

Birding Southern Morocco

Naturetrek Tour Report

6th – 15th October 2022



Pharaoh Eagle Owl (CG)



Maghreb Wheatear (CG)



Lesser Crested Tern (CG)



Spotted Sandgrouse

Report compiled by Martin Pitt, images contributed by Martin Pitt & Chris Griffin



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Summary

Naturetrek's trip to Southern Morocco was one that covered all of the major habitats across the area from the High Atlas, through the Southern deserts to the coast and introduced the group to the culture and wildlife of this part of North Africa. We connected with many of specialties including 170 species of birds plus four distinctive subspecies, together with 13 species of Butterfly, 11 of Reptiles, eight of Dragonflies and four species of Mammal. Despite the ongoing drought we connected with a number of the resident species including Bald Ibis, African Crimson-winged Finch, Thick-billed Lark, Atlas & Maghreb Wheatear, Tristram's Warbler, Moussier's Redstart and Desert Sparrow. Migration was still ongoing, although apparently interrupted by the first snows of the season, and we managed to connect with Blue-cheeked Bee-eater, Western Olivaceous Warbler, and Ortolan Bunting amongst others, although finding the 20th Pectoral Sandpiper for Morocco on a desert pool was the biggest surprise. The diversity of landscapes and wildlife makes this a special tour and early October weather made this a comfortable time to head to this arid land.

Day 1

Thursday 6th October

Marrakech and Oukaïmeden

The Gatwick group arrived on time and cleared customs quickly, meeting up with those who had earlier arrived from Manchester and confirming the itinerary for the remainder of the day. Those for the city tour headed to the hotel, whilst the remainder prepared themselves for the trip to the alpine zone of the High Atlas Mountains. We stopped for a soon to be familiar tagine lunch overlooking the picturesque Ourika valley and then headed to the somewhat dilapidated ski station at Oukaïmeden. Our initial stop at the dammed lake showed us our first high altitude birds, with Red-billed Choughs swirling around as we 'scoped our first Black Wheatears and Rock Sparrows. A Ruff was somewhat incongruous, picking its way around the lake edge.

Unlike in the spring, in autumn there is no snow, even on the higher peaks and the search for special alpine-zone birds needed to take us higher still. We left the bus at the road end and walked up the access track to the Toubkal National Park, following the stream that although almost dry held the only water in this parched landscape. A

migrant Chiffchaff was another strange find, but the Atlas Wheatear was our first target to show itself. It was only higher that we finally connected with a flock of birds and soon we were watching a mixed flock dominated by 'Atlas' Horned Larks and Linnets, but also having a couple of Crimson-winged Finches that gave reasonable 'scope views. The local Kestrels seemed to take joy in flushing them and soon we headed back, walking the stream edge picking up Dipper, Black Redstarts and the first, of what would become daily, Pied Flycatchers.

We headed down hill but not before a brief stop in the pine woods gave us good views of a pair of showy Firecrest. Arriving back at the hotel just before dusk, we were able to meet up with the balance of the group and enjoy the first group meal before preparing for the journey south the following morning.

Day 2

Friday 7th October

Over the Atlas Mountains to Ouarzazate

We left the hotel at 8.30 am and headed south-east across the agricultural area around Marrakech. The only road to cross the High Atlas is the N9 which traverses via Tizi-n-Tichka pass at 2,260m. Although it is the main road progress is always slow, even more so as roadworks to improve it have been a feature of the last six years!

We had a brief stop overlooking the Zat Valley before heading higher to a side road. Here, at the Escal Forest, we walked through the pines to an overlook. Despite hearing them call, the local Crossbills refused to show, but we soon picked up the *africana* race of Chaffinch, an Atlas Coal Tit, African Blue Tits and Cirl Bunting. A Cape Hare crashed through the undergrowth and the wood was full of both Spotted & Pied Flycatchers. As we returned to the buses, we encountered a massive hirundine flock making their way south, although mainly Swallows and House Martins, there we also Red-rumped Swallows. We headed on up, being required to pause for ongoing works.

Lunch was at a café below the pass, and suitably refreshed we tackled the remaining climb to the top of the pass. Our last stop below the col was at the Source de Tichka. Birds were scarce but Rock Sparrow, Atlas Wheatear and Northern Raven were found and a Clouded Yellow butterfly flew past.

We headed down the southern slope, desiccated after the dry summer, before stopping outside Amerzgane. The abandoned fields had Corn Bunting and the tress had more flycatchers and a few Western Subalpine Warblers. Our first 'desert' search appropriately yielded Desert Lark, while a small rodent kept us guessing and only from photos was it possible to identify as Shaw's Jird.

The skies had clouded over, and we had a few drops of rain as we continued to Ouarzazate. At the city it was clear that they had had more of deluge, albeit extremely isolated, so we continued on to the edge of the reservoir and as expected there was no water in sight. We found Marsh Harriers, hirundines shooting through and flights of Yellow Wagtails going to roost. However, being entertained by a spectacular lightning show and with the rain on its way we headed on to the hotel. Stormy night at Hotel Le Fint.

Day 3

Saturday 8th October

Ouarzazate to Boumalne Dades am, Gorges de Dades & Tagdilt track pm

After breakfast we returned to the Barrage to another area to see if we could find any grounded migrants. After the rain of the night before it was perhaps not surprising that the river, holding Greenshank and Green Sandpiper was impassable and we headed to a slightly different area than first planned. On the walk around we were entertained by a pair of Little Owls and closer views of White-crowned Wheatears, including one of the confusing black-crowned forms. The local Cattle Egrets were perching on the browsing camels but all seemed quiet with little return for all the promise of last night's storm. With the decision to return to the buses, it was then that everything seemed to happen at once. We 'bumped' into a Rufous-tailed Bush Robin, a Western Olivaceous Warbler moved through the bushes before showing well and overhead the passage of hirundines restarted and with it came Little Swift, Hobby and Bee-eaters included the much-desired Blue-cheeked.

We headed further east to the area by the aborted golf complex. Here at last we could see some water, but even here it was very distant but included Ruddy Shelduck, Gadwall and a few Herons. We found the expected Desert Larks but it was clear that we needed to move on.

We continued east, the Dadès valley here being known as the Vallee de Roses, for the growing of Damask Roses and production of rosewater and other products. We had our picnic at a café before heading on to the Dadès Gorge, at the last section stopping to view the strange rock formations at the 'Pattes de Singe' and gawping at the dozen Lamborghini Miuras driving towards us. After driving to the top, we walked down the series of switch-backs to the river level. House Buntings, Blue Rock Thrushes and Black Wheatears were easy to find, but it was a delightful surprise to find a family of Tristram's Warblers still on territory. Our final stop of the day was on the famous Tagdilt track, just to the east of Boumalne Dades. As dusk approached, we walked the flat stony plain around the rubbish strewn town dump. However, it still holds good birds and we immediately found Trumpeter Finches, Temminck's Lark and Red-rumped Wheatear. Night at the characterful surroundings of the Kasbah Tizzarouine hotel.

Day 4

Sunday 9th October

Boumalne Dades to Erfoud, including Tagdilt track am

After breakfast, at 9am we headed out to the same gravel plains to the east of town, but this time along the new Tagdilt track. Our first stop was at a natural bowl where pools had opened up. The water had obviously been swelled by recent rains and Ringed Plover, Little Ringed Plover and Little Stint were typical migrants, however they were joined by an American vagrant, a Pectoral Sandpiper which we later learnt was the 20th for the whole of Morocco. Good numbers of Sandgrouse were coming to drink and we had good views of Pin-tailed, Black-bellied and Crowned. However, it was the wheatears and larks that this area is famous for and after watching Red-rumped Wheatears some heavy larks flew in and much to Chris' evident delight were readily identified as Thick-billed Larks, the most obviously adapted to cope with the hard desert seeds.

We moved up to the south end of the old Tagdilt Track and walked a loop around the steppe. Birds were at a premium but we found a mix of larks including more Temminck's, Thekla and Thick-billed before spending some

time with the Fat Sand Rats and a Small-spotted Desert Racer. Our return to the buses was further delayed by a pair of Hoopoe Larks that gave wonderful views including a few practice display ‘tumbles’.

Heading only a few kilometres further east, we entered a dry gorge that is always a highlight of these trips. Surprisingly it only took a few minutes to find a particularly confiding Pharaoh Eagle Owl at its day-time roost. The other speciality of this gorge took us longer to find, but we were soon entranced by a male Maghreb Wheatear as it tried to chase a juvenile male out of its territory, even being aided by one of the local Black Wheatears in its attempts.

We moved on for our now somewhat late picnic near Tinejdad in the shaded garden of a cafe. A dripping tap was attracting Western Subalpine Warblers, a few butterflies including Common Tiger Blue and False Baton Blue and a Bosk's Fringe-fingered Lizard. We also found one of the Silent Slant-faced Grasshoppers – a most strange looking beast. We had short stop at a well, north-west of Jorf. The drought was all too evident and with no recent flush of growth we struggled to find anything new except for a single Spectacled Warbler. Therefore, we decided to go directly the short distance to our hotel, the Palm Club near Erfoud.

Day 5

Monday 10th October

Dawn to dusk in the Desert

It was 6.30am when the five jeeps headed by our guide Lahcen departed for the desert. As we headed South, we witnessed the sun rising over the desert and Algeria just to the east. This was to be one of, if not the special day of the trip and the day dawned cloudy and calm. We headed into the gravel plains, determined to give Houbara a go, but nothing showed and even at the stop in the dunes there were few birds, even if we did find a few Houbara footprints and a track of Fennec Fox.

We headed on to the small water hole and sure enough we immediately connected with a party of Crowned Sandgrouse and after a few minutes, they were joined by a party of Spotted Sandgrouse. Rather than staying put we headed back out connecting with Bar-tailed and Hoopoe Larks before a brief foray to try and find some babblers. Although as before we didn't immediately succeed a little further on a sentinel was perched up and by stopping, we waited as the whole family of ten Fulvous Babblers left the bush in their typical follow-my-leader style. Next was a lone acacia tree in the middle of the plain, where a pair of Desert Sparrows were holding territory, the male showing well, even if his mate was camera shy.

After a comfort break in the shadow of the Erg Chebbi dunes, we tried again for Desert Warbler before heading off to the palmeries at Igrane to see if anything had dropped in. Migrants seemed to be limited to our familiar Pied Flycatchers but the walk illustrated the local agricultural system and dragonflies including Epaulet Skimmer and Orange-winged Dropwings were plentiful.

Over lunch we learnt about Berber carpets before heading back out into the desert. We had more attempts to try for African Desert Warbler in the Halfa grassed dunes, much of it showing the ravishes of the ongoing drought. In the last stop we flushed a single and although distracted by a migrant Wryneck we followed up on where it went, only to be frustrated when we couldn't find it. We headed back to the hotel, arriving around 5pm. Night at Palm Club, Erfoud.

Day 6

Tuesday 11th October

Erfoud to Ouarzazate via the Tizi-n-Tinififf Pass

Another transfer day, returning to Ouarzazate by heading along the southern route. Early stops at an escarpment near Rissani offered our first Maghreb Lark and lots of Brown-necked Ravens, but little else other than a selection of fossils which could be picked off the desert floor and a Small-spotted Desert Racer.

We headed off, and were soon heading west across the empty gravel plains. Unlike the northerly route, these were marked with Flat-topped Acacias, giving the impression of African savannah. After coffee at Alnif, we stopped a couple of times around Tazarine, and found that due to the ongoing drought few acacias were in flower. At the palmeries we only found Pied Flycatcher and then a confiding party of Fulvous Babblers, however when we decided to leave, we hit a purple patch with Hoopoe, Blue Rock Thrush, Common Rock Thrush and Pale Crag Martin in a couple of minutes. Our picnic stop, under some acacias, gave more chances to catch up with migrants, but it was perhaps the Painted Ladies that stole the show. The few acacias that were in flower were covered in these butterflies, most probably recently arrived from their return migration from northern Europe.

On reaching Oued Drâa, we found ourselves back in a landscape of palmeries and Kasbahs. We stopped by the 'river' and were shocked to find no water at all; even further north there was no flow and very few migrants, although at a toilet stop, we found a confiding Western Olivaceous Warbler. Then it was up and over the moonscape of the Anti-Atlas Mountains via Tizi-n-Tinififf pass and down into Ouarzazate where we arrived at 6pm. Night at Hotel Le Fint

Day 7

Wednesday 12th October

Ouarzazate, Aoulouz Gorge and Taroudant

The journey to Taroudant is one of transition from the desert to the fertile Souss valley. Although there was not the rain of our earlier visit, we could see the storm clouds over the High Atlas Mountains to the north and news came of the first snows of the autumn. No doubt this was stopping migration and with the wind, accounted for the slow birding of the last 24 hours. Arriving at Oued Iriri, we walked the fields but it was relatively quiet although a few Black-crowned Night Heron were in the river side tamarisks and Yellow Wagtails called. We also found an Iberian Chiffchaff by the bridge and a pair of Bonelli's Eagles soared over the nearby hillside.

We reached Tinfat for lunch, where we enjoyed a refreshing glass of Saffron infused tea and learnt about the Saffron production. As the autumn flowering crocus only flowers later in October/November there was nothing to see of the flowers themselves, however, a walk amongst the fields and orchards gave us good views of our first Great Tit and more surprisingly, migrant Ortolan Bunting.

Continuing west, we stopped a couple of times firstly at the Argan Trees near Aoulouz and then on to the bridge overlooking the Souss river. At the first we found a tiny Boehme's Agama and the latter had been cleared as part of flood relief works. Our final run down into Taroudant was uneventful and we relaxed into the charming surroundings of Dar Tourkia.

Day 8

Thursday 13th October

Taroudant, Tamri, Agadir

We headed from Taroudant to Agadir, crossing the area where commercial growing of fruit and vegetables has increased markedly in the last decade and then headed to the coast above Agadir. We had a coffee stop at the beach café at Imi Ouaddar. From the roof-top terrace we could spend a few minutes in an impromptu sea watch. A few Gannet were of interest but it was the Cory's Shearwaters that were the real target. They stayed distant, but the hordes of Lesser Black-backed and Yellow-legged Gulls followed the fishing boats into the beach.

We rounded Cap Rhir, and stopped at the Asif n'Srou estuary near Tamri, a well-known hotspot especially for Bald Ibis and immediately a flock wheeled into sight and flew over our heads. Audouin's gulls are a feature of the estuary, and sure enough we soon found some coming to bathe in the freshwater pool behind the sandbar.

Overhead, whilst watching the Bald Ibis we picked out an Osprey and then a few hunting Eleonora's Falcons. However, with the need to find the Bald Ibis closer, we drove a short road on the south side of the estuary and soon found ourselves amongst a party of these bizarre looking birds busily feeding on snails along the village edge.

With time pressing on we headed back to Agadir and to the Souss Estuary, one of the foremost birding sites in Morocco. The tide was high, and despite their being a wealth of waders, gulls and terns, most were distant and difficult in the heat haze. At least the Lesser Crested Terns came a bit closer, but knowing we would return we headed to our hotel. Night at Tildi Hotel.

Day 9

Friday 14th October

Agadir and Souss-Massa National Park

We again headed south from Agadir and it was calm and sunny. We immediately headed to Sidi Rabat on the coast and our target was Stone-curlew. We were initially distracted by a pair of Black-winged Kites on the road in and our 'normal' confiding Little Owl as we arrived, but we soon settled to scan the heath. Our overall count was 174 Stone-curlew in this single small area, a typical amassing post-breeding.

We drove back to the National Park entrance, and tried for migrants along the Massa River itself. The water level was good and a mix of waders were seen, including Wood Sandpiper. However, we needed to find a showy Moussier's Redstart and sure enough a few decided to oblige. The cliffs also had a large Bibron's Agama and this vied for the scopes attention with the few migrants including Turtle Dove, Garden Warbler and Iberian Chiffchaff. Despite hearing a briefly calling Tchagra, it didn't come close but that other African relic species, Brown-throated Martin was plentiful over the river.

We had lunch in the grounds of the eco-Museum, with the estuary overview giving sighting of Osprey and Ruddy Shelduck and then moving on to try another couple of places in the valley. At the first we found Glossy Ibis and a migrant Western Bonelli's Warbler. At the second, we walked along the river further inland, along an area bordered by agricultural fields. The wind was picking up and although finding more Moussier's Redstart and Martins it was relatively quiet so we headed back to the hotel. Night at Tildi Hotel.

Day 10

Saturday 15th October

Agadir, Oued Souss, London

For our final morning we had a more leisurely start as we checked out at 9.30 and headed back to Souss Estuary, planning to walk further towards the sea, now that the tide would be out. The exposed sandbanks brought the waders closer to us and we spent a couple of hours working our way through the masses of Godwits, Curlew Sandpipers, Avocets and Black-winged Stilts. Activity was not limited to the edges and we found Marbled Duck as it headed inland and wave after wave of gulls headed out to sea from their roost site.

The Osprey was on his normal pylon and we found a Barbary Falcon on a dead tree which gave distant scope views. In amongst the melee, we kept an eye out for terns. Caspian and Little joined the more plentiful Sandwich terns and within their flock we found a couple of Lesser Crested Terns – their orange beaks making identification relatively simple. Of course, the Flamingo flock was present and as the tide dropped, they came closer, keeping up a continuous burble of calls between the 200 or so present. We returned to the hotel to collect our baggage and then we stopped for lunch, our last Tagine giving us the perfect send off for the trip. Suitably refreshed, we joined the bustle of the flights out of Agadir Airport.

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Species lists

Birds

E=Endemic; N=Near-endemic		October 2022									
Common name	Scientific name	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Ruddy Shelduck	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>			✓						✓	✓
Northern Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>										✓
Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>			✓							
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>							✓			
Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>									✓	
Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>									✓	
Marbled Duck	<i>Marmaronetta angustirostris</i>										✓
Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>	✓	✓	✓							✓
Pin-tailed Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles alchata</i>				✓						
Spotted Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles senegallus</i>					✓	✓				
Black-bellied Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles orientalis</i>			✓	✓						
Crowned Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles coronatus</i>				✓	✓					
Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓				
Feral Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia dom.</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>		✓					✓	✓	✓	✓
European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>									✓	
Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Laughing Dove	<i>Spilopelia senegalensis</i>			✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>							✓		✓	
Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>	✓									
Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>									✓	
Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>								✓		✓
Eurasian Stone-curlew	<i>Burhinus oedicephalus</i>									✓	
Eurasian Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>								✓		✓
Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>								✓	✓	✓
Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>								✓		✓
Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>										✓
Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>				✓					✓	✓
Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>				✓						
Eurasian Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>								✓		✓
Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>								✓		✓
Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>								✓		✓
Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>										✓
Red Knot	<i>Calidris canutus</i>								✓		✓
Ruff	<i>Calidris pugnax</i>	✓								✓	
Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>									✓	✓
Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>								✓		
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>								✓	✓	✓
Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>				✓						
Pectoral Sandpiper	<i>Calidris melanotos</i>				✓						
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>								✓	✓	✓
Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>		✓	✓	H					✓	✓
Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>								✓	✓	✓
Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>										✓

E=Endemic; N=Near-endemic		October 2022									
Common name	Scientific name	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>									✓	
Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>			✓	✓					✓	✓
Slender-billed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus genei</i>								✓		✓
Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>								✓		✓
Audouin's Gull	<i>Ichthyaeetus audouinii</i>								✓	✓	
Mediterranean Gull	<i>Ichthyaeetus melanocephalus</i>								✓	✓	✓
Great Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>								✓		
Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>								✓	✓	✓
Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>								✓	✓	✓
Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>										✓
Lesser Crested Tern	<i>Thalasseus bengalensis</i>								✓		✓
Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>								✓		✓
Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>										✓
Cory's Shearwater	<i>Calonectris borealis</i>								✓		
White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	✓	✓						✓		
Northern Gannet	<i>Morus bassanus</i>								✓	✓	
Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis</i>								✓	✓	✓
North African Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo maroccanus</i>										✓
Northern Bald Ibis - E	<i>Geronticus eremita</i>								✓		
Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>									✓	✓
Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>								✓	✓	✓
Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>							✓			
Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>			✓				✓	✓	✓	✓
Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>			✓							✓
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>			✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>								✓	✓	✓
Black-winged Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>									✓	
Bonelli's Eagle	<i>Aquila fasciata</i>							✓			
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>		✓	✓						✓	✓
Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>		✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	✓									
Atlas Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus cirtensis</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>			✓						✓	
Pharaoh Eagle-Owl	<i>Bubo ascalaphus</i>				✓						
Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>		✓	✓			✓			✓	
Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>									✓	
Blue-cheeked Bee-eater	<i>Merops persicus</i>			✓							
European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>			✓							
Eurasian Wryneck	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>					✓					
Lesser Kestrel	<i>Falco naumanni</i>			✓	✓						
Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eleonora's Falcon	<i>Falco eleonora</i>								✓		
Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>			✓							

E=Endemic; N=Near-endemic		October 2022									
Common name	Scientific name	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Barbary Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus pelegrinoides</i>										✓
Desert [Great] Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius excubitor elegans</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓				
Southern [Great] Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius excubitor algeriensis</i>							✓	✓	✓	
Maghreb Magpie - N	<i>Pica mauritanica</i>	✓	✓						✓	✓	✓
Red-billed Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>	✓	✓								
Brown-necked Raven	<i>Corvus ruficollis</i>					✓	✓				
Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax tingitanus</i>		✓								
Atlas' Coal Tit	<i>Periparus ater atlas</i>		✓								
African Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes teneriffae</i>		✓								
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>							✓			
Greater Hoopoe-Lark	<i>Alaemon alaudipes</i>				✓	✓					
Thick-billed Lark	<i>Ramphocoris clotbey</i>				✓						
Desert Lark	<i>Ammomanes deserti</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓				
Bar-tailed Lark	<i>Ammomanes cinctura</i>					✓					
Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>				H	✓					
Thekla's Lark	<i>Galerida theklae</i>		✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	
Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>		✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓
Maghreb Lark - N	<i>Galerida macrorhyncha</i>						✓				
Horned Lark	<i>Eremophila alpestris</i>	✓									
Temminck's Lark	<i>Eremophila bilopha</i>			✓	✓						
Greater Short-toed Lark	<i>Calandrella brachydactyla</i>		✓	✓	✓						
Common Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus barbatus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>			✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	
Brown-throated Martin	<i>Riparia paludicola</i>									✓	
Eurasian Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>			✓							
Pale Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne obsoleta</i>						✓				
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Cecropis daurica</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓				
Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>			H				✓		H	
Western Bonelli's Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus bonelli</i>									✓	
Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>						✓				
Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	✓		✓						✓	
Iberian Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus ibericus</i>							✓		✓	
Common Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>			✓				✓			
Western Olivaceous Warbler	<i>Iduna opaca</i>			✓			✓				
Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>			H					H	✓	✓
Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>									✓	
African Desert Warbler - N	<i>Curruca deserti</i>					✓					
Tristram's Warbler - N	<i>Curruca deserticola</i>			✓							
Sardinian Warbler	<i>Curruca melanocephala</i>		H	✓	H	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Western Subalpine Warbler	<i>Curruca iberiae</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	
Spectacled Warbler	<i>Curruca conspicillata</i>				✓		✓				
Fulvous Babbler	<i>Argya fulva</i>					✓	✓				

E=Endemic; N=Near-endemic		October 2022									
Common name	Scientific name	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Common Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapilla</i>	✓									
Spotless Starling	<i>Sturnus unicolor</i>	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓
Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin	<i>Cercotrichas galactotes</i>			✓							
Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>		✓	✓			✓			✓	
European Pied Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochrurus</i>	✓		✓							
Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>					✓					
Moussier's Redstart - N	<i>Phoenicurus moussieri</i>								✓	✓	✓
Common Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola saxatilis</i>						✓				
Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>			✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	
European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>								✓	✓	✓
Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>			✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	
Atlas Wheatear - N	<i>Oenanthe seebohmii</i>	✓	✓								
Desert Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe deserti</i>					✓	✓				
Western Black-eared Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe hispanica</i>						✓				
Red-rumped Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe moesta</i>			✓	✓						
Black Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe leucura</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓						
White-crowned Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe leucopyga</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Maghreb Wheatear - N	<i>Oenanthe halophila</i>				✓						
White-throated Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>	✓									
Rock Sparrow	<i>Petronia petronia barbata</i>	✓	✓								
Spanish Sparrow	<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>			✓							
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Desert Sparrow	<i>Passer simplex</i>					✓					
Western Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>		✓	✓			✓	✓		✓	✓
Western Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava iberiae</i>					✓			✓		
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>		✓	✓				✓			
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	✓									
Moroccan White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba subpersonata</i>								✓	✓	✓
Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs africana</i>	✓	✓							✓	
African Crimson-winged Finch - N	<i>Rhodopechys alienus</i>	✓									
Trumpeter Finch	<i>Bucanetes githagineus</i>			✓	✓		✓				
European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>				✓			✓	✓	✓	
Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>	✓	✓					✓		✓	✓
Red Crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra polioygyna</i>		H								
European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓
Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>		✓								
Ortolan Bunting	<i>Emberiza hortulana</i>							✓			
Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>		✓								
House Bunting - N	<i>Emberiza sahari</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Others

		October 2022									
Common name	Scientific name	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Mammals											
Cape Hare	<i>Lepus capensis</i>	✓									
Barbary Ground Squirrel	<i>Atlantoxerus getulus</i>		✓	✓					✓	✓	
Shaw's Jird	<i>Meriones shawii</i>		✓								
Fat Sand Rat	<i>Psammomys obsesus</i>				✓						
Butterflies											
Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>		✓							✓	
Bath White	<i>Pontia daplidice</i>							✓		✓	
Green-striped White	<i>Euchloe belemia</i>			✓							
Greenish Black-tip	<i>Elphinstomia charlonia</i>		✓	✓						✓	
Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias crocea</i>		✓								
Long-tailed Blue	<i>Lampides boeticus</i>				✓						
Lang's Short tailed Blue	<i>Leptotes pirithous</i>				✓			✓			
Common Tiger Blue	<i>Tarucus theophrastus</i>				✓						
African Grass Blue	<i>Zizeeria knysna</i>				✓	✓		✓		✓	
False Baton Blue	<i>Pseudophilotes abencerragus</i>				✓						
Southern Blue	<i>Polyommatus celina</i>							✓			
Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>					✓					
Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dragonflies											
Vagrant Emperor	<i>Anax ephippiger</i>					✓	✓		✓		
Blue Emperor	<i>Anax imperator</i>							✓		✓	
Lesser Emperor	<i>Anax parthenope</i>									✓	
Broad Scarlet	<i>Crocothemis erythraea</i>							✓			
Epaulet Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum chrysostigma</i>					✓					
Red-veined Darter	<i>Sympetrum fonscolombi</i>		✓		✓		✓			✓	
Violet Dropwing	<i>Trithemis annulata</i>					✓	✓		✓		
Orange-winged Dropwing	<i>Trithemis kirbyi</i>		✓			✓				✓	
Reptiles											
North African Water Frog	<i>Pelophylax saharicus</i>						✓	✓			
Spur-thighed Tortoise	<i>Testuda graeca</i>							✓			
Spanish Terrapin	<i>Mauremys leprosa</i>						✓	✓		✓	
Bosk's Fringe-fingered Lizard	<i>Acanthodactylus boskianus</i>				✓						
Dumeril's Fringe-fingered Lizard	<i>Acanthodactylus dumerilii</i>					✓					
Long-footed Fringe-fingered Lizard	<i>Acanthodactylus longipes</i>					✓					
Margarita's Fringe-fingered Lizard	<i>Acanthodactylus margaritae</i>								✓		
Atlas Dwarf Lizard	<i>Atlantolacerta andreanskyi</i>	✓									
Small-spotted Desert Racer	<i>Mesalina guttulata</i>				✓		✓				
Bibron's Agama	<i>Agama impalearis</i>									✓	
Bohme's Agama	<i>Trapelus boehmei</i>							✓			
Others											
Hummingbird Hawkmoth	<i>Macroglossum stellatarum</i>	✓									

Common name	Scientific name	October 2022									
		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Bordered Straw	<i>Heliothis peltigera</i>			✓							
Crimson Speckled	<i>Utetheisa pulchella</i>			✓		✓	✓				
Silent Slant-faced Grasshopper	<i>Acrida ungarica</i>				✓			✓			

