



Morocco – North Africa in a Nutshell

30 March – 7 April 2023

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The endangered Northern Bald Ibis is one of Morocco's most celebrated birds

Morocco is a fascinating country not just for its birds and wildlife, but also for its scenery, culture, history, and food among many other things. Our fast-paced trip started in the High Atlas Mountains, home to the highest peaks in North

Africa as well as the Arabic-speaking world. From there we descended into the arid desert steppe to the south, then headed east to the edge of the Sahara Desert where towering sand dunes glowed orange and red in the evening sun. From there we crossed back to the west, eventually reaching the coast where rivers and estuaries were home to an entirely different set of species.



The High Atlas mountains at Oukaimeiden – Morocco's highest peak Toubkal (13671 ft) is in the distance

Tour highlights included fantastic views of three different **sandgrouse** (**Spotted**, **Crowned**, and **Black-bellied**), eight species of **wheatear** (the gorgeous **Western Black-eared** was perhaps the group favorite), the energetic **Scrub Warbler** that led us on an energetic jaunt through the desert as it bounced from bush to bush, ungainly yet oddly attractive **Northern Bald Ibis**, the ghostly **Desert Sparrows** in the Sahara, and the incredibly well camouflaged **Egyptian Nightjars** that took us a while to see even though we were staring right at them! We were there during the Holy Month of Ramadan when Muslims abstain from eating, drinking and various other activities from sunrise to sunset. Fortunately, Moroccans are very welcoming to foreign tourists and they do not expect us to join in with the fast. We were treated to fantastic local food wherever we went ranging from the ubiquitous *tagines* and couscous to Berber Omelettes, perfectly seasoned brochettes, endless olives, and freshly baked bread.

The tour started in the city of Marrakech, sometimes called the Red City due to the sandstone used in many of the older buildings. Everyone had arrived the night before or earlier, so we were able to head straight out after breakfast when our excellent and punctual driver Hassan picked us up from the hotel. It was a hazy morning, but before long we could see the snow-capped peaks of the High Atlas Mountains in front of us. The temperature was very pleasant as we wound our way up the lower slopes to the patches of forest where our first avian target awaited. **Levaillant's Woodpecker** is a big, beautiful woodpecker endemic to North Africa, and for a while it looked like it was going to be a “no-show”, but finally one came in and perched right in front of us and sat there for over ten minutes!:



While it was watching us, we started seeing other species like **Common Wood-Pigeon**, **Great Tit**, **Eurasian Blackcap**, **Common Nightingale**, “African” **Common Chaffinch**, and **Eurasian Wren**. Continuing up the road, we stopped in a couple of stands of pines and cedars, locating the beautiful **African Blue Tit** along with **Common Firecrest**, **European Goldfinch**, **Great Spotted Woodpecker**, and **Mistle Thrush**. We kept going up and soon crossed above treeline, where the road started following a narrow canyon with a rushing stream. This was pretty much the only spot on the tour for **White-throated Dipper**, and it did not take long spot one. It kept leading us upstream, so we had to move fast to follow it before finally getting some decent views. During our chase we also saw our first **Black Redstarts**, **Black Wheatears**,

and **Gray Wagtails**. Soon after we reached the ski resort of Oukaimeiden, where we paused to watch the big flocks of both **Red** and **Yellow-billed Choughs** and saw our only **Eurasian Coots** of the tour. Lunch was at a local place that opened especially for us and served some amazing chicken and vegetarian *tagines*. This resort is often swarming with visitors from Marrakech, but mid-week during Ramadan it felt like a ghost town. We resumed our birding after lunch, walking past the abandoned ski lifts where a **Short-toed Snake-Eagle** was soaring overhead. Few other birds were in evidence, but we managed to find an **Atlas Wheatear** and several pretty “Atlas” **Horned Larks**, a likely future split:



Sadly there were no Crimson-winged Finches. This species winters in the ski resort, but it had been unusually hot in recent weeks, and the flock that normally hangs around had already dispersed to their breeding grounds higher up in the mountains. After a bit more birding near the resort for **Rock Sparrow**, **Rock Bunting**, and **Moussier’s Redstart**, we started heading down the mountain towards Ourika. There was enough time for one more quick stop in the cedar forest where we located a lone **Brambling** and a couple of **Coal Tits**. We reached our comfortable hotel just before sunset.

Some pre-breakfast birding the next morning got us a pair of **Barbary Partridges**, some surprise **Red Crossbills**, several migrants like **Woodchat Shrike** and **Common Cuckoo**, and a variety of common open-country species such as **Crested Lark**, **Common Bulbul**, **Spotless Starling**, **Eurasian Blackbird**, **European Serin**, and **House Bunting**. Much of the rest of the day was devoted to driving over the High Atlas mountains and eastward to Boumalne Dades, but we had time for a few stops. A stop at some pine forest before the pass had several soaring **Booted Eagles** (*photo right*), a flock of migrating **European Bee-eaters**, and the tour's only **Western Bonelli's Warbler**.

Another **Booted Eagle** soared over us at our lunch stop, where a small puddle of water was attracting several thirsty birds like **Western Olivaceous Warbler** and **European Pied Flycatcher**. Our best birds came late in the day where we made the obligatory stop at the famous dump in Boumalne Dades. It's not exactly the most scenic spot on the tour, but the birds like it since it attracts insects that they feed on. **Desert** and **Red-rumped Wheatears** (*photo below*) gave us great views along with a few handsome **Temminck's Lark**, our first **Greater Short-toed** and **Thekla's Larks**, a distant **Little Owl**, a few **Common Swifts**, and even some migrants like **Eurasian Wryneck** and **Northern Wheatear**. As sunset approached, we drove to our *kasbah* (fortress-like) hotel on the edge of town for the night.



We had a lot to do the next day, so we left right at sunrise with a packed breakfast and drove to the southern end of the Tagdilt Track, an old “road” that passes through mostly undisturbed high desert steppe, where sparsely vegetated, rocky desert stretches almost to the horizon. Our very first bird was a singing **Greater Hoopoe Lark** (below) that occasionally displayed by flying straight up into the air and then back down, flashing large white patches in its wings.



A couple of **Ruddy Shelducks** seemed out of place as there was not a drop of water in evidence, and a **Montagu's Harrier** cruised past in the distance. A **Long-legged Buzzard** would not let us get very close, then we got distracted by the first of many **Cream-colored Coursers**. They blend into the desert really well, and unless you scan the desert closely for movement you can easily miss them. Finally I heard a sound I was hoping for, the soft chuckling notes of **Black-bellied Sandgrouse**. At first we just saw them flying over, but during our field breakfast two of them settled down in the distance where we could get the scope on them. We also saw more **Desert** and **Red-rumped Wheatears** as well as **Temminck's** and **Greater Short-toed Larks** before leaving the track and heading to our next stop. The rocky cliffs west of Imiter, sometimes called the Cave of Taouite, are a well-known spot for **Pharaoh Eagle-Owl**. They roost inside cracks and holes in the cliffs. Just as we turned off the main highway, one member of our group shouted “STOP!” – there was a flock of **Black-bellied Sandgrouse** only about 30 feet from the van. It was very nice to have a much closer view of this striking bird. Two locals from the nearby town met us as we reached the end of the road. They help visiting birders find the owls (in return for a tip), and one of them led us down into the canyon and then way up the other side and then pointed my scope at a dark hole in the cliff. In the gloom, the face of sleeping **Pharaoh Eagle-Owl** could be seen, but

only just barely. Sometimes they roost in easier locations, but this time it would have been nearly impossible to find it without help. We also saw a nesting **Long-legged Buzzard**, several **Trumpeter Finches**, another **Short-toed Snake-Eagle**, and a couple of bizarre **North African Spiny-faced Lizards**, though didn't find any Mourning Wheatears, at least not yet.



Black-bellied Sandgrouse



Can you spot the Pharaoh Eagle-Owl? Look in the lower right part of the dark area.

Lunch was in the scenic Todra Gorge, where we also tracked down a pair of **Tristram's Warblers** before continuing our journey east towards the Sahara. A short stop near a well east of the town of Fezna was really productive. Both **Bar-tailed** and **Desert Larks** were in close proximity allowing easy comparison, and they were also performing display flights. We also had superb views of both **White-crowned** (*below*) and **Black Wheatears**. In late afternoon we finally reached our fancy hotel located right at the edge of the famous Erg Chebbi dunes. The late afternoon sunbathed them in color as we settled in for the evening.



The next day was definitely one of the most memorable of the trip. Our local guides Hassan and Youssef turned up right after breakfast in their 4x4 SUVs, and we skirted the northern edge of the dunes towards the Algerian border. We stopped briefly to look at a **Brown-necked Raven** and the trip's first of many **Western Subalpine Warblers**, but didn't linger since we needed to get to a water hole before the sandgrouse started to arrive. As we approached we could see flocks of dozens of birds slowing walking through the desert. As we got closer, we could see that most of them were **Spotted Sandgrouse** but there were several groups of **Crowned Sandgrouse** too. Hassan and Youssef skillfully took us close to some of the flocks, then headed to where we could watch the activity around the water hole. Hundreds of sandgrouse came in and drank before taking off in large, chaotic flocks and flying far out into the desert. It was a great experience! Our next stop was a house in the middle of nowhere. The woman who lives there puts out food and water that attracts **Desert Sparrows**, and also makes some money selling handicrafts to visitors. First only a brown female came in, and just when we were wondering if we should move on, three beautiful males came in and joined her. Moving on, we reached a patch of scrub and started looking for **African Desert Warbler** without any luck. Finally Youssef waved us over to where he was staring at a bush and said there was a nest. At first the nest looked empty, but finally we could see the head of the warbler with its bright yellow eye looking out. After a while it left the nest and we followed it as it flitted from bush to bush. Next on the agenda was a very special bird. We stopped to pick up a local herder named Mubarak, who the local guides pay to follow **Egyptian Nightjars** as they go to their roosting spots before dawn. Otherwise they would be incredibly hard to find. As we drove the stakeout, he suddenly got very nervous and told the

drivers to step on it (despite the fact that he was clinging precariously to the side of the vehicle!). He managed to hold on and we soon saw the reason for concern – a herd of camels was foraging in the area the nightjars were supposed to be, and they could easily flush the birds if they got too close. At first we thought we were out of luck, since Hassan was pointing us to a bush with just a couple of gray rocks underneath. He had a little smile and then we suddenly realized the rocks were birds! Now that we knew where to look, we moved to a better position where they looked less like stones and more like **Egyptian Nightjars**.



Egyptian Nightjar



Crowned Sandgrouse



Spotted Sandgrouse taking off from the water hole

After taking a break for lunch where we had some really good Berber omelets, *tagines*, and some surprisingly good fries, we headed towards Rissani to look for a few more birds we still needed at a couple of different spots during the afternoon. Hassan was on a mission to find **Fulvous Chatterer** which proved to be a bit elusive but we did see one reasonably well. We had much better views of other species like **Rufous-tailed Scrub-Robin**, **Blue-cheeked Bee-eater**, “Maghreb” **Crested Lark**, **Eastern Olivaceous**, **Sardinian**, and **Willow Warblers**, **Meadow Pipit**, **Laughing** and **European Turtle-Doves**, **Common House-Martin**, **Common Redstart**, **Black-winged Stilt**, and a few more before returning to our nice hotel near the dunes for a second night, and said goodbye to Hassan and Youssef.

Our pre-breakfast walk around the hotel the next day was surprisingly quiet with little seen except for a bunch of **Western Subalpine Warblers** and a few **White-crowned Wheatears**. Things did not improve when we stopped again near Fezna and failed to locate any of our targets, but luckily our luck changed after that. Our next stop was in the middle of nowhere north of Tinejdad at a stakeout for the very local **Scrub Warbler**. It did not take long before a sharp-eyed group member called our attention to one. Getting a good view proved to be harder! That one tiny little bird led us about half a mile through the desert, bouncing like a little ball with its tail cocked up from bush to bush before finally giving us some reasonable views. It was such an energetic and funny creature that it was mentioned as a trip favorite at the end of the tour. I am sharing of a photo of it on the next page, but I have to admit that I took this shot during my scouting trip before the tour (but I suspect it was the same individual).



Scrub Warbler

Luck was also with us at our next stop, not far from where we saw the eagle-owl a few days ago. A birder we had bumped into had told me about an active **Lanner Falcon** nest. We had not yet seen one, so it was well worth following up. We reached the spot and far away I could see a nest with a gray blob near the edge that looked possibly birdlike. As we marched through the desert towards it, we came across a gorgeous “Maghreb” **Mourning Wheatear**, a tough bird that had eluded us before and that will likely be split in the future. Finally we were close enough to see that the gray blob was indeed a **Lanner Falcon**. We got as close as we could (which wasn’t all that close since there was a canyon with a sheer cliff in front of us) and had good views in the scope. Most of the rest of the afternoon was spent driving to Ouarzazate where its impossible-to-miss glowing solar energy collection tower could be seen from a huge distance. There was time for a stop near the local reservoir where we added a few new birds to the list like **Great Crested Grebe**, **Great Cormorant**, **Gray Heron**, **Little Egret**, and **Gull-billed Tern**.

We had one more long drive ahead of us to reach the coast. Along the way we stopped at a bridge where there was a ton of bird activity that kept us busy for an hour with things like **European Greenfinch**, “Moroccan” **White Wagtail**, two different races of **Western Yellow Wagtail**, **Tree Pipit**, **Whinchat**, **Eurasian Hoopoe**, and several **warbler** species including **Cetti’s Warbler**, **Western Subalpine Warbler**, **Greater Whitethroat**, **Willow Warbler**, and **Common Chiffchaff**. Our next stops proved less productive; a last-ditch effort to find the scarce Thick-billed Lark proved fruitless, and then we rather shockingly encountered steady rain in the Argan forest which made birding futile. A frontal system had just

moved in that brought windy and chilly weather for the next couple of days, though luckily not much rain apart from this one spot. This stretch of road is off the tourist route and all the restaurants were closed for Ramadan until he got closer to the coast, where our driver Hassan helped us find one which turned out to be really nice. We had a late but sumptuous lunch before finally reaching the city of Agadir on the coast, and headed straight towards the Sous River estuary next to the Royal Summer Palace. This is one of the best sites in all of Morocco for gulls, shorebirds, and other waterbirds, and over the next couple of hours we scoped big flocks of **Pied Avocets**, **Common Ringed** and **Black-bellied Plovers**, **Yellow-legged** and **Mediterranean Gulls**, **Eurasian Oystercatchers**, and **Dunlin** along with smaller numbers of numerous other species like **Greater Flamingo**, **Kentish Plover**, **Whimbrel**, **Eurasian Curlew**, **Bar-tailed Godwit**, **Ruddy Turnstone**, **Curlew Sandpiper**, **Common Sandpiper**, **Common Redshank**, **Black-headed Gull**, **Audouin's Gull**, **Caspian Tern**, **Sandwich Tern**, and **Eurasian Spoonbill**. Inquisitive **Maghreb Magpies** followed us around – we had seen a few of them before on the trip but finally had up-close views here, and we also had a couple of fly-bys of **Marbled Teal**. It had been a long day, so were happy to get to our hotel near the beach where we would spend the next two nights.



Maghreb Magpie

After breakfast, we drove a bit more than an hour south to Sous Massa National Park, only to be greeted by more rain when we arrived at our first birding spot. Fortunately it tapered off almost immediately and it remained dry for the rest of the day. Almost as soon as we got out of the van, we were treated to truly “mega” views of a gorgeous **Western Black-eared Wheatear**, which landed it on the short-list for favorite trip bird:



It was a harbinger of things to come since we had really fun morning at the various sites we visited in and around the park, with lots of new trip birds like **Common Shelduck**, **Ruff**, **Common Greenshank**, **Slender-billed Gull**, **Squacco Heron**, **Black-crowned Tchagra**, **Zitting Cisticola**, **Plain Martin**, **European Stonechat**, **Eurasian Linnet**, and **Corn Bunting**. We also enjoyed more (and often better) views of many other species we had seen before, including the colorful **European Bee-eater**, which was also mentioned as one of the favorite trip birds. In the afternoon, we returned once again to the Sous Estuary. Conditions were more favorable with overcast skies and less wind, and we walked a long way out towards the ocean where thousands of birds could be seen in the distance. The species mix was largely the same as the day before, but the viewing conditions were easier and some birds showed much better. Rather than just one **Greater Flamingo** there were several large flocks, and when a bunch of them flew right in front of us at close range it was very close to “visual overload”! We saw more **Audouin’s Gulls**, and some of the group saw another **Slender-billed Gull** fly over.



Greater Flamingos

After another night in Agadir, it was hard to believe that we were down to one final day of birding. However I had saved the best for last. **Northern Bald Ibis** is one of Morocco's most celebrated species – it was formerly much more widespread in northern Africa and the Middle East, but the population crashed in the 20th century due to hunting, habitat loss, and other factors. The southern Moroccan coast is its last stronghold and the population seems to have stabilized in recent years. We hadn't seen any at Sous Massa the day before, so this was our last chance. One of its nesting colonies is north of the town of Tamri, and we headed straight there after breakfast. We needn't have worried – a **Northern Bald Ibis** was already waiting for us right where we turned off the main highway, and we stopped to photograph it as it foraged in the desert, unconcerned about its audience. Nearby we also had our first decent view of a **Great Gray Shrike**. We headed down to a spot where we could observe the nesting colony from a safe distance where we were not disturbing them and watched them as they came and went, sometimes flying very close. Some were carrying nesting material while others already had chicks. Several **Great Cormorants** were also nesting, and we saw a pair of "Barbary" **Peregrine Falcons** perched on the cliffs. It seemed like a great place for them but we didn't see any signs of a nest. After enjoying this spectacle for a while, we spent time scanning the desert and located a pair of **Eurasian Thick-knees**, then went to a stakeout for **Spectacled Warbler**. We found it quickly, but at first it was skittish. After while it seemed to "warm up" to us and finally gave good views. Our last stop was at Cape Ghir where a stint of seawatching turned up a few **Razorbills**, some distant **Northern Gannets**, and a rare **European Shag**.



Northern Bald Ibis

After a great lunch near the beach in Agadir, it was time to drive back to Marrakech where the tour came to an end. A lot of the group stayed a few extra days to enjoy some of the cultural attractions of Morocco, which is definitely worthwhile if you have the time. It had been a short but excellent tour with a fantastic group of people. I really enjoyed traveling with all of you and hope to see you again on another tour!

BIRD LIST

The list includes everything that was seen by at least one of the group, including the guide/tour leader. Taxonomy follows Clements, J. F., T. S. Schulenberg, M. J. Iliff, T. A. Fredericks, J. A. Gerbracht, D. Lepage, S. M. Billerman, B. L. Sullivan, and C. L. Wood. 2022. The eBird/Clements checklist of Birds of the World: v2022. Downloaded from <https://www.birds.cornell.edu/clementschecklist/download/>

H=heard only

GO=guide only

Ducks, Geese, and Waterfowl

Ruddy Shelduck
Common Shelduck
Mallard
Marbled Teal

Pheasants, Grouse, and Allies

Barbary Partridge

Flamingos

Greater Flamingo

Grebes

Great Crested Grebe

Pigeons and Doves

Rock Pigeon
Common Wood-Pigeon
European Turtle-Dove
Eurasian Collared-Dove
Laughing Dove

Sandgrouse

Spotted Sandgrouse
Black-bellied Sandgrouse
Crowned Sandgrouse

Cuckoos

Common Cuckoo

Nightjars and Allies

Egyptian Nightjar

Swifts

Common Swift
Pallid Swift
Little Swift

Rails, Gallinules, and Coots

Eurasian Moorhen
Eurasian Coot

Thick-knees

Eurasian Thick-knee

Stilts and Avocets

Black-winged Stilt
Pied Avocet

Oystercatchers

Eurasian Oystercatcher

Plovers and Lapwings

Black-bellied Plover
Kentish Plover
Common Ringed Plover

Sandpipers and Allies

Whimbrel
Eurasian Curlew

Anatidae

Tadorna ferruginea
Tadorna tadorna
Anas platyrhynchos
Marmaronetta angustirostris

Phasianidae

Alectoris barbara

Phoenicopteridae

Phoenicopus roseus

Podicipedidae

Podiceps cristatus

Columbidae

Columba livia
Columba palumbus
Streptopelia turtur
Streptopelia decaocto
Spilopelia senegalensis

Pteroclididae

Pterocles senegallus
Pterocles orientalis
Pterocles coronatus

Cuculidae

Cuculus canorus

Caprimulgidae

Caprimulgus aegyptius

Apodidae

Apus apus
Apus pallidus
Apus affinis

Rallidae

Gallinula chloropus
Fulica atra

Burhinidae

Burhinus oedicephalus

Recurvirostridae

Himantopus himantopus
Recurvirostra avosetta

Haematopodidae

Haematopus ostralegus

Charadriidae

Pluvialis squatarola
Charadrius alexandrinus
Charadrius hiaticula

Scolopacidae

Numenius phaeopus
Numenius arquata

Bar-tailed Godwit

Ruddy Turnstone

Ruff

Curlew Sandpiper

Dunlin

Common Sandpiper

Common Greenshank

Common Redshank

Pratincoles and Coursers

Cream-colored Courser

Auks, Murres, and Puffins

Razorbill

Gulls, Terns, and Skimmers

Slender-billed Gull

Black-headed Gull

Mediterranean Gull

Audouin's Gull

Yellow-legged Gull

Lesser Black-backed Gull

Gull-billed Tern

Caspian Tern

Sandwich Tern

Storks

White Stork

Boobies and Gannets

Northern Gannet

Cormorants and Shags

Great Cormorant (Moroccan)

European Shag (Moroccan)

Hérons, Egrets, and Bitterns

Gray Heron

Little Egret

Cattle Egret

Squacco Heron

Ibises and Spoonbills

Glossy Ibis

Northern Bald Ibis

Eurasian Spoonbill

Osprey

Osprey

Hawks, Eagles, and Kites

Short-toed Snake-Eagle

Booted Eagle

Montagu's Harrier

Black Kite

Long-legged Buzzard

Owls

Pharaoh Eagle-Owl

Little Owl

Hoopoes

Eurasian Hoopoe

Limosa lapponica

Arenaria interpres

Calidris pugnax

Calidris ferruginea

Calidris alpina

Actitis hypoleucos

Tringa nebularia

Tringa totanus

Glareolidae

Cursorius cursor

Alcidae

Alca torda

Laridae

Chroicocephalus genei

Chroicocephalus ridibundus

Ichthyaetus melanocephalus

Ichthyaetus audouinii

Larus michahellis

Larus fuscus

Gelochelidon nilotica

Hydroprogne caspia

Thalasseus sandvicensis

Ciconiidae

Ciconia ciconia

Sulidae

Morus bassanus

Phalacrocoracidae

Phalacrocorax carbo maroccanus

Gulosus aristotelis riggenbachi

Ardeidae

Ardea cinerea

Egretta garzetta

Bubulcus ibis

Ardeola ralloides

Threskiornithidae

Plegadis falcinellus

Geronticus eremita

Platalea leucorodia

Pandionidae

Pandion haliaetus

Accipitridae

Circaetus gallicus

Hieraaetus pennatus

Circus pygargus

Milvus migrans

Buteo rufinus

Strigidae

Bubo ascalaphus

Athene noctua

Upupidae

Upupa epops

Bee-eaters

Blue-cheeked Bee-eater
European Bee-eater

Woodpeckers

Eurasian Wryneck
Great Spotted Woodpecker
Levaillant's Woodpecker

Falcons

Eurasian Kestrel
Lanner Falcon
Peregrine Falcon (Barbary)

Bushshrikes and Allies

Black-crowned Tchagra

Shrikes

Great Gray Shrike (Sahara)
Woodchat Shrike

Crows, Jays, and Magpies

Maghreb Magpie
Red-billed Chough
Yellow-billed Chough
Brown-necked Raven

H Common Raven**Tits, Chickadees, and Titmice**

Coal Tit
African Blue Tit
Great Tit

Larks

Greater Hoopoe-Lark
Bar-tailed Lark
Desert Lark
Horned Lark (Atlas)
Temminck's Lark
Greater Short-toed Lark
Thekla's Lark
Crested Lark (Crested)
Crested Lark (Maghreb)

Cisticolas and Allies

Zitting Cisticola

Reed Warblers and Allies

Eastern Olivaceous Warbler
Western Olivaceous Warbler

Swallows

Plain Martin
GO Bank Swallow
Barn Swallow
Common House-Martin

Bulbuls

Common Bulbul

Leaf Warblers

Western Bonelli's Warbler
Willow Warbler

Meropidae

Merops persicus
Merops apiaster

Picidae

Jynx torquilla
Dendrocopos major
Picus vaillantii

Falconidae

Falco tinnunculus
Falco biarmicus
Falco peregrinus pelegrinoides

Malaconotidae

Tchagra senegalus

Laniidae

Lanius excubitor [elegans Group]
Lanius senator

Corvidae

Pica mauritanica
Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax
Pyrrhocorax graculus
Corvus ruficollis
Corvus corax

Paridae

Periparus ater
Cyanistes teneriffae
Parus major

Alaudidae

Alaemon alaudipes
Ammomanes cinctura
Ammomanes deserti
Eremophila alpestris atlas
Eremophila bilopha
Calandrella brachydactyla
Galerida theklae
Galerida cristata [cristata Group]
Galerida cristata macrorhyncha/randomii

Cisticolidae

Cisticola juncidis

Acrocephalidae

Iduna pallida
Iduna opaca

Hirundinidae

Riparia paludicola
Riparia riparia
Hirundo rustica
Delichon urbicum

Pycnonotidae

Pycnonotus barbatus

Phylloscopidae

Phylloscopus bonelli
Phylloscopus trochilus

Common Chiffchaff

Bush Warblers and Allies

Scrub Warbler

Cetti's Warbler

Sylviid Warblers, Parrotbills, and Allies

Eurasian Blackcap

African Desert Warbler

Tristram's Warbler

Sardinian Warbler

Western Subalpine Warbler

Greater Whitethroat

Spectacled Warbler

Laughingthrushes and Allies

Fulvous Chatterer

Kinglets

Common Firecrest

Wrens

Eurasian Wren

Dippers

White-throated Dipper

Starlings

Spotless Starling

Thrushes and Allies

Mistle Thrush

Eurasian Blackbird

Old World Flycatchers

Rufous-tailed Scrub-Robin

Common Nightingale

European Pied Flycatcher

Moussier's Redstart

Common Redstart

Black Redstart

Whinchat

European Stonechat

Northern Wheatear

Atlas Wheatear

Desert Wheatear

Western Black-eared Wheatear

Red-rumped Wheatear

Black Wheatear

White-crowned Wheatear

Mourning Wheatear (Maghreb)

Old World Sparrows

House Sparrow

Desert Sparrow

Rock Sparrow

Wagtails and Pipits

Gray Wagtail

Western Yellow Wagtail (flava)

Western Yellow Wagtail (iberiae)

White Wagtail (White-faced)

Phylloscopus collybita

Scotocercidae

Scotocerca inquieta

Cettia cetti

Sylviidae

Sylvia atricapilla

Curruca deserti

Curruca deserticola

Curruca melanocephala

Curruca iberiae

Curruca communis

Curruca conspicillata

Leiothrichidae

Argya fulva

Regulidae

Regulus ignicapilla

Troglodytidae

Troglodytes troglodytes

Cinclidae

Cinclus cinclus

Sturnidae

Sturnus unicolor

Turdidae

Turdus viscivorus

Turdus merula

Muscicapidae

Cercotrichas galactotes

Luscinia megarhynchos

Ficedula hypoleuca

Phoenicurus moussieri

Phoenicurus phoenicurus

Phoenicurus ochruros

Saxicola rubetra

Saxicola rubicola

Oenanthe oenanthe

Oenanthe seebohmi

Oenanthe deserti

Oenanthe hispanica

Oenanthe moesta

Oenanthe leucura

Oenanthe leucopyga

Oenanthe lugens halophila

Passeridae

Passer domesticus

Passer simplex

Petronia petronia

Motacillidae

Motacilla cinerea

Motacilla flava flava

Motacilla flava iberiae

Motacilla alba alba/dukhunensis

White Wagtail (Moroccan)

Meadow Pipit

Tree Pipit

Finches, Euphonias, and Allies

Common Chaffinch (African)

Brambling

Trumpeter Finch

European Greenfinch

Eurasian Linnnet

Red Crossbill (North African)

European Goldfinch

European Serin

Old World Buntings

Corn Bunting

Rock Bunting

House Bunting

Motacilla alba subpersonata

Anthus pratensis

Anthus trivialis

Fringillidae

Fringilla coelebs africana

Fringilla montifringilla

Bucanetes githagineus

Chloris chloris

Linaria cannabina

Loxia curvirostra polioygyna

Carduelis carduelis

Serinus serinus

Emberizidae

Emberiza calandra

Emberiza cia

Emberiza sahari

MAMMALS

Red Fox

Cape Hare

Barbary Ground Squirrel

Vulpes vulpes

Lepus capensis

Atlantoxerus getulus

HERPS

Fringe-fingered Lizard sp.

Mediterranean (Iberian Pond) Turtle

North African Spiny-tailed Lizard

African Green Toad

Acanthodactylus sp.

Mauremys leprosa

Uromastyx acanthinura

Bufotes boulengeri

There were a few more herps that we saw that I am still trying to identify - I will update later if I can figure them out.