

Spring in Northern Greece

Naturetrek Tour Report

24th April – 1st May 2026



Eagle-owl



Middle Spotted Woodpecker



Masked Shrike



Ortolan Bunting

Tour report by Marcus Kohler
Photos by Craig Morris and Wendy Powe



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Day 1

Friday 24th April

A very early flight from London Gatwick was as efficient as we could have hoped for, with the unexpected bonus of a singing Nightingale on arrival in the long stay car park, a taster for the daily chorus to come. We had a brief coffee stop and then headed due east to Funari. A brief stop at a viewpoint overlooking Lake Korinia gave the most distant imaginable views of Greater Flamingoes, but an Eastern Subalpine Warbler was much closer, and we also saw the first of many Red-rumped Swallows. It was largely a day of travel, with a view of the snow-capped Rhodope mountains as we approached the Nestos Delta National Park and our hotel in Fanari, the swanky Orbital. An evening meal at the beach taverna made for an idyllic end of the day.

Day 2

Saturday 25th April

We first made a brief stop at the pools on the edge of the Nestos Delta National Park. A Spotted Redshank was approaching full charcoal summer plumage, Black-winged Stilts were patrolling, and Wood Sandpipers, Greenshanks and a big party of Ruffs were also present. A flock of Collared Pratincoles was foraging over the island; Corn Buntings sang and the mosquitos arrived.

Following a diversion, our next stop was in riverine woodland. The day was already warm, but the Nightingales were in full song, and gradually the trees revealed a range of woodpeckers. We saw a Syrian quite close, heard a distant calling Grey-headed, and finally we watched a pair of Middle Spotted Woodpeckers at the nest, very close. Hoopoes showed well and a pair of Hobbies made frequent circuits, while Festoon butterflies were perched on the *Cirsium* thistles. A short distance further on, a Black Woodpecker appeared, and we watched this huge woodpecker feeding on a dead tree for some time: we felt privileged to get such prolonged views. A Short-toed Snake Eagle flew over, and above us Mediterranean Gulls incongruously mewed, their translucent white wings back-lit against the azure sky.

We had a picnic lunch in the woods, at what seemed to be an abandoned field station. The drive towards Nestos Gorge was peppered with stops for some special birds: stunning Squacco and Purple Herons, Marsh Harriers close by, and great views of Grey-headed Woodpecker, as well as two Spur-thighed Tortoises. Georgios was very excited by the presence of a Zitting Cisticola, a rare bird for Greece, performing its characteristic display flight. The Nestos Gorge was busy when we arrived mid-afternoon, but the marble formations were dramatic, the coffee was welcome, and a short walk revealed a Goosander, Grey Wagtail and Eastern Black-eared Wheatear, although the stunning vista was perhaps the most impressive thing of all.

Our final destination today was above the gorge, at a high viewpoint looking down on the river's winding path. Over time, it has eroded the limestone karst and skirted around the more resistant rocks, creating a meandering vista. The flora was spectacular, with Poppy Anemones, Grape Hyacinths and several species of orchids, including Early Spider and Four-spotted. Eastern Subalpine Warblers gradually revealed themselves for some exceptional views, and in the distance two Griffon Vultures were watched from above, while a dark-morph Booted Eagle flew high overhead. Our descent was interrupted by a beautifully marked juvenile Four-lined Snake and a Whinchat: it was a tired but exhilarated group that headed off to Fanari Bay for a fish meal by the sea

Day 3

Sunday 26th April

We set off to the coastal sand dunes of Fanari this morning, to a spit where terns gather. We found our first Black Terns, together with Little and Sandwich, and a solitary Whiskered. We saw a stunning Grey Plover and a solitary Kentish Plover, and if the chorus of the day yesterday had been crafted by Nightingales, this morning it was the mewing of Mediterranean Gulls. A trip to the salt pans brought our first close Greater Flamingo, and more Wood Sandpipers and Ruffs, while Avocets flew past, and (Black-headed) Yellow Wagtails (of the subspecies *feldegg*) and a flock of Slender-billed Gulls were present. On the edge of the beach, a Stone-curlew viewed us with some suspicion and the first of several Red-backed Shrikes was quickly followed by a group of three Whinchats. A short distance further on, the tree above us was a mass of colour: no fewer than seven Rollers were perched in it, flying away one by one in spectacular flashes of turquoise! Our first Woodchat Shrikes were also seen, equally well.

The town was busy, although a fly-over Caspian Tern was a treat from the bus. We returned to the Orbital Hotel for lunch and some well-earned rest. In the afternoon, we headed out to Lake Esmirelda, stopping en route for Spanish Sparrows next to the road: flocks of well over six hundred were congregating for a combined roost. A Golden Jackal showed well amid the spring flowers for all to see.

When we arrived at the lake, the marshy edge was peppered with Wood Sandpipers and more distant Ruffs, and a Purple Heron posed elegantly on the edge of willows. As we walked the road, we grasped the sheer biomass of migrating birds present. A huge flock of Black Terns (estimated at a minimum of two hundred) had a supporting cast of flashing White-winged Terns, and the occasional Whiskered Tern quartered busily over the water, while two flocks of bat-like Little Gulls flew in. The mixed flock was like a cloud over the lake, and above it all Collared Pratincoles were flycatching: it was a remarkable spectacle.

Behind us a Quail sang, and an immature harrier on the ground showed its pure collar and pale underparts: this was a rare Pallid Harrier to add to the scene. Garganeys and Shovelers were the most common ducks, while a White-fronted Goose was another unexpected bird, having stayed on from the winter. As the Wood Sandpipers called, a thirty-strong flock of Little Stints showed well, with large numbers of Ruffs in the distance. Great and Little Egrets provided more contrast, a Spur-winged Lapwing did a fly past, and the first of many Pygmy Cormorants defined the edge of an area of willow carr. It was difficult to drag ourselves away, but a return to our fine accommodation was overdue.

After an evening meal on the coast, a few went owling. Little, Barn and Scops had been heard, and after a little bit of encouragement we had a magnificent view of a Scops Owl in the tree above us, while a Northern White-breasted Hedgehog was another treat to complete a great day.

Day 4

Monday 27th April

This morning, we returned to the lake after breakfast. If anything, the flock of marsh terns was larger, and was now accompanied by more Little Gulls (well over three hundred), plus a White-winged Tern flock. Garganeys were closer today, and the array of waders was consistent with yesterday: we estimated a thousand Wood Sandpipers alone. A Short-toed Snake Eagle flew above with a snake in its bill, while a (Black-headed) Yellow Wagtail battered an unfortunate Striped Hawk-moth on the road.

Our journey came to a sharp stop when we spotted a pair of Masked Shrikes very close to the buses; we were able to take a good series of photos to capture their breeding plumage. A small lake had Great Crested Grebes, but although Great Reed Warblers were singing enthusiastically, they were not showing in the wind. However, nine Night Herons flew over and perched in the trees.

Our lunch stop was around an abandoned school, which had bespoke nestboxes for Lesser Kestrels. As we sat in the garden, several birds were hunting very low above us, while Spanish Sparrows were nesting within the safety of a huge White Stork nest. A Black Stork flew low over the garden.

It was warm now and the wind was strong; we spent the warmer part of the day on a bridge over the River Lessos. A Kingfisher flew by, a Nightingale showed briefly (as did a Penduline Tit), but an Eastern Olivaceous Warbler in full song was more accommodating, and gave a series of views, while in the distance a Spotted Flycatcher perched on a branch.

We drove along sandy tracks to the coast, but the wind was now strong. Out over the sea, there was a huge movement of shearwaters, dominated by banking Mediterranean (Yelkouan) Shearwaters, but with strong support from impressive Scopoli's Shearwaters. Some came quite close to the shore. An Arctic Skua also showed, but the wind was even stronger now and it was time to return. Our last evening meal in Kerina was back at the taverna on the coast

Day 5

Tuesday 28 April

Today was a day of transfer to Lake Karina, but with the opportunity to visit some sub-montane habitats en route. We ascended the hills with Blackbirds flitting out of the scrub. A stop on the Beech-covered slopes was quiet, although Marcus was trying to get rarities (!) in the form of Robin and Wren to show the Antipodeans in our party, without success! A Golden Oriole flew over, and a short distance along a Wood Warbler was in full song.

We ascended to the pine zone and into the upper edge of the montane zone. We could hear Rock Partridge, but searched without success, but there was plenty to see. A pair of Common Rock Thrushes displayed and showed well, and a Lesser Whitethroat was in the tree above us. Then an Ortolan Bunting flew down, right in front of us, and fearlessly foraged on the bank. A Montagu's Harrier flew over, but was only seen by a few. Cuckoos sang at our lunch spot, and a little further on, at an abandoned ski resort, a Tree Pipit was in full song. A quick scan revealed two Water Pipits, not quite in full breeding plumage, while on the ridge of the mountain Alpine Choughs ducked and dived. It was time to continue our journey, and we arrived at our hotel in the late afternoon: we settled in and enjoyed balcony views over the lake. A White-tailed Eagle languidly flew past our rooms.

Day 6

Wednesday 29 April

From our rooms, Golden Orioles were heard singing, and pelicans and rafts of cormorants could be seen on the lake. This morning, we were exploring the dyke on the southern side of the lake. Our first stop was at a stand of poplars, which supported an impressive waterbird colony. If Grey Herons were the commonest birds, then Spoonbills were the most obvious, in their subtle breeding plumage, with a wash of yellow on the breast. Night Herons and Little Egrets were present, as were Cattle Egrets, a new breeding bird for this area, while Hobbies flew over us and an Eastern Olivaceous Warbler sang.

Some of the familiar birds of the trip which hadn't merited the attention they had perhaps deserved could now be seen well. The Cuckoo posed, and Bee-eaters, whose migration to date had largely been at height above us, were now showing brilliantly, with many photographic opportunities during the morning as they circled us. The wind had dropped completely, and the Great Reed Warblers were now singing proudly on top of the *Phragmites* fronds. A Nightingale sang in the open, and a little further along we watched a Penduline Tit building its nest. Squacco Herons lined the canal, giving flashes of orange and white: they are always stunning birds when seen well. Golden Orioles showed occasionally, and several Kingfishers shot past. A Coypu fed beneath us, and a European Pond Terrapin sunbathed. A Lesser Spotted Woodpecker was on some dead wood, and gave some decent flight views, and on the lake, Dalmatian and White Pelicans were posing, enjoying the sun. A probable Wildcat revealed itself to two of the group: its thick tail and behaviour were in keeping with this species, although hybrids with domestic cats are present in this area.

We returned to our hotel to celebrate a second birthday of the trip (thanks everyone!), and either to take a siesta or to enjoy the panoramic views from our balconies. In the afternoon, we visited a limestone quarry and let the wildlife come to us for an hour. The buffalo pat next to the minibus door was an unfortunate introduction to this species for one of us from a distant land! However, the views across the plain were spectacular, made all the more so by a pair of Levant Sparrowhawks displaying in front of us, coming very close and showing their extraordinary and peculiar jizz.

In the quarry, Eastern Black-eared Wheatears were showing well, their sandy colour blending with the rocks, while a Blue Rock Thrush made for a far briefer encounter. Ravens quartered the ridge and Crag Martins shot through, but then the main target bird appeared: Western Rock Nuthatch. We were able to watch a pair of these charismatic birds visit a mud nest within a karst fissure.

Due to a weather warning, we had decided to move our boat trip forward a day, and headed to the edge of the lake. White and Dalmatian Pelicans posed with comical countenances on willow rafts, Squacco Herons defined the edge of the lake, and Pochards, Shovelers and Teals were in the shallows, looking nervous. A lone Ferruginous Duck flew by, while a raft of Black-necked Grebes showed their orange ear tufts in full summer glory. All this paled into insignificance in the face of the density of some species: over four thousand cormorants appeared as black dots on the white trees and as random spills of black on the water, with pelicans flocking and nesting on the artificial island. As we approached the centre of the lake and floated with the engines off, we were within a cloud of marsh terns feeding all around us; several thousand Black Terns were foraging, showing flashes of white from their rumps, with greater contrast from the regular White-winged Terns, the occasional Whiskered and also a Gull-billed Tern. It was an unforgettable spectacle to be surrounded by such a density of talismanic birds.

Our evening meal comprised superb local food in a charming taverna in Akritochori, and our journey back was memorable for a stunning Stone Marten seen from the road.

Day 7

Thursday 30th April

This morning, we headed off to a river valley, which provided a wonderful habitat mosaic. At our first stop, Hawfinches dashed out of the nearest tree, and up to four Golden Orioles were visible on the tree line, while a Levant Sparrowhawk flew across with its languid idiosyncratic flight. A short distance further on, we were watching

an Eagle-owl at its nest, with very young fledglings occasionally revealing themselves as the adult female panted in the sun.

The roadside flowers were stunning an array of daisies, poppies, Eastern Red Bartsia and flowering Salsify, and the feeding butterflies included the subtle Nettle-Tree Butterfly (a re-emergence from hibernation), Queen of Spain Fritillary, Common and Mazarine Blues, Brown Argus and Scarce Swallowtails. A Cirl Bunting perched and sang above us, and an Eastern Subalpine Warbler joined in on the same tree, at the same time as a group of Long-tailed Tits bounced through the scrub. An Eastern Orphean Warbler allowed everyone to see it well. A pale-morph Booted Eagle flew over, followed by a Lesser Spotted Eagle, while a huge male Spur-thighed Tortoise was on the track, with scars to show a long life and a close shave or two. A pair of Balkan Green Lizards posed on a stump. We could hear a newly arrived Olive-tree Warbler and a distant Sombre Tit, but both failed to show, despite a concerted effort by the group. We headed back to our hotel to spend a few hours relaxing and enjoying the view, with Syrian and Grey-headed Woodpeckers, Golden Oriole and Levant Sparrowhawk showing well.

The clouds were ominous as we set off in the afternoon, skirting the southern edge of the lake. Black Kites were suddenly the most numerous raptor, while Bee-eaters were calling. Then the brakes were on and we were all out of the bus for a magnificent display from two pairs of Red-footed Falcons, their colour contrast evident as they banked against the backdrop of the mountains. Turtle Doves were calling, and showing on the telegraph wires, and then a Lesser Spotted Eagle joined us, flying through and landing on a tree.

The promised rain now arrived, and a storm set in, although Georgios, being Georgios, kept searching for more: we did see a pair of Tawny Pipits on the track and Little Ringed Plover! We returned for our last evening meal at the railway taverna. This is normally a great location for birds, but the storm was in its full glory: the food was still great.

Day 8

Friday 1st May

It was a clear post-storm morning, and there was a layer of fresh snow on the mountains, making for a stunning panorama from our rooms and the breakfast table. We had a reasonable 8.00am hour start to head for the airport, and as had always been the case on this trip, everyone was ready early. However, one minibus had gone down with repetitive strain injury on the side door, which simply would not shut: closer inspection revealed that it had lost part of its locking mechanism. A Heath Robinson wire solution was attempted for a few miles, but after a few miles (and freezing Antipodeans) it was apparent that the 'solution' wouldn't be good enough for the forthcoming motorway. Georgios was on the case, however, and no sooner had we got the bags off the bus than two taxis arrived to take the second bus's clients to the airport. We all arrived with plenty of time to catch the flight: it was a drama averted! No Greek tragedy for us...

I would like to thank the whole group for a great tour. We had a wide spectrum of knowledge and experience of wildlife watching, and everyone really worked together to ensure we all saw what we wanted and got the most out of a fine trip. We had visited a stunning range of habitats, from montane meadows, through pine, beech and oak forest, to the *phrygana* habitat of thick scrub and flowering *Cistus*, limestone quarries to lowland valleys full of butterflies and spring flowers, riverine woodland, to the coast and salt pans, and of course the amazing wetlands of Nestos Delta National Park and the Ramsar protected site, Lake Kerkini.

The glue of our visit was the expertise of our local guide, Georgios, whose knowledge, humour and endless vitality provided us with a remarkable holiday. We had seen 191 bird species, twenty species of butterfly (in early spring), eight mammal species and six reptiles, of which 118 were new to one of our antipodean friends. More important than the numbers game, we had enjoyed wildlife spectacles that we will not forget, from being in a boat surrounded by literally thousands of foraging marsh terns, to watching an Eagle-owl with its fledglings, to marvelling at Red-footed Falcons flying around us, to watching Middle Spotted Woodpeckers change over at the nest, to a group of seven Rollers in a tree, to a Black Woodpecker drumming right in front of us. It had been a trip with so many moments to savour.



White Pelicans, Great Cormorants and Grey Heron

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Species lists

Birds (H=heard only)

I=Introduced		April - May 2026							
Common name	Scientific name	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	1
Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>		1	2	2				
White fronted Goose	<i>Anser albifrons</i>			1	1				
Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>	30	10	50	50		30		
Ferruginous Duck	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>						1		
Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>						20		
Garganey	<i>Spatula querquedula</i>			9	15		18		
Northern Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>			6	20		10		
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	1		2	2		4	4	
Common Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>						10		
Common Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>			H	H				
Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>	✓		1					
Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>						1		
Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	2			4	1	50	10	
Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>						15		
Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>		H	H	1	H	4	H	
European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>		2		25			6	
Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	4				6	6	4	
Feral Rock Dove - I	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>						5	2	
Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>				5		10	2	
Eurasian Stone-curlew	<i>Burhinus oedicephalus</i>			1					
Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>			3					
Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	5	10	8	10	2			
Eurasian Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>		1	6	3				
Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>			2					
Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>			2					
Little Ringed Plover	<i>Thinornis dubius</i>							4	
Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>			10	6		1		
Spur-winged Lapwing	<i>Vanellus spinosus</i>			2	1				
Kentish Plover	<i>Anarhynchus alexandrinus</i>			1					
Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>			1					
Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>			50					
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>				1		1		
Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>		2	500	1000		2	2	
Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>			H	2				
Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>		2		2		4		
Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>		1	8	2		1		
Ruff	<i>Calidris pugnax</i>		30	200	800		12		
Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>			4					
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>		✓						
Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>			3	35				
Collared Pratincole	<i>Glareola pratincola</i>		7	10	120				
Arctic Skua	<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>				1				
Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>			20	✓				

I=Introduced		April - May 2026							
Common name	Scientific name	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	1
Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>			1	2				
Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>						1		
Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>			3	1		100		
White-winged Tern	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>			30	32		100		
Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>			200	250		3000		
Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>			20	2				
Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	10	2	20	10	✓	20	✓	
Little Gull	<i>Hydrocoloeus minutus</i>			40	335		50		
Slender-billed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus genei</i>			10					
Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>			30			30		
Mediterranean Gull	<i>Ichthyaetus melanocephalus</i>		30	✓	150				
Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Scopoli's Shearwater	<i>Calonectris diomedea</i>				50				
Mediterranean Shearwater	<i>Puffinus yelkouan</i>				100				
Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>				1		1	1	
White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	✓	✓	6	✓		✓	✓	
Pygmy Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo pygmaeus</i>			8	21		✓	6	
European Shag	<i>Gulosus aristotelis</i>				1				
Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>			1			4000	✓	
Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	40	60	10	40				
Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>					1	20		
Great White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>	1	1	✓		6	✓	6	
Dalmatian Pelican	<i>Pelecanus crispus</i>					1	✓	6	
Eurasian Bittern	<i>Botaurus stellaris</i>			H					
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	3	12	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>				8		40		
Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>		1	6	6		50	20	
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>			6	6	1		2	
Western Cattle Egret	<i>Ardea ibis</i>						6		
Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>		2	6	6		2	2	
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	✓	✓	10	3	1	30	6	
Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarpis melba</i>	2	100		2	4			
Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Pallid Swift	<i>Apus pallidus</i>								
Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>		H	H	H	H			
Eurasian Scops Owl	<i>Otus scops</i>		H	1	H	H			
Eurasian Eagle-Owl	<i>Bubo bubo</i>							3	
Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>		H	H					
European Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>							1	
Griffon Vulture	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>		2						
Short-toed Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>		2	1	3			3	
Lesser Spotted Eagle	<i>Clanga pomarina</i>						2	3	
Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>		1					2	
Levant Sparrowhawk	<i>Tachyspiza brevipes</i>						4	3	
Pallid Harrier	<i>Circus macrourus</i>			1					
Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>					1			
Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>			6	10	2	6	2	
Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>						1	6	

I=Introduced		April - May 2026							
Common name	Scientific name	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	1
White-tailed Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>					1	2		
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	✓	✓	3	1	2	1	2	
Common Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>	1	8	4	4	2	✓	4	
European Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>			9					
European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>		20	30	30		50	30	
Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>				1		3	1	
Grey-headed Woodpecker	<i>Picus canus</i>		2				H	1	
European Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>					H		1	
Black Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus martius</i>		2						
Middle Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocoptes medius</i>		4						
Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>		2						
Syrian Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos syriacus</i>		2	2			1	H	
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dryobates minor</i>						1		
Lesser Kestrel	<i>Falco naumanni</i>				20				
Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Red-footed Falcon	<i>Falco vespertinus</i>							4	
Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>	4	6		1		1		
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>		1						
Rose-ringed Parakeet - I	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>	1							
Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>		1	H	H	H	3	6	
Masked Shrike	<i>Lanius nubicus</i>				3			2	
Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>	1	1	3	4		1	7	
Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>			4	6	1	6	2	
Alpine Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax graculus</i>					1			
Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	2				1	1	1	
Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>	2	2	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>								2
Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	2	2	2			2		
Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus corone cornix</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Eurasian Penduline Tit	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>		H		1		3		
Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>					3	2		
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>	2	2		1	4	4	3	
Coal Tit	<i>Periparus ater</i>					2	H		
Sombre Tit	<i>Poecile lugubris</i>							H	
Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>		H			H			
Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>			6	6				
Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>	2	8	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Calandra Lark	<i>Melanocorypha calandra</i>		1	10	6				
Eastern Olivaceous Warbler	<i>Iduna pallida</i>				1		3	H	
Common Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>		1		1		1		
Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>			H	H		6	2	
Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	2						1	
Eurasian Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>		2				6		
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Western House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

I=Introduced		April - May 2026							
Common name	Scientific name	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	1
European Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Cecropis rufula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>							12	
Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>		H	H	1		H		
Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>		1			5		H	
Wood Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>					H			
Olive-tree Warbler	<i>Hippolais olivetorum</i>							H	
Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>				H	H		H	
Barred Warbler	<i>Curruca nisoria</i>								
Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Curruca curruca</i>					4	2		
Eastern Orphean Warbler	<i>Curruca crassirostris</i>							2	
Common Whitethroat	<i>Curruca communis</i>		1	2	2			1	
Sardinian Warbler	<i>Curruca melanocephala</i>	H	H				1	2	
Eastern Subalpine Warbler	<i>Curruca cantillans</i>		3	1				2	
Western Rock Nuthatch	<i>Sitta neumayer</i>						2		
Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>					1			
Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>					H			
Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>					1			
Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>		H						
Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>		2			10	1	2	
Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>				1				
Pied Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>		1						
European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>					H			
Common Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>	H	H	H	2	H	H	H	
Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>					H			
Common Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola saxatilis</i>					4			
Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>						1		
Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>		1	3	1			2	
Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncodis</i>		1						
European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>					3			
Eastern Black-eared Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe melanoleuca</i>		2				3		
Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>		1		1	4			
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>			2	3		✓	✓	
Spanish Sparrow	<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>	1		500	✓	✓	✓	✓	
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>		1						
Western Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>		3	10	30		2		
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>					✓	1	1	
Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>							2	
Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>					2		H	
Water Pipit	<i>Anthus spinoletta</i>					2			
Red-throated Pipit	<i>Anthus cervinus</i>				1				
Eurasian Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	✓	✓			✓		✓	
Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>							4	
European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>						2	4	
Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>	5	10	2		✓		2	
European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		4	6		✓	✓	6	

I=Introduced		April - May 2026							
Common name	Scientific name	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	1
European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>							1	
Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Ortolan Bunting	<i>Emberiza hortulana</i>					4			
Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>						H	4	
Rock Bunting	<i>Emberiza cia</i>					1			

Mammals

I=introduced, D=dead		April - May 2026							
Common name	Scientific name	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	1
Coypu - I	<i>Myocastor coypus</i>					1		1	
Northern White-breasted Hedgehog	<i>Erinaceus roumanicus</i>			D	1	1			
Nathusius' Pipistrelle	<i>Pipistrellus nathusii</i>			1					
European Wildcat	<i>Felis silvestris</i>					1			
Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>				1				
Golden Jackal	<i>Canis aureus</i>			1	2				
Stone Marten	<i>Martes foina</i>					1			
Least Weasel	<i>Mustela nivalis</i>	D							

Reptiles

D=dead		April - May 2026							
Common name	Scientific name	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	1
Eastern Green Lizard	<i>Lacerta viridis</i>		1						
Balkan Green Lizard	<i>Lacerta trilineata</i>							2	
Caspian Whip Snake	<i>Dolichophis caspius</i>		D						
Four-lined Snake	<i>Elaphe quartuorlineata</i>		1			D			
Spur-thighed Tortoise	<i>Testudo graeca</i>		2	1				2	
European Pond Terrapin	<i>Emys orbicularis</i>						1		

Butterflies

		April - May 2026							
Common name	Scientific name	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	1
Scarce Swallowtail	<i>Iphiclydes podalirius</i>		✓					2	
Common Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>				✓				
Southern Festoon	<i>Zerynthia polyxena</i>		✓	✓	✓				
Common Brimstone	<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>		✓					1	
Berger's Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias alfacariensis</i>		✓						
Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias croceus</i>		✓	✓				✓	
Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>		✓	✓	✓			2	
Eastern Dappled White	<i>Euchloe ausonia</i>			✓					
Common Orange-tip	<i>Anthocharis cardamines</i>		✓	✓				✓	
Green Hairstreak	<i>Callophrys rubi</i>				✓				
Holly Blue	<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>		✓						
Holly Blue	<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>			✓				✓	
Chequered Blue	<i>Scolitantides orion</i>							✓	
Mazarine Blue	<i>Cyaniris semiargus</i>					1		1	

		April - May 2026							
Common name	Scientific name	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	1
Southern White Admiral	<i>Limenitis reducta</i>							1	
Queen of Spain Fritillary	<i>Issoria lathonia</i>							1	
Peacock Butterfly	<i>Aglais io</i>		✓						
Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>					1	1	1	
Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>		✓						
Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>		✓						

Damselflies

		April - May 2026							
Common name	Scientific name	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	1
Common Bluetail	<i>Ischnura elegans</i>						1		