

Autumn Birding in Southern Portugal

Naturetrek Tour Report

26th September – 3rd October 2023



Iberian Magpie



Juvenile Egyptian Vulture



Juvenile Bonelli's Eagle



Northern Wheatear by Pete Booth

Tour report by Glyn Evans, images by Pete Booth and Glyn Evans



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Tour participants: Glyn Evans (Leader) with seven Naturetrek clients.

Summary

The two centres for this trip – Tavira and Sagres, were ideally placed within an hour's drive of some fantastic wetland and scrub habitat, giving us lots of time in the field and less time on the road. The Vila Gale Albacore hotel is quite a day out in itself, being set between the harbour and the salt pans with some very tempting areas of scrub. Sagres is a mouth-watering position to be in as Autumn migration unfolds, where in addition to what there already is to enjoy, there is always the excitement of what could turn up overhead, or in the vegetation. Migration time can often be a matter of luck with conditions, but on this trip, there is plenty of action regardless.

Day 1

Wednesday 27th September

When skies are clear at this time of year, mornings are cool in this part of the world, but by the time the first of three flights landed with Naturetrek clients onboard, it was hot. The choice of a silver minibus meant a comfortable start to the 40-minute drive to the Vila Gale Albacora. We arrived in good time and were even able to bring forward lunch – provided on this day by the hotel – in order to get full value from the walk around the salt pans and the harbour in fine weather.

A Hummingbird Hawkmoth was hovering around the shrubbery at the front of the hotel as we assembled. We headed straight for the salt pans where we first came across a loose flock of Black-tailed Godwits, amongst which was a colour-ringed bird, close enough to get some record shots and attempt to find out some history on the individual.

Note: After quite a journey on email, I finally received this from Jorge Sanchez Gutierrez:

“Hi Glyn,

That's actually an interesting and old one! mWY/LfL is a male ringed as an adult on 20/2/2006 at La Esperanza salt pans, Cádiz, Spain (36.5133460, -61568890). And this is the first re-sightings ever since!

(According to the database only 3 birds have been ringed at that site with our code).

Thanks!

Jorge

So, this bird would have been at least 17 years old. A lovely little story to kick off a migration trip!

The previous week's trip had proved that the now disused salt pan closest to the hotel tended to be the best for a variety of birds, with a rather more muddy floor and sheltered on two sides by vegetation. To my delight a (possibly the...) phalarope was spinning around on the water's surface more or less where we'd seen one the previous week. This time, the bird stayed put where we were able to carefully reach a better observation point to photograph and film the bird, which now revealed itself to be a fine winter plumaged Red-necked Phalarope.

The rest of the pans were, as expected, a feast of wading birds: Black-winged Stilts, Avocets, Kentish Plovers and thirteen more wader species plus Greater Flamingos. The harbour gave us decent views of Mediterranean and an Audouin's Gull to compare with the Slender-billed we had enjoyed around the pans.

An Osprey hunted over the lagoon where we were able to compare Whimbrel with Bar-tailed Godwit and were treated to close views of a splendid White Stork as it casually edged toward us on the shore. Common Sandpipers completed an impressive tally of waders from this afternoon session.

Day 2

Thursday 28th September

After such a blistering start, we hardly dare hope for better. Pete, a client who had previously been on this tour, mentioned at dinner a lovely hide (São Lourenço) that overlooked a lake on the golf course at Quinto do Lago. I hadn't picked up on this from the previous week's itinerary, so we made this our first port of call, with a visit to Ria Formosa for lunch and a walk for the remainder of the day.

Navigation has always been a bit of an issue with me, but I found a place close to the water front without having to pay anything, which left us only a short walk along the estuary alongside the golf course, sharing a path with numerous walkers, cyclists, and other non-birders. A Wryneck was briefly spotted under the canopy of a nearby pine, but not by the rest of the party.

Despite the human traffic, a few birds presented nicely. Most notably, a Glossy Ibis probed in a shallow channel just 25 metres away, apparently unperturbed by its audience, of which the photographers manoeuvred for a position which optimised the iridescence of its plumage. We elected to take a walk along the long wooden pier toward the beach, traversing first over the tidal mudflats and then the salty scrub area before reaching a café for what was effectively the first loo stop of the day. Sardinian Warblers teased the photographers along the way and a ringed Mediterranean Gull has not, as yet produced any response from the ringers as to its history of recorded sightings. The Wryneck called continually from its roost!

The fairly unproductive walk had us fairly strung out at times, so it seemed best to bring the group back together by heading for the hide. Just before we reached the hide, a Hoopoe was seen feeding around one of the greens on the golf course. At last, a confiding bird which was presumably comfortable around people. It posed nicely for the photographers, as did an Iberian Magpie, which at one stage was feeding alongside.

The two-tier hide was a delight, with a healthy level of water in the lagoon it overlooked. The "decoy" quacks of Gadwalls betrayed their presence and Little Grebes were also seen through the reeded fringes before we entered the hide. One of the group then pointed out a yellow bird in the reeds. It was a male Black-headed Weaver. We saw a Purple Swamphen swim across the open water and at least one Kingfisher flew across the vista.

In a clump of reeds close to the hide, some European Pond Turtles loafed on a floating platform. Then, a Little Bittern dropped in just behind and slowly worked its way into view, clinging onto the reeds just a few centimetres from the surface of the water, staring intently in the hope of a victim.

Whilst the Little Bittern drew most people's attention, a marsh tern was quietly patrolling the lagoon... From photos we were able to identify it as a juvenile Whiskered Tern, which was later joined by a second bird. We were

almost too late to get an eyeful of a splendid Purple Swamphen which swam past the Little Bittern and the Turtles giving fantastic views! A flock of 40-plus White Storks vortexed into the lagoon as we reluctantly left the hide. By now, we were all feeling rather hungry.

On the way back, we noted Greenshank, Whimbrel and a Caspian Tern. David and I tried in vain to pin down a Violet Dropwing dragonfly for a photo, but it teased us mercilessly!

By the time we reached the van, we were ravenous. A brief stop at a salad farm yielded many Yellow Wagtails and a Little Ringed Plover, but by the time we reached Ria Formosa, we were keen to recharge. There wasn't a great deal of time to explore after such a late lunch, but we were treated to some great views of both Spotted and Pied Flycatchers as well as the lovely Iberian Magpies. The lagoons had less birds this time – the tide was in – but there were a few dragonflies, notably Yellow-veined Skimmer, Red-veined Darter and Broad Scarlet.

The air-conditioned ride back to the hotel ended nicely with decent views of Greenshank and Ruff on the salt pans before we retired for the day.

Day 3

Friday 29th September

The group were warned the previous evening to have a light breakfast. It was reiterated this morning, as today was the day of the Big Lunch in Castro Verde, courtesy of Helena Gurrerio.

Last week, we had rather dawdled toward Castro Verde, giving us only 40 minutes on the viewpoint on top of the hill at Ermida de Nossa Senhora de Aracelis. This time, we headed off promptly, stopping only briefly to photograph a Red-rumped Swallow on wires above the salt pans and then an Iberian Grey Shrike on the road to Mertola.

A strategic stop was scheduled where last week we had seen both Cinereous and Griffon Vultures. As was the case the previous week, Wheatears were dotted around the fields, A couple of Hoopoes were seen at distance while we waited for some raptor action.

An (Old World) Swallowtail flitted along the roadside nectaring on the plants, but before the photographers could position themselves, I called the group's attention to a large raptor flying from distance toward us... It stayed in a head-on position until it passed behind us quite closely, revealing itself to be a juvenile Bonelli's Eagle! Before moving on, I was able to point out three distant Black-bellied Sandgrouse, flying just above the horizon. A satisfactory pause but we wanted at least an hour at Ermida de Nossa.

We arrived with time for up to 75 minutes observation. Toilets were utilised without haste and the terrace hosted the three of us who carried telescopes.

Two very distant Griffon Vultures were just about discernible after a 180-degree scan. Perhaps we were a bit early for the full gathering? Just then, a huge raptor appeared below the eyeline, soaring over a nearby village. It was a Cinereous Vulture. It stayed in view for a while and was watched until Tony declared that he had a Great Bustard in his scope.

Sure enough, a male Great Bustard was sheltering in the shade of a tree almost a kilometre away. Soon enough, it was clear that there was more than one, as another strode slowly along the fence line.

The birds were clearly not going to go very far from their favoured shady spot, so with little else happening on the raptor front, I suggested we take the van back down the track to where it looked like we might get a slightly closer view. Even at 500m, we could see that there were at least three male birds on the ridge. Hazy film and photos were gleaned before we headed off for Castro Verde to arrive five minutes ahead of schedule.

We then enjoyed the banquet, chez Helena, which, even when you know what to expect (this was my fourth of the year) is a mouth-watering prospect. The van and its passengers suffered a little from a sub-standard air-con, so we were all a little daunted by the thought of the long drive back.

SatNav was asked to pick the most direct route back to base. We had connected with Great Bustards in style and so it was felt that a further combing of the plains in the heat could possibly add little, but by the time we had returned to the hotel, we could stroll around the coastal location with the edge just coming off the midday heat. A juvenile Short-toed Eagle stared back at us from a TV aerial as we left Castro Verde. The temperature showed as 34.5C.

The roaring draught from the opened windows on the A2 rather killed off any dialogue, but we settled for not getting cooked and a shorter journey time, arriving back at the hotel with enough time for a decent stroll in more comfortable temperatures.

I think this strategy paid off. Patrolling the salt pans yielded a decent aggregate and diversity of wading birds with decent views in flight and on foot. And there were a couple of bonuses. The nearest, disused pan held a good number of smaller waders and eventually, we picked out a winter-plumaged Little Stint amongst the Dunlins. A Ruff then presented itself in nice light for photos and we enjoyed close and well-lit views of Black-tailed Godwits. A flock of 30 Glossy Ibis flew past in orderly fashion.

Day 4

Saturday 30th September

Today was the transfer day to the Memmo Baleeira in Sagres. It had been agreed the previous night that we would visit two centres on the way: Quinto do Lago (since it had been really productive on the previous visit) and also, a gamble on Salgados Lagoons. On the latter, a friend of mine who visited the previous week said it been almost devoid of water, but that there was still an interesting variety of birds present.

Before leaving, a pre-breakfast farewell stroll around the salt pans was serene, with the sun rising as we emerged from the drive to the hotel. I still had time for a quick trolley dash for picnics and we were ready to leave at 09.30 sharp.

It's easier to drag yourself away from such a place when you know you are heading somewhere exciting. I zoomed in on SatNav to find a parking slot as near to the hide as possible. We squeezed into a tiny gap on a sandy track which allowed just enough room for passing golf buggies... Another parking fee saved!

A slight lag on the SatNav took us into the Quinto do Lago estate where, on one of the manicured verges, we saw a male Black-headed Weaver probing in the grass.

It didn't take long to reach the hide, by which time the weather was warm enough for the shade to be quite welcome. Almost immediately, we saw a Whiskered Tern wafting along the near shore of the lagoon and to everyone's delight, a Purple Swamphen was feeding in front of the hide, almost treading on some rather indignant looking Pond Turtles! Gadwalls dabbled alongside. The Swamphen continued to entertain and the two juvenile Whiskered Terns challenged the photographers to capture a sharp image. Kingfishers dashed across the lake but avoided close scrutiny. A Glossy Ibis corkscrewed in from the sky as though it had been winged by a stray golf ball.

As tempting as it was to stay, given the uncertainty of what we might find at Salgados, we left on time. Regrettably, the SatNav led us to the wrong side of the lagoons but we were quickly able to reorientate to the beach car park where the breeze had stiffened somewhat. A few vendors had set up stalls so there were only a couple of benches available on which to prepare lunch, but the balancing act worked without significant spillages.

To our delight, the lagoons were awash! Clearly, the golf clubs are able to manage water levels to their advantage. A very smart Cattle Egret posed ahead of us as we approached the viewing screen, which had two brightly clad ladies stood right in front of it! Worse, there was then pandemonium on the lagoon as three stray dogs splashed out toward the island, disturbing an impressive flock of 300 Glossy Ibis. The dogs seemed to be enjoying themselves and so a wide radius around them was devoid of birds. The second of two Caspian Terns flew past and I was busy pointing out an immature Audouin's Gull when a big shout came from Pete to the left of the screen as a "ringtail" Harrier was seen patrolling the ground on the far side of the lagoon. It was clearly a juvenile, but it was decided to take some record shots before it disappeared from which to identify it. The best of the shots was shown around the group, revealing a dark face, pale collar and dark "boa", confirming its identification as a Pallid Harrier! A super bonus bird!

A few seconds later, a female Marsh Harrier flew past in the other direction at closer range, allowing a comparison of size, colour and structure. As the dogs had now left, so had the activity on the lagoon calmed almost to a stop. Some of the group, notably odonata fan David, had drifted away down the path to broaden the search for new species. Partly in a bid to round up the group, the rest of us followed the track and immediately enjoyed decent views of three Hoopoes and a couple of Wheatears. An adult and juvenile Spoonbill were feeding in a far corner of the lagoon, viewable through some gaps in the reeds. The Hoopoes and Wheatears continued to entertain and a White Stork treated us to a majestic descent into the lagoon at close range.

The heat and keen breeze had something of a dehydrating effect on everyone, so the possibility of coffee, ice cream and a loo break at the café now became a requirement. The two proprietors of the café were almost as exotic as the range of ice cream flavours. A pleasant 45 minutes passed as a range of victuals were dispatched and comforts enjoyed.

The drive to Sagres was not too testing and we arrived ready to place dinner orders before retiring to our rooms for an hour before reconvening to reflect on an impressive checklist of species. Being nice to hotel staff and management the previous week paid dividends as I was delighted to have been allocated a suite with a kitchen, making washing up a much simpler task. The less panoramic view was a price worth paying.

Day 5

Sunday 1st October

A quick check of the weather app the previous evening advised that sunrise would be at a civilised time before breakfast, so the exploration of the cliffs was scheduled and there was a reasonable turnout. In the gloom of the early hour, a Stonechat and Wheatear showed and the local Kestrels made themselves known to all. Out so sea, as the light began to strengthen, Cory's Shearwaters were picked out at range and a few Gannets glowed in the early morning rouge.

Today, the main event was going to be what we hoped might be some raptor migration. The breeze was keen and had an easterly aspect to it, which would slow up progress working along the south coast... A pair of Whinchat were atop of the scrub around the small fort of Santo Antonio de Belixe, where we also saw a distant female Blue Rock Thrush. Hopefully, we would get better views in the afternoon.

We took a drive along the tracks to see what might be around on the plains and scrub. Beyond the expected Stonechat and Zitting Cisticola, there wasn't much passerine activity. We turned and eased back along the road and hadn't got too far before a large raptor appeared low over the horizon. It was difficult to discern size in the haze but it was indeed quite large. It settled on the ground which gave us an opportunity to scope it, but that just magnified the heat haze and all we could see was a swimmy image of brown and gold.

As we thought about packing up, the bird took off again and started toward us, but then as it veered away left, we could make out the diamond-shaped tail of an Egyptian Vulture. Clearly, this one was a juvenile, struggling to make progress into the wind. We decided to drive back toward the road, parallel with the bird, in the hope we might head it off in another bid to progress east.

As luck would have it, we picked up the bird again. It appeared to be heading low toward us, so we got out of the van and waited. The reward was a fantastic view of the bird flying right over our heads! It may have even winked at us.

We didn't waste any more time getting to the heath and the mound. It was decided to have a split session either side of lunch. Almost as soon as we arrived, a dark morph Booted Eagle loomed overhead and then two Honey Buzzards circled over before we walked up to the mound. As we made our way from the van, a Peregrine soared low over us. This was looking quite promising!

What followed was a really nice session on the top of the hill. On occasions there were raptors all around but the main advantage of these breezy conditions was that birds were heading low into the breeze, slowing them down and giving us close views!

Totals were as follows:

Honey Buzzard – 30

Egyptian Vulture – 4

Short-toed Snake Eagle – 2

Booted Eagle – 12

Bonelli's Eagle – 1

Eurasian Sparrowhawk - 2

Western Marsh Harrier – 4

Black Kite – 1

The action kept going during lunch, such that preparation and consumption were not as smooth as usual! My thanks to everyone who had a hand in tidying up, as there are no picnic tables here and we all ate from the back of the van!

Later in the afternoon, we took a steady stroll around the grounds of the Fortaleza de Sagres, noting Black Redstarts at close quarters with the numerous Crested Larks and the odd Wheatear. The sea had Cory's Shearwaters and Gannets but there would be the opportunity the next day to see these at close quarters.

Day 6

Monday 2nd October

Brilliant advance communication from the staff of Mar Ilimitado wisely allowed us to reschedule the boat trip to avoid the breezy conditions we had on the previous day, which gave us the great close views of the raptors. Instead, we had reasonably calm conditions in which to enjoy whatever the sea had to offer.

Picnic lunch was packed and ready to go as soon as we had finished, with the gracious agreement from staff at the A Rocha foundation to eat lunch in their beautiful garden before enjoying the wonderful lagoons at Quinta da Rocha.

But first, it was the boat trip. Pills, wrist bands and debriefs were all administered in good time and soon, we were aboard and ready to go. The faint whiff of chum and diesel soon gave way to a healthy head wind as we headed out toward the Atlantic shelf, where it was likely, we might enjoy some pelagic treats...

Within a few minutes, the first Cory's Shearwaters were planing past us, reflecting off the surface in perfect light. We stopped briefly to comb through a flock that had settled on the sea in case there were any different species. Not there, but as we moved on, we were able to pick out a few smaller, darker shearwaters, one of which, with its whiter underparts, was identified as Manx, while the other half dozen were Balearic.

Unlike the previous week when we waited until we were almost back to base before we saw dolphins, this time we didn't have to wait long before enjoying delightful close views of a mother and calf swimming together alongside the boat. We pressed on further, but then a small tern took the eye and we about-turned to take a closer look. It was a juvenile Black Tern; quite unexpected this far out to sea! Before we had a chance to move off, there was a shout from the back of the boat: "Grey Phalaropes! A pair of them were feeding on the surface quite close by and we were able to manoeuvre to a position close by without disturbing them – much to the delight of the photographers!

Another 20 minutes of full steam and we were into deeper waters. Storm Petrels started to appear. Another big shout behind us from "shipmate" Alexandra: "Bottle-nosed Dolphin!" Large, dark dorsal fins started to appear around us from what was obviously a family party. Storm Petrels increased in number. We were able to make out different characteristics in the dorsal fins of the dolphins, with subtle notches and bumps on show at close range. Soon we were able to identify at least two Wilson's Petrels amongst the European Stormies. Some liberal chumming ensued as we enjoyed the petrels at very close quarters after the dolphins left. Time passed by quickly

and with one or two tummies beginning to stir after being swayed by the swell, we started back with enough spare time for a stop or two if necessary.

An adult Gannet required a photo stop and before we could move off, a large, brown Skua flew over. Initially called as a Great Skua, the camera revealed that it was in fact a juvenile Pomarine Skua! Later, two Great Skuas were seen. As we neared the harbour, we ignored the Cory's Shearwaters, but I asked the skipper to slow down as we passed closely by a small flock of Yellow-legged Gulls. With them were two pristine adult Audouin's!

We were pretty happy with our haul on this trip, with a good number and variety of birds.

After a quick comfort break back at the hotel, we made for the garden at A Rocha, with the van's aircon back in good working order, thank goodness!

We arrived in very warm conditions and the tables were cleared ready for a good spread of comestibles, including a pack of persimmons on offer that were a new experience for many, but just the ticket for a warm day. Some of the unopened leftover cakes from previous picnics were presented, with great attempts to finish them, but in the end, a couple of goodies and a decent collection were proffered to the A Rocha staff, with thanks for a lovely setting for our last lunch together, during which a Monarch butterfly also gorged on the nectar around the pool. The Lagoons benefited from an incoming tide, which pushed a few waders close to the sea wall and concentrated many more onto the saltings to roost, amongst which were Dunlins, Sanderlings, Turnstone, Ringed Plover, Redshank, Whimbrel and Bar-tailed Godwit. A large flock of Gulls at the far end of the first lagoon turned out to be almost all Audouin's – around 70 birds. A Bluethroat flitted along the shore but determinedly melted into the vegetation as they so often do on passage, but at least it showed itself long enough to reveal the diagnostic rusty sides to the tail.

A Willow Warbler fed voraciously on the spindly vegetation allowing close approaches from the photographers. The second lagoon allowed a view from the bund in between, but first we ventured a short way along the flank of the lagoon to add Little Stint and Kentish Plover to the wader list. Sandwich Terns patrolled the waters beyond the saltings and Audouin's Gulls continually commuted in and out of the lagoons to allow some nice flight views. And as expected, an Osprey hunted the bottom lagoon, with our patience eventually being rewarded with some lovely close views as it flew past into the top lagoon. We completed the circuit noting a female Sardinian Warbler in the thicket close to the car park, with Pete's determined attempt to trap a Bluethroat on camera there being out of luck, despite a patient last-minute vigil.

With Pete aboard, we drove the one-hour journey back to the hotel happy with probably the most bird-filled day of the trip.

Day 7

Tuesday 3rd October

A final pre-breakfast sunrise on the cliff was a nice start to yet another immaculate day.

With cases packed and having all checked out, we opted to have a drive around the heath in the van so as not to get too hot before the journey home, where at last, we connected with a small flock of Red-billed Chough perched on overhead wires, having only enjoyed distant flight views hitherto.

The drive back to the airport was smooth and the van handover very quick, so we all checked in together without alarms. My thanks to a lovely group of people who were a pleasure to lead. I hope at least some of us meet again.

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Species lists

Birds (H = Heard only, N = Near endemic)

Common name	Scientific name	September/October 2023						
		27	28	29	30	1	2	3
Red-legged Partridge	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>			✓				
Northern Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>		✓		1			
Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>		✓		✓			
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>		✓	✓	✓			
Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>		✓		✓			
Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>		✓					
Great Bustard	<i>Otis tarda</i>			4				
Black-bellied Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles orientalis</i>			3				
Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>					1		
Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Water Rail	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>				H			
Western Swampen	<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</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 Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>		1				1	
Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>				1			
Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	✓	✓		✓		✓	
Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>		1					
Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	✓	✓	H	✓	1	✓	
Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>	✓	✓					
Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>		✓					
Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Red Knot	<i>Calidris canutus</i>	✓		✓	✓		✓	
Ruff	<i>Calidris pugnax</i>	✓	✓	✓				
Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>			✓			✓	
Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>						1	
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>		✓	✓				
Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>				1			
Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	✓	✓	✓			✓	
Red-necked Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>		1					
Grey Pahalrope	<i>Phalaropus fulicarius</i>						1	
Slender-billed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus genei</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		1	
Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Audouin's Gull	<i>Ichthyæetus audouinii</i>	✓			✓		70	
Mediterranean Gull	<i>Ichthyæetus melanocephalus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		1	

Common name	Scientific name	September/October 2023						
		27	28	29	30	1	2	3
Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	
Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>		✓		✓			
Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>	✓	✓				✓	
Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>						1	
Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>		✓		✓			
Great Skua	<i>Stercorarius skua</i>						2	
Pomarine Jaeger	<i>Stercorarius pomarinus</i>						1	
Wilson's Storm Petrel	<i>Oceanites oceanicus</i>						✓	
European Storm Petrel	<i>Hydrobates pelagicus</i>						✓	
Cory's Shearwater	<i>Calonectris borealis</i>					✓	✓	
Manx Shearwater	<i>Puffinus puffinus</i>						1	
Balearic Shearwater	<i>Puffinus mauretanicus</i>						6	
Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>			1				
White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		9	
Northern Gannet	<i>Morus bassanus</i>	✓				✓	✓	
Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	✓	✓	1	✓	✓	✓	
Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	✓	✓	30	300			
Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>	✓	✓		✓		✓	
Little Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>		✓		✓			
Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>		✓		✓			
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Western Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	✓	✓				2	
Egyptian Vulture	<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>					4		
European Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>					30	2	
Griffon Vulture	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>			✓				
Cinereous Vulture	<i>Aegypius monachus</i>			1				
Short-toed Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>			1		2		
Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>	✓				12		
Bonelli's Eagle	<i>Aquila fasciata</i>			1		1		
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>					2		
Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>		✓		✓	4	1	
Pallid Harrier	<i>Circus macrourus</i>				1			
Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>					1		
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>				✓		2	
Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>		H					
Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>		1	2	✓		1	
Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	✓	2		✓		2	
Eurasian Wryneck	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>		1	H				
Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>					✓		
Iberian Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius meridionalis</i>			✓			1	
Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>		✓	✓				
Iberian Magpie - N	<i>Cyanopica cooki</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	
Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Red-billed Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>					2		12
Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>			✓				
Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>						H	
Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>			✓			1	
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		✓					

Common name	Scientific name	September/October 2023						
		27	28	29	30	1	2	3
Thekla's Lark	<i>Galerida theklae</i>					✓		
Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>			1				
Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</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>		✓		✓			
Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Eurasian Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>		✓					
Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Garden Warbler	<i>Sylvia borin</i>				✓			
Common Whitethroat	<i>Curruca communis</i>		✓					
Sardinian Warbler	<i>Curruca melanocephala</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Spotless Starling	<i>Sturnus unicolor</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>	✓	✓			✓	✓	
Bluethroat	<i>Luscinia svecica</i>	✓	✓		✓		1	
European Pied Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	1	
Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>					✓		
Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>				1	1		
Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>					✓		
Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>				✓	✓		
European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Black-headed Weaver - I	<i>Ploceus melanocephalus</i>		✓		✓			
Common Waxbill - I	<i>Estrilda astrild</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Western Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava iberiae</i>		✓		✓	9+	H	
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>		✓		✓	✓	1	
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>		1					
European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>		✓		✓	✓		
Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>				✓	1		
European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>		✓		✓			
Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>			✓				

Others

		September/October 2023						
Common name	Scientific name	27	28	29	30	1	2	3
Mammals								
Granada Hare - N	<i>Lepus granatensis</i>			✓				
Short-beaked Common Dolphin	<i>Delphinus delphis</i>						✓	
Common Bottlenose Dolphin	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>						✓	
Reptile & Amphibians								
Iberian Water Frog	<i>Rana perezi</i>					✓		
European Pond Terrapin	<i>Emys orbicularis</i>		✓		✓			

Common name	Scientific name	September/October 2023						
		27	28	29	30	1	2	3
Large Psammodromus	<i>Psammodromus algirus</i>		✓					
Loggerhead Turtle							1	
Dragonflies & Damselflies								
	Coenagrionidae							
Iberian Bluetail	<i>Ischnura graellsii</i>				✓			
	Aeshnidae							
Blue Emperor	<i>Anax imperator</i>				✓	✓		
Lesser Emperor	<i>Anax parthenope</i>		✓		✓			
	Libellulidae							
Southern Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum brunneum</i>				✓			
Yellow-veined Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum nitidinode</i>		✓	✓				
Long Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum trinacria</i>				✓			
Red-veined Darter	<i>Sympetrum fonscolombii</i>		✓		✓			
Broad Scarlet	<i>Crocothemis erythraea</i>		✓	✓	✓			
Violet Dropwing	<i>Trithemis annulata</i>		✓					
Black Percher	<i>Diplacodes lefebvrii</i>			✓				

Butterflies

Common name	Scientific name
	Papilionidae
Old World Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>
	Pieridae
Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>
Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>
Bath White	<i>Pontia daplidice</i>
	Lycaenidae
Long-tailed Blue	<i>Lampides boeticus</i>
Lang's Short-tailed Blue	<i>Leptotes pirithous</i>
	Nymphalidae
Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>
Monarch	<i>Danaus plexippus</i>
	Satyrinae
Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>
Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>