# Wallcreepers & Cranes in Northern Spain

Naturetrek Tour Report

14th - 21st February 2024



Common Cranes by Phil Dargue



Wallcreeper by Phil Dargue

Tour report & images by Chris Wilkinson



Naturetrek Mingledown Barn

Wolf's Lane

Chawton

Alton

Hampshire

**GU34 3HJ** 

UK

Tour participants: Chris Wilkinson (leader) with seven Naturetrek clients

#### Introduction

This tour takes place at the very start of Spring in Northern Spain, an ideal time to observe the two feature birds of the tour, the Wallcreeper and the Common Crane. Cranes were observed in their thousands as they gathered on the high plains of Aragon at Laguna de Gallocanta on their migration to Northern Europe. It was moving also, to witness some of these birds heading north in the Sierra de Guara before they crossed the Pyrenees into France.

Encounters with the Wallcreeper in the ancient town of Alquezar were magical. The sight of the flashing Crimson wings as this charismatic little bird traversed the gorges, churches and houses of this atmospheric old town will stay with all of us for a very long time.

Our morning sitting amongst Eurasian Griffon Vultures while they were hand-fed on a remote hillside was memorable as was the low fly-over of the impressive Lammergeier.

Sightings with other special birds of the Pyrenean foothills such as Lammergeier and Black Wheatear were complimented by denizens of the open steppe such as Great Bustard and Dupont's Lark.

The region is rich with birdlife. Skies are full of raptors, fields are full of larks, hillsides bound with finches, scrub is alive with scratchy song of *Sylvia* warblers and common birds are still common. There is plenty to get the natural history generalist excited with mammals, reptiles and invertebrates often present as well as interesting flora.

It was an absolute pleasure to spend time birding in the ancient kingdom of Aragon with a wonderful group of people.



Gallocanta by Chris Wilkinson

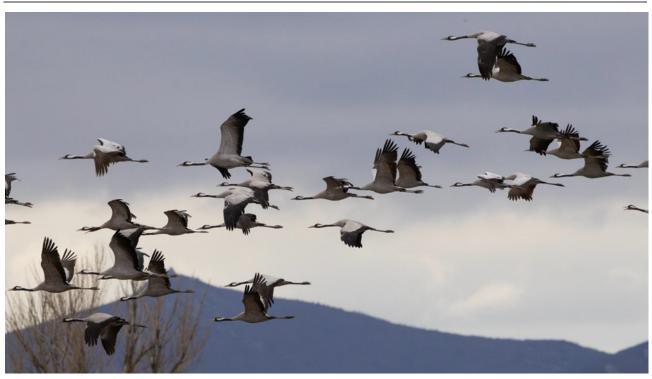
# Wednesday 14th February

Stansted – Zaragoza – Daroca – Laguna de Gallocanta

We landed in Zaragoza on a crisp and sunny early spring day full of anticipation as to what we would see on this tour of Northern Spain. The leader went to collect the minibus while the group unpacked optics and prepared for the day ahead. While loading the van, an Iberian Green Woodpecker began calling from beyond the airport perimeter but remained elusively out of sight. Once on the road and driving out of Zaragoza, we started seeing common birds. Spotless Starlings were abundant and raptors much in evidence with Red Kite, Eurasian Griffon Vulture and Common Buzzard in good numbers. A brief roadside stop produced the first Calandra Larks and Rock Sparrows of the trip before we arrived in the ancient and picturesque town of Daroca for a pleasant lunch in the square. European Serins sang from treetops and Eurasian Crag Martins wheeled overhead while the group chatted and got to know one another.

After lunch, we drove up to the pine woods adjacent to the old Moorish city walls that overlook the town. Upon arrival, several Red Crossbills were drinking from a small pool and alighting on the trees and ruins while, singing Short-toed Treecreepers were seen by all. We slowly walked the track alongside the walls to the Mirador at the top of the hill looking and listening as we went. Coal Tits were abundant, and a lovely pair of Crested Tits showed brilliantly for the group. Great Spotted Woodpeckers were calling but elusive and an Iberian Green Woodpecker was seen by some. The first Rock Buntings of the trip were eventually seen well along with a Woodlark, Black Redstarts and European Stonechats. Butterflies were also present at the Mirador, with Swallowtail, Clouded Yellow, Bath White and Mallow Skipper the highlights. Driving back down into town we saw our first White Storks of the trip with a kettle of several hundred birds seen away to the north before we hit the road for Gallocanta. An Iberian Grey Shrike was seen on wires by some of the group as we entered the village of Gallocanta which was to be our base for the next three nights.

We arrived late afternoon and checked into our cozy hotel before walking down to the laguna to see the spectacle of several thousand Common Cranes coming in to roost. The abundance of singing Corn Bunting was immediately apparent along with large flocks of Eurasian Tree Sparrows. Distant flocks of Greater Flamingos could be seen on the lake and large flocks of Common Cranes were in the surrounding fields as we waited for the Cranes to come in. It was almost dark and we were getting quite anxious that it wasn't going to happen. But we needn't have worried, as out of the gloom, the sight and sounds of several thousand Cranes flying into the lagoon made a superb and atmospheric end to our first day. We returned to the hotel satisfied and settled down to an absolutely superb dinner cooked by the hotels very talented chef.



Common Cranes by Phil Dargue

# **Thursday 15th February**

### Laguna de Gallocanta and surroundings

We were up before dawn with our host, Javi, to view the cranes flying out of their roost from a viewpoint to the west of the lake. It was a beautiful sight, seeing huge flocks of these magnificent birds flying out to the surrounding fields against the backdrop of the dawn sky. Adding to the ambience were calling Common Quails and several Hen Harriers flying out from night-time roosts. We then returned to the hotel for a welcome hearty breakfast and hot coffee before setting out for the day to explore the area surrounding the lagoon.

The first stop provided good views of Calandra Larks both in flight and on the ground and enabled the group to familiarise themselves with this bulky and locally common lark. Other birds present in the fields were Crested Lark, Eurasian Skylark and Corn Buntings jangled from almost every bush. A viewing platform in the south-east corner of the lagoon provided views of several Eurasian Griffon Vultures in the surrounding hills before a distant Golden Eagle was spotted. Marsh Harriers were ever present and must be wintering in very large numbers indeed. The 'next stop was a roadside viewpoint, at which, an abandoned mattress provided cover for an endemic Bedriaga's Skink as White Storks and Ravens wheeled overhead. Our lunch-stop was the excellent visitors centre on the south shore of the laguna where a couple of thousand Common Cranes were in view. Fed and watered we set out to complete our circuit of the laguna early afternoon and spent time slowly driving the tracks on its west side. We spent a lot of time scanning in the hope of finding Bustards in this area and eventually got lucky with a group of Great Bustards which were picked up by scope at great range. We all jumped in the van and drove out towards them and were rewarded with great views of a group of four of these majestic birds strutting around the plain.

Flushed with our success we moved on to our final stop for the afternoon which was the large viewing platform to the north west of the laguna. This was an avian treat with good views of Greater Flamingos, a mass of Common Cranes, a selection of wildfowl and a few waders which were mostly Pied Avocets, Ruff and Dunlin. Large flocks

© Naturetrek February 2024

of Northern Lapwings came and went with Western Marsh and Hen Harriers making close fly-bys. Water Rails squealed and Common Snipe flashed by as everybody took in the spectacle. With time moving on, and pleased with the days' sightings, we called it a day and returned to the hotel. Some of the group went back to the lake shore at dusk for more views of Cranes coming into roost after which another fine meal with excellent wine was enjoyed by everybody.



Great Bustards by Tim Jukes

### Day 3

# Friday 16th February

#### La Yunta Road, Tornos Hillsides and Laguna de Gallocanta

The rain in Spain fell mainly on the plain this morning. Overnight, the weather turned cold, wet and windy which were far from ideal conditions to be listening for Dupont's Lark on the high plains before dawn. But nevertheless, a few hardy souls braved the miserable conditions with little expectation of success. But, incredibly, as the first signs of light appeared on the eastern horizon, the unmistakeable song of the Dupont's Lark drifted across the open plain. For the next 20 minutes, we listened to this enigmatic denizen of the Spanish steppe before they fell silent. We tried hard to see them but, not surprisingly, were unsuccessful on this occasion. It was then back for breakfast which was much appreciated by the hardy few and after a few hot coffees we were all ready to go again.

We headed for the area around Tornos to the south west and spent time in the low limestone hills in the area. Diligent study of the many larks in the area resulted in several Thekla's Larks being found. The group spent a little time familiarising themselves with the identification points which separate this species from the extremely similar, and more common Crested Lark. The beautiful song of Woodlarks provided the soundtrack as the group searched

through the large flocks of finches and sparrows on these hillsides. Good numbers of Rock Sparrows were seen well by all and the first Red-legged Partridges of the trip were seen running for cover. After a brief stop at the visitors centre where we saw our first Red-billed Choughs of the trip, we carried on to the viewing tower for an extended picnic lunch and to enjoy the bird spectacle from on high. Javi's team had prepared an enormous Spanish Tortilla for our picnic which went down well with a side of Iberico Ham, Cheese and Tomatoes. The birds were similar to the previous day with a few more duck species added to the list and more close Hen Harriers which were a treat.

At mid-afternoon we decided to slowly drive back checking the willow scrub and weedy ditches en-route to the hotel in search of Spanish Sparrow which we duly found. Also new for the trip were several Reed Buntings and we had great views of a dusky Red Fox. We parked the bus at the hotel and walked through the village to an area of reedmace in the hope of finding a Penduline Tit but weren't lucky this time. The village sparrows were interesting though with a few apparent Spanish / House hybrids with the flock. A few returned once again, to see the cranes fly in to roost before retreating for our final, and once again superb dinner at our lovely hotel.



Marsh Harrier by Phil Dargue

### Day 4

# Saturday 17th February

### La Yunta Road, El Planeron, La Laguna Sarinena

The rain cleared overnight and we found ourselves again in the dark on the cold high plains on a Dupont's Lark quest. We were lit by the starts as the haunting song of the Larks once again filled the air. We looked long and hard in the half-light at the mass of tussocks in front of us until at last, one of the group located a bird sitting in view. Frustratingly for the others, it flew before the rest of the group could get on it and that was that. Soon after the singing stopped and we retreated to the hotel for our final breakfast before moving on to the Sierra de Guarra.

We packed the van and said our goodbyes thanked Javi and his team for the excellent hospitality and set off for the SEO reserve of El Planeron. A brief stop on the way produced a pair of Rock Buntings and a Eurasian Jay and

© Naturetrek February 2024

after a pleasant two-hour journey we arrived at this extraordinary steppe reserve. A slow-drive-and-stop strategy soon paid off with a Little Grebe on a small pond and good views of the Mediterranean Short-toed Larks that abound in this unique habitat. After a while, we stopped at the top of a low rise to scan the habitat when the unmistakeable song of the Dupont's Lark was heard again. It was late morning in bright sunshine so this was a real surprise. We stood watching and listening and it became apparent that there were several birds involved. After what seemed like an age, the leader and another guest finally picked out a bird on a tussock but again, it hopped down into the scrub before all of the group could see it. Dupont's really is a quite difficult bird to see.

After a while we moved on and found a place to park the van and scan for Sandgrouse over our picnic lunch but to no avail, they eluded us this time. We did see a Merlin and, on the way, out a fine pair of Iberian Grey Shrikes put on a show as we headed north to the lagoon at Sariena. This was a complete contrast in habitat from the semi-desert of El Planeron and we spent a pleasant hour or so in and around the hide seeing a few species that were new for the trip. Amongst the numerous Black-headed Gulls, a couple of Little Gulls were picked out along with a juvenile Lesser Black-backed Gull. In the Willow scrub around the lake, Chiffchaffs were fly catching and a singing Cetti's Warbler showed himself. Penduline Tits were calling form the reedbed and weren't giving themselves up easily but with patience and persistence they were eventually seen. Western Marsh Harriers were numerous. There was a confiding flock of White Storks in a rice paddy which provided an excellent photo opportunity and a bird bearing a ring was traced to a scheme in Germany which was interesting.



White Stork by Phil Dargue

### Day 5

# **Sunday 18th February**

### Alquezar, Rio Isuala Bridge

Today was all about the Wallcreeper. This stunning little inhabitant of high mountain rock faces winters in good numbers in the Sierra de Guarra and today we would be trying to see it in the beautiful old town of Alquezar. So, after a splendid breakfast, we boarded the bus a went on our way. We parked on the edge of town and picked our way through the narrow alleys and cobbled streets of this lovely, atmospheric village until we reached the Mirador

on the north side of town with views of the rocky gorge and collegiate church perched on the rocks above. We settled on the various benches and arranged ourselves so that we could see as much of the viewable habitat as possible and we waited. Flocks of Eurasian Crag Martins wheeled around the gorge while a large kettle of Eurasian Griffon Vultures gathered over head. Blackcaps, Serins and Black Redstarts busied themselves in the bushes while overhead, a Peregrine and then a magnificent Golden Eagle flew by. And still we waited. The town became quite busy with Sunday strollers and climbers appeared in the gorge in front. A Spanish Psammodromus and a Moorish Gecko were found by one group member at the base of the church as well as a Mallow Skipper butterfly.



Alquezar by Chris Wilkinson

Lunch came and went as did afternoon coffee and cakes before a splendid Blue Rock Thrush put in an appearance on top of the cliff. We were starting to discuss a plan B when it happened – there on the cliff just underneath the Blue Rock Thrush was a superb Wallcreeper illuminated in beautiful sunlight! Relief all round as one by one the group had great views of this much sought-after bird. It flew across the gorge and alighted on the rocks below the church for a period and then it flew up and over the cliffs and was gone. The mood was one of exhilaration as we all chatted and relaxed, the pressure off. And then it was back! Closer this time, lower down on the nearest rock, flashing it's crimson wings for all to see. These were very good views indeed and we made the very most of them. It disappeared and returned for a third time before we decide to call it a day and go for a short walk in search of one of the many calling Sardinian Warblers along the nearby hillsides. We didn't have to work too hard before excellent close views and photos were obtained so we decided to return to the hotel for a cold beverage. Or two.

We stopped on the way back at bridge over the Rio Isuala and went for a short, unsuccessful walk in search of a Dipper. We had more luck with Firecrest though and a few of these stunning little passerines were well watched in the pinewood adjacent to the river. Back at the hotel, cold beverages were duly despatched and the group settled down to another fine meal and chatted about the events of the day. One that I think we will all treasure for a long time.

# **Monday 19th February**

Rio Vero Valley, Lecina, Alquezar

Today we explored the Rio Vero valley to the north of Alquezar visiting a few sites of interest along the way. Our first stop was at the picturesque 800-year-old Puente de Albarda bridge which was higher than expected and a little vertigo inducing due to the lack of any side walls at all. But, undeterred, the intrepid group all went up for a look. Birding interest was provided by a couple of stunning male Cirl Buntings and a Grey Wagtail flew by. Plenty of pictures were taken before we proceeded up the valley stopping at the high bridge over the Barranco de los Gargantas where the days first Griffon Vultures could be seen leaving their overnight roosts in the morning sun.

We drove further along to the Mirador del Vero where there was a superb view of the snow-capped Pyrenees to the north. We could see several Eurasian Griffon Vultures roosting and nesting along the cliffs here and way in the distance a soaring Lammergeier was seen in the scope. Some of the group set off on a walk to view the Neolithic cave art at the Abrigos de Mallata which was extremely worthwhile if a little scary tackling the vertiginous step ladders to the cliffside caves. It was humbling to imagine the people that had left their mark here, 7000 years before us. Natural History interest was provided by many fly-by Cleopatra butterflies flashing yellow and orange in the bright sunlight and Ocellated Lizard, Large Psammodromus and Iberian Wall Lizard were all recorded. Of botanical interest were lovely dwarf daffodils of the species *Narcissus assoanus* along with the early *Crocus nevadensis* amongst many other interesting plants.

Time was moving on, so we drove a little further north to the village of Lecina where we had our picnic lunch in the shade of an 1100-year-old Holm Oak. The Carrasca Milleraria de Lecina is the state tree of Aragon, was European tree of the year in 2021 and was certainly an impressive specimen. A calling Nuthatch took little persuading to show himself while Green Hairstreaks and a Common Toad were found nearby. After the previous day's excitement, we decided to go back to Alquezar for Wallcreeper seconds with an ice cream and coffee stop along the way. We bumped into a couple of English birders in the town who had been unsuccessfully searching for Wallcreeper there since dawn. Undeterred, we went back to the Mirador with the other birders to see if we could get our second helpings. You can guess what happened next. Five minutes after the unlucky birders decided to call it a day, the Wallcreeper returned and put on a show that might even have surpassed the previous day's display. It spent time on the church tower before going into the Belfry itself only flying out when the bells rang. The bird then flew into the town, busying itself on the walls of several houses. One conscientious member of the group managed to contact the luckless English birders who arrived just as the Wallcreeper disappeared into the streets of the town and off they went in pursuit. Their story had a happy ending though as we heard that they did manage to catch up with the bird in the end. Happy with another superb day, we drove back to the hotel where we indulged in another cold beverage. Or two.



Vero Valley by Chris Wilkinson



Eurasian Griffon Vulture by Phil Dargue

# **Tuesday 20th February**

Santa Cilia, Embalse de Calcono de Guara, Castillo Montearagon

Our penultimate day in this lovely corner of Spain dawned bright and sunny which was perfect, as today we were to visit Santa Cilia and witness the feeding of the vultures. Another lovely breakfast was despatched and we embarked on the 20-minute drive west to our rendezvous with Manu the vulture man. Manu has been feeding the vultures here for many years and is a champion of their conservation. We met Manu at the rendezvous point, introductions were made, Manu et off up the hill towing a trailer of fresh bones and offal and we followed on foot. It was a long gradual climb to the feeding point and it was a great effort by all of the group to get there. We all crept quietly onto the hillside and sat down while Manu put on his red jacket and took up his position in the middle of the clearing. Many vultures were on the ground waiting for him and birds were flying in and landing from all directions to be fed. Several birds were squabbling over the contents of the wheelbarrow which had been tipped out lower down the slope while other birds waited patiently to be hand-fed by Manu. In all about 200 Eurasian



Vulture feeding by Chris Wilkinson

Griffon Vultures were present and we were sitting within a few metres of them. It was quite an experience to be eyeball to eyeball with these magnificent birds. After a while a Lammergeier was spotted flying straight at us through the throng of Griffons overhead. Surveying the scene, this stunning bird flew straight over our heads at close range and disappeared off to the east. Apparently the Lammergeier is more shy of humans and comes in to clean up the bones once the people have retreated. At mid-day it was time to retreat and we made our way slowly

back down the hill elated with the experience we had just had. The Lammergeier made another close pass over our heads as we walked back and headed towards the hill no doubt to feast on the bones left by the Griffons.



Lammergeier by Phil Dargue

Back in the village, we spent time in the Museum Amigos de los Buitres that Manu and his colleagues have set up and enjoyed the presentation on the ecology of the Sierra de Guarra and the part played by the Vultures. We then had lunch in the village which gave the group opportunity to scope the Lammergeier which was now gorging itself on Sheeps' legs! Quite a sight. After lunch, we departed Santa Cilia and visited the reservoir Embalse de Calcono de Guarra where a Peregrine shared the skies with a good number of Griffon Vultures. Around the reservoir we picked out several Iberian Ibex amongst the craggy rocks which were very nice indeed.

With time moving on we travelled to our last site of the day which was the ruins of Castillo Montearagon, perched on a dry, rocky hillside near the city of Huesca. We found a suitable place to park and scanned the cliffs from the bottom. A pair of European Stonechats were conspicuous and a stunning male Blue Rock Thrush showed off in the afternoon sun. It didn't take long to find our quarry here as a beautiful male Black Wheatear sitting proud on a rock was soon joined by the slightly dowdier female. We watched them for a while before driving to the top of the cliffs for closer views. Meadow Pipits were common here along with a mixed flock of finches and butterflies including Swallowtail. Large numbers of White Storks were rising on thermals in the late afternoon sun as a scratchy song emanating from the Gorse and Broom revealed the presence of a Dartford Warbler. With persistence and patience, everybody eventually had good views of these skulking *Sylvias* while Red-billed Choughs called form above. It was time to return to the hotel which was a pleasant drive in the light of the early evening sun. We assembled later for our final, and once again fantastic dinner at and chatted about the incredible week we had all had in this lovely corner of Spain.



Birding Castillo Montearagon by Phil Dargue

# Wednesday 21st February

Bierge – Zaragoza – London

An early flight back to the UK prohibited any birding on our last day and after a light breakfast we set out, before dawn for the 90-minute journey to Zaragoza airport. As we passed the city of Huesca we noticed many White Storks using the motorway lights as roost sites as the dawn broke. We soon entered the suburbs of Zaragoza and arrived at the airport with no delays and one final addition to the trip list was recorded shortly before we boarded our flight with Eurasian Jackdaws in the airport roof.

It was a privilege, a pleasure and great fun to spend time with a lovely and enthusiastic group of Natutretrek clinets. They contributed enormously to the success and enjoyment of this trip to a remote and special corner of north-eastern Spain, the old Kingdom of Aragón!



The Wallcreeper Crew by Chris Wilkinson



Gallocanta sunset by Phil Dargue

### 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 to sign up.

### Social Media

We're social! Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram and be the first to hear about the launch of new tours, offers and exciting sightings and photos from our recently returned holidays.

facebook

www.facebook.com/naturetrekwildlifeholidays

www.twitter.com/naturetrektours

Instagram

www.instagram.com/naturetrek wildlife holidays

# **Species lists**

Birds (h = heard only)

		February 2024								
Common name	Scientific name	14   15   16   17   18   19   20							21	
Common Shelduck	Tadorna tadorna		<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>						
Northern Shoveler	Spatula clypeata		✓	✓						
Gadwall	Mareca strepera			✓						
Mallard	Anas platyrhynchos		✓	✓	<b>√</b>			<b>√</b>		
Northern Pintail	Anas acuta		<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>						
Eurasian Teal	Anas crecca		<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>						
Common Pochard	Aythya ferina			<b>√</b>						
Common Quail	Coturnix coturnix		h	h						
Red-legged Partridge	Alectoris rufa			<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>				
Great Bustard	Otis tarda		<b>√</b>							
Rock Dove	Columba livia	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	✓	<b>√</b>	
Common Wood Pigeon	Columba palumbus	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	✓		
Eurasian Collared Dove	Streptopelia decaocto	✓	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	✓	<b>√</b>	✓	✓		
Water Rail	Rallus aquaticus		h							
Eurasian Coot	Fulica atra	<b>√</b>	✓	✓						
Common Crane	Grus grus	<b>√</b>	✓	✓	<b>√</b>		<b>√</b>			
Little Grebe	Tachybaptus ruficollis				✓					
Greater Flamingo	Phoenicopterus roseus	✓	✓	✓	✓					
Pied Avocet	Recurvirostra avosetta		✓							
Northern Lapwing	Vanellus vanellus		✓	✓	✓					
Ruff	Calidris pugnax		✓	✓						
Dunlin	Calidris alpina			✓						
Common Snipe	Gallinago gallinago		✓							
Black-headed Gull	Chroicocephalus ridibundus		✓		✓					
Lesser Black-backed Gull	Larus fuscus				✓					
Little Gull	Hydrocoloeus minutus				✓					
White Stork	Ciconia ciconia	<b>√</b>	✓	✓	<b>√</b>			✓	✓	
Great Cormorant	Phalacrocorax carbo	✓	✓		✓					
Western Cattle Egret	Bubulcus ibis				✓					
Grey Heron	Ardea cinerea				✓				✓	
Bearded Vulture	Gypaetus barbatus						<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		
Griffon Vulture	Gyps fulvus	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		
Golden Eagle	Aquila chrysaetos		<b>√</b>			<b>√</b>				
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	Accipiter nisus					<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>			
Western Marsh Harrier	Circus aeruginosus		<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>			<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	

		February 2024								
Common name	Scientific name	14	14   15   16   17   18   19   2							
Hen Harrier	Circus cyaneus		<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>						
Red Kite	Milvus milvus	<b>√</b>			<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	
Common Buzzard	Buteo buteo	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	
Great Spotted Woodpecker	Dendrocopos major	<b>√</b>								
Iberian Green Woodpecker	Picus sharpei	<b>√</b>								
Common Kestrel	Falco tinnunculus	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		
Merlin	Falco columbarius				<b>√</b>					
Peregrine Falcon	Falco peregrinus					<b>√</b>		<b>√</b>		
Iberian Grey Shrike	Lanius meridionalis	<b>√</b>			<b>√</b>					
Eurasian Jay	Garrulus glandarius				<b>√</b>					
Eurasian Magpie	Pica pica	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		<b>√</b>		<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	
Red-billed Chough	Pyrrhocorax			<b>√</b>			<b>√</b>	h		
	pyrrhocorax									
Western Jackdaw	Coloeus monedula								✓	
Carrion Crow	Corvus corone	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	
Northern Raven	Corvus corax			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Coal Tit	Periparus ater	✓								
European Crested Tit	Lophophanes cristatus	✓								
Eurasian Blue Tit	Cyanistes caeruleus	✓				✓	✓			
Great Tit	Parus major	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		
Eurasian Penduline Tit	Remiz pendulinus				<b>√</b>					
Woodlark	Lullula arborea	<b>√</b>		✓	h	h		✓		
Eurasian Skylark	Alauda arvensis		✓	✓	✓					
Thekla's Lark	Galerida theklae			✓	<b>√</b>					
Crested Lark	Galerida cristata	<b>√</b>	✓	✓	<b>√</b>					
Calandra Lark	Melanocorypha calandra	✓	✓	✓	✓					
Dupont's Lark	Chersophilus duponti			h	✓					
Mediterranean Short-toed Lark	Alaudala rufescens				✓					
Eurasian Crag Martin	Ptyonoprogne rupestris	✓				<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		
Cetti's Warbler	Cettia cetti				✓					
Long-tailed Tit	Aegithalos caudatus	<b>√</b>			<b>√</b>		<b>√</b>			
Common Chiffchaff	Phylloscopus collybita	✓			<b>√</b>		<b>√</b>			
Zitting Cisticola	Cisticola juncidis	h		h						
Eurasian Blackcap	Sylvia atricapilla					<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		
Sardinian Warbler	Curruca melanocephala					<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		
Dartford Warbler	Curruca undata							<b>√</b>		
Common Firecrest	Regulus ignicapilla					<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>			
Eurasian Nuthatch	Sitta europaea	h					<b>√</b>			
Wallcreeper	Tichodroma muraria					<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>			

		February 2024								
Common name	Scientific name	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
Short-toed Treecreeper	Certhia brachydactyla	<b>√</b>			h		<b>√</b>			
Common Starling	Sturnus vulgaris					✓	✓	✓		
Spotless Starling	Sturnus unicolor	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Song Thrush	Turdus philomelos				✓	✓	✓	✓		
Mistle Thrush	Turdus viscivorus			<b>√</b>						
Common Blackbird	Turdus merula	<b>√</b>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Fieldfare	Turdus pilaris			<b>√</b>				<b>√</b>		
European Robin	Erithacus rubecula	<b>√</b>		<b>√</b>	h	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		
Black Redstart	Phoenicurus ochruros	<b>√</b>		✓	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		
Blue Rock Thrush	Monticola solitarius					✓	✓	✓		
European Stonechat	Saxicola rubicola	✓	<b>√</b>	✓	<b>√</b>			✓		
Black Wheatear	Oenanthe leucura							✓		
Rock Sparrow	Petronia petronia	✓		✓						
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	Passer montanus	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	✓						
Spanish Sparrow	Passer hispaniolensis			<b>√</b>	✓					
House Sparrow	Passer domesticus	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Grey Wagtail	Motacilla cinerea	✓			✓		✓			
White Wagtail	Motacilla alba	✓	<b>√</b>	✓	✓	✓		✓		
Meadow Pipit	Anthus pratensis		✓	✓	<b>√</b>			✓		
Common Chaffinch	Fringilla coelebs	✓		✓	✓	✓	<b>√</b>	✓		
European Greenfinch	Chloris chloris	<b>√</b>		✓			✓	✓		
Red Crossbill	Loxia curvirostra	<b>√</b>								
Common Linnet	Linaria cannabina	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	✓		<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		
European Goldfinch	Carduelis carduelis	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		
European Serin	Serinus serinus	<b>√</b>			<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		
Eurasian Siskin	Spinus spinus					h	h			
Corn Bunting	Emberiza calandra	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		
Rock Bunting	Emberiza cia	<b>√</b>		<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>					
Cirl Bunting	Emberiza cirlus						<b>√</b>			
Common Reed Bunting	Emberiza schoeniclus		✓	<b>√</b>						

# Others noted

Other Species	February 2024								
Common name	14	15	16	17	18	19	20		
Mammals									
Brown Hare	✓								
Iberian Ibex							✓		
Roe Deer		<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>					
European Rabbit				<b>√</b>					
Red Fox		<b>√</b>	√	√					
Reptiles and Amphibians									
Ocellated Lizard						<b>√</b>			
Moorish Wall Gecko				<b>√</b>					
Bedriagas Skink		✓							
Iberian Wall Lizard						<b>√</b>			
Spanish Psammodromus				<b>√</b>		<b>√</b>			
Large Psammodromus sp						✓			
Montpellier Snake							✓		
Common Toad							<b>√</b>		
Butterflies									
Western Bath White	✓						<b>√</b>		
Mountain Dappled White							<b>√</b>		
Small White	✓			<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		<b>√</b>		
Large White	✓						✓		
Cleopatra					<b>√</b>	✓	✓		
Clouded Yellow	✓					✓	✓		
Red Admiral	✓	<b>√</b>			<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		
Comma	✓				<b>√</b>	✓	✓		
Large Tortoiseshell							✓		
Swallowtail	✓					<b>√</b>	✓		
Wall Brown					<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	✓		
Green Hairstreak						<b>√</b>	✓		
Mallow Skipper	✓				<b>√</b>				
Map Butterfly							✓		
Moths									
Hummingbird Hawk-moth	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>			<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	✓		
Sloe Carpet							✓		