

**ORNITHOLIDAYS TOUR TO SPAIN - ARAGON**  
*Cranes, Lammergeiers and Wallcreepers*

**10 – 17 November 2012**



**Leader: Steve West**

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### A Personal Diary

#### **Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> November**

The first contact between guide and tour members was at Madrid airport, when I received a call on my mobile “We’re here”, said Amanda “Where are you?” At the terminal meeting point, as agreed”, I replied, while waving at them from down the corridor. Well that bit was easy, I thought, encountering the whole group together and raring to go!

We had a snack at airport, paying extortionate prices, and then, after noting down Monk Parakeet at the airport exit, we hit the dual carriageway which would take us close to our destination. En-route we had our first brief sightings of Griffon Vulture and Red Kite.

Turning off the main road I got David to navigate the minor roads, in a bid to take a shortcut which would allow us an hour or so for birding before darkness fell. He did a great job, and without complaining too much, and sure enough we got to Gallocanta with plenty of time to see our first flocks of Common Cranes. Hundreds of them! Crane flocks at Gallocanta are no secret to wildlife enthusiasts, nevertheless the experience is no less impressive in that knowledge.

Happy to have some birding under our belts, and to have encountered such evocative, solitary landscapes, we headed down from the plateau to our hotel in the historic centre of Daroca.

#### **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> November**

I had told the group that snow had been predicted for today, which provoked a mixture of concern and anticipation (imagine seeing cranes in the snow!). Black Redstarts were active on the roofs just outside our hotel in Daroca, and looking up at them, and sky behind, we had serious doubts about the reliability of the weather forecast. How strange!

However, it certainly was cold when we headed up to the high plains once more, taking a different route from the previous day. We made a couple of roadside stops, but the icy wind blowing ensured they were rather brief. Here we had our first sightings of Rock Bunting, Corn Bunting and Eurasian Linnnet, and as we approached the village of Gallocanta we found dozens of Rock Sparrows on the wires. Like most Spanish birds they were rather shy, and by the time Brian had set his scope on them, the original “dozens” had shrunk to just one or two.

Next it was the turn of the first of many tracks, this one rather too muddy to reach the end, but a short walk could do us no harm. We saw our first Red Kite of the day and a lovely ringtail Hen Harrier, and we managed to get a little closer to one of the many Common Crane flocks dotted around the lagoon. There was very little water in the lagoon itself, and fewer ducks, with Mallard the only species we could observe, despite our efforts.

Following close to the shoreline took us to an interesting visitor centre, with welcoming toilets and extra information about the ecology and wildlife of the lagoon and its surroundings.

A half-hearted search for Great Bustards ensued. The birds had been reported recently, but many of the tracks were impassable, and those that could be followed were occupied by Sunday visitors to the lagoon.

After a short while we changed focus and decided to explore other nearby areas. We passed roadside Common Ravens, and personally I was disappointed to see only a Grey Heron at a small lake where I had been hoping for rather more. A hermitage provided some shelter from the wind while we had our picnic lunch, and a nearby village was the ideal place for a warming coffee break.

We drove a little further to reach an attractive river gorge, which offered sunshine, shelter from the wind, scenery and birds. What more could you ask for? Here we were greeted by a flock of Red-billed Choughs, and there was always a Eurasian Griffon Vulture or two in the sky. Smaller birds came in the form of a couple of Thekla Larks, a small group of Rock Sparrows, several Rock Buntings, shy Dartford and Sardinian Warblers, and a very surprising, and late, Eurasian Hobby.

From here we made our way back to the lagoon, stopping and checking for birds on the way. A male Hen Harrier was quartering the fields near the village of Used (puns were forthcoming of course), we saw flocks of Common Skylarks, a tree full of Eurasian Serins and a single female Brambling. Lastly, we had another look at the Common Cranes of Gallocañta - the wind hadn't dropped at all so finding shelter was a prime objective - and a pair of Crested Larks before we descended to our warm and welcoming hotel.

### **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> November**

It was a relatively short drive from our hotel to the main site of the day by the River Huerva, and through attractive countryside. It was a lovely day, too. At our first stop we all had excellent views of a Firecrest, and also picked up Great Spotted Woodpecker, Rock Sparrow and a Blackcap or two.

Shortly after we were driving along but had to evacuate the van as quickly as possible to get a better look at a Golden Eagle, which could disappear at any moment. All out and...it had disappeared. However, we were patient, and sure enough the eagle appeared again, and even began a display flight! And then there wasn't one, but two Golden Eagles, and giving us marvellous views! As Rosemary observed, this was quite a different experience from the "top of the distant hill in drizzle or low cloud", referring to sightings in the UK, of course. We spent some time watching the eagles' comings and goings, and were surprised to see how another, juvenile Golden Eagle also appeared on the scene. In fact there was hardly a dull moment, with Peregrine Falcon, Griffon Vultures, Red Kites and a Eurasian Sparrowhawk making up a rich supporting cast.

A little later we came across five Spanish Ibex, looking very relaxed on a sun-bathed rocky slope, and it was quite evident that the two males were more interested in the females than they were concerned about our presence. Well satisfied with the views we made another stop along the track which proved to be one of the best moments of the already memorable day: first one and then another Bonelli's Eagle flew up from the crags almost below our feet, circled in front of us and then landed on a rock face several hundred metres from us, but in full view. What a moment, no-one could have asked for better views of this rare and declining eagle! Before taking our leave of the site we had another view of Peregrine Falcon, but it was the eagles that had us all buzzing!

Further on we had to wait about 10 minutes to be able to pass a machine levelling the track's surface; some of that time was occupied watching a small party of Common Cranes flying overhead.

Back on tarmac we made a brief stop to look at a few Cirl Buntings and then made our way to Fuendetodos, famed for being the natal village of the Spanish artist Goya, and also for its front line defences on the Aragon front of the Spanish Civil War. It was picnic lunches and coffees all round and then on to our next site to look for our next special bird, the Black Wheatear. After a little walking we had seen several of these attractive birds, along with Sardinian Warbler, Black Redstart, Eurasian Serin, Rock Sparrow and Rock Bunting.

Heading back west along a different, scenic, route we drove past scores of Griffon Vultures and small mining towns, while one of the avian highlights was an Iberian Grey Shrike balancing on a wire in the wind. Shortly afterwards we came to the head of an astonishing gorge. We walked into the gorge to study the Neolithic cave paintings (much imagination needed here!) while under the watchful gazes of Red-billed Choughs, and our first Blue Rock Thrushes of the trip. We soaked up the last reddened rays of the afternoon sun and made the short drive to our hotel to complete another great day.

### **Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> November**

Today's pre-breakfast outing was eagerly awaited by all, especially when we discovered it was possible to get a cup of coffee before setting out! Duly prepared, we got to the Planerón reserve in time for the sunrise. The single cloud on the horizon was just so placed as to delay the sun's appearance, so it was the birds and the company that had to provide the day's initial warmth.

On arrival we had already unwittingly put up a large flock of Common Cranes, and while we waited we occupied ourselves identifying the numerous Lesser Short-toed and Calandra Larks that were flying over our heads and around the fields. There was, however, no sign of our hoped-for Dupont's Lark, although the experience of seeing the first rays of sun reflected off the red cliffs on the horizon was special enough in itself.

After a hearty breakfast we returned to photograph the remains of the old bombed-out town of Belchite. Apart from being a haunting reminder of the Spanish Civil War, it was also a place which provided us with excellent views of a male Blue Rock Thrush and two soaring Golden Eagles.

Our next endeavour was to search for sandgrouse, and before too long we encountered our first group of some very handsome Black-bellied Sandgrouse. Some of us near the front of the van had also glimpsed a few rather distant Pin-tailed Sandgrouse too, but there would be more to come. These species normally reward persistence, and after more kilometres and several stops we had obtained good views of flocks of both species on the ground and in flight, and had become familiar with their far-ringing calls. According to my notes we saw about 40 Black-bellied Sandgrouse in all and about twice that number of Pin-tailed Sandgrouse.

With our minds set on these particular species it requires special effort to recall that we also saw Merlin, Red-legged Partridge and scores of Common Skylarks, Calandra and Lesser Short-toed Larks as well as a large bird that David thought could have been a Great Bustard, but which we were unable to relocate.

We descended to the River Ebro, past a White Stork's nest on a church, with one of its occupants still sitting there, waiting for spring? Down at a meander of the River Ebro it was calm and sunny, and it seemed like a nice place to have a picnic. Common Kingfishers were active and easy to spot as they darted along the river banks, we found several Goldcrests in the trees, two Great Egrets, Grey Herons, Common Buzzards, Cetti's Warblers, Western Marsh Harriers, European Green Woodpeckers (*sharpei* race), and a Firecrest at the petrol station car park.

We headed back to the plains to search for the very elusive Dupont's Lark once more and maybe some other pleasant surprises. On the way the last stretch of irrigated land was brimming with raptors: Hen Harrier, Western Marsh Harrier, Common Buzzard, Red Kite, Common Kestrel, and Peregrine Falcon were all noted in quick succession.

Back at the reserve we drew another duck with the Dupont's Lark, and in its place we made do with both Thekla and Crested Larks and a marvellous Golden Eagle, perched, at close range, and seen by all for a good length of time. Now that's just the kind of bird that the average bird tour group can really appreciate!

The relatively early rise had taken its toll on our energy levels, so after exploring some new territory to the south of the hotel we decided to call it a day, and to take stock of what we had already seen.

### **Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> November**

After breakfast an hour's drive took us to our first stop in the Monegros plains. Here was a large salt lake and a disused salt works. Panels described the unique crustaceans and bivalves that could be found here and some water from the recent rains had accumulated in the basin. A telescope was needed to identify the distant waders as Kentish Plover and Dunlin. There were also several Northern Shoveler on the lake and a few Black-bellied Sandgrouse which had taken to flight on our approach.

Here we were all focused on finding some of the Great Bustards that habitually winter in this area. After some driving, stopping and scanning, we finally picked up a group of eight Great Bustards in a bare field and managed to get out and watch them through the telescope. Despite the distance between us and them the bustards were rather wary and suddenly took to flight, enabling us to get excellent views of their flight characteristics.

A further search in the area revealed a good number of Black-bellied Sandgrouse, in ones and twos, and hidden in the scrubby vegetation. On a nearby shallow lake we saw the only Green Sandpiper of the trip before driving to our next destination, a small lake in an agricultural setting - very lively, and well worth the

visit. Numerous passerines darted here and there among the reeds and bushes, and these included Reed Bunting, Zitting Cisticola, Tree Sparrow, two Bearded Tits and several Penduline Tits. The latter were a challenge to set eyes on, but eventually most of the group got at least a glimpse of this attractive little bird.

On the lake itself there were lots of ducks, the highlight being a party of a dozen or so Red-crested Pochard. Apart from the ubiquitous Mallard we also spotted Gadwall, Eurasian Teal, Common Pochard, Northern Pintail, Northern Shoveler, Tufted Duck and Little Grebe. As we were leaving we flushed a juvenile Goshawk and, in contrast to what we expected, it didn't disappear faster than you could say its Latin name but actually landed in a nearby bush, and then on a wooden railing in view of all.

We had our picnic in the sun overlooking a dryland area where Dupont's Lark usually breed in small numbers, but, again, despite the numerous Lesser Short-toed Larks, Calandra Larks and Common Skylarks there was no sign of this enigmatic species. The question was now hanging in the air: where did the Dupont's Larks go at this time of the year?

After a welcome coffee break we headed for the hills with the hope of seeing one of our most wanted birds before reaching our hotel at Loarre. This was of course the Wallcreeper, and the site we were going to visit was a regular wintering area for this beautiful bird. Unfortunately we hadn't known about the works going on in the area, but we managed to carry out our activities around that particular inconvenience.

After some vigilance I spotted a Wallcreeper, but after alerting the group and turning back to look at the bird it had gone, and was not going to reappear. Nevertheless, we were not going to leave empty-handed. Shortly after we were all watching an adult Lammergeier flying low overhead in front of the cliffs, with the late afternoon sun bathing its undersides, and instantly creating one of those special birding moments we were not likely to forget in a long time.

From here we made the short journey to our hotel, via a brief but fruitless stop for Eagle Owl, but with the smiles still on our faces.

#### **Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> November**

A pre-breakfast outing to look at Loarre castle and its birds was a popular proposal; it had to be worth it just to get a photo or two of this well conserved castle and its magnificent setting.

There were a few interesting birds around the castle, not least the pair of Crested Tits which posed nicely for all of the group to see. On the ramparts of the castle itself there were dozens of Rock Sparrows, a couple of Red-billed Choughs and Spotless Starlings; the latter were also singing from the rooftops in the village when we returned for breakfast.

The rest of the morning would be dedicated to the Wallcreeper: to dreaming about and hoping for it; to finding and delighting over it; to recalling and talking about it. We walked, at times struggled, along the base of the impressive cliffs or "mallos" of Riglos and we got what we deserved - a Wallcreeper feeding at less than 20 metres from us. I even had time to rush back to fetch Chris, who was scanning another part of the rock face, and for the two of us to get back to the Wallcreeper "fast". "I can't do fast", said Chris, panting, but I can assure all that with the dangling carrot of the Wallcreeper in front of him he got pretty close! Obliging, the Wallcreeper was there, probing cracks in the rock face, flashing its carmine-coloured wings and flitting to another adjacent part of the rock face every now and then.

The truth is that we were marvelling so much at this bird that we could hardly take our eyes off it to look at the two very tame Alpine Accentors which were pecking about even closer, at times down to about five metres from us! Blue Rock Thrush, Crag Martin, and Red-billed Chough also made an appearance at this site, and then it was time to move on. We drove towards San Juan de la Peña via a lunch stop nearby, although the nearest village cafés were all closed! In Santa Cruz de Serós a single Alpine Chough flew over, but could it be admitted to the list? I heard its call while David saw "a chough" - could we put the two parts together and claim it? No?

Up at the monastery it was calm and very quiet. We listened but there wasn't much calling: Eurasian Nuthatch, a very occasional Short-toed Treecreeper and a tit or two. However, it was just right for a walk in the sunshine, first to one viewing area, then to another. On the way we picked up Crested Tit, Common

Crossbill and Firecrest. At the upper viewing area we stood or sat with Griffon Vultures sailing past us at eye level, and a couple of Common Ravens. David befriended a large green female Bush Cricket, or was it the other way round?

### **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November**

Today's plan was to drive eastwards to the central southern face of the Sierra de Guara, and to the Natural Park of the same name. We made a roadside stop to listen to singing Woodlarks and get the looks we could at a few songbirds, including Rock Sparrows and Rock Buntings. Then we drove up at a car park and looked around the walls of a reservoir. Before long we had spotted the "second" Wallcreeper of the trip below us and busy feeding. This was a great find because Andrew had missed out on the previous day and now had caught up with this mythical species too.

Then we watched a Peregrine Falcon on a perch in the sun before driving further eastwards to a site where Lammergeiers were regular visitors, and setting up vigil. There was a constant stream of Griffon Vultures, and we obtained tantalizing glimpses of lone Lammergeiers over somewhat distant crags. We changed perches ourselves and after some waiting managed to get more prolonged views of two Lammergeiers flying together. Flyover passerines were tantalizing: many could be heard but not seen, including Siskins and Citril Finches, but that did not douse our high spirits.

Lunch was tasty toast and drinks in a nearby hotel and for the last part of the day we decided on a visit to Alquézar, as well as a brief search for Hawfinch. We looked for the latter, an irruptive species in these parts, but our lack of success seemed to indicate that this was not a "Hawfinch year". However, we did come across a perched male Merlin and a Eurasian Sparrowhawk. Lastly, a gentle stroll around the magnificently restored medieval walled town of Alquézar was a fitting way to end our sojourn in Aragon.

### **Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> November**

An early start was in order as we had to be at Barcelona airport by midday. Nevertheless, we weren't going to do the drive with our eyes closed! A coffee stop at Lleida was accompanied by a flock of Monk Parakeets, and a look at one of their huge colonial nests. We also made time to have a quick search for one of the Little Bustard flocks that rove around the general area, although without luck. Then it was an uninterrupted, uneventful drive to Barcelona airport, which is usually what you want when you have to catch a flight, and farewells between the guide and the first Ornitholidays Aragon Tour participants. A lovely bunch, thanks so much for your enthusiasm!

### **Acknowledgements**

Thanks to the hotel staff at all three hotels for making meal times more flexible for us and preparing some great meals. Above all, thanks to the participants for their constant enthusiasm. It would have been quite a different tour without their keen eyes, appreciation of the food, hotel, weather and birds and their good company. Many thanks to Chris for allowing me to use his photos in this report.

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December 2012

**Summary of the weather:** It was mostly sunny and at times quite warm, with the exception of Sunday 11<sup>th</sup>, which was sunny, windy and cold, and on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> we encountered quite thick mist through parts of the day.

## CHECKLIST OF BIRDS SEEN DURING TOUR

No of days recorded	Abundance Scale
1 2h means seen on 1 day and heard on 2 other days	1 = 1 - 4
	2 = 5 - 9
	3 = 10 - 100
	4 = > 100

SPECIES	No of days recorded	Abundance Scale	SCIENTIFIC NAME
Mallard	5	4	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>
Gadwall	1	3	<i>Anas strepera</i>
Northern Pintail	1	1	<i>Anas acuta</i>
Northern Shoveler	1	3	<i>Anas clypeata</i>
Eurasian Teal	1	3	<i>Anas crecca</i>
Red-crested Pochard	1	3	<i>Netta rufina</i>
Common Pochard	1	3	<i>Aythya ferina</i>
Tufted Duck	1	1	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>
Red-legged Partridge	1	2	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>
Little Grebe	2	3	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>
Great Cormorant	6	3	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>
Cattle Egret	1	3	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>
Great Egret	1	1	<i>Ardea alba</i>
Grey Heron	4	3	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>
White Stork	2	3	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>
Lammergeier	2	1	<i>Gypaetus barbatus</i>
Eurasian Griffon Vulture	7	4	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>
Golden Eagle	3	2	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>
Bonelli's Eagle	1	1	<i>Hieraaetus fasciatus</i>
Red Kite	7	3	<i>Milvus milvus</i>
Western Marsh Harrier	3	2	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>
Hen Harrier	3	2	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>
Common Buzzard	5	3	<i>Buteo buteo</i>
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	2	1	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>
Northern Goshawk	1	1	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>
Common Kestrel	6	3	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>
Eurasian Hobby	1	1	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>
Merlin	2	1	<i>Falco columbarius</i>
Peregrine Falcon	4	2	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>
Water Rail	-	1h	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>
Common Moorhen	2	2	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>
Eurasian Coot	1	3	<i>Fulica atra</i>
Common Crane	4	4	<i>Grus grus</i>
Great Bustard	1	2	<i>Otis tarda</i>
Kentish Plover	1	3	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>
Northern Lapwing	3	3	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>
Dunlin	1	2	<i>Calidris alpina</i>
Green Sandpiper	1	1	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>
Black-headed Gull	1	1	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>
Yellow-legged Gull	1	1	<i>Larus michahellis</i>
Black-bellied Sandgrouse	2	3	<i>Pterocles orientalis</i>
Pin-tailed Sandgrouse	1	3	<i>Pterocles alchata</i>
Feral Pigeon (Rock Dove)	8	3	<i>Columba livia</i>
Common Wood Pigeon	6	4	<i>Columba palumbus</i>
Eurasian Collared Dove	7	3	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>
Monk Parakeet	2	3	<i>Myiopsitta monachus</i>
Common Kingfisher	1	1	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>
European Green Woodpecker	1	1	<i>Picus viridis</i>
Great Spotted Woodpecker	3	2	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>
Common Skylark	3	4	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>
Crested Lark	5	3	<i>Galerida cristata</i>
Thekla Lark	2	2	<i>Galerida theklae</i>
Woodlark	1	1	<i>Lullula arborea</i>
Lesser Short-toed Lark	2	3	<i>Calandrella rufescens</i>

Calandra Lark	2		4	<i>Melanocorypha calandra</i>
Eurasian Crag Martin	2		1	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>
Meadow Pipit	5		3	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>
Grey Wagtail	1		1	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>
White Wagtail	6		3	<i>Motacilla alba</i>
Duncock	-	1h	1	<i>Prunella modularis</i>
Alpine Accentor	1		1	<i>Prunella collaris</i>
European Robin	5		3	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>
Black Redstart	6		3	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>
Black Wheatear	1		1	<i>Oenanthe leucura</i>
Common Stonechat	2		1	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>
Blue Rock Thrush	3		1	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>
Song Thrush	2		2	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>
Mistle Thrush	5		2	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>
Common Blackbird	5		2	<i>Turdus merula</i>
Blackcap	2		1	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>
Sardinian Warbler	3	3h	2	<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>
Dartford Warbler	3	2h	2	<i>Sylvia undata</i>
Cetti's Warbler	-	3h	2	<i>Cettia cetti</i>
Zitting Cisticola	1		1	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>
Common Chiffchaff	3		2	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>
Goldcrest	3		2	<i>Regulus regulus</i>
Firecrest	3	1h	2	<i>Regulus ignicapillus</i>
Winter Wren	1	1h	1	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>
Great Tit	5		3	<i>Parus major</i>
Coal Tit	1	1h	1	<i>Pariparus ater</i>
European Blue Tit	3		2	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>
Crested Tit	1		1	<i>Lophophanes cristatus</i>
Long-tailed Tit	1		2	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>
Bearded Reedling	1		1	<i>Panurus biarmicus</i>
Eurasian Penduline Tit	1		1	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>
Eurasian Nuthatch	2		1	<i>Sitta europaea</i>
Wallcreeper	2		1	<i>Tichodroma muraria</i>
Iberian Grey Shrike	2		1	<i>Lanius meridionalis</i>
Common Magpie	4		3	<i>Pica pica</i>
Eurasian Jay	4		2	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>
Red-billed Chough	6		4	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>
Alpine Chough	-	1h	1	<i>Pyrrhocorax graculus</i>
Western Jackdaw	3		3	<i>Corvus monedula</i>
Carrion Crow	7		3	<i>Corvus corone</i>
Common Raven	4		2	<i>Corvus corax</i>
Common Starling	6		3	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>
Spotless Starling	3		3	<i>Sturnus unicolor</i>
House Sparrow	6		3	<i>Passer domesticus</i>
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	1		1	<i>Passer montanus</i>
Rock Sparrow	4		4	<i>Petronia petronia</i>
Common Chaffinch	6		4	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>
Brambling	2		1	<i>Fringilla montifringilla</i>
Common Linnet	6		4	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>
European Goldfinch	6		3	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>
European Greenfinch	1		1	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>
Eurasian Siskin	-	1h	1	<i>Carduelis spinus</i>
Citril Finch	-	1h	1	<i>Serinus cirinella</i>
European Serin	5		3	<i>Serinus serinus</i>
Common Crossbill	1		1	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>
Common Reed Bunting	1		3	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>
Cirl Bunting	2	1h	2	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>
Rock Bunting	2		2	<i>Emberiza cia</i>
Corn Bunting	5		3	<i>Miliaria calandra</i>

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

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**Wallcreeper**



**Firecrest**



**Bonelli's Eagle**



**Lammergeier**



**Bonelli's Eagle – showing transmitter**



**Pin-tailed Sandgrouse**



**Red Fox**



**Clouded Yellow**

**Front cover: Eurasian Griffon Vulture**

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