

Summary of National Hunting Regulations: Morocco



Updated in August 2014

HUNTING AND TRAPPING LEGISLATION/ RESOURCES

Name of main legislation: 'Réglementation permanente de la chasse'

Year of publication: 1962

Supporting legislation: 'Arrêté de Chasse'

Legislation updates: Yearly, through the 'Arrêté de chasse'

Hunting legislation (web link): <http://www.frmc.org.ma/legislatifes4.htm>

Authority in charge of controlling hunting (web link): Haut-Commissariat aux Eaux et Forêts et à la Lutte Contre la Désertification

Major inconsistencies or loopholes detected (if yes please describe):

Derogations (on EU Birds Directive and/or Bern Convention): All restrictions mentioned in Moroccan legislation can be derogated if the species is considered a pest by the landowner of an affected parcel. Land owners are even allowed to shoot diurnal raptors, as well as anyone who rents the landowners' space for hunting purposes, if proven to harm crops or land – permit is needed.

HUNTING AND TRAPPING: METHODS AND RESTRICTIONS

	Legal methods/restrictions	Notes
Hunting	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Prohibitions: hunting at night and in protected areas, hunting from a hide (except for waterbird and migratory species), using bait and decoys, using firearms with special design (buckshot, silencers, night vision scopes, etc.), using drugs, poisons, bacterial processes or virus to intoxicate the game- Hunting Tourism: batches of land are leased to specialized businesses. Shooting of migratory birds (except Larks and Thrushes) is only allowed in designated areas. Non-residents can hunt larks and thrushes if they pay 100€ to the 'Fonds de la Chasse et de la Pêche Continentale' (100€ per tourist, per type of game and per day)	Exceptions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The use of mirror is allowed to hunt Larks- The use of calls and caller is authorized for hunting ducks, teals, sandpipers, curlews, plovers and lapwings.
Trapping	Not allowed, except for species considered pests	

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HUNTING SEASONS AND SPECIES

The table in the 'Arrêté de Chasse' does not go into detail of listing species, only groups or genus (as transcribed here)

Quota are given per hunter and per day.

Open Hunting Season	Legally huntable species	Notes
<p>October-December (on Sundays and bank holidays) From 28/09/2014 to 28/12/2014</p>	<p>Partridges Pheasants (can be hunted by tourist hunters only, without restriction in fields under 500 hectares, and after receiving permission from local authorities)</p>	<p>Quota: 5 partridges</p>
<p>October-February (on Sundays and bank holidays. For snipes, allowed to hunt up to 4 days a week but permit needed from province government) From 28/09/2014 to 22/02/2015</p>	<p>Waterbirds and migratory species Woodcocks, Snipes, Sandpipers, Coots, Blackbirds, Scoters, Ducks (except <i>Tadorna</i> species), Teals (except Marbled Teal), <i>Aythya</i> species (except Ferruginous Duck), Divers, Plovers, Oystercatchers, Godwits, Lapwings.</p> <p>'Occasional pests' Starlings, sparrows and magpies.</p> <p>Residents species Thrushes, Larks, (28/09/2014- 22/02/2015) Rock Pigeon and Wood Pigeons (28/09/2014- 28/12/2014). Hunting calendar should be agreed previously and permitted by High commission province director</p>	<p>Quota: 5 woodcocks, 10 ducks, 2 geese, 20 snipes, 20 items of other waterbird species</p> <p>50 thrushes, 50 larks, 10 wood and rock pigeons,</p>
<p>October-December to March according to places: can be extended to 09/03/2015 in the northern and coastal districts but hunting must occur outside forests. (on Sundays and bank holidays for residents, Friday to Monday for tourists, as purchased by hunting associations)</p>	<p>Common Quail</p>	<p>Quota: 20 Quails</p>

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June/July-August (on Saturday, Sunday and bank holidays for residents, Friday to Monday for tourists, as purchased by hunting associations)	Turtle Doves, Rock Pigeons and Wood Pigeons. Souss Massa Dra'a (Southern breeding provinces): 27/06/2015 to 10/08/2015 Central Moroccan provinces 04/07/2015 to 24/08/2015 Northern Provinces: 18/07/2015 to 24/08/2015	Quota: 50 turtle doves Hunting of these species only allowed from fixed points.
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TRAPPING SEASONS AND SPECIES

Open Hunting Season	Legally trapped species	Notes
All year around	Species considered as pests	

TRADE AND PEST SPECIES

Legal trade	Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trade of game species is only authorised during the hunting season (and the 2 days following the closing date) of the concerned species - Trade of pest species is authorised all year around - Unless special permission is obtained, the transport, exposure, possession, sale and purchase and treatment by taxidermists, tanners and furriers of protected species are prohibited. This prohibition includes diurnal raptors killed as a result of pest control. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trade is prohibited without a permit. Permit lasts one season and must be renewed every year. Buying of game by restaurants and hotels is not authorised – the person who signed the permit is the only one who can use it. - Ban on trade of game species and wildlife. Bird species with ban (partridge, quail, rock pigeon, turtle dove, woodcock, snipe and any protected species) - Exception: hunting tourism organizers can ask for trade on partridge and pheasant if they come from breeding populations.
Legislation on “pest species”	Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Land owners can kill the species considered pests below at any time - Occasional Pest species: Calandra lark, Greater Short-toed Lark, <i>Corvus</i> sp., <i>Passer</i> sp., <i>Pica</i> sp., <i>Columba</i> sp., <i>Sturnus</i> sp. and European Turtle Dove - In case of proliferation, Crested Lark and Common bulbul can be also considered as pest - Honey producers are allowed to kill European Bee-eater from 1st May to 31st Oct within 100m 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All hunting methods are allowed for pest species, except fire, deliberate bacterial and viral infections. While poison is not normally allowed, it is allowed for killing crows, sparrows and any pest species subsequently added. - Driven hunting/group beating allowed for the aforementioned species, after authorisation of the local authority.

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