

# Go Slow in Istria in Autumn

Naturetrek Tour Report

28th September – 5th October 2025

---



Pygmy Cormorant



Praying Mantis

Tour report compiled by Jason Mitchell and Giacomo Sighele. Photo by Jason Mitchell

---



Naturetrek    Mingledown Barn    Wolf's Lane    Chawton    Alton    Hampshire    GU34 3HJ    UK

T: +44 (0)1962 733051

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

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

Tour participants: Jason Mitchell and Giacomo Sighele (leaders) with 14 Naturetrek clients

## Summary

We enjoyed a wonderful week with excellent Mediterranean weather and a rich flora and fauna, which included a number of exciting eastern specialities. Birding was particularly rewarding, with sightings of many 'target' species, including Griffon Vulture, Hen Harrier, Red-rumped Swallow, Pygmy Cormorant and four species of woodpecker. We spent a remarkable last morning at Isola della Cona, with flocks of hundreds of geese, ducks and waders, resting and flying together at perhaps Italy's most prestigious wetland. Butterflies were also notable, with an impressive autumn list of 24 species, helped by the presence of a rich variety of late blooms, including hundreds of Autumn Lady's Tresses orchid and the striking Autumn Squill. A number of visits to the region's famed cultural sites included the stunning Roman arena in Pula and the twelfth century fortified church at Hrastovlje, with its world-famous frescoes including a striking 'Dance of Death' mural. Another popular visit was to medieval Hum, considered by some to be the smallest city in the world! In all, we enjoyed a successful week sampling the riches of the three countries (Croatia, Slovenia and Italy) that make up the Istrian peninsula, and this was made all the more agreeable for the friendship and good humour of a super group of wildlife enthusiasts.

## Day 1

**Sunday 28th September**

### London Stansted to Trieste

With our flight arriving on time, we made our way to the Arrivals Hall, where we met with Giacomo, the other leader, and a group member who had been in Trieste for the past couple of days. We made our way to the car hire area, where our minibuses were waiting. It was not long before we were on the road heading south-eastwards, taking the autoroute towards Trieste. We stopped at a service station about an hour into the transfer, before completing our journey to our hotel in Motovun, our base for the week. Along the way, we recorded Common Buzzard, Hooded Crow, Jay and Grey Heron. Rooms were speedily allocated, and we had time to freshen up before going to the hotel restaurant for our first evening meal.

## Day 2

**Monday 29th September**

### Istarske Toplice area, Srbani and Mirna River Valley

Our first morning dawned bright and sunny and following a banquet breakfast, we drove the short distance to explore the area around Istarske Toplice, an area known for its wildlife. Our walk took us round the grounds of a closed-down hotel with its scrubby woodland, rock faces, grassland and a disused quarry. In the warm morning sunshine, insects were very active, with Berger's Clouded Yellow, Small White and Common Blue butterflies all seen early on, as well as the black and red striped Italian Shield Bug. Plant finds included Nettle-leaved Bellflower, Sowbread, Pink Bindweed and Annual Fleabane. Bird species included Chiffchaff, Raven, Marsh Tit, and a couple of Crag Martins flying over a rocky outcrop. Some species kept hidden from sight, including both Green and Black Woodpeckers, and a Hawfinch which gave its distinctive 'pix' call. Additional butterflies were Great-banded Grayling, Silver-washed Fritillary, Oberthur's Grizzled Skipper and a fine Adonis Blue.

It was now time for our picnic lunch, which we took in a shelter adjacent to the Chapel of St. Michael near Srbani,

some twenty minutes west towards the coast. Whilst the picnic was being prepared, a spot of botanising turned up several delicate plants of Autumn Lady's Tresses and the more colourful Autumn Squill. Replete, we continued west towards the mouth of the Mirna River. As we went, we saw Barn Swallow and House Martin. Upon our arrival, we parked up and began to scan the two lagoons. Early bird species were Great Cormorant, Great White and Little Egrets, Mute Swan, Mallard, Teal, Wigeon and Grey Heron. A flyby juvenile Hen Harrier was quite unexpected, but the star of the show was a Kingfisher which perched obligingly, giving time for the whole group to enjoy excellent scope views. Along the way we recorded Sea Aster, Marsh Mallow and Tamarisk.

In need of some caffeine and culture, we headed to Novigrad. Following a welcome drink, we set off to explore the charming harbour area, where a few Comb Jellyfish were seen drifting in the clear waters. The origins of the town can be traced back to the 5<sup>th</sup> century, and it still retains its medieval structure and layout, with narrow, winding streets and small shops. The fortifications also belong to the medieval era and the town wall still stands with its battlements and two round towers. After an enjoyable stroll, it was now time to make our way back to the hotel. Later, we met up again to go through the species lists, before a short drive to the delightful and rustic restaurant, Konoba Dolina, in the nearby village of Gradinje.

## Day 3

**Tuesday 30th September**

### Kamenjak Peninsula and Pula

Today, we made our way down to the very southern tip of Istria, the Kamenjak peninsula. Along the way we saw Hooded Crow, Common Starling, Magpie and Jay. We made our way southwards along the A9 Autostrada towards Pula, stopping en-route for morning coffee and a comfort break in a service station, from where we spotted a couple of Woodlarks giving their sweet song flight above the car park. Continuing our journey, we were thrilled to watch an Osprey drift over the road in front of us, just before making our way out onto the peninsula.

Accessing the peninsula, we drove slowly down towards the southern tip, parking up in a large open area on the east side. Unfortunately the heavens opened as we exited the minibuses, but we decided to cover-up and make a quick loop over the area none-the-less. Before setting off, a dark falcon appeared briefly over the horizon before quickly disappearing once more; we suspected Eleonora's Falcon but couldn't be certain – “the one that got away”! Our explorations produced Goldcrest, Barn Swallow, Sparrowhawk and two flighty Common Redstarts. Plants included Mastic Bush, Maritime Pine, Aleppo Pine and Wavyleaf Mullein. Moving our vehicles to the point, we added Yellow-legged Gull, Mediterranean Shag and several noisy Sardinian Warblers to the list.

In light of the unpredictable weather, it was decided to visit Restaurant Da Giovanni in Premantura, for some delicious pizza! After eating, we moved into the city of Pula and made our way to the Roman Arena. Today the Pula Arena is the sixth largest Roman arena still standing and once held 20,000 spectators, indicating the importance and wealth of the area 1,600 years ago. With an economy based on wine and olive oil, a vast number of agricultural workers lived in the vicinity at that time. It survived the depredations suffered by arenas elsewhere, because of a collapse in Istria's population after the departure of the Romans and the abundance of the raw materials (marble and limestone) in the immediate vicinity, which meant that the old site was not looted until much later. Group members made their own way around the site. Reconvening at the arena car park, we made the homeward journey back to our hotel. At around 7pm, we gathered for the lists and to go to dinner in the hotel restaurant.

## Day 4

Wednesday 1st October

### Koper and Škocjanski Zatok

The day began warm and sunny as we headed into Slovenia to visit Koper, stopping en-route to overlook some interesting saltpans, where a few Greenshank sifted the saline pools for invertebrates. But the highlight was a small buoyant flock of Red-rumped Swallows that swooped and flitted overhead, feeding on aerial insects to fuel their onward migration south. We then continued to the old town in Koper, where the group headed for the 15th-century Praetorian Palace in the city square. It was built from two older 13th-century houses that were connected by a loggia (council chamber), rebuilt many times, and then finished as a Venetian Gothic palace. After a pleasant hour exploring the narrow streets, market, gelaterias and coffee shops, the group walked slowly back to the vehicles parked at the port side. Yellow-legged Gull, Mediterranean Shag and Black-headed Gull were seen, as well as Clouded Yellow, Small White and Common Blue butterflies on a grassy bank by the car park.

We now made our way to the nature reserve at Škocjanski Zatok, on the outskirts of Koper, where we took our picnic lunch outside the reserve Visitor Centre, also utilising the coffee shop facilities. After eating, we made the circular walk around the reserve, visiting all the different hides. As we set off, we disturbed an Italian Wall Lizard and several *Pelophylax* 'green frogs'. There were also a number of Migrant Hawker and Common Darter dragonflies on the wing, as well as Eastern Willow Spreadwing damselfly. The hides produced close views of Coot, as well as Little, Cattle and Great Egrets, along with Mallard, Snipe, Curlew, Moorhen, Hooded Crow, Whinchat and Northern Wheatear.

We now turned our attention to the seaward side of the site and scanning the saltmarshes, we recorded Great Cormorant, Great Crested Grebe, Little Grebe, Greenshank, Grey Heron and Kingfisher. But the highlight was a trio of Pygmy Cormorants that 'snorkelled' between islands, some tens of metres away. Then, on leaving the salt-marsh screen, we stumbled across a handsome, bright green Praying Mantis, which enjoyed its five minutes of fame with us encircling it for a close-up photo. Once in the impressive tower hide, we revelled in 360° views of this wonderful wetland reserve, nestled remarkably close to the bustling port of Koper. Returning to the visitor centre we added Red Admiral, Clouded Yellow and Meadow Brown butterflies, as well as a dandy Common Redstart. At the last viewing screen, a Pygmy Cormorant posed impeccably on a wooden post just metres away, surrounded by a host of duck species. We then followed the track back to the vehicles, spotting the rarely seen and curious Mole Cricket as it sought cover in the grassy margins. Returning to the hotel, we reconvened an hour later for the lists and the drive to Konoba Dolina for dinner.

## Day 5

Thursday 2nd October

### Motovun, Ipsa and Istarske Toplice

With our hotel situated at the zig-zag road leading up to Motovun - "a town in the hills" -, it was decided a visit was a must. This medieval town grew up on the site of an ancient city called Castellieri, and is located on a hill 270 metres (886 feet) above sea level with houses scattered all over the hill. Many of the group took a walk along the defensive walls dating from 1278, which offer unique views over the four corners of Istria. The three parts of the town are connected by a system of internal and external fortifications with towers and city gates containing elements of Romanesque, Gothic and Renaissance styles. Built between the 14th and 17th centuries, it is a typical



example of Venetian colonial architecture. However, wildlife was never far away; a Kaki tree (Sharon Fruit) burgeoning with bright orange fruits attracted a Blackcap and Chiffchaff, while a Black Redstart gave its cheery, if rather scratchy, song from a chimney pot.

This afternoon, we had an appointment at the Ipša Olive Oil and Wine farm at Ipši, for a tasting and lunch. Upon arrival we were met by our friendly guide, who gave us an informative tour of the olive oil production process, from freshly picked fruit to the bottled oil. We then relaxed while enjoying a fabulous lunch in the smart, purpose-built tasting room. Here we sampled three varieties of olive oil and three different wines, all produced locally at the farm. There were also opportunities to purchase their products, which a number of us did. We now departed for a wooded valley close to Istarske Toplice, for a pleasant afternoon stroll.

Parking close to the middle-reaches of the River Mirna, we set off along a tree-lined path hugging the valley bottom. The woodland was primarily deciduous, dominated by Field Maple and Pedunculate Oak, but there was a scattering of Black Pine. Advancing along the track, we disturbed several interesting butterflies, including both Mallow and Oberthur's Skippers and a well-worn Purple Hairstreak. The pick-of-the-day would have been a fine Queen of Spain Fritillary, had it not shot off at high speed. There were good views of a pair of Marsh Tit and both Black and Lesser Spotted Woodpeckers were heard but, unfortunately, kept hidden from sight. Two dragonflies were flying in the late sun: Southern Hawker and Common Darter. Returning to the vehicles, a Goshawk feather was found on the ground, and further interest was added by the curious spiky Common Cocklebur. Back at the hotel some enjoyed the spa facilities, before meeting again for listing and dinner in the excellent restaurant.

## Day 6

## Friday 3rd October

### Hrastovlje and Cepic

Today our first objective was to visit the twelfth century fortified Church of the Holy Trinity at Hrastovlje, which stands behind a wall built to protect itself from Turkish attacks in the 16th century. The church is world famous for its murals dating back to the time of Columbus featuring both a 'Dance of Death' and inscriptions in the locally-used glagolitic script from the early 15th century. The drive took forty-five minutes, and as we went we noted White Wagtail, Jay and Common Buzzard. Entering the church, we all marvelled at the wall paintings depicting the principal segments from the bible, and dating from the 1490s.

After the visit we explored the area around the church, finding Small Copper, Common Blue, Clouded Yellow, Grayling and Great Banded Grayling. Along a small track Smoke Tree, Winter Savoury and Wild Asparagus were noted and birds seen included Cirl Bunting and Woodlark, both in full song. Then followed our picnic, which was taken at a viewpoint with a stunning vista over the church and to the craggy hills beyond. Well fed, we made our now well-rehearsed stop for refreshments, this time in a charming local café.

Heading back towards the hotel, we visited the northern plateau behind Istarske Toplice. At the top of a climb, we parked at the hamlet of Cepic, on a wide grassy verge and set off on a pleasant walk along quiet lanes, finally arriving at the Church of the Most Holy Trinity. The walk proved especially productive for both orthoptera and reptiles. The first group was well represented by Great Green Bush-cricket, Egyptian Grasshopper and the stunning Schmidt's Marbled Bush-cricket. Whilst watching the 'Great Green' on a large trunk, we noticed a juvenile

Eastern Green Lizard motionless at the base of the same oak. At the church, a strikingly green Italian Wall Lizard sunned itself and Giacomo found a Dalmatian *Algyroides* on the church walls. Returning to the minibuses, we marvelled at a swathe of bright yellow Wild Snapdragons, with a lone Giant Orchid rosette nestled within the sward. Then a last look from a viewpoint produced a showy Goldcrest and a couple of Ravens. Returning to our minibuses, we made our way back to our hotel, to freshen up before calling the list and going to dinner at the Konoba Dolina for the last time.

## Day 7

Saturday 4th October

### Poklon Pass, Mala Ucka and Hum

Our first stop was on the Poklon pass, a viewpoint overlooking the Kvarner Bay, the city of Rijeka, and the northernmost islands of Dalmatia, Krk and Cres. The views were unrestricted, and we could see as far as the tops of the immense Velebit mountain chain. Although breezy, we saw both Marsh Tit and Great Tit and plants included Sowbread, Italian Maple, Whorled Clary and Wormwood, while overhead, a flock of around a hundred Wood Pigeons migrated west. After a brief comfort stop at the Visitors Centre for the Nature Park, we headed a little lower and made our way towards the village of Mala Ucka, parking about half a mile to the west of the village.

We set off to walk the hillside and explored as we went; the leaves of Istrian Deeply-incised-leaved Hellebore were noted, and Whitebeam were scattered along the road margins and Crested Tit was heard, and eventually seen really well. In the distance, a Honey Buzzard circled over woodland and a pair of Ravens 'croaked' overhead, in addition to Water Pipit, Chiffchaff, Blackcap, Marsh Tit and Black Redstart. There was a good array of invertebrates present, including both Red-winged and Blue-winged Grasshoppers, but a stunning Spurge Hawk-moth caterpillar was a real joy to behold. At this point we returned to our chosen lunch spot, where we took a short break on the outskirts of the village to eat our picnic. Here we were treated to the imposing silhouettes of six Griffon Vultures, as they glided effortlessly low over our heads.

With our meal completed we headed to the nearest café, followed by a visit to the village of Hum. Dating back to 1102, this tiny town has just 30 permanent residents. There is a bell and watch tower which was built in 1552 as part of the town's defences, alongside the town's loggia which is now a wine bar! Hum's glagolitic wall writings are preserved in the church, dating from the second half of the 12th century; they are one of the oldest examples of Croatian glagolitic. Hum is also the world centre for an alcoholic drink called "Biska". This is a mistletoe brandy but not made with the familiar species associated with Christmas kisses, but with Yellow-berried Mistletoe (*Loranthus europaeus*), a deciduous parasitic plant which grows on Sessile Oak. There was a fine example of the oak in the car park, resplendent with a number of clumps of the mistletoe. After some independent exploration, we met back at the vehicles for the journey back to Motovun. After listing, we sat down to enjoy our final group dinner together.

## Day 8

Sunday 5th October

### Réserve Naturelle Régionale Fose dell'Isonzo

Following a week of near perfect weather, it was something of a shock to wake to high winds and driving rain. With a hearty breakfast inside, we loaded the minibuses and headed north-west towards Trieste. However, with

our flight leaving mid-afternoon, we had time for one more visit. So after a couple hours of driving, we arrived at Fose dell'Isonzo, one of Italy's most prestigious nature reserves. With the rain still pouring we headed directly to the tearoom, where we enjoyed a hot drink whilst viewing the nature reserve through a huge picture window. A small group of white Camargue horses set the scene over this important wetland site. Greylag Geese were numerous, and joined by good numbers of various ducks, including Shoveler, Teal and Pintail.

Refreshed, we took the stairs to the top of a fully covered tower hide, with extensive views across the marsh. Giacomo pointed out a Ruddy Shelduck, which was shortly followed by another rufous species – a Cinnamon Teal. Although both were of dubious origins, they were interesting finds and stimulated much debate. Elsewhere, a few waders stood motionless waiting for the tide to recede and expose the food-rich mudflats once more. Good numbers of Greenshank and Curlew were accompanied by a small flock of Dunlin, some still sporting their summer plumage with dark bellies. With time running short, we embarked on the minibuses one last time for the 15-minute journey to the airport. Once there, we bid Giacomo farewell, who had a few hours left to drive back to his home in Verona. The rest of the group checked in their bags, before finding some lunch ahead of a smooth return flight to Stansted. Back in London, we gathered one last time to say our goodbyes following what had been an excellent week sampling the fabulous wildlife, landscapes and cuisine of Istria, all in the fine company of a friendly bunch of wildlife enthusiasts.



Italian Wall Lizard



Schmidt's Marbled Bush-cricket

## Receive our e-newsletter

Join the Naturetrek email list and be the first to hear about new tours, additional departures and new dates, tour reports and special offers.

[naturetrek.co.uk/e-newsletter-signup](https://naturetrek.co.uk/e-newsletter-signup)

Scan to  
sign up!



## Social Media

We're social! Follow us on Instagram, Facebook, Bluesky and X and be the first to hear about the launch of new tours, offers, exciting sightings and photos from our recently returned holidays.



[instagram.com/naturetrek\\_wildlife\\_holidays](https://www.instagram.com/naturetrek_wildlife_holidays)



[facebook.com/naturetrekwildlifeholidays](https://www.facebook.com/naturetrekwildlifeholidays)



[naturetrek.bsky.social](https://bsky.app/profile/naturetrek.social)



[x.com/naturetrektours](https://x.com/naturetrektours) (formerly Twitter)

## Species lists

Birds (H = Heard only)

S = signs only		September - October 2025							
Common name	Scientific name	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5
Common Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchius</i>					✓			
Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>								✓
Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>		✓						
Ruddy Shelduck	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>								✓
Northern Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>				✓				
Garganey	<i>Spatula querquedula</i>				✓				
Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>				✓				
Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Mareca penelope</i>		✓		✓				
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓
Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>		✓		✓				✓
Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>								✓
Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>				✓				
Rock Dove [Feral]	<i>Columba livia Feral</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>				✓				✓
Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>				✓				✓
Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>		✓		✓				
Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>		✓		✓				
Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>		✓						
Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>				✓				
Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>				✓				✓
Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>		✓						
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>								✓
Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>		✓		✓				✓
Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓
Pygmy Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo pygmaeus</i>				✓				✓
European (Mediterranean) Shag	<i>Gulosus aristotelis desmarestii</i>				✓				
Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>		✓	✓	✓				✓
Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	✓			✓				✓
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>		✓		✓	✓		✓	✓
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>		✓		✓				✓
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>		✓		✓				✓
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>			✓					✓
Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>							✓	
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Northern Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>					S			
Hen Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>		✓						
Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>		✓						
Griffon Vulture	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>							✓	
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>		✓		✓				✓
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dryobates minor</i>					H			
Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>							✓	
Black Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus martius</i>		H			H	H		
European Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>		H					H	
Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>		✓	✓					

S = signs only		September - October 2025							
Common name	Scientific name	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5
Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>			✓	✓				
Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>		✓	✓					✓
Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓		
Marsh Tit	<i>Poecile palustris</i>		✓			✓		✓	
Coal Tit	<i>Pariparus ater</i>						✓	✓	
European Crested Tit	<i>Lophophanes cristatus</i>							✓	
Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓	
Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>				✓				
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>			✓	✓				
Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>		✓	✓		✓		✓	
Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Cecropis daurica</i>				✓				
European Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>		✓	✓					
Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>		H		H				
Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>		✓			✓	✓	✓	
Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>					✓			
Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>		✓	✓		H	✓	✓	
Sardinian Warbler	<i>Curruca melanocephala</i>			✓					
Common Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapilla</i>						✓	✓	
Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>			✓			✓	✓	
Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>						✓		
Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>							H	
Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>		H					H	
Short-toed Treecreeper	<i>Certhia brachydactyla</i>		✓			✓			
Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>						✓		
Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>							✓	
Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>				✓				
European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>					✓	✓	✓	
Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>			✓	✓		✓		
Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>				✓		✓		
European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>				✓				
Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>				✓				
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Western Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>		✓	✓					
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>					✓			✓
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>						✓		
Water Pipit	<i>Anthus spinoletta</i>								✓
Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓		✓
Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>		H						
Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>				✓				
European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>						✓		
European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		✓		✓				
Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>			✓					



S = signs only		September - October 2025							
Common name	Scientific name	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5
Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>		✓	✓			✓		✓

## Other vertebrates

D = Dead, S = Signs		September - October 2025							
Common name	Scientific name	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5
MAMMALS:									
Northern White-breasted Hedgehog	<i>Erinaceus roumanicus</i>			R			✓		
European Mole	<i>Talpa europaea</i>			S					
Wild Boar	<i>Sus scrofa</i>						S		
European Roe Deer	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>			✓					
Coypu	<i>Myocastor coypus</i>		✓					✓	
European Hare	<i>Lepus europaeus</i>						✓		
Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>			S					
Beech Marten	<i>Martes foina</i>		✓						
European Polecat	<i>Mustela putorius</i>				D				
REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS:									
Edible Frog (complex)	<i>Pelophylax</i> syn.kl. <i>esculentus</i>				✓				
Common Toad	<i>Bufo bufo</i>				R				
Eastern Green Lizard	<i>Lacerta viridis</i>						✓		
Common Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis muralis</i>			✓	✓				
Italian Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis siculus</i>				✓		✓		
Dalmatian Algyroides	<i>Algyroides nigropunctatus</i>						✓		
FISH									
Trout	<i>Salmo trutta</i>					✓			

## Invertebrates

		September - October 2025							
Common name	Scientific name	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5
<b>BUTTERFLIES:</b>	<b><i>Pieridae</i></b>								
Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓		
Green-veined White	<i>Pieris napi</i>		✓	✓	✓				
Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias crocea</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Berger's Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias alfacariensis</i>		✓						
Wood White	<i>Leptidea sinapis</i>		✓			✓			
	<b><i>Lycaenidae</i></b>								
Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>		✓		✓		✓		
Holly Blue	<i>Celastrina aegiolus</i>				✓				
Reverdin's Blue	<i>Plebejus argyrognomon</i>						✓		
Brown Argus	<i>Aricia agrestis</i>					✓			
Adonis Blue	<i>Polyommatus bellargus</i>		✓			✓			
Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓		
	<b><i>Nymphalidae</i></b>								
Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Comma Butterfly	<i>Polygonum c-album</i>								
Silver-washed Fritillary	<i>Argynnis paphia</i>					✓			
Queen of Spain Fritillary	<i>Issoria lathonia</i>					✓			

Common name	Scientific name	September - October 2025							
		28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5
Woodland Grayling	<i>Hipparchia fagi</i>		✓			✓			
Grayling	<i>Hipparchia semele</i>						✓		
Great Banded Grayling	<i>Kanetisa circe</i>		✓				✓		
Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria aegeria</i>					✓			
Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>		✓			✓	✓		
Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>		✓			✓	✓		
Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>			✓			✓		
	<b>Hesperiidae</b>								
Mallow Skipper	<i>Carcharodus alceae</i>					✓			
Oberthur's Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus armoricanus</i>					✓			
<b>MOTHS:</b>									
<b>Micros:</b>									
Twenty-plume Moth	<i>Alucita hexadactyla</i>						✓		
Straw-barred Pearl	<i>Pyrausta despicata</i>							✓	
<b>Macros:</b>									
Hummingbird Hawk-moth	<i>Macroglossum stellatarum</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓		
Spurge Hawk-moth	<i>Hyles euphorbiae</i>							✓	
Yellow Shell	<i>Camptogramma bilineata bilineata</i>				✓	✓	✓		
Silver-Y	<i>Autographa gamma</i>						✓		
<b>OTHER INVERTEBRATES:</b>									
Eastern Willow Spread-wing	<i>Chalcolestes parvidens</i>				✓				
Southern Hawker	<i>Ashna cyanea</i>				✓		✓		
Migrant Hawker	<i>Aeshna mixta</i>				✓	✓			
Common Darter	<i>Sympetrum striolatum</i>				✓	✓	✓		
Southern Darter	<i>Sympetrum meridionale</i>				✓				
Italian Locust	<i>Calliptamus italicus</i>						✓		
Egyptian Grasshopper	<i>Anacridum aegyptium</i>				✓		✓		
Migratory Locust	<i>Locusta migratoria</i>								
Italian Locust	<i>Callitamus italicus</i>	✓							
Red-winged Grasshopper	<i>Oedipoda germanica</i>						✓		
Schmidt's Marbled Bush-cricket	<i>Eupholidoptera schmidtii</i>						✓		
Sickle-baring Cricket	<i>Phaneroptera falcata</i>					✓			
Praying Mantis	<i>Mantis religiosa</i>				✓		✓		
Southern Green Shield Bug	<i>Nezara viridula</i>					✓	✓		
Ground Bug	<i>Spilostethes saxatilis</i>						✓		
Crane-fly	<i>Tipula</i> sp.					✓	✓		
Mole cricket	<i>Gryllotalpa gryllotalpa</i>				✓				
Great Green Bush-Cricket	<i>Tettigonia viridissima</i>					✓			
<b>OTHER</b>									
Wooly beech aphid	<i>Prociphilus fagi</i>					✓			
Silver fish	<i>Lepisma saccharinum</i>	✓				✓			