

Bulgaria in Autumn

Naturetrek Tour Report

9 - 17 September 2013



Black Stork (Neil Pont)



Pygmy Cormorants (Neil Pont)



Pied Wheatear (Richard Bashford)



White Pelicans (Neil Pont)

Report compiled by Richard Bashford

Images courtesy of Neil Pont, Assen Ignatov and Richard Bashford



Naturetrek Cheriton Mill Cheriton Alresford Hampshire SO24 0NG England

T: +44 (0)1962 733051

F: +44 (0)1962 736426

E: info@naturetrek.co.uk

W: www.naturetrek.co.uk

Tour Leaders:	Richard Bashford Assen Ignatov	Naturetrek Leader Local Guide
Participants:	John Hornsby Helen McLaren Colin Willis Peter Fox Alan Goldsmith Julia Black Neil Pont Sandy Komito John Hopkins Jo Hopkins Gabrielle Sutcliffe	

Day 1

Saturday 7th September

LHR - Sophia 08.50 - 13.50 (two hours ahead). Sophia - Madzharovo via Plovdiv with short comfort stops arriving 20.40

We travelled east from Sophia with short comfort stops and a few birds to be seen here and there. Although the main aim of the day was to reach Madzharovo in the eastern Rhodope Mountains, we managed to see Red-backed Shrike, Syrian Woodpecker, Stonechat and Whinchat and a few Bee-eaters. The road became increasingly 'interesting' as we searched for flat areas between the potholes but as we neared our hotel, in the old mining town of Madzharovo, we were ready for our dinner and some rest. A welcome end to a day of travel...

Day 2

Sunday 8th September

Hot, sunny clear throughout

Madzharovo hotel area, 07.00-08.05, quick stop near village cliffs, Studen Kadenetz 10.20-12.30, lunch by dam 12.55-13.45, walk back of Studen Kadenetz village 13.50-15.30, quick stop Hotel 16.45. Madzharovo area 17.45-18.45

A great start to our tour proper, with a pre-breakfast walk around the hotel. Here we saw Hawfinch, Little Owl and, like you do, a perched Golden Eagle! The eagle was visible from the hotel garden actually. After breakfast, we headed towards Studen Kadenetz but stopped on the way to view a pair of Egyptian Vultures and a juvenile perched on a nearby outcrop. We carried on, arriving near the view point and then walked for 20 minutes along a track onto a scrubby hillside, where a group of 10 Woodlarks were flushed. Here we were overlooking the volcanic plug complete with a number of perched Griffon Vultures and one or two on the ground. Every so often, birds flew from the rocks and sometimes overhead. A few more Egyptian Vultures were seen and then, perhaps the highlight, was an immature Golden Eagle, white tail and crescents in the wings. It gave a reasonable view and was then 'buzzed' by a Kestrel and a Sparrowhawk.

Our first Black Storks were seen but a bit distant... We'll have to see what we can do about that later! We didn't have to wait long as our riverside lunch stop (the first of Assen's refreshing picnics) had a Black Stork perched on the opposite side cliff top. The area behind the village is a reserve and formed part of the volcano crater. We walked along tracks picking up a few birds including a Peregrine Falcon, many more vultures and fourteen Black Storks overhead. The mammal highlight was a couple of obliging Fallow Deer. We tried for Blue Rock Thrush nearer our hotel but aside for very brief views, we had to give it a miss. Back at the hotel, we had a breather before another look in the adjacent area. Highlight for us all was a very obliging Lesser-spotted Woodpecker feeding a few feet away.

Day 3

Monday 9th September

Hot sunny throughout, calm.

Madzharovo area 07.00-08.10, Kova Kaya 09.10-10.25, Topolovgrad for lunch 13.10-13.50, 16.40-17.25 Atanassovo Salt pans, Hotel in Pomorie 17.50.

Another pre-breakfast walk behind the hotel gave us a good wake up call with a female Goshawk low overhead while we were watching the rooftop Little Owls. Next we had a few more warbler sightings with Lesser and Common Whitethroat and then back for breakfast. We were leaving the area today but took what was intended to be a 30 minute walk around the cliffs at Kovan Kaya. An hour and a quarter later we carried on our journey! First we had great views of Red-rumped Swallow, Crag and House Martin. We also found a Sombre Tit but the Rock Bunting was not so obliging. A Kingfisher in the stream was seen by some and then we found we were walking under perched Griffon Vultures. The many photographers among the group were making the most of the close views before their flying time (at approximately 10am according to Assen!). We had also heard a Rock Nuthatch calling and searched the rock faces. No joy. We should get on our way... but then they started calling again and louder. Out we got again - and, after a few minutes, we found two perched just below an imposing Griffon Vulture. Wonderful!

We still had some ground to cover to drive to the high ground beyond Topolovgrad where we scanned for raptors and had our lunch. New birds were Crested and Skylark. Onward, nearing the Black Sea, we arrived in Burgas with time to view Atanassovo salt pans, seeing our first waders. Whimbrel, Little Stint, Kentish Plover, Wood Sandpiper and many more were seen before driving the short distance to our base for the next three nights in Pomorie.

Day 4

Tuesday 10th September

Cloudy, a few spot of rain, warm, heating up before midday, hot sunny, light breeze pm.

Pomorie salt museum 07.00-08.05, Atanasovsko Lake 10.00-11.45, lunch at 13.00-14.00, Vaya Lake circuit (various stops) 14.15-17.00, Hotel 17.35

The cloud kept the heat at bay this morning and our first port of call, just around the corner from our hotel didn't disappoint. Watching the salt pans next to the Salt Museum at Pomorie was excellent. A large group of 45 Little Gulls sat among Mediterranean Gulls and Sandwich Terns. Waders were performing well too with many Kentish Plovers, Greenshanks and our first Black-winged Stilts. Tree Sparrows and a Slender-billed Gull were also seen before we returned for breakfast.

Near Burgas, Atanasovsko Lake area gave us a few new trip birds including we perched Turtle Doves, Bee eater and Kingfisher. A Black-necked Grebe among about 40 Little Grebe was good to see as was another Goshawk and our only trip Hoopoe. Not a bad morning so far! En route to lunch, things got better! We stopped at a roadside pool and found two Red-necked Phalaropes and three Marsh Sandpipers. Wow! Up in the sky, Assen spotted some migration in action with at least 14 Lesser-spotted Eagles and some storks moving south. All this was against a backdrop of squadrons of pelicans, soaring, mostly Dalmatian.

At lunch at Atanassovo Saltpans, were more raptors with Booted Eagle and Honey Buzzards over. The afternoon was spent around the impressive Vaya Lake where we had more and better views of White Pelican, Gull-billed Tern, Short-toed Eagle and some Pygmy Cormorants. The weather had warmed up and we were nearing the end of the afternoon so spent the last hour at another stop hoping for some migrants. It was quite quiet as it happened, but one bird made up for that...a juvenile Masked Shrike performed well from wires. Although a breeding species in Bulgaria, it is not known from this particular spot so a good record to end our day.

Day 5

Wednesday 11th September

Clear, calm, hot and sunny throughout

07.00-08.20 Pomorie Salt Museum, 10.15-11.30 Mandra Lake, overlooking estuary 11.50-12.15, 13.00-15.45 Poda Nature Reserve, Hotel 16.30

We enjoyed another fine start, with a walk to the Saltpans. Today we enjoyed our first Turnstone, Curlew Sandpiper, Bar-tailed Godwit and Grey Plover. Our wader list was building nicely! A couple of other species we'd heard also showed well - Yellow (Black-headed) Wagtail and Whimbrel.

Next we drove back towards Burgas to reach Mandra Lake. We explored the various pools and valleys where two rivers join the lake. Whiskered Terns were common here as were Squacco and Grey Herons. A couple of Purple Herons showed well. Showing less well due to the increasingly hot day, were a few Ferruginous Ducks and a group of sleeping Garganeys. We were thankful of the shade of the trees!

We had our picnic lunch at Poda Nature Reserve and then set off for a walk, although it was by now, very hot, but we did very well. Firstly, we had an Osprey or two, then a couple of Caspian Terns were circling overhead. While watching them, we picked up some Alpine Swifts, and a short while later, a dark phase Booted Eagle. The pools nearby provided excellent views of some waders, including Ruff, Marsh and Wood Sandpipers, and also our first Snipe was seen. We reached the seashore and found rafts of Coot, maybe 500 of them! Much nearer was a Dice Snake sticking its head out of the sea.

Highlight for many was on the walk back, with a family party of Penduline Tits. We'd heard this species for the last few days but failed to see them. But this group, at least seven juveniles, were feeding for some time in front of us on tall Fennel stems. Once back at the centre, we headed back to the hotel by 16.30 for a relaxing late afternoon.

Day 6

Thursday 12th September

Clear, hot and sunny throughout

Pomorie Salt pans 07.00-08.20, north side of Pomorie Lake 09.35-10.15, Nesebar 10.55-11.55, Goritza lunch stop 13.00-14.10, Goritza Forest 14.15-15.25, Kamchia River 16.00-16.45, Topola cliff 18.20-19.00, Kavarna hotel 19.17

A final look at the salt pans this morning set us up nicely for the day with Little Stint and Curlew Sandpiper as well as our first Red-breasted Flycatcher of the trip. After breakfast, we drove around to the north side of Pomorie Lake for a short walk. First birds were another group of Penduline Tits. Overhead, we saw Pallid Swifts and then three Collared Pratincoles soaring with Swallows. Not bad! Next was a roadside stop. Always on the lookout, we spied some bulky dark birds on wires and decided to double back. Three fine Rollers gave excellent views and photographic opportunities.

We took an hour off birding at Nesebar, an ancient port with a mixture of different architectural styles and interesting ice creams. Setting off north we drove to Goritza where we had a restaurant meal of 'birds nest' (mince with an egg in the middle). This was followed by a huge cake... It was a great meal but now we needed a walk! A few minutes down the road, we were in the forest. Almost immediately we saw a Middle-spotted Woodpecker. Sandy mentioned he'd like to get a good view and photo of Great-spotted Woodpecker. We'd heard one here so we put in some time looking. Either it was the same Middle-spotted following us around or just good numbers of them, but we just kept seeing them, with only brief views of Great-spotted. We also saw our first Short-toed Treecreeper here.

Moving on we had a short walk near Kamchia River - Robin, Long-tailed Tit, Nightingale and Red-breasted Flycatchers. Our last major leg of the journey was through the largest Black Sea city of Varna. Once on the other side, we started climbing through an increasingly rocky scrubby landscape. As we neared Kavarna, we spent 40 minutes scanning the cliff face for Eagle Owl. Despite our scans, we failed this time and drove on to our charming hotel perched on the edge of a valley.

Day 7

Friday 13th September

Cloud, very light rain early am, light breeze, clearing to hot and sunny pm.

Kavarna hotel 07.00-07.25, Durankulak Lake 09.30-11.08, Tuzla Lake and lunch 11.42-13.30, Shabla Lake 13.40-14.00, Shabla Lighthouse 14.13-14.33, Kaman Bryag 14.55-15.22, Rusalka Steppe 15.35-16.16, Bolata Valley 16.45-17.15, Topola cliffs 19.00-19.45.

A full day in north east Bulgaria... The birding started well for some outside the hotel in the morning with a perched Golden Oriole. Next was Durankulak Lake, just three miles from the Romanian border. Highlights here were a group of migrating Honey Buzzards. The trees nearby hosted large numbers of flycatchers, including at least six Red-breasted. A Barred Warbler also showed to a few of us. A little further south, we visited Tuzla Lake with several Caspian Terns and our first Oystercatchers.

A walk after our picnic produced more Red-breasted Flycatchers and a couple of Golden Orioles feeding. Shabla Lake nearby provided our best views so far of Ferruginous Duck as well as a particularly rich area for butterflies

with Queen of Spain Fritillary and Little Tiger Blue. Shabla Lighthouse and adjacent jetty gave us our first Shags among the Cormorants. A late brooded Black Redstart was feeding two young here too. It was another hot day but we decided to check out a couple of steppe areas where we saw two distant Montagu's Harriers and three Tawny Pipits. A roadside stop to photograph roadside Bee-eaters got the cameras clicking but we also saw a Levant's Sparrowhawk and a closer Montagu's Harrier. Our final afternoon stop was in the beautiful Bolata Valley where we found more Red-breasted and Spotted Flycatchers, Kingfisher and Ferruginous Duck.

We timed the afternoon to allow an hour's breather before an evening visit down the road at Topola to look for Eagle Owl again. By 19.00, we parked under the cliffs. Within seconds, Assen had heard an owl calling! Scanning the cliffs, we found one which promptly shuffled along a ledge to sit behind a bush. We positioned ourselves to see the bird and watched for the next 40 minutes and one flew passed the perched bird which then sat out in the open. By now it was getting too dark so we returned for a celebratory dinner which finished with the sound of what must have been hundreds of Bee-eaters flying through the night sky.

Day 8

Saturday 14th September

Cool breeze after overnight rain in early morning but becoming sunnier by midday. Sunny in Sophia

Kavarna Hotel 07.00 - 07.30, Bulgaravo Steppe 08.45 - 09.35, Kaliakra walk to point 09.45 - 11.15, Hotel 11.35, lunch 12.00, Varna airport 14.00, Sophia airport 17.35, hotel 18.45

The day started in the cool breeze overlooking the valley in front of the hotel - Bee-eaters still passing! A Golden Oriole flew over but it was a few minutes before one sat in the 'oriole tree' next to the hotel. After breakfast, we visited Bulgaravo Steppe. It was hard to find the birds with the breeze and most of the group opted for coats. But here were Tawny Pipits, Calandra Larks, a few Short-toed Larks and many Whinchats. Best were two fly-over Long-legged Buzzards, and finally, after daily calling birds overhead, a Tree Pipit on the deck!

Next was a short drive to Kaliakra where we walked to the point through the ruins. Almost straight away, we saw some Pied Wheatears alongside a couple of Northern Wheatears. They were very obliging for all, and great subjects for the photographers. The walk to the point was just a few minutes and we enjoyed views of Bottlenosed Dolphins and a swirling group of White-winged Black Terns. Over distant sea cliffs we saw masses of White Pelicans, maybe 300, passing close to the many wind turbines in this area...uncomfortable to watch but still an amazing sight. We returned to the hotel where we had lunch booked for midday. An hour's drive and we were at Varna airport for our flight to Sophia, landing in the early evening, before a drive across town to our hotel perched in the foothills of Vitosha mountain.

Day 9

Sunday 15th September

Light breeze, bright some clouds, becoming cooler at Vitosha summit with a cold wind.

Vitosha mountain 08.45 - 11.15, Sophia airport 12.30, LHR 17.35

We managed an early breakfast at 07.15 to get away and up the mountain by 08.45. Fortunately the cloud was high and the day bright, but the wind was making things far cooler than recent days. Plans for a walk were delayed for good reasons. We managed just 30 metres in half an hour thanks to the birds on show! Crossbills

flew overhead and called. Several perched for us to see well. A Water Pipit flew overhead as did a very brief Crested Tit but most obliging were three Black Redstarts including a fine male. Next were both Gold and Firecrests in the same tree showing really well. The promise of Nutcracker meant we were scanning the tops of the spruces regularly. We heard one or two and then had a couple of flight views. The wind was probably keeping them down. In fact we had to make do with several more calling birds and flight views. But we probably saw 6-8 with only one perching for a few seconds for a small group of us just before we left. Highlight was probably the small group of Crossbills pecking the cement from a wall of a small building! A great morning but time to descend...

Just before midday, we reached a service station and bought a tasty pastry each and a drink before the short distance to Sophia airport where we said farewell to Assen who has done us proud all week with his knowledge, skill and good humour, not to mention the picnics of course! Our flight to Heathrow left Sophia at 15.00, landing at 17.35 where we said our goodbyes.

I hope you all enjoyed the holiday as much as I did. The first day is a long and bumpy drive, but gets us into some wonderful mountain habitat. The coastal area around Burgas is incredibly rich and the more arid north east is different again. Our tour concluded with yet another habit at Visosha...all meaning we saw a great range of birds. Some views were spectacular, and we got some raptor migration too. A great country with great company! I hope to see you all again somewhere...

Receive our e-newsletter

Join the Naturetrek e-mailing list and be the first to hear about new tours, additional departures and new dates, tour reports and special offers. Visit www.naturetrek.co.uk to sign up.



Crossbills (A Ignatov)

Species Lists

Birds (✓ = recorded but not counted; H = Heard Only)

	Common name	Scientific name	September								
			7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>				20	✓	5			
2	Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>				1	1		3		
3	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>				50	✓				
4	Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>		75	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
5	Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>							15	1	
6	Pygmy Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax pygmeus</i>				5	50				
7	White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>				✓	✓			✓	
8	Dalmatian Pelican	<i>Pelecanus crispus</i>				✓	✓				
9	Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>				1	30+				
10	Great White Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>				3	5	1	1		
11	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>			✓	✓	✓	10	6		
12	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>		1	7	15	✓	10	20		
13	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>					2	1	1		
14	Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>			7	25					
15	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>		1	1	4		3			
16	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>		20	2	50					
17	Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>			2	3	✓		3		
18	Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>			✓	✓	20		30		
19	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>				60	✓	4			
20	Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>				1					
21	Wigeon	<i>Anas penelope</i>			5						
22	Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>			✓	✓					
23	Garganey	<i>Anas querquedula</i>					12				
24	Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>			20		1				
25	Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>					13				
26	Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>				✓	✓				
27	Ferruginous Duck	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>					6		4		
28	Egyptian Vulture	<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>		7	1						
29	Griffon Vulture	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>		30	15						
30	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>				1			1		
31	Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>					2				
32	Short-toed Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>				2	1		1		
33	Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	1		2	10	10		20		
34	Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>							3		
35	Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>		1	1	1		1	2	1	2
36	Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>			1	1					
37	Levant Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter brevipes</i>				1		1	3	1	
38	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	2	2	1		2	10	20	1	
39	Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufina</i>					1			2	

	Common name	Scientific name	September									
			7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
40	Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>				6			12			
41	Booted Eagle	<i>Aquila pennata</i>				1	1					
42	Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>		3								
43	Imperial Eagle	<i>Aquila heliaca</i>		?								
44	Lesser Spotted Eagle	<i>Aquila pomarina</i>				14	2	2				
45	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>		1	1							
46	Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>			1						2	
47	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>		1		3	1		2	5	1	
48	Chukar	<i>Alectoris chukar</i>		H								
49	Water Rail	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>				H						
50	Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>				2	15					
51	Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>				✓	✓		17			
52	Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>							10			
53	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>			2	20	50	15				
54	Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>			✓	✓						
55	Collared Pratincole	<i>Glareola pratincola</i>						3				
56	Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>			2	5	2	4				
57	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>			2	1	1	1				
58	Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>				20	50	25				
59	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>					1					
60	Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>			10	1						
61	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>				3	1					
62	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>				15	20	5	20			
63	Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>					1	1				
64	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>			2	2	2	1				
65	Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>			2	3	20		5			
66	Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>				1						
67	Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>					1	2				
68	Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>				1						
69	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>			1		1					
70	Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>			10	20	15					
71	Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>			4	10	10	15				
72	Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>				3	3					
73	Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>			1	6	10	5				
74	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>			2	3	17					
75	Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>					1	1				
76	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>					6					
77	Red-necked Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>				2						
78	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
79	Little Gull	<i>Larus minutus</i>				40	20	20	10			
80	Mediterranean Gull	<i>Ichthyaeetus melanocephalus</i>				20	✓	✓				
81	Slender-billed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus genei</i>				4	1					

	Common name	Scientific name	September									
			7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
82	Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>					1					
83	Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus cachinnans</i>		3	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
84	Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>				2	10	6				
85	Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
86	Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>				2	1					
87	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>				25	20	✓				
88	Caspian Tern	<i>Sterna caspia</i>					2		6			
89	Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>				3					2	
90	White-winged Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>									40	
91	Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybridus</i>					30					
92	Rock Dove/Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
93	Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>		1	2	1						
94	Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	3		5		1	4	5	10	5	
95	Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>				9			70	30		
96	Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>		2	1							
97	Eagle Owl	<i>Bubo bubo</i>							3			
98	Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>				1	2		1			
99	Pallid Swift	<i>Apus pallidus</i>						4				
100	Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>					10	5	4	6		
101	Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>			1	2	4	1	1			
102	Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>				2						
103	Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>	H	5	H	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
104	Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>						3				
105	Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>		3	H			1				
106	Syrian Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos syriacus</i>	1	1				1	1	1		
107	Great-spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>	1	5	1			3				
108	Middle-spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos medius</i>						2+				
109	Lesser-spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos minor</i>		1+				1				
110	Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>		10								
111	Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>			6			1				
112	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>			2		2	1	1	1		
113	Short-toed Lark	<i>Calandrella brachydactyla</i>									4	
114	Calandra Lark	<i>Melanocorypha calandra</i>									50+	
115	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>				3	8	3	5			
116	Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>		30+	30+							
117	House Martin	<i>Delichon urbica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		
118	Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	10	10	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
119	Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Hirundo daurica</i>	5	6	10	2	2	6	10			
120	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>		H	H	H					1+	
121	Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>							3	20		
122	Water Pipit	<i>Anthus spinoletta</i>										1
123	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>		4		5	✓	10	5	20		

	Common name	Scientific name	September									
			7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
124	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>		1								2
125	Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>				H	3	H	H		5	
126	Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>										1
127	Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>										1
128	Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>										1
129	Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>						1				
130	Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>			H			1				2
131	Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>	3		1							
132	Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>	3		2			1	2	15		
133	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>							3			5
134	Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>		1								
135	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>							2	3		
136	Black-eared Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe hispanica</i>		1					3			
137	Pied Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe pleschanka</i>									4	
138	Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>		1								
139	Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	3	5	2	1		8				
140	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>			1			1				
141	Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>		1	1							
142	Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>				H						
143	Garden Warbler	<i>Sylvia borin</i>			1		1				1	
144	Common Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>		2	3	1			2	1		
145	Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia curruca</i>			5		2	1	4	3		
146	Barred Warbler	<i>Sylvia nisoria</i>							1			
147	Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>		1	2	1			3	2		
148	Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	2	3	2	2	2	2				3
149	Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>			6	2	4	2	1			1
150	Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>										1
151	Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapillus</i>										2
152	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>		30	✓	1		10	✓	5		
153	Red-breasted Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula parva</i>						3	15+	1		
154	Collared Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula albicollis</i>		1								
155	Bearded Tit	<i>Panurus biarmicus</i>					2					
156	Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>						8				
157	Penduline Tit	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>				H	7	4				
158	Sombre Tit	<i>Poecile lugubris</i>			1							
159	Willow Tit	<i>Poecile montanus</i>										1
160	Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>										5
161	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		1	2		1	1	2	1		
162	Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		1	2		4	2	2			
163	Rock Nuthatch	<i>Sitta neumayer</i>			2							
164	Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>		2	4			2				
165	Short-toed Treecreeper	<i>Certhia brachydactyla</i>						1				

	Common name	Scientific name	September								
			7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
166	Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>		15	5	6	5	10	✓	5	
167	Masked Shrike	<i>Lanius nubicus</i>				1					
168	Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	2	✓	✓	5	✓	5	4	2	1
169	Nutcracker	<i>Nucifraga caryocatactes</i>									8+
170	Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	5	1	3	34	18	50	25	✓	3
171	Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus corone cornix</i>	2		2	3	1	1	1	1	
172	Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>							4		
173	Jackdaw	<i>Corvus monedula</i>	25		✓	✓	✓			1	1
174	Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	2	10	10	1	2	1	1		
175	Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>							3	2	
176	Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
177	Spanish Sparrow	<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>				✓					
178	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	2
179	Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>				80		2	1		
180	Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		25	5		4	20			6
181	Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>							1		
182	Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		6	4	3		3	5	3	
183	Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>		3	1			1		3	
184	Crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>									40
185	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>							2		
186	Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>		10	3						

Reptiles & Amphibians

Green Lizard

Brown frog

Green Toad

Marsh Frog

Dice Snake

Spur-thighed Tortoise

Wall Lizard

Butterflies

Queen of Spain Fritillary

Wall Brown

Cardinal

Brown Argus

Eastern Wood White

Clouded Yellow

Humming-bird Hawkmoth

Great-banded Grayling

Camberwell Beauty

Large Copper

Swallowtail

Dappled White

Painted Lady

Red Admiral

Woodland Greyling

Zephyr Blue

silver-studded Blue

Little Tiger Blue

Small Heath

Copper sp Scarce?

Green-veined White

Other invertebrates

Red-veined Darter

Five-spotted Ladybird

Slant-headed Grasshopper

Naturetrek Facebook

We are delighted to launch the Naturetrek Facebook page so that participants of Naturetrek tours can remain in touch after the holiday and share photos, comments and future travel plans. Setting up a personal profile at www.facebook.com is quick, free and easy. The [Naturetrek Facebook page](#) is now live; do please pay us a visit!