



Birdwatching Holidays in Spain, Morocco & more...

BOLETAS Birdwatching centre
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BIRD HIGHLIGHTS

TOUR	DATES
Morocco	March 26th to April 4th 2010

Party: George Fricker & Mary Fricker , John Walton & Monika Walton , Howard Chetwind & Marilyn Chetwind , Jay Whetham & Jo Whetham , Andy Levitt , Gwyn McCreanor , Santi Suner

Tour Leader : Josele J. Saiz

Total Number of Species : 177

Weather & Sites:

Day 1 – 26.03.10	Nice and sunny Marrakesh – Setti Fatma - Marrakesh
Day 2 – 27.03.10	Nice ,sunny and windy Marrakesh - Oukaïmeden
Day 3 – 28.03.10	Nice , sunny and windy Marrakesh – BRWP –Amerzgane – Ouarzazate Reservoir - Boulmane
Day 4 – 29.03.10	Nice ,sunny and heavy winds in the afternoon Tagdilt Track – Imitier – Dades River
Day 5 – 30.03.10	Nice , sunny and a bit hot Boulmane – Todra Gorge – Goulmine - Merzouga
Day 6 – 31.03.10	Nice , windy and a bit hot Merzouga oasis- Erg Chebi - Mfis
Day 7 – 01.04.10	Nice , sunny and superb day for birding Merzouga lake – Rheris – Tagdilt track, Ouarzazate Reservoir
Day 8 – 02-04.10	Nice and sunny Ait Benhadou – Anezal Ouarzazate Plains – Oued Souss - Tadourant
Day 9 – 03.04.10	Foggy , nice and sunny Tamri – Paradise Valley - Agadir
Day 10 – 04.04.10	Nice and sunny Souss Massa – Oued Souss - Agadir
Day 11 – 05.04.10	Cloudy - sunny Journey from Agadir to Marrakesh airport.

Money for conservation has gone to : Desert Sparrow Project in Merzouga

RECOMMENDED SIGNS:

Vista/Seen (X) Oida/Heard (H) Abundant (XXX) Common (XX) Rare (+) Juvenile (Juv) Immature (Inm)

0	Species	Scientific Name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>							x			
2	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>							x			
3	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo maroccanus</i>							x		x	x
4	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>							x	1	x	x
5	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>										1
6	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>							15+		6	x
7	Great Egret	<i>Egretta alba</i>										
8	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>			x	4	x		10+			x
9	Little Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>										3
10	Black Crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>							1			
11	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	10+	6	x				1	40+		10+
12	Bald Ibis	<i>Geronticus eremita</i>									80+	
13	Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>								1		50+
14	Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus ruber</i>							xx			
15	Ruddy Shelduck	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>							xx		2	4
16	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>										1
17	Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>										
18	Northern Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>										
19	Common Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>							x			
20	Marbled Teal	<i>Marmaronetta angustirostris</i>							50+			
21	Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>							x			
22	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>		1	1	2	1					1
23	Lammergeier	<i>Gypaeus barbatus</i>		1								
24	Egyptian Vulture	<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>					1					
25	Griffon Vulture	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>									1	
26	Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus harterti</i>						3				
27	Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>			1	1						
28	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus punicus</i>			1							
29	Northern Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>			2							
30	Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus cirtensis</i>		1	3	2+	2	1		1		
31	Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraeetus pennatus</i>			6+		2	1	2	2		
32	Eurasian Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
33	Lanner Falcon	<i>Falco biarmicus erlangeri</i>				1	1					
34	Barbary Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus pelegrinoides</i>			2							
35	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus minor</i>									1	
36	Barbary Partridge	<i>Alectoris barbara spatzi</i>		4						2		5
37	Common Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>								2		
38	Little Crane	<i>Porzana parva</i>										1
39	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>										x
40	Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>							xx			x
41	Houbara Bustard	<i>Chlamydotis undulata undulata</i>					3					
42	Eurasian Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>										10+
43	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>							xx			20+
44	Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>										12
45	Eurasian Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus oedicephalus saharae</i>										x
46	Cream-colored Courser	<i>Cursorius cursor</i>			2	11	1	2				
47	Black Billed Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>										x
48	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>										x
49	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>					1			7	1	
50	Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>							2		5	x
51	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>										1
52	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>										x
53	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>							1		1	2
54	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>								10+		
55	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos Hypoleucos</i>								1		x
56	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>										x
57	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>										x
58	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>									4	
59	Audouin's Gull	<i>Larus audouinii</i>									8	
60	Western Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus cachinnans michahellis</i>									x	x
61	Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus graellsii</i>									x	x
62	Black-headed Gull	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>										x
63	Mediterranean Gull	<i>Larus melanocephalus</i>										2
64	Gull-billed Tern	<i>Sterna nilotica</i>							32+			xx
65	Sandwich Tern	<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>									10+	x
66	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>										2
67	Little Tern	<i>Sterna albifrons</i>										4
68	Spotted Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles senegallus</i>							60+			
69	Black-bellied Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles orientalis</i>								2		
70	Rock Dove / Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
71	Common Woodpigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	x		2							x
72	Eurasian Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>						x		5		x
73	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x

74	Laughing Dove	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>	1					x	x	6	3	x
75	Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>									h	
76	Pharaoh Eagle Owl	<i>Bubo ascalaphus</i>				1						
77	Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua saharae</i>		1			1					3
78	Egyptian Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus aegyptius</i>						1				
79	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>			x			3			x	x
80	Pallid Swift	<i>Apus pallidus</i>	x	x	x						x	x
81	Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>	6+	6								1
82	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>										2
83	Blue-checked Bee-eater	<i>Merops persicus</i>			2		11+		10+			
84	European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>	3		60+	40+	2	x	10+	15+		10+
85	European Roller	<i>Coracias garrullus</i>										
86	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>				2		1	1	1		
87	Eurasian Whryneck									h		
88	Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>	1		2				h			h
89	Levaillant's Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis vaillantii</i>	1	2								
90	Bar-tailed Lark	<i>Ammomanes cincturus arenicolor</i>					1	8	2	2		
91	Desert Lark	<i>Ammomanes deserti payni</i>			2						3	
92	Greater Hoopoe Lark	<i>Alaemon alaudipes</i>					3	2	3			
93	Thick-billed Lark	<i>Ramphocoris clotbey</i>					7	15+			7	
94	Greater Short-toed Lark	<i>Calandrella cinerea rubiginosa</i>					xx	20+	x	4	5+	
95	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata randonii</i>	x				x	x			x	x
	Crested Lark	<i>Galerita crisattariggenbachi</i>							4			
96	Thekla Lark	<i>Galerida theklae aguirrei</i>				2	2			4	x	10+
97	Horned Lark	<i>Eremophila alpestris</i>		8								
98	Temminck's Lark	<i>Eremophila a bilopha</i>					10+					
99	Bank Swallow	<i>Riparia riparia</i>				4		x	x			x
100	Plain Martin	<i>Riparia paludicola mauretanic</i>										4
101	Eurasian Crag Martin	<i>Hirundo rupestris</i>	10+	6			x				4	
102	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	xx	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
103	Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Hirundo daurica rufula</i>	2						2	2		1
104	House Martin	<i>Delichon urbica</i>	1		x				x			
105	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>				1						1
106	Blue-headed Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava thunbergi</i>							x	1	15+	1
	Spanish Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava iberiae</i>					2		x			
107	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	2	4+	2		2					
108	Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>								1		
109	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>							5		5+	
110	Common Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus barbatus</i>	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x
111	White-throated Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>	1	1								
112	Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	h	h	h							
113	Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>			5+	1		2+			1	
114	Eurasian Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula mauretanic</i>	xx	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
115	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>							1			
116	Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>										3
117	Streaked Scrub Warbler	<i>Scotocerca inquieta saharae</i>					2			1		
118	Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>	h							h		3
119	Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>										x
120	Eurasian Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus</i>										x
121	W. Olivaceous Warbler	<i>Hippolais pallida opaca</i>	1			h				2	h	h
122	Melodious Warbler	<i>Hippolais poliglota</i>	1								1	
123	Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>					1	1	x		x	
124	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>					1		2		x	x
125	Iberian Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita brehmii</i>									2	
126	W Bonellis Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus bonelli</i>					7				2	
127	Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	x									x
128	African Desert Warbler	<i>Sylvia nana deserti</i>						3				
129	Greater Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>	2					1		1	1	1
130	Subalpine Warbler	<i>Sylvia cantillans</i>	1				1		6+	3	2	
131	Sardinian Warbler	<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>	2		1		1				1	1
132	Spectacled Warbler	<i>Sylvia conspicillata</i>						2		2		
133	Tristram's Warbler	<i>Sylvia deserticola moroccana</i>						2				
134	European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	h	h								
135	Common Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>	h	h	1	1	h	1	h	1		
136	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>		x	2							
137	Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>				1			4		6	
138	Moussier's Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus moussieri</i>		5	1							3
139	Common Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>										2+
140	White-crowned Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe leucopyga augra</i>			3	1	x	x	x	x		
141	Black Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe leucura</i>			1	1	2				2	1
142	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>		1	1	3	2	x	x	x	x	
143	Seaborn's Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe seebohmii</i>		2								
144	Mourning Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe lugens halophila</i>				2						
145	Red-rumped Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe moesta</i>				x	2			1		
146	Black-eared Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe hispanica</i>						1	1			4

147	Desert Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe deserti homochroa</i>				2	x	6	4+	6+			
148	Fulvous Babbler	<i>Turdoides fulvus</i>							5				
149	Coal Tit	<i>Periparus ater atlas</i>	1		1								
150	Great Tit	<i>Parus major excelsus</i>	x	h	h	h					2	4	2
151	African Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistess ultramarinus</i>	x	3+	1	1					1		1
152	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>							1				
153	Southern Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius meridionalis algeriensis</i>	1	2	1						6	5	4
	Southern Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius meridionalis elegans</i>						2		1			
154	Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>	3		2	4	4	4	3		6	1	3
155	Black-crowned Tchagra	<i>Tchagra senegala cucullata</i>											4
156	Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica mauretania</i>		1	2						3		x
157	Red-billed Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax barbarus</i>		70+									
158	Yellow-billed Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax graculus</i>		40+									
159	Brown-necked Raven	<i>Corvus ruficollis</i>						25+	1	1			
160	Common Raven	<i>Corvus corax tingitanus</i>		3							1	2	
161	Spotless Starling	<i>Sturnus unicolor</i>	x	x	x							x	x
162	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus tingitanus</i>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
163	Spanish Sparrow	<i>Passer hispaniliensis</i>							1				
164	Desert Sparrow	<i>Passer simplex</i>							1				
165	Rock Sparrow	<i>Petronia petronia barbara</i>		50+	h								
166	Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs africana</i>	x	10+	x	x					x	x	x
167	European Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>	x		x	h						1	x
168	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	x		x	x			1	x			x
169	Eurasian Linnet	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>	x									h	x
170	European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>	x	x	x	x	h		x	x	x	x	x
171	Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes burryi</i>	4+										
172	Crimson-winged Finch	<i>Rhodopechys sanguinea aliena</i>		30+									
173	Trumpeter Finch	<i>Rhodopechys githaginea zedlitzii</i>			1	20+	4	7	9	4+	1		
174	Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>	2										2
175	Rock Bunting	<i>Emberiza cia africana</i>	6	h									
176	House Bunting	<i>Emberiza striolata sahari</i>	8+	5+	4+	x	x		2	x	x	x	x
177	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>			10+						1		x
	Other Sightings												
	Reptiles	Amphibians											
	<i>Bribon's Agama</i>	<i>Tree Frog</i>											
	<i>Spinny-tailed Agama</i>	<i>Sahara Green Frog</i>											
	<i>Moroccan Rock Lizard</i>	<i>Moorish Toad</i>											
	<i>Green Psammmodromus</i>	<i>Green Toad</i>											
	<i>Toukbal Lizard</i>	<i>Brongersman Toad</i>											
	<i>Desert Gecko</i>	<i>Spansih Terrapin</i>											
	<i>Olivier's Small Lizard</i>												
	<i>Pasteurs Small Lizard</i>												
	<i>Small Fringed Toed Lizard</i>	Butterflies											
	<i>Long-footed Fringed Toed L.</i>	<i>Scarce Swallowtail</i>											
	<i>Golden Fringed Toed L.</i>	<i>Large White</i>											
		<i>Bath White</i>											
	Mammals	<i>Greenish Black-tip</i>											
	<i>Barbary Ground Squirrel</i>	<i>Moroccan Orange Tip</i>											
	<i>Fat Sand Rat</i>	<i>Clouded Yellow</i>											
	<i>Gerboe</i>	<i>Brimstone</i>											
	<i>Egyptian Mongoose</i>	<i>Cleopatra</i>											
	<i>Red Fox</i>	<i>Small Copper</i>											
	<i>Wild Board</i>	<i>Large Copper</i>											
		<i>Long-tailed Blue</i>											
		<i>Common Blue</i>											
	Dragonflies	<i>Plain Tiger</i>											
	<i>Epaulet Skimmer</i>	<i>Painted Lady</i>											
	<i>Violet Dropwing</i>	<i>Comma</i>											
	<i>Orange-winged Dropwing</i>	<i>Wall Brown</i>											
	<i>Sahara Bluetail - female</i>	<i>Speckled Wood</i>											
	<i>Red-veined darter-female</i>	<i>Scarce Swallowtail</i>											
	<i>Sahara Bluetail</i>	<i>Large White</i>											
		<i>Bath White</i>											

Another excellent tour with very good weather and extraordinary birding. We just missed one of the Moroccan specialities: Crowned Sandgrouse. We found a good number of reptiles, amphibians and thanks to the expertise of John Walton several dragonflies.

Bird of the tour

- George Fricker – **Egyptian Nightjar**
- Mary Fricker – **Desert Sparrow**
- John Walton - **Bald Ibis**
- Monika Walton – **Cream Coloured Courser**
- Howard Chetwind - **Egyptian Nightjar**
- Marilyn Chetwind - **Barbary Falcon**
- Jay Whetham - **Egyptian Nightjar**
- Jo Whetham - **Lammergeier**
- Andy Levitt - **Black Crowned Tachagra**
- Gwyn McCreanor - **Lammergeier**
- Santi Suner – **Desert Eagle Owl**
- Josele J. Saiz - **Lammergeier**

Dear Josele thank you.

Yet again you have given us a fantastic birding holiday with memories which will live with us for a lifetime with good birding great food, accommodation and fun company.

As I mentioned to you we would like to reserve 4 places on your 2011 Bulgaria trip for myself Jo Gwyn and Andy. Thank you once again and look forward to receiving your confirmation re the Bulgaria trip.

Kind regards Jay

Dear Josele,

Thank you for a most enjoyable trip to Morocco

Below is list of Butterflies and Dragonflies seen on the trip.

I cannot give sites and days for all of them as I left a small notebook with these details behind at one of the Hotels.



Thanks for your interest and great company

By Josele J Saiz

