

# Spain Birding and Nature Species List | April 22 – 25, 2024 with Naturalist Journeys



**Compiled by guide Carlos Sanchez, with local guides Vicente Malagon and Manuel Morales, and participants: Eddie, Carol, Kerri, Kristin, Charles, Marcie, Christine, and Charles**

**Summary:** A journey through Spain is an experience one will never forget with its rich birdlife, multi-layered culture, and extensive history. Over the course of this tour, we explored wildlife rich areas from the lofty peaks of the Gredos Mountains to the mudflats of Andalusia, from the cork oak forests of Extremadura to the saline pools of Castilla-La Mancha. We visited three national parks (Donana, Monfrague, and Tablas de Daimiel), enjoyed a flamenco show in Seville, shopped for turrón (similar to nougat), and even ate at a Michelin star restaurant!

We recorded 185 bird species in thirteen days, including Little Owl, Water Rail, Spanish Eagle, Western Subalpine Warbler, Western Orphean Warbler, Crested Tit, Black Stork, Marbled Duck, White-headed Duck, Eurasian Hoopoe, and Bluethroat. We also saw both Red and Fallow Deer, Iberian Ibex, Ocellated Lizard, Moorish Gecko, and over fifty species of wildflower. Our guests nominated seventeen bird species as their bird of the trip, with **Eurasian Eagle-Owl in a park near Madrid and Lammergaier (Bearded Vulture) tied for bird of the trip**. Our guests also particularly enjoyed their time in the Gredos Mountains, a granite massif with pine forests, alpine meadows, and a charming birding lodge.

## **BIRDS (185 species recorded):**

The eBird link below details the 185 species of birds our group observed during the tour. If you're new to eBird, be sure to click "Show All Details" on the right side of the list to expand the report and reveal where and when each of the birds were seen and how many.

[Spain Birding & Nature | April 22-25,2024 | eBird Trip Report](#)

## **MAMMALS (6):**

**European Rabbit** *Oryctolagus cuniculus*—common in both Castille-La Mancha and Andalusia

**Red Fox** *Vulpes vulpes*—seen on both the first and last days of the tour

**Red Deer** *Cervus elaphus*—we saw a distant heard in the scope at La Rocina (04/28)

**Fallow Deer** *Dama dama*—seen during our day of exploration at Donana National Park

**Iberian Ibex** *Capra pyrenaica*—fantastic views of this majestic goat in the Gredos Mountains

**Egyptian Mongoose** *Herpestes ichneumon* (1)—seen quickly crossing a dirt road at Embalse de Arrocampo (05/03)

## **REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS (5):**

**European Pond Turtle** *Emys orbicularis*

**Ocellated Lizard** *Timon lepidus*—we saw this largest of European lizards at El Parador in the Gredos

**Moorish Gecko** *Tarentola mauritanica*—seen in and around Donana National Park and Hotel Ardea Purpurea  
**Large Psammodramus** *Psammodramus algirus*  
**Guadarrama Wall Lizard** *Podarcis guadarramae*—we saw these smaller lizards near El Parados in the Gredos

**Wildflowers (27):**

**Black Eyes** *Tolpis barbata*

**Common Mallow** *Malva sylvestris*

**Common Poppy** *Papaver rhoeas*

**Common Ramping-Fumitory** *Fumaria muralis*

*Cistus libanotis*

**Curly Rock-Rose** *Cistus crispus*

**Gray-leaved Cistus** *Cistus albidus*

**Gum Rock-Rose** *Cistus ladanifer*

**Iberian Knapweed** *Centaurea pullata*

**Italian Arum** *Arum italicum*

**Italian Bugloss** *Anchusa azurea*

*Linaria elegans*

**Lusitanian Bellflower** *Campanula lusitanica*

**Mallow Bindweed** *Convolvulus althaeoides*

**Mediterranean Honeysuckle** *Lonicera implexa*

**Mediterranean Linseed** *Bellardia trixago*

*Narcissus rupicola*—seen in the alpine meadows of the Gredos Mountains

**Onion-leaved Asphodel** *Asphodelus fistulosus*

**Pink-butterfly Orchid** *Anacamptis papilionacea*

**Purple Salsify** *Tragopogon porrifolius*

**Purple Spurrey** *Spergularia purpurea*

**Purple Viper's Bugloss** *Echium plantagineum*

**Sage-leaved Rock-Rose** *Cistus salviifolius*

**Sauce Thyme** *Thymus zygis*

**Sawfly Orchid** *Ophrys tenthredinifera*

*Sedum arenarium*—the cushion-like pink flowers in rocky areas of Extremadura

**Spanish Iris** *Iris xiphium*

*Teucrium pseudo-chamaepitys*

**Three-leaved Snowflake** *Acis trichophylla*

**Violet Horned-Poppy** *Roemeria hybrida*

**Wild Clary** *Salvia verbenaca*

**Wild Gladiolus** *Gladiolus illyricus*