

# Spring Birding in Bulgaria

Naturetrek Tour Report

6th – 15th May 2022

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Lesser-spotted Eagle



European Roller



White-winged Tern



Levant Sparrowhawk

Tour report and images by Brian Small

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Tour participants: Brian Small (leader) Teodora & Yordan Kutsarov “Dancho” (local guides) with 14 Naturetrek clients.

## Summary

Wow! What a great trip! With spring migration being a touch late in the eastern Med this year, we were treated to some of the earlier migrants staying later (for example, marsh terns), plus the arrival of some of the later migrants (including Masked Shrikes and Rollers during the last two days of our tour). Then there is the stunning and as yet largely unspoilt Bulgarian landscape (though it is in a state of change), which always adds to the trip. This grand tour of Bulgaria takes in a whole host of sites, covering an enormous cross-section of species - and with fine weather to boot is always fun! A massive thanks goes to Teodora and Dancho for guiding and looking after us so well and to Giorgi for his fine driving skills.

### Day 1

Friday 6th May

A smooth landing at Sofia was followed by a good transit and we were well met by Dancho, Teodora and Giorgi and were soon on our way south and east through the outskirts of Sofia.

Our drive towards Pamporovo was broken by three main stops. The first was just east of Sofia near Vakarel for Corncrake (heard only), as well as our first Cuckoos, Bee-eaters and Tree Sparrows; our views of Ortolan Bunting and Yellowhammer were briefer. At a roadside stop for refreshments near Vinigradec we had Red-rumped Swallow, Alpine Swift and a high-flying Short-toed Snake Eagle. Finally, as we began to climb up into the mountains, we stopped near to Dospat at a small campground on the north of the lake. The air was certainly cooler as we exited the bus, being higher in the mountains, and we quickly saw Crested Tit and Black Redstart, but it was not until we were leaving that a Ring Ouzel we had heard showed atop a tree. We arrived at our hotel tired, a touch cold, and to the sound of Pallid Swifts about the grounds.

### Day 2

Saturday 7th May

Rising early to a clear day, with plenty of snow still visible on the distant mountains – Falakro in Greece – we had an eventful hour-long walk that produced our only Serin, several Cuckoo, a pair of Crossbill, Common and Lesser Whitethroat, grey-backed continental Coal Tit and a couple of Tree Pipit – one singing well from a tall pine. A mystery call from the woods was very like a Pygmy Owl but is as yet to be fully resolved, and hordes of screaming Pallid Swifts and chattering House Martins.

The start to our long day took us south to the Trigrad Gorge, where Giorgi did well to manoeuvre along the now degraded access road; we eventually pulled over by the tunnel at the tallest cliffs of the gorge. Some thorough and neck-aching scanning of the cliffs produced some neat plants, Dipper and Black Redstart, and we were beginning to worry, but eventually a male Wallcreeper was found high on the cliff and we all managed views through the ‘scope as it sat having a preen before flying across the gorge, not to be seen again. Phew!

Tearing ourselves away, we headed south into the village, made a short walk at Trigrad, where we found Black Redstart, Whinchat, Red-backed Shrike and a Black Stork high above the mountains. Butterflies included Eastern Bath White and Clouded Yellow. This was followed by a fine ‘trout lunch’, and then began the long drive east

towards our next hotel at Krumovgrad. Brief stops along the route for fuel and ice creams allowed us to stretch our legs, but we made do with views of the spectacular landscape of the eastern Rhodope Mountains before we arrived at our hotel in Krumovgrad. After dinner, on an unplanned walk by a handful of the group, we heard Scops Owls in nearby trees, but a concerted effort would wait for 24 hours.

## Day 3

Sunday 8th May

It was another chilly start as we walked through Krumovgrad down to the bridge over the Krumovitsa River, which here is running north to meet the Arda River by which we would have lunch later. Birdsong abounded, with Nightingale, Eastern Olivaceous Warbler, Bee-eater and Golden Oriole the most prevalent; Lesser Grey Shrikes chased about the poplars in which a Hobby was spotted feeding on a House Martin; two Black Stork were seen feeding in the river and one caught a huge fish, bigger than its head and beak!

Our day was taken touring the area to the northwest of Krumovgrad, heading initially to a spot on the Krumovitsa River south of Potochnitsa. By the bridge we strolled the road, again accompanied by the song of Nightingales, Orioles and Bee-eaters – as well as Balkan Marsh Frog. Among the many Corn Bunting we found our first Black-headed, before our eyes were drawn to a large kettle of Griffon Vultures lifting from a hillside. As they soared up they drew in at least three Egyptian Vultures, a couple of Honey Buzzard, Booted Eagle and even a Peregrine Falcon. A small patch of grass by the bus held Marsh Fritillary, Silver-studded Blue and Grizzled Skipper.

Nearby at Potochnitsa, we drove a track to an area of scrub and open hillside, where we saw two more (or possibly the same) Egyptian Vulture, Black Kite and several Griffons and Honey Buzzard. Two Short-toed Snake Eagles called overhead just as Dancho picked out our only Golden Eagle of the tour. As we potted slowly down the road, butterflies also drew our eyes, with Glanville and Queen of Spain Fritillaries, Clouded Yellow, Mountain Argus, Oberthur's Grizzled Skipper and Scarce Swallowtail most notable. Both Eastern Subalpine and Eastern Bonelli's Warblers sang and with patience were seen fairly well, then by the bus we found Eastern Orphean and Olive-tree Warblers – the latter showing extremely well - and Woodchat Shrike, but the Sombre Tits were extremely elusive.

A splendid picnic lunch was taken by the cool air of the stream below the Studen Kladenets dam; on the warmer grassy slopes yet more butterflies were lively in the heat of the day. Two young Dipper joined us by the tree-lined stream as did a Bulgarian Emerald dragonfly. After tidying up, we drove back to the main road and turned off at Gorna Kula to follow the Krumovitsa as it meanders north to Dolna Kula. Parking and walking along the quiet road allowed us to pick up yet more Bee-eater, Black-headed Bunting and on the river a pair of Little Ringed Plover. Searching of the cliffs found three male Eastern Black-eared Wheatear (the fifth of the 'Eastern' birds for the day) and a great view of Chukar as it called from a viewpoint.

An early return allowed us a chance to think after some busy days, then to end a great day after dinner we walked up to the local park for some rather nice views of Scops Owls calling in the trees.

## Day 4

Monday 9th May

Another walk down to the river for a handful of 'keenies' reaped the reward of a pair of Barred Warbler as well as the usual Nightingale and Eastern Olivaceous Warbler. Having checked out, we started our journey east by first heading NE to Madzharovo, where had a couple of stops: the first on the approach road produced Ortolan Bunting, Blue Rock Thrush, a nesting Griffon Vulture and the nest of Western Rock Nuthatch high on the cliffs, plus resting Orange-tip and milky white owl-fly *Ascalaphus lacteus* by the road. Two Booted Eagle cruised overhead as increasing numbers of Griffons left their roost.

At Madzharovo itself we saw both Rock and Cirl Bunting, more vultures and Black Stork and better views of Blue Rock Thrush; Eastern Black-eared Wheatear was seen again, too, before we had to leave - passing just 6km from the Greek border as we went. Next up was a great stop at Yerusalimovo, near Lyubimets, which produced several Masked Shrikes, Golden Oriole, Turtle Dove, Woodlark and Great Spotted Woodpecker. Butterflies were again numerous, with the star being Little Tiger Blue, a very good easterly record for Bulgaria but sadly not seen by all. Lunch was taken at Levka, where we really enjoyed the Lesser Kestrel colony and the comings and goings of 20 or so birds about the nest holes (as well as the food, of course). Such were the views of the kestrels that we could make out the diagnostic pale claws.

After lunch, we made speculative stops near Topolovgrad for Eastern Imperial Eagle, but though we sadly failed to find any we got our first views of Isabelline Wheatear and Souselik as well as an amazing male Montagu's Harrier that flew just overhead. We also had several Lesser Spotted Eagles, but the day was pushing on and, after a quick pause near Lake Mandria for fuel and ice creams, we made our last stop of the day at the Burgas salt pans for waders with the light behind us: many Little Stint, Curlew Sandpiper, Spotted Redshank, Avocet and various terns as well as a flock of Greater Flamingo were present. We arrived at Pomorie tired but eagerly looking forward to our time at the coast.

## Day 5

Tuesday 10th May

An early walk to the salt pans was eventful, with 100's of hirundines passing through, including numerous Sand Martins – here en route to breeding spots to the north, whilst ours at home would be laying their first eggs. Three Willow Warbler fed in the coastal scrub and as we walked past another patch the weird song of a Thrush Nightingale could just about be picked out. As we got closer, it was still singing its mix of rattles and clicks and whistles before being glimpsed briefly and then no more sight or sound. On or by the salt pans we saw a fine migrant Lesser Grey Shrike as well as the usual Little, Sandwich and Common Terns perched nicely on posts. With them sat Pygmy and Great Cormorants, Turnstone and Black-winged Stilt; on the small pans several Avocet were nesting.

Our first stop of the day was on the western side of Pomorie pans, near the pumping station, where as we approached we saw a fine Black-tailed Godwit of the longer-billed, nominate subspecies *limosa* and a handful of Lapwing. Over the reed-fringed pool were many dip-feeding marsh terns and we watched as they danced about the water picking food off or from just under the surface: most numerous were White-winged, followed by Black and fewer Whiskered, each as smart as the other. Little Stint and Curlew Sandpipers were found too, but the highlight was a needle-billed Red-necked Phalarope – a female by the brightness of its plumage – that pirouetted as it swam and fed.

By the busy road near Burgas we stopped quickly at both Vaya and Atanasovsko Lakes. At the former were numerous shorebirds that included our first Ruff and fine black-bellied Dunlin plus many Little Stint and Curlew Sandpiper; Little Gulls behaved like phalaropes, whilst Glossy Ibis and Spoonbill flew over. At the large open water of Atanasovsko more marsh terns fed way out over the water, Dalmatian and Great White Pelican, Pochard and Great Crested Grebe swam and a Black-crowned Night Heron flew past. The rest of the day was spent partially circumnavigating Mandria Lake, with various stops for raptors, terns, waders, duck and more, plus White Stork nests adorned with Spanish Sparrows.

Near Dimchevo, our first stop, we saw Red-footed Falcon and Lesser Spotted Eagle, Purple Heron and finally Great Reed Warbler (many more would follow); we also picked out our first Grecian Copper of the day. A roadside Roller was awkward to view so we pressed on to other spots. During the day at stops by both Izvorska and Fakiyska rivers we found several Ferruginous Duck, Squacco Heron, Middle Spotted and Grey-headed Woodpecker, Bee-eaters, more marsh terns, Black-headed Bunting, and lots of nice butterflies: Eastern Festoon, Clouded Apollo and Eastern Baton Blue were new for the trip. After less than optimal views of White-tailed Eagle – it was there honestly – we headed for a nice lunch at Kraymorie that ended with two Imperial Eagles coming in off the sea! However, in many ways, it was the endearing Penduline Tit that we found at the end of the day that stole it, with amazing views as it called from nearby trees showing really well in the lowering sun.

## Day 6

## Wednesday 11th May

Our early walk this morning took us back to the salt museum, with a new mix of migrants to make things interesting: a female Black-headed Bunting, Blue-headed Wagtails, Spotted, Pied and Red-breasted Flycatcher and a Barred Warbler.

After breakfast, as we waited for Dancho to sort his binoculars out, we headed north from the hotel to look for migrants and waders. With 100's of hirundines and Bee-eaters continuing to pour through we had a little hope, and though not in spectacular numbers we managed a few new birds: Grey Plover, Garganey and Kentish Plover on the pans and Black-throated and Yelkouan Shearwater on the sea.

We left a little later than hoped for on our way to Kavarna, but not before more great birding: at Poroy we found Bee-eater and Isabelline Wheatear, Hawfinch and a (heard) Quail plus a singing Icterine Warbler in the woods. Near Panitsovo we finally got views of Sombre Tit and Ortolan Bunting, but time pressed on. After a delicious lunch we watched a couple of spots in the forest at Goritsa, seeing Short-toed Treecreeper and Nuthatch well, but due to disturbance by tree-felling the Semi-collared Flycatcher were extremely elusive with only glimpses achieved by some.

As the day drew on our final stop at Topola near Kavarna, produced a piece of stunning birding by Leonie, as way up on the cliffs with her binoculars she found a feeding Eagle Owl. With 'scopes focused we enjoyed the bird as it shuffled a little and continued to be amazed at how it was found in the first place! Fist pumps all round then up to our lovely hotel looking down into a valley - met by Kosta and the song of local Nightingales.

## Day 7

### Thursday 12th May

An hours' stand at the hotel produced a few birds, including Syrian Woodpecker and mating Hoopoe (!), then after breakfast it was north to Durankulak and Shabla. What a great day, with so many birds and so much excitement it is hard to know where to begin!

At Durankulak, we made our first walk near the ancient site of the oldest stone buildings in Europe, where above the noisy marsh frogs we heard and saw Great Reed and Savi's Warblers, more marsh terns plus Squacco and Purple Herons. Red-backed Shrike and Barred Warbler chased about the scrub (together as usual) and we also saw many Marsh Harrier, a distant flying Roller and Red-footed Falcon. On the beach at the northern end of the lake we picked up Sanderling and Little Ringed Plover, cacophonous Great Reed Warblers, Reed Bunting and yet more White-winged, Black and Whiskered Terns – either feeding over the lake or moving north over the sea, where they were joined by Mediterranean, Pallas's and Caspian Gulls. Try as we might we could not find Paddyfield Warbler.

After lunch we drove to Shabla lake, where by now it was very warm and during a brief walk amongst the meadows for butterflies we found Mallow Skipper, Eastern Baton Blue and Cardinal Fritillary. At the coastal lagoon of Shabla Tuzlata we saw Spotted Flycatcher, Garganey, more marsh terns, plus on the sea both Black-throated Diver and Red-necked Grebe. Still more was to come as we drove to Shaba Lighthouse and Karmen Bryag for the coastal steppe, with over a dozen active Pied Wheatear, good views of Shag, Calandra Lark, Whinchat, Tawny Pipit and another Sedge Warbler in a small bush with Willow Warbler and Lesser Whitethroat.

## Day 8

### Friday 13th May

Our morning started with a visit to Cape Kaliakra, Bolata valley and Bolgarevo. At the Cape we enjoyed Pied and Northern Wheatears, clifftop flypasts of Alpine Swift, Bee-eater and Red-breasted Flycatcher, plus views over the sea of feeding and migrant terns - which no doubt had drawn in the two Arctic Skua, whilst on (and under the sea) we saw Black-throated Diver looking straight down the cliff. At Bolata were Barred, Marsh and Great Reed Warblers, Calandra Larks above the cliffs, but actually it was quiet for migrants. Our final walk of the morning was on the steppe near Bolgarevo, where amongst the flowering fields we found Short-toed Lark, Stone-curlew and Isabelline Wheatear, plus Barred Warbler and Long-legged Buzzard. Interesting plants included Yellow-flowered Skullcap and Ground-pine.

Following a relaxed lunch at Kavarna, we continued west to the River Danube at Srebarna Lake, going via Balchik and Dobrich. Our only stop on the way was at Onogor Valley, where amongst the hot scrubby grass we saw Knapweed and Weaver's Fritillaries, Map and Scarce Swallowtail, whilst birds included nesting Great Spotted Woodpecker, Hawfinch and Marsh Tit. We arrived at Vetren tired and hot, but relaxed in the garden with a beer or wine in hand listening to the Golden Orioles, Turtle Doves and Nightingales.

## Day 9

### Saturday 14th May

Our wet early walk today revealed a singing Thrush Nightingale right by the lodge, and although we failed to see it, just hearing its incredible cricket-like song was enough! There was plenty of heron and cormorant movement

overhead as we walked down towards the river plus Red-backed Shrike and Golden Orioles seemingly enjoying the rain. An Icterine Warbler was seen high in the trees and Black Redstarts too sang from the roof tops.

We drove down to Srebarna to head west, but were delayed by a Levant Sparrowhawk feeding like a Kestrel from the wires, watching the bees and the ground for prey; it flew off once but soon returned. A fine male, this was a view never to be forgotten. The Danube at Polpina was interesting for the birds on the sandy island and those flying over the river and the poplars across the water. On the island we saw Avocet – some on nests at the western end - Oystercatcher, Curlew Sandpiper and Ringed Plover, plus various gulls including Caspian, and Ruddy Shelduck; over the river the three marsh terns fed, plus both Common and a handful of Little - some of the latter sat on the island; above the trees we saw both White and Black Storks, as well as Lesser Spotted and White-tailed Eagle and Honey Buzzard. A Kingfisher zapped past, too.

After a quick walk at Garvan marsh, we headed to Malak Preslavets. Here we initially walked the approach road by the southern end of the lake near the Danube, seeing on the butterfly front Duke of Burgundy and Black Hairstreak, plus on the bird front Great Reed Warbler and Chiffchaff. At the picnic site, before and after lunch we saw Little Bittern, heard and briefly saw Marsh Warbler, Barred Warbler and Red-backed Shrike, Whiskered Terns nested on the lily pads and at least four White-tailed Eagle flew or settled in the trees. A Lesser Spotted Woodpecker was found as were Downy Emerald and Large Red-eyed Damselfly.

A very warm day ended above the northern edge of Srebarna Lake, watching the pelicans, terns and herons coming and going across the marsh. The constant Cuckoos called and argued, broken by the bubbling calls of females and odd Savi's Warbler song. Ferruginous Ducks and Pochard swam about with Mute Swan and Greylag Goose, whilst Whiskered Terns were again nesting. We returned early again for a relaxed end to the day and as we did a fine Roller was found sitting on the wires by the road – the first sighting for some and a huge relief. We made an after-dinner walk during which Nightjar and Long-eared Owl were heard.

## Day 10

Sunday 15th May

Our final day proved to be a busy one. First another walk near the hotel and more Red-backed Shrike, Woodlark, Golden Oriole and Turtle Dove, plus a sweet Little Owl nestled on a chimney. After breakfast we left Vetren to stop at the SW corner of Srebarna, finding many Glossy Ibis, Red-crested Pochard, Squacco Heron, two more Roller and a briefly heard Baillon's Crake.

We entered Romania at Silistra and headed to Lake Bugeac, visiting some lovely grassy bays at its western end and the fish ponds at the east. The former sites found Whiskered and Black Terns, plus Curlew and Wood Sandpipers, Spoonbill, Penduline Tit, many Bee-eaters and at least five Roller. It was hard to leave, but we did for the fish ponds, where from near the monastery we watched Red-necked and several pairs of Black-necked Grebes. Wood and Curlew Sandpipers fed along the muddy fringes, as did Ruff and Little Stint; Ruddy Shelduck had young ducklings. A great spot but we had to move on, eating lunch as we did so.

Back at Silistra we crossed the Danube, made a couple of brief pauses to view roadside lagoons, where we saw four species of grebe - most numerous being Black-necked, lots of terns and herons and wildfowl, but we then set off to Bucharest for our flight home.

Thanks to you all for the great company, many laughs and fine birding and botanising skills.

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## Species lists

Birds (H = Heard only)

Common name	Scientific name	May 2022										
		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>										✓	✓
Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
Ruddy Shelduck	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>				✓	✓					✓	✓
Garganey	<i>Spatula querquedula</i>					✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
Northern Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>									✓	✓	
Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>					✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Red-crested Pochard	<i>Netta rufina</i>											✓
Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>	✓	✓			✓					✓	✓
Ferruginous Duck	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>					✓		✓			✓	✓
Goosander	<i>Mergus merganser</i>			✓								
Common Pheasant - I	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>							✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>						✓					
Chukar Partridge	<i>Alectoris chukar</i>			✓								
European Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i>								✓	✓		
Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓			✓			
Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓



Common name	Scientific name	May 2022									
		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Pallid Swift	<i>Apus pallidus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		
Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Feral Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Baillon's Crane	<i>Porzana pusilla</i>										✓
Corn Crane	<i>Crex crex</i>	✓									
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>					✓		✓			✓
Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>					✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>										✓
Red-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps grisegena</i>							✓		✓	✓
Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>										✓
Eurasian Stone-curlew	<i>Burhinus oedicephalus</i>								✓		
Eurasian Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>									✓	
Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>				✓	✓	✓			✓	
Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>						✓				
Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>						✓	✓		✓	
Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>			✓				✓			✓
Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>				✓		✓				
Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>					✓					
Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>					✓	✓				
Ruff	<i>Calidris pugnax</i>										
Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>							✓			
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>					✓					
Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>							✓			
Red-necked Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>					✓					
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>							✓			
Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>				✓	✓					
Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>				✓						
Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>				✓	✓		✓	✓		
Collared Pratincole	<i>Glareola pratincola</i>					✓		✓			
Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>					✓				✓	✓
Little Gull	<i>Hydrocoloeus minutus</i>					✓		✓	✓		
Mediterranean Gull	<i>Ichthyaeetus melanocephalus</i>					✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Pallas's Gull	<i>Ichthyaeetus ichthyaeetus</i>							✓			
Caspian Gull	<i>Larus cachinnans</i>							✓		✓	✓
Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>				✓						
Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>							✓			
Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>					✓		✓		✓	✓
White-winged Tern	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>					✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>					✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Arctic Skua	<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>								✓		
Black-throated Diver	<i>Gavia arctica</i>						✓	✓	✓		
Yelkouan Shearwater	<i>Puffinus yelkouan</i>				✓		✓	✓	✓		

Common name	Scientific name	May 2022										
		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>		✓	✓	✓						✓	
White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Pygmy Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo pygmaeus</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
European Shag	<i>Gulosus aristotelis</i>						✓	✓	✓			
Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>				✓	✓						✓
Little Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>										✓	
Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>					✓		✓			✓	✓
Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>					✓	✓				✓	✓
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>					✓		✓			✓	✓
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>										✓	✓
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>			✓	✓	✓					✓	✓
Great White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>				✓	✓					✓	✓
Dalmatian Pelican	<i>Pelecanus crispus</i>					✓					✓	✓
Egyptian Vulture	<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>			✓								
European Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>			✓	✓	✓		✓			✓	
Griffon Vulture	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>			✓	✓							
Short-toed Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓					
Lesser Spotted Eagle	<i>Clanga pomarina</i>				✓	✓	✓				✓	
Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓					
Eastern Imperial Eagle	<i>Aquila heliaca</i>					✓						
Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>			✓								
Levant Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter brevipes</i>										✓	✓
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>			✓								
Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>				✓		✓					
Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>			✓	✓						✓	
White-tailed Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>					✓					✓	
Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>					✓						✓
Eurasian Scops Owl	<i>Otus scops</i>		✓	✓				✓				
Long-eared Owl	<i>Asio otus</i>										✓	
Eurasian Eagle-Owl	<i>Bubo bubo</i>						✓					
Tawny Owl	<i>Strix aluco</i>		✓									
Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
European Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>					✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>							✓			✓	✓
European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Wryneck	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>										✓	✓
Middle Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocoptes medius</i>					✓	✓				✓	
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dryobates minor</i>			✓							✓	✓
Syrian Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos syriacus</i>			✓				✓	✓			✓
Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓			
Black Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus martius</i>		✓									
European Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		
Grey-headed Woodpecker	<i>Picus canus</i>					✓					✓	
Lesser Kestrel	<i>Falco naumanni</i>				✓							
Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Red-footed Falcon	<i>Falco vespertinus</i>					✓		✓	✓			
Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>			✓								

Common name	Scientific name	May 2022										
		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Lesser Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius minor</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Masked Shrike	<i>Lanius nubicus</i>				✓							
Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>	✓						✓	✓			✓
Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		
Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>	✓	✓									
European Crested Tit	<i>Lophophanes cristatus</i>	✓	✓									
Sombre Tit	<i>Poecile lugubris</i>			✓				✓				
Marsh Tit	<i>Poecile palustris</i>		✓							✓		
Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>	✓	✓			✓	✓				✓	✓
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Penduline Tit	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>					✓					✓	✓
Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓				✓	✓
Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		
Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Greater Short-toed Lark	<i>Calandrella brachydactyla</i>									✓		
Calandra Lark	<i>Melanocorypha calandra</i>								✓	✓		
Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓							
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Cecropis daurica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>			✓	✓						✓	
Eastern Bonelli's Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus orientalis</i>			✓	✓					✓		
Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>			✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		
Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		
Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>					✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>	✓						✓				
Eurasian Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>					✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
Marsh Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus palustris</i>								✓	✓		
Eastern Olivaceous Warbler	<i>Iduna pallida</i>			✓	✓							
Olive-tree Warbler	<i>Hippolais olivetorum</i>			✓	✓							
Icterine Warbler	<i>Hippolais icterina</i>						✓			✓	✓	
River Warbler	<i>Locustella fluviatilis</i>										✓	
Savi's Warbler	<i>Locustella luscinioides</i>							✓			✓	✓
Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>			✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Garden Warbler	<i>Sylvia borin</i>						✓					
Barred Warbler	<i>Curruca nisoria</i>				✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		
Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Curruca curruca</i>		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eastern Orphean Warbler	<i>Curruca crassirostris</i>			✓								
Eastern Subalpine Warbler	<i>Curruca cantillans</i>			✓								
Common Whitethroat	<i>Curruca communis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>		✓	✓			✓					
Western Rock Nuthatch	<i>Sitta neumayer</i>				✓							
Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>						✓					
Wallcreeper	<i>Tichodroma muraria</i>		✓									
Short-toed Treecreeper	<i>Certhia brachydactyla</i>						✓					

Common name	Scientific name	May 2022									
		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ring Ouzel	<i>Turdus torquatus</i>	✓									
Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	✓	✓				✓				
Thrush Nightingale	<i>Luscinia luscinia</i>					✓	✓				
Common Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Red-breasted Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula parva</i>						✓		✓		
Semicollared Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula semitorquata</i>						✓				
European Pied Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>						✓				
Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓
Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>				✓						
Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>		✓					✓			
European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>							✓			
Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>							✓	✓		
Isabelline Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe isabellina</i>				✓		✓		✓		✓
Eastern Black-eared Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe melanoleuca</i>			✓	✓						
Pied Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe pleschanka</i>							✓	✓		
White-throated Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>		✓	✓							
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Spanish Sparrow	<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>	✓	✓								
Blue-headed Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava flava</i>						✓				
Black-headed Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava feldegg</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	✓	✓	✓							
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>				✓	✓		✓	✓		
Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>		✓								
Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Eurasian Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>		✓								
European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>							✓	✓		✓
Red Crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>		✓								
European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>		✓								
Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	✓	✓				✓	✓			✓
Rock Bunting	<i>Emberiza cia</i>				✓						
Ortolan Bunting	<i>Emberiza hortulana</i>	✓		✓	✓		✓				
Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>			✓	✓		✓				
Black-headed Bunting	<i>Emberiza melanocephala</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Common Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>							✓			✓

## Mammals

Common name	Scientific name
European Hare	<i>Lepus europaeus</i>
Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>
Common Bottlenose Dolphin	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>

Harbour Porpoise	<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>
Souslik	<i>Spermophilus citellus</i>
Golden Jackal	<i>Canis aureus</i>
European Hedgehog	<i>Erinaceus europaeus</i>
Roe Deer	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>

## Dragonflies

Common name	Scientific name
White-legged Damselfly	<i>Platycnemis pennipes</i>
Azure Damselfly	<i>Coenagrion puella</i>
Red-eyed Damselfly	<i>Erythromma najas</i>
Blue-tailed Damselfly	<i>Ischnura elegans</i>
Norfolk Hawker	<i>Aeshna isoceles</i>
Vagrant Emperor	<i>Anax ephippiger</i>
Downy Emerald	<i>Cordulia aenea</i>
Bulgarian Emerald	<i>Somatochlora borisi</i>
Broad-bodied Chaser	<i>Libellula depressa</i>
Scarce Chaser	<i>Libellula fulva</i>
Scarlet Darter	<i>Crocothemis erythraea</i>

## Butterflies

Common name	Scientific name
Scarce Swallowtail	<i>Iphiclides podalirius</i>
Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>
Clouded Apollo	<i>Parnassius mnemosyne</i>
Eastern Festoon	<i>Zerynthia cerisy</i>
Mallow Skipper	<i>Carcharodus alceae</i>
Dingy Skipper	<i>Erynnis tages</i>
Common Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus malvae</i>
Oberthür's Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus armoricanus</i>
Wood White	<i>Leptidea sinapis</i>
Brimstone	<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>
Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias croceus</i>
Pale Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias hyale</i>
Eastern Bath White	<i>Pontia edusa</i>
Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>
Green-veined White	<i>Pieris napi</i>
Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>
Eastern Dappled White	<i>Euchloe ausonia</i>
Common Orange-tip	<i>Anthocharis cardamines</i>
Duke of Burgundy	<i>Hamearis lucina</i>
Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>
Grecian Copper	<i>Lycaena ottomana</i>
Green Hairstreak	<i>Callophrys rubi</i>
Black Hairstreak	<i>Satyrrium pruni</i>
Little Tiger Blue	<i>Tarucus balkanicus</i>
Eastern Baton Blue	<i>Pseudophilotes vicrama</i>
Green-underside Blue	<i>Glaucopsyche alexis</i>

<b>Common name</b>	<b>Scientific name</b>
Holly Blue	<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>
Silver-studded Blue	<i>Plebejus argus</i>
Idas Blue	<i>Plebejus idas</i>
Mountain Argus	<i>Aricia artaxerxes</i>
Brown Argus	<i>Plebejus agestis</i>
Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>
Adonis Blue	<i>Polyommatus bellargus</i>
Southern White Admiral	<i>Limenitis reducta</i>
Common Glider	<i>Neptis sappho</i>
Queen of Spain Fritillary	<i>Issoria lathonia</i>
Cardinal	<i>Argynnis pandora</i>
Weaver's Fritillary	<i>Boloria dia</i>
Map Butterfly	<i>Araschnia levana</i>
Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>
Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>
Peacock Butterfly	<i>Inachis io</i>
Small Tortoiseshell	<i>Aglais urticae</i>
Camberwell Beauty	<i>Nymphalis antiopa</i>
Marsh Fritillary	<i>Euphydryas aurinia</i>
Scarce Fritillary	<i>Euphydryas maturna</i>
Knapweed Fritillary	<i>Melitaea phoebe</i>
Glanville Fritillary	<i>Melitaea cinxia</i>
Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>
Large Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata maera</i>
Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>