

Spain's Coto Donana & Extremadura

Naturetrek Tour Report

10 - 18 April 2018



Slender-billed Gull



Spanish Imperial Eagle

Tour report by Niki Williamson
Images by Simon Tonkin



Naturetrek

Mingledown Barn

Wolf's Lane

Chawton

Alton

Hampshire

GU34 3HJ

UK

T: +44 (0)1962 733051

E: info@naturetrek.co.uk

W: www.naturetrek.co.uk

Tour participants: Simon Tonkin and Niki Williamson (Leaders) with a group of 12 Naturetrek clients

Summary

Spring was certainly in the air for this invigorating two-base avian adventure! From the teeming wetlands and fresh forests of Coto Doñana to the sweeping plains and dramatic mountainscapes of Extremadura, we took in some of the best habitats Spain has to offer, arriving as they burst into life after recent rains.

In Doñana National Park, Little Bitterns, Great Reed Warblers, White-headed Ducks, Gull-billed, Black and Whiskered Terns, Purple Herons, and Western Swamphens stood out against a background of thousands of Glossy Ibis and Greater Flamingoes.

The plains of Extremadura positively fizzed with song from Calandra, Crested, Thekla and Greater Short-toed Lark. At times it was hard to know where to look – indeed there was a moment when the group could choose between watching dancing Hoopoes, European Rollers, Great Bustards performing their foambath display, a perched Spanish Imperial Eagle, and Cinereous Vultures ripping into a carcass!

The diversity of habitats on our journey allowed us astonishing views of nearly 180 bird species and, to cap it all off, we had a breath-taking encounter with an Iberian Lynx, the world's rarest cat! All this was washed down with some superb local food and wine – the finishing touches to a superb trip!

Day 1

Tuesday 10th April

The group arrived at Seville Airport on time, and were soon in Arrivals, where they were met by leaders Simon and Niki, and Barbara, who had started her trip early! It wasn't long before the minibuses were loaded up and we were on our way.

The 90-minute drive to our first base in El Rocio took us around the outskirts of Seville and through expansive farmland, where we could already have our first views of circling raptors, including Red and Black Kites, a couple of Booted Eagles, and a nifty little Black-winged Kite at the side of the road. Recent rains had added splashes of fresh water to the fields, which were occupied by dozens of Glossy Ibis, Black-winged Stilts and Western Cattle Egrets.

Once they were no longer distracted by a passing Eurasian Hoopoe, Simon and Niki enjoyed watching the group's faces as we arrived at the extraordinary town of El Rocio! The sand-covered streets, Wild-West-style buildings and hitching posts of this quirky Spanish horsemen's town never fail to amaze!

We were soon enjoying drinks and nibbles while checking in at our hotel. Hotel Toruño is situated overlooking the Madre de las Marismas – a pretty freshwater lake, on the shores of which El Rocio sits. Few birders can resist its pull for long, so after settling in we went for a pre-dinner stroll along the promenade.

The lake was well-charged with spring rainwater and plenty of birds! Gadwall, Northern Shoveler and Northern Pintail paddled between the numerous Greater Flamingoes and Glossy Ibis. We could see genuine, wild Greylag Geese – the symbol of Doñana National Park - on the far shore amongst grazing Red Deer. Black Kites and a

couple of Northern Ravens soared overhead. Nearby, we could see Western Swamphens amongst the reeds (Purple Swamphen has now been split into six species, with Western occurring here). We were even treated to a brief flyby from a male Little Bittern, active in the reedbed. The air was full of the sounds of Cetti's Warblers, Common Nightingales and Spotless Starlings. Suddenly another, chirpier sound permeated, and we looked up to see our first group of joyful European Bee-eaters! They were swooping overhead, catching insects alongside the throngs of Sand and House Martins and Barn Swallows.

We headed across the square to the restaurant for welcome drinks. Our table gave a magnificent view out across the lake, and as twilight drew in, our first day was completed by views of Black-crowned Night Herons leaving their roosts!

Day 2

Wednesday 11th April

Today we headed out into Doñana National Park with colleagues from Doñana Nature. We travelled in their 4x4 minibuses, giving us exclusive access to permit-only areas of the park.

In the morning we travelled through the extensive Stone Pine and Cork Oak forests. We enjoyed the sights and sounds of the forest, including Short-toed Treecreepers, Firecrests and huge numbers of brightly-singing Serins. Flocks of peach-and-turquoise Iberian Magpies crashed noisily through the trees and we came across several Red Deer, some of the stags still holding on to their impressive antlers.

We were passing through the territories of Iberian Lynxes, and there was always a chance that we might come across one of these hard-to-see cats. But although we saw some great Lynx snacks in the form of European Rabbits and Red-legged Partridges, unfortunately this morning luck wasn't on our side.

We emerged out onto the acid heathland, which had been rendered into an incredible wetland by all the recent rain! The splashes of water on the grass yielded a wonderful selection and huge numbers of wetland birds, including Great Egrets, Purple and Squacco Herons, Black-necked, Little and Great Crested Grebes. Waders included Black-winged Stilts, Pied Avocets, Whimbrel, Grey, Common and Little Ringed Plovers, Northern Lapwings, Ruff, Black-tailed Godwits, Common Greenshanks and Green Sandpipers. All these were set against a backdrop of literally thousands of Glossy Ibis, Eurasian Spoonbills and Greater Flamingoes – a wonderful spectacle!

Looking out over one of the fields we were thrilled to see many hawking Gull-billed and Whiskered Terns and among them, several Collared Pratincoles on the wing. A gull-like call heralded the arrival of a small flock of Pin-tailed Sandgrouse, which wheeled around us before landing, giving everyone good scope views.

Out over the heath we saw several Montagu's Harriers and Black-winged Kites hunting, and we had superb views of a group of Griffon Vultures, perched up on a nearby farm building. Exploring the short stretch of road leading to the Valverde Visitor Centre, we enjoyed further views of Red-crested Pochards and Black-necked Grebes, many Purple and Squacco Herons and a male Little Bittern. We could hardly hear ourselves think over the cacophony of Great Reed Warbler song!

At the Visitor Centre, we relaxed with a coffee looking out over the shallow, reed- and scrub-fringed lake. Here we found three Ferruginous Ducks amongst the Eurasian Teal, Mallards and Northern Shovelers. Numerous Black-crowned Night Herons were roosting in the bushes and we got great views of this handsome heron.

For lunch we headed back to El Rocío, and ate at a local restaurant, before taking a little siesta time and a chance to explore the fascinating village.

In the afternoon, we headed back into the park, into an area known as Coto del Rey. This higher, dryer area gave us great views of a Woodchat Shrike and hunting Lesser Kestrels, as well as a brief encounter with a migrating Black-eared Wheatear and a Western Bonelli's Warbler moving through. The sandy tracks on which we were walking told us stories of the park's hidden mammals. Among the numerous deer tracks there were also Wild Boar trotters, and we could clearly see that a Lynx had sauntered this way, probably today! All around us, every tree seemed to hold a Black Kite and the sky was full of them! This area holds one of Europe's largest breeding colonies and at this time of year their numbers are further augmented by passing migrants. We enjoyed listening to their whinnying calls as they soared overhead.

We headed for home as the sun began to lower, thrilled with an outstanding day's birding. But, not 200 metres from the park entrance, what should cross our path but the world's rarest cat?! Unbelievably, an Iberian Lynx was crossing an area of grassland right next to the van! We lost sight of the animal but after a brief search we located her again, strolling towards a wooded area. We watched for just long enough to get some great photos and then she was gone.

Breathless, we headed back in plenty of time for a calming G&T before dinner!

Day 3

Thursday 12th April

Today, after a hearty breakfast and a good strong coffee or two, we headed out to explore the local area, starting at Acebuche heath. This attractive acid heathland is a lovely example of the unspoilt scrubby habitat, full of interesting flora as well as fauna.

Looking out over the low vegetation, we soon had great views of numerous Thekla Larks, their varied song, shorter crest and grey underwings being just some of the features we could see differentiating them from the superficially similar Crested Lark. We could hear a Dartford Warbler, and it soon showed itself at the top of a bush, as did a magnificent male Southern Grey Shrike. Many European Bee-eaters were perching on the wires and hawking over an area of water.

We took a stroll through the well-managed native woodland and the humid day gave it a tropical feel, accentuated by the liquid song of many Common Nightingales, Woodlarks, Cetti's Warblers, Serins, and a distant Eurasian Hoopoe calling. We paused for a while in a glade and enjoyed views of a singing Iberian Chiffchaff, Western Bonelli's Warbler, Garden Warbler, Eurasian Nuthatch and Short-toed Treecreeper. As well as two Great Spotted Woodpeckers, a diminutive Lesser Spotted Woodpecker was heard calling and briefly seen.

Taking a stroll through the impressive grounds of the famous white Palacio de Acebron, we enjoyed seeing Tongue Orchids and Tassel Hyacinth amongst the Snowflakes, wild Lupins and Clovers. We had views of

several Garden Warblers, and got to watch a normally skulky Common Nightingale, sitting out on a branch and blasting out song! By the shores of the lake were a colony of Black-crowned Night Herons, and we got a brief turquoise flash of Common Kingfisher.

We headed to a nearby picnic area for lunch but were unfortunately overtaken by the elements mid-way through preparation! Simon and Niki struggled on and managed to pull together a typically legendary picnic, which the group ate British-style in the shelter of the minibuses! We avoided the worst of the downpour by taking a quick coffee in the Visitor Centre, where we were able to watch live footage of a mother Iberian Lynx and her three tiny kits, safely holed up in a shelter nearby. These cats are part of the local breeding programme, and those three tiny fur-balls would soon be part of Spain's wild population!

Later that evening, bright sunshine came our way, and we partook in a pre-dinner visit to the lagoon shores, this time getting even better views of the extremely active Little Bittern and catching up with two engaging Penduline Tits.

Day 4

Friday 13th April

Today, we drove round to the far side of the Natural Park, to visit the expansive coastal salt pans at Bonanza and see an entirely different aspect to the area. Beyond Seville we made a coffee stop, before journeying on through the sweeping farmlands, past many Western Marsh and Montagu's Harriers. We had left behind a rather damp El Rocío, and defying calendar-based superstition, we soon arrived at the pans into a patch of bright sunshine that would last the whole day!

Immediately as we arrived we could see that on the pans were hundreds of gorgeous Slender-billed Gulls, their soft pink summer plumage shining out almost as brightly as the dozens of Greater Flamingoes!

We spent a lovely morning viewing out over the pans from various sites. The variations in the depth of the water and the scrubbiness of the ditch edges brought us a fantastic selection of birds. Some pans were favoured by the larger birds such as Eurasian Spoonbills and Greater Flamingoes, while various others brought an incredible selection of waders, often in great swirling masses around our heads! These included Little Stints, Pied Avocets, Black-winged Stilts and Common Ringed, Kentish and Grey Plover. The paler colours of Sanderling and Common Greenshank shone out from amongst the throngs of Dunlin, Ruddy Turnstones and Curlew Sandpipers, many of them in full summer plumage. Whimbrel were present, as were Common and Spotted Redshank and Green Sandpipers. Western Marsh and Montagu's Harriers quartered the scrubby areas, and we spied a Western Osprey fishing. We enjoyed an abundance of zesty Iberian Yellow Wagtails, and we even picked up a single Common Waxbill!

We took our picnic in a wooded area at the other side of the pans, where the trees were full of Serins and European Bee-eaters. Alongside was a more vegetated lagoon, which we visited after lunch. The deeper water here brought yet more avian treats! Amongst the Northern Shoveler and Common Pochard were 80 Red-crested Pochard, and no less than 39 White-headed Ducks!

Mid-afternoon we started to head back to El Rocío, leaving time for stops along the way. It proved to be a wise choice as we almost immediately jammed into a stunning adult Short-toed Eagle. Conveniently soaring just over

a layby, it continued to do so as we piled out of the vans, before alighting on a nearby pylon! We had plenty of time to admire its large stature and alert, owl-like face before heading onwards. We hadn't got much further before we reached an area of flooded farmland which just had to be birded! Every field was full of Collared Pratincoles and Gull-billed Terns, giving us our best views yet of these two diverse yet similarly elegant species.

We headed back to Hotel Toruño after an absolutely superb day's birding to enjoy our last fine meal there, washed down with a couple of glasses of local *manzanilla* sherry.

Day 5

Saturday 14th April

Today it was time to leave El Rocío and its enticing lagoon and head north, to our second base near Trujillo. We made a leisurely start, allowing people plenty of chance to pack, and then hit the road, endeavouring to ensure stops for coffee, loos, lunch and birding along the way!

Our first comfort stop was at a service station on the edges of the Extremaduran landscape, and didn't disappoint! By the time everyone had stretched their legs and enjoyed a coffee or ice cream, raptors had left their roosts and were all around us! Before we left we had seen Griffon and Cinereous Vultures, Booted and Short-toed Eagles, Black and Red Kites a few Common Buzzards for good measure!

After travelling on a while further we took our lunch at a picnic spot by the Alange reservoir, looking out over the vast rolling landscape of the area. Almost immediately as we arrived, a Blue Rock Thrush was singing from the rocks above us! We could see huge Alpine Swifts swooping through the air amongst the numerous Crag and House Martins. As Simon and Niki prepared the picnic, it didn't take the group long to find a pair of Black Wheatears not far down a track!

Our journey was almost done, and it wasn't long before we arrived at Casa Rural Viña de los Torres, a beautiful house with a walled garden in a glorious rural setting near Trujillo. The group had free time to unpack and relax and unwind from the trip and take a stroll in the grounds or the local countryside.

Later we enjoyed welcome drinks with our hosts Belen and Juan-Pedro, along with a selection of local cheese and cured meats to whet our appetites for dinner!

Day 6

Sunday 15th April

Today, our birding day began simply by stepping out of our hotel! On the surrounding farmland there were many Corn Buntings and Serins singing, and we saw Eurasian Hoopoes, Common and Great Spotted Cuckoo, Iberian Magpie and Iberian Grey and Woodchat Shrikes, all within an easy stroll.

Passing through Trujillo, we made a brief stop at the old bullring, home to one of the town's colonies of Lesser Kestrels. Sure enough, we enjoyed several of these attractive little falcons swooping through the air calling, before we continued on our way.

But our main mission for the day was to explore the great plains of Santa Marta de Magasca, a short drive away. We arrived to find them positively fizzing with birdsong. Jangling Corn Buntings, plaintive Crested Larks,

inventive Thekla larks and electric Calandra Larks all joined in to this quite astonishing morning soundtrack! Our enjoyment was soon increased by the discovery of a single male Little Bustard quite close by, which strolled through the short vegetation and gave everyone great scope views. Moving further on we found a small group of Black-bellied Sandgrouse on the ground, which eventually moved quite close to us, affording good views of the namesake black belly! Not long after, we also had Pin-tailed Sandgrouse in flight - superb! We heard Eurasian Stone-curlews calling and, after a brief search, found several of them. So much was happening that we could easily have missed the single male Great Bustard which had seemingly sneaked up behind us till he was just a field away!

As we moved through the countryside we could see quite amazing numbers of Spanish Sparrows, feeding in rolling flocks alongside the road. We stopped for a coffee on the outskirts of Santa Marta itself, where a huge colony was nesting in a tree in strange, almost Weaver-like nests. We stopped for lunch in a shallow, wooded gorge with a bubbling river at its base. We enjoyed the sounds of woodland birds and watched from above as dozens of Crag Martins skimmed up and down the surface of the water gathering insects.

Next, we headed out to another section of the plains, where we found a young Spanish Imperial Eagle perched up on a pylon! We also found three glamorous European Rollers and a Little Owl perched up on wires. In the distance we could see a moving black mass – on inspection this turned out to be a dead sheep, upon which a nature-documentary-like scene was unfolding! Several enormous Cinereous Vultures were scrapping with Griffon Vultures for first go at the carcass, while Common Ravens and Black Kites bickered nervously around the edge waiting for their chance!

While all this was going on, we looked over to our left to find a male Great Bustard giving his all to an energetic foam-bath display to two apathetic females! Three dancing Hoopoes then appeared directly in front of us! In the end it was impossible to choose what to look at!

After a while we drove on and were able to access even closer views of the displaying Bustard, which amazing to watch! A little further down the track we also got views of an Iberian Hare leveret and Greater Short-toed Lark really close to the vehicles. And just to cap off the day, as we headed back to Trujillo we encountered another young Spanish Imperial Eagle – its plumage telling us it was a different bird – which hovered over the road before perching photogenically in a roadside tree for us to snap with our phones!

Elated, we headed home for some of Belen's superb home cooking which tonight featured a kind of edible thistle in almond sauce, chicken with figs, homemade falafel for the veggies, and a lemon-cream dessert!

Day 7

Monday 16th April

At last it was time to visit the jewel of Extremadura - Monfragüe National Park. This impressive rocky landscape is much-beloved of birders and we were raring to go!

Even as we arrived at our first stop – the rocky outcrop of Peña Falcòn – there was a massive vortex of Griffon and Cinereous Vultures filling the sky. As they swooped through the air above us, we could see that the rocks were also covered with dozens of resting and nesting birds, giving the whole scene a kind of Tolkien-esque fantasy feel! Joining them on the thermals were a pair of Peregrine Falcons, several Booted Eagles, a Short-toed

Eagle and a Montagu's Harrier. We were thrilled to see endangered adult Egyptian Vultures, freshly arrived from Africa and preparing to breed.

On the rocks themselves we could see several nests in the scope and got to watch parent Griffon Vultures feeding their adorable chicks, resembling partly-plucked turkeys! We also found a pair of nesting Black Storks. Many Crag Martins swooped around the rocks, and we also found a Black Wheatear, several Rock Buntings, and a couple of very confident Blue Rock Thrushes. We had smashing views of a Subalpine Warbler, singing from the top of a tree.

We could have stayed there all day, but it was time for our lunch, after a brief comfort stop at Villarreal de San Carlos (featuring a showy Black Redstart!). As we arrived at the picnic site at Mirador la Tajadilla, overlooking the Tietar River, we could immediately hear Rock Sparrows and Hawfinches in the trees around us. The Rock Sparrows were not seen again, but the Hawfinches kept everybody entertained while Niki and Simon prepared the picnic! It was extra-special today, featuring no less than five local meats and four local cheeses, not to mention salads, olives, wine, juices and freshly baked bread!

There was much to see while we rested, including another beautiful Egyptian Vulture, Common Buzzard and Booted Eagle. We also observed some rather macabre behaviour amongst the nearby Black Kites – they were cruising up and down the river, seemingly knocking House Martins out of the air then retrieving their bodies from the water!

Well fed and rested, we moved on to our afternoon stop further up the river at Portilla del Tietar, where the river runs past bizarre rock formations, showing how the earth's surface has crumpled and folded over time. We enjoyed hearing a Turtle Dove as we got out of the vehicles, and spent some time enjoying close views of Rock Buntings and Black Redstarts.

After not too long the cry went up, and there was a Spanish Imperial Eagle, high over our heads! It soared and circled very high over us for a good while before we lost it. And then just as we were about to leave, a 'gronking' call was heard and two adult birds suddenly appeared from behind the rocks, much lower this time. We had excellent views as they soared and tumbled above us, and one of them tried to beat up a Griffon Vulture!

Chuffed, we went for a well-earned ice cream at a nearby café, before starting to travel slowly back through the Park. We made one last stop by a dam, which unexpectedly yielded two Wild Boar with six stripy hoglets, and a Large Tortoiseshell butterfly.

It had been a superb day and was followed up with a refreshing pre-dinner drink and an excellent meal, during which we serenaded by Belen's son Alexander, a talented clarinet player.

But it wasn't quite over yet! Niki came inside after a breath of fresh air to announce that a Scops Owl was calling outside! We bundled outside and clearly heard it call distantly, then closer, then saw it flash out of some nearby foliage where it was sending the Blackbirds into an alarm-calling frenzy!

Day 8

Tuesday 17th April

We spent a lovely morning today exploring some nearby woodlands and glades. Taking a short walk from the vehicles, we found Sawfly Orchids by the side of the road and added Eurasian Jay and Tree Pipit to our list, which we saw as well as singing Short-toed Treecreepers, Subalpine and Sardinian Warblers and Crested Tits.

At our second stop the air was alive with Woodlark song. Although they were clearly numerous, we had to work hard to see one, but eventually spotted one in song flight, which we followed until it perched in a tree. A Common Redstart showed well, as did several Rock Sparrows, Eurasian Nuthatch and Short-toed Treecreeper.

We carried on, making a short picturesque drive through wooded hills, stopping to listen to frog song and for superb close Hawfinch views. We took our last picnic by a beautiful Roman bridge, where Common Nightingales sang from every bush, and a Grey Wagtail flitted up and down the stream. Today there was sparkling local *cava* for everyone! The sun was gorgeously warm today, and Barbara finally connected with several Iberian Wall Lizards, which she had been hoping for all trip!

In the afternoon we spent some time exploring the well-preserved mediaeval town of Trujillo - home of famous *conquistadores*, the Pizarro brothers, and base of Game of Thrones' own Castel-y-Rock! However, first of all we made a stop in the less picturesque area of town to see the main hub of the disparate Lesser Kestrel colony. They were extremely active in the afternoon sun, calling and hawking for flying insects. There was also an interesting looking leucistic individual which caught our interest.

Heading into town, we had time to enjoy the late afternoon sun, taking a cool drink in the town square and watching legions of Lesser Kestrels, Crag Martins, Barn Swallows and Pallid Swifts hunting overhead. Those that wanted to, explored the winding streets of the old town and took in the extraordinary views out over the plains, while White Storks bill-clapped from rooftop nests and Spotless Starlings squeaked and chattered from seemingly everywhere!

We arrived back in good time for people to pack their bags, and for those that wanted there was a late afternoon walk. We strolled down a path lined with wildflowers and took our last looks at Eurasian Hoopoes, Griffon and Cinereous Vultures and Hawfinches, and were pleased to come across a male Pied Flycatcher.

Before dinner we enjoyed another glass of *cava*, kindly offered by Paul and Jan to celebrate a superb holiday! Our last meal with Juan-Pedro and Belen was *mijas*, an Extremaduran speciality – delicious, and a fitting end to our trip! We toasted our hosts with a glass of acorn liqueur and reminisced about our highlights of the trip.

Day 9

Wednesday 18th April

We loaded up and said “¡Hasta luego!” to our hosts. Time to go home! But not before making the most of a late afternoon flight to explore the plains around Belen.

The morning was again full of larks, and we got our fill of Short-toed, Calandra and Crested Larks singing over each other! Lovely views of a pair of Montagu's Harriers and a ring-tailed Hen Harrier were appreciated.

Viewing over farmland and plains from a high point, we were again lucky enough to see four Great Bustards, moving between the cattle while they foam-bathed, before disappearing guiltily behind a shed!

Simon and Niki provided a picnic for the group en route to the airport – prepared in super-quick time at a rural motorway service stop – and then it was time to say our goodbyes at Madrid airport, taking with us some great memories of lynxes, raptors and bustards!

Niki and Simon had a thoroughly brilliant time sharing their love of Spanish birding with this incredibly enthusiastic group and would like to thank them for their good humour and high energy levels throughout the trip!

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Spanish Imperial Eagle

Species Lists

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

	Common name	Scientific name	April								
			10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
1	Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>	20+	20+	10+		20+				
2	Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>		2	2	50	10				
3	Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>	✓	✓	✓			2			
4	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	3	2	✓
5	Northern Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
6	Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>		4							
7	Red-crested Pochard	<i>Netta rufina</i>		10+	3	80	10+				
8	Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>		✓	✓	20	6				
9	Ferruginous Duck	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>		3							
10	White-headed Duck	<i>Oxyura leucocephala</i>				39					
11	Red-legged Partridge	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>		✓				3	2	1	
12	Common Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>		2							
13	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>		5+		1		1			
14	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>		10+							
15	Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>		8+							
16	Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>	150+	300+	150+	200+	200+				
17	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>							4	1	
18	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	✓	✓	✓	50+	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
19	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	✓	1,500	200+	30+	✓				
20	Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>		50+	30+	40+	10+				
21	Little Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>	1	1	1	2	4				
22	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	15+	15+	2	20+	✓				
23	Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>	1	4+							
24	Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓
25	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	2+	3	2	
26	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>		20+	5+						
27	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
28	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		
29	Western Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>				1					

	Common name	Scientific name	April								
			10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
30	Black-winged Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>	1	c4			1	1			
31	Egyptian Vulture	<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>					2		10+		
32	Griffon Vulture	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>		20+	39	1	✓	c20	200+	50+	✓
33	Cinereous Vulture	<i>Aegypius monachus</i>					2	4	30+	10+	
34	Short-toed Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>				1	5+		3	2	
35	Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraetus pennatus</i>	2	10	4	c10	20+	6+	10+	30+	
36	Spanish Imperial Eagle	<i>Aquila adalberti</i>						2	2		
37	Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>							1		
38	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>					1				
39	Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>		20+	2	3	3		2		
40	Hen Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>									1
41	Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>		4		12	4	8+	3		✓
42	Red Kite	<i>Milvus milvus</i>	1		2	1	3	1	1	20+	
43	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	✓	1,000+	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
44	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>		3	2	1	✓	c5		4	
45	Great Bustard	<i>Otis tarda</i>						7			✓
46	Little Bustard	<i>Tetrax tetrax</i>						1			
47	Water Rail	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>			1						
48	Western Swamphen	<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>	2	15+	3	2	4				
49	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	1	5+	3	4	2				
50	Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>		✓		1	✓				
51	Common Crane	<i>Grus grus</i>							c20		
52	Eurasian Stone-curlew	<i>Burhinus oediconemus</i>						2			
53	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	10+	40+	20+	50+	✓	2			
54	Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>		2		150+					
55	Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>		c5							
56	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>		8+		50+					
57	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>		50+		200+					
58	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>		4							
59	Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>				50+					
60	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>			1						
61	Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>		10+	c20		30+				

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			10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
62	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>		3		6	25+				
63	Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>				2					
64	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>				✓					
65	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>		10+	10+	✓	2				
66	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>		2		3					
67	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>					1				
68	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>				2					
69	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>				✓					
70	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>				20+					
71	Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>				30+					
72	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>		50+		✓					
73	Collared Pratincole	<i>Glareola pratincola</i>		c10		150+					
74	Slender-billed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus genei</i>				200+					
75	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓				
76	Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
77	Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓			
78	Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>		6+		150+	10+				
79	Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>				2					
80	Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>		100+			30+				
81	Pin-tailed Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles alchata</i>		10+				12			
82	Black-bellied Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles orientalis</i>						4			
83	Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
84	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	✓	10+	20+	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
85	European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>				1			1+		
86	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
87	Great Spotted Cuckoo	<i>Clamator glandarius</i>						2			
88	Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>		1			1	3	4	c10	
89	Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>						4			
90	Scops Owl	<i>Otus scops</i>							2		
91	Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>					20+				
92	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>		2		2		2		3	
93	Pallid Swift	<i>Apus pallidus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓

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			10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
94	European Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>							3			
95	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>			1							
96	European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>	5+		16	12	50+	20+	20+	40+		
97	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>	1	2	2	1	8+	10+	6+	10+	3	
98	Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos minor</i>			1							
99	Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>			3							
100	Lesser Kestrel	<i>Falco naumanni</i>		10+	2	20+			30+		60+	
101	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	1	1		1	1	1	2			
102	Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>			1							
103	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>				1		2	3			
104	Southern (Iberian) Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius meridionalis</i>			2		3+	10+	4			
105	Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>		c5	2+		2	5+	10+	5+		
106	Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>	1									
107	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>									5+	
108	Iberian Magpie	<i>Cyanopica cooki</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
109	Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
110	Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
111	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	2	5	2	4	19	50+	10+	c15		
112	European Crested Tit	<i>Lophophanes cristatus</i>									2	
113	Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		✓	✓		✓	2+	4+	✓		
114	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		
115	Eurasian Penduline Tit	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>			1							
116	Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>						1			c20	
117	Thekla Lark	<i>Galerida theklae</i>			3+		1		2	1		
118	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	1+	1	✓	
119	Greater Short-toed Lark	<i>Calandrella brachydactyla</i>		10+			5+	10+				
120	Calandra Lark	<i>Melanocorypha calandra</i>		10+				✓				✓
121	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			
122	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
123	Eurasian Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>					10+	5+	30+	50+		
124	Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
125	Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Cecropis daurica</i>		2+		1	c5	2	5+	3+		

	Common name	Scientific name	April								
			10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
126	Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>	✓	✓	✓	5	1	1	1	1	
127	Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>		4+	10+			✓	10+	✓	
128	Iberian Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus ibericus</i>		3	4				2	1	
129	Western Bonelli's Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus bonelli</i>		2	c5					1	
130	Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>				2+	2				
131	Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>		10+	2		1				
132	Eurasian Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>			2		1				
133	Melodious Warbler	<i>Hippolais polyglotta</i>			1						
134	Savi's Warbler	<i>Locustella luscinioides</i>		1							
135	Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>		✓	2	✓	2+		1		
136	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>		✓	✓		✓		1	✓	
137	Garden Warbler	<i>Sylvia borin</i>			6	1	1				
138	Dartford Warbler	<i>Sylvia undata</i>			1				2	1	
139	Subalpine Warbler	<i>Sylvia cantillans</i>							3	2	
140	Sardinian Warbler	<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
141	Common Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapilla</i>			2		1			1	
142	Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	4	✓	
143	Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>			1				1	2	
144	Short-toed Treecreeper	<i>Certhia brachydactyla</i>		5+	10+				3	10+	
145	Spotless Starling	<i>Sturnus unicolor</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
146	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
147	Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>					2			10+	
148	European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓			5+	
149	Common Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	3+	5+	10+	✓
150	European Pied Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>								1	
151	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>						1	3	1	
152	Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>								1	
153	Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>					4		7		
154	European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>		✓	4		5+	✓	2	3	✓
155	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>					2	2			
156	Black-eared Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe hispanica</i>		1							
157	Black Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe leucura</i>					2		1		

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			10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
158	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
159	Spanish Sparrow	<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>					c10	500+	100+	✓		
160	Rock Sparrow	<i>Petronia petronia</i>									4+	
161	Common Waxbill	<i>Estrilda astrild</i>				1						
162	Spanish Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava iberiae</i>		20+		20+	1					
163	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>									1	
164	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>		1			1	2	2	2		
165	Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>		✓							1	
166	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>									2	
167	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
168	Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>								2+	10+	
169	European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	2	2			
170	Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>		✓		✓	✓		4	2		
171	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
172	European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
173	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
174	Rock Bunting	<i>Emberiza cia</i>					1		5			
175	Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>									1	

Mammals

1	Iberian Hare	<i>Lepus granatensis</i>		1				2				
2	European Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>		✓				✓		2		
3	Iberian Lynx	<i>Lynx pardinus</i>		1								
4	Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>										
5	Red Deer	<i>Cervus elaphus elaphus</i>	✓	✓	✓					✓		
6	Fallow Deer	<i>Dama dama</i>		3								
7	Wild Boar	<i>Sus scrofa</i>		2						8		
8	Mole	<i>Talpa europaea</i>						1				

Reptiles and Amphibians

1	Iberian Pool Frog	<i>Pelodytes ibericus</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓		✓		
2	Horseshoe Whip-snake	<i>Hemorrhois hippocrepsis</i>								✓		

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			10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
3	Iberian Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis hispanica</i>									✓	
4	Iberian Pond Tortoise	<i>Mauremys leprosa</i>					1	1			✓	

Insects

1	Spanish Festoon	<i>Zerynthia rumina</i>		✓		✓					✓	
2	Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>		✓		✓	✓			✓	✓	
3	Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>		✓		✓				✓	✓	
4	Green-striped White	<i>Euchloe belemia</i>		✓								
5	Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias crocea</i>					✓			✓	✓	
6	Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>									✓	
7	Holly Blue	<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>									✓	
8	Large Tortoiseshell	<i>Nymphalis polychloros</i>								1	✓	
9	Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>		✓		✓						
10	Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>								3	✓	
11	Two-tailed Pasha	<i>Charaxes jasius</i>		✓								
12	Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>					✓			✓		
13	Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>									✓	
14	Orange Tip	<i>Anthocharis cardamines</i>									✓	
15	Violet Carpenter Bee	<i>Xylocopa violacea</i>								✓	✓	
16	Egyptian Cricket	<i>Anacridium aegyptium</i>									✓	

Plants

1	Tongue Orchids	<i>Serapias</i> spp			✓							
2	Lax-flowered Orchid	<i>Anacamptis laxiflora</i>					✓					
3	Champagne Orchid	<i>A. morio</i> subsp <i>champagneuxii</i>								✓	✓	
4	Sawfly Orchid	<i>Ophrys tenthredinifera</i>									✓	
5	Barbary Nut Iris	<i>Moraea sisyrinchium</i>							✓			
6	Downy Oak	<i>Quercus pubescens</i>									✓	