



## MOROCCO - SPECIES SEEN March 11-27, 2015

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### Birds recorded in Morocco between 11<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> March 2015

<b>Scopoli's (Cory's) shearwater</b>	<i>Calonectris diomedea</i>	Eight past Moulay Bouselham.
<b>Balearic shearwater</b>	<i>Puffinus mauretanicus</i>	Single past Moulay Bouselham.
<b>Little grebe</b>	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	Present in small numbers in the non-desert wetlands we visited.
<b>Great crested grebe</b>	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	Present in small numbers at Sidi Bourghaba, Bargha, Casbah Yasmina and Merzouga Lake.
<b>Black-necked (Eared) grebe</b>	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	Good numbers at Dayet Aoua this year.
<b>Gannet</b>	<i>Morus bassanus</i>	Singles off Mehdye and Tamri and a few off Moulay Bouselham.
<b>Great Cormorant</b>	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	Mostly coastal sites, although one at Ouarzazate. Mostly <i>sinensis</i> but a nice adult <i>maroccanus</i> ( <b>Moroccan White-breasted</b> ) at Massa.
<b>Cattle egret</b>	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	Widespread and common in the lowlands.
<b>Squacco heron</b>	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>	Small numbers at wetland sites on four dates.
<b>Little egret</b>	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	Widespread in small numbers.
<b>Great egret</b>	<i>Ardea alba</i>	One at Bargha and another at the Souss estuary.
<b>Grey heron</b>	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	Widespread in small numbers.
<b>Purple heron</b>	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	Just two at Massa.
<b>White stork</b>	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	Widespread, many breeding.
<b>Glossy ibis</b>	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	Large flock from the Necropolis in Rabat. More at Kenitra Marsh and a few at Massa.
<b>Northern Bald ibis</b>	<i>Geronticus eremita</i>	40+ birds logged between Cap Rhir and Tamri, most allowing close inspection. A trip highlight.
<b>Eurasian spoonbill</b>	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>	Recorded in small numbers at Zaers, Kenitra Marsh, Tamri and Oued Souss.
<b>Greater flamingo</b>	<i>Phoenicopterus ruber</i>	Six at Sidi Bourghaba, 50+ at Merja Zerga and two at Merzouga Lake.
<b>Ruddy shelduck</b>	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>	Recorded in small numbers at Lac Sidi Aquelmane, Zaida Plain, the desert and the Aoulouz Gorge. Single at Massa.
<b>Common shelduck</b>	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>	Three in the desert at Merzouga lake were a big surprise.
<b>Mallard</b>	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	Widespread.
<b>Gadwall</b>	<i>Anas strepera</i>	Present at a few wetland locations in small numbers.
<b>Common teal</b>	<i>Anas crecca</i>	A few at Merzouga lake.
<b>Northern pintail</b>	<i>Anas acuta</i>	A few at Merzouga lake.
<b>Northern shoveler</b>	<i>Anas clypeata</i>	Widespread.
<b>Marbled duck</b>	<i>Marmaronetta angustirostris</i>	At least 15 at Merzouga lake.
<b>Red-crested pochard</b>	<i>Netta rufina</i>	Small numbers at Zaers, Sidi Bourghaba and Bargha.
<b>Common pochard</b>	<i>Aythya ferina</i>	Pair at Zaers. More common at Sidi Bourghaba, and a few at Merzouga lake.
<b>Ferruginous duck</b>	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>	10-15 at Sidi Bourghaba and at least two at Kenitra Marsh the same day. Small numbers at Merzouga lake.
<b>Tufted duck</b>	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>	A female at Zaers.
<b>White-headed duck</b>	<i>Oxyura leucocephala</i>	A great showing of this species at Sidi Bourghaba – perhaps as many as a hundred!
<b>Osprey</b>	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Single birds at Merja Zerga and the Souss estuary.

<b>Short-toed eagle</b>	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>	One at Aoulouz Gorge.
<b>Booted eagle</b>	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>	Widespread – but seen on only four days this year. A poor showing.
<b>Bonelli's eagle</b>	<i>Hieraaetus fasciatus</i>	Single immature at Kenitra Marsh and a brief adult at Todra Gorge.
<b>Black kite</b>	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	Recorded on six dates.
<b>Black-winged (Black-shouldered) kite</b>	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>	Small numbers recorded in Souss Plain (three dates).
<b>Western Marsh harrier</b>	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	Small numbers in suitable habitat. Eight dates.
<b>Montagu's harrier</b>	<i>Circus pygargus</i>	Two males at Merja Zerga. A female past Derkaoua.
<b>Common buzzard</b>	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	Single near Bargha – a late bird.
<b>Long-legged buzzard</b>	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>	This race <i>cirtensis</i> ( <b>Atlas</b> ) was common in the hills
<b>Eurasian sparrowhawk</b>	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>	Three on two dates.
<b>Common kestrel</b>	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	Widespread and common.
<b>Lesser kestrel</b>	<i>Falco naumanni</i>	Only recorded on two dates this year.
<b>Peregrine falcon</b>	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Adults over the hotel at Kenitra on the 12 <sup>th</sup> and at Merja Zerga the next day.
<b>Barbary falcon</b>	<i>Falco peregrinoides</i>	One at Aoulouz Gorge.
<b>Lanner</b>	<i>Falco biarmicus</i>	Single briefly past Atlas Kasbah whilst we waited to get the keys to our rooms.
<b>Barbary partridge</b>	<i>Alectoris barbara</i>	Pair near Bargha. Four on one day in the Souss Plain.
<b>[Common quail]</b>	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>	Heard only near Volubilis, Ouarzazate, Souss Plain and at Massa.
<b>Purple swamphen</b>	<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>	Single at Sidi Bourghaba.
<b>Moorhen</b>	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	Recorded on three dates.
<b>Eurasian coot</b>	<i>Fulica atra</i>	Widespread.
<b>Red-knobbed coot</b>	<i>Fulica cristata</i>	Large numbers at Sidi Bourghaba and Merja Bargha. Also a few at Dayet Aoua.
<b>Houbara bustard</b>	<i>Chlamydotis undulata</i>	A fantastic immature bird stalking the edge of the Sahara on the first day in the desert.
<b>Oystercatcher</b>	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>	Quite a few at Merja Zerga. A few on the Souss estuary.
<b>Pied avocet</b>	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>	Eleven at Ouarzazate.
<b>Black-winged stilt</b>	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	Common (recorded on six dates).
<b>Eurasian Thick-knee (Stone-curlew)</b>	<i>Burhinus oedicanus</i>	At least three at Freija (Souss Plain). Two en route to Agadir.
<b>Cream-coloured courser</b>	<i>Cursorius cursor</i>	Good numbers in the desert this year, frequently encountered. Also three at the Tagdilt track.
<b>Collared pratincole</b>	<i>Glareola pratincola</i>	One at Merzouga lake.
<b>Little ringed plover</b>	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>	A scattering of records including several in the desert at Merzouga lake. Good numbers at Ouarzazate.
<b>Common ringed plover</b>	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	Good numbers on the Souss estuary.
<b>Kentish plover</b>	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>	Single at Merja Zerga. A few in the desert. Good numbers at Ouarzazate and the Souss estuary.
<b>Northern lapwing</b>	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	One at Zaers – a late bird.
<b>Grey (Black-bellied) plover</b>	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	Merja Zerga and Souss.
<b>Sanderling</b>	<i>Calidris alba</i>	Souss.
<b>Dunlin</b>	<i>Calidris alpina</i>	Small numbers at Souss.
<b>Curlew sandpiper</b>	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	Single at Ouarzazate. Small numbers at Souss.
<b>Little stint</b>	<i>Calidris minuta</i>	Small numbers at Merzouga lake. Singles at Ouarzazate and the Souss estuary.
<b>Wood sandpiper</b>	<i>Tringa glareola</i>	Ouarzazate, Massa.
<b>Green sandpiper</b>	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>	A single at Merzouga lake, another at Ouarzazate. Good numbers at Massa.
<b>Spotted redshank</b>	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>	Massa (1).
<b>Redshank</b>	<i>Tringa totanus</i>	Widespread.
<b>Greenshank</b>	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	Widespread in small numbers.
<b>Common sandpiper</b>	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	A few at Merja Zerga and Massa.
<b>Bar-tailed godwit</b>	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>	Souss (3).
<b>Eurasian curlew</b>	<i>Numenius arquata</i>	Merja Zerga and Souss.
<b>Whimbrel</b>	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	Good numbers at Merja Zerga.

<b>Common snipe</b>	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	Kenitra (1).
<b>Ruff</b>	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>	Ouarzazate, Massa and Souss.
<b>Mediterranean gull</b>	<i>Larus melanocephalus</i>	Five at Medhya, including one winter-plumage adult. Many immatures at the Souss estuary.
<b>Black-headed gull</b>	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>	Widespread along coast.
<b>Slender-billed gull</b>	<i>Larus genei</i>	Good numbers at Merja Zerga. Two at the Souss estuary.
<b>Yellow-legged gull</b>	<i>Larus cachinnans</i>	Very small numbers along coast.
<b>Audouin's gull</b>	<i>Larus audouinii</i>	Flock of 45 on the sandbank at the mouth of the river at Moulay Bouselham. Another large roost at Tamri and a few along the coast south of there on the same day.
<b>Lesser black-backed gull</b>	<i>Larus fuscus</i>	Very common along coast, most being the race <i>graellsii</i> .
<b>Sandwich tern</b>	<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>	Widespread along coast.
<b>Gull-billed tern</b>	<i>Sterna nilotica</i>	Massa (1).
<b>Caspian tern</b>	<i>Sterna caspia</i>	1 at Merja Zerga.
<b>Whiskered tern</b>	<i>Chlidonias hybridus</i>	Small flock at Merja Zerga.
<b>Pin-tailed sandgrouse</b>	<i>Pterocles alchata</i>	Good numbers in the desert this year, a great record.
<b>Black-bellied sandgrouse</b>	<i>Pterocles orientalis</i>	Four on the Tagdilt track.
<b>Spotted sandgrouse</b>	<i>Pterocles senegallus</i>	Six in the desert on the second day.
<b>Crowned sandgrouse</b>	<i>Pterocles coronatus</i>	Thirteen in the desert on the second day.
<b>Rock dove</b>	<i>Columba livia</i>	Both feral and rock versions recorded – seen daily.
<b>Common woodpigeon</b>	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	Widespread.
<b>Eurasian Collared dove</b>	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	Common.
<b>European turtle dove</b>	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	A few – Souss Plain and Massa
<b>Laughing dove</b>	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>	Expanding range nicely seen occasionally between Rissani and Agadir.
<b>Pharaoh eagle owl</b>	<i>Bubo ascapalus</i>	Single near Rissani at well-known site. Superb.
<b>Marsh owl</b>	<i>Asio capensis</i>	Three birds at Merja Zerga – a trip highlight.
<b>Little owl</b>	<i>Athene noctua</i>	Widespread and common.
<b>Red-necked nightjar</b>	<i>Caprimulgus ruficollis</i>	One male at night at Freija.
<b>Egyptian nightjar</b>	<i>Caprimulgus aegyptius</i>	Single seen well during the day near Derkaoua.
<b>Common swift</b>	<i>Apus apus</i>	Birds of this species recorded in Souss Plain only.
<b>Pallid swift</b>	<i>Apus pallidus</i>	Often abundant over larger urban areas. Recorded on 8 dates.
<b>Alpine swift</b>	<i>Apus melba</i>	Common from Kenitra to Fez and in Taroudant. Three dates.
<b>Little swift</b>	<i>Apus affinis</i>	Just two over Sidi Kacem this year!
<b>Eurasian hoopoe</b>	<i>Upupa epops</i>	Scattered records throughout.
<b>Common kingfisher</b>	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	Single at Bargha and another at Massa.
<b>European bee-eater</b>	<i>Merops apiaster</i>	Recorded from the 18 <sup>th</sup> when six showed up in the garden at Derkaoua. Seen daily on the last four days.
<b>Levaillant's green woodpecker</b>	<i>Picus vaillantii</i>	A showy male at Dayet Aoua was the only one we saw.
<b>Great spotted woodpecker</b>	<i>Dendropicos major</i>	Three around Dayet Aoua.
<b>Crested lark</b>	<i>Galerida cristata</i>	Widespread and common.
<b>Maghreb (Long-billed Crested) lark</b>	<i>Galerida macrorhyncha</i>	Scattered birds in arid locations south of the Atlas.
<b>Thekla lark</b>	<i>Galerida theklae</i>	We struggled with this species but there were definitely birds in the garden at the Atlas Kasbah...
<b>Short-toed lark</b>	<i>Calandrella bracydactyla</i>	Zaida, the desert, Tagdilt Track and Amerzgane. Abundant this year.
<b>Lesser short-toed lark</b>	<i>Calandrella rufescens</i>	Zaida Plain only.
<b>Desert lark</b>	<i>Ammomanes deserti</i>	Jorf (1).
<b>Bar-tailed lark</b>	<i>Ammomanes cincturus</i>	2 greeted us on arrival at Derkaoua.
<b>Calandra lark</b>	<i>Melanocorypha calandra</i>	Good views en route to Fez.
<b>Skylark</b>	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	Three on the Tagdilt track.
<b>Horned lark</b>	<i>Eremophila alpestris</i>	This being the race <i>atlas</i> ( <b>Atlas</b> ). Pair at Lac Sidi Aquelmane. Common at Oukaïmedan.
<b>Temminck's lark</b>	<i>Eremophila bilopha</i>	A few seen along Tagdilt Track and near Amerzgane.
<b>Dupont's lark</b>	<i>Chersophilus duponti</i>	A few heard pre-dawn and one seen very well on Zaida Plain at first light after a bit of herding.
<b>Greater Hoopoe lark</b>	<i>Alaemon alaudipes</i>	Desert and Tagdilt Track.

<b>Sand martin (Bank swallow)</b>	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	Scattered records.
<b>(Brown-throated) Plain martin</b>	<i>Riparia paludicola</i>	Small numbers at Massa highway bridge of the race <i>mauritanica</i> .
<b>Crag martin</b>	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>	Common at high elevations, also at Ait ben Haddou.
<b>Barn swallow</b>	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Widespread.
<b>Red-rumped swallow</b>	<i>Hirundo daurica</i>	One at Kenitra and another at Ouarzazate. A small flock past in the Souss Plain (Freija).
<b>Common house martin</b>	<i>Delichon urbica</i>	Scattered records.
<b>Tawny pipit</b>	<i>Anthus campestris</i>	One flew past downriver at Massa on the last walk of the day/tour.
<b>Meadow pipit</b>	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>	Small numbers at Zaers, Merja Zerga, Dayet Aoua, Ouarzazate and Massa.
<b>Tree pipit</b>	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>	1 at Ait Ben Haddou. Also singles at Freija, Tiout and the Atlas Kasbah.
<b>White wagtail</b>	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	Widespread migrant, <i>subpersonata</i> subspecies ( <b>Moroccan White</b> ) observed in Rabat only.
<b>Yellow wagtail</b>	<i>Motacilla flava</i>	Widespread migrant and breeder <i>iberiae</i> ( <b>Spanish</b> ), as well as migrant <i>flava</i> ( <b>Blue-headed</b> )
<b>Grey wagtail</b>	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	Scattered records in suitable habitat.
<b>(Winter) wren</b>	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	Two singing males at Sidi Bourghaba.
<b>White-throated dipper</b>	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>	Pair on stream below Oukaïmedan.
<b>Common bulbul</b>	<i>Pycnonotus barbatus</i>	Widespread and common.
<b>Alpine accentor</b>	<i>Prunella collaris</i>	Single above Oukaïmedan and three below.
<b>Common nightingale</b>	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>	Single bird seen poorly at Derkaoua.
<b>Bluethroat</b>	<i>Luscinia svecica</i>	Single male from the boats at Merja Zerga.
<b>Common redstart</b>	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>	Males recorded in the garden at Derkaoua.
<b>Black redstart</b>	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	Todrha Gorge (1). Common at Oukaïmedan.
<b>Moussier's redstart</b>	<i>Phoenicurus moussieri</i>	Scattered records. Common in the Souss Plain and around Agadir.
<b>Northern wheatear</b>	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>	Single male of the <i>seebohmi</i> race ( <b>Seebohm's</b> ) recorded in the Middle Atlas. A few migrants noted in the desert and along the Tagdilt track.
<b>Desert wheatear</b>	<i>Oenanthe deserti</i>	Encountered in small numbers daily in suitable habitat.
<b>Black-eared wheatear</b>	<i>Oenanthe hispanica</i>	One male at Tamri and another the next day at Massa.
<b>White-crowned wheatear</b>	<i>Oenanthe leucopyga</i>	Common in desert and arid regions of High Atlas.
<b>Black wheatear</b>	<i>Oenanthe leucura</i>	Common in dry mountainous areas, even in the snow at Oukaïmedan.
<b>Red-rumped wheatear</b>	<i>Oenanthe moesta</i>	Recorded on two days on the Tagdilt Track.
<b>European (Common) stonechat</b>	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>	Recorded on three days.
<b>Blue rock thrush</b>	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>	Recorded on three days.
<b>Mistle thrush</b>	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>	Recorded on three days in the mountains.
<b>Common blackbird</b>	<i>Turdus merula</i>	Common. This being the race <i>mauritanicus</i> ( <b>Maghreb</b> )
<b>Blackcap</b>	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	Recorded on seven days.
<b>Sardinian warbler</b>	<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>	Widespread and common.
<b>Common whitethroat</b>	<i>Sylvia communis</i>	Single at Derkaoua.
<b>Subalpine warbler</b>	<i>Sylvia cantillans</i>	Widespread and common.
<b>African desert warbler</b>	<i>Sylvia deserti</i>	Three birds on the second day in the desert.
<b>Tristram's warbler</b>	<i>Sylvia deserticola</i>	Pair seen poorly in the rain at lunch whilst climbing the Tiz-n-Test.
<b>Zitting cisticola</b>	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>	Widespread and common in lowlands (seven dates).
<b>Cetti's warbler</b>	<i>Cettia cetti</i>	Frequently heard in suitable habitat (four dates) – fantastic views at Sidi Bourghaba.
<b>Sedge warbler</b>	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>	Oued Massa – good views of just one but many others heard.
<b>Reed warbler</b>	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>	Kenitra Marsh and Oued Massa.
<b>Eastern olivaceous warbler</b>	<i>Hippolais pallida reiseri</i>	The exciting <b>Saharan</b> race <i>reiseri</i> of this otherwise easterly-distributed species was encountered at the desert bivouac where we saw desert sparrow.
<b>Isabelline (Western) olivaceous warbler</b>	<i>Hippolais opaca</i>	A singing male gave us the runaround in the Souss Plain.
<b>Willow warbler</b>	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	Scattered records.
<b>Western Bonelli's warbler</b>	<i>Phylloscopus bonelli</i>	Derkaoua (1) and Ait ben Haddou (several).

<b>Chiffchaff</b>	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	Recorded most days.
<b>Firecrest</b>	<i>Regulus ignicapillus</i>	4 birds at Dayet Aoua
<b>Great tit</b>	<i>Parus major</i>	Recorded on five days.
<b>African blue tit</b>	<i>Parus teneriffae</i>	Recorded most days in lowlands and even present in hotel garden at Oukaïmedan.
<b>Coal tit</b>	<i>Parus ater</i>	Recorded at upper and middle elevations on just two dates.
<b>Nuthatch</b>	<i>Sitta europaea</i>	Single bird at Dayet Aoua.
<b>Short-toed treecreeper</b>	<i>Certhia brachydactyla</i>	Recorded on one day in the Middle Atlas (Dayet Aoua and Forest of Cedars).
<b>Woodchat shrike</b>	<i>Lanius senator</i>	Recorded on seven days.
<b>Great grey shrike</b>	<i>Lanius excubitor</i>	One <i>algeriensis</i> ( <b>Maghreb</b> ) at Merja Zerga and seen daily around Taroudant and Agadir. A few <i>elegans</i> ( <b>Desert</b> ) in the desert.
<b>Black-crowned tchagra</b>	<i>Tchagra senegala</i>	Birds heard at Zaers and Massa. One seen well on agricultural track near Freija.
<b>Fulvous babbler</b>	<i>Turdoides fulvus</i>	Small flock through the garden at lunchtime on our first day at Derkaoua. Present there the next day and three for Phil at Tiout.
<b>Common magpie</b>	<i>Pica pica</i>	Small numbers in coastal sites of the <i>mauritanica</i> race ( <b>Maghreb</b> ).
<b>Eurasian jay</b>	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	Only recorded at Dayet Aoua this year.
<b>Red-billed chough</b>	<i>Pyrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>	Good numbers in High Atlas and Oukaïmedan.
<b>Alpine chough</b>	<i>Pyrhocorax graculus</i>	Good numbers in High Atlas and Oukaïmedan.
<b>Western jackdaw</b>	<i>Corvus monedula</i>	Recorded on four dates.
<b>Common raven</b>	<i>Corvus corax</i>	Recorded in large numbers on some days at high elevation.
<b>Brown-necked raven</b>	<i>Corvus ruficollis</i>	Just two noted around Derkaoua and south of Rissani.
<b>Spotless starling</b>	<i>Sturnus unicolor</i>	Recorded on nine days, often around our accommodation.
<b>House sparrow</b>	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	Ubiquitous.
<b>Spanish sparrow</b>	<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>	Poor views in the Souss Plain; seen well at Massa.
<b>Desert sparrow</b>	<i>Passer simplex</i>	A bird flying about at dawn in the dunes was easily eclipsed by great views of a pair later in the day at a desert camp.
<b>Rock sparrow</b>	<i>Petronia petronia</i>	Small numbers at Oukaïmedan. Heard at Ait ben Haddou.
<b>Chaffinch</b>	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	Widespread at mid and lower elevations.
<b>Brambling</b>	<i>Fringilla montifringilla</i>	Chris distinguished himself by finding one at Dayet Aoua. Sadly he was the only observer.
<b>Common linnet</b>	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>	Very small numbers in agricultural areas.
<b>European goldfinch</b>	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	Recorded on five dates, mostly in coastal lowlands.
<b>European greenfinch</b>	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>	Recorded on ten dates.
<b>European serin</b>	<i>Serinus serinus</i>	Widespread and common. Not in desert.
<b>Hawfinch</b>	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>	12 at Dayet Aoua. Fantastic views.
<b>Common (Red) crossbill</b>	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>	Pair at Dayet Aoua of the <b>Atlas</b> race <i>poliogyne</i> .
<b>African crimson-winged finch</b>	<i>Rhodopechys alienus</i>	Good numbers at Oukaïmedan this year with birds feeding at our feet in town. Glorious.
<b>Cirl bunting</b>	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>	Recorded on just two days, at Dayet Aoua and the Atlas Kasbah.
<b>House bunting</b>	<i>Emberiza striolata</i>	Common around residential and agricultural buildings.
<b>Rock bunting</b>	<i>Emberiza cia</i>	One at Dayet Aoua. A few on the Tiz-n-Tichka and Tiz-n-Test.
<b>Corn bunting</b>	<i>Miliaria calandra</i>	Recorded on at least five days.

## Mammals recorded in Morocco between 11<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> March 2015

[] = introduction or dead. DOR = dead on road.

[Algerian hedgehog]	<i>Atelerix algirus</i>	Two dead on road on last morning out of Atlas Kasbah. Scat in the Atlas Kasbah garden on the final morning.
Barbary macaque	<i>Macacus sylvanus</i>	25 in the Forest de Cedars.
Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	Single for Adrian at Sidi Bourghaba.
Cape hare	<i>Lepus capensis</i>	Two for Edie and Phil on the nightdrive in the desert.
Barbary ground squirrel	<i>Alantocerus getulus</i>	Three at Cap Rhir and a few more at Massa.
Lesser Egyptian jerboa	<i>Jaculus jaculus</i>	Three during the nightdrive in the desert.
Fat sand rat	<i>Psammomys obesus</i>	A few along the Tagdilt Track.
Red fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	Single at Zaida Plain at night.
Ruppell's sand fox	<i>Vulpes ruppelli</i>	One for one of the vehicles on the first day in the desert. All in all a sad episode that we will try not to dwell on...
Saharan striped polecat	<i>Ictonyx libyca</i>	One on the nightdrive in the desert. A trip highlight for Phil.
Wild boar	<i>Sus scrofa</i>	Four adults and several stripy piglets at Zaers.
[Red deer]	<i>Cervus elaphus hispanicus</i>	A dropped antler was the only indication of this species presence in the royal hunting preserve at Zaers.
[Barbary sheep]	<i>Ammotragus lervia</i>	Males from the captive breeding programme noted by the road as we got near the Tiz-n-Test pass.

## Odonata recorded in Morocco between 11<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> March 2015

Iberian bluetail	<i>Ischnura graellsii</i>	Sidi Bourghaba, Merja Bargha and one at Tiout palmerie.
Saharan bluetail	<i>Ischnura saharensis</i>	Single male at the Massa highway bridge wetlands on the last day.
Blue-eye	<i>Erythromma lindeni</i>	Two at Zaers. Another at the Massa highway bridge wetlands.
Emperor	<i>Anax imperator</i>	One male at Zaers and another at Massa.
Lesser emperor	<i>Anax parthenope</i>	Singles noted at Sidi Bourghaba and Massa.
Vagrant emperor	<i>Hemianax ephippiger</i>	Zaers (2). Huge numbers at the Erg Chebbi wetlands and even found far into the desert in small numbers.
Broad scarlet	<i>Crocothemis erythraea</i>	Just one male at the flooded fields at Massa.
Red-veined darter	<i>Sympetrum fonscolombii</i>	Zaers, Sidi Bourghaba, the desert and Massa.

## Reptiles and amphibians recorded in Morocco between 11<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> March 2015

Painted frog	<i>Discoglossus pictus</i>	Kenitra (1), others heard.
North African frog	<i>Rana saharica</i>	Zaers, Skoura, Tiout and the Atlas Kasbah.
Berber toad	<i>Bufo mauretanicus</i>	Freija and the Atlas Kasbah.
Green toad	<i>Bufo viridis</i>	Derkaoua, Casbah Yasmina, Freija and the Atlas Kasbah.
Spur-thighed tortoise	<i>Testudo graeca</i>	Only a few as usual with two at Zaers and one at Tiout.
Spanish terrapin	<i>Mauremys leprosa</i>	Frequently encountered in non-desert wetlands.
Moorish gecko	<i>Tarentola mauritanica</i>	Kenitra (2).
Changeable agama	<i>Trapelus mutabilis</i>	One dug out of a spiky bush by one of our drivers on the first day in the desert.
Spiny-tailed agama	<i>Uromastix acanthinurus</i>	Two en route to Ouarzazate. Sadly one had been caught by a local man for eating/traditional medicine.
Iberian wall lizard	<i>Podarcis hispanica</i>	Dayet Aoua.
Large psammmodromus	<i>Psammmodromus algirus</i>	Singles at Zaers, Sidi Bourghaba and Volubilis.
Spiny-footed lizard	<i>Acanthodactylus erythurus</i>	One at Massa (photograph to be confirmed).
Small fringe-toed lizard	<i>Acanthodactylus dumerili</i>	A few in a sandy wadi in the desert on the second day.

## Butterflies recorded in Morocco between 11<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> March 2015

<b>Spanish festoon</b>	<i>Zerynthia rumina</i>	Two briefly at Massa.
<b>Large white</b>	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>	Recorded on six dates.
<b>Small white</b>	<i>Artogeia rapae</i>	Merja Zerga and Tiout.
<b>Bath white</b>	<i>Pontia daplidice</i>	One at the Massa highway bridge was our first. But subsequent analysis of photographs indicated that we had overlooked this species at Ait ben Haddou and Derkaoua...
<b>Western dappled white</b>	<i>Euchloe crameri</i>	Photographed at Volubilis.
<b>Greenish blacktip</b>	<i>Elphinstonia charlonia</i>	Frequently encountered in arid areas.
<b>Moroccan orange-tip</b>	<i>Anthocaris belia</i>	Zaers, Sidi Bourghaba, Volubilis, Tiout and Atlas Kasbah.
<b>Clouded yellow</b>	<i>Colias crocea</i>	Scattered records, common only at Massa.
<b>Cleopatra</b>	<i>Gonepteryx cleopatra</i>	Sidi Bourghaba (1) and the Atlas Kasbah (1).
<b>Green hairstreak</b>	<i>Callophrys rubi</i>	Zaers (common).
<b>Provence hairstreak</b>	<i>Tomares ballus</i>	Zaers and Volubilis.
<b>Moroccan hairstreak</b>	<i>Tomares mauretanicus</i>	Volubilis.
<b>Small copper</b>	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>	Frieja, Tamri and Massa.
<b>Long-tailed blue</b>	<i>Lampides boeticus</i>	Tiout palmerie (1).
<b>Lang's short-tailed blue</b>	<i>Leptotis pirithous</i>	Freija (1).
<b>Brown argus</b>	<i>Aricia agestis</i>	One at Massa.
<b>Common blue</b>	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>	One at Massa.
<b>Plain tiger</b>	<i>Danaus chrysippus</i>	One briefly at Massa.
<b>Red admiral</b>	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>	Sidi Bourghaba, Merja Bargha and the Atlas Kasbah.
<b>Painted lady</b>	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>	Widespread.
<b>Speckled wood</b>	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>	Sidi Bourghaba, Merja Bargha, Skoura, Tiout and Massa.
<b>Wall brown</b>	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>	Volubilis and Tiout.
<b>Rosy grizzled skipper</b>	<i>Pyrgus onopordi</i>	One at lunch on the Tiz-n-Tishka.
<b>False mallow skipper</b>	<i>Carcharodes tripolinus</i>	One at Massa for Phil.