

Bulgaria in Spring

Naturetrek Tour Report

10 - 19 May 2013



Freyer's Purple Emperor



Paddyfield Warbler



Wallcreeper



European Wildcat

Report & images compiled by Andy Harding



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Day 1

Friday 10th May

23° C in Sofia

The group met up at Heathrow for our straightforward flight to Sofia Airport. Our local guide, Nikolay, aided by Pancho, soon had us organised in our transport, driven by Ventsi. Nikolay told us something of Bulgaria and Sofia in particular as we left the capital on a lengthy motorway journey south, punctuated by a snack/comfort stop. As we reached the foothills of the Rhodope Mountains the occasional Red-backed Shrike (a very common bird) was noted, but a Black Stork was a much more exciting sighting, by which time we had become used to White Storks nesting on motorway lights and telegraph poles in villages. The forested slopes promised much more as we eventually reached the Hotel Dabrash near Dospat.

Day 2

Saturday 11th May

25° C - Sunny

We awoke to the stunning vista from Hotel Dabrash - the distant snow-capped peaks, the forests and the meadow and bushes below. Crag Martins and the odd Red-rumped Swallow circled around while several Red-backed Shrikes hunted. Mistle Thrush, Cirl Bunting and Yellowhammer were in full voice. However it was small flocks of Crossbills, often at eye level or below, which stole the show; they seemed much less shy than in the UK.

We wrenched ourselves away for breakfast for the journey to Trigrad Gorge. As we descended into that valley a Dipper and Grey Wagtails were seen along the river. Both species were much more in evidence once we disembarked for our first spell of cliff watching though there were plenty of distractions. After a while we moved further up the gorge and after a frustrating spell of very distant or brief views, were rewarded with fantastic views of a male Wallcreeper, calling persistently, just above us. This will be difficult to beat during the rest of the tour, and was voted the highlight by Rosemary, Sharron, Dave, Les and Martin. Subsequent views were not as good, but the spectacular nature of the gorge, a steady stream of butterflies and commoner birds kept us well occupied until we left on the short journey upstream to a restaurant specialising in Trout – delicious. A beautiful Pine Hawkmoth on the restaurant wall made it even better.

The subsequent journey along the Rhodope Mountains is a long one, mainly due to winding roads, but the scenery was scintillating under a clear blue sky. We made just three stops – a petrol station/comfort stop which yielded just ice creams, a bridge over the River Arda which yielded Common Sandpiper and a new butterfly for all of the group – Chequered Blue, and our final stop saw Hoopoe, Hawfinches, a Golden Oriole and Queen of Spain Fritillaries in an Almond grove. There were two other highlights from the bus – a Black Stork early in the journey and a very obliging Roller, which sat in a ploughed field. A male Levant Sparrowhawk, seen briefly by just the two leaders and one of the group, could not count as a tour highlight. We arrived at the Hotel Rai in Madjarovo to the sound of Nightingales and Turtle Doves. After an excellent dinner (which saw Wigan lift the FA Cup), the Nightingales were joined by a couple of Scops Owls.

Day 3

Sunday 12th May

25°C a few intermittent showers in mid-afternoon

Having been serenaded by Nightingales all night, they were still going strong during the early morning stroll. A Hawfinch sat motionless for all to see and a Whitethroat sang from a telegraph wire, while Golden Oriole and Hoopoe stayed mainly out of sight.

After breakfast we headed for the vulture/raptor watch hill at Potochnitsa. We disembarked at one point and started to walk to the watch point. Glanville Fritillary, Black-viewed White and other butterflies abounded as did a variety of large strikingly marked crickets and other invertebrates. Orphean Warbler and Woodchat Shrike were the best of the seen birds while Barred Warbler and Ortolan were only heard. Vultures were of course visible well before the watch point, and Griffons and a small number of Egyptians showed extremely well. The occasional Honey Buzzard, two pairs of Short-toed Eagles and a Hobby cruised past and 4 Black Storks spiralled upwards.

When we eventually returned for our picnic lunch our only Black Vulture hove into view. Our subsequent meanderings generated a similar level of invertebrate interest, but only singling Olive Tree Warbler set the birding pulse racing. Showers, with attendant thunder and lightning then bothered us for an hour or two, but a between the rain visit to Studen Kladentz was really worthwhile since everyone had super views of a Cirl Bunting and a pair of Lesser Grey Shrikes. Our last stop of the day was at the spectacular Korankaya Rock. As we looked down on a Black Stork fishing in the river, Blue Rock Thrushes displayed on the pinnacles above and sometimes at road level and both singing Ortolan and Rock Bunting showed brilliantly. Back at the hotel we were met with Hummingbird Hawkmoths feeding on the Red Valerian, followed by dinner and a communal listen to the local Scops Owls.

Day 4

Monday 13th May

23°C - largely sunny, but heavily cloudy in the distance

Our morning walk added only Stonechat to the bird list, but was nonetheless delightful and bird-filled. We then set off towards the Black Sea coast. In the village of Ivanovo we stopped to study Spanish (and House) Sparrows nesting under an occupied White Stork nest (rated the best moment by Regina), and incredibly saw Short-toed, Booted and Lesser Spotted Eagles!

We had to make a 25km detour because a bridge over the River Moritsa was down, but then stopped in our favoured small valley near Yerusalemovo. A pair of Masked Shrikes was the immediate star attraction, but as we struggled to get everyone on to the Olive-Tree Warblers, a male Wildcat was seen in full view! It made a successful kill and subsequently emerged from the undergrowth to sit in the sun. Masked Shrike has rarely been outshone and the group felt hugely privileged. The Wildcat was Zena, John, Peter and Roger's personal highlight of the week.

Our lunch stop was a typically beautiful location. Butterflies and other insects were the main diversions, but Woodlarks seen well and heard singing so beautifully were a great accompaniment. Our next stop near some bare ground gave us excellent views of Isabelline Wheatears and Tawny Pipits, both of which gave regular display flights. A distant view of a pair of Eastern Imperial Eagles and a surround of male Black-headed Buntings made this a good stop. Just a few kilometres further on we were able to see probably one of the same Eagles below us - all the upper part features were clear. Calandra Larks displayed alongside us and a young Montagu's Harrier cruised close by.

This was our final stop and we then drove rapidly towards and into Bourgas and north to Pomorie. As we passed some of the lakes surrounding Bourgas and the Salinas near Pomorie we saw a few new species en route – but more of those tomorrow! – before we checked into the St Peter and St Pavel Hotel next to the sea.

Day 5

Tuesday 14th May

20°C - mainly cloudy and breezy, with sunshine after lunch

The pre-breakfast outing was really just a touch of bracing sea air, and after breakfast we drove less than 1km to the Pomorie Salinas reserve where our first Little Stints, Curlew Sandpipers and Little Terns awaited us. Both Tree Sparrow and Northern Wheatear were new for the trip, but the Avocets and nesting Black-winged Stilts really took the eye. All of these rose into the air when a Peregrine passed by!

From there we went to view part of Lake Vaya where White Pelicans sat on an artificial raft and fly-by Night Heron, Squacco Heron and three Little Bitterns passed close in front of us and a Great Reed Warbler showed very well. Honey Buzzards were clearly on the move and a couple of squadrons of White Pelicans created a more dramatic representation of this iconic species.

It was a short run to our first look at Lake Mandra – Glossy Ibises, Purple Heron and Black Kite were all new to us, while some Wood Sandpipers, Little Ringed Plovers and Ruff added to the wader list. As we drove the fairly short distance to another arm of Lake Mandra, Montagu's Harrier and Imperial Eagle demanded attention. The Eagle was in an uneven moult and was seen on three subsequent occasions in this general area.

Our lunch stop produced a sub-adult White-tailed Eagle fairly low overhead, some butterflies appeared in the first really warm sunshine of the day and Pygmy Cormorants were seen properly. Rarely was at least one raptor not in the sky as we walked along the road fringing the lake. The walk to the top of a small hill overlooking another arm of Lake Mandra was certainly rewarded with the view, but as we watched a mixture of waterfowl below we were unable to add any new species.

Our last stop, in fantastic light, was the wader hide at Bourgas Salinas; 150 Curlew Sandpipers, 100 Little Stints were augmented by several new species, the pick of which were Spoonbill, summer-plumaged Grey Plovers and two Temminck's Stints. Four Penduline Tits were seen well by about half the group in the trees behind the hide. A mega birding day which not surprisingly, ended a little later than originally planned...

Day 6

Wednesday 15th May

25°C - Sunny

The early morning walk added Reed Warbler to the list, but our two rapid stops on either side of the Pomorie Salinas were simply pleasant with a modest number of waders and terns of species we had seen well already. We then moved on to the ancient town of Nesebar in which extremely old Orthodox Churches mingle with a thriving tourist industry on a site at which records go back to at least 4,000 years to the Thracian civilisation. Surrounded as it is by blue sea this was a much enjoyed excursion of a different nature.

At a rather random stop in deciduous scrub as we started to ascend the Balkan range we encountered several Black-headed Buntings, two difficult to see Barred Warblers and some Tawny Pipits in an adjacent field. That short list fails to convey the wonderful and peaceful feel of the place. Our lunch stop was amazing, both for the food – particularly the soup – and the Barred Warbler, showing better than any so far, and the Wryneck which lingered for half an hour behind the restaurant. Just a short distance further on we entered the Goritsa Forest where every tree was an Oak. Short-toed Tree creepers gave themselves up to only a couple of the group, but our main objective, Semi-collared Flycatchers, performed brilliantly.

We drove north through the burgeoning city of Varna, to our destination Kavarna, but before checking in to our hotel we spent an hour in the Valley of the Oriole, and to a background of song from that bird, Nightingales and particularly Turtle Doves saw three very obliging Levant Sparrowhawks circling above. The very attractive Lesser Fiery Copper was a new butterfly for most of the group. Then to Hotel Costa, a knockout hotel in another knockout location!

Day 7

Thursday 16th May

26°C - Sunny

Apart from looking over the delightful valley outside the hotel, there was no morning walk, but that enabled us to set off somewhat earlier. Our first target was the northern arm of Durankulak Lake, which on arrival yielded two Lesser Grey Shrikes. We spent over two hours here studying the Paddyfield Warblers alongside their other *Acrocephalus* congeners. Some delightful Bearded Tits intervened, as did a Little Bittern, a few Squacco Herons and a new species...Lapwing! The plant life on the sandy shore was also both attractive and unusual.

Our next stop was Shabla Lake where we saw more Ferruginous Ducks and three Drake Garganeys. The reedbeds here held two Savi's Warblers, one of which was seen, but little else. An area of mud was frustratingly out of sight, with just the occasional group of waders rising briefly above the reed tops. On the other hand the picnic lunch was as good as ever.

We then moved to the comparatively barren and rocky area of Kamen Briag – an ancient village and burial site, now occupied by Pied Wheatears, and Short-toed Larks with Shags of the race *desmartii* on the cliffs. Just a few beautiful wild Peonies were still in flower, but this is an exceptional site for them. Two Black-throated Divers offshore indicated the importance of this as a migration route for that species.

Subsequently we went down into Bolata Valley, one side of which is rocky red cliffs, while the other is cloaked in scrub and trees, and the very bottom is a reed bed punctuated by a few small lakes, so the variety of birds is huge. An amazing number of Cuckoos could not be ignored including a hepatic female. Golden Orioles and Bee-eaters abounded. Single Purple and Night Herons gave superb views. An Icterine Warbler was heard by all but only seen by a few, as a Long-legged Buzzard patrolled. As we left this magical valley, yet another Black-throated Diver demanded attention and photography. Overall experiencing this valley was Jean's abiding memory of the tour. We still had time to see five Stone Curlews just outside Balgarevo Village on the way home!

Day 8

Friday 17th May

26°C - Sunny after a slightly misty start

Unfortunately the first three stops of the day – two in Topola Valley and one at Balchik – did not produce Eagle Owl. That is always a very hit or miss affair and on this day we were unlucky. A very obliging Nightingale was our best reward. We then made our way, with a coffee stop, to Srebarna Reserve, where we made two stops and took an exploratory stroll, with lunch in between. What a place! The breeding platforms of Dalmatian Pelicans could be seen in the middle distance. Little Bitterns occasionally flew across. A Nightingale performed in full view behind the bus. Golden Orioles showed well occasionally and a constant stream of migrating Honey Buzzards and Storks flew overhead. Butterflies abounded with Adonis Blue, Knapweed Fritillary, Eastern Clouded Yellow to the fore – until we found Large Coppers. However the birding and butterfly pinnacles were not reached until Freyer's Purple Emperor and an active Penduline Tit nest were found at the same spot – which way do we look? Paul thought Penduline Tit: voting this his number one moment.

We decided to fit in a short (?) visit to the bank of the Danube, just to say we had been there. In fact there was a spectacular passage of Herons, Glossy Ibis and Pygmy Cormorant: the best moments of the trip for Christine. A Common Glider raised the butterfly pulse, and a beer in the bar next to the river seemed most appropriate and just tipped Rupert's vote for best stop of the tour. It was only a short journey to our accommodation for the night, in the village of Vetren.

Day 9

Saturday 18th May

28°C - Sunny

We had not even left the Vetren village boundary when we stopped and all disembarked to watch a Syrian Woodpecker!

We then stopped at a fish-rearing lake, (with no name!) and eventually had excellent views of a pair of Ruddy Shelduck and their 14 ducklings. The male attempted a distraction display, which merited Richard's vote of highlight of the trip. A Black-headed Wagtail, some obliging Bee-eaters and a showy Hoopoe made this an excellent stop. A Bee-eater colony was a new spectacle for us and was not less exciting because we were now so familiar with the species.

In the middle of generally well-cultivated land we stopped at the large Nova Cherna Marsh, which had been a series of fishponds under the communist regime, but was now a protected nature reserve. We spent about three hours here, including lunch, completely undisturbed watching a colony of Whiskered Terns carrying nesting material, a colony of around 20 White-winged Black Terns which did not integrate with their Whiskered brethren, and a pair of Red-necked Grebes with their two young (Bern's favourite moment). Herons and Ferruginous Ducks flew by, we added a couple to the butterfly list and even to the snake list! For rarity aficionados two Marsh Warblers were the best birds of the day, especially showing so consistently well.

After lunch we had to start on the long road back towards Sofia, and apart from a drink/comfort stop we took in the Sokolsky Monastery, which also added a Corncrake calling and a briefly seen Black Woodpecker to the list. From there it was only about 15 minutes to our Hotel Etara in Kmetovtsi. We took dinner outside on a glorious evening with a beautiful fast flowing stream just a few metres from our table. Such a fitting last evening!

Day 10

Sunday 19th May

26°C - Sunny

We left our hotel promptly for the drive to Sofia airport. Roadside birds, though consisting of some species unusual in the UK, were now familiar to us and the journey back yielded no new species. We made both coffee stops and a shopping visit to a roadside pottery, and at each Nightingales were singing strongly. We will miss these in the next few days.

We reached the airport precisely on schedule, bade sad farewells to our three wonderful Bulgarian hosts, and took a straightforward flight back to Heathrow, and more sad farewells, since we had all enjoyed one another's company throughout a simply wonderful tour, full of great wildlife in a beautiful country as well as plenty of laughs! Thank you all...

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Species List

Birds (✓ = recorded but not counted; h = heard only)

	Common name	Scientific name	May											
			10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19		
1	Common Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>										1	3	
2	Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>										3		
3	Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
4	Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>					20	2			3			
5	Ruddy Shelduck	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>											2	
6	Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>					10	2			3			
7	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>				✓	✓				✓	✓		
8	Garganey	<i>Anas querquedula</i>					1		3			1		
9	Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>					6				✓	✓		
10	Ferruginous Duck	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>							7	15	30			
11	Black-throated Diver	<i>Gavia arctica</i>					1	1	3					
12	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>							1	2	1			
13	Red-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps grisegena</i>											2	
14	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>				✓	✓		1	✓	✓			
15	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>	1	1	8	1					16			
16	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
17	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>					3				20			
18	Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>					1				5	3		
19	Little Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>					3		1	6	1			
20	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>					3		1	6				
21	Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>					4		6	16				
22	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>		1	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			
23	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>					2		2	2	1			
24	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	1				8		✓	✓	✓	✓	1	
25	Great White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>					200							
26	Dalmatian Pelican	<i>Pelecanus crispus</i>									50			
27	Pygmy Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo pygmeus</i>					27			35				
28	European Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>							3	1				
29	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
30	European Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>			6	1	22			60				
31	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>					2							
32	White-tailed Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>					1							
33	Black Vulture	<i>Aegypius monachus</i>			1									
34	Egyptian Vulture	<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>			3									
35	Griffon Vulture	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>			40									
36	Short-toed Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>			4	2								
37	Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>			1		8		6	4	1	1N		
38	Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>				1	1		1					
39	Levant Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter brevipes</i>		1				3						
40	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>			3	1								
41	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	✓	✓		2		1	1	2			✓	
42	Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>				1		1	1	1				

	Common name	Scientific name	May										
			10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
43	Lesser Spotted Eagle	<i>Aquila pomarina</i>				4							
44	Eastern Imperial Eagle	<i>Aquila heliaca</i>				2	2						
45	Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>			1	1							
46	Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>				1					1		
47	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	✓		✓	✓	1		✓	✓	✓	✓	
48	Peregrine	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>					1						
49	Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>			2		2			2			
50	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>		1			1		1	2	2		
51	Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>				✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		
52	Corncrake	<i>Crex crex</i>									h		
53	Eurasian Stone-Curlew	<i>Burhinus oediconemus</i>							4				
54	Eurasian Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>					1						
55	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>					✓	✓	✓		1		
56	Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>					✓	✓					
57	Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>							6	1	2		
58	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>					2						
59	Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>					6	1					
60	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>					3						
61	Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>					4	2					
62	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>							1				
63	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>					6						
64	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>		2									
65	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>					3						
66	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>					100	22					
67	Temminck's Stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>					2						
68	Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>					150	2	1				
69	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>					1						
70	Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>					2	2					
71	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>				✓	✓			✓	✓		
72	Mediterranean Gull	<i>Ichthyaetus melanocephalus</i>					50		4				
73	Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
74	Sandwich Tern	<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>			✓		✓	✓					
75	Little Tern	<i>Sternula albigrons</i>				2	✓	✓			1		
76	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
77	Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>					4			✓	✓		
78	White-winged Tern	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>									20		
79	Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
80	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>		1		2			h	4			
81	European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>		2	4	6	4	10	4	✓	✓	✓	
82	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
83	Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	h	1	2	h	1	h	8	✓	✓	✓	
84	Eurasian Scops Owl	<i>Otus scops</i>		2h	h	h							
85	Tawny Owl	<i>Strix aluco</i>		h									
86	Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>			1	1							
87	Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>			✓				3	✓			
88	Pallid Swift	<i>Apus pallidus</i>			2	2							

	Common name	Scientific name	May									
			10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
89	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
90	European Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>		1	2	3	1	2	2	6		1
91	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>			1					1		
92	European Bee-Eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>				1	12	3	50	✓	✓	✓
93	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>		2	1	h	h	h	2	2	1	
94	Eurasian Wryneck	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>						1				
95	Syrian Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos syriacus</i>									1	
96	Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>								1	2	
97	Black Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus martius</i>									1	
98	European Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>			h		1	1		h		
99	Grey-headed Woodpecker	<i>Picus canus</i>								h		
100	Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
101	Lesser Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius minor</i>			2				3	1	1	
102	Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>			1	1		1				
103	Masked Shrike	<i>Lanius nubicus</i>				2						
104	Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>		1	2	h	13	h	10	✓	✓	✓
105	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>		5	2	2		2	2	3	2	1
106	Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
107	Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
108	Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>								2		
109	Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
110	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	1	2	4	3	2		1	1		
111	Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>		✓								
112	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
113	Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>								1		
114	Eurasian Penduline Tit	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>					5			1		
115	Bearded Reedling	<i>Panurus biarmicus</i>							3			
116	Calandra Lark	<i>Melanocorypha calandra</i>				4			5			
117	Greater Short-toed Lark	<i>Calandrella brachydactyla</i>							6			
118	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>				✓	✓					✓
119	Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>				2						
120	Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>				5	✓	✓	✓			
121	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>					4		2	2		
122	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
123	Eurasian Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>	✓	✓	✓					3		
124	Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
125	Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Cecropis daurica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	
126	Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>					h					
127	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	h	h	h						h	
128	Eastern Bonelli's Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus orientalis</i>			h							
129	Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>					5		10	h	4	
130	Paddyfield Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus agricola</i>							10			
131	Eurasian Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>						6	✓		✓	
132	Marsh Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus palustris</i>									2	
133	Eastern Olivaceous Warbler	<i>Iduna pallida</i>				h	h					
134	Olive-tree Warbler	<i>Hippolais olivetorum</i>			h	2						

	Common name	Scientific name	May										
			10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
135	Icterine Warbler	<i>Hippolais icterina</i>								1			
136	Savi's Warbler	<i>Locustella luscinioides</i>								2	h		
137	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	h	1	h	h			h		h		
138	Barred Warbler	<i>Sylvia nisoria</i>			h				4	1		1	
139	Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia curruca</i>			h					1	1	h	
140	Eastern Orphean Warbler	<i>Sylvia crassirostris</i>			1								
141	Common Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>			1	h	1	2	3	2	1		
142	Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>		1									
143	Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>							2				
144	Wallcreeper	<i>Tichodroma muraria</i>		2									
145	Short-toed Treecreeper	<i>Certhia brachyactyla</i>							2				
146	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
147	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
148	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>			h	h			3				
149	Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>		2									
150	European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>		3	h								
151	Common Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>	h	h	h	2	h	1	h	2	h	h	
152	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>		2	1								
153	Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>		1									
154	European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>				1							
155	Isabelline Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe isabellina</i>				3							
156	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>					1						
157	Pied Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe pleschanka</i>							3				
158	Black-eared Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe hispanica</i>			2								
159	Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>			3								
160	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>						4					
161	Semi-collared Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula semitorquata</i>						4					
162	White-throated Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>		4									
163	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
164	Spanish Sparrow	<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
165	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>					3	4		1			
166	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	2	6							2	1	
167	Black-headed Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava feldegg</i>							1		3		
168	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
169	Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>				2		4					
170	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>						2					
171	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	
172	European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>		2									
173	European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>		1	2	1	1	✓	✓	2			
174	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
175	Common Linnet	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>				1							
176	Red Crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>		40									
177	Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>		3	1	3		6	1			1	
178	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>		2	2	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
179	Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>		1	1			h	1				
180	Rock Bunting	<i>Emberiza cia</i>			1								

	Common name	Scientific name	May									
			10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
181	Ortolan Bunting	<i>Emberiza hortulana</i>			2			h				
182	Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>		h	1	2						
183	Black-headed Bunting	<i>Emberiza melanocephala</i>			1	6	2	4	4	2		
184	Common Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>							1			

Butterflies

Scarce Swallowtail, *Iphiclides podalirius*

Large White, *Pieris brassicae*

Eastern Bath White, *Pontia edusa*

Clouded Yellow, *Colias crocea*

Brimstone, *Gonepteryx rhamni*

Small Copper, *Lycaena phlaeas*

Lesser Fiery Copper, *Lycaena thersamon*

Chequered Blue, *Scolitantides orion*

Brown Argus, *Aricia agestis*

Common Blue, *Polyommatus icarus*

Common Glider, *Neptis sappho*

Red Admiral, *Vanessa atalanta*

Comma, *Polygonium c-album*

Glanville Fritillary, *Melitaea cinxia*

Knapweed Fritillary, *Melitaea phoebe*

Wall Brown, *Lassismata megera*

Small Heath, *Coenonympha pamphilus*

Orbed Red-underwing Grizzled Skipper *Spialia orbifer*,

Oriental or Tufted Marbled Skipper, *Carcharodus Flocciferus/orientalis*

Black-veined White, *Aporia crataegi*

Green-veined White, *Artogeia napi*

Orange Tip, *Anthocaris cardamines*

Eastern Pale Clouded Yellow, *Colias erate*

Green Hairstreak, *Callophrys rubi*

Large Copper, *Lycaena dispar*

Holly Blue, *Celastrina argiolus*

Silver-studded Blue, *Plebejus argus*

Adonis Blue, *Lysandra bellargus*

Freyer's Purple Emperor, *Apatura metis*

Camberwell Beauty, *Nymphalis antiopa*

Painted Lady, *Vanessa cardui*

Queen of Spain Fritillary, *Issoria lathonia*

Lesser Spotted Fritillary, *Melitaea trivia*

Meadow Brown, *Maniola jurtina*

Speckled Wood, *Pararge aegeria*

Chestnut Heath, *Coenonympha glycerion*

Oberthur's Grizzled Skipper, *Pyrgus armoricanus*

Large Skipper, *Ochlodes venatus*

Moths

Forester, *Adscita statices*

Tau Emperor, *Aglia tau*

Common Pug, *Eupithecia vulgata*

Speckled Yellow, *Pseudopanthera macularia*

Pine Hawk-moth, *Hyloicus pinastri*

Cream-spot Tiger, *Arctia villica*

Pale-shouldered Brocade, *Lacanobia thalassina*

Four-spotted, *Tyta luctuosa*

Burnet sp., *Zygaena brizae*

Yellow Shell, *Camptogramma bilineata*

Lustrous Least Carpet, *Idaea filicata*

Engrailed sp., *Ectropis sp.*

Hummingbird Hawk-moth, *Macroglossum stellatarum*

Heart and Dart, *Agrotis exclamationis*

Chinese Character, *Cilix glaucata*

Mother Shipton, *Callistege mi*

Mammals

Red Fox

European Wildcat

Fallow Deer

European Brown Hare

Red Squirrel

Reptiles and Amphibians

Grass Snake

Scorpion Snake

Dice Snake

European Pond Terrapin

Spur-thighed Tortoise

Eastern Green Lizard

Common Wall Lizard

Balkan Wall Lizard

Sand Lizard

Common Fro

Marsh Frog