

Birding in Morocco – High Atlas to the Sahara Desert

28th March – 2nd April 2011



Trip participants - Mick Bell, Tim Norman & John Kirby

Introduction

This was John's third visit to Morocco and mine and Tim's second following a very enjoyable previous birding trip at the beginning of April 2008.

Our last visit saw us travel east from Marrakech over the High Atlas and as far as Boumalne du Dades, and whilst we picked up a number of the Moroccan specialties, this time we planned to venture further east to the edge of the Sahara with a view to seeing birds such as Desert Sparrow, Desert Warbler, Scrub Warbler, Pharaoh's Eagle Owl, Fulvous Babbler, Brown-necked Raven and Blue-cheeked Bee eater. We also scheduled a diversion to Oukaimeden, for a second attempt at Crimson-winged Finch following an unsuccessful visit there in 2008.

Transport

We flew with Easyjet from Manchester to Marrakech at a cost of £139 per person with an approximate flight time of 3^{1/2} hours.

Car hire was booked through Holiday Autos, who we've used on a number of previous occasions, but the car was actually picked up from Budget Rental at the airport and cost £238 with full insurance. We'd supposedly booked a Ford Focus (or equivalent) but ended up with a Peugeot 206 which was a little under-powered and fairly small for 3 blokes, cases, rucksacks and scopes etc. The main problem however was the car's low-slung undercarriage which seemed to catch on every rut and stone as soon as we left the main roads and went 'off-piste'.

Petrol is practically half the price of that in the UK and appeared to get cheaper the further east you travelled – cheapest we found was around 70 pence per litre.

Away from Marrakech, which should be avoided if possible, we found driving in Morocco on the whole fairly easy if you're comfortable with driving on the right and the twisting and winding roads over the mountains. They say that 'patience is a virtue' and this is generally the case when sharing the road with clapped-out Renaults, knackered motor scooters and mopeds, cyclists (riding 3 or 4 to a bike), donkeys and pedestrians. Certainly this was the case when Tim had to navigate a path through all of these when passing through a Berber market in Douar Ouriki.

Accommodation

Initially we booked 2 hotels for 4 nights in advance of the trip but due to a change of itinerary we ended up staying at 3 different hotels, two of which we'd stayed at previously. All were perfectly clean, if not a little basic, and to keep costs down we were able to secure triple rooms on each occasion with the average cost for half board around £25 per person.

Food & Drink

Breakfasts are fairly simple and generally consists of freshly-squeezed orange juice, coffee/tea, plenty of bread, jams, honey and a 'flaky pastry-type' pancake, which is particularly filling.

For evening meal we generally started with a traditional 'Harira' (spicy lentil and tomato) soup. For the main course we received, or requested, a beef/lamb/chicken tagine, a Moroccan stew, which is slow-cooked and incredibly tasty. Desserts usually consisted of yoghurts and/or fresh fruit.

With Morocco being almost exclusively a Muslim country, you struggle to get a beer or alcohol of any sort for that matter, in the smaller hotels and particularly away from the large cities. With prior knowledge we decided to buy a bottle of brandy at Manchester so we could have an aperitif before dinner and to aid snore-induced sleep. We did manage to get a drink of bottled beer on our last evening but John had to welsh on his offer to buy all the beers when he found out that they were 40 dirhams each (over £3 a bottle)!

We all stayed free from any stomach upsets until our last evening when Tim started spending more time sat down than laid in his bed. Needless to say that on the trip back to the airport the following morning you couldn't have got a playing card between the cheeks of his bum!

Weather

We had sun and cloudless skies for most of the trip with the temperature reaching high 20's low 30's degrees centigrade the closer we got to the Sahara. However it was clearly cooler at Oukaimeden and travelling over the Atlas Mountains and note that two weeks previous to our trip apparently the temperature was considerably cooler.

Resources

- 1) **Morocco Insight Travel Map** 1:800,000. Insight Guides 2008.
ISBN: 9789812588951
- 2) Mullarney, K. et al. **Collins Bird Guide**. HarperCollins. 1999.
- 3) **iIdentify European Birds Digital Field Guides**. Birdguides Ltd. 2006
- 4) Gosney, D. '**Finding Birds in Morocco: The Deserts**' Gostours Guide. 2009.
- 5) Combridge, P & Snooke, A. '**A Birdwatching Guide to Morocco**' Arlequin Press. 1997.
- 6) Bergier, P & F. '**A Birdwatchers' Guide to Morocco**' Prion Ltd. 2003.
- 7) Simpson, F & Ketchen, L. '**Morocco**' Internet Trip Report. 29 April – 6 May, 2007.
- 8) Thorneycroft, R. '**Southern Morocco**' Internet Trip Report. 12 – 21 March, 2007.
- 9) Dodd, G. '**Southern Morocco**' Internet Trip Report. 1 – 4 May, 2010.
- 10) Bonser, R. '**Morocco and the Western Sahara**' Internet Trip Report. 3 – 14 July, 2010.
- 11) A month before we were scheduled to go to Morocco a birding mate of Tim's came across a link on Surfbirds (<http://www.desertbirds.jigsy.com/>) of a young Moroccan chap who was offering his services as a local guide. We decided to make contact with **Brahim Mezane** and decided to book him for one days guiding for the equivalent of 10 Euros per person – see Day 3, March 31st.



Brahim Mezane

Itinerary

Day 1 March 28th

Flight was pretty much on time and after sorting out the hire car we were on our way from Marrakech airport at around 11am heading for Oukaimeden as we had failed to find Crimson-winged Finch here in 2008. When we reached the ski-lift area at around 12.30pm we fairly quickly picked up c20 birds flying over from one ski-lift area to the other and after a short climb we had great views of a lifer for all three of us!



Crimson-winged Finch – J.Kirby

We'd all seen Atlas Horned Lark in 2008 so we didn't bother searching for this too hard this time around and with good views of Red-billed Choughs, Seebohm's Wheatear and Black Redstart we headed back down the mountain to pick up the road to Ait Ourir and the N9 leading to our first overnight stop at Boumalne du Dades. We knew this would be a fair old drive and we'd therefore accepted that the rest of the day would be taken up by driving rather than birding, but we were still surprised that we didn't reach our destination until well after dark. Overnight at the hotel Kasbah du Dades.

Day 2 March 29th

After a hearty breakfast we packed our bags and headed for the old Tagdilt track which is literally around the corner from the hotel. After travelling a relatively short distance the track become pretty rough and we decided to continue birding from the asphalted Ikniouen road (see pages 18 - 21 of Gosney guide). This proved to be a good decision as we could now concentrate on looking for birds rather than looking for potholes, and soon started to rack up the birds – a perched Long-legged Buzzard, Barbary Falcon, Thekla and Short-toed Larks, four species of Wheatear and two pairs of very confiding Hoopoe Larks - a bird we'd struggled to find in 2008.

At one point John, who was photographing a Red-rumped Wheatear, must have inadvertently got close to the nest site as the male gave quite an aggressive display for such a small bird.



Red-rumped Wheatear – J.Kirby



Hoopoe Lark – J.Kirby

Having filled our bins full of the Tagdilt birds we headed east on our journey to the Tafilalt area at around 12pm. First stop was a slight detour to the place north east of Goulimine for Scrub Warbler. The wadi described by Gosney (see pages 16 & 17) is not at all obvious compared to some of the huge wadis in this area of the Morocco so we consequently drove past this and had to turn around. Eyebrows were initially

raised when we surveyed the area we were to investigate and our hopes of success were not too high at this point. However, how wrong could we be! This turned out to be an excellent spot with numerous Trumpeter Finch, Desert and Thick-billed Larks present, Woodchat and Southern Grey Shrikes, a party of 3 Cream-coloured Coursers, 2 Spectacled Warblers and not one, but two pairs of Scrub Warblers.



Thick-billed Lark – J.Kirby



Scrub Warbler – J.Kirby

Retracing our steps back through Goulimine we turned off the N10 and continued our journey towards Merzouga. As we passed a cultivated area east of Jorf, John suddenly shouted 'Bee Eater' and after a screech of tyres, and Starsky and Hutch exit from the car, we were watching 4 stunning Blue-cheeked Bee-eaters at fairly close range. Further east of Jorf as we ran out of the cultivated areas we encountered around 30 more Blue-cheeked Bee eaters.

With 3 lifers already in the bag for most of us we continued on to Merzouga passing through Erfound and then Rissani before hitting Merzouga just as it began to get dark. As luck would have it we bumped into the owner of the hotel where we were staying and subsequently discovered that the hotel wasn't actually in Merzouga but 5 kilometres back up the road in a village called Hassilabied. The hotel Riad Mamouche is relatively newly built and again provided a triple room for all 3 of us to share. The location of the hotel was ideal, the meals here were excellent and the hotel even boasted a swimming pool all for around £27 per person per night.



Hotel Riad Mamouche, Hassilabied – J.Kirby

Day 3 March 30th

After an early breakfast we were off to pick up Brahim, our hired guide, from a petrol station on the outskirts of his home town of Rissani. After introductions and agreeing a plan of action for the day we doubled-back towards Merzouga turning off the main road and heading off-piste towards Auberge Yasmina in search of Desert Sparrow (see Gosney No.2, page 12)

If we had been on our own we would have found the 15 kilometre trip into the desert daunting as you are not able to see any sign of where you are heading and quickly lose sight of any markers from the main road. So this is where Brahim came into his own as not only was he able to point us in the right direction he was also able to keep us on the least rutted/corrugated tracks – extremely important in the Peugeot!

On the drive towards the auberge we stopped the car for our first view of Brown-necked Raven but eventually ended up seeing 30-40 of these, including a few birds on the ground given close enough views to see a brown(ish) coloured neck.

All three of us had imagined that the Auberge Yasmina would be a small affair stuck in the middle of nowhere but it was actually quite an impressive building looking more like a fort surrounded by impressive high walls. Previous bird trip reports have described finding Desert Sparrows foraging through camel sh*t and nesting in the buildings around this area but Brahim knew better and directed us to the copse of Tamarisk east of the Auberge Yasmina (see Gosney No.2, page 12)

Here we soon found good numbers of Tristram's Warblers, Western Bonelli's Warblers, Woodchat Shrikes, a single Wood Warbler, and a female Orphean Warbler. We also picked out a Saharan Olivaceous Warbler (*Hippolais pallida reiseri*) looking very pale and much sandier in colouration to both Western (*opaca*) and Eastern (*elaeica*) Olivaceous Warblers.

But the bird we had travelled here to see was Desert Sparrow and we soon had fairly good views of a female at the nest site. I guess we could have left at this point and been reasonably happy but we all wanted better views and particularly of the male. However after a short wait, John, who is not one for showing much emotion but was clearly getting hot under the collar, shouted out something along the lines of “they’re bonking”. And whilst Tim and I missed this very private event, we all finished up with good views of both cock and hen birds.

According to Gosney, in some years lakes form either side of the auberge which can attract a variety of waterbirds including Ruddy Shelduck and Marbled Duck, but this year the area was dry. In addition Brahim informed us that Dayet Srji, the temporary lake east of Merzouga was also dry so the trip to this area was crossed off our itinerary.

With the sparrow in the bag we reluctantly left this little oasis and eventually ‘re-found’ the main road and headed back to Rissani. Our next stop was to look for Fulvous Babbler and Brahim directed us to take the ‘circuit touristique’ around Rissani identified by Gosney as an area for Fulvous Babbler (No.2, page 8). After only a short drive we pulled onto a side road and got out of the car. Within minutes we’d picked up a babbler in flight but only distant views. However we didn’t have to wait long before we got excellent views of 3 or 4 Fulvous Babblers together with the long-billed form of Crested Lark, Southern Grey Shrike, Common Bulbul and Blue-cheeked Bee eater.



Fulvous Babbler – J.Kirby

Our next target was Pharaoh Eagle Owl but Brahim had informed us that no owls had been seen recently at the ‘regular’ spot described by Gosney (No.3, page 8) and visited by numerous other birders over the past years. He did however assure us he had another site which he had only just discovered and was hopeful we may have success there.

Unfortunately I am unable to describe exactly where this site is as we were soon disorientated driving down narrow backstreets through a number of small villages en route to a desert escarpment west of Rissani. Eventually we turned off the road and onto a track and promptly got bogged down axle-deep in soft sand. After a more than

a bit of huffing and puffing we managed to extricate the short-arsed Peugeot which lead to a sensible decision to travel the remaining half a kilometre on foot.



Pharaoh Eagle Owl site West of Rissani – T.Norman

Eventually we arrive at ‘the spot’ and we all followed Brahim in scanning the rock face but he clearly knew where to look and soon we were all celebrating seeing our first Pharaoh Eagle Owl. Brahim informed us that we were the first group he’d brought to this site and as we ate our lunch we all felt a sense of satisfaction that the decision to hire this guide had come up trumps. I commented that the owl was rather feline in appearance and with the help of my CSE (Grade 1) in French was able to eventually communicate this to Brahim – I feel sure he’ll use ‘le chat’ to describe this bird to future clients!



Pharaoh's Eagle Owl – J.Kirby

Apart from around 40 Brown-necked Ravens, we saw few other birds apart from a single Crag Martin, Blue-cheeked Bee eater, White-crowned Black Wheatear, Trumpeter Finch and Desert Lark.

By this time it was mid afternoon and we felt that Brahim had significantly contributed to us seeing three birds we might have otherwise struggled with had we’d been on our own. He had also mentioned that he wanted to take us to his home for a glass of

mint tea so off we headed back towards Rissani. After his complimentary refreshments he took us to see his family's ramshackle fossil factory and then on to their shop down a Rissani backstreet. The shop was 'petit' but stuffed full of hundreds, probably thousands, of fossils which were sold to passing tourists and also exported to the USA in particular. Tim (amazingly) parted with around £15 for a particularly nice Trilobite and John bought a couple of Ammonites for presents so we all parted on good terms.

In the evening we decided to look for Egyptian Nightjar in the area around Auberge Le Tresor as describe by Gosney (No.4, pages 10 & 11). We arrived at the site at around 6.30pm and searched extensively over quite a wide area until well after dark. The only reward for our efforts was a short burst of song heard by Tim and a number of mozzly bites for us all. At least we had an enjoyable meal back at the hotel!

Day 4 March 31st

We'd originally booked a further night at the Riad Mamouche as we'd planned to stay another day birding in the Tafilalt area, but as we'd mopped up on most of our target birds we decided to check out of the hotel and head back to Boumalne du Dades.

We had had some discussion around an attempt at Houbara Bustard, but the cost of an excursion into the desert in a 4-wheel drive (around £100), and the fact that we had doubts as to whether any remaining bustards are truly wild or part of a release scheme, convinced us not to bother. In addition, one young chap offering to take us into the desert had never actually seen a Houbara Bustard which didn't fill us with too much hope. Maybe he should have gone to the sales school of bull sh*t.

However before we left the area we had just one remaining target bird and Gosney describes three sites to the east of Erfoud which are noted for Desert Warbler. At the first two sites (see Gosney No.2 & 3 on pages 6 & 7) we drew a blank despite extensive searching but did pick up a further four Hoopoe Larks, a couple of Tristram's Warblers, and single Orphean and Sub-alpine Warblers amongst other 'commoner' birds.

Our final chance to see Desert Warbler would therefore be at the site beyond the Hotel Said South-East of Erfoud and after a little off-piste driving (although nothing compared to the trek to Auberge Yasmina) and getting stuck in the sand (again!) we arrived at the hotel. Gosney describes a 'sand-covered' wadi (no.4, page 6) but as we set off on the one kilometre walk from the hotel we couldn't see anything which looked like any of the obvious deep-sided wadis which are more typical of this area.

As to be expected, this area was not heaving with birds but we spread ourselves out and picked up two more very confiding Hoopoe Larks, three Trumpeter Finch, Desert Wheatear and a Desert Lark but no sign of Desert Warbler. But eventually a shout went up from Tim who had picked up a bird foraging in the sand at the very edge of the wadi. I can't say I recommend running the 100 metres in the heat of the day, over soft sand and particularly if you're 'slightly' overweight but once I'd got my breath back, and was watching a very obliging Desert Warbler, the prospect of a heart attack seemed a risk worth taking.

With our final target bird ticked off we celebrated with lunch and rehydration fluid (water) and then carried on our way back towards Boumalne du Dades. We stopped off east of Jorf for John to photograph Blue-cheeked Bee-eater and encountered our only bad experience with a local who for some reason clearly didn't want us parking

anywhere near his plot of land. There appeared to be a few cave-like holes near the edge of road so he may have been digging for gems or fossils and wanted to protect his livelihood, but then again, although we didn't see the 'Moroccan Telegraph' tucked under his arm, we may have simply disturbed his morning ritual. Either way he wasn't a happy chappy so we got back into the car and drove on a little further for John to get his picture.



Blue-cheeked Bee-eater – J.Kirby

At Boumalne, the manager of the Hotel Kasbah du Dades, seemed pleased if not a little surprised, to see us again so soon and this time we upgraded to the opulence of a room with three double beds – a real luxury.

Day 5 April 1st

As we'd had a pretty early night we decided to rise early and have a good session birding before breakfast so we were out birding from the Iknouen Road by a little after 6.30am.

Very soon we had nine Black-bellied Sandgrouse in flight and then I picked up two Crowned Sandgrouse on the ground which eventually gave reasonable views and then we subsequently had a further twelve Crowned Sandgrouse fly over. We saw Bar-tailed Desert, Desert, Thekla, Short-toed and Teminck's Horned Larks and heard even more Hoopoe Larks. There were a numerous Red-Rumped and Desert Wheatears, up to twenty Cream-coloured Coursers in small groups and a few

Trumpeter Finch. We saw another Long-legged Buzzard and then had a Lanner Falcon swoop low over the track in front of the car. All in all we agreed that this had probably been the best two and a half hours birding we had experienced together!



Desert Lark – J.Kirby



Cream-coloured Courser – J.Kirby

As we sat out on the hotel's terrace enjoying our breakfast we were treated to the sight and sound of around a hundred European Bee-eaters migrating through the Dades valley. John also eventually managed to photograph the resident House Buntings after enticing them with some of his breakfast.



House Bunting – J.Kirby

After breakfast we set off on the relatively short journey towards Ouarzazate but planned to stop off at various points on the way. Our first stop was a place called El Kalaa, where the river runs parallel with the road and Gosney describes this as a good area for Moroccan White Wagtail. Sure enough at our first pull-in John picks up one of these distinctly different races of the white/pied wagtail at the edge of the river. We also see a single Little Ringed Plover and Common Bulbul.

Next we stopped at the three areas east of Ouarzazate and described by Gosney on pages 22 to 23, to look for Mourning Wheatear. We see Black, White-crowned Black and Desert Wheatear but fail to positively identify a Mourning Wheatear, although back at the car Tim attempts to string a female wheatear.



White-crowned Black Wheatear – J.Kirby

In 2008 we explored an area around the Royal Golf Club which leads down towards the Mansour Eddahbi Dam and found a reasonable number and a good variety of birds here including Rock Thrush, Blue Rock Thrush and Wryneck. The place (bizarrely named as we can find no golf course) is located off the P32 between Ouarzazate and Boumalne du Dades. This year however was a big disappointment

as all we could muster was Common Bulbul, Chiffchaff and Woodchat Shrike with Coot and Great Crested Grebe on the water.

The village end of the Barrage El Mansour proved to be more successful and amongst others we added Squacco Heron, Greenshank, Black-winged Stilt, Cormorant, Ruddy Shelduck and Whiskered Tern to our trip list. This area is found by turning right at the traffic lights to Ait Kdif at the East end of Ouarzazate (Gosney No.3 page 22)

Day 6 April 2nd

As this was our last day In Morocco, and we still had a 220 km drive back to Marrakech airport, birding would be limited to a few places on the way. Our first few stops west of Ouarzazate were again sites where Mourning Wheatear had previously been seen (Gosney No.2 page 22). However, despite searching extensively in these areas we again drew a blank, although we were somewhat down on capacity as one of our party had to do most of his searching from a seated position (see earlier)

We decided to head over the High Atlas and didn't stop until we had passed Taddert, one of the highest villages on the Tizi-n-Tichka pass. We pulled in at the same place as we had in 2008 where we'd found a Moussier's Redstart and John immediately found one! Immediately as the car came to a halt Tim had jumped out of the car but apparently the Redstart was not his immediate focus.

Further on we had a drive-by Barbary Partridge feeding at the roadside which didn't appear at all concerned by the traffic thundering down the mountain.

Our last birding stop was near Toufliath for Levillant's Woodpecker. As soon as we left the car we heard a Green Woodpecker-type yaffle and John and I followed this up the hillside. I played a few blasts from this species from the iIdentify recording on my iPod and whilst the woodpecker responded to the call we never actually got to see it. However, we were not too disappointed though as we had seen Levillant's Woodpecker at the same spot on our previous trip.

Approximately 20 kilometres from Marrakech John and I were getting hungry so we stopped at a roadside café and grabbed a delicious tagine whilst Tim stayed in the car feeling rather sorry for himself. While we were tucking into lunch, John spied three Little Swift flying around in the distance, which we thought might be our last trip tick before reaching the airport. However, we were proved wrong as we reached the outskirts of Marrakech we saw two 'African' Magpies (*Pica pica mauritanica*) with the distinctive powder-blue eye wattles.

We all agreed that this had been an amazingly successful trip and probably one of, if not the best, birding trip we had been on together. I personally finished up with 13 ticks (including sub species) i.e. Crimson-winged Finch, Scrub Warbler, Blue-cheeked Bee-eater, Brown Necked Raven, Desert Sparrow, Saharan Olivaceous Warbler, Fulvous Babbler, Pharaoh Eagle Owl, African Desert Warbler, Red-throated Pipit, Bar-tailed Desert Lark, Moroccan White Wagtail. African Magpie.

Systematic List

- 1) **Little Grebe** (*Tachybaptus ruficollis*)
- 2) **Great Crested Grebe** (*Podiceps cristatus*)
- 3) **Great Cormorant** (*Phalacrocorax carbo*)
- 4) **Cattle Egret** (*Bubulcus ibis*)
- 5) **Little Egret** (*Egretta garzetta*)
- 6) **Squacco Heron** (*Ardeola ralloides*)
- 7) **Grey Heron** (*Ardea cinerea*)
- 8) **Night Heron** (*Nycticorax nycticorax*)
- 9) **White Stork** (*Ciconia ciconia*)
- 10) **Ruddy Shelduck** (*Tadorna ferruginea*)
- 11) **Booted Eagle** (*Hieraaetus pennatus*)
- 12) **Long-legged Buzzard** (*Buteo rufinus*)
- 13) **Common Buzzard** (*Buteo buteo*)
- 14) **Common Kestrel** (*Falco tinnunculus*)
- 15) **Lanner Falcon** (*Falco biarmicus*)
- 16) **Barbary Falcon** (*Falco pelegrinoides*)
- 17) **Barbary Partridge** (*Alectoris barbara*)
- 18) **Common Moorhen** (*Gallinula chloropus*)
- 19) **Common Coot** (*Fulica atra*)
- 20) **Greenshank** (*Tringa nebularia*)
- 21) **Black-winged Stilt** (*Himantopus himantopus*)
- 22) **Little Ringed Plover** (*Charadrius dubius*)
- 23) **Cream-coloured Courser** (*Cursorius cursor*)
- 24) **Whiskered Tern** (*Chlidonias hybridus*)
- 25) **Black-bellied Sandgrouse** (*Pterocles orientalis*)
- 26) **Crowned Sandgrouse** (*Pterocles coronatus*)
- 27) **Common Wood Pigeon** (*Columba palumbus*)
- 28) **Rock Dove/Feral Pigeon** (*Columba livia*)
- 29) **Collared Dove** (*Streptopelia decaocto*)
- 30) **Laughing Dove** (*Streptopelia senegalensis*)
- 31) **Pharaoh Eagle Owl** (*Bubo bubo ascapalus*)
- 32) **Little Owl** (*Athene noctua*)
- 33) **Pallid Swift** (*Apus pallidus*)
- 34) **Little Swift** (*Apus affinis*)
- 35) **Levaillant's Green Woodpecker** (*Picus vaillantii*)
- 36) **Blue-cheeked Bee-eater** (*Merops persicus*)
- 37) **European Bee-eater** (*Merops apiaster*)
- 38) **Eurasian Hoopoe** (*Upupa epops*)
- 39) **Southern Grey Shrike** (*Lanius meridionalis algeriensis*)
- 40) **Woodchat Shrike** (*Lanius senator*)
- 41) **Red-billed Cough** (*Pyrhocorax pyrrhocorax*)
- 42) **Fulvous Babbler** (*Turdoides fulvus*)
- 43) **African Magpie** (*Pica pica mauretanicus*)
- 44) **Brown-necked Raven** (*Corvus ruficollis*)
- 45) **Spotless Starling** (*Sturnus unicolor*)
- 46) **African Blue Tit** (*Parus caeruleus ultramarines*)
- 47) **Great Tit** (*Parus major*)
- 48) **Desert Lark** (*Ammomanes deserti*)
- 49) **Bar-tailed Lark** (*Ammomanes cinctures*)
- 50) **Hoopoe Lark** (*Alaemon alaudipes*)
- 51) **Thick-billed Lark** (*Ramphocoris clotbey*)
- 52) **Short-toed Lark** (*Calandrella brachydactyla*)
- 53) **Crested Lark** (*Galerida cristata*)
- 54) **Thekla Lark** (*Galerida theklae*)
- 55) **Temminck's Horned Lark** (*Eremophila bilopha*)
- 56) **Crag Martin** (*Ptyonoprogne rupestris*)
- 57) **Sand Martin** (*Riparia riparia*)
- 58) **Barn Swallow** (*Hirundo rustica*)

- 59) **Red-rumped Swallow** (*Hirundo daurica*)
- 60) **Scrub Warbler** (*Scotocerca inquieta*)
- 61) **Reed Warbler** (*Acrocephalus scirpaceus*)
- 62) **Sedge Warbler** (*Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*)
- 63) **Saharan Olivaceous Warbler** (*Hippolais pallida reiseri*)
- 64) **Tristram's Warbler** (*Sylvia deserticola maroccana*)
- 65) **Western Orphean Warbler** (*Sylvia hortensis*)
- 66) **Common Whitethroat** (*Sylvia communis*)
- 67) **Spectacled Warbler** (*Sylvia conspicillata*)
- 68) **African Desert Warbler** (*Sylvia nana deserti*)
- 69) **Subalpine Warbler** (*Sylvia cantillans*)
- 70) **Willow Warbler** (*Phylloscopus trochilus*)
- 71) **Wood Warbler** (*Phylloscopus sibilatrix*)
- 72) **Western Bonelli's Warbler** (*Phylloscopus bonelli*)
- 73) **Chiffchaff** (*Phylloscopus collybita*)
- 74) **Common Blackbird** (*Turdus merula*)
- 75) **Common Nightingale** (*Luscinia megarhychos*)
- 76) **Common Redstart** (*Phoenicurus phoenicurus*)
- 77) **Black Redstart** (*Phoenicurus ochruros*)
- 78) **Moussier's Redstart** (*Phoenicurus moussieri*)
- 79) **Northern Wheatear** (*Oenanthe oenanthe*)
- 80) **Seebohm's Wheatear** (*Oenanthe oenanthe seebohmi*)
- 81) **Desert Wheatear** (*Oenanthe deserti*)
- 82) **Red-rumped Wheatear** (*Oenanthe moesta*)
- 83) **White-crowned Black Wheatear** (*Oenanthe leucopyga*)
- 84) **Black Wheatear** (*Oenanthe leucura syenitica*)
- 85) **Red-throated Pipit** (*Anthus cervinus*)
- 86) **Moroccan White Wagtail** (*Motacilla alba subpersonata*)
- 87) **Blue-headed Wagtail** (*Motacilla flava iberiae*)
- 88) **Grey Wagtail** (*Motacilla cinerea*)
- 89) **Common Bulbul** (*Pycnonotus barbatus*)
- 90) **House Sparrow** (*Passer domesticus*)
- 91) **Spanish Sparrow** (*Passer hispaniolensis*)
- 92) **Desert Sparrow** (*Passer simplex*)
- 93) **African Chaffinch** (*Fringilla coelebs africana*)
- 94) **European Serin** (*Serinus serinus*)
- 95) **European Goldfinch** (*Carduelis carduelis*)
- 96) **Common Linnet** (*Carduelis cannabina*)
- 97) **Crimson-winged Finch** (*Rhodopechys sanguine*)
- 98) **Trumpeter Finch** (*Rhodopechys githaginea*)
- 99) **Rock Bunting** (*Emberiza cia*)
- 100) **House Bunting** (*Emberiza sahari*)

Contact details

For further information please email me at norbeltours@gmail.com