

Tulip Meadows of Kazakhstan & the Tien Shan Mountains

Naturetrek Tour Report

14 - 29 April 2005



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Day 1

Thursday 14 April

Heathrow- Frankfurt-Almaty

We all met up on time and departed Heathrow at 07.05 for 90 min. flight to Frankfurt. Here we had time to peruse the shops before boarding our Almaty bound flight. Both flights and proceeding through customs went smoothly, so we were able to settle in the Astana International Hotel for good night's sleep before midnight.

Day 2

Friday 15 April

Lake Kapchagai

Following a good breakfast we departed the hotel in sunshine and greeted by Anna and our translator Rima who would be with us for a few days. En route we picked up the young Dilyara, her first encounter with an English group, who would be with us for the whole trip as an interpreter.

We drove c.80km NE from Almaty to Lake Kapchagai which is fed by the River Ili. After a brief stop en route we arrived at the security check to explore the hillside where many stocky *Tulipa alberti* were photographed. Other highlights were the blue campanulate flowers of *Ixiolirion tataricum*, 2 spp of poppy:red *Papaver pavoninum* and the unusual yellow flowers of *Hypecoum parviflorum* and the pink *Salsify* relative, *Tragopogon marginifolius*. 3 White Pelicans flew over.

Arriving at the lake we saw many clumps of the showy *Iris tenuifolia*, an abundance of yellow *Tulipa behmiana* and the delicate pale starry flowers of *T. busheana*. The petite *Fritillaria karelinii* was also found here.

A copulating pair of Horsfield's Tortoise provided the faunal highlight of the day! We arrived back at the hotel by 18.00.

Day 3

Saturday 16 April

Almaty-Kurdai Pass-Merke

We made an early start for the 360km drive to Merke with botanising stops on the way. A roadside stop dominated by the steppe grass *Stipa capillata* was inundated by the glorious yellow flowers of *Tulipa kolpowskiana*.

A close flock of c.400 Demoiselle Cranes demanded a second stop and using Neil's scope all had superb views as these majestic birds refueled on their northward migration.

Lunch was partaken at the Kurdai Pass, where the banquet was lubricated with tea, vodka and wine!. A colony of white *Crocus alataivius* was seen by a snow patch. *Leontice eversmannii*, a showy *Berberis* relative, was locally common. Probably the highlight here was the exuberant swathe of yellows, oranges and reds of *Tulipa ostrowskiana*, *T. kolpowskiana* and their hybrids. Six spp of *Gagea* presented I.D challenges while the blue *Iris tianschanica* and *I. kuschakewiczii* were much admired.

We arrived at Merke Sanitorium at c.21.30 for the first of 2 nights and were greeted by 20 people "disco dancing" outside. Conditions were comfortable but basic!

Day 4

Sunday 17 April

Merke

Another glorious day and after a later breakfast drove a couple of km to botanise in the hills. A Golden Eagle passed ahead of us as we admired the yellow Juno, *Iris orchiodes*. The delicate *Tulipa bifloriformis* was seen amongst rocks, but we had to travel much further before we encountered the exquisite *T. zenaidae*, initially red and yellow flowers were found, but Anna later discovered a pure red specimen.

A pair of Red Marmots provided a delightful diversion from the plants. We then returned for a late lunch. Following this Uri, our driver, took us about 10km along a challenging road. The mountains were dominated by *Juniperus semiglobosa*, but the highlight was a mini-meadow of Gageas and *T. dasystemonoides*, a species not found in the previous couple of tours. Both Brown and White-throated Dippers as well as the Blue Whistling Thrush were observed along the Merkenka River.

Day 5

Monday 18 April

Merke-Aksu Dzabagly

Departing Merke in sunshine at 09.30 we stopped at Kulan Market for browsing and provisions. This was followed by a cultural stop to inspect the fine mausoleum of Aisha Byby which was constructed with local brick at the end of the 11th century, but with some recent restoration. A White-winged Woodpecker here was a bonus.

After lunch we botanised on the dry slopes of the Kuyuk Pass. These slopes held good numbers of the architectural *Allium karataviense* and a few *Iris caerulea*. Only a couple of flowers of the latter were seen due to the ravages of sheep.

Our penultimate stop was c.10km from the guesthouse to inspect the flora by some snowmelt. Here emerged a stunning garden of yellow *Eranthis longstipitata*, *Anemone petiolulosa*, *Gageas* and white *Crocus alataivius*. Sheer bliss!

A final stop allowed to see the showy *Corydalis sewersowii* growing below some bushes. Soon after we were able to enjoy a hot shower which was most welcome after the very basic conditions at Merke.

Day 6

Tuesday 19th April

Saya Su Gorge

Our first overcast day, we paused near Kuyuk Pass to admire a flock of c.2,000 Demoiselle Cranes feeding in fields. At the pass we stopped to photograph flowering *Erenurus lactiflorus*.

The next gorge was ornithologically rewarding with Short-toed Eagle overhead, a confiding Egyptian Vulture perched above us, totally indifferent to us, and a pair of Eastern Rock Nuthatches feeding young in their mud nest on the cliff face.

At Saya Su we took lunch on the bus due to the wind. The highlights here were the diverse array of *Tulipa greigi* flowers. A smart Tiger Moth, *Arctia caja*, was discovered by Peter.

On the return to our base we briefly stopped at a lake for some birding. Most notable were the 4 Little Bustards found in the arid grassland leading to the lake.

Day 7

Wednesday 20th April

Aksu Canyon

We were pleased to see the return of clear sunny skies as we made the local trip to Aksu Canyon. Our first pause was a panoramic one as we peered at the valley to see our and neighbouring villages as well as the Karatau Mountains opposite.

The next two stops were centred around recent snowmelts. Here we encountered the delicate pink flowers of *Fritillaria stenantha*, many white *Scilla puschkinoides* and the cream- a profusion of *Tulipa kaufmanniana* in diverse colours, which had whooping with joy!

Lunch was by the bus at the top of the canyon where Booted Eagle, Long-legged Buzzard, Alpine Choughs and Ravens were soaring and Swallowtails flitted about. Views here are spectacular. The descent to the bottom was a little slippery in places. A good selection of *Fritillaria sewersowii* were admired near the top. Other fine flowers encountered include *Tulipa turkestanica*, *T. greigiana*, *Geranium transversale*.

Standing on the wooden bridge across the fast-flowing river (Aksu = white river) we could feel its energy. Amanda and Stephanie had a brief paddle at the edge. John spotted a Camberwell Beauty which briefly alighted on the bridge.

The hard work of the 1000m ascent was tiring, but the whole venture down the canyon and back was a tremendous adventure, which no one regretted.

Day 8

Thursday 21st April

Mashat-Red Hill- Chokpak

En route to Mashat, c.50km from the guest house, we made a photographic stop, as Pat was keen to snap one of the grand cemeteries.

Mashat has a warm Mediterranean-type climate with vegetation typified by Rosa/Amgdalus shrubs, tall yellow umbellifers such as Prangos/Ferula, bulbs and annuals. As we drove along the road we could see a mass of *Ferula tenuisetata*, high held buds of *Erenurus regelii* and blue *Ixiolirion tataricum*. *Pistacia vera* was flowering at its northerly limit and the first yellow blooms were admired on *Rosa kokanica*.

After lunch we proceeded to Red Hill, where it soon became apparent to the group as to the origin of the name: a hillside carpeted in a million red *Tulipa greigi* - an awesome spectacle, where innumerable pictures were taken.

As a contrast we met Andre and his team at Chokpak ringing station. It had been a quiet day at the giant heligoland trap with just 1 bird caught, though during our stay a Magpie doubled the day's tally, which we saw being processed. Andre informed us that sometimes a couple of thousand birds per day could be trapped with an all time record of 14,000 in a day. Following hospitality at Chokpak we retired to the guest house.

Day 9

Friday 22nd April

Kyzyl Zhar

With more warm sunshine we had a local visit to Kyzyl Zhar and the Dzabagly River, with a chorus of Marsh Frogs greeting us.

The gentle ascent was dominated by junipers and more open areas. Many patches of *T. kaufmanniana* were enjoyed as well as hybrids with *T. greigi*. An outstanding area was accidentally discovered by John in pursuit of a Siberian Stonechat. Here were tall spires of *Megacarpa orbiculata*, beautiful yellow form of *T. turkestanica*, a few *Crocus Eranthis* and *Gymnospermium alberti*.

Lunch was at half-way house where lunch had been transported by the horse-man. As we sat a Blue-capped Redstart sang from the small Robinia shading us. Rufous-naped and Yellow-breasted Azure Tits were also in the vicinity. Following lunch and a siesta we went a little farther to see the attractive waterfall.

While Lynn sought a private moment she inadvertently discovered a venomous Haly's Pit-viper, which gave good views.

The day concluded with Peter giving astronomy lessons with Neil's scope after dinner, with Jupiter and its 3 moons observed.

Day 10

Saturday 23rd April

Taldybulak

We followed the stream up Taldybulak at the rear of the guest house in overcast and showery conditions. At times crossing the fast-flowing stream had us wondering if Anna was preparing us for the Aksu commandos! We encountered many by now familiar plants. Higher up where we took lunch was a stunning collection of *Iridodictyum kolpowskianum*.

Probably the highlight of the day for most was a family group of Siberian Ibex, which gave prolonged views on the rock face.

Not wishing to get wet again Mary made her debut on horse back for the descent, aided by ranger Eric. He also showed most of the group around the reserve museum before dinner.

Day 11

Sunday 24th April

Aksu-Sairyaigyr

Our sad farewells were bade to the friendly guest house staff as we departed for the cabins at the picturesque Sairyaigyr Gorge. A brief stop was made in Aksu bazaar where food and scarves were purchased.

Lunch was had by the Sairam Su where Brown Dipper and elusive White-crowned Penduline Tit were seen. Unexpectedly we had another lunch as we reached our camp- nobody starves here!

A late afternoon stroll provided us with our first sightings of deep yellow *Iris tubergeniana* and *Colchicum luteum*.

Day 12

Monday 25th April

Sairyaigyr Gorge

Today was spent exploring this scenic gorge on foot, generally easygoing apart from a rickety wooden bridge over the river. The campsite owner provided a rope to assist us on our return.

The number of new plants was few, but we continued to delight in the many new sports of *T. kaufmanniana*. Another 3 new spp of *Gagea* were discovered, adding to our confusion over this genus. The floral tapestry was also enhanced with good numbers of, *C. luteum* Crocus, *Corydalis* and *T. turkestanica*.

Few birds were seen, though Rufous-naped Tits could be heard and Amanda was pleased that she found and identified a Golden Eagle. Two Camberwell Beauties feeding on a sap run provided good photo opportunities.

After lunch we witnessed the devastation of recent avalanches which had cut a swathe through the junipers. A group of a pale form of *T. dasystemonoides* gave the final floral delight of the day.

Day 13

Tuesday 26th April

Sairyaigyr-overnight sleeper

During the morning we spent our final couple of hours exploring the gorge. Amongst the new finds were the erect flowering stems of white *Astragalus nudiferus* and the more compact blue and white *A. skorniakovii*, an aptly named crucifer, *Chalcanthus renifolius* with maroon and pale flowers and our final new Juno, the pale Iris capnoides.

After a hearty lunch we were taken to Shimkent Station where we departed on the sleeper at 17.56. From the train we were able to view places that we had visited such as Aksu, Mashat and Chokpak.

Day 14

Wednesday 27th April

Almaty-Observatory

We arrived promptly at Almaty at 09.00 and were whisked to the Astana International Hotel for breakfast. Thereafter lay the challenging drive in the 4WD bus to the old Russian observatory, 2700m up in the western Tien Shan Mountains, resembling something out of a 1970's sci-fi movie!

An initial stop when the bus had problems resulted in the fortuitous discovery of 107 *T. dasystemon* yellow flowers.

Reaching the dam of Almaty Lake we took a walk which was both botanically and ornithologically rewarding. Previous springs had seen this area snow covered, but now resembled an alpine garden with pink *Primula algida*, *T. dasystemon*, *T. heterophylla* and single stunners of purple *Viola altaica* and *Allium atrosanguineum*.

Birdwise we had a small mixed feeding flock of Red-fronted Serins and Plain Mountain Finches, whilst in a nearby small bare bush sang a Black-throated Accentor. A pair of Himalayan Snowcock gave brief flight views, but were heard frequently, but the real thrill was seeing an Ibisbill feeding in the feeder streams and several brief flight views as it chased off Crows, presumably because it had a nearby nest. With our first Grey Marmot calling this proved a very exciting and productive stop.

Day 15

Thursday 28th April

Observatory-Almaty

Our good luck continued as cloudless blue skies and no wind dominated unlike previous trips and we had our last exploration between the observatory and the dam. A pair of Golden Eagles majestically soared over the snowy peaks.

Additional plants encountered included the compact alpine *Erythridium villosa*, pale *Pulsatilla campanella*, minute blue flower of *Gentiana karelini* and the showy yellow legume *Thermopsis alpina*.

Following lunch we began the slow descent to Almaty with a couple of photo-opportunity and a botanical stop en route.

After checking back in the hotel all but John and Lynne had a city tour with the knowledgeable Rima. We visited the Green Market where the gastronomic delights were sampled and purchased. The stunning Russian Orthodox Church in the central leafy park was visited with a service in progress. As we returned to our bus we admired the impressive war memorial which was being smartened up for the May Day celebrations

At 19.00 we took our final dinner in the hotel with Anna and Rima as our guests.

Day 16

Friday 29th April

Almaty-Frankfurt-Heathrow

After a few hours sleep we were picked up from the hotel at 01.45 and driven to the airport. We were processed efficiently with no time sitting around and departed 03.20 for the journey to Frankfurt. As we arrived a damp dawn rose, while we had 90 minutes to kill before the final leg of our journey to Heathrow. Conditions in London were better than in Frankfurt with warm sunshine. Landing around 09.00 we said our fond farewells and a reunion planned for the summer to reminisce over this superb trip and compare photos.

Flora list

Monocots

Alliaceae

Allium atrosanguineum
A. drobovii
A. ericocoleum
A. fetisovii
A. karataviense
A. pallasii
A. scabriscarpum
A. sewersowii
Asparagus persicus

Amaryllidaceae

Ungernia sewersowii

Araceae

Arumkorolkowii
Eminium regelii

Asphodelaceae

Eremurus cristatus
E. nderiensis
E. lactiflorus
E. regelii
E. sogdianus

Colchicaceae

Colchicum luteum

Convallariaceae

Polygonatum sewersowii

Cyperaceae

Carex praecox
C. turkestanica

Hyacinthaceae

Scilla puschkinoidea

Iridaceae

Crocus alatavicus
Iridodyctium kolpokowskianum
Iris caerulea
I. capnoides
I. kuschakewiczii
I. orchiodes
I. sogdiana
I. tenuifolia
I. tianschanicus
I. tubergeniana

Ixioliriaceae

Ixiolirion tataricum

Liliaceae

Fritillaria karelinii
F. sewersowii
F. stenantha
Gagea alberti
G. bulbifera
G. chomotovae
G. dshunjarica
G. emarginata
G. filiformis
G. humicola
G. iliensis
G. minutiflora
G. neopopovii
G. olgae
G. ova
G. popovii
G. tenera
G. turkestanica
G. vegetata
Tulipa alberti
T. behmiana
T. bifloriformis
T. busheana
T. dasystemon
T. dasystemononoides
T. greigii
T. heterophylla
T. kaufmanniana
T. kolpakowskiana
T. orthopoda
T. ostrowskiana
T. regelii
T. turkestanica
T. zenaidea

Poaceae

Bromus tectorum
Dactylis glomerata
Festuca sulcata
Hordeum bulbosum
H. crinitum
Lasiostis splendens
Phragmites australis
Stipa capillata

Dicots

Aceraceae

Acer negundo
A. semenovii

Anacardiaceae

Pistacia vera

Apiaceae

Aegopodium tadshikorum
Conium maculatum

Ferula karatavica
F. leucographa
F. penninervis
F. pseudoreoselina
F. samarkandica
F. tenuisecta
Muretia transitoria
Oedibasis apiculata
Prangos pabularia
P. uloptera
Scaligeria setacea
Scandix pecten-veneris
S. stellata
Screnkiana golickeana
Torilis leptophyllum
Vicatia conifolia
Asteraceae

Achillea filipendulina
A. millefolium
Alphredia nivea
Artemisia absinthium
A. austriaca
A. dracunculoides
A. juncea
A. karatavica
A. A. rutifolia
A. santolinifolia
A. sublessingiana
A. terrae-alba
Centaurea squarrosa
C. turkestanica
Cichorium intybus
Cousinia alata
C. alberti
C. karatavica
C. microcarpa
C. sewersowii
C. triflora
C. turkestanica
C. umbrosa
Echinops karatavicus
Handelia trichophylla
Hieracium echinodes
Inula macrophylla
Ligularia karataviense
Olgaea pectinata
Onopordum acanthium
Scorzonera franachetti
Tanacetum pseudoachillea
Taraxacum montanum
T. officinale agg.
Tragopogon marginifolius
T. krashennikovii
Tussilago farfara
Xanthium strumarium

Berberidaceae

Berberis oblanceolata
B. sphaerocarpa
Gymnospermum alberti
Leontice eversmannii

Betulaceae

Betula turkestanica

Boraginaceae

Asperugo procumbens
 Echium italicum
 Erytrichium villosa
 Lappula microcarpa
 Lithospermum arvense
 L. tenuiflorum
 Myosotis micrantha
 M. asiatica
 Nonea caspica
 Onosma dicroanthum
 Rindera echinata
 R. oblongifolia
 R. tetraspis
 Rochelia cardiosepala
 Solenanthus circinnatus
 Trachelanthus korolkowii

Brassicaceae

Alliaria petiolata
 Alyssum turkestanicum
 Arabis montbretiana
 Barbaraea planisliqua
 Cammelina microcarpa
 Capsella bursa-pastoris
 Chalcanthus renifolius
 Clypeola johnthlaspi
 Crambe kotschyana
 C. orientalis
 Descourania sophia
 Erophila verna
 Erysimum diffusum
 Lepidium draba
 Leptoleum filifolium
 Megacarpa orbiculata
 Menioicus linifolius
 Pseudoclassea turkestanica
 Sissymbrium loesseli
 Stuebendorfia gracilis
 Thlaspi perfoliatum

Campanulaceae

Campanula alberti
 C. glomerata
 Sergia sewersowii

Caprifoliaceae

Abelia corymbosa
 Lonicera karelinii
 L. microphylla
 L. nummularifolia
 L. stenantha
 L. tianschanica

Caryophyllaceae

Acanthophyllum pungens
 Cerastium inflatum
 Holosteum umbellatum
 Stellaria media

Celastraceae

Euonymus koopmannii
 E. semonovii

Chenopodiaceae

Ceratoides papposa
 Kochia prostrata
 Rhaphidophyton regelii
 Salsola laricifolia
 S. pestifer

Convolvulaceae

Convolvulus arvensis
 C. subhirsutus

Crassulaceae

Pseudosedum longidentatum
 Rhodiola linariifolia
 Rosularia turkestanica
 Sedum alberti
 S. ewersii
 S. hybridum
 S. pentapetalum

Dipsacaceae

Dipsacus azureum
 D. laciniata

Euphorbiaceae

Euphorbia jaxartica
 E. rapulum
 E. talastavica

Fabaceae

Astragalus alatavicus
 A. abolinii
 A. anisomerus
 A. balchagchensis
 A. fedtschenkoanus
 A. kurdaicus
 A. macrotropis
 A. megalomerus
 A. neolypskianus
 A. nuciferus
 A. pachyrhizus
 A. pseudocytisoides
 A. scabrisetus
 A. sewersowii
 A. sieversianus
 A. skorniakovii
 Caragana kyrgisorum
 Glycorhiza uralensis
 Lathyrus cicera
 L. incospicua
 L. pratensis
 Lens orientalis
 Medicago minima
 Onobrychis grandis
 Robinia pseudoacacia
 Thermopsis alpina
 Trifolium repens

Vicia subvillosa
 V. tenuifolia

Fumariaceae

Corydalis glaucescens
 C. ledebouriana
 C. nudicaulis
 C. sewersowii

Gentianaceae

Gentiana barbata
 G. karelinii
 G. olivieri
 G. tianschanica

Geraniaceae

Biebersteinia multifida
 Erodium cicutarium
 E. hoefftianum
 Geranium pratense
 G. pusillum
 G. robertianum
 G. transversale

Hypericaceae

Hypericum elagatum
 H. perforatum
 H. scabrum

Lamiaceae

Betonica foliosa
 Dracocephalum nutans
 Eremostachys speciosa
 Lamium album
 L. amplexicaule
 Marrubium alternidens
 Mentha asiatica
 Origanum tyttanthum
 Phlomis brachystegia
 P. eriophila
 P. salicifolia
 Pseudoeremostachys sewersowii
 Salvia aethiopis
 S. deserta
 S. sclarea
 Scutellaria immaculate
 Thymus karatavicus
 Ziziphora bungeana

Malvaceae

Alcea nudiflora
 Malva neglecta

Onagraceae

Epilobium hirsutum

Papaveraceae

Glaucium squamigerum
 Hypecoum parviflorum
 Papaver pavoninum

Plantaginaceae

Plantago lanceolata

Plumbaginaceae

Acantholium alberti

A. aulieatense

Goniolium speciosum

Polygonaceae

Atraphaxis compacta

A. frutescens

Rheum maximowiczii

Rumex crispus

R. tianschanicus

Primulaceae

Androsace septentrionalis

A. turczaninovi

Cortusa turkestanica

Primula algida

P. kauffmaniana

Ranunculaceae

Aconitum leucostomum

Adonis parviflora

Anemone gortschakovii

A. petiolulosa

Atragene sibirica

Ceratoccephalus orthocera

Clematis orietalis

C. songoricus

Delphinium biternatum

D. iliense

Eranthis longistipitata

Paeonia intermedia

Pulsatilla campanella

Ranunculus alberti

R. arvensis

R. olgae

R. paucidentatus

R. polyrhizus

R. regelianus

Thalictrum isopyroides

Rhamnaceae

Rhamnus catharticus

R. coriacea

Rosaceae

Agrimonia asiaticus

Alchemilla tianschanicus

Amygdalus communis

A. petunnikowii

A. spinosissimus

Armeniaca vulgaris

Crataegus pontica

C. turkestanica

Geum urbanum

Malus sieversii

Orthurus kokanicus

Padus mahaleb

Potentilla asiatica

P. dzungarika

P. fedtschenkoana

P. impolita

P. nivea

P. orientalis

P. transcaspica

Poterium polygamum

Prunus sogdiana

P. tianschanicus

Pyrus regelii

Rosa begrana

R. corymbifera

R. fedtschenkoana

R. kokanica

R. maracandica

R. nonothamnus

R. persica

Rubus caesius

Sorbus persicus

S. tianschanica

Spiraea hypericifolia

S. pilosa

Rubiaceae

Asperula humifusa

Galium aparine

G. verum

Rutaceae

Haplophyllum latifolium

Salicaceae

Populus talassica

Salix alata

S. niedzwetzkiana

Scrophulariaceae

Bungea vesiculifera

Parentucellia flava

Pedicularis alberti

P. korolkovii

P. olgae

Polygala hybrida

Verbascum blattaria

V. songoricum

Veronica anagallis-aquatica

V. didyma

V. hederifolia

V. persica

Ulmaceae

Celtis caucasica

Ulmus pumila

Urticaceae

Urtica dioica

Valerianaceae

Valeriana chionophila

V. ficarifolia

Violaceae

Viola acutifolia

V. altaica

V. modestula

V. rupestris

V. suavis

GYMNOSPERMS

Cupressaceae

Juniperus pseudosabina

J. sabina

J. semiglobosa

J. seravschanica

J. sibirica

J. turkestanica

Ephadraceae

Ephedra equisetina

Pinaceae

Picea srenkiana

FERNS

Adiantaceae

Adiantum sp.

Aspleniaceae

Asplenium septentrionale

A. trichomanes

Ceterach officinarum

Ophioglossaceae

Botrychium lunaria

Polypodiaceae

Polypodium vulgare

Woodsiaceae

Cystopteris fragilis

Fauna list

Mammals

Roe Deer
Siberian Ibex
Altai Hare
Muskrat
Grey Marmot
Red Marmot
Souslik
Vole sp.

Birds

(H = heard only)

White Pelican
Ruddy Shelduck
Mallard
Gadwall
Shoveler
Teal
Garganey
Tufted Duck
Golden Eagle
Steppe Eagle
Short-toed Eagle
Booted Eagle
Osprey
Eurasian Griffon
Himalayan Griffon
Black Vulture
Egyptian Vulture
Lammergeier
Black Kite
Marsh Harrier
Pallid Harrier
Steppe Buzzard
Long-legged Buzzard
Sparrowhawk
Kestrel
Himalayan Snowcock
Pheasant
Grey Partridge
Chukar
Moorhen
Coot
Demoiselle Crane
Little Bustard
Lapwing
Black-winged Stilt
Redshank
Common Sandpiper
Ibisbill
Black-headed Gull
Caspian Gull
Wood Pigeon
Feral Pigeon
Stock Dove
Collared Dove
Laughing Dove
Scops Owl (H)
Swift
Hoopoe

White-winged Woodpecker
Skylark
Calandra Lark
Crested Lark
Barn Swallow
Red-rumped Swallow
House Martin
Tree Pipit
Water Pipit
Masked Wagtail
Grey Wagtail
Wren
Brown Dipper
White-throated Dipper
Black-throated Accentor
Mistle Thrush
Black-throated Thrush
Blackbird
Rock Thrush
Blue Whistling Thrush
Redstart
Blue-capped Redstart
Black Redstart
Siberian Stonechat
Himalayan Rubythroat
Northern Wheatear
Pied Wheatear
Chiffchaff
Dusky Warbler
Hume's Warbler
Greenish Warbler
Hume's Lesser Whitethroat
White-crowned Penduline Tit
Great Tit
Turkestan Tit
Yellow-breasted Azure Tit
Rufous-naped Tit
Eastern Rock Nuthatch
Isabelline Shrike
Carrion Crow
Rook
Jackdaw
Raven
Alpine Chough
Magpie
Starling
Common Mynah
House Sparrow
Indian Sparrow
Tree Sparrow
Chaffinch
Brambling
Greenfinch
Grey-faced Goldfinch
Red-fronted Serin
Plain Mountain Finch
White-winged Grosbeak
Rock Bunting
Corn Bunting

Reptiles/ Amphibia

Haly's Pit-viper
Orsini's Viper
Steppe Snake
Glass Lizard
Stepperunner
Alpine Lidless Skink
Horsfield's Tortoise
Marsh Frog

Butterflies, etc

Swallowtail
Eastern bath White
Small White sp.
Brimstone
Orange Tip
Eastern Clouded Yellow
Comma
Peacock
Camberwell Beauty
Painted Lady
Yellow-legged Tortoiseshell
Queen of Spain Fritillary
Small Copper
Holly Blue
Tiger Moth sp. *Arctia caja*
Hummingbird Hawkmoth

Carpenter Bee
Dorcadium turkestanicum
("Humbug" Beetle)
Epicometis hirtella (hairy flower eating beetle)
Meloe sp. (Oil Beetle)
Cincidela turkestanica (Tiger Beetle sp.)
Potosia interruptocostata (bronze scarab)

Eresus niger (Ladybird spider)