

Go Slow in Portugal

Naturetrek Tour Report

15th – 22nd May 2026



Carbonell's Wall Lizard



Armeria berlangensis



Saxifraga cintrana



Scrophularia sublyrata

Tour report by Fernando Romão



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Summary

This eight-day itinerary focused on the coastal region of Peniche, the Óbidos Lagoon, and the limestone mountain ranges of Serras de Aire, Candeeiros, and Montejunto, concluding with a boat excursion to the Berlengas Islands. Despite challenges with strong winds on the first few days, the group achieved significant wildlife observations.

Day 1

Friday 15th May

Everything went smoothly regarding arrival, and flight delays were minimal. Most of the group was already in Portugal, having arrived the day before, earlier in the week, or on earlier flights, so we met up at the airport. Since it was late Friday afternoon in Lisbon, traffic was heavy. On the journey, we only spotted Wood Pigeons, Cattle Egrets and a Common Kestrel. We saw some Yellow-legged Gulls upon arriving in Peniche, as well as Spotless Starlings, Collared Doves and a Blackbird in the hotel parking lot. We arrived at the hotel at 8.00pm, and during dinner, I conducted a short briefing.

Day 2

Saturday 16th May

Early in the morning, before breakfast, we took a short walk from the hotel, primarily for birdwatching. Although the day was very overcast and windy, we managed to make some interesting observations in the dunes, the best being a distant Iberian Grey Shrike. Closer to us, a Sardinian Warbler hid in a juniper bush, and we also observed a Greenfinch, several Goldfinches, and a Common Kestrel which flew over the road and into the dunes. In terms of other fauna, we saw a Rabbit hidden in the vegetation. As for plants, I spotted the endemic Portuguese coastal mullein, *Verbascum litigiosum*, in the distance. We also observed typical dune plants such as the juniper (*Juniperus turbinata*) and the pink-flowered Sand Stock.

After breakfast, we drove to Peniche to explore the coastal area of the peninsula. Upon entering the city gates, we turned right to stop near the beginning of the beach. We continued and stopped a little further on, near the ruins of the Forte da Luz, a seventeenth-century defensive structure. The wind was strong. On the coastal rocks, we saw Shags, and we began to see Sea Lavender species (*Limonium*), a characteristic coastal plant.

Observations became more productive when we stopped in the Papôa area. This location represents a narrow extension of the peninsula stretching northward, formed mainly by limestone rocks. Here we saw more plants, namely Sea Lavender (*Limonium* spp.), Sea Heath, Cretan Bird's-foot-Trefoil, and *Armeria welwitschia*, a species endemic to Portugal's west coast.

Perched on prominent spots, close to the ground or on vertical rocks, was a Black Redstart, while Yellow-legged Gulls rested calmly, clearly visible. Meanwhile, some of the group discovered a pair of Turnstones exploring the rocks near the water, searching for food. In addition to Shags, we also saw a Common Tern passing quickly among the coastal rocks.

We drove a bit further to observe the 'volcanic breach', the remnants of an ancient volcano (active about seventy million years ago), drove further still to visit the Ponta do Trovão (or Tip of the Thunderbolt). This rocky platform

overlooking the sea represents the best point on the planet to visualize the transition between the Pliensbachian and Toarcian stages, exactly 182.7 million years ago: this is the geologists' 'golden spike' site, by which the date is benchmarked. We found numerous belemnite fossils, an animal extinct since the end of the Cretaceous (like the dinosaurs), and similar to modern cuttlefish.

We turned back and stopped at a supermarket to use the restroom and have a coffee, then headed to a nearby picnic park for our lunch. There was some wind, which was a bit troublesome, but we managed to eat. We paid attention to the birds frequenting the area: we saw a Black Redstart or two nearby, while Yellow-legged Gulls flew around us, coveting the food and waiting for an opportunity. Spotless Starlings passed through the area, as well as a Zitting Cisticola, which was more easily heard than seen.

After lunch, we drove for about twenty minutes to Lourinhã, 'the capital of dinosaurs'. In the streets of this small town, one can see life-size replicas of various dinosaur species discovered in the region. After finding a place to park the van, we went to a terrace for a coffee. On the way, we saw House Martin nests on some buildings, and saw a Greenfinch singing at the top of a tree.

We visited the small Lourinhã museum, which illustrates evolution on Earth from prehistoric times up to the present day, including the human species. However, the highlight was the dinosaurs that inhabited the region. We had the privilege of visiting the palaeontology laboratory, where fossils are prepared, and were shown a rare dinosaur nest with eggs.

On the return journey, we intended to go to the Paimogo area, a part of the coast formed by a high cliff, but the road was closed. We ended up returning to the main road and heading back to the hotel earlier than planned.

After dinner, accompanied by two of the group, I went out on foot to explore the surroundings of the hotel to try to see or hear Nightjars. As soon as we arrived at the spot, we heard one singing for a moment. It passed close to us, but we never heard it again. In the distance, we also heard a Blackbird and a Red-legged Partridge. However, after waiting several minutes with no further sightings, we decided to return to the hotel to rest.

Day 3

Sunday 17th May

Once again, we went out early in the morning, before breakfast, to explore the nearby dune area, which features more shrub coverage (junipers), and a dense but low strip of maritime pine. We left the hotel in light drizzle, which intensified for a few moments. Nevertheless, we saw interesting things: two Iberian Grey Shrikes perching on posts and streetlamps to control their territory and hunt for prey, a Red-legged Partridge wandering about, and a Hoopoe perched on a post, which, upon taking flight, was followed by a second one. A Chaffinch sang for a long time at the top of a pine tree, alongside a Wood Pigeon, and a few Common Swifts also passed by. Meanwhile, the weather improved, and the sun began to shine through the clouds.

After breakfast, we visited the historic village of Óbidos, exploring its cultural side while keeping an eye on the natural heritage. The place was very touristy, with many visitors of different nationalities, but it was interesting. We saw many flocks of Common Swifts interacting and flying together, and Serins singing in various locations. At one point, we observed a Common Kestrel hunting in the surroundings. On the old walls, stone barriers, and rocky

areas, we observed interesting plants such as the *Antirrhinum linkianum* (an Iberian endemic Snapdragon), Ivy-leaved Toadflax, and Small Bellflower, among others. We also spotted Black Redstart, Blackcap and Sardinian Warbler.

After exploring the main street and having coffee on a terrace, we headed to the Óbidos lagoon to try one of the observation points. The tide was somewhat high, keeping the birds further away, but even so, we saw several Grey Herons and a Purple Heron (which even landed on the lagoon's edge near us). A flock of Glossy Ibises passed through the area and landed far off. We observed many Mallards and Cormorants, as well as several Sandwich Terns flying over the lagoon and diving to catch small fish. We thought we saw a Marsh Harrier land on the ground, but it was very distant. In contrast, a Whimbrel was relatively close, feeding on the shore.

Unfortunately, the bridge which used to provide access to the observatory had disappeared, so we could not cross. On the way to the picnic area, we stopped by the road to observe a bird of prey. It appeared to be another Marsh Harrier, a female, but it quickly descended behind the trees and disappeared. At this spot, looking down at the ground, we discovered a Bee Orchid. We noticed there were several in the area, and started examining the flowers growing there, which included Sweet Scabious, Common Centaury, Yellow-wort and *Cistus crispus*, among others. It was a very interesting stop for wildflowers.

We proceeded to our usual picnic spot at Covão dos Musaranhos, next to a branch of the lagoon. Since it was Sunday, the restroom facilities were open, and we managed to secure two tables in the picnic park, despite other groups being present.

After lunch, we drove a bit further north for a final walk along the lagoon's edge. On the sandy ground, we saw more plants such as *Linaria spartea* (a yellow toadflax), *Silene scabriflora* (a small pink catchfly), Lavender and Portuguese Crowberry. Among the birds, we had several interesting encounters: families of Crested Tits, with adults feeding chicks outside the nest, while we heard Short-toed Treecreeper, and we both heard and saw a Firecrest. Over the lagoon and the pine forest, many Common Swifts were visible, accompanied by some Sand Martins. From the scrubland areas, Sardinian Warblers could occasionally be heard.

After the walk, we returned to Covão dos Musaranhos for a coffee. While relaxing, we observed a Coal Tit and a Nuthatch on a nearby tree. We returned to the hotel. We completed the checklist around 7.00pm and had dinner at 7.30pm.

After dinner, almost the entire group went out to try to observe Nightjars. However, while the wind had been calm during the day, it intensified at night, making observation uncomfortable. We neither saw nor heard it. We took the opportunity to point the telescope at Jupiter and observed the planet, along with its moons. We returned early, somewhat disappointed, but with the idea of trying again on the coming nights.

Day 4

Monday 18th May

We went out again at 7.30am, before breakfast, for a walk along the avenue. We had an excellent sighting of three Hoopoes fluttering back and forth, perching on streetlamps, power lines or the ground, allowing for easy observation. A Red-legged Partridge could be heard singing in the parking lot, but like the Serins, we couldn't spot it. We located the Iberian Grey Shrikes again, and along the promenade, a Crested Lark appeared. In the dunes, we saw Goldfinches, Linnets, and Greenfinches.

After breakfast, we headed back to the Óbidos Lagoon, specifically to the Nadadouro area, a journey that took about thirty minutes. Immediately after parking the van, even before getting out, we spotted a group of Greater Flamingoes at the far end of that branch of the lagoon. We took a short walk towards them, and managed to get closer to the group.

Meanwhile, we observed a Marsh Harrier patrolling the banks, and saw a Purple Heron, along with several Grey Herons. A Buzzard and a pair of Red-rumped Swallows also appeared. On this walk, we saw some different plants, as the area is rich in vegetation typical of limestone soils, such as Italian Buckthorn, Kermes Oak and *Cynara humilis*, among others. We tried to observe a dragonfly, a reddish species of darter, but it didn't allow for a clear view. We saw several butterflies, including Small Copper, but most notably the Spanish Gatekeeper, which was the most significant entomological observation of the day.

We returned to the van and headed towards Salir do Porto. We first stopped at a café for coffee and to use the restroom. Afterwards, we walked along the wooden boardwalks crossing the dune area surrounding the bay. We could hear a Zitting Cisticola flying around the area, but struggled to spot it. We saw a Kingfisher perched on a bush near the margin of the River Tornada, and had an interesting sighting of a Gull Bunting, half-hidden at the base of a bush, not showing itself very well. In contrast, Serins were clearly visible.

Occasionally, a Swallowtail butterfly passed by looking for flowers to nectar on, but there weren't many. In fact, the area was rather poor in terms of flowering plants. At the end of our route, we found a juvenile Western Montpelier Snake peeking out from a bush, in a periscope-like position, as if hunting. Around lunchtime, we returned and had our picnic at the local picnic park. Immediately afterwards, we headed south to visit the Paul de Tornada Local Nature Reserve. Halfway there, we stopped because we saw a White Stork nest by the roadside, occupied by an adult and a chick. We stopped to observe it better and take photos. A little further ahead, on a farm, we saw another occupied White Stork nest.

Upon arriving at Paul de Tornada, in the parking lot, we saw a large cluster of Great Horsetail and flowering Chicory. We started with the South Hide. On the way there, we saw a Purple Heron in flight, and later we saw it again, perched in the reeds. Before entering the hide, I looked towards the far end, at the edge of the water. There were floating plants where a Purple Swamphen was feeding; we managed to watch it through the telescope. We also saw a Mallard or two, and some Coots. Savi's Warbler was constantly heard.

While still in this hide, I noticed a strange figure on a dead tree in the background, on the opposite side of the water area: no more than a white patch. Initially, I thought it was something else, but the telescope revealed it to be an Osprey. This was a great surprise, as it is not very common in this area at this time of year (the sighting was later confirmed by reserve technicians, who mentioned that two to three Ospreys have been seen throughout the year for a couple of years, although they are not breeding).

During the walk from the South to the North Hide, we saw Yellow Flag irises. In the second hide, we saw the Purple Swamphen again, now closer and with better visibility. There were Mallards moving back and forth, as well as Moorhens and Coots. At one point, in the reedbed ahead, we saw a pair of introduced Black-headed Weavers flying back and forth. We also heard Savi's and Cetti's Warblers several times. No dragonflies were seen this time, perhaps because the air temperature hadn't reached 20°C. We saw a new plant though: another species of broomrape, *Orobancha foetida*.

We returned to the hotel, arriving around 4.30pm. Upon arrival, we had a good sighting of a Red-legged Partridge. While I went shopping, some clients went to the beach bar, or even to the beach itself.

After dinner, we noticed the weather was excellent, with no wind at all. We decided to try our luck again with the Nightjar. Stepping out to the hotel parking lot, we saw a Rabbit, and we saw another at the entrance to the Nightjar area. They seem to become more active at dusk. We arrived while there was still plenty of light, and saw an Iberian Grey Shrike hunting in the pine forest area, and heard a Mistle Thrush singing. At one point, two of us saw two geese passing overhead, relatively low. We couldn't identify the species, but they were certainly birds that had escaped from captivity.

Suddenly, we heard the Nightjar's song. From then on, it was quite lively. We even saw two flying together several times, back and forth, in the pine forest. In addition to the song, we also heard their calls and wing-claps. We managed to see one of the birds perched on a dead pine tree through the telescope, singing several times. We spent over thirty minutes observing them.

Day 5

Tuesday 19th May

Today, we planned to visit the Serras de Aire and Candeeiros Natural Park, a protected medium-mountain area located to the northeast. But once again, we first set out before breakfast. However, this time we took the van to go a bit further down the avenue and explore another section of the dunes, hoping to see different things. We observed Crested Larks, a Red-legged Partridge in the dunes, and a Stonechat perched in the vegetation. In the distance, we saw a White Stork landing in a field. In the dune area, we found a Rabbit using juniper thickets to hide. On the roadside, in the sandy soil among various low-growing plant species, we found a cluster of the yellow-flowered toadflax *Linaria polygalifolia*, which is an Iberian endemic.

The journey to the Serras de Aire and Candeeiros Natural Park lasted about an hour. We faced some light drizzle along the way, and the sky was very overcast throughout the region, and the mountain range was no exception. The final part of the trip involved ascending the range and then descending into the valley of the village of Arrimal, our first stop. We first went to the village café to use the restroom and to have a coffee.

Next, we went a little further to take a look at Lagoa Pequena, a small pond. No dragonflies were visible: it was cool and sunless. However, some birds were present, notably Zitting Cisticola, while over a distant ridge, we observed a Short-toed Snake Eagle hunting. Similarly, we found a Buzzard, and even further away, we spotted a Common Kestrel hunting over the valley.

We then went to Lagoa Grande: the clouds began to disperse, allowing some direct sunlight. We saw only an Azure Bluet and a Blue Emperor, but at one point, a Short-toed Snake Eagle passed overhead. We also saw a Corn Bunting for the first time, and heard a Melodious Warbler. On the lake margins and walls, several Geniez's Wall Lizards were visible, trying to enjoy the bits of sunlight.

Before lunch, we continued to cross the mountain range, but stopped slightly higher up on the slope to see some flowers. We saw Pyramidal Orchids, the toadflax *Antirrhinum linkianum*, Grey-leaved Cistus and Sauce Thyme (of the Iberian subspecies).

We continued our journey north, crossing the range. At one point, we had planned to turn towards the valley of Alvalos, but the road was closed, possibly due to surface collapse. We had to improvise a lunch spot. We descended to Porto de Mós main town and went up to the valley of Valicova, an area known for its picnic park, which offers plenty of shade, water points, and tables. Furthermore, a trail started from this location into a Portuguese Oak forest, which we explored immediately after.

While having lunch, we heard Firecrests, Robins and various finches, and when we went out for a walk, a Booted Eagle appeared overhead. In the forest, we found several orchid species: Broad-leaved Helleborine, Woodcock Orchid, Pyramidal Orchid and Small-flowered Tongue-orchid. We also saw other flowers, such as Narbonne Star-of-Bethlehem. Along the trail, we met and chatted briefly with a young student holding an entomological net: they were monitoring butterflies. In truth, we didn't see many butterfly species in the forest: it was mostly Meadow Browns and Speckled Woods.

That evening, we decided not to go out to observe the Nightjars. Since the previous night had been spectacular, we opted to have an earlier night.

Day 6

Wednesday 20th May

The sixth day of the tour was once again dedicated to the mountains. This time, we headed south-east to visit the Montejunto Mountain range, which is slightly closer. During our pre-breakfast outing, we went to the beach again. Unfortunately, not much was seen. The weather was good, with no wind and a calm sea. We only spotted Shags, a White Wagtail, and some Common Swifts.

After breakfast, around 9.00am, we set off towards Montejunto. It was a shorter journey, taking about forty minutes. Our first stop was at the *dolina* (a large pond). Here, Iberian Water Frogs could be heard and seen, and we also spotted one or two Blue Emperor dragonflies. However, the highlight was the sighting of Cirl Buntings. Two individuals approached and landed almost at our feet. They got startled and moved to a small tree slightly ahead, allowing us to observe them very closely.

We continued and stopped in the parking area of the Interpretation Centre. We used the restrooms and prepared for the trail (a circuit of about two or three kilometres), which is primarily forested but includes some open areas, making it ideal for observing a good diversity of birds and flowers. Even before starting, we saw a Buzzard hunting over the ridge. Shortly after, we counted eight Black Kites passing over the top of the mountain, while along the trail, we also saw a Booted Eagle and a Short-toed Snake Eagle.

The route was very rich in plants, some of them endemic: *Silene longicilia*, *Coincya cintrana*, and *Carduus lusitanicus* subsp. *broteroi* (endemics of the limestone mountains of West Central Portugal), Marguerite Daisy (*Leucanthemum sylvaticum*), and *Genista tournefortii*. Surprisingly, we even saw some flowers of the Hoop-petticoat Daffodil, of the Iberian subspecies *Narcissus bulbocodium* subsp. *obesus*, which is typically a late winter or early spring flower. Due to the clear sky and warmth, we were able to observe more butterflies, such as Spanish Festoon, Spanish Gatekeeper, Swallowtail and Painted Lady. Early on, we also saw a False Ilex Hairstreak.

Near the end of the trail, some of us managed to spot the discreet movements of a Red Squirrel in the trees. We also found a Great Tit nest in an old Great Spotted Woodpecker hole. We heard Iberian Green and Great Spotted Woodpeckers, Sardinian Warbler, Iberian Chiffchaff, Short-toed Treecreeper, and many Wrens and Blackcaps.

We returned to the park and found a table near the car and close to the Interpretation Centre to have lunch, as the usual picnic park was full of children and other visitors. After lunch, we went to the bar for coffee and to use the restrooms.

Next, we went to the highest part of the mountain, above 600m. We explored an area near the chapel, and the ruins of an old convent. The views from here were incredible, stretching west to the Atlantic Ocean, and east to the Tagus River valley. We saw more special plants, such as *Saxifraga cintrana* and *Euphorbia paniculata* subsp. *nehwitschii* (two more endemics of the limestone West Central region of Portugal). We spotted a Spiny Toad on a rock in the middle of a scrubland, which was unexpected for this habitat. Black Redstarts were also visible in the rocky areas and around the buildings.

Day 7

Thursday 21st May

Today was our last day in the field: we saved the visit to the Berlengas Islands for the end. The day was magnificent, with no wind, an average temperature of 20°C, and a calm sea. Before the main event, we took a pre-breakfast walk to the dune area behind the pine forest, where we had excellent sightings of a Hoopoe family (at least four individuals), observing the adults feeding the chicks. We also saw the Iberian Grey Shrike family engaged in the same activity. Besides this, we heard a Mistle Thrush singing, and saw several finches: Greenfinch, Linnet and Goldfinch.

We returned to the hotel for breakfast and, around 10.30am, headed to the harbour. It was basically a matter of arriving and boarding the boat that would take us to the island on a forty-five-minute journey. Upon leaving the harbour, we saw two Sandwich Terns, and during the boat crossing, we spotted several Cory's and many Balearic Shearwaters: at times, they formed large groups resting on the water. We also saw some Gannets, Shags and Yellow-legged Gulls passing by.

We arrived on the island around noon. Our first stop was at a café to rest, mentally prepare for the climb to the plateau, have some coffee, and use the restroom. We proceeded slowly, observing Carbonell's Wall Lizards everywhere. We recorded the island's endemic plants: the Berlengas Thrift (*Armeria berlangensis*) (most of them were no longer in full bloom, but good clusters were visible), *Pulicaria microcephala* (small yellow flowers) which only began to appear on the upper plateau, and we also saw *Echium rosulatum* subsp. *davaei* and *Scrophularia subhyrata*, a figwort. On the plateau, we heard and saw Zitting Cisticola.

We had lunch near the lighthouse around 1.00pm. Afterwards, we continued to the end of the trail, where the 'Catedral' or 'Cova do Sono' (a giant sea cave) is located. Suddenly, one of the group spotted a Peregrine Falcon. We saw it enter the cave and perch out of sight. We waited a while, and saw it again, flying fast and returning to the cave. In fact, we spotted two falcons. One of them seemed to catch something from the water surface. At one point, one of the individuals perched on the wall in front of us, facing us. We spent several minutes observing it with binoculars and the telescope.

We slowly made our way back. At a viewpoint overlooking the village, we found a Yellow-legged Gull nest with two eggs, and on this slope we also saw artificial nest boxes used by Cory's Shearwaters. We returned to the harbour, where we spent the last hour at the café, relaxing and watching the comings and goings of the gulls.

Around 5.00pm, we boarded the boat back to Peniche, seeing the same seabirds along the way (Cory's and Balearic Shearwaters, Gannets, Shags). We had good sightings throughout the entire crossing.

That evening, after the checklist and dinner, we organized the logistics for the following day, as it would be our departure day back to Lisbon.

Day 8

Friday 22nd May

After breakfast, we checked out of the hotel and loaded the van. We went to Peniche to explore its old urban centre a bit better. In one of the city squares, one of the group pointed out a dead bird on the pavement. It was a Quail! Another surprise was finding a fish-drying structure set up outside a house, the fish protected by a net. Before departing for Lisbon, we still had time for a coffee on a terrace.

Upon arriving at the airport around noon, we concluded the tour, and everyone said farewell.

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Species lists

Birds (H=heard only)

I=Introduced		May 2026							
Common name	Scientific name	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>			✓	✓	✓			
Red-legged Partridge	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>				✓				
Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>				✓				
Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>					✓			
European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>			H					
Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Feral Rock Dove - I	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>				✓				
Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>				✓				
Purple Swamphen	<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>				✓				
Eurasian Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>			✓					
Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>		✓						
Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>							✓	
Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>			✓				✓	
Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>		✓						
Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>			✓					
Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cory's Shearwater	<i>Calonectris borealis</i>					✓		✓	
(Balearic) Mediterranean Shearwater	<i>Puffinus yelkouan mauretanicus</i>							✓	
White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>				✓		✓		
Northern Gannet	<i>Morus bassanus</i>					✓		✓	
European Shag	<i>Gulosus aristotelis</i>		✓			✓		✓	
Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>			✓	✓				
Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>			✓	✓				
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>			✓			✓		
Western Cattle Egret	<i>Ardea ibis</i>	✓							
Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>			✓	✓				
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>			✓	✓				
European Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i>		✓		✓				
Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>				✓				
Short-toed Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>					✓	✓		
Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>					✓	✓		
Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>			✓	✓				
Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>				✓		✓		
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>				✓	✓	✓		✓
Common Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>				✓				
Iberian Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus sharpei</i>						✓		
Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>						✓		
Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓			
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>							✓	
Iberian Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius meridionalis</i>		✓	✓	✓			✓	

I=Introduced		May 2026							
Common name	Scientific name	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>			✓	✓		✓		
Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>		✓		✓	✓			
Carion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>	✓				✓			
Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>			✓		✓			
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>			✓		✓	✓		
Coal Tit	<i>Periparus ater</i>			✓			✓		
Crested Tit	<i>Lophophanes cristatus</i>			✓			✓		
Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>				✓				
Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>		✓		✓		✓	✓	
Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Melodious Warbler	<i>Hippolais polyglotta</i>					✓			
Common Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>				✓				
Savi's Warbler	<i>Locustella luscinioides</i>				✓				
Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>			✓	✓				
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Western House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
European Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Cecropis rufula</i>				✓	✓			
Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>			✓		✓			
Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>			✓	✓				
Iberian Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus ibericus</i>					✓	✓		
Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓		
Sardinian Warbler	<i>Curruca melanocephala</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Common Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapilla</i>			✓		✓	✓		
Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>			✓					
Short-toed Treecreeper	<i>Certhia brachydactyla</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓		
Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓		
Spotless Starling	<i>Sturnus unicolor</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>				✓			✓	✓
Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>			✓		✓	✓		
Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>				✓		✓		
Black-headed Weaver - I	<i>Ploceus melanocephalus</i>				✓				
Common Waxbill - I	<i>Estrilda astrild</i>				✓				
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓		
Eurasian Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>			✓			✓		
European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>			✓		✓			
Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirrus</i>			✓	✓		✓		

Mammals

I=Introduced		May 2026							
Common name	Scientific name	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
European Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>		✓			✓	✓	✓	
Eurasian Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>						✓		

Amphibians & reptiles

I=Introduced		May 2026							
Common name	Scientific name	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Spiny Toad	<i>Bufo spinosus</i>						✓		
Iberian Water Frog	<i>Pelophylax perezi</i>				✓				
Carbonell's Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis carbonelli</i>		✓					✓	
Geniez's Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis virescens</i>					✓			
Western Montpelier Snake	<i>Malpolon monspessulanus</i>				✓				

Butterflies

I=Introduced		May 2026							
Common name	Scientific name	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Iberian Swallowtail	<i>Iphiclides feisthamei</i>					✓			
Common Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>				✓		✓		
Spanish Festoon	<i>Zerynthia rumina</i>						✓		
Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias croceus</i>			✓	✓		✓		
Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>				✓	✓	✓		
Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>						✓		
Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>			✓	✓		✓		
False Ilex Hairstreak	<i>Satyrus esculi</i>						✓		
Holly Blue	<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>						✓		
Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>						✓		
Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓		
Iberian Marbled White	<i>Melanargia lachesis</i>				✓				
Spanish Gatekeeper	<i>Pyronia bathseba</i>				✓		✓		
Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>			✓		✓			

Damselflies & dragonflies

I=Introduced		May 2026							
Common name	Scientific name	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Azure Bluet	<i>Coenagrion puella</i>					✓			
Blue Emperor	<i>Anax imperator</i>					✓	✓		

Plants

* = Iberian Endemic, ** = Portuguese Endemic	
Scientific Name	Common Name
Class Polypodiopsida	
Equisetaceae	Horsetail Family
<i>Equisetum telmateia</i>	Great Horsetail
Class Gymnosperms	
Pinaceae	Pine Family
<i>Pinus pinaster</i>	Maritime Pine
<i>Pinus pinea</i>	Stone Pine
Cupressaceae	Cypress Family
<i>Juniperus turbinata</i> subsp. <i>turbinata</i>	Juniper
<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>	Mediterranean Cypress
Class Angiosperms	
Amaranthaceae	Amaranth Family
<i>Beta maritima</i>	Sea Beet
<i>Halimione portulacoides</i>	Sea Purslane
<i>Suaeda vera</i>	Shrubby Sea-blite
Amaryllidaceae	Amaryllis Family
<i>Narcissus bulbocodium</i> (subsp. <i>obesus</i>) *	Peticoat Daffodil
<i>Pancratium maritimum</i>	Sea Daffodil
Anacardiaceae	Pistachio Family
<i>Pistacia lentiscus</i>	Lentisk / Mastic
Apiaceae	Carrot Family
<i>Crithmum maritimum</i>	Rock Samphire
<i>Daucus carota</i>	Wild Carrot
<i>Eryngium campestre</i>	Field Eryngo
<i>Eryngium maritimum</i>	Sea Holly
<i>Ferula communis</i> subsp. <i>catalaunica</i> *	Giant Fennel
<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	Fennel
<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	Hogweed
<i>Thapsia villosa</i>	
Aristolochiaceae	Birthwort Family
<i>Aristolochia paucinervis</i>	
Asparagaceae	Asparagus Family
<i>Asparagus acutifolius</i>	Wild Asparagus
<i>Ornithogalum narbonne</i>	Narbonne Star-of-Bethlehem
<i>Polygonatum odoratum</i>	Solomon's Seal
<i>Ruscus aculeatus</i>	Butcher's Broom
<i>Ornithogalum bourgaeum</i>	
Asteraceae	Daisy Family
<i>Andryala arenaria</i> spp. <i>arenaria</i>	
<i>Andryala integrifolia</i>	
<i>Bellis perennis</i>	Daisy
<i>Bellis sylvestris</i>	Southern Daisy
<i>Calendula suffruticosa</i> subsp. <i>algarbiensis</i> *	
<i>Calendula suffruticosa</i> subsp. <i>lusitanica</i>	
<i>Carduus lusitanicus</i> subsp. <i>broteroi</i> **	
<i>Centaurea pullata</i>	Iberian Knapweed
<i>Centaurea sphaerocephala</i>	
<i>Cichorium intybus</i>	
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Spear Thistle

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Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Coleostephus myconis</i>	Corn Marigold
<i>Cynara humilis</i>	Wild Thistle
<i>Dittrichia viscosa</i>	False Yellowhead / Sticky Fleabane
<i>Eryngium campestre</i>	
<i>Galactites tomentosus</i>	
<i>Helichrysum italicum</i> subsp. <i>picardi</i>	
<i>Inula</i> (<i>Limbaria</i>) <i>crithmoides</i>	Golden Samphire
<i>Leucanthemum sylvaticum</i> *	
<i>Pallenis spinosa</i>	Spiny Starwort
<i>Pulicaria microcephala</i> **	
Boraginaceae	Borage Family
<i>Borago officinalis</i>	Borage
<i>Echium plantagineum</i>	Purple Viper's Bugloss
<i>Echium rosulatum</i> subsp. <i>davaei</i> **	
<i>Myosotis arvensis</i>	
Brassicaceae	Cress Family
<i>Biscutella valentina</i> spp <i>valentina</i>	
<i>Coincya cintrana</i> **	
<i>Lobularia maritima</i> subsp. <i>maritima</i>	Sweet Alyssum
<i>Malcolmia littorea</i>	
Campanulaceae	Bellflower Family
<i>Campanula erinus</i>	
<i>Campanula rapunculus</i>	Rampion Bellflower
Caprifoliaceae	Honeysuckle Family
<i>Lonicera etrusca</i>	
<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	Common Elder
Caryophyllaceae	Pink Family
<i>Petrorhagia nanteuelli</i>	
<i>Silene longicilia</i> **	
<i>Silene scabriflora</i> subsp. <i>scabriflora</i>	
<i>Silene vulgaris</i> / <i>uniflora</i>	Bladder Campion / Sea Campion
Cistaceae	Rock-rose Family
<i>Cistus albidus</i>	
<i>Cistus crispus</i>	
<i>Cistus salviifolius</i>	Sage-Leaved Cistus
<i>Tuberaria guttata</i>	Spotted Rock-rose
Convolvulaceae	Bindweed Family
<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	Field Bindweed
Crassulaceae	Stonecrop Family
<i>Sedum sediforme</i>	
Dipsacaceae	Teasel Family
<i>Dipsacus comosus</i> *	Teasel
<i>Scabiosa atropurpurea</i>	Sweet Scabious
Ericaceae	Heath Family
<i>Arbutus unedo</i>	Strawberry Tree
<i>Corema album</i>	Portuguese Crowberry
Euphorbiaceae	Spurge Family
<i>Euphorbia paniculata</i> subsp. <i>welwitschii</i> **	
<i>Euphorbia characias</i> subsp. <i>characias</i>	
<i>Euphorbia portlandica</i>	

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Scientific Name	Common Name
Fagaceae	Oak Family
<i>Castanea sativa</i>	Sweet Chestnut
<i>Quercus faginea</i>	Portuguese Oak
<i>Quercus coccifera</i>	Kermes Oak
<i>Quercus suber</i>	Cork Oak
Fabaceae	Pea Family
<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i>	Mediterranean Kidney-vetch
<i>Cytisus striatus</i>	Yellow Broom
<i>Genista tournefortii</i> subsp. <i>tournefortii</i> *	
<i>Lotus creticus</i>	
<i>Lotus hispidus</i>	Hairy Bird's-foot Trefoil
<i>Trifolium campestre</i>	Hop Trefoil
<i>Trifolium incarnatum</i>	
<i>Trifolium stellatum</i>	Starry Clover
<i>Ulex europaeus</i> subsp. <i>latebracteatus</i> *	
<i>Ulex minor</i>	Dwarf Gorse
<i>Vicia sativa</i>	Spring Vetch
<i>Dorycnium rectum</i>	Greater Badassi
Frankeniaceae	Sea Heath Family
<i>Frankenia laevis</i>	
Gentianaceae	Gentian Family
<i>Blackstonia perfoliata</i>	Yellow-Wort
<i>Centaureum erythraea</i> subsp. <i>grandiflorum</i>	Common Centaury
Hypericaceae	St. John's-wort Family
<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	Perforate St. John's Wort
Iridaceae	Iris Family
<i>Iris foetidissima</i>	Stinking Iris
<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	
<i>Gladiolus illyricus</i>	Wild Gladiolus
Juncaceae	Rush Family
<i>Juncus acutus</i>	Spiny Rush
Lamiaceae	Mint Family
<i>Clinopodium vulgare</i>	Wild Basil
<i>Lavandula pedunculata</i>	
<i>Mentha suaveolens</i>	Apple Mint
<i>Origanum vulgare</i> subsp. <i>virens</i>	Marjoram
<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>	Rosemary
<i>Salvia sclareoides</i> *	Clary
<i>Stachys germanica</i>	
<i>Thymus zygis</i> subsp. <i>sylvestris</i> *	Thyme
Lauraceae	Laurel Family
<i>Laurus nobilis</i>	Bay / Bay Laurel
Liliaceae	Lily Family
<i>Allium ampeloprasum</i>	
Linaceae	Flax Family
<i>Linum bienne</i>	Pale Flax
Lythraceae	Loosestrife Family
<i>Lythrum junceum</i>	False Grass-poly
Malvaceae	Mallow Family
<i>Lavatera arborea</i>	Tree Mallow
<i>Lavatera cretica</i> (<i>Malva multiflora</i>)	Cornish Mallow

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Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Malva trimestris</i>	Royal Mallow
Moraceae	Fig Family
<i>Ficus carica</i>	Common Fig
Oleaceae	Olive Family
<i>Fraxinus angustifolia</i>	Narrow-leaved Ash
<i>Olea europaea</i>	Olive
<i>Phillyrea angustifolia</i>	
<i>Phillyrea latifolia</i>	
Orchidaceae	Orchid Family
<i>Anacamptis pyramidalis</i>	Pyramidal Orchid
<i>Barlia robertiana</i>	Giant Orchid
<i>Ophrys apifera</i>	Bee Orchid
<i>Serapias parviflora</i>	Small-flowered Tongue Orchid
<i>Epipactis helleborine</i>	Broad-leaved Helleborine
Orobanchaceae	Broomrape Family
<i>Bartsia trixago</i>	Trixago Bartsia
<i>Orobanche calendulae</i>	a broomrape
<i>Orobanche foetida</i>	a broomrape
<i>Orobanche minor</i>	Common Broomrape
Papaveraceae	Poppy Family
<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>	Field Poppy
<i>Papaver somniferum</i> subsp. <i>somniferum</i>	Opium Poppy
Paeoniaceae	Peony Family
<i>Paeonia broteri</i>	a peony
Plantaginaceae	Plantain Family
<i>Antirrhinum cirrhigerum</i> *	
<i>Antirrhinum linkianum</i> *	
<i>Chaenorhinum organifolium</i> subsp. <i>organifolium</i>	
<i>Cymbalaria muralis</i>	Ivy-Leaved Toadflax
<i>Linaria polygalifolia</i> subsp. <i>polygalifolia</i> *	
<i>Linaria sparteae</i>	
Plumbaginaceae	Thrift Family
<i>Armeria berlengensis</i> **	
<i>Armeria welwitschii</i> subsp. <i>cinerea</i> **	
<i>Limonium plurisquamatum</i> **	
<i>Limonium ovalifolium</i>	
Poaceae	Grass Family
<i>Briza maxima</i>	Quaking Grass
<i>Lagurus ovatus</i>	Hare's-tail Grass
<i>Phragmites australis</i>	Common Reed
Primulaceae	Primrose Family
<i>Anagallis arvensis</i>	Scarlet Pimpernel
Ranunculaceae	Buttercup Family
<i>Helleborus foetidus</i>	Stinking Hellebore
<i>Thalictrum speciosissimum</i>	
Rhamnaceae	Buckthorn Family
<i>Rhamnus alaternus</i>	
Rosaceae	Rose Family
<i>Agrimonia eupatoria</i> subsp. <i>eupatoria</i>	Agrimony
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn
<i>Rosa sempervirens</i>	Evergreen Rose

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Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Rubus ulmifolius</i>	
Rubiaceae	Bedstraw Family
<i>Crucianella maritima</i>	Maritime Crosswort
<i>Rubia peregrina</i>	Common Madder
Saxifragaceae	Saxifrage Family
<i>Saxifraga cintrana</i> **	
Scrophulariaceae	Figwort Family
<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>	Foxglove
<i>Scrophularia auriculata</i> subsp. <i>auriculata</i>	Water Figwort
<i>Scrophularia canina</i> subsp. <i>canina</i>	
<i>Scrophularia scorodonia</i>	Balm-leaved Figwort
<i>Scrophularia sublyrata</i> **	Figwort
<i>Verbascum litigiosum</i> **	
<i>Verbascum virgatum</i>	
Smilacaceae	Smilax Family
<i>Smilax aspera</i>	Common Smilax
Solanaceae	Nightshade Family
<i>Hyoscyamus albus</i>	White Henbane
Tamaricaceae	Tamarisk Family
<i>Tamarix africana</i>	African Tamarisk
Thymelaeaceae	Daphne Family
<i>Daphne gnidium</i>	Mediterranean Mezereon
Urticaceae	Nettle Family
<i>Parietaria judaica</i>	Pellitory-of-the-wall
Valerianaceae	Valerian Family
<i>Centranthus calcitrapae</i>	Annual Valerian