## Birding Extremadura and Casa Rural El Recuerdo

### **REPORT ON SPRING HOLIDAY FOR NIGEL, MURIEL, JOHN AND BRENDA**

# Itinerary (3<sup>rd</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> April 2013)

3<sup>rd</sup> April 2013: Transfer from Madrid Airport to Casa Rural El Recuerdo

4<sup>th</sup> April 2013: Exploring the plains between Trujillo and Santa Marta de Magasca

5<sup>th</sup> April 2013: Arrocampo reservoir and the Cerro de Almaraz

6<sup>th</sup> April 2013: Monfragüe National Park

7<sup>th</sup> April 2013: Jaraicejo, Miravete Pass and Trujillo

8<sup>th</sup> April 2013: Campo Lugar plains, ricefields north of Madrigalejo and Sierra Brava reservoir

9<sup>th</sup> April 2013: Exploring the plains north of Cáceres

10<sup>th</sup> April 2013: Arrocampo reservoir and return to Madrid.



Trip Report (including photos by Nigel)

### Day 1

Muriel, Brenda, John and Nigel arrived at Madrid airport on time by 10.00 and once the luggage had been collected and minibus sorted out, we were leaving by 11.30. The route took us clockwise around the Madrid ring-road, before heading out south-west on the A5 motorway heading for Extremadura. The wellabove average rainfall during March had left the landscape a lush green, with brimming pools and lots of standing water in the fields. We drove first through the open cereal-lands of Castille La Mancha, with a stop after about 130 kilometres for lunch at a friendly bar and cafeteria. Around the car park we encountered **Crested Larks**, adding to the holiday list which by now was already featuring **White Stork**, **Black Kites** and even a juvenile **Spanish Imperial Eagle** which had glided over the motorway.

Half an hour later we were entering Extremadura, with the landscape becoming even greener and much more wooded, with the characteristic *dehesa* wood pasture, dominated by evergreen holm oaks.

We reached Casa Rural El Recuerdo late afternoon, to enjoy a pot of tea and a pre-dinner walk, with sightings of **Hoopoes** and **Hawfinches** in the garden.

## Day 2

Although the day promised well in terms of weather with a bright morning, we had rain at lunchtime and then a heavy shower towards the end of the afternoon. Notwithstanding the weather, we enjoyed a very productive day on the plains lying between Trujillo and the village of Santa Marta de Magasca to the west. At our very first stop we were delighted to find a flock of perhaps 60 **Pin-tailed Sandgrouse** feeding in a meadow covered with wild flowers. As we stood to watch them, three male **Little Bustard** flew in and then much to our joy landed close by to provide superb views. Just minutes later a **Stone Curlew** flew past, a **Common Cuckoo** was being chased by a **Corn Bunting** and on a nearby rock a fine **Crested Lark** was replaced by a smart **Thekla Lark**, offering us a very good comparison. A pair of **Ravens** flew across the field, putting up the feeding sandgrouse, so the sky became full of calling birds. A **Red Kite** accompanied by a **Black Kite** came into view, whilst all of the time **Calandra Larks** sang above us. What an extraordinary first stop!

A little bit further on we took a dirt road where we found parties of **Great Bustard**. Two more **Little Bustard** were seen as well as a distant small group of **Black-bellied Sandgrouse**. The larks remained a constant feature and **Northern Wheatear** was also present, on passage northwards.

On the way to a coffee stop in the village of Santa Marta de Magasca, we found **Woodchat Shrike** on the roadside fence and watched a **Booted Eagle** soaring over the *dehesa* woodland. As we were leaving the village we stopped to watch a low flypast of **Griffon** and **Black Vultures**, joined for a few minutes by a dark-phase **Booted Eagle**. We dropped to the River Magasca where we hoped to have lunch, but the onset of rain made us retreat back to the village where a picnic area provided us with all the shelter we needed from the elements.

We returned to the river when the rain cleared. **Serins** sang from the wild olives on the slopes, as did a **Rock Bunting** briefly. **Crag Martins** hawked insects in the valley whilst overhead drifted a **Short-toed** and a **Booted Eagle**.

To the north we stopped again at a high plateau providing a wide panorama across the plains. A flock of **Goldfinch** rose and settled in a nearby meadow, whilst **Montagu's Harriers** quartered the fields, as did a **Marsh Harrier**. A

largely raptor also flew from a perch and flew low across the fields: a juvenile **Spanish Imperial Eagle**, our second of the trip.

We returned slowly towards Trujillo on a minor road across the plains, with an abundance of larks, **Corn Buntings**, **Spanish Sparrows** lining up along roadside fences and vultures overhead. We rose onto the massive granite outcrop upon which sits Trujillo as rain threatened again.

## Day 3

Morning cloud dispersed to provide us with largely clear skies during the middle part of the day, although it did cloud over again by the end of the afternoon. For the first time so far we saw to the north the impressive, snow-clad range of the Sierra de Gredos, a hundred kilometres away and marking the northern boundary of Extremadura. We spent the morning at the Arrocampo reservoir which provides cooling water for the Almaraz Nuclear Power Station. After calling in at the information centre, we visited a marsh nearby where right on arrival we caught sight of the flamboyant **Purple Swamphen**. **Purple Herons** were watched standing in the reeds and flying across the marsh, whilst a **Penduline Tit** stopped briefly on top of a giant reed. As we looked down a channel, we caught glimpse of an **Otter** fishing at the water's edge.

Nearby we stood on a ramp beside a hide and looked across another part of the marsh. **Purple Herons** seemed very common. In the reeds **Savi's**, **Reed** and **Sedge Warblers** sang, a **Bearded Tit** was present and a **Black Tern** hawked across the open water. A dark-phase **Booted Eagle** drifted low above our heads as we stood, whilst as quick as a flash a male **Little Bittern** flew from one side of the pool to the other. Beside another hide, we look across to a distant egret colony, with the heat haze starting. Amongst the **Cattle** and **Little Egrets**, there were **Black-crowned Night Herons** and as we watched, a **Sacred Ibis** (which had been reported in the area) flew in and landed amongst the egrets.

By now it was time for lunch, so we moved to a point offering a good wide view across the reservoir and where we could count the **Cattle Egrets** perched on a long concrete barrier (there were over 300 present!).

After lunch we explored an area of farmland north-west of the reservoir. **Woodchat** and **Iberian Grey Shrikes** were seen on the roadside fences,



whilst a migrant Whinchat was also present.

We also stumbled upon two very obliging Great Spotted Cuckoos.



Just a little further along the road, a bare tree provided a perch for perhaps twenty **Bee-eaters**. Finally at a small bay of the reservoir, we came across two **Spoonbill** feeding quietly together.

After coffee, we repaired to Cerro de Almaraz, a limestone area of olive groves where we found no fewer than seven different orchid species (see list at end of report), all visible from the track.

## Day 4

Following the clear night, ice needed to be scraped from the car windscreen! It remained bright and sunny throughout the day and the views of the Gredos Mountains were outstanding. Today was dedicated wholly to the Monfragüe National Park, a series of ridges, cut through by two large rivers, with woodland, scrub and rocky gorges. It was chilly indeed at our first stop, the viewpoint overlooking the iconic Peña Falcon cliff. We watched a **Peregrine** plucking a prey item from a high perch. **Griffon Vultures** wheeled close by whilst, as if on the other extreme, a diminutive **Wren** sang its heart out from a tree just below us. However, the cold conditions forced us back to the vehicle and we crossed the park, to stop at the Portilla del Tiétar viewpoint. Here there was quite a gathering of visitors and we had to find a place to park beside some fine cork oaks.

We spent about two hours there, a wonderful location looking across the Tiétar River to the rock face, flanked by wooded slopes. Apart from **Griffon Vultures**, it started fairly quietly bird-wise, but then almost mysteriously, the observations moved up a gear. A pair of **Egyptian Vultures** started the show and then a gorgeously iridescent **Black Stork**.



**Blue Rock Thrushes** sang from pinnacles and a **Short-toed Eagle** flew in to displace an **Egyptian Vulture** perched on a rock. What a view! The best was yet to come. The barking call of **Spanish Imperial Eagle** crossed the valley and soon afterwards, a bird from its nest tree, flew across the cliff to land under a tree, beside its mate (the male) which had brought a food item. The male flew to the nest, whilst the female, slightly larger in size and appearing to have some pale blotches on it underparts (probably a younger bird), proceeded to consume the food. It appeared to be a **Red-legged Partridge**, judging by the size and colour of the feet! After eating what appeared to be most of the prey, the eagle flew back to the nest site, a small morsel of food in its bill, presumably to take to the chick.



Soon after it arrived the male flew from the nest, back to the remains of the prey which it finished eating. It then flew off to the north. What an extraordinary sight! A bonus at the viewpoint was a **Chapman's Green Hairstreak butterfly**, a localised species which favours the Strawberry Tree.

We headed for lunch in a picnic area beside the river, where late **Siskins** were in song and **Hawfinches** were coming to feed on the elm mast. **Azure-winged Magpies** and a **Fox** approached to scavenge and a **Subalpine Warbler** gave good views as it sang from a sapling beside the road.

After coffee, we took a short walk beside the great Tajo River, admiring the number of **House Martin** nests under the road bridge there. **Robins** sang from the damp and shady northern slope of the ridge and we were lucky enough to get a view of a pair of **Bonelli's Eagle** circling over head.

We ended the day back at the Peña Falcon viewpoint, now much more comfortable temperature-wise. **Blue Rock Thrush** and **Black Redstart** were present on the bank below us, whilst **Griffon Vultures** and at one point a **Peregrine** drifted over head on their return to their nesting cliffs.

#### Day 5

Today dawned sunny and although there was some cloud during most of the day, the sun came through again in the afternoon. As we left for the day a **Nightingale** was singing in the village. We spent the morning in an area near the small town of Jaraicejo, walking across a heath land of white broom and

lavender. **Thekla Larks** sang from the bushes and **Dartford Warblers** appeared and disappeared. We descended into an area of Cork Oak woodland, which was fairly quiet, although we got good views of **Short-toed Treecreeper**. **Lesser Spotted Woodpeckers** were drumming. Back on the heath we explored another track and were rewarded with several albeit brief and rather distant views of at least two male **Spectacled Warblers**.

We had lunch at the Miravete pass, with a view across the Tiétar valley to the north and across *dehesa* towards Trujillo to the south. We were entertained by a pair of **Crested Tits** busy excavating their nest hole.

We made a short stop at the stream Arroyo de la Vid, where a **Nightingale** and **Sardinian Warbler** were seen and the returned to Trujillo where we had coffee in the main square. Although rather cool and cloudy we managed to see a **Pallid Swift** several times pass in front of the old church where a **White Stork** had built a nest on a very steeply-inclined buttress and was proceeding to fly across the square to steal from another's nest. The afternoon concluded with wonderful views of **Lesser Kestrels** at their colony at the Bull Ring at the edge of town, crowned by an adult **Spanish Imperial Eagle** drifting northwards in afternoon sunshine.



Returning to the village, we stopped to look at **Champagne Orchids** starting to flower on the roadside verge.

### Day 6

Despite overcast first thing, the day proved fine and started well with a **Nightingale** singing in the garden. We headed south to spend the morning on open plains where within minutes we found a flock of about 30 **Great Bustard** with about ten **Little Bustard** with them. It was excellent to watch both species together. Onward we continued, embraced with the song of **Calandra Larks** 

and also finding a **Short-toed Lark** close to the road, with two **Stone Curlew** showing well on the other side!

We then descended to the edge of the large rice-growing area. The heavy March rain meant that almost every field had plenty of water, giving rise to great choice for any waders coming though on passage, so it took some time until we found a field with a party of **Little Stint**, **Little Ringed** and **Kentish Plovers**.

A lunch stop beside the Ruercas River gave us an opportunity to see the effect of the heavy rain, with the mark of the debris carried by the river in spate well over the height of the bridge. Despite a lot of the riverside vegetation being flattened, **Cetti's Warblers** and **Nightingales** were singing. We continued from this spot and stopped soon after when we heard the calls of **Collared Pratincoles**. A party of about half a dozen was passing over, swooping like giant swifts. We continued past the new thermal solar plant at Casas del Hito, where a migrant **Whitethroat** was of interest and then stopped beside the Sierra Brava reservoir. A few duck were present, but most memorable were at least three male **Black-eared Wheatear** (with both forms present) giving us excellent views in the afternoon sunshine. Just as we were leaving we glimpsed a **Tawny Pipit**.

# Day 7

The weather changed again to being fresh and overcast. Today we headed west to the plains between Trujillo and Cáceres. We stopped first of all in an area where nest boxes have been erected for Rollers and were delighted to find two **Rollers** present.



The superb views of the second bird were almost eclipsed by a delightful pair of **Little Owl** also using one of the nest boxes.



Montagu's Harriers and Great Bustards provided calibre supporting cast.

A stop at the Guadiloba revervoir was a bit disappointing, the water level being very high, so after coffee we headed both and stopped beside the River Almonte. Here we enjoyed a highly productive visit with prolonged sightings of a pair of **Black Wheatear** and a single **Alpine Swift** which made a couple of visits. **Blue Rock Thrushes** were also present as well as throngs of **House Martins**. A fine pair of **Short-toed Eagle** drifted across the valley. Particularly memorable were the banks of wild flowers, a real splash of colour.

We moved on to the Talaván reservoir. We took a short walk beside the water, enjoying a displaying pair of **Great Crested Grebes**. A small raft of **Pochard** was also present. As we prepared for lunch a **Golden Eagle** glided over the hillside and then disappeared over the skyline.

Following lunch we enjoyed a short walk along a track, again bordered with a fine display of spring flowers, before stopping again beside the River Almonte, this time higher upstream close to an old water mill. Whilst we stood there was a veritable fly-past of raptors: **Booted** and **Short-toed Eagle**, three species of Vulture as well as a **Black Stork**. We then took a slow drive back to Trujillo, losing count of the number of **Northern Wheatears** that were passing through, stopping to watch a pair of **Little Owls**, getting another glimpse of a **Tawny Pipit** and constantly accompanied by larks and **White Storks**.

## Day 8

Our final morning started with drizzle and the damp weather remained with us until the afternoon. Packed and minibus loaded-up, farewells bade, we returned to Arrocampo with the target being **Black-winged Kite**. As we passed the reservoir, we spotted the bird on a roadside telegraph post and managed to pull into a gateway to watch it. Passing traffic caused it to fly and it stopped further down the road on another pole. However as we disembarked, another car carrying birders stopped beside it, causing it to fly off again, this time into the mist and drizzle. However, we did obtain excellent views of several **Gull-billed Tern**, both resting and in flight, including one over a ditch just a few metres away, a **Purple Heron** standing out in a meadow and a **Common Sandpiper**.

We headed up a valley of mixed woodland for an early picnic and to pack away the scopes. It was raining most of the time, but as we returned to the motorway we had amazingly close views of a **Wild Boar** beside the road and saw a few minutes later a party feeding in an olive grove.

By then it was time to head back to Madrid and we reached the airport exactly as planned at 15.00.

### Annotated List of Birds Seen

Despite a generally late spring, meaning that some expected migrants had not yet arrived (although there was the continued presence of wintering species like Common Chiffchaff, Song Thrush, Meadow Pipit and Siskin) we recorded an excellent total of 144 species.

- 1. **Little Grebe** Seen or heard on several days, especially at Arrocampo and pools on plains.
- 2. **Great Crested Grebe** Seen at Arrocampo, Sierra Brava and Talaván reservoirs.
- 3. **Great Cormorant** Seen on several days at Arrocampo, Monfragüe and near Santa Marta de Magasca.
- 4. **Little Bittern** One male at Arrocampo on 5<sup>th</sup> April.
- 5. **Black-crowned Night Heron** Several were seen distantly at Arrocampo on 5<sup>th</sup> April.
- 6. **Cattle Egret** Seen most days, including over 300 at Arrocampo on 5<sup>th</sup> April.
- 7. Little Egret Seen most days.

- 8. **Great Egret** Seen on several days, including at Arrocampo and the rice fields.
- 9. Grey Heron Seen almost every day.
- 10. **Purple Heron** As well as good numbers at Arrocampo, one at Talaván reservoir on 9<sup>th</sup> April.
- 11. **Black Stork** Seen at Monfragüe and over the Rio Almonte.
- 12. White Stork Seen every day.
- 13. **Sacred Ibis** One at Arrocampo on 5<sup>th</sup> April.
- 14. **Spoonbill** Two at Arrocampo on 5<sup>th</sup> April.
- 15. **Wigeon** Two at Sierra Brava on 8<sup>th</sup> April.
- 16. **Gadwall** Pairs seen on several days.
- 17. **Mallard** Seen almost every day.
- 18. **Shoveler** Pairs at Sierra Brava on 8<sup>th</sup> April and at Arrocampo.
- 19. Common Pochard About eight at Talaván on 9<sup>th</sup> April.
- 20. Black-winged Kite One at Arrocampo on 10<sup>th</sup> April.
- 21. Black Kite Numerous and seen everyday.
- 22. **Red Kite** Seen almost every day.
- 23. Egyptian Vulture Seen at Monfragüe and over River Almonte.
- 24. Griffon Vulture Seen every day.
- 25. Black Vulture Seen almost every day.
- 26. Short-toed Eagle Seen almost every day.
- 27. **Marsh Harrier** Seen near Santa Marta de Magasca, Arrocampo and the rice fields.
- 28. **Montagu's Harrier** Seen on plains near Santa Marta de Magasca on 4<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> April.
- 29. Common Buzzard Seen every day.

- 30. **Spanish Imperial Eagle** Juveniles seen en route from Madrid on 3<sup>rd</sup> April, near Santa Marta de Magasca on 4<sup>th</sup> April. A pair in Monfragüe National Park on 5<sup>th</sup> April and an adult flying over Trujillo on 7<sup>th</sup> April.
- 31. **Golden Eagle** A juvenile near Talaván reservoir on 9<sup>th</sup> April.
- 32. Booted Eagle Seen every day.
- 33. **Bonelli's Eagle** A pair in Monfragüe on 5<sup>th</sup> April.
- 34. Lesser Kestrel Seen every day.
- 35. Common Kestrel Seen almost every day.
- 36. Peregrine Falcon Seen in Monfragüe on 5<sup>th</sup> April.
- 37. **Red-legged Partridge** Seen near Santa Marta de Magasca and Monfragüe.
- 38. Water Rail Heard at Arrocampo.
- 39. **Moorhen** Seen on several days.
- 40. Purple Swamphen Several at Arrocampo.
- 41. **Common Coot** Seen on several days.
- 42. **Little Bustard** Five seen near Santa Marta de Magasca on 4<sup>th</sup> April, about ten near Campo Lugar on 8<sup>th</sup> April and also near Santa Marta de Magasca on 9<sup>th</sup> April.
- 43. **Great Bustard** About 30 near Santa Marta de Magasca on 4<sup>th</sup> April, with similar numbers near Campo Lugar on 8<sup>th</sup> and east of Cáceres on 9<sup>th</sup>.
- 44. **Black-winged Stilt** Seen on roadside pool near Trujillo and also on rice fields.
- 45. **Stone Curlew** One near Santa Marta de Magasca on 4<sup>th</sup> April and two near Campo Lugar on 8<sup>th</sup> April.
- 46. **Collared Pratincole** Party of about ten near Fernando V on 8<sup>th</sup> April.
- 47. Little Ringed Plover Seen on rice fields and east of Cáceres.
- 48. **Kentish Plover** At least two on rice fields near Palazuelo on 8<sup>th</sup> April.
- 49. Little Stint About 20 on rice fields near Palazuelo on 8<sup>th</sup> April.

- 50. Green Sandpiper Seen at Arrocampo and near Santa Marta de Magasca.
- 51. **Common Sandpiper** One at Arrocampo on 10<sup>th</sup> April.
- 52. Black Tern One at Arrocampo on 5<sup>th</sup> April.
- 53. **Gull-billed Tern** Seen at Arrocampo on both visits.
- 54. Black-headed GullSeen on several days, especially on the rice fields.
- 55. Lesser Black-backed Gull Four at Arrocampo on 10<sup>th</sup> April.
- 56. **Black-bellied Sandgrouse** Four near Santa Marta de Magasca on 4<sup>th</sup> April.
- 57. **Pin-tailed Sandgrouse** About 60 near Santa Marta de Magasca on 4<sup>th</sup> April.
- 58. Feral Pigeon Seen daily.
- 59. **Wood Pigeon** Seen daily.
- 60. **Collared Dove** Seen on most days.
- 61. **Great Spotted Cuckoo** Heard on 4<sup>th</sup> April and three seen near Arrocampo on 5<sup>th</sup> April.
- 62. Common Cuckoo Seen and/or heard daily.
- 63. Scops Owl Calling every night.
- 64. Little Owl Seen near Santa Marta de Magasca and sometimes heard at night.
- 65. Alpine Swift One at River Almonte north of Cáceres on 9<sup>th</sup> April.
- 66. **Common Swift** Seen at Arrocampo on 5<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> April, also on 9<sup>th</sup>.
- 67. **Pallid Swift** Seen near Santa Marta de Magasca on 4<sup>th</sup> April and in Trujillo on 7<sup>th</sup> April.
- 68. **Bee-eater** Seen almost daily from 5<sup>th</sup> April.
- 69. Roller Two seen east of Cáceres on 9<sup>th</sup> April.
- 70. **Hoopoe** Seen daily.
- 71. **Green Woodpecker** Heard in village on 4<sup>th</sup> April and calling at Miravete Pass on 7<sup>th</sup> April.

- 72. Great Spotted Woodpecker Seen near Palazuelo on 8<sup>th</sup> April.
- 73. Lesser Spotted Woodpecker Drumming at Jaraicejo on 7<sup>th</sup> April and in village on 8<sup>th</sup>.
- 74. **Calandra Lark** Seen on the plains of Santa Marta de Magasca and Campo Lugar.
- 75. **Short-toed Lark** Two on Campo Lugar plains on 8<sup>th</sup> April.
- 76. Crested Lark Seen almost daily.
- 77. Thekla Lark Seen almost daily.
- 78. **Woodlark** Recorded in Monfragüe and at Miravete Pass.
- 79. Sand Martin Seen at Arrocampo and on the rice firlds.
- 80. Crag Martin Seen almost daily.
- 81. **Barn Swallow** Seen daily.
- 82. **Red-rumped Swallow** Seen daily.
- 83. **House Martin** Seen almost daily.
- 84. **Tawny Pipit** One at Sierra Brava on 8<sup>th</sup> April and one north of Trujillo on 9<sup>th</sup> April.
- 85. **Meadow Pipit** Seen almost daily until 9<sup>th</sup> April.
- 86. **Yellow Wagtail** Seen on rice fields on 8<sup>th</sup> April and Talaván reservoir on 9<sup>th</sup> April.
- 87. **Grey Wagtail** Seen at River Magasca on 4<sup>th</sup> April.
- 88. White Wagtail Seen daily.
- 89. **Wren** Singing in Monfragüe and Jaraicejo.
- 90. **Robin** Singing in Monfragüe and near Valdecañas Dam.
- 91. **Nightingale** From 7<sup>th</sup> April, recorded daily.
- 92. Black Redstart Seen on several days.
- 93. Common Redstart One north of Trujillo on 9<sup>th</sup> April.
- 94. **Stonechat** Seen daily.

- 95. **Whinchat** One near Arrocampo on 5<sup>th</sup> April.
- 96. **Northern Wheatear** Numerous passage migrant seen almost daily.
- 97. Black-eared Wheatear Three of four seen near Sierra Brava on 8<sup>th</sup> April.
- 98. **Black Wheatear** A pair beside River Almonte north of Cáceres on 9<sup>th</sup> April.

99. Blue Rock Thrush Seen in Monfragüe and Almonte River.

- 100. Blackbird Seen almost daily.
- 101. **Song Thrush** Two at Jaraicejo on 7<sup>th</sup> April.
- 102. **Mistle Thrush** Seen on two occasions.
- 103. **Cetti's Warbler** Recorded on several days.
- 104. **Zitting Cisticola** Seen almost daily.
- 105. Savi's Warbler Present at Arrocampo.
- 106. **Sedge Warbler** One singing at Arrocampo on 5<sup>th</sup> April.
- 107. **Reed Warbler** Singing at Arrocampo (5<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> April) and on rice fields.
- 108. **Dartford Warbler** Seen on heath at Jaraicejo and Monfragüe.
- 109. **Spectacled Warbler** At least two at Jaraicejo on 7<sup>th</sup> April.
- 110. **Subalpine Warbler** Seen at Arrocampo, Monfragüe and Jaraicejo.
- 111. Sardinian Warbler Seen on several days.
- 112. **Common Whitethroat** One near Madrigalejo on 8<sup>th</sup> April.
- 113. **Blackcap** Seen almost daily.
- 114. **Common Chiffchaff** Seen at River Magasca and at Arrocampo.
- 115. **Willow Warbler** One at Arroyo de la Vid on 7<sup>th</sup> April.
- 116. **Long-tailed Tit** Recorded on two days.

- 117. **Crested Tit** Pair nest-excavating at Miravete on 7<sup>th</sup> April.
- 118. **Blue Tit** Seen daily.
- 119. **Great Tit** Seen daily.
- 120. **Bearded Tit** Recorded at Arrocampo on both visits.
- 121. **Short-toed Treecreeper** Recorded in Monfragüe and Jaraicejo.
- 122. **Penduline Tit** One at Arrocampo on 5<sup>th</sup> April.
- 123. **Iberian Grey Shrike** Seen daily.
- 124. Woodchat Shrike Seen daily.
- 125. **Jay** Recorded at Jaraicejo and Valdecañas
- 126. **Azure-winged Magpie** Seen daily.
- 127. **Magpie** Seen daily.
- 128. **Jackdaw** Seen daily
- 129. **Raven** Seen almost daily.
- 130. **Spotless Starling** Seen daily.
- 131. **House Sparrow** Seen daily.
- 132. **Spanish Sparrow** Seen almost daily.
- 133. **Tree Sparrow** Seen on the rice fields.
- 134. **Red Avadavat** Seen on the rice fields
- 135. **Chaffinch** Seen almost daily.
- 136. **Serin** Seen daily.
- 137. **Greenfinch** Seen almost daily.
- 138. **Goldfinch** Seen daily.
- 139. **Siskin** Seen in Monfragüe on 6<sup>th</sup> April, Miravete on 7<sup>th</sup> and beside River Ruercas on 8<sup>th</sup>.
- 140. Linnet Seen daily
- 141. **Hawfinch** Seen almost daily.

- 142. **Cirl Bunting** Recorded at Miravete and River Almonte.
- 143. **Rock Bunting** Seen beside River Magasca, Monfragüe and Miravete.
- 144. **Corn Bunting** Seen daily.

#### Mammals seen

Otter Wild Boar Fox Red Deer Iberian Hare Rabbit

#### **Orchids seen**

Champagne Orchid Conical Orchid Naked Man Orchid Sawfly Orchid Yellow Bee Orchid Woodcock Orchid Mirror Orchid Spider orchid Orchis champagneuxii Orchis conica Orchis italica Ophrys tenthredinifera Ophrys lutea Ophrys scolopax Ophrys speculum Ophrys incubacea