

ITALY: BIRDS & ART IN TUSCANY

MAY 7–18, 2019



*The Garfagnana, tucked between the Apennines and the Apuan Alps.
Photo Rick Wright*

**LEADERS: RICK WRIGHT & MARCO VALTRIANI
LIST COMPILED BY: RICK WRIGHT**

**VICTOR EMANUEL NATURE TOURS, INC.
2525 WALLINGWOOD DRIVE, SUITE 1003
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78746
WWW.VENTBIRD.COM**

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By Rick Wright



The view from the Poderino, across the Tuscan hills to the Mediterranean Sea. Photo Rick Wright

We made snowballs. We huddled under umbrellas tossed by the wind. And finally, over the last few days of our short time together, we gratefully soaked up some of that famous Tuscan sun.

The weather really wasn't that bad, and the flexibility of our schedule and the good nature of our group let us seize the warmer, brighter days for birding and spend the cooler, damper times indoors admiring a tiny slice of the

vast cultural treasures of central Italy. And of course, there were plenty of opportunities to experience both at once, combining the uniquely rich historic and artistic heritage of this part of the world with its still underappreciated natural abundance.



Campocatino, even more evocative in the morning fog. Photo Rick Wright

At Gropina, a little-visited Romanesque church with a famous and weird Lombard pulpit, a Cirl Bunting chirred from the olive groves, and Serins, Linnets, and Common Cuckoos sang all around the ancient stone huts of Campocatino—now a chic little summer colony complete with its very own statue of David Bowie. Our day in Florence was understandably less birdy, but even there we enjoyed Black Redstarts

darting in and out of the imposing Roman ruins of Fiesole as Common Swifts shrieked overhead.



A male Common Redstart at Fiesole cathedral. Photo Rick Wright

This year's tour visited sites in both the extreme north and the extreme south of Tuscany, the very heart of Italy and birthplace of the Italian Renaissance. Our days based in charming Castelnuovo found us high in two of Europe's most rugged mountain ranges, the Apennines and the Apuan Alps, where tiny medieval villages cling to the clifftops and Golden Eagles provide the measure of the area's considerable wildness. In the south, near the border

with the region of Lazio, implausibly colorful European Bee-eaters, Rollers, and Hoopoes hunted over the gentle hills and agricultural plains bordering the Mediterranean Sea. This is also the land of rich coastal marshes, one of which—the vast Orbetello Lagoon, lying just behind a low causeway beneath the towering promontory of the Argentario—produced the most surprising bird of the tour, a White-winged Tern in nearly complete breeding plumage, its black wing linings and bright white tail flashing over the shallow brackish water as it swooped and fed close and low.

We had begun our time together in a similar habitat, with a short visit to a damp and gray Fucecchio. The marshes there immediately produced wonders: a Common Cuckoo perched in the open—unusual behavior for an often sneaky bird of brush and bramble—and a Squacco Heron bounced from mudflat to mudflat along the canal we were following into



A familiar voice, but we never grew tired of the Common Cuckoo. Photo Rick Wright

the reeds. On the other side of the marsh, a field of flooded corn stubble was a virtual mini-Pantanal, with hundreds of herons joined by dozens upon dozens of Sacred Ibis.

This year, we divided the northern and southern portions of the tour with a sojourn in Arezzo, one of Europe's most evocative and best-preserved

medieval cities. The undoubted highlight here was Piero della Francesca's mid-fifteenth-century frescoes illustrating [the discovery of the True Cross](#), but the entire city is full of surprises from the past, from the house of the famous botanist Andrea Cesalpino to the statue, just outside our hotel, of Guido, the inventor of the five-lined musical staff. From Arezzo we traveled by train for a day-trip to Florence, where we avoided the worst of the crowds by spending most of the morning in the magnificent Opera museum, home of the original doors cast for the Baptistery (the tourist hordes meanwhile stood outside admiring replicas). The Donatello statues on display on the second floor were favorites, as was his bizarrely moving poplar Magdalene.



The chimera of Arezzo appears -- in replica -- in the strangest of places. Photo Rick Wright

After lunch on the Piazza Santa Maria, we climbed into taxis to Fiesole, where the ruins of a Roman amphitheater and forum have also provided good birding in the past. This year, light rain kept our list short, but the views and the slightly spooky atmosphere were worth the trip, as was our visit to the town's cathedral.

After our days in the cities, our beautiful country inn at Manciano was a

welcome refuge. Birding the grounds was as productive as ever, with European Bee-eaters, Green Woodpeckers, and Golden Orioles among the species we heard and saw there.

The Poderino was our base for trips to Vulci—where we were among the first visitors admitted to the newly excavated tombs of the Etruscan city—and to the marshes of the



Etruscan ruins, a Roman road, and a "post-Dadist indictment of luxury consumerism"--Vulci has it all. Plus bee-eaters. Photo Rick Wright

Orbetello Lagoon, where a splendid adult White-winged Tern, the first ever tallied on this tour, was just one of the highlights ranging from flocks of Greater Flamingos to our first sighting of what would become the familiar European Roller.



A bright bird on a dim day, the European Roller became an expected daily sight for us. Photo Rick Wright

And it was from Manciano that we visited Giglio Island, the jewel-like queen of the Tyrrhenian Archipelago. Serins, White Wagtails, and Spotted Flycatchers (or, depending on the taxonomic mood, Mediterranean Flycatchers) accompanied us on our explorations of the Castello. The parade of shearwaters on our ferry journey, including both Scopoli and Yelkouan, was unprecedented in our experience, scores of birds turning at the sight of land to stream past our boat on their way back out to open water.

I hope that your experience of one of the most well-traveled regions of Europe was deepened by these and other encounters. Again and again we were reminded that birders don't have to be single-minded, that there is space and time for the enjoyment of all the features, natural and cultural, of an ancient and complex landscape. I already look forward to our next excursion into a new site equally full of birds, art, food, and above all, congenial and good-humored company.



ITINERARY:

May 7: travel to Florence.

May 8: assemble at Florence airport hotel for **2:15 pm** departure for Castelnuovo. Fucecchio Marshes 3:00-4:20 pm. Arrive Castelnuovo 5:50 pm. Cool, cloudy, mist and drizzle. Dinner in hotel 7:30-9:55 pm.



The Garfagnana, tucked between the Apennines and the Apuan Alps. Photo Rick Wright

May 9: breakfast at hotel beginning at 7:00 am. Optional birding around hotel. Departure from hotel **10:00 am**. Castiglione Garfagnana 10:35-11:35 am. San Pellegrino 12:15-12:50 pm. Lunch at Casone di Parfecchio 1:10-2:25 pm. Sasso Rosso 2:55-4:00. Arrive hotel 4:35 pm; depart hotel 5:00 pm. Serchio

River in Castelnuovo 5:10-6:25 pm. Arrive hotel 6:35 pm. Dinner in hotel 7:30-9:00 pm. Cool and cloudy early in the morning, then mostly sunny, bright, calm; high about 62 F, low temperature at San Pellegrino 44 F.

May 10: breakfast at hotel beginning at 7:00 am. **9:00 am** departure for Apuan Alps. Campocatino. Pieve San Lorenzo. Lunch in Carpinelli. Codiponte. At hotel 5:30 pm. Dinner in hotel 7:30-9:10 pm.



One of the striking Lombard capitals of Codiponte. Photo Rick Wright

May 11: breakfast at hotel beginning at 7:00 am. Checkout and **9:00 am** departure. Pieve Gropina. Lunch at Lo Strettoio. Arrival Arezzo hotel 5:00 pm. Free time and shopping until dinner 7:30-9:50 pm. Warm, high of 73 F; cloudy or partly cloudy, with rain starting about 10:00 pm.

May 12: breakfast at hotel beginning at 7:30 am. Bright, crisp, calm. Train to Florence. Opera del Duomo. Lunch at Santa Maria Novella 12:35-2:45 pm. Taxis to Fiesole; Roman amphitheatre and cathedral 3:15-4:45. Train to Arezzo. Dinner 7:30-9:30 pm.

May 13: breakfast at hotel beginning at 7:30 am. Left hotel **9:10 am**. Piero della Francesca frescoes 9:30-10:10 am, Arezzo main plaza. At hotel 10:30. Check out and leave hotel 10:50. Lunch at Cappanina 1:00-2:20 pm. Roadside birding. Arrive Manciano 5:05 pm; check in, optional bird walk 5:30-6:30 pm. Cool (50s F), cloudy, breezy. Dinner in Manciano.

May 14: breakfast at hotel beginning at 7:50 am. Left hotel **8:30 am**. Vulci 9:10 am to 12:30 pm. Lunch in Pitigliano 1:40-3:10 pm. Walk through Pitigliano and Via Cava. At hotel 4:55 pm. Dinner in Manciano 7:30-9:45 pm.

May 15: breakfast at hotel beginning at 8:00 am. Left hotel **8:45 am**. Stagnino Stagnone 9:30-11:45 am. Lunch in Orbetello. Cloudy and cool, rain in the afternoon. Orbetello marshes. At hotel 5:30 pm. Dinner in Manciano.



A Short-toed Snake Eagle soars over the Maremma. Photo Rick Wright

May 16: breakfast at hotel beginning at 8:00 am. Left hotel **9:00 am**. Sunny, warm (60s F). Walk at Diaccia-Botrona 10:20-12:20. Lunch in Castiglione della Pescaia. Optional birding on hotel grounds. Dinner in Manciano.

May 17: optional birding on hotel grounds. Breakfast at hotel beginning at 8:00 am. Left hotel **8:45 am**. Porto Santo

Stefano and ferry to Giglio Island. Bus ride to Giglio Castello; walk through Castello. Lunch at Santi. Birding Castello. Bus ride to ferry to Porto Santo Stefano. At hotel 6:00 pm. Dinner in Manciano.

May 18: breakfast at hotel. Left hotel **9:00 am**. At Rome airport 10:55 am. Tour ends.



Waiting for the ferry from Porto Santo Stefano. Photo Rick Wright

BIRDS

Mandarin Duck, *Aix galericulata*: one drake on the Serchio in Castelnuovo May 9.

Though there are many localities in Europe where this introduced species is established, the bird on the Serchio was almost certainly a recent escape or release.

Common Shelduck, *Tadorna tadorna*: two May 17.

Mallard, *Anas platyrhynchos*: scattered small numbers throughout.

Ring-necked Pheasant, *Phasianus colchicus*: single birds on May 13, 15, and 17.

Greater Flamingo, *Phoenicopterus roseus*: approximately 300 on the Orbetello Lagoon May 15.

Little Grebe, *Tachybaptus ruficollis*: one on the Serchio in Castelnuovo May 9, an unexpected location.

Feral Pigeon, *Columba livia*: common in urban and agricultural settings throughout.

Common Wood-Pigeon, *Columba palumbus*: fairly common throughout.

European Turtle-Dove, *Streptopelia turtur*: three in the countryside May 11, with a fine total of 12 or more at Vulci May 14. Two or three at Diaccia-Botrona May 16.

Eurasian Collared-Dove, *Streptopelia decaocto*: common throughout in all relatively open habitats, including towns.

Common Cuckoo, *Cuculus canorus*: two seen well, and another one or two heard, at Fucecchio May 8. Heard at Castiglione and at Sasso Rosso May 9. Excellent views of a perched bird at Campocatino May 10. Heard and occasionally glimpsed at nearly all sites near Manciano, including the grounds of our hotel.

Common Swift, *Apus apus*: common throughout.

Eurasian Coot, *Fulica atra*: a dozen or more at Fucecchio May 8. Good numbers at Diaccia-Botrona May 16.

Eurasian Moorhen, *Gallinula chloropus*: six at Fucecchio May 8. Heard at Diaccia-Botrona May 16.

Black-winged Stilt, *Himantopus himantopus*: about fifteen at Fucecchio May 8. Common at Diaccia-Botrona May 16.

Pied Avocet, *Recurvirostra avosetta*: one at great distance at Diaccia-Botrona May 16.

Northern Lapwing, *Vanellus vanellus*: two at Fucecchio May 8; this is one of the few reliable sites for breeding pairs of this species in Tuscany.

Black-bellied Plover, *Pluvialis squatarola*: about five on Orbetello Lagoon May 15.

Common Ringed Plover, *Charadrius hiaticula*: three or four on Orbetello Lagoon May 15.

Little Ringed Plover, *Charadrius dubius*: two at Orbetello Lagoon May 15.

Wood Sandpiper, *Tringa glareola*: three at Fucecchio May 8.

Slender-billed Gull, *Chroicocephalus genei*: at least 22 at Orbetello Lagoon May 15. Half a dozen at Diaccia-Botrona

Black-headed Gull, *Chroicocephalus ridibundus*: three at Fucecchio May 8. Common at Orbetello Lagoon May 15.

Mediterranean Gull, *Ichthaetus melanocephalus*: a couple at Diaccia-Botrona May 16.

Yellow-legged Gull, *Larus michahellis*: common throughout, as high as Castelnuovo.



Did someone say "French fry"? A Yellow-legged Gull. Photo Rick Wright

Little Tern, *Sternula albifrons*: eight at Orbetello Lagoon May 14, similar numbers at Diaccia-Botrona May 15.

Gull-billed Tern, *Gelochelidon nilotica*: a good tally of seven at Fucecchio May 8.

Common Tern, *Sterna hirundo*: a dozen at Orbetello Lagoon May 15. Common at Diaccia-Botrona May 16.

Sandwich Tern, *Thalasseus sandvicensis*: one at Orbetello Lagoon May 15.

White-winged Tern, *Chlidonias leucoptera*: a first for this tour was a lone adult in nearly complete breeding plumage at Orbetello Lagoon May 15.

Scopoli's Shearwater, *Calonectris [diamodea] diamodea*: a fine show of five or more between Porto Santo Stefano and Giglio Island May 16.

Yelkouan Shearwater, *Puffinus yelkouan*: streams of birds turning back from the mainland on our return from Giglio Island May 16; the total was easily 60, probably many more, most giving very good close views.

White Stork, *Ciconia alba*: two Fucecchio May 8.

Great Cormorant, *Phalacrocorax carbo*: two over Fucecchio May 8. Common at Orbetello Lagoon and Diaccia-Botrona.

European Shag, *Phalacrocorax aristotelis*: two at Giglio Island May 16, one of them floating calmly in the water next to our docked ferry.

Gray Heron, *Ardea cinerea*: a minimum of 25 at Fucecchio May 8. Two over Castelnuovo May 9. Common at Orbetello Lagoon and Diaccia-Botrona; the odd single bird at scattered locations throughout.

Great Egret, *Ardea alba*: about five at Fucecchio May 8. A good 15 at Diaccia-Botrona May 16.

Little Egret, *Egretta garzetta*: impressively abundant at Fucecchio May 8, the count more than 150 birds. Otherwise common in marshy lowlands, with scattered individuals elsewhere.

Squacco Heron, *Ardeola ralloides*: exceptionally good views of four at Fucecchio May 8.

Cattle Egret, *Bubulcus ibis*: five at Fucecchio May 8. One over Castelnuovo May 9. Common in lowland pastures.

Black-crowned Night-Heron, *Nycticorax nycticorax*: two at Fucecchio May 8.

Glossy Ibis, *Plegadis falcinellus*: six at Fucecchio May 8.

Sacred Ibis, *Threskiornis aethiopicus*: at least sixty at Fucecchio May 8.

Eurasian Spoonbill, *Platalea leucorodia*: seven at Fucecchio May 8. Twenty-five at Orbetello Lagoon May 16.

European Honey Buzzard, *Pernis apivorus*: one over Castelnuovo hotel May 9. Two at lunchtime May 10.

Short-toed Snake Eagle, *Circaetus gallicus*: two at Orbetello May 15 gave an impressive show, but were far outdone by the bird right over our heads at Diaccia-Botrona May 16.

Golden Eagle, *Aquila chrysaetos*: one adult over Sasso Rosso May 9.

Western Marsh Harrier, *Circus aeruginosus*: two at Diaccia-Botrona May 16.

Red Kite, *Milvus milvus*: one briefly over San Pellegrino May 9. One near Manciano May 14.

Black Kite, *Milvus migrans*: one over Fucecchio May 8. One near Diaccia-Botrona May 16.

Common Buzzard, *Buteo buteo*: one at Fucecchio May 8. Reliably seen in southern lowlands, with a high count of some 8 roadside birds May 17.

Booted Eagle, *Hieraetus pennatus*: one over Orbetello Lagoon May 15.

Osprey, *Pandion haliaetus*: one at Orbetello Lagoon May 15, two at Diaccia-Botrona the next day.

European Scops Owl, *Otus scops*: heard a couple of evenings at our Manciano hotel. We were closest to actually seeing one at the Campiglione restaurant, where one sang from directly over our heads—and remained invisible.

Tawny Owl, *Strix aluco*: heard at our hotel May 15.

Eurasian Hoopoe, *Upupa epops*: three at Castiglione May 9. Scattered individuals at Vulci, Orbetello, and on the way to Porto Santo Stefano, as well as on the grounds of our Manciano hotel.

European Bee-eater, *Merops apiaster*: flying over our Manciano hotel May 13. Good views of several at Vulci May 14. Also seen at Diaccia-Botrona and along the way to Porto Santo Stefano.

European Roller, *Coracias garrulus*: wonderful views near Manciano May 15 and 16, after a quick glimpse near Orbetello May 15. Another was seen on the way to Manciano from Porto Santo Stefano May 17.

Eurasian Wryneck, *Jynx torquilla*: one heard at Castelnuovo hotel May 9.



One of "our" Green Woodpeckers. Photo Rick Wright

Eurasian Green Woodpecker, *Picus viridis*: two seen repeatedly on the grounds of our Manciano hotel; the best views were had there before breakfast on May 17.

Eurasian Kestrel, *Falco tinnunculus*: one near Castiglione May 9. Two near Porto Santo Stefano May 17.

Eurasian Hobby, *Falco subbuteo*: two May 16 over Diaccia-Bottrona, a reliable locality for this dashing little falcon.

Peregrine Falcon, *Falco peregrinus*: a fresh juvenile over the quarry lake at Vulci May 14. Another, on Giglio Island May 17, was seen only by the leader.

Red-backed Shrike, *Lanius collurio*: an adult male seen by some of the group near Manciano May 16.

Eurasian Golden Oriole, *Oriolus oriolus*: two fleetingly seen at Fucecchio May 8. Heard almost every day at our Manciano hotel, with as many as four birds briefly seen on May 16 and May 17.

Eurasian Jay, *Garrulus glandarius*: two at Campocatino May 10. Seen every day at our Manciano hotel, but as usual at this season, the birds were quiet and furtive.

Eurasian Magpie, *Pica pica*: common throughout.

Eurasian Jackdaw, *Corvus monedula*: common throughout.

Hooded Crow, *Corvus cornix*: common throughout.

Common Raven, *Corvus corax*: one being mobbed by Hooded Crows over Castelnuovo May 9. Two over Campocatino May 10.

Skylark, *Alauda arvensis*: two singing high in the air at Vulci May 14.

Crested Lark, *Galerida cristata*: common in southern Tuscany, where we saw roadside birds May 13, 14, 15, 16, and 17.

Bank Swallow, *Riparia riparia*: several at Vulci May 14, possibly tardy migrants or more likely local breeders.

Eurasian Crag Martin, *Ptyonoprogne rupestris*: one at Sasso Rosso, and about 15 on the Serchio in Castelnuovo May 9, many acting as if they were nesting or seeking nesting sites under roof tiles. This was the first time this tour had found the species in the town.

Red-rumped Swallow, *Cecropis daurica*: one at Porto Santo Stefano May 17, unfortunately seen only by the leader (blame the sneaky Cetti's Warbler the rest of the group was busy looking for).

Barn Swallow, *Hirundo rustica*: common throughout in open country and over wetlands.

Common House-Martin, *Delichon urbicum*: common in towns and over wetlands at even high elevation.

Eurasian Blue Tit, *Cyanistes caeruleus*: single birds at Campocatino, Vulci, and Giglio Castello. The best views were at our hotel May 17.

Great Tit, *Parus major*: heard at Castelnuovo hotel and at Sasso Rosso May 9; mysteriously, a newly fledged bird was dead in the back of a pickup truck at the latter site. Heard or seen every day at our Manciano hotel.

Eurasian Wren, *Troglodytes troglodytes*: one seen flying across the Serchio in Castelnuovo May 9.

Common Firecrest, *Regulus ignicapilla*: excellent views of a male at Sasso Rosso May 9 and of another May 10 at Campocatino. This species is extremely territorial in the spring, responding to the least even remotely aggressive impulse.

Cetti's Warbler, *Cettia cetti*: explosively conspicuous in any wet lowland habitat, the startling song quickly growing familiar. Two or three at Fucecchio May 8. Heard at Orbetello Lagoon May 15, and finally seen, more or less quickly, at Diaccia-Bottrona the next day.

Western Bonelli's Warbler, *Phylloscopus bonneli*: excellent views of one singing and feeding at Sasso Rosso May 9.

Common Chiffchaff, *Phylloscopus collybita*:

Great Reed Warbler, *Acrocephalus arundinaceus*: at least three at Fucecchio May 8, one well seen as it sang from a small dead tree in the marsh. Heard at Diaccia-Botrona May 16.



A sitting cisticola zitting from a perch at Diaccia-Botrona. Photo Rick Wright

Zitting Cisticola, *Cisticola juncidis*: small numbers heard, and some seen, at the Orbetello Lagoon, at Diaccia-Botrona, and near Porto Santo Stefano.

Eurasian Blackcap, *Sylvia atricapilla*: heard at most mountain sites May 9 and almost every day at our Manciano hotel. Loud and not especially shy, this bird can nevertheless be tough to see once the leaves are out and full-sized; the best view was at our hotel before breakfast May 17.

Moltoni's Warbler, *Sylvia subalpina*: one seen by Marco at Sasso Rosso May 9.

Sardinian Warbler, *Sylvia melanocephala*: heard at our hotel in Manciano beginning May 13; good views, though brief, were had there late in our stay and at the Orbetello Lagoon May 15. Two at Giglio May 17 were less obliging.

Greater Whitethroat, *Sylvia communis*: one at Sasso Rosso May 9.

Spotted Flycatcher, *Muscicapa striata*: one at the train station in Orbetello May 15. A dozen or more on Giglio Island May 17. The identity of birds in the Tyrrhenian Sea region is unclear—many or most are probably Mediterranean Flycatchers, a taxon whose status and identification are still being elaborated.

Common Nightingale, *Luscinia megarhynchos*: two singing at Fucecchio May 8. Heard every day at our Manciano hotel.

Common Redstart, *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*: seen at Castelnuovo hotel May 9 and 10 and at Castiglione May 9.

Black Redstart, *Phoenicurus ochruros*: singing at San Pellegrino May 9. Three birds on the Serchio at Castelnuovo May 9 included two fresh fledglings. Several in Castelnuovo May 10.

Blue Rock Thrush, *Monticola solitarius*: one in Pitigliano May 14.

Whinchat, *Saxicola rubetra*: one at Castelnuovo hotel May 9.

European Stonechat, *Saxicola rubicola*: one in the countryside north of Manciano May 13.

Eurasian Blackbird, *Turdus merula*: fairly common and very vocal throughout.

Song Thrush, *Turdus philomelos*: one singing, invisible, at our lunch May 9.

European Starling, *Sturnus vulgaris*: small numbers throughout on farmland and pasture, less common in towns.

Ashy-headed Wagtail, *Motacilla (flava) cinereocapilla*: a single flock of fifteen or more at Fucecchio May 8. Ashy-headed Wagtails and Yellow Wagtails of uncertain subspecific identity were also common at Diaccia-Botrona May 16.

Iberian Wagtail, *Motacilla (flava) iberiae*: one male at Diaccia-Botrona May 16.

White Wagtail, *Motacilla alba*: several May 9 and May 10. Excellent views of birds at close range on Giglio Island May 17.

Corn Bunting, *Emberiza calandra*: heard and seen every day in the southern Tuscan lowlands.

Cirl Bunting, *Emberiza cirlus*: one at Gropina May 13. Heard on Giglio Island May 17.



Noisy, common, and endearing: the European Goldfinch. Photo Rick Wright

Common Chaffinch, *Fringilla coelebs*: scattered throughout May 9, including at our Castelnuovo hotel. Also heard and seen at Campocatino and at our Manciano hotel; heard only at Vulci May 14 and at Giglio May 17.

European Greenfinch, *Chloris chloris*: heard at Fucecchio May 8. Heard May 9 and seen and heard May 10 at our Castelnuovo hotel. Good views before breakfast at our Manciano hotel May 17.

European Linnet, *Linaria cannabina*: seen May 10 at Campocatino.

European Goldfinch, *Carduelis carduelis*: two or three in Castelnuovo May 9.

European Serin, *Serinus serinus*: common throughout, especially in villages and on steep slopes, including Giglio Island.

Italian Sparrow, *Passer italiae*: common throughout.



An Italian Sparrow at the Poderino. Photo Rick Wright

Eurasian Tree Sparrow, *Passer montanus*: one seen by leader in Pitigliano.

Red Avadavat, *Amandava amandava*: a flighty flock of about 12 at Fucecchio May 8; this appears to be the only site in Tuscany where this introduced species has become established.

MAMMALS:

Brown Hare, *Lepus europaeus*: one at hotel May 18, one at Orbetello May 20.

European Rabbit, *Oryctolagus cuniculus*: one on Giglio.

Rat sp., *Rattus* sp.: a very large rat on the Serchio May 9.

REPTILES:

Wall Lizard, *Podarcis muralis*: in Sasso Rosso May 9.