

United Arab Emirates
February 23rd – March 2nd 2004
By Vegard Bunes

Gunnar Gundersen and Vegard Bunes visited UAE for our second time in late February 2004. Our major goals were to get more experience with potential vagrants to Norway, to extend our Western Palearctic lists, and to see some of the wintering species that we missed on a trip in late April 2003. Because of the few days we had available we did not give much focus on all the localities visited or all the species seen well in 2003. The total number of species on this trip was 176, but could easily have been higher if this had been a priority.

We stayed at the Princess Hotel in the Al Qusais area in Dubai (along D93 - Al Nahda Rd). The surroundings were a bit dull, but the Hotel had a nice standard and was not too expensive. And it was located perfect in respect of not having to drive through the intense Dubai traffic every morning and afternoon. Car rental was made through *Europcar* which we had good experience with last year. In two hours they had a brand new Nissan Sunny ready outside our Hotel. Dubai is in our eyes the ideal base for a birding trip to the UAE with all birding localities within two hours drive.

In addition to a Dubai map and the useful UAE “satellite map” we recommend the following literature when visiting UAE;

- The Birds of the United Arab Emirates (Colin Richardson 1990)
- The Shell Birdwatching Guide to the United Arab Emirates (Richardson & Aspinall 1998)
- Field Guide to the Birds of the Middle East (Porter et al. 1996)
- Collins Field Guide to Britain and Europe (Svensson et al. 1999)
- Emirates Bird Report No.20 (2003)

Congratulations to Colin Richardson and other UAE birders with the outstanding 324 pages EBR No.20 which undoubtedly will be one of the most important publications for birders visiting UAE the next years. With this and the Shell Guide you get all the information you need for a successful trip to the UAE.

In the listings below are all localities visited and the most interesting sightings (in our view). Some common or “less interesting” species are usually left out, like Laughing Dove, Collared Dove, Crested Lark, Graceful Warbler, Purple Sunbird, House Sparrow, mynahs, bulbuls and likewise.

Emirates Golf Club, Dubai. Feb 23rd 0800-1100

About 15-20 minutes from Dubai city, along the Dubai-Abu Dhabi road (E11), opposite Hard Rock Café. We consider it easiest to visit EGC by taxi from Dubai. This costs 30-50 Dhs depending on where in Dubai you go from. Due to a huge international golf tournament in March-April there were some restrictions on the golf courses, and a lot of busy workers everywhere. This made EGC a bit disappointing. When you arrive at the entrance, remember to sign in with the friendly gatekeeper. Check also the dam outside the fence on the southwest side.

Little Grebe 27	Black-tailed Godwit 1
Great Cormorant 1 (flying over)	Common Sandpiper 10+
Western Reef Heron 2	Temminck's Stint 2
Cattle Egret 2	Common Snipe 21
Little Green Heron 2	Little Green Bee-eater 2
Pintail 6	Indian Roller 8
Garganey 1F	Hoopoe c.10
Black-winged Stilt 1	Pallid Swift 20+

Ringed-necked Parakeet 15+
Grey Wagtail 1
Tawny Pipit 2
Richard's Pipit 1

Black Redstart (*phoenicuroides*) 1M
Chiffchaff 5
Isabelline Shrike 4

Dubai Pivot Fields. Feb 23rd 1615-1815

Along the Dubai-Hatta road (E44), only 20 minutes from Dubai. Follow the orange “wastewater trucks” towards the Sewage Treatment Plant, and take left after a few hundred meters. Our definite favourite location in the Dubai area and maybe in the whole UAE, visited four times on this trip. The gates are closed at night, but are open from around 0600 AM to 0600 PM. If you are stopped at the gate just show your binoculars and they'll happily let you drive and walk around. You can walk everywhere, but don't drive onto the grass or block the tracks when parking.

Pallid Harrier 1M
Marsh Harrier 1F
Kestrel 1
White-tailed Plover 13
Red-wattled Plover c.5
Wood Sandpiper 10+
Pallid Swift c.30
Tawny Pipit c.20
Richard's Pipit 3

Blyth's Pipit 2-3
Buff-bellied Pipit 3
Red-throated Pipit c.40
White Wagtail c.80
Yellow Wagtail c.45 (10+ feldegg, 5+ beema)
Citrine Wagtail 1
Isabelline Wheatear 4
Clamorous Reed Warbler 1

Fujairah Dairy Farm, Dibba. Feb 24th 0630-1100

This little agricultural area on the northeast coast right next to the border of the Omani enclave Musandam is a magnet to rare birds. Follow the description in the “Shell Guide” to get there. Park the car beside the administration office, and walk around. The dry rocky area along the border fence and the fence along the main road can be very productive. Check also the irrigated fields and the cattle bins. It is one of the best if not *the* best location for eastern vagrants in UAE.

Little Egret 15
Cattle Egret 2
Accipiter sp 1 (possibly Shikra)
Lesser Kestrel 3
Quail 2
Red-wattled Plover 75+
Cuckoo 1
Indian Roller 30
Hoopoe 2
Tawny Pipit 2
Red-throated Pipit 1
Yellow Wagtail 2
Citrine Wagtail 2
White Wagtail 40

Masked Wagtail (*personata*) 1
Bluethroat 1
Isabelline Wheatear 5
Pied Wheatear 1
Desert Wheatear 1
Red-tailed Wheatear 1
Graceful Warbler 15
Isabelline Shrike 3
Woodchat Shrike 1M
Long-tailed Shrike 1
Rosy Starling 3
Spanish Sparrow 1M
House Bunting 20+

Ras Dibba, East Coast. Feb 24th 1130-1300

This is one of the major seabird localities in UAE only minutes south of Dibba on the northeast coast. Drive up to the small plateau on the north end of the beach and check the fish farm area out at

sea. Unfortunately we still haven't seen any Persian Shearwater, but the compensation in a Common Noddy resting on the fish farm was remarkable.

Western Reef Heron 15	Sterna sp 12
Grey Heron 1	Common Noddy 1
Osprey 1	Pallid Swift 12
Sooty Gull 2	Redstart 2
Slender-billed Gull 3	Desert Wheatear 3
Black-headed Gull 15	Blue Rock Thrush 2 (M+F)
Cachinnans/barabensis c.30	Rock Thrush 1 (F or 2y. M)
Swift Tern 1	Brown-necked Raven 1

Masafi Area, Fujairah. Feb 24th 1330-1615

This Wadi area is one of the prime localities for rocky desert species like Long-billed Pipit, Scrub Warbler and Plain Leaf Warbler. Follow the detailed description in the Shell Guide, and take a walk around in the Wadis. It might seem quite lifeless at start, but there are birds around! Listed here are also some observations along the Masafi-Dibba road.

Sand Partridge 4	Red-tailed Wheatear 1
Little Green Bee-eater 3	Hume's Wheatear 3
Indian Roller 5	Blue Rock Thrush 1M
Desert Lark 6	Scrub Warbler 2
Long-billed Pipit 1	Plain Leaf Warbler 1
Yellow-vented Bulbul 8	

Dubai Pivot Fields. Feb 24th 1715-1800

Cattle Egret 15	Meadow Pipit 2
Grey Heron 1	Red-throated Pipit 15
Black-winged Stilt 3-4	Water Pipit c.20
Red-wattled Plover 10	Yellow Wagtail c.30 (5+ feldegg, 5+ beema)
Pallid Swift c.40	White Wagtail 50
Common Swift 1	Citrine Wagtail 12
Little Green Bee-eater 5	Isabelline Wheatear 4
Indian Roller 3	Clamorous Reed Warbler 2
Hoopoe 2	Southern Grey Shrike (aucheri) 1

Khor Kalba, East Coast. Feb 25th 0645-1100

A good locality for gulls and terns, but more famous for hosting wintering Indian Pond Herons, and breeding White-collared Kingfisher (the endemic kalbaensis form) and Syke's Warbler. Low tide is best for the Indian Pond Herons. Unfortunately they are making a huge lagoon on the inside of the mangroves, which probably will ruin some of the best areas in a few months and at least ruin the access to our favourite birding spot (site 3 on map 16 in the Shell Guide).

Socotra Cormorant 1	Grey Heron 3-4
Little Green Heron 2	Oystercatcher 1
Indian Pond Heron 4	Whimbrel 5
Western Reef Heron 6-7	Curlew 2-3
Little Egret 3	Kentish Plover c.10

Lesser Sand Plover c.20
Greater Sand Plover 3
Grey Plover c.15
Temminck's Stint 4-5
Redshank c.10
Greenshank 2-3
Marsh Sandpiper 2-3
Dunlin 1
Common Sandpiper 5
Black-headed Gull 1000+
Slender-billed Gull c.10
Sooty Gull c.15
Cachinnans/barabensis 600+

Great Black-headed Gull 10+
Sandwich Tern c.10
Common Tern 20+
Sterna sp 30+
Common Kingfisher 3-4
White-collared Kingfisher 10+
Little Green Bee-eater 7-8
Indian Roller 5
Pallid Swift c.10
Isabelline Wheatear 2
Clamorous Reed Warbler 2
Syke's Warbler 4

Fujairah Area, East Coast. Feb 25th 1100-1530

The coastline north of Kalba to Fujairah port is very productive for gulls and terns, but the flats and pits north of Fujairah (north of the oil tanks, on both sides of the road) are also very good for herons, waders and gulls.

Little Grebe 1
Socotra Cormorant c.10
Little Egret 2
Great White Egret 1
Grey Heron 80+
Flamingo c.25
Pintail c.20
Short-toed Eagle 1 (Fujairah city)
Moorhen 3
Black-winged Stilt 100+
Little Ringed Plover 5
Ringed Plover 1
Lesser Sand Plover 3
Greater Sand Plover 2
Kentish Plover 15
Red-wattled Plover 10
Temminck's Stint 3
Ruff c.10
Black-tailed Godwit 5

Bar-tailed Godwit 1
Curlew c.10
Redshank c.25
Marsh Sandpiper 1
Greenshank 5
Wood Sandpiper 5
Green Sandpiper 2
Common Snipe 5
Sooty Gull c.25
Great Black-headed Gull 160+
Black-headed Gull 2000+
Cachinnans/barabensis 500+
Slender-billed Gull c.40
Common Tern c.300
White-cheeked Tern 1
Sandwich Tern c.20
Lesser Crested Tern 1
White-winged Black Tern 1
Whiskered Tern 3

Dubai Pivot Fields. Feb 26th 0630-1130

Cattle Egret 50+
Little Egret 2
Grey Heron 2
Glossy Ibis 15
Marsh Harrier 3
Kestrel 1
Quail 6
Little Ringed Plover 1
Red-wattled Plover c.10

White-tailed Plover 20+
Common Snipe 45 (incl. "the dams")
Redshank 1
Wood Sandpiper 2+
Ring-necked Parakeet 5
Pallid Swift c.70
Indian Roller 2
Hoopoe 4
Crested Lark c.100

Skylark c.30
Sand Martin 200+ (on the move)
Barn Swallow 3
Richard's Pipit 2
Tawny Pipit 20+
Red-throated Pipit c.30
Water Pipit c.70
Yellow Wagtail c.50
 c.20 feldegg
 c.10 thunbergi
 c.20 beema

lutea (male)
Citrine Wagtail 5
White Wagtail c.25
Bluethroat 15
Isabelline Wheatear c.8
Graceful Warbler c.20
Clamorous Reed Warbler 3
Isabelline Shrike 2
Starling 10+
Streaked Weaver 2

Qarn Nazwa, Dubai. Feb 26th 1200-1330

Another 25-30 minutes along the Hatta road (E44), you will see the small mountain rise on the right side of the road. The dirt track behind the mosque might be a bit sandy for a two wheel drive, but there was an opening in the fence a few hundred meters after the mosque on the main road E44 (right by the first "turnabout" and stop sign). The flat stony area is good for wheatears, but the mountain and small wadis also hosts Desert Eagle Owl. We spend a lot of time with the EPW, and did not check the Wadis or mountain well. We had Desert Eagle Owl there last year.

Red-tailed Wheatear 1
Eastern Pied Wheatear 1F
Steppe Grey Shrike (*pallidirostris*) 1 ad M (along the Hatta road – E44)

Lahbab fields, Dubai. Feb 26th 1400-1500

Lies between Qarn Nazwa and Dubai Pivot Fields. The location was a big disappointment last April, but better this time. Ask some of the workers, and they'll let you drive in through the gates (but remember to close the gates to prevent camels of entering).

Common Sandpiper 1	Red-throated Pipit 6
Quail 1	Tawny Pipit 5-6
Pallid Swift c.20	Water Pipit 2
Hoopoe 3	Crested Lark c.50
Little Green Bee-eater 2	Desert Wheatear 3
Collared Dove 100+	Isabelline Wheatear 2
Meadow Pipit 4	Isabelline Shrike 1

Wimpey Pits, Dubai. Feb 26th 1530-1630

One of UAE's prime wetland areas, hosting hundreds of grebes and ducks. The access had changed much since April 2003. We entered through one of the construction workers gates right opposite the Pivot Fields dams (workers village), and pretended to have business to take care of. This way we managed to drive around the Pits, away from all the workers and close to the birds. The Pits were much reduced since last April. When is it gone? PS! The numbers of ducks are estimates as we did not count them properly.

Little Grebe 100+	Glossy Ibis 1
Black-necked Grebe c.50	Flamingo c.15
Western Reef Heron 5	Wigeon 50+
Grey Heron 5	Pintail 100+

Gadwall c.15
 Teal 80+
 Mallard 30+
 Garganey 8
 Shoveler 60+
 Pochard 50+
 Ferruginous Duck 4
 Tufted Duck 15
 Marsh Harrier 4
 Moorhen c.30
 Coot c.40
 Red-knobbed Coot 4
 Black-winged Stilt 150+
 Little Ringed Plover 1
 Red-wattled Plover c.10
 White-tailed Plover 5

Temminck's Stint c.40
 Common Snipe 5
 Redshank c.10
 Marsh Sandpiper 3
 Greenshank 2
 Wood Sandpiper 5
 Common Sandpiper 4-5
 Pallid Swift c.20
 Sand Martin 30+
 Tawny Pipit 2
 Red-throated Pipit 3-4
 Water Pipit 8
 Yellow Wagtail 5
 Citrine Wagtail 15
 White Wagtail c.30

Khor Dubai. Feb 26th 1645-1715

An interesting site for waterbirds and raptors, but the intense traffic is a bit disturbing. The parking along the road was also partly blocked by some construction work, and we were accompanied by some very curious workers. We only had a short stop.

Great White Egret 5
 Western Reef Heron 5
 Grey Heron some
 Spoonbill c.25

Flamingo many
 Marsh Harrier 4+
 Steppe Eagle 1
 Small waders 600+ (*Calidris* and others)

Al Wathba Camel Racetrack, Abu Dhabi. Feb 27th 0630-1200 and 1730-1930

A very good locality, much visited by Abu Dhabi birders. We would have made more visits if time had allowed. Together with Fujairah Dairy Farm and Dubai Pivot Fields one of the most productive sites for passerines that don't prefer the dry rocky desert areas. A good site for Egyptian Nightjar.

Marsh Harrier 3
 Greater Spotted Eagle 1
 Kestrel 1 (with leather straps!)
 Quail 5-6
 Kentish Plover 5+
 Pacific Golden Plover c.35
 Red-wattled Plover 5
 Ruff c.150
 Curlew 2
 Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse 112
 Egyptian Nightjar 12+
 Pallid Swift c.40
 Common Swift 1
 Bimaculated Lark 20+
 Crested Lark many
 Short-toed Lark 110+
 Lesser Short-toed Lark c.40
 Barn Swallow c.25

Sand Martin c.10
 House Martin 1
 Red-throated Pipit 15
 Tawny Pipit 60+
 Water Pipit c.30
 Yellow Wagtail c.15
 Citrine Wagtail 4
 Bluethroat c.15
 Siberian Stonechat 2MM
 Isabelline Wheatear many
 Pied Wheatear 4+
 Desert Wheatear 4
 Graceful Warbler 15+
 Ménétries Warbler 1
 Isabelline Shrike c.15
 Woodchat Shrike 1M
 Steppe Grey Shrike (*pallidirostris*) 1M
 Corn Bunting c.25

Al Wathba Lake, Abu Dhabi. Feb 27th 1245-1300

Only a short stop looking for a Spur-winged Plover and Wire-tailed Swallow. Kindly guided by Steve James. Not the best timing in the mid day heat.

Flamingo 30+
Shoveler 100+
Teal c.20
Pintail c.5
Mallard c.10
Marsh harrier 1

Black-tailed Godwit 17
Black-winged Stilt some
Ruff some
Little Green Bee-eater 3
Clamorous Reed Warbler 1
Eastern Reed Warbler (fuscus) 1

Abu Dhabi city. Feb 27th 1330-1700

We went into town looking for Forest Wagtail, Masked Shrike and Taiga Flycatcher. We only saw the latter. Thanks to Simon Aspinall for detailed information on where the birds were, and Steve James for guiding us all the way to the Mushrif Palace Garden Wood.

Mushrif Palace Wood:
Ménétries Warbler 1
Olivaceous Warbler 1
Chiffchaff 3
Grey Wagtail 1
Song Thrush 1

Isabelline Shrike 1

Corniche road:
Taiga Flycatcher 1
Goldfinch 1 (Hilton Hotel)

Jebel Hafeet, Al Ain. Feb 28th 0830-1200

A spectacular mountain and a good location far inland close to the Omani border. Finally reached, a bit late, after hundred roundabouts and a labyrinth track through Al Ain city. Most birds were found at the Mercure Hotel area almost at the top.

Egyptian Vulture 7 (along the top ridge)
Sand Partridge 14
Rock Dove c.20
Pallid Swift 5
Desert Lark c.25
African Rock Martin c.30
Black Redstart 4 (2 pairs, phoenicuroides)

Pied Wheatear 1
Hooded Wheatear 1
Hume's Wheatear c.15
Blue Rock Thrush 2 (M+F)
Lesser Whitethroat 1 (curruca/minula)
House Bunting 2

Khor al Beidah, Umm al Qaiwan. Feb 29th 0700-1000

This is one of the most important UAE site for waders. The road passing the Palace was signposted "No entry" due to some construction work on the beach, but we took the chance instead of driving through the sand dunes with a two wheel drive. We were told that the best time to visit was 3 hours before high tide. We arrived one hour after high tide, but found what we sought (Great Knots). We did not spend any time on counting all the waders along the mangroves, as the mudflats increased rapidly. The numbers are therefore mostly estimates.

Western Reef Heron 15+
Great White Egret 7-8
Grey Heron 3-4

Flamingo 50+
Pallid Harrier 1M
Greater Spotted Eagle 1

Marsh Harrier 2
 Crab Plovers 80+
 Ringed Plover 10+
 Kentish Plover 500+
 Lesser Sand Plover 100++
 Greater Sand Plover 150+
 Grey Plover c.40
 Great Knot 61
 Temminck's Stint 5+
 Curlew Sandpiper 5+
 Dunlin 500+
 Bar-tailed Godwit 200+
 Whimbrel 2-3
 Curlew 5+
 Redshank 50+
 Spotted Redshank 1

Marsh Sandpiper 10+
 Greenshank 15+
 Terek Sandpiper 20+
 Turnstone 3-4
 Oystercatcher 70+
 Slender-billed Gull c.20
 Cachinnans/barabensis 2-3
 Gull-billed Tern 5+
 Sandwich Tern 2-3
 Caspian Tern 3
 Pallid Swift c.20
 Little Green Bee-eater 3-4
 Isabelline Wheatear 1
 Ménétries Warbler 1
 Brown-necked Raven 1

Umm al Qaiwan Breakwater. Feb 29th 1030-1200

A note: The numbers of cachinnans/barabensis in this report might also include some heuglini gulls. If you don't find the "hole in the wall" in Umm al Qaiwan, we recommend a lunch stop at KFC.

Socotra Cormorant c.20
 Western Reef Heron 2
 Great Black-headed Gull c.40
 Slender-billed Gull c.100
 Cachinnans/barabensis c.15
 Heuglini Gull 1+
 Black-headed Gull 15

Sandwich Tern c.150
 Lesser Crested Tern 2-3
 Caspian Tern 1
 Hoopoe 2
 Isabelline Shrike 1
 Red-wattled Plover 3-4

Dreamland Beach, Umm al Qaiwan. Feb 29th 1300-1315 and 1730-1800

This is another good site for waders. The beach was literally filled with waders as far as eye could see, but time and heat prevented us from a total check. A total count along the beach would probably have given much higher numbers on many species.

Western Reef Heron 4-5
 Flamingo c.10
 Crab Plover 16
 Oystercatcher 5
 Lesser Sand Plover some (not counted)
 Greater Sand Plover some (not counted)
 Kentish Plover 200+
 Ringed Plover 5

Grey Plover c.20
 Broad-billed Sandpiper 6
 Dunlin 500+
 Little Stint c.10
 Redshank c.30
 Marsh Sandpiper 1
 Greenshank 5
 Curlew 2-3

Al Jazeerah Khor, Ras al Khaimah. Feb 29th 1330-1430

The sand dunes seemed quite lifeless, and the stop was most productive for Gunnar's EOS D10. Much lower numbers of waders than Khor al Beidah and Dreamland Beach.

Western Reef Heron 3-4
 Great White Egret 1

Grey Plover few
 Lesser Sand Plover few

Greater Sand Plover few
Redshank few
Greenshank few
Marsh Sandpiper 2-3
Dunlin some

Kentish Plover many
Cachinnans/barabensis 1
Slender-billed Gull 5
Gull-billed Tern 5+
Little Green Bee-eater 2 (nesting)

Hamraniyah Fields, Ras al Khaimah. Feb 29th 1500-1700

A positive surprise and probably a good place to find rarities if you have the time to check properly (must take days...). This was our first visit to the area.

Bonelli's Eagle 1
Red-wattled Plover 15+ (many nesting)
Southern Grey Shrike (aucheri) 5
Little Green Bee-eater c.150
European Bee-eater 2
Indian Roller c.100

Hoopoe 3
Common Mynah 50+
Bank Mynah c.20
Eastern Desert Warbler 1
Ménétries Warbler 1
Arabian Babbler 3

Dubai Pivot Fields. March 1st 0700-0800 and 1000-1300

We never get tired of the Pivot Fields, but this foggy morning we also checked Wimpey Pits for hirundines (although most hirundines were at the Pivot Fields...). It is interesting to see how the numbers of birds change from day to day at the Pivot Fields. Are the pipits and wagtails on the move?

Little Egret 1
Cattle Egret 35
Grey Heron 1
Glossy Ibis 14
Booted Eagle (dark phase) 1 (hunting)
Marsh harrier 1 (harassing the Booted!)
Grey Francolin c.20
Little Ringed Plover 3
Red-wattled Plover c.25
White-tailed Plover 18
Temminck's Stint 8
Common Snipe 1
Wood Sandpiper 1
Common Sandpiper 1
Ring-necked Parakeet 8-10
Pallid Swift 100+
Little Green Bee-eater 1
Indian Roller 1
Hoopoe 5
Crested Lark many

Skylark 6
Sand Martin c.300 (on the move)
Barn Swallow 5
Richard's Pipit 2-3
Blyth's Pipit 4
Tawny Pipit c.25
Red-throated Pipit 5
Water Pipit c.35
Yellow Wagtail c.10
Citrine Wagtail c.10
White Wagtail c.25
Bluethroat c.10
Siberian Stonechat 2MM
Isabelline Wheatear 5
Graceful Warbler c.25
Clamorous Reed Warbler 2
Isabelline Shrike 2
Woodchat Shrike 1M
Starling 3-4
Streaked Weaver 2-3

Wimpey Pits, Dubai. March 1st 0800-1000

Again the ducks were not counted properly as they flushed up because of us or the construction work around the Pits.

Little Grebe 100+

Black-necked Grebe c.50

Little Egret 1	Temminck's Stint c.15
Grey Heron 2	Dunlin c.10
Flamingo c.15	Curlew 1
Wigeon 20+	Redshank 10+
Pintail 40+	Marsh Sandpiper 2
Teal 50+	Sandwich Tern 1
Mallard 30+	Ring-necked Parakeet 5
Garganey 5+	Pallid Swift c.50
Shoveler 20+	Sand Martin c.15
Pochard 100+	Barn Swallow 1
Ferruginous Duck 1	Crested Lark c.10
Tufted Duck c.10	Tawny Pipit 1
Marsh Harrier 1	Water Pipit 5
Moorhen c.25	Yellow Wagtail 1
Coot 40 (counted)	Citrine Wagtail 3
Red-knobbed Coot 3	White Wagtail c.15
Black-winged Stilt 100+	Isabelline Wheatear 1
Little Ringed Plover 5	Graceful Warbler c.10
Red-wattled Plover c.15	Clamorous Reed Warbler 2
White-tailed Plover c.5	Streaked Weaver 1

Al Mamzar Park, Dubai. March 1st 1600-1800

Our final birding after returning the rental car. A taxi from Princess Hotel is about 15-20 Dhs.

Black-headed Gull c.150	Indian Roller 1
Cachinnans/barabensis c.70	Desert Wheatear 1
Heuglini Gull 1-5	Isabelline Wheatear 1
Sandwich Tern c.30	Song Thrush 3
Pallid Swift 5	Olivaceous Warbler 2
Wryneck 1	Isabelline Shrike 2
Ring-necked Parakeet 15-20	Pied Mynah 1

Total species list

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|----------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Little Grebe | 20. Garganey | 40. Coot |
| 2. Black-necked Grebe | 21. Shoveler | 41. Red-knobbed Coot |
| 3. Great Cormorant | 22. Pochard | 42. Oystercatcher |
| 4. Socotra Cormorant | 23. Ferruginous Duck | 43. Black-winged Stilt |
| 5. Little Green (Striated) Heron | 24. Tufted Duck | 44. Crab Plover |
| 6. Indian Pond Heron | 25. Egyptian Vulture | 45. Little Ringed Plover |
| 7. Cattle Egret | 26. Short-toed Eagle | 46. Ringed Plover |
| 8. Western Reef Heron | 27. Marsh Harrier | 47. Kentish Plover |
| 9. Little Egret | 28. Pallid Harrier | 48. Lesser Sand Plover |
| 10. Great White Egret | 29. Greater Spotted Eagle | 49. Greater Sand Plover |
| 11. Grey Heron | 30. Steppe Eagle | 50. Pacific Golden Plover |
| 12. Glossy Ibis | 31. Booted Eagle | 51. Grey Plover |
| 13. Spoonbill | 32. Bonelli's Eagle | 52. Red-wattled Plover |
| 14. Greater Flamingo | 33. Osprey | 53. White-tailed Plover |
| 15. Wigeon | 34. Lesser Kestrel | 54. Great Knot |
| 16. Gadwall | 35. Kestrel | 55. Little Stint |
| 17. Teal | 36. Sand Partridge | 56. Temminck's Stint |
| 18. Mallard | 37. Grey Francolin | 57. Curlew Sandpiper |
| 19. Pintail | 38. Quail | 58. Dunlin |
| | 39. Moorhen | 59. Broad-billed Sandpiper |

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| 60. Ruff | 100. White-collared Kingfisher (kalbaensis) | 141. Hooded Wheatear |
| 61. Common Snipe | 101. Common Kingfisher | 142. Hume's Wheatear |
| 62. Black-tailed Godwit | 102. Little Green Bee-eater | 143. Rock Thrush |
| 63. Bar-tailed Godwit | 103. European Bee-eater | 144. Blue Rock Thrush |
| 64. Whimbrel | 104. Indian Roller | 145. Song Thrush |
| 65. Curlew | 105. Hoopoe | 146. Graceful Warbler |
| 66. Spotted Redshank | 106. Wryneck | 147. Scrub Warbler |
| 67. Redshank | 107. Desert Lark | 148. Eastern Reed Warbler (fuscus) |
| 68. Marsh Sandpiper | 108. Bimaculated Lark | 149. Clamorous Reed Warbler |
| 69. Greenshank | 109. Short-toed Lark | 150. Olivaceous Warbler (elaeica) |
| 70. Green Sandpiper | 110. Lesser Short-toed Lark | 151. Syke's Warbler |
| 71. Wood Sandpiper | 111. Crested Lark | 152. Ménétries Warbler |
| 72. Terek Sandpiper | 112. Skylark | 153. Desert Warbler (nana) |
| 73. Common Sandpiper | 113. Sand Martin | 154. Lesser Whitethroat (curruca/minula) |
| 74. Turnstone | 114. African Rock Martin | 155. Plain Leaf Warbler |
| 75. Sooty Gull | 115. Barn Swallow | 156. Chiffchaff |
| 76. Great Black-headed Gull | 116. House Martin | 157. Taiga Flycatcher |
| 77. Black-headed Gull | 117. Richard's Pipit | 158. Arabian Babbler |
| 78. Slender-billed Gull | 118. Blyth's Pipit | 159. Purple Sunbird |
| 79. Siberian Gull (heuglini) | 119. Tawny Pipit | 160. Isabelline Shrike |
| 80. Caspian Gull (cachinnans/barabensis) | 120. Long-billed Pipit | 161. Southern Grey Shrike (aucheri/pallidirostris) |
| 81. Gull-billed Tern | 121. Meadow Pipit | 162. Woodchat Shrike |
| 82. Caspian Tern | 122. Red-throated Pipit | 163. Long-tailed Shrike |
| 83. Swift Tern | 123. Water Pipit | 164. House Crow |
| 84. Lesser Crested Tern | 124. Buff-bellied Pipit | 165. Brown-necked Raven |
| 85. Sandwich Tern | 125. Yellow Wagtail | 166. Starling |
| 86. Common Tern | 126. Citrine Wagtail | 167. Rosy Starling |
| 87. White-cheeked Tern | 127. Grey Wagtail | 168. Pied Mynah |
| 88. Whiskered Tern | 128. White Wagtail | 169. Common Mynah |
| 89. White-winged Black Tern | 129. White-cheeked Bulbul | 170. Bank Mynah |
| 90. Common Noddy | 130. Yellow-vented Bulbul | 171. House Sparrow |
| 91. Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse | 131. Red-vented Bulbul | 172. Spanish Sparrow |
| 92. Rock Dove | 132. Bluethroat | 173. Indian Silverbill |
| 93. Collared Dove | 133. Black Redstart | 174. Goldfinch |
| 94. Laughing (Palm) Dove | 134. Redstart | 175. House Bunting (striolata) |
| 95. Ring-necked Parakeet | 135. Siberian Stonechat (maura) | 176. Corn Bunting |
| 96. Cuckoo | 136. Isabelline Wheatear | |
| 97. Egyptian Nightjar | 137. Pied Wheatear | |
| 98. Common Swift | 138. Desert Wheatear | |
| 99. Pallid Swift | 139. Red-tailed Wheatear | |
| | 140. Eastern Pied Wheatear | |

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