

**Birding Extremadura and Casa Rural El Recuerdo**  
**REPORT ON AUTUMN HOLIDAY FOR JULIE AND GEOFF**  
**Itinerary (1<sup>st</sup> November 2014 – 6<sup>th</sup> November 2014)**

**1<sup>st</sup> November 2014:** Transfer from Madrid airport to Casa Rural El Recuerdo with stop at Arrocampo.

**2<sup>nd</sup> November 2014:** Plains near Santa Marta de Magasca.

**3<sup>rd</sup> November 2014:** Plains of Campo Lugar and the rice fields near Palazuelo.

**4<sup>th</sup> November 2014:** Malpartida de Cáceres, River Almonte, Talaván and plains north of Trujillo

**5<sup>th</sup> November 2014:** Monfragüe National Park.

**6<sup>th</sup> November 2014:** Moheda Alta, Pico de Villuercas and return to Madrid.

**Trip Report**

**Day 1: 1<sup>st</sup> November 2014**

Julie and Geoff arrived on schedule at Madrid, shortly after 10.00. Within minutes we were heading from the airport, travelling around the southern edge of Madrid in autumn sunshine, before reaching the A5 motorway heading south-westwards towards Extremadura. We crossed first the rather dry-looking arable plains of Castile La Mancha, before getting closer to the impressive Gredos Mountains and the *dehesa* landscape with holm oaks. **Red Kites** were the most common species seen on this journey, with occasional **Griffon** and **Black Vultures** as well. We stopped for refreshments about an hour and a half into the journey, and then left the motorway once we were in Extremadura to spend the afternoon the vicinity of the Arrocampo reservoir. Once off the fast road and onto a small country lane we could stop to watch birds. This opportunity gave us the first views of **Azure-winged Magpies**, **Southern Grey Shrikes** and **Crested Larks**, as well as butterflies like **Clouded Yellows**. We stopped for our picnic overlooking the Charca Salada, south-west of Casatejadas. It was a tranquil spot, with a small old reservoir surrounded by holm oak *dehesa*. The shallow end of the pool hosted three species of **egret** as well as **Mallard**, **Teal**, **Wigeon** and a pair of **Pintail**, as well as **Great Cormorants**. The latter produced some fascinating behaviour when they left their resting area on a narrow spit to take to the water. Here they formed a raft and started diving, moving as they did so towards the shore. At the same time about 15 **Little Egret** congregated at the water's edge, clearly eager for the **Cormorants** to push the fish into the shallows. As the fish arrived, so the **egrets** too joined in the feeding. As the

**Cormorants** moved, so did the **egrets**, always keeping just ahead of the direction of the **Cormorants** to ensure this convergence as the **Cormorants** came in-shore again.

The grazed meadow with isolated crucifer flowers (as well as a couple of Autumn Crocuses) attracted butterflies and we had lovely views of **African Grass Blue**, **Brown Argus**, **Small Copper** and **Gatekeeper**. Overhead **vultures** were often in the sky and at one point two **Common Cranes** always flew over.

From there we returned to the village of Saucedilla, stopping to look at **Spanish Sparrows** and **Black Redstarts**. Near the village we spent the rest of the afternoon overlooking the marsh of Arrocampo. As well as several **Grey Heron** and **Purple Swamphen**, most of our attention was focused on **Bluethroats** which appeared, often for a briefest glimpse, at the edge of a patch of wet ground with rushes. **Common Chiffchaffs** were truly abundant. Just as we were leaving, having seen some more **Common Cranes** overhead, as well as at least two **Marsh Harriers**, a **Bluethroat** very obligingly perched on the top of a *Typha* stem. Just as it dropped down, a **Squacco Heron** came into land and feed in this wet area. A lovely surprise and a great way to end the afternoon's birding.

We headed onwards on the final leg of the journey, reaching Casa Rural El Recuerdo shortly after 18.00.

## Day 2: 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2014

It had become overcast overnight and as we set off there were a few drops of rain. For most of the day it remained dry, but dramatic storms developed late afternoon, climaxing in a very violent hailstorm and torrential rain. After breakfast we headed west of the nearby town of Trujillo, stopping first of all at a transition zone between *dehesa* woodland and open country. The area teemed with small birds. As well as the hordes of **Skylarks**, **Meadow Pipits** and **White Wagtail** that were feeding in the meadows, we had superb views of both **Crested Lark** and **Thekla Lark**, whilst **Southern Grey Shrike** and **Corn Bunting** also were easily seen. On a patch of higher ground we enjoyed a wonderfully prolonged period of birding, enjoying first of all a group of about 30 **Pin-tailed Sandgrouse** on one side of the road, a party of 21 **Great Bustard** on the other, whilst **Black-bellied Sandgrouse** and **Calandra Larks** flew overhead. A **Merlin** sped low over the ground, before banking up high and **Lapwings** were everywhere. **Griffon Vultures** flapped heavily in the cool air, landing in the field in front of us.

Further along the road we had excellent views of a **Hoopoe** and more **Southern Grey Shrikes**, whilst at the edge of Santa Marta de Magasca, where we stopped for coffee, **Crag Martins** hawked insects and a **Blue Rock Thrush** was busy attacking a large grasshopper.

Afterwards we took a view over the River Tamuja valley to the south of the village. We quickly spotted a pair of **Bonelli's Eagle** perched on top of a pylon. Later they flew off and headed in our direction. We were then treated to the wonderful spectacle of the male sky-dancing whilst the female soared overhead. A real treat! The wooded hillside also hosted **Sardinian Warbler**, **Woodlark** and a delightful **Firecrest**.

We then moved to the River Magasca for our picnic. **Crag Martins** wheeled around us, whilst the wooded valley sides had **Blackcap**, **Chiffchaff** and **Hawfinch**. Despite the rather overcast conditions, a few **Griffon Vultures** passed overhead as well as a very distant **Black Stork**.

We returned to the open plains, stopping to see a delightful **Little Owl** perched on a post. At the final stop we took a short walk onto a drovers trail nearby. On all sides were developing thunderstorms, belts of rain moved across the plains. The area was full of birdlife, with dozens upon dozens of **Calandra Larks** and **Skylarks**. Particularly memorable were the good numbers of Black-bellied **Sandgrouse**, taking off from a ploughed field and passing low overhead.

Rain started to fall, so we returned to the vehicle, parked beside a pool which was full of **Spanish Water Frogs**. We headed in direction of Trujillo, but as we approached the town, we had clearly just missed a heavy hailstorm. There were drifts of hailstones at the side of the road, the adjacent fields appeared dusted with snow and at one point the road itself had a deep layer of the marble-sized hailstones. We ventured up towards the Main Square of Trujillo, but did not leave the vehicle as there was a succession of torrential downpours, including some with large hailstorms which drummed heavily on the roof of the car and the windscreen. The weather was taking a turn for the worst, so we decided to return home, going through even more violent storms. Arriving back home a lightning bolt landed close by with a massive crack, which we later learned had caused damage to the village water pump close by.

### **Day 3: 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2014**

After the dramatic storms of yesterday evening (which made national news), the night was calm and the day dawned misty. We headed southwards, past the town of Zorita onto the plains of Campo Lugar. Despite the rather dull light, the morning proved very productive indeed. It kicked off with **Little Owls** on piles of rocks and a female **Merlin**, also on a rock, as well as some distant **Black-bellied Sandgrouse** coming into land. At the next stop a party of **Little Bustard** flew up and then landed out of view amongst tall vegetation. As we approached along the road, they flew up again, providing us with excellent views as they turned and then landed, over the brow of a stubble field. Just a little further on we were able to enjoy excellent views of a small group of **Black-bellied Sandgrouse** on the ground, sometimes in the same field of view as two male **Great Bustards**. Whilst watching these, we also witnessed a dramatic chase of a **Skylark** by a **Merlin**, and heard **Golden Plover** flying over in the mist. Small birds (**Meadow Pipits**, **Skylarks** and **Corn Buntings** were everywhere). As we approached the village of Campo Lugar, we stopped to watch a large flock of **Spanish Sparrows** attracted to a livestock feeding area.

**Skylarks** too were feeding amongst them, and we also found a single **Rock Sparrow**. **Hoopoes** sat obligingly on posts whilst we also found a roosting flock of 23 **Stone Curlew**, close to the edge of the village. As we watched them the clouds started to break and with the first rays of warm sunshine, the **Stone Curlews** stretched and spread their bedraggled wings and enjoyed a good preen. It was a delightful sight.



From Campo Lugar we descended to the irrigated lands dedicated to rice and maize production. We stopped at a friendly little cafeteria beside a filling station and then spent the rest of the morning on the rice fields. Here both **White Storks** and **Common Cranes** were present as well as a wealth of waders, the most numerous being **Common Snipe**, **Black-winged Stilt**, **Lapwing** and **Kentish Plover**: a fine mixture. There were also present **Little Stint**, **Dunlin**, **Spotted Redshank**, **Greenshank**, some **Ruff** and a few **Ringed Plovers**. **Marsh Harriers** seemed to be in every direction.

We stopped for lunch beside the village of Palazeulo and then continued driving across the rice fields, most of which had been harvested. The remaining fields with crops proved magnets for flocks of **Spanish Sparrows**, which were in truly astonishing numbers: thousands present in one field for example. A reed-filled ditch also had **Red Avadavats** and **Common Waxbills** in breeding plumage.



We made a visit to an area of rough pasture and scattered trees in Madrigalejo to complete the day and although we were not successful in finding Black-winged Kite, we were rewarded with the sight of lines and lines of **Common Cranes** heading to roost, as the skies darkened. Just as we were returning to home, the rain started.

#### **Day 4: 4<sup>th</sup> November 2014**

The heavy rain during the night was superseded by much calmer conditions first thing and plenty of sunshine. There were cloudy periods during the day and the wind freshened considerably.

We travelled west, past the provincial capital Cáceres to the small town of Malpartida de Cáceres. On the eastern outskirts of the town is a huge colony of White Storks, their nests on platforms beside a hotel with more on telegraph poles beside the railway. On the western side of town is a small lake and it was there that we focused our attention to look for a local rarity, a **Red-knobbed Coot**, that had been present there since mid-October. It took just a couple of minutes to find it and during the course of our visit we had superb views of this bird, as it peacefully fed alongside **Common Coots**. The lake also held about a hundred **Little Grebe**, as well as some **Green Sandpipers** and a **Common Sandpiper**. There were plenty of aerial

distractions too with passing **Griffon** and **Black Vultures**, which also caught the coot's eye when they drifted over.



Very satisfied with this start of the day, we repaired to a hotel for a coffee and then returned to Cáceres and took a road north. At the Almonte River we stopped beside the old, broken bridge and quickly found a pair of **Black Wheatear**. These delightful birds provided us with prolonged and exceptionally good views as they preened and fed, wholly undisturbed. There was competition though in the form of a stunning male **Black Redstart**. **Thekla Larks** also fed on the rocky slopes, whilst about 25 **Grey Herons** also flew past.

We continued to the Talaván Reservoir for lunch. The wind had strengthened significantly, making the water very choppy and difficult to check for birds, however we were very pleased and surprised by the sight of a huge male **Wild Boar** swimming across the channel close by and then making its way slowly at the edge of the emergent vegetation. We could hear each step it was making as it paddled through the fringing vegetation.

After lunch we took a walk in an area of rather open *dehesa* and mixed farming, where there were huge flocks of **Goldfinches**, as well as good numbers of **Greenfinches** and **Linnets**. More **vultures** passed overhead. The strong cold wind made us beat a retreat to the car and we drove slowly back to Trujillo over the plains. At one point we saw at least 15 **Red Kites** gathering close to sheep with young lambs, presumably looking for afterbirth. We completed the day with a stop in the

Main Square of Trujillo, this time in sunshine – a marked contrast to the thunder storms a couple of days previously. After a few minutes wait, our mission was accomplished with the arrival of a **Red-rumped Swallow** to perch under the arches of a medieval palace. Soon after a **Crag Martin** also arrived, **Red-rumped Swallows** moved in and out and we reckoned that there had been at least two and perhaps three birds present.

It was then back in beautiful late afternoon light to Casa Rural El Recuerdo.

#### **Day 5: 5<sup>th</sup> November 2014**

It was a clear and sunny day, but with a rather fresh wind. We headed north, through Trujillo and then through a vast *dehesa* landscape, with holm oak wood pasture extending as far as the eye could see. Monfragüe National Park is a series of metamorphosed sandstone ridges, running east to west, through which cuts the Tajo River and its tributary the Tiétar. We drove through the park, stopping to watch small groups of **Red Deer** as they fed on the hillsides, some fine stags amongst them. We made our first stop at the viewpoint at the Portilla del Tiétar.



Here magnificent rock formations rose above the water and we could watch **vultures** at close quarters, including some stunning **Black Vultures**. We did not have to wait long before a distant barking call alerted our attention to the impending appearance of our target species. And just a short while later the distinctive form of a **Spanish**

**Imperial Eagle** appeared with the **Griffon Vultures** riding the air currents to the east. The bird circled a few times before dropping out of view, and we got glimpses of the diagnostic white leading edge of the wing. Best was yet to come. Probably in response the same barking call was heard from the cliffside opposite. We scanned carefully but could not find the eagle. However, then it flew (from a concealed perch) and gave us superb views as it sailed towards us and then up to the sky above and beyond. During our stay there we had a couple more sightings, again of eagles soaring in the breeze above us.

Deciding it was time for coffee, we then moved on through a *dehesa* of cork oak to a small bar. Just as we reached there a very dark form flew from the ruined tobacco drying sheds nearby. It was a **Spanish Imperial Eagle**. Although the views were brief, it was close and in excellent light. As the bird flew off, the grey base of the tail clearly visible. It was a pleasant stop and after the refreshments, we wandered in the area, looking down towards the River Tiétar upstream, with wide sandy beaches visible. Here there was a collection of **Great Egrets**, **Little Egrets** and **Grey Herons**. We watched as the large flock of **Great Cormorant** that we had seen flying upstream earlier, settled to fish and again we witnessed the fascinating interaction between the **egrets** and the **cormorants**: a large flotilla of cormorants surrounding a shoal of fish and the **egrets** waiting on the bank to take their pickings. But the highlight of this spot was an adult **Black Stork** which we watched flying downstream, before disappearing behind some trees. The superb light gave us an outstanding view of its iridescent greenish neck and bright red bill and legs.

We made our way back through the park, stopping for a picnic lunch in amongst pine trees, with views of **Great Spotted Woodpecker** and **Coal Tit**. Another **Great Spotted Woodpecker** was seen in open ground, perched on a wooden pole beside a sapling, whilst in the same area we got excellent views of **Dartford Warbler** and **Thekla Lark**.

We took a short walk beside the Tajo River, where we had glimpses of **Hawfinch**, whilst **Blackcaps** and **Robins** called beside us. Next came an opportunity to look across at the magnificent cliff face of Peña Falcon. **Griffon Vultures** gathered in the skies above us whilst hordes of **Crag Martins** were also present. We spent a final hour or so close to a crag near the Castle of Monfragüe, again where **Crag Martins** were gathering and **Griffon Vultures** swooped in, landing on the rocks close by. A **Peregrine** flew over, as did a male **Hen Harrier**, whilst parties of **Hawfinches** flew overhead. To complete the day we enjoyed the sight of a pair of **Red-billed Choughs**, gliding on the up-draught beside the ridge.

## Day 6: 6<sup>th</sup> November 2014

For our final day in Extremadura the weather again behaved with sunshine and some light cloud. We started off southwards, revisiting an area of rough pasture near Madriaglejo to start with, where we found **Dartford Warbler**, **Zitting Cisticola** and **Red Avadavat**. **Marsh Harriers**, of which we have seen many during the holiday, quartered the ground.

We then visited the Crane Information Centre at Moheda Alta, where we could enjoy the wonderful sight of cranes feeding under the trees. After looking at the exhibition there, we checked the open *dehesa* just to the north and found almost immediately a **Black-winged Kite**. We watched it at length in the sunshine, perched on different trees and making short flights, often with the characteristic stiff-winged glide. A very fine **Southern Grey Shrike** was also in view and a **Woodlark** sang nearby. We then stopped at a small pool, full of duck including a **Ferruginous Duck**, good numbers of **Wigeon** and **Shoveler**, some **Grey Lag Geese** and **Egyptian Geese**. A party of **Tree Sparrows** were in the scrubby vegetation on the sides. **Cranes** were everywhere and their beautiful calls a constant part of the soundscape.

We then headed north for a complete change of scenery, ascending the Villuercas Mountains north of Guadalupe. Taking an old narrow road, we rose initially through forested area of pines, and then plantations of sweet chestnut before getting into native belts of Pyrenean Oak. Just a couple of kilometres from the start, we stopped to walk along the track. There was a party of **Redwings** present in the mixed woodland nearby. We brought the car in and arranged the picnic and whilst doing so a **Citril Finch** flew in to land in a deciduous oak. This was the bird we had been waiting for. During our lunch stop, we got several more sightings of at least two birds, and also heard its song. A male **Bullfinch** also flew over, whilst the woodland at times seemed full of birds including **Crested Tit**, **Short-toed Treecreeper**, **Nuthatch** and **Firecrest**. Very pleased with these sightings, we continued the drive up to the peak of the Villuercas Mountains, at 1600 metres above sea-level. The views were the top were breath-taking but the wind was strong and cold, so we started downhill, seeing a couple of **Black Redstarts**.

Then it was the drive to Madrid, north through the Ibores Mountains and then meeting the motorway. Just before we started on the final leg of the journey, a **Black-winged Kite** was seen on a telegraph wire beside the road. The final birds of the journey, just as the light was dimming were **White Storks**, some on nests to roost, whilst others flew across the motorway. We reached the airport at 19.05.

## **Annotated List of Species Seen**

### **Birds**

1. **Little Grebe**: Seen almost daily and over a 100 present at Malpartida de Cáceres on 4<sup>th</sup> November.
2. **Great Crested Grebe**: Two present at Malpartida de Cáceres on 4<sup>th</sup> November.
3. **Great Cormorant**: Seen most days and a large party in Monfragüe National Park, of about 60 birds. Interesting interactions watched with egrets.
4. **Squacco Heron**: One at Arrocampo on 1<sup>st</sup> November.

5. **Cattle Egret:** Seen most days.
6. **Little Egret:** Seen most days
7. **Great Egret:** Seen at Charca Salada and Arrocampo on 1<sup>st</sup> November, on the rice fields and seven in view on Tiétar River on 5<sup>th</sup> November.
8. **Grey Heron:** Seen every day.
9. **Black Stork:** One seen distantly north of Santa Marta de Magasca on 2<sup>nd</sup> November and an adult on River Tiétar on 5<sup>th</sup> November.
10. **White Stork:** Seen on the rice fields (with about 40 in a field near Moheda Alta on 6<sup>th</sup> November) and on return to Madrid.
11. **Grey Lag Goose:** 12 flying over rice fields on 3<sup>rd</sup> November and about 20 present at Moheda Alta pool on 6<sup>th</sup> November.
12. **Egyptian Goose:** At least 20 at Moheda Alta pool on 6<sup>th</sup> November.
13. **Wigeon:** One at Charca Salada on 1<sup>st</sup> November and also present at Moheda Alta pool on 6<sup>th</sup> November.
14. **Gadwall:** Seen at Arrocampo and at Moheda Alta.
15. **Teal:** Seen at Charca Salada, on rice fields and at Moheda Alta.
16. **Pintail:** Two at Charca Salada on 1<sup>st</sup> November and at Moheda Alta pool on 6<sup>th</sup> November
17. **Mallard:** Seen most days.
18. **Shoveler:** Seen at Talaván reservoir and at Moheda Alta.
19. **Common Pochard:** About 30 at Moheda Alta pool on 6<sup>th</sup> November.
20. **Ferruginous Duck:** A female at Moheda Alta pool on 6<sup>th</sup> November.
21. **Black-winged Kite:** One at Moheda Alta and one near Peraleda on 6<sup>th</sup> November.
22. **Red Kite:** Seen daily.
23. **Griffon Vulture:** Seen almost daily.
24. **Black Vulture:** Seen almost daily.
25. **Marsh Harrier:** Seen almost daily.
26. **Hen Harrier:** An adult female seen briefly near Santa Marta de Magasca on 2<sup>nd</sup> November, a total of three males seen on rice fields on 3<sup>rd</sup> November and one male at Monfragüe on 5<sup>th</sup> November.
27. **Sparrowhawk:** Two seen on plains near Santa Marta de Magasca on 2<sup>nd</sup> November.
28. **Common Buzzard:** Seen daily.

29. **Spanish Imperial Eagle:** A pair in Monfragüe on 5<sup>th</sup> November.
30. **Bonelli's Eagle:** A pair displaying south of Santa Marta de Magasca on 2<sup>nd</sup> November.
31. **Common Kestrel:** Seen daily.
32. **Merlin:** Seen almost daily: on plains near Santa Marta de Magasca, Campo Lugar, north of Trujillo and near Moheda Alta.
33. **Peregrine Falcon:** One at Monfragüe on 5<sup>th</sup> November.
34. **Red-legged Partridge:** Seen and or heard on several days.
35. **Water Rail:** One heard at Arrocampo.
36. **Moorhen:** Seen at Arrocampo.
37. **Purple Swamphen:** Seen at Arrocampo on 1<sup>st</sup> November.
38. **Common Coot:** Present on all large water bodies.
39. **Red-knobbed Coot:** One at Malpartida de Cáceres on 4<sup>th</sup> November.
40. **Common Crane:** Seen almost daily with hundreds present on rice fields.
41. **Little Bustard:** 15 near Campo Lugar on 3<sup>rd</sup> November.
42. **Great Bustard:** 21 near Santa Marta de Magasca on 2<sup>nd</sup> November and at least nine seen on Campo Lugar plains on 3<sup>rd</sup> November.
43. **Black-winged Stilt:** Seen on rice fields on 3<sup>rd</sup> November.
44. **Stone Curlew:** 23 at Campo Lugar on 3<sup>rd</sup> November.
45. **Ringed Plover:** About five seen near Palazuelo on 3<sup>rd</sup> November.
46. **Little Ringed Plover:** Two at Moheda Alta pool on 6<sup>th</sup> November.
47. **Kentish Plover:** About 80 seen near Palazuelo on 3<sup>rd</sup> November.
48. **Golden Plover:** Heard on Campo Lugar plains on 3<sup>rd</sup> November.
49. **Northern Lapwing:** Seen daily and in good numbers on the plains and rice fields.
50. **Dunlin:** About 100 seen near Palazuelo on 3<sup>rd</sup> November.
51. **Little Stint:** About 20 seen near Palazuelo on 3<sup>rd</sup> November.
52. **Ruff:** About five seen near Palazuelo on 3<sup>rd</sup> November.
53. **Common Snipe:** Good numbers on the rice fields and also at Arrocampo.
54. **Spotted Redshank:** About ten near Palazuelo on 3<sup>rd</sup> November.
55. **Common Redshank:** About 12 seen near Palazuelo on 3<sup>rd</sup> November.

56. **Greenshank:** Two at Charca Salada on 1<sup>st</sup> November and about six seen near Palazuelo on 3<sup>rd</sup> November.
57. **Green Sandpiper:** Seen most days.
58. **Common Sandpiper:** Seen at Malpartida de Cáceres and Moheda Alta.
59. **Black-headed Gull:** Seen almost daily.
60. **Lesser Black-backed Gull:** Seen almost daily.
61. **Black-bellied Sandgrouse:** A total of 60+ seen on plains near Santa Marta de Magasca on 2<sup>nd</sup> November and about 20 near Campo Lugar on 3<sup>rd</sup> November.
62. **Pin-tailed Sandgrouse:** 30+ seen on plains near Santa Marta de Magasca on 2<sup>nd</sup> November
63. **Rock Dove/Feral Pigeon:** Seen almost daily.
64. **Wood Pigeon:** Seen daily.
65. **Collared Dove:** Seen almost daily.
66. **Little Owl:** Seen on plains near Santa Marta de Magasca and Campo Lugar, also heard at Pago de San Clemente and at Moheda Alta.
67. **Kingfisher:** Seen on several days.
68. **Hoopoe:** Seen daily.
69. **Great Spotted Woodpecker:** Seen in Monfragüe.
70. **Calandra Lark:** Seen on the plains west of Trujillo and near Campo Lugar.
71. **Crested Lark:** Seen daily.
72. **Thekla Lark:** Seen almost daily.
73. **Woodlark:** Seen or heard near Santa Marta de Magasca and Moheda Alta.
74. **Skylark:** Seen almost daily.
75. **Crag Martin:** Seen on several days.
76. **Red-rumped Swallow:** Two or three in Trujillo on 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> November and one at Monfragüe on 5<sup>th</sup>.
77. **Meadow Pipit:** Seen almost daily.
78. **Water Pipit:** One near Palazuelo on 3<sup>rd</sup> November.
79. **Grey Wagtail:** Seen almost daily.
80. **White Wagtail:** Seen daily.
81. **Wren:** Heard on a couple of days.

82. **Dunnock:** Heard on Villuercas Mountains on 6<sup>th</sup> November.
83. **Robin:** Seen almost daily.
84. **Bluethroat:** Up to five seen at Arrocampo on 1<sup>st</sup> November.
85. **Black Redstart:** Seen daily.
86. **Stonechat:** Seen daily.
87. **Black Wheatear:** A pair at River Almonte on 4<sup>th</sup> November.
88. **Northern Wheatear:** One near Santa Marta de Magasca on 2<sup>nd</sup> November and two near Campo Lugar on 3<sup>rd</sup> November.
89. **Blue Rock Thrush:** Seen at Santa Marta de Magasca and Monfragüe.
90. **Blackbird:** Seen daily.
91. **Song Thrush:** Seen almost days.
92. **Redwing:** Small party in Villuercas Mountains on 6<sup>th</sup> November.
93. **Mistle Thrush:** Three near Santa Marta de Magasca.
94. **Cetti's Warbler:** Recorded almost daily.
95. **Zitting Cisticola.** Seen on most days.
96. **Dartford Warbler:** Heard near Santa Marta de Magasca and seen in Monfragüe and near Madrigalejo.
97. **Sardinian Warbler:** Heard and/or seen daily.
98. **Blackcap:** Seen on several days.
99. **Chiffchaff:** Seen every day in good numbers.
100. **Firecrest:** Seen near Santa Marta de Magasca on 2<sup>nd</sup> November and in Villuercas Mountains on 6<sup>th</sup> November.
101. **Long-tailed Tit:** Seen on several days.
102. **Crested Tit:** In Villuercas Mountains on 6<sup>th</sup> November.
103. **Coal Tit:** One in Monfragüe on 5<sup>th</sup> November and also in Villuercas Mountains on 6<sup>th</sup> November.
104. **Blue Tit:** Seen almost daily.
105. **Great Tit:** Seen almost daily.
106. **Nuthatch:** Recorded in Monfragüe and Villuercas Mountains.
107. **Short-toed Treecreeper:** Recorded in Monfragüe and Villuercas Mountains.
108. **Southern Grey Shrike:** Seen daily.

109. **Jay:** Seen in Monfragüe and Villuercas Mountains.
110. **Azure-winged Magpie:** Seen daily.
111. **Magpie:** Seen daily.
112. **Red-billed Chough:** Pair in Monfragüe on 5<sup>th</sup> November.
113. **Jackdaw:** Seen on several days.
114. **Raven:** Seen almost every day.
115. **Common Starling:** Several seen at Arrocampo on 1<sup>st</sup> November and on Campo Lugar plains on 3<sup>rd</sup> November.
116. **Spotless Starling:** Seen daily.
117. **House Sparrow:** Seen daily.
118. **Spanish Sparrow:** Seen almost daily, with vast flocks on rice fields.
119. **Tree Sparrow:** Seen at Moheda Alta on 6<sup>th</sup> November.
120. **Rock Sparrow:** One seen near Campo Lugar on 3<sup>rd</sup> November.
121. **Red Avadavat:** Seen on rice fields on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> November.
122. **Common Waxbill:** Seen on rice fields on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> November.
123. **Chaffinch:** Seen daily.
124. **Serin:** Seen on several days.
125. **Citril Finch:** At least two seen on ascent of Pico de Villuercas on 6<sup>th</sup> November with one bird in song.
126. **Greenfinch:** Seen on two days.
127. **Goldfinch:** Seen on several days.
128. **Siskin:** Seen on two days.
129. **Linnet:** Seen on several days.
130. **Bullfinch:** One male on ascent of Pico de Villuercas on 6<sup>th</sup> November
131. **Hawfinch:** One at Pago de San Clemente on 2<sup>nd</sup> November and seen in flight in Monfragüe.
132. **Reed Bunting:** Two at Arrocampo on 1<sup>st</sup> November.
133. **Corn Bunting:** Seen daily.

#### **Other wildlife**

#### **Mammals**

Red Deer

Wild Boar

**Herptiles**

Pond Terrapin

Iberian Water frog

**Butterflies**

Red Admiral

Painted Lady

Speckled Wood

Gatekeeper

Small White

Small Heath

Clouded Yellow

Small Copper

Brown Argus

African Grass Blue

Long-tailed Blue

**Dragonflies**

Lesser Emperor

Red-veined Darter