

# Spring Birding in Sicily

Naturetrek Tour Report

24 - 30 April 2014



Common Kestrel



Ortigia at night



Trek up Mount Etna



Greater Flamingo

Report compiled by Dave Nevitt  
Photos provided by Tony Maynard-Smith



Naturetrek Cheriton Mill Cheriton Alresford Hampshire SO24 0NG England

T: +44 (0)1962 733051

F: +44 (0)1962 736426

E: [info@naturetrek.co.uk](mailto:info@naturetrek.co.uk)

W: [www.naturetrek.co.uk](http://www.naturetrek.co.uk)

Tour Leaders:                    Dave Nevitt                    Ornithologist/Naturalist  
   Ian Nicholson                Ornithologist/Naturalist

Participants                    George Oxendale  
   Jim Taylor  
   Joe Chamberlain  
   Janet Barber  
   Peter Johnson  
   Janice Johnson  
   Tony Maynard-Smith  
   Katie Maynard-Smith  
   Nick Shutt  
   Corinne Shutt  
   Laura Ettrick  
   Christine Emery

## Day 1

Thursday 24th April

We had an early flight departure from Gatwick. The flight was on time and all the party arrived safely. On the flight we were fortunate in having good views of Vesuvius and then the snow-capped Mount Etna as the flight descended. After loading up in our minibuses, we left Catania and made the hour's journey to the Case del Feudo, seeing several White Storks on their nests on the journey. As we arrived, roadworks thwarted our exit off the main road but we soon found a way round and worked our way along the rural track to our destination. We were welcomed by Baron Pietro, our host for the week, and Jassin who was to look after our day to day needs. Having settled in to our wonderful rooms, we assembled for our "light lunch" of sumptuous pasta and spicy meatballs. As we ate our almond cakes, we marvelled at the relaxed rustic setting of our accommodation. In glorious sunshine we sampled for the first time the superb wines which are made on the premises. What a welcome!

After lunch, we had some time to unpack or relax, and then as it cooled down a bit we assembled for a walk around the property. We were soon clocking the common Sardinian Warbler, Italian Sparrows and overhead Common Swifts. There were a lot of migrant birds about – the vineyards held many splendid Whinchats and Wheatear while Woodchat Shrikes stood sentinel atop bushes and fences. We were serenaded by several Nightingales as the less subtle Cetti's Warblers belted out their songs. A couple of Spotted Flycatchers were feeding from exposed perches and our first Golden Oriole flew by. You had to be quick to pick these up, and several times as Dave called "Golden Oriole", everyone span round to see where it was! A female Pied Flycatcher was feeding in some almond trees and then a loud sneeze put up a Stone Curlew from one of the more open vineyards! Suddenly the sky was alive with the bubbling calls of Bee-eaters and there were broad grins all round as we watched over 60 of these magnificent birds spiralling across the sky. What a wonderful start to our week!

We returned, musing at the incredible list of birds which we had seen within 500m of our accommodation! After aperitifs and canapés of local cold meats and cheeses, we took our first evening meal. What a sumptuous feast we enjoyed, aubergine pasta with assorted fish together with the Baron's wines, to end a great day. We retired, tired but replete.

## Day 2

## Friday 25th April

As we had put the moth trap on last night, we had a look at our catch. The Geometrician, Lustrous Least Carpet and Four-spotted were the highlights.

After a lovely continental breakfast we left for the coast and our first destination of the week – Capo Murro di Porco - for a relaxing walk. We stopped at the supermarket on the way to pick up our picnic, then, in glorious sun we arrived at the Capo. We walked across the headland towards the lighthouse, getting good views of Fan-tailed Warblers (or Zitting Cisticolas if you prefer!) and Whinchats sitting atop the vegetation. Sardinian Warblers were singing from the undergrowth and we saw several of them. A migrating Marsh Harrier passed overhead, followed by a Honey Buzzard. An Ortolan Bunting called as it flew overhead but sadly it kept on going. Another Marsh Harrier came in off the sea and a superb Woodchat Shrike sat on top of the bushes for all to admire him.

Arriving at the lighthouse, we all had a geology lesson from Dave as this is an excellent example of limestone pavement. Bee-eaters coming in over our heads tried to distract Dave from his talk but we got there in the end! A Short-toed Lark flew by singing a couple of times as we all gazed out to sea to see if there was anything passing by. Two Scopoli's Shearwaters were our prize, plus good views of the Crested Larks which were singing all around us and we found a Pigmy Skipper butterfly. Walking north towards a walled area through the Dwarf Fan Palms (*Chamaerops humilis*) we started to see Northern Wheatears, and then we were delighted to see both male and female Black-eared Wheatear – a gorgeous bird. Holly Blue and Common Blue butterflies were also added to the list.

Arriving back at the buses, we all had some water as it was quite hot, then we moved on to Pepe's Bar in Isola where Dave and Ian prepared our first picnic lunch as the group enjoyed a drink at the bar. After our lunch we partook of a coffee and gelato at Pepe's as the sun was quite strong now. Scoping the bay, we added a distant Audouin's Gull and some Sandwich Terns on the mussel pontoons.

As it had cooled down a bit, we moved on to the Saline di Siracusa. It was still rather a shock for some to come from cool Britain to warm temperatures, so some stayed at the buses as the rest of the group pressed on. Coots were tending their nests on the reed edges and both Cattle and Little Egrets flew by. A lovely Little Tern was a jolly find as it searched for small fish in the lagoons. On the shore we found some Kentish Plovers but our way was barred by a new fence so by common consensus we returned to cool down with a swim in the pool and relax. As we arrived back, we greeted Janet who had just arrived as she had taken today's flight. We went through the checklist before dinner, enjoying a glass of wine and canapés at the same time. Our dinner of lasagne followed by beef was another winner and we all enjoyed an early night.

## Day 3

## Saturday 26th April

Rain had been forecast overnight so we had not put the moth trap on. However this overnight rain was a boon for the early morning walk led by Ian. Clearly there had been an overnight “fall” of migrating birds being grounded, as there were over 20 Spotted Flycatchers, 5 Pied Flycatchers, 2+ cracking Wood Warblers, 4 Garden Warblers and several Turtle Doves. A great haul for the lucky early risers!

We breakfasted at 07:30 and left at 08:30, heading south towards Avola. Exiting the motorway, we took the wiggly road west, climbing steadily until we came to the viewpoint with an amazing view down to the coast. Here it was very exposed to the strong wind but we persevered and had soon clocked a Peregrine over a mountainous ridge which was obviously being used by raptors as a migration route as we also had several Buzzards and a Kestrel there. A Wryneck was singing on the hill facing us, giving many their first chance to hear the distinctive ringing song. This is a good site for Rock Sparrow and after some patience we eventually all had good views of this specialist species in the telescope. A Cirl Bunting was singing away but our efforts to find it were unsuccessful. Sardinian Warblers were singing in the valley and a Blue Rock Thrush was seen by one lucky member of the group. We tried the Rock Partridge tape but it was somewhat optimistic in the wind and there was no response. We drove on, climbing to the top of the ridge. The terrain was of open limestone meadows and we stopped to view a Corn Bunting in a tree.

Arriving at the Cava Grande car park, we were presented with the most spectacular view down hundreds of metres into the canyon. After a loo stop, we checked out the gorge to see if there was anything to see. Very soon we were on to a distant male Blue Rock Thrush and we all admired him in the scopes. Moving on to an old house overlooking the gorge, we again found a Blue Rock Thrush but much closer this time, so that we could all see him properly! A little further on and we started looking for the specialist of the area – Spectacled Warbler. It was still very windy so we weren't too hopeful but we gave it our best shot and after some time waiting, we eventually got to have excellent views of a singing male atop grass stems and small almond trees. Some even managed to get photos of this special little warbler.

Elated, we headed back to the buses where Ian and Dave prepared the picnic lunch. Some took a look at the orchids in the adjoining meadow before we boarded the buses for our descent. We headed for the Siracusa historic site to view the fantastic Greek and Roman remains there. We got our tickets then drove round to the leafy car park where Dave looked after the buses whilst the group spent several hours soaking up the atmosphere of the ruins. All enjoyed this, and even managed a little birding on the site with two Wood Sandpipers, and many Pied and Spotted Flycatchers. Arriving back at the buses, our timing was just right as it started to rain. We arrived back in good time to relax before species checklists and another wonderful dinner.

## Day 4

## Sunday 27th April

The rain of late yesterday continued overnight but had cleared by the morning. After breakfast we headed north through the rather unsightly petrochemical works to our pleasant destination of Penisola Magnisi. We parked the buses by the shore and after admiring the Little Terns fishing offshore, we walked on to the peninsular.

Woodchat Shrikes were sat atop fences and the low vegetation was alive with migrating Whinchats accompanied by a few Northern Wheatears. Whitethroats churred from the vegetation and Zitting Cisticolas, now a familiar bird to us all, sang all around. A Marsh Harrier and a Buzzard migrated northwards, a Turtle Dove flew through northwards and we picked out some Pallid Swifts from the many Common Swifts. In the small clump of bushes we waited to see if any migrants would appear and a few Spotted Flycatchers sallied forth to catch insects. A little further on and an obliging Richard's Pipit came up from the thistles and we all watched it as it fed.

Walking down the track, some group members had our first encounter with Stone Curlews as a couple of them took flight. We then stopped to try our luck with Calandra Larks. We could hear several of them singing away very high up, their buzzing song standing out from the Skylarks and Crested Larks. After much squinting skywards we eventually got on to several of them and all saw their funny shape, the dark underwings and the white trailing edge to the wing.

As we headed northwards across the island, we then saw a regular stream of Calandra Larks, seeing several quite close. We had several more sightings of Stone Curlew in flight and tried to pin down where they had dropped down so that we could locate them on the ground. But that was, as we well knew, a fruitless task as they are masters at hiding with their cryptic plumage, and we just succeeded in getting a bit closer to them before they flew up again. A couple of Shelducks flew past on the sea, and we saw several Northern Wheatears on the way back to the buses.

We then adjourned to the nearby town of Priolo Gargallo for a comfort stop and a nice coffee before returning to the beach for our picnic lunch. A Mediterranean Gull was spotted as we ate our lunch. We then visited the Saline di Priolo reserve, a wonderful place with excellent hides overlooking the old salinas which have been sculpted into islands for nesting birds. The place was alive with birds – a Purple Heron flew by as we admired the Flamingos in the background. The islands were humming with nesting birds – Little Terns, Black-winged Stilts, Kentish Plovers and Avocets. Reed Warblers and a couple of Marsh Warblers sang from the reeds and bushes and we saw Purple Swamp-hen in the edge of the reedbed. There were waders everywhere, stopping for a refuel on their way to the Arctic to breed – we saw many Little Stints, Ruff and Wood Sandpipers, plus two Curlew Sandpipers, Grey Plover and Greenshank. Two Slender-billed Gulls were also a nice find and a Little Gull sat near the hide. To finish it off, a Blue-headed Wagtail added some colour to the proceedings! What a feast of birds we had enjoyed and on the return all the talk was of the wonderful waders we had seen. Another sumptuous dinner followed before bed.

## Day 4

**Monday 28th April**

We were up with the lark and breakfasted early for our 07:00 departure to Mount Etna. We headed off northwards, again encountering several White Storks on their pylon nests on the journey. As we drove, the bus was quiet as we could see that Etna was shrouded in cloud. Would it clear in time? An hour and a half later we stopped for a photo opportunity at the foot-slopes of Etna as the cloud had cleared a bit and this might be the only opportunity we get. A Cuckoo was calling and we also saw one fly across the road.

More troubling than the cloud was the very strong wind, and as we got to the Rifugio Sapienza Dave went to see if the cable car was running as the group prepared their rucksacks. Dave emerged – with tickets! The cable car was not running because of the wind, but there was a 4x4 bus running to the top of the cable car run. We got excited again as we were going up after all! The bus drove us up very windy tracks to the top of the cable car. Here it was extremely cold – 0C – and with gale force winds. We bought gloves in the shop as it was so cold, then we walked further up the track to get a better view. But it was so cold that after the obligatory photos, we soon thought better of it and retreated back to the café.

We saw that buses had now started to run further up the mountain. So, after negotiating the Italian procedures to buying tickets, we eventually got on the next bus. Arriving at the top viewing point, we walked across the snowfields and had views of the sulphur deposits around the top volcanic cone. Dave gave us a talk on the geology of the area as we huddled out of the cold in a small dip. That was quite enough so we returned down to the café where we took lunch – paninis and cakes, with hot coffee to warm us up. We then took the bus back down – in the car park we soon found out that it was still very windy and cold even though we were a lot lower.

We stopped in a layby a little further down but it was so windy that there was not a bird there. So we went further down to the pine woods, looking for some shelter. Here we soon saw two Hooded Crows and a couple of chilly looking Northern Wheatears. A fine male Black Redstart looked very smart and we saw some Coal Tits in the pines. A male Firecrest did the decent thing and showed himself to the group, as did a brilliant Short-toed Treecreeper. We tried to call in Rock Buntings but it was just too windy – then, just as we were turning round to return, one came in – but only showed himself to Ian before flying off! We heard Crossbills flying over and saw Linnets and Chaffinches before it was time to head for home. After the long drive back, we arrived in need of refreshment and that is just what we received aplenty with another lovely dinner. All agreed that, whilst it was disappointing that we had not got right to the top, it had been a memorable day up Etna!

## Day 5

Tuesday 29th April

Those who got up early for the pre-breakfast walk were delighted to not only hear but also to see Nightingale, as well as a Hoopoe and THREE Golden Orioles! What a great start to the day! We departed at 08:30 to explore the lakes and headlands of the most southerly part of the island. Our first stop was the lake at Pantano Morghella on the east coast. Here we saw Greenshank on the mud, along with a Bartailed Godwit that we were able to use as an ID workshop! Also here were Coots, two splendid Ferruginous Ducks, Common Sandpipers and Shelducks.

We stopped in Pachino for a coffee and comfort stop but our usual bar had closed down! However we found a replacement and were soon on our way again – next stop Pantano Cuba. It was still windy here but sunny. We saw a Corn Bunting singing on top of a bush and heard Water Rail squealing its distinctive call from the reeds. Ferruginous Ducks were in evidence on the lake and afforded much better views than at Morghella. 30 Ruff were swimming in shallow water in the distance, causing some initial identification problems!

Then four Caspian Terns came in and circled around, Pallid Swifts were identified as they flew around us and both Reed Warbler and Great Reed Warbler sang briefly in the reeds despite the strong wind. Both Kestrel and Sparrowhawk flew over us at height, enabling us to get to grips with their ID criteria.

We then moved on to Pantano Longarini where we had Woodchat Shrike and Whinchats in a field before finding a Marsh Harrier, Great White Egret and some cute baby Coots. As we listened to Reed Warblers singing, a Gull-billed Tern flew by – what a treat! A Yellow Wagtail flew past calling and two Gadwalls were admired on the water. As we drove along the road, we picked up a splendid Squacco Heron on the water's edge, followed shortly after by Purple Heron. A Wood Sandpiper showed very close, then three more Gull-billed Terns appeared. Time was pressing on so we adjourned to the beach to enjoy our picnic lunch out of the wind a bit. Here we found Greenshank, Kentish Plover and Dunlin whilst offshore Little Terns were fishing.

We then moved on to Portopalo harbour where our main quarry, the Audouin's Gull, showed very well as soon as we got there. It was good to compare it with the Yellow-legged Gulls which it was consorting with. We looked offshore for shearwaters but none were showing today. There was time for a quick ice-cream in Portopalo before returning to our accommodation where we packed for our return the next day, and then put on our best togs for the evening's special event. We drove to Ortigia where we were soon in the luxurious surroundings of the Baron's abode. We had a wonderful evening being regaled by fascinating stories about the history of the building and of the Baron's family. This was followed by a gorgeous seafood risotto meal which rounded off another definite highlight of the trip for all.

## Day 6

## Wednesday 30th April

We had a leisurely start today to enable us to complete our packing. We were all still buzzing from the excitement of last night. We headed south to the extensive marshes of Vendicari, stopping at Cassibile on the way to buy our picnic bread. Arriving at Vendicari there were many coaches and school children but we pressed on to the car park which was quieter and we were greeted by the beautiful purring of Turtle Doves, a summer sound now sadly missing from many places back home. As we walked along the track to the sound of Cetti's Warblers singing, we were soon at the first hides. Here there was a feast of water birds and waders. Four Spoonbills were very popular and Flamingos waded in the water in the distance. The many waders included lots of Wood Sandpipers and Ruff, Curlew Sandpipers in their smart orange summer plumage, and it was nice to compare Kentish, Ringed and Little Ringed Plovers. Two Grey Plovers were crowd pleasers, the Little Terns added character and Gull-billed Tern a touch of spice.

The many Black-winged Stilts were very popular too and a Great White Egret flew over the reeds in the distance. Outside the hide, Dave was hearing the shrill call of the Penduline Tit but was unable to locate them, much to everyone's disappointment. Then there it was – a nest hanging down from one of the waterside willows! We were spellbound as we watched the birds going backwards and forwards to their nest – what special little birds they are! We then took the boardwalk and heard Reed Warblers on the way to the beach, where we were surrounded by school children. So we pressed on to the next hide where we saw more Black-winged Stilts, Great Crested Grebes, a Squacco Heron and a Ruff. The highlight for many was the fly-past by a group of Flamingos.

On our return we were treated to a very confiding Kestrel that sat in a very close bush enabling us to see every minute detail of its plumage in the telescope. We visited Peter's tower and the old fish factory and got excellent views of some Spoonbills feeding very close, plus another 25 Ruff and a Marsh Harrier. Ian and Dave returned to the minibuses to prepare the packed lunch which we all enjoyed under the shade of some convenient orange and lemon trees in the beautiful sunshine, to the purring of Turtle Doves.

We gathered as a group to summarise the trip and headed back to the Case del Feudo where we got changed and freshened up for our journey, loaded the cases into the minibuses and set off reluctantly for the airport. We again saw the White Storks but otherwise the journey was uneventful and we were in good time for our flight home. What an amazing week we had experienced; fantastic weather, a stunning selection of birds that performed so very well for us all, and a group of lovely people!

A group is only as good as the people who form it and thanks must go to all the group members who got on so well together, sharing knowledge and stories to enhance the overall enjoyment of the trip. Ian and Dave hope that everyone had an enjoyable week, seeing many new species on a beautiful island. We look forward to seeing you all on your next Naturetrek 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](http://www.naturetrek.co.uk) to sign up.

## 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](http://www.facebook.com) is quick, free and easy. The [Naturetrek Facebook page](#) is now live; do please pay us a visit!



## Species List

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

|    | Common name            | Scientific name                      | April |    |    |     |    |     |    |
|----|------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------|----|----|-----|----|-----|----|
|    |                        |                                      | 24    | 25 | 26 | 27  | 28 | 29  | 30 |
| 1  | Shelduck               | <i>Tadorna tadorna</i>               |       |    |    | 4   |    | 20+ | 10 |
| 2  | Mallard                | <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>            | ✓     | ✓  |    | ✓   |    | ✓   | ✓  |
| 3  | Gadwall                | <i>Anas strepera</i>                 |       |    |    |     | 4  |     |    |
| 4  | Pochard                | <i>Anas ferina</i>                   |       |    |    |     |    | 1   |    |
| 5  | Ferruginous Duck       | <i>Aythya nyroca</i>                 |       |    |    |     |    | 9+  |    |
| 6  | Little Grebe           | <i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>        |       |    |    |     |    | H   |    |
| 7  | Great Crested Grebe    | <i>Podiceps cristatus</i>            |       | 2  |    | 1   |    | 3   | 20 |
| 8  | Scopoli's Shearwater   | <i>Calonectris diomedea diomedea</i> |       | 2  |    |     |    |     |    |
| 9  | Cormorant              | <i>Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis</i>  |       |    |    |     |    |     | 1  |
| 10 | Cattle Egret           | <i>Bubulcus ibis</i>                 | 1     | 1  |    |     |    |     |    |
| 11 | Squacco Heron          | <i>Ardeola ralloides</i>             |       |    |    |     |    | 1   | 1  |
| 12 | Little Egret           | <i>Egretta garzetta</i>              |       | ✓  |    | ✓   |    | ✓   | ✓  |
| 13 | Great Egret            | <i>Casmerodius albus</i>             |       |    |    |     |    | 2   | 3  |
| 14 | Grey Heron             | <i>Ardea cinerea</i>                 |       |    |    | 1   |    | 3   |    |
| 15 | Purple Heron           | <i>Ardea purpurea</i>                |       |    |    | 1   |    | 1   |    |
| 16 | White Stork            | <i>Ciconia ciconia</i>               | 4     |    |    |     | 3  |     | 4  |
| 17 | Spoonbill              | <i>Platalea leucorodia</i>           |       |    |    |     |    |     | 10 |
| 18 | Greater Flamingo       | <i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>         |       |    |    | 100 |    |     | 40 |
| 19 | Common Kestrel         | <i>Falco tinnunculus</i>             | ✓     | ✓  | ✓  | ✓   | ✓  | ✓   | ✓  |
| 20 | Peregrine              | <i>Falco peregrinus</i>              |       |    | 1  |     |    |     |    |
| 21 | Marsh Harrier          | <i>Circus aeruginosus</i>            |       | 3  |    | 1   |    | 2   | 2  |
| 22 | Common Buzzard         | <i>Buteo buteo</i>                   | 1     |    | 8  | 1   | 1  |     | 1  |
| 23 | European Honey Buzzard | <i>Pernis apivorus</i>               |       | 1  |    |     |    |     |    |
| 24 | Eurasian Sparrowhawk   | <i>Accipiter nisus</i>               |       |    |    |     |    | 1   |    |
| 25 | Water Rail             | <i>Rallus aquaticus</i>              |       |    |    |     |    | 2H  | H  |
| 26 | Common Moorhen         | <i>Gallinula chloropus</i>           |       |    | H  | ✓   |    | ✓   | ✓  |
| 27 | Eurasian Coot          | <i>Fulica atra</i>                   |       | ✓  |    | ✓   |    | ✓   | ✓  |
| 28 | Purple Swamp-hen       | <i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>           |       |    |    | 1   |    |     |    |
| 29 | Eurasian Oystercatcher | <i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>         |       |    |    |     |    | 2   |    |
| 30 | Pied Avocet            | <i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>        |       |    |    | 6   |    |     | 10 |
| 31 | Black-winged Stilt     | <i>Himantopus himantopus</i>         |       |    |    | 50+ |    | 10  | 20 |
| 32 | Stone Curlew           | <i>Burhinus oedicephalus</i>         | 1     |    |    | 8+  |    |     |    |
| 33 | Little Ringed Plover   | <i>Charadrius dubius</i>             |       |    |    |     |    |     | 3  |
| 34 | Ringed Plover          | <i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>          |       |    |    | 4+  |    |     | 8  |
| 35 | Kentish Plover         | <i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>       |       | 2  |    | 15  |    | 2   | 1  |
| 36 | Grey Plover            | <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>          |       |    |    | 1   |    | 1   | 3  |
| 37 | Dunlin                 | <i>Calidris alpina</i>               |       |    |    | 2   |    | 1   | 4  |
| 38 | Curlew Sandpiper       | <i>Calidris ferruginea</i>           |       |    |    | 2   |    |     | 15 |
| 39 | Little Stint           | <i>Calidris minuta</i>               |       |    |    | 30+ |    | 7   | 15 |
| 40 | Wood Sandpiper         | <i>Tringa glareola</i>               |       | 8  | 2  | 15+ |    | 10+ | 20 |
| 41 | Common Sandpiper       | <i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>            |       |    |    | 6   |    | 2   | 2  |
| 42 | Green Sandpiper        | <i>Tringa ochropus</i>               |       |    |    | 1   |    |     |    |
| 43 | Common Greenshank      | <i>Tringa nebularia</i>              |       |    |    | 4   |    | 2   | 1  |
| 44 | Common Redshank        | <i>Tringa totanus</i>                |       |    |    |     |    | 1   |    |
| 45 | Bar-tailed Godwit      | <i>Limosa lapponica</i>              |       |    |    |     | 1  |     |    |
| 46 | Ruff                   | <i>Philomachus pugnax</i>            |       |    |    | 20  |    | 25+ | 50 |
| 47 | Little Gull            | <i>Hydrocoloeus minutus</i>          |       |    |    | 1   |    |     |    |

|    | Common name                | Scientific name                   | April |     |       |     |    |       |    |
|----|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------|-----|-------|-----|----|-------|----|
|    |                            |                                   | 24    | 25  | 26    | 27  | 28 | 29    | 30 |
| 48 | Black-headed Gull          | <i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i> |       |     |       | 12  |    |       |    |
| 49 | Slender-billed Gull        | <i>Chroicocephalus genei</i>      |       |     |       | 2   |    |       |    |
| 50 | Mediterranean Gull         | <i>Larus melanocephalus</i>       |       |     |       | 1   |    |       |    |
| 51 | Yellow-legged Gull         | <i>Larus michahellis</i>          |       | ✓   |       |     |    | ✓     | ✓  |
| 52 | Audouin's Gull             | <i>Larus audouinii</i>            |       | 1   |       |     |    | 4+    |    |
| 53 | Little Tern                | <i>Sternula albifrons</i>         |       | 5   |       | 50+ |    |       | 8  |
| 54 | Sandwich Tern              | <i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>        |       | 1   |       |     |    |       |    |
| 55 | Gull-billed Tern           | <i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>      |       |     |       |     |    |       | 1  |
| 56 | Caspian Tern               | <i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>         |       |     |       |     | 4  |       |    |
| 57 | Rock Dove / Feral Pigeon   | <i>Columba livia</i>              | ✓     | ✓   | ✓     | ✓   | ✓  | ✓     | ✓  |
| 58 | Common Wood Pigeon         | <i>Columba palumbus</i>           | ✓     | ✓   | ✓     | ✓   | ✓  | ✓     | ✓  |
| 59 | Eurasian Collared Dove     | <i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>      | ✓     | ✓   | ✓     | ✓   | ✓  | ✓     | ✓  |
| 60 | European Turtle Dove       | <i>Streptopelia turtur</i>        | 1     | 1   | 5     | 1   |    | 2     | 8  |
| 61 | Common Cuckoo              | <i>Cuculus canorus</i>            |       |     |       |     | 2  |       |    |
| 62 | Barn Owl                   | <i>Tyto alba</i>                  |       |     |       | H   |    |       |    |
| 63 | Eurasian Scops Owl         | <i>Otus scops</i>                 |       |     |       | H   | H  |       |    |
| 64 | Common Swift               | <i>Apus apus</i>                  | ✓     | ✓   | ✓     | ✓   | ✓  | ✓     | ✓  |
| 65 | Pallid Swift               | <i>Apus pallidus</i>              |       |     | ✓     | ✓   | ✓  |       | ✓  |
| 66 | Eurasian Hoopoe            | <i>Upupa epops</i>                |       |     |       |     | 3  |       |    |
| 67 | European Bee-eater         | <i>Merops apiaster</i>            | 60+   | 151 | 15    | 20  | 25 | 20+   | 30 |
| 68 | Wryneck                    | <i>Jynx torquilla</i>             |       |     | H     |     |    |       |    |
| 69 | Crested Lark               | <i>Galerida cristata</i>          |       | ✓   |       | ✓   |    |       | ✓  |
| 70 | Woodlark                   | <i>Lullula arborea</i>            |       |     |       |     | 2  |       |    |
| 71 | Greater Short-toed Lark    | <i>Calandrella brachydactyla</i>  |       | 1H  |       |     |    |       |    |
| 72 | Calandra Lark              | <i>Melanocorypha calandra</i>     |       |     |       | 10+ |    |       |    |
| 73 | Common Sand Martin         | <i>Riparia riparia</i>            | ✓     |     |       |     |    |       |    |
| 74 | Barn Swallow               | <i>Hirundo rustica</i>            | ✓     | ✓   | ✓     | ✓   | ✓  | ✓     | ✓  |
| 75 | Red-rumped Swallow         | <i>Hirundo daurica</i>            |       | 2   |       |     |    |       |    |
| 76 | Common House Martin        | <i>Delichon urbicum</i>           | ✓     |     | ✓     |     |    | ✓     | ✓  |
| 77 | Richard's Pipit            | <i>Anthus novaehollandis</i>      |       |     | 1     |     |    |       |    |
| 78 | White Wagtail              | <i>Motacilla alba alba</i>        |       | H   | 2     |     |    | 1     |    |
| 79 | Blue-headed Yellow Wagtail | <i>Motacilla flava sp.</i>        |       |     |       | 1   |    | 1     | 3  |
| 80 | Grey Wagtail               | <i>Motacilla cinerea</i>          |       |     | 1     |     |    | 1     |    |
| 81 | European Robin             | <i>Erithacus rubecula</i>         |       |     | H     | H   | H  |       |    |
| 82 | Common Nightingale         | <i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>      | 2H    | H   | 1S 4H | 3H  | 2H | 1S 3H | 2H |
| 83 | Common Redstart            | <i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>    |       |     | 1     |     |    | 1     |    |
| 84 | Black Redstart             | <i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>       |       |     |       |     | 1  |       |    |
| 85 | Northern Wheatear          | <i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>          | 1     | 4   |       | 2   | 2  |       | 1  |
| 86 | Black-eared Wheatear       | <i>Oenanthe hispanica</i>         |       | 3   |       |     |    |       |    |
| 87 | Whinchat                   | <i>Saxicola rubetra</i>           | 30    | 15  | 15    | 35  |    | 20    | 1  |
| 88 | Common Stonechat           | <i>Saxicola torquatus</i>         |       |     | 4     | 1   |    |       |    |
| 89 | Common Blackbird           | <i>Turdus merula</i>              | ✓     | ✓   | ✓     | ✓   | ✓  | ✓     | ✓  |
| 90 | Blue Rock Thrush           | <i>Monticola solitarius</i>       |       |     | 1     |     |    |       |    |
| 91 | Garden Warbler             | <i>Sylvia borin</i>               |       | 1H  | 3     |     |    |       |    |
| 92 | Blackcap                   | <i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>         |       |     |       |     | 2H |       |    |
| 93 | Common Whitethroat         | <i>Sylvia communis</i>            |       | 1   | 2     | 2   |    |       | 1  |
| 94 | Lesser Whitethroat         | <i>Sylvia curruca</i>             |       | 1H  |       |     |    |       |    |
| 95 | Spectacled Warbler         | <i>Sylvia conspicillata</i>       |       |     | 2     |     |    |       |    |
| 96 | Sardinian Warbler          | <i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>       | ✓     | ✓   | ✓     | ✓   | ✓  | ✓     | ✓  |
| 97 | Subalpine Warbler          | <i>Sylvia cantillans</i>          |       |     | 1     |     |    |       |    |

|     | Common name            | Scientific name                  | April |    |       |    |    |    |       |
|-----|------------------------|----------------------------------|-------|----|-------|----|----|----|-------|
|     |                        |                                  | 24    | 25 | 26    | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30    |
| 98  | Zitting Cisticola      | <i>Cisticola juncidis</i>        | ✓     | ✓  | ✓     | ✓  |    | ✓  | ✓     |
| 99  | Cetti's Warbler        | <i>Cettia cetti</i>              | H     | H  | H(1S) | H  | H  | H  | H     |
| 100 | European Reed Warbler  | <i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>   |       |    |       | H  |    | 1  | 4     |
| 101 | Marsh Warbler          | <i>Acrocephalus palustris</i>    |       |    |       | 2H |    |    |       |
| 102 | Great Reed Warbler     | <i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i> |       |    |       |    |    | H  |       |
| 103 | Wood Warbler           | <i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>   |       |    | 2     |    |    |    |       |
| 104 | Common Chiffchaff      | <i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>    |       |    |       |    | 1  |    |       |
| 105 | Firecrest              | <i>Regulus ignicapilla</i>       |       |    |       |    | 1  |    |       |
| 106 | Winter Wren            | <i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>   |       |    | H     |    | H  |    |       |
| 107 | Spotted Flycatcher     | <i>Muscicapa striata</i>         | 2     |    | 40+   | 6  | 1  | 3  | 3     |
| 108 | Pied Flycatcher        | <i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>        | 1     |    | 15    | 1  |    | 1  |       |
| 109 | Great Tit              | <i>Parus major</i>               | ✓     | ✓  | ✓     | ✓  | ✓  |    | ✓     |
| 110 | Coal Tit               | <i>Parus ater</i>                |       |    |       |    | ✓  |    |       |
| 111 | European Blue Tit      | <i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>       |       |    | ✓     |    | ✓  |    |       |
| 112 | Penduline Tit          | <i>Remiz pendulinus</i>          |       |    |       |    |    |    | 2S 2H |
| 113 | Short-toed Treecreeper | <i>Certhia brachydactyla</i>     |       |    |       |    | 1  |    |       |
| 114 | Woodchat Shrike        | <i>Lanius senator</i>            | 3     | 2  |       | 3  |    | 4+ | 1     |
| 115 | Common Magpie          | <i>Pica pica</i>                 | ✓     | ✓  | ✓     | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓     |
| 116 | Eurasian Jay           | <i>Garrulus glandarius</i>       | ✓     | ✓  | ✓     |    |    | ✓  | ✓     |
| 117 | Western Jackdaw        | <i>Corvus monedula</i>           |       |    | ✓     |    | 2  | 1  |       |
| 118 | Hooded Crow            | <i>Corvus cornix</i>             | ✓     | ✓  | ✓     |    | ✓  | ✓  | ✓     |
| 119 | Common Raven           | <i>Corvus corax</i>              |       |    | 6     |    |    |    |       |
| 120 | Spotless Starling      | <i>Sturnus unicolor</i>          | ✓     | ✓  | ✓     | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓     |
| 121 | Eurasian Golden Oriole | <i>Oriolus oriolus</i>           | 5     | H  | H     | 1S | 1S | 3  | H     |
| 122 | Italian Sparrow        | <i>Passer italiae</i>            | ✓     | ✓  | ✓     | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓     |
| 123 | Spanish Sparrow        | <i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>     |       |    | ✓     | 1  |    |    |       |
| 124 | Eurasian Tree Sparrow  | <i>Passer montanus</i>           |       |    | 1     | 3  |    |    |       |
| 125 | Common Rock Sparrow    | <i>Petronia petronia</i>         |       |    | 3     |    |    |    |       |
| 126 | Common Chaffinch       | <i>Fringilla coelebs</i>         |       |    |       |    | ✓  |    |       |
| 127 | Common Linnet          | <i>Carduelis cannabina</i>       | ✓     | ✓  | ✓     |    | ✓  | ✓  | ✓     |
| 128 | European Goldfinch     | <i>Carduelis carduelis</i>       | ✓     | ✓  | ✓     | ✓  |    | ✓  | ✓     |
| 129 | European Greenfinch    | <i>Chloris chloris</i>           | H     |    | ✓     | ✓  | ✓  |    |       |
| 130 | European Serin         | <i>Serinus serinus</i>           | ✓     | ✓  | ✓     | ✓  | ✓  |    | ✓     |
| 131 | Ortolan Bunting        | <i>Emberiza hortulana</i>        |       | H  |       |    |    |    |       |
| 132 | Cirl Bunting           | <i>Emberiza cirlus</i>           |       |    | 4     |    |    |    |       |
| 133 | Corn Bunting           | <i>Emberiza calandra</i>         |       |    | 2     |    |    | 2  |       |

## Mammals

|   |        |                              |  |   |  |   |  |  |  |
|---|--------|------------------------------|--|---|--|---|--|--|--|
| 1 | Rabbit | <i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i> |  | ✓ |  | ✓ |  |  |  |
|---|--------|------------------------------|--|---|--|---|--|--|--|

## Amphibian &amp; Reptiles

|   |                      |                              |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|----------------------|------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Common Tree Frog     | <i>Hyla arborea</i>          |   |   | ✓ |   |   |   |   |
| 2 | Western Green Lizard | <i>Lacerta bilineata</i>     |   | ✓ |   | ✓ |   |   | ✓ |
| 3 | Italian Wall Lizard  | <i>Podarcis sicula</i>       |   | ✓ |   | ✓ |   | ✓ | ✓ |
| 4 | Moorish Gecko        | <i>Tarentola mauritanica</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |

## Butterflies

|   |                    |                                |   |   |  |   |  |  |   |
|---|--------------------|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|--|--|---|
| 1 | Swallowtail        | <i>Papilio machaon</i>         | ✓ | ✓ |  | ✓ |  |  | ✓ |
| 2 | Scarce Swallowtail | <i>Iphiclidides podalirius</i> |   |   |  |   |  |  | ✓ |

|    | Common name           | Scientific name               | April |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|-----------------------|-------------------------------|-------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |                       |                               | 24    | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 3  | Large White           | <i>Pieris brassicae</i>       | ✓     | ✓  |    | ✓  |    | ✓  | ✓  |
| 4  | Small White           | <i>Artogeia rapae</i>         | ✓     | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |    | ✓  | ✓  |
| 5  | Bath White            | <i>Pontia daplidice</i>       |       |    |    | ✓  |    |    | ✓  |
| 6  | Eastern Dappled White | <i>Euchloe ausonia</i>        |       |    |    | ✓  |    |    |    |
| 7  | Orange Tip            | <i>Anthocharis cardamines</i> |       | ✓  |    |    |    |    |    |
| 8  | Clouded Yellow        | <i>Colias crocea</i>          |       |    |    | ✓  |    |    | ✓  |
| 9  | Holly Blue            | <i>Celastrina argiolus</i>    |       | ✓  |    |    |    |    | ✓  |
| 10 | Common Blue           | <i>Polyommatus icarus</i>     |       | ✓  |    |    |    |    |    |
| 11 | Small Heath           | <i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>  |       |    |    | ✓  |    |    |    |
| 12 | Speckled Wood         | <i>Pararge aegeria</i>        |       |    | ✓  |    |    |    | ✓  |
| 13 | Wall Brown            | <i>Lasiommata megera</i>      | ✓     |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 14 | Pigmy Skipper         | <i>Gegenes pumilio</i>        |       | ✓  |    |    |    |    |    |

### Macro Moths

|    |                         |                                |  |   |   |   |   |  |  |
|----|-------------------------|--------------------------------|--|---|---|---|---|--|--|
| 1  | Pine Processionary Moth | <i>Thaumetopoea pityocampa</i> |  |   |   |   | ✓ |  |  |
| 2  | Ragusa's Nine-spotted   | <i>Amata kruegeri</i>          |  | ✓ |   |   |   |  |  |
| 3  | Lustrous Least Carpet   | <i>Idaea filicata</i>          |  | ✓ |   |   |   |  |  |
| 4  | Lime-speck Pug          | <i>Eupithecia centaureata</i>  |  | ✓ |   |   |   |  |  |
| 5  | Turnip Moth             | <i>Agrotis segetum</i>         |  | ✓ |   |   |   |  |  |
| 6  | Common Quaker           | <i>Orthosia cerasi</i>         |  | ✓ |   |   |   |  |  |
| 7  | Spotted Sulphur         | <i>Emmelia trabealis</i>       |  |   | ✓ |   |   |  |  |
| 8  | Geometrician            | <i>Prodotis stolidia</i>       |  | ✓ |   |   |   |  |  |
| 9  | Four-spotted            | <i>Tyta luctuosa</i>           |  |   | ✓ |   |   |  |  |
| 10 | Purple Marbled          | <i>Eublemma ostrina</i>        |  |   | ✓ |   |   |  |  |
| 11 | Small Marbled           | <i>Eublemma parva</i>          |  |   | ✓ |   |   |  |  |
| 12 | Burnet Companion        | <i>Euclidia glyphica</i>       |  |   |   | ✓ |   |  |  |

### Micro moths

|   |                           |                              |  |   |   |   |   |  |  |
|---|---------------------------|------------------------------|--|---|---|---|---|--|--|
| 1 | Pyralid                   | <i>Endotricha flammealis</i> |  | ✓ |   |   |   |  |  |
| 2 | Crambid                   | <i>Palpita vitralis</i>      |  |   |   |   | ✓ |  |  |
| 3 | Crambid                   | <i>Anania croceallis</i>     |  |   |   | ✓ |   |  |  |
| 4 | Twenty-plume Moth         | <i>Alucita hexadactyla</i>   |  |   | ✓ |   |   |  |  |
| 5 | Wax Moth                  | <i>Galleria mellonella</i>   |  | ✓ |   |   |   |  |  |
| 6 | Bird-dropping Tortrix sp. | <i>Various</i>               |  | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |   |  |  |
| 7 | Tortrix moth              | <i>Epiblema cynosbatella</i> |  |   |   | ✓ |   |  |  |
| 8 | Crambid                   | <i>Pyrausta despicata</i>    |  |   |   | ✓ |   |  |  |

### Other invertebrates

|   |                   |                              |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|-------------------|------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Carpenter Bee     | <i>Xylocopa violacea</i>     |   | ✓ |   | ✓ |   |   |   |
| 2 | Two Spot Ladybird | <i>Coccinella 7-punctata</i> |   |   |   |   | ✓ | ✓ |   |
| 3 | Ant lion          | <i>Myrmeleon sp.</i>         |   |   | ✓ |   |   |   |   |
| 4 | Scarlet Darter    | <i>Crocothemis erythraea</i> |   |   |   |   |   | ✓ |   |
| 5 | Honey Bee         | <i>Apis mellifera</i>        |   |   | ✓ |   |   |   |   |
| 6 | House Centipede   | <i>Scutigera coleoptrata</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |