

Portugal – The Algarve at Christmas

Naturetrek Tour Report

23 - 30 December 2019



Little Bittern by Neil McMahon



Wild Boar by Neil McMahon



Sunset by Sue Griffith



Bar-tailed Godwit by Neil McMahon

Tour report by Robert Manzano & Neil McMahon
Images by Sue Griffith and Neil McMahon



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: Robert Manzano & Neil McMahon (leaders) with 14 Naturetrek clients

Day 1

Monday 23rd December

Faro

Nine of the 16-strong party met at Gatwick Airport before we were whisked away to Faro by Easyjet on a trouble-free flight. A flock of Greater Flamingos were spotted on salt pans from the plane as we were descending! All the participants found each other in the airport and a short while later we left Faro Airport in our two Mercedes Vito minibuses. Birds around the terminal included House Sparrow, White Wagtail, Grey Wagtail, Magpie and Kestrel, while a Crested Lark showed closely by the side of the road.

From the airport we drove to Praia de Faro with the first Iberian Magpies filtering across the road in front of us. Our first destination was a seaside fish restaurant and we enjoyed an excellent lunch in warm sunshine and onshore breeze. For some, this was the first meal of the day and it provided appropriate sustenance to try some scanning across the estuary at high tide. Lesser Black-backed and Yellow-legged Gulls moved east into the breeze and we saw a Mediterranean Gull and Black-headed Gulls too. Distant waders included a flock of 40 Whimbrel, a few Curlew, Grey Plover, Turnstone and other waders, and Rob picked out a distant hunting adult male Hen Harrier. Spoonbills, Sandwich Terns, Little Egrets and Shelduck added more variety. Further scanning at a nearby spot was good for a fishing Osprey, Zitting Cisticola, a distant Caspian Tern, smaller waders and more Crested Lark.

Still full up from our lunch, we took a 90-minute journey west to Sagres. Birds noted en route included a Black-winged Kite, plenty of Kestrel and Common Buzzard, Cattle Egret and White Stork.

We arrived in Sagres as the last of the sun disappeared behind a bank of sea mist, but not before a couple of Black Redstarts bobbed and shimmered from the rooftops. Following room allocation at the Memmo Baleeira Hotel and a briefing, the two guides went to buy some picnic supplies locally and then our evening meal at the hotel was enjoyed, with starters served up just after 7pm.

After our meal there was an opportunity for a reasonably early night and we postponed the checklist to be completed the following evening.

Day 2

Tuesday 24th December

Monchique

The breakfast buffet at the hotel was available from 7.30am and the downstairs dining room was an excellent spot from which to witness the stunning sunrise and the first birds of the day, which included Peregrine, Chiffchaff, Meadow Pipit and White Wagtail. The 9am muster provided more birds in the shape of Red-billed Chough and common finches and we left in our buses shortly afterwards.

Our first destination was the upland area around Monchique, the summit above the town being the highest point of the Algarve at 900 metres. Iberian Magpies, Common Buzzards, an Iberian Grey Shrike, and singles of Barn Swallow and Black-winged Kite were mostly fleeting roadside glimpses. Alongside the northbound N266 a

colony of White Storks exists, with the majority of the birds now staying in situ all year round. Here we enjoyed lovely sunlit views of these iconic and majestic red-billed birds, their bill clattering echoing around the small valley. A Hoopoe posed rather well, a pale-phase Booted Eagle soared into view and other birds included Sparrowhawk, common finches, a fly-over Lesser Spotted Woodpecker and a distant Blue Rock Thrush, but a vocal Iberian Green Woodpecker remained hidden. Our next stop was a little track north of Monchique town and some dead trees proved very productive with a pair each of Crested Tit, Short-toed Treecreeper and Lesser Spotted Woodpecker. We also enjoyed brief views Cirl Bunting, Iberian Green Woodpecker and another Blue Rock Thrush, while a Firecrest was heard. The Fóia summit café provided coffee and a comfort stop and a little walk was excellent for super views of Dartford Warbler and Stonechat. However, the remainder of the birds normally here proved elusive in sunny, warm but breezy conditions so we took our leave and headed down to Caldas de Monchique where we enjoyed a rather late picnic on the steps of a little church in a super wooded spot next to a fast-flowing stream. Siskins were numerous and all three common woodpeckers were recorded as we munched our way through the picnic fare. Robins, Song Thrushes and Great Tits were singing, and Grey Wagtail and Crested Tit were on hand too.

With the short winter days, we just had time to make a quick visit to Boca do Rio en route back to Sagres. A flooded field, which only a few years ago used to be a marsh, was home to Mallard, Black-headed Gulls, Little Egret and six handsome Black-winged Stilts. Almost as soon as we had parked up, Rob spotted two Wild Boar running along a slope with their stripey piglets running alongside and behind. They showed superbly and the only live wild animal of the trip that day moved into first position ahead of Dartford Warbler to be ‘bird of the day’. A couple of Ring Ouzels posed beautifully, a Thekla’s Lark sprang into view and a Great Skua over the sea didn’t seem intent on harassing the diving Gannets offshore.

We then drove out of this pretty little valley and headed off to our hotel in Sagres with one van stopping briefly to examine a road-kill Egyptian Mongoose on the way.

In Portugal, the main Christmas event is the evening meal on Christmas Eve and we enjoyed our five-course gastro extravaganza which included traditional cod fish for one of the courses. This fine meal was concluded with a glass of port and then we finished our first full day of birding in the Algarve with the customary Naturetrek checklist.

Day 3

Wednesday 25th December

Aljezur

Christmas Day was dry, warm and breezy, with sun in the morning and rather more cloud in the afternoon. Our second day of butterflies typified the lovely conditions with several species identified.

After noting a few birds around the hotel, we headed off through Sagres (witnessing a male Pied Wagtail in the town) to an area of heathland and woodland south-east of Vila do Bispo. Initially it was quiet, with breakfast views of Crested Tit, Siskin, larks and buntings. A couple of Iberian Grey Shrike and Kestrels and Common Buzzards preceded another Booted Eagle which itself was trumped when a pair of adult Bonelli’s Eagles lifted over distant trees and treated us to some formation flying as they came closer and then glided off again – only to give chase to a distant Cattle Egret; we never did witness the final outcome.

A Dartford Warbler was calling nearby but not showing, so we boarded our minibuses and took a slow drive to the west Atlantic town of Aljezur, noting several Iberian Grey Shrike and a Peregrine en route. At Aljezur we took a comfort stop and, for some, a quick coffee, and then did some birding along a coastal track eventually leading to Praia de Carriagem. Birds here included our first Marsh Harrier plus a selection of waders, with Common Snipe, Dunlin, Greenshank, Common Sandpiper and Grey, Ringed and Kentish Plovers all on show. Our picnic lunch saw us back at the start of this track and we encountered a couple of fleeting Kingfishers, Grey Wagtail, Jay, Serin, Siskin and quite a number of butterflies. A posing Black-winged Kite was on show next and then, after a convenience stop again in Aljezur, we drove through to Ponta da Atalaia, a headland area providing excellent views of beaches and cliffs. Here we saw the nests of the only cliff-nesting White Storks in Europe (at least one of which was occupied), Shags, Gannets and six Audouin's Gulls on the beach and two in flight. Some Red-legged Partridges included one bird perched on a cliff staring out to sea! Black Redstarts flitted about and a Great Skua and three Balearic Shearwater passed by distantly. Plenty of Sardinian Warblers and Stonechat were around the car park and were joined by a cracking male Ring Ouzel. We then took a gentle drive back to Sagres arriving back just after 6pm. We enjoyed an evening meal at our hotel and completed our checklist and debrief before retiring to bed.

Day 4

Thursday 26th December

Sagres

After sampling (again!) the superb breakfast buffet, we made ourselves ready for a timely 9am departure. We very much stayed local to Sagres on this day, with minimal time in the vehicles. We took a slow drive west towards Cabo de Sao Vicente, stopping and checking the compound area not far out of town. This area was particularly productive with Red-billed Chough, as many as 24 Stone-curlew, lots of Black Redstarts, three Blue Rock Thrushes and six Ring Ouzels. The Cape itself was a little breezy and cool but we saw four Great Skuas, Balearic Shearwater and Gannets flying past over the sea and a Peregrine, more Black Redstarts and Thekla's Lark. We moved on and the lovely little Sacred Valley nearby provided raptors in the shape of Eurasian Kestrel, Common Buzzard, Hen Harrier and a pair of Peregrine. There were also Skylarks and Corn Buntings, Lapwings, and a charismatic Little Owl on the farm buildings close by.

We then returned to the Memmo Baleeira to use the facilities and drink coffee before driving around to the little beach at Martinhal. Here we consumed our packed lunch and Susan donned her bathing outfit and took a 10-minute plunge in the calm waters of the bay! Showing no interest in these activities was a tame Bar-tailed Godwit and a delightful flock of Kentish Plovers which afforded excellent views. Other birds materialized in the shape of a couple of Audouin's Gulls, a Zitting Cisticola and some buzzy Common Waxbills.

Next, we motored back to Sagres and took the pleasant walk out on the headland at (the local) Ponta da Atalaia which held plenty of common finches, Black Redstarts, Sardinian Warblers and Corn Buntings and a female Blue Rock Thrush. From the viewpoint on the cliffs there were more views of Balearic Shearwater, Gannets, Great Skua and a brief view of an unidentified cetacean. The walk provided botanical interest too such as Friar's Cowl and a number of other plants typical of this habitat. On our way back to the minibuses we enjoyed further good views of Thekla's Lark, Red-billed Choughs and two vocal Richard's Pipits.

Our last venue was a stroll around the active harbour at Sagres. Plenty of confiding Yellow-legged Gulls provided an opportunity to explain the ageing and moulting of these big gulls, one of which was colour-ringed.

Lesser Black-backed Gulls showed closely, and we also notched up Sandwich Tern, Shag, Common Sandpiper, eight Turnstones, Grey Wagtail and a Peregrine. Plenty of Grey Mullet were shoaled in the calm waters of the harbour.

With the light fading we returned to our nearby hotel and that evening we dined out at a restaurant in Sagres where we experienced a very enjoyable banquet of fine food.

Day 5

Friday 27th December

Salgados Lagoon & Quinta do Largo

Another sunny and warm day followed our last night at the Memmo Baleeira Hotel in Sagres. After packing our two minibuses with luggage, optics and food, there was just enough space to fit everyone in! We ventured east and our first venue was Salgados Lagoon (also called Pera Marshes). There were plenty of wildfowl and gulls at this freshwater lagoon which also hosted small groups of Greater Flamingo, Glossy Ibis and Spoonbill. Pintail swam amongst the flocks of Mallard, Gadwall and Teal with small numbers of Pochard and Shoveler. Raptors included an Osprey and a Marsh Harrier. Audouin's and Mediterranean Gull could be seen dotted among the plentiful Yellow-legged and Black-headed Gull. Hoopoe, Kingfisher and two Bluethroats all showed, but too briefly, while Zitting Cisticola and plentiful Chiffchaffs provided sustained viewing. Waders were somewhat limited but included Black-winged Stilt, Black-tailed Godwit, Snipe, Golden Plover, Sanderling and Kentish Plover. A couple of the colourful Western Swamphens were on show and Iberian Grey Shrike, Crested Lark, Black-shouldered Kite and White Stork made it onto the day list. We took a slow drive towards Faro, stopping at a motorway service area to eat our packed lunches and also enjoyed the sight of a Booted Eagle overhead.

Forty minutes later found us disembarking at Quinta do Lagos where we quickly hit on Hoopoe, more Crested Larks, Iberian Magpie and several nervous birds on the lagoon. The gulls and wildfowl were disturbed by something in the water which proved to be a Eurasian Otter which is unusual in this region of Portugal. The animal showed itself several times before disappearing, but unfortunately, only a few of our party glimpsed it! More routine fare included Cetti's Warbler, Kingfisher, Little Grebe and three species of terrapin. Audouin's Gulls arrived to bathe and preen amongst commoner gull species. The birds that stole the show were four Little Bitterns with a male, in particular, providing the closest views. Black-headed Weaver was a new bird for some. In the distance four Booted Eagle wheeled about and a Barn Swallow was only the second of the trip. Following the disappearance of the Otter, many of the ducks that had fled earlier began to filter back, as did the gulls which had first alerted us to its presence.

With late afternoon upon us we meandered back to our minibuses and drove slowly through the road network connecting the villas and golf courses with the outside world. Manicured lawns attracted Meadow Pipit, White Wagtail, Mistle Thrush and Common Waxbill. Nearby cress-beds acted as a magnet for Grey Wagtail and Green Sandpipers. We arrived at Quinta do Marco Hotel in daylight, in just enough time to see a hunting Black-winged Kite. At dusk it was possible to hear a distant calling Eurasian Eagle-Owl as well as the more common Little and Tawny Owls. After a very good three-course evening meal it was time for our checklist and then retiring for the night.

Day 6

Saturday 28th December

Castro Verde

The alarm clock activated at 6am and we sat down for a 7am breakfast before leaving for a day excursion in the Castro Verde area just before 8am. It was another warm and sunny day with temperatures above 20°C. Our road journey took us initially west and then north along near-empty motorways. Eurasian Jay and Iberian Magpies were spotted and, as we neared Castro Verde, Red Kites and White Storks. At the town we paused for a comfort stop and then explored the fields immediately east. We quickly found flocks of Corn Buntings, a couple of Little Owls, more Iberian Magpies, Iberian Grey Shrike and more Red Kites, Common Buzzards and Kestrels. An excursion along a minor road provided an excellent flock of 38 Stone-curlews on and near a little football pitch, plus Lapwings, Spotless Starlings and a small flock of Spanish Sparrows. Some Rabbits were added to the mammal trip list and we added Black-winged Kite and Common Waxbills a little further along the road. Climbing up to a church and memorial on a hill afforded magnificent views across the rolling countryside, but most of the birds espied from on high were repeats.

Our explorations took us further east from Castro Verde, and it wasn't long before we encountered our first flock of the stately Great Bustards. They provided super views before typically striding out of view over the slope of the field. In the meantime, Rob alerted us to two flying Black-bellied Sandgrouse and the plentiful larks here included singing Calandras. Our final scanning session of the morning benefitted the day list with singles of Hen Harrier, Marsh Harrier, a distant immature Iberian Imperial Eagle and four vultures comprising three Griffons and a Cinereous (Black). More Calandra Larks posed nicely, and we added the localized Stock Dove to the trip list. Tearing ourselves away from the abundant bird life, we drove back to Castro Verde and called in at a house where local cook, Helena, had prepared her legendary and traditional Portuguese buffet lunch for us. So much food! Soups, meats, cheeses, fish, pasta, salad and more, all with a local influence, provided a splendid banquet – followed by an array of sweets and hot drinks.

Some time later we waddled out from Helena's, posed for photos by the traditional windmill and struck out north from the town to find some different birds. Several Hen Harriers including adult males showed very well, and Jonathan skilfully located a well-hidden flock of eight Little Bustards. Whilst we were watching these birds, an Egyptian Mongoose scurried along behind them. More Hen Harriers and Red Kites, another Marsh Harrier and oodles of Corn Buntings and larks were seen. Later we arrived at a small chapel perched on top of a hill for our final scan of the day. Over 40 Great Bustards were on view, bringing our day total to 90 of these impressive birds. The Common Crane flock that inhabits this area was located but they remained distant, static and strangely quiet. A distinctive contact call from the surrounding bushes and trees alerted us to a furtive and presumably wintering Yellow-browed Warbler. This little mite eventually gave rather good views before flitting away into the foliage. More views of Hen Harrier, Red Kite, Black-winged Kite were spied before the sun lowered and the daylight took on an orange/golden glow.

With a long drive back to the hotel we decided to board our vehicles and head back to our rustic hotel in the hills. Dark-breasted Barn Owl and Little Owl were seen en route. Arriving back at Quinta do Marco just after 7pm, there wasn't much time to refresh before sitting down to our evening meal at 7.30pm. Despite being a long drive, we had seen an exceptional array of birdlife on our day excursion to the Alentejo region of Portugal.

Day 7

Sunday 29th December

Tavira & Castro Marim

After a tiring and very full day on the Saturday, we opted for a more relaxing last full day. So, our buffet breakfast was available from 8am and we left our hotel at 9am. The first port of call was a supermarket at Tavira where we purchased some appropriate picnic supplies. Next was a short trundle to Tavira salt pans which were untypically quiet for waders.

Nevertheless, we saw Greater Flamingo, Spoonbills, Osprey, Kingfishers and eventually a couple of Bluethroats, a target bird for some amongst the party. Serins, Linnets, Meadow Pipits and White Wagtails fidgeted along the edges of the pans and a confiding Zitting Cisticola provided close views. The coastal mudflats held a mixture of typical saltwater waders, but it was difficult light to fully appreciate them.

A few Sandwich Terns and a sentinel-like Iberian Grey Shrike pretty much concluded business at this site and after a comfort break, we made our way towards the Spanish border and the Castro Marim reserve and salt pans. Trackside birds included Spotless and Common Starlings, Hoopoe, Great Egret, Black-winged Stilt and Iberian Magpie. Reed Bunting, Chiffchaff and Sardinian Warbler were active around the vegetation near to the closed Visitors' Centre and we enjoyed our last open-air picnic at the wooden tables next to the car park. A little wander and scanning post lunch picked up on three Caspian Terns, a flock of Avocets, Marsh Harrier, common warblers, a couple of Barn Swallow and plenty of Crested Larks.

We then drove away from the reserve and endeavoured to watch over some more salt pans, further east. Rob managed to find an access point for the vehicles and a high but distant vantage point provided views of some 300 pink Greater Flamingoes in wonderful light. A gathering of Black-necked Grebes on one pan numbered about 50 birds. Rob glimpsed a fly-by Slender-billed Gull and a couple more Barn Swallows called excitedly around us. Further down the track we saw two Hoopoes and a brief view of a flock of Spanish Sparrows. We parked up next to a small channel beside the salt pans and encountered Osprey, Great Egret, Water Pipit, a few more Avocet and closer examples of Great Flamingoes and many loafing Great Cormorants.

The late afternoon saw us driving at a leisurely pace back to our hotel, in time to provide an opportunity to see the many finches, Blackcaps and Sardinian Warblers feeding in the trees and bushes within the hotel grounds. A single Little Owl watched over us from neighbouring farmland.

Whilst the guides cleaned out the minibuses, there was time to relax and think about packing as our venture in the Algarve meandered to a gentle conclusion. Later we enjoyed our final checklist and dinner together and were served a traditional Strawberry Tree liqueur by the owner of the hotel.

Day 8

Monday 30th December

Departure, Faro

With a variety of journeys home, our happy band of Naturetrekkers went their separate ways today with little or no time for birding.

Our eight days over the festive period covered over 1,100 kilometres on the ground, in a variety of habitats. We came across a couple of mammal species not previously seen on this trip but, as expected, it was the birds that stole the show with nearly 150 species recorded. The amazing weather, super food and quality hotels provided the perfect environment to fully appreciate the natural history of this special region of Iberia.

Receive our e-newsletter

Join the Naturetrek e-mailing list and be the first to hear about new tours, additional departures and new dates, tour reports and special offers. Visit www.naturetrek.co.uk to sign up.

Social Media

We're social! Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram and be the first to hear about the launch of new tours, offers and exciting sightings and photos from our recently returned holidays.



www.facebook.com/naturetrekwildlifeholidays



www.twitter.com/naturetrektours



www.instagram.com/naturetrek_wildlife_holidays



Coastal scene by Sue Griffith

Species Lists

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

	Common name	Scientific name	December								
			23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
1	Red-legged Partridge	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>		2	5				c8	c7	✓
2	Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>	2							c20	
3	Northern Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>						✓		✓	
4	Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>						✓		c10	
5	Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Mareca penelope</i>						✓			
6	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	c30	2				✓		✓	
7	Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>						✓			
8	Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>						✓		✓	
9	Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>						✓			
10	Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>						c5			
11	Great Bustard	<i>Otis tarda</i>							c90		
12	Little Bustard	<i>Tetrax tetrax</i>							8		
13	Black-bellied Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles orientalis</i>							8		
14	Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
15	Stock Dove	<i>Columba oenas</i>							12		
16	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>		✓	✓				✓	✓	
17	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
18	Western Swamphen	<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>						c10			
19	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>						✓			
20	Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>						✓			
21	Common Crane	<i>Grus grus</i>							c150		
22	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>						c20	1	✓	
23	Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>								c50	
24	Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>						6		c300	
25	Eurasian Stone-curlew	<i>Burhinus oediconemus</i>				24			38		
26	Eurasian Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>			c40					1	
27	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>		6				5		✓	
28	Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>								c60	
29	Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>				c30	✓	✓	✓	✓	

	Common name	Scientific name	December							
			23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
30	European Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>					c20	c40	✓	
31	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	c5		2		✓		✓	
32	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	c5		c15		LO		✓	
33	Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>			4	8	4			
34	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	c30				3		4	
35	Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>	3						4	
36	Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>				1			1	
37	Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>					✓			
38	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	c10			8	✓		✓	
39	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>					1			
40	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>	✓		c30				✓	
41	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>	c30						c10	
42	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>			c12		3			
43	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>		3	2	3	3		1	
44	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>			1		✓			
45	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>	c5				✓		✓	
46	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>			2				✓	
47	Slender-billed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus genei</i>							LO1	
48	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
49	Audouin's Gull	<i>Ichthyaetus audouinii</i>			6	4	c15			
50	Mediterranean Gull	<i>Ichthyaetus melanocephalus</i>	1				c10			
51	Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
52	Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	
53	Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>	3				1		4	
54	Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>	3			1	1		✓	
55	Great Skua	<i>Stercorarius skua</i>		1		4				
56	Balearic Shearwater	<i>Puffinus mauretanicus</i>			3	c8				
57	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	7	c30	✓		✓	✓	✓	
58	Northern Gannet	<i>Morus bassanus</i>	✓	c20	✓	✓				
59	European Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>			3	c5				
60	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	5	c4	c10	✓	✓	✓	✓	
61	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>					7			

	Common name	Scientific name	December							
			23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
62	Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>	c22				c10		c20	
63	Little Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>					4			
64	Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	2	c15	c100	✓	✓	✓	✓	
65	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	1	2	6		✓	1	3	
66	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>			1				2	
67	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	4	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
68	Western Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	1				1		2	
69	Black-winged Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>	LO1	LO1	1		LO2	3		
70	Griffon Vulture	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>						3		
71	Cinereous Vulture	<i>Aegypius monachus</i>						1		
72	Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>		1	1		5			
73	Spanish Imperial Eagle	<i>Aquila adalberti</i>						1		
74	Bonelli's Eagle	<i>Aquila fasciata</i>			2					
75	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>		1						
76	Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>			1		2	1	1	
77	Hen Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	1		1	1		c6		
78	Red Kite	<i>Milvus milvus</i>						✓		
79	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	5	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
80	Western Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>						1		
81	Eurasian Eagle-Owl	<i>Bubo bubo</i>					LOH			
82	Tawny Owl	<i>Strix aluco</i>						H1		
83	Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>				2	LOH	5	1	
84	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>		1			2	4	5	
85	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>			2		3		2	
86	Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dryobates minor</i>		3						
87	Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>		2	H1					
88	Iberian Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus sharpei</i>		4			H1		LOH	
89	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
90	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>		1	1	4		1	1	
91	Iberian Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius meridionalis</i>		1	8	1	1	4	2	
92	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>		2	4			1		
93	Iberian Magpie	<i>Cyanopica cooki</i>	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓

	Common name	Scientific name	December							
			23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
94	Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	✓				✓	✓	✓	
95	Red-billed Chough	<i>Pyrhacorax pyrrhacorax</i>		2		2	3			
96	Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>			c60	4	LO	✓		
97	Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>						✓		
98	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>			1			5		
99	European Crested Tit	<i>Lophophanes cristatus</i>		✓	✓					
100	Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		✓	✓				H	
101	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		H2	✓		H		H	
102	Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>						H1		
103	Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>			✓	✓	H	✓	✓	
104	Thekla's Lark	<i>Galerida theklae</i>		1		✓				
105	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>	5		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
106	Calandra Lark	<i>Melanocorypha calandra</i>						✓		
107	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>		1			1		c6	
108	Eurasian Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>		c100	c50	✓	✓			
109	Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>					2	H2	H	
110	Yellow-browed Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus inornatus</i>						1		
111	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
112	Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>	1	1	4	1	✓	✓	✓	
113	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>		✓	✓	✓	H	H	✓	
114	Dartford Warbler	<i>Sylvia undata</i>		4	H	1			LOH?	
115	Sardinian Warbler	<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
116	Common Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapilla</i>		LOH						
117	Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>		✓	✓					
118	Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>		LOH	LOH					
119	Short-toed Treecreeper	<i>Certhia brachydactyla</i>		2	H					
120	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>							H	
121	Spotless Starling	<i>Sturnus unicolor</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
122	Ring Ouzel	<i>Turdus torquatus</i>		2	1	c6				
123	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
124	Redwing	<i>Turdus iliacus</i>							LOH	
125	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

	Common name	Scientific name	December							
			23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
126	Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>					3			
127	European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
128	Bluethroat	<i>Luscinia svecica</i>					2		2	
129	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
130	Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>		3	1	6				
131	European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
132	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
133	Spanish Sparrow	<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>						c30	c40	
134	Black-headed Weaver	<i>Ploceus melanocephalus</i>					2			
135	Common Waxbill	<i>Estrilda astrild</i>		2	7	✓	✓	✓	H	
136	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>		5	2	3	1	LOH	✓	
137	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba alba</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
138	Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba yarrellii</i>			1	LO1?				
139	Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
140	Water Pipit	<i>Anthus spinoletta</i>	LOH				LO1		LOH	
141	Richard's Pipit	<i>Anthus richardi</i>				2				
142	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
143	Brambling	<i>Fringilla montifringilla</i>							LO1	
144	European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
145	Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
146	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
147	European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>	2	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
148	Eurasian Siskin	<i>Spinus spinus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
149	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
150	Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>		✓						

Mammals (D = Dead)

1	Western Hedgehog	<i>Erinaceus europaeus</i>	DLO	D2			D1		
2	Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>					2	✓	
3	Wild Boar	<i>Sus scrofa</i>		8					
4	Egyptian Mongoose	<i>Herpestes ichneumon</i>		D1			1		
5	Harbour Porpoise / Dolphin sp.					1			

	Common name	Scientific name	December							
			23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
6	European River Otter	<i>Lutra lutra</i>					1			

Reptiles

1	European Pond Terrapin	<i>Emys orbicularis</i>					✓			
2	Red-eared Terrapin	<i>Trachemys scripta</i>					✓			
3	Spanish Terrapin	<i>Mauremys leprosa</i>					✓			
4	Moorish Gecko	<i>Tarentola mauritanica</i>					✓			

Plants & fungi

1	Maritime (Cluster) Pine	<i>Pinus pinaster</i>	✓							
2	Stone (Umbrella) Pine	<i>Pinus pinea</i>	✓							
3	Sage-leaved Cistus	<i>Cistus salvifolius</i>		✓						
4	Gum Cistus	<i>Cistus ladanifer</i>		✓						
5	Snapdragon	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>			✓					
6	A milk-vetch	<i>Astragalus lusitanicus / Erophaca boetica</i>			✓					
7	Friar's Cowl	<i>Arisarum vulgare</i>				✓				
8	A milkcap	<i>Lactarius sp.</i>			✓					

Butterflies & Moths

1	Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>		✓	✓	✓				
2	Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>			✓					
3	Cleopatra/Brimstone	<i>Gonepteryx sp.</i>		✓						
4	Green-veined White	<i>Pieris napi</i>		✓	✓			✓	✓	
5	Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
6	Monarch sp.	<i>Danaus sp.</i>		LO1						
7	Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>			✓					
8	Grass Eggar	<i>Lasiocampa trifolii</i>				✓				