

The Camargue in Spring

Naturetrek Tour Report

1st – 5th May 2026



Southern White Admiral



Black-winged Stilt



Cleopatra



Violet Limodora

Tour report by Neil McMahon
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Tour participants: Neil McMahon and Simon Dicks (leaders) with 14 Naturetrek clients

Summary

This five-day trip to the Camargue and surrounding areas in southern France was mostly blessed with warm, sunny weather. We explored the limestone outcrops of Les Alpilles, wandered through the marshes and fields of the Camargue National Park, enjoyed an excursion to the coast, and wandered through the historic town of Arles.

We stayed in our usual, comfortable hotel on the outskirts of Arles and ventured out most mornings prior to breakfast to see what birds might be on offer. These strolls provided us with familiar birds of the region, with Nightingales, Melodious Warblers and Sardinian Warblers ever constant singers in the hedgerows. The beautiful scenery of Les Alpilles was the backdrop for sightings of various montane birds, and several interesting butterflies. No visit to the Camargue would be complete without the 'pink army' of Greater Flamingoes, the gleaming white horses, and the brooding black bulls: we encountered plenty!

Day 1

Friday 1st May

The majority of the group traveled from Heathrow to Marseille on the early British Airways flight, and arriving in good time. Despite our fears, passport control did not generate any delays, and we soon had our bags off the carousel. We met up with the remainder of the group waiting for us in arrivals.

We made the fifty-minute drive to Marais du Vigueirat, a wetland reserve just inside the Camargue National Park. Initial birds visible along the entrance track were two fine Rollers, followed by White Storks, a Great Egret and Glossy Ibises. The car park was full of the sound of singing Nightingales, plus Cetti's Warblers, Blackcaps and Melodious Warblers, all unseen and singing from the undergrowth. A hovering Short-toed Snake Eagle was overhead, and Black-tailed Skimmer dragonflies sped around us.

The reception and shop were closed, but the toilets and trail were open, and we took a gentle stroll along the wooden boardwalks, checking the shallow lagoons and adjacent vegetation. A Water Rail squealed from cover, and a Squacco Heron was out in the open. Glossy Ibises flew past and waded in front of us, and an assortment of waterbirds included Black-winged Stilts, egrets and Red-crested Pochards. A Zitting Cisticola performed its song flight above us, and more Nightingales and single of Blackcaps and Melodious Warblers sang nearby. More White Storks were active and bill clattering in their nests, and the odonata include Broad Scarlet, Common Bluetails and more Black-tailed Skimmers. Large White and Speckled Wood were the only butterflies identified.

A small heronry provided Cattle Egrets in breeding plumage, and a flying adult Night Heron. A Whinchat perched up, and Barn Swallows whizzed overhead, with distant Black Kites soaring and arcing against the clouds at a distance. Common Wall Lizards scurried along the boardwalk, and movements in the water were traced to Marsh Frogs and Common Carps. We spotted our first Coypus, and one came out right in front of us and meekly brushed and washed himself, including those very long whiskers.

Common and Gull-billed Terns were noisy and active, and other birds added to the list included Shelduck, Cormorant, Gadwall and a fly-over Lapwing, with three Spoonbills standing distantly on a muddy causeway. We backtracked, saw a Western Green Lizard, and could hear distant Cuckoos and see migrant flocks of low-flying

Bee-eaters. A couple of Common Buzzards circled slowly on distant thermals, and at least one Sand Martin joined the Swallows.

After a long day traveling we started to head for Arles, but were ambushed by the local tame Red Fox, which begs for food from picnickers! Rollers and a couple of Bee-eaters were along the entrance track on our departure. We made our way to our hotel on the outskirts of Arles, where we checked in and relaxed, ahead of dinner at 7.15pm. After a briefing and the checklist, it was time to retire.

Day 2

Saturday 2nd May

The 6.30am morning walk was well-attended, and our initial efforts by the main road provided the first of many Black Kites, Cattle Egrets and a singing Black Redstart. Nightingales sang from the hedgerows along the farm track, and a Quail could be heard calling over a mile away, its rhythmic song audible for another hour as we went along the track and back. Two pairs of Kestrels and fly-by flocks of Mediterranean Gulls were next, and Zitting Cisticolas were noisy and quite conspicuous in the barley crop. Sardinian Warblers were noisy but low key, but a Melodious Warbler eventually gave itself up and showed well. A fallow field with bare patches was ideal for Tawny Pipit, Crested Lark and several singing Corn Buntings and a couple of sought-after Turtle Doves flew through. Jackdaws and more Mediterranean Gulls, Grey Herons and Cattle Egrets flew over, and we enjoyed watching three Gull-billed Terns hawking insects over the cereal fields on our way back for breakfast. A fly-by Roller was our last good bird before we entered the hotel for breakfast.

We left for our day excursion just after 9.30am, with a picnic supplies purchased beforehand from the nearby supermarket. We drove slowly to Les Baux, clocking up a flying Hoopoe, Great Egret, Buzzard, Serin and Corn Bunting en route. At Les Baux, a male Blue Rock Thrush showed straight away, as did hurtling Alpine Swifts and a few Crag Martins. Feral Rock Doves and Jackdaws were on the limestone cliffs, and a couple of very high Honey Buzzards passed over. We meandered along the track at the base of the cliffs, notching up butterflies such as Spanish Gatekeeper, Southern White Admiral, Common and Scarce Swallowtails, and Common Blue and Wall Brown. Botanical interest in this scrubby Mediterranean habitat was strong, with a number of species being new for the tour, including gone-over Giant Orchids; a variety of beetles and Mediterranean Spotted Chafer were on the flowers and we saw several Moorish Geckos, including some large specimens, on the shaded rocks. Kestrel, Sardinian Warbler and a hidden singing Cirl Bunting were the best of additional birds on offer.

As we walked back along the same track, a Baton Blue butterfly was found, and distant singleton songsters of both Common and Black Redstart provided rather brief views. After taking some water on-board, we climbed up a little to enter the medieval village of Les Baux, with a lone Griffon Vulture passing over. Chaffinch and Blackcap serenaded us into the village, with Crested Tits calling just below us. The village was full of tourists, and we were not able to access our usual café, so we completed a little retail therapy. Some of our number reached and explored the ramparts briefly before returning to our rendezvous point.

We wandered back to the minibuses and drove a couple of miles to Plateau de Caume, which includes an Aleppo Pine woodland and a car park with limited picnic facilities. Here we set up our picnic table, on this occasion close to a temporary enclosure containing horses and a couple of noisy mules! While we were preparing the picnic treats, exploratory wanders located Crested Tits and quite a variety of plants, including the very slick Violet Limodore and plenty more expired Giant Orchids. Several Southern White Admirals flashed by, one or more male Cleopatras

provided the glamour with stunning yellow and orange wings, and Wall Browns kept us on our toes. Greenfinch and Chaffinches were singing and holding territory around us.

After our picnic lunch, we cleared away and went for a walk along the woodland paths. Great Tit, more Crested Tits, Blackbird, Common Swift, Black Kites and a singing Western Subalpine Warbler were the avian highlights, with a Short-toed Treecreeper calling briefly on our return. A nice selection of herbs and wild flowers punched the senses, and a Cream-spot Tiger moth added some more glamour.

We took a slow drive back to our hotel, with a couple of Rollers en route, and relaxed ahead of our earlier than normal evening meal, with the checklist being updated just beforehand.

After dinner, we left our hotel with a full contingent in two minibuses to a not-very-secret site, hoping to see an Eagle-Owl. The mosquitoes were there to meet us, and sadly the owl did not show or call. A vocal Nightjar was heard, and then seen perched in a tree and in flight at dusk, and unknown species of bats flew around. On our journey back, we used a torch to spotlight a large Wild Boar at the side of a field, and another Nightjar was seen briefly, resting on the warm road surface before flying up. At the hotel, Mediterranean Tree Frogs and Marsh Frogs were noisy, and a Scops Owl could be heard calling softly not too far away. It was then lights out, ahead of a long day tomorrow.

Day 3

Sunday 3rd May

The forecast suggested today would be a breezy and cloudy day, and so it proved! The weather forecast for the next day (Monday) suggested rain all day, so a decision was made to try and squeeze as much as we could in while it was dry.

The early morning walk from the hotel yielded similar birds to the previous day, with the addition of Tree Sparrow and Red-legged Partridge. The Quail was still calling, two Rollers perched quietly on some wires, and the Nightingales, Sardinian Warblers and a Melodious Warbler played hide and seek with us. A Coypu showed in the nearby canal, and the 'usual' Black Kites, Gull-billed Terns and Mediterranean Gulls came quite close. Round-leaved Birthwort was one of the more interesting plant finds.

We left for the day's excursion just after 9.00am, and drove around Arles to head south towards Salin de Giraud. A long, straight road through large flat fields ensured we could see for miles as we trundled along, and some roadside stops provided views of Short-toed Snake Eagles, Bee-eaters, Glossy Ibis, Mediterranean Gulls, Marsh Harrier and, unusually for the time of the year, two Cranes feeding in a field.

Camargue White Horses were in evidence in the grass fields, and some of the fields had been converted into rice paddies as part of the rotation system adopted by the local farms. Having driven through Salin de Giraud, with its interesting houses built for immigrant workers long ago, we progressed further south and found the salt pans which the workers had been brought in to create. Initial birds were Black-winged Stilt and Shelduck, and the first of many Yellow Wagtails and Crested Larks. A few Corn Buntings sang from bushes as we progressed slowly towards the coast. We stopped for views of Greater Flamingoes in their pink attire, Yellow-legged Gulls provided evidence of the next generation, and small numbers of Little Terns and Kentish and Ringed Plovers were feeding on the shallower pans. A Northern Wheatear flitted ahead and disappeared, and a Common Sandpiper did likewise.

An island in the salt pans is now home to a colony of breeding birds, including Spoonbills and Glossy Ibises, which we scoped from a distance, and small flocks of fidgety waders were made up mostly of Dunlins and Little Stints in summer plumage. We encountered Common Redshanks, and the birds at one stage all took to the air in mild alarm in response to a bird flying above them, in the unlikely shape of a Short-eared Owl, which circled in the strong breeze and headed off inland. The Yellow Wagtails breeding in this area are of the subspecies *iberiae*, but some birds showed markings similar to *cinereocapilla*, and there were apparent intergrades. They rarely keep still for long, and the strong breeze didn't help. Overhead, Common and Sandwich Terns joined the throng, and a couple of flocks of Slender-billed Gulls flew through but didn't linger. We walked to the edge of the Mediterranean at Plage Piemanson; distant gulls and terns were joined occasionally by even more distant but unidentifiable shearwaters.

We backtracked to Salin de Giraud for a comfort stop and then headed north of the village and took advantage of a sheltered layby and picnic bench to set up our picnic lunch. A party of Bee-eaters foraged next to us as we prepared and consumed our lunch options, comprising the usual drinks, salad, bread, cheese, cold meats and treats!

Our journey onwards took us to La Tour du Valat, where one of our clients had worked some fifty-nine years before as secretary to a bird ringing unit. We stopped to photograph the white horses against a setting of vivid yellow buttercups, and of course birds found us. They included a pair of hunting Short-toed Snake Eagles, Purple Herons, a flying Turtle Dove and nesting White Storks. Sardinian Warblers were quite showy, but the Nightingales were not! A scanning session over 'The Marsh of the Frogs' provided distant viewing of terns, Mute Swans and Marsh Harriers, and unseen but heard birds included Turtle Dove, Cuckoo and the elusive Penduline Tit.

We drove further to reach the edge of Etang de Vaccarès where new birds for the trip were a patrolling Caspian Tern, and small groups of Great Crested Grebes and Black-necked Grebes in summer plumage. A Peregrine flew overhead, but kept going. A comfort stop for facilities at La Capelière visitors centre provided an opportunity to locate migrant and quietly singing singles of Wood and Willow Warbler, and gave us a brief view of a feral African Sacred Ibis. A Reed Warbler and Melodious Warblers chuntered from nearby vegetation.

Towards the late afternoon, we pushed on to Mas d'Agon, where a roadside rice paddy provided views of several Ruffs and Wood Sandpipers. One of the Ruffs was in black summer plumage. More Gull-billed Terns, and both Black-headed and Mediterranean Gulls were gleaning insects from the same paddy. A subsequent brief stop at the more permanent freshwater marsh further down the road provided the sought-after Western Swamphen, with outrageous purple plumage, a bright red bill and huge red legs and feet. It was feeding along the edge of a line of *Phragmites* and was mostly in full view.

Most of the other birds were repeats of what we had already seen, and with time marching on and after more views of Bee-eater and Cuckoo, we drove slowly on to St Cécile, where a Short-toed Snake Eagle posed on a small tree and small bird activity included Skylark and Stonechat. We drove to our hotel, arriving at 6.20pm, and enjoyed our dinner at 7.30pm. A briefing and checklist followed, and some outline plans were suggested for the wet day ahead.

Day 4

Monday 4th May

Sadly, the predicted rain arrived during the early morning, and it was so wet that an early morning venture wasn't viable. There was a gusty breeze too, and the day remained wet almost throughout, with occasional short drier periods.

After breakfast, and with the picnic supplies purchased, we drove to the east of Arles, to the commune of La Dynamite. We parked in a small car park at the edge of Etang Aulnes, in defiance of the rain. Initial birdsong included Nightingale, our first Robin, Great Tit and Blackcap. Starlings were clearly feeding young in holes in the trees, and Common Swifts were low overhead. A few foraging Jackdaws were around, and we heard and then saw a Turtle Dove in the light rain. This is a good spot for Golden Oriole, and despite the weather one sang from the poplars, but couldn't be seen. The hoped-for orchids were non-existent: sheep had been grazing the meadow.

There was little else on offer, so after a wet twenty-five-minute walk, we returned to the minibuses and tried a vantage point by the road to scan across the freshwater lake. A Caspian Tern was an initial sighting, and very distant marsh terns at the back of the large *étang* were resolved as Whiskered. Hundreds of Swallows flew low over the surface of the water, and later we picked out Sand and House Martins. Black Kites and a Buzzard looked pretty water-logged, and Yellow-legged Gulls gleaned the hay fields. Another car park area nearby provided another short walk opportunity, and a soggy Cuckoo showed well in a dead tree, with at least one other flying around the reed bed. Some noisy Great Reed Warblers actually showed well for a change, and water birds included Coot, Moorhen, Cormorant, and Mute Swans with their white 'Polish' cygnets. Large Carps splashed in the water, and the feeding hirundines came close. Another singing Golden Oriole teased us from the tree-tops, but remained hidden. Gone-over orchids remained unidentified.

With a potential break in the weather on the horizon, we drove to the northern entry point of La Crau, a stony, flat plain, and a unique habitat in the region. Before arriving, some Bee-eaters were spotted in trees above the road, and a fine Red Fox was at large in a neighbouring field.

At La Crau, Banded Demoiselles were clinging on to waterside vegetation, waiting for the rain to pass, and a Cetti's Warbler announced its presence in the usual loud way. A couple of high-flying Rooks passed overhead as we tried a little walk along one of the tracks. It wasn't long before persistent rain arrived, and with absolutely no cover we beat a retreat to the minibuses, but not before we notched up reasonable views of Tawny Pipit and Crested Lark. A distant herd of sheep attracted Cattle Egrets and Jackdaws.

The drive back towards La Dynamite was mostly uneventful, but a male Whinchat was perched up on some weed stems, and a male Golden Oriole sped away before most people could get onto it. Since the weather didn't improve, we went back to our hotel and enjoyed our picnic lunch in the restaurant, thanks to the kindness of our hosts.

The afternoon saw one couple relax at the hotel and then take a productive wildlife walk along the adjacent farm track. A small group went into the historic town of Arles for a couple of hours, and enjoyed much of what this lovely town had to offer. A third group headed out for a repeat visit to Mas D' Agon, where the birds were mostly the same as the previous day. Persistent rain ensured most of the viewing for the last group was from the minibus!

By about 5.30pm everyone was back at the hotel with time to relax ahead of our last evening meal together, a briefing and the checklist.

Day 5

Tuesday 5th May

The early morning walk was dry, but it had been raining overnight, so things were rather wet and cool. Most of the birds were repeats from previous walks but two Tawny Pipits showed particularly well set atop some stalks. A migrant Tree Pipit and a Hobby were the only ones all tour, and a Roller flew by on our way back. Typical birds flying over were commuting Cattle Egrets, Mediterranean and Yellow-legged Gulls, and raptors included Kestrel, Black Kite and Buzzard. A Melodious Warbler showed well, but as usual the Sardinian Warblers and Nightingales kept hidden for the most part.

After our 8.00am breakfast it was a case of some final packing and checking out, and we left just after 9.00am with our main luggage stored in a room at the hotel.

Our venue today was the Parc Ornithologique du Pont de Gau, where we arrived shortly after opening time. We had a look at a captive Eagle-Owl and Black Kite, and took a walk around, enjoying close views of habituated wild birds at close range. Greater Flamingoes stole the show here, with flocks resting, preening and flying in and out. The stunning vermillion pink wings are best seen when the birds are flying or preening, and it was fun to watch their interactions, and to listen to their distinctive grunting and honking.

Black-headed Gulls were attempting to nest on the islands; a pair of Yellow-legged Gulls were trying to do likewise in their midst, which created significant consternation. Black-winged Stilts were paired up in the same area, and many had nests. A few pairs of Avocets fed in the shallows, and Coot, Moorhen and Mallard were never far away; there were a few Red-crested Pochards too. Nestling Grey Herons gawped out from large stick nests, and Little and Cattle Egrets, and Glossy Ibises were incubating. Mediterranean Gulls, and Little and Common Terns were active and vocal around the shallows, where Common Carps and a few Coypus wallowed.

Sardinian Warblers and even Cetti's Warblers showed well, and a Nightingale sang out in the open. Many Common Reed Warblers sang from the previous year's *Phragmites* reeds, and a Night Heron flew around.

After about two-and-a-half hours, it was time to make tracks, and we drove back to our hotel, where there was an opportunity to change and repack. Our last picnic of the tour was prepared and consumed with little in the way of wastage, and after washing up and clearing away, we were ready to head for Marseille. Two of our party were staying on, and we dropped them in Arles on our way through.

We arrived promptly at Marseille airport and parted ways: the guides were staying on for another tour. Despite some rain, we had seen most of the expected birds and wildlife over five days, and had enjoyed the weather, food and our accommodation during our exploration of the Camargue and its surroundings.

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Species lists

Birds (H=heard only)

I=Introduced	Common name	Scientific name	May 2026				
			1	2	3	4	5
	Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>				✓	
	Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓
	Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>	✓		✓	✓	
	Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>	✓		✓		
	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Red-crested Pochard	<i>Netta rufina</i>	✓			✓	✓
	Common Pheasant - I	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>			✓	✓	
	Common Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>		H	H		H
	Red-legged Partridge	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>			✓		
	European Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i>		✓			
	Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarpis melba</i>		✓			
	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	H	✓	✓	✓	
	Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>		✓	✓	✓	
	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Water Rail	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>	H				
	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓
	Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓
	Western Swamphen	<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>			✓		
	Common Crane	<i>Grus grus</i>			✓		
	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>			✓	✓	
	Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>			✓		
	Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>			✓	✓	✓
	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓
	Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>			✓		✓
	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>			✓		
	Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	✓		✓	✓	
	Kentish Plover	<i>Anarhynchus alexandrinus</i>			✓		
	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>			✓		
	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>			✓	✓	✓
	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>			✓		
	Ruff	<i>Calidris pugnax</i>			✓		
	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>			✓		
	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>			✓		
	Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>			✓		✓
	Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>			✓	✓	
	Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>				✓	
	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓
	Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>			✓		
	Slender-billed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus genei</i>			✓		
	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓
	Mediterranean Gull	<i>Ichthyaetus melanocephalus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓
	Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

I=Introduced	Common name	Scientific name	May 2026				
			1	2	3	4	5
	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓
	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓
	African Sacred Ibis - I	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>			✓		
	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓
	Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>	✓		✓		
	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	✓			✓	✓
	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓
	Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>				✓	✓
	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Western Cattle Egret	<i>Ardea ibis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	✓		✓		
	European Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>		✓			
	Griffon Vulture	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>		✓			
	Short-toed Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>			✓	✓	✓
	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Eurasian Scops Owl	<i>Otus scops</i>			H		H
	Short-eared Owl	<i>Asio flammeus</i>			✓		
	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>		✓		✓	H
	European Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>	✓		✓	✓	
	Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>	H				
	European Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>	✓				
	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>					✓
	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>			✓		
	Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>				✓	
	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>		✓			
	Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>			✓	✓	✓
	Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Crested Tit	<i>Lophophanes cristatus</i>		✓			
	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>			✓		
	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>		✓	✓	✓	H
	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	✓		✓	✓	
	Eurasian Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>		✓			
	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Western House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓
	Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>	H	H	H	H	✓
	Wood Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>			✓		
	Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>			H		
	Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>				✓	
	Common Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>			H	H	✓
	Melodious Warbler	<i>Hippolais polyglotta</i>	H	✓	✓		✓
	Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

I=Introduced	Common name	Scientific name	May 2026				
			1	2	3	4	5
	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	H	✓	H	H	
	Sardinian Warbler	<i>Curruca melanocephala</i>	H	✓	H	H	
	Western Subalpine Warbler	<i>Curruca iberiae</i>		H			
	Short-toed Treecreeper	<i>Certhia brachydactyla</i>		H			
	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>		H			
	European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>				H	
	Common Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>	H	H	✓	✓	✓
	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	H	✓	H		✓
	Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>		✓			
	Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>		✓			
	Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>	✓			✓	
	European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>			✓		
	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>			✓		
	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>			✓		
	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Western Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>			✓	✓	✓
	Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>		✓		✓	✓
	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>					✓
	Eurasian Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		✓			
	European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>	✓	✓			
	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>		✓		H	
	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓

Mammals

I=introduced	Common name	Scientific name	May 2026				
			1	2	3	4	5
	European Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	✓		✓		
	Coypu - I	<i>Myocastor coypus</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓
	a bat	Chiroptera sp.	✓	✓			✓
	Wild Goat - I	<i>Capra aegargus</i>		✓			
	Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	✓			✓	

Amphibians & reptiles

Common name	Scientific name	May 2026				
		1	2	3	4	5
Mediterranean Tree Frog	<i>Hyla meridionalis</i>	H	1	H		H
Moorish Gecko	<i>Tarentola mauritanica</i>	✓	✓	✓		
Common Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis muralis</i>	✓				
Western Green Lizard	<i>Lacerta bilineata</i>	✓	✓			

Butterflies

Common name	Scientific name	May 2026				
		1	2	3	4	5
Scarce Swallowtail	<i>Iphioides podalirius</i>		✓			
Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>		✓			
Cleopatra	<i>Gonepteryx cleopatra</i>		✓			
Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>	✓	✓			✓
Baton Blue	<i>Pseudophilotes baton</i>		✓			
Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>		✓			
Southern White Admiral	<i>Limenitis reducta</i>		✓			
Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>		✓			✓
Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>		✓			
Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>	✓		✓		
Wall	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>		✓	✓		
Spanish Gatekeeper	<i>Pyronia bathseba</i>		✓			

Moths

Common name	Scientific name	May 2026				
		1	2	3	4	5
a burnet moth	<i>Zygaenidae sp.</i>					✓
Latticed Heath	<i>Chiasmia clathrata</i>		✓			
Cream-spot Tiger	<i>Arctia villica</i>		✓			

Damselflies & dragonflies

Common name	Scientific name	May 2026				
		1	2	3	4	5
Banded Demoiselle	<i>Calopteryx splendens</i>				✓	
Common Bluetail	<i>Ischnura elegans</i>	✓				
Lesser Emperor	<i>Anax parthenope</i>	✓				
Black-tailed Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum cancellatum</i>	✓				✓
Broad Scarlet	<i>Crocothemis erythraea</i>	✓				

Other insects

Common name	Scientific name	May 2026				
		1	2	3	4	5
Egyptian Grasshopper	<i>Anacridium aegyptum</i>					✓
Sulphur Owfly	<i>Libelloides italicus</i>		✓			
Mediterranean Spotted Chafer	<i>Cetonia aurata</i>		✓			
Swollen-thighed Beetle	<i>Sphecodes crassus</i>		✓			

Selected plants

Common name	Scientific name	May 2026				
		1	2	3	4	5
Italian Cypress	<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>	✓	✓			
a juniper	<i>Juniperus</i> sp.		✓			
Aleppo Pine	<i>Pinus halepensis</i>		✓			
Stone Pine	<i>Pinus pinea</i>	✓				
Round-leaved Birthwort	<i>Aristolochia rotunda</i>			✓		
White Poplar	<i>Populus alba</i>	✓		✓		
an ash	<i>Fraxinus</i> sp.			✓		
Olive	<i>Olea europaea</i>	✓	✓			
Wild Jasmine	<i>Jasminum fruticans</i>		✓			
Mediterranean Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera implexa</i>		✓			
Goat's-beard	<i>Tragopogon pratensis</i>		✓	✓		
Red Star-thistle	<i>Centaurea calcitrapa</i>			✓		
Rosemary	<i>Salvia rosmarinus</i>		✓			
Thyme	<i>Thymus vulgaris</i>		✓			
a broomrape	<i>Orobanche</i> sp.		✓			
a sea-blite	<i>Suaeda</i> sp.			✓		
Tamarisk	<i>Tamarix ramosissima</i>			✓		
Seastock	<i>Matthiola sinuata</i>			✓		
Nottingham Catchfly	<i>Silene nutans</i>		✓			
White Rock-rose	<i>Helianthemum apenninum</i>	✓				
Common Mallow	<i>Malva sylvestris</i>	✓				
Tree Mallow	<i>Lavatera arborea</i>			✓		
Fig	<i>Ficus carica</i>	✓	✓			
Kermes Oak	<i>Quercus coccifera</i>		✓			
Pistachio Tree	<i>Pistacia vera</i>		✓			
Milk Thistle	<i>Silybum marianum</i>			✓		
Spanish Broom	<i>Spartium junceum</i>	✓	✓			
Mediterranean Buckthorn	<i>Rhamnus alaternus</i>		✓			
Aphyllanthes	<i>Aphyllanthes monspeliensis</i>		✓			
Grape Hyacinth	<i>Muscari neglectum</i>		✓			
Tassled Hyacinth	<i>Muscari comosum</i>		✓			
Star of Bethlehem	<i>Ornithogalum umbellatum</i>		✓			
Yellow Iris	<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	✓		✓		
Violet Limodore	<i>Limodorum abortivum</i>		✓			
Giant Orchid	<i>Himantoglossum robertianum</i>		✓			
a scorpion spider orchid	<i>Ophrys</i> sp.		✓			
Giant Reed	<i>Arundo donax</i>	✓	✓			
Hare-tail Grass	<i>Lagurus ovatus</i>			✓		
Common Reed	<i>Phragmites australis</i>	✓	✓			