

Andalucía, species list and trip report, 10 to 17 October 2018

WILDLIFE TRAVEL



Andalucía 2018

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#	DATE	LOCATIONS AND NOTES
1	10 October	Flew from the UK to Málaga, Peñarrubia, Cuevas del Becerro, Ronda
2	11 October	Cueva del Gato, Grazalema, Puerto de las Palomas, Laguna de Medina, Tarifa
3	12 October	Strait of Gibraltar, Los Alcornocales Natural Park
4	13 October	Los Lances Beach, Guadalmesí, Sierra de la Plata
5	14 October	La Janda
6	15 October	Chipiona, Bonanza, Doñana National Park
7	16 October	Doñana National Park, La Dehesa de Abajo
8	17 October	Return to Málaga for our flights home



Above - Guadalmesí. Front cover - Grazalema

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Day One: 10 October. Flew from the UK to Málaga, Peñarrubia, Cuevas del Becerro, Ronda.

After a half-hearted attempt by fog in Gatwick to delay our departure, we were on our way; touching down in an overcast Málaga just 15 minutes later than planned. Meeting up with our local guides Manuel and Rocío, we were soon on our way west towards the town of Ronda, nestled between the Sierra de las Nieves Natural Park and the Sierra de Grazalema Natural Park.

Our first stop was in Peñarrubia in the Desfiladero de los Gaitanes Natural Park. The calcareous rocks here give rise to magnificent cliffs, caves and gorges, and we stopped at the base of a towering cliff with views over the three Guadalhorce-Guadarteja reservoirs for a picnic lunch (the town of Peñarrubia itself was actually flooded when the reservoirs were constructed in the 1970s). High above us around 30 Griffon Vultures were wheeling on the thermals, with many paired birds flying in tandem; Griffon Vultures pair for life, and this time of autumn is a great time to see their aerial courtship displays.

Alongside the Griffon Vultures, Peregrine, Sparrowhawk and Kestrel were spotted around the cliff face, and Crag Martins patrolled high above us, never seeming to pause for breath. Chirpy snatches of Blue Rock Thrush song drifted down from the cliff top, and closer at hand the slightly aggravated scolding call of Sardinian Warbler was frequently heard from deep within vegetation; a bird that was destined to be heard more than seen during our trip!

Under the warming sun we spotted the first of a fantastic seven Bonelli's Eagles seen during our week. This eagle of mountainous regions is considered endangered in Europe, and Spain is their main stronghold, where they are active predators of rabbits, partridges and pigeons. Our first sighting was a group of three, and the proximity and light gave us a wonderful opportunity to contrast the streaked white body and dark wing bar of the two adults with the more rufous colours of a juvenile bird.

Continuing south-west towards Cuevas del Becerro passing olive and almond groves, we made an impromptu stop by a farmstead. Within a field of sheep, over 100 Griffon Vultures were dotted across the ground, and here again, the brighter and more richly covered juvenile birds could be distinguished. As we watched the vultures (who admittedly weren't doing much, except when an excitable dog occasionally flushed them), we heard singing Corn Bunting and Crested Lark along the field's edges.

A short drive further and we made a quick stop outside the village of *Cuevas del Becerra* (the calves' cave), stopping on a farm track lined with Fennel *Foeniculum vulgare* and scrambling Squirting Cucumber *Ecballium elaterium*, the latter providing interest with its bristly fruits that squirt out a seed-containing liquid. Two more Bonelli's Eagles were spotted here soaring high, with Swallowtail and Clouded Yellow butterflies flying along the verges, before we continued on to our hotel in Ronda.

After some time to settle in to our hotel, we took a walk through Ronda; a town with much Neolithic and Roman history. Passing through the centre we reached the Tajo gorge with the *Río Guadalevín* far below and breathtaking views across the landscape. For those prepared to look down, a mixture of hirundines were flying below us - House Martins, Sand Martins and Crag Martins, and a brief glimpse of Crossbill was managed by a couple as it flew over our heads. We continued our walk around to the *Puente Nuevo* (new bridge), spotting a small group of chunky Rock Sparrows flying through the gorge, and later some Choughs, with their 'zingy' calls. After that, nothing more to do than enjoy our first Spanish dinner, as pipistrelle bats began their nights' foraging.

Day Two: 11 October. Cueva del Gato, Grazalema, Puerto de las Palomas, Laguna de Medina, Tarifa.

After breakfast we set out west through fields of wheat, vines and olives, taking in the beautiful scenery of Andalucía's *pueblos blancos* (white villages). The narrow streets and buildings in these villages have a decidedly 'Moorish' feel, with houses whitewashed to keep them cool during the hot summer months.

Our first stop of the morning was at the scenic *Cueva del Gato* (cat's cave), part of an extensive karstic system, fronted by a shallow pool. Blackcaps were busy feeding on figs in the car park, and as we made our way to the bridge over the *Río Guadiaro* we spotted a Pied Flycatcher darting along the fence line. As

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we paused on the bridge to watch a Grey Wagtail on the bank below, the loud calls of a Cetti's Warbler drew our attention. Much to everyone's delight we enjoyed a fantastic performance from this renowned skulker of a warbler, as it flitted beneath us calling loudly, with rapid alternating flicks of its wings, in what was presumably a courtship display. Continuing to the pool, along a track fringed with Oleander *Nerium oleander* and Giant Reed *Arundo donax*, we had fleeting glimpses of both Dipper and Kingfisher, before the darkening skies and claps of thunder encouraged us to beat a hasty retreat back to the car park.

Our drive took us north and then west towards Grazalema. Along the way we spotted a rather bedraggled Lesser Kestrel on a post before we headed into more wooded *dehesa* (wood-pasture) grazed by traditional Retinta cattle, with Holm Oak *Quercus ilex* giving way to Cork Oak *Quercus suber* as we travelled. The Cork Oaks here are harvested by hand (usually every nine years) for their outer bark, and the trunks of the more recently stripped trees were bright orange-red.

As we neared Grazalema the landscape became more open, and we took the opportunity to stop and soak up the views. Another wheel of Griffon Vultures revealed on closer inspection a Black Vulture in their midst. A group of around 30 Choughs flew through, with birds occasionally perching on cliff faces, as we enjoyed the descending melody of a Woodlark. Rock and Cirl Bunting calls could also be heard from nearby bushes, but both species were reluctant to show themselves. A foray to the nearby waterworks was cut short by the rain, but we did spot a good number of White Wagtails toughing out the weather. It was then a short drive to the picturesque village of Grazalema, which was living up to its reputation for rain, but following lunch and a coffee, it cleared up just in time for our departure.

Setting off north from Grazalema the winding road passed mountainsides covered with Aleppo Pine *Pinus halepensis*, Strawberry Tree *Arbutus unedo*, Wild Olive *Olea europaea* and Carob *Ceratonia siliqua*. On a slope above us we spotted a Spanish Ibex, nimbly working its way along the mountainside, and shortly after a second; a large male sporting a fine set of curved horns. We reached the mountain pass of *Puerto de las Palomas* (pigeons' pass), which at 1,357m gave us a fantastic panorama, under ever-brightening skies. We had good views of a beautifully marked Rock Bunting here, along with Black Redstart, and Griffon Vultures soaring close overhead; showing just how huge they really are! A party of four Spanish Ibex lay far out of reach on a slope above us, relaxed as they chewed the cud, with another group of five silhouetted on the skyline, seemingly watching us, watching them.

Our last stop of the day was at *Laguna de Medina* (Medina Lake). As we arrived we had good views of an Osprey, which continued to appear periodically during our visit. Out on the water we found around 30 Ferruginous Ducks, along with the distinctive White-headed Duck, a species that was almost lost from Spain in the 1970s as a result of loss of wetland habitat and hunting. Scanning over the lake, we found large numbers of Pochard, along with both Little Grebe and Black-necked Grebe, allowing us to contrast their buff/brown (Little) and black/white (Black-necked) winter plumages. Along the lake's edges, Purple Swamphen and Glossy Ibis foraged, and on the far shores a Black-winged Kite sat in a dead tree - although distant, its piercing amber-red eyes could still be seen. A White Stork flew over and a single Whiskered Tern was seen feeding around bobbing Yellow-legged Gulls.

The last stretch of our journey took us towards Tarifa, crossing over the *Río Barbate* and through a landscape full of Stone (Umbrella) Pine *Pinus pinea*, realm of the Northern Bald Ibis, before we reached our home for the next four nights.

Day Three: 12 October. Strait of Gibraltar, Los Alcornocales Natural Park.

Our destination this morning was the bustling town of Tarifa, busier still as today was *Fiesta Nacional de España* (the national day of Spain). The clear skies gave us great views over the Strait of Gibraltar towards Morocco, which is only around 14km away at this point. We soon boarded our whale-watching boat and were headed out through the harbour into the Strait.

The Strait of Gibraltar has been identified as an Important Bird Area, and as we made our way out we spotted large Cory's Shearwaters gliding on long wings, close to the water, along with several Gannets. Around 900m at its deepest, we were headed for an area of 400-600m depth where the currents create

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good feeding conditions for cetaceans. As we scanned there were occasional leaps and splashes from Atlantic Bluefin Tuna and a few people caught sight of the bizarre looking Ocean Sunfish, before our first dolphins were sighted. A large group of Striped Dolphins were moving through an area ahead of us, and as they got closer a few smaller and slightly differently marked Short-beaked Common Dolphins were spotted among them - despite the name the Mediterranean population is considered endangered, as a result of overfishing and bycatch, but probably also pollution and disturbance. We enjoyed some time with these cetaceans before continuing our journey, bringing the Rock of Gibraltar (or Mons Calpe - one of the Pillars of Hercules) in to view.

Before too long another group of cetaceans was spotted, and soon identified as Bottlenose Dolphins; somewhat larger and more modestly marked than our previous two species. The dolphins came in close to the boat allowing us to spot a couple of smaller calves (they will stay with their mothers for several years), and as they travelled past there were occasional acrobatic leaps and spins as they appeared to be hunting. The action wasn't restricted to the waves, as during our trip a procession of birds was migrating over us from Europe to Africa. These were predominantly Short-toed Eagles, but we also spotted Honey Buzzard and Sparrowhawk, and more surprisingly; a Little Egret travelling in the opposite direction. As we made our way back to the harbour we spotted a small group of Balearic Shearwaters - smaller and with a much more rapid, fluttering flight than the Cory's.

We headed next to Los Alcornocales Natural Park; named for the extensive Cork Oak woodland here. As we passed the Almodóvar Reservoir we spotted several Spanish Pond Turtles basking, along with Thekla Larks on the nearby banks. We took a walk here from the Mirado Puerto de Ojén with its views over park, passing open areas, scrubland and woodland, with verges dotted with Autumn Crocus *Colchicum autumnale*. Within a Griffon Vulture flock, a Rüppell's Vulture was spotted - given away by its smaller size and pale wing bars. The warm weather had brought out many invertebrates and we found Small Copper, Wall and Lang's Short-tailed Blue amongst other butterflies, along with Violet Carpenter Bee, European Mantis, and both Blue- and Red-winged Grasshoppers.

Day Four: 13 October. Los Lances Beach, Guadalmesí, Sierra de la Plata.

Today we started our day close to home with a visit to *Playa de los Lances*, where a boardwalk took us through coastal marshes towards lagoons and the beach. As we walked Northern Wheatear, Crested Lark and Stonechat could be spotted on the fence lines, while Zitting Cisticola dived into the scrub.

We found a row of Audouin's Gulls, sat on posts - the light just right to make out the detail on their bills. Within the lagoons a number of waders were feeding, including Kentish Plover, Dunlin, Bar-tailed Godwit and Common Sandpiper. As we watched a Greater Flamingo flew in to land, and a Grey Heron caught a large fish before spending a considerable time figuring out how to eat it, arousing interest from several gulls. An Osprey came into land in the shallow water, flushing a Little Egret, and we had good views of a juvenile Honey Buzzard as it flew over. As we made our way back past a reedbed alive with bird chatter, a group of Red-rumped Swallows flew over. Taking the opportunity for a coffee stop close to the beach, we caught sight of our only Black Kite of the trip. As we enjoyed the sunshine, news came back on our recently spotted colour-ringed Audouin's Gull - it had been ringed in the Ebro Delta in north-eastern Spain in summer 2000.

We headed a short way east to Guadalmesí where the rising temperature was encouraging soaring birds into the skies as they prepared to make the crossing to Africa. Above us hundreds of Griffon Vultures were swirling, with Hobby, Sparrowhawk and Booted Eagle spotted along with a hovering Short-toed Eagle. Moving on we headed to the Sierra de la Plata for our final stop. Among the Griffon Vulture colony we spotted Alpine Swifts and Booted Eagle, with Cattle Egrets picking around cattle as they enjoyed an afternoon *siesta*. We also spotted a couple of Monarch butterflies - a North American species that has established breeding colonies in parts of Andalucía. A stop to enjoy the view towards the Roman ruins and beaches of Bolonia from *Cueva del Moro* (Moor's Cave) and we returned to the hotel. Following dinner, a few of us ventured out again, headed for an area of sand dunes near Barbate. Searching the vegetation by torchlight we were rewarded before long with our target species - the beautifully quirky Common Chameleon, finding three of these wonderful reptiles before we headed back to the hotel.

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Top - Bottlenose Dolphin; Cetti's Warbler; Spanish Ibex. Middle - Griffon Vultures; Common Chameleon; Tarifa; Autumn Crocus; Rock Bunting. Bottom - Cattle Egret.

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Day Five: 14 October. La Janda.

A drizzly day dawned as Andalucía received the tail end of Hurricane Lesley. We headed northwards, turning first towards Tahivilla to search for Little Owls. Despite the weather's best efforts, we managed to spot six of these tiny tyrants perched on fence posts and buildings.

As the rain started to ease off we headed for our main site for the day, passing fields of Cattle Egrets searching for worms following the downpour. La Janda is a large expanse of rice paddies, cotton fields and pastures, which was the location of one of the largest lake and wetland complexes in Europe before it was drained systematically over many decades. As we drove up the main access track, Zitting Cisticolas flitted along the margins, and Spanish Sparrows joined the Corn Buntings in roadside bushes. The soft clucks of Red-legged Partridge accompanied our drive, along with fluting Crested Lark song.

Hundreds of White Storks could be seen feeding in the harvested fields along with Marsh Harriers quartering. A small group of Lapwing flew overhead and a Spanish Imperial Eagle was spotted distantly on a pylon - its characteristic white 'shoulder' visible. Within the drainage ditches alongside the track we spotted Kingfisher, Green Sandpiper and several juvenile Night Herons hiding among the vegetation, and several Red Swamp Crayfish (an invasive non-native species here) were spotted crossing the track.

Reaching a suitable spot for our picnic, the ever warming weather was again providing a good range of invertebrates to look at. We found the stunning Violet Dropwing here along with Red-veined Darter, and Zeller's Skipper, a large and dark skipper feeding on the Squirting Cucumber. This is principally an African species, found only patchily in Spain. Unbelievably as we finished our lunch, two Bonelli's Eagles flew in to view; we really did well with this species! They were joined shortly by a pale morph Booted Eagle, with the three spiralling together providing a useful comparison of both the difference in size and plumage.

Continuing our journey through La Janda we came across around 100 Glossy Ibis feeding along a wet edge, with all taking to the sky in an iridescent flurry as a Marsh Harrier flew in close. Further along a Little Egret seemed to be having a stand off with a large group of some 100 Cattle Egrets, some of which were still showing traces of their orangey breeding plumage. We spotted a small group of Little Ringed Plover probing a harvested field before meeting traffic in the form of a large herd of cattle being driven along by a couple of disgruntled cowboys. The afternoon was quieter but there was some time to stretch our legs before we headed back to the hotel, passing by fields of *ganado bravo* (fighting bulls) - the occupants safely in the distance!

Day Six: 15 October. Chipiona, Bonanza, Doñana National Park.

We set out this morning headed north-west towards Doñana, spotting a group of seven Northern Bald Ibis flying over the road. As we drove, vineyards became more prevalent as we headed through the heart of the sherry producing region. Our first stop was in the town of Chipiona, home to the tallest lighthouse in Spain and, of more immediate interest, a colony of Little Swift, a real speciality of this area. The swifts were busy flying and still feeding last broods of young, and as we watched the high trilling calls of Alpine Swifts could be heard, with three spotted flying amongst the Little Swifts - two for the price of one!

We continued on to the local lakes, where we had great views of the rare Marbled Duck, along with White-headed Duck and Red-crested Pochard. A Squacco Heron flew overhead, and in the fringing vegetation Night Heron and Little Bittern were found. A small group of Black-winged Stilts were feeding along muddy edges and Common Waxbills flitted among the reeds, whilst Penduline Tits called but proved evasive. As we prepared to leave we watched a juvenile Purple Swamphen receive a brutal attack from an adult bird.

Our next stop was the large commercial salt pans at Bonanza, with its system of evaporation ponds. The first pans are the focus of human activity but as we drove further into the site, Greater Flamingos and Avocets heralded the start of the birds. We enjoyed some close range views of an Osprey on a post, before looking over the pans. A dozing Slender-billed Gull, delicate Greenshank, Redshank and Grey Plover were all close at hand, and more distantly a Black Stork joined Spoonbills, Great Egret and yet more Greater Flamingos.

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Skirting around Seville, we continued on to Doñana, stopping to check in to our hotel in El Rocío - an unusual town paved with sand that is home to the annual *Romería de El Rocío* (Pentecost pilgrimage). We had some time to take in the 'wild west' feel before making our own pilgrimage, with our first visit to Doñana National Park.

Unfortunately the weather was not on our side this afternoon, and as we reached Doñana the rain became progressively harder. We took a drive through the northern section of the park, exploring some of the *marisma* (marsh). Unsurprisingly wildlife was harder to find, but we did see Spoonbill and Snipe braving the weather, along with several Red Deer and a small group of Wild Boar rooting under a tree. Returning to El Rocío we enjoyed dinner in a restaurant under the shadow of a stunning Wild Olive tree, estimated to be 800 years old, as a Tawny Owl screeched distantly.

Day Seven: 16 October. Doñana National Park, La Dehesa de Abajo.

It came as a relief to see the sun again this morning, as we headed back to Doñana National Park to explore further. Established in 1969, the National Park itself covers around 54,000 hectares, with the surrounding Doñana Natural Park taking the total protected area to around 128,000 hectares. With such a vast area we took a four-wheel drive truck to give us an opportunity to see and understand the important complex of habitats found here.

With Jorge at the helm, we set off, entering the National Park at its Atlantic-facing coastline, with some 20km of sand dunes reaching out ahead of us. As we headed along the beach, Sanderling and Kentish Plover were spotted, along with a mixed group of Audouin's, Lesser Black-backed and Yellow-legged Gulls. Turning in to the dunes we could start to see the dynamic system at work here. The dunes advance at a rate of 3-6m a year, periodically overwhelming and killing the Stone (Umbrella) Pines found in the slacks. We had some time to explore the dune, finding footprints of Red Fox and Common Genet, before we spotted a Spanish Imperial Eagle perched in a distant tree.

Continuing on, the pine and juniper clad dunes graded into scrubland with a mosaic of Mastic *Pistacea lentiscus*, heathers, myrtles, Wild Olive, pines and Cork Oak. We spotted good numbers of Red Deer, and in the marshes they were joined by Fallow Deer. As we drove we passed a Spanish Imperial Eagle sitting in a tree only around 20m from the track. Driving slowly to minimise disturbance, we had a wonderful view of this impressive and endangered bird, one of the Park's specialities, with twelve pairs present, and within just a few minutes we spotted yet another. Following a stop by the *Río Guadalquivir* where large numbers of dragonflies patrolled among the trees, we set off back to the dunes. Another group of gulls was found here - joined by Caspian, Sandwich and Lesser Crested Terns. With the retreating tide, fisherman had ventured onto the beach to harvest clams by hand.

Leaving the National Park, we headed past rice paddies being stalked by Black Storks to La Dehesa de Abajo. Stopping alongside a large lake with an estimated 4,500 Greater Flamingos providing a fantastic spectacle. Large numbers of Black-tailed Godwit were busy feeding, and among the many Coots we picked out a Red-knobbed Coot, along with Gadwall and Marbled Duck. Large numbers of noisy Spanish Sparrows flitted among the fringing vegetation and along with Tree Sparrow; we also spotted a pair of Black-headed Weavers, an African species that has become established in this area.

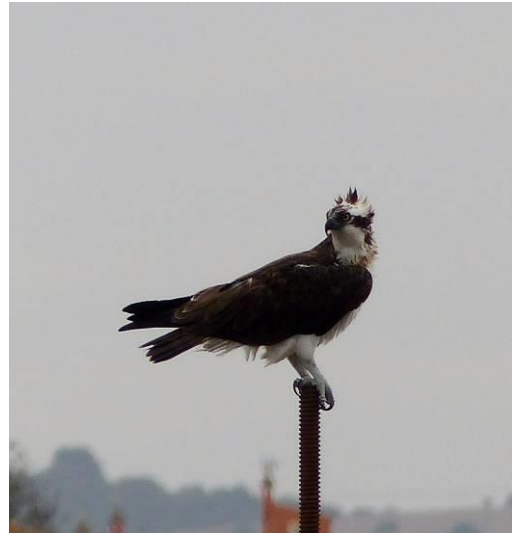
We headed onwards to a more wooded area in the heart of Iberian Lynx country, to spend the last couple of hours of daylight. Alas it wasn't to be this time, and whilst we had a good walk through the forest, we didn't manage to spot the region's most famous mammal this time.

Day Seven: 17 October. Return to Málaga for our flights home.

It was an early start this morning back to Málaga, with a stop en-route for breakfast before we reached the airport in plenty of time for our flights home.

Thank you to all the travellers for joining us in Andalucía, and to our guides Manuel and Rocío for giving us such a great introduction to their local patch. **Laurie Jackson, Wildlife Travel. October 2018.**

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Top - Red Deer; Osprey. Middle - Autumn Mandrake; Doñana National Park. Bottom - Greater Flamingos in La Dehesa de Abajo.

ANDALUCÍA 2018: some highlights

	ENGLISH NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	10 th	11 th	12 th	13 th	14 th	15 th	16 th	17 th
BIRDS (H - heard only)										
Family Anatidae (Ducks, geese, swans)										
	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	◆	◆	◆		◆	◆	◆	
	Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>		◆					◆	
	Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>		◆					◆	
	Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>		◆					◆	
	Marbled Duck	<i>Marmaronetta angustirostris</i>						◆	◆	
	Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>		◆				◆		
	Red-crested Pochard	<i>Netta rufina</i>						◆	◆	
	Pochard	<i>Aythya farina</i>		◆						
	Ferruginous Duck	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>		◆						
	White-headed Duck	<i>Oxyura leucocephala</i>		◆				◆		
Family Phasianidae (Pheasants, partridges)										
	Red-legged Partridge	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>		◆			◆			
Family Podicipedidae (Grebes)										
	Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>		◆						
	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>		◆				◆		
	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>		◆						
Family Procellariidae (Shearwaters and Petrels)										
	Cory's Shearwater	<i>Calonectris borealis</i>			◆	◆				
	Balearic Shearwater	<i>Puffinus mauretanicus</i>			◆					
Family Sulidae (Gannets)										
	Gannet	<i>Morus bassanus</i>			◆	◆				
Family Phalacrocoracidae (Cormorants)										
	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis</i>		◆	◆					
Family Ardeidae (Herons)										
	Little Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>						◆		
	Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>					◆	◆		
	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	
	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>		◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	
	Great Egret	<i>Casmerodius albus</i>						◆		
	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Family Ciconiidae (Storks)										
	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>		◆			◆	◆	◆	
	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>						◆	◆	
Family Threskiornithidae (Ibises, spoonbills)										
	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>		◆			◆			
	Northern Bald Ibis	<i>Geronticus eremita</i>		◆				◆		
	Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>					◆	◆	◆	
Family Phoenicopteridae (Flamingoes)										
	Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>		◆		◆			◆	
Family Accipitridae (Hawks, eagles, vultures)										
	Griffon Vulture	<i>Gyps fulva</i>	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
	Rüppell's Vulture	<i>Gyps rueppelli</i>			◆	◆				
	Black Vulture	<i>Aegypius monachus</i>		◆						
	Osprey	<i>Pandion halietus</i>		◆		◆		◆		
	Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	◆							
	Spanish Imperial Eagle	<i>Aquila adalberti</i>					◆		◆	
	Booted Eagle	<i>Aquila pennata</i>		◆	◆	◆	◆			
	Bonelli's Eagle	<i>Aquila fasciata</i>	◆				◆			

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	ENGLISH NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	10 th	11 th	12 th	13 th	14 th	15 th	16 th	17 th
	Short-toed Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>		◆	◆	◆				
	Red Kite	<i>Milvus milvus</i>						◆		
	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>				◆				
	Black-winged Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>		◆			◆			
	Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>		◆	◆		◆	◆	◆	
	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	◆		◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
	Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>			◆	◆	◆			
	Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	
Family Falconidae (Falcons)										
	Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	
	Lesser Kestrel	<i>Falco naumanni</i>		◆		◆				
	Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>			◆	◆				
	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	◆		◆	◆	◆			
Family Rallidae (Rails, crakes)										
	Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>		◆				◆	◆	
	Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>		◆				◆	◆	
	Red-knobbed Coot	<i>Fulica cristata</i>							◆	
	Purple Swampphen	<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>		◆				◆		
Family Haematopidae (Oystercatchers)										
	Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>							◆	
Family Recurvirostridae (Stilts, avocets)										
	Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>						◆	◆	
	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>		◆				◆	◆	
Family Burhinidae (Stone curlews)										
	Stone Curlew	<i>Burhinus oedicephalus</i>				◆				
Family Charadriidae (Plovers)										
	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>					◆	◆	◆	
	Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>				◆				
	Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>				◆			◆	
	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>						◆	◆	
	Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>					◆		◆	
Family Scolopacidae (Sandpipers)										
	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>				◆			◆	
	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>				◆		◆		
	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>						◆		
	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>		◆		◆	◆	◆	◆	
	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>					◆	◆		
	Redshank	<i>Tringa tetanus</i>						◆		
	Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>						◆		
	Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>						◆	◆	
	Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>				◆				
	Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>					◆	◆	◆	
Family Laridae (Gulls)										
	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>				◆		◆	◆	
	Slender-billed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus genei</i>						◆		
	Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
	Audouin's Gull	<i>Larus audouinii</i>				◆			◆	
	Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>					◆	◆	◆	
Family Sternidae (Terns)										
	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>			◆					
	Arctic Tern	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>			◆					
	Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>						◆	◆	
	Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandwicensis</i>			◆	◆			◆	
	Lesser Crested Tern	<i>Thalasseus bengalensis</i>							◆	

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	Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonia hybrida</i>		◆						
Family Columbidae (Pigeons and doves)										
	Rock Dove/Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
	Woodpigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	
	Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	
Family Strigidae (Owls)										
	Tawny Owl	<i>Strix aluco</i>						H	H	
	Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>					◆		H	
Family Apodidae (Swifts)										
	Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>						◆		
	Pallid Swift	<i>Apus pallidus</i>		◆						
	Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>						◆		
	Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>		◆		◆				
Family Upupidae (Hoopes)										
	Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>						◆	◆	
Family Alcedinidae (Kingfishers)										
	Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>		◆			◆		◆	
Family Alaudidae (Larks)										
	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>	H	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	
	Thekla Lark	<i>Galerida theklae</i>			◆	◆				
	Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>		◆		H				
	Lesser Short-toed Lark	<i>Calandrella rufescens</i>						◆		
	Calandra Lark	<i>Melanocorypha calandra</i>				◆				
Family Hirundinidae (Swallows and martins)										
	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	◆			◆				
	Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>	◆			◆				
	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>		◆	◆					
	Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Hirundo daurica</i>			◆	◆	◆			
	House Martin	<i>Delichon urbica</i>	◆	◆	◆	◆				
Family Motacillidae (Wagtails and pipits)										
	Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>		◆			◆			
	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>		◆	◆		◆		◆	
	Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>				◆	◆	◆		
	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	◆	◆						
Family Troglodytidae (Wrens)										
	Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>		H						
Family Cinclidae (Dippers)										
	Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>		◆						
Family Muscicapidae (Chats and flycatchers)										
	Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>		◆	◆			◆		
	Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>			◆				◆	
	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>		◆						
	Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>		◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>				◆	◆	◆	◆	
	Pied Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>		◆						
Family Turdidae (Thrushes)										
	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	◆					H		
	Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	◆	◆	◆	◆		◆	◆	
	Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>	◆	◆		◆				
Family Cisticolidae (Cisticolas)										
	Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>				◆	◆	◆	◆	
Family Sylviidae (Sylviid warblers)										
	Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	◆	◆	◆					
	Sardinian Warbler	<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>	H	H	H	◆	H	◆	◆	

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Family Cettidae (Bush warblers)										
	Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>		◆			H	H	H	
Family Phylloscopidae (Leaf warblers)										
	Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	H	◆		H	H			
Family Regulidae (Kinglets)										
	Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapilla</i>			◆					
Family Paridae (Tits)										
	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		◆	◆					
	Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		◆	◆		H		◆	
	Crested Tit	<i>Lophophanes cristatus</i>			◆					
Family Remizidae (Penduline tits)										
	Penduline Tit	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>								
Family Sittidae (Nuthatches)										
	Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>			H					
Family Certhiidae (Treecreepers)										
	Short-toed Treecreeper	<i>Certhia brachydactyla</i>		H	◆					
Family Laniidae (Shrikes)										
	Iberian Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius meridionalis</i>							◆	
Family Corvidae (Crows)										
	Azure-winged Magpie	<i>Cyanopica cooki</i>						◆	◆	
	Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>						◆	◆	
	Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>		◆	◆					
	Jackdaw	<i>Corvus monedula</i>	◆	◆		◆	◆	◆	◆	
	Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>		◆						
	Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>		◆	◆		◆			
Family Sturnidae (Starlings)										
	Spotless Starling	<i>Sturnus unicolor</i>	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Family Passeridae (Sparrows)										
	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	
	Spanish Sparrow	<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>					◆			
	Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>							◆	
	Rock Sparrow	<i>Petronia petronia</i>	◆	◆						
Family Fringillidae (Finches)										
	Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆		◆	
	Linnet	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>			H	◆	◆	◆	◆	
	Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	
	Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>		◆		◆	◆			
	Serín	<i>Serinus serinus</i>	◆				◆			
	Common Crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>	◆							
Family Emberizidae (Buntings)										
	Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>		◆	◆	◆				
	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	
	Rock Bunting	<i>Emberiza cia</i>		◆						
Family Estrildidae (Waxbills)										
	Common Waxbill	<i>Estrilda astrild</i>							◆	
Family Ploceidae (Weavers)										
	Black-headed Weaver	<i>Ploceus melanocephalus</i>							◆	

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MAMMALS										
Bats										
	a pipistrelle bat	<i>Pipistrellus</i> sp.	◆							
Cetaceans (Whales, dolphins and porpoises)										
	Short-beaked Common Dolphin	<i>Delphinus delphis</i>			◆					
	Striped Dolphin	<i>Stenella coeruleoalba</i>			◆					
	Bottlenose Dolphin	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>			◆					
Rodents, insectivores and lagomorphs										
	Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>						◆	◆	
Ungulates (deer, goats, pigs)										
	Spanish Ibex	<i>Capra pyrenaica</i>		◆						
	Red Deer	<i>Cervus elaphus</i>						◆	◆	
	Fallow Deer	<i>Dama dama</i>							◆	
	Wild Boar	<i>Sus scrofa</i>						◆	◆	

FISH										
	Ocean Sunfish	<i>Mola mola</i>			◆					
	Atlantic Bluefin Tuna	<i>Thunnus thynnus</i>			◆					

REPTILES										
	Common Chameleon	<i>Chamaeleo chamaeleon</i>				◆				
	Mediterranean House Gecko	<i>Hemidactylus turcicus</i>		◆						
	Spanish Pond Turtle	<i>Mauremys leprosa</i>			◆					
	Moorish Gecko	<i>Tarentola mauritanica</i>		◆	◆	◆	◆	◆		

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LEPIDOPTERA - Butterflies										
Family Hesperidae (Skippers)										
	Zeller's Skipper	<i>Borbo borbonica</i>					◆			
Family Papilionidae (Swallowtails, festoons, apollo)										
	Common Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>	◆	◆						
	Scarce Swallowtail	<i>Ipheclides podalirius</i>				◆	◆			
Family Pieridae (Whites)										
	Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>					◆			
	Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias crocea</i>	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆		
Family Lycaenidae (Blues, coppers, hairstreaks)										
	Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>			◆					
	Lang's Short-tailed Blue	<i>Leptotes pirithous</i>			◆					
	Holly Blue	<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>			◆					
	Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus Icarus</i>			◆					
Family Nymphalidae (Nymphs, fritillaries and browns)										
	Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>							◆	
	Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>			◆		◆		◆	
	Two-tailed Pasha	<i>Charaxes jasius</i>			◆					
	Wall	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>		◆	◆	◆			◆	
	Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>			◆	◆				
	Marbled White	<i>Melanargia galathea</i>			◆					

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	Monarch	<i>Danaus plexippus</i>				◆				
LEPIDOPTERA - Moths										
Family Sphingidae (Hawkmoths)										
	Hummingbird Hawk-moth	<i>Macroglossum stellatarum</i>		◆				◆		
Family Erebididae (Underwings and tussocks)										
	Mediterranean Tiger Moth	<i>Cymbalophora pudica</i>				◆	◆			
	Crimson-speckled Moth	<i>Utetheisa pulchella</i>								◆
Family Noctuidae (Noctuids)										
	Oak Eggar	<i>Lasiocampa quercus</i>				◆	◆			

ODONATA - Dragonflies and Damselflies										
Family Aeshnidae (Hawkers)										
	Migrant Hawker	<i>Aeshna mixta</i>							◆	
	Emperor Dragonfly	<i>Anax imperator</i>			◆				◆	
Family Libellulidae (Chasers)										
	Willow Emerald	<i>Lestes viridis</i>			◆					
Family Libellulidae (Chasers)										
	Red-veined Darter	<i>Sympetrum fonscolombii</i>					◆			
	Common Darter	<i>Sympetrum striolatum</i>				◆	◆			
	Violet Dropwing	<i>Trithemis annulata</i>					◆			

OTHER INVERTEBRATES										
ARANEAE (Spiders)										
	Banded Garden Spider	<i>Argiope trifasciata</i>		◆						
COLEOPTERA (Beetles)										
	Red Palm Weevil	<i>Rhynchophorus ferrugineus</i>				◆				
DECAPODA (Decapod crustaceans)										
	Red Swamp Crayfish	<i>Procambarus clarkii</i>					◆			
HYMENOPTERA (Grasshoppers and allies)										
	European Hornet	<i>Vespa crabro</i>			◆					
	Violet Carpenter Bee	<i>Xylocopa violacea</i>			◆					
MANTODEA (Mantids)										
	European Mantis	<i>Mantis religiosa</i>			◆					
ORTHOPTERA (Grasshoppers and allies)										
	Egyptian Locust	<i>Anacridium aegyptium</i>					◆			
	Blue-winged Grasshopper	<i>Oedipoda caerulescens</i>			◆	◆	◆			
	Red-winged Grasshopper	<i>Oedipoda germanica</i>			◆	◆	◆			

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Selected plants species seen

	SCIENTIFIC NAME	ENGLISH NAME
ANGIOSPERMS: DICOTYLEDONS		
Anacardiaceae (Sumac Family)		
	<i>Pistacia lentiscus</i>	Mastic
Apiaceae (Carrot Family)		
	<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	Fennel
Apocynaceae (Dogbane Family)		
	<i>Nerium oleander</i>	Oleander
Asteraceae (Daisy Family)		
	<i>Dittrichia viscosa</i>	Woody Fleabane
	<i>Scolymus hispanicus</i>	Common Golden Thistle
Cactaceae (Cactus Family)		
	<i>Opuntia ficus-indica</i>	Fig of the Berbers (Prickly Pear)
Cucurbitaceae (Gourd Family)		
	<i>Ecballium elaterium</i>	Squirting Cucumber
Ericaceae (Heath Family)		
	<i>Arbutus unedo</i>	Strawberry Tree
	<i>Corema album</i>	Portuguese Crowberry
Fabaceae (Pea Family)		
	<i>Ceratonia siliqua</i>	Carob
Fagaceae (Beech Family)		
	<i>Quercus ilex</i>	Holm Oak
	<i>Quercus suber</i>	Cork Oak
Lamiaceae (Mint Family)		
	<i>Thymus mastichina mastichina</i>	a thyme (endemic to central Iberia)
Moraceae (Mulberry Family)		
	<i>Ficus carica</i>	Fig
Oleaceae (Olive Family)		
	<i>Olea europaea</i>	Wild Olive
Rosaceae (Rose Family)		
	<i>Prunus dulcis</i>	Almond
Solanaceae (Nightshade Family)		
	<i>Mandragora autumnalis</i>	Autumn Mandrake
ANGIOSPERMS: MONOCOTYLEDONS		
Arecaceae (Palm Family)		
	<i>Chamaerops humilis</i>	Dwarf Fan Palm
Asparagaceae (Asparagus Family)		
	<i>Prospero autumnale</i>	Autumn Squill
Colchicaceae (Colchicum Family)		
	<i>Colchicum autumnale</i>	Autumn Crocus (Meadow Saffron)
Poaceae (Grass Family)		
	<i>Arundo donax</i>	Giant Reed
Smilacaceae (Greenbrier Family)		
	<i>Smilax aspera</i>	Common Smilax
GYMNOSPERMS: CONIFERS		
Cupressaceae (Cypress Family)		
	<i>Juniperus phoenicea</i>	Phoenician Juniper
Pinaceae (Pine Family)		
	<i>Pinus halepensis</i>	Aleppo Pine
	<i>Pinus pinea</i>	Stone Pine (Umbrella Pine)