

Autumn in the Cairngorms

Naturetrek Tour Report

27th September – 3rd October 2025



Pine Marten



Herring Gull and Sea Scorpion



Crested Tit



Wild Cat

Tour report by Mick Durham



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Day 1

Saturday 27th September

Arrival and Insh Marshes

The tour started in Inverness, where we picked up most of the group; we then drove south into the Cairngorms to meet with the rest of the group at Insh Marshes RSPB reserve. Once introductions had been made, we wandered along to the viewpoint overlooking the marsh. The unusually dry summer meant that there was little water around, and as a consequence, initially very little to see. However, as we spent time scanning, we spotted a Buzzard, a Grey Heron and a few corvids, as well as Blue, Great and Coal Tits on some feeders. A Robin, Chaffinch and a Blackbird were found in the bushes nearby.

Then Will, using his scope to scan the distant hills, picked up on a Golden Eagle, flying against the hillside and not easy to see. Fortunately, it eventually broke the skyline and (amazingly) was joined by three others; these were distant views, it's true, but made for a great start to the week.

Eventually, the promised rain started, and we made our way back to the minibuses and drove out to Ballintean, site of our accommodation deep in the heart of Glen Feshie. The group got settled into their rooms, and then we all met up for a chat about the week, before a very welcome evening meal.

Day 2

Sunday 28th September

Findhorn Valley

We drove out of Glen Feshie, made our way through Aviemore, and reached the A9. Heading north, we soon joined the minor road that leads down to Findhorn Bridge, where we got the first view of the river that we were to follow up into the hills of Strathdearn. A single-track road meanders up the valley (often called the Findhorn Valley or, even more colloquially, 'raptor alley') and our plan was to drive slowly, stopping at regular intervals to scan the valley and the hill tops.

Not far along the road, our progress was halted by a dozen or more Red-legged Partridges on the road. There were even more on the hillside to our right, so we stopped to get a good look at them. They were obviously being bred nearby, given the number of birds we saw. We also picked up on a Magpie, a lone House Martin, and some Song Thrushes.

A little further along the road there was a good pull-in, suitable for two minibuses, and we parked and began to scan the surrounding area. By now it was beginning to warm up, and the valley was bathed in sunlight; we soon saw a couple of Red Kites drifting over the trees. They moved on, but Will picked up on two more raptors across the valley, high up above the skyline. Though distant, they were obviously Golden Eagles, and we spent some time tracking their movement until they finally spiralled so high that we lost sight of them.

Our next stop was perhaps half way along the valley, where we were beginning to lose some of the trees and the 'softer' landscape. Four Mistle Thrushes perched on the electricity wires in front of us, and we tried to identify

some birds on the ground in a field, until we realised that they were actually giant puffballs! More Red Kites and some Buzzards were added to our list, as was a Meadow Pipit on a nearby bridge. Two of the group were particularly interested in plants, and they began to build what turned into a sizeable list, including Grass of Parnassus and Stag's Horn Clubmoss.

Eventually we reached the end of the public road and parked for our lunch and more scanning. Red Deer were spotted on the skyline, and then a Buzzard appeared with a Kestrel flying just below it. Two Ravens "cronked" their way across the valley, another Red Kite appeared, and then a slightly smaller raptor appeared on the skyline. It didn't stay visible for long, but we settled on it being a Goshawk from the shape of its wings and its size. There was a lull in activity, and most of the group got on with eating their lunch. The lull was broken when yet another raptor appeared, quite high up but not too far away. It was our third Golden Eagle, and to the delight of the group it flew right over our heads before disappearing over the other side of the valley. Then the Goshawk reappeared, giving better views and a positive identification. Thinking we had seen as much as we were going to, we were preparing for a walk along the estate track when Mick spotted three more raptors away in the distance. He lost sight of them, but Will picked them up and everybody managed to locate them: three more Golden Eagles. We watched them as they climbed higher and higher. Then one bird, possibly the male, began to display, folding its wings and dropping like a stone, before climbing back up in the sky, only to repeat the display. Finally, they drifted away and we lost sight of them.

The sun disappeared behind a large cloud and the autumn warmth rapidly disappeared. We began to get cold, so it was time to walk. We made our way along the estate track to Coignafearn Lodge, where we found a small group of Stonechats, as well as another Meadow Pipit. We ambled along, keeping an eye on the skyline, but no more raptors appeared. Eventually, we decided it was time to return to the minibuses and to start back down the valley. A couple of stops along the way gave us some more Red Deer, several Mistle Thrushes and a single Snipe.

Once back at Findhorn Bridge, we set off heading back towards Ballintean Lodge. On the way, we stopped at Kincaig to look at the River Spey. Here, there were two Mute Swans and some very active Rooks flying backwards and forwards across the river. Nearer to the Lodge, we spent a few minutes at Uath Lochan before heading home.

It had been a long day, but a very successful one. With beautiful sunny conditions to spend time alongside the River Findhorn, and with five different raptor species, including 8+ Red Kites and six Golden Eagles, what could have been better?

Day 3

Monday 29th September

The Black Isle

Chanonry Point, on the Black Isle, is one of Scotland's best-known locations for watching Bottlenose Dolphins. They follow the salmon in on a rising tide, coming close inshore in the narrows between Chanonry Point and Fort George. We set off slightly earlier than normal after breakfast, enjoying the early morning frost and low-lying mist shrouding the mountains and forests, and then drove north to Inverness, out across the Kessock Bridge, and north again on to the Black Isle.

We stopped briefly in Fortrose for a comfort break, and then took the single-track road out across the golf course to Chanonry Point. The car park was quite busy, but we managed to park both minibuses and then walked out across the pebble beach to join about thirty other dolphin watchers. Mick indicated to the group where we might first see the dolphins, and we all began to scan the water. Within five minutes, Mick had spotted a fin, and very soon everyone was watching as several Bottlenose Dolphins made their way, quite quickly, towards us. They were coming up quite regularly, giving the whole group good views. However, to Mick's surprise, they didn't stay around the Point, but carried on east towards Kessock. Normally, they hunt around the Point, and viewing can last for quite some time: not today. Within about ten minutes, they had all but disappeared from view.

We spent some time watching various birds from near the lighthouse (Gannets, Guillemots, a couple of Cormorants, some Swallows and a small flock of Stonechats) before we made our way back to the car park. Here, we discovered that it was still possible to see the dolphins, albeit a long way off. As they showed no real sign of coming back closer, we decided to move on to our next location: Udale Bay.

This involved a further seven miles of driving up to the RSPB hide, situated on the south side of Cromarty Firth: what a sight was waiting for us there. The mudflats were covered in Pink-footed Geese; there were thousands of birds calling, flying, and feeding. It was a magnificent spectacle. We watched from the layby and from the hide, and with scopes we also found a few waders and other birds that we hadn't seen so far on the trip. We finally ticked off Hooded Crow, as well as a number of gulls, Redshank, Teal and Golden Plover. The hide made a perfect place for lunch; then we moved a little further down the coast, where there were more waders and wildfowl to be seen. We added Bar-tailed Godwit, Curlew, Scaup, Slavonian Grebe, Wigeon, Goosander and Red-breasted Merganser to the list.

With time slipping away, we decided that we had probably seen all that we were going to, so we set off back to Inverness. Once over the Kessock bridge, we took the Aberdeen road towards the airport and turned off at Alturlie to spend a final hour at this well-known birding location on the south side of the Moray Firth. We got better views of Bar-tailed Godwit, a lot more Wigeon, a Lesser Black-backed Gull and a large flock of Ringed Plovers. Eventually, the promised rain started, so we packed up scopes and headed south, looking forward to our evening meal. We were all tired, but full of fresh air and wonderful memories.

Day 4

Tuesday 30th September

Loch an Eilein – Cairngorm massif – evening mammal watch

The lovely autumn sunshine continued, and we started the day with a visit to Loch an Eilein, a beauty spot owned by the Rothiemurchus Estate. We paid our entrance fee for the car park, made use of the toilets, and then Mick and Will suggested that people could choose to walk around the loch (about a three-mile walk) or spend time just birding near the car park. The leaders were delighted when everyone said they wanted to walk.

In the carpark there were some feeders and we spent some time watching, hoping to see a Crested Tit. We had no luck, but we did see a Siskin. The walk around Loch an Eilein was a leisurely affair, as we were constantly listening and looking for any small bird that might prove to be a Crestie. We saw lots of Coal Tits and Chaffinches, and then we found a couple of Goldcrests and Treecreepers. Eventually, Will found a Crested Tit, but it was hard to see in among the branches of a Scots Pine, and it soon disappeared.

By the time we returned to the mini buses it was lunch time; the car park was much fuller, but the picnic tables were free and we sat out in the sunshine enjoying prawn cocktail rolls! Moving on, we drove up the ski road to Loch Morlich where we paused for a few minutes with the intention of giving the group good views of the Cairngorm mountains; but the tops were shrouded in cloud. Hoping to find some of the Snow Buntings that can frequent the car park at the ski centre, we carried on up the road and parked up. At this altitude, at just over 600m, the wind was quite strong making scanning for wildlife difficult. Nevertheless, everyone was keen for another leg stretch, so we set off along the path leading to the Northern Corries. The views out across towards Aviemore were spectacular, but sadly the clouds over the Cairngorm massif refused to budge, so we didn't get to see the backdrop of steep dark cliffs of Coire Chais, Coire an t-Sneachda and Coire an Lochan which make up the Northern Corries.

After about half an hour, with the wind rising and the first signs of some rain, we turned around and made our way back to the car park. We needed to be back at Ballintean for an early evening meal, in readiness for our evening visit to the local mammal hide, so we decided to head for home and then just walk out to enjoy the views of the River Feshie.

After supper, we made the fifteen-minute drive to the old nursery at Inshriach, where we were to meet Harris, our guide for the evening in the mammal hide. A Common Pipistrelle bat flew overhead as we waited for Harris. He soon joined us and greeted us with some amazing news: not only were there Badgers and Pine Martens in the area, but also a Wildcat! What was more, he had just seen it as he had walked up to find us! He thought that it might still be around, and so we followed him in silence and amazingly there it was! To begin with it was partially hidden, but as we stood and watched, it moved into the open to mark its territory giving us wonderful views. Soon it moved off again and we, somewhat open-mouthed, made our way to the hide.

Here Harris briefed us as to what we might expect. He went outside and put out peanuts, sultanas and peanut butter in strategic places. We sat quietly and waited, and waited, and waited. It soon got dark, but the lighting outside the hide lit up the feeding area perfectly, and eventually a Badger wandered in. Harris pointed out that, given its broad head, this was a male. It stayed for a little while and then moved away.

And we sat and waited, and waited, and waited. By this time, some of the group were beginning to feel quite sleepy, and it didn't look as if we were going to see anything more. Then Mick caught sight of movement in the trees, and there was a lovely male Pine Marten. It quickly moved onto a feeding platform set at eye level, where it stayed for about twenty minutes, feeding on the sultanas. Everyone got amazing views, photos and videos of this very special creature. Finally, when all the sultanas were gone, it left as silently as it had arrived. During this time a second Badger had also visited, but it too had gone, and as it was just past 9.00pm, we decided to call it a night. Harris came with us to the minibuses, lighting the way with a powerful torch, and we set off for home, having had the most amazing evening experience with Wildcat, Badger and Pine Marten. What a way to finish the day!

Day 5

Wednesday 1st October

Loch Garten – Lochindorb

We started the day at the RSPB Loch Garten Reserve, arriving just as it was opening. We walked up towards the Visitor Centre, looking for bird feeders in the hope that a Crested Tit might be present. One feeder in particular

looked hopeful, with several Coal Tits visiting, and after about fifteen minutes a Crestie arrived. It was quite flighty, but came back a couple of times giving us all the opportunity for good views and some photography.

The Visitor Centre was extremely well laid out, with lots of information about the local woods, and several videos playing, showing what had been happening during the summer among the Ospreys, Capercaillie and other wildlife.

Once we had all spent time wandering around, we set off on the “Two Lochs Trail” which took us along Loch Garten and out to Loch Mallachie, before returning along a different route. Generally, it was quite quiet, but we did find another Crested Tit, this time in a more natural setting. The walk took us until lunch time to complete, and we sat in the sun in the car park to enjoy a mug of hot soup and a cheese scone.

After lunch, we went back to the feeders, but it was obviously a quiet time and there was little to see: it was time to move on. Our next stop was Grantown-on-Spey. Here, we parked near the new bridge and walked along the River Spey towards the old bridge. Our target was Dipper: this stretch of the river had lots of likely-looking rocks for a Dipper to perch on, and eventually Mick spotted one right on the far side of the river. It took some doing to get everybody locked on to it, but eventually everyone enjoyed good views.

We made our way back to the vans and then drove out across the moors to Lochindorb. Here we were going to look for Red Grouse and ducks, but also to see the devastation that the summer wildfires had caused. On reaching the loch, we pulled into a layby and Will immediately spotted an immature female Golden Eagle, which gave distant but good views for some time, before finally drifting off out of sight. Next up was a lone Red Kite, and then we moved on a little to just beyond Lochindorb Lodge. A scan of the loch with a scope produced Goldeneye and distant views of some other ducks and Whooper Swans. We decided to get a little closer, but just before we left, a Goshawk flew overhead. Once parked again, we checked out the ducks: Tufted, Goldeneye and a single Scaup, plus four Whooper Swans. From the same location we also spotted three Red Grouse feeding in among the heather: one male and two females.

The afternoon was rapidly slipping away, and we had a fair distance to drive back to Ballintean, so we set off back along the road towards Carrbridge. The hills and ridges either side of the road were heavily charred, and any trees were either dead or badly scorched. However, there were plenty of signs of rejuvenation, which was good to see. We pointed out where there had been a Black Grouse lek (that we had intended visiting), now blackened by the fire. We hoped that the birds had survived even if the lek site hadn't.

Day 6

Thursday 2nd October

Upper reaches of the Findhorn – Findhorn Bay – Culbin Forest

This was our second day of exploring the Moray Firth coastline. After breakfast, we drove north across moorland, past Lochindorb and following the line of the Findhorn River. Our destination was Findhorn Bay, to look for more ducks, geese and waders. We parked at the local nature reserve and walked out on to the saltmarsh. The tide had already turned, so scopes were needed to get the best viewing. We soon picked up a small group of Golden Plovers, lots of Bar-tailed Godwits, Oystercatchers, Pintail, Wigeon, Curlew, various gulls and, thanks to a local birder who knew where to look, a lone Whimbrel.

In the distance there was a huge group of Pink-footed Geese, and our local birder told us that a dawn goose count revealed that there were over 60,000 roosting: amazing. Suddenly, all the geese took off and we looked skywards for the White-tailed Eagle that had been visiting the bay. No joy: it turned out to be a man on a bike! By now the birds were a long way off, so we moved on to Findhorn village and walked out to scan the sea. There were several Grey Seals hauled out on a sandbar, a couple of immature Gannets flew by, but that was it.

Our next location was Culbin Forest to look for Crossbills and Crested Tits, specialities of this area. We arrived at lunch time and made use of the picnic tables, sitting in warm autumnal sunshine. We hardly had time to unwrap our sandwiches before a small flock of Crossbills flew over and landed high up in the pines. We managed to get some good views of both males and females before they flew off. However, as we ate our lunch, several birds came and went, giving us time to get a scope on them.

After lunch, we set off through the forest to visit Hill 99, a tree top viewing platform. En route, we found many more Crossbills, a Great Spotted Woodpecker, Treecreeper, Goldcrest and a number of Crested Tits. Once at the viewing platform, we spent some time scanning the tree tops for Crossbills, but we seemed to have left them behind. However, the views out across the Firth to Caithness and back towards the Cairngorms more than made up for the lack of Crossbills. What we also saw was a huge bank of dark, ominous looking clouds rolling in from the west, the harbinger of Storm Amy. So we decided it was time to head back to the carpark. We didn't quite make it in time!

With the rain now falling and time running out, we decided to head for home and chose to take the main A9 route back; the moorland road was quite narrow and given the weather conditions would perhaps not have been the best choice.

Back at Ballintean over the evening meal, we discovered that Storm Amy was already causing problems for guests travelling home by train and air. We spent some time making sure that people had alternative accommodation and travel plans before completing our last checklist of the tour. We had recorded 80 species of birds, a good number of mammals (including Wildcat, did we mention?) and our two botanists had notched up over 120 plant species. It was time to get some packing done in preparation for our departure the next day.

Day 7

Friday 3rd October

Storm Amy and departure

With the severe weather warning out for northern Scotland, four of the group with their own transport decided to head for home after breakfast, and the rest of the group agreed that a short stop somewhere en route to Inverness was a good plan. Mick and Will decided that Loch Ruthven RSPB Reserve (well known for its breeding Slavonian Grebes) would be a good location, so after saying farewell to the staff at Ballintean and the members of the group heading off in their cars, we set off north once more along the A9.

Eventually, we turned off onto a minor road heading west, and were soon pulling into the reserve carpark. The hide was situated on the loch side along a narrow footpath leading through some beautiful silver birch woodland. Wrens and Robins sang to us, and we also saw Blackbird before reaching the hide.

Once inside, we all began to scan the loch and surrounding hills. We very quickly picked up on three Slavonian Grebes, already in their winter garb, and Will found a couple of Little Grebes and a Moorhen to add to the list. Mallards were also present on the loch, and over on the skyline above some hills a number of raptors came and went. During the time we were there we counted at least four Red Kites, three Buzzards and a Raven. Having probably exhausted everything we were going to see, we wandered back to the carpark for lunch.

While we were eating, we discovered that the overnight sleeper trains that many of the group were going to catch had been cancelled because of the weather warning, but that there was an earlier train that, traffic willing, we could make. Lunch was continued in the minibuses as Will and Mick drove to Inverness railway station. Much to the delight of those travelling by train, we made it with a few minutes to spare. After quick farewells, the final two members of the group were taken to the airport hotel, and then Mick and Will returned the minibuses and began their respective journeys north and south, a little earlier than planned, but ahead of the full force of Storm Amy.

It had been a somewhat hurried end to the week, but everyone agreed that it had been a wonderful experience, with good weather every day...until Amy arrived! Autumn in the Cairngorms had delivered.

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Species lists

Birds

E=Endemic, I=Introduced		September-October 2025						
Common name	Scientific name	27	28	29	30	1	2	3
Canada Goose - I	<i>Branta canadensis</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>	✓		✓				✓
Pink-footed Goose	<i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>			✓			✓	✓
Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>		✓	✓				
Whooper Swan	<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>					✓		
Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Mareca penelope</i>			✓			✓	
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>						✓	
Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>			✓				
Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>					✓		
Greater Scaup	<i>Aythya marila</i>			✓		✓		
Common Eider	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>			✓				
Common Goldeneye	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>					✓		
Goosander	<i>Mergus merganser</i>			✓				
Red-breasted Merganser	<i>Mergus serrator</i>			✓				
Red Grouse - E	<i>Lagopus scotica</i>					✓		
Common Pheasant - I	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
Red-legged Partridge - I	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>		✓				✓	✓
Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>			✓		✓		
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>							✓
Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>							✓
Slavonian Grebe	<i>Podiceps auritus</i>			✓				✓
Eurasian Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>			✓			✓	
European Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>			✓			✓	
Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>			✓			✓	
Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	✓		✓				
Eurasian Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>						✓	
Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>			✓			✓	
Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>			✓			✓	
Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>		✓					
Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>			✓				
Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>			✓			✓	
Common Gull	<i>Larus canus</i>			✓			✓	
European Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>			✓			✓	
Great Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>			✓			✓	
Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>			✓				
Common Guillemot	<i>Uria aalge</i>			✓				
Northern Gannet	<i>Morus bassanus</i>			✓			✓	
Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>			✓		✓	✓	
European Shag	<i>Gulosus aristotelis</i>			✓				
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	4	6			1		
Eurasian Goshawk	<i>Astur gentilis</i>		1			1		
Red Kite	<i>Milvus milvus</i>		8+			✓		✓

E=Endemic, I=Introduced		September-October 2025						
Common name	Scientific name	27	28	29	30	1	2	3
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	
Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>		✓	✓			✓	
Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>				✓			
Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>		✓	✓			✓	
Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>		✓	✓			✓	
Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>			✓			✓	
Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>		✓		✓			✓
Coal Tit	<i>Periparus ater</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓	
Crested Tit	<i>Lophophanes cristatus</i>				✓	✓	✓	
Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓	
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓	
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>			✓	✓			
Western House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>		✓					
Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>					✓	✓	
Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>				✓	✓	✓	
Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Treecreeper	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>				✓		✓	
Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>			✓		✓		
Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>		✓					
Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>		✓			✓		
Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>		✓	✓		✓		
White-throated Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>					✓		
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>			✓		✓		
Duncock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>	✓	✓			✓		
Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba yarrellii</i>			✓	✓		✓	
Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>			✓	✓	✓		
Red Crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>						✓	
European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		✓	✓				
Eurasian Siskin	<i>Spinus spinus</i>				✓			
Common Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>							

Mammals

		September-October 2025						
Common name	Scientific name	27	28	29	30	1	2	3
European Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	✓		✓				✓
European Hare	<i>Lepus europaeus</i>	✓		✓				✓
Common Pipistrelle	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	✓				✓		
Common Bottlenose Dolphin	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	✓			✓			
Red Deer	<i>Cervus elaphus</i>	✓		✓				
Western Roe Deer	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>	✓	✓					
European Wildcat	<i>Felis silvestris</i>	✓				✓		

Common name	Scientific name	September-October 2025						
		27	28	29	30	1	2	3
Grey Seal	<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>	✓			✓			✓
European Badger	<i>Meles meles</i>	✓				✓		
European Pine Marten	<i>Martes martes</i>	✓				✓		



Cairngorm view