

Morocco

Autumn in Agadir

Sat 28th Oct – Sat 4th Nov 2017



Trip photos (clockwise from top left): Moussier's Redstart • Thick-billed Lark • Desert Wheatear • Great Shearwater • Grey Wagtail • 'Desert' Grey Shrike. © tour leader Arnoud van den Berg/Limosa Holidays

**Report compiled by:
Arnoud van den Berg**

Morocco | Autumn in Agadir**Tour Leader:** Arnoud van den Berg**With:** Tony Bertenshaw, Brian Fowler, Roger Lee, Mac Mackereth, Brian Martin, Keith Pritchard, Brian & Corinne Toal, Simon Yates**Itinerary:**

28-10 London-Agadir

29-10 Oued Souss & Tamri

30-10 pelagic up to 16 km west from Agadir

31-10 via Oued Souss, Oued Massa and Anti-Atlas to Fask road and Goulimime (Guelmim)

01-11 Goulimime

02-11 from Goulimime via Agrou and Oued Massa to Agadir

03-11 Imouzer

04-11 Oued Souss and in evening Agadir-London

Oued Souss

We visited Oued Souss three times. The first visit was planned at high tide on our first morning. It was quite an event as many of us enjoyed a steep learning curve with impressive numbers of 14 wader species and nine gull and tern species. The most unexpected bird was a late Lesser Crested Tern and the most popular seemed to be Kentish Plovers and Slender-billed Gulls. Also, a flock of Serins, many Moroccan Magpies and numerous Zitting Cisticolas were attractive as was a male Bluethroat. On two of our later visits, a hunting Barbary Falcon came close, while we added five more wader species to make a total of 19.

Tamri

Heading north from Agadir towards Tamri we watched our first Atlas Long-legged Buzzard and several Moussier's Redstarts and 'Desert' Grey Shrikes. At the Tamri beach we scanned through roosting gulls and noticed up to 100 Audouin's Gulls while our first Bald Ibis flew overhead. At the river mouth, we got good views of 'Moroccan' Wagtails and Common Kingfishers, before we went to our tajine restaurant beyond the village. At the restaurant, we met our local guide, the guard of the Bald Ibis colony, who joined us at lunch and on our walks in the afternoon. From our lunch table, we had splendid views of our first Black Wheatear and House Buntings.

After lunch, carefully scanning the hills on either side of the Tamri river gave us lengthy views of Barbary Partridges, not flying off as they had chicks, then a flock of up to 30 foraging Bald Ibises which came closer and closer. At the river, a hunting Black-winged Kite and two male Ferruginous Ducks could fit in one scope view.

Agadir pelagic

The boat trip off Agadir turned out to be exceptionally good. There was hardly any wind which meant that most tubenoses and other birds were not flying but swimming. As soon as we spotted birds afloat, we notified the boatmen who then took a course to them. In this way we wandered to some 16 km off Agadir, or at least that's what we heard from the crew. A bit of chumming brought many Scopoli's, Cory's, Great and Manx Shearwaters at an extraordinary close range. We also found a few Balearic and Sooty Shearwaters. Northern Gannets flew overhead and a few adult Audouin's Gulls came wonderfully close. Skuas were quite active too, with quite a number of Arctic Skuas closer to the coast, plus Pomarine and Great Skuas further out at sea. It was interesting to see that swimming gulls responded so differently to the latter two species, which differ not much in size. A Pomarine was allowed to land amidst the gulls while an approaching Great caused huge panic time and time again. By midday, we were served a decent and tasteful lunch of fried fish. Just when we thought that there was nothing new to add, a large group of more than 100 Common Dolphins arrived, playing around our boat for quite some time. And if that wasn't enough, next came a group of some 10 Pilot Whales to inspect us. It was already late in the afternoon when we finally returned from an extraordinary day of birding.

Oued Massa

On our way to Goulimime (Guelmin) we spent a morning at the mouth of Oued Massa and, on our way back, an afternoon further upstream at the Tassila bridge. On both days, we encountered a flock of 100 Glossy Ibises, some wearing rings from Coto Doñana, Spain. We had very close encounters with a favourite species, Moussier's Redstart. Also, we got excellent views of some Tchagras, a Blue Rock Thrush and many Laughing Doves. A 'Desert' Little Owl was lured into view as well. On our return, we managed to see two Brown-throated Martins, a first-year Spoonbill actively wading while wearing six Dutch colour rings and an early Northern Lapwing flying overhead.

Goulimime (Guelmim)

After crossing the Anti Atlas ridge, we came down in a completely different bird environment in the barren areas and oases around Goulimime (Guelmim). On our arrival, we had just enough time to have a first look. It resulted in fine views of a Lanner Falcon and a White-crowned Wheatear. The next day must have been the highlight for those loving desert birds. We spent the morning in the Asrir area where it had not been raining for a very long time. That may explain why even the most deserty of species were foraging in dry fields close to the road. Several Hoopoe Larks and Thick-billed Larks, arguably the most spectacular lark species in the region, were foraging here and, when we stood still, some individuals approached us quite close. There were also Bar-tailed Larks and a bit further down the road we found five beautiful Temminck's Larks. Desert Wheatears, Red-rumped Wheatears and Northern Wheatears seemed to be present in all directions. Then, we heard some Black-bellied Sandgrouse flying in, giving fine views after they landed. We enjoyed two noisy family flocks of the endemic Fulvous Babbler in wadi bushes. A quick walk here added our first views of Streaked Scrub Warbler and Tristram's Warbler. And what about that 'Desert' Grey Shrike flying towards us to perch on Brian's tripod? In the village, we had White-crowned Wheatears sharing a wire with a Black Wheatear and there were several flocks of Spanish Sparrows. Fat Sand Rats also appeared.

After lunch back in town, we took another road, in the direction of Tan Tan. There, we were first treated to more Streaked Scrub Warblers and a male Tristram's Warbler. A water reservoir appeared to host up to 100 Marbled Ducks and 400 Ruddy Shelducks, which could all be seen from a reasonably short distance from the road. An impressive 250 White Storks were circling above our heads, getting lower and lower to spend the night at a nearby agricultural field. It was time to dash off to a reliable spot for our last desert species, Cream-coloured Courser; some eight individuals duly performed. The next morning, before leaving for Oued Massa and further north, we spent some time at a desert quarry where we got our best views of Desert Larks, a Desert Wheatear and a juvenile Barbary Falcon. Another look around the Hoopoe Lark and Thick-billed Lark field at Asrir ended a very satisfactory visit to the Goulimime desert.

Aglou

Heading back to Agadir we stopped for lunch at Aglou seafront and while we waited for the meal we kept an eye open for activity offshore. Apart from a regular stream of migrating Northern Gannets and Sandwich Terns, the best birds were three Arctic Skuas and a few flocks of Common Scoter.

Imouzer

On our penultimate day we headed into the Atlas Mountains in Haha province beyond Alma to Imouzer. Stopping on the way and with a bit of persistence we were soon watching yet more Tristram's Warblers, Blue Rock Thrushes and Black Wheatears but also some new birds, like a showy Rock Bunting.

As soon as we reached the pinewood of Imouzer, we heard and watched 'Moroccan' Crossbills, flying about and giving excellent views. We added quite a few other woodland birds, like Greenfinches, Goldfinches, the Moroccan subspecies of Jay, and numerous migrant warblers like Blackcap and Pied Flycatchers. 'African' Chaffinches were something special, sounding and looking very different from the chaffinches in Europe.

During our lunch at a restaurant below the cascades (now without water), we had close views of a pair of Cirl Buntings. While drinking our teas and coffees, we were watching the cliffs for Eurasian Crag Martins when two Bonelli's Eagles emerged to give quite a show, flying slowly back and forth. On our way back to Agadir, a Levillant's Woodpecker was perhaps the biggest surprise of our tour; in late afternoon, it was calling and landing on a palm tree in the same area where it was last seen five years earlier...

Systematic List of Birds
(139 species recorded)

Ruddy Shelduck *Tadorna ferruginea*

On 29/12, two were at Tamri; on 1/11, up to 400 were present at the reservoir south of Goulimime at Boukila.

Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*

On 1/11, one male was seen at the Boukila reservoir. On 4/11, a total of three were present at Oued Souss.

Northern Shoveler *Anas clypeata*

On 29/10, two females were swimming at Tamri river. Also on 29/10, two were present at Tamri. On 1/11, eight were mixed with Marbled Ducks at the reservoir south of Goulimime.

Northern Pintail *Anas acuta*

On 1/11, two were swimming and then flying off at the Boukila reservoir near Goulimime.

Marbled Duck *Marmaronetta angustirostris*

On 1/11, 98 were counted at the Boukila reservoir south of Goulimime.

Tufted Duck *Aythya fuligula*

On 31/10, three flew past over Oued Massa near Sdi Rbat.

Ferruginous Duck *Aythya nyroca*

On 29/10, two males were swimming in the Tamri river.

Common Scoter *Melanitta nigra*

During lunch on 2/11, parties of eight and then 10 flew south offshore at our Aglou beach lunch restaurant.

Barbary Partridge *Alectoris barbara*

On 29/10, Omar showed us a flock of at least 12 foraging in the open dunes near Tamri. On 3/11, two were flushed from the road down from Imouzer.

Scopoli's Shearwater *Calonectris diomedea*

In total, we came across nearly 500 Cory's/Scopoli's Shearwaters on the Agadir pelagic on 30/10. Based on the many photographs and the percentage showing the diagnostic difference of white in primaries, there must have been up to 10 times more Scopoli's than Cory's (which is different from our first impression). So, we may have seen at least 350 Scopoli's.

Cory's Shearwater *Calonectris borealis*

Up to 50 were seen on the Agadir pelagic on 30/10 and a handful were photographed; there appeared to be many more Scopoli's Shearwaters.

Great Shearwater *Ardenna gravis*

On the Agadir pelagic of 30/10, we counted an amazing 32. These birds were seen along the entire route, with swimming flocks of threes and fours. All individuals were photographed and some came very close for the chum.

Sooty Shearwater *Ardenna grisea*

On the Agadir pelagic on 30/10, two singles were sighted of which one was photographed.

Manx Shearwater *Puffinus puffinus*

On the Agadir pelagic, a total of 28 was photographed, of which many were swimming in flocks of up to five.

Balearic Shearwater *Puffinus mauretanicus*

On the Agadir pelagic on 30/10, three were seen, with one swimming with a Sooty Shearwater.

Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis*

Singles or twos seen at the Oued Souss golf course (29/10), Tamri river mouth (29/10) and Oued Massa (2/11).

Greater Flamingo *Phoenicopterus roseus*

Up to 90 adults (none colour-ringed) were counted at Oued Souss mouth on 29/10, 31/10 and 4/11. On 31/10, 12 flew past along the beach at our Agadir hotel.

White Stork *Ciconia ciconia*

On 31/10 and 2/11, two were seen at nests near the Oued Souss mouth. On 1/11, an impressive flock of 250 thermalled overhead at Boukila reservoir, Goulimime, before landing in fields for the night. In the morning of 2/11, a distant flock of 100 was flying near Goulimime.

Northern Bald Ibis *Geronticus eremita*

On 29/10, first one flew past at the Tamri river mouth and then, after lunch, up to 32 were found foraging in the hills south of the river.

Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus*

On 31/10, c 100 were flying to the Oued Massa mouth to land on the banks. On 2/11, nearly 100 were roosting in trees near the Tassila bridge; some photographed birds had white colour-rings with black inscription which were confirmed to originate from Doñana, Andalucía, Spain.

Eurasian Spoonbill *Platalea leucorodia*

Only five singles were seen. A juvenile was present at Tamri on 29/10. On 31/10, one was found at Oued Massa. On 2/11, a juvenile with six colour rings at Oued Massa originated from the Netherlands. On 4/11, two singles

were present at Oued Souss of which an adult also had colour rings from the Netherlands. (The life histories of the colour-ringed birds will arrive in a few weeks.)

Western Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis*

Up to seven were seen at Goulimime. On 2/11, one was foraging along Oued Massa.

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*

Common in small numbers, with up to 10 at Oued Souss, three at Tamri (29/10) and a few at Oued Massa.

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*

Common at all three rivermouths and seen daily except on 3/11.

Northern Gannet *Morus bassanus*

Numerous at sea and seen on all the days we were looking over the Atlantic shore (eg, 29/10 and 2/11). We watched c 300 during the pelagic off Agadir on 30/10, and the majority seemed to be in adult plumage.

Continental Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis*

Small number seen along the coast on every day except 1/11 and 3/11.

Moroccan Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo maroccanus/lucidus*

On 4/11, at least one was standing amidst a handful of Continental Great Cormorants at the Oued Souss mouth.

Western Osprey *Pandion haliaetus*

Five singles were seen: at Tamri on 29/10, at Oued Massa on 31/10 and at Oued Souss on 29/10 (two) and 4/11, when Keith photographed one with a colour ring (VL, left tarsus) presumably originating from Finland.

Black-winged Kite *Elanus caeruleus*

On 29/10, a first-year bird was hunting from a pole perch along Tamri river.

Bonelli's Eagle *Aquila fasciata*

During lunch on 2/11, a pair of adults perched on top of a distant pylon above our lunch restaurant at Imouzer and, after lunch, the two offered a nice display when flying back and forth along the cliffs and past us.

Eurasian Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus*

Three singles were seen in flight: at Tassila, Massa, on Alma on 2/11 and two at Imouzer on 3/11.

Western Marsh Harrier *Circus aeruginosus*

On 4/11, two singles flew about at Oued Souss.

Atlas Long-legged Buzzard *Buteo rufinus cirtensis*

In total, 10 were seen on three days: an adult at Taghazoute on 29/10; four near Goulimime on 1/11; and five near Goulimime and along the coastal road to Massa on 2/11.

Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus*

One was seen at Tamri river on 29/10 and a handful at Tassila bridge across Oued Massa on 2/11.

Eurasian Coot *Fulica atra*

On 29/10, 80 were at the river mouth of Tamri. At the Oued Souss golf course, five were seen. On 1/11, 20 were counted at Boukila reservoir, Goulimime. C. 10 were present at the Tassila bridge across Oued Massa on 2/11.

Eurasian Oystercatcher *Haematopus ostralegus*

At Oued Souss mouth, up to 20 were foraging on our visits on 29/10, 31/10 and 4/11.

Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus*

At Oued Souss mouth, up to 100 were foraging on our visits on 29/10, 31/10 and 4/11.

Northern Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus*

On 2/11, one flew over Tassila bridge at Oued Massa.

Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola*

At Oued Souss mouth, up to 30 were foraging on our visits on 29/10, 31/10 and 4/11.

Common Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula*

At Oued Souss mouth, many 100s were foraging on our visits on 29/10, 31/10 and 4/11.

Kentish Plover *Charadrius alexandrinus*

At Oued Souss mouth, up to 15 were found foraging among Common Ringed Plovers on our visits on 29/10, 31/10 and 4/11.

Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa*

At Oued Souss mouth, more than 100 were foraging on our visit on 29/10 and c 50 were seen on 31/10 and 4/11.

Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica*

At Oued Souss mouth, up to 20 were foraging on our visits on 29/10, 31/10 and 4/11.

Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*

On 4/11, one was foraging at Oued Souss mouth and a few were heard.

Eurasian Curlew *Numenius arquata*

At Oued Souss mouth, more than 35 were present on our visits on 29/10, 31/10 and 4/11.

Common Redshank *Tringa totanus*

At Oued Souss mouth, more than 100 were foraging on our visits on 29/10, 31/10 and 4/11.

Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*

At Oued Souss mouth, up to 40 were foraging on our visits on 29/10, 31/10 and 4/11. On 2/11, two were seen at Oued Massa.

Green Sandpiper *Tringa ochropus*

Singles were seen at Asrir, Goulimime, on 1/11 and at Tassila bridge of Oued Massa on 2/11.

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*

A total of 50 was noted on five days, with up to 20 at Oued Souss on 29/10.

Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*

On 4/11, one was foraging at Oued Souss mouth.

Red Knot *Calidris canutus*

On every visit to Oued Souss mouth (on 29/10, 31/10 and 4/11), we watched one or two.

Sanderling *Calidris alba*

At Oued Souss mouth, we found just one on 31/10 and c 20 on 4/11.

Little Stint *Calidris minuta*

On 4/11, at least 30 were foraging at Oued Souss.

Dunlin *Calidris alpina*

At Oued Souss mouth, at least 200 were foraging on our visits on 29/10, 31/10 and 4/11.

Ruff *Philomachus pugnax*

At Oued Souss mouth, we found up to five foraging on our visits on 29/10, 31/10 and 4/11.

Cream-coloured Courser *Cursorius cursor*

On 1/11, a scattered flock of eight was foraging along the Tan Tan road south of Goulimime, with one or two at close range.

Slender-billed Gull *Chroicocephalus genei*

At the Oued Souss mouth, six were present at high tide on 29/10.

Black-headed Gull *Chroicocephalus ridibundus*

At Oued Souss mouth, 100s were foraging on our visits on 29/10, 31/10 and 4/11.

Audouin's Gull *Larus audouinii*

On the beach of Tamri, on 29/10, more than 100 were counted with some swimming in the river. On 30/10, four single adults flew close and landed for fish waste at our boat during the pelagic.

Mediterranean Gull *Larus melanocephalus*

The highest number of 40 first-winters at Oued Souss mouth was found at high tide on 29/10; several were also seen here on 31/10 and 4/11. On 30/10, six first-winters flew past our boat during the pelagic.

Yellow-legged Gull *Larus michahellis*

Numerous and seen on every day except on 1/11 at Goulimime.

Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus graellsii/intermedius*

Numerous (even much more so than Yellow-legged Gull) and seen on every day except on 1/11 at Goulimime.

Sandwich Tern *Thalasseus sandvicensis*

On 29/10, 10 were seen off the Tamri river mouth. During our pelagic, six were noted, including first-years. During our lunch at Agrou Plage on 2/11, there was a steady migration passing south (more than 20 in total). On 29/10 and 4/11, a handful was seen at the Oued Souss mouth.

Lesser Crested Tern *Thalasseus bengalensis*

At high tide on 29/10, a first-winter flew in and landed on a sand bank at Oued Souss.

Common Tern *Sterna hirundo*

At high tide on 29/10, one was roosting with Sandwich Terns at Oued Souss mouth. During our pelagic on 30/10, one flew past.

Great Skua *Stercorarius skua*

During our pelagic on 30/10, we had several sightings of at least three chasing off large gull flocks.

Pomarine Skua *Stercorarius pomarinus*

During our pelagic on 30/10, we watched and photographed at least three immatures flying past our boat.

Arctic Skua *Stercorarius parasiticus*

During our pelagic on 30/10, at least six immatures and adults were photographed from our boat. During our lunch at Aglou on 2/11, a single bird and a couple flew past south.

Black-bellied Sandgrouse *Pterocles orientalis*

In the morning of 1/11 (25) and 2/11 (15), flocks and a few pairs were seen at Asrir near Goulimime.

Rock Dove *Columba livia*

Noted on all days, with some flocks looking like the real deal.

Common Wood Pigeon *Columba palumbus*

Common and seen on five days, being numerous at the woods of Oued Souss and also at Oued Massa.

Eurasian Collared Dove *Streptopelia decaocto*

Numerous and seen on every day in every settlement.

Laughing Dove *Streptopelia senegalensis*

Numerous at Oued Massa on 31/10 and 2/11. On 29/10, one was noted at Tamri.

'Desert' Little Owl *Athene noctua*

On 31/10, one was seen in a tree and one was heard at Oued Massa.

Common Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis*

A total of 10 individuals was seen over four days, with most at Tamri river on 29/10. Also noted at Oued Souss, Oued Massa (2/11) and at Paradise Valley on the way to Imouzer (3/11).

Levaillant's Woodpecker *Picus vaillantii*

One on 3/11 perched on palm trees along the road to Imouzer was one of the most surprising finds (the species is a rarity near Agadir); remarkably, Arnoud had seen one at the same spot five years earlier (but never since).

Common Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus*

Common and at least a few to more than 25 seen on every day.

Lanner Falcon *Falco biarmicus erlangeri*

On 31/10 and 1/11, one was seen on pylons near Asrir.

Barbary Falcon *Falco pelegrinoides*

On 29/10 and 4/11 (photographed; not a Hobby), one was hunting over Oued Souss mouth. In the early morning of 2/11, a juvenile was roosting at a quarry near Goulimime.

Black-crowned Tchagra *Tchagra senegalus*

On 31/10, a handful was seen or heard at Oued Massa, including a pair and one scolding at a Desert Little Owl.

'Desert' Grey Shrike *Lanius elegans algeriensis*

Common and seen on every day except 30/10, with a maximum of 12 noted on 2/11. On 1/11, at Asrir, one landed and perched on Brian's tripod leg with us standing next to it.

Moroccan Jay *Garrulus glandarius minor*

On 3/11, two were foraging in pines at Imouzer.

Maghreb Magpie *Pica mauritanica*

Common and, especially at Oued Souss (c 50), numerous. Not seen around Goulimime on 1/11.

African Blue Tit *Cyanistes teneriffae ultramarinus*

Two seen along the road to Tamri on 29/10 (missed by most of us) and then two flew back and forth at an Agadir garden near Agadir on 4/11 (our last birds of the tour).

Great Tit *Parus major*

A handful seen along the road between Agadir and Tamri on 29/10. On 3/11, quite common at Imouzer with some 20 noted.

Greater Hoopoe Lark *Alaemon alaudipes*

On 1/11, we watched four at close range near Asrir. In the afternoon, two more were seen along the Tan Tan road. In the morning of 2/11, we had another one near Asrir.

Thick-billed Lark *Ramphocoris clotbey*

On 1/11, no less than 20 were seen at close range near Asrir. In the afternoon, another six were found along the Tan Tan road.

Desert Lark *Ammomanes deserti*

On 31/10, a pair was seen at dusk along the road from Goulimime and Fask. In the morning of 2/11, we had much better views of up to three pairs at a quarry near Goulimime.

Bar-tailed Lark *Ammomanes cinctura*

On 1/11, three were watched in the Asrir area.

Thekla Lark *Galerida theklae*

Common and seen on every day.

Temminck's Lark *Eremophila bilopha*

On 1/11, five were foraging at close range along the Asrir road. On 2/11, a few were calling when flying past a quarry at Goulimime.

Common Bulbul *Pycnonotus barbatus*

Numerous and seen (and heard) on every day.

Brown-throated (Plain) Martin *Riparia paludicola*

On 2/11, two flew over Oued Massa.

Sand Martin *Riparia riparia*

On 4/11, two singles were flying over at Goulimime and Oued Massa.

Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*

One or two seen on most days; on 29/10, a large flock was foraging above the golf course at Oued Souss.

Eurasian Crag Martin *Ptyonoprogne rupestris*

On 3/11, more than 10 were present along the Imouzer road and at our lunch restaurant.

Common House Martin *Delichon urbicum*

On 29/10, at least one was seen in a flock of Barn Swallows at Oued Souss.

Cetti's Warbler *Cettia cetti*

Numerous though only heard at Oued Massa on 31/10 and 2/11.

Streaked Scrub Warbler *Scotocerca inquieta*

In the morning of 1/11, one was briefly seen in bushes at Asrir. In the afternoon of 1/11, up to four were found and photographed 10 km south of Goulimime.

Common Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita*

Common and seen on most days.

Iberian Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus ibericus*

Presumably seen on three occasions but only once, at Imouzer, the diagnostic call was heard, at a distance.

Western Olivaceous Warbler *Iduna opaca*

Briefly and not well seen in a hedge at Oued Massa on 31/10.

Eurasian Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*

On 2/11, one was calling at the Tassila bridge across Oued Massa; quite likely, it concerned the local Ambiguous Reed Warbler *A. s. ambiguus*.

Zitting Cisticola *Cisticola juncidis*

Numerous at Oued Massa near Sdi Rbat on 31/10 and at Tassila on 2/11; also many at Oued Souss mouth on 29/10, 31/10 and 4/11.

Fulvous Babbler *Turdoides fulva*

On 1/11, we watched one or two groups in the Asrir area.

Eurasian Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla*

On 31/10 and 2/11, four and a male, respectively, were noted at Oued Massa. On 3/11, more than 20 were seen along the Imouzer road. Also a few present at Oued Souss on 4/11.

Tristram's Warbler *Sylvia deserticola*

Single males were photographed and well seen on 1/11 at Asrir and at the Boukila reservoir south of Goulimime.

On 3/11, we watched twice a male at the fossil shop on the road to Imouzer.

Sardinian Warbler *Sylvia melanocephala*

Common to numerous and seen on every day (and many were heard).

Spotless Starling *Sturnus unicolor*

Numerous and seen on every day, except in the Goulimime area on 1/11.

Moroccan Blackbird *Turdus merula mauritanicus*

Common and seen on every day.

Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos*

On 29/10, one was perched in a tree top at Oued Souss. On 3/11, three were seen in flight.

Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa striata*

On 31/10, one was noted at Oued Massa mouth.

European Robin *Erithacus rubecula*

Only a handful seen, not in the Goulimime area on 1/11, and most along the Imouzer road on 3/11.

White-spotted Bluethroat *Luscinia svecica cyaneula*

An adult was seen both on 31/10 and on 4/11 along Oued Souss.

European Pied Flycatcher *Ficedula hypoleuca*

Single migrants were in the Agadir hotel garden on 29/10 and 30/10. On 31/10, at least five were seen at Oued Massa. On 3/11, many (more than 30) were along the road to Imouzer and on our walk in the Imouzer wood.

Black Redstart *Phoenicurus ochruros gibraltariensis*

On three days, one was noted.

Moussier's Redstart *Phoenicurus moussieri*

Common and two to more than 10 seen on every day (except 30/10, the day of the pelagic).

Blue Rock-thrush *Monticola solitarius*

On 31/10, a male was well seen on the rocks above Oued Massa. On 2/11, one was noted at Goulimime. On 3/11, a juvenile perched on electricity wires at the fossil shop along the Imouzer road.

European Stonechat *Saxicola rubicola*

Common to numerous and seen on every day (except 30/10).

Northern Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe*

Common with 21 seen, most (10) on 1/11 near Goulimime.

Desert Wheatear *Oenanthe deserti*

In the Goulimime area, a total of 14 was found on 1/11 and 2/11.

Red-rumped Wheatear *Oenanthe moesta*

In the Goulimime area, a total of 24 was found on 1/11 and 2/11.

Black Wheatear *Oenanthe leucura*

On 29/10, a male was perched on the wall of our lunch restaurant at Tamri. Remarkably, one was found at Asrir on 1/11, together with White-crowned Wheatears. In the Goulimime area, we had a handful at and near a quarry on 2/11. On 3/11, more than 10 were seen along the Imouzer road.

White-crowned Wheatear *Oenanthe leucopyga*

From 31/10 to 2/11, nine were seen north of Goulimime.

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*

Common to numerous and seen on every day.

Spanish Sparrow *Passer hispaniolensis*

On 1/11 and 2/11, remarkably numerous in the Goulimime areas with flocks of up to 100.

Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*

On 29/10, two were at Oued Souss. On 3/11, we found at least three at Imouzer and in the 'Paradise Valley'.

White Wagtail *Motacilla alba*

Common and seen on every day, numerous locally near Goulimime on 1/11.

Moroccan Wagtail *Motacilla alba subpersonata*

On 29/10, two were seen along the Tamri river mouth. On 31/10 and 4/11, a female was watched at Oued Souss.

Meadow Pipit *Anthus pratensis*

On 29/10, a few were seen and heard at Oued Souss and Tamri river mouths.

African Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs africana*

On 3/11, more than 40 were seen at Imouzer. At Oued Souss, one flew past on 4/11.

European Greenfinch *Chloris chloris voousi*

On 3/11, two and than three were seen above Imouzer.

Common Linnet *Carduelis cannabina*

On 29/10, one flew past at Tamri hills.

Atlas Common Crossbill *Loxia curvirostra poliogyna*

On 3/11, seven were well seen and several heard above Imouzer.

European Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis parva*

On 3/11, three were seen and a few heard along the Imouzer road.

European Serin *Serinus serinus*

At Oued Souss mouth, a flock of more than 50 was present on 29/10 and 12/11. On 3/11, more than 10 were found at Imouzer.

Corn Bunting *Emberiza calandra*

On 1/11, a flock flew overhead at Asrir.

Rock Bunting *Emberiza cia*

On 3/11, one was perched atop a tree at a fossil shop along the Imouzer road.

Cirl Bunting *Emberiza cirlus*

On 29/10, a male was seen at Tamri. On 31/10, one was calling at Oued Massa. On 3/11, two were perched and photographed at our lunch restaurant, and one was singing near Imouzer.

House Bunting *Emberiza sahari*

A few seen on every day, also at our restaurants.

Mammals**Short-beaked Common Dolphin *Delphinus delphis***

On 30/10, a large and playful flock of at least 100 came to our boat and it seemed that all animals took turns in bow riding, spending a long time with us. A definite highlight.

[Short-finned Pilot Whale *Globicephala macrorhynchus*]

On 30/10, more than 10 cetaceans, perhaps of this species, came close to our boat for a while.

Barbary Ground Squirrel *Atlantoxerus getulus*

Common and readily seen on walls at Oued Massa on 31/10 and 2/11.

Fat Sand Rat *Psammomys obesus*

Many burrows were seen and two active animals were watched at Asrir on 1/11 and 2/11.

Reptiles**Fringe-fingered Lizzard *Acanthodactylus erythrurus***

Several were photographed at Tamri river mouth on 29/10.

Moroccan Tortoise *Testudo graeca marokkensis*

One was at our lunch restaurant at Oued Massa on 31/10; this taxon was described as recently as 2004.

Dragonflies**Orange-winged Dropwing *Trithemis kirbyi***

Some 10 of these bright red dragonflies ('red darters') were flying back and forth above an irrigation channel at Asrir on 1/11.

Butterflies**Long-tailed Blue *Lampides boeticus***

Numerous 'blue' on lucerne at Oued Massa on 31/10 and 2/11.

Clouded Yellow *Colias croceus*