

Northern Spain

14th February – 16th February 2020

A weekend in northern Spain to target Dupont's Lark. Mathew Mellor and Neil Bramwell had already been birding the area for a few days and James Hanlon joined them the day before I arrived. They collected me from Barcelona airport on the Friday evening and we went to our accommodation nearby. The following morning we birded areas around Barcelona where the targets were Moustached Warbler and two Category C species, Red-billed Leiothrix and Common Waxbill, before driving west towards our base at Quinto. The rest of the time was spent birding the plains around here, with the target, for me at least being the Lark which was seen very well. Myself and James were dropped off at Zaragoza airport on the Sunday evening to return to a windy UK being hit by Storm Dennis.

<https://www.facebook.com/toby.austin.104/posts/1480969795398230>

Itinerary

<https://tinyurl.com/yx4t4hcb>

Weather

Cloudy mornings followed by sunnier afternoons. The Sunday morning at the Dupont's site was foggy and very cold!

Birds

Greylag Goose

Common Shelduck

Mallard

Northern Shoveler

Eurasian Teal

Red-legged Partridge

Little Grebe

White Stork

Western Cattle Egret

Grey Heron

Great Egret

Little Egret

Great Cormorant

Griffon Vulture

Golden Eagle

Eurasian Sparrowhawk

Western Marsh Harrier

Hen Harrier

Red Kite

Common Buzzard

Great Bustard

Little Bustard

Water Rail

Western Swamphen – heard

Common Moorhen

Eurasian Coot
Northern Lapwing
Kentish Plover
Common Snipe
Green Sandpiper
Little Stint
Dunlin
Black-headed Gull
Audouin's Gull
Yellow-legged Gull
Black-bellied Sandgrouse
Little Owl
Short-eared Owl
Feral Pigeon
Common Wood Pigeon
Eurasian Collared Dove
Common Kingfisher
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker
Iberian Green Woodpecker – heard
Common Kestrel
Merlin
Peregrine Falcon
Monk Parakeet
Iberian Shrike
Eurasian Magpie
Red-billed Chough
Western Jackdaw
Carrion Crow
Northern Raven
Coal Tit
European Crested Tit
Eurasian Blue Tit
Great Tit
Eurasian Penduline Tit
Eurasian Skylark
Crested Lark
Calandra Lark
Dupont's Lark – eight, two seen very well and two briefly in flight, the rest heard-only
Lesser Short-toed Lark
Eurasian Crag Martin
Cetti's Warbler
Long-tailed Tit
Common Chiffchaff
Moustached Warbler
Zitting Cisticola
Red-billed Leiothrix – three birds, but poor views unfortunately
Eurasian Blackcap – heard
Dartford Warbler

Sardinian Warbler
Common Firecrest
Eurasian Nuthatch
Short-toed Treecreeper
Common Starling
Spotless Starling
Common Blackbird
Fieldfare
European Robin
Black Redstart
European Stonechat
Black Wheatear – two seen from car on drive west, about 45 minutes from Los Monegros
House Sparrow
Common Waxbill
Grey Wagtail
White Wagtail
Meadow Pipit
Water Pipit
Common Chaffinch
European Greenfinch
Common Linnet
European Goldfinch
European Serin
Corn Bunting
Common Reed Bunting

Mammals

European Rabbit
Red Fox

Daily Lists

15th – Cat Tet – <https://ebird.org/checklist/S64697497>
15th – Llobregat – <https://ebird.org/checklist/S64697496>
15th – Vallvidrera – <https://ebird.org/checklist/S64697495>
15th – Los Monegros – <https://ebird.org/checklist/S64697493>
16th – El Planeron – <https://ebird.org/checklist/S64697492>
16th – Los Monegros – <https://ebird.org/checklist/S64746193>