

Wallcreepers & Cranes in Northern Spain

Naturetrek Tour Report

1 - 7 November 2017



Cranes at dawn at Gallocanta



Wallcreeper at Vadiello



Bearded Vulture at Santa Cilia



Little Bustards at Gallocanta

Report and images by John Willsher



Naturetrek

Mingledown Barn

Wolf's Lane

Chawton

Alton

Hampshire

GU34 3HJ

UK

T: +44 (0)1962 733051

E: info@naturetrek.co.uk

W: www.naturetrek.co.uk

Tour participants: John Willsher (leader), Javier Manas (local guide, Gallocanta)
Manu (Santa Cilia, Vulture feeding) with six Naturetrek clients

Summary

We spent a very enjoyable week looking for the bird specialities of the Aragon region of Spain. We arrived to warm late afternoon sunshine at Zaragoza and were soon travelling south to Gallocanta, where we spent two full days searching for migrating Cranes and other species in the surrounding farmland and hills. We followed this with a day travelling north, stopping in the unique steppe-like habitat of the El Planeron reserve near Belchite, before arriving in Alquezar in the Sierra de Guara. This old medieval restored town was our base for nearly three full days spent exploring the gorges and uplands of this region of the pre-Pyrenees. We enjoyed several sightings of Wallcreepers plus spectacular views of feeding Vultures. The mostly beautiful warm sunny weather enhanced the many wonderful bird sightings and highlighted the gorgeous, colourful, autumn foliage provided by stands of bright yellow poplar trees, and the various shades of green, yellow and russet-red foliage of the vineyards. On the last day we returned to the airport via Vadiello, where we had brilliant sightings of two more Wallcreepers and a Golden Eagle. It was a great week of good company, warm weather, dramatic scenery and some amazing bird sightings.

Day 1

Wednesday 1st November

Stansted – Zaragoza - Gallocanta

The small group travelling from Stansted arrived in Zaragoza in the late afternoon and met up with John, who was waiting at the airport with minibus. We were soon on our way around Zaragoza and heading south on the Autovía Mudéjar. It was sunny and warm with a temperature still around 19°C. The landscape around the city and on our way south was very dry, as very little rain had fallen in this area of Spain for several months. We left the motorway south of the grape-growing town of Carinena, heading across arable country to the old walled town of Daroca. This led to a climb over the Puerto de Santed pass at 1,154 metres, then down to Gallocanta which lies in a basin at about 1,000 metres. As we arrived at our hotel in the village we could see the lake was dry, but could immediately hear many Cranes calling from the fields surrounding the dry lake-bed. We soon settled into our hotel and met our host Javier, who had organised a welcome of drinks and tapas.

Day 2

Thursday 2nd November

Gallocanta

We started out early on a calm and slightly overcast morning, with our guide Javier, who took us to a position looking from the north-west end of the lake at the La Reguera observation point, to be there at first light. We were soon in position as the sky was lightening with brilliant red sky over the hills to the east. We could hear many Cranes calling from the centre of the lake where they had spent the night. As it got lighter we could see large groups standing on the dried-up lake-bed, all the time calling to each other. We later learned that about 10,000 Cranes had roosted overnight. Some birds noisily started to fly out to the surrounding fields, but many stayed in the centre of the dried-up lake. Other early morning birds leaving their roosts in the reeds were Corn Buntings, Linnets and Tree Sparrows. Mixed flocks of Skylark and Corn Bunting passed over us. Marsh Harriers were seen with two sitting on the ground, plus two beautiful male Hen Harriers.

After breakfast, while John and Javier went off to Used for picnic supplies, the group visited the new interpretive centre, learning much about the unique features of the lake and the wildlife of the area. With lunch organised, we set off to explore the areas around the lake, beginning by travelling along lakeside tracks to the south-east end of the lake, scanning the arable fields hoping for sandgrouse. No sandgrouse were seen here, but we had more sightings of Sparrowhawk, Stonechats, Linnets and Goldfinch. We also noticed that many groups of Cranes were gaining height and heading off westwards.

The old interpretive centre was open and we enjoyed the view from the high observation platform, across the freshly cultivated arable fields towards the lake-bed. Two Black-bellied Sandgrouse were spotted rapidly flying away from the lake direction over the road and across arable fields to the east. Moving on, we passed Bello on the tarmac road but soon turned back onto the dirt tracks again, making a stop at a convenient picnic area to have lunch. It was now getting very warm after a cold frosty start, and heat haze was a problem as we watched a distant Iberian Shrike in a tree. After lunch we continued our clockwise circumnavigation, avidly scanning the flat wide landscape for another species that Javier had heard was still in the vicinity – Great Bustard. They leave the Gallocanta area at this time, heading further south. There were none today, but around the lake were a couple of small 'dew ponds'. At the first Linnets were in the vicinity, and at the water's edge we spotted a foraging Water Pipit.

Time was now getting on, but there was another speciality to look for. Javier had heard there were still some Little Bustards in the area north-west of the lake, so we set off along the gravel tracks to explore. Having travelled a few kilometres, we reach the main road having only seen several Little Owls. We turned back towards Gallocanta and again turned onto the gravel tracks meandering through the mostly freshly cultivated arable fields. Only a short distance later a group of Little Bustards were spotted in an uncultivated area with stubble and dead grasses. We managed to get out of the minibus without scaring them off and watched them for a while, counting 13 birds in total. We continued with our meandering through the freshly sown fields in the direction of Gallocanta, hoping to see the small group of Great Bustards seen in this area the previous week, but it seemed they had departed. It was now time for us to depart back to our hotel, where we enjoyed doing the checklist followed by a delicious dinner.

Day 3

Friday 3rd November

Gallocanta

Today we had another pre-dawn start, travelling about 20 kilometres south to a hilltop to listen for Dupont's Lark. We arrived while it was still dark and cool. We parked on the roadside and listened. Initially nothing was heard, but after a few minutes one distinctive song could be heard then, as a glimmer of light appeared in the east, we started to hear more birds. We assembled on the roadside, listening intently to the distinctive songs, trying to make out from which direction they came - from high in the sky or from across the low 'paramo' habitat. We walked along the road, drove on a little and estimated at least six had been singing but they all remained elusive. We had a fleeting glimpse of three birds close to the road but a poor photograph revealed them to be probable Thekla Larks. So after about an hour, when the Dupont's Lark's songs had finally diminished, we crossed the main road to a disused farmhouse where several bird species were active: Rock Sparrows, Tree Sparrows, numerous Linnets and Corn Buntings. We now needed to warm up so were all happy to return for a very welcome breakfast. We did however make a 'shortcut' on the gravel tracks and the highlight

was a big male Wild Boar, disturbed from its hiding place in a large mound of dead tumbleweed, next to the track. It ran off with a couple of backward glances in our direction.

In late morning, and now in warm sunshine, we set off in the direction of Berrueco, where we found many small birds: Woodlarks were singing from the wires, a Cirl Bunting, Tree Sparrows, Goldfinches and Serins. We walked to the tower hide of Canizar at the south-east end of the lake, where we watched numerous groups of Cranes which were noisily arriving from the north and descending to the lake-bed or close by. There was a hunting Hen Harrier and a solitary distant Great Bustard, and later two Marsh Harriers and a Merlin sitting on a rock. We travelled round past Bello and back onto the gravel tracks hoping to get a better view of the Great Bustard from a different viewpoint, but it could not be seen. However we were closer to hundreds of Cranes resting in the areas close to the lake-bed edge, and we saw a Great Spotted Woodpecker and a Red Kite. Slowly moving on around the lake-bed area we saw a Reed Bunting in one of the two 'dew ponds' which held a little fresh water. Flocks of Calandra Larks and Skylarks were active in the cultivated fields, and more Cranes were arriving. For our picnic we made for the north end of the lake up to La Ermita, a restored Romanesque building on top of a small hill overlooking the lake, with some good picnic tables.

Later we visited the small freshwater Laguna de Guialguerrero where there was a Grey Heron, Great Cormorant, Mallard and White Wagtails. Back in Gallocanta we had a walk behind the village up towards the hills to the north. It was beautiful evening light with Spotless Starlings, Rock Sparrows, Linnets and Serins seen. High above, still more groups of Cranes were arriving from the north. On the top of the hills the head and upperparts of a very distant sitting Golden Eagle could just be seen.

Day 4

Saturday 4th November

Gallocanta - El Planeron - Zaragoza – Alquezar

Today we left Gallocanta at about 9am, travelling north to Carinena then east. Just before Villanueva de Huerva, we turned south to investigate the Embalse de la Torcas - an area where Bonelli's Eagle has been seen in the past, but they were absent today. But we did hear a Dartford Warbler in the scrub and have a good view of a Golden Eagle soaring above the surrounding hills.

Our next stop was Belchite where we had a brief stop at the ruins of the old destroyed town, a memorial to the tragic circumstances of the Spanish civil war. After a refreshment stop we continued east beyond Coda, where a very distant soaring raptor proved a bit of a challenge - the consensus being that it was an immature Bonelli's Eagle. Photographs and Janice's excellent video supported this identification. We ate our picnic overlooking the wide sweep of El Planeron - a unique Steppe habitat with multicoloured cliffs of Gypsum, Red clays and Marls in the distance. Later we turned off the road onto gravel tracks for an exploration of El Planeron. This is a unique desert-like habitat, protected as a reserve for the many specialist species living there. We travelled through areas favoured by Dupont's Lark, hoping we might hear or hopefully glimpse a bird but all we saw at this quiet time of day and season was a Little Owl and a Marsh Harrier.

Soon we had to make our way back to Belchite then northwards, travelling through the gypsum steppes and hills towards Zaragoza. Then on northwards to Huesca, finally arriving at Alquezar just after 5pm in time to settle in and have a quick walk to the gorge viewpoint. It was beginning to get dark and the town was busy with weekend visitors. We did manage to see a few birds: Crag Martins, a Black Redstart and a Blue Rock Thrush. Later we met

in the hotel bar, enjoying a glass of the local Somantano wine before making the short walk to the hotel restaurant for a delicious Spanish meal.

Day 5

Sunday 5th November

Alquezar - Santa Cilia - Vero Gorge walk

We began with a pre-breakfast walk to the cliff viewpoint at first light, where it was cool and quiet. The first calls we heard were Rock Sparrows on the cliff, followed by a singing Black Redstart. Heart rates rose when a bird flitting about on the cliff was spotted. This proved not to be a Wallcreeper but an Alpine Accentor - a bit distant but we manage to get a little better view in the telescope. Later we had a look at the east-facing cliff and gained a little warmth from the early morning sunshine - as did the Hawfinch spotted in the top of a nearby tree. It was then time to get back for breakfast as we needed to leave at 8.45am to get to our rendezvous with the vultures at 10am.

After a superb breakfast we were on our way, with a quick stop for picnic supplies in Adahuesca then on to Santa Cilia, to meet up with Manu and his two daughters. He was waiting for us in the car park and we followed him in his vehicle up above the village, parked our vehicles and walked up towards the feeding area, through the aromatic maquis scrub of Rosemary, Juniper and Cistus. Initially there was no sign of any vultures, but as we climbed they started amassing in the sky above us and our excitement increased as an adult Bearded Vulture drifted over. Many Griffon Vultures were now gathering and before we reached the feeding area the vultures were already dropping down onto the ground. We sat down at the edge of a bare rocky area, with long distant views over the beautiful surrounding countryside. Before Manu even started distributing his wheelbarrow-load of butcher's waste, vultures continued to land all around him. We were soon up close and personal with at least 200 vultures as they vied with each other for the food. We watched in amazement as these large birds, only a few metres from us, devoured the scraps. Manu rationed the food - keeping some back, which he periodically offered as titbits, which some birds took directly from his hand. He chided them if they got too greedy and rough with their neighbours.

As things quietened down, we withdrew to 100 metres or so, hoping a Bearded Vulture might appear. We waited awhile, enjoying the view and with the vultures still hanging around the feeding area. Eventually we had to make our way back downhill towards our minibus, but just as we had started back, two Bearded Vultures appeared over the feeding area - we had left too soon!. Then as we were walking down, a third bird appeared overhead. In the village Theresa, of the Guara Park authority, facilitated the excellent diorama showing the dependency of each species on each other in the food chain of the region. It had been an unforgettable morning but we had to leave. We thanked Manu for allowing us to share the feeding spectacle of his vultures and to witness his dedication to their protection.

Part way back we stopped at a viewpoint overlooking the sandstone and conglomerate cliffs of Huevo de Morrano and ate our picnic. A Sparrowhawk sped past and numerous Crag Martins flew around the cliffs, which today had only a few Griffon Vultures on the ledges. On the way back to Alquezar we stopped at the Rio Alcanadre bridge with the old mill building. A Grey Wagtail was feeding below the weir, but our gaze was distracted skywards, as two more Bearded Vultures were spotted soaring above and photographs revealed one had wing tag markers, so definitely a different bird than those seen earlier.

Back in Alquezar we met up for another look at the cliffs hoping for Wallcreeper, but we had to be content with the usual Black Redstarts and noisy Red-billed Choughs. In the hotel bar later we enjoyed adding to our the checklist after what had been a good day.

Day 6

Monday 6th November

Alquezar - Vero Gorge

As yesterday, we met just before dawn on a cold clear still morning and walked through the town towards the promenade overlooking the cliff wall above the Vero Gorge. We searched the cliff and its caves as it slowly lightened, but it was very quiet with little activity and no sign of that elusive Wallcreeper, so we walked to the eastern viewpoint, searching again the vertical cliff above the Rio Vero. Ian and Diane were already there and had seen a Hawfinch. There was more bird activity here in the warming sunshine with Crag Martins, Blue Rock Thrush, a male Blackcap and Red-billed Choughs. The sun was higher now so it was time to check the first cliff again, as the top half was bathed in the sunshine. Immediately Ian and Diane spotted a Wallcreeper just left of the big cave! We all managed to get a good view before it flew down towards the river and out of sight. We returned for breakfast in good spirits and enjoyed a delicious spread of tortilla, tomatoes in oil, toast, croissants and a variety of local jams, freshly squeezed orange juice, coffee and tea.

Our first stop today, after picking up some picnic supplies, was the old Romanesque Vero Bridge, which we admired along with the riverside poplar trees, now turning a golden yellow. We searched the river for Dipper but the water was very low and there was no sign today. We did hear a Siskin calling overhead and a Short-toed Treecreeper was spotted on a riverside poplar. We drove on through Colungo, and then stopped at Puente las Gargantas, a bridge high above a gorge mostly comprised of conglomerate-type rock - another Wallcreeper hotspot. We searched the walls of the gorge extensively but sadly no success here apart from a Black Redstart and a calling Sardinian Warbler. We did notice other features of the gorge; the walls were dotted with the large basal rosettes of Pyrenean Saxifrage (*Saxifraga longifolia*) which have dramatic plumes of tiny white flowers in the spring, and straggly tufts of a very local, endemic plant *Petrocoptis guarensis*. A Strawberry Tree (*Arbutus unedo*) at the parking spot had numerous 'strawberry' fruits, and other roadside flowers included Blue Lettuce (*Lactuca perennis*) and Rosemary.

Further north at Mirador del Vero, a good viewpoint overlooking another part of the Vero Gorge, we had a clear view of the high Pyrenees to the north - the highest white with snow. In the gorge a few Griffon Vultures were loafing around on the ledges, caves and limestone stacks areas which in spring have many birds nesting. We continued northwards several miles hoping to find a good picnic spot. A side turning to Eripol looked a good place to stop and assess how much further we should go before turning back. As we stopped we realised we must be close to a vulture feed as they were all around in the air and sitting on rocky promontories. Many had red heads - the result of recent feeding on a carcass. We could not see the dead animal but it must have been quite big as a large number of vultures were now drifting off, apparently replete. We retraced our steps back towards Mirador del Vero where we had our picnic then walked through pinewoods to the edge of the gorge at El Tozal de Mallata to admire the view down the gorge, and to look at one example of the numerous cave paintings that are preserved and protected in this area.

We returned to Alquezar in late afternoon with everyone then free to explore the town on their own: to enjoy another view of the cliffs, climb up to the citadel or for lucky Juliet, enjoy watching a Wallcreeper in the sunshine above her, on the walls of the citadel for several minutes!

There was plenty to catch up on for our evening pre-dinner drink, and our last evening dinner in Alquezar included an excellent paella.

Day 7

Tuesday 7th November

Alquezar - Sierra de Tramaced - Vadiello - Zaragoza

It was another cool clear morning as we checked the cliffs and the citadel walls one more time before breakfast. The usual noisy choughs flew up to the citadel, declaring their territory and Blue Rock Thrush, Rock Sparrow and Black Redstart were active on the cliffs, but sadly no Wallcreeper.

After another splendid breakfast and our farewells to Gervasio, we were soon on our way. It was a beautiful, clear morning with views of the Sierra Guara and the distant high Pyrenees. We travelled towards Huesca then north to Vadiello dam for a last attempt to see Wallcreeper. This is a well known spot for this species in winter. However before we reached the dam, just as we drove into a short tunnel, Ian (chief spotter today - in the front seat) saw a Wallcreeper just above the tunnel entrance. Our passage disturbed it and it flew down out of sight. We stopped at the other end of the tunnel, hoping we might see it on the cliff below. We watched for a while then unexpectedly, one arrived from our right and landed on the cliff right above us. It continued searching for food on the cliff for several minutes and we all had excellent views. Some of us managed to get photographs and Janice got some brilliant video.

Eventually it flew out of sight, so we continued to the dam car park. We walked down, searching the dam wall and cliffs around the base of the dam, then a Wallcreeper was spotted in the shadow on the rock face below the dam. We watched it flitting its way around on the cliff, then it moved onto the dam itself, at one point working its way up to the lip of high dam, just below some people at the top, oblivious of its presence. Some of us climbed the numerous steps to the top but we were too late and it flew off over the dam. A Golden Eagle was then spotted soaring with the numerous Griffon Vultures over one of the rock pinnacles above us.

After such a feast of sightings it was now time for lunch! We found a good spot just a little way down the valley where there was a log to sit on and a Crested Tit in the trees above – perfect!

When we finished it was time to make our way south to Zaragoza and our flight home. It was a very successful last day and as always, the enthusiasm of the group contributed enormously to the success and enjoyment of the whole trip.

Receive our e-newsletter

Join the Naturetrek e-mailing list and be the first to hear about new tours, additional departures and new dates, tour reports and special offers. Visit www.naturetrek.co.uk to sign up.

Species Lists

Birds (✓=recorded but not counted; H = heard only)

	Common name	Scientific name	November						
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	☐		✓	✓	☐	☐	
2	Red-legged Partridge	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>		4	H				☐
3	Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	2						
4	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	1		1	1			
5	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>							✓
6	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>			8	4			✓
7	Bearded Vulture	<i>Gypaetus barbatus</i>					5		
8	Griffon Vulture	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>		6	3	✓	300+	✓	✓
9	Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>			1	1			1
10	Bonelli's Eagle	<i>Aquila fasciata</i>				1			
11	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>				2	1	1	
12	Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>		3	4	1			☐
13	Hen Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>		3	3	1		☐	☐
14	Red Kite	<i>Milvus milvus</i>		2	3	1	1	4	✓
15	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	1	1				1	3
16	Great Bustard	<i>Otis tarda</i>			1				
17	Little Bustard	<i>Tetrax tetrax</i>		13					
18	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>				4			1
19	Common Crane	<i>Grus grus</i>	✓	10000	✓	✓		☐	
20	Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>				1			☐
21	Black-bellied Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles orientalis</i>		2					☐
22	Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	☐	✓	☐	✓	✓	✓	✓
23	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	✓	☐	☐	✓	☐	☐	☐
24	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	☐	☐	2	✓	✓	✓	☐
25	Tawny Owl	<i>Strix aluco</i>				H	H		
26	Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>	1	6		1			☐
27	Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>		1		1	1	1	
28	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>		✓	4	✓	1	✓	2
29	Merlin	<i>Falco columbarius</i>			1				
30	Southern Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius meridionalis</i>		4	1	1			
31	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>			☐	2	1	☐	☐
32	Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	✓			✓			✓
33	Red-billed Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>		H		☐	4	✓	✓
34	Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>				✓			
35	Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	☐
36	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>			5	☐	2	✓	
37	European Crested Tit	<i>Lophophanes cristatus</i>					☐		1
38	Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		☐	1		2	✓	
39	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		☐	☐		1	✓	
40	Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>			3	☐	☐		☐
41	Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>		✓	✓	✓	☐	☐	☐
42	Thekla Lark	<i>Galerida theklae</i>			3		☐	☐	☐
43	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>		✓	✓	✓	☐	☐	☐
44	Calandra Lark	<i>Melanocorypha calandra</i>		✓	✓		☐	☐	☐
45	Dupont's Lark	<i>Chersophilus duponti</i>			H6+				
46	Eurasian Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>	☐	☐	☐	✓	✓	✓	
47	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>		1	3			☐	

	Common name	Scientific name	November							
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
48	Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>		1						
49	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>				1			1	
50	Dartford Warbler	<i>Sylvia undata</i>				H	1			
51	Sardinian Warbler	<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>			1	1	H	H		
52	Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>					1	1		
53	Wallcreeper	<i>Tichodroma muraria</i>							2	2
54	Short-toed Treecreeper	<i>Certhia brachydactyla</i>							1	
55	Spotless Starling	<i>Sturnus unicolor</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
56	Alpine Accentor	<i>Prunella collaris</i>	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	1	☐
57	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	☐		4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
58	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	☐			☐	☐		1	☐
59	Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>	☐	☐	6					
60	European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>		☐	1	☐	1	✓	✓	☐
61	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	☐	3	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
62	Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>			☐	1			2	
63	European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>		4	✓	✓	☐			
64	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	☐	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
65	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>		✓	✓		☐	☐	☐	
66	Rock Sparrow	<i>Petronia petronia</i>		✓	✓		☐	✓	☐	
67	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>				1	1			
68	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>		✓	2		4	✓	☐	
69	Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>		✓	✓	✓	☐	☐	☐	
70	Water Pipit	<i>Anthus spinoletta</i>		☐	☐	☐	1	☐	☐	
71	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		☐	3	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
72	Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>					1	7		
73	Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>		✓	✓	☐	☐	☐	☐	
74	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	☐	☐	✓	☐	☐	☐	☐	
75	European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>			4			✓	☐	
76	Eurasian Siskin	<i>Spinus spinus</i>					1	☐	☐	
77	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>		✓	✓	✓	☐	☐	☐	
78	Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>			2					
79	Common Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>			1					

Mammals

1	Roe Deer	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>							9	
2	Red Deer	<i>Cervus elaphus</i>				☐	1			

Butterflies

1	Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>		✓	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	
2	Bath White	<i>Pontia daplidice</i>			1			1		
3	Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias crocea</i>	☐	✓	✓	☐	✓	✓	☐	
4	Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>		✓			☐	☐		
5	Long-tailed Blue	<i>Lampides boeticus</i>		☐		1				
6	Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>			1		☐	☐		
7	Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>		1						
8	Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓		

Moths

1	Humming-bird Hawk-moth	<i>Macroglossum stellatarum</i>		☐	☐	☐		1	☐	
---	------------------------	---------------------------------	--	---	---	---	--	---	---	--

	Common name	Scientific name	November						
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Other Species

1	Common Darter	<i>Sympetrum striolatum</i>		✓					
2	Migrant Hawker	<i>Aeshna mixta</i>		✓					
3	Blue-winged grasshopper	<i>Oedipoda caerulea</i>		✓			✓	✓	
4	Great Green Bushcricket	<i>Tettigonia viridissima</i>		1				1	
5	Ruby-tailed Wasp	<i>Chrysis ignita</i>		1					
6	7-Spot Ladybird	<i>Coccinella septempunctata</i>							

Naturetrek Facebook

We are delighted to launch the Naturetrek Facebook page so that participants of Naturetrek tours can remain in touch after the holiday and share photos, comments and future travel plans.

Setting up a personal profile at www.facebook.com is quick, free and easy. The [Naturetrek Facebook page](#) is now live; do please pay us a visit!



Late autumn sunshine at Gallocanta