

# Islay & Jura

Naturetrek Tour Report

19 - 25 October 2018



Barnacle Geese by Melanie Jory



Red-billed Chough by Francis Welland



Hen Harrier by James Bray



Merlin by Melanie Jory

Report compiled by James Bray  
Images courtesy of Melanie Jory, Francis Welland and James Bray



Naturetrek

Mingledown Barn

Wolf's Lane

Chawton

Alton

Hampshire

GU34 3HJ

UK

T: +44 (0)1962 733051

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

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

Tour participants: Dave Pierce and James Bray (leaders) with 13 Naturetrek clients

## Summary

Islay hosts internationally important numbers of Barnacle Geese (60% of the world's population) as well as a quarter of the world's population of Greenland White-fronted Geese. The huge numbers of geese provide an incredible wildlife spectacle in beautiful scenery. A diverse range of raptor species find a safe haven on Islay and there are few better places in Britain to see Hen Harriers, Merlins, and our two largest birds of prey: Golden and White-tailed Eagles. The southernmost of the Inner Hebrides, Islay is a fantastic place to look for wildlife at any time of year, but with such large numbers of birds taking advantage of its comparatively mild climate, a winter visit to Islay is hard to beat.

## Day 1

## Friday 19th October

The group met up after lunch in the centre of Glasgow, and once James had finished exploring the delights of Glasgow's one-way system, we headed west and north out of the city towards the beautiful hills and lochs of the west coast of Scotland. We drove up Loch Lomond, then across to Loch Fyne. We stopped to stretch our legs at the picturesque town of Inveraray, where we found that the tide was quite high. This meant that there weren't many birds around on the loch, but we did see three Grey Herons and a couple of Oystercatchers.

We drove onwards to Kennacraig and arrived at the ferry terminal in good time, which allowed us to look for birds on the rocky foreshore and muddy bay next to the terminal. A decent-sized flock of Wigeon were feeding along the shoreline, with a few Teal mixed in, their beautiful fluty calls drifting across the bay to us. We found two Greenshank feeding amongst the Redshanks and Oystercatchers and enjoyed telescoped views of these species. Our first Hooded Crows of the trip were also feeding along the shoreline, and some rather hyperactive Rock Pipits eventually paused long enough to allow decent views. The weather was very calm which made scanning the loch for birds very easy, and we found two Black Guillemots in winter plumage, as well as a couple of Eiders, both species typical of the rocky shores of the west coast of Scotland. Four Goosanders were swimming next to a group of Red-breasted Mergansers which provided a good opportunity to compare the identification features, as well as to appreciate the beautiful plumages of both species.

Once on board the ferry, we took a few photos of the setting sun and then had dinner in the ferry's restaurant. The calm conditions continued which made the ferry crossing very pleasant, and it wasn't too long before we arrived at Port Askaig on the eastern shores of Islay. A short drive to our hotel at Bridgend followed where we were given a very warm welcome. Some of us chose to try our first Islay malt whisky of the holiday, whilst others had an early night. All of us were eagerly anticipating the next morning and our first full day on Islay.

## Day 2

## Saturday 20th October

Congregating outside the hotel after a nice breakfast, we were treated to small flocks of finches and thrushes flying over, as well as our first flocks of Barnacle Geese of the trip. A couple of Grey Wagtails bounded over and Goldcrests called from the hotel garden. After a short drive down the road towards Bowmore, we were alongside Loch Indaal, a large sea loch that almost splits the island in half. Thousands of Barnacle Geese were still standing on the mud at the top of the loch. We stopped in a layby to watch the geese as more and more lifted and headed

inland to feed. Careful scanning of the mudflats revealed a nice selection of waders, which included a single Grey Plover and four Bar-tailed Godwits amongst good numbers of Redshank and Curlew. We also found a party of 20 Pale-bellied Brent Geese.

Closer to Bowmore we found a lone female Scaup sleeping close to shore. Whilst she didn't raise her head the rounded head profile and pattern were very distinctive. We stopped in Bowmore itself to buy provisions for lunch, and a few of us were lucky enough to see a Merlin chasing Starlings through the main square. We set up our telescopes to look out over Loch Indaal from the harbour and were entertained by Rock Pipits and Chaffinches which were perched close to us on the walls of the harbour. Looking out over the loch, we soon found an exciting array of sea wildlife. Great Northern Divers were fairly common and were in an array of plumages, from their smart breeding plumage to their more sombre winter attire. Shags, Eiders, Red-breasted Mergansers and sleeping Harbour (Common) Seals also competed for our attention, until Dave found our first Otter of the trip. It was feeding off the harbour wall and whilst we all had good views, it soon ducked below the waves and didn't reappear for us.

We then retraced our steps northwards round Loch Indaal as we headed for the RSPB reserve at Loch Gruinart, stopping at the northern end of Loch Indaal to scan a sheltered bay. Shags and Cormorants were perched on a rocky headland drying their wings in the wind, a couple of Turnstone flew past, and a couple of rafts of duck provided fairly good views. The first, a flock of about 20 Common Scoter, were actively feeding and chasing each other about. The second, a flock of 30 Scaup, were fast asleep in the most sheltered part of the bay. They didn't lift their heads whilst we watched them, and each time we passed them over the next three days they were in identical poses. A Red-throated Diver in winter plumage showed quite well allowing us all to have decent views in our telescopes.

Turning away from Loch Indaal we soon arrived at the flats surrounding Loch Gruinart. The fields were covered in thousands of geese, most of which were Barnacle Geese, relatively fresh in from their Arctic breeding grounds. Careful scanning also revealed small groups of Greenland White-fronted and Greylag Geese. We found a large flock of Golden Plover on the short grassy fields, and whilst they flew around a few times, they didn't come that close to us.

As a band of persistent drizzle was moving through, we sheltered in the RSPB reserve building and had our lunch. Luckily the rain passed so we drove to the northern end of Loch Gruinart, parking by Loch Ardnave where we were hoping to find a special bird of Islay. Almost immediately we saw a Chough flying over the dunes near to us. We quickly disembarked and walked up the slope and were soon having really close views of a pair. They were feeding in depressions in the dunes so were in and out of sight, but we all had reasonable views, as well as hearing their delightful "cha cha" calls. The pair moved off to join another group, and whilst they were further away they fed out in the open allowing prolonged views in our telescopes. A couple of small groups of Whooper Swans also flew in from the north, maybe new arrivals from Iceland.

The views of Loch Gruinart are fabulous from this area, and looking north past the north end of Islay the island of Oronsay was just about visible over the waters of the Atlantic. A few very distant Gannets were fishing over the blue-grey sea, and we found three Red-breasted Mergansers on Gruinart. Loch Ardnave was fairly quiet, though we did find a single Goldeneye.

We drove back to the Loch Gruinart reserve and spent a pleasant couple of hours watching the hordes of geese and duck. We found quite a few Pintail amongst the Mallard and Wigeon, and a thorough search revealed a single Greenshank and a dozen Black-tailed Godwit, the latter wintering visitors from Iceland. A Peregrine that flew over caused mayhem, but it didn't strike lucky.

As dusk approached we headed south, stopping regularly to scan for Hen Harriers over a large area of very suitable-looking habitat, although all we found were a few distant Red Deer. About half the group stopped on the northern side of the Loch Indaal with the rest of the group returning to the hotel. It was overcast, so the light disappeared quite quickly, but those who stayed out were treated to thousands of Barnacle Geese on the mudflats, over a hundred Teal congregating together to roost in front of us, and a few common woodland birds calling behind us, including Treecreepers, Robins and Wrens.

With the light almost gone we returned to the hotel in Bridgend where we had time to relax a bit before enjoying a very nice dinner together.

## Day 3

## Sunday 21st October

With a few brief showers and a fairly blustery wind we didn't stop to look at Loch Indaal as we headed south this morning. However, as we turned inland the weather improved, which was good timing as we found a large flock of geese feeding in a stubble field near the road and were able to watch them from a relatively sheltered spot. There were around a thousand geese feeding there, mostly Barnacles, but with nearly 150 Greenland White-fronted Geese amongst them. Adding to the scene were a couple of Ravens flying past us, a pair of Rock Doves, and flocks of Linnet and Skylark.

A little bit further on we stopped at Loch Tallant which can be quite a good spot for raptors. Whilst we didn't see any on this visit, we did manage a nice selection of wetland birds around the reed and scrub-lined loch. A flock of nine Common Snipe flew around for a while, as did a few Teal, Tufted Duck and Reed Buntings.

Proceeding south on the old road we passed through large areas of open moorland and rough grazing scanning as we went for raptors and owls, without luck. Quite a few Ravens put appearances in though, and we spent some time watching a pair of Stonechats on the roadside fence, their orangey tones going some way to brighten up the rather dull morning. Arriving in Port Ellen on the south coast of the island we stopped for a comfort break and on scanning one of the small beaches found a group of 18 Ringed Plover roosting amongst the seaweed on the beach.

With more squalls passing through, we stopped at the distillery at Ardbeg, but unfortunately the café was closed. We were at least entertained by a group of tourists who were on a distillery tour of the island. With the sun emerging as promised we found a lovely sheltered spot on the south coast of the island to have lunch at. It felt very pleasant in the sunshine and out of the wind, and with a Great Northern Diver, a few Red-breasted Mergansers and the odd Hooded Crow to watch, it was a very enjoyable lunch. A couple of Common Seals porpoising together in play was very entertaining.

With a prolonged spell of sunny weather in store, we drove over to the RSPB reserve on the Oa peninsula. As we approached the Kinnabus farm buildings a Peregrine powered past us, scattering hundreds of Redwing as it

went. We parked the buses and what followed was a couple of hours of some of the best birding that we could imagine! Almost as soon as we had got out of the buses we picked up two adult Golden Eagles patrolling the hills behind the loch that we were standing by. They were then on show for most of the next two hours, and were soon joined by an immature bird. One of the adult eagles even did a bit of a roller coaster display flight.

As we watched the eagles we started seeing Hen Harriers, seeing at least three grey males at one time. One of these birds was hunting within a couple of hundred metres of us for a really prolonged period of time, giving us the most amazing views as it twisted and turned in the wind. At one point it was joined by a Merlin which even had the decency to perch on a rock for us to watch in our telescopes. It was one of those times where we didn't know where to look – displaying eagles, perched Merlin, or adult male Hen Harriers close by?

We could also see hundreds of Redwings feeding in the fields, some giving really close views, and then we saw a flock of finches in a wild flower meadow. We slowly approached them and were soon having brilliant views of Twite, a species that has declined dramatically in mainland Britain, but which is still doing well on the Scottish islands. They were fairly confiding so we were able to get close enough to easily compare their curry-coloured faces and yellowish beaks with the browns and greys of the accompanying Linnets. Dave also picked out a very bright orange male Brambling in amongst the other finches.

With the cold wind beginning to have an effect on us we headed north off the Oa, only to pull to a stop to watch the same pair of Golden Eagles soaring above a valley fairly close to us. A lovely end to what had been a spectacular couple of hours.

We took the old road north again through some lovely scenery which was looking even more spectacular in the late afternoon light. We found a group of Red Deer, with a couple of the males half-heartedly roaring to try to impress the females. A small group of Golden Plover that were very close to the road were the avian highlights. Swinging back westwards towards the hotel we stopped to watch a group of Brown Hares that were mainly just hunkered down low trying to keep out of the wind.

Luckily for us, the hotel was lovely and cosy, and we enjoyed another delicious meal after a superb day's wildlife watching on Islay.

## Day 4

## Monday 22nd October

It was another day of fairly brisk westerlies with a few sunny spells. We stopped again on the shores of Loch Indaal and found that the tide was quite far out. There were large numbers of Barnacle Geese as usual, with the pale-bellied Brent Geese still present feeding amongst the Wigeon and Mallard. A few groups of Whooper Swans were flying off inland, with many flying low over our heads, tinged pink by the rising sun, providing a truly beautiful sight. Waders feeding on the mudflats included the usual Bar-tailed Godwits, Redshank, Curlew and Oystercatcher. All of a sudden Dave spotted a juvenile White-tailed Eagle flying, or more like lumbering, over the loch causing chaos amongst the geese and duck. It was in sight for a decent amount of time, its massive size and shape making it very unmistakable.

After stocking up on lunch provisions in Bowmore, we headed up the east side of Loch Gruinart. A nice flock of Twite on a roadside fence showed really well in the soft sunshine, as did a dozen or more Redwing. The majority

of the Redwing on Islay are wintering visitors from Iceland, and are darker and more heavily marked than the Scandinavian birds that visit us in southern Britain. The very good views that we had allowed us to see the plumage characteristics really well.

Moving round to the reserve again a group of Greenland White-fronted Geese landed very close to us amongst the vast flocks of Barnies. Most of the recently arrived white-fronts had neck rings on, and having recorded their codes, we later found out that they had been fitted at the same time back in 2016. Ringing studies of Greenland White-fronted Geese have shown that family groups stick together for many years and are very site faithful, making sites like the reserve at Loch Gruinart very important for the species' survival.

We had lunch in the hides over-looking the fresh-water pools at the top of Loch Gruinart. We had a couple of very close views of ringtail Hen Harriers, followed by prolonged and close views of a female Hen Harrier flushing the large flocks of duck, unsuccessfully trying to find her own lunch. Driving away from Gruinart we passed through some stubble fields, and as we did Skylarks started rising from the ground, with ultimately over 60 in the air at one time; a sight that is now sadly increasingly unusual further south.

We then drove over to east side of island dodging a couple of showers and stopped briefly at the ferry terminal at Port Askaig to check the times for the next day's sailings. A White-tailed Eagle showed only very briefly so we would have to wait for another day for better views... Driving down the steep road towards the Bunnahabhain distillery Dave's bus came to a quick stop to watch a female Merlin that was perched on a roadside post. It stayed for a couple of minutes providing exceptional views, which isn't something that happens that often. James's bus did at least see her as she flew up the slope past the van, doing what Merlin's do very well – flying extremely fast!

Down by the distillery on the shores of the sound that separates Islay and Jura we enjoyed the beautiful views and a very nice selection of wildlife. The sea was relatively calm so we could set our telescopes up on a number of Great Northern Divers and enjoy prolonged views without them disappearing behind waves. The odd Shag and Eider flew past us, and then we picked up eagles on the other side of the sound. Whilst they were not close (they were over the next-door island!) the views were good enough for us to identify them as two adult and one immature Golden Eagles.

We then finally saw a head bobbing about in the water that was smaller than the Common Seals that we had been seeing plenty of: an otter! It swam slowly back and forth, diving regularly and bringing small items of food to the surface, where it would crunch on them for a short while before making its next dive. We watched the otter for a long time before it disappeared behind the distillery jetty.

With dusk approaching we headed back towards our hotel in Bridgend, making one detour down to Loch Finlaggan, which in the 14th and 15th centuries, was the administrative centre of the Lordship of the Isles. The wind was pretty brisk by the point that we arrived so we didn't explore on foot, however, we were at least treated to very close views of an adult male Hen Harrier hunting over the rough pastures.

And then it was back to the hotel to warm up by the open fire with single Islay malts, followed by a lovely freshly-cooked meal.

## Day 5

Tuesday 23rd October

Today was a fairly grey, windy and wet day but we managed to see some more amazing wildlife in the breaks in the weather. After having bought lunch provisions in Bowmore again, we drove round to the west side of Loch Indaal and stopped next to the distillery in Bruichladdich. The sea was mostly obscured, but we were quite sheltered when standing in the lee of the buses and were able to scan the foreshore to look for waders. We found a small group of Ringed Plovers on a small sandy section together with a couple of Curlew, and then three small waders were spotted flying in towards us. Two were Ringed Plovers, but the third was the bird we had come to find; a Purple Sandpiper. The three birds settled in front of us and we were soon enjoying telescope-filling views of the Purple Sandpiper (Purp to his friends).

With a ferry to catch we were on our way eastwards towards Port Askaig, briefly slowing to check that the Scaup were still sleeping (they were). The Sound of Islay that separates Islay and Jura only takes about five minutes to cross on the ferry, so we were onto the island of Jura very quickly.

The weather had begun to ease off so we drove very slowly along the single track road southwards stopping frequently to scan the weed-covered rocky foreshore and sheltered bays. Rock Pipits were pretty common, Shags were fishing out in the Sound, the odd Common Seal head bobbed about, and then we picked out an Otter. Initially about 30 metres out, it was actively fishing, much as the animal that we saw at Bunnahabhain had been doing. After a while, it, and we, struck lucky. As it resurfaced we could see that it was carrying a large item of food. Otters will eat small items whilst floating on their backs, but they have to bring larger items to shore, and this Otter had caught an octopus! It swam to shore virtually opposite us, where it proceeded to chew away on its wiggly meal, tentacles and all, for a prolonged period of time, which provided great viewing and photographic experiences.

Once the Otter had moved on, we carried on slowly round to our comfortable hotel at Craighouse on the southern shores of the island. The views of the sea and offshore islands here are usually stunning, but they were rather obscured by persistent drizzle and low cloud, so we decided to have a hot lunch in the hotel and reconvene later in the afternoon when the weather was likely to be a bit better.

The rain had eased by mid-afternoon, so we drive off towards the eastern side of the island, and before we had even left Craighouse, we saw a young male Hen Harrier hunting through the gardens on the outskirts of the village. We drove north along the island's only road, seeing the odd Eider, Red-breasted Merganser and Great Northern Diver out on the sea and also had brief views of another Otter. Common Seals were stretched out like bananas on offshore rocks.

With the odd shower passing through and the light fading we headed back to the hotel where we had another relaxing evening.

## Day 6

Wednesday 24th October

We spent the whole of today on Jura, in much more favourable weather conditions than the previous day. We had a more relaxed start to the day today, with the first hour spent scanning the sheltered bay and offshore skerries from outside the hotel. Five Great Northern Divers were counted on the sea, and we saw a couple of

Goosander fishing close to the shore. A Great Spotted Woodpecker perched at the top of a near-by tree was an unusual sighting for Jura.

With the weather brightening up, we drove westwards stopping not far out of Craighouse, and then we walked down a track towards the coast. We stopped on the brow of a hill which gave us a nice view of some coastal fields and beyond them the sea. A herd of over 30 Red Deer, after initial signs of nervousness, settled down and allowed us really good views. The sea was virtually flat so the dozen divers that were out on the water really stood out. Common Buzzards, Ravens and fly-over Reed Buntings and Meadow Pipits added to the scene.

Returning to the vehicles we drove onwards towards the ferry terminal, driving very slowly down the stretch of coast where we'd seen an Otter the previous day. The Otter was still there and gave us very good views again; whilst Otters have recolonised most of the rest of Britain after decades of persecution, there are few better places to see them than the islands off the west coast of Scotland. Competing with the Otter were a couple of Hen Harriers that were hunting the slopes above the road. Out on the Sound Shags and Great Northern Divers were fishing, small groups of Eider flew past, as did three Black Guillemots.

We arrived down at the jetty where the ferry lands and were beginning to tuck into our lunch when the shout of "eagle" went up. First one, then two, full adult White-tailed Eagles flew slowly and fairly low, right over our heads, followed a bit later by an all-dark juvenile. The adults crossed the Sound and perched in a large open tree, allowing us to train our telescopes on them. As the clouds parted every now and then the light on the adults was really nice, and the big yellow beaks and pale brown heads really stood out. The changing light also made for beautiful views of the woods and hills of Islay across the water. Yet another grey male Hen Harrier ghosted past, followed a bit later by a Merlin stooping past as we admired the views. It was a very good place to have lunch!

After lunch we headed slowly back towards Craighouse, with two ringtail Hen Harriers adding to our day's tally. We had a bit of a break in Craighouse where Redwings and tit flocks were encountered. A herd of feral goats on one of the offshore islands were added to our mammal list, and then we proceeded round towards the eastern side of the island, seeing a ringtail Hen Harrier on the outskirts of Craighouse again, our seventh of the day!

It was fairly quiet on the bird front, but we did have really close views of several different herds of Red Deer. The shaggy neck fur and large sizes of the stags were very impressive and added a truly wild feel to what is already an impressively wild island.

As the day drew to an end we returned to the hotel, rather sad that we had reached the end of our last full day of the trip. We had another nice meal in the hotel, and reminisced about the trip and the many highlights that we'd been lucky enough to see. Most of us had an early night as we needed to be up early the next day for our journey back to the mainland.

## Day 7

## Thursday 25th October

It was an early start, but we made good time and were soon on the ferry over to Islay, then following a smooth run were back in Port Ellen on the south coast of Islay in good time for the ferry. Despite worries about the number of vehicles being shown onto the ferry before us, we did find space on the ferry in the end. Following a

bit of negotiation with the ship's crew the forward deck was opened for us, and quite a few of us spent the trip back to the mainland outside looking for seabirds.

Whilst it was getting late in the year for most seabirds (we only saw two Gannets) we had a really productive journey back, definitely helped by the relatively calm conditions. We frequently passed small flocks of Guillemots and Razorbills, and we even managed to pick out a single Puffin amongst them. Kittiwakes were very numerous, with one flock containing over 200 birds, which were actively feeding. We had seen a Great Skua a few minutes before we arrived at this flock, and the sight of so many feeding birds was too hard for it to resist. It caused mayhem amongst the Kittiwakes as it charged into the flock and started to chase individual birds to try to get them to give up their hard-earned meals. Despite pangs of pity being felt for the Kittiwakes, it was a spectacular sight.

As we neared the mainland and West Loch Tarbert numbers of divers increased. We had been hoping to see Black-throated Diver there, but had to suffice with a total of around 35 Great Northern and a single Red-throated Diver. We also saw plenty of Eider and Black Guillemot, and in the loch, several groups of Red-breasted Mergansers.

Back on the mainland, our drive back to Glasgow was straightforward, and was enlivened by a Peregrine Falcon circling over the road whilst we were stopped at traffic lights, as well as by the spectacular scenery of western Scotland. Before parting ways, we bade fond farewells after a very enjoyable and laughter-filled trip. Whilst the weather wasn't ideal we still managed some brilliant views of the birds and animals that make Islay and Jura such excellent places to look for wildlife.

Some of the highlights included prolonged views of Otters; White-tailed Eagles over our heads; fields packed with Barnacle and White-fronted Geese; two hours watching Golden Eagles, Hen Harriers and Merlin; and we must not forget the beautiful scenery of both islands.

Thank you to the staff at the Bridgend hotel on Islay and the Jura hotel for their hospitality and delicious food, and of course to all the group for making this such an enjoyable holiday.

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## Species Lists

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

	I=Introduced		October						
	Common name	Scientific name	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
1	Pale bellied Brent Goose	<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>		20		12			
2	Barnacle Goose	<i>Branta leucopsis</i>	x	000s	1000	000s	x	5	
3	Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>	x	15	50	x	x	3	
4	Greater White-fronted Goose	<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>		c100	c120	x		2	
5	Pink-footed Goose	<i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>		6					
6	Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>	x	6	4	x	10	13	
7	Whooper Swan	<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>		c160	20	c	3	1	
8	Northern Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>		6		x			
9	Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Mareca penelope</i>	40	x		x		5	
10	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	x	x	x	x	x	x	
11	Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>		15		x			
12	Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>	6	x	30	x			
13	Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>			2				
14	Greater Scaup	<i>Aythya marila</i>		c30		31	c30		
15	Common Eider	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	2	x		x	x	15	
16	Common Scoter	<i>Melanitta nigra</i>		c20		1			
17	Common Goldeneye	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>	1	1					
18	Goosander (Common Merganser)	<i>Mergus merganser</i>	4				1	2	
19	Red-breasted Merganser	<i>Mergus serrator</i>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
20	Common Pheasant - I	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
21	Red-throated Diver	<i>Gavia stellata</i>		2		1			1
22	Great Northern Diver	<i>Gavia immer</i>		6	5	3	4	18	
23	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>		1					
24	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	x						
25	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
26	Northern Gannet	<i>Morus bassanus</i>		c15	2				
27	European Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis aristotelis</i>		x	x	x	x	x	x
28	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	x		x	x	x	x	x
29	Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>			3	2			
30	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>			1	1	1		
31	Hen Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>		1	3	3	2	7	
32	White-tailed Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>				1		5	
33	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
34	Eurasian Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
35	Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	x	x		x			
36	European Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>		c100	30	x			
37	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>		2					
38	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>			18		9		
39	Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
40	Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>	x	x		x			
41	Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>		12		4			
42	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>		6					
43	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>		15	1	x			
44	Purple Sandpiper	<i>Calidris maritima</i>					1		
45	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	x	2	9	2	1	1	
46	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	2	1					
47	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

	I=Introduced		October						
	Common name	Scientific name	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
48	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
49	Common Gull	<i>Larus canus</i>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
50	Great Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
51	European Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
52	Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>			1				
53	Common Guillemot	<i>Uria aalge</i>				2			x
54	Razorbill	<i>Alca torda</i>							x
55	Black Guillemot	<i>Cephus grylle</i>	2	1		1		3	x
56	Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>		c40	x	x	x	x	
57	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	x	x	x	x		x	x
58	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
59	Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>						1	
60	Tawny Owl	<i>Strix aluco</i>		2	x				
61	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	x	3	1	1	2	x	x
62	Merlin	<i>Falco columbarius</i>		1	2	2		1	
63	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>		1	1				1
64	Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>							x
65	Red-billed Chough	<i>Pyrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>		7					
66	Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>	x	x	x	x	x		x
67	Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>	x	x	x	x	x		x
68	Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>		1					x
69	Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
70	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
71	Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>		x	x	x	x	x	
72	Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		x	x	x		x	
73	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		x	x	x	x	x	
74	Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>		2	20	60		x	
75	Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>			6	x		x	
76	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>				1			
77	Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>		1		x	x	x	
78	Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	x	x	x	x	x	x	
79	Eurasian Treecreeper	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>		x		x			
80	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
81	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	x	x	x	x	x	x	
82	Fieldfare	<i>Turdus pilaris</i>		2	c50				
83	Redwing	<i>Turdus iliacus</i>	x	x	c300	x	x	x	
84	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>		x	x	x		x	
85	Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>		1	2	x	2		
86	European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	x	x	x	x	x	x	
87	European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>		7	x	x	2	x	
88	White-throated Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>				1			
89	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>		x	x	x	x	x	
90	Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>		x	x	x	x	x	
91	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>		3	x	x	x	x	
92	Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba yarrellii</i>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
93	Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>		x	x	x	x	x	
94	Eurasian Rock Pipit	<i>Anthus petrosus</i>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
95	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		x	x	x	x	25	
96	Brambling	<i>Fringilla montifringilla</i>			1				
97	European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>		x	x	x			
98	Twite	<i>Linaria flavirostris</i>			c40	c30			

	Common name	Scientific name	October						
			19	20	21	22	23	24	25
99	Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>		1	x	x			
100	Lesser Redpoll	<i>Acanthis cabaret</i>		1					x
101	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		x	x	x			x
102	Eurasian Siskin	<i>Spinus spinus</i>		x					
103	Common Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>		x	x	x			x

Mammals

	Common name	Scientific name	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
1	European (Brown) Hare - I	<i>Lepus europaeus</i>			10	1			
2	European Rabbit - I	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>			4				
3	Eurasian Otter	<i>Lutra lutra</i>		1		1	2	2	
4	Harbour (Common) Seal	<i>Phoca vitulina</i>		10	15	15	x	x	
5	European Roe Deer	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>		6	2	x			
6	Red Deer	<i>Cervus elaphus</i>	1	1	20	x	x	x	



White-tailed Eagle by James Bray



Red Deer by James Bray



The group by Francis Welland