

Mallorca - A Beginner Birdwatching Tour

Naturetrek Tour Report

25 April - 2 May 2015



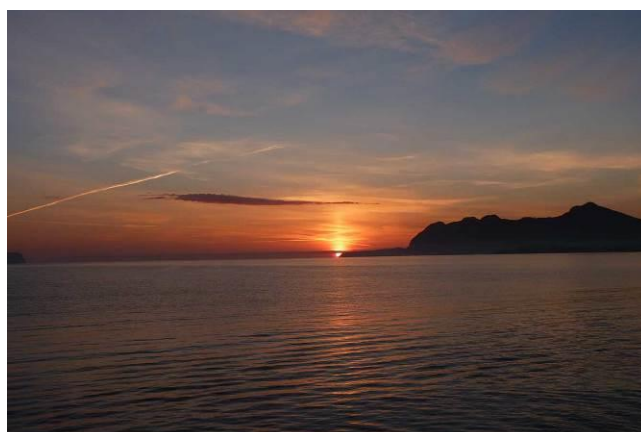
Audouin's Gull



Cinereous Vulture



Garganey



Sunrise

Report and images compiled by Dave Smith



Naturetrek Mingledown Barn Wolf's Lane Chawton Alton Hampshire GU34 3HJ England

T: +44 (0)1962 733051

F: +44 (0)1962 736426

E: info@naturetrek.co.uk

W: www.naturetrek.co.uk

Tour leader: Dave Smith

Participants: Mary Korndorffer
Jon Korndorffer
Jan Morley
Geoff Morley

Day 1

Saturday 25th April

Mallorca - Hotel grounds and adjacent S'Albufereta Marsh: Fine, dry & sunny, but breezy.

Dave was already on the island after leading the previous week's tour so was waiting at Palma airport to meet the beginners group, scheduled to land on the 11.25am arrival from Gatwick. After meeting up, the small group moved to Cafe Oasis for light snacks and refreshments before loading the vehicle and heading to our base near Puerto Pollensa. The traffic was light so it enabled the group to take in their first views of the Mallorcan countryside and to record three Kestrels, two Red Kites and a couple of Cattle Egrets on the way.

Arriving at the hotel around 2.15pm, we were soon checked in and unpacked, enabling the group to set off for a short introduction to the hotel grounds and nearby observation hide where they encountered their first taste of Mediterranean birding. Species noted included Little Ringed Plover, Cetti's and Sardinian Warblers, Chiffchaff and a splendid Booted Eagle, the latter soaring directly above us.

The evening get together enabled Dave to explain the week's itinerary and how the hotel worked before we enjoyed a special tapas evening in the restaurant. It was then time for bed after an early start to the day.

Day 2

Sunday 26th April

Bocquer Valley & S'Albufereta Marsh: Overcast, becoming sunny & hot

After a fine breakfast, the first full day's birding got off to a great start when, leaving the car park on our way to Puerto Pollensa, we saw an Osprey fishing in Pollensa Bay. After collecting our picnic ingredients en route, we arrived at the Bocquer Valley car park in time to see a pale-phase Booted Eagle soaring above the nearby finca. In the Olive groves and fields below the finca we spotted Zitting Cisticola, Greenfinch and Stonechat, and then further up the valley Blue Rock Thrush and Crag Martin were noted, and the ever-present Sardinian Warblers were well distributed. At least three Wrens were also heard and it was well into the morning before the haze lifted altogether, enabling a pair of 'displaying' Peregrine Falcons to be observed, together with a pair of Ravens, one of which alighted in a tree some 70 metres away.

Although a Balearic Warbler had been seen moments before we arrived at the sea end of the valley, numerous birders and walkers tramping through the vegetation had caused it to go into hiding. After a brief rest we retraced our steps back down the valley and new rewards were Pied Flycatcher, Serin, Linnet and a number of Painted Lady butterflies.

Our picnic destination was at S'Albufereta Reserve, so after the walk we boarded the vehicle and sped for our repast, first calling at Puerto Pollensa seafront for Audouin's Gull and Shag, and then at the hotel for a swift comfort stop.

Upon reaching S'Albufereta we parked near the old Roman quarry and immediately saw a Stone Curlew enjoying the shade under a nearby hedge, then watched Spotted Flycatcher and a splendid male Whinchat while the picnic was being prepared: four Ravens flying over during its consumption.

After lunch we walked to the mound where we observed a splendid Red Kite and chalked up a small list of waders including Common Sandpiper, Little Ringed Plover, Greenshank, Spotted Redshank, Wood Sandpiper and of all things a Lapwing, a species not seen the previous week. Orchids here included Mirror and Bumblebee, and other more common flowers attracted butterflies in small numbers including Common Blue, Bath White and Clouded Yellow. A single Blue Emperor was the only dragonfly noticed.

The evening roll-call was followed by a splendid meal. Afterwards the group met up to view the adjacent marsh from the swimming pool decking resulting in good views of an Eleanor's Falcon being mobbed by a group of Yellow-legged Gulls flying over to the bay. Also noted were two Cattle Egrets, 15 Little Egrets and a single Great Egret going to roost just before darkness fell to conclude another day, which had become noticeably windy in the last hour.

Day 3

Monday 27th April

S'Albufera Reserve: Thunderstorm early morning, sunny & mild later but windy.

With a fine start to the day we met up for the short pre-breakfast stroll to the hotel hide, witnessing an Osprey and a male Marsh Harrier sparring for perching rights in a nearby tree. No sooner had we opened the hide shutters than a splendid Purple Heron landed on the edge of the pool in front of us, approximately 20 metres away, giving unprecedented views to all. Nearby a Great Egret flew by and a pair of Sardinian Warblers foraged for food in a Tamarisk bush almost within touching distance. Heavy clouds were building up over the mountains and when thunder and lightning commenced it was a good time to retreat for breakfast.

A super rainbow shone from one end of the marsh to the other as we enjoyed our earlier than normal repast. The rain arrived just as we finished eating and thankfully ended before we left for our day's excursion to S'Albufera Reserve, one of the top wetland habitats in the Mediterranean.

After stopping in Alcudia to pick up picnic makings, we arrived at the S'Albufera around 9.30am and were immediately welcomed by the sight of an Osprey flying low overhead with a large fish in its talons as we made our way down the tarmac access roadway. Next to thrill was a group of nine migrating Grey Herons, dropping in together just as another shower threatened. Fortunately we reached the shelter of the information centre before the shower started, and then it stopped just as quickly as it had arrived. The day then became brighter as the sun prevailed, but a breeze developed.

Looking from the gate over the grass meadow adjacent to the Sa Roca hide gave us good views of five Yellow Wagtails (Iberiae race), a Hoopoe and at least three Rabbits. Heading to the hide we heard Nightingale and Cetti's Warbler by the access track, and once there we saw numerous Shelduck, four Garganey and three

Marbled Duck on viewing the adjoining scrape. Also present in good numbers were Little Ringed Plover, Black-winged Stilt and Red-crested Pochard. The highlight here was a lone Collared Pratincole on a small muddy island.

We wandered along to the next hide to get closer views of the Garganey and Marbled Ducks, receiving a bonus with Purple Swamphen, Lesser Emperor Dragonfly, and a large Mirror Carp swimming in the shallows with half its body above the water. Heading back to the centre for our picnic lunch we encountered Red-knobbed Coot in the viewing mound pool and heard a Great Reed Warbler in song.

After lunch we made our way to the Bishop hides, but not before stopping on the access path for superb views of Nightingale in full song, just above our heads. Both Speckled Wood butterfly and Blue-tailed Damselfly were noted before we entered Bishop 1 hide.

Immediately numerous Black-winged Stilts and Little Egrets were seen together with another group of Marbled Ducks and reasonable numbers of both Spotted Redshank and Kentish Plover. Just before we left for Bishop 2 an Eleanor's Falcon flew by much to the delight of a now crowded hide.

The access bridge to Bishop 2 hide provided views of a pair of Purple Swamphen in the reeds below and a Zitting Cisticola carrying food to a nearby nest. Inside the hide we observed a number of Marsh Harriers, two Ospreys together in the far distance, and a number of Cattle Egrets from the nearby breeding colony. Common Terns were plentiful on the islands in front of the hide and they were later joined by four Common Sandpipers, two Little Stints, two Greenshanks and a single Ruff.

With the afternoon quickly coming to an end it was time for the walk back along the access road to the car park. On route we heard Great Reed Warbler again, saw and photographed another Osprey perched on a dead tree eating a fish, and had the good fortune to find Tongue Orchids along the roadside vegetation.

Back at the Hotel we met up again for our usual pre-meal roll-call, all delighted at the birds seen today. We then enjoyed a splendid feast before retiring to our beds.

Day 4

Tuesday 28th April

Cuber Reservoir & Lluc Monastery: Sunny start - overcast afternoon.

With a fine start to the day, all looked good for our trip to the mountains. A pre-breakfast visit to the hotel hide produced a couple of Pallid Swifts in a movement of some 30 Common Swifts.

After breakfast we collected picnic ingredients before driving up the main C710 road into the Serra de Tramuntana Mountains and our date with a walk at Cuber Reservoir. Driving was a little tricky as we negotiated our way passed hundreds of cyclists practising for the 'Iron Man' race scheduled to take this route some ten days later.

Arriving around 10.30am, we immediately got into birding mode as a good bunch of raptors appeared, circling the golf-ball shaped facility on the top of Puig Major Mountain. This group included three Cinereous (Black)

Vultures, two Griffon Vultures, a Booted Eagle, a Black Kite, a Red Kite and two Ravens: what a fabulous start - most of our target species in one view!

Walking down towards the dam wall we quickly found our next target; Tawny Pipit. By now raptor numbers over Puig Major were increasing and some vultures had alighted on the ridge below the peak. Continuing our walk, we had brief glimpses of Nightingale from the dam wall and recorded the usual mass of Yellow-legged Gulls on the water before reaching the quarry and our target sightings of Loose-flowered Orchid and Balearic Sowbread, the latter an endemic restricted to the Balearic Islands.

The ridge and sky around Puig Major was now a mass of vultures so we decided to return back the way we had come and abandon the circular route so that we could enjoy this unprecedented experience. Scoping the area of Puig Major and the surrounding sky numerous times we were pleased to count a total of nine vultures in the air together with another thirteen perched on the mountain ridge below. This fantastic sight was made up of fifteen Cinereous (Black) and seven Griffon Vultures, probably most of the island's entire population. Also airborne with them at this time were ten Ravens and another Red Kite, a sight never before seen on a Naturetrek Mallorca trip! It was hard to tear ourselves away from this phenomenon, although a splendid Moltoni's Warbler (previously named Sub-alpine Warbler) and the call of our picnic lunch did help.

During our picnic we were entertained by the raptorial display occasionally coming in to view through gaps in the trees, and by lots of Chaffinches and the occasional Spotted Flycatcher and Firecrest sighting.

After lunch we took the short trip back down the mountains to Lluc Monastery where we all had a little free time to enjoy the atmosphere and culture of the place. Both Blue Tit and Blackcap were seen in the car park before we returned to our cyclist-dodging antics on the last leg of our journey back to the hotel.

We had much to talk about at the evening roll-call, everyone still buzzing after such spectacular raptor viewing, before the day was completed by another fine meal.

Day 5

Wednesday 29th April

Formentor peninsular: Sunny and warm

Pre-breakfast in the hotel hide was a little quiet although both Purple Heron and Great Egret were noted again. Passage included a few Swallows and a lone Sand Martin, our first for the week. Also seen in the distance was a Balearic Woodchat Shrike perched in a Tamarisk bush and two Yellow Wagtails of the Spanish race.

After breakfast we made the short drive to Puerto Pollensa to collect picnic makings before continuing on to the Formentor peninsular and to the lighthouse at the north-eastern end. Taking up a vantage point looking out to sea we were surprised by the breeze blowing here, so much so that we had to apply another layer of clothing to keep out the cold. With Shearwaters our target, it was pleasing to see a small fishing boat on the sea way below us surrounded by a group of Yellow-legged Gulls and a handful of Scopoli's (Cory's) Shearwaters. With the breeze it was not easy to pick out the shearwaters in the dark waters below, so a group of seven Balearic Shearwaters passing by in a single group was an achievement. A Blue Rock Thrush pair performed well for us, as did a Crag Martin just a few feet below our position, but the star was an Eleanora's Falcon that circled below us for a couple of minutes before drifting away around the headland. A Peregrine Falcon then appeared as if to

impose aerial dominance, and a couple of Serin flittered in the cliff-top scrub as numerous Painted Lady butterflies arrived in off the sea. The next sighting and our last before a warming coffee at the Lighthouse Cafe was an unexpected bright yellow Golden Oriole flashing along the cliff-face below us.

With the car park and surrounding area rapidly filling up with cars and cyclist we left for Cases Velles and the now tree-less habitat since the removal of the migrant-attracting Fig tree plantation sometime in the last few months. We noted a calling Spotted Flycatcher before departing for our Formentor picnic spot. Arriving about 12.45pm, our the picnic was soon prepared and demolished, despite a couple of distractions by way of Firecrests in the nearby trees and seven Ravens flying by.

After lunch we passed the Albercutx Mirador (viewpoint), being frustrated by the lack of suitable parking spaces. Continuing, Jon and Mary opted to be dropped in Puerto Pollensa to explore for the rest of the afternoon, while Geoff and Jan declined the S'Albufereta mound for a spell of relaxation around the hotel pool.

We all met up again for our usual pre-meal roll-call, enjoyed another splendid meal and then set off at dusk in search of nocturnal species in the woods abutting Puig Sant Marti just west of Alcudia. Alighting from our vehicle we searched successfully for a known Violet Bird's Nest Orchid then waited for the nocturnal species to indicate their presence. First to be heard was one of three Nightjars churring in the woods at the base of the mountain, and then an Eleanora's Falcon shot by low. A Scop's Owl was next; one heard calling some distance away which appeared to be moving closer to us. It went quiet for a while then one was seen gliding by to a nearby building before it started calling from its original site. We were just about to return to the hotel when a Barn Owl screeched a number of times, and a Tawny Owl hooted in reply. A fantastic end to the day.

Day 6

Thursday 30th April

South of the Island - Salinas de Levante & Cap de Ses Salinas: Sunny and hot.

The day started clear and bright with a superbly colourful sunrise over the bay and mist rising from S'Albufereta Marsh. Spotting from the hide was a little livelier today: a Purple Heron left the hide pool as we mounted the access stairway, two Spanish Wagtails and a Common Sandpiper alighted just a few metres from the hide, and both Common Swift and Swallow were active.

After breakfast we headed for the south of the island aiming to take in the farmland north of Felanitx, visit the saltpans at Salinas de Levante and sea watch from the lighthouse at Cap de Ses Salinas. Reaching the farmland area, Stonechat and Corn Bunting were particularly abundant, and we had our first trip sightings of Greater Short-toed Lark, Thekla Lark and Red-legged Partridge. Wild flowers included a Broomrape, later identified as *Orobanche crenata*, among a bright roadside floral display which also contained Corn Marigold, Crown Daisy, Yellow Bartsia and Belardia.

We continued on to the Salinas, arriving about 11.30am. The track down to the saltpan area provided another Greater Short-toed Lark and our first Goldfinches of the trip. Wader calls were fairly abundant indicating a greater concentration than was noted the previous week. First to appear was a Little Ringed Plover carrying out its circular display flight. A Grey plover then flew by calling loudly, followed by a large group of small waders flitting from lagoon to lagoon. When we finally caught up with them the flock contained 45 Little Stints, 25 Ringed Plovers, 20 Kentish Plovers, 10 Dunlin and 5 Curlew Sandpipers. Larger waders nearby included Ruff,

Greenshank, 5 Common Redshanks, 40 or so Avocets, 25 Black-winged Stilts, a superb Marsh Sandpiper and a good flock of 35 Greater Flamingoes. Heading back to the vehicle to move to our usual picnic spot we were delayed firstly by a couple of Red Kites and then by a rufous coloured Cuckoo as it flashed passed us towards the Flamingo flock. Butterflies here included Large White and Clouded Yellow.

Our lunchtime picnic was held at the south side of the Salinas, on a grassy banking overlooking the pans. Here another 13 Greater Flamingoes strutted around, bringing the total present to a new high of 48. During lunch a female Marsh Harrier flew over, both Turtle Dove and Bee-eater were heard, and Tawny Pipit and Balearic Woodchat Shrike were seen. Common Blue and Small Copper butterflies and a Crimson Speckled moth completed our sightings before we left for our afternoon seawatch.

Assembling adjacent to Cap de Ses Salinas lighthouse in bright sunshine, the sea was a superb shade of blue. We saw a group of Shags in the distance, ten or so Audouin's Gulls were nearby, and we saw a single Turnstone. The expectation of spotting shearwaters grew when a fishing boat appeared in the distance travelling towards us, just as it had done the previous week. By the time it reached us the 'Balear II' had accumulated around 300 Yellow-legged Gulls, some 45 Scopoli's (Cory's) Shearwaters and at least 25 Balearic Shearwaters; a great spectacle for all watchers. We celebrated by posing for our 'team photo' before starting our journey back over the island to our hotel, adding another two Woodchat Shrikes and three Kestrels to our tally in the process.

We took the opportunity of a comfort and coffee break at Ses Torres restaurant, located between Petra and Sant Margalida, before arriving back at the hotel around 6.30pm.

Evening roll-call was a little later than normal and a superb day's birding was discussed with much satisfaction. Another good evening meal was enjoyed and we all retired to reflect on our favourite sighting of the day.

Day 7

Friday 1st May

Southern S'Albufera (including S'Illot Salinas & the Water Works): Sunny and warm

The day started sunny and clear although a little breezy. Reaching the hide for our last pre-breakfast walk we again found the Purple Heron on the hide pool banking; although giving good views, the shady lighting conditions made it difficult to photograph. Cetti's and Sardinian Warblers still occupied the surrounding bushes, which also provided a perch for a pair of Pied Flycatchers.

After breakfast we set off to the southern end of S'Albufera Reserve for our last birding adventure of the trip. Parking near the old S'Illot salt pans we located Mallard, Gadwall, Marbled Duck, Shelduck, Pochard and Red-crested Pochard, the last three all with young. We also heard two Great Reed Warbler, five Moustached Warblers and a Reed Warbler in the surrounding reed-beds. With the wind increasing, the warblers stayed low so to get fleeting views of Moustached Warbler in such conditions was pleasing. We continued to the far end of the track and located a group of seven Bee-eaters, a great favourite of the entire group. A Stone Curlew called nearby so we were pleased to locate it along with two more as they jockeyed for position in the grassy tufted wasteland. A Turtle Dove joined the Bee-eaters on the overhead wires for a short time before moving on. Large birds struggling to fly against the wind include four Marsh Harriers and a Purple Heron. Returning to the vehicle we noted a single Bee Orchid and a Clouded Yellow butterfly as we ambled slowly down the track.

Next stop was the Depuradora (Water Works), but not before we had called for picnic supplies. Viewing the concrete water works lagoons from the elevated viewing platform allowed us to watch numerous species on the water and around the vegetated margins. Again young Shelduck and Red-crested Pochard ducklings were on view, guarded by their parents as a group of Yellow-legged Gulls waited for an opportunity to strike. New for our list was a pair of Tufted Duck. Waders present included a few Black-winged Stilts nesting on man-made rafts, three Common Sandpipers, three Little Ringed Plovers and a Little Stint. At least five pairs of Marsh Harriers kept us entertained with their pair-bonding and territorial displays, and a Spanish Pond Terrapin loafed around on the lagoon edge, its diagnostic striped neck pattern visible for all to see. Areas sheltered from the wind were quite productive, with one such area providing good numbers of Painted Lady, Red Admiral and Speckled Wood butterflies.

After our lunchtime picnic we made the short trip to the old farm beyond the water works complex. We had confiding views of a splendid Hoopoe before we vacated the vehicle, and noted Early Purple Orchid, a small white Broomrape and a Mulberry Tree after getting out. With time moving on we made an early return to the hotel enabling everyone to pack and prepare before our return home tomorrow.

Our evening get together included the usual housekeeping arrangements and start times for the next day, but mostly we discussed the wonderful sightings we had experienced during the week before entering the restaurant for our last meal together.

Afterwards we met at the swimming pool decking to watch the comings and goings on the marsh at dusk. A Great Egret and six Little Egrets flew by to their regular nightly roost whilst a Spotted Flycatcher sallied for insects in a nearby Tamarisk. With darkness falling fast at least three Stone Curlews could be heard, and the bark-like flight calls of Black-crowned Night Herons became quite vocal. In total eight flew by our vantage point, a fabulous way to end the trip.

Day 8

Saturday 2nd May

Return journey to Palma Airport: Sunny and warm.

After our last breakfast of the trip we checked out of the hotel, loaded the vehicle and we were on our way to the airport by 8.25am. The roads were very quiet with little or no traffic until we neared the outskirts of Palma. Birds seen on the way were quite scarce with only Yellow-legged Gull and Wood Pigeon noticeable in number. As usual, a Starling was present on the approach to the airport.

Arriving about 9.15am, Dave dropped the group off at departures before returning his hire vehicle. We said our goodbyes to Jon and Mary who were heading to Soller for an extra weeks holiday. Dave, Geoff and Jan waited for their flight which was delayed slightly. Despite the delay the flight was smooth and trouble free with everyone getting to their destinations safely.

Group members had many happy birding memories of their Naturetrek trip to Mallorca and all had seen numerous new birds. The weather had been kind to us with the sun shining every day. Everyone agreed it had been a wonderful trip. Thanks to all for a lovely week and for your companionship.

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.

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!



Group Photo

Species List

Birds (✓ = recorded but not counted)

	Common name	Scientific name	April/May							
			25	26	27	28	29	30	1	2
1	Red-legged Partridge	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>						3		
2	Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>		1	20			60	45	
3	Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>		8	10			2		15
4	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
5	Northern Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>			2					
6	Marbled Duck	<i>Marmaronetta angustirostris</i>			2					2
7	Garganey	<i>Anas querquedula</i>			4					
8	Red – crested Pochard	<i>Netta rufina</i>	1	4	15					20
9	Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>			1					12
10	Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>								2
11	Scopoli's (Cory's) Shearwater	<i>Calonectris diomedea</i>						25	45	
12	Balearic Shearwater	<i>Puffinus mauretanicus</i>						18	25	
13	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>			1H					
14	Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>							48	2
15	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>			4			1		8
16	Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>		2	10				2	15
17	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>			9					
18	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>			2	1	1	1		2
19	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>		1	1			1	1	1
20	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	10	20	40	4	8	10		12
21	European Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>		2			4	8	15	2
22	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>			2	1				
23	Western Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>		1	4					
24	Red Kite	<i>Milvus milvus</i>	2	1		2			3	
25	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>				1				
26	Eurasian Griffon Vulture	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>				7				
27	Cinereous (Black) Vulture	<i>Aegypius monachus</i>				15				
28	Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>		4	10	3				15
29	Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraetus pennatus</i>	1	1		1	1			
30	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	3		1				4	2
31	Eleonora's Falcon	<i>Falco eleonora</i>		1	1	1	2			
32	Peregrine	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>		2						
33	Water Rail	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>			H	H	H	H		H
34	Purple Swamphen	<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>			6					
35	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	3		5	4	3	5		3
36	Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>	3	6	10	2	2	2		10
37	Red-knobbed Coot	<i>Fulica cristata</i>			5					
38	Stone Curlew	<i>Burhinus oedicephalus</i>		1			H	2H		3+3H
39	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	18	25	60	10	8	20		10
40	Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>						25		
41	Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>		1						
42	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squataria</i>						1		
43	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>	1		10			1		5
44	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>			3			25		
45	Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>		1	15			20		
46	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>			2					
47	Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>		1	8					

	Common name	Scientific name	April/May							
			25	26	27	28	29	30	1	2
48	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>						5		
49	Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>						1		
50	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>		1	2			1		
51	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>		1	6					
52	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>		1	4	1		1	3	
53	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>						1		
54	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>			2			45	1	
55	Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>						5		
56	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>						10		
57	Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>			1			1		
58	Collared Pratincole	<i>Glareola pratincola</i>			1					
59	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>			3					
60	Audouin's Gull	<i>Ichthyaetus audouinii</i>	2	3	2	1	3	15	8	
61	Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	✓	✓	✓	500	✓	300	✓	✓
62	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>		2	20					
63	Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
64	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	15	6	50	20	10	25	15	15
65	European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>						2H	1	
66	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>		2				5		
67	Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>						1		
68	Western Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>						H		
69	Eurasian Scops Owl	<i>Otis scops</i>						1		
70	Tawny Owl	<i>Strix Aluco</i>						H		
71	Eurasian Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i>						3H		
72	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	10	6	50	30	25	100	40	
73	Pallid Swift	<i>Apus pallidus</i>				2				
74	European Bee-Eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>			H			H	7	
75	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>			1			1	1	
76	Balearic Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator badius</i>						1	4	
77	Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>						1		
78	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>		6		10	7	2	1	
79	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		2	2	3	2	2	3	
80	Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		1		1				
81	Greater Short-toed lark	<i>Calandrella brachydactyla</i>						8		
82	Thekla Lark	<i>Galerida theklae</i>						5		
83	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>						1	2	
84	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	6	1	1	10	6	15	12	
85	Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>		2				1		
86	House Martin	<i>Delichon urbica</i>						1		
87	Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>	3	2	10	10	4	3	8	
88	Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	1							
89	Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>			3H				2H	
90	Moustached Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus melanopogon</i>							2+4H	
91	Eurasian Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>							2H	
92	Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>		4	3			6	5	
93	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>				1				
94	Moltoni's Warbler	<i>Sylvia moltoni</i>				1				
95	Sardinian Warbler	<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>	2	15	5	3	5	8	6	
96	Common Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapillus</i>				4	4			
97	Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>		3H						
98	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>		7						1

	Common name	Scientific name	April/May							
			25	26	27	28	29	30	1	2
99	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	6	5	10	6	5	10	6	
100	Common Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>			5	2	H	2H	7H	
101	Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>		1						
102	European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>	2	3				15	6	
103	Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitaries</i>		2+3H		2H	2			
104	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>		1		4	H		1	
105	Pied Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>		1					2	
106	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
107	Spanish Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava iberiae</i>			4		2	1		
108	Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>				2		1		
109	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		H		100	30			
110	Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>		3	2	2	6	5	10	
111	Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>	1	6	6	4	3	10	6	2H
112	Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>						6	4	
113	Linnet	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>		2	2	2		7	2	
114	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>		2		2		30+		

Orchids

Small-flowered Tongue Orchid (Serapias) - Common, seen on our visits to S'Albufera and S'Albufereta and on waste ground adjacent to the hotel.

Mirror Orchid -20 in the old Roman Quarry at Albufereta.

Bee Orchid – 1 on the track by the old salt pans at S'illot.

Bumblebee Orchid – 1 at S'Albufereta on 26th

Loose-flowered Orchid –a single spike in the quarry at Cuber Reservoir

Violet Bird's Nest Orchid -One seen on our nocturnal trip to Mont Sant Marti

Robust Marsh Orchid -10 on the south side of Albufera

Butterflies

Clouded Yellow -2 at the Bocquer Valley on 26th, 1at the Salinas on 30th and 1 at S'Illot on May 1st.

Red Admiral – 5 near the water works on May 1st.

Speckled Wood - 1 at S'Albufera on 27th, 3 at the Depuradora on 2nd.

Large White -Seen on most days.

Common Blue -1 at S'Albufereta on 25th and one at the Salinas on the 30th.

Bath White –Seen on most days.

Wall Brown - 1 in the Boquer on 26th

Painted Lady – common on most days.

Small Copper -.1 at the Salinas on 30th.

Dragonflies

Blue-tailed Damselfly - 4 at S'Albufera on 27th.

Emperor Dragonfly – 1 at S'Albufereta on 26th.

Lesser Emperor – 1 at S'Albufera on 27th and 1 at Cuber on 30th.

Common Darter – 1 at S'Albufera on 27th and 2 at Salinas on 30th.

Reptiles and Amphibians

Iberian Water Frog - heard daily from the hotel's ornamental ponds and very vocal, suggesting large numbers, at S'Albufera.

Red Eared Terrapin – 1 at S'Albufera on 27th.

Spanish Terrapin – Single at the water works on May 1st.

Mammals

Rabbit – 3 noted at S'Albufera on 27th,

Pipistrelle Bat - Twenty or more seen daily at dusk in the hotel grounds

White Horses - Introduced animals seen in the main S'Albufera reserve on 27th.

Insects

Egyptian Grasshopper

Flowers

Interesting species noted during the week,

Asphadel – Common in all areas visited.

Dwarf Fan Palm (*Chamaerops humilis*) – Europe's only native palm. Common in all rocky and barren areas visited.

Hedgehog Plant (*Astragalus balearicus*) – An endemic noted in the Boquer Valley and at Cuber and Formentor.

Balearic St John's Wort – (*Hypericum Balearica*) A Balearic endemic noted in the Bocquer Valley

Cistus Albidus (pink) – noted on our trip to the Salinas.

Cistus Monspeliensis (white, 5 sepals) - noted on our trip to the Salinas.

Perforate St John's Wort – recorded at S'Albufera.

Balearic Sowbread (*Cyclamen balearicum*) – Another endemic noted near the Quarry at Cuber.

Rusty-backed Fern (*Ceterach officinarum*) – Found growing with the Balearic Sowbread at Cuber.

Broomrape (*Orobancha remosa*) – one found near the depudora on 2nd.

Great Fen Sedge – commonly growing at S'illot.

Other interesting sightings

Thick Lipped Mullet and Mirror Carp common in the canals and waterways of the S'Albufera.