

# Southern Morocco

Naturetrek Tour Report

12 - 21 February 2010

---

Report compiled by Andy 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:	Andy Smith James Bray
Participants:	Mark Bibby Clare Chantry Roger Hughes Angela Hughes David Carter Chisholm Ogg Gay Ogg Fred Ferguson Christine Ferguson Yvonne Allen Roy Bretherick Brian Armstrong Alison Higgins Harry Keble Hilary Dunseath Simon Foreman

## Day 1

Friday 12th February

### Sunny and warm in Marrakech

Some of the group arrived in Marrakesh around midday and after a restaurant lunch they went on a guided walk of the bustling and fascinating Jemma el Fna and the adjacent souks. Along the way they opened the bird list with White Storks, Pallid and Little Swifts, Common Bulbuls and House Buntings. The rest of the group arrived in the evening and we finally all met up over dinner. With introductions complete we retired to bed full of anticipation for the days ahead.

## Day 2

Saturday 13th February

### Overcast, cold and wet in the morning; warmer in the afternoon with sunny spells and a brisk north-westerly wind

After an early breakfast, we set off south towards the imposing ramparts of the High Atlas. Thick low cloud over the tops didn't bode well and sure enough we spent most of the morning dodging heavy and persistent rain showers. A series of short stops at a range of different altitudes produced a number of notable birds however including a Dipper, a large flock of Red-billed Choughs, a few Black Wheatears, a couple of Black Redstarts, several Serins and a few smart African Blue Tits. There was some evidence of raptor migration too, despite the weather, with good numbers of Black Kites and a few Lesser Kestrels making their way north across the Tichka pass. Once out of the mountains and down into the more arid terrain to the south we started seeing White-crowned Wheatears and at Ouarzazate we had some good views of an *elegans* Southern Grey Shrike and a fine male Blue Rock Thrush. We finally arrived at El Kelaa de M'gouna at sunset after an eventful and enjoyable day.

## Day 3

Sunday 14th February

Overcast with sunny breaks and a north-westerly breeze. Prolonged heavy rain after dark

After a spectacular sunrise at El Kelaa we headed out to the wide open gravel flats of the Tagdilt Plain where we found a range of exciting birds including Red-rumped Wheatear, Temminck's Lark, Trumpeter Finch and Long-legged Buzzard. Towards the end of the morning we came across a pair of handsome Hoopoe Larks, the male singing and displaying, and we finished an enjoyable session with a distant flock of Crowned Sandgrouse and the impressive sight of over 40 migrant Black Kites at the Boulmane rubbish tip.

In the afternoon we explored the Dades Gorge, marvelling at the superb scenery and the remarkable Kasbah architecture. A short walk near the top produced some good birds and we enjoyed great views of Rock Buntings, Black Wheatears, Crag Martins and Blue Rock Thrushes. A brief Tristram's Warbler lurking in some scrub was a bonus but best of all was a superb adult Bonelli's Eagle that swooped dramatically across the gorge at close range. A group of Gundis sitting on rock ledges, unobtrusive as ever and unruffled by all the excitement completed the scene and concluded another satisfying day

## Day 4

Monday 15th February

Overcast with sunny breaks and showers and a cold north-westerly breeze

Another morning visit to the stony wastes of the Tagdilt Plain produced many of the birds that we had seen during the previous morning plus a variety of new ones including five Cream-coloured Coursers, a couple of flocks of Black-bellied Sandgrouse, over 30 superb Thick-billed Larks, a pair of confiding Bar-tailed Larks and a couple of handsome male Desert Wheatears. Flushed with our success we continued eastwards towards Tinerhir, stopping en-route for some roadside Desert Larks.

We ate our lunch at the dramatic Todra Gorge where Blue Rock Thrushes, Crag Martins and Black Redstarts put in appearances and then drove on eastwards through a constantly changing tapestry of desert scenery punctuated by regular White-crowned Wheatears. We made a couple of impromptu stops, first for a dashing Barbary Falcon and then for a quartet of Fulvous Babblers, before finishing the afternoon with a brief walk on the wide-open Marrha Plain. With dramatic rainbows spanning the sky we found a neat little Spectacled Warbler in the low scrub and a Southern Grey Shrike eating a small lizard that it had impaled in classic fashion on an acacia thorn. Finally, as the evening closed in, we drove on through the atmospheric town of Jorf to Erfoud and our hotel.

## Day 5

Tuesday 16th February

Sunny and still in the morning; overcast in the afternoon with a freshening westerly wind and dust storms

Leaving the hotel well before dawn we set off in our 4x4's towards Merzouga and the Erg Chebbi. We watched a lovely sunrise from the terrace of the famous Café Yasmina and then walked around the dry lake bed below where we found a couple of neat little Tristram's Warblers in the tamarisk scrub and some impressive stands of the strange yellow root parasite *Cistanche phebypaea*.

After this we set off in the vehicles to explore deeper into the desert and in a satisfying morning which took us through some superb desert scenery we saw over a dozen Cream-coloured Coursers, lots of Bar-tailed Larks, a few Hoopoe Larks, another sizeable flock of Thick-billed Larks, good numbers of Desert and White-crowned Wheatears and several Brown-necked Ravens. Desert Sparrows proved elusive initially (their numbers have decreased dramatically in the Merzouga area in recent years in response to a rapid increase in the local House Sparrow population) but we eventually achieved good views, both of a lone female at a camel feeding station near Yasmina and of a flock of a dozen or so males and females in broom bushes in a small oued out in the desert.

In the afternoon we made our way out to Merzouga Lake. Good winter rains meant that the lake was vast and in the stiff wind that had picked up viewing was difficult. Nevertheless we persisted and were rewarded with a range of notable species including over 500 Greater Flamingos, 55 White Storks, five Black Storks, a hundred or so Ruddy Shelduck, 70 Marbled Teal, over 20 smart Ferruginous Ducks and at least a dozen Marsh Harriers. Eventually, thoroughly sand-blasted but well satisfied, we returned to Erfoud.

## Day 6

Wednesday 17th February

Sunny and warm. Still in the morning, north-westerly breeze in the afternoon. Heavy rain overnight

We left Erfoud after breakfast and began our journey back westwards on the south side of the Anti-Atlas through a spectacular and varied desert landscape. We made a brief stop at the Oued Ziz where we had good views of three Little Ringed Plovers and a Green Sandpiper and then continued on to an oued just west of Rissani where we found a superb Pharaoh Eagle Owl staring down at us suspiciously from a crevice high up in the cliff face. We stopped for coffee and victuals in bustling Ainif and ate our lunch in an acacia lined oued east of Tazzarine where we enjoyed wonderful views of a sizeable troop of Fulvous Babblers and at least two smart Tristram's Warblers.

During the afternoon we continued westwards and made a short stop by the lush green corridor of the scenic Draa Valley before we tackled the dramatic Tinifit Pass with its truly fantastic geology and dropped down into Ouarzazate. We finished the day with a brief look at the barrage on the edge of town. Water levels were high and there were lots of birds present, including over 400 Great Cormorants, 1000 Eurasian Coots, various duck, three Spoonbill, five Marsh Harriers, an Osprey and masses of hirundines including an estimated 5000 Barn Swallows – not bad!

## Day 7

Thursday 18th February

Overcast and cold with persistent heavy rain, occasional sunny breaks and a brisk north-westerly wind

The heavy overnight rain continued unabated into the morning and thwarted our plans for another visit to the barrage and so after a rather leisurely start we left Ouarzazate and continued our journey towards the coast. It was immediately clear that the heavy rain was having some dramatic effects as each normally dry oued along the way was now a raging brown torrent. Many were overflowing their banks and there was a good deal of flooding and debris on the roads.

We negotiated a minor detour that fortuitously brought us good views of a Barbary Falcon perched on a hill top and then stopped for a short walk by the raging Oued Iriri at Tiouine. The heavy rain precluded any bird activity however and a handsome Mauritanian Toad and a decidedly bedraggled Black Rat were the only wildlife interest.

After this we crossed the rugged Tizi n'Bachkoum Pass and made a coffee stop in bustling Tazenahkt before continuing westwards into the crocus growing region above Talouine where we stopped for lunch and found our first Moussier's Redstart and a small group of Corn Buntings. At Talouine the weather really began to flex its muscles and we were forced to stop as the bridge was closed for safety reasons. The traffic had backed-up on both sides, crowds had gathered and impromptu roadside stalls had been set up, a wonderful testament to the Moroccan spirit. The Oued was a torrent and had clearly been flowing over the bridge but was now dropping. There was nothing to do but wait. A couple of views of Lanner Falcons dashing overhead, a Hoopoe, two Moroccan White Wagtails and our first *algeriensis* Southern Grey Shrike did something to relieve the tedium but we were all very glad to get moving when, after nearly three hours, the rather officious policemen finally reopened the bridge.

We dropped down into the scenic Argan parkland of the upper Sous Valley but it was now five pm and we still had a long way to go. A little down the road we found traffic turning back from Aoulouz and heard that the bridge there was closed too and so was the crossing over the Sous just before Taroudant. This meant that Taroudant, our destination for the night, was effectively cut-off. Certainly it was inaccessible to us. We decided to make a run for Agadir, a good bit further on. A phone call to our agent in Marrakech secured hotel accommodation and off we set. The whole of the great Sous valley below us was flooded. It was a race against time! The rain was still falling and roads were covered in run-off and debris. It got dark. We negotiated several lengthy hold-ups where traffic was caught either side of overturned vehicles and other obstacles and then, as we approached Agadir we found first one then another road ahead of us closed. We were down to the last road into Agadir and our last option if we weren't to spend the night in the buses. Finally however, after tackling another hold-up where two local lads were leading vehicles through the floods individually, we made it to Agadir. It was after 10pm but the hotel had kept dinner for us and it was a very relieved party indeed that walked into a warm dining room thronged with smiling waiters and full of delicious food. What a day!

## Day 8

Friday 19th February

Sunny and warm with scattered cloud and a north-westerly breeze.

In the morning we headed north up the coast past Cap Rhir to Tamri. The sun was shining, the road was clear and the rigours of the previous day were soon forgotten as we focused on our principal task of finding some Northern Bald Ibis, one of the rarest birds in the world. Our first stop was at the small estuary below the town and although there were no ibis there we did find a staggering 600 or so Audouin's Gulls loafing on the beach plus a small group of Sandwich Terns, two smart Kentish Plovers and several Zitting Cisticolas. Continuing our search we explored along the road through the sandy coastal heathland and fields to the north of the town. We were on full "Ibis Alert" and fairly soon we located our quarry, a flock of around 20 working their way along the distant cliff top. With a little stealth we crept up on them and were treated to some wonderful views we were able to appreciate every aspect of these extraordinary and engaging birds, from their strange bald red heads and untidy ruffs to their iridescent shoulder patches flashing violet or green in the sun. The birds were actively foraging and we saw one toss a beetle up in the air and catch it "hornbill style". A few of the birds were gathering nest material and there was some traffic over the cliff top to nest sites on unseen ledges.

This was a truly wonderful encounter made all the more pleasant by the warm sun on our backs and the babel of song from the Thekla Larks and Spectacled Warblers that were all around us. Eventually, leaving the ibis undisturbed, we tore ourselves away and returned to Tamri for a delicious tagine lunch.

In the late afternoon we backtracked to Agadir and went down to the nearby Sous Estuary where we saw a satisfying range of waders, over 100 Eurasian Spoonbills, a couple of Mediterranean Gulls and some very smart Moroccan Magpies. As the Sun set and the light faded an eerie chorus of Stone Curlews began and as we returned to the buses a trio landed on the track in front of us. Finally we heard the distant but distinctive sound of a couple Red-necked Nightjars – a great way to finish a thoroughly enjoyable day.

## Day 9

**Saturday 20th February**

Sunny and warm with scattered cloud and a moderate north-westerly breeze

After breakfast we set off from Agadir and made our way south towards Oued Massa. This picturesque river valley and estuary with its varied mosaic of habitats has a decidedly sub-tropical feel to it and although the water levels were very high and most of the fields flooded it was, as usual, hopping with birds. We enjoyed a rich and rewarding day and saw a wide range of exciting species including Glossy Ibis, Squacco Heron, Barbary Falcon, Barbary Partridge, Laughing Dove, Alpine and Little Swifts, Kingfisher, Wryneck, Plain Martin, Red-rumped Swallow, Bluethroat, Subalpine Warbler, Spanish Sparrow and Black-crowned Tchagra – not bad! Barbary Ground Squirrels finally put in an appearance here too and not to outdone reptiles were represented by good numbers of Pond Terrapins happily loafing in the sunshine. All in all a great day!

## Day 10

**Sunday 21st February**

Overcast and cool with a north-westerly wind and showers.

The first part of the group left Agadir before dawn and after a stop for singing Calandra Larks on the plains east of Chichaoua made it to Marrakech airport in good time for their lunchtime flight home to the UK. The later party made a repeat trip to the Sous estuary where they added Temminck's Stint and Avocet to the list before making their way back to Marrakech for their evening flight. All went well for both parties at the airport and we all arrived home safely and on time.

## 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 Lists

## Birds

	Common name	Scientific name	February									
			12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
1	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>					5	10	2			
2	Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>					5				2	
3	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>					15				15	
4	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>					200	400	200	5	30	
5	Moroccan Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo maroccanus</i>								2	10	
6	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>		50	50	100	50	60	50	150	30	12
7	Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>									3	
8	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>			2	1		8		50	25	35
9	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>			2	1	4	5	3	50	5	38
10	Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodi</i>						3		110		73
11	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>									35	
12	Northern Bald Ibis	<i>Geronticus eremita</i>								25		
13	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	6	2	2		55	7	1			3
14	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>					5					
15	Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus ruber</i>					500			45		
16	Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>									1	
17	Ruddy Shelduck	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>					100			1		
18	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>						2	2		2	
19	Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>									1	
20	Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>					35				1	
21	Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>					6	1				
22	Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>					25	50	10			
23	Marbled Teal	<i>Marmaronetta angustirostris</i>					70					
24	Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>					5				5	
25	Ferruginous Duck	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>					20				1	
26	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>		12	100	40	1	35	25	3		
27	Black-shouldered Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>										1
28	Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>					12	5			1	
29	Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>	1		1					2		1
30	Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>			3	4	3	2				
31	Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>						1				
32	Bonelli's Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus fasciatus</i>			1							
33	Lanner Falcon	<i>Falco biarmicus</i>					1		2			
34	Barbary Falcon	<i>Falco pelegrinoides</i>				2			1		1	
35	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	5	2	2	5	4	4	5	10	7	8
36	Lesser Kestrel	<i>Falco naumanni</i>		3								
37	Barbary Partridge	<i>Alectoris barbara</i>		h				1			2	
38	Water Rail	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>									2h	
39	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>									2	
40	Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>					150	1000	100		25	
41	Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>									2	
42	Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosette</i>										4
43	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>					30			40		40
44	Stone-curlew	<i>Burhinus oedicnemus</i>			h		1			10		
45	Cream-coloured Courser	<i>Cursorius cursor</i>				5	13					
46	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>					1	3				

	Common name	Scientific name	February										
			12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
47	Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>					6				2		
48	Temminck's Stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>											2
49	Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>									4		5
50	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>								1			
51	Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>									5		7
52	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>									4	1	
53	Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>									1		
54	Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>					1				25		27
55	Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>									5		
56	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>					2						
57	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>			1	1	1	1			1		1
58	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>									3		5
59	Audouin's Gull	<i>Larus audouinii</i>									600	20	7
60	Black-headed Gull	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>							14		30	10	150
61	Mediterranean Gull	<i>Larus melanocephalus</i>									2		3
62	Western Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis michahellis</i>									50	10	
63	Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus intermedius</i>									1000	100's	500
64	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>									1		
65	Sandwich Tern	<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>									5		
66	Black-bellied Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles orientalis</i>				30							
67	Crowned Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles coronatus</i>			25	h							
68	Rock Dove/Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
69	Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaoto</i>	50	30	20	30	25	25	20	25	50	25	
70	Laughing Dove	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>						3	1			15	
71	Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	20	5							3	12	12
72	Pharaoh Eagle Owl	<i>Bubo ascalaphus</i>						2					
73	Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>			h	2						1	
74	Red-necked Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus ruficollis</i>									2h		
75	Alpine Swift	<i>Apus melba</i>		2		2						5	
76	Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>	10									4	
77	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>			10	1		5				5	
78	Pallid Swift	<i>Apus pallidus</i>	100			3		5			30	50	120
79	Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>										2	
80	Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>			1		3	2	1			2	
81	Wryneck	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>										1	
82	Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>			20								
83	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>		6		5	2	20	15	5	30	5	
84	Thekla Lark	<i>Galerida theklae</i>			15	10			1	25	8		
85	Short-toed Lark	<i>Calandrella brachydactyla</i>			10	2							10
86	Lesser Short-toed Lark	<i>Calandrella rufescens</i>			40	25						10	
87	Bar-tailed Lark	<i>Ammomanes cincturus</i>				3	30	3					
88	Desert Lark	<i>Ammomanes deserti payni</i>				8	4	4					
89	Calandra Lark	<i>Melanocorypha calandra</i>											7
90	Thick-billed Lark	<i>Rhamphocorys clotbey</i>				30	25						
91	Temminck's Lark	<i>Eremophila bilopha</i>			10	8	2						
92	Hoopoe Lark	<i>Alaemon alaudipes</i>			4	1	4						
93	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>					50	50	30	3	4		



	Common name	Scientific name	February										
			12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
94	Plian Martin	<i>Riparia paludicola</i>										2	
95	Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>		20	30	50			5			2	
96	House Martin	<i>Delichon urbica</i>		2	10	35	70	100			20	20	
97	Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Hirundo daurica</i>				10	1	15		2	3	10	3
98	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica rustica</i>		20	6	100	200	5000		100	100	100	80
99	Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>						1					
100	Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>		1		4		4	5			2	2
101	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	20	30	5	25	100	25	20	200	50	40	
102	Moroccan Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba subpersonata</i>							2				1
103	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>		1	5	4							
104	Spanish Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava iberiae</i>					2		2	5	4	1	
105	Winter Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>			1								
106	Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>		1									
107	Common Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus barbatus</i>	30	15	20	15		10	6	20	30	30	
108	Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>										1	
109	Bluethroat	<i>Luscinia svecica</i>									1	2	
110	Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>		1	1	1					3	10	
111	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>		3	5	4	1	3	5				
112	Moussier's Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus moussieri</i>							7	5	20		
113	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>			1	1	2		1				
114	Desert Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe deserti</i>				2	8	1					
115	Red-rumped Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe moesta</i>			12	15							
116	White-crowned Black Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe leucopyga</i>		10		5	15	65	1				
117	Black Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe leucura</i>		5	7	4		1	4				3
118	Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>		1	4	3		1	3	3	3		
119	Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula mauritanicus</i>	5	10	5	5		5	5	10	25	3	
120	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>		1									
121	Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>		2	4					1	2	6	
122	Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>										3	
123	Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>								7	10		
124	Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	2	7		3				1	8		
125	Sardinian Warbler	<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>		1	1	1	4	5		7	20	4	
126	Tristram's Warbler	<i>Sylvia deserticola</i>			1		3	5					
127	Spectacled Warbler	<i>Sylvia conspicillata</i>				2		8		10			
128	Subalpine Warbler	<i>Sylvia cantillans</i>									10		
129	Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>		6	12	3	20	7	5	7	40	3	
130	Fulvous Babbler	<i>Turdoides fulvus</i>				4		16					
131	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		1						2	2	3	
132	African Blue Tit	<i>Parus teneriffae ultramarinus</i>		6	6					1		1	3
133	Black-crowned Tchagra	<i>Tchagra senegala</i>										8	
134	Southern Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius meridionalis elegans</i>		2		3	12	19	1				
135	Southern Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius meridionalis algenensis</i>								1	2	4	3
136	Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>											1
137	Moroccan Magpie	<i>Pica pica mauritanica</i>		10						12	20	30	3
138	Red-billed Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>		125									
139	'North African' Raven	<i>Corvus corax tingitanus</i>		2						1	2		3

	Common name	Scientific name	February									
			12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
140	Brown-necked Raven	<i>Corvus ruficollis</i>					12	15				
141	Spotless Starling	<i>Sturnus unicolor</i>	100	15						5	70	
142	Spanish Sparrow	<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>		2				7		10	15	5
143	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	100	50	50	30	100	100	100's	100	100	50
144	Desert Sparrow	<i>Passer simplex</i>					14					
145	'North African' Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs africana</i>		25	2				5		5	1
146	Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>		20	15	5		10	2	15	25	15
147	Linnet	<i>Acanthis cannabina</i>			1						10	
148	Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis parva</i>		2	30	15		4	10	5	12	
149	Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris voousi</i>	1								6	
150	Trumpeter Finch	<i>Bucanetes githagineus</i>			5	2	2		5			
151	Corn Bunting	<i>Miliaria calandra</i>							30	10	2	1
152	House Bunting	<i>Emberiza sahari</i>	25		10	6	3	5	12		8	3
153	Rock Bunting	<i>Emberiza cia</i>			5	1						
154	Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>		1h							1h	

## Mammals

Barbary Ground Squirrel (Oued Massa), Fat Sand Rat (Tagdilt Plain), Gundi (Upper Dades Gorge) and Black Rat (Oued Iri near Ouarzazate).

## Reptiles and Amphibians

Mauritanian Toad (Oued Iri and Oued Massa) and Pond Terrapin (Oued Massa).

## Butterflies

Green-striped White, Large White, Greenish Black-tip, Clouded Yellow, Painted Lady, Red Admiral and Speckled Wood.

## Other notable invertebrates

Vagrant Emperor (*Anax ephigger*)

## Acknowledgements

Thanks to Khalid and Halim for their epic driving and their helpfulness throughout. Thanks also to all the members of the group for helping to make this such a successful and enjoyable trip despite some decidedly inclement weather and a resultantly compromised itinerary.