

Egypt - Birds & History

Naturetrek Tour Report

3rd – 16th February 2026



pygmaea Yellow Wagtail



Greater Hoopoe-Lark



Dawn on the Nile



Esna Temple

Tour report by Ian Andrews



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Tour participants: Ian Andrews (leader), Watter Al-Bahry (local bird guide) and Ahmed Yassin (local cultural guide) with 11 Naturetrek clients

Summary

Our ambitious itinerary took us to both iconic archaeological sites and lesser-known temples, as well as an impressive range of natural habitats. To reach these locations, we travelled by coach, 4×4s, small boats, *dababiya*, train and plane. This year's journey coincided with an unexpected winter heatwave, with daytime temperatures regularly exceeding 30°C. Such unseasonal conditions may have contributed to some of the early migration we observed.

Our local bird guide, Watter, brought boundless enthusiasm to every day, and as he shared his expertise, we quickly gained an appreciation of the remarkable diversity of species and subspecies found in Egypt, many of which still await detailed scientific study.

It was an extraordinary experience: we all learned to apply “patience and flexibility” (as advised by one of our local guides) to get the very best out of an amazing holiday!

Day 1

Tuesday 3rd February

The group were met at Cairo Airport by Yasser, who expertly guided us through. We were then driven to our hotel, where Watter, our expert local bird guide, was waiting to introduce himself.

Day 2

Wednesday 4th February

Next morning, the drive to the Grand Egyptian Museum was quite a journey: Cairo's legendary traffic really is something you have to experience to believe. With our archaeological guide, Ernest, we explored the huge, recently-opened museum, which felt impressively spacious compared to the crowded halls of the old Cairo Museum. Among the many highlights were the Colossal Statue of Ramesses II, the Grand Staircase, King Khufu's 4,600-year-old Solar Boat, and the entire contents of Tutankhamun's tomb (except for his mummy), as discovered by Howard Carter in 1922.

Our short stay in Cairo ended with lunch overlooking the Pyramids and the Great Sphinx at Giza (we would return in a few days!). But we couldn't leave without visiting a papyrus shop, which included a demonstration on how the plant can be transformed into paper. Having met up with Watter again, we were soon on our way to Tunis, where the Fayoum oasis meets Lake Qarun.

Day 3

Thursday 5th February

The birding part of our Egyptian adventure began with an exciting few hours by the lake and fish pools. A huge number of egrets were supplemented by Slender-billed Gulls, African Green Bee-eaters, Pied Kingfishers, Clamorous Reed Warblers and African Swamphens, all species with which we would become familiar as the holiday progressed. Telescope views of three Pallas's Gulls were an additional highlight. A couple of Egyptian Mongooses

also ran across the path, and we added Little Heron to our list by the shore. Later, at the restaurant in Tunis village, we hadn't even sat down to eat lunch when a (non-breeding) male Nile Valley Sunbird performed for us.

The afternoon included a visit to the late Evelyne Porret's pottery school and finally a walk through the nearby farms of olives and date palms. Zitting Cisticola and Black-winged Kites were seen, but the hoped-for Senegal Coucal remained silent and unseen. They are not easy at this time of the year!

Day 4

Friday 6th February

This was our day in the desert, and we set off in our fleet of five 4x4s. Desert and Isabelline Wheatears were our first successes, but these was soon trumped by the amazing sight of three Greater Hoopoe-Larks in a broad, sandy, vegetated wadi. The Valley of the Whales (Wadi al Hitan) was impressive not only for the abundance of proto-whale fossils, but also the photogenic desert geomorphology. We toured the museum and then walked a circuit around the skeletons exposed in situ on the desert surface. A migratory Striped Hawk-moth landed on someone's arm, and was desperate to lay eggs on the fabric!

This was followed by a crazy drive across the high sand dunes to get to lunch in a Bedouin-style camp/restaurant. We returned to Tunis later in the afternoon.

Day 5

Saturday 7th February

On our final morning in Tunis, we visited the west end of Qarun Lake, before a wonderful outdoor breakfast. We successfully located the flock of Greater Flamingoes, and saw good numbers of Black-necked Grebes. After a fairly lengthy drive back to Cairo, we admired the Pyramids and the Great Sphinx up close, again expertly guided by Ernest.

After a late lunch, we battled the Cairo traffic once more, and made it to the station in good time for the overnight train. Our arrival at the monumental architecture of Bassteel Station produced a spontaneous "ooo!" from many in the group. As we waiting on the platform, a Barn Owl incongruously flew over and perched on the cliff-like building.

Day 6

Sunday 8th February

The twelve-hour overnight train journey to Aswan was part of our adventure, but the modern carriages were a bonus. The sun rose as we approached our southern destination. There, we were met by Ahmed, who was to be our archeological guide for the next six days. We transferred to a small boat to tour Philae Lake (the lake between the two dams), both for birds and to visit the Philae Temple. Originally on Philae Island, the temple was moved in the 1960s by UNESCO, to save it from flooding after construction of the High Dam. From the Ptolemaic era, it has intricate carvings and reliefs, and the latest-known hieroglyphs.

Bird-wise, close views of Ferruginous Ducks, and Gull-billed and Whiskered Terns were followed by White-crowned Wheatear on the shore. Signs of early spring migration came in the form of thirty White Storks, two Black Storks and an Egyptian Vulture. Another boat transferred us through the cataracts at sunset, to our hotel on the west bank of the Nile.

Day 7 Monday 9th February

A full day birding from a boat on the Nile was bound to be both exciting and relaxing and, for many, it proved to be one of the highlights of our trip. With a packed breakfast, we set off early. As we slowly maneuvered through the reed-fringed channels and past granite rock islands, we soon had close encounters with many species. But first, we were taken to see if a Black Scrub Robin (found a few days before) was still present: thankfully, it was! It was the first record for Aswan.



Namaqua Dove



Cattle Egret



Tutankhanum's canopic jars



African Green Bee-eater

Purple Herons, Egyptian Geese, Great Cormorants and Senegal Thick-knees were admired. An elusive Little Crake, a Red-throated Pipit, several Bluethroats, Masked Shrikes, Siberian Stonechats and Turtle Doves were also seen. During a stop for Nubian *gabana* coffee (coffee mixed with ginger, cardamon and cloves), a fly-by Yellow-billed Kite got us to our feet, and a group of three Nile Valley Sunbirds included a long-tailed male in full breeding plumage.

Day 8

Tuesday 10th February

Our journey to Abu Simbel took about four hours by coach, with one comfort stop. We crossed the Tropic of Cancer, but surprisingly it is totally unmarked, and we needed GPS to pinpoint where we crossed it.

Before arriving at Abu Simbel town, we detoured to explore a new birding site in some farmland: the target bird was Crimson-rumped Waxbill. A new colonist from the south, this is the only site for them in the Western Palearctic. We successfully saw them, along with several Namaqua Doves.

We visited the two Abu Simbel temples towards dusk, and recorded Eastern Olivaceous Warblers and the local subspecies of Turtle Dove around the entrance building. The two massive, rock-cut temples were carved directly into a mountainside during the thirteenth century BCE. However, in the 1960s, the entire complex was relocated, block by block, to its current location, to save it from flooding caused by the construction of the Aswan High Dam. The site includes the Great Temple of Ramesses II, and the lesser temple, dedicated to Queen Nefertari. They were located in Nubia, near ancient Egypt's southern border.

Day 9

Wednesday 11th February

Lake Nasser is fringed by extensive reedbeds with many islands and bays. It is best explored by boat, and our trip began with sun-lit views of the temples from the water. Our all-morning circuit produced the target Reed Cormorants at their only Western Palearctic site, and as we scanned the shorelines, we found a Kittlitz's Plover and two groups of Spotted Sandgrouse. We also saw Spoonbills and a couple of Great White Pelicans. A bizarre silhouette of a cat on a rather small rocky island proved to be a Jungle (or Swamp) Cat. After some down time, we revisited the shore towards dusk. A flock of 350 Glossy Ibises was seen, as was the only Temminck's Stint of our trip. We had tantalising views of a probable Pied Wheatear, but we ran out of time. Our meal was followed by a visit to the *son et lumière* show at the temples.

Day 10

Thursday 12th February

We had to leave after breakfast, but chance sightings by one of the group from the restaurant balcony meant that we added African Pied Wagtail and Brown-throated Martin to our ever-growing trip list. The return journey north began by retracing our drive to Aswan, where we joined our private *dahabiya*. We quickly cast off and lunched in style as we sailed slowly down the Nile.

We relaxed, watching the banks of the Nile go by, until late afternoon, when we stopped to visit Kom Ombo. The 'double' design of this temple meant that there were courts, halls, sanctuaries and rooms duplicated for two gods: Sobek (the crocodile god) and Haroeris (the elder falcon god). Sadly, much of the temple had been demolished and used to build the local sugar factory, before such things were regulated. Ahmed explained a relief showing a calendar divided into three seasons (flood, sowing and harvest) and 10-day 'weeks', and another showing a collection of surgical and medical instruments.

We also learned of the former abundance of crocodiles on the sand banks opposite the temple and the ancient tradition of keeping captive crocodiles, and visited a fascinating small museum dedicated to mummified specimens.

Day 11

Friday 13th February

In the early hours, we had berthed at Esna, and before breakfast we went ashore to visit the local temple. To shorten the walk as much as possible, our landing became somewhat complicated, as we first used our tug, and then crossed several other *dahabiyas* to reach the shore. This well-preserved Ptolemaic-Roman temple is dedicated to the ram-headed god Khnum. The recently-renovated hypostyle hall features twenty-four colourful columns, with unique capitals and vivid astronomical ceilings.



Greater Painted-snipe



Luxor Temple

We rejoined our boat, and our relaxing Nile boat trip continued with breakfast as we traversed the Esna Lock. Later, we pulled up alongside Watermelon Island (although the main crop appeared to be courgettes!) and explored the farmland for Egyptian (subspecies *pygmaea*) Yellow Wagtails, Trumpeter Finches, Indian Silverbills, Senegal Thick-knees and singles of Siberian Stonechat and Isabelline Wheatear. We were in no hurry, and Pied Kingfishers hovered beside our boat as we lunched; an Eastern Imperial Eagle appeared distantly. We arrived at Luxor at dusk, and spent the night moored outside the town.

Day 12

Saturday 14th February

We said goodbye to the crew of our *dahabiya* and transferred to a coach, to visit the main east bank sites. The first stop was Luxor Temple, a magnificent ancient complex built around 1400BCE by Amenhotep III and Ramesses II. A Christian church was built inside and on top of the site in 395CE, and this was then followed by the Abu Haggag mosque in 640CE.

The Karnak Temple complex was next on our itinerary. This extensive site covers over 200 acres and was built over two thousand years, primarily during the New Kingdom period. We visited the massive 134-column Great Hypostyle Hall, the Sacred Lake, and photographed the numerous obelisks and pylons. The connection with the

1978 version of the film *Death on the Nile* was mentioned more than once during our trip, and thankfully we managed to avoid falling masonry during our visit! A superb male Nile Valley Sunbird distracted us as we walked out.

Later, we transferred to our hotel on Crocodile Island. This is a wonderful place to stay, with marshy pools located between the hotel grounds and the Nile. A late afternoon walk was on offer, and with minimal effort we amassed a total of almost fifty species of birds. The star find by one of the group was a male Greater Painted-snipe, which landed on a pool. Thankfully, it stayed long enough for everyone to get an excellent view of it. We even managed to show it to other guests staying at the hotel. Two White-tailed Lapwings and a small flock of Red Avadavats were new for the trip, but the close views of Bluethroats, Purple Herons, Squacco Herons, Wood Sandpipers, White-throated Kingfishers, Siberian Stonechats, African Green Bee-eaters and many more were also greatly enjoyed.

Day 13

Sunday 15th February

A pre-breakfast walk overlooking the Crocodile Island marsh produced much the same as yesterday, but in better light. There were more Common Snipes, but their rarer near namesake was not to be seen. The group of White-tailed Lapwings had increased to three.

The morning was spent exploring the sites on the west bank of the Nile: the Mortuary Temple of Hatshepsut, and then the Valley of the Kings. The first was built during the reign of Pharaoh Hatshepsut of the Eighteenth Dynasty, and consists of three massive terraces, now largely restored, which rise above the desert floor and are surrounded by cliffs. Hatshepsut was one of very few women who took on the role of pharaoh, and to support her claim to the throne, priests told a story of her divine birth. This is depicted in the reliefs that we saw here (and at Karnak). Twice, Ahmed was politely interrupted (he had become accustomed to this): we spotted, a Brown-necked Raven mobbing a pale-morph Booted Eagle and, later, a pair of Long-legged Buzzards, one dark-morph and the other pale-morph.

Between us, we visited four tombs in the Valley of the Kings: those of Ramesses III (tomb KV11), Ramesses IV (KV2) and Ramesses IX (KV6), while some ventured into the deeper tomb of Merenptah (KV8). It is hard to describe the detail and sophistication of the artwork on display as you descend into the burial chambers.

Another walk around Crocodile Island in the late afternoon was again enjoyable. We added close, albeit brief, views of Savi's Warbler to our list.

Day 14

Monday 16th February

Our last morning in Egypt began with a final relaxed look at the marsh: forty-seven species again! Having left our hotel after breakfast, we took the domestic flight back to Cairo. A delay and long wait for our bags led to a hasty transfer to the international terminal, and then to our departure gate. We arrived back at Heathrow in the late evening, and the group dispersed at the end of a most enjoyable adventure.

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Species lists

Birds (H=heard only)

I=Introduced	Common name	Scientific name	February 2026												
			4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Egyptian Goose	<i>Alopochen aegyptiaca</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
	Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>		4		25									
	Garganey	<i>Spatula querquedula</i>						1							
	Northern Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>		10	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			
	Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>				6	6				10	10			
	Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Mareca penelope</i>								✓	✓				
	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>				✓	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓
	Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>				1	30				1				
	Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>			25	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
	Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>		20			2				3				
	Ferruginous Duck	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>					✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>					50	2							
	Pallid Swift	<i>Apus pallidus</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓					20	✓
	Spotted Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles senegallus</i>								12					
	Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>						8	10	10	1		H		
	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓				
	Laughing Dove	<i>Spilopelia senegalensis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Namaqua Dove	<i>Oena capensis</i>							6						
	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓			
	African Swamphen	<i>Porphyrio madagascariensis</i>		2			2	10		1	4	5	4	4	4
	Little Crane	<i>Zapornia parva</i>						1							
	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>			30	✓	✓								
	Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>		✓	✓	100	✓					✓			
	Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>				200				2					
	Senegal Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus senegalensis</i>		H	H	H	H	30	H	1	1	12	H	H	H

I=Introduced	Common name	Scientific name	February 2026													
			4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	25	✓	
	Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>	✓			10										
	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>					1									
	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>		✓	✓		✓				6		✓	✓		
	Spur-winged Lapwing	<i>Vanellus spinosus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	White-tailed Lapwing	<i>Vanellus leucurus</i>												2	3	2
	Kittlitz's Plover	<i>Anarhynchus pecuarius</i>									1					
	Kentish Plover	<i>Anarhynchus alexandrinus</i>		1	3											
	Greater Painted-snipe	<i>Rostratula benghalensis</i>											1			
	Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>						15				1				
	Jack Snipe	<i>Lymnocyptes minimus</i>													1	
	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓						✓	20	✓	
	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>					✓	5		✓	✓					
	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>			1	2										
	Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>		1		1				1	1	1		1	1	
	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>		✓	✓				✓	✓	✓		✓	25	✓	
	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>		6	✓	✓	✓									
	Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>										1				
	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>			✓		2					✓	✓			
	Ruff	<i>Calidris pugnax</i>		✓			✓	✓				✓	20		✓	
	Temminck's Stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>								1						
	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>		6	✓		✓									
	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>		✓	✓	✓					10					
	Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>					25	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
	Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>	✓	✓	✓		25	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
	White-winged Tern	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>								10	✓	✓			✓	
	Slender-billed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus genei</i>	✓	200	✓	✓				✓						
	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>		2			50	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
	Pallas's Gull	<i>Ichthyæetus ichthyæetus</i>		3												
	Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>		2						1						
	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>					2	1			1					

I=Introduced	Common name	Scientific name	February 2026												
			4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>					30		✓	✓	100				
	Reed Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo africanus</i>									7				
	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>			100		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>		4		✓	✓	✓	✓	350	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>			1			1		8					
	Little Bittern	<i>Botaurus minutus</i>		2				3							
	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	✓				✓	✓		✓		10	✓	✓	
	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Little Heron	<i>Butorides atricapilla</i>		1			1	1				1			
	Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>	✓	200			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>		✓		10									
	Western Cattle Egret	<i>Ardea ibis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>					✓	20		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Great White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>								2					
	Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>			✓		4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
	Black-winged Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>	1	2		1						2		1	
	Egyptian Vulture	<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>					1								
	Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>												1	
	Eastern Imperial Eagle	<i>Aquila heliaca</i>										1			
	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>					1								
	Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	10		✓	✓	✓	✓
	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Yellow-billed Kite	<i>Milvus aegyptius</i>						1	1	1	2				
	Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>										?	?	2	
	Western Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>				1									
	Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>	1	H											H
	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>	✓	10	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	White-throated Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>		✓	✓		✓	6	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>		1	1		1								
	Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>	✓	25	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

I=Introduced	Common name	Scientific name	February 2026													
			4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
	African Green Bee-eater	<i>Merops viridissimus</i>	✓	10	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	✓					2	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
	Great Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius excubitor</i>				1			1	1						
	Masked Shrike	<i>Lanius nubicus</i>							5			1	1	1		
	Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Brown-necked Raven	<i>Corvus ruficollis</i>			6					2	30	1		1	1	
	Greater Hoopoe-Lark	<i>Alaemon alaudipes</i>			3											
	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>		✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Common Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus barbatus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Brown-throated Martin	<i>Riparia paludicola</i>										6				
	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>		1		1										
	Pale Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne obsoleta</i>					10	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓	
	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Western House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>													2	
	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Clamorous Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus stentoreus</i>		10			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
	Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>		2					1						1	1
	Common Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>							1					1	1	
	Eastern Olivaceous Warbler	<i>Iduna pallida</i>								2	4					
	Savi's Warbler	<i>Locustella luscinioides</i>													1	H
	Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>		3	✓		✓		✓	✓		✓				
	Graceful Prinia	<i>Prinia gracilis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Curruca curruca</i>		1	1				5		✓			1		
	Sardinian Warbler	<i>Curruca melanocephala</i>			H											
	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>									1					
	Black Scrub Robin	<i>Cercotrichas podobe</i>							1							
	Bluethroat	<i>Luscinia svecica</i>		1					3	1	1		2	3	5	3
	Siberian Stonechat	<i>Saxicola maurus</i>							2				1	1	1	2
	Isabelline Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe isabellina</i>			1	1							1			
	Desert Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe deserti</i>			2				1	2	5	1	1			
	Pied Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe pleschanka</i>										1?				

I=Introduced	Common name	Scientific name	February 2026												
			4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	White-crowned Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe leucopyga</i>					4	1	1		1				
	Nile Valley Sunbird	<i>Hedydipna metallica</i>		1				3					2		
	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Indian Silverbill - I	<i>Euodice malabarica</i>		12					2			40	20	✓	✓
	Crimson-rumped Waxbill	<i>Estrilda rhodopyga</i>							8						
	Red Avadavat - I	<i>Amandava amandava</i>											6	12	12
	Western Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>			3			1	5	✓		10	5	25	6
	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	African Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla aguimp</i>									2				
	Red-throated Pipit	<i>Anthus cervinus</i>						1					30		
	Water Pipit	<i>Anthus spinoletta</i>			2										
	Trumpeter Finch	<i>Bucanetes githagineus</i>										2			

Mammals

Common name	Scientific name	February 2026													
		4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
Egyptian Mongoose	<i>Herpestes ichneumon</i>		2												
Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>		2												
Jungle (Swamp) Cat	<i>Felis chaus</i>									1					

Reptiles

Common name	Scientific name	February 2026													
		4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
African Five-striped Skink	<i>Trachylepis quinquetaeniata</i>						1	1					1		

Butterflies & moths

Common name	Scientific name	February 2026													
		4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
Plain Tiger	<i>Danaus chrysippus</i>					✓	✓							✓	
Long-tailed Blue	<i>Lampides boeticus</i>						1								
Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>			✓											
Striped Hawk-moth	<i>Hyles livornica</i>			1											