

EXTREMADURA BIRDING REPORT -OCTOBER 2010 Mike and Dot Smith, Norfolk UK

This was our second trip to Extremadura but our first experience of autumn birding here.

We again stayed in the excellent small family run country hotel, 'Vina las Torres' which is about 10 k south of Trujillo and central to all the best birding areas. All the sites that we visited were within an hours drive of the hotel.

A little research before leaving UK meant that we could experience all the different habitats that surround Trujillo. To the south the most productive was the Embalse de Sierra Brava (thousands of waterfowl) and adjacent rice fields (hundreds of common cranes and many waders). Towards Caceres to the north and south of the N-521 many Steppe species and raptors. North to Monfrague and beyond, again many raptors and also plenty of woodland birds.

A list of the birds that we saw, is shown below:

Alpine swift	Goldfinch	Pied flycatcher
Azure winged magpie	Great crested grebe	Pintail
Barn swallow	Great tit	Pochard
Black headed gull	Great white egret	Pratincole
Black redstart	Greater spotted woodpecker	Purple gallinule
Black vulture	Green sandpiper	Raven
Blackbird	Green woodpecker	Red Aradavat
Blackcap	Greenfinch	Red crested pochard
Blue rock thrush	Greenshank	Red kite
Blue tit	Grey heron	Red legged partridge
Calandra lark	Grey plover	Redwing
Carrion crow	Grey wagtail	Reed warbler
Cattle egret	Greylag goose	Robin
Cetti's warbler	Griffon vulture	Rock dove
Chaffinch	Hawfinch	Sardinian warbler
Chiff chaff	Hen harrier	Sedge warbler
Chucker	Hobby	Serin
Cirl bunting	Honey buzzard	Short toed eagle
Collared dove	Hoopoe	Short toed treecreeper
Common buzzard	House martin	Shoveller
Common coot	House sparrow	Skylark
Common crane	Jackdaw	Snipe
Common kestrel	Jay	Song thrush
Common kingfisher	Kentish plover	Spanish sparrow
Common magpie	Lesser black backed gull	Spoonbill
Common moorhen	Lesser spotted woodpecker	Spotless starling
Common redstart	Linnet	Stock dove
Common sandpiper	Little bustard	Stonechat
Common waxbill	Little egret	Tawny pipit
Cormorant	Little grebe	Teal
Corn bunting	Little ringed plover	Tree pipit
Crag martin	Long tailed tit	Turtle dove
Crested lark	Mallard	Water pipit

Crested tit
Dartford warbler
Dunnock
European nuthatch
European sparrowhawk
Fan tailed warbler
Firecrest
Gadwall
Goldcrest
Golden eagle
Golden oriole

Marsh harrier
Marsh sandpiper
Meadow pipit
Melodius warbler
Merlin
Mistle thrush
Northern lapwing
Northern wheatear
Orphean warbler
Osprey
Peregrine falcon

Water rail
Whinchat
White stork
White wagtail
Widgeon
Willow warbler
Wood lark
Wood sandpiper
Wood warbler
Woodpigeon
Wren
Yellow wagtail