	1	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>
Common Kestrel	3	2	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>
Lesser Kestrel	2	2	<i>Falco naumanni</i>
Merlin	1	1	<i>Falco columbarius</i>
Common Moorhen	1	1	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>
Eurasian Coot	2	5	<i>Fulica atra</i>
Purple Swampphen	1	1	<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>
Little Bustard	1	1	<i>Tetrax tetrax</i>
Great Bustard	1	3	<i>Otis tarda</i>
Pied Avocet	1	2	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>
Black-winged Stilt	2	3	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>
Stone Curlew	1	2	<i>Burhinus oediconemus</i>
Little Ringed Plover	2	2	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>
Common Ringed Plover	2	2	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>
Kentish Plover	1	2	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>
Grey Plover	1	1	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>
Northern Lapwing	2	1	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>
Ruddy Turnstone	1	1	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>
Sanderling	2	2	<i>Calidris alba</i>
Dunlin	2	3	<i>Calidris alpina</i>
Common Sandpiper	2	1	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>

Green Sandpiper	1		1	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>
Common Redshank	2		1	<i>Tringa totanus</i>
Common Greenshank	1		1	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>
Black-tailed Godwit	2		2	<i>Limosa limosa</i>
Bar-tailed Godwit	1		1	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>
Eurasian Curlew	1		1	<i>Numenius arquata</i>
Ruff	2		1	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>
Black-headed Gull	3		3	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>
Common Gull	1		1	<i>Larus canus</i>
Yellow-legged Gull	3		3	<i>Larus cachinnans</i>
Audouin's Gull	2		1	<i>Larus audouinii</i>
Lesser Black-backed Gull	3		4	<i>Larus fuscus</i>
Little Tern	1		1	<i>Sterna albifrons</i>
Sandwich Tern	1		2	<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>
Common Tern	1		1	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>
Black Tern	2		2	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>
Whiskered Tern	1		1	<i>Chlidonias hybridus</i>
Black-bellied Sandgrouse	1		3	<i>Pterocles orientalis</i>
Feral Pigeon (Rock Dove)	4		3	<i>Columba livia</i>
Common Wood Pigeon	4		3	<i>Columba palumbus</i>
Eurasian Collared Dove	7		3	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>
European Turtle Dove	1		1	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>
Tawny Owl	-	1h	1	<i>Strix aluco</i>
Little Owl	2		1	<i>Athene noctua</i>
European Nightjar	1		1	<i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i>
Eurasian Hoopoe	6		2	<i>Upupa epops</i>
Common Kingfisher	2		1	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>
European Green Woodpecker	3		1	<i>Picus viridis</i>
Great Spotted Woodpecker	3	1h	1	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>
Crested Lark	6		3	<i>Galerida cristata</i>
Woodlark	5	1h	3	<i>Lullula arborea</i>
Greater Short-toed Lark	1		3	<i>Calandrella brachydactyla</i>
Calandra Lark	1		3	<i>Melanocorypha calandra</i>
Eurasian Crag Martin	1		2	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>
Barn Swallow	6		4	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>
Red-rumped Swallow	7		4	<i>Cecropis daurica</i>
Common House Martin	5		4	<i>Delichon urbica</i>
Tawny Pipit	2		1	<i>Anthus campestris</i>
Meadow Pipit	1		4	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>
Yellow Wagtail	3		3	<i>Motacilla flava</i>
White Wagtail	4		2	<i>Motacilla alba</i>
European Robin	2		1	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>
Common Redstart	4		1	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>
Black Redstart	1		1	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>
Northern Wheatear	5		5	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>
Common Stonechat	6		3	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>
Whinchat	4		1	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>
Blue Rock Thrush	1		1	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>
Rufous-tailed Rock Thrush	1		2	<i>Monticola saxatilis</i>
Common Blackbird	7		3	<i>Turdus merula</i>
Garden Warbler	2		1	<i>Sylvia borin</i>
Blackcap	7		2	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>
Ring Ouzel	1		2	<i>Turdus torquatus</i>
Common Whitethroat	2		1	<i>Sylvia communis</i>
Sardinian Warbler	7		2	<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>
Subalpine Warbler	3		1	<i>Sylvia cantillans</i>
Dartford Warbler	3		1	<i>Sylvia undata</i>
Cetti's Warbler	-	4h	1	<i>Cettia cetti</i>
European Reed Warbler	1		1	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>
Zitting Cisticola	5		2	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>
Willow Warbler	6		2	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>
Bonelli's Warbler	-	1h	1	<i>Phylloscopus bonelli</i>
Iberian Chiffchaff	1		1	<i>Phylloscopus ibericus</i>

Winter Wren	6	1h	2	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>
Spotted Flycatcher	4		3	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>
Pied Flycatcher	5		3	<i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>
Great Tit	5	1h	2	<i>Parus major</i>
European Blue Tit	7		2	<i>Parus caeruleus</i>
Long-tailed Tit	1	1h	2	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>
Eurasian Nuthatch	5		1	<i>Sitta europaea</i>
Short-toed Treecreeper	2		1	<i>Certhia brachydactyla</i>
Iberian Grey Shrike	4		3	<i>Lanius excubitor</i>
Azure-winged Magpie	7		4	<i>Cyanopica cyana</i>
Eurasian Jay	6		3	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>
Western Jackdaw	3		3	<i>Corvus monedula</i>
Red-billed Chough	1		3	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>
Carrion Crow	5		3	<i>Corvus corone</i>
Common Raven	1		1	<i>Corvus corax</i>
Spotless Starling	6		3	<i>Sturnus unicolor</i>
House Sparrow	5		3	<i>Passer domesticus</i>
Common Chaffinch	3		2	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>
Common Linnet	2		3	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>
European Goldfinch	7		3	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>
European Greenfinch	2		2	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>
Eurasian Siskin	1		1	<i>Carduelis spinus</i>
European Serin	1		3	<i>Serinus serinus</i>
Cirl Bunting	1		1	<i>Emberiza cirrus</i>
Corn Bunting	4		3	<i>Miliaria calandra</i>
Rock Bunting	4		1	<i>Emberiza cia</i>
Common Waxbill	2		2	<i>Estrilda astrild</i>
Black-headed Weaver	1		2	<i>Ploceus melanocephalus</i>
MAMMALS				
European Hare	3		2	<i>Lepus granatensis</i>
European Rabbit	1		1	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>
Common Genet	1		1	<i>Genetta genetta</i>
Red Fox	1		1	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>
INSECTS				
Praying Mantis	1		1	
White-banded Digger Bee	7		2	
Carpenter Bee	1		1	
Wall Brown	1		2	
Two-tailed Pasha	1		1	
Hummingbird Hawkmoth	3		2	
Lesser Emperor	2		1	
Red-veined Darter	3		3	
Scarlet Darter	2		3	
REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS				
European Pond Terrapin	1		2	
Chameleon	1		1	
Stripeless Tree Frog	1		1	
Ocellated Lizard	2		1	
Large Psammmodromus Lizard	2		1	
Moorish Gecko	7		2	

This list represents those birds and other animals seen by party members of this tour.