

# Lesbos

## Naturetrek Tour Report

4th - 11th May 2025

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Eurasian Scops Owl



Black-headed Bunting



European Bee-eaters



Laughing Dove

Tour report and photos by Mike Crewe

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Tour participants: Mike Crewe & Nathan Long (leaders) with 14 Naturetrek clients.

## Summary

For our week on the lovely island of Lesbos, we largely enjoyed very warm, sunny and settled weather. While such weather is typically not conducive to falls of migrants, we nevertheless enjoyed a great run of birds over the course of the week. The wetlands close to our hotel provided us with a wealth of great encounters with birds at very close range, in particular mahogany-coloured Glossy Ibises, parties of Ruff and Little Stints and wandering flocks of Whiskered and White-winged Terns. Dalmatian Pelicans flew over like huge leviathans of the air and Gull-billed Terns hunted dragonflies over the fields.

Out west, we found four species of shrike to enjoy, singing Cinereous and Cretzschmar's Buntings, family parties of recently-fledged Rock Nuthatches and plenty of Short-toed Eagles. As well as the buntings, other island specialities performed well for us, including a pair of Krüper's Nuthatches feeding young and some boisterous Rüppell's Warblers in their stronghold in the east of the island. Owls became something of a feature during the week, with a family of four young Long-eared Owls providing entertainment in a row of pines and at least three different Scops Owls seen during the course of the week. As well as the birds, some great highlights came in the variety of butterflies on the island, especially in the west, where a huge emergence of Eastern Meadow Browns and Small Coppers provided an unexpected highlight. A real trip highlight came with the sheer excitement of the group at the views of two magnificent male Golden Orioles, viewed superbly through the scopes as we took lunch one day.

## Day 1

**Sunday 4th May**

The bulk of the group, along with Nathan, flew in from Stansted just a little behind schedule, while Mike was waiting at Mytilene airport, having been present for the previous week. With airport and vehicle formalities completed, we drove into town for a taverna lunch, then made our way to our hotel at Skalla Kalloni, in the centre of the island. Once checked in and with a little time still available, we headed out to the nearby Tsiknias River to see what was about. Getting to grips with the abundant Crested Larks and Corn Buntings was important before we could home in on the likes of Eastern Olivaceous Warblers and the various Yellow Wagtail forms. At the river itself, we drove to a nice area a little north of the ford and had a wonderful hour or so enjoying a Spotted Crake feeding out in the open, a very obliging Little Bittern and a fabulous Black-headed Bunting. A female Little Crake toyed with us by moving in and out of the reeds and we enjoyed some wonderful, sailing Bee-eaters.

## Day 2

**Monday 5th May**

For our first full day, we stayed relatively local, spending much of the day in the Kalloni salt pans area. We took a pre-breakfast walk around the block and almost immediately found the local Nightingale singing his heart out in full view on a roadside wire. Eastern Olivaceous Warblers tried to compete but fell rather short! We walked as far as the beach where the tranquil waters were rather quiet but Common and Little Terns were feeding nearby and along the way we were escorted by Barn and Red-rumped Swallows. Around the block, we checked out a small, tamarisk-lined pool and found a total of 12 Black-crowned Night Herons (accurately counted because, unfortunately, another group chose to wander too close to the roost!) and a nice Little Bittern. Back near the hotel, two pairs of Red-rumped Swallows were collecting mud for their nests.

Driving out to the Tsiknias River after breakfast, we enjoyed the local Bee-eater flock and briefly noted a Hoopoe feeding on the ground. At the river mouth, a variety of terns and gulls entertained us before we headed along the Lotzaria track. At the first saltpan corner, we found several Black-winged Stilts and a Spur-winged Lapwing, but the latter disappeared just as we were about to enjoy it, due to a very low-level pass from a young Peregrine – bad timing! Down at the little bridge near the saltworks, we scoped Ruffs and Little Stints and picked out a Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin singing, but we failed to connect properly with the latter and it would need to wait for another day. Greater Short-toed Larks sang overhead and a Kentish Plover and several European Shags were along the beach.

We headed back to the hotel to use the facilities and to lay out our picnic lunch. After a short break, we headed out to nearby Messa, where Little Egret and both Grey and Squacco Herons were on the rushy marsh. Dark Spreadwings were along the track and we found a Striped Hawkmoth larva. On the other side of the road, pools held Kentish Plovers and a Black Stork, then we continued to a dirt track into the pinewoods to look for one of the island gems - Krüper's Nuthatch. We didn't have to wait long before we saw both parents ferrying back and forth for young in a nest hole in a dead pine and we all enjoyed great views. Also here was a rather strange-looking, leucistic Masked Shrike.

On the return journey, we checked the Messa pools again and found a Curlew Sandpiper and watched two pairs of remarkably angry Black-winged Stilts really lay into each other! We finished the day with a visit to the east side of the saltpans. Here we found Zitting Cisticolas and a party of around a dozen Red-throated Pipits, as well as an intriguing array of Yellow Wagtail types. A group of Grey Plovers contained one bird in snazzy breeding plumage, while out on the pans, we found a group of 11 Spoonbills roosting, along with a Slender-billed Gull and a ludicrously huge Dalmatian Pelican. We had three of the latter eventually, including one that flew in to the saltpans like a flying boat! Dinner was taken out in town tonight, where we enjoyed some great Greek seafood.

## Day 3

**Tuesday 6th May**

Our pre-breakfast excursion today took us a little further afield, to the lower Potamia Valley. In the old olive groves here, our quarry was the ever-elusive Olive-tree Warbler. More or less on arrival, we could hear a bird singing rather distantly, but patient waiting eventually saw it come a little closer. Some of us managed to see the bird hover-feeding and moving through the vegetation below the trees, but it seemed we might have to make another try for this species. Arriving back at the hotel, we were greeted with an adult Great Spotted Cuckoo, which gave us two lovely fly-pasts as we headed for breakfast.

Our main period out in the field started with a stop along a side road near the little town of Filia, in the part of the island that has good areas of open oak woodland. We began with the wonderful sound of a Woodlark, singing from nearby powerlines, then we spotted a Fox foraging down-slope from us. As we walked towards an area of larger oaks, we spotted a male Honey Buzzard which gave us a full wing-clapping display before gliding off across the valley. Eastern Subalpine Warblers were plentiful here and some showed exceptionally well as they broke off from foraging periodically to defend their territories. We had hoped for Eastern Bonelli's Warblers here, but they only sang briefly and remained hidden from view. An Eastern Orphean Warbler chortled away and revealed itself briefly and a Masked Shrike played hide and seek with us. Sombre Tit was another desired species here and most of us did get a look at one as it foraged in the trees.

Moving on, we passed from the oak zone to extensive hillsides of barren-looking, low scrub or *frigana*, dominated by Spiny Burnet. At Ipsilou Monastery, the wind was pretty blowy so, after a quick look in the buildings themselves, we dropped a little lower and found shelter on the northern, leeward side. Although no migrants appeared to be around, we did far better with the local birds. Isabelline, Northern and Eastern Black-eared Wheatear were all present and Linnets foraged on the ground. After much searching and the distraction of a Rock Sparrow, we eventually found several smart Cinereous Buntings singing and we were able to get the scopes onto them for good views. Time was pushing on, so we headed past the *in situ* petrified forest finds and turned in Sigri to take the track out to Fanaromeni.

We had our picnic lunches on the beach, surrounded by an array of beach plants and with brief but good views of a singing Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin – with a second one to come later. Yelkouan Shearwaters ferried past offshore, but were rather too distant for us to fully enjoy. After lunch, we headed to higher ground beyond Sigri but not before we had stopped for a round of coffees and cold drinks. Beyond the town, we scanned the nearby hills and found a few Lesser Kestrels drifting along in the wind and several Short-toed Eagles hunting along a distant ridge. We began the return journey, stopping to view a Black Stork on its nest and to get our first Cretzschmar's Bunting, while a roadside Laughing Dove on a wire put on a great show and was our second of the day. Our route back to the hotel took us through some amazing, volcanic landscapes then along the shores of Kalloni Bay.

## Day 4

## Wednesday 7th May

We started our day with a drive over to the saltpans and spent our time around the pumphouse corner. On arrival we were greeted by a busy mass of Common and Little Terns, fishing over the saltpan feeder channel, with the usual Black-winged Stilts also in attendance. A more serene scene greeted us on the nearby pumphouse pool, where four Glossy Ibises were feeding with the early morning sun highlighting their wonderful colours. A real bonus came in the shape of a singing River Warbler which, though distant, was eventually seen through the scopes. A pair of Spur-winged Lapwings were nearby and a Marsh Harrier was seen in one of the cut hay fields.

After breakfast, we returned to the Potamia Valley for another try with the Olive-tree Warbler. Again, we heard him singing, but views were brief. Also here, a Marsh Warbler was heard and later seen and an Eastern Olivaceous Warbler showed very well. The improving weather brought out more insects with Small Skimmer and Small Pincertail both posing for photos and we saw several Oriental Hornets throughout the day. Also of interest was a Crag Martin overhead, while an Eleonora's Falcon hunting dragonflies was a real bonus.

Round at Metochi Lake, we found Coot and Moorhen and a rather too skulky Little Crake, while plenty of martins and swallows hawked over the water. A comfort stop at the hotel was followed by a quick call in on the Long-eared Owl family around the corner and we managed to find two of the four chicks resting in one of the pines. We continued north to the Kremastis Bridge, a river crossing that dates back to the 14<sup>th</sup> Century. We had lunch here, then searched the nearby olives and turned up a busy family of Sombre Tits and a very skittish Middle Spotted Woodpecker. We continued to seek out the woodpecker, heading north through the Napi valley then onwards to Madamados (where White Storks were in attendance on their nest and a Little Grebe was on a roadside pool) and Skala Sikaminias. Driving west along the north coast of the island was very restful on a hot, sunny day, though quiet for birds – although the second vehicle had a good encounter with a feeding flock of Yelkouan Shearwaters.

As we reached Molyvos, it seemed that the only thing left to complete a lovely day was to enjoy ice-creams at the wonderful ice-cream parlour and to sit and enjoy the screaming parties of Common Swifts.

## Day 5

## Thursday 8th May

Before breakfast, we took a short drive out to the lower Potamia Valley, stopping near the new reservoir to check a Rock Nuthatch nest site. The birds were clearly not around and it seems any chicks may well have fledged and the family moved away. We took a look at the reservoir and found both Common and Ruddy Shelducks present, plus a few Yellow-legged Gulls and a Stonechat. Despite a shortage of birds at the reservoir itself, we were pleased to find Masked, Woodchat and Red-backed Shrikes in the surrounding bushes.

With breakfast done, we headed west again today, stopping first back at the oaks near Filia. Woodlarks made their presence known with their wonderful songs and at least two Honey Buzzards were soaring over the nearby valley as the day warmed up. An Eastern Orphean Warbler posed and sang beautifully for us and Eastern Festoons skipped along the tracksides. Eastern Subalpine Warblers seemed busy feeding chicks and we heard a couple of Eastern Bonelli's Warblers, though still they eluded us as far as good views were concerned. As the day began to warm up, we headed into the shady streets of Antissa and were soon enjoying a roosting Scops Owl in the mighty Oriental Plane trees that grow there. Typically the town is rather quiet and there's plenty of room for coffee, but today we learned it was John the Baptist's birthday and half the town were out drinking coffee after their church service had finished. Nice to see a little local tradition taking place.

We drove on to Sigri and headed south along the Sigri-Eresos track. The sanitorium held a couple of Spotted Flycatchers and some smart Starred Agamas, but the big attraction here was the huge number of Eastern Meadow Browns that swarmed over the Hoary Mustard flowers, together with equally impressive numbers of Small Coppers. At our picnic site, both Alpine and Pallid Swifts soared overhead and a Crag Martin added variety to the scene. Cretzschmar's Buntings sang all along our route between the two towns and some did eventually show well. A Roller was spotted, along with the first of several Rock Nuthatches for the day. Things seemed rather quiet at the ford but further up, a stop and scan around revealed a nice range of birds, including a Common Whitethroat and a very aggravated Corn Bunting that turned out to be mobbing a rather large Caspian Whip Snake. Towards the southern end of the route, Cretzschmar's Buntings and Rock Nuthatches became more frequent with a family party of no less than seven birds of the latter species at one point. An Isabelline Wheatear was a nice bonus, as was a party of at least a dozen Rock Sparrows.

## Day 6

## Friday 9th May

Another great day on the island began with a short drive over to the salt pans for more opportunities to enjoy a great range of birds. After breakfast, we stopped for a while at the mouth of the Tsiknias and walked down to have a proper look at what might be on the gravel bar there. A great mix of terns included Sandwich, Common, Little and Gull-billed, while a single Whiskered Tern gave us a lovely fly by. A single Curlew was new for our lists and small parties of Ruddy Turnstones were new arrivals. It was clear there had been an influx of Rufous-tailed Scrub Robins since we last visited as several were singing along here and further along near the saltworks, allowing us to have repeated views of both singing birds and of birds in wonderful song flights. A Short-toed Lark showed nicely once we were round behind the saltworks, several immature Shags gave good flight views (showing their highly distinctive wing pattern) and Bee-eaters looked glorious in the morning sun.

After a busy morning, we dropped back into the hotel for a quick use of the facilities, then headed back out via the young Long-eared Owl family. Delightfully, all four of the youngsters were found, with three of them giving superb views as they checked us out, both the right way up, and upside down! We drove north to the raptor watchpoint to eat our picnic lunch with a fabulous view. Although raptors were not on the move, there was still plenty to see, including an unexpected Lattice Brown butterfly, Holy Orchids and Starred Agamas.

Our next port of call was the coastal pools at Messa. These were now drying out rapidly, but still held a nice mix of Little Stints and Black-winged Stilts and, at the back of the main pool, a hoped-for Temminck's Stint was present. On the way to Messa, we took the opportunity to stop at a reliable spot for Scops Owls – especially as birdwatchers were already watching the bird as we were passing! This proved a good move as one of these diminutive little birds was on full view and very much appreciated. We decided to round off the birding day with a visit to the Filia mast area in the hope of some raptors, but it seemed pretty quiet there. Honey Buzzard, Common Kestrel and Short-toed Eagle were nevertheless enjoyed and we found a peculiarly-marked fritillary butterfly to ponder on. We took time off for some R&R back at the hotel, with some going for a swim and others getting a look at another Scops Owl in the hotel garden.

## Day 7

## Saturday 10th May

Some of the group stuck to tradition and ventured out to the salt pans before breakfast, turning up a nice range of the usual wetland birds, including the territorial pair of Spur-winged Lapwings near the pumping station. After breakfast, we took ourselves back to the Tsiknias river mouth, where things were much quieter than yesterday and even the scrub robins seemed to have gone quiet. Some compensation came, however, in a close encounter with a Dalmatian Pelican that incongruously passed by, like an enormous flying boat!

The salt pans road was similarly quiet, but we nevertheless enjoyed the shrimp-pink Greater Flamingos and contrasting Avocets and Black-winged Stilts. We continued into the extensive forests of Calabrian Pine, stopping on occasion when various bird calls were heard as we passed. A pair of Masked Shrikes caught our attention and we heard a Short-toed Treecreeper, which was seen by some of the group. Further up the road, another Short-toed Treecreeper played hide and seek with us but remained elusive. At Micri Limni, we found a good number of Woodchat Shrikes and three Eleonora's Falcons, the latter swooping swiftly after flying insects. Agiassos was not too far away and it seemed a good idea to have a coffee break and sit in the shade for a while. Those who kept watching the higher peaks also added Levant Sparrowhawk, Short-toed Eagle and nine Eleonora's Falcons, too.

We drove ever upward, passing from Calabrian Pines into the upper woods of Sweet Chestnut. Here, we were surrounded by Robins and Wrens and a few Chiffchaffs were also detected. Eastern Festoons were frequent along the track sides and there was a significant change in the flowers here – indeed, a certain leader was overjoyed to finally see Compère's Orchid in flower, nearly 30 years after first finding it on the island! We found a lovely spot for our picnic lunch and followed this with a short wander around the area, finding several spikes of Violet Bird's-nest Orchid, Eastern Balkan Green and Snake-eyed Lizards and a final, enormous, Compère's Orchid – cue more dizzy spells from the leader! On the way back through the pinewoods, we stopped to track down some singing Serins and soon enjoyed great views of this species, which seems to have become quite elusive in recent times.

Heading back to the hotel by way of the salt pans, we found some nice, breeding-plumaged Curlew Sandpipers and Little Stints, a Whiskered Tern and several Gull-billed Terns.

## Day 8

**Sunday 11th May**

The inevitable final day dawned and we had to be away pretty sharpish as we had one more bird that we wanted to see. Everyone was efficiently organised and we headed out five minutes ahead of schedule. Taking a circular route, we approached the airport by way of the southern end of the island. This allowed us to spend a little time along the fragrant garrigue that is favoured by Rüppell's and Sardinian Warblers and we were soon hearing plenty of the latter. As a bonus, two Chukars sprung up from the roadside and hurtled down the hill. After a short walk, we found a male Rüppell's Warbler, sat up and singing close to the road and showing wonderfully. A female and a second male were also picked out as we scanned the low vegetation, while the photographers also got lucky with a very obliging male Cretzschmar's Bunting that sang from roadside wires.

It had been a wonderful week, despite some hot weather that reached 31C at one point, but Lesbos performed wonderfully and we had an amazing time together – we hope you all travelled home safely and look forward to seeing you all again soon.

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## Species lists

Birds (h = Heard only)

I=Introduced		Date: May 2025							
Common name	Scientific name	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>		✓		✓	2	✓	✓	
Ruddy Shelduck	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>		2	2		✓	h	2	
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>					1		1	
Chukar Partridge	<i>Alectoris chukar</i>								2
Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>					5			
Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Pallid Swift	<i>Apus pallidus</i>					10			
Great Spotted Cuckoo	<i>Clamator glandarius</i>			1					
Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>						h		h
Feral Rock Dove - I	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>		3					1	
European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>			3	5	3	h	h	
Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Laughing Dove	<i>Spilopelia senegalensis</i>			2	1				
Spotted Crake	<i>Porzana porzana</i>	1							
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>		2		2			1	
Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>				1			5	
Little Crake	<i>Zapornia parva</i>	1			1				
Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>				1				
Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>						1		
Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>		1						
Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓
Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>		✓		✓		✓	✓	✓
Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>		15						
Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>		1				1		
Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>	1	2				3	2	
Spur-winged Lapwing	<i>Vanellus spinosus</i>		1		2		2	2	
Kentish Plover	<i>Anarhynchus alexandrinus</i>		1				2	1	
Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>						1		
Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>		✓		2			1	
Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>						1	1	
Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>		1				9	3	
Ruff	<i>Calidris pugnax</i>		✓		✓		✓	✓	
Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>		1					4	
Temminck's Stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>						1		
Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>		12 +				✓	✓	
Collared Pratincole	<i>Glareola pratincola</i>						4		
Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>		✓		✓		✓	✓	
Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>		2				2	3	
Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>	1	2				1		
Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>						1	2	
White-winged Tern	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>		10 +					1	
Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>		✓		✓		✓	✓	



I=Introduced		Date: May 2025								
Common name	Scientific name	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>		2				4			
Slender-billed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus genei</i>		1							
Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Yelkouan Shearwater	<i>Puffinus yelkouan</i>			✓	✓					
Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>		4	3	3		3	2		
White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>		14	1	2		12	✓		
Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>		2				4	✓		
European Shag	<i>Gulosus aristotelis</i>		4		2		4			
Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>				4					
Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>		11		✓		2	2		
Little Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>	2	6+		2		1	1		
Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>		12					1		
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>		✓		✓	1	✓	✓		
Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>	1	1		1		3	2		
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>				1		2	1		
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>		1	1		1	2	1		
Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	1	1		1		1	1		
Dalmatian Pelican	<i>Pelecanus crispus</i>		4				3	1		
European Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>			1		2	1	1		
Short-toed Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>		1	6	✓	✓	1	✓		
Levant Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter brevipes</i>							1		
Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>			1	1	2	1	2		
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	1	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	1	
Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>			1	1					
Eurasian Scops Owl	<i>Otus scops</i>	h	h		h	1	2			
Long-eared Owl	<i>Asio otus</i>				2		4			
Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>		1	h	1	1				
European Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>					1				
European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Middle Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocoptes medius</i>			1	1			1	1	
Lesser Kestrel	<i>Falco naumanni</i>			10 +	1	✓				
Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>						✓			
Eleonora's Falcon	<i>Falco eleonorae</i>			1	1	1		12		
Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>		1							
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>		1					1	1	
Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>						2			
Masked Shrike	<i>Lanius nubicus</i>		3	3	3	✓	✓	2		
Lesser Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius minor</i>		1			1				
Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>		2	1	3	✓	✓	✓		
Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>		3	✓		✓	✓			
Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>			✓		✓				
Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Sombre Tit	<i>Poecile lugubris</i>			2	6		h			
Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>					✓				

I=Introduced		Date: May 2025							
Common name	Scientific name	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Greater Short-toed Lark	<i>Calandrella brachydactyla</i>		4				2		
Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>		✓		✓				
Eurasian Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>			1	1	1		1	
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Western House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Cecropis daurica</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>					h	h	h	
Eastern Bonelli's Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus orientalis</i>					✓			
Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>							1	
Common Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>	1			✓		✓	✓	
Marsh Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus palustris</i>				1				
Eastern Olivaceous Warbler	<i>Iduna pallida</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Olive-tree Warbler	<i>Hippolais olivetorum</i>			1	1				
River Warbler	<i>Locustella fluviatilis</i>				1				
Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>		✓				h	h	
Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>		h	1					
Eastern Orphean Warbler	<i>Curruca crassirostris</i>			1	1	5+		h	
Rüppell's Warbler	<i>Curruca ruppeli</i>								3
Sardinian Warbler	<i>Curruca melanocephala</i>					5			✓
Eastern Subalpine Warbler	<i>Curruca cantillans</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Common Whitethroat	<i>Curruca communis</i>			1		1			
Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>							h	
Krüper's Nuthatch	<i>Sitta krueperi</i>		2					h	
Western Rock Nuthatch	<i>Sitta neumayer</i>					12			
Short-toed Treecreeper	<i>Certhia brachydactyla</i>							2	
Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin	<i>Cercotrichas galactotes</i>			2			6		
Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>			1		5			
European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>							✓	
Common Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>			1					
Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>		1						
European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>		1	5	✓	✓			
Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>			✓		✓			
Isabelline Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe isabellina</i>			1		1			
Eastern Black-eared Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe melanoleuca</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Rock Sparrow	<i>Petronia petronia</i>			1		12			
Spanish Sparrow	<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Western Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	1							
Red-throated Pipit	<i>Anthus cervinus</i>		12						
Eurasian Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>			✓		✓	✓		
European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>							4	

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Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cinereous Bunting	<i>Emberiza cineracea</i>			h+ 2					
Cretzschmar's Bunting	<i>Emberiza caesia</i>			h+ 1	h	✓	h		✓
Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>		1	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Black-headed Bunting	<i>Emberiza melanocephala</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

## Other vertebrates (D = Dead)

I=Introduced		May 2025							
Common name	Scientific name	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<b>Mammals</b>									
Persian Squirrel	<i>Sciurus anomalus</i>			✓			✓		
Northern White-breasted Hedgehog	<i>Erinaceus roumanicus</i>					D			
Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>			1	1	1			
Stone Marten	<i>Martes foina</i>			D	D				
<b>Reptiles &amp; Amphibians</b>									
Eastern Tree Frog	<i>Hyla orientalis</i>	h		h	h				
Levant Water Frog	<i>Pelophylax cf. bedriagae</i>		✓		✓				
Balkan Terrapin	<i>Mauremys rivulata</i>	✓	✓		✓			✓	
Starred Agama	<i>Laudakia stellio</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓	
Snake-eyed Lizard	<i>Ophisops elegans</i>							✓	
Eastern Balkan Green Lizard	<i>Lacerta diplochondrodes</i>			✓		✓		✓	
Caspian Whip Snake	<i>Dolichophis caspius</i>					✓			

## Invertebrates

I=Introduced		May 2025							
Common name	Scientific name	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<b>Butterflies</b>									
Scarce Swallowtail	<i>Iphiclides podalirius</i>						✓	✓	
Common Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>						✓		
Eastern Festoon	<i>Zerynthia cerisy</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓	
Pygmy Skipper	<i>Gegenes pumilio</i>			✓					
Small Skipper	<i>Thymelicus sylvestris</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Orbed Red-underwing Skipper	<i>Spialia orbifer</i>					✓			
Cleopatra	<i>Gonepteryx cleopatra</i>	✓			✓				
Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias croceus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>		✓				✓	✓	✓
Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Eastern Dappled White	<i>Euchloe ausonia</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Orange-tip	<i>Anthocharis cardamines</i>				✓	✓		✓	
Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓		
Ilex Hairstreak	<i>Satyrrium ilicis</i>				✓				
Holly Blue	<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>				✓			✓	
Brown Argus	<i>Aricia agestis</i>					✓	✓	✓	

I=Introduced		May 2025							
Common name	Scientific name	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>		✓						
Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>			✓	✓	✓		✓	
Lesser Spotted Fritillary	<i>Melitaea trivia</i>			✓		✓			
Eastern Knapweed Fritillary	<i>Melitaea ornata</i>						✓		
Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>				✓		✓		
Lattice Brown	<i>Kirinia roxelana</i>						✓		
Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>			✓	✓				
Balkan Marbled White	<i>Melanargia larissa</i>			✓		✓			
Mersin Grayling	<i>Hipparchia mersina</i>			✓					
Eastern Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola telmessia</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Moths – L = Larva</b>									
Striped Hawkmoth	<i>Hyles livornica</i>		L	L				L	
Mullein Wave	<i>Scopula marginepunctata</i>					✓			
<b>Damselfs &amp; Dragons</b>									
Dark Spreadwing	<i>Lestes macrostigma</i>		✓						
Common Bluetail	<i>Ischnura elegans</i>		✓						
Blue Featherleg	<i>Platycnemis pennipes</i>				✓				
Small Pincertail	<i>Onychogomphus forcipatus</i>				✓				
Small Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum taeniolatum</i>				✓				
Blue Chaser	<i>Libellula fulva</i>							✓	
Common Darter	<i>Sympetrum striolatum</i>					✓			
<b>Misc. Insects</b>									
Thread Lacewing	<i>Nemoptera sinuata</i>				✓				
Mammoth Wasp	<i>Megascolia maculata</i>					✓			
Egyptian Grasshopper	<i>Anacrydium aegyptium</i>					✓			
Lesvos Bush-cricket	<i>Poecilimon mytlenensis</i>					✓			
A scarab beetle	<i>Pygopleurus foina</i>					✓			



Glossy Ibis