

Birding & Nature in Spain's Pyrenees

Species List | July 8-19, 2026

with Naturalist Journeys



Compiled by guide Tamara Winkler with local guide Carl Grillet. Our clients included Robert, Christa, Chuck, Karen & Kit.

Our Naturalist Journeys itinerary took us to wetlands, dry steppe regions (which reminded some of us of the desert southwest) and the foothills and high elevations of the Pyrenees Mountains. We started our tour in Barcelona with some sightseeing in the city, touring the Hospital de la Santa Creu i Sant Pau (which had air conditioning!) and then taking a short walk to view the La Sagrada Familia cathedral. The following day we drove a short way to the Llogregat Delta Nature Area which was our only chance to see wetland species. From there we headed out to the steppe region and an overnight stay in Zaragoza. The next 3 days were spent in the steppes, stopping at the El Planeron Ornithological Reserve and north to Mallos de Riglos, in the foothills of the Pyrenees. We walked around ruins from the Spanish Civil War in Belchite and took a tour of Loarre Castle. From there we traveled west to the Hecho Valley and higher elevations. We stay the next 2 days in a private house in the “ghost town” of Lasaosa, in the pine forest of the Wild Guara. We drove a short distance in the evening to see a dolmen, which is a neolithic burial site. Experiencing this as the sun was setting was an amazing experience. The next days we turn our focus to the high Pyrenees for a visit to the border of Spain and France with a short jaunt into France for lunch. We also take a lift to the top of the Panticosa Ski resort where we saw an Alpine Marmot! For the last 2 full days of the tour, we stayed in the beautiful village of Alquezar, enjoying early morning birding a short walk from our hotel and then traveling to Torla and Ordesa National Park where we hired a driver to take us on privately owned land to the top of the Pyrenees. On the way down the mountain in late afternoon we were thrilled to see a pair of red crossbills! Traveling back to Barcelona on our final day we took an interesting side trip to the town of Lecina see the 2021 European Tree of the Year, a Holm Oak estimated to be 1100 years old! We also stopped at the Pyrenees Bird Center to learn more about the ecology of the Pyrenees Mountains and the Bearded Vulture. Our last-minute souvenir shopping at the gift shop also benefited the vulture recovery efforts.

Our wonderful tour was at an end, but we have the memories of all the beautiful landscapes and experiences of Spain and the Pyrenees Mountains. We will remember the amazing birds (vultures!) and enjoyable company of our small group.

BIRDS 113 species were recorded.

The eBird link below details the 113 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.

[Birding & Nature in Spain's Pyrenees | July 8-19, 2026 | eBird Trip Report](#)

Following is a list of the birds, mammals, reptiles and amphibians we were fortunate to observe during the trip.

MAMMALS: — (7)

Alpine Marmot *Marmota marmot* — (Panticosa Ski Resort)
Red squirrel *Sciurus vulgaris* — (El Planeron Ornithological Reserve)
Iberian Fox *Vulpes vulpes silacea* — (El Planeron Ornithological Reserve, plus 2 other sightings while driving)
Iberian Rabbit *Oryctolagus cuniculus algirus* — (Lasaosa)
Stone Marten *Martes foina* — (Lasaosa)
Roe Deer *Capreolus capreolus* — (seen on 4 occasions)
Kuhl's Pipistrelle *Pipistrellus kuhlii* — (Lasaosa)

BUTTERFLIES AND DRAGONFLIES: — (49)

Small Skipper *Thymelicus sylvestris* (Geelsprietdikkopje)
Large Skipper *Ochlodes sylvanus* (Groot dikkopje)
Apollo *Parnassius apollo* (Apollovlinder)
Iberian Scarce Swallowtail *Iphiclides feisthamelii* (Spaanse koningspage)
Swallowtail *Papilio machaon* (Koninginnepage)
Wood White *Leptidea sinapis* (Boswitje)
Large White *Pieris brassicae* (Groot koolwitje)
Small White *Pieris rapae* (Klein koolwitje)
Bath White *Pontia daplidice* (Resedawitje)
Mountain Clouded Yellow *Colias phicomone* (Bergluzernevlinder)
Clouded Yellow *Colias crocea* (Oranje luzernevlinder)
Pale Clouded Yellow *Colias hyale* (Gele luzernevlinder)
Brimstone *Gonepteryx rhamni* (Citroenvlinder)
Cleopatra *Gonepteryx cleopatra* (Cleopatra)
Scarce Copper *Lycaena virgaureae* (Grote vuurvlinder)
Silver-studded Blue *Plebejus argus* (Heideblauwtje)
Chapman's Blue *Polyommatus thersites* (Esparcetteblauwtje)
Common Blue *Polyommatus icarus* (Icarusblauwtje)
Adonis Blue *Polyommatus bellargus* (Adonisblauwtje)
Chalkhill Blue *Polyommatus coridon* (Bleek blauwtje)
Silver-washed Fritillary *Argynnis paphia* (Keizersmantel)
Dark Green Fritillary *Speyeria aglaja* (Grote parelmoervlinder)
High Brown Fritillary *Fabriciana adippe* (Bosrandparelmoervlinder)
Niobe Fritillary *Fabriciana niobe* (Duinparelmoervlinder)
Queen of Spain Fritillary *Issoria lathonia* (Kleine parelmoervlinder)
Marbled Fritillary *Brenthis daphne* (Braamparelmoervlinder)
Pearl-bordered Fritillary *Boloria euphrosyne* (Zilvervlek)
Lesser Spotted Fritillary *Melitaea trivia* (Kleine parelmoervlinder)
Red Admiral *Vanessa atalanta* (Atalanta)
Painted Lady *Vanessa cardui* (Distelvlinder)
Peacock *Inachis io* (Dagpauwoog)
Comma *Polygonia c-album* (Gehakkelde aurelia)
White Admiral *Limenitis camilla* (Kleine ijsvogelvlinder)
Southern White Admiral *Limenitis reducta* (Blauwe ijsvogelvlinder)
Speckled Wood *Pararge aegeria* (Bont zandoogje)
Wall Brown *Lasiommata megera* (Oranje zandoogje)
Small Heath *Coenonympha pamphilus* (Hooibeestje)

Gatekeeper *Pyronia tithonus* (Oranje zandoogje)
Southern Gatekeeper *Pyronia cecilia* (Zuidelijk oranje zandoogje)
Meadow Brown *Maniola jurtina* (Bruin zandoogje)
Dusky Meadow Brown *Hyponephele lycaon* (Donker bruin zandoogje)
Marbled White *Melanargia galathea* (Dambordje)
Great Banded Grayling *Brintesia circe* (Witbandzandoog)
Woodland Grayling *Hipparchia fagi* (Grote boswachter)
Rock Grayling *Hipparchia alcyone* (Rotsvlinder)
Grayling *Hipparchia semele* (Heivlinder)
Tree Greyling *Hipparchia statilinus*
African Monarch *Danaus chrysippus*

Six Spotted Burnett *Zygaena filipendulae* - **Moth**