

Go Slow... in the Camargue

Naturetrek Tour Report

3 - 10 June 2018



Black-winged Stilt



Greater Flamingo



Coypu



Peacock Moth

Report compiled by Matt Collis
Images courtesy of Terry Goble



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Summary

A weeks birding trip to the very special Camargue district of southern France provided an excellent opportunity to experience good views of typical birds of the west Mediterranean whilst exploring a few of the amazing areas surrounding this generally wetland and farmland landscape. Utilising a family-run hotel on the outskirts of the ancient city of Arles as our base, the itinerary aimed at providing an easy opportunity to look for Camargue specialists such as flamingos, herons and other water birds found in the various shallow waters and reed-fringed lagoons. The scrubby and dryer areas attract different more localized species and we located glamour birds such as Little Bustard, Hoopoe, Roller and Eurasian Bee-eater, together with a selection of the raptors and larks. With one day in the more mountainous area of Les Baux-de-Provence, we were also able to search for alpine specialities such as Blue Rock Thrush, Crag Martin and Alpine Swift.

Day 1

Sunday 3rd June

Thirteen guests travelled with leaders Matt and Terry on a British Airways flight from Heathrow to Marseille. After a relatively smooth flight of just over two hours we collected the two minibuses from the airport drop off and headed towards our hotel. Our journey took us around the outskirts of Marseille and on to the Autoroute du Soleil, as far as Salon de Provence, before cutting west along the A54 all the way to Arles, then north to the hotel just past Pont de Crau. Black Kite, Common Kestrel, Yellow-legged Gull and Common Swift were all seen during the drive but by far the highlight was a stunning blue European Roller sitting on some powerlines just outside of Arles.

We received a warm welcome as we arrived at Hotel de Granges; a full complement of vibrant song from a Common Nightingale and plenty of “chirruping” from the many resident House Sparrows around the hotel grounds. Marie-Jo and Bruno (the proprietors of the hotel) greeted us too and kindly showed us to our rooms. It was also our first chance to catch up with the last two members of our party who had arrived several days earlier and were already enjoying the surrounding views from their balcony. With only an hour until dinner, we all unpacked and settled ourselves in before heading down for our first three course meal.

With many having travelled a long way, at 9pm it was time for some rest to ensure we’d be fresh for the next day’s explorations.

Day 2

Monday 4th June

Ten guests met at 6.30pm for a track walk along the farm track south of the hotel. We recorded Common Buzzard, Kestrel, Nightingale, Cetti’s Warbler, Corn Bunting, Zitting Cisticola (Fan-tailed Warbler), Goldfinch, Gull-billed Tern and a Roller. Several butterflies were also spotted including Red Admiral, Painted Lady and a Short-tail Blue.

We had a light breakfast at 8am before gathering near the swimming pool to look at some moths the leaders had trapped overnight. There were many colourful delights including several hawkmoths; Privet, Elephant and Striped. However, the moth which got everyone excited was Europe’s largest moth, the Peacock which many got

excellent photos of. The leaders then nipped off to collect picnic items before reconvening at the minibuses at 9.45am ready to leave.

With overcast conditions predicted for most of the day, we decided to head down to the salt pans of Salin de Giraud, crossing the river on the ferry boat. Roadside birding put some nice species on our list early on including a fly over Purple Heron, Cattle Egret, Little Grebe, Shelduck and European Bee-Eater. At the ferry stop we also managed to spot several butterflies including Marbled White and Mallow Skipper.

Reaching our first stop at a small viewing point, we scanned across the various open pools for signs of life. Our first Kentish Plover and a couple of Black-winged Stilt chasing in a pool adjacent to the car park were the only waders seen. A distant Roller was spotted sitting on top of an electricity pylon before flying off into the trees. Zitting Cisticola song filled the air from a nearby shrub and four Bee-Eaters graced the skies above us calling occasionally. Climbing up to the top of the viewing platform resulted in close views of several Crested Larks and a Subalpine Warbler skulking in the scrub. As we returned to the minibuses, a Melodious Warbler flew out from the top of a small tree off into the distance – not a great first view.

We carried on down the road scanning the neighbouring pools and picked out several Pied Avocet, more Black-winged Stilt and a beautiful Blue-headed Wagtail (Continental Yellow Wagtail) which sat on a muddy ridge. Morning quickly changed to lunchtime and we stopped off in a small picnic area just down the road for our first French-style picnic, taking shelter in the shade, as the sun burst through despite the earlier forecast. While one leader prepared the food, the others took a short walk up to a small pool just beyond the car park. Gull-billed Tern, Little Tern, Coot and a Common Cuckoo were seen with the Cuckoo flying right overhead and over the minibuses. Several singing birds also accompanied our lunch including Cetti's Warbler, Blackcap and more Zitting Cisticolla.

Back in the minibuses, we carried on making our way to Plage de Piemanson making one small stop to view our first flock of Greater Flamingos; approximately 200 birds feeding several hundred metres away in the salt pans. We were then fortunate enough to see another eight fly in, displaying their gorgeous pink feathering, before landing in amongst the main group. Numerous families of Yellow-legged Gull with mature chicks were present as were a pair of Common Shelduck and a lone Great Cormorant.

With about 500m left before reaching the car park of Plage de Piemanson we spotted our first Slender-billed Gulls; three young birds still retaining juvenile plumage and two adult birds. A second Blue-headed Wagtail also made a brief appearance. On arrival at the car park we instantly spotted several more Kentish Plover including a group of four close to the road giving everyone superb views. Slender-billed Gulls were also now very abundant with many flying around us and a group of 30 birds washing in amongst a flock of Sandwich Tern. Closer inspection of this group revealed two Common Tern and three Little Tern also having a clean.

The group took a short stroll along the beach to gain a better view of a second large pool of water covered in gulls; Slender-billed Gull, Yellow-legged Gull, four Great Black-backed Gulls and three Black-headed Gulls. A quick scan of the open sea picked up more Sandwich Tern which were feeding on a relatively calm ocean. Finally, after a long day in hot sunshine, we slowly made our way back to the hotel. This time we travelled along the western side of the river and were rewarded with a close encounter with a Marsh Harrier which flew low over the minibuses and a field covered in Glossy Ibis (at least 80 birds).

Arriving back at the hotel, it was time for some rest and relaxation before dinner at 7.30pm. A small group decided to join our leaders on a short walk around the neighbouring fields via the dirt track lane for an hour or so. In this time they managed to see a number of species including European Goldfinch, Corn Bunting, Roller, Common Swift, Gull-billed Tern and Common Buzzard. Several Nightingale were heard but none could be seen despite being adjacent to the path – only the odd flicker! After dinner it was time to complete the checklist for the day before heading off to bed ready for our second full day of birding.

Day 3

Tuesday 5th June

After an earlier breakfast of 7.30am, we headed out to the open plains of La Crau – the last area of Steppe habitat in France. Our slow drive along the dirt track was accompanied by the continuous song of Eurasian Skylark with numerous Common Swifts and Black Kites also in attendance. Half way down the track we found a couple of Stone Curlew and a Tawny pipit which sat nicely on a wooden post approximately 40m away holding a caterpillar. A Booted Eagle flew overhead being mobbed by several Carrion Crows and Common Kestrels hunted across the vast plains.

Several Little Bustard were heard with a few members of the group getting a short and tantalising view of a single birds head and neck low in the grass. Despite numerous efforts to track and locate more viewable birds this was the only sighting of the day. A number of butterflies were also seen including Bath White, European Swallowtail and Heath Fritillary.

At the end of our drive we reached the abandoned farm buildings just outside the active airstrip where we came across the well known breeding colony of Lesser Kestrel. We stopped here for lunch and enjoyed views of up to 14 birds all in the air at once; returning to their purpose built nesting boxes on top of the roofs of the low single storey outbuildings. Two Eurasian Hoopoe also made an appearance, flying out several times from a nearby bush, showing clear nesting behaviour.

Heading back along the track we encountered another Tawny Pipit and could continue to hear the odd Little Bustard deep in the grass. Back at the main road we chose to cross over to continue our exploration of this area and were rewarded with a Southern Grey Shrike, a fly over White Stork, three more Stone Curlew and a Crested Lark.

Returning to the hotel, we rested for a while and had an early dinner before heading back out for a short trip to Les Baux in the hope of spotting Eagle Owl. We climbed the short track behind the Hotel d'Oulivie and set base at the foot of the rocky outcrops, scanning the full breadth of the rock face in the hope of a sighting. In the interim we had a good view of a hunting Eurasian Sparrowhawk and could hear two squabbling Eurasian Jay but no joy with the Eagle Owl. After an hour of waiting and suffering a lot of midge bites, we returned to the hotel ready for a good night's sleep and some bite relief cream.

Day 4

Wednesday 6th June

Back to the usual time of 8am, we enjoyed a leisurely breakfast before heading off just after 9am making our way to the reserve at La Capeliere. As we approached the north eastern edge of Étang de Vaccarès we could hear a number of Cettis Warblers and had a short view of a Whiskered Tern flying over the road. Blackcaps and

Blackbirds were also seen/heard en route. Stopping at the first viewing area we spotted several Greater Flamingo feeding in the water, as well as a colony of Great Cormorant nesting in some trees on a short spit out into the lake.

A quick look down a short channel gave fantastic views of two Black-crowned Night Heron, a pair of nesting Great Crested Grebes, a teal and a brief view of both a Common Kingfisher and Melodious Warbler. Around the viewing platform area several Lizard Orchids were noted close to the fence and a flyover Purple Heron and Great White Egret were also seen by most of the group. Slightly further down at a second viewing area we got further views of Flamingo, our first Common Cuckoo of the day as well as two very obliging Sardinian Warblers singing at each other in a territorial standoff.

On our approach to the Visitor Centre, two pairs of nesting White Stork were spotted in the tops of large trees alongside several nesting Grey Herons. During our time observing these beautiful birds, a Peregrine Falcon flew high over head, two more Common Cuckoo flew straight in front of us and another Sardinian Warbler appeared in a road side shrub. Once at the Centre we took a leisurely stroll around the site visiting each of the hides and viewing areas on the lookout for more birds. At the first hide we got fantastic views of three white Camargue Horses feeding in the wet grasslands with a lone White Stork skulking in the background. A brief stop at the second hide produced a European Pond Turtle, a singing Reed Warbler and a flyover European Greenfinch. The third hide looked over the inner pools where several pairs of Black-winged Stilt were nesting. Little Egret, Mute Swan, Black-headed Gull and two Flamingos all made an appearance before an adult male Marsh Harrier was spotted flying low over the far field.

Several other birds were spotted during the walks between the hides including a couple of Melodious Warblers, Reed Warbler, four Cuckoos and a Common Tern. Returning to the main Centre we sat down to enjoy a belly-filling picnic lunch on the sheltered benches before heading up through Mas d'Agon en route back to the hotel. A couple of birds were seen during the drive including another Common Kingfisher and two Short-toed Larks which flew in front of the leading minibus. Another Cuckoo and an obliging Blue-headed Wagtail gave great views at the entrance to the main road through Mas d'Agon. Further up the road we stopped in between two large wetland areas where no less than 6 Purple Heron flew over, plus a Squacco Heron, a couple of Mediterranean Gull and a Cattle Egret. Using the minibuses as a stool, we looked over the reeds and were able to pick out several Great Crested Grebe, Gull-billed Tern, a lone Little Grebe and more Black-headed and Mediterranean Gull feeding in the water.

The final stretch of road added a singing Great Reed Warbler to our list as well as giving close views of a Corn Bunting sat on the top of some reed adjacent to a field of Barley. The final birds of the day were a small flock of six House Martin flying around a neighbouring set of farm buildings and a Great Tit heard singing in some trees on a roundabout just outside of Arles. Back at the hotel it was time for a relaxing afternoon before another gourmet three course meal cooked by our hosts. We ended our day running through the last two days checklist before heading off to bed after another successful days birding.

Day 5

Thursday 7th June

About half the group awoke early for the days early morning walk and were treated with an ensemble of birds including Kestrel, Buzzard, Gull-billed Tern, both Yellow Legged and Black-headed Gull, Swift and Nightingale.

Notable additions included a Roller, Hoopoe, a lone Night Heron and White Wagtail in the barn area. A leader spotted an elusive Golden Oriole, found earlier in the morning during a walk, and briefly seen again before flying off down the tree line. A Grayling butterfly also gave very close views as did a Yellow Clubtail dragonfly.

Another patisserie breakfast completed, we headed off in the minibuses towards Les Baux de Provence to look for some alpine specialists and to walk around the remarkable village built into the mountain. No sooner did we step outside the bus than we spotted our first Alpine Swifts flying just above the rooftops. Scanning across the plateau to the opposite mountain range we picked out several nesting Western Jackdaws and caught a brief view of Crag Martin. Heading further into the town centre a single Black Redstart was spotted perched on the tiled roof of some of the inner buildings before flying off not to be seen again. We then stopped at a view point outside a local cafe and once again scanned the mountainside. A pair of Blue Rock Thrush were picked out some distance away frequenting the highest peaks of the opposite rock line and several more Crag Martin and Alpine Swift were seen whizzing close by. Two Serins were heard singing and seen from above in the tree tops below and a number of Greenfinch also flew about.

After a brief look around some of the shops and a local wildlife photography exhibition, we returned to the buses and pushed on towards the Plateau of La Caume within the Massif des Alpilles. From the car park we picked up another Serin, several Chaffinch and our first European Robin seen singing part way along the track. We continued along the track towards a viewpoint just over 1km away where we found a large selection of alpine plants and butterflies including Globe Cedar, False Acacia, Kermes Oak, False Ilex Hairstreak, Chalkhill Blue and Spanish Gatekeeper. Although no raptors were seen, we were rewarded with close views of several Crested Tits which came within a few meters low in some Stone Pines.

We returned to the car park where we had another fabulous French-style picnic lunch before making our way towards Arles for the afternoon. The drive into the town was not without its birds and a pair of Great Spotted Cuckoo spotted on some roadside wires made for an eventful ten minutes before a field of 20+ Mediterranean Gull and four summer plumaged Cattle Egret (a mere 20m away) mixed in with a variety of other Gulls and three White Stork made for a second excitable and unanticipated stop. The group spent a couple of hours in Arles while the leaders went and completed the food shopping. Black Redstarts were the only birds reported from the group in Arles; two on the roof of the Coliseum. A field full of Rooks made a nice addition to the days new birds, spotted in a field on the drive back to the hotel.

A handful of the group opted to join a 6.30pm walk/drive to see a Little Owl nest site near the hotel where several more Rollers were seen, plus Zitting Cisticola, Corn Bunting and a couple of Tree Sparrow in amongst a colony of House Sparrow. A new mammal for the trip made its first appearance; a single Coypu in a ditch next to the Little Owl site. Everyone reconvened for dinner which included a rather popular dessert of Apple Tart before the evening checklist of flora and fauna were ticked off and the group retired to bed.

Day 6

Friday 8th June

Once again about half the group awoke early for an early morning walk in the hope of catching a glimpse of Golden Oriole. Despite a 6.30am start the Oriole didn't show, but nevertheless the walk was still successful with the usual songs of Nightingale (which we caught a lingering glimpse of) and Blackcap. Perched Common Buzzard and Kestrel, and chattering House Sparrows also frequented the walk. Two flight views of a Hoopoe, a

lone Tree Sparrow perched on the overhead wires, both White Wagtail and Black Redstart lingering around a sheep barn, and a perched Little Owl all added to a good mornings birding.

At 9am we boarded the minibuses and headed off towards Marais du Vigueirat. At long last, a Common Moorhen was spotted in a roadside pond swimming out of the reeds - amazingly a new bird for the trip. After reaching the track to the visitor of Marais du Vigueirat, we got our first sightings of European Bee-Eater; a group of at least twelve birds perching in and flying around some dead trees 100m from the track. After a difficult manoeuvre around two horses and carts, we reached the car park and disembarked the bus to find a Turtle Dove singing at the top of a tree allowing everyone super views of. Once inside the reserve we decided to take the clockwise path around the whole reserve, stopping in each hide and view point to check the pools and surrounding vegetation. Little, Cattle and Great Egret were all common as were Glossy Ibis, Black-winged Stilt and Grey and Purple Herons. Common Terns, Mallard and circling White Stork were also seen regularly as were a number of Coypu swimming and foraging in the open water.

We had a number of lovely encounters on our walk round including two close views of Squacco Heron, a Bee-Eater perched 20m away at the top of a dead tree, a brief glimpse of an adult Green Lizard, plenty of Wall Lizard, a very confiding Iberian Water Frog, young Stripeless Tree Frogs and a Raft Spider carrying an egg sac. The action didn't stop once we reached the picnic area as Short-toed Eagle flew overhead. Other new birds seen on this day included Long-tailed Tits and Reed Bunting.

As we left the car park and travelled up the track once again, we briefly stopped to look in on the European Bee-Eater colony; a short section of exposed muddy bank in which the Bee-Eaters dig out muddy burrows in order to breed. Not wishing to disturb the birds, we didn't stop for too long before moving past. En route we decided to take a series of farm tracks crossing over the back of the reserve towards the N568 and Le Crau. Although an unconventional route, the mix of habitats and relative solitude meant we encountered some good birds including a Marsh Harrier sat in a field, Stonechat on a metal gate fence, Short-toed Treecreeper singing in a small coppice of woodland, and both Tawny Pipit and Hoopoe in the Steppe habitat adjacent to the main road. With temperatures reaching a high of 28 degrees and the day hitting 4.30pm, we headed back to the hotel for a late afternoon of gentle relaxation.

Following the success of the previous days Little Owl excursion, the same trip was offered a second time with equal success; the Little Owl made a few appearances moving between the house and neighbouring tree where it sat in the open for a number of minutes before staying hidden away. With our bellies full from our evening meal and daily checklist complete, everyone retired to their rooms for the night before our last full day in the Camargue.

Day 7

Saturday 9th June

The leaders put on a special early morning trip to La Crau for those wishing to try a dawn exploration for Pintailed Sandgrouse and Little Bustard. Although we had no success with the sandgrouse, we were incredibly lucky seeing a total of six Little Bustard including a pair courting and chasing just beyond the bus. We crossed the plateau from north to south traversing as many paths as we could resulting in great views of Stone Curlew, Crested Lark, Hoopoe, three Greater Short-toed Lark and a single Calandra Lark sat on a post before flying off showing its black armpits.

Returning to the hotel for breakfast, the group reunited before heading down towards the Parc Ornithologique on the western side of the Camargue. This site contains a mixture of wetland pools and a small zoo-like section where birds which have been rescued following severe injuries, meaning they can't be returned to the wild, are kept in enclosures to be viewed. It is a popular place for locals and tourists and was particularly busy being a Saturday. We walked our way through the enclosure section getting close up with White Stork, Eagle Owl and Black Kite before heading out to the wilder wetland areas.

We were immediately blown away by an enormous flock of Greater Flamingo which were feedings a mere few metres from the path on our right and an incredibly loud heronry to our left with Grey Heron, Little Egret, Cattle Egret and Night Heron. Walking anti-clockwise we scanned the many pools on the route round and picked out a number of Black-winged Stilt, an Avocet, Common Terns and a single Arctic Tern fishing in the shallow pools. Other areas allowed for intimate views of Cattle Egret in their stunning caramel breeding plumage and a number of Coypu including a mother with young. A single Sacred Ibis was seen flying low out over the main reserve and standing on the bridge, using its taller viewpoint, we managed to spot a family of Coot, several more Night Heron, Purple Heron and a flyover Spoonbill.

Returning to the main visitor centre section and our nominated picnic area, we walked down a narrow tree-lined path and got fantastic views of Nightingale singing in the open five metres in front of us. A second Sacred Ibis was also seen, in amongst the herons and egrets at the heronry. We sat down to eat our picnic before taking one final little walk up to the bridge where an Otter had been spotted feeding in a pool - no luck this time. We made our way out the Parc and headed south towards Saintes Maries-de-la-mer, stopping briefly on the outskirts of the Parc to observe two Spoonbills at a nest.

Once in the town we parked up behind the beaches west of Port Gardian and made our way along the walkway heading west. A few clients took the opportunity to take a paddle or swim in the sea while others simply enjoyed a relaxing 45 minute stroll or rest on the sandy beach. Birds were few and far between in this very touristic area with only House Sparrow, Yellow Legged Gull and a small number of Greater Flamingo seen in the pools behind the beach. With temperatures now just below 30 degrees we retreated to the hotel for a rest.

Just before dinner one final trip was made for the Little Owl which did make an appearance even though only brief and in a slightly different place; choosing to sit on top of a metal container on a nearby farm. Two Hoopoe, which sat on telephone wires 20m away, meant everyone returned to the hotel happy. With our bellies full from our evening meal and daily checklist complete, everyone retired to their rooms for the night and to start packing ready for tomorrow's departure.

Day 8

Sunday 10th June

Our final day in the Camargue and a final pre-breakfast wander was quite a walk, starting with two Wild Boar rushing across the road immediately in front of us. Crossing the small bridge and into the barn area we came across both Black Redstart and White Wagtail. Although not seen, the elusive Golden Oriole was in good voice somewhere in the tree line several hundred metres beyond the farm. Walking back on ourselves and up the left we got better audio of the Oriole and spotted a very distant Stone Curlew in an adjacent field. Gull-billed tern, Kestrel, Buzzard, Black Kite, Blackcap and a showy Nightingale also made an appearance.

Breakfast eaten and checkout complete, we departed for one final birding trip to an area of wetland and farmland just north of Mas Thibert where our fantastic morning continued. A Lesser Spotted Woodpecker perched at the top of a roadside conifer was seen by most as it sat for a few minutes before flying off - a tricky bird on any day. A male Stonechat also perched on a roadside tree briefly before being flushed by a car and a dead Stone Martin, a victim of a car collision, was found sprawled on a corner stone allowing everyone the chance to see this elusive mammal close up. Further down the road we stopped outside a military zone for twenty minutes to watch several Little Bustard, both male and female, seen posturing and flying in amongst the tall grass. Stone Curlews were also spotted hidden in amongst the vegetation. Finally, on route back towards the hotel, we came across an area of farmland where we managed to see more Rollers, a couple of Jay and finally some in flight views of both male and female Golden Oriole flying down the tree line. A fantastic end to a brilliant day and a wonderful trip.

All that was left was to eat our final picnic lunch back at the hotel, thank our hosts and make our way to the airport for our flight home. We'd like to thank everyone for their involvement in a wonderful tour of the Camargue with some fantastic wildlife.

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Slender-billed Gull

Species Lists

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

	Common name	Scientific name	May							
			3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>								
2	Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
3	Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>		✓	✓	✓			✓	
4	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
5	Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>				✓				
6	Red-legged Partridge	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>		✓				✓		
7	Common Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>		H		✓	H		✓	
8	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	✓	✓		✓		H		
9	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>		✓		✓			✓	
10	Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>		✓		✓			✓	✓
11	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
12	African Sacred Ibis	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>							✓	
13	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>		✓		✓		✓	✓	✓
14	Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>							✓	
15	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	
16	Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
17	Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
18	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
19	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
20	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>				✓		✓	✓	✓
21	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
22	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>		✓		✓				
23	Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>			✓					
24	Short-toed Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>						✓		
25	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>			✓					
26	Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>		✓		✓		✓	✓	✓
27	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
28	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
29	Little Bustard	<i>Tetrax tetrax</i>			H				✓	✓
30	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>						✓	✓	✓
31	Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>		✓		✓		✓	✓	
32	Eurasian Stone-curlew	<i>Burhinus oedichnemus</i>			✓				✓	✓
33	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>		✓		✓		✓	✓	✓
34	Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>		✓					✓	
35	Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>		✓		✓				
36	Slender-billed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus genei</i>		✓						
37	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
38	Mediterranean Gull	<i>Ichthyaetus melanocephalus</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
39	Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
40	Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
41	Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>		✓						
42	Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>		✓						
43	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>		✓		✓		✓	✓	
44	Arctic Tern	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>							✓	
45	Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>				✓				
46	Rock Dove/Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
47	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
48	European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>						✓		

	Common name	Scientific name	May							
			3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
49	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
50	Great Spotted Cuckoo	<i>Clamator glandarius</i>					✓			
51	Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>		✓		✓	H	✓	H	✓
52	Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>		✓			✓	✓	✓	
53	Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>					✓			
54	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
55	European Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
56	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>				✓				
57	European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>		✓				✓	✓	
58	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
59	Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dryobates minor</i>								✓
60	European Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>		✓			✓	✓		H
61	Lesser Kestrel	<i>Falco naumanni</i>			✓					
62	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
63	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>			✓					
64	Southern Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius meridionalis</i>			✓					
65	Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>					✓	✓		✓
66	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>		✓	✓			✓		✓
67	Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
68	Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
69	Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>						✓	✓	
70	Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
71	European Crested Tit	<i>Lophophanes cristatus</i>					✓			
72	Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>				✓		✓	✓	
73	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>				✓		✓	✓	✓
74	Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
75	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
76	Greater Short-toed Lark	<i>Calandrella brachydactyla</i>				✓			✓	
77	Calandra Lark	<i>Melanocorypha calandra</i>							✓	
78	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
79	Eurasian Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>					✓			
80	Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>				✓			✓	
81	Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>		H		✓	✓	H	✓	H
82	Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>						✓		
83	Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>				H				
84	Eurasian Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>				✓		✓	✓	
85	Melodious Warbler	<i>Hippolais polyglotta</i>		✓		✓		✓		
86	Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
87	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>		H		✓	✓	✓	✓	H
88	Subalpine Warbler	<i>Sylvia cantillans</i>		✓						
89	Sardinian Warbler	<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>				✓		✓	✓	✓
90	Short-toed Treecreeper	<i>Certhia brachydactyla</i>						✓		
91	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
92	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
93	Eurasian Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>					✓			
94	Common Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>	✓	✓	H	✓	H	✓	✓	✓
95	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>					✓		✓	✓
96	Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>					✓			
97	European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>						✓		✓
98	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
99	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>					✓	✓	✓	

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100	Western Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>		✓		✓			✓	
101	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓
102	Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>			✓				✓	
103	Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>							✓	
104	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>					✓			✓
105	European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>		✓		✓	✓		H	✓
106	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
107	European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>					✓			
108	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
109	Common Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>						✓	✓	

Mammals

Coypu, *Myocastor coypus*

European Hare, *Vulpes vulpes*

European Stoat, *Mustela erminea*

Camargue Horse, *Equus ferus caballus*

Bat sp.

Rabbit, *Oryctolagus cuniculus*

European Hedgehog, *Erinaceus europaeus*

European Otter, *Lutra lutra*

Wild Boar, *Sus scrofa*

Amphibians & Reptiles

Iberian Water Frog, *Pelophylax perezi*

Western Green Lizard, *Lacerta bilineata*

Stripeless Tree Frog, *Hyla meridionalis*

Ocellated Lizard, *Timon lepidus*

European Pond Terrapin, *Emys orbicularis*

Wall Lizard, *Podarcis muralis*

Moorish Gecko, *Tarentola mauritanica*

Fish

Carp, *Cyprinus carpio*

Butterflies

Large White, *Pieris brassicae*

Red Admiral, *Vanessa atalanta*

Speckled Wood, *Pararge aegeria*

Western Marbled White, *Melanargia occitanica*

Large Skipper, *Ochlodes sylvanus*

Amanda's Blue, *Polyommatus amandus*

Baton Blue, *Pseudophilotes sinaicus*

Short-tailed Blue, *Cupido argiades*

Small White, *Pieris rapae*

Bath White, *Pontia daplidice*

Clouded Yellow, *Colias croceus*

Southern White Admiral, *Limenitis reducta*

Heath Fritillary, *Melitaea athalia*

Meadow Brown, *Maniola jurtina*

Grayling, *Hipparchia semele*

Common Blue, *Polyommatus icarus*

Painted Lady, *Vanessa cardui*

Wall Brown, *Lasiommata megera*

Mallow Skipper, *Carcharodus alceae*

Small Skipper, *Thymelicus sylvestris*

Holly Blue, *Celastrina argiolus*

Chalkhill Blue, *Polyommatus coridon*

False Ilex Hairstreak, *Satyrrium esculi*

Green-veined White, *Pieris napi*

Cleopatra, *Gonepteryx cleopatra*

European Swallow-tail, *Papilio machaon*

Spotted Fritillary, *Melitaea didyma*

Spanish Gatekeeper, *Pyronia bathseba*

Southern Speckled Wood, *Pararge aegeria*

Great Banded Grayling, *Brintesia circe*

Moths

Humming-bird Hawk-moth, *Macroglossum stellatarum*
 Silver Y, *Autographa gamma*
 Yellow Shell, *Camptogramma bilineata*
 Elephant Hawkmoth, *Deilephila elpenor*
 Little Emerald, *Jodis lactearia*
 Heart and Dart, *Agrotis exclamationis*
 Shoulder Striped Wainscot, *Leucania comma*

Latticed Heath, *Chiasmia clathrata*
 Reed Tussock (caterpillar), *Laelia coenosa*
 Striped Hawkmoth, *Hyles livornica*
 Poplar Hawkmoth, *Laothoe populi*
 Mottled Beauty, *Alcis repandata*
 Hoary Footman, *Eilema caniola*
 Portland Ribbon Wave, *Idaea degeneraria*

Dragonflies & Damselflies

Blue-tailed Damselfly, *Ischnura elegans*
 Black-tailed Skimmer, *Orthetrum cancellatum*

Lesser Emperor, *Anax parthenope*
 Scarlet Darter, *Crocothemis erythrea*

Others

Migratory Locust, *Locusta migratoria*
 Rose Chafer, *Cetonia aurata*
 Raft Spider, *Dolomedes fimbriatus*
 Cicada sp., *Cicadoidea sp.*
Graphosoma lineatum Italicum

Millipede sp., *Diplopoda sp.*
 Soldier Beetle sp., *Cantharidae sp.*
 Great Green Cricket, *Dolomedes fimbriatus*
 Carpenter Bee, *Xylocopa sp.*
Hemipenthis morio