

Spain's Coto Donana & Extremadura

Naturetrek Tour Report

21 - 29 April 2011



Squacco Heron by Peter Dunn



Isabelline Warbler by Peter Dunn



Little Bustard by Byron Palacios



European Bee-eaters by Byron Palacios

Report and images compiled by Byron Palacios and 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

W: www.naturetrek.co.uk

Tour Leaders: Byron Palacios (Naturetrek Leader & Ornithologist)
Peter Dunn (Naturetrek Co-leader & Ornithologist)

Participants: Lloyd Austin
Hilary Raeburn
Ben Appleton
Judy Johnson
Irma Rowlands
Sean Courtney
Tony Gunton
Pat Allen
Judy Greenwood
Russell Tofts

Introduction

Central and southern Spain in April abounds with newly arrived summer migrants, all typical of this Mediterranean climate. Based in three centres, we first explored the marismas and lagoons of the famous Coto Doñana, based in the historic town of El Rocio. Then we had a short stay at Sanlúcar de Barameda to explore the salt pans and pools to the east of the great River Guadalquivir, and then the final stay was in the Extremadura region based close to Trujillo with the famous Monfragüe National Park.

Day 1

Thursday 21st April

Weather: Heavy rain showers, sunny intervals with brisk SW wind

Journey to El Rocio.

After a very early start, we took our flight from Heathrow to Seville, changing planes at Madrid airport (which was slightly delayed), arriving in Seville slightly later than the scheduled arrival time. We joined the rest of the group who were already waiting for us at Seville airport and after a quick break – while sorting the vehicles – we drove up out of Seville towards El Rocio. The weather was unsettled, windy with sunny spells and sporadic showers during the afternoon.

We did some birding from the hotel's marsh view point from where we saw Collared Pratincoles, Black Kites, Common Buzzard, Booted Eagle, Spanish Imperial Eagle, Spotless Starling, Greater Flamingo, Eurasian Spoonbill, Black-winged Stilt, Mallard, Black-headed and Yellow-legged Gulls, Whiskered Tern, Little, Cattle and Great White Egrets, Common and Red-crested Pochards, amongst others. We then had a little break before a delicious local dinner.

Day 2

Friday 22nd April

Weather: Heavy rain showers with sunny intervals

El Acebuche and El Acebron Palace

It does not get light much before 7.30am but a few had a look at the lake before breakfast. With light winds, the Great Reed Warbler was showing well and a pair of Whiskered Terns hunted over the water. Breakfast was ready at 8am and we boarded the vehicles by 9. Our plans revolved around the weather and we planned to visit El Acebuche which has a nice walk with hides and also a visitor's centre if the rains come. Fortunately the rains held off right up to lunch time and we were able to enjoy our morning fully.

Driving along the entrance road we stopped to watch Crested Tits mob a Southern Grey Shrike and European Bee-eaters hawk insects alongside the road. Iberian (Azure-winged) Magpies were loafing about in nearly every tree, waiting for the picnic tables to be occupied, and we were buzzed by both Barn and Red-rumped Swallows. The huge stork nest at the visitors centre was not only the home for the White Stork but had squatters' rights for both House and Tree Sparrows and Spotless Starlings.

Along the board walk we watched or heard Golden Orioles, both Sardinian and Dartford Warblers and saw our first butterfly to venture out in this unseasonable weather (a Clouded Yellow). The hides overlooking the lake produced a good view of a singing Savi's Warbler, Little Grebe, Red-crested and Common Pochard and our only Spanish race of Yellow Wagtail for the day. As we walked back to the car park and picnic site, the sky started to darken and it was suggested that a visit to the centre might be good – a smart idea as the heavens opened with a brisk thunder storm. This caused us to change plans and we headed back to the hotel where we ate our picnic lunch in the comfort and dry of the function room whilst shower after shower passed over outside. We decided that we should meet up at 4pm for a trip out.

The rain had passed over by 4pm and we headed back out of the town, this time to the Acebron Palace. We walked a short way on the entrance road where we had good views of Thekla Lark, Bee-eaters, Southern Grey and Woodchat Shrikes and many Corn Buntings. At the Palace we walked the boardwalk trail seeing Short-toed Treecreepers, Melodious Warbler, a nice pair of Long-tailed Tits (darker Iberian race) feeding young at a nest, and heard many, many Nightingales. The Palace was home to many nesting House Martins and the grounds had a few Tongue (*Serapius*) Orchids. As we walked back to the vehicles, a Sardinian Warbler showed extremely well down to about 10 feet in clear view. We returned to the hotel by 7.20pm and after doing our log, sat down to another traditional meal in the restaurant before retiring for the night.

Day 3

Saturday 23rd April

Weather: Light cloud, warm.

La Rocina am and the National Park late pm

We had a short pre-breakfast birding check at the marshes behind the hotel, having views of more Greater Flamingos, Eurasian Spoonbills, Black-winged Stilt, Whiskered Terns and Glossy Ibis. The weather looked much better during this morning but we were still surrounded by large dark clouds as we looked at the horizon.

We took advantage of the relatively dry morning to visit the marshes and heathland of La Rocina, where we found some good birds as we first entered the reserve; Tree Sparrow, Nightingale and the very colourful European Bee-eater. Following the trail and visiting the hides we saw both water birds such as Red-crested Pochard, Savi's, Cetti's and Reed Warblers, Eurasian Spoonbill, Greater Flamingo, Grey Heron and Little Grebe and typical birds of the stone pine forest: Serin, Azure-winged Magpie, Crested Tit, and Booted Eagles overhead (dark and pale morphs). Walking on the boardwalk out onto the heathland area produced many interesting birds such as Pallid Swifts in amongst a huge movement of Common Swifts, after a rain shower, more Booted Eagles and Black Kites, Stonechat, Dartford and Sardinian Warblers. As the lunch time approached, we started walking back towards the car park, finding Short-toed Treecreeper, Tree Sparrow, Melodious Warbler, and one lucky participant saw an Egyptian Mongoose. We then drove back to our hotel in order to enjoy a delicious lunch amongst the locals who were celebrating Easter very noisily!

We took a break after lunch in order to get ready for our expedition within Doñana National Park at 5 o'clock. The weather was not promising as signs of rain were present once again. Nevertheless, we made the most of the dry periods watching important birds such as Spanish Imperial Eagle, Stone Curlew, Little Owl, Calandra, Crested and Short-toed Larks, amongst others. We checked an area where Crested Coot was recently found but there were no signs of it, so we continued to the Jose Antonio Valverde visitors centre to watch the fantastic rookery with hundreds of breeding birds such as Glossy Ibis, Cattle and Little Egrets, Black-crowned Night-Heron, Squacco and Purple Herons and Great Reed Warblers. Little and Great Crested Grebes were also seen here together with some Common and Red-crested Pochard. After visiting the centre, we walked towards the marismas again getting great views of Little Bittern flitting over Tamarisk bushes. We also had glimpses of the most-wanted Crested Coot and some of us had good views of the red-knobbed head. We had our dinner-snack before we started to return to El Rocio as the evening and dusk were closing in.

Day 4

Sunday 24th April

Better weather, warm sunshine with cloud

Journey from El Rocio to Sanlúcar.

We started the day with a good breakfast and a last look on the lake before packing our bags and heading out of El Rocio for Sanlúcar. After taking the last few scenery photos we heading through the Isla Major checking known areas for waders. Most of these were too flooded because of the recent rains and only produced Wood and Common Sandpipers and the road side bushes and fences were 'littered' with Bee-eaters and Woodchat Shrikes. We searched the area for Black-winged Kite to no avail and ended up at the botanic gardens at Aznalcázar. Here we explored the grounds where up to five Isabelline (Western Olivaceous) Warblers were on territory. As the weather was fine and there were picnic tables we stopped to have our picnic lunch here, with the usual selection of local hams, cheeses, bread and various salads, washed down with red wine or juice. During our lunch break a Wryneck decided to show – a welcome sight.

Following lunch we headed off intending to get the small ferry at Coria del Rey to avoid Seville and try and find a route through the arable fields towards Sanlúcar. The former was achieved but the latter was a challenge, as many of the tracks had been gated since our last visit.

We did however find a nice pool containing many Curlew Sandpipers, Avocets and Dunlin and saw both Montagu's and Marsh Harrier, together with our first Spanish Sparrows and Turtle Doves. The track however petered out and reluctantly we had to retrace our steps and take the motorway south into Sanlúcar. Once settled in our rooms, we did our log and then we headed for the town square where we sampled the delights of a local tapas bar, which was very good value and thoroughly enjoyable.

Day 5

Monday 25th April

Weather: Hot in sun, some cloud.

Bonanza Salt Pans and La Algaida

After a relaxed breakfast, we drove up out of Sanlúcar de Barrameda, going through the narrow streets of the town centre, heading north towards the salt pans known as Bonanza. It was a lovely sunny morning as we drove by; making our first stop to get some of the birds – mainly waders – we've been seeing from the vehicle, such as Kentish, Grey (Black-bellied) and Ringed Plovers, Little Tern, Little Stint, Turnstone, Bar-tailed Godwit (in flight), Avocets, Black-winged Stilt, Greenshank, Redshank, and Sanderling, amongst others. A large colony of breeding Little Terns were all over the place, while in a different pool a group of 150+ Slender-billed Gulls were in the water by a group of displaying Flamingos. We also saw two Red-necked Phalarope amongst this group, something very unusual in this part of the peninsula. Many other birds were seen as we walked and drove along the tracks amongst the salt pans, such as Lesser Black-backed, Yellow-legged and Black-headed Gulls, Iberian Yellow Wagtail, Peregrine Falcon, Black and Red Kites, Common Swift, Sardinian Warbler, Fan-tailed Warbler (Zitting Cisticola), Eurasian Spoonbill, and fantastic views of Spectacle Warbler, one of the target birds of this site. A spectacular Osprey took us by surprise flying with its catch right in front of us, what a beautiful bird!

We continued later on driving into La Algaida where we visited a piece of marsh known as El Talero, where three pairs of White-headed ducks were seen very well; also Red-headed and Common Pochard, Squacco Heron, Little and Cattle Egrets, Black-crowned Night Heron, Eurasian Spoonbills, Great Reed Warbler, and more White-headed ducks - our target bird here. Lunch time came and we managed to enjoy it on the picnic tables set up around the tracks of the park, under the Mediterranean sun. Some Griffon Vultures, Black Kites, Short-toed and Booted Eagles were seen. After lunch, we kept driving on the dirt tracks aiming to make a loop into Sanlúcar, which produced a good amount of bird species such as Calandra, Short-toed and Crested Larks, Black Kite, Eurasian Kestrel, Collared Pratincole, and great views of Short-toed Eagle soaring above our heads! By the end of the afternoon we drove back to our hotel in Sanlúcar in order to have a break and before eating out in one of the traditional restaurants in town.

Day 6

Tuesday 26th April

Sanlúcar to Trujillo

The day dawned clear and we were soon packed and making our way out of Sanlúcar and heading for the motorway north, circumnavigating Seville and onwards towards Merida. We had our lunch on the banks of the Embalse de Proserpina, just outside Merida and then continued east and north to the rice fields of the Sierra Brava Reservoir. Unfortunately the expected Black-shouldered Kites were not in residence but we were rewarded with three Bonelli's Eagles. A check of some marshland for Bluethroat was negative but a flock containing Little Ringed Plovers flew over calling.

Continuing on we arrived at our last hotel at Las Canteras around 6.30pm to be greeted by Golden Eagle over the valley. While waiting for dinner we had two Great Spotted Cuckoos, a male Little Bustard displaying in the fields and many Spanish Sparrows joining the House Sparrows, roosting in the hedges. A nice local dinner followed before we retired to bed.

Day 7

Wednesday 27th April

Weather: Hot and sunny

Monfragüe National Park.

A pre-breakfast birding around the grounds of Las Canteras produced great birds such as Little Bustard (the same displaying male of the previous late afternoon), Spanish Sparrow, Lesser Kestrel, Calandra and Crested Larks, Red-rumped Swallow, White Stork, Skylark and a very active Great-spotted Cuckoo – seen perched and flying around the lodge's garden – and more...a nice 'wake up call' on this beautiful morning!

After breakfast, we drove straight into the Monfragüe National Park, making our first stop at El Salto del Gitano, the spot known as Peña Falcon. The warm thermals helped a large group of Griffon Vultures soar above our heads, and circling the pinnacle, gave us a well expected show - one of the highlights of the trip. A few Black Vultures joined the group, while a Peregrine Falcon was also soaring amongst them too. At least three Spanish Imperial Eagles were at the site as well, displaying and making some elegant movements, going up high and dropping off dramatically. Other birds such as Blue Rock Thrush, Rock Bunting (with a nest), Crag Martin, Black Redstart, Black Kite and a group of five Black Storks were also seen by the cliffs.

As the morning was going by, we took a coffee break at the small village of Villarreal de San Carlos and then we continued driving within the park doing a pre-lunch birding stop in order to look for Black-eared Wheatear. After a few attempts, we saw a lovely male sat on the top of a tree post for quite a long time. A few Thekla Larks were also seen at this spot. We then moved to our lunch spot located by the hydroelectric station bridge, from where we saw more Black and Griffon Vultures, Azure-winged Magpies, Grey Heron and Subalpine Warbler. A short walk after lunch, and not far from the main road, produced great views of a pair of Short-toed Eagles, Crested and Long-tailed Tits, and our first Egyptian Vulture which was soaring amongst a group of Griffons.

The afternoon became warmer but still felt refreshing with the light breeze. Our next stop was right in front of the cliff known as Potilla del Tietar, from where saw a Eurasian Eagle Owl, which was very well camouflaged amongst bushes and crags up in the cliff face, with its juvenile next to her. We had good scope views of this massive owl. We also saw a good group of Griffon Vultures perched and soaring from the top of the cliffs, Blue Rock Thrush, Egyptian Vultures, European Swifts, Crag Martins, and another pair of Subalpine Warblers. After this last and very productive spot, we decided to drive up back to our hotel (Las Canteras) in order to pack up and swap accommodation to Viña Las Torres Hotel where we enjoyed its surroundings and a delicious supper!

Day 8

Thursday 28th April

Weather: Hot & sunny, isolated showers pm

Santa Marta de Magasca and Belen Plains

After breakfast we left Viña Las Torres and headed back towards Trujillo and then west towards Cáceres where we followed the road to Santa Marta de Magasca. The first few olive trees were alive with hundreds of Spanish Sparrows and we were able to watch a Woodlark, in display flight, directly above us. We left the olive groves and the plains opened out in front of us - with lush vegetation after the previous weeks rain. Turning on to a stone track we spied our first Great Bustards. Two males were displaying for the favour of some females and their 'foam bath' display was fascinating to watch as vast amounts of white feathers appeared as if it had turned itself inside out! Calandra Larks sang all around us and in the distance we could hear the distinctive call of Pin-tailed Sandgrouse but no one could see them. One surprise here was a nest of Spanish Imperial Eagle, in an easy to see position, not far from the track (compared to other nest sites!). As we walked the track the distinct bubbling calls of Black-bellied Sandgrouse alerted us to at least 25 birds crossing in small groups around us. Black Vultures and Griffons were on every side, but no Little Bustards.

With the temperature rising we headed through Santa Marta and down to a bridge over the Magasca River. The water was full of Striped-necked Terrapins and a vivid blue Kingfisher flew up stream. We continued onto the Monroy road where we set up for our picnic lunch. Around us were the calls and aerial acrobatics of displaying Montagu's Harriers, six birds in all and a number of butterflies were found on the grass verge, including Spanish Marbled White and a strange coloured Swallowtail.

Following lunch we travelled the Trujillo to Montánchez Road, known as 'Roller Alley' and there on the nest boxes fitted to the pylons were up to eight brightly coloured European Rollers, one or two taking to the air to do their tumbling display. In the high temperatures we decided to return to Trujillo to check the bull ring for Lesser Kestrels (plenty) and stock up on some of the delicious pate, cheeses and sausages we had sampled during our stay.

Our final destination was the plains of Belen, where the clouds started to build and we were hit by hail and thunder! However before this we found at least 15 Great Bustards, three Little Owls and a smart male Little Bustard alongside the road. We returned to the hotel at around 6.15pm to relax and refresh before completing our last log call and partook in another of Belen's culinary delights.

Day 9

Friday 29th April

Weather: Spain - overcast - sun; London - overcast - mild

Trujillo – Madrid – London.

After an early breakfast we started out on our journey home with the drive to Madrid Barajas airport. The BA flight was on time and after a short 1.45 minute 'hop' we were soon in Heathrow - joined by revellers from the Royal wedding!

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 to sign up.

Species Lists

Birds (✓ = recorded but not counted. H = heard only)

	Scientific name	Common name	April									
			21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
1	Red-legged Partridge	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>		1					3		2	
2	Common Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>			H			H		H	H	
3	Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>		20	2							
4	Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>	2		4							
5	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	1	✓	✓
6	Northern Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>	2		5							
7	Garganey	<i>Anas querquedula</i>			2							
8	Red-crested Pochard	<i>Netta rufina</i>	3	8	✓	4	✓					
9	Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>	1	6	✓	✓	✓					
10	White-headed Duck	<i>Oxyura leucocephala</i>						6				
11	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>		4	4	2	✓					
12	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>			2							
13	Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>			1							
14	Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>		2	60	✓	50					
15	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>								4		
16	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	25			✓	✓	✓
17	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	5	1	✓	20	20					
18	Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>	15	10	✓	18	4					
19	Little Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>			5							
20	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>			✓	4	✓					
21	Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>			✓		✓					
22	Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	✓	1	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
23	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>		3	10	5	5	3	1			1
24	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	1		✓	12						
25	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>		1	2	1	1			1		
26	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	1	1	✓	✓	10	✓	1			
27	Western Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>					1					
28	Black-winged Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>	2					1				
29	Red Kite	<i>Milvus milvus</i>	2	1		1	1			2	4	1
30	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
31	Egyptian Vulture	<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>								4		
32	Griffon Vulture	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>	12	2	6		10	✓	✓	✓		
33	Cinereous (Black) Vulture	<i>Aegypius monachus</i>						1	10	10		
34	Short-toed Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>				1	3			2		
35	Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>		1	2	3	1	1				1
36	Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>				1	4	1	1		8	
37	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	1	1	1	1	2	5	2	1	1	1
38	Spanish Imperial Eagle	<i>Aquila adalberti</i>	2	1	1					3	2	
39	Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>						1				
40	Bonelli's Eagle	<i>Aquila fasciata</i>						3	1			
41	Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>	2	10	12	7	9	4	1	1		
42	Lesser Kestrel	<i>Falco naumanni</i>	5			6	6	5	3	✓	✓	✓
43	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	✓	1	20	✓	3	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
44	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>			1		1		2			
45	Great Bustard	<i>Otis tarda</i>									30	
46	Little Bustard	<i>Tetrax tetrax</i>						1	2	1		
47	Red-knobbed Coot	<i>Fulica cristata</i>			1							

	Scientific name	Common name	April										
			21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29		
48	Purple Swamphen	<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>			6	2							
49	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	H	6		✓	✓	✓					
50	Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>		4		3	✓	✓			✓		
51	Eurasian Stone-Curlew	<i>Burhinus oedicnemus</i>			2				1				
52	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				1	
53	Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>				3	✓						
54	Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>			4								
55	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>						✓					
56	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>			1	7	✓	✓		1			
57	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>							8				
58	Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>						20					
59	Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>						40					
60	Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>	1										
61	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>			2		5						
62	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>			5		1						
63	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>				5							
64	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>			2	2	4	1					
65	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>					3						
66	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>					✓						
67	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>						10					
68	Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>			3	80	✓						
69	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>				20	✓						
70	Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>	✓	✓		5							
71	Red-necked Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>					2						
72	Collared Pratincole	<i>Glareola pratincola</i>	40		4	1	9	5					
73	Slender-billed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus genei</i>					150						
74	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	✓	✓			5	9	3				
75	Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>			✓	✓	✓						✓
76	Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>	2	✓	✓	✓	✓						
77	Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>		1	5		2	10					
78	Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>					1	2					
79	Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>					✓						
80	Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>		2	✓								
81	Black-bellied Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles orientalis</i>										25	
82	Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia 'feral'</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
83	Stock Dove	<i>Columba oenas</i>						3					
84	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
85	European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>				3		40	1				
86	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	2	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
87	Great Spotted Cuckoo	<i>Clamator glandarius</i>						2	2	1			
88	Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>			1	H		H	H	2	2		
89	Eurasian Eagle-owl	<i>Bubo bubo</i>							2				
90	Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>			2	1		1	1	3			
91	Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>											
92	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
93	Pallid Swift	<i>Apus pallidus</i>		2	6			6					
94	European Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>									8		
95	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>			1	2					1		
96	European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>		40	✓	✓		20	✓	✓	2		
97	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>		5	10	4		10	✓	✓	4		
98	Eurasian Wryneck	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>				1							

	Scientific name	Common name	April											
			21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29			
99	Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>			1									
100	Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>												1
101	Southern Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius meridionalis</i>		2					3			5		
102	Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>		6	12	✓			8	6	6	1		
103	Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>		2	H	H				H	H			
104	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	1		H					1				
105	Iberian Magpie	<i>Cyanopica cooki</i>	10	40	✓	✓			6	4	✓	✓		
106	Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	1	5	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		
107	Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>			2				✓	✓	✓	✓		
108	Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>							2					
109	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>		1	1	1			1	5	1			
110	European Crested Tit	<i>Lophophanes cristatus</i>		8						3				
111	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		
112	Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		✓					2	✓	✓			
113	Calandra Lark	<i>Melanocorypha calandra</i>			2			2	4	6	✓			
114	Greater Short-toed Lark	<i>Calandrella brachydactyla</i>			6			1						
115	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>	✓	2	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
116	Thekla Lark	<i>Galerida theklae</i>		4							5	2		
117	Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>							1					
118	Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>									2			
119	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>			1									
120	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
121	Eurasian Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>									10	10		
122	Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓			
123	Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Cecropis daurica</i>	2	8	2	10			4	8	6			
124	Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>		H	1	2	H	1						
125	Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>		2							2	H		
126	Western Bonelli's Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus bonelli</i>		1							1			
127	Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>	H	2	✓	✓	✓							
128	Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>			3			1						
129	Eurasian Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>			✓	2	✓							
130	Isabelline Warbler	<i>Hippolais opaca</i>				5								
131	Melodious Warbler	<i>Hippolais polyglotta</i>		1	2									
132	Savi's Warbler	<i>Locustella luscinioides</i>		1	2									
133	Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>		H	H	✓	✓	6				1		
134	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>		H	3	H	1				1			
135	Garden Warbler	<i>Sylvia borin</i>			1	1								
136	Common Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>				1								
137	Dartford Warbler	<i>Sylvia undata</i>		3	2						1			
138	Spectacled Warbler	<i>Sylvia conspicillata</i>						1						
139	Subalpine Warbler	<i>Sylvia cantillans</i>									4			
140	Sardinian Warbler	<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>		5	5	H	6			2	1			
141	Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>		H	H					2	1	1		
142	Short-toed Treecreeper	<i>Certhia brachydactyla</i>		3	6		1	H	H					
143	Spotless Starling	<i>Sturnus unicolor</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
144	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	2	2	✓	✓	H	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
145	Common Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>		1	2	1					H	H		
146	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>									2			
147	European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>		✓	✓		1	8	✓	✓				
148	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>		1								1		
149	Black-eared Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe hispanica</i>									1			

	Scientific name	Common name	April									
			21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
150	Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>								7		
151	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>		1								
152	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
153	Spanish Sparrow	<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>				15		✓	✓	✓		
154	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>		2	6		✓				2	
155	Rock Sparrow	<i>Petronia petronia</i>								1		
156	Spanish Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava iberiae</i>		1	✓	✓	✓	3				
157	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>						2	2	1		
158	Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>			1			2				
159	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	✓	✓	✓	2			✓	✓		
160	European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>	H	✓	✓	H	✓	✓	✓	✓		
161	European Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>	1	1	2	H				✓		
162	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	✓	✓	✓	H	✓	✓	✓	✓		
163	Common Linnet	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>				100		✓	2			
164	Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>		1								
165	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
166	Rock Bunting	<i>Emberiza cia</i>								2		

Mammals

European Rabbit
Red Deer

Egyptian Mongoose

Iberian Hare

Butterflies

Clouded Yellow
Wall
Painted Lady
Speckled Wood
Small Heath
Orangetip

Bath White
Two-tailed Pasha
Small Copper
Spanish Swallowtail
Brown Argus
Various fritillaries & an unidentified hairstreak

Southern Small White
Red Admiral
Common Blue
Common Swallowtail
Spanish Marbled White

Other Taxa of note

Violet Carpenter Bee
Small Red Damselfly
Scarlet Darter
Moorish Gecko
Marsh Frog
Chinese Mitten Crab

Scarab Beetle
Iberian Bluetail
Lesser Emperor
Garden Snake
Stripe-necked Terrapin
Egyptian Locust

Black-tailed Skimmer
Red-tailed Lizard
Tongue Orchid sp.

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 is quick, free and easy. The [Naturetrek Facebook page](#) is now live; do please pay us a visit!