

Sicily in Autumn

Naturetrek Tour Report

14 - 20 September 2016

Report compiled by Dave Nevitt.



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Day 1

Wednesday 14th September

The trip started with a civilised flight time from Gatwick, arriving at Catania on time in the late afternoon. On the flight, some were fortunate in having good views of Vesuvius then Mount Etna as the flight descended. We met up with Luca at Catania airport, picked up our minibuses and were soon on our way to our accommodation.

After the hour's journey we arrived at the Case del Feudo. As we drove in, a couple of Marsh Harriers patrolled the skies of the farm – a good omen for the week ahead! We were welcomed by Yeasin who settled us in to our wonderful rooms. After freshening up, we assembled for our first dinner of the fabulous local cuisine accompanied by the superb wines which are made on the premises. What a welcome!

As we met in the evening in the courtyard, Luca managed to hear a European Free-tailed Bat flying overhead. How his young ears were envied by the group as everyone else strained to try to detect it! A Scops Owl was more within most people's hearing range, serenading us from outside over dinner. We retired, tired but replete.

Day 2

Thursday 15th September

We started as we meant to continue with a good turn-out for the pre-breakfast walk around the fields of the farm. Migrants were a bit thin on the ground so we concentrated on the resident birds – our first Italian Sparrows were picked out from House Sparrows, Zitting Cisticolas were calling all about and Sardinian Warblers led us a merry dance, with glimpses as they flitted between bushes. Our first Spotless Starlings were very welcome too. A Honey Buzzard was a nice flyover and we picked out two Red-throated Pipits as they flew over giving their distinctive drawn-out call. The highlight was undoubtedly the 30+ Bee-eaters which drew much appreciative feedback from the group.

As we had put the moth trap on last night, we had a look at our catch. We were treated to many and varied moths, a lot of which are great rarities at home, including the diminutive but stunning Bordered Emerald, Brassy Waved Umber, Mediterranean Brocade, Passenger, Pale Shoulder and the Sicilian form of The Amah.

After a lovely continental breakfast, we headed off to the nearby coast at Capo Murro di Porco. As we approached the site, a chance sighting out of the corner of an eye caused us to stop the buses and unload – a Wryneck had shot around the corner and was sitting there on the path feeding. What a fantastic piece of luck as we all had good views of this bird as it fed a short distance from us.

Moving on to the headland, we walked towards the lighthouse. Migrating Yellow Wagtails flew overhead while Stonechat and a Whinchat were noted in the bushes. The ever-present Zitting Cisticolas kept us company and Crested Larks showed well on the rocks. A lovely Honey Buzzard showed well as it moved overhead.

At the lighthouse, we had an impromptu geology lesson to explain the excellent example of limestone pavement on show here. Offshore, we looked for Scopoli's Shearwaters and were successful in finding half a dozen as they lazily mooched past. More lively were a pod of Bottle-nosed Dolphins that entertained as they repeatedly breached. Parties of Sandwich Terns moved south off the point and amongst them we picked up a flock of Gull-Billed Terns, which was excellent.

Moving through the dry grass we disturbed a Western Whip Snake, typically just seen by the lead person as it sneaked into hiding. At the walled area, we found a Spotted Flycatcher and a couple of Northern Wheatears too. Another sandy-coloured Wheatear caused more interest and we were soon admiring a male and female Black-eared Wheatear in the scopes.

With it being the first day and us not being acclimatised, many were now getting pretty hot so we headed back to the buses and moved off for lunch by a café in Isola. As the leaders prepared lunch in the back of the buses, the group enjoyed drinks and ice creams in the café.

Offshore in the bay we found an Audouin's Gull sitting on a buoy, as well as several Mediterranean Gulls.

For the afternoon, we sampled our first study of the history and culture of the area at the Siracusa Archaeological site with the amazing Greek and Roman Amphitheatre remains there. We got our tickets then drove round to the leafy car park. We spent several hours soaking up the atmosphere of the impressive ruins. All enjoyed this, as well as a cooling drink afterwards. We added Robin and Wren to our list, as well as both Common and Honey Buzzard that caused much discussion as to their identities as they alternately disappeared then re-appeared from behind buildings!

We boarded the buses and returned home, arriving at the Case in good time to relax before checklists. Our dinner plans were altered at the last minute when we went for an impromptu drive into Florida where we found a fantastic restaurant with local speciality seafood and pastas for dinner. After dinner both Little Owl and Barn Owl were heard outside the Case.

Day 3

Friday 16th September

With our late night last night, we were allowed a little longer in bed than planned but we were still breakfasted and out early for our departure to Mount Etna. We had chosen today for our visit there as the weather forecast predicted it as being the least windy day. We headed off northwards, encountering two White Storks on their nests on pylons on the journey, as well as sightings of Cattle Egrets. As we drove north, we could see that Etna was clear and we hoped that it would remain so. Approaching the foot slopes, we stopped for a photo opportunity. We stopped further up to look for birds but if there were any there, they were certainly keeping their heads down. As we got to the Rifugio Sapienza, Luca took care of the group whilst Dave went to get in the queue for the tickets. This was just as well as there was still quite a queue. We eventually got ticketed and were headed up the cable car. On the way up we just saw Northern Wheatears and White Wagtails, not surprising at the altitude.

Getting to the top of the cable car, we left a couple of the group at the café as this was far enough for them, and we joined the queue for the 4x4s that would be going on further to the top. After a while we were on our way. At the top, we disembarked to find the temperature wasn't too low, but there was a

fierce wind. Out of the wind, you almost didn't need a coat but we then set off on the walk round the ridge. Going over the top we were hit by the wind and it was certainly pretty cold then! The walk was pretty spectacular with amazing views down to the foothills and beyond. We took the ridge round the 2002/03 crater, stopping many times for photos. What an amazing experience it was. As we walked, some were surprised to see many Painted Lady and Red Admiral butterflies fluttering past on migration! What resilient butterflies they are.

Then we were back at the 4x4 stop and we boarded them to go down to the café again. Here we assembled the group, only to discover that one of our number was missing! All the group except Dave descended back to the car park via the cable car to see if he was there; fortunately, he was at the bottom so after a quick phone call, Dave also descended! We had picked up some lovely local paninis at the café for lunch and were going to have them down the road at a picnic spot but with waiting around for our escape, everyone had already tucked into them!

We then drove a little further down the slope to a layby where we checked out the sparse bushes amongst the bare volcanic terrain. Butterflies were certainly out in force in the lovely sunny and relatively calm conditions. Queen of Spain Fritillary and Common Grayling were soon found as well as Southern Blue. We found some Stonechats and amongst them we had Whinchats too, giving us a great opportunity to compare the juvenile plumages. Northern Wheatears and Black Redstart completed the combination of chats. Overhead we had Hobby and a couple of Marsh Harriers moving through. Our search for Rock Buntings was unsuccessful but we scored with several other good butterflies instead – The Hermit, two Cardinals along with Long-tailed Blues and more Common Graylings.

Moving into the pine woods we found several Chiffchaffs plus several of the Sicilian variant of the Coal Tit. We then managed to find not one but two Short-toed Treecreepers and everyone had close views of them too which is often difficult with a group.

All agreed that it had been a memorable day up Etna!

We had a long drive home and it was time to set off so we made our way back down the mountain and along the motorway home.

Returning to the Case, we freshened up then had another lovely dinner.

Day 4

Saturday 17th September

A look through the overnight moth catch revealed new species in the form of Lace Border, Citron Plume, White-speck, Small Ranunculus, Small Marbled, *Spoladea recurvalis* and Gregson's Dart.

After breakfast, we headed south to the extensive marshes of Vendicari, stopping at Cassibile on the way to buy our picnic bread. At the turn-off, we spotted some birds on a field and stopped to have a look. There were many Yellow Wagtails of various subspecies - including a *flavissima* from Britain - feeding there, as well as several Blue Rock Thrushes on the buildings. As we stood there, one eagle-eyed member of the group spotted a Western Whip Snake climbing up a tree! We were enthralled as we watched this amazing event for quite some time as it twisted and twined around the branches. A good spot indeed.

Carrying on to the reserve, we parked up and walked along the track to the sound of Cetti's Warblers singing; we were soon at the first hides. Here the water levels were pretty low and there were waders out on the mud, albeit a way off. This helped hone our ID skills, highlighting how a lot of wader ID is down to their distinctive shapes and feeding motions. We soon found Spotted Redshanks, Greenshank, Kentish Plovers and many others. Several Stints caused much debate, with a couple of Temminck's attending the more plentiful Littles. In the far waters, there was a huge collection of Grey Herons as well as Greater Flamingos. Slender-billed Gulls were a new species for many and Common Terns perched up on nearby posts.

We moved on towards the beach on a diversion from the usual path. Offshore we had two Caspian Terns, always a nice bird to see. On the beach, we marvelled at it being covered in curious spherical mats of some strange organic matter. These are the egagropili, fibrous bundles of foliage from the underwater Neptune Grass (*Posidonia oceanica*) that are specific to Mediterranean shores.

On the way to the next hide we tried "pishing" for Bluethroats but they were staying low today if there were any there.

At the next hide, we soon discovered where all the birds had gone! The diverted path had obviously disturbed the birds and moved them to in front of this hide as it was absolutely packed with birds. Waders were abundant and included a couple of Marsh Sandpiper, another new one for most of the group, 25 Greenshank, 10 Grey Plover with Golden Plover mixed in with them nicely for comparison, Little Ringed Plovers, many Kentish Plovers, six Wood Sandpiper, five Ruff as well as Knot, Bar-tailed Godwits, Black-winged Stilts and many ducks. Amongst the ducks, we found the speciality of the site, the scarce Marbled Duck, with at least six individuals. A group of Greater Flamingos rested in the distance as we scanned through the amassed spectacle before us.

It was time for lunch so we headed back through the searing heat to the buses. On the way, one group came across a rare Reef Heron x Little Egret hybrid which had been frequenting the area. Another good find! Back at the buses, we managed to negotiate the use of the café tables for our picnic, which at least gave us a bit of shade from the sun and allowed us to replenish ourselves.

We then packed up and headed back north towards Siracusa. Not far down the road we made an unscheduled stop for a lovely group of Bee-eaters, spotted as we drove past.

We moved on to Siracusa Salinas where we negotiated the acacia thorns along the track to the Salinas! Here we were treated to a nice flock of over 30 Mediterranean Gulls, plus there was the added bonus of two adult Audouin's Gulls amongst them. Lesser Black-backed Gull was also new and Meadow Pipit flew over calling.

Time was ticking on and everyone was pretty hot so we reassembled at the buses to make our way back to Case del Feudo for a shower before checklists and dinner. At our checklist, we had the strange record of hearing several Purple Herons calling as they flew over us in the dark, and Luca managed to find several Turkish Geckos, to the delight of those who were still up!

Day 5

Sunday 18th September

Today's pre-breakfast walk yielded Nightingale, Lesser Whitethroat, another Subalpine Warbler and Golden Oriole.

The overnight moths included Four-spotted, Purple Marbled, Bee Moth, Spotted Sulphur and Portland Ribbon Wave. Clancy's Rustic was another good one, as was the spectacular but drearily named Cream Drab!

Today we headed north, through the rather unsightly petrochemical works to our pleasant destination of Penisola Magnisi, an offshore island renowned for attracting migrants. We checked out the beach first to look for waders but there were rather too many fishermen today. We drove on to the car park, parked the buses by the shore and walked on to the peninsula.

The bushes were pretty quiet but out on the peninsula we soon had a Marsh Harrier flying over. Zitting Cisticolas, now a familiar bird to us all, sang all around. Migrant *flava* wagtails were passing over regularly and many rested a while. Northern Wheatears joined them in their urgent search for food and Whinchat too. A distinctive call overhead alerted us to a Tawny Pipit flying up; characteristically, it then disappeared into the vegetation but some managed views on the ground too.

Much more obliging were several Greater Short-toed Larks which paraded around in front of us – very nice. On one of the derelict buildings we were fortunate to see three Blue Rock Thrushes – we were doing well for these! Then we saw a couple of large mottled brown birds rise up from the grassland – our first Stone-curlews! As we walked south, we then saw more and more of these magnificent birds. After quite some effort we even managed to find some on the ground – a very popular sighting with the group. We had a rest by a barn as a short shower passed. We were looking and listening out for Calandra Larks but today was not the day for them. Then as we watched yet more Stone-curlews, Luca's young ears detected a strange call that put him on to a lone flying bird. As it dropped into the dry grassland and disappeared, he was confident it had been a Dotterel! So, we set off in the direction it had gone and before long, we were watching this wonderful creature at only 20 metres range. Everyone in the group was elated, not only to see a Dotterel, but to see one so close; the photographers couldn't believe their luck. Even better, it was an adult male bird so still had some of its summer plumage. Luca took the deserved unanimous praise very gracefully!

The walk back to the buses was tame by comparison but we saw a Subalpine Warbler and increased our estimated total of Stone-curlews to over 70!

We then adjourned to the nearby town of Priolo Gargallo for a loo stop and a nice cooling drink before returning to the shade near the beach for our picnic lunch.

We then visited the Saline di Priolo reserve, a wonderful place with excellent hides overlooking the old salinas which have been sculpted to form islands for nesting birds.

We first went to the far hide to see the star rarity on show – a superb juvenile Red-necked Phalarope. It entertained us as it span around on the water picking flies off. Most didn't stay long to admire the Phalarope, probably because it was extremely hot in the hide and the flies were quite pesky!

Most then went to the hide in the middle of the lake. On the way, a fortunate few spotted an Icterine Warbler and a Praying Mantis was another nice find. The hide is one of those places where patience pays off; there were many birds around but not all showed on our arrival! A flock of 12 Great Egrets were dozing on one of the islands and a large group of Greater Flamingos were at the back of the lagoon, accompanied by many Black-winged Stilts, some of which were also on the island just in front of the hide. Ringed and Little Ringed Plovers, Little Stints, Dunlin, up to five Spotted Redshanks, Ruff and Greenshank gave us plenty to look at. Those who were checking the reed edges were lucky to see up to three Western (also known as Purple) Swampheens and also a Penduline Tit several times. A Kingfisher was very popular, as was a Common Snipe and six Slender-billed Gulls sat for a while to be admired as five Caspian Terns popped in for a short while on their way south.

What a feast of birds we had enjoyed, despite the temperatures again being pretty high.

We returned to the Case in good time to relax before checklists and another wonderful dinner. After dinner, we looked for owls and were successful in seeing a Barn Owl and hearing both Little Owl and Scops Owl.

Day 6

Monday 19th September

Additional species from our overnight moth catch included Turnip Moth, Small Dusty Wave, Scarce Bordered Straw, Eyed Hawk-moth and The Lappet, taking our total to 114 species of moths – very respectable!

Today we headed to the Cava Grande gorge. We breakfasted then drove south towards Avola. Exiting the motorway, we took the wiggly road west, climbing steadily until we came to the viewpoint with an amazing view down to the coast. There was a bit of a breeze but not too bad; we soon clocked a couple of birds of prey on a mountainous ridge which was obviously being used by raptors as a migration route – they were Honey Buzzards.

This is a good site for Rock Sparrow and we had two brief sightings of birds flying past but sadly that was it. We tried the Rock Partridge and Blue Rock Thrush tapes without any luck. A Cirl Bunting was singing away in the valley and, after much scanning of trees, we managed to pin him down and see him in the scopes. A stop further on revealed Stonechats perched up on the bushes but otherwise it was eerily quiet. A Marsh Harrier glided past westwards following the line of the gorge.

We moved further on to the gorge itself; arriving at the Cava Grande car park, we were presented with the most spectacular view down hundreds of metres into the canyon. We checked out the gorge to see if there was anything to see. We looked for Blue Rock Thrush but without any luck. A pair of Raven cruised along the edge of the gorge and further Honey Buzzards were using the gorge as a flyway.

Moving on to the platform of an old house overlooking the gorge, we again tried to find Blue Rock Thrush. Linnets flicked around below us on the rocks and many House Martins were whizzing around the cliff faces, no doubt nesting there. Eventually we were rewarded with a Blue Rock Thrush, a fine young male. A couple of obliging Spotted Flycatchers entertained us as they fed in the lee of a group of trees.

A little further on and we started looking for the specialist of the area – Spectacled Warbler. It was very hot so our hopes were not very high. Several Sardinian Warblers got our hopes up and we thought that we heard a Spectacled but we couldn't be sure. We persisted for a while but the conditions were not in our favour. A Tawny Pipit flew over calling, advertising its presence so that everyone could get on to it. In the distance, a Woodlark was giving its sweet song too. Several more Honey Buzzards were very popular as they are seldom seen at home, and a juvenile Hen Harrier circled above us, accompanied by more Ravens.

The limestone meadows gave us some other nice wildlife moments in the form of Eastern Bath White and Sicilian Grayling butterflies and also gave all in the group the chance to catch up with Sicilian Wall Lizard, a species that had led us a merry dance all week!

Back at the buses we prepared our lunch on the tables of the café, nicely in the shade. Fed and watered, we boarded the buses for our descent.

It was pretty hot, and we had an exciting evening ahead so we returned to the Case for a siesta. We then freshened up, put our best togs on and drove to Ortigia where we parked up in the Baron's town abode. We had a wonderful few hours exploring the fascinating treasures of the old town, cute shops, gelateria and cafés. The warm late afternoon temperature was perfect for our explorations, appreciating the wonderful culture and ambience of this jewel of a setting.

We later met back at the Baron's palace where we met the Baron himself who regaled us with fascinating stories about the history of the Palace and of the Baron's family. This was followed by a gorgeous meal which rounded off a definite highlight of the trip for all.

Day 7

Tuesday 20th September

We had early flights home today so we just had time to have breakfast, load the cases into the minibuses and set off reluctantly for the airport. We again saw the White Stork nests but otherwise the journey was uneventful and we were in good time for our flights home. What an amazing week we had experienced. The hot and humid weather undoubtedly had an effect on the bird life but we still saw a stunning selection of birds that performed so very well for us all, and with a group of lovely people.

A group is only as good as the people who form it and thanks must go to all the group members who got on so well together, sharing knowledge and stories to enhance the overall enjoyment of the trip. Luca and Dave hope that everyone had an enjoyable week, seeing many new species on a beautiful island. We look forward to seeing you all on your next Naturetrek trip.

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!

Species Lists

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

	Common name	Scientific name	September						
			14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1	Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>				H			
2	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>				✓	✓		
3	Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>				12			
4	Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>				✓	✓		
5	Marbled Duck	<i>Marmaronetta angustirostris</i>				6			
6	Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>				✓	2		
7	Common Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>		H					
8	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>					1		
9	Scopoli's Shearwater	<i>Calonectris diomedea</i>		6					
10	Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis</i>				1			
11	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>			1				
12	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>		3	1	✓	✓		
	Reef Heron x Little Egret hybrid					1			
13	Great Egret	<i>Casmerodius albus</i>				1	12		
14	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>				100+	✓		
15	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>				2+H			
16	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>			2				
17	Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>				400+	100+		
18	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
19	Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>			1				
20	Peregrine	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>				1			
21	Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	2		2	1	1	1	
22	Hen Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>						1	
23	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
24	European Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>		3				6	
25	Water Rail	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>				H			
26	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>				✓	✓		
27	Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>		2		✓			
28	Western Swamphen	<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>					3		
29	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>				2	50		
30	Eurasian Stone-curlew	<i>Burhinus oedichnemus</i>					72+		
31	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>				12	9		
32	Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>				6	20		
33	Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>				50	1		
34	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>				10			
35	Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>				6			
36	Dotterel	<i>Charadrius morinellus</i>					1		
37	Red Knot	<i>Calidris canutus</i>				4			
38	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>				40			
39	Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>				4			
40	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>				3	5		
41	Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>				10			
42	Temminck's Stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>				5			
43	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>				50	5		
44	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>				6			
45	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>				2	1		
46	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>				✓	4		

	Common name	Scientific name	September						
			14	15	16	17	18	19	20
47	Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>				2	5		
48	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>				30	3		
49	Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatalis</i>				2			
50	Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>				20	3		
51	Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>				✓			
52	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>					1		
53	Red-necked Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>					1		
54	Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>				15	4		
55	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>				✓	✓		
56	Slender-billed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus genei</i>				6	6		
57	Mediterranean Gull	<i>Ichthyaeetus melanocephalus</i>		4		30			
58	Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>		✓		✓	✓		
59	Audouin's Gull	<i>Ichthyaeetus audouinii</i>		1		2	1		
60	Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>				1			
61	Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>		12		20			
62	Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>		6					
63	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>				2			
64	Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>				2	7		
65	Rock Dove / Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
66	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
67	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
68	Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>		1			1		
69	Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>		H	H	H		H	
70	Eurasian Scops Owl	<i>Otus scops</i>	H	H	H	H	H		
71	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>			1	6		2	
72	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>				1	2		
73	European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>		30	H	22	H	H	
74	Wryneck	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>		1				1	
75	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
76	Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>			H			H	
77	Greater Short-toed Lark	<i>Calandrella brachydactyla</i>					5		
78	Common Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>				3			
79	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
80	Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>				✓		80+	
81	Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>					1	1	
82	Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>			1				
83	Red-throated Pipit	<i>Anthus cervinus</i>		2H		H			
84	Blue-headed Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava sp.</i>		2		10+	4		
85	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>							H
86	European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>		1					
87	Common Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>					H		
88	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>			1				
89	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>		4	3		10		
90	Black-eared Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe hispanica</i>		2					
91	Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>		1	3		3		
92	Common Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquatus</i>		2	20	1	1	5	
93	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
94	Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>				1	3	1	
95	Garden Warbler	<i>Sylvia borin</i>				1			
96	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>		1		1	1		

	Common name	Scientific name	September						
			14	15	16	17	18	19	20
97	Common Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>		2		1		1	
98	Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia curruca</i>					1		
99	Sardinian Warbler	<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
100	Subalpine Warbler	<i>Sylvia cantillans</i>		1		1	2	1	
101	Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
102	Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>		H & S	H	H	H	H	H
103	Icterine Warbler	<i>Hippolais icterina</i>					1		
104	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>			2				
105	Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>		H	H				
106	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>		1				1	
107	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	
108	Coal Tit	<i>Periparus ater</i>			8				
109	European Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		1				✓	
110	Eurasian Penduline Tit	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>					1		
111	Short-toed Treecreeper	<i>Certhia brachydactyla</i>			2				
112	Common Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
113	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	
114	Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>		12	10	✓		✓	
115	Common Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>						7	
116	Spotless Starling	<i>Sturnus unicolor</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
117	Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>	H				1		
118	Italian Sparrow	<i>Passer italiae</i>		✓		✓		✓	
119	Spanish Sparrow	<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>				✓	✓		
120	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>		1		✓	✓	✓	
121	Common Rock Sparrow	<i>Petronia petronia</i>					2		
122	Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>		6		✓	✓		
123	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
124	European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>					2		
125	Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>				1			
126	Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>		15				1+	

Mammals

1	Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>					✓		
2	Brown Rat	<i>Rattus norvegicus</i>					✓		
3	Weasel	<i>Mustela nivalis</i>						✓	
4	Bottle-nosed Dolphin	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>		✓					
5	European Free-tailed Bat	<i>Tadarida teniotis</i>	✓						

Amphibians & Reptiles

1	Green Toad	<i>Bufo viridis</i>		✓					
2	Italian Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis sicula</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
3	Sicilian Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis wagleriana</i>		✓				✓	
4	Moorish Gecko	<i>Tarentola mauritanica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
5	Turkish Gecko	<i>Hemidactylus turcicus</i>				✓	✓	✓	
6	Western Whip Snake	<i>Hierophis (Coluber) viridiflavus</i>		✓		✓			

Butterflies

1	Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>		✓			✓		
2	Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
3	Small White	<i>Artogeia rapae</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	

	Common name	Scientific name	September							
			14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
4	Eastern Bath White	<i>Pontia edusa</i>							✓	
5	Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias crocea</i>		✓	✓			✓		
6	Cleopatra	<i>Gonepteryx cleopatra</i>			✓	✓			✓	
7	Geranium Bronze	<i>Cacyreus marshalli</i>				✓				
8	Long-tailed Blue	<i>Lampides boeticus</i>			✓					
9	Lang's Short-tailed Blue	<i>Leptotes pirithous</i>		✓		✓				
10	Holly Blue	<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>		✓				✓	✓	
11	Southern Blue	<i>Polyommatus celina</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
12	Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
13	Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
14	Southern Comma	<i>Polygonia egea</i>		✓						
15	Cardinal	<i>Argynnis pandora</i>			✓					
16	Queen of Spain Fritillary	<i>Issoria lathonia</i>			✓					
17	Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>				✓				
18	Common Grayling	<i>Hipparchia semele</i>			✓					
19	Sicilian Grayling	<i>Hipparchia blachieri</i>							✓	
20	The Hermit	<i>Chazara briseis</i>			✓					
21	Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>					✓	✓		
22	Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>			✓				✓	
23	Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>					✓	✓		

Moths

Pale Shoulder, <i>Acontia lucida</i>	<i>Achyra nudalis</i>
Knot Grass, <i>Acronicta rumicis</i>	Dark Sword Grass, <i>Agrotis ipsilon</i>
Shuttle-shaped Dart, <i>Agrotis puta</i>	Turnip Moth, <i>Agrotis segetum</i>
Gregson's Dart, <i>Agrotis spinifera</i>	Crambid, <i>Ancylolomia tentaculella</i>
Crambid, <i>Antigastra catalaunalis</i>	Bee Moth, <i>Aphomia sociella</i>
Luna Beauty, <i>Ascotis selenaria</i>	Yellow Belle, <i>Aspitates ochrearia</i>
<i>Athetis hospes</i>	Silver Y, <i>Autographa gamma</i>
Clancy's Rustic, <i>Caradrina kadenii</i>	<i>Coleophora</i> sp.
Grass Moth, <i>Crambus perlella</i>	Un-named Shark sp. , <i>Cucullia calendulae</i>
Codling Moth, <i>Cydia pomonella</i>	Gelechid, <i>Dichomeris lamprostoma</i>
<i>Dolicharthria punctalis</i>	European Pepper Moth, <i>Duponchelia fovealis</i>
The Amah, Sicilian form, <i>Dysauxes famula</i>	Passenger, <i>Dysgonia algira</i>
Spotted Sulphur, <i>Emmelia trabealis</i>	Common Plume, <i>Emmelina monodactyla</i>
Pyralid, <i>Endotricha flammealis</i>	Common Carpet, <i>Epirrhoe alternata</i>
Elachistid, <i>Ethmia bipunctella</i>	Erebid, <i>Eublemma cochylionides</i>
Purple Marbled, <i>Eublemma ostrina</i>	Small Marbled, <i>Eublemma parva</i>
Bordered Emerald, <i>Eucrostes indigenata</i>	The Lappet, <i>Gastropacha quercifolia</i>
<i>Grammodes bifasciata</i>	Small Ranunculus, <i>Hecatera dysodea</i>
Scarce Bordered Straw, <i>Helicoverpa armigera</i>	Citron Plume, <i>Hellinsia carphodactyla</i>
Ornate Pearl, <i>Hydriris ornatalis</i>	Erebid, <i>Hypena lividalis</i>
Portland Riband Wave, <i>Idaea degeneraria</i>	Rambur's Wave, <i>Idaea elongaria</i>
Lustrous Least Carpet, <i>Idaea filicata</i>	Strange Wave, <i>Idaea laevigata</i>
Small Dusty Wave, <i>Idaea seriata</i>	Grass Eggar, <i>Lasiocampa trifolii</i>
European Vine Moth, <i>Lobesia botrana</i>	Pyralid, <i>Maradana fuscolimbalis</i>
Brassy Waved Umber, <i>Menophra japygiaria</i>	Grass Viridian, <i>Microloxia herbaria</i>

L-album Wainscot, <i>Mythimna l-album</i>	White-speck, <i>Mythimna unipuncta</i>
Mediterranean Underwing, <i>Noctua tirrenica</i>	Rush Veneer, <i>Nomophila noctuella</i>
Willow Beauty, <i>Peribatodes rhomboidaria</i>	Ruby Tiger, <i>Phragmatobia fuliginosa</i>
Porter's Rustic, <i>Proxenus (Athetis) hospes</i>	Un-named Noctuid, <i>Pseudozarba bipartita</i>
The Vestal, <i>Rhodometra sacraria</i>	Pinion-streaked Snout, <i>Schrankia costaestrigalis</i>
Mullein Wave, <i>Scopula marginepunctata</i>	Lace Border, <i>Scopula ornata</i>
Eyed Hawk-moth, <i>Smerinthus ocellata</i>	Dark Mottled Willow, <i>Spodoptera ciliium</i>
Small Mottled Willow, <i>Spodoptera exigua</i>	Mediterranean Brocade, <i>Spodoptera littoralis</i>
Beet Webworm, <i>Spoladea recurvalis</i>	Four-spotted, <i>Tyta luctuosa</i>
Cream Drab, <i>Xanthodes albago</i>	Square-spot Rustic, <i>Xestia xanthographa</i>
Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing or Langmaid's Yellow Underwing, <i>Noctua janthe / janthina</i>	

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