

# **WILDLIFE TRAVEL**

28<sup>th</sup> Sept to 5<sup>th</sup> Oct 2013



## **The Algarve 2013**

**Trip report by Mike Russell**

## Algarve trip report, 28<sup>th</sup> September to 5<sup>th</sup> October 2013

### Leader & Guide

Mike Russell

Georg Schreier

28 <sup>th</sup> Sept	London to Tavira
29 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Castro Marim
30 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Castro Verde Bustard Protection Project, Alentejo
1 <sup>st</sup> Oct	Tavira
2 <sup>nd</sup> Oct	Quinta do Lago; Rio Formosa; Lago Selgado
3 <sup>rd</sup> Oct	Sagres, raptor watchpoint
4 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Cabo St Vincente, raptor watchpoint
5 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Sagres; Lago Selgado; Faro lagoon; Ludo Return to UK

A little late I'm sorry to say, but I hope that this will now give you a chance to fondly reminisce over these long cold nights of winter. Overall impressions at the end seemed that everyone thought it a great holiday, accommodation, landscape, birds, dolphins and above all people all combined to create a very successful week in the Southern Portugal.

### 28<sup>th</sup> September

An easy journey to Faro and the Sussex contingent met up at the Airport with David and Elizabeth, flying in from Manchester and arrived in good time for lunch at the Hotel Vila Gale Albacora where Hazel was already well settled and had selflessly absorbed all the really bad weather on behalf of the group the night before. I think everyone was really happy with hotel, great location, comfortable rooms, good food and surrounded by wonderful wildlife: what more could we want?

So, after a couple of hours to settle in, we were off to explore the saltpans and the first of the lessons in wader identification. Before we really got into the waders, a nearby **crested lark** introduced itself, the first of many, and a more distant raptor which we identified as an extremely dark **marsh harrier**. **Sardinian warbler** called from the low vegetation, a sound we were going to hear throughout the week. The saltpans allow great views of waders close by and are just full of birds of many species, 24 different species of wader for the week and they do come relatively close to allow great views.

The three very similar sandpiper- like species were all in close proximity, **dunlin**, **curlew sandpiper** and **sanderling** enabling the subtle differences to confuse one even more! The numerous **avocets** and **black-winged stilts** were easier to sort out and for some, there was an introduction to the very pale **Kentish plovers**. Other more familiar waders paraded before us. As with the waders, some gulls were in winter plumage just to make as work a little harder but managed to find a **Mediterranean gull** flying over.

It was disappointing to see that a field that once was good for stone curlew was now covered in plastic but we did pick up a few birds in the adjoining fields, **northern wheatear**, **whinchat** and **red-legged partridge** were all familiar but it was good to encounter a juvenile **woodchat shrike**.

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As dusk beckoned we made our way back to the hotel and get ready for our first meal, but not before tackling the nightly important ritual of the bird list and a glass of the very acceptable Portuguese beer.



### 29<sup>th</sup> September

After the shock for some of getting up and being out by 8.00, we were off but not very far to the nearby Castro Marim Nature Reserve next to the Rive Guardiana and the Spanish border, a large area of saltmarsh, saltpans and pools and where we met up with our guide from Natura-Algarve for the day, the lovely Barbara. The weather for the day was overcast with occasional showers which we expertly avoided by going for coffee and lunch!

The first venture of the morning was a walk along by a river and a lot of activity on and over the water. Plenty of **little egrets** and **grey herons** along the edge of the water and we saw our first of many white storks for the week. Mainly **sandwich terns** but also a few **little terns** patrolled over water but the real highlight of the morning was the wonderful sight of at least 150 **spoonbills** in flight silhouetted against a darkening sky and this spectacle was enough for John to name the spoonbill as the best bird of the holiday.

Away from the water we started to pick up some of the passerines that we don't often see at home, the first being a **zitting cisticola** which delighted everyone with their little display flight. We also got good views of pied flycatcher along the track as well as **stonechat** and a few more whinchats.

Being fair weather birders that we are, the onset of a little drizzle sent us scurrying back to the coach and into the town of Castro Marim for a coffee which was very welcome both in terms of refreshment and also price, where despite querying the bill, all 12 of us got a drink for 9.50 euros in total! The rain eased and we were off again to some more pools which were alive with birds again and more excellent close-ups of waders and were able to compare both **black-tailed** and **bar-tailed godwits**. Most people got to see a **kingfisher** well but perhaps the best sighting here was a **little owl** on a nearby roof being mobbed by a **magpie**. We saw little owls later on in the week and this charming bird was nominated their favourite by Hazel, Lindsay, Claire and David. Meanwhile a **peregrine** cruised overhead, unsettling the waders below.

Time for lunch and off to the Restauranta Manel d'Água which I think was a very good choice and is one of the best fish restaurants in the area, but I must admit I really enjoyed my black pork! A brief respite from birding was then allowed as some of us went to look around the Castelo Castro Marim while others opted for a gentle stroll around the town, but then it was back to the Park and the Visitor Centre, which happens to be closed at weekends, and was situated beneath the impressive bridge that connects Portugal and Spain. Many of the birds already seen were around but did manage to add a few new ones such as **greenshank**, **green sandpiper** and the large **Caspian tern**. A **painterly lady** was also seen flying around in the deepening gloom.

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A beer and meal beckoned so we said goodbye to Barbara and headed back to the hotel and before dispersing to our rooms many of us admired the exhausted looking **red-rumped swallows** still raising young in a nest outside one of the rooms.

The groans that greeted the news that we were going to be leaving at 7.15 the next morning could be heard all the way back to Tavira, but I held my nerve and everyone seemed to make it quite easily in the end.



### 30<sup>th</sup> September

There was time to catch up on your sleep on the bus journey to Castro Verde and it was a lovely journey taking us through some wonderful landscape, with just a couple of alert people seeing one of the last **bee-eaters** of the summer on the way. Arriving in Castro Verde at the right time, we managed to find Sonia from LPN (Nature Protection League) and one of the people involved in the Great Bustard Conservation Project. Transferring into 2 vehicles, we set off for a day exploring the rolling steppes of the Alentejo.

Not being blessed with brilliant weather, we nevertheless had some great views of the speciality birds, and it wasn't long before we saw the species that is the focal point of the project, the **great bustard**. Views were distant but reasonable and we counted 11 in all before 4 split off into a separate group. We managed to get even better views later on in the afternoon. Another bird that sped by low over the ground that puzzled us for a while until a return flight and really close view revealed as a **black-bellied sandgrouse**. It was certainly the best view of this species for me, so it got the vote as the best bird of the trip from me.

Driving across the steppe and getting out the vehicles for the occasional walk you got a real feel for this special and now rare habitat and so important for many declining species. At one point we all enjoyed views of an obliging **tawny pipit** while **calandra larks** were also noted. The magic of the landscape was enough for Will to make it his most memorable moment of the holiday. A stop at a distant small lake allowed us to pick out a first **snipe** and only **little ringed plover** and **black-necked grebe** of the trip

We headed for the highest point of the Alentejo, the church at Sra de Aracelis and were able to enjoy fabulous views across the steppes while a couple of obliging pied flycatchers flittered about below and red-rumped swallows, **house martins** and **crag martins** fluttered overhead. As we got back into the vehicles a raptor slowly cruised into view overhead and though it came close the light wasn't brilliant, eventually the salient features announced to be a **Bonelli's eagle**. Definitely time for lunch now!

So it was off to the Project's Centre where a traditional Alentejo lunch was laid on and what a magnificent spread it was too. This was my third experience of their hospitality: despite there being 11 of us eating heartily, we seemed to make no impression on the food at all! The film about the project was also very good and I think it was really important that we supported the work that they do as not many other tours do this and they now need to try and generate more income as their European Funding had now expired.

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I had a feeling there was almost a sense of reluctance to get out again after the splendid lunch but into the vehicles we got only to get out again just a few hundred metres down the track. Another raptor flew across and perched conveniently on a relatively near stone and again a puzzle ensued as to what it was but eventually, and by process of elimination it was a juvenile **Spanish imperial eagle**, only to be joined by another one as well. This is one of the breeding strongholds for this species in Iberia.



After exploring more of the Steppe the weather deteriorated and eventually we headed back to the Bus Station but not before finding another local speciality an **Iberian grey shrike**. During the day we found a few butterflies as well, the very familiar **red admiral** and **hummingbird hawk-moth** and Hazel managed to locate a **Queen of Spain Fritillary**. So, hopefully we were able to contemplate a very successful and enjoyable day on the journey back to the hotel

### 1<sup>st</sup> October

A free day! However despite previous protestations about early morning starts, a number of you joined me on the pre-breakfast walk and again after breakfast where the salt pans provided some excellent birds again and at one point we were able to compare a **curlew** and a **whimbrel** standing side by side. The highlight of the morning was seeing a close-by **osprey** that had successfully caught what looked like to be a mullet and was triumphantly ferrying it head first to an eating place. This scene struck a chord with Elizabeth and she had no qualms in naming it her bird of the holiday, while for Lindsay it was definitely the most memorable moment mainly for her complete inability to vocalize what she was looking at!

While the rest of us were gazing into the distant looking for winged wildlife, David has his eyes firmly fixed to the ground at the ants and the volcano shaped anthills really grabbed his attention as they were everywhere and this little scenario that he said he would take home with him. On the exposed mud, we were all also captivated by the **fiddler crabs** that were emerging out of their holes.

For the rest of the day, some exploring or relaxing around the hotel, David and Elizabeth ventured into Tavira and Will managing to find a place to sketch. Me being me, I went off to the salt pans and saw a **slender-billed gull** which I couldn't add to the list unless anyone else saw it and luckily I saw Will

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walking back and hauled him over to see it. A number of you had noted the tiny butterflies that were numerous amongst the flowers around the rooms as well and I remembered these being the **Lang's short-tailed blue**.

Now, I think we all agreed that the hotel was excellent all round but I have to say the packed lunch I had today was the probably the most miserable I've ever had! Oh well. I'll know better for next time.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> October

Changeover today and so we left the lovely Hotel Vila Gala Albacora for an action-packed day as we made our way to Sagres. Our first stop was at Quinta do Lago, this part of the Rio Formosa Natural Park situated amongst the posh villas and golf courses. Meeting up with Barbara again, we had a splendid couple of hours seeing wonderful birds and dodging golf balls. We had seen **azure-winged magpies** before but here they were everywhere moving across the golf course and amongst the pines and exotic enough for Nigel to vote it his bird of the holiday. Excellent views of **hoopoe** were to be gained here as well.

The focus of this site is the lagoon, home to many birds and is one of the best places in Europe to see the **purple swamphen** and as soon as arrived at the water we were able to see one without difficulty and were even able to watch it strip the reeds with its huge clown-like feet. This overgrown moorhen type bird got Will's vote as his favourite bird while the other speciality of this area was also seen well. Both male and female **little bitterns** were well observed, clambering through the reeds giving great views and earning Diana's vote as her best bird.

From the hide we could see that the lake was full of ducks the majority of which were common pochard but there were also plenty of **gadwall**, **little grebes** and **great crested grebes**. In the distance a **booted eagle** circled around, a bird we would get much better views of over the next few days. Meanwhile in the reeds the familiar sound of a **Cetti's warbler** was frequently heard and we did manage to see one in the end, along with a **sedge warbler**. Two established escaped species were around here, the first we noticed was the **black-headed weaver** which is a fairly new arrival while later on some of us got to see the tiny **common waxbills** that have been in the Algarve for some time now. We got to see the Iberian race of the **green woodpecker** here as well.

Barbara was now anxious to move us on and so we left Quinta and drove the short distance around to Faro Beach where, after a very welcome coffee, we boarded a boat for a very enjoyable ride down through the waters to the Marina in the city itself. There were birds all the way, lots of waders, egrets, cormorants, and wildfowl and another excellent view of an osprey. A surprise was seeing a huge white bird amongst the egrets was a **sacred ibis** which had been around the area for a couple of years now and there is still uncertainty whether it's a genuine wild bird or an escapee.

Barbara met us at the Marina as there was no room for her in the boat and took us off to a very nice restaurant, the Adego Nova which is one that she frequents regularly and a very good choice indeed.

Our appetites sated, we then headed westwards and arrived at Lake Salgado after a little trouble finding the way. This area has been the subject of a long conservation battle as there are plans to create yet more golf courses and coastal developments and it wasn't looking good as much of the lake had been drained, but there were still a lot of birds around. Amongst the throng were a number of **glossy ibis** and **ruff**, neither of which we had seen before.

Time was getting on and so we had to finally leave Barbara who had been such nice company and make our way to the Hotel Balieira at Sagres, totally different to the previous hotel place but just as interesting in its own right, the modern 60's style as against the traditional style of the Albacora. Very comfortable rooms and wonderful views over the harbour and the food were very good once they got the dietary requirements sorted out, though I think a few of you found the restaurant manager slightly overbearing!

Sadly, we had to say goodbye to Louis our driver up to now who had to make his way back to Faro; he had been an excellent driver so helpful and also very interested in what we were seeing.

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### 3<sup>rd</sup> October

A beautiful morning, just as well as we were going to spend out at sea! We met Georg in the Harbour and even before setting off we saw 3 new species **blue rock thrush**, **black redstart** and **pallid swift** flying overhead. David and Elizabeth opted to give the boat a miss and go for an explore around Sagres, so the rest of us settled down and on leaving the harbour sped out to what we could find in the great Atlantic Ocean.

It wasn't very long before a pod of **common dolphins** found us and proceeded to stay with our boat for some time the delight of everyone. We came across a pod on three occasions which was wonderful and it was no surprise that three people Debbie, Nigel and Hazel all thought it there special moment of the week, which was very stoic of Debbie and Nigel particularly in view as the swell of the boat was not to their liking!

There weren't large numbers of birds but what we did see were species that, apart from **gannets**, are not easy to see from land. There were quite a few **Cory's shearwater**, but just one each of **sooty shearwater** and **great shearwater** was very special, so special in fact that for Diana, these shearwaters and the boat trip in general was her special memory. As well as shearwaters, you hope to see some tiny petrels and sue enough after throwing out the chum and then rolling about in the swell a few came in, first the **European storm petrel** and then the slightly larger **Wilson's storm** petrel tip-toed by on the water.

Now, I'm sorry to have to raise this Debbie, but I think probably my most memorable moment was as we were rolling around in the swell, you laying with you head in your arms wishing it was all over, suddenly lifted up your head, pointed and shouted "storm petrel" and then went back to where you were! I'm also not sure you and Nigel agreed with John when he said that his most memorable moment was the calmness of the sea about 6 miles off the coast! On the way back there was some discussion as to whether a **marlin** had been seen. Anyway, we all made it safely back to shore and a nice lunch at the Bar San Vicente, constantly being interrupted by raptors passing overhead, a good omen for the afternoon ahead.

Some decided that the morning activities were tiring enough to warrant a quiet afternoon back at the hotel, so the rest of us went on to spend a couple of hours at the raptor watchpoint just outside the town. It was a great walk up to the point and it was here that we were introduced to the **thekla lark**, virtually identical to the crested lark but told apart by song and habitat and we would come across them a number of times over the next couple of days. Debbie was enchanted by these birds and made it her favourite bird. Also, walking through the pines, the place was alive with **willow warblers**. At the Watchpoint there were a number of birders there already, some counting as part of a national survey, others just enjoying the spectacle, and what a spectacle it was.

During the hour we were there and Georg was excellent in identifying most of them as some were quite high, and also we were introduced to the term 'kettle', a number of birds circling overhead in the thermals. On occasions there were possibly over a hundred birds in the air, **booted eagles** and **short-toed eagles** making up the majority of them, but also there were a few **Bonelli's eagles**, while slightly away from the point we located a single **honey buzzard** and a goshawk and to add to the raptor feast a **sparrowhawk** and a **peregrine** both put an appearance. Straining your neck looking for raptors was hard work so some relief was taken admiring the **swallowtail** butterflies passing over the vegetation

A pretty good afternoon really and enough for Claire to nominate it her best moment of the trip. On the way back a large flock of **chough** passed over our heads to finish the birding for the day. So it was back to the hotel and a very welcome drink and meal.

### 4<sup>th</sup> October

Another lovely warm day and we started off at the very tip of Western Europe at Cabo St Vincente and could admire some of the seabirds that we saw at ocean level yesterday, mainly gannets and Cory's shearwaters passing below us but we did pick up a single **great skua**. Those that missed out on the choughs yesterday managed to see them today, and as the sun warmed up so did the raptors and there were more booted eagles and also a single **black kite**.

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Dragging some of you away from the stalls before you spent all your money, we headed up a track in the bus on some nearby farmland but hadn't got far when there seemed a lot of passerine activity, so we all got out again and had fun trying to identify these small birds that flitted by. There were many willow warblers but in amongst them Georg picked out a **spectacled warbler** which we all got to see in the end. On this track we also came across our first **linnets** of the holiday.

Eventually we made it to the farm buildings where, going in search for some 'facilities', a number of you found a **little owl** in the buildings while the rest of us were also watching another one sitting unconcerned on the ground. Also here were a number of the Spanish race of the **yellow wagtail**. Wandering off down another track, our attention was taken by a large flock of birds in the distance which turned out to be **stone curlews**, not a brilliant view though. Lunch beckoned and we ended up eating our much better packed lunch from this hotel at the Bar San Vicente again, courtesy of the very nice proprietor and once again raptors interrupted with one booted eagle coming over at roof level height.

Again the option was given to go to the Raptor Watchpoint which most people opted for, but David and Elizabeth decided to walk down to the Nautical Museum only to find it closed but I think they had a nice time anyway! Elizabeth in fact that the memory she will take back with her was the lovely Atlantic coast and that it reminded her of the Devon and Cornish coast. Back at the Watchpoint it was amazing that given the weather was very similar, how fewer raptors there were compared to yesterday, though we did get a view of a **kestrel** harassing a goshawk and it was great fun listening to the 'alpha' birders discussing whether they had seen an **Eleanora's falcon** or not. From my point of view the bird I saw and saw well was that it was an Eleanora's so down on the list it went.

Although there were fewer raptors, the walks to and from the Watchpoint were full of birds, especially the pines as they were full of pied flycatchers and willow warblers, but also Georg did pick out an **Iberian chiffchaff**. Being back early at the hotel Nigel and I decided that we hadn't had quite enough birding so spent an hour over towards the cliffs outside the hotel which again was full of passage migrants, lots of northern wheatears, whinchats and warblers and we were also pleased to see a **turtle dove**. Out in the harbour we had a little discussion as to whether a distant black bird was either a cormorant or a **shag**, but a decided as I was the leader, it was the latter!

Before our last meal of the trip it was lovely to sit round and listen to your memories of the holiday and your favourite bird and it was an interesting in the very differing accounts and showed that the holiday had maintained interest throughout the week. I think everyone was very impressed with the hotel, especially its location.

### 5<sup>th</sup> October

Our last day but evening flights meant that we had the whole day ahead of us! So, a few of us decided to go for an early walk over the rough ground again and enjoyed more views of migrants and added to manage **whitethroat** to the list.

After a leisurely breakfast, we headed off back to Faro but first stopping off at Lake Salgado again, this time in the bright sun. Georg was also explained a bit more about the development plans for the area which, still very undesirable from a conservation point of view there were some mitigation proposals that would provide some replacement habitat but undoubtedly its value will be diminished.

Nevertheless the Lake was still full of birds this time hundreds of white storks and glossy ibises that, as the sun warmed up took off and floated over our heads catching the warming thermals, a spectacular sight. The previous day we had a very unsatisfactory glimpse of a **subalpine warbler**, so it was great to see one here out in the bright sunlight. Leaving here we then went off to Faro Lagoon and some fabulous views of waders, gulls and terns and we got really close views of Caspian tern again. Georg got very excited when I found a **Brent goose** as it's a very unusual sighting this far south.

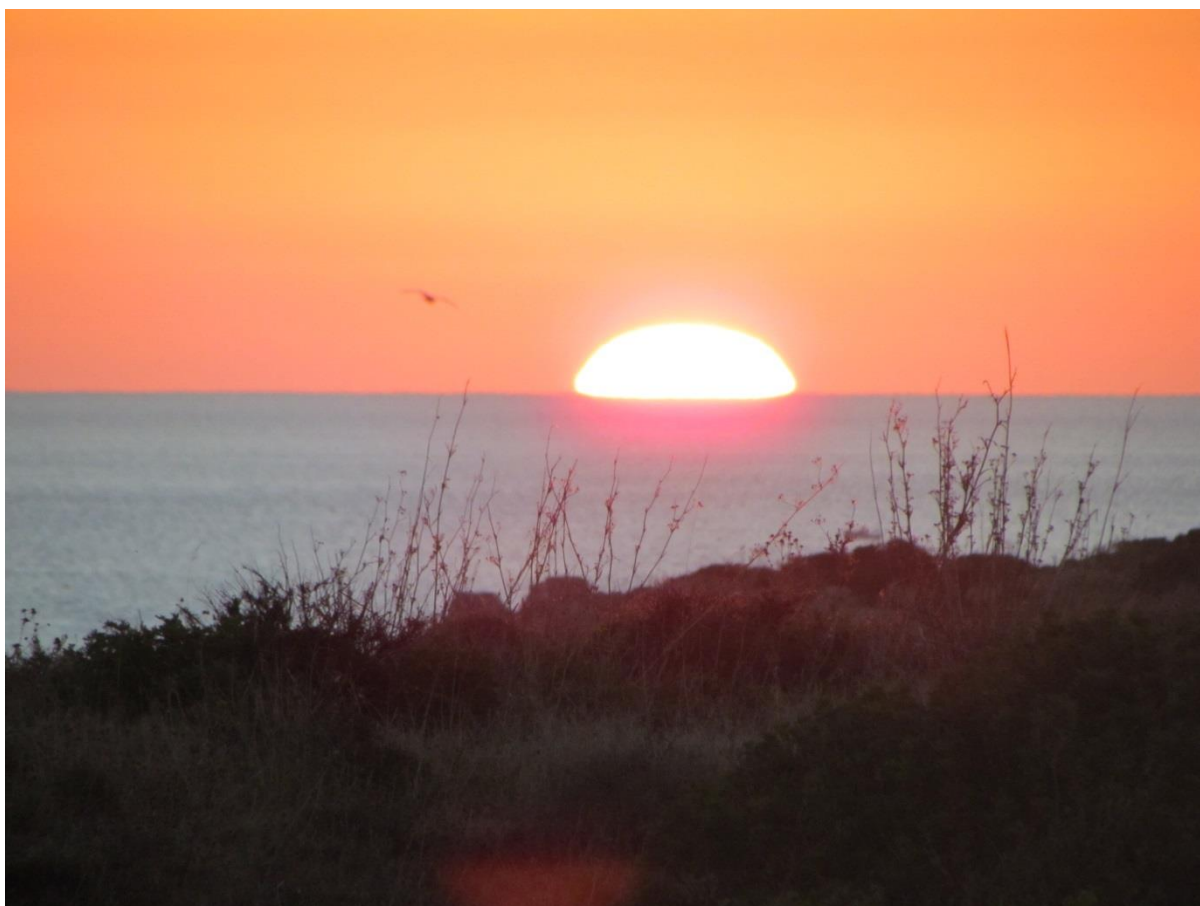


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Onto lunch and a very good, cheap self-service restaurant at Montenegro and there was still time to spend about 30 minutes or so at some nearby pools and what a grand finale it was. Georg found us a lake full of duck including a **red-crested pochard** and a number of marsh harriers quartered the fields behind the lake and also a couple of booted eagles drifted into view. Just as we were getting ready to go, two distant pale raptor-like birds were slowly coming towards which turned out to be **black-winged kites**, a great bird to finish on!



We then headed back to the Airport and said goodbye to Georg who had been great and enthusiastic guide during our time in Sagres. We had some great vies of birds and butterflies and the trip had taken us to some lovely places in Southern Portugal. I hope that this report brings back some of those fond memories for you.



*Thanks to Nigel for the great photographs*

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<b>Family Anatidae (Ducks, Geese &amp; Swans)</b>									
Brent Goose	<i>Branta bernicla</i>								•
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	•	•	•	•	•			•
Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>	•	•	•	•	•			•
Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>		•			•			•
Wigeon	<i>Anas penelope</i>		•		•				•
Red-crested Pochard	<i>Netta rufina</i>								•
Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>					•			
<b>Family Phasianidae (Pheasants and Partridges)</b>									
Red-legged Partridge	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>	•	H	•	•	•		H	
<b>Family Podicipedidae (Grebes)</b>									
Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>		•			•			•
Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>		•		•	•			•
Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>			•					
<b>Family Sulidae (Gannets)</b>									
Gannet	<i>Morus bassanus</i>						•	•	
<b>Family Procellariidae (Shearwaters and Petrels)</b>									
Cory's Shearwater	<i>Calonectris diomedea</i>						•	•	
Great Shearwater	<i>Puffinus gravis</i>						•		
Sooty Shearwater	<i>Puffinus griseus</i>						•		
<b>Family Hydrobatidae (Storm Petrels)</b>									
European Storm-petrel	<i>Hydrobates pelagicus</i>						•		
Wilson's Storm-petrel	<i>Oceanites oceanicus</i>						•		
<b>Family Phalacrocoracidae (Cormorants)</b>									
Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>		•		•	•			•
European Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>							•	
<b>Family Ardeidae (Hérons)</b>									
Little Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>					•			
Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	•	•	•	•	•		•	•
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	•	•	•	•	•			•
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>		•	•	•	•			•
<b>Family Ciconiidae (Storks)</b>									
White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>		•		•	•		•	•
<b>Family Threskiornithidae (Spoonbills and Ibises)</b>									
Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>					•	•		•
Sacred Ibis	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>					•			
Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>		•		•	•			•
<b>Family Phoenicopteridae (Flamingoes)</b>									
Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>	•	•	•	•	•			•
<b>Family Accipitridae (Hawks and Eagles)</b>									
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	•			•	•			•
Spanish Imperial Eagle	<i>Aquila adalberti</i>			•					
Bonelli's Eagle	<i>Aquila fasciata</i>			•			•		
Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>					•	•	•	•
Short-toed Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>						•	•	
Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>							•	
Black-winged Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>								•
Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	•	•						•
Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>						•		
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>							•	•
Northern Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>						•	•	
Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>						•	•	

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<b>Family Falconidae (Falcons)</b>									
Peregrine	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>		•						
Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>		•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Eleanora's Falcon	<i>Falco eleonora</i>							•	
<b>Family Rallidae (Rails and Crakes)</b>									
Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>					•			•
Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>		•			•			•
Purple Swamphen	<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>					•			•
<b>Family Otidae (Bustards)</b>									
Great Bustard	<i>Otis tarda</i>			•					
<b>Family Recurvirostridae (Avocets and Stilts)</b>									
Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>	•	•		•	•			
Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	•	•		•	•			•
<b>Family Haematopidae (Oystercatchers)</b>									
Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>				•				
<b>Family Burhinidae (Stone curlews)</b>									
Stone Curlew	<i>Burhinus oedichnemus</i>						H	•	
<b>Family Scolopacidae (Sandpipers)</b>									
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>	•	•		•	•			•
Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	•	•		•	•			
Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>	•	•		•				
Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>	•	•		•	•			•
Knot	<i>Calidris canutus</i>	•	•		•				
Turnstone	<i>Arianaria interpres</i>	•			•	•	•		•
Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>			•	•	•			•
Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>					•			
Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>	•	•		•	•			•
Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>	•	•		•	•			•
Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arqueta</i>				•	•			•
Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>				•	•			•
Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>	•	•		•	•			•
Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>		•		•	•			•
Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>		•	•		•			
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	•	•		•	•	•		
<b>Family Charadriidae (Plovers)</b>									
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>	•			•	•			•
<b>Family Stercorariidae (skuas)</b>									
Great Skua	<i>Stercorarius skua</i>							•	
<b>Family Laridae (Gulls)</b>									
Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	•	•		•	•	•	•	•
Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>	•	•		•	•	•	•	•
Audouin's Gull	<i>Ichthyaetus audouinii</i>				•				
Mediterranean Gull	<i>Ichthyaetus melanocephalus</i>	•				•			•
Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	•	•	•	•	•			•
Slender-billed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus genei</i>				•				
<b>Family Sternidae (Terns)</b>									
Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>	•	•		•	•	•		•
Little Tern	<i>Sterna albifrons</i>		•			•			
Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>						•		
Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>		•		•	•			•

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<b>Family Columbidae (Pigeons and Doves)</b>									
Rock Dove/Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Woodpigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>		•						
Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Turtle dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>							•	•
<b>Family Pteroclididae (Sandgrouse)</b>									
Black-bellied Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles orientalis</i>			•					
<b>Family Strigidae (Owls)</b>									
Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>		•	•				•	
<b>Family Apodidae (Swifts)</b>									
Pallid Swift	<i>Apus pallidus</i>						•	•	
<b>Family Upupidae (Hoopoes)</b>									
Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>	•	•		•	•			•
<b>Family Meropidae (Bee-eaters)</b>									
Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>			•					
<b>Family Alcedinidae (Kingfishers)</b>									
Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>		•		•	•			
<b>Family Picidae (Woodpeckers)</b>									
Iberian Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis sharpei</i>					•			
Wryneck	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>							H	
<b>Family Alaudidae (Larks)</b>									
Calandra Lark	<i>Melanocorypha calandra</i>			•					
Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>	•	•	•	•	•			•
Thekla Lark	<i>Galerida theklae</i>						•	•	•
Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>							•	
<b>Family Hirundinidae (Swallows and Martins)</b>									
Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>			•					
House Martin	<i>Delichon urbica</i>		•	•				•	
Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Hirundo daurica</i>		•	•	•	•			
Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>		•		•	•		•	
<b>Family Motacillidae (Pipits and Wagtails)</b>									
Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>			•	•			•	
Spanish Wagtail	<i>Motacilla (flava) iberiae</i>						H	•	•
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>			•					•
<b>Family Turdidae (Thrushes and Chats)</b>									
Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>		•	•	•		•	•	
Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>	•	•			•		•	•
Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>							H	
Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochrurus</i>						•	•	•
Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>						•		
Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>		•	•	•	•	•	•	•
<b>Family Sylviidae (Warblers)</b>									
Sardinian Warbler	<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>								•
Western Subalpine Warbler	<i>Sylvia cantillans</i>						•		•
Spectacled Warbler	<i>Sylvia conspicillata</i>							•	
Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schonobabeus</i>					•		•	
Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>		•		•	•	•	•	•
Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>					•			•
Iberian Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus ibericus</i>							•	
Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>						•	•	•

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<b>Family Muscipidae (Flycatchers)</b>									
Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>					•	•	•	•
Pied Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>		•	•		•	•	•	•
<b>Family Laniidae (Shrikes)</b>									
Iberian Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius meridionalis</i>			•	•				
Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>	•					•	•	
<b>Family Corvidae (Crows)</b>									
Iberian Azure-winged Magpie	<i>Cyanopica cooki</i>		•	•		•			
Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	•	•	•	•	•			
Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>								•
Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>						•	•	•
Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>			•					
<b>Family Sturnidae (Starlings)</b>									
Spotless Starling	<i>Sturnus unicolor</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
<b>Family Passeridae (Sparrows)</b>									
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
<b>Family Ploceidae (Weavers)</b>									
Black-headed Weaver	<i>Ploceus melanocephalus</i>					•			
<b>Family Fringillidae (Finches)</b>									
Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>				•	•		•	
Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		•		•	•	•	•	
Linnet	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>							•	•
<b>Family Estrildidae (Waxbills)</b>									
Common Waxbill	<i>Estrilda astrild</i>					•			
<b>Family Emberizidae (Buntings)</b>									
Corn Bunting	<i>Miliaria calandra</i>	•	•	•	•				

<b>BUTTERFLIES &amp; MOTHS</b>									
Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>								
Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>								
Queen of Spain Fritillary	<i>Issoria lathonia</i>								
Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias croceus</i>								
Lang's Short-tailed Blue	<i>Leptotes pirithous</i>								
Hummingbird Hawk-moth	<i>Macroglossum stellatarum</i>								