### HOLIDAY REPORT FOR BOB AND DEB Casa Rural El Recuerdo & Birding Extremadura 8<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> May 2022



#### Itinerary

8<sup>th</sup> May 2022: Transfer from Madrid. Stop at Valdecañas dam and El Sierro, Almaráz, before arrival at Casa Rural El Recuerdo.

9<sup>th</sup> May 2022: Plains near Santa Marta de Magasca.

10<sup>th</sup> May 2022: Pago de San Clemente and then the Gredos Mountains near Piornal and Garganta de la Olla

11<sup>th</sup> May 2022: Monfragüe National Park

12<sup>th</sup> May 2022 Campo Lugar plains, Casas de Hitos, Ruercas River, Alcollarín Reservoir

13<sup>th</sup> May 2022: Plains west of Trujillo, Arroyo de la Vid, Villuercas Mountains

14<sup>th</sup> May 2022: Valverde de Mérida, Alange, Almendralejo and Mérida

15<sup>th</sup> May 2022 Plains west of Trujillo, Arrocampo reservoir and transfer to Madrid airport.

#### HOLIDAY REPORT

### 8th May 2022: Transfer from Madrid. Stop at Valdecañas dam and El Sierro, Almaráz, before arrival at Casa Rural El Recuerdo.

Bob and Deb arrived ahead of schedule at Terminal 4 Madrid airport and so we headed off in good time on a quiet Sunday morning along the ring road of southern Madrid. After a stop to pick up water just as we were leaving the city, we then continued on an easy run through to Extremadura. It was glorious sunny weather with the backdrop of the Gredos Mountains, with snow still on their peaks, accompanying us to the north. After a hundred kilometres or so we started seeing our first **White Storks** and then birds of prey such as **Black Kite**.



Poppies near Valdecañas (Martin Kelsey)

We stopped to pick up lunch close to the village of Saucedilla and then headed south on a small road towards the Valdecañas dam. On the way we stopped to admire a truly spectacular field of red poppies and yellow marigolds. **Black Vultures** glided overhead and a **Booted Eagle** glided out from the hillside. We watched **Iberian Magpies** busily hovering above the tall grasses and dropping down to collect insects. **Blue Alkanet** grew by the roadside.

We had our lunch in the shade beside a bridge in a deep valley above the Valdecañas dam. **Griffon Vultures** were nesting. **Mastic** and **Kermies Oak** trees were growing, alongside **White Poplars** and **Nettle-trees**. **Spanish Gatekepper** butterflies were seen nearby and a gorgeous **Spanish Festoon**. We heard the tropical sound of **Golden Orioles** but it was not until we were close to the dam when Bob spotted a pair crossing the river and we watched them in a tree for some time.



Almaráz Bee Orchid (Martin Kelsey)

We then entered El Sierro and found in a protected olive grove several superb specimens of the **Almaráz Bee Orchid**, in perfect flower. There were also several spikes **of Small-flowered Tongue Orchid** also in flower. In another olive grove we also found **Common Tongue Orchid**.

By now it was time to conclude our journey and we arrived at Casa Rural El Recuerdo at about 5pm.

#### 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022: Plains near Santa Marta de Magasca.

We set off just before 8 am on a very fine morning to explore the plains west of Trujillo. As we drove through a belt of *dehesa* we caught a brief glimpse of a **Great Spotted Cuckoo**, which rapidly disappeared behind trees. We had better fortune at our first stop, where we had wonderful views of a displaying male **Little Bustard**, as well as a pair of **Stone Curlew**. A male **Montagu's Harrier** was perched on a post and around us sang **Calandra Larks**. A fine male **Whinchat** sat on top of a thistle and **Corn Buntings** with food in their bills perched on the wires. At our next stop we walked down a track, with the vast expanse of the plains on either side of us and the snow-capped Gredos Mountains to our north.

Female **Montagu's Harriers** quartered the meadows and we had a good opportunity to compare the features of **Crested** and **Thekla Larks** along the track. We came across a group of male **Great Bustards** and had some good views of **Pin-tailed Sandgrouse** flying overhead.



Pin-tailed Sandgrouse (Bob Foehring)

Several butterflies were coaxed out by the hot weather, including **Western Dappled White**, a **Spanish Marbled White** and **Meadow Browns**. As we returned to the car, we saw an adult **Spanish Imperial Eagle** soaring to our west.

We then continued towards Cáceres, taking a road for Santa Marta de Magasca where nest boxes were placed on telegraph poles. Many had **Jackdaws** and some **kestrels** (both Common and Lesser) but we also had good views of several **Rollers** as well. Here we also managed to get views of **Greater Short-toed Larks**, superbly camouflaged against the sandy dirt. A **Short-toed Eagle** was perched on a pole as we arrived. After a coffee in the friendly village of Santa Marta de Magasca, we paused beside the River Tamuja and then visited the area of the Pascualete estate. An **Iberian Grey Shrike** perched obligingly for us. We ate out picnic at the River Magasca to the north of the village. **Crag Martins** hawked insects, a **Kingfisher** whizzed past a few times and **Spanish Terrapins** took the sun.

Back on the plains we had a walk to see a Cañada Real, an ancient drovers' trail. Three species of dragonfly were seen, as well as a **Northern Wheatear** and **Greater Short-toed Larks**. From there it was onward to visit the historic town of Trujillo, walking to the castle and through the medieval streets, whilst **Common and Pallid Swifts** swept through the sky above us and **Lesser Kestrels** called softly as they glided over the rooftops.

### 10<sup>th</sup> May 2022: Pago de San Clemente and then the Gredos Mountains near Piornal and Garganta de la Olla

Our first stop was to walk on a track not far from base to view two close-to-fledgling **Eagle Owl** chicks. They were delightfully huddled up together, giving us a lazy gaze and then propped up against each other they snoozed. A remarkable sight!

We then drove northwards to the Gredos Mountains, passing through Jaraiz de la Vera, Garganta de la Olla and taking a beautiful road through **Pyrenean Oak** to the Piornal Pass. On the way we had magnificent views of a **Honey Buzzard**. Here we took a track to a small reservoir where we left the car and took a good three-hour walk in the beautiful moorland above the tree line.



Piornal (Martin Kelsey)

The colours of the broom in bloom and the purple heathers were amazing. Birds sang from treetops and bushes, or on small song flights: Ortolan Buntings, Woodlarks, Spectacled and Dartford Warblers, Common Whitethroats. In a small grove of trees we found both a Spotted and Pied Flycatchers, as well as a Garden Warbler. A Subalpine Warbler was singing close to the car as we returned. As well as birds, there were several butterflies including Queen of Spain Fritillaries and a fine Guadarrama Wall Lizard.

We had more distant, but satisfactory views of **Common Rock Thrush** and **Blackeared Wheatear** whilst **Booted Eagles** and a **Golden Eagle** were seen overhead.

After our picnic we visited the pines near Piornal where we found another **Pied Flycatcher** as well as **Crested** and **Coal Tits**, **Western Bonelli's Warbler** and Shorttoed **Treecreeper.** A singing **Firecrest** did not oblige us with a view.



Honey Buzzard (Bob Foehring)

We descended through the deciduous oak wood again, seeing yet another **Honey Buzzard** and hearing **Western Bonelli's Warblers** every few hundred metres. Stopping at the Garganta Mayor of Garganta de la Olla, we were delighted to see a **Dipper** and also had brilliant views of a **Schreiber's Green Lizard**. Butterflies at this beautiful spot, where water tumbled over granite basins, included **Amanda's Blue** and **Knapweed Fritillary**.



Schrieber's Green Lizard (Bob Foehring)

#### 11<sup>th</sup> May 2022: Monfragüe National Park

Another hot sunny day and just before we set off we had some very productive birding in the garden with a pair of **Lesser Spotted Woodpeckers**, a pair of **Red-rumped Swallows** and a **Black Redstart**! We then headed north from Trujillo, leaving the granite outcrop on which the town stands, to cross a *dehesa* landscape stretching to the horizon – a wood pasture of holm oaks dating back to medieval times.

At Monfragüe National Park, we ascended to the castle which afforded us superb views of the national park and onwards to the Gredos Mountains to the north and the vast expanse of the *dehesa* southwards. We saw a variety of trees, such a Cork oak, Montpellier Maple, southern Ash and Mastic and birds included rather distant views of three **White-rumped Swifts**, but closer **Blue Rock Thrush, Rock Bunting** and all three species of **Vulture**. From there we made a stop at Peña Falcon, the massive and iconic quartzite rock face to see **Blue Rock Thrush**, two **Black Stork** nests, as well as superb views of vultures.

Then through the park to Puerto de Monfragüe for a welcome coffee, surrounded by the cork oaks with **Rock Sparrow**, **Golden Oriole** and **Short-toed Treecreeper**. We stopped for lunch in a belt of pines, accompanied by **Crested Tits** and a **Nuthatch**.

Following a couple of short stops, we walked beside Tajo at Fuente de Francés, where **Alpine Swifts** and hundreds of **House Martins** bred under the bridge whilst **Robins** 

sang in the mixed woodland, where there were species such as **Portuguese Oak** present.

Finally back at Peña Falcon, it was simply vultures galore!



Griffon Vultures (Bob Foehring)

# 12<sup>th</sup> May 2022 Campo Lugar plains, Casas de Hitos, Ruercas River, Alcollarín Reservoir

Another hot day, although some cloud cover in the first part of the day and a light wind made the temperature very pleasant. We started on the plains near Campo Lugar, enjoying great views of displaying **Great Bustards** and **Little Bustard**, as well as a pair of **Stone Curlew**. **Marsh Harriers** and **Lesser Kestrels** foraged over the plains and we were surrounded by **Calandra Larks** and **Short-toed Larks**.



Little Owl (Bob Foehring)

Venturing to the rice fields near Casas del Hitos, we had superb views of a Little Owl and then watched at length a pair of Black-winged Kites. Iberian Grey Shrikes and Bee-eaters were a wonderful supporting cast. On the rice fields we had a surprise two Common Crane as well as a migrating party of Common Ringed Plovers.

We stopped beside the River Ruercas, where as well as a **Collared Pratincole** we had good views of **Great Reed Warbler** and **Melodious Warbler**. Crossing the plains towards Campo Lugar, we found a female **Whinchat** and two **Gull-billed Tern**.

After coffee in the village of Campo Lugar, we continued to the Alcollarín Reservoir, stopping first of all to look at shorebirds on the western shore: five Little Stint, two **Common Redshank** and several **Common Ringed Plover** and **Common Sandpiper**. We had our picnic beside the subsidiary dam, with views of **Spoonbill**, **Great Reed Warbler**, elusive **Reed Warblers** and **Kingfisher**. We spent the afternoon exploring parts of the reservoir, the dragonflies at the picnic area were superb, as were the flowers at the northern end the of the lake.



Great Reed Warbler (Bob Foehring)

Perhaps the highlight was the wonderful colony of **European Bee-eaters** at the entrance to the site.



European Bee-eaters (Martin Kelsey)

#### 13<sup>th</sup> May 2022: Plains west of Trujillo, Arroyo de la Vid, Villuercas Mountains

It was another warm and sunny day, and we spent the first hour or so magically on the plains west of Trujillo. With perfect light and great visibility, we enjoy watching **Great Bustards** in full display as well as quickly snacking on grasshoppers. We had several views of **Pin-tailed Sandgrouse** and **Montagu's Harrier** and a **Spanish Imperial Eagle** perched. **Black-bellied Sandgrouse** were only heard.



Great Bustard (Bob Foehring)

We then stopped north of Trujillo near Jaraicejo for a lovely walk in a cork oak woodland. Here we had superb views of **Western Orphean Warbler**, numerous **Woodchat Shrikes**, **Subalpine Warbler** and heard **Wryneck** and **Golden Oriole**. The plants, especially rock roses were a joy to see.



Western Orphean Warbler (Bob Foehring)

Then eastwards to the Villuercas Mountains with a first stop at the River Almonte north of Cabañas del Castillo. Western Demoiselles fluttered beside the water. We drove along the western flank of the Villuercas, seeing **Peregrine** and at a nice spot for lunch, in the shade, we heard **Western Bonelli's Warbler**.

We ascended towards the highest point in the Villuercas Mountains and had a walk to see the Snow Well. **Dartford Warblers** were singing. We also saw **Green Hairstreak** and **Wild Tulips**, also the parasitic plant **Cynitis**.

A visit to the basilica of Guadalupe followed and coffee in the main square of this pretty little town, with Lesser Kestrels and Common Swifts overhead. We made our last stop beside the River Ruercas, to enjoy excellent views of two White-rumped Swift, as well as Beautiful Demoiselles and Brimstone butterflies.



Villuercas Mountains (Martin Kelsey)

In the evening on a walk behind the village we watched a **Red-necked Nightjar** gliding across our view.

#### 14<sup>th</sup> May 2022: Valverde de Mérida, Alange, Almendralejo and Mérida

Today, under a rather overcast sky first thing, we headed south into the province of Badajoz. We left the *dehesas* for the more intensive agricultural landscape of the Guadiana floodplains: maize, tomatoes, and fruit trees. Beside the Guadiana River we stopped and almost immediately heard a **Western Olivaceous Warbler** in song, although it proved very hard to get sightings of it: only Deb got a reasonable view, the rest of us resigned to flight views of this milky-tea-coloured warbler. However, the number of **House Martin** nests under the bridge were amazing and we also saw **Golden Oriole** and **Alpine Swift**. We then stopped at the nearby dam of Alange for a very pleasant walk, the highlight of which as a **Black Wheatear**. There were numerous **Thekla Larks** and a big colony of **Alpine Swifts** at the dam. We also saw **Gull-billed** and **Little Tern**, as well as **Marsh Harrier**.

From there we entered yet another landscape, that of the Tierra de Barros, the land of clay, dominated by vineyards and olive fields. We made just one stop, where we immediately heard a **Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin** singing. We were lucky enough to obtain superbly prolonged views of this scarce species.

Following coffee, we returned north to the Guadiana River between Alnage and Mérida. This was our picnic site where we saw **Lesser Emperor** dragonfly, **Small Skipper** and heard **Wryneck** singing.

Then the rest of the day we spent in Merida, walking on the Roman Bridge, seeing the Roman theatre and amphitheatre, the Temple of Diana, the Arch and aqueduct. Many of these ancient structures also serving as great habitats for birds.



Roman Theatre Mérida (Martin Kelsey)

# 15<sup>th</sup> May 2022 Plains west of Trujillo, Arrocampo reservoir and transfer to Madrid airport.

We bade farewell to Casa Rural El Recuerdo and started the day on a return visit to the plains west of Trujillo. Here with rather cool temperatures and an overcast sky, we were treated with excellent views of a calling Little Bustard. We had very distant views of a Great Bustard and saw as single Pin-tailed Sandgrouse, but just before we were planning to leave a pair of Black-bellied Sandgrouse flew over, heralding their appearance by their purring call. Very pleased, we set off for the marsh at the Arrocampo reservoir. Despite the wind, we quite quickly found a singing Savi's Warbler which afforded us good, prolonged views. We were equally entertained by the arrival of Purple Herons to their colony in the reeds.

At a second spot, **Purple Herons** were also flying in, and we watched **Marsh Harrier** bringing in nest materials. Here though the stars without a doubt were a **Squacco Heron**, flying past twice at close range and an even closer male Little Bittern, literally just a few feet away. Add to that **Purple Swamphens**, **Eurasian Reed Warblers**, a **Red Kite** being mobbed by a **Black Kite** and busy **Gull-billed Terns**, we had a superb morning.



Squacco Heron (Bob Foehring)

It was then time for a late morning coffee, before we made the onward journey to Madrid, stopping to buy some Iberian jam and local paprika and then arriving on schedule at Terminal 4. The end of a wonderful holiday.

#### **Species lists**

Birds

- 1. Greylag Goose: One at Alcollarín Reservoir.
- 2. Egyptian Goose: Seen at Alcollarín and Alange.
- 3. Northern Shoveler: Two at Alcollarín Reservoir.
- 4. Gadwall: Seen on pool in the plains and at Alcollarín.
- 5. Mallard: Seen on several days.
- 6. Common Quail: Heard on two days.
- 7. Red-legged Partridge: Seen on four days.
- 8. Little Grebe: Seen on pool in the plains and at Alcollarín.
- 9. Great Crested Grebe: Seen at Alcollarín and Mérida.
- 10. Black-necked Grebe: Seen at Alcollarín.
- 11. Rock Dove/Feral Pigeon: Seen daily.
- 12. Common Woodpigeon: Seen almost daily.
- 13. European Turtle Dove: Seen on 13<sup>th</sup> May near Jaraicejo and heard at Alange.
- 14. Collared Dove: Seen daily.
- 15. Pin-tailed Sandgrouse: Seen on three mornings on the plains west of Trujillo.

- 16. **Black-bellied Sandgrouse**: Seen on final morning on the plains west of Trujillo.
- 17. Great Bustard: Seen on plains west of Trujillo and near Campo Lugar.
- 18. Little Bustard: Seen on plains west of Trujillo and near Campo Lugar.
- 19. Great Spotted Cuckoo: Seen briefly on plains west of Trujillo.
- 20. Common Cuckoo: Seen or heard almost daily.
- 21. Red-necked Nightjar: One seen at Pago de San Clemente on 13<sup>th</sup> May.
- 22. Alpine Swift: Seen in Monfragüe and at Alange.
- 23. Common Swift: Seen almost daily.
- 24. Pallid Swift: Seen at Trujillo, Alange and Mérida.
- 25. White-rumped Swift: Seen at Monfragüe and near Cañamero.
- 26. Water Rail: Heard at Arrocampo.
- 27. Common Moorhen: Seen on three days.
- 28. Eurasian Coot: Seen at Alcollarín and Arrocampo.
- 29. Western Swamphen: Seen at Arrocampo.
- 30. Common Crane: Two at Casas del Hitos on 12<sup>th</sup> May.
- 31. Stone-curlew: Seen on plains west of Trujillo and near Campo Lugar.
- 32. Black-winged Stilt: Seen at Alcollarín, Alange and Mérida.
- 33. Common Ringed Plover: Seen at Casas del Hitos and Alcollarín.
- 34. Little Ringed Plover: Seen at Alcollarín and Mérida.
- 35. Little Stint: Five at Alcollarín.
- 36. Common Sandpiper: Seen at Piornal and Alcollarín.
- 37. Common Redshank: Seen at Alcollarín.
- 38. Collared Pratincole: Seen on 12<sup>th</sup> May on rice fields and Alcollarín.
- 39. Black-headed Gull: Seen on plains and at Alcollarín.
- 40. Little Tern: Two at Alange.
- 41. Gull-billed Tern: Seen on three days.
- 42. Black Stork: Seen at Monfragüe.
- 43. White Stork: Seen daily.
- 44. Great Cormorant: Seen at Alcollarín and Alange.
- 45. Little Bittern: Seen at Arrocampo.
- 46. Grey Heron: Seen on several days.
- 47. Purple Heron: Seen at Alcollarín, Mérida and Arrocampo.
- 48. Great White Egret: Seen at Alcollarin and Arrocampo.
- 49. Little Egret: Seen on three days.
- 50. Cattle Egret: Seen on three days.
- 51. Squacco Heron: Seen at Arrocampo.
- 52. Glossy Ibis: Seen on three days.
- 53. Eurasian Spoonbill: Seen at Alcollarín and at Mérida.
- 54. Black-winged Kite: Seen near Casas del Hitos.
- 55. Egyptian Vulture: Seen on plains and in Monfragüe.
- 56. European Honey Buzzard: Seen near Piornal.
- 57. Cinereous Vulture: Seen almost daily.
- 58. Griffon Vulture: Seen daily.
- 59. Short-toed Eagle: Seen on plains and at Alange.
- 60. Booted Eagle: Seen on three days.
- 61. Spanish Eagle: Seen on plains on two days.
- 62. Golden Eagle: One at Piornal.
- 63. Western Marsh Harrier: Seen almost daily.
- 64. Montagu's Harrier: Seen on the plains west of Trujillo on every visit.
- 65. Eurasian Sparrowhawk: Seen on the plains west of Trujillo on 13<sup>th</sup> May.

- 66. Red Kite: Seen at Arrocampo.
- 67. Black Kite: Seen daily.
- 68. Common Buzzard: Seen on plains.
- 69. Little Owl: Seen on plains and near Sierra Brava Reservoir.
- 70. Eagle Owl: Two chicks seen near Pago de San Clemente.
- 71. Eurasian Hoopoe: Seen almost daily.
- 72. Common Kingfisher: Seen on several days.
- 73. European Bee-eater: Seen on several days. Colony at Alcollarín.
- 74. European Roller: Seen on plains west of Trujillo and Campo Lugar.
- 75. Eurasian Wryneck: Heard near Jaraicejo and Mérida.
- 76. Great Spotted Woodpecker: Seen near Piornal.
- 77. Lesser Spotted Woodpecker: Pair at Pago de San Clemente.
- 78. Lesser Kestrel: Seen on several days on the plains.
- 79. Common Kestrel: Seen on four days.
- 80. Peregrine Falcon: Seen in Villuercas Mountains on 13<sup>th</sup> May.
- 81. Monk Parakeet: Seen in Madrid.
- 82. Eurasian Golden Oriole: Seen or heard daily.
- 83. Iberian Grey Shrike: Seen on plains and at Casas del Hitos.
- 84. Woodchat Shrike: Seen almost daily.
- 85. Eurasian Jay: Seen at Monfragüe and near Jaraicejo.
- 86. Iberian Magpie: Seen daily.
- 87. Common Magpie: Seen most days.
- 88. Red-billed Chough: Seen near Pico de Villuercas.
- 89. Eurasian Jackdaw: Seen most days.
- 90. Common Raven: Seen most days.
- 91. Coal Tit: Seen near Piornal.
- 92. Crested Tit: Seen near Piornal and Monfragüe.
- 93. Eurasian Blue Tit: Seen on several days.
- 94. Great Tit: Seen on several days.
- 95. Greater Short-toed Lark: Seen on the plains and on the dry rice fields.
- 96. Calandra Lark: Abundant on the plains.
- 97. Woodlark: Seen near Piornal and in the Villuercas Mountains.
- 98. Thekla's Lark: Seen on several days.
- 99. Crested Lark: Seen daily.
- 100. Bearded Tit: Seen just by Martin at Arrocampo.
- 101. **Zitting Cisticola**: Seen daily.
- 102. **Western Olivaceous Warbler**: Seen poorly but heard well near Valverde de Mérida.
- 103. **Melodious Warbler**: Seen on three days.
- 104. **Eurasian Reed Warbler**: Seen at Alcollarín, Mérida and Arrocampo.
- 105. **Great Reed Warbler**: Seen on rice fields, Alcollarín and Arrocampo.
- 106. **Savi's Warbler**: Seen well at Arrocampo.
- 107. **Sand Martin**: Seen near River Tamuja.
- **108.** Eurasian Crag Martin: Seen most days.
- 109. Barn Swallow: Seen daily.
- 110. **Red-rumped Swallow**: Seen on three days.
- 111. **Common House Martin**: Seen daily.
- 112. Western Bonelli's Warbler: Seen near Piornal and in the Villuercas.
- 113. **Cetti's Warbler**: Seen (or heard) almost daily.
- 114. **Long-tailed Tit**: Seen at Valdecañas and Alcollarín.
- **115. Eurasian Blackcap**: Seen or heard most days.

- 116. **Garden Warbler**: Seen near Piornal.
- 117. Western Orphean Warbler: Seen near Jaraicejo.
- **118.** Sardinian Warbler: Seen daily.
- 119. Western Subalpine Warbler: Seen near Pionral and Jaraicejo.
- 120. **Common Whitethroat**: Seen near Piornal.
- 121. **Spectacled Warbler**: Seen near Piornal.
- 122. **Dartford Warbler**: Seen near Piornal and Pico de Villuercas.
- 123. **Common Firecrest**: Heard near Piornal.
- 124. **Eurasian Nuthatch**: Seen at Monfragüe and in Villuercas.
- 125. Short-toed Treecreeper: Seen on several days.
- **126.** Eurasian Wren: Seen nor heard daily.
- 127. White-throated Dipper: Seen near Garganta de la Olla.
- 128. **Spotless Starling**: Seen daily.
- 129. **Mistle Thrush**: Seen in Monfragüe.
- 130. **Eurasian Blackbird**: Seen daily.
- 131. **Spotted Flycatcher**: Seen near Piornal.
- 132. **Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin**: Seen near Almendralejo.
- 133. **European Robin**: Seen on several days.
- **134.** Common Nightingale: Seen daily.
- 135. **European Pied Flycatcher**: Seen near Piornal.
- 136. Black Redstart: Seen on several days.
- 137. **Common Rock Thrush**: Seen near Piornal.
- 138. Blue Rock Thrush: Seen in Monfragüe, the Villuercas and at Alange.
- 139. **Whinchat**: Seen on the plains on two days.
- 140. **European Stonechat**: Seen daily.
- 141. **Northern Wheatear**: Seen on plains on 9<sup>th</sup> May.
- 142. Western Black-eared Wheatear: Seen near Piornal.
- 143. Black Wheatear: Seen at Alange.
- 144. **Dunnock**: Seen near Piornal.
- 145. **House Sparrow**: Seen daily.
- 146. Spanish Sparrow: Seen on four days.
- 147. Eurasian Tree Sparrow: Seen near Mérida.
- 148. **Rock Sparrow**: Seen in Monfragüe.
- 149. Grey Wagtail: Seen on three days.
- 150. White Wagtail: Seen on several days.
- 151. **Common Chaffinch**: Seen daily.
- 152. **Hawfinch**: Seen briefly at Valdecañas and Mérida.
- 153. **European Greenfinch**: Seen on several days.
- 154. **Common Linnet**: Seen on several days.
- 155. **European Goldfinch**: Seen daily.
- 156. European Serin: Seen daily.
- 157. **Corn Bunting**: Seen daily.
- 158. **Rock Bunting**: Seen at Piornal, Monfragüe and Alange.
- 159. **Cirl Bunting**: Seen beside River Magasca.
- 160. **Ortolan Bunting**: Seen near Piornal.

#### Butterflies

- 1. Scarce Swallowtail
- 2. Small White
- 3. Western Dappled White
- 4. Bath White

- 5. Clouded Yellow
- 6. Brimstone
- 7. Small Copper
- 8. Sooty Copper
- 9. Amanda's Blue
- 10. Black-eyed Blue
- 11. Brown Argus
- 12. Green Hairstreak
- 13. Large Tortoiseshell
- 14. Red Admiral
- 15. Two-tailed Pasha
- 16. Queen of Spain Fritillary
- 17. Knapweed Fritillary
- 18. Meadow Brown
- 19. Spanish Gatekeeper
- 20. Small Heath
- 21. Speckled Wood
- 22. Spanish Festoon
- 23. Wall Brown
- 24. Small Skipper

#### Dragonflies

**Beautiful Demoiselle** 

Western Demoiselle

Blue-eyed Damselfly

Blue Emperor

Western Clubtail

Broad-bodied Chaser

Black-tailed Skimmer

**Red-veined Darter** 

**Broad Scarlet** 

Violet Dropwing

#### Mammals

Red Fox Egyptian Mongoose Red Deer Iberian Hare

### **Reptiles and Amphibians**

Perez's Frog

Spanish Steam Frog

Horseshoe Whip Snake

Large Psammodromus

Western Psammodromus

Geniez's Wall Lizard

Guadarrama Wall Lizard

Schrieber's Green Lizard

Ocellated Lizard

Spanish Terrapin