











**EURASIAN WREN** (*Troglodytes troglodytes*) – Unlike mainland Europe this is a local and somewhat rare species in Morocco. We were lucky enough to see one scrambling around a rock wall at Oukaimeden.

*Cinclidae (Dippers)*

**WHITE-THROATED DIPPER** (*Cinclus cinclus*) – Our last new bird that we had to really work at, but was literally seen at the last birding stop on the last day.

*Pycnonotidae (Bulbuls)*

**COMMON BULBUL** (*Pycnonotus barbatus*) – Pretty common in green areas on much of the tour (at least by voice).

*Regulidae (Kinglets)*

**FIRECREST** (*Regulus ignicapilla*) – In the Jabaa forest and again at Oukaimeden.

*Cettiidae (Bush-Warblers and Allies)*

**CETTI'S WARBLER** (*Cettia cetti*) – Seen well on the first day at Lac du Sidi, then we pretty much ignored it; though it was heard in most riparian areas.

*Phylloscopidae (Leaf-Warblers)*

**WILLOW WARBLER** (*Phylloscopus trochilus*) – Several in the Ziz river valley and other riparian zones of the high desert. All these birds are transients through N Africa.

**IBERIAN CHIFFCHAFF** (*Phylloscopus ibericus*) – Really nice to confirm this species at a birding stop along the Oukaimeden road. We studied it for a long time before we decided on its identification. Plumaged more like a Willow Warbler, but it was constantly pumping its tail characteristic of Chiffchaff.

**WESTERN BONELLI'S WARBLER** (*Phylloscopus bonelli*) – A couple in the oasis at Erg Chebbi.

*Acrocephalidae (Reed-Warblers and Allies)*

**EASTERN OLIVACEOUS WARBLER** (*Iduna pallida*) – According to Brahim, this is the species seen anywhere east of Ourzazate, including the individuals we saw at Erg Chebbi. Def more studies needed to sort this cryptic species out (though according to Brahim they sound different; unfortunately ours were not singing!).

**WESTERN OLIVACEOUS WARBLER** (*Iduna opaca*) – The individuals seen along the Oued Massa.

**EURASIAN REED-WARBLER** (*Acrocephalus scirpaceus*) – A couple seen at Erg Chebbi.

*Cisticolidae (Cisticolas and Allies)*

**ZITTING CISTICOLA** (*Cisticola juncidis*) – Nice looks at Lac du Sidi and again at Oued Souss.

*Sylviidae (Sylviid Warblers)*

**BLACKCAP** (*Sylvia atricapilla*) – Just singles at Lac du Sidi and again at Oued Massa (a male).

**GARDEN WARBLER** (*Sylvia borin*) – Very nice, long studies of one at Oued Massa.

**AFRICAN DESERT WARBLER** (*Sylvia deserti*) – This local and difficult to find NW African endemic was seen at a "secret" spot on our way to Erg Chebbi. We had to wander the desert in the heat, however, to locate it!

**TRISTRAM'S WARBLER** (*Sylvia deserticola*) – A NW African endemic breeder that we found at the pass after leaving Midelt. We also found a large group exploring the mountains north of Agadir. Still good numbers around in the highlands; most eventually descend into the lowlands to pass the Winter.

**SUBALPINE WARBLER** (*Sylvia cantillans*) – Singles in the different oasis at Erg Chebbi and around Boumalne Dadis.

**SARDINIAN WARBLER** (*Sylvia melanocephala*) – Very common in the coastal scrub from Rabat to Agadir.

**GREATER WHITETHROAT** (*Sylvia communis*) – One observed very well during our walk along the Oued Massa.

**SPECTACLED WARBLER** (*Sylvia conspicillata*) – Seen in the Erg Chebbi region, where they breed and winter.

*Leiothrichidae (Laughingthrushes and Allies)*

**FULVOUS CHATTERER** (*Turdoides fulva*) – Brahim helped us locate our first in the desert of Erg Chebbi, but we found another group just outside of Ourzazate. NW African endemic.

*Muscicapidae (Old World Flycatchers)*

**SPOTTED FLYCATCHER** (*Muscicapa striata*) – Lots around this year.

**RUFIOUS-TAILED SCRUB-ROBIN** (*Cercotrichas galactotes*) – A pair were in the garden during our visit to see the Egyptian Nightjar.

**EUROPEAN ROBIN** (*Erithacus rubecula*) – Several in the cedar forest at Azrou.

**EUROPEAN PIED FLYCATCHER** (*Ficedula hypoleuca*) – Much fewer around this year in comparison to year's past. However, we still saw a bunch!

**MOUSSIER'S REDSTART** (*Phoenicurus moussieri*) – This flashy redstart, a NW African endemic, was seen first in the Lakes Region, and again at Oued Massa and Oukaimeden.

**COMMON REDSTART** (*Phoenicurus phoenicurus*) – Several in the Zaer and again in Oukaimeden.

**BLACK REDSTART** (*Phoenicurus ochruros*) – Most had left their breeding grounds at Oukaimeden, but a male and a few female-plumaged birds still lingered.

**BLUE ROCK-THRUSH** (*Monticola solitarius*) – Singles in the gorges, but good numbers around the Oukaimeden area.

**WHINCHAT** (*Saxicola rubetra*) – One or two on different days.

**EUROPEAN STONECHAT** (*Saxicola rubicola rubicola*) – Our first were in the Zaer and again towards the end of the tour around Agadir.

**WHITE-TAILED WHEATEAR** (*Oenanthe leucopyga*) – Quite common in the desert areas around Erg Chebbi. Often standing on tops of houses or posts.

**BLACK WHEATEAR** (*Oenanthe leucura*) – This species prefers the rockier areas such as in the gorges, where we saw several.

**NORTHERN WHEATEAR** (*Oenanthe oenanthe*) – Migrants showed up at the mouth of the Oued Souss, literally arriving as we birded the mouth.

**NORTHERN WHEATEAR (BLACK-THROATED)** (*Oenanthe oenanthe seebohmi*) – Seebohm's Wheatear was seen well in the Lakes Region and again around Oukaimeden.

**RED-RUMPED WHEATEAR** (*Oenanthe moesta*) – A pair were first spotted by Joyce and Ian while birding the desert scrub near Midelt.

**BLACK-EARED WHEATEAR** (*Oenanthe hispanica*) – Also near Midelt, we found this species and another spectacular male along the road near Ait Bouhaddi.

**DESERT WHEATEAR** (*Oenanthe deserti*) – Fairly common in the high desert.

*Turdidae (Thrushes and Allies)*

**EURASIAN BLACKBIRD** (*Turdus merula*) – Quite common in most green areas.

**MISTLE THRUSH** (*Turdus viscivorus*) – Nice studies in the Lakes Region and one again at Oukaidmeden.

*Sturnidae (Starlings)*

**SPOTLESS STARLING** (*Sturnus unicolor*) – Nesting on the hotel grounds at Skhirat.

*Motacillidae (Wagtails and Pipits)*

**WESTERN YELLOW WAGTAIL** (*Motacilla flava*) – At least one immature, possibly more, we were not able to identify to subspecies.

**WESTERN YELLOW WAGTAIL (ASHY-HEADED)** (*Motacilla flava iberiae*) – This subspecies was first seen at Boumalne Dades (at a small roadside puddle), and later on our last day at Oukaimeden.

**GRAY WAGTAIL** (*Motacilla cinerea*) – One along the Eddahbi Reservoir.

**WHITE WAGTAIL (MOROCCAN)** (*Motacilla alba subpersonata*) – One at the same roadside puddle in Boumalne Dades (along with Western Yellow), and singles later on in the tour.

*Emberizidae (Buntings and New World Sparrows)*

**CIRL BUNTING** (*Emberiza cirius*) – We called up one in the Lakes Region, but seen again at Oukaimeden in the juniper forest.

**ROCK BUNTING** (*Emberiza cia*) – One perched for lengthy scope views in the rocky juniper forest on our way up to Oukaimeden.

**HOUSE BUNTING** (*Emberiza sahari*) – Common in the high desert region.

*Fringillidae (Finches, Euphonias, and Allies)*

**COMMON CHAFFINCH (AFRICAN)** (*Fringilla coelebs africana*) – Uncommon in the Rabat region, but more common in the Lakes Region and mountains.

**TRUMPETER FINCH** (*Bucanetes githagineus*) – Good numbers on the Tagdilt Track.

**EUROPEAN GREENFINCH** (*Chloris chloris*) – Not many around, but several nice looks in the fields around the Lakes Region.

**RED CROSSBILL (NORTH AFRICAN)** (*Loxia curvirostra poliogyna*) – Awesome surprise to find this species (a single female) in the cedar forest below Oukaimeden. Unfortunately, it didn't stick around long.

**EUROPEAN GOLDFINCH** (*Carduelis carduelis*) – Uncommon, but encountered on a number of different days.

**EURASIAN LINNET** (*Carduelis cannabina*) – Very nice scope views on wires in the Lakes Region.

**EUROPEAN SERIN** (*Serinus serinus*) – Same as previous species. Good studies in the ag fields in the Lakes Region.

**HAWFINCH** (*Coccothraustes coccothraustes*) – Another fantastic bird seen very well on our way up to Oukaimeden on the last day.

*Passeridae (Old World Sparrows)*

**HOUSE SPARROW** (*Passer domesticus*) – Very common. Seen everyday.

**SPANISH SPARROW** (*Passer hispaniolensis*) – We found six individuals foraging quietly during our walk along the Oued Massa.

**DESERT SPARROW** (*Passer simplex*) – A NW African endemic seen well (mostly females) at an oasis at the edge of the Sahara.

**ROCK PETRONIA** (*Petronia petronia*) – Hundreds (thousands?) in the Lakes Region.

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## MAMMALS

**BARBARY APE** (*Macaca sylvanus*) – A couple seen in the Giant Cedar forest near Azrou. The only primate in N Africa.

**BARBARY GROUND SQUIRREL** (*Atlantoxerus getulus*) – Good numbers seen in the gorges and a few other rocky areas.

**FAT SAND RAT** (*Psammomys obesus*) – Yes! Found this species at the dump. A trip highlight for most folks. ;-)

**SHORT-BEAKED COMMON DOLPHIN** (*Delphinus delphis*) – Correction. This is what we saw on our pelagic trip. Several large pods following the boat, "bow riding."

**EGYPTIAN MONGOOSE** (*Herpestes ichneumon*) – Heike spotted this mammal running along the edge of the Oued Massa.

**WILD BOAR** (*Sus scrofa*) – Good numbers in the Zaer (where no doubt they are hunted).

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## ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Also, we photographed a bat species at the Taddart Hotel in Midelt. I am still trying to identify it. I hope to find out in the future what this species is! Any help would be much appreciated.

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**Totals for the tour: 210 bird taxa and 6 mammal taxa**