

Southern Morocco

Naturetrek Tour Report

12 – 21 March 2010



Maghreb Poplar Hawk-moth

Report compiled by Dave Suddaby & Reg Thorpe



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Day 1

Friday 12th March

Marrakech

With two flights out per day to Marrakech courtesy of EasyJet airlines, and other members travelling overland, the whole group met that evening in our Marrakech hotel. The majority of the group however opted for the morning flight out of Gatwick Airport; which departed on time and arrived at Marrakech in the late morning. After clearing passport control/customs and changing money we met our driver, Khalid, and then headed for our hotel. After freshening up we walked into the old part of Marrakech and after lunch enjoyed a guided tour with Mohamed of the fascinating medina; whilst Little and Pallid Swifts vied for our attention with Booted Eagles overhead and Spotless Starlings and House Buntings hopped around our feet.

Other group members departed Gatwick Airport on the afternoon flight and after clearing passport control/customs and money changing arrived at the hotel for an evening meal before a relatively early night, in anticipation of the High Atlas Mountains the following day.

Day 2

Saturday 13th March

Marrakech to El-Kelaa M'Gouna 273km

Several of us met before breakfast to look around the garden of the hotel; this provided views of Blackbirds of the Moroccan race, Spotless Starlings, a few Chiffchaffs and the 'usual' Pallid and Little Swifts overhead.

After breakfast, we loaded the buses and were on the road at 08.00, working our way through Marrakech and south towards the mountains. This is a day of travel, during which we would cross the High Atlas Mountains and descend into the more arid conditions of sub-Saharan landscapes.

We began our ascent into the mountains and our first stop before Toufliat included a short walk through an area of open pine trees which offered our first good views of the North African race of Chaffinch, singing Serins, Crossbills and a Short-toed Eagle, whilst Wild Boar and piglets were watched feeding. A little further along we entered into low cloud however the sun was trying to break through as we stopped for coffee and a short walk into the forest. Here we found Great Spotted Woodpeckers, Hawfinches along with 'Atlas' Coal Tit, *ultramarinus* Blue Tits and Robins.

Back at the buses we continued on our ascent, and in clearing skies we soon had our first views of the magnificent snow-covered peaks of the High Atlas. We stopped at the mountain village of Taddart where we had lunch and our first views of Black Wheatears, Blue Rock Thrushes, Long-legged Buzzards, Ravens and migrating Woodchat Shrikes. Continuing on after lunch in glorious sunshine we stopped for a walk in the high 'meadows' just before the pass of the Tizi-n-Tichka. Here we had excellent views of a large group of 'Atlas' Shore Larks as they scurried around accompanied by Red-billed Choughs, whilst overhead a Golden Eagle drifted by. On our descent, we had further views of Black Wheatears before stopping at the Barrage El Mansour Eddahbi for the last of the daylight. The highlights at the Barrage were our first good views of Desert and Black-eared Wheatears, Desert Larks, and a Tawny Pipit whilst several Gull-billed Terns and Purple Herons were seen flying through and Marsh Harriers and a Hen Harrier came into roost.

The journey to the Hotel Les Roses de Dadés in El-Kelaa M'Gouna was under the cover of darkness. On arrival at 19.30 we checked in; this was then followed by our evening meal before retiring.

Day 3

Sunday 14th March

El-Kelaa M'Gouna – Tagdilt and Dadés Gorge 158km

A walk through the hotel garden pre-breakfast produced no new birds for the trip list, although the gardens were full of Common Bulbuls, Serins and Goldfinches. After breakfast we headed off at 08.00 to the famous Tagdilt Track and the open 'Hamada' to look for the larks, wheatears and other desert species. From the main road we turned off along a tarmac track where we soon stopped for our first views of Red-rumped Wheatears, Temminck's Horned Larks and Greater Short-toed Larks. Driving slowly along the track we soon found a group of Thick-billed Larks that gave excellent views. Stopping at a 'water-hole' and were rewarded with excellent views of 7 Crowned Sandgrouse, along with a lone Trumpeter Finch. Also Fat Sand Rats entertained. On a walk out onto the gravel plain, we had further excellent views of Red-rumped and Desert Wheatears, and large numbers of Greater Short-toed, several Lesser Short-toed, Temminck's Horned and Thick-billed Larks.

Back at the buses, we drove a little further and soon stopping again for perched and flying Long-legged Buzzards. Contented and with the increasing heat haze we retired for coffee before we headed for lunch in the oasis of the Dadés Gorge. The gorge is spectacular with unique red sandstone rock formations. From our lunch spot, a Short-toed Eagle passed overhead along with our first good views of Crag Martins.

After lunch we drove further up the gorge to the panoramic viewpoint from where we walked back down to the buses parked at La Kasbah de la Vallée. This produced excellent views of a pair of Bonelli's Eagles, 3 Tristram's Warbler, along with Rock Buntings and the usual Crag Martins, Blue Rock Thrushes, Black Redstarts and Black Wheatears. Also, Gundis and Barbary Ground Squirrels were found sunning themselves on the rocks. Back at the buses Nightingales and Blackcaps were noted. Further back down the gorge small groups of White Storks entertained us before we returned to our hotel for our evening meal.

Day 4

Monday 15th March

El-Kelaa M'Gouna to Erfoud 273km

Pre-breakfast, the hotel garden and the oued produced a similar array of species as the previous morning, however Moroccan Wagtails in the oued were new. After breakfast, we loaded up the buses to continue our journey into the desert. Our first stop was a return visit to the Tagdilt area. This produced much the same species as the previous day however a pair of Black-bellied Sandgrouse scuttling around vied for attention with Crowned Sandgrouse. Moving on we stopped and had another walk over the gravel plain which had a small area of tamarisks, again this produced a similar array of species but with the exception of migrants within the tamarisks which included excellent views of Wryneck, Nightingales and our first good views of Moussier's Redstart and Subalpine Warblers. Thereafter we returned to the buses, having found Scorpions and watched Fat Sand Rats, and made our way towards the spectacular 300m deep Todra Gorge.

Arriving at Todra Gorge, we had a short walk whilst lunch was being prepared. This offered birds typical of the rocky terrain such as Crag Martins and Blue Rock Thrushes however we had further views of an adult Bonelli's Eagle. By mid-afternoon we left the Todra Gorge and continued our journey further eastwards. Heading into the Marrha plain we soon found White-crowned Black Wheatears and Desert Grey Shrikes; and later we found a small group of Fulvous Babblers moving through. A short walk over the plain produced Bar-tailed Desert Larks, Spectacled Warblers, whilst a migrating Montagu's Harriers flushed up a group of 14 Spotted Sandgrouse. Further down the road up to 40 Crowned Sandgrouse were seen well flying around in the evening light

We arrived at the excellent Hotel Kenzi Belere in Erfoud as the evening closed in. Freshening up and after the lavish buffet dinner a reasonably early night was called for after negotiating an itinerary for the morning.

Day 5

Tuesday 16th March

Erfoud to Merzouga and the desert 80km

This day remains one of the highlights of birding in North Africa – alarm calls at 05.00, breakfast at 05.30 and into the Land Rovers at 06.00. With Lechan and his team of drivers, we headed into the darkness on bumpy tracks over stony featureless desert to our first stop – the deep desert! As the first rays of light started to appear, we had our first views of Cream-coloured Coursers and Hoopoe Larks. However our priority was Houbara Bustard and shortly afterwards we were treated to superb views of a male as it strutted around on the stony plain.

Satisfied, we left to search for some of our other target birds. We initially failed on sandgrouse however a contact call later found us watching a small group of Crowned Sandgrouse at close quarters whilst a larger group of Spotted Sandgrouse flew around us calling.

We then found further coursers, Bar-tailed, Desert, Hoopoe, Greater & Lesser Short-toed and Thick-billed Larks before we were treated to excellent views of at least 3 African Desert Warblers, one of which was song-fighting - Superb! Moving on we found another of our target birds in a group of Brown-necked Ravens. After soaking up the atmosphere we moved on again; next stopping at a nomadic camp that held another of our target birds – a pair of Desert Sparrows! Elated it was time to move on once more, and with the increasing temperatures (and being late-morning) we headed for Café Yasmina and coffee. A Spanish ringing group was studying and catching migrating birds within the tamarisk bushes at Yasmina, so all we had to do was relax with our coffee. Within the tamarisk bushes were, amongst others, a Wryneck, Iberian Chiffchaffs, Sardinian and Subalpine Warblers and Nightingales, some of which were also seen ‘in the hand’.

Refreshed, it was time to head for the oasis at Merzouga with the surreal backdrop of the Erg Chebbi; en route we had further views of Greater Short-toed and Hoopoe Larks, as well as Cream-coloured Coursers. We had lunch at the oasis with Lanners overhead, after which we walked through the area; Subalpine Warblers and Laughing Doves were evident. With the increasing temperatures we visited the Berber Depot in Merzouga (a tea cum carpet shop) which was a wonderful experience, giving us all an insight into the Berber way of life. On leaving, a stunning Lanner was found plucking a kill.

Thereafter, we headed for the Merzouga Lake where we found incredibly large numbers of Little Grebes and Coots, along with good numbers of dabbling ducks, Greater Flamingos, Avocets, and Kentish Plovers, which together with the water, created a remarkable sight in the desert landscape. After a hugely successful day we headed back to Erfoud where we arrived back to be greeted by several Blue-cheeked Bee-eaters that performed beautifully for us – the perfect end to a great day!

Day 6

Wednesday 17th March

Erfoud to Ouarzazate – the Anti-Atlas 334km

A pre-breakfast amble across to the Oued Ziz produced nice views of Moroccan and Yellow Wagtails, Wood Sandpiper and several migrating Blue-cheeked Bee-eaters. But the highlights were a Bluethroat and a pair of Long-billed Crested Larks.

After breakfast, we loaded up the bus and commenced our journey back westwards through the arid and sparsely populated Anti-Atlas to Ouarzazate. Near Rissani we turned off the main road and after a short while stopped for excellent views of an adult and 2 well-grown young Pharaoh Eagle Owls sitting at the entrance of a cave. Nearby, some Trumpeter Finches were ‘trumping’ at us whilst Brown-necked Ravens harassed overhead. A short walk in the oued produced good views of a Tristram’s Warbler and a few more Long-billed Crested Larks. Back in the buses we continued onto coffee (and to purchase fossils) at Alnif. After which we headed for our lunch stop in an oued near Tazzanine, before which a Barbary Falcon thermalled over the buses! Over lunch a small group of Barbary Partridges were seen walking through the area and in the sparse trees a Western Orphean Warbler was the highlight.

By mid afternoon we had descended into the lush valley bottom of the Draa which prompted a leg-stretch over the road bridge; this area was surprisingly quiet however a lone warbler in the tamarisks proved to be a Saharan Olivaceous Warbler!

With us still having a fair distance to travel, we continued on and soon made our way over the dramatic Tizi-n-Tiniffit pass before descending towards Ouarzazate. Before checking into our hotel we had a brief visit to the Barrage El Mansour Eddahbi again where we found a couple of migrating Ospreys and watched 100's of White Storks coming into roost as the sun set. With darkness falling we checked into our hotel where after freshening up we settled down to dinner.

Day 7

Thursday 18th March

Ouarzazate to Taroudant 305km

A pre-breakfast amble through the gardens of the hotel produced a few migrants including another Saharan Olivaceous Warbler, and several Blackcaps, Chiffchaffs and Subalpine Warblers.

After breakfast, we loaded up the bus again and headed for the Barrage El Mansour Eddahbi. This produced good views of Long-billed Crested Larks, as well as Spoonbills, Ospreys and lots of Pallid Sifts with 2 Common Swifts. In the 'roost' were numerous White Storks and on the water there were many Cormorants and a selection of ducks, including Garganey. After an hour we continued our journey westwards. The next stop was another leg-stretch along the Oued Irriri before ascending the Tizi-n-Bachkoum pass. The oued contained a nice selection of migrants, including Western Orphee, Bonelli's, Isabelline and Subalpine Warblers and Iberian Chiffchaffs along with Redstarts and Moussier's Redstarts whilst an adult Bonelli's Eagle flew low overhead!

Our next stop was a coffee stop at Tazenakht before the Tinfat Saffron 'café' near Taliouine for lunch. Whilst lunch was being prepared we had an amble through the Almond trees which produced good views of a Western Orphee Warbler. After lunch and purchasing quality Saffron we continued on and descended through the arid hills into the remnant Argan forests, a threatened habitat found only in Morocco. At the head of the Souss Valley, we stopped for a walk through the Argan forest where a Short-toed Eagle flew low overhead. Then at the bridge at Aoulouz, a former breeding site for Northern Bald Ibis, a few migrating raptors were noted such as Black Kites, Long-legged Buzzards, Booted Eagles and Ospreys, as well as our first Bee-Eaters of the trip along with Cirl Buntings and Fan-tailed Warblers in the surrounding fields. The drive then through the Souss Valley provided further views of Bee-eaters, as well as excellent views of Spectacled Warblers and Black-eared Wheatear before we arrived at the Hotel Palais Salame, in the ancient walled town of Taroudant at 19.00. After checking in and freshening up we relaxed and took in the atmosphere of our remarkable and unique hotel either side of dinner.

Day 8

Friday 19th March

Taroudant to Tamri and Agadir 190km

After breakfast we loaded up the bus and set off to our first destination of the day - Tamri. The drive through the Souss Valley provided excellent views of Bee-eaters but little else of note. As we drove along the coast, gulls were evident on the beaches however we didn't stop as the aim was to reach Tamri. As we reach the mouth of the estuary a small group of Northern Bald Ibis duly arrived to bathe, which after several minutes totaled 19 birds allowing extended views of one of the world's rarest birds. Also present were a selection of Audouins, Yellow-legged and Lesser Black-backed Gulls, plus a few Sandwich Terns just offshore.

Fulfilled, we headed back towards Tamri for our tagine lunch. Thereafter we headed back to Agadir and checked in at the Hotel Argana, had a 'wash & brush up' and relaxed for a couple of hours before heading to the Oued Souss. Arriving at the Oued Souss at 17.00 it was evident that the February floods had washed away the road down to the Palace walls. However, looking over the oued a good selection of waterbirds were noted including a large groups of White Storks and Gull-billed Terns plus numerous Greater Flamingos, Spoonbills and Mediterranean Gulls, in amongst which several Stone Curlews were found and a Collared Pratincole and Slender-billed Gull. Unable to drive further down we walked along the edge of the oued and as dusk fell we waited near the walls of the Royal Palace and were rewarded with up to 4 Red-necked Nightjars singing and 2 silhouette views, one of which was a bird sitting in the middle of the track. We then returned to Agadir and our hotel where, after freshening up, we settled down to dinner and made plans for our final full day.

Day 9

Saturday 20th March

Agadir to Oued Massa 112km

After breakfast we headed along the coast to Oued Massa for our last full day in the field. Arriving at the track overlooking the oued we stopped and then gently walked towards the reserve entrance; from our vantage point we had excellent views of several Black-crowned Tchagras plus a Little Bittern and a Water Rail, which was being followed by a Mongoose! A few Quail were singing from within the adjoining fields. Walking further down, we managed close views of several Moussier's Redstarts, Black-eared Wheatears, Fan-tailed and Isabelline Warblers along with more obliging Black-crowned Tchagras. Continuing to walk further down the track towards the mouth of the oued produced views of some returning migrants such as Subalpine Warblers, along with further views of Moussier's Redstarts, Chiffchaffs and Sardinian Warblers and our first good views of Moroccan Cormorants along with several Spoonbills. Whilst in the trees back at our picnic spot were a selection of warblers including Isabelline, Bonelli's, Willow and Chiffchaffs.

After lunch at the reserve entrance we moved up the oued to search for Plain Martin. On the walk down to the oued amongst the wet fields we found several Marbled Ducks plus 2 Spotted Crakes and several Glossy Ibis along with the usual array of Fan-tailed Warblers, Yellow Wagtails and Stonechats, however we struggled to find our target bird, Plain Martin - although one was seen flying through but not by all. Equally frustrating was the brief view of a Black-shouldered Kite. In the 34°C heat it was time to leave after another fulfilling day; we returned to the hotel in plenty of time to pack and freshen up before our final evening meal.

Day 10

Sunday 21st March

Agadir to Marrakech 240km

After an early breakfast, the first bus left at 06.00 in the direction of Marrakech with all those flying back on the morning flight to Gatwick. Heading over the west end of the High Atlas we made good time and stopped for coffee near Imi-n-Tanoute and then a brief stop en route to Marrakech for a distant displaying Calandra Lark.

With a time schedule to keep we continued onto the airport, where we said our goodbyes to Khalid, who we thanked for his impeccable driving and patience, delicious lunches and helpfulness throughout. We boarded our EasyJet flight to Gatwick, which arrived on time.

Those on the evening flight enjoyed a more relaxing journey, leaving the hotel at 08.30 for Marrakech although not before a return visit to the Oued Souss where the highlights were close views of a further Spotted Crake and a couple of Barbary Partridges. Leaving at 11.30 we headed over the west end of the High Atlas. We made good time and stopped for lunch and coffee near Imi-n-Tanoute. Continuing on and as we entered the stony agricultural areas we stopped for a short walk and had excellent views of several Calandra Larks displaying around us. Satisfied we continued on towards Marrakech airport arriving at 17.00. Here we said our goodbyes to Bushmal. We boarded our evening flight to Gatwick and arrived safely just before mid-night. After retrieving our luggage, we bid our farewells, reflecting on what a thoroughly enjoyable time we'd had.

Acknowledgements

We managed to find some of the birds for which Southern Morocco is justly renowned – including Northern Bald Ibis, Houbara Bustard, Desert Sparrow, Desert Warbler etc which provided some wonderful memories to take away; we also stayed in some fantastic hotels, ate some superb authentic food, and most importantly had a good laugh and made good friends on the way. We very much hope that we'll meet you all again in the future. Thanks to all for contributing to a great holiday.

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Species Lists

Birds (h = heard only)

	Common name	Scientific name	March									
			12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
1	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>		8			40		2			
2	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>					260	30	1		4	
3	Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>		3			6	60	50	3	2	10
4	Moroccan Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo maroccanus</i>								6	8	2
5	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>						1	1	1		4
6	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>		80	70	40		4	6	6	50	
7	Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>					8				4	
8	Little Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>									1	
9	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	1	1	3	1	100	6	6	30	12	30
10	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>		2			10	3	20	50	6	30
11	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>		1				1	2		2	1
12	Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodi</i>							3	35	40	50
13	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>									50	
14	Northern Bald Ibis	<i>Geronticus eremita</i>								17		
15	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	20	20	8			400	770	300	6	100
16	Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus ruber</i>					45		3	29		40
17	Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>							2			
18	Ruddy Shelduck	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>		2			120	3	8	2		
19	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>		10				2	40	2	12	
20	Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>					8					
21	Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>					25					
22	Garganey	<i>Anas querquedula</i>							5		1	
23	Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>					40					
24	Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>					130		30		40	
25	Marbled Teal	<i>Marmaronetta angustirostris</i>									4	
26	Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>					12					
27	Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>					35					
28	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>		2	45	1		2	2	40	15	
29	Black-shouldered Kite	<i>Elaneus caeruleus</i>									[1]	
30	Hen Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>			1							
31	Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>				1	1			1		
32	Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>		1			8	1	4	5	1	
33	Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>		2		1	1				1	
34	Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>		2	4	2	1		1			
35	Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>						1	5	1	5	1
36	Bonelli's Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus fasciatus</i>			2	2			1			
37	Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>		8	4				4			
38	Short-toed Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>		1	1				2			
39	Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>		1								
40	Lanner Falcon	<i>Falco biarmicus</i>					3					
41	Barbary Falcon	<i>Falco pelegrinoides</i>						1				
42	Peregrine	<i>Falco peregrinus brookei</i>								1		
43	Large Falcon sp	<i>Falco peregrinus brookei/pelegrinoides</i>		2								

	Common name	Scientific name	March									
			12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
44	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>		4	2	4	1	6	12	20	15	30
45	Lesser Kestrel	<i>Falco naumanni</i>						[1]				
46	Barbary Partridge	<i>Alectoris barbara</i>						7	1	2	1	2
47	Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>							1h		2h	
48	Spotted Crake	<i>Porzana porzana</i>									2	1
49	Water Rail	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>									1	
50	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>									2	
51	Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>		6			3000	200	90		6	
52	Houbara Bustard	<i>Chlamydotis undulata</i>					1					
53	Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>								1		4
54	Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosette</i>					9	2		15		15
55	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>					25	4		50	30	20
56	Stone-curlew	<i>Burhinus oedicephalus</i>								12		1
57	Cream-coloured Courser	<i>Cursorius cursor</i>					20					
58	Collared Pratincole	<i>Glareola pratincola</i>								1		
59	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>		12	1	2	36	15	6	2	2	20
60	Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>					4	1		4		
61	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>								[1h]		
62	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>					[3]	2				
63	Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>		1						8		6
64	Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>								20		
65	Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>										1
66	Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>		8			1	1	20	20		12
67	Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>					[1]					2
68	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>						1				1
69	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>			2	1	12	1		8	2	30
70	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>					[1]		1	4		1
71	Audouin's Gull	<i>Larus audouinii</i>								50		1
72	Black-headed Gull	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>		30			10			120		40
73	Mediterranean Gull	<i>Larus melanocephalus</i>								20		30
74	Slender-billed Gull	<i>Larus genei</i>								1		
75	Western Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis michahellis</i>								240	10	150
76	Western Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus graellsii</i>								80	4	150
77	Sandwich Tern	<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>								50		2
78	Gull-billed Tern	<i>Sterna nilotica</i>		12			2		2	15		47
79	Spotted Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles senegallus</i>				14	30					
80	Black-bellied Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles orientalis</i>				2						
81	Crowned Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles coronatus</i>			7	50	6					
82	Rock Dove/Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
83	Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
84	Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>							8	4	20	6
85	Laughing Dove	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>			6	1	6	6	3		10	
86	Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	10	25					10	12	8	8
87	Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>		1	1							
88	Pharaoh Eagle Owl	<i>Bubo ascalaphus desertorum</i>						1+2Y				

	Common name	Scientific name	March										
			12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
89	Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>					1				1	1	
90	Red-necked Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus ruficollis</i>									2+4h		
91	Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>	100	1						6	30	12	
92	Pallid Swift	<i>Apus pallidus</i>	500	200	60	2			50	100	200	80	125
93	Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>								2			
94	Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>										1	
95	Blue-cheeked Bee-eater	<i>Merops superciliosus</i>					15	22					
96	Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>								20	30	30	30
97	Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>		1	6	6			1	4	1	2	3
98	Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>		2							1		
99	Wryneck	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>				1	1						
100	Shorelark	<i>Eremophila alpestris atlas</i>		80									
101	Long-billed' Crested Lark	<i>Galerida macrorhyncha</i>					4			6			
102	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>		4		2	6				6	20	30
103	Thekla Lark	<i>Galerida theklae</i>			2	6		5	8				20
104	Crested/Thekla Larks	<i>Galerida cristata/theklae</i>		6	4	4	6		40	20			10
105	Short-toed Lark	<i>Calandrella brachydactyla</i>		8	70	70	250	750	120				50
106	Lesser Short-toed Lark	<i>Calandrella rufescens</i>			12	3							2
107	Bar-tailed Lark	<i>Ammomanes cincturus</i>				7	20	4	2				
108	Desert Lark	<i>Ammomanes deserti payni</i>		4	5	12	25	25	6				
109	Calandra Lark	<i>Melanocorypha calandra</i>											20
110	Thick-billed Lark	<i>Rhamphocorys clotbey</i>			30	3	3						
111	Temminck's Lark	<i>Eremophila bilopha</i>			22	10							
112	Hoopoe Lark	<i>Alaemon alaudipes</i>			2	1	16						
113	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>			1		2	6	1	1	6		
114	Plain Martin	<i>Riparia paludicola</i>										1	
115	Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>		6	20	50		1	20				
116	House Martin	<i>Delichon urbica</i>			25		6		12	2			
117	Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Hirundo daurica</i>	2	20					6	6			6
118	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica rustica</i>	10	50	10	12	20	50	200	300	150	60	
119	Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>		1									
120	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>		1					9				
121	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>		3			10	12	15	10	6	15	
122	Moroccan Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba subpersonata</i>				2	3	4	5		1	2	
123	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	1	2	4	6			1				
124	Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>		10				6					30
125	Spanish Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava iberiae</i>		1		1	6	3	6	3	20		
126	Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>		3	1h	1h							
127	Common Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus barbatus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
128	Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>		2					1				
129	Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>			1h	3	1	1	4	2	2	1	
130	Bluethroat	<i>Luscinia svecica</i>						1					
131	Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>									6		
132	Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>							2		1		
133	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>			6	2			1				

	Common name	Scientific name	March									
			12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
134	Moussier's Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus moussieri</i>				2			5	3	10	4
135	Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>		2	1	6	3		2			12
136	Desert Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe deserti</i>		2	10	25	15	20	10			
137	Black-eared Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe hispanica</i>		2		1	6	2	1		4	
138	Red-rumped Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe moesta</i>			15	10			1			
139	White-crowned Black Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe leucopyga</i>		2		15	20	50	25			
140	Black Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe leucura</i>		10	6	4	1					
141	Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>		3	6	10					1	
142	Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula mauritanicus</i>	4	30	15	8	6	2	30	25	15	50
143	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>		1					1			
144	Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>		3	4	2			1		3	
145	Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>									6	
146	Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>									1	
147	Fan-tailed Warbler	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>							2	15	35	15
148	Isabelline Warbler	<i>Hippolais opaca</i>							1		12	
149	"Saharan" Olivaceous Warbler	<i>Hippolais pallida reiseri</i>						1	1			
150	Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	32	12	2	2			12	2	6	
151	Western Orphean Warbler	<i>Sylvia hortensis</i>					1	1	3			
152	Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>							1			
153	Sardinian Warbler	<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>	1	6	2	2	1	1	4	20	40	32
154	Western Bonelli's Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus bonelli</i>							4		1	
155	Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>							3		3	
156	Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>		6	12	2	5	8	15		12	3
157	Iberian Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus ibericus</i>					1		2		1	
158	Tristram's Warbler	<i>Sylvia deserticola</i>			3	1		1				
159	Spectacled Warbler	<i>Sylvia conspicillata</i>		1		1			3			
160	Subalpine Warbler	<i>Sylvia cantillans</i>		1		3	12	3	20		3	1
161	Desert Warbler	<i>Sylvia nana</i>					3					
162	Fulvous Babbler	<i>Turdoides fulvus</i>				7						
163	Atlas Coal Tit	<i>Periparus ater atlas</i>		6								
164	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		4	1	2			5	2	6	2
165	African Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes teneriffae ultramarinus</i>		2	4	3						6
166	Black-crowned Tchagra	<i>Tchagra senegala</i>									14	
167	Desert' Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius meridionalis elegans</i>		2		12	20	30	6			2
168	Desert' Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius meridionalis algenensis</i>							1	3	3	8
169	Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>		6	1	2	2	2	6	2	4	30
170	Moroccan Magpie	<i>Pica pica mauritanica</i>		4					1	6	25	6
171	Red-billed Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>		37								
172	'North African' Raven	<i>Corvus corax tingitanus</i>		4								
173	Brown-necked Raven	<i>Corvus ruficollis</i>					32	6				
174	Spotless Starling	<i>Sturnus unicolor</i>	✓	60					1	30	40	30
175	Spanish Sparrow	<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>		7		1		1	60			15

	Common name	Scientific name	March									
			12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
176	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
177	Desert Sparrow	<i>Passer simplex</i>					2					
178	'North African' Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs africana</i>		30	2	2			10	6	10	8
179	Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>		25	40	45		10	50	10	25	R
180	Linnet	<i>Acanthis cannabina</i>		4					4		6	
181	Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis parva</i>		10	20	8	1	1	20	6	8	20
182	Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris voousi</i>		8		5			105	3		
183	Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes burryi</i>		2								
184	Trumpeter Finch	<i>Bucanetes githagineus</i>			1	2	6	12	20			
185	Crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra poliogyne</i>		6								
186	Corn Bunting	<i>Miliaria calandra</i>							20	10	4	40
187	House Bunting	<i>Emberiza sahari</i>	40	10	15	10	1	6	10	6	15	25
188	Rock Bunting	<i>Emberiza cia</i>			6							
189	Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>		3h					1h		3	

Mammals

Fat Sand Rat (Tagdilt Plain)

Gundi (Dades & Todra Gorges)

Barbary Ground Squirrel (Tizi-n-Tiniffit pass, Tizi-n-Bachkoum pass, Massa etc)

Mongoose (Oued Massa)

Wild Boar (Toufilait)

Jerd sp (Barrage)

Bat sp (various places)

Reptiles and Amphibians

Terrapins (Draa River and Oued Massa)

various Lizard sp & Frog/Toad sp

Moths

Uresiphita gilvata (pyralid moth - Oued Massa)

Nomophila noctuella (pyralid moth - Oued Massa)

Maghreb Poplar Hawkmoth *Laothoe austauti* (endemic to Maghreb - Dades Gorge)

Hummingbird Hawkmoth (various places)

Silver Y (various places)

Butterflies

Swallowtail

Scarce Swallowtail

Large White

Small White

Bath White

Green-striped White

Greenish Black-tip

Moroccan Orange-tip

Clouded Yellow

Small Copper

Geranium Argus

Brown Argus

Red Admiral

Painted Lady

Speckled Wood

Plain Tiger

Dragonflies

Glittering Demoiselle *Calopteryx exul* (endemic to Atlas region – Aoulouz Bridge)

Copper Demoiselle *Calopteryx haemorrhoidalis*

Sahara Bluetail *Ischnura saharensis*

Goblet-marked Damselfly *Erythromma lindenii*

Lesser Emperor *Anax parthenope*

Red-veined Darter *Sympetrum fonscolombii*

Scarlet Darter *Crocothemis erythraea*