# Go Slow in Speyside

# Naturetrek Tour Report

14th - 20th June 2025



Gannets from boat trip to Troup Head



Bottlenose Dolphins from boat trip to Troup head



Redshank at Lochindorb



Ring Ouzel at Cairngorm

UK

Tour report and photos by Glyn Evans



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Speyside is the essence of what people expect in the Scottish Highlands: Mountains, ancient forests, lochs galore; bogs, heaths, marshes. To nature lovers, a mouthwatering prospect of specialist habitats where the hope – if not the expectation – is to connect with some of the iconic specialist species that live there. This year, we were in good company; staying at the Grant Arms hotel – the focal point of all Speyside nature tours, where we could expect to compare notes with other nature-loving tourists and perhaps, one or two celebrity guides from its hall of fame...

#### Day 1

## Saturday 14th June

Travel day.

With good communications, we managed to get three out of the four clients in the hotel for a cuppa at 2pm and after a short wait for check-in, we got out after a rain shower to see if we could enjoy Loch Insh and the marshes in the dry...

It was lovely to see so many waders on the verdant fields either side of the road as we cruised down the A95. We arrived and parked at the outdoor centre, taking the steps down to a short jetty, where a quick scan of the water where, either side of some pump-up-the-volume human frivolity, we managed to find a pair of Mute Swans, some Canada Geese, a family of Goldeneye learning to fish. A second scan found a distant Red-throated Diver on its own and eventually, posing obligingly to show its key features.

We then moved on to Insh Marshes RSPB reserve to overlook the impressive wet meadows between us and the main road. From the hide (ergo platform on its roof), we managed to find Curlew, Redshank and Lapwings with Oystercatchers flying by. A snipe issued its "blunt hacksaw" song from an unseen perch. Greenfinches, Chaffinches and Siskins betrayed their presence, but a female Marsh Harrier was trickier; initially flying low at some distance but then pitching down in some long vegetation, allowing scoped views of the top of its head!

As the conditions became colder and more blustery, we came off the roof and into the comfort of the newly reglazed hide. Watching Great Spotted Woodpeckers disperse the gangs of finches at the feeders, where Coal and Great Tits were also observed. Willow Warblers and Blackcaps were heard from hidden positions.

Observing the time, we quickly got to 5pm (quite a late hour for Go-slow trips, but this was a bonus session on the travelling day), so we rang the 10-minute bell and our superstition was rewarded when a male Hen Harrier coursed across the marsh and then disappeared behind the large mound in front of it. A real nice bonus to finish with, albeit acknowledged as the UK's most persecuted bird.

Joan's long drive from Oban after an island-hopping trip ended just in time to join us for pre-dinner drinks and a fine meal was enjoyed by all.

### Day 2

## Sunday 15th June

This day was scheduled to be a walk around the Abernethy Forest area.

Straight after breakfast I suggested an area of the wood just beyond the golf club, where I knew the community put feeders out for the birds. When we arrived the place was empty, so after we looked at the Siskins and the tits on the feeders, we took the narrower track into the wood and almost immediately heard Crested Tits ahead of us, eventually watching them just above our heads, silhouetted somewhat but nevertheless unmistakeable. As we moved on, we could hear Willow Warblers and the vaguely similar call of a distant Common Redstart. Going deeper into the wood, we heard a Tree Pipit which sang loudly in an unseen position over our heads, which then retreated to a more distant perch without being detected. A Treecreeper briefly showed before flying back past us with food in its bill.

Then, a Redstart started calling quite close by. It was a female; quite animated, giving us the typical "sweet tick tick" call as though either scolding us for being so close, or summoning her male (or both). The male duly arrived and taunted David by changing its perch just as he found it in the cross hairs – several times! We enjoyed the birds for five minutes or so and then turned around to return to the car park. A Spotted Flycatcher flew past us and up into a dead tree where it posed only for long enough for David to take a shot from medium distance.

The Treecreeper performed a couple more flypasts to almost betray the position of its nest and when we got back to the car park, there were at least three Red Squirrels vying with a family of Great Spotted Woodpeckers for the spoils, with Goldfinch and Greenfinch getting in on the act with Blue and Great Tits.

#### A good start.

After this, we intended to start at Tulloch Moor and work our way back through Loch Garten, but instead the SatNav (or rather, the idiot that set it) led us north toward Dava Moor, so we peeled off left to visit Lochindorb to then loop back through Carrbridge and back on track. The lovely Common Gull colony on the way to Lochindorb was healthy. We briefly held up another tourist by stopping for photos. Lochindorb itself was quiet, with Oystercatchers and a delightful Lapwing mother and chick showing above the road and Common Sandpiper piping below. We stayed and scanned both ends of the loch but couldn't find any divers.

A fuel stop required us to visit Aviemore, as the Carrbridge station closed on Sundays, but soon we arrived at Tulloch Moor and got out for a walk before lunch. In the end, lunch got delayed as we walked far enough to see a large puddle in a dip in the old track, which looked like a decent watering hole...

And so it proved when a couple of family parties of Red Crossbills flew in, with male, female and streaky juveniles all on show atop a small pine, filling the scoped view nicely for all to see. A pair of Bullfinches were also seen, but almost forgotten in the excitement of this intimate encounter with the Crossbills.

Lunch was enjoyed overlooking the heath and was fairly quiet until an Osprey loomed into view and then spiralled away toward Loch Garten. A fantastic haul for the first half day.

By now it was mid-afternoon, so we had stops at Loch Garten, where a scan of the loch revealed nothing, but the benches provided a nice rest for weary legs. One more stop at a lovely little bog, where we found Four-spotted Chaser Dragonfly and Northern, Common and Large Red Damselflies.

An excellent first day, but now the clients were ready to put their feet up.

Dinner again was excellent, with desserts indulging all.

#### Day 3

## Monday 16th June

Our first visit was to Cairngorm. We went via Loch Morlich, which featured a couple of Goldeneye, but not the hoped for Osprey. A quick check of the burn on the way up drew a blank on Dipper. We got to the lower car park, intending to walk all the way around it to see what we could see and hear. Despite a thorough combing of the car park and the considerable views around it, we could only add Siskin and Redpoll to the bird list; Red Grouse was heard distantly but not seen and the Three Grouse car park was left in ignominy!

We drove up to the top car park intending to take the funicular up to the top in the hope of finding some of the mountain specialists. David & Sue went for a coffee while the rest of us had a look around from the car park. A male Ring Ouzel appeared on the steps below where I was standing so I ushered the other clients over to see it, whereupon it obligingly hopped up onto the ski lift stanchion for a tremendous view, albeit in slight drizzle. A Raven rode the ridge before David and Sue re-emerged. By this time, the male and female Ring Ouzels were feeding together a little way up the mountain on the disturbed ground underneath the ski lift.

We headed up on the funicular in clear weather, but on the viewing balcony it was blowing quite hard, making it difficult to hear much, although a Dotterel was heard from upwind; its whereabouts unknown but probably out of sight.

The hoped for Ptarmigans were in all probability at higher elevations. Diligent searching was fruitless, but we had the bonus sighting of a juvenile Snow Bunting as it landed a few feet away from us to pick at a few discarded titbits.

Not an easy day, but we retired and dined early, as we were to attend the night hide this evening.

We arrived early and had the exclusive use of the hide from 8.30pm, until, well, late. How late, we weren't sure, but it was going to be a couple of hours before it got dark...

Harris from Speyside Wildlife greeted us at the gate and gave us a quick briefing. During the wait, we had a single Woodpigeon visiting and filling her crop with peanuts and there was momentary excitement when a male Sparrowhawk shot through in front of the hide with prey in its talons. A Roe Deer seen in the field beyond the hide as the darkness started to descend.

First, we had a Wood Mouse make a brief appearance. Then the light started to drop, as did a couple of heads... It was getting quite late.

By 11pm, out of nowhere, a male Pine Marten suddenly appeared. He ate all the nuts and raisins laid out on the little platform and then exited fairly promptly. David happily packed up his camera and asked where he could use a facility before leaving, During this temporary but necessary leave of absence, a Badger then turned up and bashfully nibbled with his back turned to the group, then vanishing stage left as the sound of the returning David and Harris's footsteps spooked him.

We left just before midnight and got back to the hotel shortly after half past, agreeing a later breakfast time!

#### Day 4

## **Tuesday 17th June**

After a hearty but slightly later breakfast, we had a look at a reasonable catch of moths from the back yard and then set the co-ordinates for Lochindorb – again – as I had heard that another party had in fact seen Black-throated Diver there the previous day. There are occasions when Lochindorb delivers some nice returns, so no-one minded trying again for this most iconic of water birds.

Once again we were impressed with the nesting colony of Common Gulls as we approached the loch and after a quick scan from the north end, we crawled slowly along the eastern shore, noting Oystercatcher, Redshank and a very smart Lapwing as we went, with Common Sandpiper peeping from behind a clump of lochside bushes unseen until it flickered away from its hiding place.

The plantation yielded a Red Squirrel which briefly ran alongside the van, requiring me to keep moving to give everyone a view.

We settled at a lay-by at the southern half of the loch and stopped for a proper scan. Eventually, I located the female diver with her head raised from the nest, as though anxiously waiting for a feed... Everyone took turns to see her through the scope, after which the male obliged us by flying majestically into view. He loafed offshore preening for several minutes, allowing great views.

Google maps has a particular feature which asks you, when you reach your first destination in a multi-stop itinerary, if you then want to go to the next stop. The problem with it is, well, it isn't idiot-proof. I set off, intending to reach Tomatin and Strathdearn for the Findhorn Valley. The SatNav took us north along the B9007, which felt ok for a slightly more picturesque way of getting there. But then I lost my bearings and to everyone's mild amusement, we ended up heading back to Lochindorb! A Red Kite greeted us as we coasted in. At the north end (again), a small group of people were looking up over a distant ridge. We asked what they had been looking at. "Golden Eagle" came the reply. We got out.

The same guy said he had been to Strathdearn and seen up to SEVEN Golden Eagles! As we waited for the eagle, the Red Kite drifted up and over the ridge, briefly joined by a Common Buzzard. The gentleman then confessed that perhaps, the eagle he had claimed might actually have been a Buzzard...

Never mind. "Tourist Eagles" have excited many a novice birder and probably always will. We graciously directed him to where the divers were – unsurprisingly a "lifer" for him – and reset the co-ordinates for Strathdearn, where we stopped at the Community Centre where we visited the washroom and where at least one of the clients bought a morning newspaper. I hoped that there would be no time for that...

We cracked open our lunches once we got to the car park without being able to find Dipper or Grey Wagtail on the way down. I wondered if the prolonged dry spring weather had affected the usual sites...

During lunch, a female Peregrine went on a sortie, and Red Kite drifted high over the ridge behind us where earlier, another birder had claimed a Golden Eagle before we arrived. After lunch, we decided to chase the game and go for a walk. David stayed behind, camera at the ready, should something present itself instead.

In truth, the walk had more benefit in the exercise than in exciting sightings. The Chimney Sweeper moth was a new species for the trip. We saw another Peregrine perched up on the ridge and a family of three Ravens on an aerobatics tutorial. A Tree Pipit sang from the treetops and a Ring Ouzel sang distantly, but no eagles. However, we find some Northern Marsh Orchids at the side of the track.

As we got back to the vans, having pirouetted several times on the way back for a quick scan down the valley, we conceded that it was not going to be our day for Golden Eagles. With some diligence, a scan of the scree slopes opposite yielded a single feral goat; part of a naturalised population that have been here for some decades. Later, after a distant view of a small herd of Red Deer in procession along the top of a ridge, we saw another, larger mixed herd taking a drink from the river.

So then we went out on a limb somewhat, to look for Slavonian Grebes at Loch Ruthven. Loch Ruthven is a lovely environment if the weather is good, which was now becoming the case. The drive up the Farr Road would in past years have yielded family parties of Red Grouse, but despite taking our time to traverse, there were none seen. We decided not to stop at Loch Farr, which has yielded Slavonian Grebes in the past, but a selfish driver had parked such that it wasn't easy to pull off the road safely.

We arrived at Loch Ruthven in bright sunshine, intending to walk the half mile to the hide. We stopped briefly at the small beach and I immediately located a Slavonian Grebe some way out, which I scoped. The breeze was creating a bit of choppiness in the water and the bird was diving busily on the move, so it took a little while for everyone to have a view. No matter, we would surely see more from the hide.

A passer-by reported seeing "the" pair at the hide, showing well.

"The" pair? Really...?

Yep. The pair. The RSPB volunteer warden was in the hide monitoring the every move of the two birds, which he declared to be the only ones present!

Luckily, the pair were well bonded and emerged several times from the lochside vegetation where, it seemed, they must be building.

We enjoyed watching the birds with the hide mainly to ourselves, but in the absence of other more distinguished visitors to the loch, we made our way back to the van in order to arrive back at Grantown at least an hour before dinner.

### Day 5

## Wednesday 18th June

Today was to be the boat trip to Noup Head. Our rendezvous was 13.45 in Macduff, so we had time for two or three stops on the way.

We had a quick look at the catches from the moth trap before hitting the road shortly after 9am. We stopped first at Lossiemouth, to look at the riverhead there, finding Great and Lesser Black-backed Gulls with the Herring and Common Gulls, a Common Tern, several Ringed Plovers and a single juvenile Dunlin. Linnets landed briefly in front of us. We took a quick loo break before making for Spey Bay, where the facilities at the WDC Dolphin centre were closed.

A look out to see revealed more terns and Gannets, with a single female Goosander and immature Eider close inshore. At the riverhead with a host of gulls were a small flock of female-type Goosanders.

We decided to take a look at the delta of the river, finding Common Sandpiper close to the bench, where two clients settled in for a leisurely vigil here. It was fairly quiet, so I suggested a ten-minute wait in case, perhaps, an Osprey showed up...

Two minutes later, it did. Gulls exploded from their resting place on the delta, and we looked around for what might have upset them. Overhead, an Osprey loomed into view. It flew around for a couple of minutes and then, to our delight, it went into a stoop and caught a small fish only 50 metres away from us. As it flew away with its prize, it was diverted out to sea by mobbing cohorts, when we noticed another Osprey hovering some way off over the seashore! A lovely male Linnet posed on the way back to the van.

We reached Banff, just a mile away from Macduff harbour, with 70 minutes to spare. We bought lunch in the Coop and settled by the sea wall for a watch before moving on to our rendezvous. Another mixed flock of gulls warranted some scrutiny, but no rarities were found. Kittiwakes flew along the beach and Guillemots, Razorbills, a Fulmar, Cormorants and Shags few offshore. As we finished lunch, a pair of Ospreys appeared from over Macduff and hovered nearby for a few minutes before one flew upriver and the other retreated back to Macduff.

It had gone by the time we reached the harbour, where Harold met us a few minutes later. We shared the boat with one other lady and were soon headed for Noup head, with some fascinating commentary on the pa system about the wildlife and history of the area.

The seabirds that followed were amazing. We had breathtaking views of the nesting colonies on the cliffs and rocks, with Gannet, Black Guillemot, Common Guillemot, Puffin, Fulmar and Kittiwake all represented in numbers. A pair of Arctic Skuas mounted a short-lived attack on some auks but aborted within a minute and disappeared.

Later, on the return journey, with numbers of Gannets and other seabirds following the boat building steadily, a trio of Arctic Skuas attacked an unsuspecting Kittiwake; an assault that continued for long enough for all to see.

Then, it was feeding time for the Gannets, as Harold threw several fishy treats into the water for squabbling Gannets to dive in and fight for.

An amazing trip was then capped when the first of more than half a dozen Bottlenose Dolphins appeared, with Harold allowing extra time to enjoy these animals as they approached the boat, occasionally piloting the boat and then breaching as we pulled away. Such was the bonus time allowed that we only got back to the hotel with 15 minutes before dinner!

## Day 6

## **Thursday 19th June**

Mop-up day. The discussion the previous evening came up with two clear misses: Golden Eagle and Dipper. Also, we hadn't had great views of Crested Tits, so the itinerary was set to go once again to Strathdearn and the Findhorn Valley – this time for longer than just a lunch break, to claw back the first two – and then the afternoon in the Loch Garten area for Cresties. Jackie had the great idea of stopping at Carrbridge to create another chance at Dipper. Water levels this spring have been affected by prolonged dry spells, such that reports of Dipper have been less than usual, perhaps because they have bred in different stretches of river...

We stopped briefly at Dulnain Bridge where I nipped out to score a blank there. Then at Carrbridge, we were beaten to the bridge by a couple of busfulls of tourists, all taking pictures of the old famous arch. I therefore made for the other side of the bridge where a diligent scan at last found a juvenile Dipper paddling around in a still pool at the bankside some 60 metres away. I beckoned to the rest of the gang and we all eventually got onto the bird, which wasn't easy to find in the shade but patience was rewarded for all, plus a couple of passers-by also grateful for a view.

Buoyed by this early success, we headed off for Strathdearn, this time taking advantage of the lovely new facility at the community hub, before a proper effort at seeing Golden Eagles. In truth, the conditions were lovely and warm, with barely a breath of wind – less than ideal for breeze-loving Goldies, but pleasant, nevertheless. The drive down was fairly uneventful - a couple of Brown Hares were noted – but then things came to an abrupt halt when we came across a resurfacing crew at work on the single track road. Fortunately, the lorry dumped its load and it was away within a couple of minutes and once the guys had laid and rolled that flat, we were waved through, privileged to be spared from the "locals only" protocol.

We arrived at the car park having just seen a Dark Green Fritillary fly close by, but it didn't settle. A Tree Pipit serenaded us some 200m back from the car park.

We decided to stick around for 15 minutes before taking a stroll down the valley toward Coignafearn Lodge. The weak sun encouraged a couple of Chimney Sweeper moths to take to the wing and an immature male Peregrine was spotted on a cairn at the top of the opposite ridge. A family of Ravens were heard in conference and then seen on a short exercise flight, but at no stage did it seem likely that a Golden Eagle would emerge. So, ten minutes after Joan turned back, we spun around and followed, scoring another sighting of Dark Green Fritillary, which was chased for a short distance by a Green-veined White. Ragged Robin was evident in the resplendent grassland, but the Violets were pristine.

We arrived back at the van and briefly discussed whether we should take lunch now and then head back, with the advice from the road laying crew that they aimed to take lunch at around 1pm, depending on when the lorry arrived with a load...

We took lunch, during which the adult female Peregrine cruised along the ridge above us. Later, a Red Kite did likewise as we suggested moving off. Just then, I caught sight of a Golden Eagle, but probably at least four miles down the valley! By the time I had reached for the scope, it had disappeared – quite likely into the cloud above the high ridges. We waited ten minutes, either for the cloud to lift or for the eagle to drop out somewhere near where it was, but alas, it did not reappear. Also, there is nothing more frustrating for photographers – David in particular – to have a bird at such impossible distance to make a photo a non-starter. So we started back.

Luckily, the guys were waiting for the next lorry load, admiring their work so far, as we waved gleefully at them as we passed, then made way two minutes later for the fully loaded lorry! A bit of luck, but now we needed facilities and refreshment, which we took at Carrbridge from a lovely coffee cart near the public car park, where we were invited to pay £2 for up to 4hrs parking. We only needed 30 minutes, but I put £2 in the slot anyway. No ticket issued. Hurrumph!

No matter. We headed to Loch Garten to take the "Two Lochs" walk, but only as far as the benches by the lochside. As we arrived at the benches, two juvenile Goldeneyes flew in and landed in front of us, close to where they were reared; so said the wild-swimming local lady who emerged from her daily constitutional. The large dragonfly that floated past was probably a Common Hawker and a couple of Red Admirals also darted past. As Sue and Jackie elected to take a little walk further into the wood, Crested Tits started calling, but did not come close enough to see well.

We stopped again a short distance toward Grantown at the "dragonfly pond", where, as last time, we saw Four-spotted Chaser and at least two species of damselfly. Crossbills flew over as they had done at the last stop, but stopped only briefly in the treetops and exited before everyone locked on.

It had been a beautiful, still and mainly quiet day, where we had our own company for most of it. Missing out on Golden Eagle was made less of a failure when we heard from our swimming friend that the nest had failed, such that hunting forays were much less often. Ah well; you always need a reason to come back...

Day 7 Friday 20th June

Time to say arrivederci.

Whilst David opted to make an early farewell after breakfast to break up his southward journey, the rest of us took a walk in the woods next to the golf course where we saw Treecreeper and Spotted Flycatcher and heard several Siskins and Crossbills which never quite gave themselves up for a view; slightly frustrating as this place has, in the past, been a well-known spot for Scottish Crossbill...

Back at the fringe of the golf course before returning to the cars, we came across a Dark Green Fritillary which eventually sat long enough for a record shot in warm, sunny conditions as a prelude to what was waiting for us down south.

We bade fond farewells to Joan in the car park and got Jackie and Sue to Inverness with plenty of time to spare.

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## **Species lists**

Birds (h = Heard only)

				J	une 20	25		
Common name	Scientific name	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Canada Goose	Branta canadensis	<b>√</b>	✓	✓	<b>√</b>			
Greylag Goose	Anser anser	<b>√</b>	✓	✓	✓	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	
Mute Swan	Cygnus olor	<b>√</b>	✓	<b>√</b>		<b>√</b>		
Mallard	Anas platyrhynchos		<b>√</b>	✓	<b>√</b>	✓	<b>√</b>	
Eurasian Teal	Anas crecca				<b>√</b>			
Tufted Duck	Aythya fuligula		<b>√</b>	✓				
Common Goldeneye	Bucephala clangula	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>			<b>√</b>	
Common Merganser	Mergus merganser					<b>√</b>		
Eider	Somateria mollissima							
Red Grouse	Lagopus scotica			h				
Common Pheasant	Phasianus colchicus		<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	
Razorbill	Alca torda					<b>√</b>		
Black Guillemot	Cepphus grylie					<b>√</b>		
Guillemot	Uria aaige					<b>√</b>		
Puffin	Fracercula arctica					<b>√</b>		
Swift	Apus apus	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	
Cuckoo	Cuculus canorus			<b>√</b>	h			
Feral Pigeon	Columba livia	<b>/</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	
Common Wood Pigeon	Columba palumbus	<b>/</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>/</b>	<b>/</b>	
Collared Dove	Streptopelia decaocto					<b>/</b>	<b>/</b>	
Little Grebe	Tachybaptus ruficollis			<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>			
Slavonian Grebe	Podiceps auritus				<b>√</b>			
Eurasian Oystercatcher	Haematopus ostralegus	<b>/</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>/</b>	<b>/</b>	
Northern Lapwing	Vanellus vanellus	<b>/</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>/</b>	
Eurasian Curlew	Numenius arquata	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		h	
Common Snipe	Gallinago gallinago	h						
Common Sandpiper	Actitis hypoleucos	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>/</b>	<b>√</b>	
Common Redshank	Tringa totanus	/	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>			
Ringed Plover	Charadrius hiaticula			-	<b>√</b>			
Fulmar	Fulmarus glacialis				<b>√</b>			
Cormorant	Phalacrocorax carbo				✓			
Shag	Gulosus aristotelis				√			
Black-headed Gull	Chroicocephalus ridibundus	<b>/</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	√	<b>√</b>	<b>/</b>	
Kittiwake	Rissa tridactyla	<u> </u>	•	•	√	<b>,</b>	,	
Common Gull	Larus canus	<b>/</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>/</b>	<b>√</b>	
Herring Gull	Larus argentatus	\ \ \	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	\ \ \	<b>√</b>	
Lesser Black-backed Gull	Larus fuscus	4	<b>V</b>	<b>V</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		
Great Black-backed Gull	Larus marinus				, v	<b>√</b>		
Common Tern	Sterna hirundo					\ \ \ \		
Arctic Skua	Stercorarius parasiticus					<b>√</b>		
Ring Ouzel	Larus fuscus			<b>√</b>		<b>'</b>		
Red-throated Diver	Gavia stellata	,		<b>V</b>				
Black-throated Diver	Gavia stellata	✓			<b>√</b>			

Common name		June 2025							
	Scientific name	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
Grey Heron	Ardea cinerea	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Western Osprey	Pandion haliaetus		✓			✓			
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	Accipiter nisus			✓					
Marsh Harrier	Circus aeruginosus	✓							
Hen Harrier	Circus cyaneus	✓							
Red Kite	Milvus milvus	✓	<b>√</b>	✓	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		
Common Buzzard	Buteo buteo	✓	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		
Tawny Owl	Strix aluco			<b>√</b>					
Great Spotted Woodpecker	Dendrocopos major	✓	✓	✓	✓	<b>√</b>			
Kestrel	Falco tinnunculus						<b>√</b>		
Peregrine Falcon	Falco peregrinus				<b>√</b>		<b>√</b>		
Eurasian Magpie	Pica pica						<b>√</b>		
Western Jackdaw	Coloeus monedula	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		
Carrion Crow	Corvus corone	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>			
Hooded Crow	Corvus cornix				<b>√</b>				
Rook	Corvus frugilegus			<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		
Northern Raven	Corvus corax		<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	h	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		
Coal Tit	Periparus ater	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	h		<b>√</b>		
European Crested Tit	Lophophanes cristatus		<b>√</b>				h		
Eurasian Blue Tit	Cyanistes caeruleus	<b>√</b>	✓	<b>√</b>					
Great Tit	Parus major	<b>√</b>	✓	√			<b>√</b>		
Sand Martin	Riparia riparia	<b>√</b>	✓	✓	<b>√</b>				
Swallow	Hirundo rustica	√ ·	· ✓	· ✓	✓	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		
House Martin	Delichon urbicum	· ✓	· √	· ✓	√	· ✓	\ \		
Willow Warbler	Phylloscopus trochilus	√ ·	√	· ✓	<b>√</b>		√		
Blackcap	Sylvia atricapilla	h	h	h	h	<u> </u>	_		
Goldcrest	Regulus regulus		<b>√</b>						
Eurasian Wren	Troglodytes troglodytes	<b>/</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		
Eurasian Treecreeper	Certhia familiaris	<b>-</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		<b>V</b>	<b>√</b>		
Common Starling	Sturnus vulgaris		<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>/</b>	<b>/</b>	<b>√</b>		
Song Thrush	Turdus philomelos	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		
Mistle Thrush	Turdus viscivorus	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		
Common Blackbird	Turdus merula	<b>V</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		
Spotted Flycatcher	Muscicapa striata		<b>√</b>	V	V	V	V		
European Robin	Erithacus rubecula		✓ ✓	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		
White-throated Dipper	Cinclus cinclus		<b>V</b>	<b>V</b>	\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \	<b>V</b>	✓ ✓		
Common Redstart	Phoenicurus phoenicurus		<b>√</b>				\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \		
Stonechat	Saxicola rubicola		<b>V</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>/</b>				
Northern Wheatear	Oenanthe oenanthe			<b>V</b>	✓ ✓		<b>√</b>		
House Sparrow	Passer domesticus		<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		/	✓ ✓		
Dunnock	Prunella modularis		<b>V</b>	<b>V</b>	✓	√	<b>V</b>		
Grey Wagtail	Motacilla cinerea	√ /				<b>√</b>			
Pied Wagtail	Motacilla alba	√ ,	,	,	,	,	,		
		<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		
Meadow Pipit	Anthus pratensis  Anthus trivialis	<b>√</b>	✓	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		
Tree Pipit Skylark	Antnus trivialis Alauda arvensis			✓	√ √		✓		

Common name		June 202						5			
	Scientific name	14	15	16	17	18	19	20			
Common Chaffinch	Fringilla coelebs	✓	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		<b>√</b>				
Eurasian Bullfinch	Pyrrhula pyrrhula	h	<b>√</b>				h				
European Greenfinch	Chloris chloris	✓	<b>√</b>		h		<b>√</b>				
Common Redpoll	Acanthis flammea	h	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>						
Red Crossbill	Loxia curvirostra		✓				<b>√</b>				
European Goldfinch	Carduelis carduelis		✓				<b>√</b>				
Eurasian Siskin	Spinus spinus	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		<b>√</b>				
Snow Bunting	Plectrophenax nivalis			<b>√</b>							
Corn Bunting	Emberiza calandra				<b>√</b>						

#### Mammals

Common name	Scientific name	June 2025							
		14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
Bottlenose Dolphin	Tursiops truncatus					✓			
Common Seal	Phoca vitulina					✓			
Atlantic Grey Seal	Halichoerus grypus					✓			
Pine Marten	Martes martes			✓					
European Badger	Meles meles			✓					
European Rabbit	Oryctolagus cuniculus	✓		✓	✓	✓			
Roe Deer	Capreolus capreolus	✓		✓					
Red Deer	Cervus elaphus				✓				
Red Squirrel	Sciurus vulgaris		✓		✓		✓		
Brown Hare	Lepus europaeus				✓	✓	✓		
Water Vole	Arvicola amphibius			✓					
Wood Mouse	Apodemus sylvaticus			<b>√</b>					

#### Invertebrates recorded

Odonata
Four Spotted Chaser
Northern Blue Damselfly
Large Red Damselfly
Butterflies
Red Admiral
Green-veined White
Bordered White
Common Heath
Large White