

# Picos and Plains - The Best of Northern Spain

Naturetrek Tour Report

6 - 15 August 2009

---



Scarce Copper



Fuente De



Booted Eagle



Alpine Newt

Report compiled by Peter Dunn and Ian Nicholson  
Images by Peter Dunn



Naturetrek Cheriton Mill Cheriton Alresford Hampshire SO24 0NG England

T: +44 (0)1962 733051

F: +44 (0)1962 736426

E: [info@naturetrek.co.uk](mailto:info@naturetrek.co.uk)

W: [www.naturetrek.co.uk](http://www.naturetrek.co.uk)

Tour Leaders:	Peter Dunn Ian Nicholson
Participants:	Jeremy Russell Elizabeth Russell Elizabeth Shayler Frank Chetwynd Tina Chetwynd John Bacon Carole Walker Will Lingard Chris Lingard Mick Jones Jo Jones Pat Chorley Duncan Browne Michael O'Mahony Margaret Aherne Sean Huggins

## Day 1

Thursday 6th August

Portsmouth Ferry Terminal and on-board the 'Pride of Bilbao'

Persistent rain, heavy at times

By 7pm all the party had met up in the Ferry Terminal at Portsmouth. Checking-in was completed and we then waited to be called to embark. Unfortunately the wait was longer than anticipated, as the ferry was almost two hours late arriving from Bilbao. There was no option but to wait patiently, and the group took the opportunity to introduce themselves and to reminisce about previous trips. We were eventually called to board our ferry 'Pride of Bilbao' at about 10.00pm and soon afterwards everyone was on-board and in their cabins.

Most of the group met outside the Information Desk on Deck 6 and Peter took the party in two groups for a tour of the ship, pointing out important features such as the restaurants, lounges and also the observation area on Deck 11 near the top of the boat where many hours would be spent. Following the tour, group members were left to settle in to their new surroundings, a few choosing to have a couple of drinks, while most opted to retire to bed.

## Day 2

Friday 7th August

On-board the 'Pride of Bilbao' crossing the Bay of Biscay

A fine dry day with excellent visibility. A brisk northerly wind was blowing initially, which died away shortly after we left the English Channel and entered the Bay of Biscay. At just after 6.00am Peter and Ian headed for Deck 11 only to find access had been barred overnight for safety reasons.

The Deck was opened at 6.30am and this is where they were to spend most of the day. Group members were free to come and go as they pleased and all spent some time on top. Due to the late departure we were still well inside the Channel at this time, and the only birds seen were a single Manx Shearwater and a number of Gannets. After we approached the Brest Peninsula the number of Gannets increased, and a further Manx Shearwater was seen as well as a Sooty Shearwater and two Storm Petrels. The first cetaceans of the trip were also seen in the form of three Harbour Porpoises. Several more porpoises were seen before a sudden increase in sightings when we crossed into the deeper water at about 4.00pm. Two Fin Whales gave good views, and a pod of about 30 Bottle-nosed Dolphins passed close to the ship. Some of the group were lucky enough to see Risso's and Common Dolphins as well. In addition, several small groups of Pilot Whales were seen. Several flocks of "Commic" Terns flew by, including several definite Commons and at least one Arctic, and also of interest were several Sunfish.

By about 6.15pm most of the group had headed off to have dinner as sightings had slowed to almost nothing, however there were more Fin Whales and Dolphins seen by those who lingered on the deck 'til dusk. Most of the group met at 8.00pm in the Posh Bar to talk over the day's sightings and to plan for tomorrow.

## Day 3

Saturday 8th August

### Santurtzi Ferry Terminal, Santona Marsh, Hermida Gorge, Brez and Espinama

Cloudy and overcast, but the threat of rain never came and we enjoyed pleasant weather with temperatures of about 18 degrees on arrival in Spain. The ferry docked at Santurtzi Ferry Terminal near Bilbao at 7am 'ships time', which was 8am local time. After a short wait in the Terminal building the Europcar representative arrived and after sorting out the hire vehicles we were on our way at around 9am and on the road heading for Santoña Marsh. The skies were cloudy but bright as we headed along the coast road and by the time we arrived at Santoña it was a pleasant morning, with a temperature of 20 deg C. We headed straight to the public hide and started birding. The tide was in so some birds were relatively close. Opposite the hide we had good views of Mediterranean Gull and were able to compare it with Black-headed Gull. Also close by were reasonable numbers of Ringed Plover, Dunlin and Whimbrel. A little further out our sightings included Spoonbill, Little Egret and Grey Heron.

We set off about 11.15am for the Parque Nacional de Picos de Europa. Our journey took a little longer than expected due to heavy traffic around Santander but we were at the Parque boundary shortly after 1pm. We drove into the Parque and through the beautiful Hermida Gorge and stopped at the viewpoint near Chapel Santa Maria at Lebeña for lunch. While we ate lunch we were entertained by many Griffon Vultures circling the crags all around us, and in addition we had reasonable views of a Short-toed Eagle as well as several Common Buzzards and a Black Kite plus about four or five Ravens. A single Egyptian Vulture and a Sparrowhawk added further interest, whilst passerines were represented by a singing Cirl Bunting and several Blackcaps. Butterflies were also present in fair number, notable sightings being four Long-tailed Blues, a Purple Hairstreak and several Lang's Short-tailed Blues.

After lunch we continued on our way and stopped a couple of times near the village of Brez. Several Red-backed Shrikes, including an adult male, were seen here along with a further Cirl Bunting, two Kestrels and a Green Woodpecker of the Iberian race. A Middle-spotted Woodpecker was heard, but not seen.

Several Jays were in the area, as well as a Sparrowhawk, a family of Black Redstarts and two Stonechats, and a lucky few saw a Golden Oriole briefly amongst the trees. At about 5.00pm we left Brez and headed to Espinama, our base for the next two nights. We found our rooms in Hostal Nevandi and had the chance to settle in before our evening meal at 8pm followed by the log call. Some members of the party took a short walk behind the hotel, recording Spotted and Pied Flycatchers and Blackcap, amongst others.

## Day 4

Sunday 9th August

### Fuente Dé

A wet morning, with low cloud and drizzle. At the top of the cable car the weather was much the same, although the cloud lifted from time to time. Much improved weather in the afternoon, with sunny spells.

After breakfast, we had a short drive of three kilometres or so to the Cable Car base station located at the end of the road. The weather had obviously deterred many people, as there was only a short queue for the cable car, and we quickly made the  $\frac{3}{4}$  kilometre journey to the upper station on Fuente Dé at 1834 metres. Unfortunately the views from the top were virtually nil due to the low cloud, but nevertheless we set off to walk up the path to the area where Wallcreepers have been recorded in the past. Despite the poor visibility we managed to see several Snow Finches, three or four Alpine Accentors and a couple of Alpine Choughs, plus a Wheatear, but the Wallcreepers did not show on this occasion.

After enjoying our picnic lunch during a break in the drizzle, we made our way back to the cable car for a welcome hot drink, before descending to the car park where we met Frank and Tina, who had decided against going up to the top with the rest of the party. On returning to the vehicles, we drove to Potes to refuel, and surprisingly recorded a good number of butterfly species adjacent to the service station, while some of the group ate ice creams. These included Common Blue, Knapweed Fritillary and Sooty Copper.

We next drove the short distance to the village of Pombes, and, parking just outside the village, we stopped to watch at least 20 Common Buzzards circling above the valley. As we watched we were also able to pick out a Booted Eagle, an Egyptian Vulture and a Black Kite, as well as two immature Honey Buzzards. This proved to be an excellent stop, as it also produced a Middle-spotted and a Great-spotted Woodpecker, allowing a good comparison, four Cirl Buntings, three Common Redstarts and two Red-backed Shrikes. On the butterfly front, we recorded a Great Banded Grayling, several Common Blues, a Small Tortoiseshell and a Provencal Fritillary. We then returned to the hotel to enjoy another typical Spanish meal at 8pm before doing our log-call to record the day's sightings and talk over the prospects for the next few days in the Plains.

## Day 5

Monday 10th August

### Drive from Espinama to Zamora via Puerto de San Glorio, Riaño and Villafáfila

Fine, sunny and cloudless. It was hotter the nearer we got to Zamora and at 7pm the temperature was 30 deg C.

After breakfast we loaded the vehicles and by 9.00am had said 'goodbye' to Santi at Hostal Nevandi and we were heading off towards the Plains. First stop was at Potes. Whilst Peter and Ian did the shopping for lunch, the group had the opportunity to spend a short while in this picturesque small town.

From Potes we drove further through the Parque and stopped at the viewpoint just below Puerto de San Glorio. From here the views were stunning and the wild flowers alive with Scarce Copper butterflies. From there we drove the short distance to Puerto de San Glorio viewpoint at 1609 metres at the top of a pass but this year the car park had been turned into a building site with diggers and lorries apparently creating a new road into the valley. We managed to park on the bus stop and had a short walk where we had plenty of butterflies, including Piedmont Ringlet. Some of the group saw Crossbill and Crested Tit and a pair of Short-toed Eagles showed well. We now headed south-west away from the Picos and stopped in a lay-by near Riaño for lunch. Griffon Vultures were sitting on the nearby crags and showed well. Also the verge at the lay-by was alive with butterflies including Great Banded Grayling, Western Marbled White, both Common and Scarce Swallowtail and Common Blue.

After lunch we continued to Villafáfila, arriving at 4.45pm. Scanning from the public tower hide we counted 15 Great Bustards, together with Crested Lark, Tawny Pipit, Melodious and Fan-tailed Warblers. Dragonflies were showing well over the water including Blue Emperor and the pool was alive with Marsh Frogs. Just as we were about to leave Mick saw a Golden Oriole go into the trees nearby that a few of the group managed to see. We arrived at the hotel in Zamora just before 7.00pm, and after some confusion over the rooms, we met at 8.30 to run through the day's sightings, before dinner. During dinner a number of White Storks flew over towards their roost on the church, and a Montagu's Harrier also flew over.

## Day 6

Tuesday 11th August

### Fariza Area and Miranda Do Duero (Portugal)

Fine, clear, hot and sunny. Temperatures were in the middle 30's by the afternoon.

We were mobile by 6am heading towards a drinking pool near Fariza. As dawn broke we positioned ourselves overlooking the pool, and waited to see what would arrive, eating our packed breakfast as we waited. The first birds to arrive were a small flock of Linnets, soon followed by some Crested Larks and two Rock Buntings. Shortly afterwards two Woodlarks came down to drink, and Woodchat and Southern Grey Shrikes were seen on the nearby walls and bushes. Two Black Kites flew overhead, and many Turtle Doves gave excellent views of this attractive species, now sadly declining rapidly in the UK. Finally, a Subalpine Warbler was seen, as well as two Whitethroats and a Garden Warbler.

As the sun rose higher in the sky, we decided to do a circular walk around the nearby fields. After a short distance we found a Western Bonelli's Warbler, and a Dartford Warbler, and nearby was a Golden Oriole, although not all members of the group saw the latter. The star turn however was a sighting of two Black-shouldered Kites, which is by no means a common species this far north. We had good flight views, followed by a view, albeit distant, of one of the birds on a dead tree.

Moving on, we came across a tree holding a Lesser-spotted Woodpecker and a Treecreeper, although the latter was not identified as to species as it didn't call. Nearby were a few more Dartford Warblers and a Melodious Warbler. Later than anticipated, we reached the road leading back to where we parked the vehicles, but we were further delayed by spectacularly good views of a pale-phase Booted Eagle, and shortly afterwards another Golden Oriole and probably the same Lesser-spotted Woodpecker.

At last, we got back to the vehicles and set off towards the Portuguese border, where we crossed the River Douro. After a stop in the village of Miranda to buy picnic supplies we drove the short distance to Aldeia Nova for lunch. It had been a poor day for butterflies so far, but the first Rock Grayling of the tour was seen at the picnic site. A number of Red-rumped Swallows circled the picnic area, and a female Montagu's Harrier was seen on the opposite side of the gorge.

After lunch we crossed back into Spain and drove to the dam at the Embalse de Almendra reservoir where we had a brief stop, seeing a Peregrine, several Griffon's and two Egyptian Vultures, in addition to a Blue Rock Thrush. It was then time to head back to the hotel at Zamora, with a stop on the way for a drink and an ice-cream. Back in Zamora some of the group walked along the river bank, and found Penduline Tits, a Nightingale, Cetti's Warbler and a Little Ringed Plover.

## Day 7

## Wednesday 12th August

### Castronuño area

Hot and sunny all day, with little wind. Temperature reached 37 C in the shade at one point and 43 C in the van!

The plan today was to set off at 6.00 am to drive to an area near Castronuño which was suspected of holding a roost of Azure-winged Magpies. The plan worked perfectly, as we arrived as dawn was breaking and very shortly afterwards we saw about nine of these sought-after birds leaving the roost and setting off for their feeding areas. Also seen at this location were two Hoopoes and eight Rock Sparrows. After this very pleasing start to the day we moved on to another location nearby, where we ate the packed breakfast provided by the hotel, whilst watching a Booted Eagle overhead and numerous Wheatears and Crested Larks in the fields. On finishing breakfast we decided to walk along one of the sandy tracks in the area in the hope of finding some of the species which specialise in this type of arid stony landscape. We quickly found a superb male Montagu's Harrier quartering the ground, and then a flock of five Calandra Larks flew by, followed shortly afterwards by a further eight. On the walk back to the vehicles we heard the distinctive call of Pin-tailed Sandgrouse, and soon afterwards two flocks totalling around 50 birds flew by.

Back at the vehicles, we moved on a short distance and began searching the surrounding area for bustards and other species, and although we found a few Great Bustard, no Little Bustards were in evidence. However, we did find four Little Owls, a couple of Hoopoe and a single Stone Curlew. Eventually we decided that we needed to get to the shop in Castronuño to buy supplies for the picnic, and we took a cross-country route which didn't go exactly according to plan, as the road had been closed and re-routed since last year. We eventually arrived in the village where the group waited at a café whilst Peter and Ian went shopping. Again, this didn't go quite according to plan, as the usual supermarket was in a street which had been dug up, but fortunately we found an alternative which was actually better.

Returning to collect the group we headed for the picnic spot by the River Duero, and whilst eating lunch we were entertained by many Yellow Wagtails, a Melodious Warbler and a Booted Eagle, amongst others. After lunch we drove along the river a short distance, and set off for a walk, but the temperature was now in the high thirties, and there was very little activity. A Nightingale and a Reed Warbler were the best that could be seen on the bird front, although there was a reasonable selection of butterflies.

We decided to head back to the hotel, stopping for a cold drink on the way, and on arriving back at the hotel, some of the group went for a walk along the river, where Penduline Tit, Nightingale and Cetti's Warbler were seen again. Dinner was at 8.30pm, after which all the group retired after a long, hot day in the field.

## Day 8

Thursday 13th August

### Travel from Zamora to Bilbao via the Villafáfila area

Another bright, sunny day with temperatures initially in the 30's, but becoming cooler and slightly cloudier as we neared the coast.

Today the group had a slightly later start, leaving at 6.30am to be at Villafáfila for first daylight. On our journey to Zamora a few days ago, we had noticed that the lagoon at Villarrin de Campos contained virtually no water due to the very dry summer in the area this year. However, we had also noticed another deeper looking pool at the roadside not far away, so we stopped there instead. This proved to be a very good decision, and it wasn't long before we had added Water Rail, Green Sandpiper and Gadwall to the week's list. Also in the area were several Corn Buntings and about four Montagu's Harriers. We were very surprised to find a further three Black-shouldered Kites on the opposite side of the road to the pond, sitting on the wires and hunting over the fields, along with up to six Lesser Kestrels. One of the kites was seen eating prey on a telegraph pole as we drove away towards our next stop, which was near the disused buildings at Otero de Sariegos, where we ate our packed breakfast. On the outskirts of the village we saw a very large female Peregrine, which was obviously eating well on the large flocks of feral pigeons in the area. A family of Little Owls had taken up residence in one of the derelict pigeon coups, and a few Yellow Wagtails were in evidence, but the areas was generally very quiet, as the vast area of wetland in front of the hide was virtually dry. We therefore decided that the best course would be to drive some of the rough tracks in search of bustards.

We quickly came across good numbers of Great Bustards in flight and feeding on the ground, but again no Little Bustards were seen. More Montagu's Harriers were seen, including one of the rare local melanistic form, and Crested Larks and Wheatears were numerous. We eventually made our way to the Tower Hide which we had visited a few days ago, where yet more Great Bustards were seen, bringing the day's total to over 100, and in addition there were three Rock Sparrows and a Southern Grey Shrike.

We left the Plains at 11.00a.m., and after a short stop for coffee and toilets we headed north-east. We stopped at Villalon de Campos to collect picnic supplies and then made good progress towards Bilbao. A feature of the journey was the huge numbers of Common Buzzards and Kestrels along the roadside around Villalon. There must have been migration in progress, as the local countryside would surely not be able to support such a population density. We stopped at a picnic area for lunch, and then completed the journey along the motorway arriving at our hotel shortly before 5.00pm.

Once parking and rooms had been organised everyone had a free evening to explore, some visiting the Guggenheim Museum located 400 yards from the hotel and others inspecting it's unique architecture including the spider sculpture and the stunning floral cat. It had been a long day, and after eating at various local restaurants, most of the party had a reasonably early night, some choosing to have a couple of drinks in the hotel before retiring.

## Day 9

Friday 14th August

Bilbao, Santurtzi Ferry Terminal and on-board the 'Pride of Bilbao' into the Bay of Biscay

In Bilbao it was a fine dry morning, with a little high cloud. The Bay of Biscay was calm, despite a fairly strong north-easterly wind, which made it rather uncomfortable on the top deck of the ferry.

After breakfast the vehicles were packed and the group left for Santurtzi Ferry Terminal, arriving by 10.30am. Booking-in, security and boarding were completed without difficulty and the ferry departed just about on time at 1.15pm local time. Sandwich Terns and Turnstones were seen around the harbour as we waited for departure. After an hour we came to the deeper waters and we quickly saw three Cuvier's Beaked Whales, two of them leaping spectacularly from the water. A little later two further beaked whales were seen which unfortunately evaded specific identification but were not Cuvier's. Large numbers of Common Dolphins – up to 400 – were seen in addition to about 60 Striped Dolphins, but unfortunately no large whales of any sort were seen. Things were very quiet as far as sea birds were concerned, with only two Cory's Shearwaters noted.

At 8.00pm the group met in the Green Room on Deck 8 for the final log call and discussions on the trip, after which most of the group retired to their cabins.

## Day 10

Saturday 15th August

On-board the 'Pride of Bilbao' into the English Channel and Portsmouth Ferry Terminal

Cloudy at dawn, and the wind had dropped away overnight giving calm conditions. Becoming slightly brighter in the afternoon...

Very few seabirds were seen, with just five Great Skuas, two Storm Petrels and a single Manx Shearwater to show for our efforts, apart from large numbers of Gannets. Cetaceans were notable only by their absence.

During the late afternoon most interest was in watching the English coastline and spotting familiar places from a different viewpoint at sea. The calm conditions meant that we had made good progress, and the Pride of Bilbao was alongside her berth in Portsmouth ten minutes ahead of schedule at 5.05pm. The group said their goodbyes and went their separate ways after a successful tour of Northern Spain.

## Receive our e-newsletter

Join the Naturetrek e-mailing list and be the first to hear about new tours, additional departures and new dates, tour reports and special offers. Visit [www.naturetrek.co.uk](http://www.naturetrek.co.uk) to sign up.

## Naturetrek Facebook

We are delighted to launch the Naturetrek Facebook page so that participants of Naturetrek tours can remain in touch after the holiday and share photos, comments and future travel plans. Setting up a personal profile at [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) is quick, free and easy. The [Naturetrek Facebook page](#) is now live; do please pay us a visit!



## Species Lists

## Birds

	Common name	Scientific name	August								
			7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>						1	5		
2	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>					11	3			
3	Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>		4							
4	Northern Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>	5								1
5	Cory's Shearwater	<i>Calonectris diomedea</i>								2	
6	Sooty Shearwater	<i>Puffinus griseus</i>	1								
7	Manx Shearwater	<i>Puffinus puffinus</i>	1								2
8	European Storm Petrel	<i>Hydrobates pelagicus</i>	3								6
9	Northern Gannet	<i>Morus bassanus</i>									
10	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>		✓				8		4	
11	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>		✓			2	7	3		
12	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>		1			1				
13	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>		✓			1				
14	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>		✓			2				
15	Eurasian White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>				50	✓	✓	✓		
16	Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>		2							
17	Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>		1							
18	Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>							5		
19	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		
20	Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>							3		
21	European Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>		1	2						
22	Black-shouldered Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>					2		3		
23	Red Kite	<i>Milvus milvus</i>					1				
24	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>		10	2	4	✓	6	4		
25	Egyptian Vulture	<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>		2	1	2	4				
26	Eurasian Griffon	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>		✓		40	✓	2	8		
27	Short-toed Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>		2	1	3		1		1	
28	Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>							2		
29	Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>				1	1	4	20		
30	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>		2		1					
31	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>		10	25	✓	✓	✓	✓		
32	Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>		1	3	4	3	1	4	2	
33	Lesser Kestrel	<i>Falco naumanni</i>							15		
34	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>		5	2	3	2	2	✓	2	
35	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>					1		1		
36	Red-legged Partridge	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>					20	2	15		
37	Water Rail	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>							2		
38	Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>					1		2		
39	Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>		10					12		
40	Great Bustard	<i>Otis tarda</i>				15		22	120		
41	Eurasian Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>		1							
42	Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>		55							
43	Stone-curlew	<i>Burhinus oediconemus</i>						1			
44	Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>		5							
45	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>					1	1			
46	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>		✓							
47	Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>		✓							

	Common name	Scientific name	August											
			7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15			
48	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	1	3				1	1					
49	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>									1			
50	Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>		1										
51	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>		2										
52	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>											5	
53	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>	1											
54	Great Skua	<i>Stercorarius skua</i>											1	5
55	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	1	✓									✓	
56	Black-legged Kittiwake	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	4											2
57	Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>		✓				1			✓	✓		
58	European Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	✓	✓									✓	✓
59	Great Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>		2									✓	
60	Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>	3	10									2	✓
61	Mediterranean Gull	<i>Ichthyæetus melanocephalus</i>		7									3	
62	Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>		1										
63	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	3			2								
64	Arctic Tern	<i>Sterna paradisæa</i>	1											1
65	Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>	2	1									✓	4
66	Pin-tailed Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles alchata</i>								60				
67	Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>				2	4							
68	Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia 'feral'</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
69	Stock Dove	<i>Columba oenas</i>							4					
70	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>		2	6	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
71	European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>		2				25	15	2				
72	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>			2	6	4	6	✓					
73	Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>						1	1					
74	Tawny Owl	<i>Strix aluco</i>			1	1								
75	Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>							5	8				
76	Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>		1				3						
77	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>		5	10	✓	✓	✓	✓					
78	European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>						100	30					
79	European Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>				2								
80	Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>						1	6					
81	Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos minor</i>						1						
82	Middle Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos medius</i>		2	2	1								
83	Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>		1	2			1	1					
84	Iberian Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis sharpei</i>		2										
85	Calandra Lark	<i>Melanocorypha calandra</i>								30				
86	Short-toed Lark	<i>Calandrella brachydactyla</i>								2				
87	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓				
88	Wood Lark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>						✓						
89	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>							4	8				
90	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
91	Eurasian Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>		20	✓	✓	✓	✓						
92	House Martin	<i>Delichon urbica</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓						
93	Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Cecropis daurica</i>						25	20					
94	Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>					1				4			
95	Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>					1							
96	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>		1	1	4								
97	Water Pipit	<i>Anthus spinoletta</i>			1									
98	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>		8	✓	4	✓	✓	✓					

	Common name	Scientific name	August									
			7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
99	Spanish Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava iberiae</i>		1					18	10		
100	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>			2	1	2					
101	Black-bellied Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus cinclus</i>		4		2						
102	Winter Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>		✓	5				1			
103	Alpine Accentor	<i>Prunella collaris</i>			4							
104	Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>					3					
105	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>		✓	2	✓	✓	✓				
106	Blue Rock-thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>				1	1					
107	Common Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>					2	3				
108	European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>		4	3	3						
109	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>		6	✓	✓	✓				2	
110	Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>			3		1	1				
111	Common Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquatus</i>		2	1		✓	✓				
112	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>			3	40	✓	✓	✓			
113	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>		5	2					2		
114	Pied Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>		1								
115	Common Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapilla</i>			1							
116	Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>				3		2	4			
117	Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>				2	2	5				
118	Eurasian Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>						5				
119	Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>						1				
120	Melodious Warbler	<i>Hippolais polyglotta</i>				1	3	6	2			
121	Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	1				2	10	✓			
122	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	2									
123	Western Bonelli's Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus bonelli</i>		2			1					
124	Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>		10	1	2						
125	Garden Warbler	<i>Sylvia borin</i>					2					
126	Common Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>					2	6				
127	Dartford Warbler	<i>Sylvia undata</i>					10					
128	Subalpine Warbler	<i>Sylvia cantillans</i>					20					
129	Sardinian Warbler	<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>					3		1			
130	Marsh Tit	<i>Poecile palustris</i>		1								
131	Coal Tit	<i>Periparus ater</i>			1							
132	European Crested Tit	<i>Lophophanes cristatus</i>				3		1				
133	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		✓	4	✓	✓		2			
134	Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		✓	2	✓	✓	✓				
135	Eurasian Penduline Tit	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>					3	8				
136	Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>					1					
137	Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>			1	1	1					
138	Short-toed Treecreeper	<i>Certhia brachydactyla</i>		1				1				
139	Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>		2		1	3	2	1			
140	Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>		15	2	3						
141	Southern Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius meridionalis</i>				1	6	2	1			
142	Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>					✓	✓	3			
143	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>		6	6	2	2	1				
144	Azure-winged Magpie	<i>Cyanopica cyanus</i>						18				
145	Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>		✓		1	1	6	✓			
146	Red-billed Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>		200	2	60						
147	Yellow-billed Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax graculus</i>			4							
148	Eurasian Jackdaw	<i>Corvus monedula</i>				2	4	2				
149	Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>		5	2	✓	7	✓	✓			

	Common name	Scientific name	August								
			7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
150	Common Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>		8	1	2		3	2		
151	Spotless Starling	<i>Sturnus unicolor</i>		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	
152	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
153	Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>		1		10	✓	✓	✓		
154	Rock Sparrow	<i>Petronia petronia</i>						8	3		
155	White-winged Snowfinch	<i>Montifringilla nivalis</i>			4						
156	Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		2	10	✓	✓	✓			
157	Common Crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>				2					
158	European Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>			2		6	2			
159	Eurasian Siskin	<i>Carduelis spinus</i>			1						
160	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
161	Common Linnet	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>			2	10	✓	✓	✓		
162	European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>		8	6	2	5				
163	Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>		5	4	1	2				
164	Rock Bunting	<i>Emberiza cia</i>					10				
165	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>				6	2	4	3		

## Mammals

1	European Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>						3			
2	Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>					1	1			
3	European Roe Deer	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>		3							
4	Short-beaked Common Dolphin	<i>Delphinus delphis</i>	2							400	
5	Long-finned Pilot Whale	<i>Globicephala melas</i>	24								
6	Risso's Dolphin	<i>Grampus griseus</i>	3								
7	Striped Dolphin	<i>Stenella coeruleoalba</i>	5							60	
8	Bottlenose Dolphin	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	50								
9	Cuvier's Beaked Whale	<i>Ziphius cavirostris</i>								3	

## Butterflies

### Swallowtails

Swallowtail

Scarce Swallowtail

### *Papilionidae*

*Papilio machaon**Iphiclides podalirius*

### Whites and Yellows

Small White

Bath White

Pale Clouded Yellow

Clouded Yellow

Berger's Clouded Yellow

### *Pieridae*

*Artogeia rapae**Pontia daplidice**Colias hyale**Colias crocea**Colias australis*

### Hairstreaks, Coppers and Blues

Purple Hairstreak

Green Hairstreak

Scarce Copper

Sooty Copper

Long-tailed Blue

Lang's Short-tailed Blue

Provençal Short-tailed Blue

Little Blue

Holly Blue

### *Lycaenidae*

*Quercusia quercus**Callophrys rubi**Lycaena virgaureae**Lycaena tityrus**Lampides boeticus**Leptotes pirithous**Everes alcetas**Cupido minimus**Celastrina argiolus*

Silver-studded Blue	<i>Plebejus argus</i>
(Southern) Brown Argus	<i>Aricia cramera</i>
Spanish Chalk-hill Blue	<i>Lysandra albicans</i>
Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>

**Brush-footed Butterflies**

Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>
Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>
Small Tortoiseshell	<i>Aglais urticae</i>
Silver-washed Fritillary	<i>Argynnis paphia</i>
Queen Of Spain Fritillary	<i>Issoria lathonia</i>
Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary	<i>Clossiana selene</i>
Weaver's Fritillary	<i>Clossiana dia</i>
Knapweed Fritillary	<i>Melitaea phoebe</i>
Provencal Fritillary	<i>Mellicta deione</i>

**Nymphalidae****Wood-nymphs, Satyrs**

Western Marbled White	<i>Melanargia occitanica</i>
Spanish Marbled White	<i>Melanargia ines</i>
Rock Grayling	<i>Hipparchia alcyone</i>
Grayling	<i>Hipparchia semele</i>
Tree Grayling	<i>Neohipparchia statilinus</i>
Great Banded Grayling	<i>Kanetisa circe</i>
Piedmont Ringlet	<i>Erebia meolans</i>
Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>
Ringlet	<i>Aphantopus hyperantus</i>
Gatekeeper	<i>Pyronia tithonus</i>
Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>
Pearly Heath	<i>Coenonympha arcania</i>

**Satyridae****Skippers**

Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus malvae</i>
Chequered Skipper	<i>Carterocephalus palaemon</i>
Small Skipper	<i>Thymelicus sylvestris</i>
Large Skipper	<i>Ochlodes venatus</i>

**Hesperiidae****Moths**

Large Emerald	<i>Geometra papilionaria</i>
Riband Wave	<i>Idaea aversata</i>
Humming-bird Hawk-moth	<i>Macroglossum stellatarum</i>
Heart And Dart	<i>Agrotis exclamationis</i>
Red Underwing	<i>Catocala nupta</i>

**Dragonflies****Spreadwings**

Common Spreadwing	<i>Lestes sponsa</i>
-------------------	----------------------

**Lestidae****Bluetails**

Common Bluetail	<i>Coenagrionidae</i>
Common Bluetail	<i>Enallagma cyathigerum</i>
	<i>Ischnura elegans</i>

**Coenagrionidae****Featherlegs**

White Featherleg	<i>Platycnemididae</i>
	<i>Platycnemis latipes</i>

**Platycnemididae****True Dragonflies**

Common Hawker	<i>Aeshnidae</i>
	<i>Aeshna juncea</i>

**Aeshnidae**

Brown Hawker *Aeshna grandis*  
Emperor Dragonfly *Anax imperator*

**Chasers** *Libellulidae*  
Common Darter *Sympetrum striolatum*

### Reptiles and Amphibian

Alpine Newt *Ichthyosaura alpestris*  
Spanish Terrapin, *Mauremys leprosa*  
Ocellated Lizard *Lacerta lepida*  
Iberian Wall Lizard *Lacerta monticola*  
Marsh Frog *Pelophylax ridibundus*  
Various tadpoles

### Other Taxa of note

Wasp Spider *Argiope bruennichi*  
Great Diving Beetle *Dytiscus marginalis*  
Ocean Sunfish *Mola mola*  
Shark sp.