

Israel: Birds, Nature & Culture | Species List

November 7 – 20, 2022 | with Naturalist Journeys



This list was compiled by group leader Gerard Gorman with the assistance of local guide Eran Banker and tour participants Jonathan, Sid, John, Pat, Denise, Bill, Irene, Daniel, Les, Lori, and Woody.

Notes: **(I)** = An introduced, non-native, species. **(#)** = Number of days recorded. Only species recorded with group members are included, i.e., 'leader only' records are excluded. For further details on specific species, locations and habitats, see the tour report.

BIRDS (189 species recorded)

DUCKS, GEESE AND SWANS

Egyptian Goose *Alopochen aegyptiaca* **(I)** (1) Small numbers of this non-native species seen on day 2 at the Matash Ayalon reservoir.

Northern Shoveler *Spatula clypeata* (6) Scattered sightings of birds in various stages of plumage.

Gadwall *Mareca strepera* (2) Uncommon, single figures seen on days 8 and 11.

Eurasian Wigeon *Mareca penelope* (3) Uncommon, single figures seen on days 2, 8 and 11.

Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos* (6) Fairly common, seen on wetlands in all regions.

Northern Pintail *Anas acuta* (3) Uncommon, single figures seen on days 6, 8 and 12.

Eurasian Teal (Green-winged Teal) *Anas crecca* (6) Fairly common, seen on wetlands in all regions.

Marbled Teal *Marmaronetta angustirostris* (1) Scarce, only seen on day 11 at the Lehavot HaBashan fishponds.

Common Pochard *Aythya ferina* (3) Uncommon, only seen on deeper wetlands on days 2, 6 and 8.

Ferruginous Duck *Aythya nyroca* (3) As above, only seen on deeper wetlands on days 2, 6 and 8.

Tufted Duck *Aythya fuligula* (1) Rare, a single female seen on day 2 on the Matash Ayalon reservoir.

White-headed Duck *Oxyura leucocephala* (1) Around 20 seen on day 2 on the Matash Ayalon reservoir.

PARTRIDGES AND PHEASANTS

Sand Partridge *Ammoperdix heyi* (1) Brief views of one on day 7 near Amram's Pillars.

Chukar *Alectoris chukar* (4) Locally common. Usually wary and hard to see well, but good views near the Mifrasit water treatment plant.

FLAMINGOS

Greater Flamingo *Phoenicopterus roseus* (5) 100s on salt pans around Eilat and in the Hula Valley.

GREBES

Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis* (5) Scattered sightings on wetlands throughout.

Eared Grebe *Podiceps nigricollis* (1) A few seen on day 2 on the Matash Ayalon reservoir.

PIGEONS AND DOVES

Rock Pigeon (Feral Pigeon) *Columba livia* (12) Common, in all regions, but all birds seen were most likely feral.

Common Wood-Pigeon *Columba palumbus* (2) Only seen in the Golan Heights on days 11 and 12.

Eurasian Collared-Dove *Streptopelia decaocto* (12) Common and widespread. Seen daily in urban areas, villages and fields.

Laughing Dove *Streptopelia senegalensis* (12) Common and widespread. Seen daily in towns and settlements.

Namaqua Dove *Oena capensis* (1) Only seen once, on day 9 along a side road in the Galilee Valley.

SANDGROUSE

Pin-tailed Sandgrouse *Pterocles alchata* (1) A flock of over 1500 seen on day 3 near Urim Junction.

Spotted Sandgrouse *Pterocles senegallus* (2) Seen well in flight and drinking on day 4 by the Mifrasit water treatment plant.

Black-bellied Sandgrouse *Pterocles orientalis* (1) Seen well in flight and on the ground on day 4 near the Mifrasit water treatment plant.

Crowned Sandgrouse *Pterocles coronatus* (1) Flocks seen in flight on day 6 in the Udva Valley.

BUSTARDS

Macqueen's Bustard *Chlamydotis macqueenii* (1) Four seen on day 4, along the Ezuz Road and near the Mifrasit water treatment plant.

SWIFTS

Alpine Swift *Apus melba* (1) A flock of around 12 seen overhead on day 3 at Kibbutz Gevulot.

RAILS, COOTS AND ALLIES

Water Rail *Rallus aquaticus* (1) One heard and glimpsed on day 7 at the Eilat birding centre.

Eurasian Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus* (5) Widespread but often skulking, hence few seen.

Eurasian Coot *Fulica atra* (6) Locally common on freshwater wetlands.

African Swamphe *Porphyrio madagascariensis* (2) Single figures seen on day 6 at Eilat Sewage Farm and day 8 at Mosahv-Ashalin Reservoir.

CRANES

Common Crane *Grus grus* (6) Flocks of around 1000+ seen on days 3 and 4, 10,000 estimated on day 10, and approximately 20,000 estimated at the Agamon-Hula Reserve on the morning of day 11.

THICK-KNEES

Eurasian Thick-knee *Burhinus oedicnemus* (1) Two seen on day 2 at the Kiryat Gat trash dump.

STILTS AND AVOCETS

Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus* (5) Dozens seen on most of the salt pans visited.

Pied Avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta* (4) Single figures seen on several shallow wetlands.

PLOVERS AND LAPWINGS

Northern Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus* (2) Two flocks of 10-20 birds seen on wetlands on days 3 and 12.

Spur-winged Lapwing *Vanellus spinosus* (10) Common and widespread, Even seen at roadsides and around settlements, but never in flocks.

Kentish Plover *Charadrius alexandrinus* (2) Small numbers seen in saline habitats on days 6 and 12.

Common Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula* (3) Small numbers seen on several shallow wetlands.

SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES

Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa* (1) 100s in the morning of day 11 at the Agamon-Hula Reserve.
Ruff *Calidris pugnax* (4) Scattered sightings. 100s at Agamon-Hula in the morning on day 11.
Temminck's Stint *Calidris temminckii* (1) A small flock on a drained pond at Kfar Ruppin on day 12.
Dunlin *Calidris alpina* (3) Small numbers seen at three different drained fishponds.
Little Stint *Calidris minuta* (3) As above, small numbers seen at different drained fishponds.
Common Snipe *Gallinago gallinago* (3) A few single birds seen, mostly in flight.
Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos* (3) A few single birds seen.
Green Sandpiper *Tringa ochropus* (1) Just one seen on day 11.
Spotted Redshank *Tringa erythropus* (4) A few stragglers seen. most having probably passed through.
Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia* (5) A few individuals seen on shallow wetlands.
Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis* (5) As above, a few individuals seen on shallow wetlands.
Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola* (1) Only seen on day 12 at the Kfar Ruppin fish-farm.
Common Redshank *Tringa totanus* (5) Scattered sightings on shallow wetlands and drained ponds.

GULLS AND TERNS

Slender-billed Gull *Chroicocephalus genei* (3) Single birds seen at
Black-headed Gull *Chroicocephalus ridibundus* (5) Scattered sightings over wetlands and the Red Sea.
White-eyed Gull (1) A few seen over the Red Sea from Eilat North Beach on day 5.
Armenian Gull *Larus armenicus* (1) Single figures seen at the Lehavot HaBashan fishponds on day 11.
Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus* (1) One at Eilat North Beach on day 6. The subspecies seen, *heuglini*, is sometimes considered a distinct species named 'Siberian Gull'.
Gull-billed Tern *Gelochelidon nilotica* (1) Just one seen on day 7 at the Eilat birding centre.
Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybrida* (2) Single birds seen over wetlands on days 2 and 12.
White-cheeked Tern *Sterna repressa* (1) Single figures seen over the Red Sea from Eilat North Beach on day 5.

STORKS

Black Stork *Ciconia nigra* (1) Several seen soaring, probably migrating southwards, on day 12.
White Stork *Ciconia ciconia* (3) 100s at the Kiryat Gat trash dump on day 2, and around a settlement in the West Bank on day 12.

CORMORANTS

Pygmy Cormorant *Microcarbo pygmaeus* (3) Dozens seen at wetlands in the Hula Valley.
Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo* (4) Many seen at wetlands in the Hula Valley.

PELICANS

Great White Pelican *Pelecanus onocrotalus* (3) A single on a saltpan at Eilat on day 6, 100s in the Hula Valley on days 11 and 12.

HERONS AND EGRETS

Great Bittern *Botaurus stellaris* (1) One seen briefly in flight over a wetland on day 11.

Little Bittern *Ixobrychus minutus* (1) One heard calling from a reedbed on day 8 but would not show.

Gray Heron *Ardea cinerea* (7) Quite common. Widespread, seen at several wetlands and in farmland.

Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea* (3) A few individuals seen at reedy wetlands.

Great Egret *Ardea alba* (5) Scattered observations, often single birds, sometimes small groups.

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta* (7) Common and widespread, seen at wetlands in all regions.

Western Reef-Heron *Egretta gularis* (2) Both dark and white morphs seen, on days 5 and 7.

Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis* (7) Common and widespread, mostly in farmlands, often with livestock.

Squacco Heron *Ardeola ralloides* (3) Scattered observations, mostly single birds, at various wetlands.

IBISES AND SPOONBILLS

Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus* (3) Most seen, 100s, at Agamon-Hula on the morning of day 11.

Eurasian Spoonbill *Platalea leucorodia* (2) Only seen on days 11 and 12 in the Hula Valley.

OSPREY

Osprey *Pandion haliaetus* (1) Two seen close and well on day 12 at the Kfar Ruppim fish-farm.

HAWKS, KITES AND EAGLES

Black-winged Kite *Elanus caeruleus* (7) Fairly common, seen throughout, usually single birds.

Cinereous Vulture *Aegypius monachus* (1) One distant bird seen circling on day 7.

Eurasian Griffon *Gyps fulvus* (2) Distant soaring birds on day 4 at the Tsin-Ein Avdat canyon and several a little closer on day 10 at Gamla in the Golan Heights.

Short-toed Snake-Eagle *Circaetus gallicus* (2) Singles seen well on days 2 and 4.

Greater Spotted Eagle *Clanga clanga* (3) Four seen in total, all in the Hula Valley.

Booted Eagle *Hieraetus pennatus* (1) A pale morph seen quite well on day 11 in the Hula Valley.

Steppe Eagle *Aquila nipalensis* (2) Several seen on days 6 and 7.

Imperial Eagle *Aquila heliaca* (2) A juvenile seen well on day 2 and two adults on day 3.

Bonelli's Eagle *Aquila fasciata* (1) Two seen at Gamla in the Golan Heights on day 10.

Eurasian Marsh-Harrier *Circus aeruginosus* (6) Scattered sightings, locally common at wetlands.

Hen Harrier *Circus cyaneus* (1) One male seen briefly on day 7 over fields near Yotvata.

Pallid Harrier *Circus macrourus* (2) A male seen well on day 3 and a juvenile on day 7.

Eurasian Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus* (5) Several single birds seen in flight.

Levant Sparrowhawk *Accipiter brevipes* (1) One juvenile bird on day 2 by Matash Ayalon reservoir.

Black Kite *Milvus migrans* (9) Common throughout, sometimes dozens, sometimes 100s seen. Around 4000 estimated at the Kiryat Gat trash dump on day 2.

Common Buzzard *Buteo buteo* (4) Scattered sightings, mostly of single birds.

Long-legged Buzzard *Buteo rufinus* (4) As above, scattered sightings, usually single birds.

BARN OWLS

Barn Owl *Tyto alba* (1) One in a palm tree on day 3 in the grounds of the Kibbutz Gevulot.

OWLS

Eurasian Eagle-Owl *Bubo bubo* (1) Good views of one on day 10 roosting in a quarry.

Little Owl *Athene noctua* (2) Good views of two in during days 3 and 4.

Tawny Owl *Strix aluco* (2) One seen after dusk on days 10 and 11 at the Hotel Hagoshrim.

Desert Owl *Strix hadorami* (1) One heard at a wadi near Ein Bokek after dusk on day 8.

Long-eared Owl *Asio otus* (1) 15 birds seen well at a roost in a kibbutz near the Gaza Strip on day 3.

HOOPoes

Eurasian Hoopoe *Upupa epops* (5) Fairly widespread, several seen well, in flight, perched and feeding on the ground.

KINGFISHERS

Common Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis* (3) Mostly fleeting flight views, though some seen perched.

White-throated Kingfisher *Halcyon smyrnensis* (6) Widespread, some good views of perched birds.

Pied Kingfisher *Ceryle rudis* (5) Fairly widespread, several very good views of perched birds.

BEE-EATERS

Green Bee-eater (Asian Green or Little Green Bee-eater) *Merops orientalis* (5) Scattered observations, including several of perched groups of up to a dozen birds.

WOODPECKERS

Syrian Woodpecker *Dendrocopos syriacus* (4) Seen in lightly wooded habitats, typically gardens and parks. A total of 11 seen: 3 on day 3, and 4 on days 11 and 13.

FALCONS

Eurasian Kestrel (Common Kestrel) *Falco tinnunculus* (11) Common, seen in all regions.

Merlin *Falco columbarius* (1) One seen in flight on day 3 in the Zeelim-Urim powerline fields.

Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus* (1) Just one seen in flight on day 2.

Red-footed Falcon *Falco vespertinus* (1) A single juvenile seen on day 3 at the Kibbutz Gevulot.

OLD WORLD PARROTS

Rose-ringed Parakeet *Psittacula krameri* (I) (11) A widespread non-native species, seen in urban areas including in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem.

NEW WORLD PARROTS

Monk Parakeet *Psittacula monachus* (I) (3) Another invasive species but not as common as the above. Also present in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem.

SHRIKES

Great Gray Shrike *Lanius excubitor* (6) Widespread, single birds often seen perched on roadside wires and fence posts.

CROWS AND JAYS

Eurasian Jay *Garrulus glandarius* (5) Most seen in the Golan Heights, usually singles in flight.

Eurasian Jackdaw *Corvus monedula* (6) Scattered sightings, usually seen with other corvids.

House Crow *Corvus splendens* (I) (4) A non-native species, only seen in and around Eilat.

Rook *Corvus frugilegus* (3) Seen mainly in the Golan Heights, usually flocks foraging in farmland.

Hooded Crow *Corvus cornix* (10) Very common and widespread, but not seen in large flocks.

Brown-necked Raven *Corvus ruficollis* (6) Fairly common and widespread, even in urban areas.

Fan-tailed Raven *Corvus rhipidurus* (1) A few seen on day 9 at Nahal David near Ein Gedi.

Common Raven *Corvus corax* (1) Only seen on day 10 at Gamla in the Golan Heights.

TITS

Great Tit *Parus major* (6) Scattered sightings in wooded areas, particularly in the Golan Heights. Presumably more common than sightings suggest.

LARKS

Greater Hoopoe-Lark *Alaemon alaudipes* (1) One seen very well on day 8 in the Arava Desert.

Bar-tailed Lark *Ammomanes cinctura* (1) A few seen on day 6 in desert in the Udva Valley, Southern Negev.

Desert Lark *Ammomanes deserti* (5) Fairly common in barren, arid areas such as the Negev but also some seen in and around settlements.

Temminck's Lark *Eremophila bilopha* (2) A few seen well in the Udva Valley, Southern Negev.

Calandra Lark *Melanocorypha calandra* (1) Only seen on day 3 in the Urim area fields.

Eurasian Skylark *Alauda arvensis* (8) Widespread, wintering flocks of 10-20 birds often seen in agricultural land.

Crested Lark *Galerida cristata* (11) Very common and widespread, even in and around settlements and suburban habitats. Mostly single birds seen.

CISTICOLAS

Graceful Prinia *Prinia gracilis* (7) Widespread, found wherever there was bushy, scrubby habitat. But rather skulking, seldom sitting up and hence often hard to see well.

Zitting Cisticola *Cisticola juncidis* (1) Surprisingly, only seen once, on day 12 at the Kfar Ruppim fish-farm. Probably quite common but overlooked.

REED WARBLERS

Eurasian Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus scirpaceus* (1) Two glimpsed in a reedbed at Mosahv-Ashalin on day 8.

Great Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus arundinaceus* (1) One heard, then seen, in a reedbed at Mosahv-Ashalin on day 8.

Clamorous Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus stentoreus* (1) Around three heard and seen in a reedbed at Mosahv-Ashalin on day 8.

SWALLOWS AND MARTINS

Bank Swallow (Sand Martin) *Riparia riparia* (1) A small flock on day 2 at Matash Ayalon reservoir.

Eurasian Crag-Martin *Ptyonoprogne rupestris* (1) A few seen on day 10 in the Golan Heights.

Rock Martin *Ptyonoprogne fuligula* (7) Locally common, in both rural and urban areas.

Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica* (8) Common and widespread but not seen in large flocks.

BULBULS

White-spectacled Bulbul *Pycnonotus xanthopygos* (12) Abundant and widespread. Seen daily in all regions, in both rural and urban environments.

LEAF WARBLERS

Common Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita* (10) Common and widespread, recorded in all regions.

BUSH WARBLERS

Scrub Warbler *Scotocerca inquieta* (2) A skulker but seen on day 5 in the Negev and on day 8 in the desert near KM 94 in the Arava Valley.

Cetti's Warbler *Cettia cetti* (1) Just one heard on day 11 at a wetland in the Hula Valley. Probably quite common but overlooked as rather skulking.

SYLVIID WARBLERS

Eurasian Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla* (4) Scattered sightings. As wintering birds seldom sing at this time they are easily overlooked.

Lesser Whitethroat *Curruca curruca* (1) One seen on day 13 in the Rose Garden in Jerusalem.

Arabian Warbler *Curruca leucomelaena* (1) One on day 8 in the desert at KM 94 in the Arava Valley.

Sardinian Warbler *Curruca melanocephala* (7) Fairly common and widespread but often skulking and therefore often only glimpsed.

Spectacled Warbler *Curruca conspicillata* (1) One seen in the morning of day 4 in the Nizzana area.

BABLERS

Arabian Babbler *Argya squamiceps* (1) One 'sentry' seen very well in a bush, other birds nearby, on day 4 along the Ezuz road.

STARLINGS AND MYNAS

European Starling *Sturnus vulgaris* (7) Small flocks seen throughout, in all areas except deserts.

Common Myna *Acridotheres tristis* (I) (12) A very common and widespread non-native species, seen in many urban areas.

Tristram's Starling *Onychognathus tristramii* (6) Locally common, usually seen in urban habitats.

THRUSHES

Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos* (1) Just one sighting on day 3 at Kibbutz Gevulot.

Eurasian Blackbird *Turdus merula* (6) Scattered sightings, usually single birds. Most common in the Golan Heights.

OLD WORLD FLYCATCHERS AND CHATS

Black Scrub-Robin *Cercotrichas podobe* (1) One seen at a kibbutz stop north of Eilat on day 7.

European Robin *Erithacus rubecula* (4) Only a few seen, probably quite common but overlooked.

Bluethroat *Luscinia svecica* (5) Scattered sightings of single birds, usually by wetlands.

Black Redstart *Phoenicurus ochruros* (5) Scattered sightings of single birds, usually in rocky areas.

Blue Rock-Thrush *Monticola solitarius* (2) Seen at Ben-Gurion Park on day 4 and Arbel on day 12.

European Stonechat *Saxicola rubicola* (11) Very common and widespread, seen in all regions.

Siberian Stonechat *Saxicola maurus* (1) One on day 7 at the Northern Circular Fields near Yotvata.

Northern Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe* (2) Seen on days 5 at Mitzpe Ramon and 7 near Yotvata.

Isabelline Wheatear *Oenanthe isabelline* (4) Scattered sightings in several arid habitats.

Hooded Wheatear *Oenanthe monachal* (1) One on day 8 near KM 94 in the Arava Valley.

Desert Wheatear *Oenanthe deserti* (4) Scattered sightings at various desert habitat stops.

Blackstart *Oenanthe melanura* (6) Several seen including a 'tame' bird by the Ben Gurion Memorial.

White-crowned Wheatear *Oenanthe leucopyga* (5) Locally common, several seen very well.

Finsch's Wheatear *Oenanthe finschii* (1) Two, male and female, seen on day 10 at Gamla.

Mourning Wheatear *Oenanthe lugens* (5) Locally common in arid, stony arid, several seen well.

SUNBIRDS

Palestine Sunbird *Cinnyris osea* (7) Locally common in lush areas such as gardens and parks.

OLD WORLD SPARROWS

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus* (12) Widespread, seen almost everywhere apart from deserts.

Spanish Sparrow *Passer hispaniolensis* (7) Widespread, seen in all regions but not as common as the above related species.

Dead Sea Sparrow *Passer moabiticus* (1) Just one brief sighting on day 8.

PIPITS AND WAGTAILS

White Wagtail *Motacilla alba* (12) Very common and widespread, seen in all regions.

Tawny Pipit *Anthus campestris* (1) Just one sighting on day 8 near KM 94 in the Arava Valley.

Meadow Pipit *Anthus pratensis* (7) Fairly common, but usually ones and twos seen in flight.

Red-throated Pipit *Anthus cervinus* (4) Scattered sightings, some still in rufous summer plumage.

Water Pipit *Anthus spinoletta* (5) Scattered sightings throughout, mostly of single birds.

FINCHES

Common Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs* (3) Several seen in the Golan Heights.

Brambling *Fringilla montifringilla* (1) Seen on day 11 in a park in the Hula Valley.

Sinai Rosefinch *Carpodacus synoicus* (1) A female seen on day 7 near Amram's Pillars.

Common Rosefinch *Carpodacus erythrinus* (1) A female seen (after being banded and released) on day 7 at the Eilat birding centre.

Trumpeter Rosefinch *Bucanetes githagineus* (4) Small flocks seen in the Negev and Arava deserts.

Desert Finch *Rhodospiza obsoleta* (2) A few seen on day 4 in the Negev and 7 in the Arava.

European Greenfinch *Chloris chloris* (7) Scattered observations, most in the Golan Heights.

Eurasian Linnet *Linaria cannabina* (3) Some small flocks seen in farmland, often with other finches.

European Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis* (5) Several small flocks seen, mostly in the Golan Heights.

European Serin *Serinus serinus* (1) Surprisingly, only seen once, on day 11.

BUNTINGS

Corn Bunting *Emberiza calandra* (5) Scattered observations, most seen in the Golan Heights.

MAMMALS (11 species recorded)

Lesser Mouse-tailed Bat (Hardwicke's Lesser Mouse-tailed Bat) *Rhinopoma hardwickii* (1) A daytime roost of up to 20 in a disused building near Eilat visited on day 7.

Red Fox *Vulpes vulpes* (1) One seen resting and then walking around on a hillside during the night drive on day 8.

Golden Jackal *Canis aureus* (3) Excellent close daytime view of one at Mount Hermon on day 10.

Egyptian Mongoose (Ichneumon) *Herpestes ichneumon* (1). One seen well searching for food at the Kfar Ruppim fish-farm on day 12.

Rock Hyrax *Procavia capensis* (2) Excellent close views of several sitting on boulders at Mount Arbel on day 12.

Wild Boar *Sus scrofa* (1) A large male was seen briefly on day 11.

Mountain Gazelle *Gazella gazella* (3) Quite common in the Golan Heights. Prefers damper (but not wet) habitats than the following species.

Dorcas Gazelle *Gazella dorcas* (4) Quite common in arid areas like the Udva Valley, Southern Negev, and the Arava Valley.

Nubian Ibex *Capra nubiana* (2) Several seen remarkably close on days 4 and 5, even in urban parks where they appear to have become habituated.

Asiatic Wild Ass (Onager) *Equus hemionus* (1) One seen on day 6 in the Udva Valley, Southern Negev. Lots of tracks and dung found on other days. Re-introduced after being extirpated.

Nutria (Coypu) *Myocastor coypus* (I) (2) This introduced rodent species (native to South America) is unfortunately now common on many wetlands.

REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS (10 species recorded)

Levant Water Frog *Pelophylax bedriagae* (1) Several heard, and then one seen at the Hagoshrim Hotel in the Golan Heights on the evening of day 10.

Greek Tortoise (Spur-thighed tortoise) *Testudo graeca* (1) One at the Kibbutz Gevulot on day 3.

Western Caspian Turtle (Western Caspian Terrapin) *Mauremys rivulata* (1) Several in ponds at the Agamon-Hula Reserve on day 11.

Mediterranean House Gecko (Turkish Gecko) *Hemidactylus turcicus* (1) Probably quite common but surprisingly only see at the Hagoshrim Hotel in the Golan Heights on the evening of day 10.

Sinai Fan-fingered Gecko *Ptyodactylus guttatus* (1) A few seen in the Arava valley desert on day 8.

Levant Fan-fingered Gecko *Ptyodactylus puiseuxi* (1) A few seen on rocks at Gamla in the Golan Heights on day 10.

Yellow Fan-fingered Gecko *Ptyodactylus hasselquistii* (1) Seen in the Arava valley desert on day 7.

Roughtail Rock Agama (Starred Agama) *Stellagama/Laudakia stellio* (4) Many seen, as quite common in arid, rocky terrain.

Desert Agama *Trapelus mutabilis* (1) Several seen in the Negev desert on day 5.

Small-spotted Lizard *Mesalina guttulata* (1) A few seen in the Negev desert on day 5.