

Kuwait - Winter Sun Birding

Naturetrek Tour Report

2nd – 11th January 2026



Grey Hypocolius



Crested Honey Buzzard



Eversmann's Redstart



Crab-plover

Tour report by Martin Pitt



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Summary

Naturetrek's Winter Sun birding trip criss-crossed this small, oil-rich country, covering all corners in search of the special species that call Kuwait their winter home. Renowned as the most south-easterly part of the Western Palearctic, Kuwait has a number of species only here accessible in the region, and being on the crossroads of Arabia, Asia and the Persian Gulf, it is the winter home to a number of species that are attracted to the coastline and deserts. A number of familiar species from further north (Robins, Song Thrush, Blackcap and more) take refuge in the parks and gardens of the growing cities. However, mixed in with these 'common' birds are real scarcities, for which Kuwait has a formidable reputation.

The tour was based at a single hotel on the edge of Kuwait City's downtown, within easy reach of the highway network that makes travel to every corner of Kuwait relatively easy. We took advantage of this to visit a mix of desert, escarpment, coast and park habitats across the country, guided by Abdulrahman, Kuwait's foremost birder. We connected with a total of 155 species of birds and, despite the season, found four species of mammals, four species of butterflies and two species of dragonflies. The list of birds included several difficult to find in the Middle East, and especially in the Western Palearctic, including Grey Hypocolius, Crab-plover, Crested Honey Buzzard, Eversmann's Redstart, Afghan Babbler and Lesser Flamingo. The desert area held many arid zone specialists, notably Kurdish, Red-tailed and Mourning Wheatears, Greater Hoopoe-Lark, Desert and Bar-tailed Larks, Pharaoh Eagle-Owl and Cream-colored Courser. The parks and gardens held a number of species more typical of points further east, including Shikra, bulbuls (albeit introduced!), Purple Sunbird and Pallid Scops Owl.

Although this was a birding tour, we didn't ignore the other species. Libyan Jird colonies were relatively commonplace, and the expedition to see Sand Cat was a resounding success. Insects were scarcer in this cooler season; however, Painted Ladies and Blue Pansies were numerous on the warmer days.

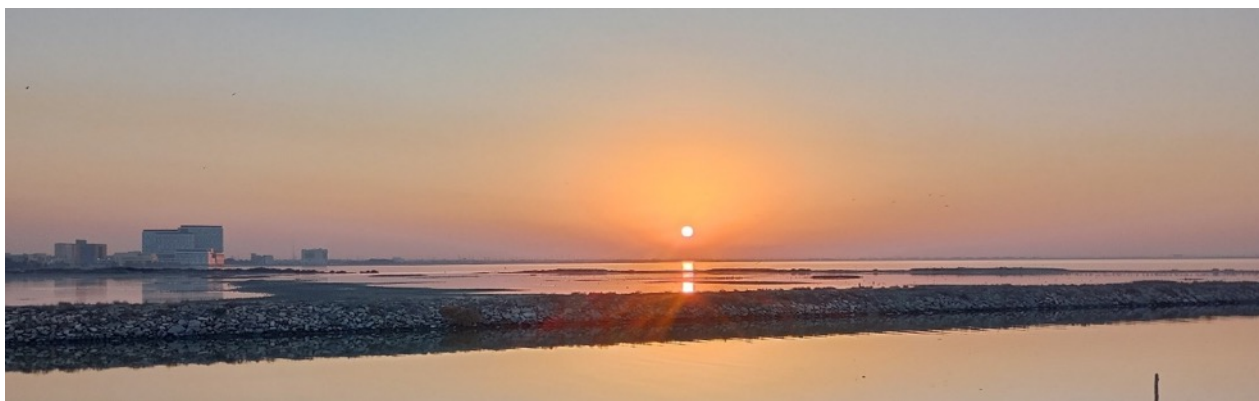
Overall, this was a wonderful introduction to Middle Eastern birding; Kuwait is an excellent place for Western Palearctic listers to find some exceptional species.

Day 1

Friday 2nd January

London to Kuwait, via Doha

With issues on the connecting flights at Doha, the group split, with all but one getting the early connection to Kuwait and arriving around 8.00pm, and the last client arriving at 3.00am the following morning. After navigating the visa process, which was simple but confusingly signposted, all were picked up by Ali, who would be our driver throughout, and were taken on the short drive into the centre of Kuwait City, to the Ibis Sharq hotel, our base for the duration of the tour.



Sunset over Kuwait Bay

Day 2

Saturday 3rd January

Al Shaheed Park, Al Jalaia'a, Bnaider and Abu Al Hasaniya

The issues of the night before were forgotten as we all assembled at a leisurely 9.00am for a wander around the nearby Al Shaheed Park. This green oasis, on the edge of the main business district, gave an opportunity to see many of the commoner Kuwaiti birds, and they were habituated to people being present. The downside was that the vegetation was verdant, and therefore there were plenty of places to hide! Our first Bluethroat contradicted that thought, however, as it fed unconcerned on a traffic island, even before we entered the park. Inside, we found a mix of species from those typical of winter on the Middle East (such as Masked Shrike, Clamorous Reed Warbler and Siberian Stonechat), to White-eared Bulbul, Indian Silverbill and Indian Pied Starling as introduced exotics, to species familiar from home, including Robin, Song Thrush, Blackcap and both whitethroats.

We returned to the hotel, met our local guide Abulrahman, and headed south to an area close to the Saudi Arabian border. Near a naval base, we searched the desert scrub for wintering species, finding the hoped-for Desert Finches and a female Finsch's Wheatear. We moved on, looking for more desert species, and searched the dunes at Bnaider, finding plenty of Desert Wheatears, often with attendant Asian Desert Warblers, and our first *pallidirostris* Great Grey Shrikes.

With time pushing on, we headed back towards Kuwait City, stopping off Abu Al Hasaniya. Here, a well-known tern roost held fifty Lesser Crested, plus a mix of Greater Crested and Sandwich Terns. We also added Great Cormorant and Slender-billed Gull before darkness fell, and we headed back to the hotel for our night's rest.

Day 3

Sunday 4th January

Al Shaheed Park, Old University campus Al Shuwaikh Park, KISR outfall, Sulaibikhat, Doha Spit and Jahra Pools reserve

After breakfast, we left the hotel at 6.30am and headed back to Al Shaheed Park, on a bright but chilly morning. Away from the Friday crowds, we tried again for the Moustached Warbler, with limited success, and picked up a few new species including Sparrowhawk, White-throated Kingfisher and Redwing, before moving on. Our next stop was at the old university campus, and after a few fraught minutes near the mosques our target arrived: a dozen or so Grey Hypocolius arrived, braving the strong, cold wind that was to plague us throughout the day. With good

views of males, females and young birds safely secured, and some warming teas and coffees, we moved on to the nearby Shuwaikh Park, the known haunt of a wintering Indian Roller. Perhaps it was the weather, but we couldn't find it, and soon moved on to the first of a string of coastal sites.

The KISR outfall held a big flock of Greater Flamingoes but little special, so we moved on to Sulaibikhat, where waders were being pushed towards us on a rising tide. Finding a little protection from the wind, we were able to find both sand plovers, Terek Sandpipers, Little Stint and Broad-billed Sandpiper among the feeding mass of waders, and a Pallas's Gull in the throng of gulls and terns. We ate our lunch here, before moving to the Doha spit. We had hopes for a certain black-and-white wader, but could only find flocks of Avocets, although an Osprey and a fly through Merlin added to our growing lists.

Our last planned stop was at the eastern end of the Jahra Pools reserve. The main excitement was provided by three Greater Spotted Eagles and a single Eastern Imperial Eagle, one of which killed a Black-headed Gull and fed while we watched on. Ducks and more waders added to the mix, and both Pied and White-throated Kingfishers were pleasant distractions. We had enough time before the sunset to call in again at Al Shuwaikh Park, and this time we found the Indian Roller, before heading back to our hotel for the now familiar run of list, dinner and bed.

Day 4 Monday 5th January

Jal Al Zor, Al Jahra Farms, Al Liyah, United Poultry farm and Iraqi border area

We breakfasted and left at 6.30am, heading west to the far side of Kuwait Bay, and the escarpment that is a feature of the desert landscape of Jal Al Zor. The day was brighter than expected; however, we had not shaken off that cold wind, which meant low activity and difficult viewing conditions. This was most marked early on, when few birds were on the move. Our first target was achieved with a Pharaoh Eagle-Owl tucked into its cave. In the brighter areas, we started to find some of the target wheatears: initially Mourning, and then Desert and Finsch's. Before we left the area, we also added a (Lilith) Little Owl and a flyover Steppe Eagle. Two Arabian Red Foxes give brief views as we crossed near to their den.

Our next stop was at the market gardens at Al Jahra Farms, where they grow salad leaves and coriander in a surprisingly urban setting. Our main target was Shikra, and sure enough a juvenile flew over; despite it appearing to drop into a nearby large tree, we couldn't refind it. We also added a female Common Redstart before we moved on.

The reserve at Al Liyah is a habitat restoration project on the site of a disused quarry. The area has been planted with native bushes, including *Lycium shawii* (Arabian Boxthorn) and *Salvadora persica* (Toothbrush Tree), and we quickly found Isabelline Wheatear, Long-legged Buzzard and Asian Desert Warblers, but despite searching failed to add to our tally here.

The final stop in daylight was at the pivot fields at the United Poultry Farm. The greening of the desert attracts farmland birds from further north to spend the winter, and we found flocks of Skylarks, Corn Buntings and Lapwings; however, it was the numbers of Caucasian Water Pipits that was really notable for us. As always, the raptors were the stars, and a couple of gingery ring-tailed Pallid Harriers stole the show.

The final event of the day was to come after dark. After watching some Libyan Jirds and Lesser Egyptian Jerboas while waiting for the call from our trackers, we were off into the desert close to the Iraqi border, and as promised, the ultra-rare Sand Cat gave stunning views to all. We finished the day with a late meal at the hotel.



Sand Cat

Day 5

Tuesday 6th January

Kabd, Sulaibikhat and Al Shuwaikh Park

Again, we were ready at 6.30am for our foray into the desert, and headed south with Black Kites crossing the highway as we sped to our first stop. Kabd is another area where KISR's agricultural research has protected an area of desert. The cold wind was still with us, and we struggled to find many birds, with early sightings limited to Finsch's, Isabelline and Desert Wheatears. We persevered, and crisscrossing gravel areas we found first one, then seven Cream-colored Coursers as they raced across the flat landscape. Our next focus was on the Bar-tailed Larks, hiding in plain sight, their sandy plumage perfectly camouflaging them. Lastly, we found perhaps the most iconic of the larks: a couple of Greater Hoopoe-Larks furiously dug at the tussock bases, before sprinting to the next. We returned to the visitor base to have our lunch, but not before adding Tawny Pipit, Eastern Imperial Eagle and Red-wattled Lapwing.

With high tide expected at around 2.00pm, we headed down to the coast and tried a series of sites to check the flamingo flock for the long staying but missing Lesser, and to try and rectify the omission of Crab-plover on Day 3. We were successful with the latter: settling down at Sulaibikhat after a tour of other viewpoints, we watched as the wading birds came closer and closer, led by a party of Crab-plovers. The family groups called constantly to each other, and we had grandstand views as the caught and ate crabs. Careful scanning added more species that we had previously missed, including a mix of larger gulls, including Caspian and Steppe as well as more Armenian. As the tide dropped, the mudflats filled with waders, mainly Dunlin but with good numbers of plovers, stints and Common Redshanks. We left the area, and on the way back to the hotel we stopped briefly at Al Shuwaikh Park, in a vain attempt for better views of the Indian Roller.

Day 6

Wednesday 7th January

Jahra Pools Reserve, Jal Al Zor, Abdali Farms, Mutla'a Ranch and Sulabiya Pivot Fields

We left the hotel a bit earlier, so we arrived at Jahra Reserve at dawn. Our time slot only gave us until 8.00am, and therefore time was of the essence. Fortunately, the wind had dropped, and it was a bit warmer again. Our first target, White-tailed Lapwing, was quickly found, and both Greater Spotted and Eastern Imperial Eagles loafed around the pools, waiting for some thermals. The pools held more ducks and Coots, and the reedbeds were full of Clamorous Reed Warblers, with Delicate Prinia playing hard to get. But for once, Penduline Tits perched in the open.

Our time up, we drove back to Jad Al Zor, and after diligent searching, we found the Kurdish Wheatear that had been wintering here. With that, we headed north along the Basra Road, almost into Iraq, and stopped at Abdali Farms. Here, we easily connected with a family party of Afghan Babblers, although their habit of sitting deep in cover limited our views to their dashes between one palm tree and the next. From one super-range-limited Western Palearctic species, we moved to Mutla'a Ranch, in search of one of the rare visitors. We were immediately greeted by an Indian Roller; however, our main target took longer. Eventually, the male Eversmann's Redstart showed well to one of the group, and by sitting quietly, we were all rewarded with stellar views.

Our last stop of the day was to the Sulabiya Pivot Fields, and we drove around the perimeter fence, scanning as we went. Namaqua Doves were our first addition, and then we watched a Black-winged Kite chase a Pallid Harrier. The fields were clearly attracting raptors, and both Steppe and Eastern Imperial Eagles, Long-legged Buzzard and Sparrowhawk were also present. Although Northern and Red-wattled Lapwings were there, we could not find anything rarer and our final addition was a lone Cattle Egret, which we found in the fading light.

Day 7

Thursday 8th January

Old University campus, "Opera" Park, Al Jahra Farms, Jal Al Zor, University Bay, and nocturnal visit to Al Shaheed Park

We returned to the old university campus, primarily for the Grey Hypocolius once more, but also to see if we could fill any more gaps. The day dawned bright and calm, and a few Hypocoliuses were present, but the excitement ramped up when a Crested Honey Buzzard flew over; we shortly refound it perched on a nearby building, giving great views. Next, we tried the ultra-sophisticated "Opera" Park. This chic location next to the Emir's cultural centre is the place for the wealthy to have morning coffee, and the local security didn't know what to make of us! However, the park had plenty of flowering trees, and these in turn attracted Purple Sunbirds; we ended up finding about a dozen, including metallic-plumaged breeding condition males, males in eclipse, and duller females.

We left and headed to Al Jahra Farms once again. We walked the fields, finding Shikra, a juvenile and then an adult female, and a couple of Red-vented Bulbuls. The fields were a good site for the Caspian form of Siberian Stonechat, and we also found more butterflies, including a number of Blue Pansies. We took the opportunity to have our picnic lunch before heading back to Jad Al Zor, to try and lay to rest our missing wheatears. We soon found all the species we had previously seen, before a tip-off enabled us finally to connect with both Persian and White-crowned Wheatears. We also found a female Blue Rock Thrush for good measure.

With a late high tide, we now headed back for unfinished business with the Lesser Flamingo. We ended up at University Bay, where there were thousands of waders and a few hundred Greater Flamingoes. Despite looking into the setting sun, we soon found the target bird, dwarfed by its much larger cousins. We also scanned the wader flock, adding a few new species to the trip list.



Pallid Scops Owl



Eastern Imperial Eagle

In a change from our normal evening activity, we headed out after dinner to the local park, and quickly found a hunting Pallid Scops Owl to complete the day.

Day 8

Friday 9th January

Al Jahra Pools reserve, Al Jahra Farms, Al Shallal's Farm and Subiyah desert area

We headed out before dawn, and arrived at Al Jahra Reserve at first light. We toured the reed beds before trying the coastal watch tower, picking up four species of eagle (Greater Spotted, Eastern Imperial, Steppe and White-tailed), a flyby Spoonbill and thousands of gulls streaming past from their roost. Back in the reed-fringed pools, we finally had good views of Delicate Prinia, and found two separate Grey-headed Swamphens. The pools also had our first Black-necked Grebes, and Tufted Duck. As before, our allotted time was up all too quickly, but we headed to the adjacent area and searched the bushes for Menetries's Warbler, which dashed from bush to bush in front of us. We returned to the coastal area, finding both Spur-winged and Red-wattled Lapwings, and the previously reported Pacific Golden Plovers.

Our luck seemed to be in, so we returned to Al Jahra Farms, where again we found Shikra relatively easily; but of the target Bank Myna there was no sign. This pattern was repeated at Al Shallal's Farm, and the desert area around Subiyah was very quiet from a bird perspective, no doubt in part due the sheer numbers of locals camping out, connecting with their nomadic heritage. At least trying this area enabled us to return via an impressive engineering project: the 34km long causeway across Kuwait Bay.

Day 9

Saturday 10th January

Abraq Al Habari, United Poultry farm and Sulabiya Pivot Fields

For our last full day, we left again at dawn and headed south-west, towards Saudi Arabia. Our destination was the artificial oasis at Abraq Al Hibari. The last section of the journey was off-road, across the flat sand desert. The oasis was the only site this year for wintering Hume's Leaf Warblers, and they gave us the run around, calling a

couple of times and then keeping quiet, sticking to the upper branches of the trees. The most plentiful birds were Chiffchaffs of the form *menzbieri*, but even they didn't want to show. After a couple of hours, we moved on, but had a strange experience on the barren plains, when a cat approached the vehicles. All white, it had a flattened head akin to a Sand Cat, but was obviously primarily domestic, even if its movement and flat-to-the-ground posture were more like its wild cousin. It disappeared as rapidly as it appeared, leaving us pondering hybridity.

We headed back to the pivot fields at United Poultry farm, hoping for something new; however, although there were plenty of birds, we found the same mix of species as on our previous visit. We stumbled into some illegal hunters, who fled the scene in a cloud of dust, showing that, despite progress, persecution of wild birds remains an issue in Kuwait.

Our final stop of the day, and therefore the trip, was back at Sulabiya Pivot Fields. The Northern Lapwing flock was mainly back together; sadly, we couldn't find the Sociable Lapwing that had been reported with them. The numbers of Eastern Imperial Eagles had increased, and we watched a couple locking talons and squabbling, and another picking a fight with a Black-winged Kite. A couple of Steppe Buzzards were found, adding our final species to the trip list. With dusk approaching, we headed back for our final night at Ibis Sharq, saying our goodbyes to Abdulrahman, and having our last dinner as a group

Day 10

Sunday 11th January

Kuwait to UK, via Doha

For our final morning, it dawned sunny and calm. With a morning flight, we were packed and breakfasted by 8.00am for the short journey to the airport. The flight left on time and made good time back to Doha, and then it was on to Heathrow, where we left for the final legs of our journeys home, with great memories of a bird-filled trip.

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Species lists

Birds (H = Heard only)

I=Introduced		January 2026							
Common name	Scientific name	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>		✓					✓	
Northern Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>					✓			
Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>		✓			✓		✓	
Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Mareca penelope</i>		✓						
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>		✓					✓	
Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>					✓		✓	
Ferruginous Duck	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>					✓		✓	
Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>							✓	
Pallid Swift	<i>Apus pallidus</i>					✓	✓	✓	
Rock Dove - I	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Laughing Dove	<i>Spilopelia senegalensis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Namaqua Dove	<i>Oena capensis</i>					✓			✓
Water Rail	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>					✓		✓	
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>		✓			✓		✓	
Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>					✓		✓	
Grey-headed Swamphe	<i>Porphyrio poliocephalus</i>							✓	
Little Crake	<i>Zapornia parva</i>							✓	
Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>					✓		✓	
Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>							✓	
Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>		✓		✓		✓	✓	
Lesser Flamingo	<i>Phoeniconaias minor</i>						✓		
Eurasian Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>						✓		
Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>		✓		✓			✓	
Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>		✓						
Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>		✓					✓	
Pacific Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis fulva</i>							✓	
Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>		✓		✓			✓	
Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>			✓		✓			✓
Spur-winged Lapwing	<i>Vanellus spinosus</i>							✓	
Red-wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus indicus</i>				✓	✓		✓	✓
White-tailed Lapwing	<i>Vanellus leucurus</i>					✓			
Tibetan Sand Plover	<i>Anarhynchus atrifrons</i>		✓		✓			✓	
Greater Sand Plover	<i>Anarhynchus leschenaultii</i>		✓		✓			✓	
Kentish Plover	<i>Anarhynchus alexandrinus</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>		✓		✓		✓	✓	
Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>		✓						
Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>		✓						
Terek Sandpiper	<i>Xenus cinereus</i>		✓						
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>				✓			✓	
Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>					✓		✓	
Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>		✓		✓		✓	✓	
Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>		✓		✓		✓	✓	
Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>						✓		
Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>		✓				✓		
Broad-billed Sandpiper	<i>Calidris falcinellus</i>		✓						
Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>								

I=Introduced		January 2026							
Common name	Scientific name	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Temminck's Stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>		✓						
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>		✓		✓		✓	✓	
Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>		✓		✓		✓		
Crab-plover	<i>Dromas ardeola</i>				✓				
Cream-colored Courser	<i>Cursorius cursor</i>				✓				
Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>		✓		✓		✓		
Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
White-winged Tern	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>		✓			✓			
Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>				✓				
Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>	✓							
Lesser Crested Tern	<i>Thalasseus bengalensis</i>	✓							
Greater Crested Tern	<i>Thalasseus bergii</i>	✓							
Slender-billed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus genei</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
Pallas's Gull	<i>Ichthyaeetus ichthyaeetus</i>		✓						
Caspian Gull	<i>Larus cachinnans</i>				✓				
Armenian Gull	<i>Larus armenicus</i>		✓		✓				
Steppe Gull	<i>Larus fuscus barabensis</i>		✓		✓				
Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	✓	✓		✓		✓		
Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>							✓	
Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>				✓				
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>		✓		✓				
Western Reef Heron	<i>Egretta gularis</i>		✓		✓		✓	✓	
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>		✓			✓			
Western Cattle Egret	<i>Ardea ibis</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>		✓		✓			✓	
Black-winged Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>					✓		✓	✓
Crested Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis ptilorhynchus</i>						✓		
Greater Spotted Eagle	<i>Clanga clanga</i>		✓	✓		✓		✓	✓
Steppe Eagle	<i>Aquila nipalensis</i>			✓		✓		✓	
Eastern Imperial Eagle	<i>Aquila heliaca</i>		✓		✓	✓		✓	✓
Shikra	<i>Tachyspiza badia</i>			✓			✓	✓	
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Pallid Harrier	<i>Circus macrourus</i>			✓		✓		✓	
Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>		✓			✓		✓	✓
Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>				✓	✓			✓
White-tailed Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>							✓	
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>								✓
Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>			✓		✓			
Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>			✓					
Pallid Scops Owl	<i>Otus brucei</i>						✓		
Pharaoh Eagle-Owl	<i>Bubo ascalaphus</i>			✓					
Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>		✓		✓	✓			
Indian Roller	<i>Coracias benghalensis</i>		✓			✓			
White-throated Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>				✓				
Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>		✓				✓	✓	
Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
Merlin	<i>Falco columbarius</i>		✓						

I=Introduced		January 2026							
Common name	Scientific name	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Rose-ringed Parakeet - I	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Great Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius excubitor</i>	✓	✓		✓			✓	
Masked Shrike	<i>Lanius nubicus</i>	✓	✓		✓				
Isabelline Shrike	<i>Lanius isabellinus</i>	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
House Crow - I	<i>Corvus splendens</i>	✓					✓		
Grey Hypocolius	<i>Hypocolius ampelinus</i>		✓				✓		
Eurasian Penduline Tit	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>					✓			
Greater Hoopoe-Lark	<i>Alaemon alaudipes</i>				✓				
Bar-tailed Lark	<i>Ammomanes cinctura</i>				✓				
Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>			✓		✓		✓	✓
Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Red-vented Bulbul - I	<i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>						✓		
White-eared Bulbul - I	<i>Pycnonotus leucotis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Western House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>						✓	✓	
Hume's Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus humei</i>								✓
Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓
Clamorous Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus stentoreus</i>	✓				✓		✓	
Moustached Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus melanopogon</i>		✓						
Common Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>	✓							
Delicate Prinia	<i>Prinia lepida</i>					✓		✓	
Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	✓	✓					✓	
Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Curruca curruca</i>	✓	✓				✓		
Asian Desert Warbler	<i>Curruca nana</i>	✓		✓					
Menetries's Warbler	<i>Curruca mystacea</i>							✓	
Common Whitethroat	<i>Curruca communis</i>	✓	✓						
Afghan Babbler	<i>Argya huttoni</i>					✓			
Common Myna - I	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Indians Pied Myna (Starling) - I	<i>Gracupica contra</i>	✓							
Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>			✓	✓	✓			✓
Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	✓	✓			✓		✓	
Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>		✓						
Redwing	<i>Turdus iliacus</i>		✓						
Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>							H	
European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	✓	✓			H			✓
Bluethroat	<i>Luscinia svecica</i>	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	
Eversmann's Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus erythronotus</i>					✓			
Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>				✓	✓			✓
Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>			✓					
Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>						✓		
Siberian Stonechat	<i>Saxicola maurus</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Isabelline Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe isabellina</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Desert Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe deserti</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Finsch's Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe finschii</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓			
Mourning Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe lugens</i>			✓		✓	✓		
Kurdish Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe xanthopyrna</i>					✓	✓		
Red-tailed Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe chrysopygia</i>						✓		
White-crowned Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe leucopyga</i>						✓		
Spanish Sparrow	<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

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Indian Silverbill - I	<i>Euodice malabarica</i>	✓					✓		
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>		✓		✓			✓	✓
Water Pipit	<i>Anthus spinoletta</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Desert Finch	<i>Rhodospiza obsoleta</i>	✓							
Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>			✓					

Mammals

		January 2026							
Common name	Scientific name	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Libyan Jird	<i>Meriones libycus</i>	✓		✓		✓		✓	
Lesser Egyptian Jerboa	<i>Jaculus jaculus</i>			✓					
Arabian Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes arabica</i>			✓		✓			
Sand Cat	<i>Felis margarita</i>			✓					

Fishes

		January 2026							
Common name	Scientific name	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Dussumier's Mudskipper	<i>Boleophthalmus dussumieri</i>				✓				

Butterflies & moths

		January 2026							
Common name	Scientific name	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>			✓			✓	✓	
Blue Spotted Arab	<i>Colitis phisadia</i>				✓			✓	
Dark Grass Blue	<i>Zizeeria karsandra</i>					✓			
Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>	✓			✓				✓
Blue Pansy	<i>Junonia orthiya</i>						✓	✓	
Crimson Speckled (moth)	<i>Utetheisa pulchella</i>	✓							

Dragonflies

		January 2026							
Common name	Scientific name	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Vagrant Emperor	<i>Anax ephippiger</i>				✓				
Broad Scarlet	<i>Crocothemis erythraea</i>						✓	✓	