

## HOLIDAY REPORT FOR GILL, PAM, SUE, PAUL, JOHN AND ELAINE

### Casa Rural El Recuerdo & Birding Extremadura

#### Itinerary

**10<sup>th</sup> April 2016:** Transfer from Madrid airport to Casa Rural El Recuerdo

**11<sup>th</sup> April 2016:** Exploring the plains west of Trujillo

**12<sup>th</sup> April 2016:** Monfragüe National Park

**13<sup>th</sup> April 2016:** Alange, Mérida and Alcollarín Reservoir

**14<sup>th</sup> April 2016:** Campo Lugar plains, rice fields near Madrigalejo, Moheda Alta and Sierra Brava Reservoir

**15<sup>th</sup> April 2016:** Jaraicejo heath, Arrocampo Reservoir, Charco Salado and Cerro Almaráz.

**16<sup>th</sup> April 2016:** Valdecañas valley and return to Madrid



## TOUR REPORT

### 10<sup>th</sup> April 2016: Transfer from Madrid airport to Casa Rural El Recuerdo

Gill and the group arrived just a few minutes later than scheduled at Terminal One of Madrid Airport and we set off shortly after 14.20 on our way to Extremadura. The traffic was light and in less than an hour we were on the motorway heading southwest from the city. We stopped about halfway in the journey for a coffee, seeing a **Purple Heron** and **Black-winged Stilts** on a small pool beside the slip road for the service station, whilst **Barn Swallows** were already sitting on their nests in the cafeteria's porch. As we left, and about to re-join the motorway, a **Booted Eagle** was seen soaring nearby. On the rest of the journey we had sightings of **White Stork** and **Black Kites**. We arrived just after 17.30 at Casa Rural El Recuerdo.

### 11<sup>th</sup> April 2016: Exploring the plains west of Trujillo

It was a day of very unsettled weather, with periods of heavy rain, interspersed with sunny spells. The wind was fresh and felt quite chilly.

We started the day on the plains west of Trujillo, having the opportunity of watching **Thekla** and **Crested Larks** side-by-side whilst listening to **Corn Buntings** singing from all directions. We found a male **Little Bustard**, as well as close views of **Iberian Grey Shrike** as well as **Woodchat Shrike**. Some of us got a partial view of a **Great Bustard** but it was at our next stop where we had excellent views of a couple of fine males. Here **Calandra Larks** chased each other over the pasture and a male **Montagu's Harrier** was also seen. **Spanish Sparrows** foraged in an untidy flock close by.

We drove a short distance to a dirt road where we took a walk in the light rain. We saw another **Iberian Grey Shrike**, and had excellent views of a **Tawny Pipit**. A flock of **Pin-tailed Sandgrouse** flew over and soon after that we found a group of **Black-bellied Sandgrouse** feeding on the ground. One highlight was a good prolonged view of a melanistic **Montagu's Harrier**. We then drove to an area further west, stopping for coffee (where a **Booted Eagle** flew over) and returning to the plains where we saw **Zitting Cisticola** and a **Gadwall** on a small pond. We continued to the Tamuja River where as the rain momentarily cleared and the sun came out we were rewarded with a flock of **Bee-eaters**, a rapidly passing **Hobby**, a superb view of a **Bonelli's Eagle** and then within minutes an adult **Short-toed Eagle** flew low overhead. Returning to the plains, we saw two **Rollers** beside the boxes set up for their benefit.

We then stopped for lunch beside the Magasca River, where we also saw **Booted Eagle** and there was an impressive fly-past of **Griffon Vultures**. A **Cirl Bunting** sang and **Crag Martins** hawked insects.

We rose again to the plains from the valley and stopped for at an ancient drovers' trail. This gave us the opportunity to explore the flora and we saw a magnificent **Pink**

**Butterfly Orchid**, as well as **Bug Orchids** and wonderful **Heart-flowered Orchids**. An **Iberian Hare** and a **Short-toed Lark** were also seen briefly.

The rain was starting to fall heavily as we slowly returned towards Trujillo. But we did manage to see an **Eagle Owl**, as well as **White Stork**.

### **12<sup>th</sup> April 2016: Monfragüe National Park**

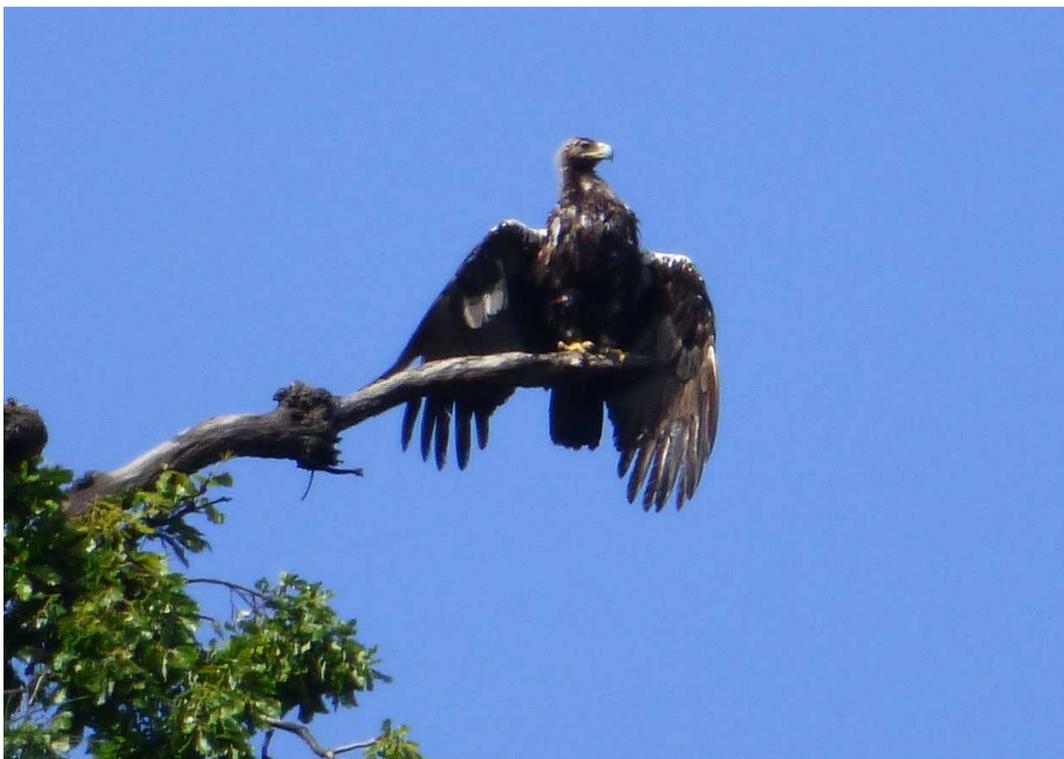
It was overcast and wet right through until early afternoon, when it cleared and the sun came out. Further rain arrived late afternoon.

We headed north, through Trujillo and then onward across the vast *dehesa* landscape with seemingly endless vistas of holm oak wood pasture. We passed through Torrejón El Rubio, taking the hairpin bends down, across and then up the Arroyo de la Vid valley before arriving at the Monfragüe National park.

We made our first stop across from the massive cliff face of Peña Falcon, the other side of the Tagus river. Despite the persistent rain, squadrons of **Griffon Vultures** were arriving and we saw a **Peregrine** on several occasions. A **Black Stork** sat tight on its nest. The small birds provided an interesting supporting cast with excellent views of **Blue Rock Thrush**, **Black Redstart**, **Rock Bunting** and **Short-toed Treecreeper**. From there we drove through the park and given the continuing rain, we elected to repair to a bar for coffee. Following coffee, we made good use of its terrace to watch birds in the surrounding cork oak woodland, whilst we sheltered from the rain.



We were pleased with sightings of **Rock Sparrow**, **Wood Lark** and **Woodchat Shrike**, amongst others. By now the rain seemed to be lessening so we made our way to the Portilla del Tiétar viewpoint. Here a convenient shelter enabled us to eat our picnic whilst staring across the river to the hillslope opposite. Nevertheless, we were rewarded by excellent views of a pair of **Subalpine Warblers** whilst **Cetti's Warbler** and **Nightingale** sang from close by. Eventually we spotted patch of blue sky in the direction that the weather was coming from and almost immediately located on a distant tree a very bedraggled-looking **Spanish Imperial Eagle**. Almost immediately its mate flew from the nest on a tree opposite whilst it flew from its perch and onto the nest. The female (which had been sitting), flew several times across the cliff before taking a perch on an exposed branch.



There it spent the next hour or so preening and allowing the sun and breeze to dry its plumage. Other birds were also being active and we saw a **Booted Eagle**, **Short-toed Eagle**, **Egyptian Vulture** and **Black Vulture** along with the **Griffons**. As the air warmed, so the **Griffon Vultures** that had been sitting tight started to rise and open their wings, revealing the large chicks that they had been brooding.

Very satisfied with the fruits of our patience, we left the scene and stopped close by to watch an **Egyptian Vulture** on its nest. As we watched it shuffled, stood up, stretched

and went for a flight. It was a superb view. A brief stop later on gave us close views of **Black Vultures**, as well as **Short-toed Eagle** and **Ravens**.

We visited a wonderful geological formation and took in the scenery which was very atmospheric with the passing clouds and showers. We then drove out of the park stopping at the Arroyos de la Vid to look at the Pre-Cambrian ripples left on the surface of the quartzite rocks there.

We then drive back to Trujillo, where we visited the Bull Ring to watch up to four male **Lesser Kestrels** coining back from feeding expeditions on the plains. On our return to Casa Rural El Recuerdo there was a magnificent double rainbow.

### ç13<sup>th</sup> April 2016: Alange, Mérida and Alcollarín Reservoir

We enjoyed a very welcome respite from the rain today, although on a few occasions the clouds became rather threatening. We drove south-west across the *dehesa* landscape and then after the town of Miajadas, across fertile irrigated farmland for rice, tomatoes and maize. Before Mérida we turned south and stopped beside the reservoir of Alange. Here a large colony of **Alpine Swifts** was present at the dam and as we watched, **Gull-billed Terns** passed by. We walked beside the water, with rocky outcrops and olive groves to our right. Small birds were aplenty: **Sardinian Warbler**, **Linnet**, **Goldfinch**, **Thekla Lark**, and we also saw **Blue Rock Thrush** and **Rock Bunting**. It took us longer to find our hoped-for species, the **Black Wheatear**, but we had a good view of it flying against a stormy grey sky. Over the cliffs a **Bonelli's Eagle** made an appearance.

After coffee, we went to the Roman Bridge in the centre of Mérida and bird-watched from the structure itself: the longest surviving Roman bridge in the world. From the bridge we had good views of **Glossy Ibis**, **Cattle Egret**, **Black-crowned Night Heron**, **Pallid** and **Alpine Swifts**. But one of the treats was a **Penduline Tit** collecting down from reed mace heads for its nest. We had a picnic beside the River Guadiana there where we were able to locate the very same nest high in a eucalyptus, as well as getting superb views of **Cetti's Warblers**.



We then drove to the reservoir of Alcollarín, where we spent the afternoon. There was a nice range of duck present including **Common Shelduck**, **Wigeon**, **Pintail** and **Gadwall**, as well as egrets, **Spoonbills**, and terns: **Common**, **Black** and **Whiskered**. We also had great views of a **Long-eared Owl**.

On the water were grebes including **Black-eared Grebe** and we had a fine view of both **Booted** and **Short-toed Eagles**.

#### **14<sup>th</sup> April 2016: Campo Lugar plains, rice fields near Madrigalejo, Moheda Alta and Sierra Brava Reservoir**

Another day and generally sunny day with light winds, providing excellent viewing conditions for birds. We started to the south of Casa Rural el Recuerdo, with a stop on the plains near Campo Lugar. At our very first stop we soaked in the spectacle of two male **Great Bustards** in full display, with a couple of females and other males in the vicinity. Thus we could enjoy the spectacle of the foam-bath display, with the bird becoming a vast white pyramid, stamping its feet and slowly moving around in a circle. Whilst we watched, **Calandra Larks** were in continuous song, and a pair of **Little Owls** stood sentinel on a rocky outcrop. It would be difficult to believe that this experience could be bettered, but sure enough at our second stop, provoked in part by the appearance of a melanistic **Montagu's Harrier** close by, we could not only watch displaying **Great Bustards**, but also simultaneously a displaying **Little Bustard**, two **Stone Curlew**, up to half a dozen **Rollers**, a party of **Lesser Kestrels**, as well as

calling **Hoopoes**, and overflying vultures. It was truly unforgettable. At one moment the calling **Little Bustard** was even shoved out of way by a **Great Bustard!**

Hard although it was to move from this spot, we retraced our steps and stopped by a ploughed field where we obtained views of three **Short-toed Larks**. Then it was time to descend from the plains onto the irrigated arable lands of Extremadura's rice-growing zone. Beside a field destined for a crop of maize, we had superb views of several **Collared Pratincoles**, in flight as well as on the ground, including a mating pair. A **Yellow Wagtail** was also seen nearby.

After coffee in a friendly bar, we stopped by some nearby old gravel pits and enjoyed excellent views of two **Purple Heron**, as well as a **Spoonbill** and some **Cattle Egrets**. In the trees in the background was a colony of **White Storks**. We then continued south, passing Madrigalejo and stopping beside the Gargaligas River where at least two **Great Reed Warblers** were singing.

We had our picnic lunch in the *dehesa* woodland of Moheda Alta, and then visited a hide beside some wet rice fields. **Tongue Orchids** were growing beside the path to the hide. From the hide we were delighted by close views of two juvenile **Great Flamingo**, a noisy group of about 120 **Black-winged Stilts**, as well as **Glossy Ibis** and some waders, including a **Ruff**. **Tree Sparrows** and **Cetti's Warblers** were also seen.



After a brief visit to a irrigation pool, on which there were a few **Mallard** and **Shoveler**, we made a return visit to the Gargaligas for better views of **Great Reed Warbler** and thus accomplished, we stopped beside the River Ruercas, where nearby we had good views of **Red Avadavats** and **Common Waxbills**.

We ended the afternoon beside the Sierra Brava reservoir seeing another melanistic **Montagu's Harrier**, as well as **Gull-billed Tern** and good numbers of **Great Crested Grebes**.

**15<sup>th</sup> April 2016: Jaraicejo heath, Arrocampo Reservoir, Charco Salado and Cerro Almaráz.**

It was an unsettled day weather-wise, but the rain abated until the evening. It started rather overcast but calm, but later the wind freshened but brought with it some sunny spells.

We started on the gorgeous broom and lavender "heath" near Jaraicejo. As we arrived, a **Tawny Pipit**, **Thekla Larks** and **Corn Buntings** were seen on the track and besides it. We stopped and almost immediately found a singing **Spectacled Warbler**, perched on top of a broom. We obtained progressively better views as it sang and performed song-flights. On the other side of the track a **Dartford Warbler** was also singing, whilst above us a **Woodlark** poured out its beautiful song. Waiting for the weather to improve was a **Short-toed Eagle** on a distant pylon. We then walked across the heath, watching a **Montagu's Harrier** drift overhead. We descended in to a beautiful cork oak woodland as a **Western Bonelli's Warbler** was singing. We found an **Angel's Tears Narcissus** in flower and had good views of **Crested Tit** and displaying **Booted Eagles** as well.

We then paused briefly by the Arroyo de la Vid, where **Nightingales** were singing and then repaired to a café for coffee. Following that we drove to the reservoir of Arrocampo, built to provide cooling water for the Almaráz power station. The fixed water levels provide excellent conditions for a belt of fringing vegetation. We stopped at one small section of the marsh, where **Savi's Warblers** were singing. We obtained good views of at least seven **Purple Swamphen**, as well as a pair of **Little Bittern**, but best of all was a super **Bluethroat** which came out into the open at close range. **Purple Herons** descended into the reeds and we also saw a fully-fledged **Barn Swallow**.



We drove north-west of the village of Saucedilla, seeing a **Lapwing** amongst **Black-winged Stilts** on a small pool and meeting up with a Speyside group who had had distant views of **Black-winged Kite**. We took a road which lead us through the area where the birds were and had superb views of the birds in flight and perched. **Bee-eaters** were also performing superbly for us.

We had our picnic beside a wonderful pool, surrounded by *dehesa* woodland, a lovely scenic spot. Hundreds of hirundines were present as well as swifts. A brief flight view of **Lesser Spotted Woodpecker** was had. After the picnic on our way out of the woodland, we stopped to enjoy the sight of a dustbathing **Hoopoe** in front of us.

We then headed to Almaraz, to stop and admire a colony of **Lax-flowered Orchids** close to the road. We proceeded to the Cerro de Almaráz where in just one area we found several orchid species. It was superb.

We then returned to Trujillo to visit the historic Main Square, enjoying a beer in friendly bar and watching **Lesser Kestrels**, a **Booted Eagle**, **swifts** and **White Storks** from our chairs.

### **16<sup>th</sup> April 2016: Valdecañas valley and return to Madrid**

For our return to Madrid the weather had changed to a much more unsettled nature with periods of very heavy rain. We bade farewell from Casa Rural El Recuerdo shortly before nine and made a first stop in a beautiful mixed woodland along a deep small

valley running into the Tagus river, just downstream, from the Valdecañas dam. The first bird we heard was a **Robin** singing and upstream, beside a small bridge we had excellent views of a **Hawfinch** singing high in a tree. A **Rock Sparrow** was also seen.

There were a few vultures, including an Egyptian braving the increment conditions as we continued. We stopped briefly beside the shore the vast Valdecañas Reservoir, where hundreds of hirundines hawked insects close to the choppy water surface and in an inlet we found two **Shelduck** and some **Black-winged Silts**. It was time then to head for Madrid, making a short stop for coffee half way on the journey. Despite the poor weather, we made it to the airport shortly after 13.00.

### Annotated List

1. **Egyptian Goose**: Seen at Alcollarín Reservoir.
2. **Wigeon**: Seen at Alcollarin.
3. **Gadwall**: Seen near Santa Marta de Magasca, at Alcollarín and Sierra Brava.
4. **Mallard**: Seen daily.
5. **Pintail**: Seen at Alcollarin.
6. **Shoveler**: Seen at Alcollarín and Moheda Alta.
7. **Shelduck**: Six at Alcollarín on 13<sup>th</sup> April and two at Valdecañas on 16<sup>th</sup>.
8. **Red-legged Partridge**: Seen on several days.
9. **Quail**: Heard on the plains and at Moheda Alta.
10. **Little Grebe**: Seen almost daily.
11. **Great Crested Grebe**: Seen on all large water bodies.
12. **Black-necked Grebe**: At least six seen at Alcollarin.
13. **Great Cormorant**: Seen almost daily.
14. **Little Bittern**: Two at Arrocampo on 15<sup>th</sup> April.
15. **Black-crowned Night Heron**: One at Mérida on 13<sup>th</sup> April.
16. **Cattle Egret**: Seen almost daily.
17. **Little Egret**: Seen almost daily.
18. **Great Egret**: Seen on return from Monfragüe and at Alcollarín.
19. **Grey Heron**: Seen daily.
20. **Purple Heron**: Seen on journey from Madrid, near Madrigalejo and Arrocampo.
21. **Black Stork**: Seen at Monfragüe.
22. **White Stork**: Seen daily.
23. **Glossy Ibis**: About eight seen at Mérida on 13<sup>th</sup> April and one at Moheda Alta on 14<sup>th</sup>.
24. **Spoonbill**: 12 at Alcollarín on 13<sup>th</sup> April, one near Madrigalejo on 14<sup>th</sup> and one seen at Arrocampo on 15<sup>th</sup>.
25. **Greater Flamingo**: Two juveniles at Moheda Alta on 14<sup>th</sup> April.
26. **Egyptian Vulture**: Seen in Monfragüe, Jaraicejo and Valdecañas.
27. **Griffon Vulture**: Seen daily.
28. **Black Vulture**: Seen almost daily.

29. **Spanish Imperial Eagle:** Two seen in Monfragüe National Park.
30. **Short-toed Eagle:** Seen on almost daily.
31. **Booted Eagle:** Seen daily.
32. **Bonelli's Eagle:** One near Santa Marta de Magasca on 11<sup>th</sup> April and one at Alange on 13<sup>th</sup>.
33. **Black Kite:** Seen daily.
34. **Red Kite:** Seen on two days.
35. **Marsh Harrier:** Seen at Arrocampo and on rice fields.
36. **Montagu's Harrier:** Seen near Santa Marta de Magasca on 11<sup>th</sup> April (including melanistic bird), at least one melanistic bird seen on Campo Lugar plains on 14<sup>th</sup> and a male at Jaraicejo on 15<sup>th</sup>.
37. **Common Buzzard:** Seen almost daily.
38. **Black-winged Kite:** One pair near Saucedilla on 15<sup>th</sup> April.
39. **Lesser Kestrel:** Seen almost daily.
40. **Common Kestrel:** Seen on two days.
41. **Hobby:** One near Santa Marta de Magasca on 11<sup>th</sup> April.
42. **Peregrine:** Seen at Monfragüe on 12<sup>th</sup> April.
43. **Water Rail:** Recorded at Arrocampo.
44. **Moorhen:** Seen on two days.
45. **Purple Swamphen:** Seen at Arrocampo.
46. **Common Coot:** Seen on large water bodies.
47. **Little Bustard:** One near Santa Marta de Magasca on 11<sup>th</sup> April and one near Campo Lugar on 14<sup>th</sup>.
48. **Great Bustard:** At least 15 near Santa Marta de Magasca on 11<sup>th</sup> April and at least 25 on Campo Lugar on 14<sup>th</sup>.
49. **Black-winged Stilt:** Seen almost daily with 120 at Moheda Alta on 14<sup>th</sup> April.
50. **Stone Curlew:** Two near Campo Lugar on 14<sup>th</sup> April.
51. **Collared Pratincole:** About ten near Fernando V on 14<sup>th</sup> April.
52. **Northern Lapwing:** One at Arrocampo on 15<sup>th</sup> April.
53. **Ruff:** One at Moheda Alta on 14<sup>th</sup> April
54. **Common Redshank:** Two at Alcollarín on 13<sup>th</sup> April and about six at Moheda Alta on 14<sup>th</sup>.
55. **Greenshank:** One at Alcollarín on 13<sup>th</sup> April and about eight at Moheda Alta on 14<sup>th</sup>.
56. **Green Sandpiper:** Seen on plains near Snata Marta de Magasca on 11<sup>th</sup> April.
57. **Common Sandpiper:** Seen at Alange and Arrocampo.
58. **Whiskered Tern:** One at Alcollarín on 13<sup>th</sup> April.
59. **Black Tern:** One at Alcollarín on 13<sup>th</sup> April.
60. **Common Tern:** Two at Alcollarín on 13<sup>th</sup> April.
61. **Gull-billed Tern:** Seen at Alange and Sierra Brava.
62. **Black-headed Gull:** Seen at Alcollarín in large numbers.
63. **Lesser Black-backed Gull:** Seen on plains and at Alange.
64. **Black-bellied Sandgrouse:** Seen near Santa Marta de Magasca on 11<sup>th</sup> April.

65. **Pin-tailed Sandgrouse**: Seen near Santa Marta de Magasca on 11<sup>th</sup> April.
66. **Rock Dove/Feral Pigeon**: Seen daily.
67. **Wood Pigeon**: Seen daily.
68. **Collared Dove**: Seen daily.
69. **Great Spotted Cuckoo**: Two seen near Santa Marta de Magasca on 11<sup>th</sup> April and also on journey from Mérida.
70. **Common Cuckoo**: Recorded almost daily.
71. **Eagle Owl**: One on plains on 11<sup>th</sup> April.
72. **Little Owl**: Two near Campo Lugar on 14<sup>th</sup>.
73. **Long-eared Owl**: One at Alcollarín on 13<sup>th</sup> April.
74. **Alpine Swift**: Seen at Alange.
75. **Common Swift**: Seen on several days.
76. **Pallid Swift**: Seen at Alange and Trujillo.
77. **Kingfisher**: Seen at Mérida.
78. **Bee-eater**: Seen almost daily.
79. **Roller**: Seen near Santa Marta de Magasca and near Campo Lugar.
80. **Hoopoe**: Seen daily.
81. **Lesser Spotted Woodpecker**: One at Charco Salado on 15<sup>th</sup> April.
82. **Calandra Lark**: Seen on plains.
83. **Short-toed Lark**: Seen on plains.
84. **Crested Lark**: Seen daily.
85. **Thekla Lark**: Seen almost daily.
86. **Woodlark**: Seen or heard on three days.
87. **Sand Martin**: Seen on several days.
88. **Crag Martin**: Seen most days.
89. **Barn Swallow**: Seen daily.
90. **Red-rumped Swallow**: Seen daily.
91. **House Martin**: Seen daily.
92. **Tawny Pipit**: One near Santa Marta de Magasca on 11<sup>th</sup> April and one at Jaraicejo on 15<sup>th</sup>.
93. **Yellow Wagtail**: Seen on rice fields and Arrocampo.
94. **White Wagtail**: Seen almost daily.
95. **Wren**: Seen on two days.
96. **Robin**: Singing at Valdecañas.
97. **Bluethroat**: One at Arrocampo on 15<sup>th</sup> April.
98. **Nightingale**: Heard singing most days.
99. **Black Redstart**: Seen in Monfragüe.
100. **Stonechat**: Seen almost daily.
101. **Northern Wheatear**: Seen on plains and on rice fields on 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> April.
102. **Black Wheatear**: One at Alange on 13<sup>th</sup> April.
103. **Blue Rock Thrush**: Seen at Monfragüe and Alange.
104. **Blackbird**: Seen daily.

105. **Cetti's Warbler:** Recorded almost every day.
106. **Zitting Cisticola:** Recorded almost daily.
107. **Savi's Warbler:** Singing at Arrocampo.
108. **Reed Warbler:** Singing at Rio Gargaligas and Arrocampo.
109. **Great Reed Warbler:** Singing at Rio Gargaligas and Rio Ruercas on 14<sup>th</sup> April.
110. **Melodious Warbler:** One near Rio Ruercas on 14<sup>th</sup> April.
111. **Dartford Warbler:** Seen at Jaraicejo on 15<sup>th</sup> April.
112. **Spectacled Warbler:** Seen at Jaraicejo on 15<sup>th</sup> April.
113. **Subalpine Warbler:** Seen at Jaraicejo and Monfragüe.
114. **Sardinian Warbler:** Seen most days.
115. **Blackcap:** Seen on several days.
116. **Western Bonelli's Warbler:** Two singing at Jaraicejo on 15<sup>th</sup> April.
117. **Willow Warbler:** Seen on two days.
118. **Long-tailed Tit:** Seen on several days.
119. **Crested Tit:** A pair at Jaraicejo on 15<sup>th</sup> April.
120. **Blue Tit:** Seen almost daily.
121. **Great Tit:** Seen daily
122. **Short-toed Treecreeper:** Recorded at Monfragüe and Jaraicejo.
123. **Penduline Tit:** Seen in Mérida on 13<sup>th</sup> April and Arrocampo on 15<sup>th</sup>.
124. **Iberian Grey Shrike:** Seen on several days.
125. **Woodchat Shrike:** Seen almost daily.
126. **Jay:** Seen at Jaraicejo.
127. **Azure-winged Magpie:** Seen daily.
128. **Magpie:** Seen daily.
129. **Jackdaw:** Seen on several days.
130. **Raven:** Seen almost every day.
131. **Spotless Starling:** Seen daily.
132. **House Sparrow:** Seen daily.
133. **Spanish Sparrow:** Seen on several days.
134. **Tree Sparrow:** Seen on rice fields.
135. **Rock Sparrow:** Seen at Monfragüe, Moheda Alta and Valdecañas.
136. **Common Waxbill:** Seen on rice fields.
137. **Red Avadavat:** Seen on rice fields.
138. **Chaffinch:** Seen almost daily.
139. **Serin:** Seen daily.
140. **Greenfinch:** Seen almost daily.
141. **Goldfinch:** Seen almost daily.
142. **Linnet:** Seen most days.
143. **Hawfinch:** One at Valdecañas on 16<sup>th</sup> April.
144. **Cirl Bunting:** Singing at River Magasca on 11<sup>th</sup> April and one at Valdecañas on 16<sup>th</sup>.
145. **Rock Bunting:** Seen at Monfragüe and Alange.

146. **Corn Bunting:** Seen daily.

### **Orchids**

1. **Early Spider Orchid:** Cerro Almaráz 15<sup>th</sup> April
2. **Yellow Bee Orchid:** Cerro Almaráz 15<sup>th</sup> April
3. **Woodcock Orchid:** Cerro Almaráz 15<sup>th</sup> April
4. **Mirror Orchid:** Cerro Almaráz 15<sup>th</sup> April
5. **Bug Orchid:** North of Trujillo 11<sup>th</sup> April
6. **Conical Orchid:** Cerro Almaráz 15<sup>th</sup> April
7. **Champagne Orchid:** Widespread
8. **Lax-flowered Orchid:** Almaráz 15<sup>th</sup> April
9. **Naked Man Orchid:** Cerro Almaráz 15<sup>th</sup> April
10. **Pink Butterfly Orchid:** North of Trujillo 11<sup>th</sup> April
11. **Heart-flowered Serapias:** North of Trujillo 11<sup>th</sup> April
12. **Tongue Orchid:** Moheda Alta 14<sup>th</sup> April
13. **Small-flowered Serapias:** Cerro Almaráz 15<sup>th</sup> April