

# Albania in Autumn

Naturetrek Tour Report

29th August – 5th September 2025



Balkan Green Lizard



Dalmatian Pelicans



Woodchat Shrike



Juvenile Collared Pratincole

Tour report by Andy Smith



Naturetrek

Mingledown Barn

Wolf's Lane

Chawton

Alton

Hampshire

GU34 3HJ

UK

T: +44 (0)1962 733051

E: [info@naturetrek.co.uk](mailto:info@naturetrek.co.uk)

W: [www.naturetrek.co.uk](http://www.naturetrek.co.uk)

Tour participants: Andy Smith and Mirjan Topi (leaders) with nine Naturetrek clients

## Summary

An excellent week in southern Albania started on the coast at Karavasta and Narte with fabulous sightings of Dalmatian Pelicans, Greater Flamingos, Stone Curlews, Collared Pratincoles, Little and Gull-billed Terns, Slender-billed Gulls and lots more. Bee-eaters, Red-backed Shrikes, Red-rumped Swallows and migrant Spotted Flycatchers seemed to be everywhere and we enjoyed encounters with Rollers, Hoopoes, Little Owls and Turtle Doves. Woodchat and Lesser Grey Shrikes added further spice and raptors included Short-toed Eagle, Montagu's Harrier and lots of delightful Lesser Kestrels.

In the mountains further south, we moved into a different realm. Here we travelled through breathtaking scenery and found Rock Nuthatches, Black-eared Wheatears, Blue and Common Rock Thrushes, Sombre Tits, Rock Buntings and a Lesser Spotted Woodpecker. Egyptian Vultures, Golden Eagles and Honey Buzzards bolstered the raptor list and on one memorable occasion we had a spectacular view of a Hobby mobbing a Goshawk.

Non-avian interest included Yellow-bellied Toads, Balkan Green Lizards, a feisty Balkan Whip Snake and butterflies such as Scarce Swallowtail, Southern Sage Skipper and lots of impressive Great Banded Graylings. Meanwhile the sun shone more or less throughout (except for a couple of spectacular thunderstorms) and we enjoyed some great food and lots of points of cultural interest, including the atmospheric Ottoman citadel town of Gjirokaster, our base for the second part of the week. Here, on the last evening we watched enthralled as over 500 Lesser Kestrels descended to their roost trees against a backdrop of thunderheads, lightning flashes and a rainbow - fantastic! All in all, it was a great tour much enjoyed by all!

## Day 1

## Friday 29th August

We arrived at Tirana on time just after midday, met up with our guide Mirjan and our driver Zamir and headed off southwards. Eating a sandwich lunch en-route our destination was the wonderfully named Shkumbin valley. Here, in an area of open grassy slopes, vineyards, scrub and agricultural fields we enjoyed an excellent quick-fire introduction to our Albanian birding. Highlights included Rollers, Bee-eaters, Turtle Doves, Red-rumped Swallows, Corn Buntings and both Red-backed and Lesser Grey Shrikes. On our way back out to the main road we added sightings of a couple of Marsh Harriers and a large flock of Spanish Sparrows and continuing towards Vlore, we noted lots of Lesser Kestrels hawking over the fields or perched on roadside wires. It was a good start!

A little later we arrived at our beachside hotel at Zvernec and settled in prior to a first dinner together.

## Day 2

## Saturday 30th August

A couple of Syrian Woodpeckers along the entrance track to the hotel started the day well before we set off northwards to the Karavasta National Park, a varied mosaic of coastal lagoons, marshes and woodland. Our first stop there was in an area of dried out salicornia flats and scrubland where we enjoyed fabulous views of Collared Pratincoles attending fledged young, glimpsed a passing Montagu's Harrier and marvelled at the flying skills of Little and Gull-billed Terns as they hawked up and down a wide drainage canal. After lunch at a restaurant, which coincided with a spectacular thunderstorm, we explored a track through pine forest that led us out to a view over

the famous Karavasta lagoon. Here we saw over 150 Greater Flamingos, at least 12 mighty Dalmatian Pelicans, about 100 Little Egrets, 80 Pygmy Cormorants, several Avocets a few Black-winged Stilts and a range of other waders. There were Slender-billed Gulls too, plus a Caspian Tern roosting next to some Little Terns (interesting size comparison!) and a flock of 40 or so Stone Curlews that gave us a surprise fly-past.

On our way back to Vlore in the late afternoon we paused for a while to watch a flock of 50 or so Lesser Kestrels hawking over a roadside field near Leshne. Intent on catching grasshoppers, they were largely oblivious to us, and we enjoyed some fabulous views of them; a great way to finish the day!

## Day 3

## Sunday 31st August

Fifty or so Bee-eaters and a trio of Golden Orioles in the trees across the valley from the hotel terrace provided early morning excitement before, with breakfast completed, we made our way to Narte lagoon. The wider Narte area is Albania's most important coastal wetland, and we spent the morning working our way along a causeway that divides the lagoon itself from an extensive area of working salt pans. The birding was excellent, and highlights included hundreds of Greater Flamingos, 1,000+ Slender-billed Gulls, 30 Stone Curlews, 30 Little Terns and 21 marvellous Dalmatian Pelicans. We found a Squacco Heron and a Little Owl too, and among a good selection of waders we noted over a hundred each of Spotted Redshank, Ruff and Curlew Sandpiper.

After a restaurant lunch and a siesta back at the hotel we went for a very pleasant walk along the shore at the southern end of Narte lagoon. Our route took us out to the seashore and up a small hill that afforded wonderful views of the coast and the lagoon. Lots of Grey Herons and Little Egrets were out on the water, a number of Cormorants, both Great and Pygmy, were roosting on a line of wooden pilings and we all had good views of a Kingfisher. There was a nice range of waders evident too and the passerines in the surrounding grassland, scrub and trees included Red-backed and Woodchat Shrikes, a couple of Whinchats, both Northern and Black-eared Wheatears and a Spotted Flycatcher.

## Day 4

## Monday 1st September

Away from Zvernec after breakfast we made our way towards the Kurvelesh Mountains and Gjirokaster. We followed a quiet road along the Shushitse river valley through some lovely countryside. A series of short stops brought us a satisfying range of sightings including a flock of colourful Yellow Wagtails at one riverside viewpoint, two handsome male Black-eared Wheatears at another and a fabulous Short-toed Eagle hunting over a scrubby hillside. Climbing up into the mountains we passed a Blue Rock Thrush right by the road, found some Yellow-bellied Toads and Balkan Water Frogs in a small pond and took a brief walk on a rocky plateau which produced the inevitable Northern Wheatears and Red-backed Shrikes plus four flyover Woodlarks and a brief Wryneck.

We ate lunch in the village of Nivice at a restaurant with spectacular views out over the famous Kurvelesh canyon, then continued through the mountains and down towards the town of Tepelene. Our principal stop on the way was in a rugged valley where we could view an Egyptian Vulture nest in a cave high up in a distant cliff face. The nearly fledged youngster was shuffling around in the cave and as we watched and waited, enjoying the antics of the local Crag Martins, an adult vulture appeared over the skyline and flew around the valley. Always an exciting bird to see, we enjoyed some great views of it as it circled around and evaded the attentions of a pair Ravens which seemed intent on harassing it.

Pleased with our success we dropped down to Tepelene and the Drino Valley and a little later arrived at Gjirokaster, our base for the rest of the trip.

## Day 5

## Tuesday 2nd September

We set out from Gjirokaster after breakfast heading towards Butrint. Driving through another cross-section of splendid countryside we stopped for a short walk in an area of scrubby meadows along a poplar lined watercourse. An exciting range of birds here in a short space of time included a dazzling male Lesser Spotted Woodpecker tapping away in a dead poplar and a close Golden Eagle working its way along the hillside above. Butterflies were good too, with Scarce Swallowtail, Cardinal Fritillary, Clouded Yellow and Southern Sage Skipper all being seen.

Continuing, a couple of Honey Buzzards and a brief Levant Sparrowhawk enlivened the journey before, towards the end of the morning, we made another stop in an area of flat agricultural fields close to Butrint. Top sightings here were a Lesser Grey Shrike, several dashing Alpine Swifts, a flock of over 30 Yellow Wagtails and a very smart male Balkan Green Lizard. We ate lunch at a restaurant at Butrint itself and then in the afternoon most of the group went for a guided tour of the famous Roman ruins whilst some went for a walk out across the neighbouring saltmarsh. The Historians came back duly impressed by the wonders of this fabulous ancient site whilst the saltmarsh walkers enjoyed a nice range of birds highlighted by half a dozen Spoonbills, a few Great Egrets, 15 Curlews, several Mediterranean Gulls, at least three Kingfishers and an Osprey. A top dragonfly was noted too: a fresh male Southern Skimmer – very nice!

## Day 6

## Wednesday 3rd September

After breakfast today we drove just a short distance along the Drino valley to the village of Goranxi and took a walk up into a dramatic cliff-bound valley. Amidst stunning scenery and dodging a couple of brief rain showers we encountered a satisfying range of birds including over a dozen Black-eared Wheatears, a few Blue Rock Thrushes, a Sombre Tit, a handsome male Cirl Bunting, dozens of Crag Martins and several noisy and animated Rock Nuthatches. There were the usual swallows, sparrows and Spotted Flycatchers too plus some evidence of migration with a couple of Common Redstarts, a Collared Flycatcher and at least three juvenile Subalpine Warblers all being seen. A couple of Peregrines zooming around the valley and an Egyptian Vulture perched on a high cliff ledge added further excitement, whilst an impromptu alfresco coffee break with a group of local women cleaning the small chapel in the valley added a delightful cultural flavour to proceedings and rounded off the morning very nicely.

Post lunch and a siesta back in Gjirokaster we took a local walk up through the town, past the castle, to a viewpoint overlooking the famous 18th Century Ali Pasha's bridge. Finally, towards sunset we drove down to the new part of town and watched some 200 Lesser Kestrels dropping in to roost in some trees by the stadium, a wonderful sight and a great way to end the day.

## Day 7

## Thursday 4th September

Today we headed in a new direction out of town across the valley towards the towering ridge of Cajupi mountain. Climbing gently at first through agricultural fields, grassland and scrub we saw Lesser Kestrels, Bee-eaters, Turtle Doves, Corn Buntings and Golden Orioles and had a spectacular view of a female Goshawk being mobbed by a

Hobby. Further on and higher up, in a realm of rocky slopes and scrubby oak woodland we added good sightings of Black-eared Wheatear, Sombre Tit, Blue Rock Thrush and Golden Eagle before we crossed over the ridge and dropped down into a high, wide grassy valley. It was a stunningly beautiful place and here we took a lengthy walk, finding several more Sombre Tits, a couple of juvenile Common Rock Thrushes (very nice!), a Tawny Pipit, a little flock of Woodlarks and several Rock Buntings. There were good numbers of Stonechats and Red-backed Shrikes too, and as we dropped down to the open meadows at the bottom of the valley, we found Whinchats, Yellow Wagtails, Corn Buntings and lots of Linnets.

It was all very pleasant and beyond birds we noted Great Banded Graylings and Clouded Yellows, Balkan Water Frogs (in a spring fed pool) and a feisty juvenile Balkan Whip Snake. We ate our picnic (complete with delicious fresh watermelon) by the frog pool spring and then started to make our way back down to Gjirokaster. We reached town just as a dramatic thunderstorm broke – perfect time for a siesta!

Towards sunset some of us went back down to the stadium area in the new town. We'd timed it a little better than the previous evening and amidst a backdrop of rainbows, thunderclouds and lightning flashes we watched as over 500 Lesser Kestrels came in to roost. The sky was full of them, some so high at first they were just tiny specks far, far above us. It was a fantastic and wonderful sight and a very fitting finale to a great trip!

## Day 8

## Friday 5th September

Away after a leisurely breakfast we made a stop by the Drino river for a last bit of Albanian birding and found a couple of Black Storks, a fitting last addition to the trip list. Other goodies included a Short-toed Eagle, a Honey Buzzard, a nice juvenile Woodchat Shrike, some Turtle Doves and a brief Lesser Whitethroat. All too soon however it was time to make serious progress back towards Tirana.

We ate lunch at a lovely restaurant near Lushne and made it to the airport in perfect time to check in for our flight. Everything went smoothly and we all arrived safely back at Heathrow a few hours later. It had been a great trip!

### Receive our e-newsletter

Join the Naturetrek email list and be the first to hear about new tours, additional departures and new dates, tour reports and special offers.

[naturetrek.co.uk/e-newsletter-signup](https://naturetrek.co.uk/e-newsletter-signup)

Scan to  
sign up!



### Social Media

We're social! Follow us on Instagram, Facebook, Bluesky and X and be the first to hear about the launch of new tours, offers, exciting sightings and photos from our recently returned holidays.



[instagram.com/naturetrek\\_wildlife\\_holidays](https://www.instagram.com/naturetrek_wildlife_holidays)



[facebook.com/naturetrekwildlifeholidays](https://www.facebook.com/naturetrekwildlifeholidays)



[naturetrek.bsky.social](https://bsky.app/profile/naturetrek.social)



[x.com/naturetrektours](https://x.com/naturetrektours) (formerly Twitter)

## Species lists

Birds (H = Heard only)

| Common name            | Scientific name                | August - September 2025 |     |      |    |     |    |   |     |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-----|------|----|-----|----|---|-----|
|                        |                                | 29                      | 30  | 31   | 1  | 2   | 3  | 4 | 5   |
| Common Shelduck        | <i>Tadorna tadorna</i>         |                         | 2   |      |    |     |    |   |     |
| Northern Pintail       | <i>Anas acuta</i>              |                         |     | 7    |    |     |    |   |     |
| Little Grebe           | <i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>  |                         | 1   |      |    | 1   |    |   | 1   |
| Greater Flamingo       | <i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>   |                         | 250 | 1000 |    |     |    |   |     |
| Black Stork            | <i>Ciconia nigra</i>           |                         |     |      |    |     |    |   | 2   |
| White Stork            | <i>Ciconia ciconia</i>         |                         |     |      | 2  |     |    |   | 1   |
| Eurasian Spoonbill     | <i>Platalea leucorodia</i>     |                         |     |      |    | 6   |    |   |     |
| Squacco Heron          | <i>Ardeola ralloides</i>       |                         |     | 1    | 1  |     |    |   |     |
| Grey Heron             | <i>Ardea cinerea</i>           |                         | 10  | 60   | 1  | 20  |    | 2 | 4   |
| Great Egret            | <i>Ardea alba</i>              |                         |     | 2    |    | 6   |    |   | 3   |
| Little Egret           | <i>Egretta garzetta</i>        |                         | 120 | 300  | 10 | 30  |    |   | 25  |
| Cattle Egret           | <i>Bubulcus ibis</i>           | 70                      | 50  | 50   | 30 | 100 | 10 |   | 120 |
| Dalmatian Pelican      | <i>Pelecanus crispus</i>       |                         | 20  | 21   |    |     |    |   |     |
| Pygmy Cormorant        | <i>Microcarbo pygmeus</i>      |                         | 150 | 20   | 50 | 1   |    |   |     |
| Great Cormorant        | <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>     |                         | 30  | 1    | 2  | 20  |    |   |     |
| Egyptian Vulture       | <i>Neophron percnopterus</i>   |                         |     |      | 2  |     | 1  |   |     |
| Osprey                 | <i>Pandion haliaetus</i>       |                         |     |      |    | 1   |    |   |     |
| Short-toed Snake Eagle | <i>Circaetus gallicus</i>      | 1                       |     |      | 4  |     |    |   | 1   |
| European Honey Buzzard | <i>Pernis ptilorhynchus</i>    |                         |     |      | 1  | 3   |    |   | 1   |
| Western Marsh Harrier  | <i>Circus aeruginosus</i>      | 3                       | 6   | 1    | 1  |     |    |   |     |
| Montagu's Harrier      | <i>Circus pygargus</i>         |                         | 1   |      |    |     |    |   |     |
| Eurasian Sparrowhawk   | <i>Accipiter nisus</i>         |                         | 1   |      | 1  |     |    | 1 | 1   |
| Northern Goshawk       | <i>Accipiter gentilis</i>      |                         |     |      |    |     |    | 1 |     |
| Levant Sparrowhawk     | <i>Accipiter brevipes</i>      |                         |     |      |    | 2   |    |   |     |
| Common Buzzard         | <i>Buteo buteo</i>             |                         | 1   | 2    | 4  | 3   | 1  | 6 | 6   |
| Long-legged Buzzard    | <i>Buteo ruffinus</i>          |                         |     |      |    | 1   |    |   |     |
| Golden Eagle           | <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>       |                         |     |      |    | 2   |    | 1 |     |
| Common Moorhen         | <i>Gallinula chloropus</i>     |                         | 4   | 1    |    |     |    |   |     |
| Eurasian Stone-Curlew  | <i>Burhinus oedicnemus</i>     |                         | 40  | 30   |    |     |    |   |     |
| Collared Pratincole    | <i>Glareola pratincola</i>     |                         | 12  |      |    |     |    |   |     |
| Black-winged Stilt     | <i>Himantopus himantopus</i>   |                         | 5   | 4    |    |     |    |   |     |
| Pied Avocet            | <i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>  |                         | 20  | 1    |    |     |    |   |     |
| Grey Plover            | <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>    |                         |     |      |    | 1   |    |   |     |
| Turnstone              | <i>Arenaria interpres</i>      |                         |     | 3    |    |     |    |   |     |
| Little Ringed Plover   | <i>Charadrius dubius</i>       |                         | 2   | 12   |    | 1   |    |   |     |
| Ringed Plover          | <i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>    |                         | 1   | 1    |    |     |    |   |     |
| Kentish Plover         | <i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i> |                         | 1   | 10   |    |     |    |   |     |
| Bar-tailed Godwit      | <i>Limosa lapponica</i>        |                         |     | 1    |    |     |    |   |     |
| Eurasian Curlew        | <i>Numenius arquata</i>        |                         | 2   | 2    |    | 15  |    |   |     |
| Ruff                   | <i>Philomachus pugnax</i>      |                         |     | 100  |    |     |    |   |     |
| Spotted Redshank       | <i>Tringa erythropus</i>       |                         |     | 100  |    |     |    |   |     |
| Common Redshank        | <i>Tringa totanus</i>          |                         | 5   | 15   |    |     |    |   |     |
| Common Greenshank      | <i>Tringa nebularia</i>        |                         | 6   | 10   | 2  |     |    |   |     |
| Wood Sandpiper         | <i>Tringa glareola</i>         |                         |     | 1    |    |     |    |   |     |
| Green Sandpiper        | <i>Tringa ochropus</i>         |                         | 6   |      | 1  | 1   |    |   |     |
| Common Sandpiper       | <i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>      |                         | 1   | 2    |    | 3   |    |   |     |
| Little Stint           | <i>Calidris minuta</i>         |                         | 4   | 20   |    |     |    |   |     |

| Common name               | Scientific name                   | August - September 2025 |     |       |     |     |     |     |    |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|-----|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
|                           |                                   | 29                      | 30  | 31    | 1   | 2   | 3   | 4   | 5  |
| Curlew Sandpiper          | <i>Calidris ferruginea</i>        |                         |     | 100   |     |     |     |     |    |
| Dunlin                    | <i>Calidris alpina</i>            |                         | 10  | 10    |     |     |     |     |    |
| Knot                      | <i>Calidris canutus</i>           |                         |     | 2     |     |     |     |     |    |
| Black-headed Gull         | <i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i> |                         | 10  | 100   |     | 100 |     |     |    |
| Mediterranean Gull        | <i>Larus melanocephalus</i>       |                         |     | 30    |     | 5   |     |     |    |
| Yellow-legged Gull        | <i>Larus michahellis</i>          |                         | 10  | 100's | 7   | 10  |     |     |    |
| Slender-billed Gull       | <i>Chroicocephalus genei</i>      |                         | 10  | 1000  |     |     |     |     |    |
| Little Tern               | <i>Sternula albifrons</i>         |                         | 35  | 30    |     |     |     |     |    |
| Sandwich Tern             | <i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>        |                         |     |       |     | 1   |     |     |    |
| Gull-billed Tern          | <i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>      |                         | 12  |       |     |     |     |     |    |
| Caspian Tern              | <i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>         |                         | 1   |       |     |     |     |     |    |
| Rock Dove                 | <i>Columba livia</i>              |                         |     |       | 12  |     |     |     |    |
| Feral Pigeon              | <i>Columba livia</i>              |                         | 1   | 2     |     |     | 30  | 20  |    |
| Common Wood Pigeon        | <i>Columba palumbus</i>           |                         |     |       |     |     | 2   | 3   |    |
| European Turtle Dove      | <i>Streptopelia turtur</i>        | 20                      | 5   | 1     |     | 6   |     | 3   | 2  |
| Eurasian Collared Dove    | <i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>      | 5                       | 30  | 25    | 10  | 10  | 25  | 10  | 10 |
| Little Owl                | <i>Athene noctua</i>              |                         |     | 2+1h  |     |     | 1h  |     | 1h |
| Scops Owl                 | <i>Otus scops</i>                 |                         | 1h  | 1+1h  |     |     |     |     |    |
| Alpine Swift              | <i>Tachymarptis melba</i>         |                         |     |       |     | 5   |     |     |    |
| Common Swift              | <i>Apus apus</i>                  |                         |     |       | 1   |     |     |     |    |
| Kingfisher                | <i>Alcedo atthis</i>              |                         | 6   | 1     | 1   | 3   |     | 1   | 1  |
| European Bee-Eater        | <i>Merops apiaster</i>            | 40                      | 150 | 100   | 30  | 20  | 10  | 30  | 5  |
| Eurasian Hoopoe           | <i>Upupa epops</i>                |                         | 1   |       | 2   | 1   |     | 3   |    |
| European Roller           | <i>Coracias garrulus</i>          | 2                       |     |       |     |     |     | 1   |    |
| Syrian Woodpecker         | <i>Dendrocopos syriacus</i>       |                         | 2   |       |     | 1h  |     |     |    |
| Lesser Spotted Woodpecker | <i>Dendrocopos minor</i>          |                         |     |       |     | 1   |     |     |    |
| Middle Spotted Woodpecker | <i>Dendrocopos media</i>          |                         |     |       |     |     | 1   |     |    |
| Eurasian Wryneck          | <i>Jynx torquilla</i>             |                         |     |       | 1   |     |     |     |    |
| Common Kestrel            | <i>Falco tinnunculus</i>          |                         |     | 2     | 4   |     | 1   | 3   |    |
| Lesser Kestrel            | <i>Falco naumanni</i>             | 50                      | 100 |       | 100 | 100 | 200 | 600 | 50 |
| Eurasian Hobby            | <i>Falco subbuteo</i>             |                         |     |       |     |     |     | 1   |    |
| Peregrine                 | <i>Falco peregrinus</i>           |                         |     |       |     |     | 2   |     |    |
| Woodchat Shrike           | <i>Lanius senator</i>             |                         | 1   | 2     | 2   | 1   |     | 2   | 1  |
| Red-backed Shrike         | <i>Lanius collurio</i>            | 5                       | 7   | 5     | 20  | 10  | 5   | 25  | 2  |
| Lesser Grey shrike        | <i>Lanius minor</i>               | 3                       |     | 1     |     | 1   |     |     |    |
| Eurasian Jay              | <i>Garrulus glandarius</i>        |                         |     |       | 4   | 6   |     | 15  | 3  |
| Eurasian Magpie           | <i>Pica pica</i>                  | 5                       | 30  | 30    | 10  | 10  | 6   | 5   | 3  |
| Western Jackdaw           | <i>Coloeus monedula</i>           | 20                      | 25  | 250   | 100 | 20  | 20  | 50  | 20 |
| Hooded Crow               | <i>Corvus cornix</i>              | 70                      | 20  | 150   | 50  | 30  | 10  | 50  | 20 |
| Northern Raven            | <i>Corvus corax</i>               |                         |     | 1     | 6   |     | 8   | 5   |    |
| Sombre Tit                | <i>Poecile lugubris</i>           |                         |     |       |     | 1h  | 1   | 10  |    |
| Great Tit                 | <i>Parus major</i>                |                         | 2   | 2     | 3   | 2   | 6   | 5   | 4  |
| Eurasian Blue Tit         | <i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>        |                         | 2   |       | 1   |     | 1   |     | 2  |
| Crested Lark              | <i>Galerida cristata</i>          | 6                       | 5   | 6     |     | 2   |     | 2   |    |
| Woodlark                  | <i>Lullula arborea</i>            |                         |     |       | 4   |     |     | 8   |    |
| Short-toed Lark           | <i>Calandrella brachydactyla</i>  |                         |     | 15    |     |     |     |     |    |
| Sand Martin               | <i>Riparia riparia</i>            |                         | 40  | 5     | 5   | 5   |     |     |    |
| Barn Swallow              | <i>Hirundo rustica</i>            | 10                      | 25  | 50    | 50  | 50  | 20  | 25  | 15 |
| Eurasian Crag Martin      | <i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>     |                         |     |       | 30  |     | 30  |     |    |

| Common name           | Scientific name                     | August - September 2025 |     |      |      |      |      |      |     |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----|------|------|------|------|------|-----|
|                       |                                     | 29                      | 30  | 31   | 1    | 2    | 3    | 4    | 5   |
| Common House Martin   | <i>Delichon urbicum</i>             | 10                      |     | 2    | 12   |      | 5    | 5    |     |
| Red-rumped Swallow    | <i>Cecropis daurica</i>             | 30                      | 100 | 100  | 100  | 50   | 50   | 30   | 15  |
| Long-tailed Tit       | <i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>          |                         | 1+  |      |      |      |      |      |     |
| Zitting Cisticola     | <i>Cisticola juncidis</i>           | 4                       | 5   | 5    |      | 2    |      |      |     |
| Cetti's Warbler       | <i>Cettia cetti</i>                 |                         |     | 1h   |      |      |      |      |     |
| Common Chiffchaff     | <i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>       |                         | 1   |      | 2    |      |      |      |     |
| Willow Warbler        | <i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>       |                         |     |      | 1    |      |      |      |     |
| Wood Warbler          | <i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>      |                         |     |      |      | 2    |      |      |     |
| Eurasian Blackcap     | <i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>           |                         |     |      |      | 1    | 3    | 2    |     |
| Lesser Whitethroat    | <i>Sylvia curruca</i>               |                         |     |      |      |      |      |      | 1   |
| Subalpine Warbler     | <i>Sylvia cantillans</i>            |                         |     |      |      |      | 4    |      |     |
| Sardinian Warbler     | <i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>         | 2                       | 2   | 3    | 2    |      |      | 1    |     |
| Collared Flycatcher   | <i>Ficedula albicollis</i>          |                         |     |      |      |      | 1    |      |     |
| Western Rock Nuthatch | <i>Sitta neumayer</i>               |                         |     |      | 1h   |      | 10   |      |     |
| Golden Oriole         | <i>Oriolus oriolus</i>              |                         | 2   | 3    | 2    |      |      | 3    |     |
| Common Blackbird      | <i>Turdus merula</i>                |                         |     |      | 1    | 2    | 3    | 3    |     |
| Mistle Thrush         | <i>Turdus viscivorus</i>            |                         |     |      | 1    |      |      |      |     |
| Common Redstart       | <i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>      |                         |     |      |      |      | 2    | 1    |     |
| Whinchat              | <i>Saxicola rubetra</i>             | 1                       |     | 5    | 4    | 5    |      | 8    |     |
| European Stonechat    | <i>Saxicola rubicola</i>            | 5                       | 3   |      | 6    | 5    |      | 15   | 3   |
| Northern Wheatear     | <i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>            | 1                       | 1   | 8    | 20   |      |      | 4    |     |
| Black-eared Wheatear  | <i>Oenanthe hispanica</i>           |                         |     | 1    | 4    |      | 12   | 2    |     |
| Common Rock Thrush    | <i>Monticola saxatilis</i>          |                         |     |      |      |      |      | 2    |     |
| Blue Rock Thrush      | <i>Monticola solitarius</i>         |                         |     |      | 2    |      | 4    | 1    |     |
| Spotted Flycatcher    | <i>Muscicapa striata</i>            | 2                       | 4   | 4    | 15   | 12   | 15   | 15   | 5   |
| House Sparrow         | <i>Passer domesticus</i>            |                         | 50+ |      |      |      |      |      |     |
| Spanish Sparrow       | <i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>        | 150+                    |     |      |      |      |      |      |     |
| House/Spanish Sparrow | <i>P. domesticus/hispaniolensis</i> |                         |     | 100+ | 100+ | 100+ | 100+ | 100+ | 50+ |
| Yellow Wagtail        | <i>Motacilla flava</i>              | 10                      | 5   |      | 25   | 30   |      | 12   |     |
| Grey Wagtail          | <i>Motacilla cinerea</i>            |                         |     |      | 3    |      |      | 1    | 1   |
| White Wagtail         | <i>Motacilla alba</i>               | 1                       |     | 3    | 5    | 5    |      |      |     |
| Tawny Pipit           | <i>Anthus campestris</i>            |                         |     | 1h   |      |      |      | 1    |     |
| Tree Pipit            | <i>Anthus trivialis</i>             |                         |     |      | 2    |      |      | 1    |     |
| Common Chaffinch      | <i>Fringilla coelebs</i>            |                         | 5   |      |      | 2    | 20   |      |     |
| European Greenfinch   | <i>Chloris chloris</i>              |                         |     |      |      | 1    |      |      | 1h  |
| European Goldfinch    | <i>Carduelis carduelis</i>          |                         | 15  | 10   | 20   | 15   | 15   |      |     |
| Common Linnet         | <i>Carduelis cannabina</i>          |                         |     |      | 4    |      |      | 50   |     |
| Corn Bunting          | <i>Emberiza calandra</i>            | 10                      | 10  |      |      |      |      | 15   | 5   |
| Rock Bunting          | <i>Emberiza cia</i>                 |                         |     |      |      |      |      | 15   |     |
| Cirl Bunting          | <i>Emberiza cirlus</i>              |                         |     |      | 8    | 1    | 5    | 5    |     |

**Reptiles:** European Pond Terrapin, Balkan Green Lizard and Balkan Whip Snake.

**Amphibians:** Yellow-bellied Toad, Greek Stream Frog, Epirus Water Frog and Balkan Water Frog.

**Butterflies** (included): Clouded Yellow, Scarce Swallowtail, Long-tailed Blue, Brown Argus, Cardinal Fritillary, Rock Greyling, Great Banded Greyling, Meadow Brown sp. and Southern Sage Skipper.

**Odonata** (included): Lesser Emperor, Southern Skimmer, Violet Dropwing and Red-veined Darter.

Other notables invertebrates included: Violet Carpenter Bee and Spider-hunting Wasp (*Cryptocheilus comparatus*).



Lesser Kestrels