Northern Spain (Pyrenees and Belchite)

20-28th June 2003

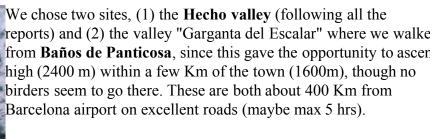
David B. Collinge http://biobase.dk/~david-c/

Klaus K. Nielsen and I spent a week in Barcelona in connection with a congress, preceded by a weekend's birding in the Spanish Pyrenees and Belchite areas.

This gave the opportunity to visit four habitats:

- The montane landscapes of the Pyrenees from about 1000 to 2600 m (48hrs)
- The Río Gállego canyon at Riglos
- The northern steppes at Belchite (about 6 hrs birding)
- the Ebro valley from Belchite to Lerida (drive through twice)
- Barcelona urban and parks (very limited opportunities) only included for the sake of completeness.

Pyrenees - 20-22nd June 2003



Left: Boco del Inferno, at 9 am taken from the tunnel mouth. The classic Wallcreeper stake out. The valley is so narrow here that the sun did not reach the road while we were there. Crag Martins, Grey Wagtails and Black Redstarts here. We also saw Egyptian Vulture, Sparrowhawk, Honey Buzzard and Alpine Swift here. Not to mention the omniscient Griffon Vultures (15 recorded)

<u>Below</u>: the top of the forest in the Hecho Valley (looking down the valley). **Dippers, Grey Wagtails** and a **Kingfisher** at this site which is where the road forks.



This Egyptian vulture was flying in the Hecho valley just south of Boco del Infern

We camped in the forest at a disused campsite at the top of the valley, where we heard both Scops and Tawny Owl and were visited by a pair of Pine Martens. Next morning found us at the Boco del Inferno at about 7 am, but no Wallcreepers - until 9:25 am when one flew north at the north mouth of the tunnel. A few minutes later we had brief views of a pair flying over the gorge, perhaps heading for Garbadito. We subsequently discovered from one of the reports we had that they are breeding at Garbadito. This is the only river crossing between Siresa and Boco del Inferno, you follow the road to the refuge. The report we had stated that you follow the track up to the right through the trees by the car park. It neglected to point out that you pass the refuge first. So we didn't find this site, and didn't discover the correct instructions until we met some birders at Belchite.

After Hecho, we decided to move east and chose to drive the valley "Garganta del Escalar" to Baños de Panticosa, since this gave the opportunity to ascend high (2400 m) within a few Km of the town (1600m). Ordessa requires a much longer walk. So we packed the tent, a couple of beers and a nice bottle of wine and attempted to follow the GR11 path to the lake "Embalse del Brazato". However, we took the wrong (right) fork of the path a few hundred metres out of the resort, following the path to an abandoned refuge. There is a path up into the col just north of the Pico del Serrato. This gave the first Citril Finches. So we can recommend this is a good day trip (or as we did with an overnight stop).





From the top of the col we contoured north to the south end of the reservoir "Embalse del Brazato" (seeing our only Marmot on the way), at about 2500m, and eventually descended to the tarn (glacial lake) "Ibón Inferior del Brazato" (2337m), enjoying our only **Alpine Accentor** on the way. We camped at the north end of the tarn overlooking the valley and were visited by two Lammergeiers (ad and imm) and kept company by a **Dunnock**, **Black Restarts** and Water Pipits. A Scops Owl called all night (according to Klaus who didn't sleep so well). In the morning we were visited by a further adult Lammergeier, much lower and closer. Stunning! We had a total of 6 sightings involving minimum 3 birds.





This **Black Kite** visited the campsite during the evening. Other species included **Citril Finches** and **Crossbills**. More of these on the descent, (Northern) **Chiffchaffs, Choughs** and a female **Ibex**. Back in the valley at 9:45 we saw two adult **Lammergeiers** circlir the western hillside just below Penticosa.

Dipped here: Wallcreeper, Snow Finch (not enough snow), Ptarmigan, Golden Eagle.

A holistic biologist cannot fail to be impressed by flora of the Pyrenees. We saw at least 4 species of Gentian as well as the Rhododendron, and masses of other fine plants too numerous to mention.





Riglos - 20^{th} and 23^{rd} June 2003

rocks overlooking the village and valley. We didn't discover the colony until the return journey, but were struck by the large numbers of vultures as we entered the canyon (we counted 36). Other interesting species were 2 **Alpine Swifts**

The Riglos turnoff is about 5 Km south of this view, which is taken from the main road (A132).

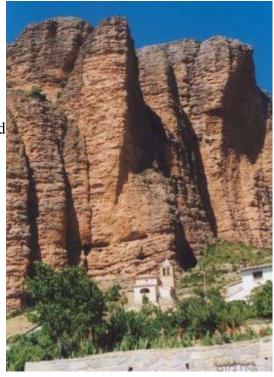
The landscape opens north of the canyon, affording this fine view of the mountains (There is a large layby). The raptors continued with 2 Egyptian Vulture and Booted Eagle and a singing (Rufous) Nightingale. Just north of Puente la Reina de Jaca was a considerable concentration of kites, mainly Black Kites (about 20 on the third visit), there were also a couple of Egyptian Vultures in this area.



On the return journey we stopped in the village itself, which is clearly something of a tourist attraction (as well as being a centre for rock climbing and other adventure sports - e.g. white-water rafting). We walked up to the area behind the church. Ravens and 4 Alpine Choughs were and wheeling round the cliffs and we were rewarded with a fine view of a male Lesser Kestrel and an Egyptian Vulture. We also saw Crag Martins, a fine male Black Wheatear and a Blue Rock Thrush, all in the area immediately behind the church. Unlike others, we were not bothered by rockclimbers. There were only two, though this was a Sunday afternoon.









Obviously the most impressive feature is the large numbers of **Griffon Vultures** nesting on the cliffs, both here and on the west side of the valley.

There was a female **Orphean Warbler** skulking in these bushes below the church. A male **Cirl Bunting** was singing in the orchard just above the upper car park when we returned to the car. The fina observation was a Hoopoe as we drove out of the village.

(we were there for a total of two hours from 14:40 to 16:45, and it was probably about 30°C, this does not seem to have adversely affected our birding. Riglos is about 60 Km south of Hecho - about an hour).

La Lomanza at Belchite and Ebro - 22-23rd June 2003

The reserve La Lomanza is the northern stake out for Dupont's Lark. About 30 Km SE Zaragoza. We arrived at about 8 pm, meeting two English birders who had arrived a couple of hours before from Barcelona. They had found 4 other species of Lark. We set off into the terrain and soon found Thekla, both Short-toed spp. and Calandra Larks in profusion. We drove down to Belchite looking for evening food. This yielded two Black-bellied Sandgrouse flying across the road, a Turtle Dove, a **Northern Wheatear and Spotless Starlings**. No food though so we returned to the reserve and finished our supplies before heading out into the reserve again.



There were now two groups of British Birders. The second group had been here previously and were armed with a Ghetto blaster. No success with respect to Dupont but we did hear Stone Curlew.

This water hole (north edge of the reserve, < 1 Km into the reserve) did not give us views of drinking Sandgrouse, as we had hoped, but excellent views of a Thekla Lark. We also saw a pair of **Black** Wheatears and some Choughs from this viewpoint. At 7 am Monday morning the lime works (just left of picture) started their noisy processes, somewhat reducing the charm of the view.

We heard a **Dupont's Lark** here at 6 am and the other two groups later saw it while we were brewing coffee (Damn!). This is about 50m after the track splits less that 1Km into the reserve. We saw both Marsh and Hen Harriers, the other 4 Lark spp., two Spectacled Warblers and perhaps a pair of Rock Sparrows, but we did not see them well enough. The final birds are we packed up were a group of three Pin-tailed Sandgrouse. We left the area at 9 am for Barcelona. The temperature was already up in the high 20's by now and the bird activity was lower.

We took the A1404, A 221 and N211 joining the E90 at Lleida/Lerida. The Eaters, Black-eared Wheatear and Stonechat.





The road crosses a tributary of the Ebro just west of Caspe (at Chiprana). We stopped briefly for a **Purple Heron** and added **Short-toed Eagle** (pair) to the list. Our other stop was just north first stage across the steppe yielded 6 **Bee**of Montnegre on the Río Cinca where it merges with Ebro. We saw 19 Little Egrets (all flying downstream), a Squacco Heron, a Night Heron and heard Reed and Cetti's Warblers here. Next stop Barcelona.

Dips: we can't complain given the short time used on this area.

Barcelona - 23rd to 28th June 2003

for the sake of completeness....

<u>20th June:</u> While being bussed to the airport terminal from the plane we saw **Black-eared Wheatear**, **Crested Lark** and **Alpine Swift**. We headed for the Pyrenees as soon as we had picked up our Avis car. Roads are excellent, and the traffic fast. Spaniards do not seem to have a concept of "speed limit". The Starlings which were specifically identified in the Barcelona area were all common. Three **Red-rumped Swallows** were unexpected, and the only we saw on the trip. After we left the motorway at Lleida/Lerida (170 Km from Barcelona). We saw several White storks just before and circling Lleida/Lerida.

<u>23rd to</u> 28th <u>June</u>: I stayed in a hotel (Husa Oriente) on Las Ramblas and my conference was at the congress centre in the Montjuic area. I also walked past the zoo one evening, but I did not have any strictly birding opportunities. Highlights were the parakeets - both **Ring-necked** and **Monk** which were frequent in all three areas (yes, even flying round the Columbus monument and along Las Ramblas). The other highlight was breeding **Sardinian Warblers** near the Olympic Stadium.

Belchite and Ebro - 20-23rd June 2003

See Table for Danish, Spanish and Scientific names.

- 1. **Grey Heron** 26th and 28th June in Barcelona
- 2. **Purple Heron** 23rd flying towards the River Ebro near Caspe
- 3. Little Egret Río Ebro and Cinca (Mechinenza)19 in all
- 4. Cattle Egret 6 in a field just west of Lerida/Lleida with a Stork
- 5. Squacco Heron Río Cinca (Mechinenza)
- 6. Black-crowned Night Heron single Río Cinca (Mechinenza)
- 7. **White Stork** 20th Lleida/Lerida 9 including several soaring over the town 23rd At least 8 nesting on an old church? east of Lleida/Lerida (Castelldans?)
- 8. **Mallard** 20th 2 on a filed west of Lleida/Lerida were the only ducks we saw; Barcelona near trhe zoo.
- 9. **Honey Buzzard** 21st just south of Boco del Inferno
- 10. **Black Kite** 20th 6 west of Lleida/Lerida; 21st; 13 lower Hecho valley in a field with an Egyptian Vulture; 21st Balearic/Baños de Panticosa; 22nd lower Hecho valley 24; 23rd Belchite 5; 23rd Ebro valley 6
- 11. **Red Kite** 20th single west of Lleida/Lerida; 21st 2 at Boco del Inferno; 21st 10 at Siresa; 21st Ibón Inferior del Brazato" (2337m); 22nd Jaca area 7
- 12. **Griffon Vulture** 20th 36 in Río Gállego canyon at Riglos, about 35 Km NW of Huesca (336 Km from Barcelona Airport); 15 21st Hecho valley; 21st Balneirio/Baños de Panticosa 2; Ibón Inferior del Brazato" (2337m) 3; 22nd Jaca area 40; 22nd Riglos approx 30; 23rd Ebro valley 2
- 13. **Egyptian Vulture** 2 ad north of the Río Gállego canyon; 21st lower Hecho valley 1 imm, 1 ad.; 22nd lower Hecho valley 2; 22nd Riglos

- 14. **Lammergeier** 21st Ibón Inferior del Brazato, ad and imm; 22nd Balneirio/Baños de Panticosa 4 sightings
- 15. **Short-toed Eagle** 23rd Ebro valley near Caspe 2
- 16. Hen Harrier 23rd single female at La Lomanza, Belchite
- 17. Marsh Harrier 20th west of Lleida/Lerida; 22nd La Lomanza, Belchite; 23rd La Lomanza, Belchite,
- 18. Sparrowhawk 21st Boco del Inferno
- 19. **Buzzard** 22nd Jaca; 23rd Ebro valley
- 20. **Booted Eagle** light phase individuals: 20th north of the Río Gállego canyon; 21st lower Hecho valley
- 21. Lesser Kestrel 22nd Riglos nice male
- 22. **Kestrel** about 30 Km west of Barcelona; 20thRío Gállego canyon at Riglos; 21st Baños de Panticosa 4; 22nd La Lomanza, Belchite 2; 23rd Ebro valley 8; Barcelona by the Olympic Stadium.
- 23. **Coot** 5 young in a pool from the motorway in Barcelona (20th). (We were in a queue!); 23rd Río Cinca (Mechinenza)
- 24. Stone Curlew (Eurasian Thick-knee) 22nd La Lomanza, Belchite
- 25. Yellow-legged Gull, common in Barcelona
- 26. **Pin-tailed Sandgrouse** 23rd La Lomanza, Belchite 3 just as we were packing up to go.
- 27. Black-bellied Sandgrouse 22nd Just north of Belchite 2
- 28. Rock Dove Common in all towns and on the cliffs at Riglos (22nd)
- 29. **Woodpigeon** 4 from the motorway near Barcelona (20th); 20th Lleida/Lerida 7; 22nd Garbardito, Hecho valley
- 30. **Turtle Dove** 22nd Belchite flew into an orchard just north of the town
- 31. **Collared Dove** 20th Barcelona; 20th Lleida/Lerida 10; 22nd Balneirio/Baños de Panticosa 3; 22nd Jaca 22nd; 23rd Azaila 3; Barcelona in the Montjuic area
- 32. **Ring-necked** (Rose-ringed) **Parakeet** Barcelona in the Montjuic area, near the zoo and on Las Ramblas
- 33. Monk Parakeet Barcelona in the Montjuic area and flying round the Columbus monument
- 34. **Scops Owl** 20th upper* Hecho valley calling at dusk; 21st Ibón Inferior del Brazato" calling all night.
- 35. **Tawny Owl** 20th upper* Hecho valley calling at dusk
- 36. **Alpine Swift** 20th from the bus to the airport terminal at Barcelona; 20th Río Gállego canyon at Riglos; 21st 2 at Boco del Inferno
- 37. (Common) **Swift** very common in and near villages. Nesting swifts under the airport terminal roof while we were waiting to pick up our hire car made a pleasant distraction. e.g. 30 in Siresa, Hecho valley;
- 38. **Kingfisher** 20th Upper Hecho valley where the forest stops.

- 39. **Bee-eater** 23rd Ebro valley 5
- 40. **Hoopoe** 22nd Riglos flew literally over the bonnet of the car just as we left Riglos
- 41. Calandra Lark 22nd La Lomanza, Belchite 5; also 23rd east of Belchite
- 42. **Greater Short-toed Lark** 22nd La Lomanza, Belchite 5; 23rd Ebro valley 2
- 43. Lesser Short-toed Lark 22nd La Lomanza, Belchite
- 44. **Dupont's Lark** 23rd La Lomanza, Belchite, heard calling at 6 am (dawn was at 5)
- 45. **Crested Lark** We saw the first from the bus from the plane to the airport terminal at Barcelona (20th). Most putative cresteds were not formally separated from the following species!
- 46. **Thekla Lark** 22nd La Lomanza, Belchite; 23rd Ebro valley
- 47. **Skylark** 23rd Ebro valley
- 48. Sand Martin 23rd Río Cinca (Mechinenza)5
- 49. **Crag Martin** Río Gállego canyon at Riglos; Boco del Inferno 8; 22nd Riglos; 23rd Río Cinca (Mechinenza)3
- 50. (Barn) Swallow 20th from the motorway near Barcelona 3; 20th Lleida/Lerida 9; 23rd Belchite 4
- 51. **Red-rumped Swallow** Three quite close to Barcelona 20th from the motorway.
- 52. **House Martin** 20th 2 west of Lleida/Lerida; 20th Río Gállego canyon at Riglos; 21st Boco del Inferno 6; 22nd Balneirio/Baños de Panticosa 2; 22nd Jaca 4; 22nd Riglos; 23rd Ebro valley 11
- 53. Grey Wagtail Very common in the Pyrenees.
- 54. **White Wagtail** 20th Barcelona airport; 22nd La Lomanza, Belchite 3; 23rd Río Cinca (Mechinenza)2; Barcelona in the Montjuic area
- 55. Water Pipit 21st Ibón Inferior del Brazato" (2337m) and thereabouts, singing 2
- 56. **Dipper** 21st upper* Hecho valley, 1 ad, 1 juv.
- 57. (Winter) **Wren** 20th upper* Hecho valley 2, ibid 21st 4; 22nd Balneirio/Baños de Panticosa 3
- 58. Alpine Accentor between Ibón Inferior del Brazato" (2337m) and Embalse del Brazato (2500m)
- 59. **Dunnock** 21st upper* Hecho valley; 21st Balneirio/Baños de Panticosa and Ibón Inferior del Brazato" (2337m) 5
- 60. **Robin** Common in the Hecho valley
- 61. **Nightingale** 20th north of Río Gállego canyon the Riglos, singing.
- 62. **Black Redstart** 21st 5 at Boco del Inferno; 21st Balneirio/Baños de Panticosa; 22nd Ibón Inferior del Brazato 6
- 63. **Redstart** 21st Balneirio/Baños de Panticosa
- 64. **Stonechat** 23rd Ebro valley
- 65. Black Wheatear 22nd Riglos; 23rd La Lomanza, Belchite
- 66. (Northern) Wheatear 22nd Belchite

- 67. Black-eared Wheatear 20th from the bus to the airport terminal at Barcelona
- 68. Rock Thrush 22nd Balneirio/Baños de Panticosa probably 2
- 69. Blue Rock Thrush nice male 22nd Riglos
- 70. **Blackbird** 21st Balneirio/Baños de Panticosa; 22nd Jaca; 22nd Garbardito, Hecho valley 2; 23rd Ebro valley; Barcelona in the Montjuic area
- 71. **Song Thrush** upper* Hecho valley; 22nd Garbardito, Hecho valley
- 72. **Mistle Thrush** 20th upper* Hecho valley; 22nd Garbardito, Hecho valley 3
- 73. Cetti's Warbler 23rd Río Cinca (Mechinenza)
- 74. Reed Warbler 23rd Río Cinca (Mechinenza)
- 75. Chiffchaff 22nd Balneirio/Baños de Panticosa 2; 22nd Garbardito, Hecho valley
- 76. Western Bonelli's Warbler 22nd Garbardito, Hecho valley near the refuge
- 77. **Blackcap** 21st Hecho valley 5; 21st Balneirio/Baños de Panticosa; 22nd Balneirio/Baños de Panticosa 3; 22nd Riglos
- 78. **Orphean Warbler** 22nd Riglos skulking in bushes behind the church
- 79. Sardinian Warbler Barcelona near the Olympic Stadium, nesting.
- 80. Spectacled Warbler 23rd La Lomanza, Belchite,
- 81. Goldcrest Upper* Hecho valley; 22nd Balneirio/Baños de Panticosa
- 82. Pied Flycatcher 21st Hecho valley; 22nd Garbardito, Hecho valley
- 83. Long-tailed Tit 22nd Garbardito, Hecho valley
- 84. **Coal Tit** 20th upper* Hecho valley; 21st upper* Hecho valley 6; Balneirio/Baños de Panticosa; Barcelona in the Montjuic area
- 85. **Crested Tit** 21st 3 just south of Boco del Inferno; 21st Balneirio/Baños de Panticosa at 1700 m and Ibón Inferior del Brazato" (2337m); 22nd Garbardito, Hecho valley
- 86. **Great Tit** 22nd Balneirio/Baños de Panticosa; 22nd Jaca; Barcelona in the Montjuic area
- 87. Blue Tit 21st Hecho valley; Barcelona in the Montjuic area 4
- 88. Nuthatch 22nd Garbardito, Hecho valley
- 89. Wallcreeper 21st 1 then 2 at Boco del Inferno at 9:35
- 90. Short-toed Treecreeper 22nd Garbardito, Hecho valley
- 91. **Corn Bunting** 20th Riglos
- 92. **Cirl Bunting** 22nd Riglos; 23rd Ebro valley
- 93. **Chaffinch** 20th Río Gállego canyon at Riglos; 21st common in upper* Hecho valley; 22nd Balneirio/Baños de Panticosa 7
- 94. **Serin** 21st lower Hecho valley; Barcelona in the Montjuic area (10 one lunchtime)

- 95. **Citril Finch** 21st Balneirio/Baños de Panticosa 2 & Ibón Inferior del Brazato"1 (2337m); 22nd Ibón Inferior del Brazato 5
- 96. **Greenfinch** 20th Barcelona airport terminal; 20th Riglos gorge; 22nd Riglos
- 97. **Goldfinch** 20th west of Lleida/Lerida; 21st lower Hecho valley; 22nd Riglos 3; 23rd Ebro valley; Barcelona in the Montjuic area
- 98. Linnet 23rd La Lomanza, Belchite
- 99. Common (Red) Crossbill 22nd Balneirio/Baños de Panticosa 11
- 100. **Bullfinch** 21st Balneirio/Baños de Panticosa; 22nd Garbardito, Hecho valley
- 101. **House Sparrow** Common near habitation.
- 102. (Common) **Starling** The starlings identified in and around Barcelona were all of this species.
- 103. **Spotless Starling**. The starlings identified near Belchite were all of this species. Frankly, we didn't put much effort into identifying all the starlings.
- 104. **Jay** 20th upper* Hecho valley 2; 21st lower Hecho valley21st 3 just south of Boco del Inferno; 22nd Garbardito, Hecho valley
- 105. **Magpie** Barcelona common; 20th Lleida/Lerida 5; 21st Balneirio/Baños de Panticosa 2
- 106. (**Alpine Chough** 22nd Riglos 4 -slightly wary about these but we could only see yellow beaks.)
- 107. **Chough** 22nd Balneirio/Baños de Panticosa 2; 22nd La Lomanza, Belchite 2
- 108. **Jackdaw** 20th Lleida/Lerida; in the "Sagrada Família, Barcelona
- 109. **Carrion Crow** 20th Heuco; 20th Hecho valley; 22nd Ibón Inferior del Brazato; 22nd La Lomanza, Belchite
- 110. Common **Raven** 21st lower Hecho valley; 21st Tena, Gallego valley; 22nd Riglos

Mammals

Spain: Pyrenees, Belchite and Barcelona - June 2003

English name	Scientific name	Dansk navn	Spanish name	Spain Place
Pine Marten	Martes martes	Skovmår		20/6-03 Hecho valley 2 at our first campsite
Roe Deer	Capreolus capreolus	Rådyr		21/6-03 Hecho valley
Spanish Ibex	Capra pyrenaica		Cabra montés	22/6-03 Balneirio/Baños de Panticosa, at about 1700 m
Red Squirrel	Sciurus vulgaris	Egern		20/6-03 Hecho valley also at our first campsite
Marmot	Marmota marmota			20/6-03 Embalse del Brazato a single at 2400 m

^{*}defined as being above Boco del Inferno

Not a lot, but can't complain about the quality

Spain: Pyrenees, Belchite and Barcelona - June 200- 20-28th June 2003

The trip comprised Summary table for our tour:

- "Belchite and Ebro" covers the trip out from Barcelona to Lerida/Huesca and from Huesca to Belchite and from Belchite via Lerida to Barcelona.
- <u>Pyrenees</u> covers the Río Gállego canyon at Riglos area, Hecho valley and the valley "Garganta del Escalar" to Baños de Panticosa
- <u>Barcelona</u> covers 5 days conference in the famous city where birding opportunities were restricted to a couple of evenings walking around to find somewhere to eat.

English name	Scientific name	Spanish Names	Danske navne	Belchite and Ebro	Pyrenees	Barcelona
Grey Heron	Ardea cinerea	Garza real	Fiskehejre			25/6 and 28/6
Purple Heron	Ardea purpurea	Garza imperial	Purpurhejre	23/6 Mechinenza		
Little Egret	Egretta garzetta	Garceta común	Silkehejre	23/6 Mechinenza 19		
Cattle Egret	Bubulcus ibis	Garcilla bueyera	Kohejre	20/6 Lleida 6		
Squacco Heron	Ardeola ralloides	Garcilla cangrejera	Tophejre	23/6 Mechinenza		
Black- crowned Night Heron	Nycticorax nycticorax	Martinete	Nathejre	23/6 Mechinenza		
White Stork	Ciconia ciconia	Cigüeña común	Hvid Stork	20/6 Lleida/ Lerida 9 23rd 8 east of Lleida/ Lerida	ı	
Mallard	Anas platyrhynchos	Ánade Real (Cabeciverde)	Gråand	20/6 Lleida		near the zoo
Honey Buzzard	Pernis apivorus	Halcón abejero	Hepsevåge		21/6 Hecho	
Black Kite	Milvus migrans	Milano negro	Sort Glente	common	Very common	
Red Kite	Milvus milvus	Milano real	Rød Glente	common	common	
Griffon Vulture	Gyps fulvus	Buitre común	Gåsegrib		breeding at Riglos, Hech valley	

Egyptian Vulture	Neophron percnopterus	Alimoche común	Ådselgrib		20/6 Jaca, Riglos, Hech Valley	1
Lammergeier	Gypaetus barbatus	Quebrantahuesos	Lammegrib		6 at Panticosa	
Short-toed Eagle	Circaetus gallicus	Aguila culebrera	Slangeørn	23/6 Chipandra, Ebro 2		
Hen Harrier	Circus cyaneus	Aguilucho Norteño (Pálido)	Blå Kærhøg	23/6 Belchite 1		
Marsh Harrier	Circus aeruginosus	Aguilucho lagunero	Rørhøg	20/6 Lleida, Belchite		
Sparrowhawk	Accipiter nisus	Gavilán común	Spurvehøg		21/6 Hecho (Boca)	
Buzzard	Buteo buteo	Ratonero común	Musvåge	23/6 Ebro valley	20/6 Jaca	
Booted Eagle	Hieraaetus pennatus	Aguila calzada	Dværgørn		20/6 Riglos, 21/6 Hecho	7
Lesser Kestrel	Falco naumanni	Cernícalo primilla	Lille Tårnfalk		22/6 Riglos	
Kestrel	Falco tinnunculus	Cernícalo vulgar	Tårnfalk	22/6 Belchite	21 st Baños de Panticosa 4	20/6 Barcelona
Coot	Fulica atra	Focha común	Blishøne	23 rd Río Cinca (Mechinenza)		20/6 near Barcelona
Stone Curlew (Eurasian Thick-knee)	Burhinus oedicnemus	Alcaraván común	Triel	22/6 Belchite		
Yellow- legged Gull	Larus cachinnans	Gaviota	Middelhavssølvmåge		20/6 Riglos	25/6 Barcelona
Pin-tailed Sandgrouse	Pterocles alchata	Ganga común (Ganga Ibérica)	Spidshalet Sandhøne	Lamosa, Belchite 3		
Black-bellied Sandgrouse	Pterocles orientalis	Ortega (Ganga ortega)	Sortbuget Sandhøne	22/6 Belchite 2		
Rock Dove	Columba livia	Paloma Bravia (Domestica)	Klippedue	common	common	20/6 Barcelona

Woodpigeon	Columba palumbus	Paloma torcaz	Ringdue			20/6 near Barcelona Barcelona
Turtle Dove	Streptopelia turtur	Tórtola Común	Turteldue	22/6 Belchite		24.55.5.12
Collared Dove	Streptopelia decaocto	Tórtola turca	Tyrkerdue			20/6 neat Barcelona Barcelona
Ring-necked (Rose-ringed) Parakeet	Psittacula krameri	Cotorra de Kramer	Lille Alexanderparakit			25/6 Barcelona
Monk Parakeet		Cotorra Argentina	Myiopsitta monachus			25/6 Barcelona
Scops Owl	Otus scops	Autillo	Dværghornugle		20/6 Hecho	
Tawny Owl	Strix aluco	Cárabo	Natugle		20/6 Hecho	
Alpine Swift	Tachymarptis melba	Vencejo real	Alpesejler			20/6 Barcelona
Swift	Apus apus	Vencejo común	Mursejler	Ebro valley	common	20/6 Barcelona
Kingfisher	Alcedo atthis	Martín pescador	Isfugl		20/6 Hecho	
Bee-eater	Merops apiaster	Abejaruco común	Biæder	23/6 Ebro 5		
Ноорое	Upupa epops	Abubilla	Hærfugl		20/6 Riglos	
Calandra Lark	Melanocorypha calandra	Calandria común	Kalandralærke	22/6 Belchite		
Greater Short-toed Lark	Calandrella brachydactyla	Terrera común	Korttået Lærke	22/6 Belchite		
Lesser Short- toed Lark	Calandrella rufescens	Terrera marismeña	Dværglærke	22/6 Belchite		
Dupont's Lark	Chersophilus duponti	Alondra de Dupont	Duponts Lærke	23/6 Belchite		
Crested Lark	Galerda cristata	Cogujada común	Toplærke	23/6 Ebro		20/6 Barcelona
Thekla Lark	Galerda malabarica (theklae)	Cogujada montesina	Kortnæbbet Toplærke	22/6 Belchite		
Skylark	Alauda arvensis	Alondra común	Sanglærke	23/6 Ebro		
Sand Martin	Riparia riparia	Avíon Zapador o Ribereña	Digesvale	23/6 Ebro		
Crag Martin	Hirundo rupestris	Avión roquero	Klippesvale	23/6 Ebro	20/6 Riglos	
(Barn) Swallow	Hirundo rustica	Golondrina Común o Tijereta	Landsvale			20/6 Barcelona
Red-rumped Swallow	Hirundo daurica	Golondrina daurica	Rødrygget Svale			20/6 near Barcelona

House Martin	Delichon urbica	Avíon común	Bysvale	20/6 Lleida, 23 rd Ebro valley 11	common	
Grey Wagtail	Motacilla cinerea	Lavandera de cascada	Bjergvipstjert		common	
White Wagtail	Motacilla alba	Lavandera blanca	Hvid Vipstjert		common	20/6 Barcelona
Water Pipit	Anthus spinoletta	Bisbita ribereño alpino	Skærpiber		21/6 Panticosa	
Dipper	Cinclus cinclus	Mirlo acuático	Vandstær		21/6 Hecho 2	
(Winter) Wren	Troglodytes troglodytes	Chochín	Gærdesmutte		common	
Alpine Accentor	Prunella collaris	Acentor alpino	Alpejernspurv		21/6 Panticosa	
Dunnock	Prunella modularis	Acentor común	Jernspurv		20/6 Hecho	
Robin	Erithacus rubecola	Petirrojo	Rødhals		common	
Nightingale	Luscinia megarhynchos	Ruiseñor común	Sydlig Nattergal		20/6 Riglos	
Black Redstart	Phoenicurus ochruros	Colirrojo tizón	Husrødstjert		common	
Redstart	Phoenicurus phoenicurus	Colirrojo real	Rødstjert		21/6 Panticosa	
Stonechat	Saxicola torquata	Tarabilla común	Sortstrubbet Bynkefugl	23/6 Ebro		
Black Wheatear	Oenanthe leucura	Collalba negra	Sørgestenpikker	23/6 La Lamosa, Belchite 3	22/6 Riglos	
(Northern) Wheatear	Oenanthe oenanthe	Collalba gris	Almindelig Stenpikker	22/6 Belchite		
Black-eared Wheatear	Oenanthe hispanica	Collalba rubia	Middelhavsstenpikker			20/6 Barcelona
Rock Thrush	Monticola saxatilis	Roquero rojo	Stendrossel		21/6 Panticosa	
Blue Rock Thrush	Monticola solitarius	Roquero solitario	Blådrossel		22/6 Riglos	
Blackbird	Turdus merula	Mirlo común	Solsort		20/6 Hecho	common
Song Thrush	Turdus philomelos	Zorzal común	Sangdrossel		20/6 Hecho	
Mistle Thrush	Turdus viscivorus	Zorzal charlo	Misteldrossel		20/6 Hecho	
Cetti's Warbler	Cettia cetti	Avutarda (Ruiseñor Bastardo)	Cettisanger	23/6 Mechinenza		

Reed Warbler	Agrocephalus scirpaceus	Carricero común	Rørsanger	23/6 Mechinenza		
Chiffchaff	Phylloscopus collybita	Mosquitero común	Gransanger		22/6 Hecho	
Western Bonelli's Warbler	Phylloscopus bonelli	Mosquitero papialbo	Bjergløvsanger		22/6 Hecho	
Blackcap	Sylvia atricapilla	Curruca capirotada	Munk		20/6 Hecho	
Orphean Warbler	Sylvia hortensis	Curruca mirlona	Mestersanger		22/6 Riglos	
Sardinian Warbler	Sylvia melanocephala	Curruca cabecinegra	Sorthoved Sanger			25/6 Barcelona
Spectacled Warbler	Sylvia conspicillata	Curruca tomillera	Brillesanger	23/6 Belchite		
Goldcrest	Regulus regulus	Reyezuelo sencillo	Fuglekonge		20/6 Hecho	
Pied Flycatcher	Ficedula hypoleuca	Papamoscas cerrojillo	Broget Fluesnapper		20/6 Hecho	
Long-tailed Tit	Aegithalos caudatus	Mito	Halemejse		20/6 Hecho	
Coal Tit	Parus ater	Carbonero garrapinos	Sortmejse		20/6 Hecho	25/6 Barcelona
Crested Tit	Parus cristatus	Herrerillo capuchino	Topmejse		20/6 Hecho	
Great Tit	Parus major	Carbonero común	Musvit		20/6 Hecho	
Blue Tit	Parus caeruleus	Herrerillo común	Blåmejse		20/6 Hecho	25/6 Barcelona
Nuthatch	Sitta europaea	Trepador azul	Spætmejse		20/6 Hecho	
Wallcreeper	Tichodroma muraria	Treparriscos	Murløber		22/6 Hecho	
Short-toed Treecreeper	Certhia brachydactyla	Agateador común	Korttået Træløber		22/6 Hecho	
Corn Bunting	Emberiza (Milaria) calandra	Triguero	Kornværling (Bomlærke)		20/6 Hecho	
Cirl Bunting	Emberiza cirius	Escribano soteño	Gærdværling		22/6 Riglos	
Chaffinch	Fringilla coelebs	Pinzón vulgar	Bogfinke	20/6 Huesca	20/6 Hecho	
Serin	Serinus serinus	Serín (Verdecillo)	Gulirsk	20/6 Huesca	20/6 Hecho	Barcelona
Citril Finch	Serinus citrinella	Verderón serrano	Citron sisken		21/6 Panticosa	
Greenfinch	Carduelis chloris	Verderón común	Grønirsk			20/6 Barcelona

Goldfinch	Carduelis carduelis	Jilguero	Stillits	20/6 Lleida		Barcelona
Linnet	Carduelis (Acanthis) cannabina	Pardillo común	Tornirsk	22/6 Belchite		
Common (Red) Crossbill	Loxia curvirostra	Piquituerto común	Lille Korsnæb		22/6 Panticosa	
Bullfinch	Pyrrhula pyrrhula	Camachuelo común	Dompap		21/6 Hecho	
House Sparrow	Passer domesticus	Gorrión Común	Gråspurv			20/6 Barcelona
Starling	Sturnus vulgaris	Estornino pinto	Stær			20/6 Barcelona
Spotless Starling	Sturnus unicolor	Estornino negro	Ensfarvet Stær	22/6 Belchite		
Jay	Garrulus glandarius	Arrendajo	Skovskade		20/6 Hecho	
Magpie	Pica pica	Urraca	Husskade			20/6 Barcelona
Alpine Chough	Pyrrhocorax graculus	Chova piqigualda	Alpeallike		22/6 Riglos	
Chough	Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax	Chova piquirroja	Alpekrage	22/6 Belchite		
Jackdaw	Corvus monedula	Grajilla	Allike			24/6 Barcelona
Carrion Crow	Corvus corone	Corneja negra	Krage	20/6 Huesca		
Common Raven	Corvus corax	Cuervo	Ravn		21/6 Hecho, 22/6 Riglos	

Practical information, Literature and links

Spain: Pyrenees, Belchite and Barcelona - June 2003

Car hire: we ordered from home, with pick up in Barcelona airport. Avis gave the best price this time. The trip came up to 1300 Km.

Accommodation: we camped rough in the upper Hecho Valley, at the tarn (mountain lake) Ibón Inferior del Brazato on the GR11 path and near Belchite on stubble.

Supermarket: There is a shopping centre open 8:00(? maybe 9 am?) to 22:00 (6 days a week) at Huesco just inside the western bypass (E7 = N330) ring road on the A132 - the Huesco Riglos road. This provided most of our supplies. We couldn't find one at Lerida (Lleida). There is also an InterSport there if you forgot some vital camping supplies!

Birds:

- Jonsson, Lars, 1992 Birds of Europe with North Africa and the Middle East, Christopher Helm, ISBN 0713680962
- Mullarney, Killian; Svensson, Lars; Zetterström, Dan; Grant, P.J. 1999 Collins Bird Guide The most complete field, guide to the birds of Britain and Europe, Collins, ISBN 0 00 219728 6
- Palmer, Malcolm; Fidel, Luis 2001 A Birdwatcher's Guide to Eastern Spain Arlequin Press ISBN 1 900159 66 x

Travel

- Streatfield-James, Douglas, 2001 Trekking in the Pyrenees, Trailblazer Publications, ISBN 1-873756-50-X (I had the first edition, 1998, ISBN 1-873756-21-6). We made limited use of this, but the second edition covers the Panticosa area. Praise to the publisher: I bought the 1st edition a couple of years ago in London and discovered a week before departure that it was faulty: one section (Ordessa) was missing completely and another duplicated. The publisher sent me a new copy by post. Thank you Bryn! I understand that the third edition will be out in 2004. See their website at http://www.trailblazer-guides.com/buy/
- All the big map companies have excellent road maps covering from Barcelona to the Pyrenees. There is little to chose among them. *e.g.* Michelin 574 Aragón, Cataluña/Catalunya
- Mapa excursiones #24 "Gavarnie Ordessa" 1:50 000 covers the area from Jaca to east of Ordessa but not Hecho. Walking scale map Published by the *Institut Cartogràfic de Catalunya*, Rando éditiones www.occ.es was obtained from Nordisk Korthandel Scanmaps Studiestræde 26-30 1455 København K (+45) 3338 2638 fax (+45) 3338 2648 www.scanmaps.dk post@scanmaps.dk

Acknowledgements

Various people provided help hints and trip reports - Thank you for your help.

- Phil Cruttenden: http://www.birdtours.co.uk/tripreports/Spain/extra-pyren/index.htm and for correspondence.
- Jørgen Munk Petersen for lending his annotated map to Klaus.

See http://www.eurobirding.com/tripreports/ where I have subsequently found a number of reports e.g.:

- http://www.birdtours.co.uk/birdseekers/march03/Pyrenees1.htm
- http://www.surfbirds.com/mb/trips/pyrenees-0603.html
- both of which describe the location of Garbadito

(return to home page Author: David B. Collinge, revised 28-08-03)