

Oman - Arabia's Finest Birding

Naturetrek Tour Report

13th – 25th November 2025



Arabian Wheatear



Arabian Chameleon



Sooty Falcon



Arabian Green Bee-eater

Tour report by Andy Smith
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Summary

Another great trip to Oman! With our trusted and efficient local team, we once again traversed the country from Muscat in the north to Salalah in the south, via the vastness of the Empty Quarter. Exploring deserts, mountains, wetlands and the wooded slopes of the Dhofar escarpment, we enjoyed a range of spectacular scenery and encountered an excellent variety of birds and other wildlife.

We saw 207 species of birds, including such sought-after regional specialties as Sooty Falcon, Crab-plover, Grey Hypocolius, Arabian Golden-winged Grosbeak, Arabian Wheatear, Yemen Serin and Socotra Cormorant. In the desert, we enjoyed sightings of Spotted and Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse, Cream-coloured Courser, Greater Hoopoe-Lark, Asian Desert Warbler and Desert Wheatear, while at the various wetlands we encountered a wealth of waders, gulls and terns, and an impressive range of herons and egrets.

In the woodlands of Dhofar, we found Arabian Sunbirds, Arabian Warblers, Blackstarts and African Paradise Flycatchers, while raptors along the way included Pallid Harrier, Crested Honey Buzzard, Peregrine (Barbary) Falcon and six species of eagle. A couple of pelagic trips brought further variety in the form of Persian and Flesh-footed Shearwaters, Jouanin's Petrel and Masked Booby, and unexpected finds (in a land renowned for turning up rarities) included a Streak-throated Swallow (sadly but dramatically caught by a Sooty Falcon!), a Little Swift and a Cotton Pygmy Goose.

Beyond the birds, there were colourful butterflies too, including Blue Pansies, Giant Skippers and lots of African Monarchs, an interesting range of reptiles topped by a wonderful Arabian Chameleon, and a few mammals including Rock Hyrax and an Arabian Gazelle.

All this and more, plus good food and accommodation, constant sunshine and the rich Omani culture made for a memorable and enjoyable trip.

Day 1

Thursday 13th November

The group assembled at Heathrow in the afternoon and took the evening Oman Air flight to Muscat.

Day 2

Friday 4th November

We arrived on schedule at Muscat airport in the early morning, and after clearing formalities and meeting up with Hashim, we transferred to our city hotel to check-in and enjoy a bite of breakfast. Refreshed, we headed out for the day. Our first stop was at a small tidal creek back near the airport, where we found an excellent range of birds in a short space of time. These included Slender-billed and Sooty Gulls, Greater Flamingoes, Eurasian Spoonbills, Whiskered and Greater Crested Terns, Western Reef Herons and over twenty species of wader, including both Tibetan and Greater Sand Plovers and a Marsh Sandpiper. There were Arabian Green Bee-eaters and Crested Larks too, plus White-eared Bulbuls, a Tawny Pipit and a Delicate Prinia. It was a lot to take in: welcome to Oman!

After lunch in a restaurant, we continued out to Qurm park, with its watered lawns, shade trees and lake, and continued our introduction to Omani birding. Highlights here included great views of Grey Francolins, Indian Rollers, Purple Sunbirds, a couple of Isabelline Shrikes and more Arabian Green Bee-eaters. We finished up by the lake, where we found several Red-wattled Lapwings, a few Indian Pond Herons, some low-flying Pallid Swifts and a surprise Cotton Pygmy Goose, which is quite a scarce species here. All in all, it was great start, and we returned to the hotel tired but satisfied.

Day 3

Saturday 15th November

This morning, we headed north up the coast and then inland, into the fringes of the Al Hajar mountains. The scenery was pretty spectacular, with jagged mountains all around us, and during the course of the morning we encountered a satisfying selection of birds. Highlights included two pairs of Hume's Wheatears, a couple of Red-tailed Wheatears, a Long-billed Pipit, several Desert Larks, a Plain Leaf Warbler, a male Eastern Black Redstart and a surprise Eurasian Griffon Vulture. Additionally, we had some close flight views of a covey of Lichtenstein's Sandgrouse, and a frustrating encounter with a gang of typically elusive Arabian Babbblers.

After lunch in the town of Nakhal, we took a look at the hot springs there (where we found a Green Sandpiper, a couple of Indian Rollers and some nice dragonflies), and then visited the town's famous fort. The building was suitably impressive, and as we walked around we had some nice views of several Indian Silverbills, some Purple Sunbirds, a male Blue Rock Thrush and a Eurasian Sparrowhawk. After this we drove across to the coast and finished the afternoon at Ras as Sawadi, with a range of waders, gulls and terns and a superb male Desert Wheatear.

Day 4

Sunday 16th November

We started today at the Al Ansab water treatment works, just a short distance from our hotel. An action-packed couple of hours here produced fabulous views of Greater Spotted and Eastern Imperial Eagles, plus Temminck's and Little Stints, Citrine Wagtails, a Clamorous Reed Warbler, some Delicate Prinias, and a satisfying variety of ducks, herons, egrets and other wetland species.

After this, we drove across town to the Banda al Rawdi marina and boarded a luxury boat for a trip to Al Fahl Island. Hugging the coast on the way out, we enjoyed good sightings of Sooty Gulls, Greater Crested Terns, Western Reef Herons, an Osprey and various other bits and pieces. Heading further out to sea, we met a number of flocks of Red-necked Phalaropes, which are always a treat to see, and at Al Fahl itself we were delighted to find at least three juvenile Sooty Falcons, our main target, still in residence. These extraordinary and beautiful little falcons nest on the cliffs here, breeding late in the season to cash in on the southbound autumn bird migration. By the time of our visit, most would have typically departed for their winter quarters in Madagascar, so we were lucky that these three were still around. As we watched them, a small swallow appeared along the lower cliffs. A good look at it determined it to be a vagrant Streak-throated Swallow from India, quite a rare species in Oman. There was a feeling, however, that it was very much in the wrong place at the wrong time, and sure enough, within just a couple of minutes of its arrival, two of the Sooty Falcons swooped down from their cliff top perches with much excited screeching. The result was inevitable, and after a short chase one of the falcons successfully took the swallow and disappeared with it around the corner and out of sight. And that was that!

Back on dry land, we ate some lunch and then proceeded to the village of Yiti, where we explored a rocky wadi and found a few notable birds. These included a flock of Grey Francolins, several Hume's Wheatears, two pairs of Desert Larks, some Pale Crag Martins and a couple of Brown-necked Ravens. A troop of Arabian Babblers put in another frustrating appearance, but a mighty Bonelli's Eagle, cruising low overhead, provided a satisfying conclusion to the day.

Day 5

Monday 17th November

Our first stop this morning was at the serenely impressive Grand Mosque, and then we left Muscat and began our epic journey south. A group of Egyptian Vultures accompanied by two Eastern Imperial Eagles occasioned one impromptu roadside stop before, after an hour or so, we reached the town of Quryat and its estuary. Exploring from various points here, we soon found an impressive variety of exciting birds. Highlights included several neat Pacific Golden Plovers, a Little Heron, our first Terek Sandpipers, some Caspian and Lesser Crested Terns, five Black-necked Grebes, over 20 Egyptian Vultures (some incongruously loafing on the beach) and, perhaps best of all, two mighty Pallas's Gulls.

From Quryat, we drove fast south with the sea to one side of us and dramatic mountains on the other. At Sur, we ate lunch on the terrace of a beachside fish restaurant, where Western Reef Herons and a range of waders kept us entertained, and then we made a short stop at the harbour, one of the few places in Oman where traditional dhows are still made. A short while later, we reached the picturesque tidal inlet of Khawr Jirama. Our big target here was Crab-plover, and we were in luck: we enjoyed lovely views of two of these curious looking waders as they foraged out on the mudflats. A host of other waders included over twenty-five Terek Sandpipers, lots of Greater and Tibetan Sand Plovers, dozens of Kentish Plovers, a few Grey Plovers, several Bar-tailed Godwits and a couple of Curlews of the long-billed eastern *orientalis* subspecies. Additionally, there were Caspian Terns and Western Reef Herons, an Osprey and a Marsh Harrier. Out on the strand line was a group of nine Pallas's Gulls, some in more or less full breeding plumage. It was all rather excellent, and we departed in high spirits.

Our hotel for the night was just a short drive down the road, and after settling in and eating a tasty dinner, we drove back up the coast to Ras al Jinz and spent a bit of time watching a Green Turtle excavating its nest on the beach. It was a privilege to be so close to such a magnificent creature, and the phosphorescent surf and star-studded sky added to the experience, ensuring a great end to a full and rich day.

Day 6

Tuesday 18th November

A pre-breakfast stroll with some of the group in the barren hinterland around our hotel turned up a few good birds, including Desert and Isabelline Wheatears, a couple of Tawny Pipits, a Great Grey Shrike, two Namaqua Doves and a surprise Common Rock Thrush. A little later, with breakfast completed, we continued our journey. At a small lagoon a little down the road, we paused for a short walk and enjoyed some great views of a rich range of wetland birds in lovely light, topped by a Marsh Sandpiper, a couple of Avocets, some Black-winged Stilts, a Black-necked Grebe and a Red-necked Phalarope.

After this, we drove fast southwards along the coast. Towards the end of the morning, we arrived at Filim, a viewpoint on the shore of Barr al Hickman, the largest intertidal wetland in the Arabian Peninsula. Regularly supporting hundreds of thousands (millions?) of birds, this site is hugely important, truly vast and a little daunting

for the visiting birder. A fair bit of time and an expeditionary approach are needed to get the best out of the site, but during our short visit to this one spot we were nevertheless able to appreciate the scale of the place and to get an impression of the vast number of birds that use it. As the tide fell, we looked out over mudflats that appeared to stretch into infinity, and were absolutely covered with birds. Close at hand, we enjoyed views of lots of now familiar waders, including Terek Sandpipers, sand plovers, Little Stints and Dunlins, plus our first Curlew Sandpipers of the trip. A couple of dozen Crab-plovers were visible some distance out, and other notables included a close juvenile Little Heron busy catching small fry, and a couple of Blue-cheeked Bee-eaters hawking along the edge of the nearby mangroves.

We ate lunch in the town of Hiji and then continued south through the afternoon. Late on, way out in the desert, we stopped at a scenic little wadi, where we enjoyed a pleasant stroll and found a covey of Sand Partridges, three handsome Arabian Wheatears, and a pair of engaging little Asian Desert Warblers. From here, it was a relatively short drive to the city of Duqm and our hotel for the night.

Day 7

Wednesday 19th November

We started the day with a quick pre-breakfast look around the hotel's vegetated grounds and found a couple of Red-breasted Flycatchers, an Isabelline Shrike, two Lesser Whitethroats and a Eurasian Sparrowhawk. After breakfast, we hit the road again, travelling down the coast to a picturesque lagoon known as Khawr Dorf. A couple of hours exploration here turned up a satisfying range of birds including a White-breasted Waterhen, a juvenile Eurasian Spoonbill, a Garganey, some Little and Black-crowned Night Herons, a Marsh Harrier, and several distant Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse. There were the inevitable Desert Wheatears and Crested Larks too, and among the bushes, trees and low vegetation we found a lovely male Eastern Black Redstart, a Spotted Flycatcher (the only one of the trip), a Clamorous Reed Warbler, both Red-throated and Tawny Pipits, and a Bluethroat.

Heading back into Duqm for lunch, we then set out inland into the Empty Quarter. Flat, featureless desert stretched out before us. There didn't seem to be much to see, but as we booted along at 130 km/h, a trio of Cream-coloured Coursers was spotted, and we made a rapid, impromptu stop. Good views were had of these handsome and charismatic creatures, and as so often happens, one good bird led to another: we found that we were also in the company of a pair of Greater Hoopoe-Larks. These were a much-wanted target for some members of the group, and fortunately they allowed a close approach, giving everyone great views of them as they went about their business.

Towards the end of the afternoon, we reached the desert guesthouse at Al Ghaftain, our accommodation for the night. We quickly settled in and then took a look around the small area of bushes and trees around the buildings, finding a couple of Red-breasted Flycatchers, several Chiffchaffs, a couple of Eastern Black Redstarts, and a typically skulking Bluethroat. Towards sunset, a surprise Little Swift appeared, hawking around over the buildings and treetops. This is a rare bird in Oman, and was a great way to finish the day!

Day 8

Thursday 20th November

Up and away before dawn, we arrived at Muntassar oasis, way out in the desert, shortly after sunrise. It was a beautiful place to be, and we enjoyed a lengthy exploration among the palms and along the edge of some marshy pools. Several dazzling Blue-cheeked Bee-eaters and a smart Pied Wheatear were the first notable birds, rapidly

followed by a couple of Common Redstarts, three Red-breasted Flycatchers and a Common Cuckoo. At least three Bluethroats and a couple of Pin-tailed Snipe were in among the marshy vegetation, and we finished the session with reasonable views of a juvenile Baillon's Crake: a great little bird! As we ate breakfast in the shade of some nearby trees, we heard Spotted Sandgrouse calling, and we were treated to some lovely fly-pasts as several flocks came in and assembled out on the sandy flatlands. There were over 150 in all, and they were wanting to drink, so after some good scope views of them on the ground, we packed up and left them to it.



Indian Roller



Semaphore Rock Gecko



Crested Honey Buzzard



Steppe Eagle

Continuing our journey across the vastness of the Empty Quarter, we stopped briefly at the irrigated fields at Al Beed, where we found a male Pallid Harrier, a European Roller and a couple of Namaqua Doves; we made it to Thumrayt in time for lunch. Next, we called in at the nearby rubbish dump, where we were met by the extraordinary spectacle of over 300 Steppe Eagles: it was definitely worth the stop, despite the smell! Back out on the big road, the Empty Quarter continued, and just as we began to think that it might never end, we came to a range of low rolling hills with sparse grassy vegetation. Then things changed rapidly. The hills led up to the ridge of an escarpment, and suddenly steep valleys clothed in lush vegetation fell away before us down to a coastal plain far below; we had breasted the ridge of the Dhofar Mountains. The change was abrupt and dramatic, and the sight of

the wooded slopes was a tonic to our desert-sore eyes. Salalah lay in the hazy distance below; we had all but completed our long traverse of the country!

Dropping down into the lushness, we made a late afternoon stop at the lovely Ayn Razat, a steep rocky valley with a dense corridor of vegetation along a stream-fed creek. New and exciting birds came thick and fast, and in an action-packed hour or so we saw African Paradise Flycatcher, Abyssinian White-eye, Blackstart, Arabian Sunbird and Cinnamon-breasted Bunting. The final icing on the cake came in the form of a superb Arabian Spotted Eagle Owl roosting in one of the trees, which made a fantastic end to a full and rich day!

Day 9

Friday 21st November

Our first stop this morning was at Khawr al Dahariz, a shallow coastal lagoon just a mile or so from our hotel. Here, in the gorgeous early morning light, we enjoyed close views of a rich variety of birds including over 400 Glossy Ibises, dozens of Black-winged Stilts, several Ruffs, both Little and Temminck's Stints, Squacco and Indian Pond Herons, a Purple Heron, a Clamorous Reed Warbler and a couple Graceful Prinias.

After this, we drove inland across grassy plains, where we found Black-crowned Sparrow Larks, Isabelline Wheatears and a Great Grey Shrike, to the lovely wooded valley of Ayn Hamran. Explorations here either side of breakfast rewarded us with excellent views of Arabian Warblers, African Paradise Flycatchers, Abyssinian White-eyes, Blackstarts, African Silverbills, Rüppell's Weavers and the inevitable Cinnamon-breasted Buntings. A couple of Black-crowned Tchagras proved a little elusive, but a surprise Wryneck was a bit more obliging, and raptors included Steppe, Short-toed Snake, Booted and Bonelli's Eagles: not a bad haul! We finished the morning back out on the grassland with some great views of several Cream-coloured Coursers, then headed back to the hotel for lunch and a short siesta.

In the afternoon, we headed west out of Salalah to the ruggedly beautiful Wadi Mughsayl. At one long sandy beach on the way, we found a roosting flock of several thousand Common Terns and Slender-billed Gulls, while close offshore were two tight rafts of Socotra Cormorants, numbering over 350 in all. At Mughsayl itself, we took a stroll and found an interesting range of wetland species, topped by a rare Black Heron from Africa, before finishing up at a popular viewpoint where we admired the dramatic coastal views and had close encounters with some Tristram's Starlings.

Day 10

Saturday 22nd November

Away from the hotel at first light, we set off toward Wadi Darbat. A circuitous journey through some very fine countryside brought encounters with a juvenile Eastern Imperial Eagle, a brief ringtail Pallid Harrier, a superb Black-winged Kite, and good numbers of Fan-tailed Ravens and Tristram's Starlings. Wadi Darbat is famed for its dramatic beauty, and the upper wadi where we finally ended up is a really gorgeous spot, with a wide, flat, grassy valley floor flanked by steep wooded slopes and rugged sandstone cliffs. We ate a welcome breakfast here, and then made our way to a viewpoint overlooking some small caves with dripping stalactites. Lots of small birds were coming to drink, dominated by Cinnamon-breasted Buntings, Rüppell's Weavers and White-spectacled Bulbuls, but we were hoping for more rarified fare. Sure enough, after a bit of a wait, our quarry appeared, and we found ourselves looking at that most elusive of Arabian endemics, the Arabian Golden-winged Grosbeak. Over a period of half an hour or so, four or more of these strikingly-marked and rather beautiful little birds came in to drink, and

the more patient members of the group were rewarded with excellent views of them. What success! Other notables in this marvelous place included Arabian Wheatear, African Paradise Flycatcher, Arabian and Palestine Sunbirds, a couple of Rock Hyraxes and a superb Bonelli's Eagle. All in all, it had been a great morning!

In the afternoon we visited Khawr Rawri and the ruins of the ancient frankincense trading city of Samurham. Among the birds we saw here were a couple of White-winged Terns, a Bluethroat, a trio of Black-crowned Tchagras, twenty or so Blue-cheeked Bee-eaters, a Steppe Eagle and at least four Ospreys. On our way back to Salalah, we called in at Khawr Taqah, and finished the day with sightings of a distant Red-knobbed Coot and a couple of close Yellow Bitterns.

Day 11

Sunday 23rd November

We were up and away at first light again; we made our way out of town and up to the famous sink hole at Tawi Atyr, where we ate some breakfast and then took a pleasant stroll. The sink hole itself was as dramatic as ever, and echoed to the trilling whistles of Tristram's Starlings, while out on the scrubby slopes we found Abyssinian Silverbills, Rüppell's Weavers, Cinnamon-breasted Buntings and several subtle Yemen Serins, a very range-restricted species, and a big target for us. From Tawi Atyr, we continued along the edge of the escarpment to the summit of Jebel Samhan. Ordinarily a stupendous viewpoint, today we found ourselves it swamped by cloud coming in with the fresh onshore breeze, and had only brief glimpses of the dramatic panorama below us. This was disappointing, but we did manage some views of a distant perched Verreaux's Eagle, so all was not lost!



Arabian Golden-winged Grosbeak



Arabian Warbler



Spotted Thick-knee



Blue-cheeked Bee-eater

Making our way off the lofty tops down towards the coast, we made a couple of impromptu stops, one for a trio of Eastern Imperial Eagles circling low overhead, the second for an Arabian Chameleon, a really fabulous creature, which we found as it was crossing the road. Down in the fishing town of Mirbat, with its rooftop Abdim's Storks,

we finished the morning in the municipal park among flower beds, shade trees and lush, green, watered lawns. Here we saw at least three European Rollers, several Red-throated Pipits, a couple of dazzling Arabian Sunbirds and a very smart Bay-backed Shrike, another rare visitor to Oman.

In the afternoon, we took to the sea with local boatman Hatem. In pleasant conditions we had a splendid time of it, enjoying close encounters with Masked Boobies, Persian and Flesh-footed Shearwaters, Jouanin's Petrels, Pomarine Skuas, a Bridled Tern, many hundreds of Sooty Gulls and a number of turtles.

Day 12

Monday 24th November

This morning, we headed away from Salalah, up over the escarpment and fast across the desert to the oasis town of Mudday, a renowned spot for the almost mythical Grey Hypocolius, a bird high on most birders' wishlists. Mudday is pretty remote and its desert hinterland is wild and empty, so there's always a sense of excitement visiting the area. During the course of an enjoyable morning exploring we found a brilliant range of birds. Among the highlights were a Nile Valley Sunbird, an Asian Koel, a couple of Striolated Buntings, an Asian Desert Warbler, a White-breasted Waterhen and a pair of African Collared Doves, while at some pools a little way out of town we were treated to lovely views of a very smart Peregrine (Barbary) Falcon and a breathtaking assembly of over 400 Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse. All this was excellent, but our special target, the Grey Hypocolius, was eluding us.

At the end of the morning, we found ourselves back where we'd started shortly after dawn, in the village centre, watching a couple fruiting date trees which we'd heard had been hosting the hypocoliuses on and off during the previous few days. I think we had all pretty much given up hope, when suddenly there they were, a pair of them, up in the crown of one of the palms, unobtrusively feeding on the dates. Great excitement ensued, and there was a frantic clamour to see them. Ultimately, everyone enjoyed really excellent views of these handsome and engaging birds, and it was a very happy crew that returned to the vehicles for the drive back down to Salalah.

In the afternoon, we went first to the Al Baleed archaeological site, where we had fabulous close up views of a trio of Spotted Thick-knees, and then went on to Al Sa'adah park in the north of Salalah, where we finished our Omani birding with a Crested Honey Buzzard (so close we could see its diagnostically long claws), a couple of European Golden Orioles, two Hoopoes, a brief Grey-headed Kingfisher and lots of Scaly-breasted Munias.

Day 13

Tuesday 25th November

A leisurely breakfast and then a short transfer saw us at Salalah airport in good time for our morning flight up to Muscat. The flight left on time; our connection went smoothly and we all arrived safely back in the UK later in the day. It had been a great trip.

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Species lists

Birds (H = Heard only)

I=Introduced		November 2025										
Common name	Scientific name	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Cotton Pygmy Goose	<i>Nettapus coromandelianus</i>	1										
Garganey	<i>Spatula querquedula</i>	1					1		6			
Northern Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>	6		20			2		15	5		
Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>	1		10			10		2			
Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Mareca penelope</i>						6		15			
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	5	1	10			1		10			20
Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>	1					1		2			
Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>	12		20				6	6	10		
Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>			30								
Grey Francolin	<i>Ortygornis pondicerianus</i>	6	1	10	3							
Sand Partridge	<i>Ammoperdix heyi</i>					7						
Pallid Swift	<i>Apus pallidus</i>	15	10	2		10			10	3		
Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>						1					
Asian Koel	<i>Eudynamys scolopaceus</i>											1
Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>							1				
Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles exustus</i>						10		20			450
Spotted Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles senegallus</i>							150				
Lichtenstein's Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles lichtensteinii</i>		9									
Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	6	8	10		1	15	30				15
African Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia roseogrisea</i>											2
Laughing Dove	<i>Spilopelia senegalensis</i>	2	10	25	15	15	100	30	30	35	30	50
Namaqua Dove	<i>Oena capensis</i>					2		2	2	5		
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	6		4				3	5	20		2
Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>	1					2			6		
Red-knobbed Coot	<i>Fulica cristata</i>									1		
Baillon's Crake	<i>Zapornia pusilla</i>							1				
White-breasted Waterhen	<i>Amaurornis phoenicurus</i>						1					1

I=Introduced		November 2025										
Common name	Scientific name	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	10		4	2				2			
Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>				5	1						
Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>	5		8		30	6		25	20		
Spotted Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus capensis</i>											3
Eurasian Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>	4	7		2	2		2				
Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	10		30	1	✓			✓			
Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>					2						
Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	1			5	✓			3	1		
Pacific Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis fulva</i>				11	2	2		1			
Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	10		12		✓				3		
Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>								3			8
Red-wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus indicus</i>	30	2	2	1							
Tibetan Sand Plover	<i>Anarhynchus atrifrons</i>	50			50	✓				2		
Greater Sand Plover	<i>Anarhynchus leschenaultii</i>	10			20	✓						
Kentish Plover	<i>Anarhynchus alexandrinus</i>	50		1	50	✓		2	1			
Eurasian Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	4			5							
Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>	2			5	✓			2	10		
Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>				15	✓						
Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>	3							2			
Pin-tailed Snipe	<i>Gallinago stenura</i>	2						2				
Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	15		5					10	4		
Red-necked Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>			100		1					30	
Terek Sandpiper	<i>Xenus cinereus</i>				30	✓			2			
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	6		3	1		1	2	5	6	2	2
Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>		1						1			
Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>	2				1						
Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>								1	1		
Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>	4			1	✓			15	3		
Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	2			2	✓		2	15	3	5	1
Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	2			1	✓						
Ruff	<i>Calidris pugnax</i>	25				2			30	2	2	

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Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>					5			1			
Temminck's Stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>			3					4	2		
Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>	25						3	20		8	10
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>	50		1	10	✓	10		4	2		
Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>	25		6		✓	10		25	5		
Crab-plover	<i>Dromas ardeola</i>				2	25						
Cream-colored Courser	<i>Cursorius cursor</i>						3		8			
Bridled Tern	<i>Onychoprion anaethetus</i>										1	
Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>				2	1						
Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>				1				4		1	5
Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>				12	5	2		1			
Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>	4		3	3	1			30	25		6
White-winged Tern	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>				1					2		
Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	1			2				✓	5	25	
Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>	2			2							
Lesser Crested Tern	<i>Thalasseus bengalensis</i>		2		7					2		
Greater Crested Tern	<i>Thalasseus bergii</i>	3	15	100	20	✓			100			2
Slender-billed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus genei</i>	500	50		100	✓	50		1000's	50	50	
Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>			25					50			
Pallas's Gull	<i>Ichthyaetus ichthyaetus</i>				11							
Sooty Gull	<i>Ichthyaetus hemprichii</i>	3	50	100	50	✓	2	50	100's	✓	✓	✓
Caspian Gull	<i>Larus cachinnans</i>			10	1						1	
Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Baltic Gull	<i>Larus fuscus fuscus</i>	1										
Pomarine Jaeger	<i>Stercorarius pomarinus</i>										2	
Flesh-footed Shearwater	<i>Ardenna carneipes</i>										5	
Persian Shearwater	<i>Puffinus persicus</i>										40	
Jouanin's Petrel	<i>Bulweria fallax</i>										4	
Abdim's Stork	<i>Ciconia abdimii</i>										150	3
White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>							2				
Masked Booby	<i>Sula dactylatra</i>										4	

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Socotra Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax nigrogularis</i>								350			
Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	5	25	100	70	20		10				
Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>			6					400	350	25	6
Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>	5					1		1			
Yellow Bittern	<i>Botaurus sinensis</i>									2		
Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>						4	2	2			
Black Heron	<i>Egretta ardesiaca</i>								1			
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	1			1	1		2	2	1		
Western Reef Heron	<i>Egretta gularis</i>	2	8	10	15	✓	6		6		5	
Little Heron	<i>Butorides atricapilla</i>			2	1	3	3				2	
Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>								3			
Indian Pond Heron	<i>Ardeola grayii</i>	5	2	2			1	3	5	2	1	
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	2		3	3	3	1		2	3		
Western Cattle Egret	<i>Ardea ibis</i>							100	1		25	30
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	3	7	20	25	✓	20	3	20	5	5	2
Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>			3					1			
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>			1	2		3		1	4	1	
Black-winged Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>									1		
Egyptian Vulture	<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>				45							
Crested Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis ptilorhynchus</i>											1
Griffon Vulture	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>		1									
Short-toed Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>								1			
Greater Spotted Eagle	<i>Clanga clanga</i>	1		7								
Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>								2	1		
Steppe Eagle	<i>Aquila nipalensis</i>				1			300	1	3	4	2
Eastern Imperial Eagle	<i>Aquila heliaca</i>			1	2			2		2	4	
Bonelli's Eagle	<i>Aquila fasciata</i>			3					2	1		
Verreaux's Eagle	<i>Aquila verreauxii</i>										1	
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>		1				1			1		
Pallid Harrier	<i>Circus macrourus</i>							1		2		
Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	2			1	1	2	2	1	5	2	

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Arabian Scops Owl	<i>Otus pamela</i>									2H		
Arabian Eagle-Owl	<i>Bubo milesi</i>							1				
Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>								2	2		2
Indian Roller	<i>Coracias benghalensis</i>	10	5	3	6	2						
European Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>							1			3	
Grey-headed Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon leucocephala</i>											1
Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	1					1					
Arabian Green Bee-eater	<i>Merops cyanophrys</i>	8	1	4	5	2						2
Blue-cheeked Bee-eater	<i>Merops persicus</i>	10				2		30	15	25	15	
Eurasian Wryneck	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>								1			
Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	1		2	1			6	4	5	10	2
Sooty Falcon	<i>Falco concolor</i>			3								
(Barbary) Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus pelegrioides</i>										2	1
Rose-ringed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>	5			1					2	5	5
Black-crowned Tchagra	<i>Tchagra senegalus</i>								3	3		
Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>											
African Paradise Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone viridis</i>							2	6	4		1
Great Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius excubitor</i>		1			2		1	2			
Bay-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius vittatus</i>										1	
Isabelline Shrike	<i>Lanius isabellinus</i>	2					2	1	1			2
House Crow - I	<i>Corvus splendens</i>	6	50	5	15	✓		100	50	50		5
Brown-necked Raven	<i>Corvus ruficollis</i>		2	3	5	10	12	6				1
Fan-tailed Raven	<i>Corvus rhipidurus</i>							6		2	20	5
Grey Hypocolius	<i>Hypocolius ampelinus</i>											2
Greater Hoopoe-Lark	<i>Alaemon alaudipes</i>					3	2					
Desert Lark	<i>Ammomanes deserti</i>		5	4	1							2
Black-crowned Sparrow-Lark	<i>Eremopterix nigriceps</i>					8	5		30			
Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>	5			2	10	6	4	6			
Red-vented Bulbul - I	<i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>	8		1	2							
White-eared Bulbul - I	<i>Pycnonotus leucotis</i>	50	3	10	5							
White-spectacled Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus xanthopygos</i>	2		2				5	15	6	2	15

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Pale Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne obsoleta</i>	20		1	5			5	3	15	8	20
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	1				1			2		3	2
Western House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>								1			
Streak-throated Swallow	<i>Petrochelidon fluvicola</i>			1								
Plain Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus neglectus</i>		2									
Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	3										
Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>			2		1	30	8	2			7
Clamorous Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus stentoreus</i>			1			2	1	1			
Common Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>								1			
Graceful Prinia	<i>Prinia gracilis</i>							1	2	1		1
Delicate Prinia	<i>Prinia lepida</i>	2		4	1							
Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Curruca curruca</i>		6				2				1	1
Arabian Warbler	<i>Curruca leucomelaena</i>								3			
Asian Desert Warbler	<i>Curruca nana</i>					2						1
Abyssinian White-eye	<i>Zosterops abyssinicus</i>							4	10	8	5	6
Arabian Babbler	<i>Argya squamiceps</i>		7	7								
Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	30	5	50	25	12		1	20		10	20
Rosy Starling	<i>Pastor roseus</i>										20	
Tristram's Starling	<i>Onychognathus tristramii</i>							12	4	40	50	25
Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>							1				
Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>						1					
Bluethroat	<i>Luscinia svecica</i>						2	3		1		
Red-breasted Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula parva</i>						4	2				
(Eastern) Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros phoenicuroides</i>	2	2	1			3	1				1
Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>							2				
Common Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola saxatilis</i>					1						
Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>		1						1			
Isabelline Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe isabellina</i>	1				4	1	2	15	3	1	1
Desert Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe deserti</i>		2		5	10	8	8	7	3	2	4
Pied Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe pleschanka</i>							2				
Blackstart	<i>Oenanthe melanura</i>							1	4	1	3	2

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Red-tailed Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe chrysopygia</i>		2	2	1							
Hume's Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe albonigra</i>		5	6								
Arabian Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe lugentoides</i>					3				1	2	
Nile Valley Sunbird	<i>Hedydipna metallica</i>											1
Palestine Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris osea</i>								5	5	2	2
Arabian Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris hellmayri</i>							3	1	1	5	
Purple Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris asiaticus</i>	10	6	15	5							
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	50	25	100	50	50	100	100	5		5	20
Rüppell's Weaver	<i>Ploceus galbula</i>							1	30	30	20	5
African Silverbill	<i>Euodice cantans</i>								15	10	10	3
Indian Silverbill	<i>Euodice malabarica</i>		15	10	5		8					
Scaly-breasted Munia	<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>										1	50
Western Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>					1					4	
Citrine Wagtail	<i>Motacilla citreola</i>			4					8	4		
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>								2			1
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	2	1			1	1	2			6	6
Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>	1				2	1	2		3		
Long-billed Pipit	<i>Anthus similis</i>		1								1	
Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>					3		2	1		2	
Red-throated Pipit	<i>Anthus cervinus</i>						2	1H			15	
Arabian Golden-winged Grosbeak	<i>Rhynchostruthus percivali</i>									4		
Yemen Serin	<i>Crithagra menachensis</i>										5	
Striolated Bunting	<i>Emberiza striolata</i>											2
Cinnamon-breasted Bunting	<i>Emberiza tahapisi</i>							8	12	30	30	

Mammals: Wild Donkey, Arabian Gazelle and Rock Hyrax

Reptiles (included): Green Turtle, Olive Ridley Turtle, Arabian Chameleon, a rock agama sp. and Semaphore Rock Gecko

Butterflies (included): African Monarch, Blue Pansy, Little Tiger Blue and Giant Skipper

Other notable taxa (included): Red-legged Golden Orb-webbed Spider, Oriental Hornet, a mantis sp., a fiddler crab sp. and a ghost crab sp.