

# Spain - Extremadura & Gredos Mountains

Naturetrek Tour Report

1 - 8 May 2012



Naturetrek Group Photo above Plataforma



Red-rumped Swallow



European Roller in flight



Red Squirrel

Report and images compiled by Lee Morgan



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## Day 1

Tuesday 1st May

### London – Madrid - Trujillo

After a relatively uneventful flight from Heathrow's Terminal 5, we arrived in an unexpectedly chilly and overcast Madrid where, after taking the chance to grab a quick bite to eat at the airport, we loaded up the minibuses and set off to brave the Madrid ring-roads. Fortunately, there was very little traffic on the roads and it did not take too long to find our way out onto the empty Spanish motorways. We soon found ourselves motoring through open country, spotting Black and Red Kites as we travelled. A brief stop at a roadside service station provided everyone with a welcome chance to stretch their legs and some of our first birding of the trip (the first birding in Spain for many of the group) and we watched as flocks of Spanish and House Sparrows flew in and out of an old storks nest, and watched the Crested Larks and Corn Buntings flit between the fence posts nearby.

We continued our journey, making good time, until we arrived at the wonderful Vina las Torres hotel in the early evening. The skies were clear and from the elevated hillside location we had some fantastic views of the medieval hilltop town of Trujillo in the distance. The fields and gardens around the hotel were still buzzing with bird activity and with Nightingales singing loudly from every bush, Hoopoes, Azure-winged Magpies and Woodchat and Southern Grey Shrikes flitting between the fence posts and wires, it was very difficult to get everyone indoors and checked into their rooms. Anyway, after a little gentle persuasion and a friendly welcome from our hosts, we were each shown to our rooms before having some time to admire the fabulous show of Champagne Orchids growing in the hotels garden. Once settled in, we were all treated to a welcome drink from our hosts and an excellent Spanish meal (the first of many to come).

After dinner we all took a short stroll around the hotel to listen to the Nightingales and Mole Crickets singing all around us and to look for Barn Owls around the surrounding buildings. Unfortunately the owls were keeping quiet but it was a great way to end a busy travel day.

## Day 2

## Wednesday 2nd May

### Belen Plains

Most people woke early to the sound of Nightingales singing in the garden. With an unexpectedly bright (but slightly chilly) morning most of the group (that had managed to set their alarm clocks correctly!) gathered for a little pre-breakfast walk around the fields and orchards that surround the garden of the finca. This provided us with, amongst numerous other things, some lovely views of Azure-winged Magpies, Serins, Woodchat Shrikes, Sardinian and Melodious Warblers as well as a brief glimpse of a male Golden Oriole. It also gave everyone a good opportunity to familiarise themselves with the variety of bird songs and calls (although this proved a little difficult over the volume of noisy Nightingales). After a good look around it was not long before the lure of hot coffee and a good breakfast brought us all back to the Finca.

After a leisurely breakfast we set off to explore the plains around Belen, where a safari style exploration of the narrow tracks revealed some wonderfully close views of columns of circling Griffon and Black Vultures, White Storks, Black Kites, Egyptian Vultures and hundreds of Cattle Egrets. It also gave us our first views of Short-toed and Booted Eagles and Montagu's Harriers too. Further out onto the plains and, thanks to the shorter grass, we were soon watching troops of Great Bustards standing around in the open fields and Little Bustards, raising their heads and calling their tell-tale raspberry calls not 50 yards from the vehicles. The skies were filled with the songs of Calandra and Crested Larks and Corn Buntings sang from every fence post. It was certainly an excellent first outing onto plains.

At midday we retreated into Trujillo where a stop to pick up some fresh supplies and set out a picnic lunch in the shelter of the old bull ring provided everyone with a chance to bird around the local town park ponds where, amidst the hundreds of Cattle Egrets, Coots and Mallards, the group spotted Common and Green Sandpipers and plenty of Black-winged Stilts.

After our picnic lunch spent watching the Lesser Kestrels flying in and out of the roof of the bull ring we headed back out on the Belen Plains. The slow drive out eastwards along the narrow dirt tracks provided us with more lovely views of the hundreds of Crested Larks and Corn Buntings but this time we managed to spot the odd Thekla Lark, Short toed Larks and even a glimpse of a Lesser Short-toed Lark too. The roadside verges were dotted with electric blue flowers of Barbary Nut, Purple Bugloss and French Lavender and despite the breezy and somewhat changeable weather conditions we still managed to spot the odd Small Copper and Green-veined White flitting between the flowers.

As we continued it was certainly the numerous Bee-eaters, Southern Grey Shrikes and the Montagu's Harriers that stole the show for the remainder of the afternoon but it was not long until a worsening road surface forced us to double back on ourselves and make our way slowly back towards Belen. There was plenty more to see on our journey back across the plains and a stop to watch several Montagu's Harriers hunting close to the road provided us with one last chance to watch the Little Bustards displaying in the fields beyond.

It had been a great first day out on the plains, with some wonderful birds, and we had managed to avoid the worst of the weather too so we were more than happy with our efforts as we made our way back to the Finca where a glass or two of the local wine and wonderful meal awaited us.

## Day 3

Thursday 3rd May

### Monfragüe National Park

A few of us attempted to start the day with a repeat of the previous days pre-breakfast bird walk but a grey, drizzly start to the morning quickly dampened everyone's ambitions and we returned to the hotel for breakfast before we all got too wet. However, after breakfast, the skies had cleared and we loaded up the vehicles and set off towards Monfragüe, a little more positive about the day ahead.

The journey into the park was uneventful and the roads were empty, but we did not allow ourselves to be distracted too much by the low flying Black Kites and Vultures that we passed en route and maintained a steady progress towards our first stop of the day, Castillio Monfragüe. At a distance we could see that the castle, located high on the ridge overlooking Pena falcon rock, was shrouded in mist and cloud but as we approached the cloud had started to clear and, as we drove up the steep winding track, conditions were improving all the time. The sun had even come out! We arrived at the top of Castillio Monfragüe in good time and we were some of the first visitors to arrive at the top; just in time to watch Griffon, Black and Egyptian Vultures taking to the air and go cruising past our ears! The great vantage point of the castle allowed us to scan the skies and forested slopes and watch as Red-rumped Swallows, Swallows, House Martins, Crag Martins and Swifts screamed past overhead. Many of the group also spotted a few Alpine Swifts and the odd White-rumped Swift too. A couple of hours went by quickly as we watched Booted Eagles patrolling the forested slopes, Blue Rock Thrushes singing from the craggy cliffs, listened to Short-toed Treecreepers and Firecrest singing in the trees and generally marvelled at the wonderful vista stretched out below us.

By late morning the skies closed in once more and we were ready to move on. We made our way back down the steep stairway back to the vehicles. We arrived at the vehicles just in time as the heavens opened. Travelling through the rain, we continued our journey into the park, by-passing the rain soaked and very busy Pena falcon watch point (somewhere we planned to look at a later stage in the trip) and made our way towards a more sheltered lunch spot. We stopped for a while to look for Alpine Swifts around the bridge over the Rio Tajo but it was obvious that they had not started nesting at the bridge this year.

We arrived at the Monfragüe visitor centre a little after midday. The rain had stopped and once again the sun had come out. We set out a picnic in the shelter of a gazebo (just in case the weather changed again) and enjoyed a leisurely lunch in the sunshine, watching eagles and vultures circling high overhead, the swallows and martins collecting mud from the puddles around the car park, and flocks of House and Tree Sparrows, finches and White Wagtails pecking for scraps around the tables.

We cleared away the picnic just in time to miss another rain shower and headed on once more. We stopped briefly at the Mirador del Tajadilla where Lee and James scanned the skies for eagles while the group took the opportunity to watch Griffon Vultures at the nest on the adjacent cliffs. This brief stop turned out to be quite constructive with some more nice views of Blue Rock Thrush, a very distant view of our first Rock Bunting of the trip (an amazing bit of spotting by Sara) and even an extraordinary view of a female Red Deer that walked nonchalantly past the busy watch point as if nobody was around!

Despite such great sightings there was plenty more for us to see and we duly continued our journey into the park, making our way to the Mirador Portilla del Tieter where within minutes of getting out of the vehicles, we were watching two fluffy Eagle Owl chicks basking on a sunny ledge in front of their nest, Spanish Imperial Eagles flying along the valley and landing on the tree tops on the adjacent side of the river and watching Black Storks flying around over our heads! It was a truly incredible end to a fantastic day's bird watching and as the late afternoon sunshine began to fade we drew a close to our day in the park and began to make our way back to the hotel for dinner.

## Day 4

Friday 4th May

### Caceres Plains and Steppe

The day started wet and chilly! Even the Nightingales in the hotel gardens were quiet and it was with some level of reluctance that we all ventured out for a pre-breakfast bird watch. Nonetheless, once the initial showers of the morning had passed we enjoyed a good morning's birding around the hotel gardens and most people managed a second chance to see some of the species they had missed out on the days before.

After breakfast we loaded up the minibus, ready for a day exploring the steppe habitats and plains around Caceres. We stopped briefly in Trujillo for some lunch supplies before making our way west towards Caceres. The straight open road provided us with ample opportunities to stop and scan for birds and by late morning we had enjoyed some great views of flocks of Great Bustards, Rollers, Booted Eagles, Montagu's Harriers, Common and Lesser Kestrels, Black and Griffon Vultures and numerous larks and shrikes. An attempted walk along one of the farm tracks was cut short by a sudden change in the weather but the showers soon passed and we continued our journey eastwards across the plains back towards Trujillo.

We stopped for a picnic alongside the Rio Magasca where we ate our lunch in the sunshine whilst watching Red-rumped Swallows and House Martins swooping over the river, listened to the Marsh Frogs calling from the river margins, and watched Terrapins sunning themselves on the rocks below. The weather had settled into a warm sunny afternoon so we ventured on across the steppe once more, stopping occasionally to scan for Black Shouldered Kites over the tree tops and listening for Quail and Little Bustards calling from the long grassy fields and watch the numerous Montagu's Harriers hunting alongside the tracks. Once again, we had spent the day enjoying the delights of Extremadura whilst narrowly avoiding the worst of the unseasonal weather and after another long and exciting day on the plains we made our way slowly back to the hotel

## Day 5

Saturday 5th May

### Extremadura to Gredos via Monfragüe

A beautiful start to the day and after a relaxed breakfast we packed up the vehicles and said farewell to our wonderful hosts at Vina las Torres and set off on our journey northwards towards our next destination in the Gredos Mountains. A stop in Trujillo for some last minute lunch supplies provided everyone with a final opportunity to explore the wonderful cobbled streets of the old town and to take a wander up to the castle before we eventually boarded the vehicles once more and continued our journey.

However, a minor 'diversion' resulted in a fun (and thankfully brief) but nail-bitingly tight jaunt through the narrowest streets of the old town..... in a minibus! It was certainly turning out to be a morning that none of us would forget in a hurry. Thankfully we escaped the narrow labyrinth of streets unscathed and, with a long day ahead, we decided to make the most of the wonderful weather and avoid the main highways north; opting for a more leisurely days travel through the Monfragüe Park. We stopped briefly en route to look along the river Almonte. A lovely stop, affording a wonderful view of the picturesque bridge and some lovely dehesa slopes and we managed some nice views of Fan-tailed, Cetti's and Melodious Warblers too.

We spent much of the remainder of the day retracing our previous visits steps through the Monfragüe Park and, with a first stop at the Pena falcon watch point, we managed some great views of hundreds of Griffon Vultures, Black Storks at the nest, Rock Buntings, Blue Rock Thrushes, Red-rumped Swallows perched on twigs just a few metres from us and, to top it all off, James also found us a singing male Black Wheatear. This was real bonus for everyone in the group and it was a lovely close view too.

After another relaxed lunch stop near the visitor centre we headed back up to Portilla del Tietar where we enjoyed some more time watching Egyptian Vultures at the nest, Spanish Imperial Eagles bullying Griffon Vultures on the rocky ledges and once again getting some amazing views of the fluffy Eagle Owl chicks sitting at the nest.

We left the area a little after 3pm and began our journey north towards the Gredos Mountains, passing through the beautiful Cork Oak plantations in the north of Monfragüe, stopping briefly to scan for Black Shouldered Kites and watch Golden Orioles, Nuthatches, Short-toed Treecreepers and Bee-eaters amidst the trees. We continued northwards through mile after mile of beautifully terraced cherry orchards before eventually winding our way up into the steep roads into western end of the Gredos. Some brief stops on the way provided us with some lovely views of Short-toed, Booted and Golden Eagles, while the clear conditions meant we were able to enjoy some spectacular scenery as we travelled (although some people used the time to take a little nap) with snow capped mountains and some periods of blue sky too.

We arrived at the Milano Real (Red Kite) hotel in the tiny village of Hoyos del Espino a little after 6pm and, after checking into our rooms, we all took the opportunity for a little look around and a relax before meeting in the bar to do the checklist and enjoy a drink before dinner was served.

## Day 6

Sunday 6th May

### Hoyos del Espino – La Plataforma

After yesterdays long travel day we all opted to forego the pleasures of a pre-breakfast walk and opted instead to start the day at a more civilised hour, giving everyone a chance to catch up on some much needed rest. So, after a delicious breakfast, we started our day slowly with some light birding around the hotel where we quickly added great views of Hoopoes, Serins, Black Redstarts and Rock Sparrow to the days list of birds. A slow wander up the hill and through the pine forest behind the hotel also get us some wonderful views of Cirl and Rock Bunting, Bonelli's Warbler, Whitethroat and Crested Tit and get the day's bird watching off to a flying start. A dangerously close encounter with a pugnacious Firecrest also created much amusement in the group (that will teach Lee to imitate bird calls!).

After a quick pit-stop back at the hotel we were ready to head out once more and we loaded up the vehicles to make our way slowly up to La Plataforma for lunch. We stopped en route to scan the fields, woodlands and rivers for birds, adding some nice sightings of Ortolan Bunting, Yellow and Grey Wagtail, Northern Wheatear, and Woodchat and Southern Grey Shrikes to the day's tally. A relaxed picnic sitting in the sun amidst the boulders at La Plataforma provided ample opportunity to watch the Spanish Ibex that peered down at us from high up on the surrounding crags and the dippers that zoomed busily up and down the river. It also provided an excellent opportunity to photograph the tame Rock Buntings that quickly made a bee-line for the vehicles when they could see there were picnic scraps on offer.

After lunch, we all took a slow walk up the steep mountain path towards the Refugio de Reguero Llano. This gave us a chance to take a closer look at the tufts of tiny Rock Narcissus and Hoop Petticoat Daffodils and Yellow Star of Bethlehem that sprouted from between the granite boulders. The weather stayed kind to us and as we neared the top of the path we enjoyed some wonderfully close encounters with a particularly curious and very impressive male Ibex who wandered close to the path to take a closer look at us.

Once at the alpine plateau the songs of Water Pipits, Skylarks, Wheatears and Dunnocks filled the air as we scoured the low growing scrub for signs of Bluethroats. Unfortunately, after some considerable effort, we failed to find any Bluethroats (hardly surprising really given that the plateau had been waist deep in snow not 48 hours before) and we reluctantly concluded that they probably had not yet arrived on territory. However, given such a glorious day, we made best of our time at high altitude and continued to explore the plateau for the rest of the afternoon, venturing as far as the snowline where we took some time to look at several newly arrived Black-eared Wheatears and had some great views of both male and female Rock Thrush before we started making our way slowly back towards the vehicles.

Our journey back down the mountain was largely uneventful but a stop for refreshments at a small café in the wooded valley floor provided us with some great views of Booted Eagles and a large flock of Crossbills (and a good chance to practice our Spanish on the owner of the establishment who was enthusiastically trying to share with us information about the birds of the area). It had been a truly great day up on the mountain and once again we had been very lucky to avoid the worst of weather. We returned to the hotel with enough time to enjoy the last of the day's sunshine, and some fantastic views of the mountains, from the comfort of the hotel's gardens.

## Day 7

Monday 7th May

### 'Bonelli's Wood' & Prado del Jabali

The consistently cold mornings meant that there was little point making a very early start to the day's activities so, after a leisurely breakfast, the group started the day with a short walk and another opportunity for some great birding around the hotel and village. Among the highlights of the walk were the numerous newly arrived Melodious Warblers that sang from every bush, and a jaw-droppingly low flyover from a Short-toed Eagle.

With a rather changeable forecast for the day ahead we headed towards Hoyocasero to explore the beautiful Oak and Pine woodlands of the aptly nick-named Bonelli's Wood. We parked the vehicles and explored the woodland trails on foot to the sounds of Bonelli's Warblers and Nightingales singing from the trees around us.

The unusually late start to the season meant that there were very few butterflies on the wing but we did manage to find a newly emerged Spanish Festoon sunning itself along one of the rides and the sun was just strong enough for a few Large Psammodromus Lizards and the odd Wall Lizard to come out and bask too. Many of the flowers were later than usual too and most of the Wild Peonies were still in tight bud. However, we found one or two in flower but it was the abundant scattering of Angel's Tear Narcissus throughout most of the woodland that really stood out. Our walk through the woodland provided us with plenty of opportunities to see and hear variety of woodland birds such as Green and Great Spotted Woodpecker, Nuthatches and Short-toed Treecreeper but it also provided us with some great views of Pied Flycatchers too.

A threatened change in the weather meant that we opted to take our picnic in the more sheltered pine forests at the northern end of the wood but the showers never developed and we were left to enjoy a leisurely picnic basking in the sunny forest glades enjoying the display of freshly opened flowers of Oxlips and Alpine Pasque Flowers and taking the chance to look for more butterflies and birds.

After lunch, we left the forest made our way slowly back towards Hoyos del Espino to explore the pine forests below the Parador in search of some good views of Citril Finches and more forest wildlife. A walk by the river near the Prado del Jabali provided us with some fantastic views of Dippers carrying food to the nest while a good search of the trees around the picnic area gave us some nice views of Red Squirrels, Ortolan Buntings and a fabulous display of Rock Narcissus but the Citril Finches were remaining quite illusive. Nonetheless we all soldiered on and, after a great day exploring the forests and woodlands, there was just enough time to scan the skies for raptors before we eventually called it a day and made our way back to the hotel for dinner.

## Day 8

Tuesday 8th May

### Hoyos del Espino to Madrid - London

We set off early but couldn't resist one last stop at the Parador to look for Citril Finches before finally heading back to Madrid airport for our flight home. This time we were lucky and we managed to spot a large mixed flock of Citril Finches and Crossbills moving through the tall pines and occasionally coming to the ground to collect grit from the roadside. We had enough time to enjoy some wonderful close views of both male and female Citrils sitting out in the open before we eventually had to make tracks and continue on to the airport. It was an amazing way to end the trip and we left for Madrid on a real high.

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## Species Lists

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

	Common Name	Scientific Name	May								
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
1	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>		✓						✓	
2	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>		✓							
3	Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>			✓						
4	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>				✓					
5	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
6	Great White Egret	<i>Egretta alba</i>	✓		✓						
7	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
8	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>			4			2			✓
9	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
10	Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>		✓							
11	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
12	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
13	Red Kite	<i>Milvus milvus</i>	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓
14	Egyptian Vulture	<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>		✓	8			✓			
15	Black Vulture	<i>Aegypius monachus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
16	Griffon Vulture	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
17	Hen Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>				✓			✓		
18	Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>	✓	✓		✓					
19	Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>			✓						
20	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
21	Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>						1			
22	Spanish Imperial Eagle	<i>Aquila adalberti</i>			3			2			
23	Bonelli's Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus fasciatus</i>								✓	
24	Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>	✓	✓	✓	12	12	✓	✓	✓	
25	Short-toed Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>		✓	✓	3		✓	✓		
26	Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>									
27	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
28	Lesser Kestrel	<i>Falco naumanni</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
29	Peregrine	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>			✓			1			
30	Red-legged Partridge	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓				
31	Common Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>		h		h	h				
32	Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>		h							
33	Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>		✓	✓						
34	Great Bustard	<i>Otis tarda</i>		14		40+					
35	Little Bustard	<i>Tetrax tetrax</i>		3		4					
36	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	✓	15	✓						
37	Stone Curlew	<i>Burhinus oedicephalus</i>				h					
38	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>		3			✓				
39	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>		2	✓						
40	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>			✓						
41	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>				9					
42	Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus cachinnans</i>				30					
43	Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>				6					
44	Common Gull	<i>Larus canus</i>				2					
45	Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
46	Rock Dove / Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
47	Stock Dove	<i>Columba oenas</i>	✓				✓		✓		

	Common Name	Scientific Name	May							
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
48	Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
49	Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>					h			
50	Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	h	h	✓	✓	h	✓	h	h
51	Great Spotted Cuckoo	<i>Clamator glandarius</i>		✓						
52	Eagle Owl	<i>Bubo bubo</i>			2		2			
53	Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>				✓				
54	Scops Owl	<i>Otus scops</i>	h							h
55	Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>			6					
56	Pallid Swift	<i>Apus pallidus</i>			✓		6			
57	White-rumped Swift	<i>Apus caffer</i>			✓					
58	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
59	Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
60	Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>				12				
61	Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
62	Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>	✓					✓	✓	h
63	Great-spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>			h			✓	✓	
64	Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	h
65	Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>			✓	✓		✓		
66	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
67	Thekla Lark	<i>Galerida theklae</i>		✓						
68	Short-toed Lark	<i>Calandrella brachydactyla</i>		✓		✓				
69	Lesser Short-toed Lark	<i>Calandrella rufescens</i>		✓						
70	Calandra Lark	<i>Melanocorypha calandra</i>		✓		✓				
71	Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>			✓		✓	✓		
72	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	✓			✓	✓			
73	Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Hirundo daurica</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
74	Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
75	House Martin	<i>Delichon urbica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
76	Water Pipit	<i>Anthus spinoletta</i>						✓		
77	Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>				✓				
78	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
79	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>					✓	✓	✓	
80	Yellow (Iberian) Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava (iberiae)</i>						✓	✓	
81	Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>			h	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
82	Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>						✓	✓	
83	Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>			✓			✓	✓	✓
84	Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>			✓			✓	✓	✓
85	Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
86	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
87	Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
88	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>			✓		✓	✓		
89	Black-eared Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe hispanica</i>						✓		
90	Black Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe leucura</i>			✓					
91	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>		h	h	✓				
92	Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola saxatilis</i>						✓		
93	Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>			✓		✓			
94	Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
95	Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>					✓	✓	✓	
96	Fan-tailed Warbler	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>		✓		✓	✓			
97	Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>					✓			
98	Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>				✓				

	Common Name	Scientific Name	May								
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
99	Melodious Warbler	<i>Hippolais polyglotta</i>		✓				✓		✓	✓
100	Subalpine Warbler	<i>Sylvia cantillans</i>		h	✓			✓			
101	Garden Warbler	<i>Sylvia borin</i>							✓		
102	Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>						1	✓	✓	✓
103	Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>						✓	✓	✓	✓
104	Sardinian Warbler	<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓			
105	Bonelli's Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus bonelli</i>							✓	✓	
106	Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>								✓	
107	Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapillus</i>							✓	✓	✓
108	Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>								✓	
109	Pied Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>								✓	
110	Crested Tit	<i>Lophophanes cristatus</i>							✓	✓	✓
111	Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
112	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
113	Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>							✓	✓	✓
114	Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>			✓	✓			✓		
115	Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>						✓	✓	✓	
116	Short-toed Treecreeper	<i>Certhia brachydactyla</i>			h			✓	✓	✓	✓
117	Southern Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius excubitor</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
118	Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
119	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	✓								
120	Spotless Starling	<i>Sturnus unicolor</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
121	Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
122	Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓	
123	Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
124	Azure-winged Magpie	<i>Cyanopica cyana</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
125	Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>							✓		
126	Jackdaw	<i>Corvus monedula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
127	Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
128	Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
129	Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>		✓					✓	✓	
130	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
131	Spanish Sparrow	<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
132	Rock Sparrow	<i>Petronia petronia</i>							✓	✓	3
133	Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
134	Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>			✓						
135	Citril finch	<i>Serinus Citrinella</i>							✓	h	10
136	Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
137	Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>		✓	✓	✓					✓
138	Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
139	Linnet	<i>Acanthis cannabina</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
140	Crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>							✓	✓	✓
141	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
142	Ortolan Bunting	<i>Emberiza hortulana</i>							✓	✓	
143	Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>			✓			✓	✓	✓	
144	Rock Bunting	<i>Emberiza cia</i>			✓			✓	✓	✓	
145	Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>						h			

	Common Name	Scientific Name	May							
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

## Mammals (DOR = dead on road; Dap = )

1	Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>								✓	
2	Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>			✓		✓				
3	European Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>			✓	✓					
4	Red Deer	<i>Cervus elaphus</i>			✓		✓				
5	Iberian Hare	<i>Lepus granatensis</i>	✓		Dap		✓				
6	Pine Marten	<i>Martes martes</i>	DOR								
7	Spanish Ibex	<i>Capra pyrenaica</i>							✓		

## Reptiles and amphibians

1	Viperine Snake	<i>Natrix maura</i>		DOR							
2	Marsh Frog	<i>Pelophylax ridibundus</i>				✓		✓	✓		
3	European Pond Terrapin	<i>Emys orbicularis</i>				✓					
4	Large Psammodromus	<i>Psammodromus algirus</i>				✓			✓		
5	Marbled Newt	<i>Triturus marmoratus</i>					✓				
6	European Tree frog	<i>Hyla arborea</i>					✓				
7	Common Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis muralis</i>							✓		
8	Iberian Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis hispanica</i>						✓			

## Butterflies

1	small copper					✓	✓				
2	large white						✓				
3	small white					✓	✓				
4	green veined white					✓			✓		
5	small heath						✓				
6	bath white					✓					
7	orange tip							✓			
8	Spanish Festoon								✓		
9	small tortoiseshell								✓		
10	red admiral								✓		
11	comma								✓		

## Plants

**Scientific Name****Common Name****Locations noted:****Pinaceae****Class Gymnosperms****Pine family***Pinus pinea*

Stone Pine

Extremadura

**Cupressaceae****Cypress family***Juniperus communis**Juniperus oxycedrus***Class Angiosperms****Order Dicotyledons****Fagaceae****Oak family***Quercus suber*

Cork Oak

Monfragüe

*Quercus coccifera*

Kermes Oak

Extremadura

*Quercus rotundifolia**Quercus pyrenaica*

Pyrenean Oak

Gredos

<b><i>Urticaceae</i></b>	<b>Nettle family</b>	
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Stinging Nettle	
<i>Urtica pilulifera</i>	Roman Nettle	
<i>Urtica membranacea</i>		
<i>Parietaria judaica</i>	Pellitory Of The Wall	
<b><i>Aristolochiaceae</i></b>	<b>Birthwort family</b>	
<i>Aristolochia rotunda</i>		Around Vina las Torres and Bonnellis wood
<b><i>Polygonaceae</i></b>	<b>Dock family</b>	
<i>Rumex scutatus</i>		Around Vina las Torres
<b><i>Caryophyllaceae</i></b>	<b>Pink family</b>	
<i>Silene alba</i>	White Campion	
<i>Silene gallica</i>	Small-Flowered Catchfly	
<i>Silene colorata</i>		
<i>Paronychia capitata</i>		
<i>Spergularia rubra</i>		
<i>Arenaria grandiflora</i>		
<b><i>Ranunculaceae</i></b>	<b>Buttercup family</b>	
<i>Pulsatilla alpina</i> ssp. <i>apiifolia</i>		Bonnellis wood
<i>Clematis vitalba</i>	Traveller's Joy	throughout
<i>Anemone palmata</i>		
<i>Ranunculus sceleratus</i>	Celery-leaved Buttercup	Plataforma and Prado del Jabali
<i>Ranunculus abnormis</i>		Plataforma and Prado del Jabali
<i>Ranunculus gramineus</i>		Plataforma and Prado del Jabali
<i>Aquilegia dichroa</i>		
<b><i>Paeoniaceae</i></b>	<b>Peony family</b>	
<i>Paeonia officinalis</i> ssp. <i>humilis</i>		Bonnellis wood
<i>Paeonia broteri</i>		
<b><i>Papaveraceae</i></b>	<b>Poppy family</b>	
<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>	Common Poppy	
<i>Papaver dubium</i>	Long-Headed Poppy	
<b><i>Fumariceae</i></b>	<b>Fumitory family</b>	
<i>Fumaria officinalis</i>	Common Fumitory	near Vina las Torres
<i>Fumaria capreolata</i>	Ramping Fumitory	near Vina las Torres
<b><i>Cruciferae</i></b>	<b>Cress family</b>	
<i>Lsatis tinctoria</i>	Woad	
<i>Cardaria draba</i>	Hoary Cress	
<i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i>	Wild Radish	Roadsides near Milano Real
<i>Erucaria hispanica</i>		
<b><i>Resedaceae</i></b>	<b>Mignonette family</b>	
<i>Reseda gredensis</i>		
<b><i>Crassulaceae</i></b>	<b>Stonecrop family</b>	
<i>Sedum album</i>	White Stonecrop	
<i>Sedum ochroleucon</i>		

<b>Saxifragaceae</b>	<b>Saxifrage family</b>	
<i>Saxifraga granulata</i>	Meadow Saxifrage	Bonelli's wood
<b>Rosaceae</b>	<b>Rose family</b>	
<i>Geum sylvaticum</i>		
<b>Leguminosae</b>	<b>Pea family</b>	
<i>Genista hispanica</i>	Spanish Gorse	Monfragüe and Gredos
<i>Spartium junceum</i>	Spanish Broom	Throughout
<i>Robinia pseudacacia</i>	False Acacia	Throughout
<i>Cytisus multiflorus</i>	White Broom	Monfragüe and Gredos
<i>Cytisus striatus</i>	Yellow Broom	Monfragüe and Gredos
<i>Cytisus purgans</i>		
<i>Echinopartum lusitanicum</i>		
<i>Genista hystrix</i>		
<i>Lupinus albus</i>	White Lupin	
<i>Lupinus augustifolius</i>		Extremadura
<i>Lupinus hispanicus</i>		Extremadura
<i>Astragalus lusitanicus</i>		
<i>Psoralea bituminosa</i>	Pitch Trefoil	
<i>Vicia villosa</i>	Fodder Vetch	Around Vina las Torres
<i>Vicia benghalensis</i>		
<i>Vicia lutea</i>		
<i>Lathyrus tingitanus</i>	Tangier Pea	Around Vina las Torres
<i>Lathyrus aphaca</i>	Yellow Vetchling	
<i>Melilotus albus</i>	White Melilot	
<i>Melilotus indicus</i>	Small Melilot	Extremadura
<i>Medicago orbicularis</i>	Large Disk Medick	
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Bird's-Foot Trefoil	throughout
<i>Trifolium stellatum</i>	Starry Clover	Extremadura
<i>Trifolium augustifolium</i>	Narrow-Leaved Crimson Clover	
<b>Oxalidaceae</b>	<b>Sorrel family</b>	
<i>Oxalis pes-caprae</i>	Bermuda Buttercup	
<b>Geraniaceae</b>	<b>Geranium family</b>	
<i>Geranium pusillum</i>	Small-Leaved Cranesbill	
<i>Geranium dissectum</i>	Cut-Leaved Cranesbill	roadsides throughout
<i>Geranium columbinum</i>	Long-Stalked Cranesbill	
<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	Herb Robert	roadsides throughout
<i>Geranium lucidum</i>	Shiny Cranesbill	roadsides throughout
<i>Geranium purpureum</i>	Little Robin	roadsides throughout
<i>Erodium ciconium</i>		
<b>Linaceae</b>	<b>Flax family</b>	
<i>Linum bienne</i>		
<b>Euphorbiaceae</b>	<b>Spurge family</b>	
<i>Euphorbia cyparissias</i>	Cypress Spurge	around Vina las Torres
<b>Aceraceae</b>	<b>Maple family</b>	
<i>Acer monspessulanum</i>	Montpelier Maple	
<b>Anacardiaceae</b>	<b>Pistacio family</b>	

<i>Pistacio terebinthus</i>		Castillio Monfragüe
<b>Malvaceae</b>	<b>Mallow family</b>	
<i>Malva sylvestris</i>	Common Mallow	
<i>Malva cretica</i>		
<i>Lavatera cretica</i>	Cretan Mallow	
<b>Thymelaeaceae</b>	<b>Daphne family</b>	
<i>Daphne gnidium</i>		
<b>Hypericaceae</b>	<b>St. John's-wort family</b>	
<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>		
<b>Cistaceae</b>	<b>Rockrose family</b>	
<i>Cistus ladanifer</i>	Gum Cistus	Monfragüe
<i>Cistus creticus</i>		
<i>Cistus salvifolius</i>		Monfragüe and around Vina las Torres
<i>Cistus monspeliensis</i>		
<i>Cistus populifolius</i>		
<i>Cistus psilosepalus</i>		
<i>Tuberaria guttatum</i>	Spotted Rockrose	
<i>Helianthemum appeninum</i>	White Rockrose	
<i>Helianthemum nummularium</i>	Common Rockrose	
<b>Cactaceae</b>	<b>Cactus family</b>	
<i>Opuntia ficus-indica</i>	Prickly Pear	common in gardens
<b>Umbelliferae</b>	<b>Carrot family</b>	
<i>Eryngium campestre</i>		
<i>Eryngium bourgatii</i>		
<i>Scandix pecten-veneris</i>	Shepherd's Needle	
<i>Smyrniium perforatum</i>		
<i>Oenanthe crocata</i>		
<i>Ferula communis</i>	Giant Fennel	around Vina las Torres
<i>Thapsia parganica</i>		
<i>Thapsia villosa</i>		
<i>Daucus carota</i>		
<b>Ericaceae</b>	<b>Heath family</b>	
<i>Arbutus unedo</i>	Strawberry Tree	Monfragüe
<i>Erica lusitanica</i>	Portuguese Heath	Gredos
<i>Erica arborea</i>		Gredos
		Location found
<b>Primulaceae</b>	<b>Primrose family</b>	
<i>Anagallis arvensis</i>	Scarlet Pimpernel	Throughout
<i>Anagallis foemina</i>	Blue Pimpernel	
<i>Primula elatior</i>	Oxlip	Bonelli's wood
<b>Plumbaginaceae</b>	<b>Thrift family</b>	
<i>Armeria maritima</i>		
<b>Oleaceae</b>	<b>Olive family</b>	
<i>Jasminum fruticans</i>	Wild Jasmine	
<i>Fraxinus ornus</i>	Flowering Ash	Throughout
<i>Olea europaea</i>	Olive	Extremadura

<b>Gentianaceae</b>	<b>Gentian family</b>	
<i>Blackstonia perfoliata</i>	Yellow-Wort	
<i>Centaurium maritimum</i>		
<b>Boraginaceae</b>	<b>Borage family</b>	
<i>Anchusa undulata</i>		
<i>Anchusa azurea</i>		
<i>Echium vulgare</i>	Vipers Bugloss	Roadsides Throughout
<i>Echium plantagineum</i>	Purple Bugloss	Meadows and Fields in Extremadura
<i>Echium flavum</i>		
<i>Borago officinalis</i>	Borage	Around Vina las Torres
<i>Cynoglossum creticum</i>	Blue Hound's Tongue	Around Vina las Torres
<i>Omphalodes linifolia</i>		
<i>Heliotropium europaeum</i>		
<b>Labiatae</b>	<b>Mint family</b>	
<i>Ballota nigra</i>	Black Horehound	Extremadura
<i>Acinos arvensis</i>	Basil Thyme	
<i>Thymus capitatus</i>		
<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>	Rosemary	Monfragüe
<i>Lavandula stoechas</i>	French Lavender	Belen Plains
<i>Salvia verbenacea</i>		Extremadura
<i>Marrubium alysson</i>		
<b>Solanaceae</b>	<b>Potato family</b>	
<i>Hyoscyamus albus</i>	White Henbane	
<b>Scrophulariaceae</b>	<b>Figwort family</b>	
<i>Scrophularia peregrina</i>	Nettle-Leaved Figwort	
<i>Scrophularia canina</i>	French Figwort	
<i>Verbascum sinuatum</i>		
<i>Verbascum nigrum</i>	Dark Mullein	
<i>Verbascum pulverulentum</i>	Hoary Mullein	
<i>Verbascum thapsis</i>	Aaron's Rod	
<i>Misopates orontium</i>	Lesser Snapdragon	Roadsides in Extremadura and Castillio Monfragüe
<i>Anarrhinum bellidifolium</i>		
<i>Antirrhinum graniticum</i>		
<i>Digitalis thapsi</i>		
<i>Linaria elegans</i>		
<i>Veronica polita</i>	Grey Field Speedwell	
<i>Parentucellia viscosa</i>	Yellow Bartsia	
<i>Parentucellia latifolia</i>		
<i>Bellardia trixago</i>	Bellardia	
<b>Plantaginaceae</b>	<b>Plantain family</b>	
<i>Plantago media</i>	Hoary Plantain	
<i>Plantago coronopus</i>	Bucks-Horn Plantain	
<b>Caprifoliaceae</b>	<b>Honeysuckle family</b>	
<i>Viburnum tinus</i>		
<b>Campanulaceae</b>	<b>Bellflower family</b>	
<i>Campanula rapunculus</i>	Rampion Bellflower	Belen Plains
<i>Campanula erinus</i>		Belen Plains



<i>Campanula patula</i>	Spreading Bellflower	Belen Plains
<i>Jasione corymbosa</i>		
<b>Compositae</b>	<b>Daisy family</b>	
<i>Bellis perennis</i>	Daisy	Throughout
<i>Bellis sylvestris</i>	Southern Daisy	Bonelli's Wood and Prado del Jabali
<i>Erigeron canadensis</i>	Canadian Fleabane	
<i>Helichrysum stoechas</i>		
<i>Santolina chamaecyparissus</i>	Lavender Cotton	Gredos and Monfragüe
<i>Evax pygmaea</i>	Evax	
<i>Chrysanthemum segetum</i>	Corn Margiold	around Vina las Torres
<i>Chrysanthemum coronarium</i>	Crown Daisy	around Vina las Torres
<i>Tanacetum pallidum</i>		
<i>Galactites tomentosa</i>	Galactites	Extremadura
<i>Silybum marianum</i>	Milk Thistle	Extremadura
<i>Centaurea cyanus</i>	Cornflower	Roadsides near Milano Real
<i>Centaurea solstitialis</i>		
<i>Tragopogon porrifolia</i>		
<i>Pallenis spinosa</i>		
<i>Cnicus benedictus</i>	Blessed Thistle	
<i>Scolymus hispanicus</i>	Spanish Oyster Plant	
<i>Tolpis barbata</i>	Tolpis	Plains near Caceres
<i>Lactuca serriola</i>	Prickly Lettuce	
<i>Andryala integrifolia</i>	Andryala	
<b>Liliaceae</b>	<b>Lily family</b>	
<i>Asphodelus albus</i>	White Asphodel	Monfragüe and Gredos
<i>Asphodelus aestivus</i>		
<i>Anthericum liliago</i>		
<i>Muscari comosum</i>		
<i>Gagea fistulosa</i>	Gagea	Plataforma
<i>Gladiolus italicus</i>	Field Gladiolus	Near Vina las Torres
<i>Fritillaria lusitanica</i>		
<i>Scilla verna</i>	Spring Squill	
<i>Scilla hispanica</i>		
<i>Ornithogalum umbellatum</i>	Star Of Bethlehem	Throughout
<b>Amaryllidaceae</b>	<b>Daffodil family</b>	
<i>Narcissus rupicola</i>	Rock Narcissus	Plataforma and Prado del Jabali
<i>Narcissus bulbocodium</i> Var. <i>nivalis</i>	Hoop Petticoat Narcissus	Plataforma and Prado del Jabali
<i>Narcissus triandrus</i>	Angel's Tears	Bonelli's Wood and Prado del Jabali
<b>Iridaceae</b>	<b>Iris family</b>	
<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	Yellow Flag	
<i>Crocus carpetanus</i>		
<b>Orchidaceae</b>	<b>Orchid family</b>	
<i>Orchis mascula</i>	Early Purple Orchid	
<i>Dactylorhiza incarnata</i>	Early Marsh Orchid	
<i>Orchis morio</i>	Green-Winged Orchid	
<i>Orchis champagneuxii</i>	Champagne Orchid	Around Vina las Torres
<i>Serapias lingua</i>		
<i>Serapias parviflora</i>		