

Go Slow...in Northern Greece

Naturetrek Tour Report

10th – 17th May 2022



Tour report and images by Barrie Cooper



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Summary

Lake Kerkini and the surrounding area is an excellent area for wildlife and this trip provided a good insight as to how rich the area is. It must be one of the best places in Europe for gaining good views of species such as Cuckoo, Bee-eater, Great Reed Warbler, Short-toed Eagle and a few other species. Four species of Shrike, including Masked and Lesser Grey, shows that there is still a reasonable quantity of invertebrates in this part of the Greek countryside. Cirl Bunting and Golden Oriole are common species and the song of Nightingales was one of the soundtracks of the trip. Excellent views of species such as displaying Levant Sparrowhawk and Lesser Spotted Eagle are an indicator of how good the area is for raptors. The lake itself is rich in wildlife with Dalmatian and White Pelicans, a variety of Herons and many Cormorants. Group members are regularly surprised as to how green and lush the countryside in this part of Greece and this is a major reason why it is such a good area for a variety of wildlife. This was an enjoyable trip to this beautiful part of Europe.

Day 1

Tuesday 10th May

The group arrived slightly ahead of schedule after a very early start. After grabbing a lunch at a sandwich bar while the rental vehicles were collected, the group ventured into a new adventure. Our destination was the coastal wetland of Kalochori Lagoon which provided an excellent few hours of birding. Our first stop gave us Black-winged Stilt, Bee-eater, Crested Lark and Marsh Harrier. Moving to a different part of the wetland complex, Curlew Sandpipers and Little Stints in breeding plumage were the most numerous and we saw three-figure numbers of both species. Turnstones in breeding plumage, Avocets, Kentish and Ringed Plovers, Little and Common Terns were also showing well. When a Terek Sandpiper flew in, the excitement level grew and this uncommon wader proceeded to give us excellent views. A few hundred Greater Flamingos, Mediterranean and Yellow-legged Gulls were also in this impressive wetland. Little Owls seem to pose for photos here and we found two doing the honourable thing to make it easy for everyone to see. We had seen a few Pygmy Cormorants but one standing in the middle of a track was unusual behaviour. The presumably sick bird, was moved to a safe place in the hope that it may recover. Two Stone Curlews and a Gull-billed Tern were further highlights before tiredness got the better of the group and we set off to our hotel overlooking Lake Kerkini. A Levant Sparrowhawk and a Booted Eagle were sighted as we neared the lake, giving us an indication of the rich wildlife that is still to be found here. The singing of Nightingales was a prelude to a thunderstorm as we made our way for dinner.

Day 2

Wednesday 11th May

It was a leisurely start after yesterday's long day. Some group members had already experienced the Nightingales singing outside their rooms and on a pre-breakfast walk. After breakfast we made our way to a section of the east embankment where the Strimonas River flows into Lake Kerkini. Bee-eaters seemed to be everywhere, Golden Orioles were singing and seen in flight by a few. Beautiful Demoiselles and other odonata, various butterflies and several Coots added contrast to the birdlife. Wetland birds were well represented with a skulking Little Bittern being more difficult to see than a pair of Purple Herons that were nesting close to the edge of a reedbed. Squacco Herons, Spoonbills and a dozen Glossy Ibis added to the variety of species. A pair of Garganey, a male Ferruginous Duck and a female Shoveler in the same scope view is quite special and if a nearby

male Pochard had joined the party it would have been a full house. A Lesser Spotted Eagle had been soaring over the wetland before perching on some dead branches at the top of a tree. Meanwhile, we had to be content with the occasional Black Stork flying over, rather than wading around the wetland.

However, the highlight of the morning was probably the pelican ballet. A few hundred White Pelicans, with a few Dalmatians, were soaring in circles some distance away, but they must have known that an appreciative audience was waiting for them because they gradually circled closer to us before soaring over our heads at a relatively low height. It was a spectacular few minutes that produced plenty of smiles and use of cameras. Red-backed Shrike, Eastern Olivaceous Warbler and Green Woodpecker were some other notable species seen during the morning. While eating our picnic lunch, a Scops Owl was heard but, unfortunately, not seen. We then made our way back to the hotel for some relaxation before some of the group took up the option of going on a late afternoon excursion.

The late afternoon session only lasted a little over two hours but we had some quality birds during that time. First up was a pair of Rollers that initially were perched up on some wires before moving to some trees bordering an olive grove. It was pleasing to see a couple of nestboxes placed on poles to help this charismatic species. After enjoying the Rollers, we moved a couple of kilometres to follow a track to a quarry. A pair of Masked Shrikes created a lot of interest which is not surprising because they are a very smart-looking bird. A Short-toed Eagle flew overhead and Cirl Buntings provided the soundtrack. A Woodchat Shrike made it three shrikes for the day. On entering the quarry, a pair of Black-eared Wheatears made themselves obvious by perching on a wire fence. A singing Ortolan Bunting alerted us to its presence and, sure enough, there it was, sitting in a tree near the top of the quarry. It's such a privilege to see this rapidly declining species in a marvellous area of Greek countryside. A Hawfinch flew over but never came down. After experiencing a fine suite of species, it was time to reveal a juvenile Eagle Owl on its nest with a parent just a few metres away. Good scope views of both birds were enjoyed for some time before we returned to the hotel for dinner. It had been an excellent day.

Day 3

Thursday 12th May

We awoke to blue skies and that's how it stayed for the remainder of the day with warm sunshine reminding us that we were in Greece. We returned to the same valley as the previous afternoon to discover new experiences in this attractive valley. A male Black-headed Yellow Wagtail looked stunning in the morning light as it perched on top of a tree not far from the vehicles. Further down the track, an Eastern Olivaceous Warbler followed the lead set by the wagtail and posed at the top of a tree with the added benefit of singing, so people could link the song to the appearance of the bird. The gentle, relaxing sound of Turtle Doves could also be heard with the occasional one flying swiftly past. The pair of Masked Shrikes were in the same location as yesterday and still as attractive. Red-backed and Woodchat Shrikes also showed well. The local Short-toed Eagle flew low and gave us excellent views before continuing down the valley. A few Cirl Buntings were singing, as were a couple of Chiffchaffs, but it was the sound of Olive Tree Warblers that set some pulses racing and eventually one was found. This individual did its best to cooperate and sang for several minutes in full view near the top of a tree. Even when it moved out of sight, it soon returned and repeatedly sang in full view. A male Black-headed Bunting could be seen from the same spot and some people found this colourful bird easier to see.

On reaching the quarry, two male Eastern Black-eared Wheatears showed well and the Ortolan Bunting was singing in the same tree as yesterday. Of course, we had to look at the Eagle Owls and, this morning, the adult female was just thirty centimetres from the chick on the same ledge. Both birds were doing a lot of panting to keep cool in the heat. We explored more of the valley and some interesting butterflies were found including Little Tiger Blue, Black-veined White, Queen of Spain and Spotted Fritillaries.

It was getting hot, so we had lunch in the shade, but before we finished, a Honey Buzzard soared over the nearby forest for a few minutes and came almost overhead before climbing higher and back over the ridge. Before the Buzzard disappeared, it was joined in the same part of the sky by a Black Stork and a pair of Lesser Spotted Eagles. The eagles became quite vocal and there was some displaying to give us a very fine performance. Yet again, this beautiful wildlife-rich valley had given us some wonderful experiences. After a productive morning, it was time to return to the hotel for a little downtime. The optional afternoon session was taken along a southern section of the lake. A Black Kite was perched up on a dead branch in a tree at the top of a hill. After good scope views, the kite obligingly flew relatively low past where we were. Some of the regular birds were seen and heard, but a small clump of Long-lipped Tongue Orchids *Serapias vomeracea* was a good find and another highlight of this session. As things were relatively quiet, we returned to the hotel for a freshen up before visiting a local restaurant for our evening meal.

Day 4

Friday 13th May

We began the day by driving along the southern edge of the lake and reacquainted ourselves with Black Kite and Spanish Sparrow, before driving up a part of Mount Belles. There was a definite British flavour to our time in the mountain with Orange Tip and Red Admiral butterflies sharing the stage with birds such as Mistle Thrush, Greenfinch, Marsh Tit, Nuthatch, Chiffchaff, Cuckoo, Blackcap and Wren. Just to remind us we were away from the UK, White-backed Woodpecker and Short-toed Treecreeper also put in brief appearances and were seen by some of the group. A few young Fiery Salamanders were found in a water trough and a Black Woodpecker was heard from the same location. Lunch was taken at a restaurant in Ano Poroia and instead of dessert we had brief views of a male Semi-collared Flycatcher. Fortunately, a pair of Semi-collared Flycatchers were seen further down the road and seen by more of the group. We returned to the hotel for some relaxation before dinner.

Day 5

Saturday 14th May

Masked Shrike, Cirl Bunting and Syrian Woodpeckers were some of the species seen around the hotel before we left. Our first destination was east of the lake, near the Strimonas River and we had some good sightings. A pair of Lesser Grey Shrikes were very obliging, perching up on wires and tops of bushes. The light was perfect for bringing out the subtle beauty of their plumage and they were a species appreciated by all. A Masked Shrike and a Red-backed Shrike were also seen from the same spot, with the occasional Golden Oriole also putting in an appearance. A little further on, a Long-legged Buzzard was sitting on a bale of hay, it was quite distant so we drove further along the track. This attractive raptor conveniently remained in the field, sitting on different bales to reveal its plumage from behind and the front. Continuing on our journey, a pair of Lesser Spotted Eagles were flying low before descending to the ground to feed on a dead hedgehog. Scarce Swallowtail was a notable butterfly here before we arrived at a ploughed field where a Tawny Pipit very obligingly allowed everyone to have scope views and receive some favourable comments.

We then left the agricultural tracks behind and soon after entering the road towards Vyronia a dead Beech Marten was seen at the side of the road. More fortunate was a Glass Snake that was crossing the road and caught by Georgos so we could have a quick look at this legless lizard before releasing it safely away from the road. The two vehicles went separate ways near the quarry and the passengers of one had excellent views of a displaying Levant Sparrowhawk. Once we all gathered in Vyronia quarry we could enjoy fine views of a male Blue Rock Thrush, Crag Martins and Red-rumped Swallows, and the nest of a pair of Rock Nuthatches was found, enabling us to get reasonable views of this charismatic little bird.

We then enjoyed our lunch in this pleasant location. Brief views of a Brown Hare and an Eastern Subalpine Warbler enabled us to stop in a clearing where we could scan the mountain. Much to everyone's excitement, a pair of Golden Eagles soared over the forest ridge for several minutes to complete an excellent session of wildlife watching. As we were leaving the area, a female Levant Sparrowhawk was seen at its nest, which was still under construction. After a short afternoon break four of the group joined Barrie for a brief visit to Himarros valley. A male Masked Shrike was in a tree next to the road before we reached the valley. A Short-toed Eagle was once again showing very well, as were Woodchat and Red-backed Shrikes. A Stonechat in the quarry was a first for the trip and the Black-eared Wheatears were obliging as usual. A check on the Eagle Owls brought smiles, as we were delighted that the juvenile and mother were sitting out in the open on a ledge three metres from the nest. As we returned down the track a Glass Snake was making a rapid crossing, but we saw enough of it to notice that it was shorter than the one we had seen earlier in the day.

Day 6

Sunday 15th May

A heronry in poplar trees near a road was our first destination to see nesting Spoonbills, Black-crowned Night Herons, Grey Herons and Little Egrets. The heronry only began five or six years ago and is a result of reduced nesting capacity in the drowned forest in Lake Kerkini. Good views were gained of all the species, with quite a few individuals bringing twigs into their nests.

An area known as the "canal" was next up, with a Little Bittern seen soon after arrival but it was spooked and flew off. This area must be one of the best places in the world to see Great Reed Warbler, because the individuals here sit at the top of the reeds singing away in full view. Perhaps the high breeding density is a reason why they are much less skulking than in many other areas of Europe; it's almost impossible to avoid seeing them. Cuckoos are another species that's very easy to see here with birds continually calling, flying and perching at the tops of trees. Black-headed Yellow Wagtail and Eastern Olivaceous Warbler were two more species that were seen well, with even one of the many Nightingales co-operating for some group members.

Rather surprisingly, raptors were in short supply, but a Black Stork soared for several minutes. A Lesser Grey Shrike and another Little Bittern appeared before we left the canal. Nearby, the pumping station had some very obliging Red-rumped Swallows that posed for photos. It was very hot so we returned to the hotel and ate our packed lunches on our balconies and had a relaxing afternoon before everyone joined our next session at Vyronia quarry. The quarry and nearby forests were looking splendid in the warm, late afternoon sunshine and some of the group saw a male Levant Sparrowhawk performing its graceful display. Some group members were treated to the delights of attempting to see an Antlion in their sand pit traps, while others had scope views of an Eastern Subalpine Warbler. An Eastern Orphean Warbler put in a couple of appearances, sitting at the top of a

tree long enough for scope views. In addition to some of the previous species seen in the quarry, a pair of Ravens were conspicuous plus Painted Lady and Little Tiger Blue butterflies were around. Before we left, we were pleased to see a Red Squirrel feeding on blossom in a nearby tree. Unfortunately we had to depart for dinner, which was at the taverna at Vyronia station. After a fine meal, a Scops Owl was heard and the International Space Station seen as we were about to leave.

Day 7

Monday 16th May

Mandraki Harbour was our destination this morning because we were taking a boat trip on Lake Kerkini. Nikos, the boatman, is an expert at manoeuvring the boat with the engine switched off to position the boat for good views and photography. This was perfectly demonstrated when we approached a group of Black Terns sitting on a log, close views in good light provided us with exceptional views. Prior to that, Nikos had taken us towards a fishing frenzy where hundreds of cormorants were taking advantage of shoaling fish and several pelicans were also taking advantage of the bountiful supply of fish. The sight and sound of the fishing frenzy is quite remarkable and we were fortunate to experience it. A few pairs of Black-necked Grebes were scattered around, providing a good comparison with the numerous Great-crested Grebes. Twenty-four Little Gulls, including a couple in adult plumage, settled in the middle of the lake and a few Common Terns enabled a size comparison.

As we moved into the flooded forest, we had close views of Great and Pygmy Cormorants, Little Egrets, Squacco Heron and Black-crowned Night Heron. Again, the sight and sound of this spectacle is something special and is always one of the highlights of the trip. As we moved down the Strimonas River, a few Great Egrets were good to see, two standing near two Little Egrets providing another good comparison opportunity. An unusual sighting at this time of year is Bewick's Swan and one was on the bank of the river. A few hundred spend the winter here and this one hadn't returned to its Siberian breeding grounds, probably indicating that it was injured or suffering from Avian Flu which was the reason why we saw a couple of dead pelicans.

The sounds of a couple of Penduline Tits could be heard from some riverside trees and we managed to see the impressive nest that this species makes at the end of a thin branch. Unfortunately the birds were not cooperative and only provided very brief views, much to everyone's frustration. To add to the frustration, another Penduline Tit was heard, but not seen, when we returned to Mandraki Harbour. The boat trip is always a relaxing and interesting experience and enjoyed by everyone, and this was no exception. An enjoyable lunch was taken at the Vyronia Station taverna to complete a satisfying few hours of the trip.

There were two optional late afternoon excursions – one to the Himarros valley and quarry, the other to the canal. Five Little Bitterns at the canal with some showing very well was a particular highlight. The other group had excellent views of a pair of Black-eared Wheatears and a male black-throated form of this wheatear. A Tree Pipit was heard singing and an adult Eagle Owl was visible, but not the chick. A Kestrel carrying a lizard over the quarry was an interesting sighting. A spectacular insect was found in the quarry, a Large Balkan Spoon-winged Lacewing, a very attractive creature. It was so hot in the evening that we ate our final meal outside on the hotel veranda. A male Levant Sparrowhawk flew across while we were waiting for the table to be set – a fine bird to finish with.

Day 8

Tuesday 17th May

It was a slightly earlier breakfast this morning in preparation for our journey to Thessaloniki Airport. Fortunately, there were no problems and we arrived in good time for our flight. The leaders said their goodbyes to the group at the end of a holiday with good weather and some excellent wildlife.

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Species lists

Birds (H = Heard only)

	Common name	Scientific name	May 2022						
			10	11	12	13	14	15	16
1	Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>							✓
2	Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>	✓	✓		✓			
3	Bewick's Swan	<i>Cygnus columbianus</i>							✓
4	Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>	✓	✓	✓				
5	Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>		✓					
6	Garganey	<i>Spatula querquedula</i>		✓					
7	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
8	Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>		✓					
9	Ferruginous Duck	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>		✓					
10	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	✓	✓	✓				
11	Pallid Swift	<i>Apus pallidus</i>	✓						
12	Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
13	Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
14	European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
15	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
16	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
17	Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
18	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>		✓	✓	✓			
19	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
20	Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>							✓
21	Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>	✓						✓

	Common name	Scientific name	May 2022						
			10	11	12	13	14	15	16
22	Eurasian Stone-curlew	<i>Burhinus oedicnemus</i>	✓						
23	Eurasian Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>	✓						
24	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	✓	✓					
25	Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>	✓						
26	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>	✓						
27	Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>	✓						
28	Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	✓						
29	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	✓						
30	Ruff	<i>Calidris pugnax</i>	✓						
31	Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	✓	✓					
32	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>	✓						
33	Terek Sandpiper	<i>Xenus cinereus</i>	✓						✓
34	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	✓						
35	Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>	✓						
36	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>	✓						
37	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>		✓					
38	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	✓						
39	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	✓	✓					✓
40	Little Gull	<i>Hydrocoloeus minutus</i>							✓
41	Mediterranean Gull	<i>Ichthyaeetus melanocephalus</i>	✓						
42	Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	✓	✓			✓		✓
43	Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>	✓						
44	Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>	✓						
45	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	✓						✓
46	Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>							✓
47	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>		✓	✓			✓	✓
48	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
49	Pygmy Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo pygmaeus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
50	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
51	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>		✓					
52	Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>		✓				✓	
53	Little Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>		✓				✓	✓
54	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>						✓	✓
55	Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>	✓	✓	✓				✓
56	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
57	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>		✓					
58	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>							✓
59	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
60	Great White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>		✓	✓				✓
61	Dalmatian Pelican	<i>Pelecanus crispus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
62	European Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>			✓		✓	✓	
63	Short-toed Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>		✓	✓		✓		✓
64	Lesser Spotted Eagle	<i>Clanga pomarina</i>		✓	✓		✓		
65	Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>	✓						
66	Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>					✓		
67	Levant Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter brevipes</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
68	Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	✓	✓			✓		✓
69	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
70	Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>					✓		
71	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
72	Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>	✓						

	Common name	Scientific name	May 2022						
			10	11	12	13	14	15	16
73	Eurasian Scops Owl	<i>Otus scops</i>						✓	
74	Eurasian Eagle-Owl	<i>Bubo bubo</i>		✓	✓		✓		✓
75	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
76	European Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>		✓					
77	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>		✓	✓			✓	
78	European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
79	Syrian Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos syriacus</i>				✓	✓	✓	
80	Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>		✓			✓		
81	White-backed Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos leucotos</i>				✓			
82	Black Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus martius</i>				✓			
83	European Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>		✓		✓	✓		
84	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
85	Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
86	Lesser Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius minor</i>					✓	✓	
87	Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
88	Masked Shrike	<i>Lanius nubicus</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	
89	Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
90	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	
91	Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
92	Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>	✓						
93	Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>	✓						
94	Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
95	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
96	Marsh Tit	<i>Poecile palustris</i>				✓			
97	Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>				✓			
98	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
99	Eurasian Penduline Tit	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>		✓					✓
100	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
101	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	✓	✓	✓				✓
102	Eurasian Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>					✓	✓	
103	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
104	Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
105	Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Cecropis daurica</i>		✓			✓	✓	✓
106	Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
107	Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>			✓	✓		✓	
108	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>			✓	✓	✓		
109	Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
110	Eurasian Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>						✓	
111	Eastern Olivaceous Warbler	<i>Iduna pallida</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
112	Olive-tree Warbler	<i>Hippolais olivetorum</i>			✓				
113	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>			✓	✓	✓		✓
114	Eastern Orphean Warbler	<i>Curruca crassirostris</i>				✓		✓	
115	Eastern Subalpine Warbler	<i>Curruca cantillans</i>			✓		✓	✓	
116	Common Whitethroat	<i>Curruca communis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
117	Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>				✓			
118	Western Rock Nuthatch	<i>Sitta neumayer</i>					✓		
119	Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>				✓			
120	Short-toed Treecreeper	<i>Certhia brachydactyla</i>				✓			
121	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
122	Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>				✓			

			May 2022						
	Common name	Scientific name	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
123	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
124	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>				✓	✓		
125	Common Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
126	Semicollared Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula semitorquata</i>				✓			
127	Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>					✓	✓	
128	European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>					✓		
129	Eastern Black-eared Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe melanoleuca</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
130	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
131	Spanish Sparrow	<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>			✓	✓			✓
132	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
133	Black-headed Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava feldegg</i>	✓		✓			✓	✓
134	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>				✓	✓		
135	Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>					✓		
136	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>							✓
137	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
138	Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>		✓					
139	European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>		✓		✓	✓		✓
140	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
141	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
142	Ortolan Bunting	<i>Emberiza hortulana</i>		✓	✓				
143	Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
144	Black-headed Bunting	<i>Emberiza melanocephala</i>			✓		✓		

Butterflies

		May 2022						
Common name	Scientific name	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
BUTTERFLIES:								
Scarce Swallowtail	<i>Iphiclides podalirius</i>			✓		✓	✓	
Black-veined White	<i>Aporia crataegi</i>			✓				
Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>	✓						
Southern Small White	<i>Artogeia mannii</i>							
Mountain Small White	<i>Artogeia ergane</i>							
Small White	<i>Artogeia rapae</i>							
Green-veined White	<i>Artogeia napi</i>							
Eastern Bath White	<i>Pontia edusa</i>			✓	✓		✓	
Eastern Dappled White	<i>Euchloe ausonia</i>							
Orange Tip	<i>Anthocharis cardamines</i>				✓	✓		
Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias crocea</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Berger's Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias alfacariensis</i>		✓					
Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>			✓	✓			
Little Tiger Blue	<i>Tarucus balkanicus</i>			✓			✓	
Holly Blue	<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>							
Brown Argus	<i>Arica agrestis</i>		✓					
Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Nettle-tree Butterfly	<i>Libythea celtis</i>				✓			
Southern White Admiral	<i>Limenitis reducta</i>					✓		
Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>						✓	
Spotted Fritillary	<i>Melitaea didyma</i>			✓				

Common name	Scientific name	May 2022						
		10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Lesser Spotted Fritillary	<i>Melitaea trivia</i>							
Queen of Spain Fritillary	<i>Issoria lathonia</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		
Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>		✓	✓				
Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>							
Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>							
Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus malvae</i>							
Oriental Marbled Skipper	<i>Carcharodus orientalis</i>					✓		
DRAGONFLIES & DAMSELFLIES:								
Beautiful Demoiselle	<i>Calopteryx virgo ssp. festiva</i>		✓			✓	✓	✓
Common Bluetail	<i>Ishnura elegans</i>		✓		✓	✓		
Azure Bluet	<i>Coenagrion puella</i>							
Dainty Bluet	<i>Coenagrion scitulum</i>							
Blue Featherleg	<i>Platycnemis pennipes</i>						✓	
Broad Scarlet	<i>Crocothemis erythraea</i>							✓
Broad-bodied Chaser	<i>Libellula depressa</i>		✓					
Blue Chaser	<i>Libellula fulva</i>		✓				✓	✓
White-tailed Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum albistylum</i>							
Southern Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum brunneum</i>							
Black-tailed Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum cancellatum</i>						✓	
Red-veined Darter	<i>Sympetrum fonscolombii</i>		✓					
Southern Darter	<i>Sympetrum meridionale</i>							
Ruddy Darter	<i>Sympetrum sanguineum</i>							
Common Darter	<i>Sympetrum striolatum</i>		?					

Others

Common name	Scientific name	May 2022						
		10	11	12	13	14	15	16
AMPHIBIANS & REPTILES:								
Marsh Frog	<i>Pelophylax ridibundus</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Hermann's Tortoise	<i>Tustudo hermanni</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
European Pond Terrapin	<i>Emys orbicularis</i>		✓				✓	
Balkan Terrapin	<i>Mauremys rivulata</i>							
Kotschy's Gecko	<i>Cyrtodactylus kotschy</i>					✓	✓	✓
Common Green Lizard	<i>Lacerta viridis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		
European Glass Snake	<i>Ophisaurus apodus</i>					✓		
Grass Snake	<i>Natrix natrix</i>		✓					
Fire Salamander	<i>Salamander salamander</i>				✓			
MAMMALS:								
Brown Hare	<i>Lepus europaeus</i>				✓	✓		
Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>				✓		✓	
Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>				✓			
Weasel	<i>Mustela nivalis</i>	✓						
Coypu	<i>Myocastor coypus</i>		✓					✓

OTHER INVERTEBRATES								
Ant lion sp								
Larger Balkan Spoon-winged Lacewing	<i>Nemoptera sinuata</i>							
Dung Beetle sp								
Stag Beetle sp								