

EXTREMADURA BIRDING REPORT -OCTOBER 2010 Mike and Dot Smith, Norfolk UK

This was our second trip to Extremadura but our first experience of autumn birding here.

We again stayed in the excellent small family run country hotel, 'Vina las Torres' which is about 10 k south of Trujillo and central to all the best birding areas. All the sites that we visited were within an hours drive of the hotel.

A little research before leaving UK meant that we could experience all the different habitats that surround Trujillo. To the south the most productive was the Embalse de Sierra Brava (thousands of waterfowl) and adjacent rice fields (hundreds of common cranes and many waders). Towards Caceres to the north and south of the N-521 many Steppe species and raptors. North to Monfrague and beyond, again many raptors and also plenty of woodland birds.

A list of the birds that we saw, is shown below:

Alpine swift
Azure winged magpie
Barn swallow
Black headed gull
Black redstart
Black vulture
Blackbird
Blackcap
Blue rock thrush
Blue tit
Calandra lark
Carrion crow
Cattle egret
Cetti's warbler
Chaffinch
Chiff chaff
Chuckar
Cirl bunting
Collared dove
Common buzzard
Common coot
Common crane
Common kestrel
Common kingfisher
Common magpie
Common moorhen
Common redstart
Common sandpiper
Common waxbill
Cormorant
Corn bunting
Crag martin
Crested lark
Crested tit
Dartford warbler
Dunnock
European nuthatch
European sparrowhawk
Fan tailed warbler
Firecrest
Gadwall
Goldcrest
Golden eagle
Golden oriole

Goldfinch
Great crested grebe
Great tit
Great white egret
Greater spotted woodpecker
Green sandpiper
Green woodpecker
Greenfinch
Greenshank
Grey heron
Grey plover
Grey wagtail
Greylag goose
Griffon vulture
Hawfinch
Hen harrier
Hobby
Honey buzzard
Hoopoe
House martin
House sparrow
Jackdaw
Jay
Kentish plover
Lesser black backed gull
Lesser spotted woodpecker
Linnet
Little bustard
Little egret
Little grebe
Little ringed plover
Long tailed tit
Mallard
Marsh harrier
Marsh sandpiper
Meadow pipit
Melodius warbler
Merlin
Mistle thrush
Northern lapwing
Northern wheatear
Orphean warbler
Osprey
Peregrine falcon

Pied flycatcher
Pintail
Pochard
Pratincole
Purple gallinule
Raven
Red Aradavat
Red crested pochard
Red kite
Red legged partridge
Redwing
Reed warbler
Robin
Rock dove
Sardinian warbler
Sedge warbler
Serin
Short toed eagle
Short toed treecreeper
Shoveller
Skylark
Snipe
Song thrush
Spanish sparrow
Spoonbill
Spotless starling
Stock dove
Stonechat
Tawny pipit
Teal
Tree pipit
Turtle dove
Water pipit
Water rail
Whinchat
White stork
White wagtail
Widgeon
Willow warbler
Wood lark
Wood sandpiper
Wood warbler
Woodpigeon
Wren
Yellow wagtail