



# Honeyguide

**WILDLIFE HOLIDAYS**

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**B I R D I N G**  
**EXTREMADURA**



**Extremadura**  
**18 – 26 March 2025**



### **Holiday participants**

Tim and Phylida Wright  
David and Steph Bennett  
Pat Harding

**Leader:** Martin Kelsey,  
Casa Rural El Recuerdo and Birding Extremadura.

Our base for the holiday was Martin and Claudia Kelsey's  
Casa El Recuerdo in San Clemente [www.casaruralelrecuerdo.com/](http://www.casaruralelrecuerdo.com/)

Report and wildlife lists by Martin Kelsey



Photos were all taken on the holiday by David Bennett and Martin Kelsey.

Cover: Black Storks (DB).

Above: group photo, taken at Casa El Recuerdo; Stonechat (DB); Spanish Sparrow (DB).



[The beautiful mural at Saucedilla \(MK\).](#)

As with all Honeyguide holidays, part of the price of the holiday was put towards a conservation project, in this case for La Sociedad Española de Ornitología (SEO), the Spanish Ornithological Society, and its work in Extremadura. The conservation contribution this year of £40 per person was supplemented by gift aid through the Honeyguide Wildlife Charitable Trust.

This year's donation of £220 brings the total given to SEO since the first Honeyguide holiday in Spain in 1991 to £21,635 (through all Honeyguide holidays, mostly Extremadura and the Spanish Pyrenees). The total for conservation contributions from all Honeyguide holidays was £56,337 at the end of March 2025.

## ITINERARY

18 March 2025: Pick-up at Madrid airport  
19 March 2025: Monfragüe National Park  
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23 March 2025: Plains east of Cáceres, Sierra de Fuentes, River Almonte  
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25 March 2025: Arrocampo Reservoir, Almaraz and Jaraicejo  
26 March 2025: Return to Madrid

## DAILY DIARY

### 18 March 2024: Pick-up at Madrid airport

The three different flights bringing the group into two different terminals arrived more or less on time (or even early), but the planned rendezvous point (a café) was unexpectedly closed for refurbishing and there was also a big delay in the luggage appearing from one of flights. So, we left Madrid a bit later than planned but we still managed to cover over half of the journey in daylight. The traffic was quite heavy on the ring-road but much lighter on the motorway heading to Extremadura. We witnessed wonderfully dramatic skies, reflecting the stormy weather that had been crossing Spain. We stopped for a pause just after the halfway point and reached Casa Rural El Recuerdo at 20.45. We were welcomed by Claudia who had prepared a delicious evening meal.

### 19 March 2024: Monfragüe National Park

We enjoyed a day without rain, generally overcast, but with some sunshine too and with not too much wind. We visited Monfragüe National Park, entering the park from the southern side, having crossed a vast, undulating *dehesa* landscape from Trujillo northwards. We made our first stop at the dramatic gorge of Peña Falcón, where a massive wall of hard quartzite rock had been cut through by the Tagus river, creating steep cliffsides with wonderful vertical strata. Here we saw nesting Griffon Vultures. A nest close-up showed a chick which was already several weeks old. Dozens of Griffon Vultures circled overhead, with a few Black Vultures among them. We were distracted by wonderful views of Black Stork (a total of five were seen), with a pair seen standing on their nest.



Sardinian Warbler (BD); Rock Bunting (MK).

Small birds also gave us great views, such as a very obliging Rock Bunting and a pair of Blue Rock Thrushes. Three Sardinian Warblers were delightful, while a male Subalpine Warbler generally kept in cover. Crag Martins and Red-rumped Swallows passed close-by. Spanish Adenocarpus was flowering by the road.

We made a stop for coffee in the hamlet of Villareal de San Carlos, in the friendly bar in the centre of the settlement. Then we moved to the northern viewpoint at Puerto de Serrana, standing again beside the same band of rock as at Peña Falcon, as it reemerged a few kilometres to the north. Here among the vultures were two Egyptian Vultures. Cork Oak and Holm Oak grew together as did the two species of tree heath, which together with the Strawberry Trees gave a feel of a classic south-western Iberian scrub flora.

We had our picnic at the Tajadilla viewpoint, beside the Tiétar River, again opposite a breeding cliff of Griffon Vultures. Southern Elm trees were in seed. Beyond that site we stopped again for a very productive afternoon at the viewpoint of the Portilla del Tiétar. Again, Griffon Vultures were nesting on the cliff, but we also saw two Short-toed Eagles and a high-flying Spanish Imperial Eagle. A fine Black Vulture

was seen perched on the top of the ridge. There was also a nice array of plants to admire including Angel's Tears Narcissus and Hoop Petticoat Narcissus, Spanish Milk Vetch, Viburnum and False Olive.

After a pause again at Villareal de San Carlos, we stopped beside the River Tagus a second time before returning for tea and cake at Casa Rural El Recuerdo.

### **20 March 2025: Plains between Trujillo and Cáceres**

There had been some rain overnight, but by the time we set off it was dry and remained so all day. There were periods of fresh south-westerly winds, but also some sunny spells which broke up the otherwise solidly overcast sky. We spent the first part of the morning on the plains west of Trujillo. The expanse of pseudosteppe habitat was bordered by *dehesa*, which lay to the south of us. The immediate impression was a surround of sound from singing Calandra Larks and Corn Buntings, sometimes joined by Crested and Thekla Larks. We had good views of all of these species. As we were arriving a group of Great Bustards had flown across the road, heading south. Luckily some individuals were still present in the area we had entered, and we had good, if albeit distant, views of a small group feeding in the meadow.

We then moved to the village of Santa Marta de Magasca for coffee in a bar in the little square in the centre of the village, where House Martins were nesting on the mayor's office. South of the village lies the river Tamuja and we had a very productive stop there, high above the deep *ribera* (steep-sided wooded valley). As we arrived a Spanish Imperial eagle was sky-dancing and a few minutes later we watched it launch into a mobbing attack on a Black Vulture. It was a very spectacular sight! We also saw Short-toed Eagle, Red and Black Kites and a whole procession of Griffon Vultures. To the north of the village is a similar steep-sided valley, this of the River Magasca. We had our picnic here, watching Spanish Terrapins.



[Dogfight between a Spanish Imperial Eagle and a Black Vulture \(MK\).](#)

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We returned to the plains to the north and stopped for a walk on a drover's trail "Cañada Real". On this strip of land, established 700 hundred years ago as common land, we found a superb colony of Sawfly Orchids. The fields beside the trail, were ablaze with mayweed flowers, looking like a dusting of snow. We moved southwards towards Trujillo, making a stop in the beautiful *berrocal*, a landscape dominated by granite outcrops. The flowering plants here were superb with Spotted Rockrose and the delightful Dwarf Pansy. A Merlin was seen perched on a stone in a field.





Exploring the drovers' trail (MK).

After a refueling stop in Trujillo, we returned to the plains where we had started the day. Bizarrely as we entered the area a flock of Great Bustards flew across the road in the opposite direction to those seen in the morning: presumably the same birds, but what a coincidence!

The afternoon return visit gave us the chance to see Barbary Nut Iris in flower, as well as watching Great Bustards again. This time though we also found a small group of Little Bustards, and we watched a male as it moved through the tall vegetation surrounded by flowers.

**21 March 2025: Trujillo, Almonte River south of Jaraicejo, Sierra Brava reservoir and rice fields near Madrigalejo.**



Trujillo (MK); white stork on nest in Trujillo (DB).

There had been heavy rain during the night, but it had abated by breakfast time. As we left the village, we paused at the entrance to watch a party of Hawfinches that were feeding alongside Corn Buntings and Blackbirds, turning over leaf litter in a small plantation of trees. While we were there a Lesser Spotted Woodpecker was seen briefly, as well as Iberian Magpie and Greenfinch. We stopped at the edge of Trujillo to watch Lesser Kestrels at their breeding colony in the old silo building. A few Pallid Swifts were also seen high against the darkening skies. We moved to the old part of town and walked into the Main Square and continued to explore the medieval part of the town, ascending to the Arab fortress and then back to the square. A welcome coffee in a small bar on the square was followed by some holiday shopping.

By now the forecast rain had started and it continued with just brief pauses for the rest of the day. We had our picnic in a shelter overlooking the Almonte River near Jaraicejo, watching the hirundines flying low over the river, which was in spate. From our vantage point we could survey the three bridges, dating from 1450 to 1992!

We then moved south to see the more modern farming landscape of the rice fields, starting at the Sierra Brava reservoir, where during a lull in the rain, we could see a group of Common Shelduck settled on a small island. Entering the rice fields, we found a Northern Wheatear and a flock of Tree Sparrows. During



another break in the rain, we stood beside the Ruercas River, watching two Iberian Chiffchaffs foraging on small flies close to the bankside vegetation. Black Kites and Marsh Harriers flew overhead. A Hoopoe was seen at the edge of one of the purpose-built rice villages. With increasingly heavier rain, it was now time to return to base, where tea and cakes were ready for us.

## **22 March 2025: Alange, Jabata valley and Mérida**

More heavy rain during the night was accompanied by high winds. The very windy conditions persisted all day, accompanied by frequent heavy showers. This combination impeded our plans considerably, especially since on most occasions when we stopped another squall would inevitably be upon us within a few minutes. That being said, we saw most of what we wanted to.

We started off at the town of Alange where we had a coffee to start with and then walked up the steep and very muddy path along the northern slope of the rocky outcrop. This is an area rich in orchids. Sawfly Orchids were abundant, and we also saw a good number of Pink Butterfly Orchids. We found beautiful specimens of Champagne, Woodcock, Early Spider and Conical Orchid as well.



[Pink Butterfly Orchid \(MK\)](#); [Conical Orchid](#) and [Early Spider Orchid \(DB\)](#).

We then attempted to start a walk on the southern side of the rock but soon turned back because of the rain. A Quail calling close to us was the only thing of note. We moved to the Jabata Valley, a beautiful spot with dozens of Green-winged Orchids and Lusitanian Fritillaries, as well as several species of rock rose. Sadly, we had little more than a quarter of an hour to take them all in before the rain started again.

We had our picnic at the dam of Alange, where a couple of Alpine Swifts braved the elements. We tried the walk again on the southern side of the rock, but the arrival of heavy rain again thwarted our plan.

We cut our losses and drove north to Mérida. We had a short walk on the Roman Bridge. The river was in full spate and brown with silt. Glossy Ibises flew overhead and on an island egret colony we could also see two Spoonbills.

More Spoonbills were seen downstream, as well as two flocks of Cormorants and a pair of Little Ringed Plovers. With no obvious break in the weather on the horizon, we returned to base, arriving at 16.00.



[The Roman bridge at Mérida \(DB\)](#).



### 23 March 2025: Plains east of Cáceres, Sierra de Fuentes, River Almonte

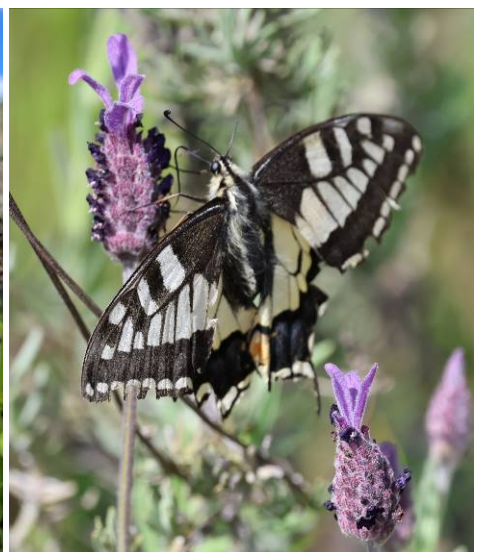
Although there was light rain first thing in the morning, the clouds moved slowly eastwards and not only did the rest of the day remain dry, we had plenty of sunny spells too and only light winds.

Our first stop was on the plains east of Cáceres where we spent a very enjoyable morning, seeing Little Owl, Great Bustards, and adult Spanish Imperial Eagle. We were able to refresh our lark identification again, with Calandras, Cresteds and Theklas all present. The views were magnificent: a vast sky and, for the first time this holiday, the Gredos Mountains clearly in view and laden with very heavy snow. A Booted Eagle was seen gliding overhead.



Calandra Lark (DB); the Dehesa at Sierra de Fuentes (MK).

After coffee nearby, we moved southwards a short distance to the hills beside Sierra de Fuentes. We had a superb walk through *dehesa* and then into Mediterranean scrub, on limestone, as the presence of Kermes Oak testified. We were not disappointed by the orchids with Sawfly, Conical, Woodcock, Naked Man, Champagne and Hairy Bee Orchid all present. The last is a very localised species in Extremadura and we found it exclusively under thick wild rosemary bushes, possibly as a way to escape the rooting of Wild Boar, which was abundant on the hillside. Butterflies included a Spanish Festoon and Green Hairstreak.



Hairy Bee Orchid *Ophrys dyris* and a magnificent Sawfly Orchid (MK); Swallowtail on French Lavender (DB).

Lunch was also nearby, among scrub and some pines. We watched a Nuthatch caking mud on the outside of its nesthole. A Western Dappled White was seen, as was a Cleopatra.

We moved north of Cáceres for our final stop, walking down to the River Almonte along a narrow stream valley where butterflies such as Swallowtail, Cleopatra and Small Copper were seen. There were some superb specimens of Sawfly Orchid. A Short-toed Eagle hovered overhead, and we completed the visit with excellent views of a male Black Wheatear, which we watched at length.

In the evening, we all repaired to the Hotel Soterraña in Madroñera for a special evening out, enjoying a meal of local cuisine and retuning to El Recuerdo under a clear, star-filled sky (for the first time all week).

#### **24 March 2025: Plains of Campo Lugar and Alcollarín Reservoir**

The day dawned clear, with a touch of ice on the windscreen of the van. We enjoyed dry and mainly sunny weather all day, with the later afternoon becoming quite warm.

We spent the morning on the plains of Campo Lugar, seeing two flocks of Great Bustards, including two very fine males. The continuous lark song was a delight. A treat early on was the sight of both Griffon and Black Vultures on the ground at quite short range. At one of the scanning stops, we picked up four Common Cranes flying high and in a north-easterly direction, late migrants returning to their breeding grounds. On a pool beside the track, we had a very close view of an adult Spoonbill.

At Campo Lugar we had our coffee, enjoying the sight of dozens of House Martins around their colony on a silo building.



Iberian Grey Shrike (DB).

Nearby at the Alcollarín River, Common Chiffchaffs were hawking insects and Cetti's Warblers sang. A male Sardinian Warbler also gave us an excellent show. We stopped beside the reservoir of the Alcollarín to have an initial scan across the water before our picnic, and counted a group of seven Spoonbills at the water's edge. There was a very fine Iberian Grey Shrike at close quarters. A pair of Great Crested Grebes were in courtship display. The picnic area, set in some *dehesa* beside a small body of water was itself a very productive stop. Two Purple Herons were seen flying. Marsh Harriers were in courtship display and Purple Swamphens were nest-building. Here too, we started an odyssey of watching Woodchat Shrikes.

Several Vagrant Emperors were flying in tandem and a Speckled Wood butterfly was also present. As we left we had a very close view of a male Marsh Harrier pounce down on a snake in the long grass close to the van. Towards the shallow end of the reservoir we stopped again; here there was a flock of Greenshanks with a Ruff among them. A Western Dappled White was coming to feed on French Lavender flowers.

We completed the afternoon on the western shore of the reservoir. Here the light was much better for looking at the duck, with hundreds of Shovelers and Pintail present, and smaller numbers of Wigeon, Gadwall and Teal. A Woodchat Shrike proved very obliging and too much a temptation for the photographers of the group!



## 25 March 2025: Arrocampo Reservoir, Almaraz and Jaraicejo

It was a beautiful morning as we set off north-east towards our destination at Arrocampo. The weather remained kind all day, generally sunny and with little wind. As we approached our destination the impressive mountain chain of the Gredos looked magnificent with their deep covering of snow. The Arrocampo Reservoir was created to provide cooling water for the Almaraz Nuclear Power station and thanks to its careful management, so that the water level fluctuates little, there is a wide fringe of emergent vegetation, dominated by lesser reed mace. The town of Saucedilla has set up trails and a series of hides to make the most of the birding opportunities here.

We spent the morning along the edge of the marsh near the town. Here the highlight was perhaps the colony of Purple Herons that provided superb views. Purple Swamphens were also visible and we saw a male Little Bittern in flight. Overhead birds of prey like Booted Eagle, Black Kite, Griffon and Black Vultures glided, while White Storks bill-clacked from their nests. We also had good views of smaller birds like Zitting Cisticolas.



Purple Heron (DB)

After coffee in the town, we visited another part of the trail, where there was an isolated pool. This had about thirty Cattle Egrets perched on dead trees. Waders such as Ringed and Little Ringed Plovers were present, while three Black-winged Kites were perched in trees, although the heat shimmer made observation difficult.

In Saucedilla itself, we stopped to admire the beautiful mural of herons and egrets, the old church along with its colony of Lesser Kestrels.



Lesser Kestrel mural at Saucedilla (DB).

We then left the area to visit the hill above the town of Almaraz. On this area of limestone and old olive groves, we had the very special experience of seeing a profusion of orchids at their best, looking proud and vigorous thanks to the recent rains. Naked Man Orchid was the most abundant, but we also found Conical, Yellow Bee, Mirror, Woodcock and Champagne Orchids. This was an ideal spot for a picnic too.





Naked Man Orchids (DB).

In the afternoon we visited an area of lavender and broom scrubland near Jaraicejo, taking a walk through this habitat and descending into a cork oak grove. Being mid-afternoon, it was a bit quiet bird wise, but we did get brief views of Dartford Warbler, Spectacled Warbler, Thekla Lark and Crested Tit. Butterflies included Scarce Swallowtail and several Western Psammodromus lizards were seen.

We then returned to Casa Rural El Recuerdo for our final tea, cakes and checklist.

### 26 March 2025: Return to Madrid

We bade farewell to Casa Rural Rural El Recuerdo and set off at about 08.20 in gorgeous sunny weather. Red-rumped and Barn Swallows were flying over us as we climbed into the van. The journey was smooth, with spectacular views of the snow-clad Gredos Mountains. We stopped for coffee at about the half-way point and shortly afterwards were entering the Madrid ring road. Apart from a short tailback because of a broken-down vehicle, the traffic flowed and we arrived at the airport at 11.25, slightly ahead of schedule. Everyone was duly dropped off at their respective terminals, the conclusion of an enjoyable holiday. Notwithstanding the challenging weather we all had wonderful memories.

### Wildlife sightings of the week (and other highlights), as nominated by group members

Philip: Naked Man Orchids in their hundreds, Black Storks and being 10 metres from a Woodchat Shrike

Jackie: Woodchat Shrike, Naked Man Orchids, the Mirror Orchid in the sun

Pat: Sardinian Warbler, the *dehesa* landscape, the sky-dancing Spanish Imperial Eagle

Steph: The family of Griffon Vultures, the abundance of orchids, Woodchat Shrike

David: Photogenic birds, especially the shrikes, the wide-open skies, a perfect pace and hospitality

Martin: A fun group with high spirits notwithstanding the weather, the fact that we were rewarded with some fine days at the end, the Black Vulture and Spanish Imperial Eagle dogfight.

## WILDLIFE LISTS

### BIRDS

Little Grebe	Seen at Alcollarín Reservoir.
Great Crested Grebe	Seen at Alcollarín Reservoir.
Cormorant	Seen most days, with a big flock at Arrocampo.
Little Bittern	Seen at Arrocampo.
Cattle Egret	Seen on three days.
Little Egret	Seen at on four days.
Great White Egret	Seen on the rice fields and at Alcollarín.
Grey Heron	Seen on most days.
Purple Heron	Seen at Alcollarín and Arrocampo.
Black Stork	Seen in Monfragüe.
White Stork	Seen every day.
Glossy Ibis	Seen in Mérida and Arrocampo.
Spoonbill	Seen on three days.
Egyptian Goose	Seen at Alange and Alcollarín Reservoirs.
Shelduck	A large group seen at Sierra Brava.
Wigeon	Seen at Alcollarín Reservoir.
Gadwall	Seen at Alcollarín Reservoir.



<b>Teal</b>	Seen at Alcollarín Reservoir.
<b>Mallard</b>	Seen most days.
<b>Pintail</b>	Hundreds at Alcollarín Reservoir.
<b>Shoveler</b>	Hundreds at Alcollarín Reservoir.
<b>Ferruginous Duck</b>	One at Arrocampo.
<b>Black-winged Kite</b>	Three seen at Arrocampo.
<b>Black Kite</b>	Seen daily.
<b>Red Kite</b>	Seen on two days.
<b>Egyptian Vulture</b>	Seen at Monfragüe, near Cáceres and at Alange.
<b>Griffon Vulture</b>	Seen every day.
<b>Black Vulture</b>	Seen on five days.
<b>Short-toed Eagle</b>	Seen on five days.
<b>Marsh Harrier</b>	Seen on three days.
<b>Common Buzzard</b>	Seen on two days.
<b>Spanish Imperial Eagle</b>	Seen on three days (on the plains and in Monfragüe)
<b>Booted Eagle</b>	Seen on two days.
<b>Lesser Kestrel</b>	Seen on four days.
<b>Common Kestrel</b>	Seen twice.
<b>Merlin</b>	One seen on the plains.
<b>Peregrine</b>	A pair seen in Monfragüe.
<b>Red-legged Partridge</b>	Seen on three days.
<b>Moorhen</b>	Seen on two days.
<b>Western Swamphen</b>	Several seen at Alcollarín and Arrocampo.
<b>Coot</b>	Large numbers at Alcollarín.
<b>Crane</b>	Four birds seen flying over Campo Lugar.
<b>Little Bustard</b>	A small group seen on the plains.
<b>Great Bustard</b>	Seen on three days near Santa Marta de Magasca and near Campo Lugar.
<b>Black-winged Stilt</b>	Seen at Arrocampo.
<b>Little Ringed Plover</b>	Seen at Mérida and Arrocampo.
<b>Ringed Plover</b>	Seen at Arrocampo.
<b>Golden Plover</b>	Seen on the plains.
<b>Ruff</b>	Seen at Alcollarín.
<b>Greenshank</b>	A party at Alcollarín Reservoir.
<b>Green Sandpiper</b>	Seen on one day..
<b>Common Sandpiper</b>	Seen at Alcollarín Reservoir.
<b>Black-headed Gull</b>	Seen on two days.
<b>Lesser Black-backed Gull</b>	Seen at Alcollarín.
<b>Pin-tailed Sandgrouse</b>	Seen near Santa Marta de Magasca.
<b>Rock Dove/Feral Pigeon</b>	Seen daily.
<b>Woodpigeon</b>	Seen on four days.
<b>Collared Dove</b>	Seen daily.
<b>Great Spotted Cuckoo</b>	Seen near Trujillo.
<b>Cuckoo</b>	Heard on two days.
<b>Little Owl</b>	Seen near Santa Marta de Magasca.
<b>Pallid Swift</b>	Seen at Trujillo and Saucedilla.
<b>Alpine Swift</b>	Seen at Alange and Arrocampo.
<b>Kingfisher</b>	Seen at River Magasca and Arrocampo.
<b>Hoopoe</b>	Seen on four days.
<b>Lesser Spotted Woodpecker</b>	Seen one day at Pago de San Clemente.
<b>Calandra Lark</b>	Seen on the plains.
<b>Crested Lark</b>	Seen on four days.
<b>Thekla Lark</b>	Seen on five days.
<b>Sand Martin</b>	Seen at Mérida and Arrocampo.
<b>Crag Martin</b>	Seen almost every day.
<b>Swallow</b>	Seen daily.
<b>Red-rumped Swallow</b>	Seen almost every day.
<b>House Martin</b>	Seen daily.
<b>Meadow Pipit</b>	Seen on four days.
<b>Grey Wagtail</b>	Seen near the River Almonte.
<b>White Wagtail</b>	Seen on two days.
<b>Wren</b>	Recorded daily.
<b>Robin</b>	Seen on three days.
<b>Black Redstart</b>	Seen on four days.
<b>Stonechat</b>	Seen most days.
<b>Northern Wheatear</b>	Seen on the rice fields.
<b>Black Wheatear</b>	Seen near the River Almonte.
<b>Blue Rock Thrush</b>	Seen in Monfragüe, Alange and near the River Almonte.
<b>Blackbird</b>	Seen daily.
<b>Mistle Thrush</b>	Seen in Monfragüe.
<b>Cetti's Warbler</b>	Recorded on four days.
<b>Zitting Cisticola</b>	Seen on five days.
<b>Savi's Warbler</b>	Singing at Arrocampo.



Griffon Vulture (DB)

<b>Reed Warbler</b>	Singing at Arrocampo.
<b>Dartford Warbler</b>	Seen at Jaraicejo.
<b>Spectacled Warbler</b>	Seen at Jaraicejo.
<b>Subalpine Warbler</b>	Seen in Monfragüe.
<b>Sardinian Warbler</b>	Seen daily.
<b>Blackcap</b>	Seen on two days.
<b>Chiffchaff</b>	Seen on two days.
<b>Iberian Chiffchaff</b>	Seen at Alcollarín.
<b>Long-tailed Tit</b>	Seen on one day.
<b>Crested Tit</b>	Seen at Jaraicejo.
<b>Blue Tit</b>	Seen on three days.
<b>Great Tit</b>	Seen almost every day.
<b>Short-toed Treecreeper</b>	Heard on two days.
<b>Nuthatch</b>	Seen nest-building at Sierra de Fuentes.
<b>Iberian Grey Shrike</b>	Seen on two days.
<b>Woodchat Shrike</b>	Seen on two days. Common at Alcollarín.
<b>Iberian Magpie</b>	Seen every day.
<b>Common Magpie</b>	Seen every day.
<b>Jackdaw</b>	Seen almost every day.
<b>Raven</b>	Seen most days.
<b>Spotless Starling</b>	Seen daily.
<b>House Sparrow</b>	Seen daily.
<b>Spanish Sparrow</b>	Seen on three days.
<b>Tree Sparrow</b>	Seen on the rice fields.
<b>Common Waxbill</b>	Seen at Arrocampo.
<b>Red Avadavat</b>	One seen briefly at Arrocampo.
<b>Chaffinch</b>	Seen most days.
<b>Serin</b>	Seen daily.
<b>Greenfinch</b>	Seen on four days.
<b>Goldfinch</b>	Seen on five days.
<b>Linnet</b>	Seen on one day.
<b>Hawfinch</b>	Seen on four days.
<b>Rock Bunting</b>	Seen in Monfragüe.
<b>Corn Bunting</b>	Seen daily.

#### **MAMMALS**

**Red Fox** *Vulpes vulpes*  
**Wild boar** *Sus scrofa* – rootings  
**Red deer** *Cervus elaphus hispanicus*  
**Rabbit** *Oryctolagus cuniculus*

#### **REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS**

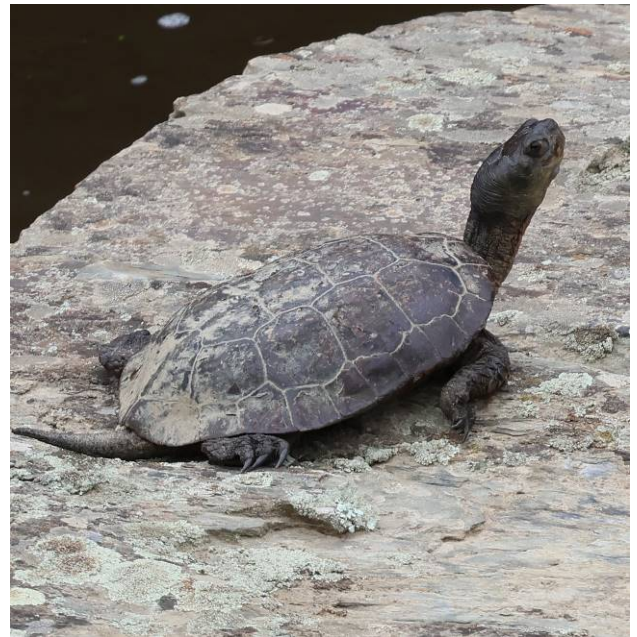
**Spanish Terrapin** *Mauremys leprosa*  
**Red-eared Terrapin** *Trachemys scripta*  
**Western Psammodromus** *Psammodromus occidentalis*

#### **BUTTERFLIES**

Swallowtail  
Scarce Swallowtail  
Spanish Festoon  
Small White  
Western Dappled White  
Clouded Yellow  
Cleopatra  
Large Tortoiseshell  
Red Admiral  
Painted Lady  
Small Heath  
Southern Speckled Wood  
Green hairstreak  
Small Copper  
Holly Blue

#### **OTHER INVERTEBRATES**

Vagrant Emperor *Anax ephippiger*  
Hummingbird hawk-moth *Macroglossum stellatarum*  
Caterpillars of the tiger moth *Ocnogryna boetica*  
7-spot ladybird *Coccinella 7-punctata*  
A red-and-black ground bug *Spilostethus pandurus*  
A slug *Drusia valenciennii*



Spanish Terrapin (DB)



## PLANTS

Numbers on the right refer to Blamey & Grey-Wilson, *Mediterranean Wild Flowers*.

Polunin refers to Polunin & Smythies, *Flowers of south-west Europe*.

Where there is no number, usually these are plants in floras from northern Europe

e.g. *Wild Flowers of Britain & Europe* by Fitter, Fitter & Blamey.

Some are planted, marked P. NiF = not in flower.

Common northern European plants e.g. shepherd's purse, groundsel, are not usually noted; planted trees are noted when of special interest.

<b>Pinaceae</b>	<i>Pinus pinea</i>	Stone / umbrella pine (3)
	<i>Pinus nigra</i>	Black pine (4)
<b>Fagaceae</b>	<i>Quercus coccifera</i>	Kermes oak (24)
	<i>Quercus rotundifolia</i>	Holm oak (26)
	<i>Quercus suber</i>	Cork oak (27)
<b>Ulmaceae</b>	<i>Ulmus minor</i>	Elm sp. (c. 38)
<b>Urticaceae</b>	<i>Urtica membranacea</i>	Membranous nettle (49)
<b>Polygonaceae</b>	<i>Rumex bucephalophorus</i>	Horned dock, often brick-red sheets on dry ground
	<i>Rumex scutatus</i>	Rubble dock or French sorrel
	illustrated in Blamey / Grey-Wilson's Alpine flowers	
<b>Caryophyllaceae</b>	<i>Corrigiola litoralis</i>	Strapwort
	<i>Paronychia capita</i>	Paronychia (134)
	<i>Spergularia arvensis</i>	Corn spurrey
	<i>Spergularia purpurea</i>	Purple sand-spurrey (148)
	<i>Silene gallica</i>	Small-flowered Catchfly (176)
	<i>Silene colorata</i>	Mediterranean catchfly (180)
<b>Papaveraceae</b>	<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>	Common poppy (283)
<b>Ranunculaceae</b>	<i>Anemone palmata</i>	Yellow anemone (218)
	<i>Ranunculus</i> sp.	Water crowfoot sp.
<b>Fumariaceae</b>	<i>Fumaria capreolata</i>	Ramping fumitory (303)
<b>Cruciferae</b>	<i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i>	Wild radish (369)
	<i>Sinapis arvensis</i>	Charlock
	<i>Sisymbrium altissimum</i>	Tall rocket
	<i>Diplotaxis siifolia</i>	Wall Rocket
<b>Crassulaceae</b>	<i>Umbilicus rupestris</i>	Navelwort (396)
<b>Leguminosae</b>	<i>Acacia dealbata</i> P	'Mimosa' or Silver wattle (432)
	<i>Adenocarpus argyrophyllus</i>	Spanish adenocarpus (in neither book)
	<i>Anthyllis lotoides</i> (Polunin 623a)	
	<i>Astragalus lusitanicus</i>	Iberian milk-vetch (504)
	<i>Cercis siliquastrum</i> P	Judas tree (430)
	<i>Cytisus multiflorus</i>	White broom
	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	Broom (456)
	<i>Genista hirsuta</i>	(466)
	<i>Lygos monosperma</i>	Retama (480) NiF
	<i>Lathyrus cicera</i>	A vetchling of cultivated fields (545)
	<i>Lathyrus clymenum</i>	(550)
	<i>Lupinus angustifolius</i>	Narrow-leaved lupin (486)
	<i>Vicia sativa</i>	Common vetch (531)
<b>Oxalidaceae</b>	<i>Oxalis pes-caprae</i>	Bermuda buttercup (735)
<b>Geraniaceae</b>	<i>Geranium molle</i>	Dovesfoot cranesbill (741)
	<i>Geranium rotundifolium</i>	Round-leaved cranesbill (743)
	<i>Geranium purpureum</i>	Little robin (748)
	<i>Erodium botrys</i>	Mediterranean or long-beaked storksbill (758)
	<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	Common storksbill (761)
<b>Euphorbiaceae</b>	<i>Mercurialis annua</i>	Annual mercury (820)
<b>Meliaceae</b>	<i>Melia azedarach</i> P	Indian bead tree or Persian lilac (843)
<b>Violaceae</b>	<i>Viola (arvensis) kitaibeliana</i>	Dwarf pansy (931)
<b>Cistaceae</b>	<i>Cistus albidus</i>	Grey-leaved cistus (big pink fls) (961)
	<i>Cistus monspeliensis</i>	Narrow-leaved cistus (961)
	<i>Cistus salviifolius</i>	Sage-leaved cistus (small white) (965)
	<i>Cistus ladanifer</i>	Gum cistus (big white fls) (971)
	<i>Helianthemum egyptiacum</i>	
	<i>Helianthemum nummularium</i>	Common rockrose (996)
	<i>Tuberaria guttata</i>	Spotted rockrose (985)
<b>Cactaceae</b>	<i>Opuntia maxima</i> (= <i>ficus-indica</i> )	Prickly pear (1040)
<b>Umbelliferae</b>	<i>Ferula communis</i>	Giant fennel (1141)

<b>Ericaceae</b>	<i>Smyrnium olustatrum</i>	Alexanders (1087)
	<i>Arbutus unedo</i>	Strawberry tree (1176)
	<i>Erica arborea</i>	Tree heath (white fls) (1178)
	<i>Erica australis</i>	Spanish heath (pink fls) (1181)
<b>Oleaceae</b>	<i>Phillyrea angustifolia</i>	Phillyrea or false olive (1246)
	<i>Olea europaea</i>	Olive (1248)
	<i>Olea europaea</i> spp <i>oleaster</i>	Wild olive (1248a)
	<i>Fraxinus angustifolia</i>	Narrow-leaved ash (-)
<b>Boraginaceae</b>	<i>Anchusa undulata</i>	Undulate anchusa (1406)
<b>Labiatae</b>	<i>Cynoglossum cherifolium</i>	A houndstongue (1409)
	<i>Lamium amplexicaule</i>	Henbit deadnettle (1478)
	<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>	Rosemary (1526)
	<i>Lavandula stoechas</i>	French lavender (1528)
	<i>Salvia verbenaca</i>	Wild clary (1545)
<b>Scrophularicaea</b>	<i>Stachys arvensis</i>	Field woundwort
	<i>Cymbalaria muralis</i>	Ivy-leaved toadflax (1632)
	<i>Parentucellia latifolia</i>	a tiny, red bartsia (1652)
	<i>Linaria sparteae</i>	a yellow-flowered toadflax (Polunin)
<b>Caprifoliaceae</b>	<i>Viburnum tinus</i>	Laurestinus (1711)
<b>Compositae</b>	<i>Anthemis arvensis</i>	Corn mayweed
	<i>Bellis annua</i>	Annual daisy (1791)
	<i>Bellis perennis</i>	Perennial daisy (1792)
	<i>Bellis sylvestris</i>	Southern daisy (1793)
	<i>Phagnalon saxatile</i>	Rock phagnalon (1833) NiF
	<i>Chrysanthemum segetum</i>	Corn marigold (1894)
	<i>Calendula arvensis</i>	Field marigold (1908)
	<i>Galactites tomentosa</i>	Galactites (1971)
	<i>Silybum marianum</i>	Milk thistle (1982)
	<i>Asphodelus aestivus</i>	Common asphodel (2089)
<b>Liliaceae</b>	<i>Gagea sp lutea?</i>	Yellow star-of-Bethlehem sp. (c 2106)
	<i>Fritillaria lusitanica</i>	Iberian fritillary (2152)
	<i>Ornithogalum ?narbonense</i>	Star-of-Bethlehem sp. (2171)
	<i>Urginea maritima</i>	Sea squill (leaves & dead flower spikes) (2163)
	<i>Hyacinthoides hispanica</i>	Spanish bluebell (2191)
	<i>Allium neapolitanum</i>	Naples garlic (2225)
	<i>Narcissus triandrus</i>	Angel's tears (Polunin 1668d)
<b>Amaryllidaceaea</b>	<i>Narcissus jonquilla</i>	Common jonquil (2279)
	<i>Narcissus bulbocodium</i>	Hoop-petticoat narcissus (2281)
	<i>Gynandris sisyrrinchium</i>	Barbary nut iris (2305)
<b>Iridaceae</b>	<i>Romulea bulbocodium</i>	A sand crocus (2314)
	<i>Arisarum simorrhinum</i>	Friar's cowl (2378)
<b>Orchidaceae:</b>	<i>Anacamptis champagneuxii</i>	Champagne orchid (2403)
	<i>Anacamptis morio</i>	Green-winged Orchid
	<i>Anacamptis papilionacea</i>	Pink Butterfly Orchid
	<i>Neotinea conica</i>	Conical orchid
	<i>Orchis italica</i>	Naked man orchid (2409)
	<i>Ophrys speculum</i>	Mirror orchid (2422)
	<i>Ophrys lutea</i>	Yellow bee orchid (2423)
	<i>Ophrys scolopax</i>	Woodcock orchid (2436)
	<i>Ophrys tenthredinifera</i>	Sawfly orchid (2442)
	<i>Ophrys dyris</i>	Hairy Bee Orchid
<b>Gramineae &amp; Juncaceae</b>	<i>Typha angustifolia</i>	Lesser reedmace
	<i>Arundo donax</i>	Giant reed (2494)



Iberian fritillary (DB).

**FUNGI:** A small puffball