

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

**15 – 22 September 2013**



**Leader: Frank McClintock**

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**A Personal Diary**

**15<sup>th</sup> September**

Surprisingly, everyone's plane came in on time and by 11.30am I had picked up the van and we were off to the first spot of the week, a productive hide on the S. Lourenço golf course overlooking a reed-fringed lake.

As we parked the van a Mediterranean Chameleon crossed an open space beside us and we were able to get good views of it as it clambered swiftly, (for a Chameleon), up into a hedge. As a starter for the week ahead this couldn't really be beaten; these creatures, usually so difficult to find, are very active at this time of year as the males descend to the ground in their efforts to find receptive females. Even so, we were lucky to see one. Moving on to the hide, where we had a picnic, Alan put us onto a Grey Plover on the muddy side of the estuary and following this introduction we soon saw several Black-headed Weavers, an introduced species that is now breeding successfully in this area. There were Little Grebes, Eurasian Coots, a Common Moorhen or two and several Purple Swampheens pottering around in the reeds while a Common Kingfisher flashed its azure back as it skimmed past us over the water past the Gadwalls and Common Pochards, but it was the fly-pasts of the Little Bitterns that excited us most. Before we left we were lucky enough to see a lone Glossy Ibis fly in to feed on the far side of the water. This species is expanding rapidly in this area and we were to see large flocks later on during the week, but they are still a special bird and it was a treat to see this one so close and with the sun behind us picking out its metallic plumage!



With the picnic over we returned to the car again so as to visit Salgados, (Pera Marsh to some), a threatened coastal lagoon that was scheduled to be drained the following day, and the subject of an on-going campaign for its preservation, (Google "Save Salgados" and sign the petition!). Here we saw Greater Flamingos, Little Egrets, several White Storks and some Eurasian Spoonbills as well as Pied Avocets, Black-winged Stilts, some Common Redshanks, Black-tailed Godwits and a lone Ruff, while Little Ringed and Common Ringed Plovers, Sanderlings, Dunlin and Common Sandpipers represented the smaller waders. On the far side a pair of female Western Marsh Harriers, probably a mother with her progeny, cruised backwards and forwards over the rushes while I became strangely excited over a group of 17 Common Shelducks, a rare species this far south.

It was an hour's drive north to Quinta do Barranco da Estrada, where we would be staying during the week, so we left Salgados at 3pm and were in time for a welcome cup of tea and biscuits upon arrival. Having unpacked we settled in by relaxing in the garden before a slap-up dinner and bed.

**16<sup>th</sup> September**

The following morning we set off after a cup of tea as the grandfather clock struck 7am. We were planning a walk around the nearby valley of Corte Brique, but as we dropped down towards it we also dropped down into a thick bank of mist so we thought we might have to go on to a further valley instead. However, having made this unwelcome decision and climbing out of the valley the other side, we saw that it was clearing rapidly, so returning to plan A, we parked the van and started our walk along the road that bisected the valley itself. There were lots of House Sparrows around and a Cetti's Warbler called from the bamboo thicket bordering the dry stream-bed.

There were a large number of juvenile Grey Wagtails flitting here and there in the stubble on either side of the road, obviously moving through on migration, and a family of Zitting Cisticolas popped up and down to have a look at us while some Spotless Starling flew from tree to tree among the Holm Oaks and a small charm of European Goldfinches were foraging in an orchard we passed, overlooked by a pair of Stonechats.

As the sun broke into the valley the last wraiths of mist burnt off, and as the light and visibility increased so did the number of species. Common Linnets and Common House Martins were seen, as were a few Red-rumped Swallows, and a Great Spotted Woodpecker dinked from a dead tree while several Common Blackbirds went cackling away in front of us. A family of Blue Tits chattered at an Iberian Shrike sitting out in the open, while a Woodlark sang from our right as we stopped to appreciate some nice views of Common Waxbill feeding in amongst the tall grass behind a small white-washed house. Turning right onto a dirt track near the head of the valley, we crossed a bridge over the stream-bed and were looking at a Short-toed Treecreeper in an olive tree when a Little Owl exploded out of the same tree, obviously upset that we were taking such an interest in its resting place; no matter how much we were seeing, having this bird appear from under our noses made us wonder just how many species we were actually missing, but the next species was right out in the open – a Eurasian Golden Oriole flying over the top of us to perch in the Poplar tree we were standing underneath.

Walking on we saw several Crested Larks beside a vegetable garden followed by a Greenfinch and a Common Whitethroat on some nearby brambles. Shortly afterwards a female Sardinian Warbler gave us the chance to distinguish this from the whitethroat we had just seen, while a juvenile Common Redstart skulking in the shadows had us all guessing until it kindly came out into the sun before flying off.

Coming out of a small wood a little later a Meadow Pipit perched on some telephone wires gave us good views while a Grey Heron flew past towards the lake at the head of the valley. A European Serin and a Pied Flycatcher also gave us equally good views along with another Little Owl, perched this time long enough for us all to see it well.

However, the best was saved till last; gaining the tarmac again as we ambled back to the car, we watched a flock of Azure-winged Magpies about 100 metres away which were obviously disturbed by something. All of a sudden that something came out into full view, an Egyptian Mongoose! A very shy species, it hadn't seen us and was more concerned by the mobbing magpies, so we were able to watch their interaction for some minutes before the mongoose suddenly noticed us and was away as fast as lightning, pursued on its way by the braver magpies.



With this memory tucked under our belts we returned to the Quinta to tuck breakfast away in the same place. The rest of the day was given to relaxation and preparation for the morrow.

### 17<sup>th</sup> September

Today saw the first of our early starts as we hoped to see some migrating raptors down near Sagres. On top of that we were hoping to find a very rare species in the low coastal scrub thereabouts, a Spectacled Warbler, but unfortunately, in both of these quests we were to prove unlucky. Not that we didn't make the effort as we left the Quinta after a cup of tea at 5am and, following an uneventful drive down we were enjoying coffee and cheese toasties as the sun touched the eastern horizon, and were birding seriously by 7.20am.



We started off searching in amongst the scrub near the Trig point overlooking the Beliche Plain, but try as we might there was nothing more exciting than a few Sardinian Warblers and European Goldfinches, so we dropped down to the plain itself after an hour or so.

However, the time wasn't wasted as we came across a pair of Tawny

Pipits and both Skylark and Crested Lark as well as our first Whinchat of the week that stayed long enough close to the van that everyone had the chance of a good view.

The sun was up good and proper now, but apart from a few Common Kestrels we had seen no raptors, and notwithstanding the beautiful Whinchat, there was a general feeling of having been little rewarded for the effort we'd made in driving all this way so early in the morning, so we drove north slowly across the plain with our eyes peeled and were soon rewarded, albeit fleetingly, with a Peregrine Falcon. However quick the view it raised our spirits and we resumed our search feeling that we might be lucky after all and the next species proved this to be the case.

Off to our right Inger and Patrick noticed some large black birds just before a small hill hid them from view, so off we hurtled, as there was every chance that they might be members of the area's expanding colony of Red-billed Chough.

On the other side of the hill there was nothing to be seen apart from a small homestead with a pair of rather large, fierce-looking dogs. Unfortunately, we had to get past them in order to get to the point where the black birds had been seen, and seeing as it was obviously private land, permission would have to be asked. This is where I came in useful as I was unanimously elected to get out of the van, brave the dogs and knock on the door for access to pass. Everyone watched with bated breath but, fierce and loud as they were, nothing exciting happened and there wasn't any answer to my knocking at the door either. However everyone had been so fixated on the possibility of a blood bath that it was only when I returned to the van that we noticed, not more than 20 metres away in the field beside us, a pair of Red-billed Chough feeding in the open quite unconcerned with our proximity. They must have flown in from behind us and to have this rare species so close was a treat of the first order.



Congratulating ourselves as we dropped back down to the coast we thought we'd try our luck on the cliffs and quickly came across a lovely female Sardinian Warbler posing in the open for once.

Posing equally well, if not better, in the same stand of cactus was a Spotted Flycatcher, complete with caught fly.

Following a quick refresher in a local café we decided that we'd given the raptors enough time to make an appearance – it was already getting on for midday and really quite hot – so we



headed up into the cool of the hills.

Arriving at Foia we quickly came across another two species of lark, a pair of Thekla Larks foraging in the short grass and a lone Woodlark perched on a ruined wall. While looking at the latter we also saw a pair of Dartford Warblers, our first Pied Flycatcher of the week, some Common Whitethroats, Common



Linnets, Common Stonechats and Zitting Cisticolas, a few beautiful Northern Wheatears and another Peregrine skimming the skyline above us, but for sheer beauty nothing beat a simple Willow Warbler feeding among the bright red berries of a hawthorn.

Following this we arrived home at 5pm to a refreshing tea followed by dinner, bed and a well-earned sleep.

## 18<sup>th</sup> September

Another early start saw us heading for the Plains of the Alentejo today, and the first bird of the day was hardly 200 metres from the Quinta as we nearly ran over a European Nightjar. Sad to say we had only the shortest of views and the same could be said of the Little Owl on the road as we drove past Corte Brique.

Following a welcome break after the first hour for some coffee and a sandwich, we were birding near Rolão as the sun rose. It wasn't long before Alan found a pair of Stone Curlews and as we all watched them in the field below us to the west, Svend put us on to a lovely male Black-eared Wheatear which posed long enough for us all to see him scarcely three metres away before flitting off behind a cattle shed. A Western Marsh Harrier quartered the ground to the north of us with a pair of Common Buzzards above them, but it was sadly only me who saw the five Eurasian Spoonbills passing overhead at the same time.



Moving on from here to near Corte Pequena, Inger's sharp eyes found some Black-bellied Sandgrouse right out in the open – a rare sight indeed – but there was little else to be seen here and so we kept moving, eager to find some Great Bustards. Getting off the tarmac we trundled across country down some inviting dirt tracks and, topping a low rise a couple of kilometres later, there was an extraordinary sight. A small group of Eurasian Griffon Vultures, (with one Eurasian Black in amongst

them), had their backs to the sun warming their feathers up for the day's flying.

Shortly afterwards we came across our second Little Owl of the day and this time we were able to get good views of it perched on a roadside pile of rocks. While we were stopped for the Little Owl, Julie drew our attention to a Short-toed Lark, which brought our total for this family up to five for the week.

Crossing a small river a little later, still in our search for the difficult bustards, Annette and Sheila spotted a Black-winged Kite just before it flew off behind some trees, and, try as we might, we didn't get a second view if it, but luckily our efforts to find it took us onto a different track across the plains and we finally found a small drove of Great Bustards near Entradas just before 11am.

With the Great Bustard pressure off us, we turned southeast again to São Marcos da Serra and then onto Álvares Lake, stopping to have a look at some Crag Martins on the way. We had lunch at the lake watching Common Sandpiper, Little Ringed Plover, Black-winged Stilt, a Green Sandpiper and Grey, Yellow and White Wagtails. We'd just started off again when we noticed a large number of vultures spiralling down out of the sky behind a hill scarcely a mile away. It looked awfully like they'd found a carcass so off we rushed to try to get a better view.

Reaching the other side of the hill though gave us nothing as there was some further high ground in the way, so back we came, and, having asked permission to trespass on someone's land, we were able to dive down a dirt track and then, by creeping up and cautiously peering over the top of the hill, we were able to find over 50 Griffon Vultures resting on the ground barely, 50 metres away with a small flock of Common Magpies in

attendance. There was no carcass that we could see and we could only surmise that they were waiting patiently for something to die nearby, as even when they did finally become spooked by a row of heads with bins looking at them from the crest of the hill, they only flew 100 metres further away.



Having watched our fill, we turned the van around again and headed off to São João das Caldereiros Lake where we found some Mute Swans, Australian Black Swans, lots of Eurasian Coots and a family of Great Crested Grebes as well as 10 Red Crested Pochard in eclipse. While Alan showed everyone closer views of the pochard, Sheila took me paddling and we found a relatively rare dragonfly, a Black Percher.

Just before we set off home Alan found a Common Greenshank that we'd somehow missed during the previous hour, and actually driving home eagle-eye Annette spotted a distant Bonelli's Eagle which we managed to identify before it disappeared. We arrived home just after 4pm, having been delayed by a Lumberjack Crew dropping three trees across our path just short of the Quinta.

### 19<sup>th</sup> September

Today was a semi-rest day so we left the Quinta at 7.30am after an early breakfast and headed straight down to Santa Clara Valley to try to get a Water Rail. This is an extremely shy bird, notwithstanding that its call reminds one of a squealing piglet, so, although we knew they were around, none of us held much hope of actually seeing one. We positioned ourselves above a water-lily-covered pool with a fair view up and down stream and with a reed-bed on the opposite shore, all in all as good a place as any and we hadn't been there long before both Alan and Annette saw one scurrying away from us along the stream up the valley. It wasn't a particularly good view, hardly enough to get a positive id, but shortly afterwards Annette saw another one which burst from the bank below us and was gone in a flash into the dense reeds on the other side. Although a very quick sighting, this was much better, but even better still was to come as, a few minutes later, it came out to the edge of the reeds and worked its way upstream along the edge of the undergrowth. We couldn't have asked for more and feeling chuffed we headed off to another spot about 20 minutes' drive away called Paul's Valley.

Here we left the car beside a cow byre and walked upstream to an old apple tree beside a small field with good views of a wood and hedgerow. A Eurasian Hoopoe was pecking away at the ground at the far end while both Barn and Red-rumped Swallows skimmed the top of the stubble catching the early morning insects. A family group of Long-tailed Tits worked their way up the hedge opposite us, Great and Blue Tits also gave us good views and a



Short-toed Treecreeper spiralled up the trunk of an old cork oak behind them. An Iberian Shrike surveyed the area from the top of a tall medronho bush and overhead flew a Great Spotted Woodpecker, several Eurasian Jays and a small flock of Spotless Starlings.



Walking on as the sun started to flood into the valley we came across a lovely Southern Gatekeeper sunning itself on the track. Also warming up in the early morning sun were several Red-veined Darters.

A Crested Tit made a fleeting, up-sun and unsatisfactory, appearance, but everyone was able to get on to a much harder species, a Firecrest, as it worked its way through the upper branches of an old cork tree down-sun of us, and this was made doubly enjoyable when a Cirl Bunting flew into the same tree. Walking back to the car so as to return in time for one of Daniela's delicious lunches, we came across a beautiful Common Redstart and

also saw a noisy flock of Azure-winged Magpies flying from one side of the valley to the other, but try as we might we couldn't get a good view of the Eurasian Nuthatch that continuously called above our heads.

## 20<sup>th</sup> September

Another early start today saw us setting off again at 5am and we arrived in Santo André for coffee at 6.30am, bang on time, so we were able to be in the right place at the right time - 7am at the settling pool. We were wondering whether we'd have a chance of a Ferruginous Duck as a pair had been seen here a week beforehand, but in this we were unlucky. However we quickly came across what was probably a Muscovy/Mallard cross though there was some discussion as to whether there might have been some Black Duck in its parentage. With no Ferruginous to be seen we moved on quickly and arrived at our main viewing point overlooking the lagoon as the sun fully broke the horizon.

The view was magnificent and with the sun behind us we couldn't have asked for better light, so took the group photo at the top of this report before turning our attention to more important matters. Notwithstanding the local fishermen rowing backwards and forwards checking their nets, the waters of the lagoon were full of birds; Greater Flamingos and Eurasian Coots were two a penny, but there were also Mallard, Gadwall, Northern Shoveler, Black-winged Stilts, Common Redshank, Common Pochard, Common Sandpiper, Bar-tailed Godwit, many Grey Herons and some Eurasian Spoonbill on the far side, while overhead flocks of Glossy Ibis seemed to be moving to lagoons further north in their hundreds.



After a while Annette, Svend and Inger went off for a walk down to the shoreline and in amongst the reeds, but before they went we all managed to have good views of a small flock of Common Waxbills that came to feed on the reed seed-heads in front of us.

While they were away Alan put us on to a lovely Peregrine Falcon that flew overhead. We stayed around this one venue for the next few hours but by 10am there was a general call for more coffee, so we slipped off to a nearby café and spent a relaxing half hour watching some White Wagtails and a Black Redstart.

Leaving Santo Andre just before 11am we drove south along the coast, stopping for a short while at Porto Covo where we watched some Northern Gannets diving in amongst the Yellow-legged Gulls and found two Ruddy Turnstones among the rocks below the cliffs. Moving south again we spent some time unsuccessfully looking for Stone Curlews, before passing Milfontes, where we had a Common Buzzard on one side of the road and a Western Marsh Harrier on the other. We spent some time looking at both birds, checking carefully that the Buzzard was not a Long-legged that had been seen in this area a week or so beforehand.

Reaching the lighthouse at Cabo Sardão we were lucky enough to all get a close view of another Peregrine Falcon resting on the cliffs while we ate our picnic lunch before turning inland to find four Little Bustards in some farmland. These are part of a very small but resident population hereabouts and we were extremely lucky to have found them with relative ease.





On the way back out to the tarmac there was a nice male Western Marsh Harrier being mobbed by a Carrion Crow and then a fantastic example of an Iberian Grey Shrike sitting on the wire by the side of the track.

While we were engrossed with the shrike, Svend and Julie drew our attention to a wonderful example of a Black-winged Kite on a nearby pylon, and this bird afforded us close views as it repeatedly raised and lowered its tail. Whether this denoted pre-breeding behaviour was unclear and subsequent reference to Wikipedia shed no further light on the matter; it had certainly not been seen by any member of the group beforehand.

## 21<sup>st</sup> September

On this day we set off after an early breakfast at 7.30am for a local walk above and down the Secret Valley, and very quickly found a Blue Rock Thrush sitting on the top of the closest ruin to the Quinta. It was a real thrill to have this relatively uncommon species so close to home.

We parked the van while several Common Chaffinches and a Sardinian Warbler foraged in the cork trees around us and climbing the first hill a Woodlark flew over us while a Corn Bunting called from the top of a nearby bush and a Pied Flycatcher gave us good views as it perched in a small eucalyptus.



From the valley below us there came the harsh call of a Eurasian Jay and as the sun warmed the ground the first Red-veined Darters started to show themselves. Woodlarks rose around us, and their mournful call appeared to come from all corners of the compass, while Wall Browns and Southern Gatekeepers flitted here and there over the rocky terrain.

As we approached the ruin that had earlier held the Blue Rock Thrush, a Spotted Flycatcher darted from its perch in a dead pine tree once or twice before deciding that we were becoming too close and choosing another perch further away.



As we dropped down into the valley itself a European Robin trilled; the first sign of autumn as these birds are very thin on the ground until their migration brings huge numbers to over-winter down here from northern Europe.

At the spring at the bottom of the hill we came across a gathering of Harvestmen (Opiliones). Down by the wells we also saw a single Cirl Bunting and a couple of Great Tits as well.

Walking along the bottom of the valley the first Scarlet Darters of the day were starting to make themselves seen and on the avian front we saw several flycatchers, some Blue Tits, a few Sardinian Warblers, a flock of Azure-winged Magpies and a Redstart.

## **22<sup>nd</sup> September**

The return drive to Faro was uneventful and we said a hurried but fond farewell at the airport before the group boarded the plane home.

### **Acknowledgements**

I'd like to thank everyone in the group for being such good time-keepers. It is always difficult to get up early and especially so when on holiday. The fact that we saw so many species and in such good light is down to everyone being on time and I thank you sincerely. I'd also like to thank you for being such a happy group.

I'd also like to thank those behind the scenes, from Nigel and Sandy with their organisation in the UK to Daniela with her delicious food and Fatima and Dulce with their untiring battle to keep everything clean and tidy. We couldn't have enjoyed ourselves nearly as much as we did without all of their professional back-up. On a final note, my thanks as a leader also go to all of you who increased my personal knowledge. It is always fun to learn – and I did a lot of that!

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November 2013

### **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

1 2h means seen on 1  
day and heard on 2  
other days

### Abundance Scale (max. seen on 1 day)

1 = 1 – 4 individuals  
2 = 5 - 9  
3 = 10 - 99  
4 = 100 - 999  
5 = >1000

SPECIES	No of days recorded	Abundance Scale	SCIENTIFIC NAME
Mute Swan	1	2	<i>Cygnus olor</i>
Shelduck	1	2	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>
Mallard	3	4	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>
Gadwall	2	3	<i>Anas strepera</i>
Northern Shoveler	2	3	<i>Anas clypeata</i>
Common Pochard	2	3	<i>Aythya ferina</i>
Red-crested Pochard	1	3	<i>Netta rufina</i>
Red-legged Partridge	2	3	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>
Little Grebe	3	2	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>
Great Crested Grebe	2	2	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>
Northern Gannet	1	3	<i>Morus bassanus</i>
Great Cormorant	2	3	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>
Little Bittern	1	1	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>
Cattle Egret	4	3	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>
Little Egret	3	2	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>
Great White Egret	2	1	<i>Egretta alba</i>
Grey Heron	4	3	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>
White Stork	1	2	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>
Glossy Ibis	2	4	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>
Eurasian Spoonbill	2	3	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>
Greater Flamingo	2	4	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>
Eurasian Griffon Vulture	1	3	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>
Eurasian Black Vulture	1	1	<i>Aegyptius monachus</i>
Bonelli's Eagle	1	1	<i>Hieraetus fasciatus</i>
Western Marsh Harrier	3	1	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>
Common Buzzard	4	2	<i>Buteo buteo</i>
Black-winged Kite	1	1	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>
Common Kestrel	3	2	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>
Peregrine Falcon	2	1	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>
Water Rail	1	1	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>
Common Moorhen	3	3	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>
Eurasian Coot	3	5	<i>Fulica atra</i>
Purple Swamphen	1	1	<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>
Great Bustard	1	1	<i>Otis tarda</i>
Little Bustard	1	1	<i>Tetrax tetrax</i>
Pied Avocet	1	3	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>
Black-winged Stilt	3	3	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>
Stone Curlew	1	1	<i>Burhinus oedicephalus</i>
Little Ringed Plover	3	2	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>
Common Ringed Plover	1	1	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>
Grey Plover	1	1	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>
Lapwing	2	1	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>
Sanderling	1	2	<i>Calidris alba</i>
Ruddy Turnstone	1	1	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>
Dunlin	2	3	<i>Calidris alpina</i>
Green Sandpiper	1	1	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>
Common Sandpiper	3	2	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>
Common Redshank	2	2	<i>Tringa totanus</i>
Common Greenshank	1	1	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>
Black-tailed Godwit	1	3	<i>Limosa limosa</i>
Bar-tailed Godwit	1	3	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>

Ruff	2		1	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>
Black-headed Gull	2		4	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>
Yellow-legged Gull	3		4	<i>Larus michahellis</i>
Lesser Black-backed Gull	3		4	<i>Larus fuscus</i>
Little Tern	1		2	<i>Sterna albifrons</i>
Black-bellied Sandgrouse	1		1	<i>Pterocles orientalis</i>
Feral Pigeon (Rock Dove)	2		3	<i>Columba livia</i>
Common Wood Pigeon	2		4	<i>Columba palumbus</i>
Eurasian Collared Dove	6		4	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>
Little Owl	2		1	<i>Athene noctua</i>
European Nightjar	1		1	<i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i>
Common Swift	1		2	<i>Apus apus</i>
Eurasian Hoopoe	4		2	<i>Upupa epops</i>
Common Kingfisher	1		1	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>
Great Spotted Woodpecker	5		2	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>
Skylark	1		1	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>
Crested Lark	5		3	<i>Galerida cristata</i>
Thekla Lark	1		1	<i>Galerida theklae</i>
Woodlark	4	1h	2	<i>Lullula arborea</i>
Greater Short-toed Lark	1		1	<i>Calandrella brachydactyla</i>
Eurasian Crag Martin	1		2	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>
Barn Swallow	4		4	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>
Red-rumped Swallow	7		4	<i>Cecropis daurica</i>
Common House Martin	4		3	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>
Tawny Pipit	1		2	<i>Anthus campestris</i>
Meadow Pipit	1		1	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>
White Wagtail	1		1	<i>Motacilla alba</i>
Yellow Wagtail	3		2	<i>Motacilla flava</i>
Grey Wagtail	3		2	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>
European Robin	1	1h	1	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>
Common Redstart	5		2	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>
Black Redstart	1		1	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>
Northern Wheatear	2		5	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>
Black-eared Wheatear	1		1	<i>Oenanthe hispanica</i>
Whinchat	2		3	<i>Saxicola Rubetra</i>
Common Stonechat	7		3	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>
Song Thrush	-	1h	1	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>
Common Blackbird	7		3	<i>Turdus merula</i>
Blue Rock Thrush	1		1	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>
Garden Warbler	1	1h	1	<i>Sylvia borin</i>
Blackcap	1	2h	1	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>
Common Whitethroat	2		1	<i>Sylvia communis</i>
Sardinian Warbler	6		2	<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>
Subalpine Warbler	1		1	<i>Sylvia cantillans</i>
Dartford Warbler	1		1	<i>Sylvia undata</i>
Zitting Cisticola	6		3	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>
Cetti's Warbler	1	2h	1	<i>Cettia cetti</i>
Willow Warbler	2		2	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>
Common Chiffchaff	4		2	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>
Firecrest	1		1	<i>Regulus ignicapillus</i>
Winter Wren	3	2h	2	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>
Spotted Flycatcher	2		3	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>
Pied Flycatcher	7		3	<i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>
Great Tit	4		2	<i>Parus major</i>
European Blue Tit	4		2	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>
Crested Tit	1		1	<i>Lophophanes cristatus</i>
Long-tailed Tit	2		2	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>
Eurasian Nuthatch	-	2h	1	<i>Sitta europaea</i>
Short-toed Treecreeper	2		1	<i>Certhia brachydactyla</i>
Iberian Grey Shrike	4		2	<i>Lanius meridionalis</i>
Azure-winged Magpie	6		4	<i>Cyanopica cyanus</i>
Common Magpie	1		1	<i>Pica pica</i>
Eurasian Jay	3		2	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>

Western Jackdaw	1	2	<i>Corvus monedula</i>
Red-billed Chough	1	3	<i>Pyrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>
Carrion Crow	5	3	<i>Corvus corone</i>
Common Raven	1	2	<i>Corvus corax</i>
Spotless Starling	7	3	<i>Sturnus unicolor</i>
Eurasian Golden Oriole	1	1	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>
House Sparrow	6	3	<i>Passer domesticus</i>
Common Chaffinch	2	2	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>
Common Linnet	2	2	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>
European Goldfinch	5	3	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>
European Greenfinch	3	1h	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>
European Serin	1	1	<i>Serinus serinus</i>
Cirl Bunting	2	2	<i>Emberiza cirrus</i>
Corn Bunting	4	1h	<i>Miliaria calandra</i>
Common Waxbill	2	3	<i>Estrilda astrild</i>
Black-headed Weaver	1	2	<i>Ploceus melanocephalus</i>
<b>MAMMALS</b>			
European Rabbit	1	1	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>
Iberian Hare	2	1	<i>Lepus granatensis</i>
Egyptian Mongoose	1	1	<i>Herpestes ichneumon</i>
<b>AMPHIBIANS &amp; REPTILES</b>			
Ocellated Lizard	2	1	<i>Timon lepidus</i>
Large Psammmodromus Lizard	1	1	<i>Psammmodromus algirus</i>
European Pond Terrapin	1	2	<i>Emys orbicularis</i>
Mediterranean Chameleon	1	1	<i>Chameleo chameleon</i>
Horseshoe Whip Snake	1	(dead)	<i>Coluber hippocrepis</i>
Ladder Snake	1	1	<i>Elaphe scalaris</i>
<b>BUTTERFLIES</b>			
Large White	2	3	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>
Provence Hairstreak	1	1	<i>Tomares ballus</i>
Provençal Fritillary	1	1	<i>Melitaea deione</i>
Two-tailed Pasha	4	1	<i>Charaxes jasius</i>
Speckled Wood	1	1	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>
Large Wall Brown	5	3	<i>Lasionmata maera</i>
Southern Gatekeeper	3	3	<i>Pyronia cecilia</i>
Small Heath	1	2	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>
<b>DRAGONFLIES</b>			
Blue Emperor	1	1	<i>Anax imperator</i>
Lesser Emperor	2	2	<i>Anax parthenope</i>
Keeled Skimmer	1	1	<i>Orthetrum coerulescens</i>
Epaulet Skimmer	1	1	<i>Orthetrum chrysostigma</i>
Red-veined Darter	6	3	<i>Sympetrum fonscolombii</i>
Common Darter	2	3	<i>Sympetrum striolatum</i>
Broad Scarlet	1	2	<i>Crocothemis erythraea</i>
Black Percher	1	1	<i>Diplacodes lefebvrii</i>
Blue Emperor	1	1	<i>Anax imperator</i>
<b>OTHER INSECTS</b>			
Blue-winged Grasshopper	5	4	<i>Oedipoda caeruleascens</i>
Red-winged Grasshopper	2	1	<i>Oedipoda germanica</i>
Dung Beetle	1	2	<i>Coleoptera Scarabaeidae</i>
Harvestman	1	5	<i>Phalangium opilio</i>

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