

Spain – Extremadura & Gredos Mountains

Naturetrek Tour Report

12 - 19 May 2010



Bonelli's Warbler by Sharon & Rupert Broadway



Rock Bunting by Lee Morgan



Peony by Lee Morgan



Schreiber's lizard by Phil Sharp

Report compiled by Lee Morgan



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Day 1

Wednesday 12th May

Despite a variety of flight delays the group, still in high spirits, meet up in a rather overcast Madrid airport and after loading everything onboard the minibus we eventually set off into the busy afternoon traffic on the Madrid ring roads. Once beyond Madrid the roads began to empty and we started to make good progress on our long journey southwest towards the town of Trujillo. En route we admired the Spanish countryside and looked for birds as we motored along the vast empty roads. Despite the cloudy weather and scattered light showers we still managed a few nice sightings of Cattle Egrets, Common Kestrel and the odd Black Kite as they perch on the trees and pylons beside the road or drift over the motorways ahead.

After about an hour and a half we stop in at a service station to stretch our legs and grab some refreshments. We all took the chance to look at a White Stork on its nest in a pylon behind the petrol station and, as we scanned the dry fields below it, we spotted a few Crested Larks hopping along the dusty field margins and a solitary Corn Bunting singing from the top of a tree. We watched the Spotless Starlings and Spanish Sparrows for a little while as they visited their own nests built in the cover of the huge storks nest before we continued our journey once more. We arrived in Trujillo late in the afternoon and stop briefly to admire the architecture of this beautiful Spanish town. We pulled up in a deserted car park and watched as both male and female Lesser Kestrels circle around above our heads before returning to their roost sites in the roof of the town's bull ring.

We headed on once more, south out of Trujillo, across the plains and steppe that surround the hilltop town before eventually turning off the road onto a discrete farm track. We arrived at the beautiful rural hotel 'Vina las Torres' at about 6pm. We are met with a warm welcome from our hosts and after a brief introductory tour of the finca, and being shown to our rooms, we were treated to a wonderful Spanish meal and some excellent local wine before eventually retiring for the evening.

Day 2

Thursday 13th May

Most people were awake early and despite the changeable weather we took the opportunity for some pre-breakfast birding around the fincas wonderful gardens, and had a gentle wander along some of the grassy tracks that crisscross through the flowery meadows, olive groves and orchards that surround the hotel.

It was not time wasted; whilst admiring the wonderful meadows filled with wild gladiolus, corn marigold and purple bugloss we all enjoyed great views of Bee-eater, Hoopoe, Woodchat Shrike, Golden Oriole and Azure-winged Magpie; all beautifully lit in the morning light and all less than a few hundred metres from the hotel! A few people even had the chance to watch Brown Hares boxing in the fields just in front of the hotel car park.

After a leisurely breakfast we slowly gathered at the minibus in front of the Finca. While we waited for everyone to gather their things we were treated to a wonderful fly-over by a Booted Eagle and several Griffon Vultures and as we set off along the farm track we were treated to nice views of a Southern Grey Shrike perched high up on a wire. The day had started well and we were all looking forward to our first trip out onto the Belen plains but a brief stop in Trujillo was required first to grab some picnic supplies. This gave everyone another chance to see the Lesser Kestrels and a chance to bolster the days bird list with a few of the more common birds such as Serin, Greenfinch, Goldfinch, Linnet and Collared Dove that can often be seen perched on the rooftops and aerials and pecking amidst the bougainvilleas and oleanders that adorn the tiny gardens.

We set off once more, through the winding streets of Trujillo, through the tiny village of Belen, eventually making our way out on the long dirt tracks that would take us out onto the Plains. These dusty tracks are only infrequently used by locals and are generally free from any traffic so we were able to creep along slowly in the minibus, pausing to have a closer look at the occasional Corn Bunting and Crested Lark that hopped up onto the wires in front of us or to occasionally stop and watch storks strutting along the margins of the flower filled meadows. The weather was not at its best but the light cover of cloud made for comfortable birding out on the exposed plains. Just a couple of weeks earlier the area had been scorched by a more typical spell of Spanish sunshine and the daytime temperatures had reached a blistering 40 degrees centigrade out on the exposed plains, making any prolonged bird watching almost unbearable! So, despite the fact that some of us needed an extra layer or two, we considered ourselves lucky that we could take our time in searching this vast and beautiful area and spend as much time as possible out of the minibus.

We had not travelled far along the road when we spotted a distant view of a Black Vulture sitting on a rock out on the plain and, when we all hopped out of the van for a better look and were rewarded with a lovely view of a Short-toed Eagle as it flew over the van and across the plains in front of us. As we trained the scopes on the vulture once more we could see that the bird was not alone and as we scanned around we could see at least another 4 Black Vultures and at least 20+ Griffon Vultures in the near vicinity providing a great opportunity to compare the massive size difference and colour variation between these two species. After allowing everyone enough time to have a good look through the scopes we opted to head on down the road in the hope that we might be able to get a much closer look at this curious gathering of large scavengers. We were not disappointed and as we edged over the crest of a small hill we could see hundreds of vultures (we estimated over 200 Griffons and over 20 Blacks and even few Egyptian Vultures too) congregating around a small water hole. As we looked closer we could see a large pale dog in the centre of the vultures hunched over what looked like a sheep carcass. We watched for a while as the dog persistently chased off the increasingly large groups of vultures; reluctant to give up its own lunch. Had it been a little warmer, it would have been like watching lions at a kill on the Serengeti; a real European safari drive!

As we headed on the skies cleared a little and we stopped to listen to Quails calling from cover very close to the road. We stopped for a while to admire the spreading bellflower growing next to the road and scanned a little in an attempt to spot one of the elusive birds. But, despite our best efforts, we had little success.

Nonetheless, Phil's sharp eyes did manage to spot a couple of Great Bustards in the distance and after a while, the tell tale calls (sounding like a baby blowing a raspberry) of Little Bustards could be heard in the long grass all around us. Rather frustratingly the Little Bustards also remained rather elusive with just the occasional bird in the distance showing its head briefly above the long grass but we were eventually rewarded with some nice views.

We stopped for lunch at a high vantage point over looking the plain and while Lee prepared the picnic, once again Phil's sharp eyes picked out several male Great Bustards displaying. Over lunch we continued to scan the surrounding fields for birds and have closer look at the last remaining flowering stems of Barbary Nut and Bug Orchid that grow in the long grasses on the roadside verge. We spent the remainder of the afternoon searching the plain for Sand Grouse and hoping for a closer view of Little Bustard but they remained elusive for the rest of the day. Nonetheless, it was a pleasant afternoon with plenty of other birds to see and we returned to the hotel happy with our efforts and ready for another wonderful Spanish meal.

Day 3

Friday 14th May

We started the day with another pre-breakfast walk around the hotel, giving everyone a second chance to see some of the species they had missed out on the day before. The skies remained clear and it was quite warm but there was a cold northerly wind blowing and it was beginning to feel uncomfortably like an English spring rather than the Spanish summer we were all secretly hoping for.

After breakfast we set off in the minibus once again to explore more of the steppe habitats around Trujillo. We stopped briefly in town for some fresh lunch supplies before heading west to towards Caceres to explore the extensive tracks that cross the plains around Santa Marta de Magasca. We started the day well with our first stop resulting in a great view of a juvenile Golden Eagle (a slight disappointment for all of us hoping for a Spanish Imperial Eagle) which we watched for a while as it soared above our heads. We wandered along the roadside verges scanning the oak scrub for Shrikes and enjoying the heavy scent of the french lavender and rosemary that grows in abundance in this area. During the brief spells of sunshine Rupert practiced his skills with the butterfly net, giving us all the opportunity to get a closer look at Spanish Marbled White and a Red-underwing Skipper.

We continued along the track to a high point on the plain where, before we stopped for lunch, we were treated to a wonderfully close view of a male Montagu's Harrier sitting on a mound very close to the road. We watched for a while as the beautiful bird ruffled its feathers in the cold wind before eventually flying off. We pulled off the road onto a wide grassy verge for lunch and while Lee prepared a picnic lunch in the back of the minibus, the entire group assisted the local shepherds with driving a large flock of sheep into an adjacent field. It seemed like an unusual place for a picnic (particularly given its exposed location to the cold north wind which was making it feel more like the north Yorkshire moors rather than the plains of Extremadura). But it afforded us an excellent vantage point from which to watch a series of large Roller nest boxes, located on a nearby line of pylons and as we ate our lunch we were treated to nice views of these fantastic birds as they flew in and out of the boxes.

After lunch we beat a hasty retreat from the exposed westerly plains. Some of the group opted to grab a coffee and explore the deserted streets of Trujillo and take a closer look at the fascinating hilltop castle while some opted to spend a couple of hours exploring the Belen plains once more. Everyone enjoyed their afternoon exploring and the second trip out onto the plains provided us with some nice views of Stone Curlews and gave Gordon the chance he wanted to get a really close look at the Calandra Larks.

We returned in good time and were lucky enough to see a fox hunting in the fields next to the track back to the hotel. Before dinner we retreated from the heavy rain showers and were treated to a taste of the local 'home produced' wine of the area as we relaxed in the comfort of the hotels lounge and discussed our plans for the next day.

Day 4

Saturday 15th May

We woke to see clear blue skies and the promise of a good day ahead. We started the morning with another pre-breakfast walk along some of the lanes to the east of the hotel where we listen to the Nightingales singing in the trees and watch the Bee-eaters catching insects in the morning sun. We get some great views of Sardinian Warblers skulking in the overgrown orchards and have a closer look at the myriad of vetches and fumitories that adorn the roadside verges and admire the beautiful flowers of Bellardia and giant fennel.

We enjoyed another leisurely breakfast before setting off north on a long drive to explore the 'dehesa' habitats and rocky outcrops of the magnificent Monfrague National Park. We made a few impromptu stops en route to look for raptors and are rewarded with nice views of Common Buzzard, Black and Red Kites and a superb Short-toed Eagle. We headed off the main road to look for Black-shouldered Kites in some likely looking habitats along the road to Monroy but despite an extensive search, our efforts proved to be fruitless. Nonetheless, we spent the best part of the morning looking along the fantastic flowery field margins studded with common and spotted rockrose and sage-leaved cistus where we found numerous Clouded Yellows, Bath Whites and a Brown Argus. We spent much of the rest of the day exploring the national park, initially by-passing the busy Penafalcon rock in search of a quieter venue to have lunch. We stopped briefly at the bridge to watch the flocks of House Martins and to search for Alpine Swifts, but the blustery conditions scuppered our chances of the great spectacle I had hoped for.

We stopped for lunch at a picnic site overlooking the Embalse de Torrejon-Tietar and trained the scopes on the numerous Griffon Vultures and the odd Egyptian Vulture that sat idly in the shade on the steep cliffs on the opposite bank of the reservoir. As we set out the picnic Phil spotted two Bonelli's Eagles that soared slowly over our heads providing everyone with a great opportunity to have a really good look at them. We managed to hear Common Sandpipers calling from the banks of the reservoir below us and to pick out the odd Red-rumped Swallow amidst the numerous swallows, swifts and martins that flew high over head. We spent the remainder of the day exploring the watch-points and scanning the skies for Imperial Eagles before eventually retracing our steps back through the park. On our way back we stopped briefly at Penafalcon rock to see Black Storks and catch a brief glimpse of Rock Buntings and Blue Rock Thrush as they skulked in the rock crevices out of the wind.

Our drive back from Monfrague was generally uneventful and by late afternoon the wind that had hampered our birdwatching success for most of the day was starting to die down. We stopped briefly for a short walk near the bridge over the Rio Tozo where we had nice views of Sand Martins, Crag Martins and several Little Ringed Plovers as well as a surprise(albeit brief) view of a calling Lesser Spotted Woodpecker. We returned to the hotel for in time to have a closer look at the Serapias and green winged 'champagne' orchids that grow in the gardens. At dinner we were treated to some more wonderful Spanish food and wine and an accomplished piano recital by one of the daughters of our excellent hosts.

After dinner a few of the group made use of the warm weather and took a short walk to listen to the Scops Owls calling in the garden and to watch the Barn Owls fly in to their nest in the barns opposite the hotel. It all made for a very pleasing end to a long day.

Day 5

Sunday 16th May

The day started bright and sunny and (with a considerable drop in the wind that had hampered our bird watching success in Monfrague) we opted to take a diversion from our planned route north to the Gredos in favour of another day visiting the National Park (in hope that an earlier arrival and better weather would improve our success with the species we had not yet seen). We finished our breakfast promptly and said a final farewell to Vina las Torres and our hosts before setting off north once more.

We spent much of the day retracing our steps through Monfrague. We spent some more time watching at Penafalcon as well as making the long steep walk up to Santaurio de Monfrague where we had some of our best views of Rock Bunting and were able to watch Red-rumped Swallows, Griffon Vultures and Booted Eagle cruising around below us. The skies were crystal clear and the views from the top of the tower were spectacular. On the way back down we admired the remaining tassel hyacinths that were in flower and watched the Wall Browns basking on the warm rocks. Rupert also identified a lovely False Ilex Hairstreak; a new species for many of us. Our return to the bridge in search of Alpine Swifts was also more productive and we watched from the bridge as 6 swifts continually screeched past providing some good photo opportunities for those quick enough on the shutter.

Our afternoon in the park was rewarded with excellent views of Subalpine Warbler, that scolded us from the thickets of gum cistus next to our picnic spot, as well as some nice views of Short-toed Treecreeper. However, it was not long before we had to continue our long journey through the park and head north towards our next destination; the Gredos Mountains. Our journey north was rather uneventful, travelling on the new, and often empty, motorways. Once on the smaller mountain roads we stopped briefly to stretch our legs and heard Bonelli's Warblers singing from the trees and Rupert found a lovely Panoptes Blue fluttering between the juniper scrub at the side of the road. We eventually arrived at the Milano Real (Red Kite) hotel in the tiny village of Hoyos del Espino and take some time to relax and explore a little before we end the day with some truly fantastic Spanish cuisine and a glass or two of local wine.

Day 6

Monday 17th May

We started our day with some relaxed bird watching before breakfast and take a gentle stroll up the hill and through the pine forest behind the hotel where we add Melodious Warbler, Whitethroat and Crested Tit to our growing list of birds and watch a Bonelli's Warbler warm itself in the early morning sun within a few feet of the entire group!

After a mountainous breakfast we all take a little time to explore the narrow cobbled streets of the pretty village of Hoyos del Espino where we watch the Black Redstarts and Serins singing from the TV aerials and watch the swarms of swifts charge along the narrow streets. We stopped briefly at the river to see Grey and White Wagtail and were treated to some close views of a Firecrest singing from the lower branches of a large conifer.

By late morning we all jump into the minibus and head slowly up to the La Plataforma for lunch. We stop en route to scan the fields and floodplains where we get some great views of Black-eared and Northern Wheatear, several Iberian race Yellow Wagtails and a wonderfully tame Schriebers Lizard that sits out on a rock allowing everyone to get some excellent photos.

We had a relaxed picnic sitting in the sun amidst the boulders around La Plataforma where we watched the tame Rock Buntings pecking for scraps around the car park. We took a slow walk up the steep mountain path towards the Refugio and admired the tufts of tiny rock narcissus sprouting from between giant boulders. We explored the alpine meadow plateau on the path to the Refugio de Reguero Llano where we spent some time watching the large groups of Spanish Ibex and attempting to photograph the Bluethroats when they occasionally popped up onto the bushes to sing. We followed the mountain path up as far as the snowline and got some great views of both male and female Rock Thrush before eventually making our way back down to La Plataforma.

We spent the remainder of the day exploring the pine forests and river corridors beneath the parador where we managed to get a fleeting glimpse of a Citril Finch drinking at the river before we eventually called it a day and returned to the hotel for dinner where we ended another great day trying to spot a Scops Owl calling from a large pear tree in the hotel gardens.

Day 7

Tuesday 18th May

After breakfast we set off early to explore the wooded riparian corridor of the Rio Tormes. We make a short stop in a small farm lay-by at the bottom road to see a Rock Sparrow that Phil had found on his morning walk and we spend a little time scanning the forests below for Honey Buzzards and watching the Tree Sparrows squabbling over nest sites. We took a slow walk down the road to Navatormes giving us all a chance to see the beautiful white flowers of Star of Bethlehem and the spikes St Bernard's Lily. We spent a while watching Red Squirrels chasing around the tall pines at the bottom of the valley before our attention was drawn to a Honey Buzzard that circled low over our heads before disappearing off over the tree tops.

We stopped for lunch in the wooded picnic site along the banks of the Garganta del Valdehascas where we watched dippers on the river before heading off for a short walk along the Prado del Jabali. After lunch we headed off to explore some wonderful mixed woodland habitats around the aptly nicknamed 'Bonellis wood'. The weather was fine and the sunny woodland glades were filled with Speckled Woods, Grizzled Skippers and Spanish Festoons and, in places, the floor was alive with Spiny-footed Lizards. We took a walk into the woods to see the freshly opened flowers of western peonies and we had great views of Ortolan Buntings foraging on the woodland floor. We continued to explore the woodland for the rest of the afternoon and while there were few new bird species to be added to our list, the spectacle of lemon yellow pasque flowers was a real treat for the keen botanists in the group. As the light slowly faded we eventually managed to tear ourselves away from this wonderful woodland and we made our way slowly back to the hotel to our final glorious meal of the holiday.

Day 8

Wednesday 19th May

We set off early but couldn't resist one last stop at the Parador to look for Citril Finches before heading back to Madrid airport and finally drawing our great trip to a close.

Summary:

Despite being hampered by some unseasonable weather fronts during the trip our efforts and perseverance were rewarded with some extremely good views of some exceptional bird species and a wonderful selection of butterflies, reptiles and flowers. This coupled with some great Spanish food, wine and the groups' light hearted banter and constant good humour made for truly enjoyable trip!

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Species Lists

Birds (h = heard only ✓ = recorded)

	Common name	Scientific name	May							
			12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
1	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>		✓	✓					
2	Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>				✓				
3	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
4	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	✓							✓
5	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>		✓	✓					
6	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>				✓	✓			
7	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
8	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
9	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
10	Red Kite	<i>Milvus milvus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
11	Egyptian Vulture	<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>		✓		✓	✓			
12	Black Vulture	<i>Aegypius monachus</i>		✓		✓	✓			
13	Griffon Vulture	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
14	Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>			✓					
15	Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>				✓			✓	
16	Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>							✓	
17	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	
18	Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>			✓					
19	Bonelli's Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus fasciatus</i>			✓	✓	✓		✓	
20	Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
21	Short-toed Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
22	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		
23	Lesser Kestrel	<i>Falco naumanni</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓				
24	Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>			✓					
25	Peregrine	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>						✓	✓	
26	Red-legged Partridge	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>		✓	✓	h		✓	✓	
27	Common Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>		h	h					
28	Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>			✓					
29	Great Bustard	<i>Otis tarda</i>		✓	✓					
30	Little Bustard	<i>Tetrax tetrax</i>		✓	✓					
31	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	✓		✓					✓
32	Stone Curlew	<i>Burhinus oedicanus</i>		✓	✓					
33	Little ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>			✓	✓				
34	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>			✓	h				
35	Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
36	Rock Dove / Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
37	Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
38	Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>				✓				
39	Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>		h	✓	✓	✓	✓	h	
40	Red necked Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus ruficollis</i>							H	
41	Scops Owl	<i>Otus scops</i>					h	h	h	
42	Barn Owl	<i>Tyto Alba</i>			✓					
43	Alpine Swift	<i>Apus melba</i>				✓	✓			
44	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
45	Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
46	Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>			✓			6	1	
47	Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

	Common name	Scientific name	May								
			12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
48	Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>			h				✓	✓	
49	Great-spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopus major</i>						✓	✓	✓	
50	Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopus minor</i>					✓				
51	Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>			✓	✓			✓		
52	Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>		h	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
53	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
54	Calandra Lark	<i>Melanocorypha calandra</i>		✓	✓						
55	Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>					✓	✓			
56	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>					✓	✓	✓		
57	Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Hirundo daurica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
58	Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
59	House Martin	<i>Delichon urbica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
60	Water Pipit	<i>Anthus spinoletta</i>					h	h	✓		
61	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>								✓	
62	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
63	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>							✓	✓	
64	Yellow (Iberian) Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava iberiae</i>							✓	✓	
65	Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>							✓	✓	✓
66	Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>								✓	
67	Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>							✓	✓	✓
68	Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>						✓	✓	✓	✓
69	Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>			h	h	h	h	✓		
70	Bluethroat	<i>Luscinia svecica</i>							✓		
71	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>							✓	✓	✓
72	Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	
73	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>			✓				✓		
74	Black-eared Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe hispanica</i>							✓	✓	
75	Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola saxatilis</i>							✓		
76	Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>					✓	✓			
77	Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
78	Melodious Warbler	<i>Hippolais polyglotta</i>						✓	✓	✓	✓
79	Subalpine Warbler	<i>Sylvia cantillans</i>						✓			
80	Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>						✓	✓	✓	
81	Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>						✓	✓	✓	
82	Sardinian Warbler	<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>		h	✓	✓	✓				
83	Western Bonelli's Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus bonelli</i>						h	✓	✓	h
84	Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapillus</i>							✓	✓	
85	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>			✓						
86	Iberian Pied Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula hypoleuca iberiae</i>							✓		
87	Crested Tit	<i>Lophophanes cristatus</i>							✓	✓	
88	Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
89	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
90	Coal Tit	<i>Pariparus ater</i>						✓	✓	✓	
91	Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>		h						✓	✓
92	Short-toed Treecreeper	<i>Certhia brachydactyla</i>						✓	✓	✓	
93	Iberian Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius meridionalis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓				
94	Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
95	Spotless Starling	<i>Sturnus unicolor</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
96	Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	h	✓		
97	Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>			✓						✓
98	Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

	Common name	Scientific name	May								
			12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
99	Azure-winged Magpie	<i>Cyanopica cyana</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
100	Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>				✓	✓	✓			
101	Jackdaw	<i>Corvus monedula</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
102	Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
103	Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>		✓				✓	✓		
104	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
105	Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>		✓	✓				✓		
106	Spanish Sparrow	<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>	✓	✓	✓						
107	Rock Sparrow	<i>Petronia petronia</i>			3			6			
108	Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		□	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
109	Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
110	Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>			✓	✓					
111	Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
112	Linnet	<i>Acanthis cannabina</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
113	Citril Finch	<i>Carduelis citrenella</i>						✓			
114	Corn Bunting	<i>Miliaria calandra</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
115	Ortolan Bunting	<i>Emberiza hortulana</i>						✓	✓		
116	Rock Bunting	<i>Emberiza cia</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓		

Mammals

Hedgehog	Rabbit	Iberian Hare	Red Squirrel
Spanish Ibex	Red Deer		

Reptiles and Amphibians

Marsh Frog	European Pond Terrapin	Stripe-necked Terrapin	Iberian Wall Lizard
Schreibers Lizard	Ocellated Lizard	Spiny-footed Lizard	

Butterflies

Spanish Marbled White	Meadow Brown	Large White	Red Admiral
Small White	Small Copper	Spanish Festoon	Wall Brown
Painted Lady	Brown Argus	Clouded Yellow	Red-underwing Skipper
Bath White	Small Copper	Small Heath	Brimstone
Panoptes Blue	Holy Blue	False Ilex Hairstreak	Provence Orange Tip
Queen of Spain Fritillary	Orange Tip	Common Blue	Green-underside Blue
Peacock	Speckled Wood	Grizzled Skipper	

Plants

Scientific Name

DICOTYLEDONS

Aceraceae

Acer monspessulanum

Common Name

Maple Family

Montpelier Maple

Anacardiaceae

Pistachio terebinthus

P.lentiscus

Rhus Coriaria

Cashew Family

Turpentine Tree

Mastic Tree

Sumach

Scientific Name	Common Name
Apiaceae	
<i>Daucus carota</i>	Carrot Family Wild Carrot
<i>Eryngium campestre</i>	Field Eryngo
<i>Ferrula communis</i>	Giant Fennel
<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	Fennel
<i>Oenanthe crocata</i>	Hemlock water dropwort
<i>Thapsia. Villosa</i>	(A tall fennel like plant)
<i>Torillis arvensis</i>	Spreading hedge parsley
Aristolochiaceae	
<i>Aristolochia paucinervis</i>	Birthwort Family (A type of Dutchman's pipe)
Asteraceae	
<i>Andryala integrifolia</i>	Daisy Family Andryala
<i>Anthemis arvensis</i>	Corn Camomile
<i>Arnoseris minima</i>	(A low cats ear daisy)
<i>Bellis sylvestris</i>	Southern daisy
<i>Calendula arvensis</i>	Field Marigold
<i>Centaurea cyanus</i>	Cornflower
<i>C. solstitialis</i>	St Barnaby's Thistle
<i>Chrysanthemum coronarium</i>	Crown Daisy
<i>C. segetum</i>	Corn Marigold
<i>Cirsium. Creticum</i>	(A slender purple thistle)
<i>Cnicus benedictus</i>	Blessed Thistle
<i>Cynara cardunculus</i>	Cardoon
<i>Echinops ritro</i>	Globe Thistle
<i>Evax pygmaea</i>	Evax
<i>Fiago vulgaris</i>	Common Cudweed
<i>Galactites tomentosa</i>	Galactites
<i>Helicrysum stoechas</i>	(A silver leaved daisy)
<i>Hypochoeris achyrophorus</i>	Mediterranean cats ear
<i>Knautea purpurea</i>	(a paint brush)
<i>Lactuca serriola</i>	Prickly Lettuce
<i>Leucanthemopsis pallida</i>	
<i>Pallensis spinosa</i>	Pale yellow thistle
<i>Scolymus hispanicus</i>	Spanish Oyster Plant
<i>Silybum marianum</i>	Milk Thistle
<i>Rhagadiolus stellatus</i>	Star Hawkbit
<i>Tolpis barbata</i>	Tolpis
Boraginaceae	
<i>Anchusa undulata</i>	Borage Family Undulate Anchusa
<i>A azurea</i>	Large Blue Alkanet
<i>Echium plantagineum</i>	Purple Vipers Bugloss
<i>Lithodara diffusa</i>	Scrambling Gromwell

Scientific Name

Myosotis ramosissima
Omphalodes linifolia
Pentaglottis sempervirens

Common Name

(A small flowered Forget-me-Not)
 Omphalodes
 Green alkanet

Brassicaceae

Biscuttela didyma
Crambe hispanica
Eruca sativa
Lepidium villasii
Raphanus raphanistrum
Scandix pecten veneris
Sinapis alba

Cress Family

Biscuttela
 Spanish Sea Kale
 Eruca
 Lepidium
 Wild Radish
 Shepherds Needle
 White Mustard

Cactacea

Opuntia Monacantha

Cactus Family

Red fruited Prickly Pear

Campanulaceae

Campanula patula
C. rapunculoides
C. Lusitanica
Jasione corombosa
J. crispa

Bellflower Family

Spreading Bellflower
 Rampion Bellflower
 Spanish Bellflower
 (A type of Sheep's Bit)
 (A type of Sheep's Bit)

Caprifoliaceae

Lonicera etrusca
L. implexa
Viburnum tinus

Honeysuckle Family

Etruscan honeysuckle
 (A honeysuckle)
 Lauristinus

Caryophyllaceae

Arenaria Montana sub.sp montana
Cerastium arvense
Petrohagia kohlruschia
Paronychia argentea
Silene colorata
S. dichotoma
S. gallica
Spergularia purpurea

Pink Family

Mountain Sandwort
 Field Mouse Ear
 Kohlruschia
 (prostrate, silvery bracts)
 Mediterranean Catchfly
 Forked Catchfly
 Small-flowered Catchfly
 Purple Sand Spurry

Chenopodaceae

Parietaria officinata

Goose Foot Family

Common Pellitory

Cistaceae

Cistus albidus
C. ladanifer
C. monspeliensis
C. salvifolius

Rockrose Family

Grey Leaved Cistus
 Gum Cistus
 Narrow Leaved Cistus
 Sage-leaved Cistus

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Fumaria arabica</i>	Arabian Fumaria
<i>Guttatae Tubaria</i>	Spotted Roce Rose
<i>Helianthemum apennivium</i>	White Rockrose
<i>Helianthemum nummularium</i>	Common Rockrose
Convolvulaceae	Bindweed Family
<i>Convolvulus althaeoides</i>	Mallow Leaved Bindweed
<i>C. arvensis</i>	
<i>C. tricolor</i>	Tri-coloured Bindweed
Crassulaceae	Stonecrop Family
<i>Sedum album</i>	White Stonecrop
<i>S. Dasphyllum</i>	Thick Leaved Stonecrop
<i>S. Tenulifolium</i>	(A tall stonecrop)
<i>Umbilicus rupestris</i>	Navelwort
Crucubitaceae	Cucumber Family
<i>Bryonia cretica</i>	White Bryony
Ericaceae	Heath Family
<i>Arbutus unedo</i>	Strawberry Tree
<i>Erica arborea</i>	Tree Heath
Euphorbiaceae	Spurge Family
<i>Euphorbia oxyphylla</i>	Red Eyed Spurge
Fabaceae	Pea Family
<i>Adenocarpus complicatus</i>	
<i>Anthyllis lotoides</i>	Bladder Vetch
<i>Astragalus monspessulannus</i>	Monpellier Milk Vetch
<i>Cytisus multiflorus</i>	White Broom
<i>Genista falcata</i>	(a turpentine smelling broom)
<i>G. hirsuta</i>	low spiny shrub
<i>G. tourniforte</i>	(a type of Spanish gorse)
<i>Hedysarum coronarum</i>	Sanfoin
<i>Lathyrus aphaca</i>	Yellow Vetchling
<i>L. cicera</i>	Red Vetchling
<i>L. setifolius</i>	Brown Vetch
<i>L. latifolius</i>	Broad leaved everlasting pea
<i>Lupin angustifolius</i>	Narrow-leaved Lupin
<i>L. hispanicus</i>	Spanish Lupin
<i>Lygos sphaerocarpa</i>	Lygos
<i>L. raetma</i>	White Lygos
<i>Melilot indicus</i>	Small Melilot
<i>Psoralea bituminosa</i>	Pitch Trefoil
<i>Robinia pseudacacia</i>	False Acacia

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Spartium junceum</i>	Spanish Broom
<i>Tetragonolobus purpureus</i>	Asparagus Pea
<i>Trifolium angustifolium</i>	Narrow-leaved Crimson Clover
<i>T. campestre</i>	Hop trefoil
<i>T. cherleri</i>	(sub species of hairy trefoil)
<i>T. stellatum</i>	Starry Clover
<i>T. resupinatum</i>	Reversed Clover
<i>T. subterraneum</i>	(a low white clover)
<i>T. tormentosum</i>	Woolly Trefoil
<i>Vicia hirsuta</i>	Hairy Tare
<i>Vicia. lutea</i>	Yellow Vetch
<i>V. onobrychoides</i>	False Sanfoin
<i>V. villosa</i>	Fodder Vetch
Fagaceae	Oak Family
<i>Castanea sativa</i>	Sweet Chestnut
<i>Quercus coccifera</i>	Kermes Oak
<i>Q. ilex</i>	Holm Oak
<i>Q. pyrenaica</i>	Pyrenean Oak
<i>Q. suber</i>	Cork Oak
Fumariaceae	Fumitory Family
<i>Fumaria capriolata</i>	Ramping Fumitory
<i>F. officinalis</i>	Common Fumitory
Gentianaceae	Gentian Family
<i>Centaureum erythraea</i>	Common Centaury
Geraniaceae	Geranium Family
<i>Erodium petaeum</i>	Rock Storksbill
<i>E.mallacoides</i>	Mallow leaved Storksbill
<i>Geranium dissectum</i>	Cut-leaved Cranesbill
<i>G.lucdum</i>	Shining Cranesbill
<i>G.molle</i>	Doves foot cranesbill
Hypericaceae	St John's Wort Family
<i>H. perforata</i>	Perforate St John's Wort
Labiaceae	Mint Family
<i>Ballota nigra</i>	Black Horehound
<i>Lavendula stoechas</i>	French Lavender
<i>Melittis melissophyllum</i>	Bastard Balm
<i>Parentucellia latifolia</i>	Southern Red Bartista
<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>	Rosemary
<i>Salvia verbenaca</i>	Wild Clary
<i>Thymus capitata</i>	Wild Thyme

Scientific Name	Common Name
Linaceae	Flax Family
<i>Linum bienne</i>	Pale Flax
Malvaceae	Mallow Family
<i>Lavatera cretica</i>	Small tree mallow
<i>Malva sylvestris</i>	Common Mallow
Oxalidaceae	Sorrel Family
<i>Oxalis pes-caprae</i>	Bermuda Buttercup
Oleaceae	Olive Family
<i>Fraxinus augustifolia</i>	Narrow leaved Ash
<i>Fraxinus ornus</i>	Flowering Ash
<i>Jasminum fruticans</i>	Wild Jasmine
<i>Olea europaea</i>	Olive
Orobanchaceae	Broomrape Family
<i>Orobanche genistae</i>	Greater Broomrape
<i>O. gracillis</i>	Slender Broomrape
<i>O. minor</i>	Common Broomrape
<i>O. ramosa</i>	Branched Broomrape
Paeoniaceae	Paeony Family
<i>Paeonia broteri</i>	Western Peony
<i>P. microcarpa</i>	
Papaveraceae	Poppy Family
<i>Hypocoum imberbe</i>	(a small yellow poppy)
<i>Papaver dubium</i>	Long-headed Poppy
<i>P. hybridum</i>	Rough Poppy
<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>	Common Poppy
Platanaceae	Plane Tree Family
<i>Platanus orientalis</i>	Plane Tree
Plantaginaceae	Plantain Family
<i>Plantago coronopus</i>	Buck's Horn Plantain
<i>P. lagopus</i>	Hares foot Plantain
Polygonaceae	Dock Family
<i>Rumex acetosella</i>	Sheep's Sorrel
<i>R. bucephalophorus</i>	Horse Sorrel, pendulous fruit
<i>R. scutatus</i>	French Sorrel

Scientific Name	Common Name
Primulaceae	Primrose Family
<i>Anagallis arvensis</i>	Scarlet/blue Pimpernel
<i>A foemina</i>	(A pimpernel)
<i>Primula elatior</i>	Oxlip
Ranunculaceae	Buttercup Family
<i>Aquilegia vulgaris</i>	Common Aquilegia
<i>Caltha palustris</i>	Kingcup
<i>Nigella damascena</i>	Love-in-a-mist
<i>Pulsatilla alpina subsp. apiifolia</i>	Yellow Pasque Flower
<i>Ranunculus abnormis</i>	Alpine Buttercup
<i>R. omiophyllus</i>	Round leaved water crowfoot
<i>R. sceleratus</i>	Celery-leaved Buttercup
Resedaceae	Mignonette Family
<i>R. luteola</i>	Weld
<i>R. lutea</i>	Wild Mignonette
<i>Sesamiodes purpurascens</i>	
Rosaceae	Rose Family
<i>Crataegus azaorlus</i>	Azarole
<i>Geum sylvaticum</i>	yellow flowers
<i>Poterium verrucosum</i>	Mediterranean Salad Burnet
Salicaceae	Willow Family
<i>Salix pedicelallata</i>	Mediterranean Willow
<i>Populus Nigra ssp. betulifolia</i>	Wild Black Poplar
Santalaceae	Sandalwood Family
<i>Osyris alba</i>	Osyris
Saxifragaceae	Saxifrage Family
<i>Saxifraga granulata</i>	Meadow Saxifrage
Scrophulariaceae	Figwort Family
<i>Bellardia trixago</i>	Bellardia
<i>Digitalis thapsi</i>	Spanish Foxglove
<i>Linaria elegans</i>	(a violet toadflax)
<i>L. sparteae</i>	Yellow snapdragon
<i>L. triornithophora</i>	(a large pink four sided snapdragon)
<i>Parentucella latifolia</i>	Southern Red Bartsia
<i>P. viscosa</i>	Yellow Bartsia
<i>Verbascum pulverulentum</i>	Hoary Mullein
<i>V. sinuatum</i>	(a widely branched mullein)

Scientific Name	Common Name
Solenaceae	Potato Family
<i>Hyoscyamus albus</i> **	White Henbane
Tamaricaceae	Tamarix Family
<i>Tamarix africana</i>	Tamarix
Thymelaceae	Daphne Family
<i>Thymelae sanamunda</i>	
Valarianaceae	Valarian Family
<i>Fedia cornucopiae</i>	Fedia
Violaceae	Violet Family
<i>Viola riviniana</i>	Common Dog Violet
<i>V.ketabeliana</i>	Dwarf pansy
MONOCOTYLEDONS	
Amaryllidaceae	Daffodil Family
<i>Narcissus bulbocodium var. nivalis</i>	Hoop Petticoat Narcissus
<i>Narcissus graellsii</i>	(a small hoop petticoat narcissus)
<i>N. pseudonarcissus</i>	Lent Lily
<i>N. rupicola</i>	Rock Narcissus
<i>N. triandrus</i> **	Angels' Tears
Dioscoreaceae	Yam Family
<i>Tamus communis</i>	Black Bryony
Iridaceae	Iris Family
<i>Crocus carpetanus</i>	(a pale lilac alpine crocus)
<i>Gladiolus italicus</i>	Field Gladiolus
<i>Gynandriris sisyrinchium</i>	Barbary Nut
<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	Yellow Flag Iris
<i>I. Xiphium</i>	Spanish Iris
Liliaceae	Lily Family
<i>Allium ampeloprasum</i>	Wild Leek
<i>A. neapolitanum</i>	Naples Garlic
<i>A.roseum</i>	Rosy garlic
<i>Anthericum ramosum</i>	Branched St Bernard's Lily
<i>Asparagus acutifolius</i>	(a type of wild asparagus)
<i>Asphodelus.aestivus</i>	Common Asphodel
<i>Convallaria majalis</i>	Lily of the valley
<i>Gagea fistulosa</i>	Gagea
<i>Muscari comosum</i>	Tassel Hyacinth
<i>M. neglectum</i>	Grape Hyacinth

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Polygonatum odoratum</i>	Solomon's Seal
<i>Ruscus asculatus</i>	Butchers Broom
<i>Scilla hispanica</i>	Spanish Bluebell
<i>S. verna</i>	Spring Squill
<i>Ornithogalum concinnum</i>	(A small Star of Bethlehem)
<i>O. narbonense</i>	(A tall slender Star of Bethlehem)
<i>O. umbellatum</i>	Star of Bethlehem
Orchidaceae	Orchid Family
<i>Cephalanthera longifolia</i>	Sword leaved Helleborine
<i>Ophrys apifera</i>	Bee Orchid
<i>Ophrys apifera</i> subsp. <i>almaracensis</i>	(an Extramadura variant of bee orchid)
<i>Ophrys lutea</i>	Yellow Bee Orchid
<i>Orchis mascula</i>	Early Purple Orchid
<i>Orchis mascula</i> subsp. <i>champagneuxii</i>	Champagne Orchid
<i>Orchis morio</i>	Green-winged Orchid
<i>Orchis italica</i>	Naked Man Orchid
<i>Serapias lingula</i>	Tongue Orchid
<i>Serapias parviflora</i>	Small-flowered Tongue Orchid
<i>Orchis coreophora</i>	Bug Orchid
CONIFERS	
Pinaceae	Pine Family
<i>Pinus nigra</i>	Black Pine
<i>P. pinaster</i>	Maritime Pine
<i>P. pinea</i>	Stone Pine
<i>P. sylvestris</i>	Scots Pine
Cupressaceae	Cypress Family
<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>	Funeral Cypress
<i>Juniperus communis</i>	Juniper
<i>J. oxycedrus</i>	Prickly Juniper
Gramineae Family	Grasses/reeds
<i>Arundo donax</i>	Giant Reed
<i>Briza Maxima</i>	Large Quaking Grass
<i>Lamarckia Aurea</i>	Golden Dog tail
CULTIVATED SHRUBS AND TREES	
<i>Allianthus altissima</i>	Tree of Heaven
<i>Catalpa bignonioides</i>	Indian Bean Tree
<i>Cercis siliquastrum</i>	Judas Tree
<i>Citrus limon</i>	Lemon Tree
<i>Citrus sinensis</i>	Orange Tree
<i>Ficus carica</i>	Fig

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i>	Honey Locust
<i>Melia azedarach</i>	Indian Bead Tree
<i>Morus alba</i>	White Mulberry
<i>M.nigra</i>	Black Mulberry
<i>Nerium oleander</i>	Oleander
<i>Punica granatum</i>	Pomegranate
<i>Prunus dulcis</i>	Almond
<i>Shinus molle</i>	Peruvian Mastic Tree