

Bulgaria in Summer

Naturetrek Tour Report

2 - 9 August 2008



Pirin Mountains



Struma River



Spotted Fritillaries



Lunchtime at Stara Kresna

Report and images compiled by Ian Nicholson



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Summary

This was a general wildlife-watching tour, with the focus equally on birds, butterflies, dragonflies and plants and the group had a wide range of interests. For a non-specialist tour the species counts of almost 100 birds and over 80 butterflies were most impressive, and the areas which we visited provided a good overview of the varied habitats with which Bulgaria is blessed.

Day 1

Saturday 2nd August

Weather: hot & sunny; up to 34°C

The group met at Heathrow's new Terminal 5 in plenty of time for the 8.30am flight to Sofia and, after a short delay, we were on our way. We landed at about 1.50pm local time then met Nikolay, Stoyan and our driver Evgeny and boarded our air-conditioned coach for the journey to Melnik where we were to spend the first three nights of the tour.

The air-conditioning was extremely welcome, as the temperature in Sofia was well into the 30's Celsius. After about an hour, mostly spent driving through very attractive scenery, we pulled over for what was scheduled to be a stop of about 15 to 20 minutes to stretch our legs and look for butterflies and birds. As it turned out, there was so much to see that it was actually more like 35 or 40 minutes before we were back on the road.

Birds seen included several Red-rumped Swallows, a small flock of Alpine Swifts, two Ravens, a Sparrowhawk, a Red-backed Shrike and two Tree Sparrows. We also found some interesting butterflies, including Spotted Fritillary, Clouded Yellow, Common Blue and Small Heath.

When we eventually set off again it wasn't long before a Lesser Spotted Eagle was seen and we pulled over to have excellent views of this impressive bird. Two Common Buzzards were also seen here and these were to become a familiar sight as the journey progressed. After a further brief stop to watch a flock of 12 White Storks, we carried on to Melnik, arriving at about 7.15pm. Everyone was ready for their evening meal, after which some of the group had a stroll round this fascinating old town, watching a few geckos on the walls of the old buildings, and also seeing two fireflies. Finally, a few of the last members of the party to return to the hotel watched the International Space Station pass overhead across the cloudless sky.

Day 2

Sunday 3rd August

Weather: hot & sunny; up to 34°C

After a relaxed breakfast we set off at just before 9am, heading towards the nearby volcanic area of Rupite. We were slightly delayed by the difficulty in manoeuvring the coach out of Melnik's very narrow main street, but after a magnificent effort by Evgeny we were on our way.

We drove only a short distance to our first stop where the butterfly fans went in one direction with Stoyan and the birders went another with Nikolay and Ian. The first birds seen were a family of Red-backed Shrikes, consisting of a male, a female and at least three young. Nearby were at least four Corn Buntings, and a pair of Cirl Buntings were a pleasing sight for those of us who do not come from their only UK breeding area of the south-west. Three Golden Orioles were also present, along with a large mixed flock of House and Tree Sparrows, plus a pair of Whitethroats.

Ian and Linda were watching the sparrows when a Common Buzzard soared briefly over the hillside and then, a little later, a Honey Buzzard – the first of at least seven today – was seen. Meanwhile, the butterfly group had found Southern White Admiral, Clouded Yellow and Dingy Skipper among others, as well as White-tailed Skimmer. A few Greek Tortoises added to the non-bird interest.

After about 40 minutes it was time to move on. Immediately on leaving the coach at the next stop, a very handsome Woodchat Shrike was seen, followed by a Roller, which was very pleasing as it was a species which several of the group had been hoping to see. As this species frequently does, it remained perching on top of a small tree for some time and everyone managed to get excellent views of it. Just across the road, two Marsh Frogs and a Fire-bellied Toad were found swimming in a drinking trough! Nearby were several Dragonflies and Damselflies, including Southern Skimmer and White-legged Damselfly.

A little further on, two Honey Buzzards were soaring over a vineyard, along with a smaller raptor which turned out to be a Levant Sparrowhawk – a new species for several of the party. A Black Stork was another excellent find in this area, allowing comparisons with several White Storks which were seen on the ground and in flight. Several more Woodchat and Red-backed Shrikes (adults and juveniles) rounded off a productive walk. Butterfly species in this area included Freyer's Grayling, Little Tiger Blue, Spotted Fritillary, Dingy Skipper and Mediterranean Skipper.

On returning to the coach, we drove a short distance and parked at a cafe, the owner of which kindly allowed us to use his outdoor tables for our picnic lunch, which was very welcome after a full morning in the field.

After a fairly leisurely lunch we found a beautiful White Admiral just outside the cafe, and two terrapins were resting on a log in a nearby stream. By this time the temperature was well into the 30's Celsius again, but we still decided to take a short walk to see what we could find. The hot springs near the cafe were interesting – a few Bee-eaters and Red-rumped Swallows were seen, along with two Ravens, a Kestrel, a Redstart and a Bullfinch.

After that we decided to try to find somewhere a little more shaded for the rest of the day so, after a quick drink back at the cafe, we drove the short distance to the outskirts of Melnik. We made two stops by a stream and in a small meadow where there were many butterflies to be seen, including Red Admiral, Freyer's Grayling, Silver-washed Fritillary, Clouded Yellow and Queen of Spain Fritillary.

After another pleasant dinner, Stoyan took a few of the party into town to look for Geckos on the buildings, and we saw a few.

Day 3

Monday 4th August

Weather: hot & sunny; up to 36°C

In the hope of getting out into the field before the hottest part of the day, breakfast today was arranged for 7am, and we were on the road just after 7.45am. The plan was to visit the Struma River Valley and Kresna Gorge in the morning, and make a decision after lunch about where to go next, taking into account the weather conditions.

Several good birds were seen from the coach on the way to Kresna, including Golden Oriole, Hoopoe and Common Buzzard, as well as Woodchat and Red-backed Shrikes. On arrival at our parking place, adjacent to a bridge over the Struma River, virtually the first bird seen was a Kingfisher, followed shortly by a Dipper and two Grey Wagtails. A Nuthatch was feeding in the riverside trees, along with a mixed flock of tits, including Blue, Great, Marsh and Long-tailed. A little further along the river bank we saw several Spotted Flycatchers, a Jay and a Turtle Dove.

The rest of the walk along the path towards Kresna Gorge was quiet as far as birds were concerned until we reached the bridge over the river, where things livened up. At least two Isabelline Wheatears were in the area, along with several Black-eared Wheatears, a Hawfinch, and a Woodpecker which we couldn't identify. Further on we had to resort to wading in the stream, which was actually very pleasant for hot, tired feet and we were able to add Blue Rock Thrush and Crag Martin to our growing list of bird species. Meanwhile, the butterfly team with Stoyan were having a very good morning, finding Southern Small White, Krueper's Small White and Eastern Bath White, as well as Adonis Blue and Oriental Marbled Skipper. Dragonflies included several Small Pincertails.

Eventually it was decided that we had to retrace our steps towards the coach, after which we drove a short distance up a winding mountain road to a cafe in Stara Kresna, where the owner kindly allowed us to set up his tables and chairs outside for our picnic lunch. In the derelict building immediately next door to the cafe, a Little Owl surprised us by looking out of a second floor window, just as the coach was coming to a halt. In an overgrown garden next to the cafe were at least four Golden Orioles and two Bullfinches.

After a lunch of cold meat, cheeses, tomatoes and fruit, followed by a rather unusual local jam-filled wafer for dessert, the mayor of the town invited us to look at an exhibition of rural life as it used to be in Bulgaria.

We spent an interesting 20 minutes or so viewing the exhibits, which were explained to us by Nikolay, before setting off for our next stop, which was only a short distance away.

By now it was becoming quite hot, but a short walk on a hillside produced two new bird species for us, namely Woodlark and Rose-coloured Starling. Although the latter does not breed in the area, it does regularly pass through on migration, and the small flock which we saw were resting on power lines and feeding in the long grass below.

We drove back almost to the hotel for our final stop of the day, at some marshy pools not far from the Rupite area which we visited yesterday. There was a lot of rubbish lying around, as the local population seem to use the area as an unofficial tip, but there were certainly plenty of birds and insects to interest us. The first species of note were two dragonflies: Southern Skimmer and Scarlet Darter. Soon after, the birders found a Honey Buzzard, following which Stuart noticed a bird climbing about in the reedbed, and a juvenile Night Heron then burst out of the reeds and took off. Soon afterwards it returned, hotly pursued by a Goshawk! Fortunately for the Night Heron it escaped by diving back into the reeds.

A little further on White and Grey Wagtails were found, as well as a drab-looking warbler which was found skulking in a waterside bush and which was eventually identified as an Eastern Olivaceous. Stoyan put on a real crowd-pleasing performance with his efforts to net an unusual butterfly, which he achieved by extending his net pole with a handy tree branch and leaping into the air to catch the insect in question. It was all worthwhile though, as it turned out to be a Freyer's Purple Emperor – a very sought-after species.

After dinner, some of the party tried to locate a Scops Owl in the village – it was heard calling but not seen.

Day 4

Tuesday 5th August

Weather: hot & sunny; up to 34°C

After breakfast this morning it was time to check out of our hotel in Melnik and begin our journey to Bansko for the second leg of the holiday. Although the distance by the most direct route is only about 80 kilometres, Nikolay had decided that it would be better to go by the road through the mountains, with several stops along the way to observe the wildlife.

The first stop, however, was completely unplanned. Those on the left side of the coach saw a large raptor land in a tree some distance away, and it was identified as a Short-toed Eagle. Everyone quickly left the coach and, as we watched through the telescopes, a Honey Buzzard swooped down and drove the eagle from its perch. A short aerial dispute followed before they eventually drifted apart and were lost to view. However, this stop had one more surprise in store – a woodpecker flew across the road as we were returning to the coach, which Nikolay was able to identify as a Syrian.

Our next stop was not far away and was intended to be for about an hour, although it was actually rather longer. Leaving the road, we walked through a partly wet meadow bordering a small river. We hoped to see more woodpeckers here and after a short wait we were not disappointed. Stuart was the first to see one on a dead tree, which turned out to be a Grey-headed and shortly afterwards a Middle-spotted landed on the same tree. We also saw a Great-spotted and heard Green Woodpecker.

The only other birds seen here were three Red-backed Shrikes, which had become almost commonplace and a couple of Hawfinches, which were seen very fleetingly by a few of the group. The first mammal of the trip was seen – a Red Squirrel of the very dark (almost black) local race. The butterfly/dragonfly team also had a successful time, recording Short-tailed Blue, Anomalous Blue, Banded Darter and Ruddy Darter.

After eventually getting everyone back onto the coach, we drove through spectacular mountain scenery to a roadside picnic area where lunch was set out and eagerly consumed. Nuthatch, Coal Tit and Red-rumped Swallow were in the area as we ate lunch.

Following lunch we set off for a walk in the countryside, the birders going down a track into the pine forest in search of Nutcracker, Firecrest and Crossbill, and the butterfly group spending more time in the open meadows. At the first clearing along the forest track we could hardly believe our luck when a family group of about five Nutcrackers were seen feeding on pine cones high in the tree tops. This was another new species for some of the group and after watching the birds until they moved on we also carried on along the track. We came across two nest mounds made by Red Wood Ants, which are a protected species in Bulgaria. However, no one had told the local Brown Bear that they are protected and we saw footprint evidence that one had been torn to pieces by a bear.

On the way back we had brief views of a Firecrest, which then left Crossbill as the only target species not yet seen. The birders did, however, manage to find several good butterflies including Adonis Blue, Great Banded Grayling and Nettle Tree. The insect specialists recorded a good variety of species, including Amanda's Blue, Idas Blue and many Queen of Spain Fritillaries, as well as the splendidly named Higgins's Anomalous Blue. We then drove through more superb scenery and our last stop of the day was only a short distance from Bansko. The only bird species seen here were a Honey Buzzard, a few Bee-eaters and about a dozen Jays. The butterfly team did quite well, with Tom netting a new species for our list – the sought-after Violet Fritillary.

On arriving in Bansko we checked into our modern hotel, which was of a totally different style to the family-run hotel in Melnik. After an excellent buffet-style dinner and a few drinks in the bar, we retired to bed anticipating a day in the high mountains tomorrow.

Day 5

Wednesday 6th August

Weather: warm & sunny with some cloud later; 20-25°C

We set off today at 8.15am for the journey of about 45 minutes to the Banderitsa Chalet, in the Pirin Mountains above Bansko. Almost immediately on leaving the coach some of the group heard and saw several Crossbills and by the end of the day we had seen a great many. Also close to the chalet were several Siskins, Coal Tits, Chaffinches and a single Willow Warbler.

The first part of the walk was along the road and, as usual, Stoyan led the butterfly team while the birders remained with Nikolay and Ian. As far as the birders were concerned, the highlights were a Short-toed Eagle (slightly unusual at this altitude) and a young Nutcracker being fed by its parent, but surprisingly (or perhaps not!) when the parent was away it was managing to deal with pine cones quite well for itself. A flock of well over 100 Alpine Choughs, which were flushed by two Common Buzzards, was also impressive.

The butterfly group had a very successful morning, adding many species to the week's list, including Turquoise Blue, Meleager's Blue, False Eros Blue, Large Grizzled Skipper and Balkan Copper.

Eventually, the whole party assembled at the Vihren Chalet for a lunch of cold meat, cheese and bread, followed by fruit and chocolate biscuits. After lunch, Stoyan led the group on a walk towards Okoto Lake, although some members of the party decided to turn back at about the halfway point and meandered back to the chalet, birding along the way. The remainder pressed on to the lake and Stoyan, Sally, Simon and Nick bravely decided to go in for a swim.

The afternoon was surprisingly quiet from both a birding and butterfly-watching point of view, although a Black Ringlet was seen, as were a number of Black Redstarts and a Sparrowhawk.

At about 5pm everyone met at the coach for the return journey to the hotel, arriving back in plenty of time for dinner. As usual we went through the daily log, but only after congratulating Nick and Chris, who were celebrating their 42nd wedding anniversary today.

Day 6

Thursday 7th August

Weather: sunny early on, clouding over later; up to 24°C

Like yesterday, today was spent at high altitude. Unlike yesterday we did not drive to the starting point of the walk, but travelled by chair-lift instead – a new experience for some of the group, and everyone arrived safely at the top of the Bezbog Mountain (lit. Godforsaken Mountain), which is 2,240 metres above sea level. The view over the lake from the top of the lift was stunning, but it was to be eclipsed later by the view from the hill at the far end of the lake. The scenery was tremendous and more than made up for the comparative shortage of birds and butterflies, although we were able to add a few new species of each to the week's lists.

Three Ring Ouzels were seen, although we had been beginning to despair of ever finding them, having scanned the hillsides in vain for most of the day. Also new were Stonechat and Pallid Swift; two Goshawks, a Dipper and many Black Redstarts were nice to see as well. New Butterflies included Common Brassy Ringlet and Nicholl's Ringlet, although a search at high altitude for Cynthia's Fritillary was in vain, even though Stoyan and Tom looked long and hard.

After a welcome drink at the top of the lift, we went back down to the car park where the coach was waiting for us. Several of the party enjoyed an ice-cream and there were good views of a Southern Hawker Dragonfly before we began the descent down the extremely rough road back to the village of Dobrenitse. There we joined the main road again for the journey back to Bansko. Before we reached Dobrenitse, however, we had a short stop to look at a meadow which is usually quite productive. Although the birds were restricted to two Red-backed Shrikes, we did see Weaver's Fritillary and Spotted Fritillary Butterflies.

Just before we went in for dinner, Stoyan very kindly presented Tom with a signed copy of his book on butterfly sites in Bulgaria, along with another book on dragonfly identification, which everyone thought was extremely thoughtful, and will hopefully encourage Tom to keep up his interest in entomology.

Day 7

Friday 8th August

Weather: warm & sunny, clouding over later; up to about 25°C

Today we left the coach behind and set out on foot for a walk of about two and a half kilometres to a hillside cafe, where we had lunch. It is quite amazing how long it can take to cover a relatively short distance such as this when there is so much to see along the way! Among the first birds seen were a small flock of Serins, shortly followed by a Collared Flycatcher, then a Pied Flycatcher. A Wood Warbler was in the same tree as the two flycatchers, but not many of the group were able to spot it. We hadn't walked much further when a Syrian Woodpecker flew across the road in front of us, then a Hawfinch flew by us while we were still waiting for a better view of the woodpecker. Only about 50 metres further on, Stuart noticed a bird in a small dead tree which was quickly identified as a Wryneck. We were still only about 300 metres from the hotel door, and already we had added four new species to the list for the week. It didn't stop there however, as we took a small detour from the track into a meadow, where Icterine Warbler and Blackcap were found, and at least four more Wood Warblers gave everyone an opportunity to see the finer identification points of this attractive species.

A Hoopoe and a Golden Oriole were also seen here, along with two Turtle Doves and a Mistle Thrush. The most amazing thing about today's walk was the incredible number of Red-backed Shrikes, which must have had an extremely successful breeding season, as there were juveniles everywhere we looked. Amazingly, apart from the swallows and martins overhead, Red-backed Shrikes were comfortably the most abundant species. Meanwhile, there were also many butterflies to be seen, including Provencal Short-tailed Blue, Large Grizzled Skipper, Silver-studded Blue and Large Copper. There was also a Great Banded Grayling actually in the cafe!

We eventually reached the cafe for lunch, which consisted of an enormous salad of tomato, cucumber, onion and cheese, followed by a freshly caught trout and followed by a vast plate of various grilled meats. Little wonder that there wasn't a great deal of enthusiasm for setting off on a further walk up the hill in the afternoon! Most of the group had decided to return to Bansko to spend the afternoon looking around the town, but a few opted to stay in the field. They were rewarded with various interesting butterflies, including literally hundreds of False Grayling, several Silver-washed Fritillary, and a Sooty Copper. Not many birds were seen other than Red-backed Shrikes of course, but there were about six Wheatears and a family of young Yellowhammers.

The last daily log of the tour took place after dinner, during which Nick very kindly thanked Nicolay, Stoyan and me for our efforts. It really was a pleasure to be part of such a friendly group and all agreed the week had passed very quickly. A few of us remained in the hotel bar for a few drinks after dinner talking through the events of the week, after which we retired reasonably early in view of the earlier breakfast tomorrow, the day of our departure.

Day 8

Saturday 9th August

Weather: fog/low cloud early, clearing to become warm & sunny; up to 28°C

Everyone was up bright and early in time for a 7.45am departure from the hotel. It was time to say our goodbyes to Gary, Jane and Simon who had arranged to spend a further week travelling independently in Bulgaria. The weather this morning had taken a decided turn for the worst, thick low cloud having descended over Bansko. The main reason for the early start today was to enable us to visit the Rila Monastery on the way to the airport, and there is no doubt at all that this diversion was very well worthwhile.

The monastery buildings are quite simply stunning, and anyone who has an opportunity to visit should not miss it. We spent about 40 minutes wandering round, and also watching the Pallid Swifts and Crag Martins which have made the monastery their home then it was time to get on the road again on the last leg of our journey. Along the way we saw several White Storks and Common Buzzards, and also a Lesser-spotted Eagle – probably the same one that we saw last Saturday as it was in roughly the same area.

After a short break at a cafe for sandwiches and a drink, we arrived at Sofia Airport in plenty of time for our 2.40pm flight. Just as we were pulling up outside the terminal building, Stuart spotted a few Mallard on a small pond – the only ducks of any kind that we had seen all week.

We arrived back only slightly late at a wet and windy Heathrow and after collecting our bags we went our separate ways.

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Species Lists

Birds H = heard only

	Common name	Scientific name	August								
			2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
1	Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>		1	4						
2	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	2		1					1	
3	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>		6	2						
4	Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>			1						
5	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	20	1	4	6		4	1	6	
6	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>		1							
7	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>								1	
8	Short-toed Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>				2	1				
9	Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>	1	1	2		2				
10	Levant Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter brevipes</i>		3							
11	Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>		1	1			2			
12	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	6	1	1	1	2		2	6	
13	Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>						1			
14	Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>		6	3				1		
15	Lesser Spotted Eagle	<i>Aquila pomarina</i>	1							1	
16	Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	2	2	2	1					
17	Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>						1(H)	1(H)		
18	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>			4						
19	Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	√		√			√	√	√	
20	Woodpigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	√	√	√	√			1	2	
21	Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	2	2	2	1	1	1		3	
22	Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>		3	6	4			2		
23	Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
24	Pallid Swift	<i>Apus pallidus</i>						12+		√	
25	Alpine Swift	<i>Apus melba</i>	4	2							
26	Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>			1						
27	Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>	1	2	2			1		1	
28	Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>		√	4	4			1	4	
29	Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>		1							
30	Grey-headed Woodpecker	<i>Picidus canus</i>				1					
31	Green Woodpecker	<i>Picidus viridis</i>				1(H)					
32	Syrian Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos syriacus</i>				1			2		
33	Great-spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>				1					
34	Middle-spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos medius</i>				1					
35	Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>			2						
36	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>		4	4+						
37	House Martin	<i>Delichon urbica</i>	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
38	Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
39	Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Hirundo daurica</i>	√	√	√	√		2	√	√	
40	Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>		2	6+		10+	5		5	
41	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>		1	1		1	3	5	1	
42	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>		1	4	1(H)		1	1		
43	Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>						2	1		
44	Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>		1							
45	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochrurus</i>					15+	20	4		
46	Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>							6+		
47	Black-eared Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe hispanica</i>			4						

	Common name	Scientific name	August								
			2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
48	Isabelline Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe isabellinus</i>			2						
49	Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>						2			
50	Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>			1						
51	Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>						2	2		
52	Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	√	√	√	√	√		√	√	
53	Ring Ouzel	<i>Turdus torquata</i>						3			
54	Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>			1				1		
55	Eastern Olivaceous Warbler	<i>Hippolais elaciea</i>			1						
56	Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>							1		
57	Garden Warbler	<i>Sylvia borin</i>			1				2		
58	Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>	2	6	2						
59	Wood Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>							4		
60	Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>					5				
61	Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>					1	6			
62	Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>					4+				
63	Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapillus</i>				1					
64	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>			4		3				
65	Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudata</i>		4	4+	10+					
66	Marsh Tit	<i>Parus palustris</i>			2		1				
67	Willow Tit	<i>Parus montanus</i>						1(H)			
68	Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>				5+	40+	40			
69	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>			4	1	√	1	3		
70	Blue Tit	<i>Parus caeruleus</i>			2			6	4		
71	Rock Nuthatch	<i>Sitta neumayer</i>			2(H)						
72	Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>			1	1	1				
73	Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>			1			1			
74	Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>		6+	6+	2					
75	Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>	1	15+	10+	10+	1	5	40+	√	
76	Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>		1	2	10+	1	1		√	
77	Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	6	2	6+	4	1		2		
78	Nutcracker	<i>Nucifraga caryocatactes</i>				4+	20+	10			
79	Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	4					1			
80	Alpine Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax graculus</i>					100+				
81	Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	2	2		1(H)		1	40+		
82	Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>		4	5	3			1		
83	Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
84	Rose-coloured Starling	<i>Sturnus roseus</i>				4+					
85	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
86	Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>	√	√	√	√	√	√	√		
87	Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	1	4	2	2	4+	4	20+		
88	Serín	<i>Serinus serinus</i>					3	2	10+		
89	Linnet	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>					10+	15			
90	Siskin	<i>Carduelis spinus</i>					10+				
91	Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	8	6+	10+		2		4		
92	Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>	2	2					1		
93	Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>		1	1	2	2(H)	2	1		
94	Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>			1	2			1		
95	Crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>					40+	100			
96	Corn Bunting	<i>Miliaria calandra</i>		√	√	√					
97	Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirius</i>		4	1						
98	Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>							6		

Butterflies

1	Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>	43	Small Tortoiseshell	<i>Aglais urticae</i>
2	Scarce Swallowtail	<i>Iphiclides podalirius</i>	44	Comma Butterfly	<i>Polygonia c-album</i>
3	Small White	<i>Artogeia rapae</i>	45	Southern Comma	<i>Polygonia egea</i>
4	Southern Small White	<i>Artogeia manii</i>	46	Map Butterfly	<i>Araschnia levana</i>
5	Mountain Small White	<i>Artogeia erganae</i>	47	Silver-washed Fritillary	<i>Argynis paphia</i>
6	Green-veined White	<i>Artogeia napi</i>	48	High Brown Fritillary	<i>Argynis adippe</i>
7	Krueper's Small White	<i>Artogeia krueperi</i>	49	Queen of Spain Fritillary	<i>Issoria lathonia</i>
8	Eastern Bath White	<i>Pontia daplidice</i>	50	Weaver's Fritillary	<i>Clossiana dia</i>
9	Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>	51	Knapweed Fritillary	<i>Melitaea phoebe</i>
10	Clouded Yellow	<i>Coleas crocea</i>	52	Spotted Fritillary	<i>Melitaea didyma</i>
11	Wood White	<i>Leptidea sinapis</i>	53	Marbled White	<i>Melanargea galathea</i>
12	Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>	54	Freyer's Grayling	<i>Neohipparchia fatua</i>
13	Scarce Copper	<i>Lycaena virgaureae</i>	55	Great Banded Grayling	<i>Kanetisa circe</i>
14	Large Copper	<i>Lycaena dispar</i>	56	False Grayling	<i>Arethusana arethusa</i>
15	Sooty Copper	<i>Lycaena tityrus</i>	57	Arran Brown	<i>Erebia ligea</i>
16	Balkan Copper	<i>Lycaena candens</i>	58	Large Ringlet	<i>Erebia euryale</i>
17	Lang's Short-tailed Blue	<i>Leptotes pirithus</i>	59	Nicholl's Ringlet	<i>Erebia rhodopensis</i>
18	Little Tiger Blue	<i>Tarucus balkanicus</i>	60	Common Brassy Ringlet	<i>Erebia cassioides</i>
19	Short-tailed Blue	<i>Everes argiades</i>	61	Ottoman Brassy Ringlet	<i>Erebia ottomana</i>
20	Provençal Short-tailed Blue	<i>Everes alcetas</i>	62	Water Ringlet	<i>Erebia pronon</i>
21	Little Blue	<i>Cupido minimus</i>	63	Black Ringlet	<i>Erebia melas</i>
22	Holly Blue	<i>Celastrina argeolus</i>	64	Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>
23	Eastern Baton Blue	<i>Pseudophilotes vicrama</i>	65	Ringlet	<i>Aphantopus hyperantus</i>
24	Silver-studded Blue	<i>Plebejus argus</i>	66	Gatekeeper	<i>Pyronia tithonus</i>
25	Idas Blue	<i>Plebejus idas</i>	67	Eastern Large Heath	<i>Coenonympha rhodopensis</i>
26	Brown Argus	<i>Aricia agestis</i>	68	Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>
27	Mountain Argus	<i>Aricia artaxerxes</i>	69	Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>
28	Mazarine Blue	<i>Cyaniris semiargus</i>	70	Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>
29	Anomalous Blue	<i>Agrodiaetus admetus</i>	71	Large Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata maera</i>
30	Turquoise Blue	<i>Plebicula dorylas</i>	72	Lattice Brown	<i>Kirinia roxelana</i>
31	Amanda's Blue	<i>Plebicula amanda</i>	73	Nettle Tree Butterfly	<i>Libythea celtis</i>
32	Higgin's Anomalous Blue	<i>Agrodiaetus nephohiptamenos</i>	74	Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus malve</i>
33	Meleager's Blue	<i>Meleageria daphnis</i>	75	Large Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus alveus</i>
34	Chalk Hill Blue	<i>Lysandra coridon</i>	76	Orbed Red-underwing Skipper	<i>Spialia orbifer</i>
35	Adonis Blue	<i>Lysandra bellargus</i>	77	Mallow Skipper	<i>Carcharodus alceae</i>
36	Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>	78	Oriental Marbled Skipper	<i>Carcharodus orientalis</i>
37	False Eros Blue	<i>Polyommatus eroides</i>	79	Dingy Skipper	<i>Erynnis tages</i>
38	Freyer's Purple Emperor	<i>Apatura metis</i>	80	Essex Skipper	<i>Thymelicus lineola</i>
39	Southern White Admiral	<i>Limenitis reducta</i>	81	Silver-spotted Skipper	<i>Hesperia comma</i>
40	Peacock	<i>Inachis io</i>	82	Large Skipper	<i>Ochlodes venatus</i>
41	Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>	83	Mediterranean Skipper	<i>Gegenes nostradamus</i>
42	Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>			

Dragonflies

1	Scarlet Darter	<i>Crocothemis erythraea</i>	8	White-tailed Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum albistylum</i>
2	Red-veined Darter	<i>Sympetrum fonscolombii</i>	9	Keeled Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum coerulescens</i>
3	Banded Darter	<i>Etheostoma zonale</i>	10	Small Pincertail	<i>Onychogomphus. forcipatus</i>
4	Ruddy Darter	<i>Sympetrum sanguineum</i>	11	White-legged Damselfly	<i>Platycnemis pennipes</i>
5	Southern Darter	<i>Sympetrum meridionalis</i>	12	Beautiful Demoiselle	<i>Calopteryx virgo</i>
6	Southern Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum brunneum</i>	13	Banded Demoiselle	<i>Calopteryx splendens</i>
7	Southern Hawker	<i>Aeshna cyanea</i>	14	Blue-tailed Damselfly	<i>Ischnura elegans</i>

Other Taxa

1	Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>	8	Sand Lizard	<i>Lacerta agilis</i>
2	Weasel	<i>Mustela nivalis</i>	9	Wall Lizard sp	<i>Lacerta sp.</i>
3	Naked-fingered Gecko	<i>Cyrtodactylus caspius</i>	10	Green Lizard	<i>Lacerta trilineata</i>
4	Greek Tortoise	<i>Testudo graeca</i>	11	Humming-bird Hawk Moth	<i>Macroglossum stellatarum</i>
5	Marsh Frog	<i>Rana ridibunda</i>	12	Wood Tiger Moth	<i>Parasemia plantaginis</i>
6	Fire-bellied Toad	<i>Bombina bombina</i>	13	Jersey Tiger Moth	<i>Euplagia quadripunctaria</i>
7	Caspian Terrapin	<i>Mauremys caspica</i>	14	Praying Mantis	<i>Mantis religiosa</i>