



Swallow BIRDING

WESTERN MOROCCO

Wednesday 8th - Tuesday 14th February 2012

TOUR PARTICIPANTS

EMMA WEBB & RUSSELL NEAVE
PAT BRAND & HOWARD MANNERS
HEATHER SHORT & SASS PARKER
SALLY BRIERLEY
MARTIN WASS

SIMON WOOD
TONY COOMBS
SIMON LEVENE
JOHN CHURCH
BRIAN MCGHIE

TOUR LEADERS

JOSELE SAIZ & STEVE GRIMWADE



Atlas Mountains



African Blue Tit

Wednesday 8th February

We all met at Gatwick at an ungodly hour for our flight to Marrakech. Due to a good tailwind, we arrived in Morocco 45 minutes ahead of schedule and after getting through the rigmarole of passport control we picked up our bags and headed out to meet our guide Josele, only to find that he hadn't arrived.

We then met Simon who had travelled independently and found that Josele's flight had been cancelled and after speaking to him, heard that he hoped to get a flight later in the day. In his absence, we had lunch and exchanged currency before heading out to our minibus.

Around the terminal were HOUSE BUNTING, WHITE STORK and KESTREL and on our journey out of Marrakech we saw GREAT GREY SHRIKE of the race *algerensis*, CATTLE EGRET and plenty of HOUSE SPARROWS. We arrived in the Ourika Valley and stopped close to the Ourika Hotel. One of the first birds we saw was AFRICAN BLUE TIT and CHAFFINCH of the race *africana*. In the tall trees there were a number of BLACKCAPS, no doubt on their way north back to Europe. COMMON BULBULS sang from scrub and gave good but brief views but best of all was the male MOUSSIER'S REDSTART that perched up on some bushes before flitting off.

Moving further up the valley towards Seti Fatmar we wandered through the village dodging the jewellery and fossil sellers. Once through the village things quietened down and we began to see small parties of RED-BILLED CHOUGH and a few ALPINE CHOUGH wheeling overhead. A female SARDINIAN WARBLER fed in a walled garden and on the river we watched plenty of GREY WAGTAILS and a lone DIPPER. A male BLACK REDSTART played hide and seek behind a house and more COMMON BULBULS were seen. Two ROCK BUNTINGS flitted around the river edge and ROBIN and WREN were noted. A CLOUDED YELLOW and HUMMINGBIRD HAWK-MOTH and an unidentified WHITE BUTTERFLY added to the wildlife.

After getting back to the van, we drove slowly to Marrakech where we arrived at the hotel to find Josele – excellent! After a shower and freshen up, we met for dinner and to complete the bird log whilst looking forward to our time in Morocco.



Moussier's Redstart



Levillant's Woodpecker

Thursday 9th February

We met for breakfast at 6.30am for a 7.30am departure and were soon on our way towards the Atlas Mountain range for what we hoped would be a great day. Our first stop soon produced a brief HAWFINCH and small numbers of CHAFFINCH that attracted the passing attentions of a SPARROWHAWK. A few minutes later we heard the call of a woodpecker and it wasn't long before we located the culprit – a fine female LEVAILLANT'S WOODPECKER. We eventually enjoyed prolonged views of this fine bird as it perched on a small tree. A male MOUSSIER'S REDSTART was seen briefly nearby as well as a pair of ROCK BUNTING.

Carrying on we reached the ski resort at Ouikameden in good time and luckily there were not too many people around. After a quick refreshment and toilet break we found a small party of CRIMSON-WINGED FINCHES feeding on the edge of the carpark, some of which were starting to moult into summer plumage. A few *Atlas* race HORNED LARK scurried around the snow edge and were heard singing their sweet song. Overhead we saw both ALPINE and RED-BILLED CHOUGH which allowed great ID comparisons. In the meltwater stream we watched a MEADOW PIPIT and shortly after a winter-plumaged WATER PIPIT was noted. Around the ski-lift areas both nominate and *Africana* race CHAFFINCHES feeding on the short turf areas and a single GREY WAGTAIL fed in the stream.

We walked back to the minibus and were then taken upwards towards the radio station at 9,500ft. A pair of BLACK REDSTART flitted from boulder to boulder attempting to find insects in the cool conditions. On reaching the top we soon found a perched ALPINE ACCENTOR which sat on a rock before flying off. More surprising were around 200 BLACK KITES seen migrating above the cloud base whilst we looked down on them from above, absolutely amazing!

Sally spotted a RED FOX sunbathing on a rock face which was eventually seen by everyone before we headed down to the village for lunch. Here we enjoyed a traditional Tagine along with various Olives and Flatbreads and finished off the meal with Oranges. It was also here that some of the group had the chance to buy various fossils with John appearing to be the best customer!



Crimson-winged Finch by Tony Coombs

Afterwards, we strolled down through the village but the place was heaving with visitors enjoying a bank holiday so Josele planned another stop down the valley hoping it would be quieter. Pulling off the road we watched a pair of MISTLE THRUSH close by and then a stunning male MOUSSIER'S REDSTART. On the opposite side of the road a female BLACK WHEATEAR showed well and with a little encouragement from the Mp3 player, the male came in to defend its territory. The rest of the walk yielded BLACK REDSTART, CHIFFCHAFF, SARDINIAN WARBLER, BLACKCAP and plenty of RED-BILLED CHOUGHs.

With the afternoon getting on we were about to leave when a LONG-LEGGED BUZZARD was spotted on a pylon in the distance and we all got scope views. Arriving back in Marrakech, a diversion was taken for the purchase of some alcoholic beverages. After completing the bird checklist we tucked in to a well-deserved evening meal before retiring to bed.

Friday 10th February

We met for a 6.30am breakfast before packing our bags and heading south westwards towards Agadir. A small party of BLACK KITES and WHITE STORKS were seen heading north as we neared the city limits. The journey took around 2.45 hours and little was noted except for LONG-LEGGED BUZZARD and RAVEN. A stop for refreshments and facilities proved more productive with distant BLACK-SHOULDERED KITE perched on a pylon and around the service area SERIN, THEKLA LARK, MOUSSIER'S REDSTART and *Algeriensis* GREAT GREY SHRIKE.

Once navigating around Agadir we drove north along the coast road and noticed a huge number of gulls around the harbours. Finally we reached the village of Tamri and drove a few kilometres north where we discovered a small party of BALD IBIS flying over the road. We quickly stopped and watched them flying south before another party flew right past us. Our luck was in as we negotiated the sandy track down to the nesting cliffs, as here we obtained excellent views of this critically endangered species while they sat on the cliffs and fed on the clifftop. Out to sea we watched a few GANNETS flying north and several AUDOUIN'S GULLS close in.



Bald Ibis by Tony Coombs

The views of the Ibis were fantastic and thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. A couple of GREAT SPOTTED CUCKOOS perched in a scrubby bush but promptly disappeared and were not relocated. A male SPECTACLED WARBLER kept low down in the coastal scrub before flying down towards the cliff. A real shock was a QUAIL flying past us which again disappeared in the dense cover. With our stomachs rumbling we drove to Tamri for lunch and from the restaurant balcony found our first SPANISH SPARROWS and LAUGHING DOVES.

A stop at the mouth of the Tamri estuary proved successful with SPOONBILL, two RUDDY SHELDUCK, LITTLE EGRET, 30 more BALD IBIS, AUDOUIN'S GULL, YELLOW-LEGGED GULL and LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULLS and on the beach we located a small party of KENTISH PLOVER with a lone RINGED PLOVER amongst them. A dead LONG-EARED OWL was found on the waterline.

Leaving the site and heading south, more excitement followed with a 1st year GOLDEN EAGLE hanging over the road and a little further on, sharp-eyed Emma and Russ spotted a small flock of BARBARY PARTRIDGE close to road which we all managed to see really well. Moving on through Agadir, we arrived at the Oued Souss and found tidal conditions ideal.

In the main part of the river a large number of GREATER FLAMINGO roosted and around the edges of the river were a large variety of waders including BLACK-WINGED STILT, BLACK-TAILED GODWIT, GREEN and COMMON SANDPIPERS, REDSHANK, STONE CURLEW, GREENSHANK and LITTLE RINGED PLOVER.

The excitement kept coming with OSPREY, BLACK-SHOULDERED KITE and large numbers of migrating WHITE STORKS. Martin did really well to find a perched SHORT-EARED OWL which is a rare bird in Morocco. With time getting on we took a walk along the river edge noting the distinctive Moroccan race of MAGPIE, STONECHAT and LITTLE GULL. Other roosting gulls included large numbers of BLACK-HEADED GULLS along with three MEDITERRANEAN GULLS and a single SANDWICH TERN. A BARBARY FALCON flew at speed over the tree line but unfortunately not everyone saw it. We concluded the day searching for RED-NECKED NIGHTJAR around the Kings Palace and eventually had views of around three birds as they hawked insects.

We then headed back to the hotel where after a quick wash and brush up met for a well earned dinner.

Saturday 11th February

After an early breakfast we drove to a site within Agadir for Little Swift but unfortunately the weather was quite cold so the birds stayed within the nest. Moving on we headed for the Oued Massa National Park, where stopping in a likely looking area produced a showy LITTLE OWL perched on a stone wall with another bird behind. Another site nearby, next to a football pitch was again rewarding with a BLACK-CROWNED TCHAGRA which sat in a palm tree along with another individual. Whilst our attentions were on the Tchagra, a WRYNECK sat on a small pile of stones, a fantastic winter record for the area.

Delighted with our good start we drove down to the river where there were massive numbers of CHIFFCHAFFS flitting around the palms with a WILLOW WARBLER spotted amongst them. LAUGHING DOVES were numerous in the area and a couple more BLACK-CROWNED TCHAGRA'S showed well in the bushes.

Investigating the many warblers we came across a WESTERN OLIVACEOUS WARBLER which showed well albeit briefly in a Tamarisk. The river held good numbers of COOT and the occasional MOORHEN whilst overhead many PALLID SWIFTS hawked the numerous flying insects. CRAG MARTINS flew along the escarpments and we did well to find a LITTLE SWIFT in amongst these birds.



Brown-throated Martin

MOUSSIER'S REDSTARTS performed close to the road and a female BLACKCAP 'chacked' from the vegetation. We attempted to find a track down to the river and this proved a good move when we saw at least two BROWN-THROATED MARTINS which gave brilliant views at close range. A flock of GLOSSY IBIS roosted on exposed branches in the middle of the river which included several colour-ringed birds. CORMORANTS fished and ducks included MALLARD, PINTAIL, TEAL, GADWALL, SHOVELER and TUFTED DUCKS and a KINGFISHER perched in full view.

By now we had connected with our target species so we went for a very welcome lunch before commencing our journey south to Goulemine. After a good run, we arrived in the desert and immediately headed to Oued Bokila where we could hear a singing SCRUB WARBLER. It turned out to be rather frustrating as this tiny bird flitted from bush to bush and only showed well on occasions. Eventually we located a couple of birds and managed to them briefly so vowed we would make another attempt the following morning. Whilst at the site we had brief views of RED-RUMPED and DESERT WHEATEARS and overhead floated three LONG-LEGGED BUZZARDS.

Our last destination of the day was Oued Sayed but just before we arrived we discovered a juvenile LANNER perched on a telegraph pole which unfortunately flew off. At Oued Sayed we took a slow wander and soon found a small party of FULVOUS BABLERS which showed incredibly well and needless to say, plenty of photos were taken. Hundreds of SPANISH SPARROWS chattered from the bushes and these attracted the attentions of possibly the same LANNER as it perched on a distant post. With temperatures dropping we started the walk back to the van when an EGYPTIAN MONGOOSE was seen briefly.

After checking in at our hotel, we met for dinner and discussed what an excellent day it had been.



Fulvous Babbler

Sunday 12th February

After a hearty breakfast we loaded up the van and headed south towards an area of stony desert and along the way the usual LANNER perched up on the telegraph pole, while nearby there were BAR-TAILED LARKS and TRUMPETER FINCH. Quite a surprise was SAHARAN WILDCAT and RED FOX spotted by Emma close to the road, quite a start to the day.

After parking we explored a vast area which was fairly productive with flocks of 13, 7 and 4 BLACK-BELLIED SANDGROUSE and a young WHITE-CROWNED BLACK WHEATEAR around a small settlement. RED-RUMPED WHEATEARS were numerous, as well as BAR-TAILED LARKS but despite searching we failed to locate the desert specialities.

With birds thin on the ground, Josele went in search of the targets whilst Steve took the group on a large loop of the scrubby desert. At least three pairs of RED-RUMPED WHEATEAR were seen along with a stunning male DESERT WHEATEAR. A LONG-LEGGED BUZZARD perched up on a bush although the growing heat haze made viewing difficult but pride of place had to go to a pair of SCRUB WARBLERS which showed really well as they flew from bush to bush in front of us. Eventually Josele came back to say that he'd had some success so we visited a small Wadi nearby to look for Mahgreb Wheatear and found instead a female TRUMPETER FINCH and a GREAT GREY SHRIKE.

By now we were pretty hungry so went back to the hotel for lunch which consisted of Tuna, Cheese or Omelette rolls with chips! Some of the group went into the bar for coffee and some wonderful cakes before sitting outside on the newly christened 'migration watchpoint' i.e. some patio chairs overlooking the street! This did however pay dividends with a CHIFFCHAFF, SWALLOWS, five LITTLE SWIFTS and a slightly unexpected SQUACCO HERON.

At 3.00pm we drove quite a way back south and took a new road to an area which looked pretty good for birding and within five minutes were watching up to two TEMMINCK'S LARKS running around the area, some at close range and then we found a couple of pairs of HOOPOE LARK which duly obliged for us all. Just when things couldn't get any better, Josele found a pair of DESERT LARK and then Heather found a stunning male THICK-BILLED LARK – pure magic!

Over the next 20 minutes the air was full of excitement and the sound of shutters clicking as we enjoyed these fantastic birds. We continued to walk back up the opposite side of the road where we found more DESERT LARKS and both RED-RUMPED and DESERT WHEATEARS before slowly walking back down to the van. Close to the road we had good but brief views of a female SPECTACLED WARBLER and even better views of a male TRUMPETER FINCH picking at vegetation.

We rounded off the day trying a site for Pharaoh Eagle Owl but only managed a large flock of SPANISH SPARROWS and a good herd of CAMEL before driving back to the hotel where a hot shower was very welcome.



Camels

Monday 13th February

After a slightly more leisurely breakfast we left the hotel at 8.00am and drove east of Goulemine. A stop in suitable habitat produced three WHITE-CROWNED BLACK WHEATEARS which showed rather well around the settlement. A couple of THICK-BILLED LARKS flew over but were elusive on the ground, although rather more obliging were four TEMMINCK'S LARKS that ran around in front of us. Raptors were thin on the ground with only LONG-LEGGED BUZZARD and a couple of KESTRELS to show for our efforts. Some BLACK-BELLIED SANDGROUSE flew over and gave great underwing views.



Pharaoh Eagle Owl by Tony Coombs

We carried on along the road checking more sites and struck gold with a large flock of around 200 BLACK-BELLIED SANDGROUSE including some fantastic birds on the ground. CRESTED and THEKLA LARKS sang around us and a stunning male DESERT WHEATEAR perched in full view. With habitat changing to Palms and Acacia Trees we drove across open land to reach an area that looked perfect for Tristram's Warbler. A pale unidentified warbler looked good for African Desert Warbler but unfortunately couldn't be relocated. Other warblers included SARDINIAN and SPECTACLED and a small number of BLACK-BELLIED SANDGROUSE flew again overhead.

Sass took the opportunity to get a photo of Heather close to a Palm and imagine her surprise when out flew a PHARAOH EAGLE OWL! This amazing bird flew into another tree where it sat and glared at us. Using a spot of fieldcraft we managed to get reasonably close. Needless to say, this was a fantastic moment during the tour and something we won't forget in a hurry!

With the group still on a high, we returned to the hotel and had lunch followed by the now customary cake and coffee at the 'migration watchpoint' which produced a single CHIFFCHAFF.

We drove north back towards Agadir and Simon W and Steve spotted a pale-phase BOOTED EAGLE from the van. Unfortunately Martin was feeling unwell so we pulled over onto a rough area of land and there were a pair of BONELLI'S EAGLES. These magnificent raptors circled round before drifting off east. We arrived in Agadir and dropped Emma and Martin off whilst the rest went to look for Little Swift. We were in luck as up to 12 LITTLE SWIFT flew over us and at least two went straight into the nesting colony – a cracking end to the day!



Ruined settlement



Magpie of race mauretana by Tony Coombs

Tuesday 14th February

We left the hotel for our last mornings' birding in Morocco and headed for Oued Sous. The tide was perfect and it was clear that over 250 WHITE STORKS had roosted overnight on the mudflats. GREATER FLAMINGO fed in the shallows and waders included BLACK-WINGED STILTS, CURLEW, GREENSHANK, OYSTERCATCHER, GREY PLOVER and BLACK-TAILED GODWIT plus GREEN and COMMON SANDPIPERS.

An OPSPREY sat on a post mid river before flying off to try its luck at fishing and a couple of MARSH HARRIER drifted over. Russ did well to spot a male WHITE-SPOTTED BLUETHROAT in the sueda and careful searching provided us with two more. FAN-TAILED WARBLER, SARDINIAN WARBLER, SERIN and SPANISH SPARROWS fed along the sheltered walls of the golfcourse.

CHIFFCHAFF and SEDGE WARBLERS were also seen and MOROCCAN MAGPIES abounded in the area. As we reached the end of the golf course a PEREGRINE chased a WOODPIGEON which was unsuccessful before perching in full view.

We left for the airport and after saying our goodbyes to the Mohammed, Simon & Josele we had a relatively pain-free check in and were soon called for our flight back to the UK. After a longish wait for our bags at Gatwick we said our goodbyes to everyone on what had been a fantastic tour to Morocco.

BIRD LIST

	Species	Scientific Name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	LITTLE GREBE	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>			X	X			X
2	GREAT CRESTED GREBE	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>				1			
3	GANNET	<i>Morus bassanus</i>			X				
4	CORMORANT	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis</i>		X	X				X
	Moroccan Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo maroccanus</i>		X	X			1	X
5	SHAG	<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis riggenbachi</i>			5				
6	GREY HERON	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>		X	X	X			
7	LITTLE EGRET	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X
8	SQUACCO HERON	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>					1		
9	GREAT EGRET	<i>Casmerodius albus</i>				1			
10	CATTLE EGRET	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	X	X	X	X		X	
11	WHITE STORK	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	30	X	X			X	200
12	BALD IBIS	<i>Geronticus eremita</i>			50+				
13	GLOSSY IBIS	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>				50+			
14	SPOONBILL	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>			1				
15	GREATER FLAMINGO	<i>Phoenicopterus ruber</i>			150				150
16	RUDDY SHELDUCK	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>			2				
17	GADWALL	<i>Anas strepera</i>				2			
18	TEAL	<i>Anas crecca</i>				X			
19	MALLARD	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>				X			
20	PINTAIL	<i>Anas acuta</i>				1			
21	SHOVELER	<i>Anas clypeata</i>				3			
22	TUFTED DUCK	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>				X			
23	OSPREY	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>			3				1
24	BLACK-SHOULDERED KITE	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>			2				
25	BLACK KITE	<i>Milvus migrans</i>		200	X				
26	MARSH HARRIER	<i>Circus aeruginosus harterti</i>			2	1			2
27	SPARROWHAWK	<i>Accipiter nisus punicus</i>		2	1	X			1
28	LONG-LEGGED BUZZARD	<i>Buteo rufinus cirtensis</i>		2	3	X	X	X	
29	GOLDEN EAGLE	<i>Aquila chrysaetos homeyeri</i>			1				
30	BONELLI'S EAGLE	<i>Aquila fasciata</i>						2	
31	BOOTED EAGLE	<i>Aquila pennata</i>						1	
32	KESTREL	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
33	LANNER FALCON	<i>Falco biarmicus erlangeri</i>				1	1		
34	BARBARY FALCON	<i>Falco pelegrinoides</i>			1		1		
35	PEREGRINE FALCON	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>							1
36	BARBARY PARTRIDGE	<i>Alectoris barbara spatzi</i>			10+				
37	COMMON QUAIL	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>			2				
38	MOORHEN	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>			H	X			
39	COOT	<i>Fulica atra</i>			X	X		X	X
40	OYSTERCATCHER	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>							6
41	BLACK-WINGED STILT	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>			X				X

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42	STONE CURLEW	<i>Burhinus oedicephalus saharae</i>			X			X	
43	CREAM-COLOURED COURSER	<i>Cursorius cursor</i>				4			
44	GREY PLOVER	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>			H				10
45	LITTLE RINGED PLOVER	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>			1	6			
46	KENTISH PLOVER	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>			6				
47	COMMON SNIPE	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>			2				
48	BLACK-TAILED GODWIT	<i>Limosa limosa</i>			X				X
49	CURLEW	<i>Numenius arquata</i>			3				X
50	COMMON REDSHANK	<i>Tringa totanus</i>			X				X
51	GREENSHANK	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>			X	H			X
52	GREEN SANDPIPER	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>			X	1			X
53	COMMON SANDPIPER	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>			3				X
54	AUDOUIN'S GULL	<i>Larus audouinii</i>			200				
55	YELLOW-LEGGED GULL	<i>Larus michahellis</i>			X	X		X	X
56	LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL	<i>Larus fuscus graellsii</i>			X				
57	BLACK-HEADED GULL	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>			X				
58	LITTLE GULL	<i>Hydrocoloeus minutus</i>			1				
59	MEDITERRANEAN GULL	<i>Larus melanocephalus</i>			4				1
60	SANDWICH TERN	<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>			1				1
61	BLACK-BELLIED SANDGROUSE	<i>Pterocles orientalis</i>					24	200	
62	FERAL PIGEON/ROCK DOVE	<i>Columba livia</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
63	WOODPIGEON	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	X	X	X	X			X
67	COLLARED DOVE	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
65	LAUGHING DOVE	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>			5	X		1	
66	GREAT SPOTTED CUCKOO	<i>Clamator glandarius</i>			2				
67	PHARAOH EAGLE OWL	<i>Bubo escalaphus</i>						1	
68	LITTLE OWL	<i>Athene noctua saharae</i>				2		1	
69	SHORT-EARED OWL	<i>Asio flammeus</i>			1				
70	RED-NECKED NIGHTJAR	<i>Caprimulgus ruficollis</i>			4				
71	PALLID SWIFT	<i>Apus pallidus</i>	X	X	X	X		X	X
72	LITTLE SWIFT	<i>Apus affinis</i>				1	5	10	
73	KINGFISHER	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>				1			
74	HOOPOE	<i>Upupa epops</i>				1			
75	WRYNECK	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>				1	1		
76	GREAT SPOTTED WOODPECKER	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>	1	1					
77	LEVAILLANT'S WOODPECKER	<i>Picus vaillantii</i>		1					
78	BAR-TAILED LARK	<i>Ammomanes cinctura arenicolor</i>					X	X	
79	DESERT LARK	<i>Ammomanes deserti payni</i>					X	X	
80	HOOPOE LARK	<i>Alaemon alaudipes</i>					4	1	
81	THICK-BILLED LARK	<i>Ramphocoris clotbey</i>					2	10	
82	SHORT-TOED LARK	<i>Calendrella cinerea rubiginosa</i>					X		
83	CRESTED LARK	<i>Galerida cristata randonii</i>			X	X		X	X

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84	THEKLA LARK	<i>Galerida theklae aguirrei</i>			X	X	X	X	
85	SKYLARK	<i>Alauda arvensis harterti</i>						1	
86	SHORELARK	<i>Eremophila alpestris atlas</i>		X					
87	TEMMINCK'S LARK	<i>Eremophila bilopha</i>					4	4	
88	CRAG MARTIN	<i>Hirundo rupestris</i>	X	X	X	X		X	
89	SWALLOW	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
90	HOUSE MARTIN	<i>Delichon urbica</i>			X	X			X
91	BROWN-THROATED MARTIN	<i>Riparia paludicola</i>				2			
92	WHITE WAGTAIL	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Moroccan Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba subpersonata</i>			1				
	Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba yarelli</i>						1	
93	GREY WAGTAIL	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	X	X	X				
94	MEADOW PIPIT	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>		X	X	H			X
95	WATER PIPIT	<i>Anthus spinoletta</i>		X					
96	COMMON BULBUL	<i>Pycnonotus barbatus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
97	DIPPER	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>	X						
98	WREN	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	X						X
99	ALPINE ACCENTOR	<i>Prunella collaris</i>		1					
100	BLUE ROCK THRUSH	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>				2	1		
101	BLACKBIRD	<i>Turdus merula</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
102	SONG THRUSH	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	X						
103	MISTLE THRUSH	<i>Turdus viscivorus bonapartei</i>		3					
104	W. OLIVACEOUS WARBLER	<i>Hippolais opaca</i>				1			
105	REED WARBLER	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>				X			
106	FAN-TAILED WARBLER	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>			2	X			X
107	SCRUB WARBLER	<i>Scotocerca inquieta theresae</i>				4	2		
108	CETTI'S WARBLER	<i>Cettia cetti</i>			H	2			
109	SEDGE WARBLER	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>							2
110	WILLOW WARBLER	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	X			X			
111	COMMON CHIFFCHAFF	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
112	BLACKCAP	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	X	X					
113	SARDINIAN WARBLER	<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
114	SPECTACLED WARBLER	<i>Sylvia conspicillata</i>			1		X	X	
115	ROBIN	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	X	X	X	X			
116	BLUETHROAT	<i>Luscinia svecica svecica</i>							3
117	BLACK REDSTART	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros gibraltariensis</i>	X	X	X	X			X
118	MOUSSIER'S REDSTART	<i>Phoenicurus moussieri</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
119	STONECHAT	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
120	WHITE-CROWNED WHEATEAR	<i>Oenanthe leucopyga augra</i>				1	1	5	
121	BLACK WHEATEAR	<i>Oenanthe leucura</i>		X	X	X		X	
122	RED-RUMPED WHEATEAR	<i>Oenanthe moesta</i>				X	X	X	
123	DESERT WHEATEAR	<i>Oenanthe deserti homochroa</i>				X	X	X	

BIRD LIST

	Species	Scientific Name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
124	FULVOUS BABBLER	<i>Turdoides fulvus moroccanus</i>				12+			
125	GREAT TIT	<i>Parus major excelsus</i>	X	X	H	H			X
126	AFRICAN BLUE TIT	<i>Parus ultramarinus</i>	X	X	X				X
127	SOUTHERN GREY SHRIKE	<i>Lanius meridionalis algeriensis</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	
128	BLACK-CROWNED TCHAGRA	<i>Tchagra senegala cucullata</i>				5			
129	MAGPIE	<i>Pica pica mauretunica</i>	X	X	X	X		X	X
130	RED-BILLED CHOUGH	<i>Pyrrhonorax pyrrhonorax barbarus</i>	X	X					
131	ALPINE CHOUGH	<i>Pyrrhonorax graculus</i>	X	X					
132	RAVEN	<i>Corvus corax tingitanus</i>			X			X	
133	SPOTLESS STARLING	<i>Sturnus unicolor</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
134	HOUSE SPARROW	<i>Passer domesticus tingitanus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
135	SPANISH SPARROW	<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>			X	X	X	X	X
136	ROCK SPARROW	<i>Petronia petronia barbara</i>		X					
137	CHAFFINCH	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		X	X				
	African Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs africana</i>	X	X	X	X		X	X
138	GREENFINCH	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>			X			X	X
139	GOLDFINCH	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		X	X	X	X		
140	LINNET	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>		X	X				
141	SERIN	<i>Serinus serinus</i>	X	X	X	X			X
142	HAWFINCH	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes burryi</i>	X	X					
143	CRIMSON-WINGED FINCH	<i>Rhodopechys sanguinea aliena</i>		30+					
144	TRUMPETER FINCH	<i>Rhodopechys githaginea zedlitzi</i>					4	X	
145	ROCK BUNTING	<i>Emberiza cia africana</i>	2	2					
146	HOUSE BUNTING	<i>Emberiza striolata sahari</i>	X	X	X	X			X
147	CORN BUNTING	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>				X		X	

OTHER WILDLIFE

	Species	Scientific Name							
	EGYPTIAN MONGOOSE	<i>Herpestes ichneumon</i>							
	BARBARY GROUND SQUIRREL	<i>Atlantoxerus getulus</i>							
	FAT SAND RAT	<i>Psammomys obesus</i>							
	RED FOX	<i>Vulpes vulpes atlantica</i>							
	AFRICAN WILDCAT	<i>Felis silvestris sarda</i>							
	SPANISH TERRAPIN	<i>Mauremys leprosa</i>							
	CLOUDED YELLOW	<i>Colias croceus</i>							
	GREEN-STRIPED WHITE	<i>Euchloe belemia</i>							
	MOROCCAN WALL BROWN	<i>Lasiommata meadewaldoi</i>							
	WHITE sp.								
	HUMMINGBIRD HAWK-MOTH	<i>Macroglossum stellatarum</i>							



Desert Wheatear by Tony Coombs



Atlas Shore Lark by Tony Coombs



Thick-billed Lark by Tony Coombs



Red-rumped Wheatear by Tony Coombs



African Wildcat by Simon Wood



Temminck's Lark by Tony Coombs

BIRD & MOMENT OF THE TOUR

HEATHER: PHARAOH EAGLE OWL & MIGRATING BLACK KITES

SASS: PHARAOH EAGLE OWL & MIGRATING BLACK KITES

SALLY: PHARAOH EAGLE OWL & MIGRATING BLACK KITES

SIMON W: PHARAOH EAGLE OWL & MIGRATING BLACK KITES

SIMON L: WHITE-CROWNED WHEATEAR & WILDCAT

TONY: PHARAOH EAGLE OWL & MIGRATING BLACK KITES

JOHN: PHARAOH EAGLE OWL & HOOPOE LARK

RUSS: TEMMINCK'S LARK & MOUSSIER'S REDSTART

EMMA: PHARAOH EAGLE OWL & WILDCAT

BRIAN: DESERT WHEATEAR & PHARAOH EAGLE OWL

HOWARD: MOUSSIER'S REDSTART & MIGRATING BLACK KITES

PAT: PHARAOH EAGLE OWL & SANDGROUSE

MARTIN: PHARAOH EAGLE OWL & MIGRATING BLACK KITES

JOSELE: PHARAOH EAGLE OWL & WILDCAT

STEVE: PHARAOH EAGLE OWL & THICK-BILLED LARK



Black Kites by Tony Coombs



Scrub Warbler by Tony Coombs

8th FEBRUARY

Marrakech - Ourika Valley - Marrakech

9th FEBRUARY

Marrakech - Ouikameden - Marrakech

10th FEBRUARY

Marrakech - Tamri - Oued Souss - Agadir

11th FEBRUARY

Agadir - Souss Massa NP - Oued Sayed - Goulemine

12th FEBRUARY

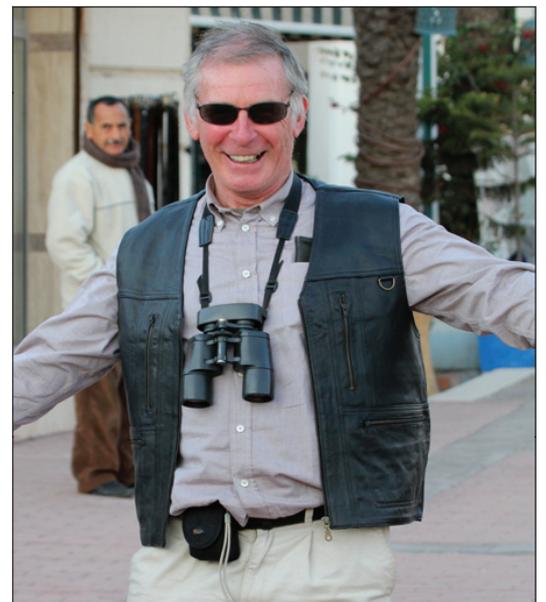
Goulemine - Goulemine Plains - Goulemine

13th FEBRUARY

Goulemine - Fask Plains - Agadir

14th FEBRUARY

Agadir - Oued Souss - Agadir Airport



Latest fashion for birding?



Fask Plain by Tony Coombs



Southern Grey Shrike by Tony Coombs



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