

Butterflies of Morocco's High Atlas Mountains

Naturetrek Tour Report

1st – 8th June 2026



Vaucher's Heath



Common Swallowtail



Chapman's Green Hairstreak



Dark Giant Grayling

Tour report by Martin Pitt



Naturetrek

Mingledown Barn

Wolf's Lane

Chawton

Alton

Hampshire

GU34 3HJ

UK

T: +44 (0)1962 733051

E: info@naturetrek.co.uk

W: www.naturetrek.co.uk

Tour participants: Martin Pitt (leader) with three Naturetrek clients

Summary

This High Atlas tour was based on the north slope of the mountains offering access to the multiplicity of biomes that create a complex habitat mosaic, driven by altitude, aridity and permeability of substrate. We spent time in the alpine zone, in the shadow of Morocco's highest mountain Jebel Toubkal and its volcanic massif, and also in zones of highly eroded sedimentary rocks. This maximised our chances of finding a wide range of species, including endemics that have evolved to cope with this stark but beautiful landscape. This year the season was mixed. At high altitude, the late snow melt meant that we arrived at the peak of the flowering plants, and the number of butterflies was staggering. Lower down, the situation was mixed. The lack of spring rain resulted in many plants not flowering at all, or being late. Consequently, many later-flying insect species had not appeared, and dragonflies in particular were scarce, as the river systems were still overflowing with the torrents of snowmelt.

In all we found fifty-six species of butterflies: many of them are localised, and are only found in the Maghreb region. After many years of drought, it was good to see flower-strewn meadows, holding many of the key species, such as both Berberia Graylings, Aetherie's, African Knapweed and Desert Fritillaries, Vaucher's Heath and a host of confusing blues

Other taxa were not ignored: we found eight dragonflies, eight amphibians/reptiles and sixty-five species of bird. Who will forget the swathes of Broad-leaved Marsh Orchids sheltering other flowers in the alpine zone, and glimpses of Atlas Day Geckos among the rocks. Although dragonflies were at a premium, we did find the near-endemics, namely Atlas Goldenring and Barbary Featherleg. Birds included the much sought-after Crimson-winged Finch, Tristram's Warbler, Atlas Wheatear and the stunning Moussier's Redstart. Reptiles included Spur-thighed Tortoises, and as usual Berber Toads were plentiful around the hotel after dark. Taken all together, the itinerary showed the amazing diversity of life in this dramatic landscape.

Day 1

Monday 1st June

Marrakech and Ouirgane

Our early morning flight left a bit late from Gatwick, and we cleared passport control and baggage reclaim and picked up the car. We needed to wait a little while, as the Manchester flight had been diverted to Porto for a medical emergency, and arrived over two hours late. All together, we headed south-west beyond Asni, making good time to our hotel for the week ahead.

We had a tasty lunch on the terrace, and then walked the extensive hotel grounds, picking up our first butterflies: Iberian Swallowtail, Cleopatra, and Mediterranean Tiger, Lang's Short-tailed and Long-tailed Blues. Among the clouds of Small Whites were a few Western Bath Whites thrown in for good measure. We then tried the local hotspot below the N'fis dam, which gave us an understanding of the state of the vegetation and the level of insect activity. Few butterflies were moving beyond Small and Western Bath Whites. More careful searching added African Knapweed Fritillary, False Baton Blue and African Babel Blue: at this altitude, most vegetation was already desiccated. On the scrubby hillsides, a few birds were active, and we soon added our first endemics in the form of a showy Moussier's Redstart and an elusive Tristram's Warbler.

Day 2

Tuesday 2nd June

Oukaïmeden and the alpine zone

For our first full day, we headed as high as we could go, with an ultimate destination in the alpine zone. The day started in dramatic style with a fire in the central buildings which severely distracted the staff: it could have been much worse! After a delayed breakfast, we left the hotel shortly after 9.00am and headed back down to Asni, before starting the long climb on winding mountain roads to Oukaïmeden, a dilapidated ski resort, the highest accessible spot in the High Atlas, and our only point in the alpine zone.

After an hour, we stopped at some promising roadside flowers at around 1600m. Immediately, we found a mix of species dominated by Clouded Yellows, Small Whites and Western Bath Whites, a mix repeated everywhere we went. However, there was a wealth of other species too: Wall Brown, Cardinal and Queen of Spain Fritillaries, and Rosy Grizzled Skipper were active on the flowery road edges. A Chapman's Green Hairstreak was a good find, and a mix of blues included Lang's Short-tailed and Long-tailed.

We soon joined the main route to the ski resort via the newly improved road. We had a brief stop at an Atlas Cedar plantation, but finding it quiet, except for our first Speckled Wood, we headed on to Oukaïmeden valley itself. We stopped just short of the dam, being drawn to the display of Broad-leaved Marsh Orchids along the mountain stream. Taking a closer look, we also found a number of Bug Orchids, wild Gladioli and other species making up a lovely floral display. In the layby, we found our first Lorquin's Blue, and a single High Atlas Blue. Down on the stream itself, a couple of Amanda's Blues were puddling for salts. Overhead, a few Berberia Graylings flew over, encouraging us to move on.

We next tried a viewpoint at 2640m with views across to Toubkal, the highest mountain in the range, which was still speckled with snow. Even before we sat down, a Giant Grayling landed close by; we soon ate our picnic and then started exploring the meadow. Tuberous Valerian was in flower, and the whole meadow was alive with butterflies. A calling Quail indicated just how much growth there had been this year. Glanville Fritillaries were common, and good numbers of Queen of Spain Fritillaries and Painted Ladies were everywhere, vying with Small Coppers as the most plentiful 'non-whites'. Soon enough we found a Vaucher's Heath, a small and beautifully marked endemic.

We headed further up the valley and walked the stream line. Again, Marsh Orchids were plentiful, and Black Redstarts and Rock Sparrows perched on the ski-lifts. On the boulders, we found a couple of endemic Atlas Day Geckos enjoying the sun. A Black-eyed Blue was photographed and then, as we left the area, we were treated to a nesting pair of Atlas Wheatears and a pair of showy Crimson-winged Finches, the undoubted ornithological stars here.

Our final stop at this high elevation was back by the dam. Along the outflow stream, there were lots of Barbary Featherlegs and Common Bluet damselflies, but oddly no other odonata. With that, we headed back down off the mountain, and arrived back at the hotel at 6.30pm, finding that all was well after the drama of the fire. We relaxed over dinner on the terrace.

Day 3

Wednesday 3rd June

Ourika Valley above Sti Fatma

Today brought a bright start, and we headed to Ourika, widely regarded as one of the more beautiful valleys in the High Atlas. We needed to head down to the Haouz plain to cross to the valley line. We then ascended, passing large numbers of pottery and carpet emporia, reminding us this is a major local tourist destination. The river here is a favourite locale: the banks were lined with cafés, many with tables actually in the riverbed. We continued beyond the tourist hotspot of Sti Fatma and searched some typical riverine field systems, at 1500m. A field of lucerne was full of butterflies: most were species with which we were already familiar, but both African Grass and Chapman's Blues were new. A Rosy Grizzled Skipper eventually showed for everyone, and on some bramble flowers we found our first False Ilex Hairstreak.

The river here was in full spate, and clearly meltwater was still feeding it from higher up. The area seemed to be suffering from the late spring, and most nectar-bearing plants were yet to flower. We struggled with finding new species, and even the dragonflies normally so prevalent here were almost entirely absent; we had to content ourselves with a single Epaulet Skimmer and a quartering Atlas Goldenring.

We had our picnic in a meadow, serenaded by a singing Nightingale and a calling Golden Oriole. The brambles here were hectic with Small Whites and Long-tailed Blues, and after a bit of patience we found our first Spotted Fritillary and Holly Blue. We tried again for blues at the lucerne fields, and had more Chapman's and a fly-through Common Swallowtail. We then drove back down the valley and stopped on a river bank close to Asni, where a roadside Roller added some colour. Fly-over Red-rumped Swallows entertained us, as did a family of Western Olivaceous Warblers feeding their young. However, butterflies were at a premium. We added Comma before driving the short distance back to hotel. After the sun set, a few Berber Toads joined us, and North African Water Frogs and Mediterranean Tree Frogs could be heard calling into the night.

Day 4

Thursday 4th June

Tizi n'Tamatert and Imlil

The day started in the now familiar way, with breakfast and departure at 9.00am. Again, we dropped down to Asni, before climbing to the trekking centre of Imlil, where we took the side road on the winding road to Tizi n'Tamatert. At the top and in sight of the summit of Jebel Toubkal itself, we explored the track edges on the upper slopes of the subalpine zone, where the igneous substrate supports a rich local flora. However, we again found that the season was late, and that the flowers had only just started to appear. At the top, butterflies were commonplace: Small Coppers were probably the most numerous, but we also found good numbers of Vaucher's Heath, Glanville and Spotted Fritillaries, and Atlas and Black-eyed Blues. One Giant Grayling showed well, although most of our sightings involved them gliding past and refusing to settle. Clouds of Red-billed and Alpine Choughs wheeled overhead, and we watched young Moussier's Redstarts being fed.

After a refreshing drink in an improbably positioned café at the Tizi itself, we dropped down from the col and continued our search, finding Spanish Marbled Whites, and Chapman's and more Atlas Blues. We had our picnic in the shade of some pine trees, before dropping back down to Imlil. The plan to cross the river and walk into a

walnut grove was thwarted by the river being in full spate, but the spectacular views up to Toubkal were some compensation.

We arrived back at the hotel by 4.00pm and after a wait to let the heat die down a bit, we headed out to a local streamline on foot. Here, flowering sea hollies and globe thistles attracted good numbers of butterflies, and we added both Common Tiger Blue and a very tatty Western Dappled White. We returned to freshen up and enjoyed our now familiar dinner on the terrace.

Day 5

Friday 5th June

Oued N'fis at Aouzar

With the coolest day of the trip forecast, it was worth the risk of heading to the lowest altitude location of the week. We crossed the local hills for the short drive to Oued N'fis, at Aouzar. The valley here is wide and surrounded by low-intensity agricultural fields, and for the first time for many years the stony river bed was awash with meltwater from the mountain tops to the south.



Atlas Day Gecko



Roller



Aouzar



Jebel Toubkal above Tamassit

Again, we found the season to be oddly late, probably due to a dry spring, and inspection of the *Vitex* trees (Lilac Chastetrees) showed they were only just starting to bloom, and were yet to work their magic in attracting butterflies. We would therefore need to work harder for our targets. The flowering thistles and sea hollies held blues: Common, Chapman's, and our only Mazarine of the trip. Plain Tigers were our main targets, and we managed to see a few, but frustratingly they never settled; however, we could see them well enough to see that they all had dark hindwings, rather than the white hindwing form that had been so widespread last year.

Other insects grabbed our attention: an antlion was on the wing, and jewel bugs were congregating in the broom bushes. Under the shade of the olive trees, we then found good numbers of Spur-thighed Tortoises, and there were lots of young Berber Toads, all lacking the dramatic patterning of the adults. The most welcome sight was of a number of North African Orange-tip, a species which had been strangely missing until this point.

The temperature was rising, so we headed back to the hotel, stopping briefly a few times on the way: we picked up Barbary Ground Squirrel among the tumble of folded strata, and then some African Knapweed Fritillaries on roadside flowers. We found a few more Berber Toads at the hotel before we turned in for the night.

Day 6

Saturday 6th June

N'fis valley above Ouirgane and Tinnel

With the temperature still low for the time of year, but warmer than of late, we needed to head high, and follow the main road along the N'fis valley towards the Tizi n'Test pass, at 2100m. This area is on permeable rock, and therefore has a different flavour to the Oukaïmeden area. The road is also being rebuilt, and despite progress in the last year, we found that delays were inevitable; in fact, we were thwarted after the third temporary closure, and never made it right to the top.

We paused at Barrage de Ouirgane, finding it full for the first time in almost a decade, which explained the high flow volume we had seen downstream the previous day. A Short-toed Snake Eagle and a Robin enlivened the journey in the first few kilometres. Our first proper stop was by the N'fis River, at 1100m. Here, there used to be a series of riverside pools, but it became clear that meltwater flow had realigned the river, and most of the habitat has been washed away. We did find a few species attracted to flowering shrubs, but with nothing new (except for a Blue Rock Thrush's song providing a backdrop), we moved on.

This area of Morocco was heavily impacted by the earthquake in September 2023, and the impact can still be seen today, with abandoned buildings commonplace. Nowhere is this more evident than at Tinnel, where a historically significant twelfth-century mosque was badly damaged. Although there is a restoration programme underway, progress has been slow, and it was clear that there is still a long way to go. The surrounding village has an area of low intensity agricultural fields in the valley floor, and we stopped to have our picnic and explore. Barley and oats were the main arable crops, with olives, pistachios, almonds and apricots providing a shade layer. There were plenty of 'weeds' and bramble to search, and species such as Speckled Wood and Cardinal were common; we also found more North African Orange-tips, Rosy Grizzled Skippers and our first Moroccan Small Skipper. We also were able to see another Desert Fritillary for those who had missed it the day before, and Mountain Brown Argus among the more plentiful Brown Arguses. A Common Swallowtail finally posed for us, bring into question if it could be the desert form: photos showed that it appeared to have the required fewer antennae segments, which is the only way of telling the forms apart in the field.

The fields also held other life: birds included Nightingales, Golden Orioles and that subalpine breeder in these parts, Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin, of which at least three pairs were present. We headed back down the valley road, this time without delay, to the hotel. Again, we ate al fresco, with a menu of typically Moroccan couscous.

Day 7

Sunday 7th June

Oukaïmeden

This was the last full day, and with a cloudless sky we headed back to Oukaïmeden, with unfinished business and to escape the lowland heat. Leaving earlier, we stopped at the same roadside flowers, and found a particularly confiding Chapman's Green Hairstreak, False Ilex Hairstreak and Iberian Scarce Swallowtail, together with most of the species we had found on the previous visit.

We then headed straight up to the stream below the Oukaïmeden dam (the area lined with Marsh Orchid spikes). A runnel across the layby had Amanda's Blues, and the flowering plants gave us better views of Lorquin's Blues. In the few days since our last visit, a different mix of flowers was evident: False Sainfoin dominated, and a Stemless Hawksbit was now in flower. A big flock of Red-billed and Alpine Choughs flew over, swirling above us on the developing thermals. We found some more Small Skippers and a mix of blues, but little new, so after an hour of admiring the Marsh Orchids, we moved on to the viewpoint.

As before, we were blessed with little wind as we scoured the meadow. We immediately noticed that fewer Glanville Fritillaries were flying, but more Queen of Spain and Cardinal Fritillaries. More Dark Giant Graylings were nectaring, and they allowed such close approach that we could see the purple flush on the upperwings. Some good new species were found: Spotted Adonis, Aetherie's Fritillary and a Moroccan Steppe (Meadow) Brown on the buttercups. All the while, we could hear calling Quails in the meadow, but we never saw them.



Broad-leaved Marsh Orchids



Moussier's Redstart

We ate our lunch with a view of Toubkal, oddly finding the only Vaucher's Heath of the day. Afterwards, we moved down to the market area. Most of the species seemed the same, but we tried hard to get to grips with the Dusky/Small Heaths, and as always Painted Lady numbers were high. Streams of whites chasing pheromone trails were also noticeable along the river line.

Our final stop was a brief look at the meadow below the dam, for one last admiring view of Marsh Orchids, and then we negotiated the tortuous hairpins back to the hotel via Asni. We paused for a showy Roller perched on

roadside wires and checked on the progress of the three White Storks nests in town. We returned in good time to pack and prepare for our last supper together.

Day 8

Monday 8th June

Marrakech and departure

The morning was cool, and the sun was barely peeking over the mountains when we had our 6.00am breakfast and checked out. The journey back to Marrakech went without incident, although roadside Spotless Starlings and Maghreb Magpies were seen on the way, and we shared the departure hall with House Buntings.

The flights left close to the scheduled time, and we all arrived back full of memories of this wonderful part of Morocco.

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Species lists

Butterflies

E=Endemic, N=Near-endemic		June 2026							
Common name	Scientific name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Iberian Swallowtail	<i>Iphiclides feisthamelii</i>	✓				✓		✓	
Common Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>			✓	✓		✓		
Moroccan Small Skipper - N	<i>Thymelicus hamza</i>						✓	✓	
False Mallow Skipper - N	<i>Carcharodus tripolinus</i>	✓						✓	
Rosy Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus onopordi</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Common Brimstone	<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>		✓	✓				✓	
Cleopatra	<i>Gonepteryx cleopatra</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias croceus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
North African Orange-tip	<i>Colotis evagore</i>					✓	✓		
Western Bath White	<i>Pontia daplidice</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Western Dappled White	<i>Euchloe crameri</i>				✓				
Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Chapman's Green Hairstreak	<i>Callophrys avis</i>		✓					✓	
False Ilex Hairstreak	<i>Satyrion esculi</i>			✓				✓	
Lang's Short-tailed Blue	<i>Leptotes pirithous</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
African Babul Blue	<i>Azanus jesous</i>	✓	✓		✓				
Long-tailed Blue	<i>Lampides boeticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Holly Blue	<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>			✓					
Common Tiger Blue	<i>Tarucus theophrastus</i>				✓		✓		
Mediterranean Tiger Blue	<i>Tarucus rosaceus</i>	✓							
False Baton Blue	<i>Pseudophilotes abencerragus</i>	✓							
Black-eyed Blue	<i>Glaucopsyche melanops</i>		✓		✓			✓	
African Grass Blue	<i>Zizeeria knysna</i>			✓	✓				
Lorquin's Blue	<i>Cupido lorquini</i>		✓					✓	
Mazarine Blue	<i>Cyaniris semiargus</i>					✓			
Mountain Brown Argus	<i>Aricia artaxerxes</i>						✓	✓	
Brown Argus	<i>Aricia agestis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Spotted Adonis Blue	<i>Polyommatus punctifera</i>							✓	
Chapman's Blue	<i>Polyommatus thersites</i>			✓	✓	✓		✓	
Amanda's Blue	<i>Polyommatus amandus</i>		✓					✓	
Atlas Blue - E	<i>Polyommatus atlantica</i>		✓		✓			✓	
Southern Blue	<i>Polyommatus celina</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Queen of Spain Fritillary	<i>Issoria lathonia</i>		✓		✓	✓		✓	
Cardinal Fritillary	<i>Argynnis pandora</i>	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	
Moroccan High Brown Fritillary - N	<i>Fabriciana auresiana</i>				✓			✓	
Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>		✓	✓	✓			✓	
Comma	<i>Polygonia c-album</i>		✓	✓					
Desert Fritillary	<i>Melitaea deserticola</i>					✓	✓		
Spotted Fritillary	<i>Melitaea didyma</i>			✓	✓				
Aetherie Fritillary	<i>Melitaea aetherie</i>							✓	
African Knapweed Fritillary - N	<i>Melitaea punica</i>	✓				✓			
Glanville Fritillary	<i>Melitaea cinxia</i>		✓		✓			✓	
Plain Tiger	<i>Danaus chrysippus</i>					✓			

E=Endemic, N=Near-endemic		June 2026							
Common name	Scientific name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Moroccan Dusky Heath - N	<i>Coenonympha fettiggii</i>							✓	
Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>		✓					✓	
Vaucher's Heath - E	<i>Coenonympha vaucheri</i>		✓		✓			✓	
Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Spanish Marbled White	<i>Melanargia ines</i>				✓				
Dark Giant Grayling - N	<i>Berberia lambessanus</i>		✓					✓	
Giant Grayling - N	<i>Berberia abdelkader</i>		✓		✓			✓	
Moroccan Steppe (Meadow) Brown - N	<i>Hyponomephele maroccana</i>							✓	

Moths

		June 2026							
Common name	Scientific name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
White-spotted Black Moth	<i>Eurrhysis polinalis</i>				✓				
Hummingbird Hawk-moth	<i>Macroglossum stellatarum</i>		✓					✓	
Striped Hawk-moth	<i>Hyles livornica</i>							✓	

Damselflies & dragonflies

N=Near-endemic		June 2026							
Common name	Scientific name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Common Blueth	<i>Enallagma cyathigerum</i>		✓					✓	
Barbary Featherleg - N	<i>Platycnemis subdilatata</i>		✓					✓	
Blue Emperor	<i>Anax imperator</i>							✓	
Atlas Goldenring - N	<i>Cordulegaster princeps</i>			✓					
Epaulet Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum chrysostigma</i>			✓					
Red-veined Darter	<i>Sympetrum fonscolombii</i>		✓						
Violet Dropwing	<i>Trithemis annulata</i>	✓					✓		
Orange-winged Dropwing	<i>Trithemis kirbyi</i>	✓				✓	✓		

Other invertebrates

N=Near-endemic		June 2026							
Common name	Scientific name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Grasshoppers and allies									
Moroccan Locust	<i>Dociostaurus maroccanus</i>	✓			✓		✓		
Praying Mantis	<i>Mantodea</i> sp.					✓			
Silent Slant-faced Grasshopper	<i>Acrida ungarica</i>					✓			
Antlions									
an antlion	<i>Neuroptera</i> sp					✓			
Bugs									
European Firebug	<i>Pyrrhocoris apterus</i> ,					✓			
Ornate Shieldbug	<i>Eurydema ornata</i>					✓		✓	
Red Shieldbug	<i>Carpocoris mediterraneus</i>				✓				
Red-legged Assassin Bug	<i>Rhynocoris erythropus</i>							✓	
Broad-headed Bug	<i>Camptopus lateralis</i>			✓					
a jewel bug	<i>Julotis manipularis</i>					✓			

N=Near-endemic		June 2026							
Common name	Scientific name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Flies									
Anthracite Bee Fly	<i>Anthrax anthrax</i>				✓				
Beetles									
Red-and-black Long-horned Beetle	<i>Purpuricenus desfontainii</i>					✓			
Metallic Long-horn Beetle	<i>Agapanthia</i> sp.			✓					
a jewel beetle	<i>Anthaxia</i> sp.							✓	
a blister beetle	<i>Mylabris</i> sp.				✓				
Bees									
Pubescent Carpenter Bee	<i>Xylocopa pubescens</i>					✓			
Violet Carpenter Bee	<i>Xylocopa violacea</i>							✓	
Spiders									
Black-lobed Spider	<i>Argiape lobata</i>						✓		
a whip spider	<i>Ambiopygi</i> sp.			✓					

Birds (H=heard only)

N=Near-endemic		June 2026							
Common name	Scientific name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Common Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>		H					H	
Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	✓		✓		✓			
Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>		✓					✓	
Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>			✓		✓	H	✓	
Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Laughing Dove	<i>Spilopelia senegalensis</i>			✓					
White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	✓	✓	✓				✓	
Western Cattle Egret	<i>Ardea ibis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	
Short-toed Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>						✓		
Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>				✓				
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>				✓				
Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>		✓						
Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>		✓						
Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>						H		
European Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>			✓		✓		✓	
European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>			✓					
Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>						✓		
Levaillant's Woodpecker - N	<i>Picus vaillantii</i>		✓						
Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>					✓	✓	✓	
Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>			✓			H	H	
Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>					✓			
Maghreb Magpie	<i>Pica mauritanica</i>								✓
Red-billed Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>		✓		✓			✓	
Alpine Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax graculus</i>				✓			✓	
Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>		✓						
African Blue Tit - N	<i>Cyanistes teneriffae</i>			✓			✓		
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>	✓				✓	✓		
Thekla's Lark	<i>Galerida theklae</i>		✓					✓	
Horned Lark	<i>Eremophila alpestris</i>		H						

N=Near-endemic		June 2026							
Common name	Scientific name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Common Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus barbatus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>					✓			
European Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Cecropis rufula</i>		✓	✓		✓			
Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>			H					
Western Olivaceous Warbler	<i>Iduna opaca</i>	✓	H	✓	✓		H		
Melodious Warbler	<i>Hippolais polyglotta</i>			H					
Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>					✓			
Tristram's Warbler - N	<i>Curruca deserticola</i>	✓	H						
Sardinian Warbler	<i>Curruca melanocephala</i>		H						
Common Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapilla</i>		H						
Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>		H					H	
Spotless Starling	<i>Sturnus unicolor</i>	✓							✓
Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>							✓	
Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin	<i>Cercotrichas galactotes</i>						✓		
Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	
European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>						✓		
Common Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>			✓		H	H		
Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>		✓					✓	
Moussier's Redstart - N	<i>Phoenicurus moussieri</i>	✓			✓				
Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>						H		
Atlas Wheatear - N	<i>Oenanthe seebohmi</i>		✓					✓	
Black Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe leucura</i>		✓		✓				
Rock Sparrow	<i>Petronia petronia</i>		✓					✓	
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓		✓		✓			
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>			✓					
African Chaffinch - N	<i>Fringilla spodiogenys</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Crimson-winged Finch	<i>Rhodopechys sanguineus</i>		✓						
European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>				H				
Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>							✓	
European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Rock Bunting	<i>Emberiza cia</i>				✓				
Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>		✓	✓	H	H	H		
House Bunting - N	<i>Emberiza sahari</i>	✓	✓						

Mammals

N=Near-endemic		June 2026							
Common name	Scientific name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Barbary Ground Squirrel - N	<i>Atlantoxerus getulus</i>					✓		✓	

Amphibians & reptiles

E-Endemic, N=Near-endemic		June 2026							
Common name	Scientific name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Moroccan (Berber) Toad - N	<i>Sclerophrys mauritanica</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓	
Mediterranean Tree Frog	<i>Hyla meridionalis</i>					H			
North African Water Frog - N	<i>Pelophylax saharicus</i>			✓		H		✓	
Atlas Day Gecko - E	<i>Quedenfeldtia trachyblepharus</i>		✓						
Moroccan Ocellated Lizard - N	<i>Timon tangitanus</i>		✓						
Vaucher's Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis vaucheri</i>		✓						
Spur-thighed Tortoise	<i>Testudo graeca soussensis</i>					✓			