

Twitching the Algerian Nuthatch, a travel report

from 31 May to 2 June 2019

by Dick Meijer, Peter van Scheepen and Peter Los



Algerian Nuthatch, Djimla forest (Photo PL)



Djimla forest (Photo SB)

Introduction

Travelling to Algeria to twitch the endemic and highly range-restricted Algerian Nuthatch is difficult to explain to non-birders. Most ambitious birders will understand though why one would invest so much effort, time and money to see this mythical, that was discovered in 1975, species. So we – Peter van Scheepen, Peter Los and Dick Meijer decided to go. Since there is no more threat of terrorist groups hiding in the area where the nuthatch occurs, we and the Belgian bird-watchers Stijn Borny and Silas Morreeuw felt confident it was safe enough to undertake this excursion. Our trip was organized perfectly by Starling Reizen (www.starlingreizen.be) and quite aptly led by Geert Beckers, assisted by ground-agent Karim Haddad.

The target species was easily found in the Bouafroun oak forest on a hill near Djimla at an altitude of 1,000 m. Atlas Flycatcher, a recent split from Pied Flycatcher, was also numerous there. It was very delightful to see and hear the *arenicola*-subspecies of European Turtle-Dove virtually everywhere around Constantine, our base during this trip. Other highlights were: the *numidus*-subspecies Great Spotted Woodpecker, the very distinctive *cervicalis*-subspecies of Eurasian Jay, the *cirtensis*-subspecies of Eurasian Jackdaw, the *ledouci*-subspecies of Coal Tit and the *ambiguus*-subspecies of African Reed-Warbler. Unfortunately we could not find the *mauritanica*-subspecies of Tawny Owl, a subspecies with split-potential. We recorded 92 species of bird and three species of mammal.



Bouafroun oak forest (Photo PvS)

We were quite lucky with the weather with clear skies and pleasant temperatures, in contrast with other birders a week earlier who had wet and cold weather.

It was a great pleasure to find our target species and most of the interesting subspecies, while birding in the largely unspoilt, flowering and undulating landscape of this part of Algeria.

Itinerary

Date	Activities	Accommodation
31 May	From Meppel, Wijk bij Duurstede, Dordrecht and Gent to Paris by car (carpooling), from Paris to Constantine by plane and from airport to hotel by car.	Constantine, hotel El Khayem Anani.
1 June	From Constantine to Djimla by car, to Bouafroun forest on foot, to Mechta Mellel and to Gorge du Rhumel and back to our hotel by car.	Constantine, hotel El Khayem Anani.
2 June	From Constantine to Lac de Guettar el Aich, to Park Djebel el Ouahch and to the airport by car, from Constantine to Paris by plane and to Gent, Dordrecht, Wijk bij Duurstede and Meppel by car (carpooling).	At home.

Day-by-day account

31 May

Peter Los drove from Meppel via Wijk bij Duurstede (Peter van Scheepen), Dordrecht (Dick Meijer) and Gent (Stijn Borny) to Paris, Orly from 7.30 hrs. to 14.00 hrs. We met Geert Beckers and Silas Morreeuw at the airport and flew from Paris to Constantine, Algeria with Air Algérie-flight AH 1123 (2 hours and 15 minutes) at 18.00 hours. Arrived in Constantine at 19.15 hrs. (one hour time difference). Went from the airport to a restaurant by car, met our local guide Karim Haddad (karim241267@yahoo.fr), had a very quick Ramadan-style, but tasty meal and continued to hotel El Khayem Anani. Slept in hotel El Khayem Anani (www.hotelkhayem.com or hotelkhayem@yahoo.fr) which had perfect rooms but zero service.

1 June

Had a simple breakfast at 5.00 hrs., left our hotel at 5.30 hrs. and drove to Djimla (3 hours), found Moussier's Redstart just below Djimla and walked into the Bouafroun forest (1.000 m above sea level) where Algerian oak *Quercus canariensis* and Afares oak *Quercus afares* were prevalent. We quickly found Atlas Flycatcher, and Algerian Nuthatch followed not much later. The flycatcher is numerous and the nuthatch is certainly not rare. We even found a nuthatch-family and two nesting holes. On the way back to Constantine we explored the river and reed beds at Mechta Mellel, where we found Western Olivaceous Warbler and African Reed-Warbler, both rather common here. Closer to

Constantine we stopped at the Gorge du Rhumel, where we studied the *cirtensis*-Eurasian Jackdaws with darker hind neck. Higher up we had great views of a family of the *brookei*-subspecies of Peregrine Falcons and a male and female Blue Rock Thrush. Had a delicious dinner at Karim's house and went back to hotel El Khayem Anani. Had beautiful weather all day.

2 June

Had breakfast at 5.00 hrs. and left our hotel at 5.30 hrs. again, then drove to Lac de Guettar el Aich (20 minutes), where White-headed Duck was a goodie. Three species of Grebe (Little, Eared and Great Crested) and Great Reed-Warbler are also noteworthy here, as well as Alpine Swifts at very close quarters. We then continued to the pine forest of Park Djebel el Quahch (30 minutes), where we readily found the *cervicalis*-subspecies of Eurasian Jay with distinctive white cheeks and black cap, and not much later after some effort the *poliogyne*-subspecies of Red Crossbill. Very showy Booted Eagles, a skulking Spectacled Warbler and a roosting Eurasian Scops-Owl are also worth mentioning at this site. Then drove to the airport and said good-bye to local agent Karim. Flew with Air Algérie flight AH 1122 from Constantine to Paris at 13.15 hrs. (2 hours and 15 minutes again), arrived in Paris at 16.30 hrs. Said good-bye to Geert and Silas and drove back to Gent, Dordrecht, Wijk bij Duurstede and Meppel. Had fine weather again in Algeria. Slept at home.



Gorge du Rhumel (Photo Pvs)

Weather

We had beautiful weather during our stay in Algeria. This type of weather is not guaranteed as other birders experienced a week earlier.

Dangers and annoyances

Obtaining a visa to enter Algeria is time consuming and rather annoying. We felt safe everywhere we went in Algeria, threats by terrorists seem to be something of the past in this part of the country. The police didn't bother us very much; there were road blocks, but we were never stopped. The customs took their time with us asking all kinds of silly questions, but let us pass quickly when they were allowed to eat after sunset. The Ramadan made it impossible to have a coffee or tea in a restaurant during the day. Using binoculars is apparently forbidden in Algeria so we had to leave ours at home. Yet Karim had two pairs of binoculars of low quality and a useful telescope, illegally we presume. The photographers used their cameras to get good views of the birds.

Acknowledgements

We thank Kees Verburg and Karim Haddad for their remarks after proof reading an earlier version of this report. We appreciated the company of our Belgian friends Geert Beckers (guide), Stijn Borny and Silas Morreeuw who contributed their fair shares to a very pleasant atmosphere during this trip. We thank Peter Los for his driving and carpooling from Meppel to Paris vice versa.



First day of issue, 18 October 1979

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From left to right: Dick Meijer, Stijn Borny, Geert Beckers, Karim Haddad, Peter Los, Silas Morreeuw and Peter van Scheepen (Photo PvS)

Systematic list of birds

Sequence and taxonomy follow Clements 2018:

Clements, J. F., T. S. Schulenberg, M. J. Iliff, D. Roberson, T. A. Fredericks, B. L. Sullivan, and C. L. Wood. 2018. Downloaded from <http://www.birds.cornell.edu/clementschecklist/download/>

E - Endemic

1. Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos platyrhynchos*)

Five seen on Lac de Guettar el Aich and 18 in Park Djebel el Ouahch.

2. White-headed Duck (*Oxyura leucocephala*)

Five seen on Lac de Guettar el Aich.

3. Common Quail (*Coturnix coturnix*)

Two heard on Lac de Guettar el Aich.

4. Little Grebe

(*Tachybaptus ruficollis ruficollis*)

Four seen on Lac de Guettar el Aich and one in Park Djebel el Ouahch.

5. Great Crested Grebe

(*Podiceps cristatus cristatus*)

Two seen on Lac de Guettar el Aich.



Little Grebe, Lac de Guettar el Aich (Photo SB)

6. Eared Grebe

(*Podiceps nigricollis nigricollis*)

One seen on Lac de Guettar el Aich.

7. Rock Pigeon (*Columba livia livia*)

A few birds, seen in Gorge du Rhumel might have been genuine wild birds.

8. Common Wood-Pigeon (*Columba palumbus excelsa*)

Three seen en route between Constantine and Djimla, five in Bouafroun forest and 30 in Park Djebel el Ouahch.



Rock Pigeon, Gorge du Rhumel (Photo PL)



Common Wood-Pigeon, Park Djebel el Ouahch (Photo PvS)



European Turtle-Dove, Park Djebel el Ouahch (Photo PvS)



Eurasian Collared-Dove, en route between Constantine and Djimla forest (Photo PvS)

9. European Turtle-Dove (*Streptopelia turtur arenicola*)

A very common bird.

10. Eurasian Collared-Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto decaocto*)

Common.

11. Common Cuckoo (*Cuculus canorus bangsi*)

Two heard in Park Djebel el Ouahch.

12. Alpine Swift (*Apus melba tuneti*)

40 seen in Gorge du Rhumel and 40 at eye level at Lac de Guettar el Aich.



Alpine Swift, Lac de Guettar el Aich (Photo PL)

13. Common Swift (*Apus apus apus*)

Common.

14. Pallid Swift (*Apus pallidus brehmorum*)

Ten seen in Gorge du Rhumel and 15 at eye level at Lac de Guettar el Aich.

15. Eurasian Moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus chloropus*)

One seen on Lac de Guettar el Aich and one in Park Djebel el Ouahch.

16. Eurasian Coot (*Fulica atra atra*)

50 seen at Lac de Guettar el Aich.

17. Little Ringed Plover (*Charadrius dubius curonicus*)

Two seen at Mechta Mellel and one at Lac de Guettar el Aich.



White Stork, en route between Constantine and Djimla (Photo PL)



Little Ringed Plover, Mechta Mellel (Photo PVS)

18. White Stork (*Ciconia ciconia ciconia*)

Very common. On 1 June at least 200 birds seen.

19. Gray Heron (*Ardea cinerea cinerea*)

One seen at Mechta Mellel.

20. Purple Heron (*Ardea purpurea purpurea*)

One seen at Lac de Guettar el Aich.

21. Little Egret (*Egretta garzetta garzetta*)

Five seen at Mechta Mellel.

22. Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis ibis*)

Common.

23. Black-crowned Night-Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax nycticorax*)

Five seen at Mechta Mellel and one at Lac de Guettar el Aich.



Eurasian Griffon, Djimla forest (Photo PL)



Short-toed Snake-Eagle, Djimla forest (Photo PL)



Booted Eagle, Park Djebel el Ouahch (Photo PL)



Long-legged Buzzard, Park Djebel el Ouahch (Photo PL)

24. Eurasian Griffon (*Gyps fulvus fulvus*)

Two seen flying by in Bouafroun forest.

25. Short-toed Snake-Eagle (*Circaetus gallicus gallicus*)

Three seen in Bouafroun forest.

26. Booted Eagle (*Hieraaetus pennatus*)

Three seen in Bouafroun forest and three in Park Djebel el Ouahch.

27. Eurasian Marsh-Harrier (*Circus aeruginosus harterti*)

Four seen en route between Constantine and Djimla and two en route between Constantine and Park Djebel el Ouahch.

28. Black Kite (*Milvus migrans migrans*)

Five seen en route between Constantine and Djimla and two en route between Constantine and Park Djebel el Ouahch.

29. Long-legged Buzzard (*Buteo rufinus cirtensis*)

Four seen en route between Constantine and Djimla, one in Bouafroun forest, one en route between Constantine and Park Djebel el Ouahch and two in Park Djebel el Ouahch.

30. Barn Owl (*Tyto alba alba*)

One seen en route near Constantine.

31. Eurasian Scops-Owl (*Otus scops mallorcae*)

One seen at its day roost in Park Djebel el Ouahch.

32. Little Owl (*Athene noctua glaux*)

One seen en route near Constantine.

33. Eurasian Hoopoe (*Upupa epops epops*)

Two seen in Park Djebel el Ouahch.

34. Great Spotted Woodpecker

(*Dendrocopos major numidus*)

Six seen in Bouafroun forest and ten in Park Djebel el Ouahch.



Eurasian Scops-Owl, Park Djebel el Ouahch (Photo PvS)



Great Spotted Woodpecker, Park Djebel el Ouahch (Photo PL)



Great Spotted Woodpecker, Park Djebel el Ouahch (Photo PL)

35. Levillant's Woodpecker (*Picus vaillantii*)

Five seen in Bouafroun forest and five in Park Djebel el Ouahch.

36. Lesser Kestrel (*Falco naumanni*)

20 seen in Gorge du Rhumel.



Lesser Kestrel, Gorge du Rhumel (Photo PL)



Eurasian Kestrel, en route between Constantine and Djimla (Photo SB)

37. Eurasian Kestrel (*Falco tinnunculus tinnunculus*)

One seen en route from the airport to Constantine, six en route between Constantine and Djimla and eight en route between Constantine and Park Djebel el Ouahch.

38. Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus brookei*)

Four seen in Gorge du Rhumel.



Peregrine Falcon, Gorge du Rhumel (Photo PL)



Peregrine Falcon, Gorge du Rhumel (Photo PL)

39. Woodchat Shrike
(*Lanius senator senator*)

Four seen en route between Constantine and Djimla.

40. Eurasian Golden Oriole
(*Oriolus oriolus*)

A few seen and more heard in Bouafroun forest.



Woodchat Shrike, Mechta Mellel (Photo PvS)

41. Eurasian Jay (*Garrulus glandarius cervicalis*)

Heard in Bouafroun forest and 20 seen in Park Djebel el Ouahch.

This race together with G. g. minor and G. g. whitakeri is endemic to North Africa and has a black crown and white cheeks.

42. Eurasian Jackdaw (*Corvus monedula cirtensis*)

200 seen in Gorge du Rhumel.

This endemic subspecies only occurs in the environment of Constantine and differs from ours by its darker nape.



Eurasian Jay, Park Djebel el Ouahch (Photo PL)



Eurasian Jackdaw, Gorge du Rhumel (Photo PL)

43. Common Raven (*Corvus corax tingitanus*)

Six seen en route between Constantine and Djimla, two in Bouafroun forest, two in Gorge du Rhumel and one in Park Djebel el Ouahch.

44. Wood Lark (*Lullula arborea pallida*)

One heard in Park Djebel el Ouahch.

45. Crested Lark (*Galerida cristata carthaginis*)

Two seen en route between Constantine and Djimla and one heard at Lac de Guettar el Aich.



Common Raven, Gorge du Rhumel (Photo PL)

46. Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica rustica*)

Common.

47. Eurasian Crag-Martin (*Ptyonoprogne rupestris*)

A few seen en route between Constantine and Djimla and in Gorge du Rhumel.

48. Common House-Martin (*Delichon urbicum meridionale*)

50 seen at the hotel in Constantine.

49. Algerian Nuthatch (*Sitta ledanti*) **E**

At least 15 seen in Bouafroun forest.

Algeria's only endemic.



Algerian Nuthatch, Djimla forest (Photo PL)



Algerian Nuthatch, Djimla forest (Photo PvS)



Algerian Nuthatch, Djimla forest (Photo PL)



Algerian Nuthatch, Djimla forest (Photo PvS)



Algerian Nuthatch, Djimla forest (Photo PL)



Algerian Nuthatch, Djimla forest (Photo PL)

50. Coal Tit (*Pariparus ater ledouci*)

Six seen in Bouafroun forest and three in Park Djebel el Ouahch.

This subspecies has yellow underparts, yellow cheeks and a very different call and is restricted to N Algeria and NW Tunisia.

51. African Blue Tit (*Cyanistes teneriffae ultramarinus*)

Ten seen in Bouafroun forest and six in Park Djebel el Ouahch.

52. Great Tit (*Parus major excelsus*)

Five seen in Bouafroun forest and two in Park Djebel el Ouahch.

53. Short-toed Treecreeper (*Certhia brachydactyla mauritanica*)

Ten seen in Bouafroun forest and ten in Park Djebel el Ouahch.



*Short-toed Treecreeper, Park Djebel el Ouahch
(Photo PL)*



Common Bulbul, Mechta Mellel (Photo SB)

54. Eurasian Wren (*Troglodytes troglodytes kabyloorum*)

Two heard in Bouafroun forest and one seen and five heard in Park Djebel el Ouahch.

55. Common Bulbul (*Pycnonotus barbatus barbatus*)

Four seen en route between Constantine and Djimla and two at Mechta Mellel.

56. Cetti's Warbler (*Cettia cetti cetti*)

One seen and a few heard at Mechta Mellel.

57. Western Bonelli's Warbler (*Phylloscopus bonelli*)

Ten seen or heard at the entrance of Bouafroun forest and common in Park Djebel el Ouahch.



Western Bonelli's Warbler, Park Djebel el Ouahch (Photo PL)



African Reed Warbler, Mechta Mellel (Photo PL)

58. Western Olivaceous Warbler (*Iduna opaca*)

Two seen and a few heard at Mechta Mellel.

59. Melodious Warbler (*Hippolais polyglotta*)

Two seen just below Bouafroun forest.

60. African Reed Warbler (*Acrocephalus baeticatus ambiguus*)

At least one seen and a few heard at Mechta Mellel.

Eurasian Reed Warblers, breeding in North Africa and the Iberian Peninsula south of Catalonia, are recently recognized as a taxon of A. baeticatus.

61. Great Reed Warbler (*Acrocephalus arundinaceus arundinaceus*)

One heard at Lac de Guettar el Aich.

62. Zitting Cisticola (*Cisticola juncidis cisticola*)

Two heard at Mechta Mellel.

63. Eurasian Blackcap (*Sylvia atricapilla atricapilla*)

One heard in Park Djebel el Ouahch.

64. Sardinian Warbler (*Sylvia melanocephala melanocephala*)

Three seen just below Bouafroun forest, one at the hotel in Constantine and nine in Park Djebel el Ouahch.



Sardinian Warbler, Constantine (Photo PL)

65. Greater Whitethroat (*Sylvia communis communis*)

Four seen just below Bouafroun forest and six in Park Djebel el Ouahch.

66. Spectacled Warbler (*Sylvia conspicillata conspicillata*)

One seen in Park Djebel el Ouahch.

67. Spotted Flycatcher (*Muscicapa striata striata*)

One seen in Bouafroun forest and eight in Park Djebel el Ouahch.

68. European Robin (*Erithacus rubecula witherbyi*)

One heard in Bouafroun forest and three seen at Park Djebel el Ouahch.

69. Common Nightingale (*Luscinia megarhynchos megarhynchos*)

One heard en route between Constantine and Djimla, seven just below Bouafroun forest and one at Park Djebel el Ouahch.

70. Atlas Flycatcher (*Ficedula speculigera*)

25 seen in Bouafroun forest and two in Park Djebel el Ouahch.



Atlas Flycatcher, Djimla forest (Photo PL)



Moussier's Redstart, en route between Constantine and Djimla (Photo PL)

71. Moussier's Redstart (*Phoenicurus moussieri*)

Four males and one female seen en route between Constantine and Djimla.

72. Blue Rock-Thrush (*Monticola solitarius solitarius*)

A pair seen in Gorge du Rhumel.

73. European Stonechat (*Saxicola rubicola rubicola*)

Eight seen just below Bouafroun forest and one in Park Djebel el Ouahch.



Blue Rock-Thrush, Gorge du Rhumel, Constantine
(Photo PvS)



Blue Rock-Thrush, Gorge du Rhumel, Constantine
(Photo PvS)

74. Black Wheatear (*Oenanthe leucura riggenbachi*)

One seen en route near Constantine on both days.

75. Black-eared Wheatear (*Oenanthe hispanica hispanica*)

One male seen en route between Constantine and Djimla.



Black-eared Wheatear, en route between Constantine and Djimla (Photo PL)



Mistle Thrush, Park Djebel el Ouahch (Photo PL)

76. Mistle Thrush (*Turdus viscivorus deichleri*)

Two heard in Bouafroun forest and two seen in Park Djebel el Ouahch.

77. Eurasian Blackbird (*Turdus merula mauritanicus*)

Two seen in Bouafroun forest and ten in Park Djebel el Ouahch.

78. Gray Wagtail (*Motacilla cinerea cinerea*)

One seen en route between Constantine and Djimla.

79. Western Yellow Wagtail (*Motacilla flava iberiae*)

Two seen at Lac de Guettar el Aich.

80. White Wagtail (*Motacilla alba alba*)

One seen en route between Constantine and Djimla.

81. Tawny Pipit (*Anthus campestris campestris*)

One seen en route between Constantine and Djimla.

82. Common Chaffinch (*Fringilla coelebs africana*)

Ten seen in Bouafroun forest and common in Park Djebel el Ouahch.

83. Hawfinch (*Coccothraustes coccothraustes buvryi*)

One heard in Bouafroun forest and two seen in Park Djebel el Ouahch.

84. European Greenfinch (*Chloris chloris voousi*)

A few birds heard on both days.

85. Eurasian Linnet (*Linaria cannabina mediterranea*)

One seen and one heard en route between Constantine and Djimla.

86. Red Crossbill (*Loxia curvirostra poliogyna*)

Five seen in Park Djebel el Ouahch.

87. European Goldfinch (*Carduelis carduelis parva*)

One seen en route between Constantine and Djimla.

88. European Serin (*Serinus serinus*)

Common. More heard than seen.

89. Corn Bunting (*Emberiza calandra*)

Common. More heard than seen.



Cirl Bunting, Park Djebel el Ouahch (Photo PL)



Spanish Sparrow, en route Constantine to Djimla (Photo PL)

90. Cirl Bunting (*Emberiza cirlus cirlus*)

Six seen just below Bouafroun forest and eight in Park Djebel el Ouahch.

91. House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus tingitanus*)

Only a few seen en route between Constantine and Djimla.

92. Spanish Sparrow (*Passer hispaniolensis hispaniolensis*)

Very common.

Other animals

Mammals

Algerian hedgehog (*Atelerix algirus*)

A road kill found en route between Constantine and Djimla.

Bat spec.

A single small bat was flushed from the ground in Park Djebel el Quahch.

Shrew spec.

A road kill found in Park Djebel el Quahch.

Reptiles

Koelliker's Glass Lizard (*Ophisaurus koellikeri*)

One seen in Bouafroun forest.



*Koelliker's Glass Lizard, Bouafroun forest
(Photo PvS)*



Moorish Toad, Park Djebel el Ouahch (Photo PvS)

Amphibians

Moorish Toad (*Bufo mauritanicus*)

A few seen and more heard in Park Djebel el Ouahch.

Butterflies

1. Scarce Swallowtail (*Iphiclides podalirius*)

One seen at the entrance of Bouafroun forest.

2. Small White (*Pieris/artogeia rapae*)

Two to five seen on both days.



Small White, Bouafroun forest (Photo PL)



Clouded Yellow, Park Djebel el Ouahch (Photo PL)

3. Clouded Yellow (*Colias croceus*)

Two to five seen on both days.

4. Holly Blue (*Celastrina argiolus*)

Two seen in Park Djebel el Ouahch.



Holly Blue, Park Djebel el Ouahch (Photo PL)



Large Tortoiseshell, Bouafroun forest (Photo PL)

5. Plain Tiger (*Danaus chrysippus*)

One seen at Mechta Mellel.

6. Large Tortoiseshell (*Nymphalis polychloros*)

One seen in Bouafroun forest.

7. Meadow Brown Butterfly (*Maniola jurtina*)

One seen in Park Djebel el Ouahch.



Meadow Brown Butterfly, Park Djebel el Ouahch
(Photo PL)



Oriental Meadow Brown, Mechta Mellel (Photo PL)

8. Oriental Meadow Brown
(*Hyponephele lupine*)

One seen at Mechta Mellel.

9. Small Heath
(*Coenonympha pamphilus*)

One to two seen on both days.

10. Speckled Wood (*Parage aegeria*)

Five to ten seen on both days.



Small Heath, Bouafroun forest (Photo PL)



Speckled Wood, below Bouafroun forest (Photo PL)



Wall Brown, Mechta Mellel (Photo PL)

11. Wall Brown (*Lasiommata megera*)

One seen at Mechta Mellel.

Moths

1. Hummingbird Hawk-Moth (*Macroglossum stellatarum*)

One seen in Bouafroun forest.



*Hummingbird Hawk-Moth, Bouafroun forest
(Photo PL)*



*Western Willow
Spreadwing, Park
Djebel el Ouahch
(Photo PL)*



*Iberian Bluetail, Park
Djebel el Ouahch
(Photo PL)*

Dragonflies

1. Western Willow Spreadwing (*Lestes viridis*)

Four seen in Park Djebel el Ouahch.

2. Iberian Bluetail (*Ischnura graellsii*)

Three seen in Park Djebel el Ouahch.

3. Blue Emperor (*Anax imperator*)

Two seen at Mechta Mellel and five seen in Park Djebel el Ouahch.



Blue Emperor, Park Djebel el Ouahch (Photo PL)



*Red-veined Darter, Park Djebel el Ouahch
(Photo PL)*

4. Lesser Emperor (*Anax Parthenope*)

One seen at Mechta Mellel.

5. Faded Pincertail (*Onychogomphus costae*)

One seen at Mechta Mellel.



Faded Pincertail, Mechta Mellel (Photo PL)



Black-tailed Skimmer, Park Djebel el Ouahch (Photo PL)

6. Black-tailed Skimmer (*Orthetrum cancellatum*)

Four seen in Park Djebel el Ouahch.

7. Red-veined Darter (*Sympetrum fonscolombii*)

Eight seen in Park Djebel el Ouahch.

8. Broad Scarlet (*Crocothemis erythraea*)

Two seen in Park Djebel el Ouahch.

9. Banded Groundling (*Brachthemis leucosticta*)

Six seen at Mechta Mellel.



Banded Groundling, Mechta Mellel (Photo PL)