

# Wildlife of North and South Uist - The Outer Hebrides

Naturetrek Tour Report

17 - 24 May 2014



Harbour Seal by Dave Pierce



Eriskay to Barra ferry at the Eriskay terminal by John Church



Eriskay bay "Coilleag a' Phrionnsa" by Dave Pierce



Otter sign by John Church

Report compiled by Dave Pierce

Images by John Church & Dave Pierce



Naturetrek Cheriton Mill Cheriton Alresford Hampshire SO24 0NG England

T: +44 (0)1962 733051

F: +44 (0)1962 736426

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

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

Tour Leader: Dave Pierce

Participants: Jean Sutton  
Jean Smith  
Ken Hanks  
Carol Hanks  
Elizabeth Spender  
Frances Taylor  
Sheila March  
John Church  
Brian McGhie  
Adam Padel  
Claire Padel

## Day 1

**Saturday 17th May**

The group assembled at Oban's Cal-Mac ferry terminal in the early morning in preparation for our sail of over 5 hours to South Uist. Before boarding we had already seen two Black Guillemots just off the quay and we had further views of the wonderful auks as the ferry negotiated its way out of Oban Bay.

We sailed past the southern tip of the island of Lismore and then headed northwards up the Sound of Mull, with the island on our left and the mainland's Morven Peninsula on the right. Wildlife observations comprised of various gulls including Kittiwakes, Arctic Terns, Shags and a few Porpoise. Carol and Ken spotted a raptor soaring near Tobermory which proved to be a female Hen Harrier as it crossed over the Sound ahead of us. Guillemots and Razorbills in small numbers appeared more frequently as we rounded the north of Mull and approached Ardnamurchan Point on the opposite side. Here we encountered good numbers of Manx Shearwaters both flying and forming rafts on the sea, plus our first Gannets of the voyage. Further seabird sightings continued as we sailed steadily NW with the mist shrouded Small Isles off to starboard. We saw our first Fulmars and a delightful pod of Common Dolphins, many of them breaching completely out of the sea. A second, apparently smaller pod of Dolphins appeared before we finally arrived at Lochboisdale in the early afternoon.

During the drive from South Uist's port amongst others we saw Rock Doves, Common Sandpipers and a Short-eared Owl. After checking in to the Dark Isle Hotel on Benbecula, our base for the next week, we took an excursion down the Peter's Port road on the south west side of the island. Common Seals were on the rocks and swimming in the sea inlets, where we also saw Red-breasted Mergansers, Eiders and Shelduck, including a brood of 7 ducklings. At the road end Great Northern Divers were off shore together with Cormorants and Shags. Passerines on our route included Wheatears and Stonechats with a fledged brood of young.

## Day 2

**Sunday 18th May**

Before breakfast some of the group visited the top NW corner of South Uist. Here we observed both Lapwings and Redshanks with chicks and three passage Whimbrels feeding in a field.

A Brown Hare was a new species for the tour and an immature Iceland Gull perched on rocks by the shore made the effort of an early rise all the more rewarding. Meanwhile Brian back at the hotel had found a couple of Twite.

-After a hearty breakfast the whole group set off for North Uist and pretty soon a Short-eared Owl was spotted flying with prey, no doubt to its nest site. Not long after crossing via the causeway onto North Uist 4 Red Deer were close to the road. Arriving at the Balranald visitor centre a Corncrake was briefly heard whilst we used the facilities. We then continued further out to the point in the vehicle and after debussing our attention was drawn to a dead Minke Whale on the beach below us and the two Glaucous Gulls waiting to scavenge it. Also from here, a fellow passenger on yesterdays ferry crossing kindly pointed out a Basking Shark that was patrolling back and forth between the headland and an off shore island. Eventually we wandered closer to the point where we continued scanning out to sea.

A particularly exciting moment occurred when two Arctic Skuas put in an appearance, both a dark and a pale phase bird, dashing and twisting after a gull in order to rob it. Onshore a variety of waders were frantically feeding up in the general area, including Ringed Plovers, Dunlin, Sanderling, and Turnstones in their wonderful ruddy plumage. Good team work between Sheila and Brian found a couple of Purple Sandpipers which everyone was able to observe. Nearby the harassing nature of breeding Arctic Terns ensured nobody strolled too far off the track. Passerines included a Corn Bunting singing from a fence post and Twite near the ruined church by the Visitor Centre, where a Corncrake called intermittently.

Our next stop was by Loch Sanndaraigh. En-route Dave pointed out our first Cuckoo of the trip as it flew by being mobbed by three small passerines. At the loch itself two Whooper Swans and a single Whimbrel were by the shore and a male Scaup was amongst the diving ducks. Most folk opted to return to the hotel by 1730 whilst Brian, John and Dave decided to spend a little longer in the field. Within minutes of departing from the hotel they heard a Corncrake and not too long after, it was observed well by the trio.

## Day 3

Monday 19th May

Yesterday afternoons Corncrake sighting location was the obvious pre-breakfast destination. The bird showed again for us has it crept about in the field's vegetation and all bar one of the early risers saw the Corncrake well. Amongst other species seen was a Snipe which perched obligingly on a fence post allowing great views of these normally secretive waders.

Driving northwards after breakfast through Benbecula we soon encountered our first Short-eared Owl of the day and this was quickly followed by a second. We continued onto North Uist when we turned east and followed the minor road along the south side of Loch Euphort. We had hoped to find otter on the sea loch but none had been sighted by the time we reached the end of the road. Here we went for a stroll to view a fresh water loch where we observed three Red-throated Divers. It was wonderful to watch the behaviour of these splendid birds on their potential breeding site and hear their evocative wails. We then resumed our quest to locate an otter from the minibus on the sea loch. We were soon distracted from this when John (despite his soggy feet!), spotted two large distant raptors. Driving closer, though still at a distance, we were able to identify them as an adult pair of Golden Eagles. We watched them at length, flying and landing around the top of a low hill and frequently visiting a likely nest site.

We took our lunch at the nearby Chambered Cairn on the lower slope of Beinn Langais, which allowed time for everyone to explore this archaeological site. Next, whilst detouring to Lochmaddy for a comfort stop at the ferry terminal, Dave spotted a flying White-tailed Eagle. It landed on a headland and though distant and tricky to see, with the aid of the scopes we could assert it was an adult. We then followed the road to Loch Portain where a scan from a car park produced several Buzzards, one showing particularly well, though no eagles were seen, but a Cuckoo was amongst other sightings.

With the road ahead blocked by a lorry being loaded with kelp, we retraced our route and headed for the "Committee Road". This is a class "C" lane cutting through rolling moorland from the north coast of North Uist to its southern shore. Just before we turned onto the road a Short-eared Owl was seen hunting to the left of the vehicle and a moment later another was quartering the ground to our right as we drove on to it. Then a male Hen Harrier was picked up flying by a forestry plantation. Near the summit of the road we stopped at a car park where we enjoyed wonderful views of another, though closer, superb male Hen Harrier in its splendid adult grey plumage. Equally stunning was yet another Short-eared Owl hunting and perching on posts close by and observed taking prey into the heather where there was evidently a hidden nest.

## Day 4

Tuesday 20th May

It was a drier Hebridean morning for those on the early morning outing. We took the Peter's Port road to the end where a Rock Pipit perched obligingly for us and allowed dry viewing from inside the minibus. Along the route to and from there we saw many of the usual species including Shelduck with at least two broods come creches of ducklings. We arrived back at the hotel to a calling Corncrake.

The weather had improved as we departed after breakfast, calling first at Loch Mor, a likely phalarope location. With none of these waders seen we carried on to South Uist and soon spotted the almost inevitable Short-eared Owl. Turning west to Loch Druidibeag and weaving between ponies we stopped overlooking a bay on the fresh water loch. Scanning around Dave spotted a Black-throated Diver sitting on a nearby island and with the scopes we were able to see this incubating bird, a very rare breeding species indeed.

Later 6 miles to the south, we took a parallel road to the above route and visited Loch Eynort (Aineort), a sea loch on this occasion. We stopped to observe numerous Common Seals both in the water and hauled out on rocks. Some of the former entertained us with their porpoising behaviour, thrusting themselves completely out of the water. We parked near the end of the road and took a short walk to a vantage point overlooking a large swathe of sea loch and mountainside. With the fair weather and a convenient picnic bench with seating it was a perfect spot to take lunch. A couple of pairs of Red-throated Divers occasionally called from the water below adding to a magical ambiance. Sharing the seal loch amongst others were also Cormorants, Shags and Black Guillemots.

However after lengthy time observing from this panoramic position, an otter sighting still eluded us despite one being seen from the same spot just before our arrival and the keen set of watchers. No amount of new passerine sightings and the antics at the nearby heronry could satisfy us. Eventually the sharp eyes of Brian spotted one. A remarkably difficult one to see, being in a rim of kelp that coated the stony shore and the immediate strip of sea, acting as perfect camouflage for this aquatic carnivore.

Once we all managed to locate it we enjoyed wonderful views for around 30 minutes. Our patience was rewarded with a great Otter sighting for all and Claire got her Notter! A little later Dave picked up three distant eagles. Two White-tails which didn't come close enough for anyone else to identify, with an adult Golden Eagle which came closer and gave good views flying against a mountainside.

Making our way back to the hotel we detoured through the MOD range where three Whimbrels gave good views and on emerging at the other end by the shore, the presumed same Iceland Gull seen by the early risers on a previous morning excursion was now showing well for the entire group. Nearby various waders were on the shore including Sanderlings in different stages of plumage.

## Day 5

## Wednesday 21st May

We first visited the nearby Loch Mor where Dave had seen a Red-necked Phalarope before breakfast. However there was no sign of one now so we carried on to a nearby coast bay where we had better fortune. A juvenile Glaucous Gull was probably the star bird though we also watched on the sea Great Northern Divers and Eiders, with waders on the shore including Turnstone, Sanderling, and Dunlin.

Afterwards we headed for Balranald passing a hunting Short-eared Owl en-route. On arrival at the wetland, three White-winged Black Terns, which should normally be in their breeding grounds in Eastern Europe, had turned up the previous day and were now hawking over the loch. A much more normal migrant on the loch was a Whooper Swan, yet to depart for Iceland.

With the rain having set in we decided to take our lunch in the shelter and relative comfort of the Lochmaddy ferry waiting room. Around the terminal we had good views of Black Guillemots, Common Sandpipers, Rock Pipit, Common Tern and two splendid Red-throated Divers. Then not long after setting off for Berneray, Dave spotted a Short-eared Owl on a road side fence post, which allowed detailed observation of its plumage from its tarsus to the colour of its eyes. From the causeway between the islands Gannets, Great Northern Divers and 2 Common Seals were seen. We returned along North Uist's Committee road where another Short-eared Owl was seen plus a quartering male Hen Harrier.

After dinner, Brian and John went a stroll across the road from the hotel and guided by a calling Corncrake their patience was rewarded with a good view of the bird in a neighbouring garden.

## Day 6

## Thursday 22nd May

An early drive to Loch Mor produced amongst others Shoveler and both Redshank and Lapwing each with chicks. Moving on to the nearby coastal bay we observed Red-throated and Great Northern Divers, Gannets, Eiders and various waders. We rechecked Loch Mor immediately after breakfast intent on finding a Phalarope but to no avail, though Carol quickly spotted a male Garganey which gave everyone good views. Wigeon and Shoveler showed well too as did a Short-eared Owl hunting the marsh.

A little later on South Uist we took an invigorating walk with a stiff northerly wind on our backs. We set off from a historical chapel at Tobha Mor where a Buzzard was being mobbed by Oystercatchers and Common Gulls.

After a few hundred metres we crossed the old stone bridge over the “Howmore” river and then continued southwards for around 3 miles to the farm and ruins at Caisteal Ormacleit. As we moved through the machair we passed 100’s of waders, particularly Dunlin and Ringed Plover, whilst near the end of the walk Dave tried to alert us to a flying Golden Plover. The promontory of Rubha Aird a’ Mhuile was close by so we chose it for our lunch spot. Despite the blustery conditions it was dry and bright. Dave alerted us to a Peregrine that flew low on the seaward side giving good views and we had equally good views of several Arctic Skuas going past. Amongst others a single Whimbrel was feeding on the shore with a number of Grey Seals in the choppy sea. Whilst scanning, Dave picked up a foraging Otter off shore. It was tricky to find in rough water but soon everyone managed to have good scope views of the successfully foraging mammal. It eventually caught a large prey item and as expected swam to shore to devour its prize. Once emerged from the sea onto the rocks we could see it was a large dog Otter. He had landed quite close to us and was obviously aware of our presence but he fed and behaved quite naturally, allowing fascinating and entertaining observations.

After the excitement we took a break at a local tea room before the short drive to Loch Eynort. This time we took the road on the south side of the sea loch, the opposite from our previous visit. Here we spent nearly an hour scanning the impressive terrain. Buzzard, Kestrel and Raven were seen and then two Golden Eagles were spotted in flight including some display diving and a male Hen Harrier was quartering the slopes. Before returning to the hotel we tried Loch Mor again for a certain elusive wader. We timed it right. Initially we had only glimpses of the bird in the emergent vegetation, but then it swam in to full view to reveal a stunning female Red-necked Phalarope. We had wonderful close views of it feeding on the water and then on the shore preening.

Later after dinner several of the group went to look for Corncrake across the road from the hotel. Although we didn’t see one, Carol found a Gadwall for us on a small loch nearby and amongst the other waterfowl was a Whooper Swan.

## Day 7

Friday 23rd May

John, Frances and Dave were the only souls on the early excursion this morning. We drove to near the road end at Loch Skiport where off shore several Gannets were passing by and then returned down the road to stop above Loch Druidibeag. With the pockets of woodland there was more activity here; including a Whitethroat singing from prominent perches and a Cuckoo was being mobbed by Meadow Pipits. The Cuckoo landed obligingly nearby in clear view and allowed good scope views. Good views were also had of a female Hen Harrier which was hunting close by.

With the whole group we headed to North Uist where at a quarry an informal eagle watch point had been set up. Several high quality telescopes were trained on a Golden Eagle nest with the female of the pair in attendance. The male Golden Eagle appeared over the skyline, soaring around before going into a dive and landing on the hillside off to the right of the eyrie. With careful watching some of the group managed to see the young, downy chick in the nest. Nearby a Golden Plover was calling and spotted in flight before we eventually had good views of it perched on a small eminence in boggy moorland in front of the observation point.

Next we visited the RSPB’s Balranald Reserve where we parked on the road verge and used the vehicle as a hide. With patience between us the group saw at least 3 Corncrakes from the minibus enabling those who had previously failed to see one to finally cast their eyes on these rare and elusive crakes.

Two of the White-winged Black Terns were still at the around for us to see and a walk around the graveyard gave views of another section of wetland where we had two Ruffs in all their finery, one with a white collar contrasting with the others dark one. Back at the visitor centre Jean was in the right place at the right time when yet another Corncrake ran across the road.

Later we went to Berneray, the furthest north island of all those linked together by causeways. From the ferry terminal area there were numerous Gannets diving, plus Black Guillemot and Arctic Tern. A couple of distant Great Skuas were on an island though followed a little later by one flying close by as we had just returned to North Uist. Soon after we had two Arctic Skuas flying over the land and a Whooper Swan was still on Loch an Sticir where we had seen one previously. Continuing across the north of the island a Greenshank, together with a Redshank was feeding in a small roadside creek. Taking the "Committee" road southwards a Short-eared Owl was hunting near the junction, whilst a second one quartering the area by the summit of the road. Here a Sparrowhawk carrying prey disappeared in to the conifer plantation.

## Day 8

Saturday 24th May

Before breakfast, Brian, John and Dave spent some time either side of the causeway between Benbecula and South Uist following a report of a Snowy Owl flying there yesterday, though I've learned since there is some of doubt about the record. Whatever, we didn't see one, though a Corncrake ran across the road in front of the vehicle and when we pulled up at the spot we had good views of it stalking through the vegetation and then out into the open. Moments later a second one took off and we watched it until it flew out of sight. Nearby a Sparrowhawk on a fence post was the second one in successive days.

After checking out from the hotel we crossed the causeway on to South Uist and drove to Loch Druidibeag. Presumably the same Whitethroat as the previous morning was still singing there and gave all of the group the chance to see it. Here, we also saw a Woodpigeon, surprisingly the first of the trip. We next stopped at the extreme south of the island near Cille Bhrighdhe, where we scanned seawards. Gannets were evident, Shags and several Red-breasted Mergansers were seen, and whilst on the shore we enjoyed good views of Rock Pipit. From there we carried on to Eriskay the most southerly of the connected islands, spotting a Short-eared Owl en-route. The scenery here was stunning, with wonderful light on the seascapes, topped off by plunging Gannets.

Finally it was time to embark on the ferry. It was splendid weather for the voyage and although we didn't have large numbers, we saw a steady stream of auks including Guillemots, Razorbills and at least five Puffins, with Black Guillemots at the starting port of Lochboisdale and the finishing port at Oban. Other species included Fulmars, quite a few Manx Shearwaters and 2 Arctic Skuas. Carol spotted some unidentifiable cetaceans as we crossed the Minch and Dave pointed out several Harbour Porpoise as we proceeded down the Sound of Mull. It was a lovely day for the conclusion of the tour, which over the week had produced some wonderful wildlife observations, amongst some superb scenery, and in good company.

PS, just going to have a wee dram of Glenlivet - Slangevar everyone.

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## Species List

Birds (✓ = recorded but not counted; h = heard only; m = male; f = female)

	Common name	Scientific name	May							
			17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
1	Common Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>			2					
2	Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
3	Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>	50+	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
4	Whooper Swan	<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>		2			4	1	1	
5	Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>	10+	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
6	Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Anas penelope</i>		1m		1m	2	1	2	
7	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
8	Northern Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>		4	2	6	2	3	6	2
9	Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>			1m					
10	Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>	2	10	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
11	Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>						2		
12	Garganey	<i>Anas querquedula</i>						1m		
13	Scaup	<i>Aythya marila</i>		1m						
14	Common Eider	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	10+	30	20	30	20	20+	10	20+
15	Red-breasted Merganser	<i>Mergus serrator</i>	10	10	20+	20	10	10+	10	15
16	Red-throated Diver	<i>Gavia stellata</i>			4	4	4	2		3
17	Black-throated Diver	<i>Gavia arctica</i>				1				
18	Great Northern Diver	<i>Gavia immer</i>	3	3	4	4	3	2		4
19	Northern Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>	20					6		12
20	Manx Shearwater	<i>Puffinus puffinus</i>	100s							100+
21	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	2	1	2		1			2
22	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	5	✓	✓	12+	✓	✓	✓	6
23	Northern Gannet	<i>Morus bassanus</i>	50+	10			6	12	20	50+
24	European Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
25	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	4	2	8	6	3	12		1
26	White-tailed Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>			1					
27	Northern Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	1f		2m		1m	1m	1f	
28	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>							1	1
29	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	2	6	6	2	3	5	6	3
30	Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>			2	1		2	2	
31	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>			1			2		
32	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>			1	1		1		
33	Corncrake	<i>Crex crex</i>		1	1	h	h	h	5	2
34	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>							1	
35	Eurasian Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

	Common name	Scientific name	May							
			17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
36	Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
37	European Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>					2	2	2	
38	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	100s	✓	✓
39	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>		h	3	1	1	2	1	
40	Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>		1						
41	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>		5		3		2		3
42	Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>	3	2	2	4	3	2	2	2
43	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>	2	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
44	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>							1	
45	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	3		1	1	1			1
46	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>		50		20+	✓	30	✓	✓
47	Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>							2	
48	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>		20+		✓	✓	✓	✓	1
49	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>								
50	Purple Sandpiper	<i>Calidris maritima</i>		2						
51	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>		50+		✓	✓	50+	✓	✓
52	Red-necked Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>						1f		
53	Black-legged Kittiwake	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	100+							100+
54	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
55	Common Gull	<i>Larus canus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
56	Great Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
57	European Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
58	Iceland Gull	<i>Larus glaucoides</i>		1		1				
59	Glaucous Gull	<i>Larus hyberboreus</i>		2			1			
60	Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>		1		1	3	1	2	
61	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
62	Arctic Tern	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
63	White-winged Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>					3		2	
64	Great Skua	<i>Stercorarius skua</i>	1						3	5
65	Arctic Skua	<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>		2				5	2	2
66	Common Guillemot	<i>Uria aalge</i>	50+							20
67	Razorbill	<i>Alca torda</i>	15+							20
68	Black Guillemot	<i>Cephus grylle</i>	6		2	1	2		1	5
69	Common Pigeon (Rock Dove)	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
70	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>								1
71	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>			1	2	2	1	1	
72	Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>		1	1	1		1	1	1
73	Short-eared Owl	<i>Asio flammeus</i>	1	2	5	1	3	1	2	1

	Common name	Scientific name	May							
			17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
74	Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
75	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	2	40	2	6	2	4	3	2
76	Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
77	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>						1		1
78	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	10	✓	✓
79	Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>				1			h	
80	Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>		1			h	h	h	h
81	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>				1m				
82	Common Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>							1m	1m
83	Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>			1	✓	✓			✓
84	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
85	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
86	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
87	Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>								
88	European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>				2	1		h	h
89	Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>								
90	Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>								
91	European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
92	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
93	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>								
94	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
95	Duncock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>				1				
96	Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba yarrellii</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba alba</i>			1			1		
97	Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
98	Eurasian Rock Pipit	<i>Anthus petrosus</i>				3	1			2
99	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>				2				
100	European Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
101	Eurasian Siskin	<i>Carduelis spinus</i>								
102	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>			1	2				
103	Common Redpoll	<i>Carduelis flammea</i>								
104	Twite	<i>Carduelis flavirostris</i>		3	4	3	1	2	4	4
105	Common Linnet	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>		1	2	6	2	1	1	
106	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>		1						

## Mammals

1	Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
2	Red Deer	<i>Cervus elaphus</i>	4m	4	12	20+	10		8	2

	Common name	Scientific name	May							
			17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
3	Common Seal	<i>Phoca vitulina</i>	2			1	2	1		2
4	Grey Seal	<i>Halicaeetus grypus</i>		1	1			3		4
5	Common Dolphin	<i>Delphinus delphis</i>	60							
6	European Otter	<i>Lutra lutra</i>				1		1m		
7	Porpoise	<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>	4							3+
8	Minke Whale	<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i>		1 dead						

### Miscellaneous

1	Basking Shark	<i>Cetorhinus maximus</i>		1						
2	Green-veined White	<i>Pieris napi</i>		✓		✓				
3	Peacock	<i>Inachis io</i>				✓				
4	Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>				✓				
5	Common Frog	<i>Rana temporaria</i>		✓						
6	Garden Snail	<i>Helix aspersa</i>		✓						

### Naturetrek Facebook

We are delighted to launch the Naturetrek Facebook page so that participants of Naturetrek tours can remain in touch after the holiday and share photos, comments and future travel plans.

Setting up a personal profile at [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) is quick, free and easy. The [Naturetrek Facebook page](#) is now live; do please pay us a visit!



Loch by John Church