Spain's Coto Donana & Extremadura

Naturetrek Tour Report

28 April - 6 May 2018





Booted Eagle

Marbled Duck

Tour report & 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 (Leader) with a group of seven Naturetrek clients

Day 1

Saturday 28th April

Arriving into Sevilla, Simon was on hand to meet the group from their flight and we were soon on the road, although not before getting to grips with Pallid Swifts swerving around the terminal building, providing views even before we got to the minibus.

Soon we were out of Sevilla and encountering our first Black Kites and Booted Eagles on route to El Rocio. As we swung into El Rocio, two things struck the group - the abundant array of White Stork nests and the swarm of Common House Martins swirling overhead like welcome fireworks!

Having checked into our hotel, we were soon out into the sandy streets of El Rocio and birding the freshwater lagoon whilst Simon prepared the picnic of local bread, cheeses and *jamon*, all washed down with some local red or white wine.

Greater Flamingoes and Eurasian Spoonbills were abundant and provided the backdrop as our attention was taken by Great Reed Warblers, Western Swamphens (a recent split from Purple Swamphen), a fantastic pair of Little Bitterns and a single Squacco Heron. Meanwhile the air above was full of hirundines and Black Kites - what a way to begin the tour in pure ornithological elysium!

Day 2

Sunday 29th April

We set off into the interior of the park with local Doñana guide Rosario who works for Doñana Nature, in whose 4x4 vehicles we can access parts of the park we wouldn't otherwise see. We journeyed through the Mediterranean forest and saw plenty of Red Deer and Black Kites seemingly everywhere we looked, with the odd Short-toed or Booted Eagle providing great identification lessons.

Soon we journeyed out to the *marismas* and this is where the action really started! Whiskered Terns bounced over waterways, Black-winged Stilts and Greater Flamingoes, seemingly from the film set of Avatar, provided astounding views whilst the track ahead of us was laden with Greater Short-toed Larks, Crested Larks, Iberian Yellow Wagtails and Corn Buntings.

Purple Herons, Western Swamphens and a sea of Glossy Ibis provided purple haze while we also found the real specialists in the form of four White-headed Ducks, brilliant to watch while discussing the conservation efforts required to save the species. As we were admiring these and the Black-necked Grebes that swam by, two Marbled Ducks whizzed passed our ears and landed on the water in front of us to then proceed to swim straight out of view! We were quite disappointed at this brief view, but we kept a mindful watch on the area and they soon swam out in full view and then proceeded to swim straight towards us! Wonderful!

We walked the short distance to the Jose Valverde visitor centre and here we took a cup of tea or coffee as we watched nesting Purple Herons amongst swathes of Glossy Ibis and Black-crowned Night Herons.

Soon it was time to head back to El Rocìo and to our lunch awaiting us in the town. It consisted of local dishes in various forms including a favoured *salmorejo* - a delicious chilled soup made with tomatoes, peppers and garlic.

After a rest and time to wander the streets of El Rocio we wandered back into the park with Rosario and this time we journeyed deeper into the Mediterranean forest and out to the grazed pastures of Coto Del Rey. Here we found our first Woodlarks feeding on a cultivated margin whilst Spanish Sparrows hid from the breeze.

We also encountered two species of Shrike! Both Southern (Iberian) Grey Shrike and Woodchat Shrike gave brilliant close views and provided the first lame joke of the tour (Three shrikes and you're out...!).

Walking through the area we saw and heard abundant Black Kites, copulating on the fence line and noisily whistling overhead! Stunning! However, we had an appointment with the King (or Queen)! As we scanned the pylons the King was indeed on his throne - the superb Spanish Imperial Eagle! And what a way to end our trip into the interior of the park!

Day 3

Monday 30th April

Today we stayed local to El Rocio. We first went to the heath of Acebron and immediately on arrival the air was full of the sound of European Bee-eaters, Corn Buntings, Woodlarks and Thekla Larks. We spent some time admiring the Thekla Larks as they sang and called whilst also providing us with an opportunity to study this species at close quarters and go through the salient identification features. A wine-drenched Dartford Warbler (well, that's how we described its colouring!) sat out proudly for all to observe in the scope (that never happens!) but the European Bee-eaters vied for our attention as a group of 30 burst overhead like fireworks.

Moving on to the riparian woodland and palace of Acebron, we were delighted to hear the area absolutely stuffed with singing Nightingales! We also heard Melodious Warblers, Blackcaps and Cetti's Warblers while Black-crowned Night Herons provided fly-by photographic opportunities. As we journeyed around this area we were stopped in our tracks by the call of a Lesser Spotted Woodpecker. Moments later we watched them copulating! From here we continued on to the heaths and visitors centre at Acebuche, we took our now-legendary picnic under the trees and watched the antics of Iberian Magpies bouncing around the pines' trunks and floor right in front of us!

We ended the day back in El Rocio and the lagoon, where both a stunning Glossy Ibis and Eurasian Spoonbill provided really close views, seemingly unaware or unconcerned by our proximity. In fact, the Spoonbill caught a fish right in front of us!

Day 4

Tuesday 1st May

Today we started earlier and headed out to the other side of the park and the *salinas* of Bonanza. Arriving by mid-morning we were immediately delighted by the masses of waders of many varieties. These provided a great opportunity for side-by-side comparisons of Curlew Sandpiper and Dunlin, or Kentish Plover and Common Ringed Plover, or Little Stints, Sanderling and Dunlin. Of course, Greater Flamingoes and Black-winged Stilts provided exciting backdrops. We also delighted in a massive number of delicate Slender-billed Gulls in full breeding finery! A stunning Larid! Overhead, Little Terns busily bounced by whilst Iberian Yellow Wagtails

sauntered at eye level and provided a real splash of colour. As we drove to our lunch stop we picked out a singing Lesser Short-toed Lark and finally got our optics trained onto its song flight. As we lunched, we were surrounded by Eurasian Spoonbills, Greater Flamingoes, fishing Little Terns and Slender-billed Gulls.

After lunch we headed to the nearby Laguna del Tarelo; here we delighted in the heronry of Eurasian Spoonbills, Little and Cattle Egrets and Black-crowned Night Herons. And amongst the Red-crested Pochards surfaced 20 White-headed Ducks!

Having heard Brian's tale of missing out on seeing Collared Pratincole in the past, we headed for a little-known area where Simon was aware of a big breeding colony of this wading bird. As we stopped we were surrounded by Collared Pratincoles flying overhead and around us, busily hunting insects. Brian could hardly contain himself and nearly fell in the ditch! If that wasn't enough we were also amongst Gull-billed Terns and Lesser Kestrels while Tara expertly picked out a pair of male Montagu's Harriers, one of which decided to hunt right in front of us, capping off an excellent day with the birds!

Day 5

Wednesday 2nd May

So ended our magical time in Doñana, and we left the sandy streets behind us and journeyed north. After passing Sevilla we headed north, stopping just beyond the border of Andalucia and Extremadura, at a roadside service station which Simon knew was good for Raptors. After coffee, loos and supplies we simply looked up as Black Kites, Booted Eagles and Griffon Vultures cruised just overhead. We also added Europe's biggest raptor to our list - the impressive Cinereous Vulture.

We hit the road again and soon we were at our lunch stop of the Embalse de Alange. Here we enjoyed cheese from Andalucia and the first mountain birds of the trip. Crag Martins and singing Blue Rock Thrush provided excellent binocular and scope views. We also picked out Black Wheatear and lots of Alpine Swifts, which were in attendance at their colony on the dam wall. As we were eating in the glorious sunshine we looked skywards as an Egyptian Vulture soared over the rock face and a Hobby zipped through. Meanwhile, on the reservoir itself we could hear and see several Gull-billed Terns. But overhead was to prove the biggest attraction as Simon picked out a Golden Eagle drifting over and then not one but two adult Bonelli's Eagles! Wow!

As we searched the rock face, we found an old Bonelli's Eagle nest now longer used by them. However, an Egyptian Vulture has recently chosen to occupy the property and we could see the lodger was at home as its yellow face peered out from the nest top.

After all this excitement we journeyed on to Madroñera for a coffee or similar, before arriving at our accommodation at Casa Rural Viña las Torres. Having settled into our rooms, we celebrated the day's raptortastic events!

Day 6

Thursday 3rd May

Today we meandered our way out to the Santa Marta de Magasca plains. Immediately we got to grips with both Thekla and Crested Lark identification and marvelled at Spanish Sparrows and Southern Grey Shrikes. The

whole plain was literally fizzing and buzzing with the song of Corn Buntings and Calandra Larks as European Bee-eaters 'quipped' by.

Further on, we entered a dirt track and after a couple of seconds of scanning we found our first Great Bustards - three in total, with two males strutting their stuff to an onlooking female. After a little while of observation we saw the magnificent 'foam-bathing display' of the male Great Bustard. Four Black-bellied Sandgrouse flew through as we also picked out a distant Spanish Imperial Eagle. After an ice cream stop at the local bar with assembled Spanish Sparrows and Crag Martins, we moved on to our lunch stop at the delightful Rio Tamuja, where we not only partook in our legendary picnic but listened to the chorus of Iberian Pond Frogs as Crag Martins whizzed just overhead.

A short drive up the road and we had our first encounter with European Roller. These provided fabulous viewing opportunities on the specially erected nest boxes for this rare species. However, an interloper was spotted in the form of a Little Owl that just had its head staring out of the nest box making for quite a comical visual experience! As we headed on and met with more European Rollers and Lesser Kestrels we also found yet more Great Bustards, but also two young Spanish Imperial Eagles which copulated on a telegraph post just in from the road we stood on.

We moved on yet again a short distance and found a stony short-sward field which harboured three Black-bellied Sandgrouse, giving us very good views in the scope. As we then headed back towards Viña las Torres, a Great Bustard flew past and then over us, providing a fitting end to the day. This the heaviest flying bird in the world (which we discovered is about the same weight as Jane's bag!).

Day 7 Friday 4th May

Today it was time to visit the jewel in Extremadura's crown – the unrivalled Monfragüe National Park. The peaks of this dramatic limestone landscape – whose name literally means 'fractured mountain' – rise up above the plains and provide some of the best raptor-watching and mountain birding the area has to offer.

Stopping at the famous monolith of Peña Falcon, the group were enthralled to be surrounded by dozens of Griffon and Cinereous Vultures, circling overhead and landing noisily at their nest sites. Amongst them were Black Storks, two Peregrine Falcons and a pair of beautiful adult Egyptian Vultures. We enjoyed some superb mountain and woodland passerines, including Rock Buntings, a bright Blue Rock Thrush, Black Redstarts, a singing Cirl Bunting and Short-toed Treecreepers. After a lovely morning we paused for a comfort break at Villareal de San Carlos, enjoying ice creams and coffee while we admired the comings and goings of a Barn Swallow pair that had nested right in the outdoor area of the café.

Lunch was at a shady spot by the Tajadillo dam. Many more nesting Griffon Vultures were on show and we also enjoyed views of Short-toed and Booted Eagles and many Black Kites while we ate our picnic. Our final stop was by the fascinating rock formations by the river at Portilla del Tietar. These intriguingly folded and rippled rocks provide a home for dozens of nesting raptors – including an Egyptian Vulture, which we could see perched serenely on her nest. As we parked the van and got out, we were greeted immediately by the main bird we had come here to see – a splendid adult Spanish Imperial Eagle, huge and dark, with silvery-cream forewings, was soaring right above our heads! We relaxed amongst the flowers for a time enjoying watching the vultures and

other raptors drift by and listening to the song of Blue Rock Thrushes and Black Redstarts. Then again appeared a Spanish Imperial Eagle, much lower this time, giving superb views.

This kind of experience could not be topped, so without further ado we headed off to end the day with a celebratory ice cream!

Day 8

Saturday 5th May

Today we searched through a hillside of Downy Oaks and Cork Oaks to find not only Hawfinch and Woodlarks but also Eurasian Golden Orioles, which gave superb sightings. However, the true star came in the form of something that is 'lesserly' spotted! A Lesser Spotted Woodpecker was drilling just metres from our group. Botanical interest was high, with Sawfly Orchid among the best.

Moving on from this area we decided to partake in a little urban birding in Trujillo, so we parked in the quieter part of town to observe the fabulous antics of the Lesser Kestrel colony around the disused buildings in the little-known back streets. After observing them for a time - and also finding a leucistic male - we moved onto the beautiful plaza of the town with its historical architecture. The old town contains many medieval and renaissance buildings. Many of these were built or enriched by the *conquistadores* born in the city. These include the conquerors of Peru, Francisco Pizarro and his brothers, Francisco de Orellana and Hernando de Alarcón. Pizarro's equestrian statue stands in the main square, the *Plaza Mayor*. The most important monuments are the castle (an old Arab fortress), the church of Santa María (thirteenth century), and the church of San Francisco. However, the birds were not to be ignored here with bill-clapping White Storks aloft nests on historical buildings and both Pallid and Common Swifts offering identification comparisons among the Crag Martins. The raptors were here in droves, floating over the town. Booted and Short-toed Eagles, Griffon and Cinereous Vultures were among the Lesser Kestrels, but the real star questing for Game of Thrones stardom was the adult Spanish Imperial Eagle cruising overhead as we sipped our drinks or nibbled on ice-creams.

Day 9 Sunday 6th May

Alas, our final day was upon us, and we had a journey north to Madrid ahead of us. Waving goodbye to our Extremadureñan hosts Belen and Juan-Pedro, we headed off.

After a little while we stopped for a roadside picnic and coffees. Here at this little-known spot we got the last chances to observe both Griffon and Cinereous Vultures whilst Booted and Short-toed Eagles drifted through. Passing the raptor ID test, we continued to Madrid airport in good time and, after hugs all round, we sadly parted ways.

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)

| | | | | | | Α | pril / Ma | ıy | | | |
|----|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-----|------|-----|-------|-----------|------|------|-----|---|
| | Common name | Scientific name | 28 | 29 | 30 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 1 | Greylag Goose | Anser anser | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| 2 | Common Shelduck | Tadorna tadorna | | 10+ | | | | | | | |
| 3 | Gadwall | Mareca strepera | 1 | 5 | 2 | | 3 | 2 | | | |
| 4 | Mallard | Anas platyrhynchos | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | 4 | 1 | | |
| 5 | Marbled Duck | Marmaronetta angustirostris | | 2 | | | | | | | |
| 6 | Red-crested Pochard | Netta rufina | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| 7 | Common Pochard | Aythya ferina | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| 8 | White-headed Duck | Oxyura leucocephala | | 4 | | 20 | | | | | |
| 9 | Red-legged Partridge | Alectoris rufa | | 10+ | | | | 1 | 3 | | |
| 10 | Little Grebe | Tachybaptus ruficollis | 2 | 4 | 3 | 1 | | | | | |
| 11 | Great Crested Grebe | Podiceps cristatus | | 5+ | | | | | | | |
| 12 | Black-necked Grebe | Podiceps nigricollis | | 8+ | | | | | | | |
| 13 | Greater Flamingo | Phoenicopterus roseus | ✓ | 300+ | 279 | 1,500 | 200+ | | | | |
| 14 | Black Stork | Ciconia nigra | | | | | | | 4 | | |
| 15 | White Stork | Ciconia ciconia | 30+ | 50+ | 20+ | ✓ | ✓ | 10+ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 16 | Glossy Ibis | Plegadis falcinellus | 50+ | 300+ | 50+ | 20+ | ✓ | | | | |
| 17 | Eurasian Spoonbill | Platalea leucorodia | 20+ | 100+ | 30+ | 30+ | 10+ | | | | |
| 18 | Little Bittern | Ixobrychus minutus | 2 | 2 | 2 | | 2 | | | | |
| 19 | Black-crowned Night Heron | Nycticorax nycticorax | 2 | 5+ | 6 | 10+ | | | | | |
| 20 | Squacco Heron | Ardeola ralloides | 1 | | | 1 | | | | | |
| 21 | Western Cattle Egret | Bubulcus ibis | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ |
| 22 | Grey Heron | Ardea cinerea | 2 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 2+ | 4 | | |
| 23 | Purple Heron | Ardea purpurea | | 10+ | | | | | | | |
| 24 | Great Egret | Ardea alba | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | |
| 25 | Little Egret | Egretta garzetta | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| 26 | Great Cormorant | Phalacrocorax carbo | | | | | ✓ | | | | |
| 27 | Egyptian Vulture | Neophron percnopterus | | | | | 1+ | 1 | 3 | | |
| 28 | Griffon Vulture | Gyps fulvus | | 30+ | 20+ | 4 | ✓ | 100+ | 200+ | 20+ | ✓ |
| 29 | Cinereous Vulture | Aegypius monachus | | | | | 10+ | 20+ | 30+ | 2 | |

Spain's Coto Donana & Extremadura

| | | | | | | А | pril / Ma | ay | | | |
|----|---------------------------------|----------------------------|------|----------|------|------|-----------|-----|---|---|---|
| | Common name | Scientific name | 28 | 29 | 30 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 30 | Short-toed Snake Eagle | Circaetus gallicus | 1 | 2 | | | 2 | 2+ | 1 | 2 | |
| 31 | Booted Eagle | Hieraaetus pennatus | 10+ | 20+ | 4 | 6 | 10+ | 20+ | 5 | 4 | |
| 32 | Spanish Imperial Eagle | Aquila adalberti | | 1 | | | | 3 | 2 | 1 | |
| 33 | Golden Eagle | Aquila chrysaetos | | | | | 1 | | | | |
| 34 | Bonelli's Eagle | Aquila fasciata | | | | | 2 | | 1 | | |
| 35 | Western Marsh Harrier | Circus aeruginosus | | | | | 1 | 1 | | | |
| 36 | Montagu's Harrier | Circus pygargus | | | | 6 | | 3 | | | |
| 37 | Red Kite | Milvus milvus | | | | 1 | | 2 | | | |
| 38 | Black Kite | Milvus migrans | 200+ | 1,000 | 100+ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 39 | Common Buzzard | Buteo buteo | | 2 | 1 | | 2 | 3+ | 1 | 2 | |
| 40 | Great Bustard | Otis tarda | | | | | | 7 | | | 5 |
| 41 | Little Bustard | Tetrax tetrax | | | | | | | | | 1 |
| 42 | Western Swamphen (Purple split) | Porphyrio porphyrio | 1 | 3 | 1 | | | | | | |
| 43 | Common Moorhen | Gallinula chloropus | 1 | 2 | 2 | | | | | | |
| 44 | Eurasian Coot | Fulica atra | | ✓ | ✓ | 1 | | | | | |
| 45 | Black-winged Stilt | Himantopus himantopus | | 50+ | | 20+ | | | | | |
| 46 | Pied Avocet | Recurvirostra avosetta | | | | 100+ | | | | | |
| 47 | Northern Lapwing | Vanellus vanellus | | 2 | | 1 | | | | | |
| 48 | Grey Plover | Pluvialis squatarola | | | | 4 | | | | | |
| 49 | Common Ringed Plover | Charadrius hiaticula | | | | 50+ | | | | | |
| 50 | Kentish Plover | Charadrius alexandrinus | | | | c.10 | | | | | |
| 51 | Common Redshank | Tringa totanus | | ✓ | | ✓ | | | | | |
| 52 | Common Greenshank | Tringa nebularia | | 5+ | | | | | | | |
| 53 | Ruddy Turnstone | Arenaria interpres | | | | 4 | | | | | |
| 54 | Sanderling | Calidris alba | | | | 70+ | | | | | |
| 55 | Little Stint | Calidris minuta | | | | 40+ | | | | | |
| 56 | Curlew Sandpiper | Calidris ferruginea | | | | 100+ | | | | | |
| 57 | Dunlin | Calidris alpina | | | | 100+ | | | | | |
| 58 | Collared Pratincole | Glareola pratincola | | | | 40+ | | | | | |
| 59 | Slender-billed Gull | Chroicocephalus genei | | | | 80+ | | | | | |
| 60 | Black-headed Gull | Chroicocephalus ridibundus | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| 61 | Yellow-legged Gull | Larus michahellis | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | | | | | |

| | | | April / May 28 29 30 1 2 3 4 5 6 | | | | | | | | | |
|----|---------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|-----|------|-----|------|---|--|
| | Common name | Scientific name | 28 | 29 | 30 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | |
| 62 | Lesser Black-backed Gull | Larus fuscus | | | | ✓ | | | | | | |
| 63 | Gull-billed Tern | Gelochelidon nilotica | | | | c.50 | 10+ | | | | | |
| 64 | Caspian Tern | Hydroprogne caspia | | | | 1 | | | | | | |
| 65 | Little Tern | Sternula albifrons | | | | 30+ | | | | | | |
| 66 | Whiskered Tern | Chlidonias hybrida | | 20+ | 2 | | | | | | | |
| 67 | Pin-tailed Sandgrouse | Pterocles alchata | | 2 | | | | 1 | | | | |
| 68 | Black-bellied Sandgrouse | Pterocles orientalis | | | | | | 7 | | | 6 | |
| 69 | Rock Dove | Columba livia | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 70 | Common Wood Pigeon | Columba palumbus | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | 2 | 5+ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| 71 | Eurasian Collared Dove | Streptopelia decaocto | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 72 | Common Cuckoo | Cuculus canorus | | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 4+ | 6+ | 6 | | |
| 73 | Little Owl | Athene noctua | | | | | | 1 | | | | |
| 74 | Alpine Swift | Tachymarptis melba | | | | | 20+ | | 2+ | | | |
| 75 | Common Swift | Apus apus | | 10+ | | | 1 | | | c.20 | | |
| 76 | Pallid Swift | Apus pallidus | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 77 | European Roller | Coracias garrulus | | | | | | 8+ | | | 4 | |
| 78 | European Bee-eater | Merops apiaster | 5+ | 30+ | 40+ | | 2 | 6+ | | 4 | | |
| 79 | Eurasian Hoopoe | Upupa epops | | 2 | 3 | | 2 | 6+ | 4+ | 10+ | | |
| 80 | Lesser Spotted Woodpecker | Dendrocopos minor | | | 2 | | | | | 2 | | |
| 81 | Lesser Kestrel | Falco naumanni | | 2 | | 20+ | 3+ | 20+ | 2 | 30+ | | |
| 82 | Common Kestrel | Falco tinnunculus | | | | | 1 | 1 | | | | |
| 83 | Eurasian Hobby | Falco subbuteo | | | | | 1 | | | | | |
| 84 | Peregrine Falcon | Falco peregrinus | | | | | | | 2 | | | |
| 85 | Ring-necked Parakeet | Psittacula krameri | | | | 6 | | | | | | |
| 86 | Southern Grey Shrike | Lanius meridionalis | | 1 | 2 | | 1 | c.10 | 1 | | | |
| 87 | Woodchat Shrike | Lanius senator | | 10+ | 4+ | | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 | | |
| 88 | Eurasian Golden Oriole | Oriolus oriolus | 1 | 1 | 2 | | | | 3 | 5 | | |
| 89 | Eurasian Jay | Garrulus glandarius | | | | | | | 1 | 4 | | |
| 90 | Iberian Magpie | Cyanopica cooki | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 91 | Eurasian Magpie | Pica pica | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 92 | Western Jackdaw | Coloeus monedula | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| 93 | Northern Raven | Corvus corax | | 2 | 2 | | 10+ | 20+ | 10+ | 2 | | |

| | | | | | | A | pril / M | ay | | | |
|-----|-------------------------|---------------------------|----|-----|-----|---|----------|------|-----|-----|---|
| | Common name | Scientific name | 28 | 29 | 30 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 94 | European Crested Tit | Lophophanes cristatus | | | 2 | | | | | | |
| 95 | Eurasian Blue Tit | Cyanistes caeruleus | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | 4+ | ✓ | |
| 96 | Great Tit | Parus major | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | 1 | 10+ | ✓ | |
| 97 | Woodlark | Lullula arborea | | 4 | 2 | | | | | 3 | |
| 98 | Thekla Lark | Galerida theklae | | | 4+ | | 1 | 3 | 1 | | |
| 99 | Crested Lark | Galerida cristata | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ |
| 100 | Greater Short-toed Lark | Calandrella brachydactyla | | 20+ | | | | 1 | | | |
| 101 | Calandra Lark | Melanocorypha calandra | | 10+ | | 1 | 1 | 200+ | | | ✓ |
| 102 | Lesser Short-toed Lark | Alaudala rufescens | | | | 1 | | | | | |
| 103 | Sand Martin | Riparia riparia | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | |
| 104 | Barn Swallow | Hirundo rustica | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 105 | Eurasian Crag Martin | Ptyonoprogne rupestris | | | | | 4+ | 10+ | 40+ | 20+ | |
| 106 | Common House Martin | Delichon urbicum | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 107 | Red-rumped Swallow | Cecropis daurica | 3 | 10+ | 2 | 1 | 3+ | 2 | 10+ | 2+ | |
| 108 | Cetti's Warbler | Cettia cetti | 2 | 2 | 5+ | | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1+ | |
| 109 | Long-tailed Tit | Aegithalos caudatus | | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 110 | Common Chiffchaff | Phylloscopus collybita | | | | | | | | 1 | |
| 111 | Iberian Chiffchaff | Phylloscopus ibericus | | | 3 | | | | | | |
| 112 | Great Reed Warbler | Acrocephalus arundinaceus | 3 | 10+ | 2 | 1 | 2 | | | | |
| 113 | Eurasian Reed Warbler | Acrocephalus scirpaceus | 2 | | | | 1 | | | | |
| 114 | Melodious Warbler | Hippolais polyglotta | | 2 | 5+ | | | | | 1 | |
| 115 | Zitting Cisticola | Cisticola juncidis | 1 | 10+ | 3+ | 2 | | | | | 2 |
| 116 | Eurasian Blackcap | Sylvia atricapilla | | ✓ | ✓ | | | 1 | 5+ | ✓ | |
| 117 | Garden Warbler | Sylvia borin | | | 1 | | | | | | |
| 118 | Dartford Warbler | Sylvia undata | | | 2 | | | | 2 | | |
| 119 | Subalpine Warbler | Sylvia cantillans | | | | | | | 3 | | |
| 120 | Sardinian Warbler | Sylvia melanocephala | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | 2 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 121 | Common Firecrest | Regulus ignicapilla | | 2 | 1 | | 1 | | | | |
| 122 | Eurasian Wren | Troglodytes troglodytes | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | 1 | 4+ | 3+ | |
| 123 | Eurasian Nuthatch | Sitta europaea | | | | | | | | 4 | |
| 124 | Short-toed Treecreeper | Certhia brachydactyla | | 5+ | 10+ | | | | 1 | 5+ | |
| 125 | Spotless Starling | Sturnus unicolor | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |

| | | | | | | Α | pril / M | ay | | | |
|-----|---------------------------|-------------------------------|----|-----|----|-----|----------|-----|-----|----|---|
| | Common name | Scientific name | 28 | 29 | 30 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 126 | Common Blackbird | Turdus merula | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 127 | Mistle Thrush | Turdus viscivorus | | | | | | | | 2 | |
| 128 | Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin | Cercotrichas galactotes | | | | | | | | 1 | |
| 129 | European Robin | Erithacus rubecula | | 2 | | | | | 1 | | |
| 130 | Common Nightingale | Luscinia megarhynchos | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | 2 | | 2 | 3+ | 8+ | |
| 131 | Black Redstart | Phoenicurus ochruros | | | | | | | 7 | | |
| 132 | Blue Rock Thrush | Monticola solitarius | | | | | 2 | | c.5 | | |
| 133 | European Stonechat | Saxicola rubicola | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | 10+ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 134 | Black Wheatear | Oenanthe leucura | | | | | 1 | | | | |
| 135 | House Sparrow | Passer domesticus | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 136 | Spanish Sparrow | Passer hispaniolensis | | 10+ | | | | 50+ | | | |
| 137 | Rock Sparrow | Petronia petronia | | | | | | | | 1 | |
| 138 | Common Waxbill | Estrilda astrild | | | 2 | | | | | | |
| 139 | Spanish Yellow Wagtail | Motacilla flava iberiae | | 10+ | 4 | 20+ | | | | | |
| 140 | Grey Wagtail | Motacilla cinerea | | | | | | 1 | | | |
| 141 | White Wagtail | Motacilla alba | | | | | | 1 | | 1 | |
| 142 | Common Chaffinch | Fringilla coelebs | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 143 | Hawfinch | Coccothraustes coccothraustes | | | | | | | | 5+ | |
| 144 | European Greenfinch | Chloris chloris | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ |
| 145 | Common Linnet | Linaria cannabina | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | 4+ | | |
| 146 | European Goldfinch | Carduelis carduelis | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 147 | European Serin | Serinus serinus | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 148 | Corn Bunting | Emberiza calandra | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | 3+ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 149 | Rock Bunting | Emberiza cia | | | | | 1 | | 2+ | | |
| 150 | Cirl Bunting | Emberiza cirlus | | | | | | | 1 | 1 | |

Mammals

| 1 | Iberian or Granada Hare | Lepus granatensis | ✓ | | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------|------------------------|-----|---|-----|--|--|---|---|
| 2 | European Rabbit | Oryctolagus cuniculus | | 1 | | | | | |
| 3 | Red Deer | Cervus elaphus elaphus | 30+ | ✓ | 10+ | | | 1 | |
| 4 | Egyptian Mongoose | Herpestes ichneumon | | | | | | | 1 |

| | | April / May | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------|----|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Common name | Scientific name | 28 | 29 | 30 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |

Reptiles & Amphibians

| | 1 Iberian Rock Lizard | Iberolacerta monticola | | | | | ✓ | |
|---|-------------------------------------|------------------------|--|--|--|---|---|---|
| | 2 Iberian Pool Frog | Pelodytes ibericus | | | | | | ✓ |
| ; | Mediterranean (Spanish) Pond Turtle | Mauremys leprosa | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |

Insects

| 1 | Spanish Festoon | Zerynthia rumina | | | | | | | | ✓ |
|----|------------------------|------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | Large White | Pieris brassicae | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ |
| 3 | Small White | Pieris rapae | | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| 4 | Green-striped White | Euchloe belemia | | 1 | | | | | | |
| 5 | Clouded Yellow | Colias crocea | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 6 | Small Copper | Lycaena phlaeas | | 2 | | | | | | |
| 7 | Holly Blue | Celastrina argiolus | | | | | | 1 | | |
| 8 | Red Admiral | Vanessa atalanta | | | | ✓ | | | | |
| 9 | Small Heath | Coenonympha pamphilus | | | | | | | | ✓ |
| 10 | Speckled Wood | Pararge aegeria | | | ✓ | | | | | |
| 11 | Orange Tip | Anthocharis cardamines | | | | | | | | ✓ |
| 12 | Buff-tailed Bumblebee | Bombus terrestris | | | ✓ | | | | | |
| 13 | Dung Beetle spp | | | | ✓ | | | | | |
| 14 | Mole Cricket spp | | | | | | ✓ | | | |
| 15 | Red-striped Oil Beetle | Berberomeloe majalis | | | | | ✓ | | | |
| 16 | Broad-bodied Chaser | Libellula depressa | | | | | ✓ | | | |

Plants

| 1 | Tongue Orchid spp | Serapias spp | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
|---|---------------------|----------------------|---|---|---|--|--|---|---|
| 2 | Violet Limodore | Limodorum abortivum | | | ✓ | | | | |
| 3 | Tassel Hycanith | Leopoldia comosa | | | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| 4 | Barbary Nut iris | Moraea sisyrinchium | ✓ | | | | | | |
| 5 | Purple Sand-spurrey | Spergularia purpurea | ✓ | | | | | | |
| 6 | Common Asphodel | Asphodelus aestivus | | | | | | ✓ | |

| | | | April / May | | | | | | | | |
|---|---------------------|------------------------|-------------|----|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Common name | Scientific name | 28 | 29 | 30 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | Sawfly Orchid | Ophrys tenthredinifera | | | | | | | | | ✓ |
| 8 | Lax-flowered Orchid | Anacamptis laxiflora | | | | | | | | | ✓ |
| 9 | Narrow-leafed Lupin | Lupinus angustifolius | | | | | | | | | ✓ |

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!