

SPAIN

Extremadura & La Mancha

Sun 20th – Sun 27th November 2016



Tour photographs (clockwise from top left): A sentry of Griffon Vultures at Pena Falcon • A male White-headed Duck • Indigo Western Swamphen • A Common Quail as it sneaked out of the low vegetation • Ubiqutous Sardinian Warbler • Smart moustachioed Bearded Reedling © Tour participant David Pope and (BR) leader Fernando Enrique, Limosa

**Report compiled by tour leader:
Fernando Enrique**

Spain | Extremadura & La Mancha

Tour leader: Fernando Enrique

with James Camden, Pete Cherry, Angus Macindoe, David & Jennifer Pope and Richard Rowland

There were many highlights of the tour. From super 'lunchtime shows' of which the Bonelli's Eagles may have been the best, to moments when we did not know what to look at first – Little and Great Bustards and a flock of 130 Pin-tailed Sandgrouse easily spring to mind. Then there were the 100s of Griffon and Black Vultures at Monfragüe, joined by a Spanish Imperial Eagle - certainly a stunning sight, as were the large numbers of Cranes at the rice fields too – joined by two Marsh Sandpipers on one visit. At La Mancha we got great views of Bearded Reedlings and the 150 White-headed Ducks will live long in the memory.

Daily Diary

Sunday 20 November

After a trouble-free flight the group arrived in time at Madrid Airport. With luggage collection completed, we headed to the vehicle hire desk and then hit the open road. Destination Extremadura, we skirted Madrid in the light traffic of a Sunday afternoon, but due to the rain we didn't see many birds along the road except for the odd Red Kite and Kestrel.

We stopped for an enjoyable 'tapas' style lunch en route before reaching Arrocampo for some more serious birding later in the afternoon. Sadly when we arrived at Arrocampo the rain was so heavy that couldn't get out of the car, although we enjoyed great views of two Black-winged Kites sitting on the wire, waiting for the weather conditions to improve. In the reedbeds we found our first Western Swamphen of the trip, a big flock of Cattle Egrets and several Cetti's Warbler calling.

We boarded the buses once more, seeing our first Iberian (Azure-winged) Magpies before arriving at the hotel close to Trujillo in the heart of Extremadura. A lovely dinner was taken and we retired early as most had been up very early that morning.

Monday 21 November

A dull start greeted us today, with light showers throughout the day. It doesn't get light until around 8 am in Extremadura in November so we weren't able to have a pre-breakfast walk, despite the constant movement of birds outside of the hotel. Once we did get out, we realize that the place was full of Iberian Magpies, Song Thrushes, Serins or Sardinian Warblers amongst other birds.

Today our destination was the plains between Trujillo and Caceres. An area of seemingly endless fields and steppes in alternation with expanses of *dehesa*, steep river gorges and the enchanting stony landscape marked by granite boulders. This area, one of the best-preserved grasslands in Europe, is home to one of the healthiest populations of bustards and sandgrouse in Spain. As soon as we arrived a flock of four Black-bellied Sandgrouse flew overhead. Other birds included several Thekla Lark, our first of many Iberian Grey Shrike, Calandra Larks displaying and 100s of Lapwings and Golden Plovers. And this was only the first stop! Navigating through the numerous tracks in the area we managed to find at least a dozen Great Bustards, a few more Black-bellied Sandgrouse, a male Hen Harrier and our first Griffon and Black (Cinereous) Vultures of the trip.

After a very productive morning we stopped for a picnic lunch near Santa Marta and after that we drove through Santa Marta de Magasca and beyond to the plains. Once again patient waiting and observing paid dividends when a small flock of Great Bustard was spotted. As we were enjoying fantastic views of these magnificent birds, a flock of at least 130 Pin-tailed Sandgrouse landed in front of us, providing excellent views. One member of the group said that we only needed a Little Bustard to complete the show... suddenly a flock of 22 Little Bustards arrived to the same field where we were watching the other birds. And then another group of eight birds were followed by another 16 birds! We didn't even know where to look!

After such an amazing first full day, we drove back to our hotel for another lovely dinner and a deserved rest.

Tuesday 22 November

After another excellent breakfast and with a promising weather forecast ahead of us, we visited Monfragüe National Park - without any doubt the flagship of natural Extremadura. The national park encompasses a series of low, rocky hills along the Tagus River, with remnants of dense Mediterranean forest on its north-facing slopes. And is also the place with the highest density of breeding raptors in Europe. For example, there are more than 400 pairs of Griffon Vulture and this area holds the largest Black Vulture colony on Earth, with over 300 pairs. Our first stop at Peña Falcon produced 100s of Griffon Vultures, dozens of Black Vultures, Blue Rock Thrush, Black Redstart, Serin, Crag Martin and superb views of several Firecrests and Short-toed Treecreepers.

With the day slipping by, we drove on further into the park. We made a quick comfort stop at Villareal de San Carlos, which proved to be a good move, since we got excellent views of Sardinian and Dartford Warblers, Thekla Lark and Black Redstart. After that, we stopped for lunch at a small picnic by the river. The lunch 'show' started with huge numbers of vultures flying overhead and was followed by a flock of 50 Cranes going south towards their feeding grounds and an unexpected group of five Black Storks. At Portilla del Tietar we had one of the highlight of trip, as we watched an adult Spanish Imperial Eagle flying amongst the abundant vultures and providing excellent views.

Later in the afternoon we made one last stop at Monfragüe's castle. From the castle tower the views and birdlife are stunning. The Griffons and Black Vultures of Peña Falcon were so low that the photographers of the group were taking amazing pictures of the raptors flying at eye-level or even below us. Reluctantly, we left this wonderful spot and we headed back to our hotel, in order to attend to a lovely wine tasting session imparted by Juan Pedro.

Wednesday 23 November

We awoke to a chilly but clear morning, with just localized mist in the valleys that lifted up a couple of hours later.

Today we visited a nice array of different habitats. Our first stop was the plains near Campo Lugar, one of the best places to watch Great Bustards in Extremadura. Despite the mist, we managed to find a minimum of 33 Great Bustards. Similar numbers of Stone-curlews were found at a traditional roosting site in the area, plus a nice array of other grassland birds and good numbers of raptors, including several Hen Harriers, lots of Marsh Harriers and at least two Peregrines - one of them feeding on a Cattle Egret very close to the road.

Our next stop was the Alcollarín reservoir, a brand new reservoir that attracts thousands of duck and other water birds during the winter. We scanned the small lake north of the reservoir before lunch. In this area we found several Kingfisher, our first Water Pipit of the trip and numerous Snipes. The special guest to our, now official, 'lunch show' was a pair of Bonelli's Eagle. The birds soared for more than five minutes over our heads providing fantastic views. After they left, a

Peregrine stole the show while trying to kill a juvenile Marsh Harrier. What a spectacle! A Wryneck calling in the background was a nice addition to the list: despite being traditionally thought of being a summer visitor, small numbers are recorded every winter in southern Spain.

We followed the road around the reservoir stopping at several places, which allowed us to scan the different parts of the reservoir. The number of ducks and grebes was over-whelming. 1000s of Mallard and Shoveler, 100s of Teal and Wigeon and smaller numbers of Tufted Duck, Common Pochard, Egyptian Goose, Greylag Geese and Black-necked Grebes were noted.

We were running out of time, so we decided to pay a visit to the rice and maize fields near Madrigalejo, where 1000s of Cranes spend the winter every year. Upon arrival Cranes seemed to be everywhere; Meadow Pipits and White Wagtails were plentiful, as were buzzy groups of Common Waxbills and Red Avadavats. In our search for Bluethroats, James found a couple of interesting waders. They were very interesting indeed, the first record of two Marsh Sandpipers together for Extremadura. In the same rice paddy a Water Rail showed up, followed by a nice female Bluethroat, providing excellent 'scope views.

We headed back right in time to give ourselves time to get cleaned up and to head into Trujillo for a wonderful Extremaduran meal.

Thursday 24 November

A cold and frosty start soon cleared as the sun rose and we drove to Sierra Brava. We headed through some nice oak woodland and birded from the vehicles for a while, notching up good views of several Hoopoe, Woodlark, Mistle Thrush and a nice range of finches, as well as many Common Cranes. Our journey took us down to the shores of the immense Sierra Brava reservoir and we spent a little time scanning the waters, where we found several flocks of Gadwall, Shoveler, a single female Wigeon and numerous Black-headed Gulls. The lack of birds was a cause of concern, but then we realized that most of the birds were closer to the damn. So drove around the reservoir and when we arrived to the damn the number of ducks was mind-blowing; 1000s of them, mostly Shoveler and Mallard, along with smaller numbers of Teal, Wigeon, Red-crested Pochard and Greylag.

We spent our afternoon around the Finca Moheda Alta reserve, where a fine mix of *dehesa* and rice fields gave us some excellent birding. Amongst the huge numbers of cranes we found two adult and a juvenile Black Stork - a scarce species at this time of the year, Great Egrets and up to three Hen Harriers, including fantastic views of an adult male hunting Spanish Sparrows. Another highlight here was the gathering of waders, which included Spotted Redshank, Greenshank, Green Sandpiper and Snipe. But the highlight of the day was a male Quail that came out of the vegetation and showed extremely well in the open, providing great photo opportunities and amazing 'scope views. Quails are usually summer visitors, but some of them spend the winter in this region. When we were about to leave, a male Bluethroat landed just ten metres in front of us, which allowed us to see every plumage detail of this little skulker.

Friday 25 November

Today was mostly a transfer day. We said our farewells to Juan Pedro and Belén and reluctantly left this wonderful corner of Extremadura. Our destination today was La Mancha, but on the way there we made several stops.

The first was the Embalse de Arrocampo a large, reed-fringed reservoir complete with hides and a small visitor centre. We drove on to stop at the first roadside hide, with a brief drive to collect a key from the visitor centre quickly allowing us access to it. Despite the torrential rain birds were almost immediately seen, including Grey Heron and Western Swamphen, with others added to our list that included at least three Spoonbills, two Great Egrets and several Penduline Tits calling from the reeds.

After a long drive and a quick stop for lunch, we arrived at Alcázar de San Juan, where we visited La Veguilla, one of the most important wetlands in La Mancha, which has water all year round - a very uncommon thing in this region. In the lagoon we found a nice selection of ducks including our first six White-headed Ducks of the trip and 100s of Red-crested Pochards. Other birds noted were Shelduck, Tufted Duck, Common Pochard, Wigeon, Marsh Harrier and several hundred Greater Flamingos.

After a long day we arrived at our hotel surrounded by vineyards in the heart of La Mancha.

Saturday 26 November

With a rather promising weather forecast and after an excellent breakfast, we headed to our next destination. Today we visited two of the most important wetlands in central Spain. Las Tablas de Daimiel, with an extension of 3,000 ha, is the smallest of Spain's 15 national parks. In recent years the over-exploitation of water resources for agriculture and the introduction of exotic fish put the survival of this important wetland in danger.

After stopping on the way to Daimiel for a very cooperative Little Owl, we arrived at Laguna de Navaseca. This lagoon is now the most important place for White-headed Ducks in the region. During our visit we saw at least 150-200 of these endangered ducks and also five or six Ferruginous Ducks, probably the rarest breeding duck in Spain. The lagoon was full of life, with 100s of ducks and flamingoes, but the most interesting finding was a group of 17 Whiskered Terns that apparently have decided to spend the winter in the area - very unusual behavior in this region. Other birds added to the list were Avocet, Iberian Green Woodpecker, Bluethroat, Reed Bunting, Bearded Reedling, Water Pipit and Purple Swamphen.

We move further on and we arrived to the National Park at lunchtime. This time the star of the 'lunch show' was an Iberian Green Woodpecker that provided excellent 'scope views for most members of the group, while flocks of Greylags and Cranes flew overhead. After lunch we walked some of the numerous boardwalks of the reserve, finding a similar array of birds. Suddenly a couple of noisy little birds landed in front of us - a couple of Bearded Reedlings showed very well on top of the reeds. Sadly not every member of the group managed to see them, so we headed to a reliable spot for them. This proved a good move, because after a short walk we found a flock of at least 20 birds that showed extremely well. Jennifer and David were very happy after this encounter, since they have travelled all around the UK looking for these birds to no avail.

After another successful day we headed back to our hotel, stopping again for a different Little Owl.

Sunday 27 November

We only had limited time this morning, so decided to pay a quick visit to some of the plains and lagoons near Alcazar. The first stop at a traditional stopover site for Dotterel produced a nice flock of 11 Pin-tailed Sandgrouse. We scanned the surrounding fields in search of this enigmatic wader to no avail, but instead found big flocks of Golden Plover and Calandra Lark. With no time to waste, we visited La Veguilla one last time, where we found a similar selection of birds. Although this time we found two Pintails, a bird that has eluded us the whole week and we got excellent views of several Water Pipits, our last White-headed Duck of the trip and 100s of Red-crested Pochards.

Our last stop was the lagoon of Camino de Villafranca. A huge saline lagoon, with exposed mudflats, a perfect habitat for waders. Here we found good numbers of Black-winged Stilt, Dunlin, Little Stint, Kentish Plover and even a solitary Ruff. These waders were new additions to our list and a nice way to end the birding and start the drive to Madrid.

Successfully navigating Madrid we arrived to the airport with ample time to say our farewells and relax before the flight back to the UK and the end of a very enjoyable and successful trip to Extremadura and La Mancha

Thanks to all party members for such good humour, enthusiasm and some exceptional birding skills too! I look forward to seeing you all again on another Limosa tour very soon!

ANNOTATED LIST OF BIRDS RECORDED (n=135)

(Names and order follow IOC checklist)

Greylag Goose *Anser anser*

At least 100 birds at Sierra Brava, several hundred at Las Tablas de Daimiel and smaller numbers in other wetlands.

Egyptian Goose *Alopochen aegyptiaca*

Male and female along the Monroy Road and a small flock at Alcollarin.

Common Shelduck *Tadorna tadorna*

Two birds noted at Alcollarin. Common on most wetlands in La Mancha.

Gadwall *Anas strepera*

Common. Seen on most days.

Eurasian Wigeon *Anas penelope*

Common. Seen on most days.

Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*

Very common and widespread. Seen on most days.

Northern Shoveler *Anas clypeata*

One of the most abundant birds of the trips. Several thousand noted.

Northern Pintail *Anas acuta*

Surprisingly scarce. Only two males seen at La Veguilla in our last day.

Eurasian Teal *Anas crecca*

Very common. Noted on most days.

Red-crested Pochard *Netta rufina*

A pair was present at Sierra Brava on 24th. Several hundred at La Veguilla.

Common Pochard *Aythya ferina*

Noted on most wetlands.

Ferruginous Duck *Aythya nyroca*

Fantastic views of up to six birds at Navaseca on 26th.

Tufted Duck *Aythya fuligula*

Small numbers noted on several dates, especially at Alcollarin.

White-headed Duck *Oxyura leucocephala*

Six birds at La Veguilla on 25th, at least 150 birds at Navaseca on 26th and a single female at La Veguilla on 27th.

Red-legged Partridge *Alectoris rufa*

Small numbers seen or heard on most days in Extremadura.

Common Quail *Coturnix coturnix*

A totally unexpected male providing amazing views at Moheda Alta on 24th.

Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis*

Common on most wetlands

Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus*

Common at Embalse de Sierra Brava and Alcollarin.

Black-necked Grebe *Podiceps nigricollis*

Small numbers at Alcollarin, Sierra Brava and Navaseca.

Greater Flamingo *Phoenicopterus roseus*

Common on most wetlands in La Mancha with several hundred noted.

Black Stork *Ciconia nigra*

A small group of five birds at Monfragüe on 22nd and three birds at Moheda Alta on 24th.

White Stork *Ciconia ciconia*

Seen on most days with a flock of 200 at Las Tablas de Daimiel on 26th

Eurasian Spoonbill *Platalea leucorodia*

Three seen at Arrocampo

Western Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis*

Very common, seen daily

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*

Seen on most wetlands and rivers

Great Egret *Egretta alba*

Small numbers of overwintering birds on four dates.

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*

Common, seen on most wetlands

Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*

Common on most wetlands. A flock of +250 birds at Monfragüe on 22nd.

Black-winged Kite *Elanus caeruleus*

Three different birds during our first day of the trip.

Griffon Vulture *Gyps fulvus*

Very common, seen daily in Extremadura. Huge numbers in Monfragüe

Cinereous (Black) Vulture *Aegypius monachus*

Common, seen daily in Extremadura. Good numbers in Monfragüe

Spanish Imperial Eagle *Aquila adalberti*

One adult birds showed very well at Portilla del Tietar on 22nd

Bonelli's Eagle *Aquila fasciata*

Male and female providing an excellent lunch show near Alcollarín on 23rd

Eurasian Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus*

Seen on three dates

Western Marsh Harrier *Circus aeruginosus*

Common, especially at La Mancha. Seen daily

Hen Harrier *Circus cyaneus*

Two adult males on 21st, male and female on 23rd and at least three birds on 24th

Red Kite *Milvus milvus*

Common. Seen on most days

Common Buzzard *Buteo buteo*

A few birds seen on most days

Great Bustard *Otis tarda*

A total of 51 birds were seen on several dates.

Little Bustard *Tetrax tetrax*

Despite the decline in numbers of this species, we managed to find at least 46 birds, including a flock of 22.

Water Rail *Rallus aquaticus*

Seen or heard on most wetlands.

Western Swamphen *Porphyrio porphyrio*

Several seen at Arrocampo, Navaseca and Tablas de Daimiel.

Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus*

Seen on most wetlands

Eurasian Coot *Fulica atra*

Seen on most wetlands

Common Crane *Grus grus*

A major feature of the holiday, with wonderful views and sounds of these on a daily basis.

Especially common near Vegas Altas, where 1000s were noted feeding on the rice fields.

Eurasian Stone-curlew *Burhinus oediconemus*

At least 29 birds were seen on a traditional roosting site on 23rd and a few more seen from the road on 24th.

Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus*

A dozen of these elegant birds at Laguna del Camino de Villafranca on 27th

Pied Avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta*

Small numbers at La Veguilla and Navaseca

Northern Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus*

One of the most common birds of the trips. Seen everywhere!

European Golden Plover *Pluvialis apricaria*

Several hundred noted, mostly in Extremadura.

Little Ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius*

Seen on various dates

Kentish Plover *Charadrius alexandrinus*

Good numbers at Laguna del Camino de Villafranca on 27th

Common Snipe *Gallinago gallinago*

Seen on most wetlands.

Spotted Redshank *Tringa erythropus*

Two birds noted at the rice fields of Moheda Alta on 24th.

Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis*

One of the highlights of the trip! Two birds were found by Richard at the rice field around Vegas Altas. A very rare bird in Extremadura, this was the first record of two birds together for Extremadura.

Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*

Small numbers seen on several dates

Green Sandpiper *Tringa ochropus*

Small numbers seen on most wetlands.

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*

Seen on several dates.

Little Stint *Calidris minuta*

Good numbers at Laguna del Camino de Villafranca on 27th

Dunlin *Calidris alpina*

Good numbers at Laguna del Camino de Villafranca on 27th

Ruff *Philomachus pugnax*

One bird seen on 27th at Laguna del Camino de Villafranca.

Black-headed Gull *Chroicocephalus ridibundus*

Common. Seen daily.

Yellow-legged Gull *Larus michahellis*

A juvenile bird seen at La Veguilla.

Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus*

Very common. Seen daily.

Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybrida*

Despite being a very scarce wintering bird in Spain, we saw 17 of this graceful terns at Navaseca on 26th.

Pin-tailed Sandgrouse *Pterocles alchata*

Up to 130 birds noted on the plains near Trujillo.

Black-bellied Sandgrouse *Pterocles orientalis*

At least 15 birds seen in our visit to the plains near Trujillo.

Rock Dove/Feral Pigeon *Columba livia*

Seen daily

Common Wood Pigeon *Columba palumbus*

Common throughout the trip

Eurasian Collared Dove *Streptopelia decaocto*

Seen daily

Little Owl *Athene noctua*

Two birds seen at La Mancha on 26th

Common Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis*

Seen daily

Eurasian Hoopoe *Upupa epops*

Common. Seen daily.

Eurasian Wryneck *Jynx torquilla*

A very rare species in winter. One bird heard at Alcollarín on 23rd

Iberian Green Woodpecker *Picus sharpei*

Great views of two birds at Navaseca and Las Tablas de Daimiels

Common Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus*

Common, seen almost daily.

Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus*

Three different birds at Alcollarín and Campo Lugar on 23rd.

Southern Grey Shrike *Lanius meridionalis*

Small number seen on various dates. Almost certainly to be split as Iberian Grey Shrike...

Iberian Magpie *Cyanopica cooki*

Winter flocks of 'Azure-winged Magpies' can be impressive and on at least a couple of occasions we watched parties of 30 or so of these lovely and characterful birds trailing through the oaks near our hotel.

Eurasian Jay *Garrulus glandarius*

Small numbers seen almost daily

Eurasian Magpie *Pica pica*

Very common. Seen daily

Western Jackdaw *Coloeus monedula*

Common, seen almost daily

Northern Raven *Corvus corax*

One or two birds almost daily

Eurasian Blue Tit *Cyanistes caeruleus*

Common

Great Tit *Parus major*

Common

Eurasian Penduline Tit *Remiz pendulinus*

Heard on most wetland but they refused to show well for us.

Bearded Reedling *Panurus biarmicus*

A single bird at Navaseca, then a male and a female showed well at Las Tablas and finally we found a flock of 20 birds, providing excellent views.

Woodlark *Lullula arborea*

Seen on 21st and heard almost daily

Eurasian Skylark *Alauda arvensis*

Good numbers seen on most days.

Thekla Lark *Galerida theklae*

Seen daily in Extremadura

Crested Lark *Galerida cristata*

Common, seen daily

Calandra Lark *Melanocorypha calandra*

Very common in Extremadura

Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*

One bird seen on 24th at Moheda Alta

Eurasian Crag Martin *Ptyonoprogne rupestris*

Common. Seen daily

Cetti's Warbler *Cettia cetti*

Heard almost daily with a few birds seen

Long-tailed Tit *Aegithalos caudatus*

A small flock on 22nd and another one on 26th. The local race *irbii* is short-tailed and dingy.

Common Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita*

Very common. Seen daily.

Zitting Cisticola *Cisticola juncidis*

Seen daily

Eurasian Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla*

Common

Dartford Warbler *Sylvia undata*

Common. Seen or heard on most days.

Sardinian Warbler *Sylvia melanocephala*

The most common warbler of the trip, seen daily.

Common Firecrest *Regulus ignicapilla*

Excellent views of several birds at Monfragüe

Eurasian Wren *Troglodytes troglodytes*

Heard and seen on most dates

Eurasian Nuthatch *Sitta europaeus*

Several seen at Monfragüe

Short-toed Treecreeper *Certhia brachydactyla*

A few seen very well at Monfragüe and near our hotel in Extremadura.

Common Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*

Very common. Seen daily.

Spotless Starling *Sturnus unicolor*

Very common, seen daily

Common Blackbird *Turdus merula*

Common

Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos*

Seen on most mornings around our hotel in Extremadura.

Mistle Thrush *Turdus viscivorus*

A few birds seen in Extremadura

European Robin *Erithacus rubecula*

Common

Bluethroat *Luscinia svecica*

Two or three birds near Vegas Altas on 23rd, a male provided amazing views at Moheda Alta on 24th and a couple of birds at Navaseca on 26th.

Black Redstart *Phoenicurus ochruros*

Common, seen daily

Blue Rock Thrush *Monticola solitaria*

Common in Monfragüe

European Stonechat *Saxicola rubicola*

Very common. Seen daily

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*

Very common.

Spanish Sparrow *Passer hispaniolensis*

Very common with flocks of several hundred near Trujillo and around the rice fields.

Eurasian Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus*

Several birds seen in mixed flocks with other sparrows.

Common Waxbill *Estrilda astrild*

A flock seen every morning near Viña Las Torres and very common around Vegas Altas.

Red Avadavat *Amandava amandava*

Several small flocks seen around Vegas Altas and Moheda Alta.

Dunnock *Prunella modularis*

A couple of birds showed well at Moheda Alta and a single bird at Navaseca

Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*

One or two birds seen daily.

White Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*

Very common. Seen daily.

Meadow Pipit *Anthus pratensis*

Very common. Seen daily.

Water Pipit *Anthus spinoletta*

A couple of birds in Extremadura and good numbers on most wetlands at La Mancha.

Common Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs*

Common in forested areas

Hawfinch *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*

One bird seen Viña Las Torres on 23rd.

European Greenfinch *Chloris chloris*

A few birds seen on the 22nd.

Common Linnet *Linaria cannabina*

Common. Seen daily.

European Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis*

Common. Seen daily.

European Serin *Serinus serinus*

Common. Seen almost daily.

Eurasian Siskin *Carduelis spinus*

A few birds seen at Arroyo de la Vid on 22nd.

Corn Bunting *Emberiza calandra*

Common, seen daily.

Cirl Bunting *Emberiza cirlus*

A couple of birds at Monfragüe on 22nd.

Common Reed Bunting *Emberiza schoeniclus*

Several birds seen at the rice fields near Vegas Altas and on most wetlands at la Mancha.

BUTTERFLIES

Speckled Wood *Pararge aegeria*

REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS

Spanish Terrapin *Mauremys leprosa*

Natterjack Toad *Epidalea calamita*

MAMMALS

Red Fox *Vulpes vulpes*

Red Deer *Cervus elaphus*

European Rabbit *Oryctolagus cuniculus*

Iberian Hare *Lepus granatensis*