

The Butterflies & Birds of Macedonia

Naturetrek Tour Report

19 - 26 June 2018



Lesser Kestrel



Little Tiger Blue



Juvenile Syrian Woodpecker, Ohrid



Balkan Fritillary, Pelister National Park

Report compiled by Tom Mabbett
Images courtesy of George Cox, Rob Campbell, Roger Beck and Sarah Brennan



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With 12 Naturetrek clients

Day 1

Tuesday 19th June

After an early start, we landed into Thessaloniki and had met Dime and Vasko by midday. We drove straight to the town of Kalochori for lunch and most of us enjoyed a tasty traditional Gyro and chips. We then drove the short distance to the nearby Varda river delta and some adjacent old salt pans. We were soon out of the vans searching for birds and butterflies, with lots of Eastern Bath Whites on the wing, while Mallow and Oriental Marbled Skippers were also found. A Hoopoe and three Marsh Harriers were nearby, with Pygmy Cormorant flying past regularly. We moved a little further on and, with the shallow pools providing perfect feeding, they were covered in waders, with a super selection enjoyed. Marsh and Curlew Sandpipers, Avocets, Kentish Plovers and lots of smart breeding-plumage Spotted Redshanks were the highlights, with around 350 Flamingos also enjoyed. Also seen well were around 20 Slender-billed Gulls with Little, Common and Sandwich Terns. Scarce Swallowtails, Clouded Yellows, Short-tailed and Chapman's Blues were a few of the butterflies seen.

After a final stop and some fly-by Glossy Ibis, we then made our way to the Macedonian border and Dojram Lake. Here we found the impressive Blade-tail Dragonfly, European Turtle and we enjoyed a really great view of the bizarre Mole Cricket. Olivaceous and Great Reed Warblers were singing, with the latter seen well, while a Little Bittern flew low over the reeds. Speckled Wood was found here and Golden Orioles sang in the trees.

We continued, making a final stop at some farmland, where we heard Nightingale, Turtle Dove and Corn Bunting all singing around us, with our first smart Black-headed Bunting on a nearby bush. After a long but exciting and productive first day, we arrived and checked in to our lovely hotel and active winery. Unfortunately, a storm had wiped out the power, but we got into our rooms, freshened up and enjoyed a great dinner despite the lack of power. The skies were impressive with the storm, and the view from the dining area superb. We all retired to bed after a quick run through of the day's sightings.

Day 2

Wednesday 20th June

Some of us met at 7am for a pre-breakfast walk and, with the storm having passed (and power back), it was a beautiful morning with birds all around us singing. We enjoyed super views of Black-headed Buntings and found a huge cricket (Bronze Glandular Bush-cricket, *Brachypterus dasypterus*), with Woodchat Shrike seen well and a Calandra Lark singing overhead. A nice Balkan Marbled White was the butterfly highlight.

After a lovely breakfast we headed for the Babuna Gorge and, before leaving, took a little stroll down towards the village from the hotel, finding Southern White Admiral, Queen of Spain Fritillary and many Great Banded Graylings, with Red-backed Shrike seen well. At the gorge we went for a great walk and soon found one of our main targets, the Little Tiger Blue: a real gem of a butterfly and, after everyone had great views in the pot, we all took photos. Dime and Vasko were busy catching, and The Hermit and Lattice Brown were other highlights. Many blues were mud-puddling, and many more Little Tigers were found, with Iolas Blue, another target, well found and Lesser Spotted Fritillary was identified. Birdwise we enjoyed Cirl Bunting, a brief Lesser Grey Shrike, with Tree Sparrow commonly seen. After a great session, we returned to the vehicles and were about to head off

for lunch when Vasko realised he had lost his phone while out catching butterflies! We went to search and, amazingly, Vasko found it in the long grass! Luck was with us!

We went to a nearby town and enjoyed an extensive, delicious lunch. Countless different plates arrived and we were all very well fed! The first of many great meals starting with amazing local salads.

We stopped for a short walk at Topolka gorge where Blue Rock Thrush was found, with White-legged Damselfly noted, and finished the day at Klisura, near the hotel, where we walked up to a church, scanning the crags around us, looking for butterflies. A Lesser Fiery Copper was found here and, on the way back, we had super close views of Blue Rock Thrush, with Crag Martins swirling around and some Wood Pigeons perched, looking like something more exciting. Back at base we enjoyed a lovely dinner with another impressive storm passing through.

Day 3

Thursday 21st June

We left early with a packed breakfast today and headed for a vulture-feeding station with a local guide and raptor conservationist Emil. On arriving, we saw Egyptian and Griffon Vulture, with perched singles of both species enjoyed, along with a very nice fly-over Honey Buzzard. Butterflies here were numerous, with Niobe Fritillary, Spotted Fritillary, Ilex Hairstreak, Wood White and our first Red Admiral just some found, with the grasslands teeming with insects. Great views of Red-backed Shrike were also enjoyed again.

We continued towards a nearby village with a visible Egyptian Vulture nest, and on the way, stopped at a viewpoint where a cracking Hobby flew low overhead. In the town we could see the nest but no birds, unfortunately. A meadow nearby, though, held a lot of butterflies which included Eastern and Provençal Short-tailed Blues, Oberthür's and Sandy Grizzled Skippers and Marbled Fritillary which showed well. A Spotted Flycatcher was nearby visiting a nest site, with a fly-over Golden Eagle another treat. Around streamside vegetation both Alcon and Large Blue were found, among many other butterflies here.

We enjoyed lunch at a lovely restaurant after watching Dipper and a distant Black Stork nest and were once again fed very well indeed. Following lunch, we went to a nearby Imperial Eagle nest and enjoyed super scoped views of this impressive raptor as an adult and young bird stood on the nest. A Calandra Lark and Northern Wheatear were noted here, in a short stop.

We ended day at a dry river valley for a final walk to explore. Turtle Dove was seen on wires here as we approached, and Persian Skippers were found before another storm hit and forced us to run for the minibuses. We got a good soaking, which was actually quite refreshing, and we made our way back to the hotel now, a little earlier after our early start. Another excellent day ended with a great meal and some of the World Cup on Vasko's laptop.

Day 4

Friday 22nd June

A few of us were out early again, around the hotel before breakfast and check-out, and we were rewarded with great scoped views of Golden Oriole and Nightingale, with a Goshawk being chased by two more Orioles and an Olivaceous Warbler actually showing well!

After checking out we hit the road and our first stop was passing a small town where Lesser Kestrels breed. Around eight were swirling overhead as we got out of the vans, and we had great views of a male posing on a rooftop. Moving on to a river-valley site nearby, we explored the surrounding meadows and hedgerows. There was a lot to enjoy here, with Cardinal, Olive Skipper, Large Tortoiseshell and Sloe Hairstreak seen, plus various blues, including Idas and Silver-studded, and Purple-shot Copper.

We moved on now to a quarry area where the focus was to find Macedonia's only endemic butterfly, the Macedonian Grayling. It was a really great session in super conditions. With some still getting out of the vehicles, Guy had already found a Delattin's Grayling, and we all enjoyed that before a Ripart's Anomalous Blue was spotted nearby. We made our way a little higher in the juniper-covered scree slopes and soon our main target was found, with everyone enjoying really great close-up views of the Macedonian Grayling. Also here, we finally tracked down a very smart Eastern Greenish Black Tip, with two Long-legged Buzzard quite low overhead. We enjoyed the butterflies here, catching many and putting them out to photograph, with Berger's Clouded Yellow and also Eastern Pale Clouded Yellow, but the latter unfortunately missing the net. We also enjoyed watching Vasko in the meadow below us, charging around after a yellow butterfly. Delighted and exhausted, he revealed his catch, but to his dismay, it was just a "common" Clouded Yellow. We made our way back down to the vehicles, with all targets achieved, and on the way down saw a strikingly coloured Erhard's Wall Lizard.

We continued on to our lunch stop and had another really superb lunch, with a whole range of dishes. We sat in the garden of a tiny rural restaurant but, with another storm coming, we took shelter to eat and it was a good decision. We ate salads, delicious mashed beans, chicken, fried courgette and delicious spicy tapenade with lovely breads, swilled down with local beers and raki, as always. With the storm having passed, we headed on, not before hearing and then seeing a Wryneck. We went on now to a monastery and enjoyed amazing views over the surrounding landscape. We explored the meadow, finding Reverdin's and Mazarine Blues, while Black Redstart was seen and a brood of Kestrels in a hole on the building were enjoyed. On the descent we all piled out of the vans, as a stunning male Montagu's Harrier drifted past. We arrived at our hotel in the foothills of the Pelister National Park and enjoyed a dinner and checklist before bed. A top day with 59 butterfly species seen today alone!

Day 5

Saturday 23rd June

It appeared, by studying the weather that it was going to be quite unsettled over the coming days, so we had to re-arrange things to make the best of any sun.

We headed off to Ohrid this morning, since the conditions very poor for the planned trip the mountain. During the drive there was an improvement in the weather and, on parking up, we stepped out and could straight away hear a woodpecker calling in the roadside trees. It was a juvenile Syrian Woodpecker and we enjoyed great views. We went on to enjoy a really great walk and tour around the famous city of Ohrid and, after church visits and an obliging Red Squirrel eating cherries, we had an early lunch with Pizza at a lake-side restaurant.

We headed now for the Galicica National Park and climbed higher and higher towards the low cloud, enjoying some stunning views. We stopped in the gloom at a meadow and, although being very difficult for butterflies, we did enjoy great views of a singing Rock Bunting and a noisy Sombre Tit. A great result. Also here was a very smart Yellow-bellied Toad which was caught to examine its amazing belly.

We climbed higher and the clouds were actually clearing a little and we searched for butterflies. Here, an Osiris Blue was found before we moved along to a very productive meadow as the sun shone through and we enjoyed lots of great species. Esper's Marbled White, Geranium Argus, Glanville Fritillary, Russian Heath and Clouded Apollo were all found, among others, with Quail calling in the longer grass and a lovely family of Red-backed Shrike were enjoyed, with four very recently fledged young being fed by adults. We had a great hour or so, with many key species put out to pose on "butterfly rock" for photos.

We dragged ourselves away and went downhill a bit now, where a further stop produced an Eastern Baton Blue and some stunning Lizard Orchids. We enjoyed a coffee with Dime's Dad, overlooking Prespa Lake, and enjoyed closer views of Pygmy Cormorants with a few Alpine Swifts flying over the lake. After a nice break, we journeyed back to the hotel for dinner after a great day, despite the less-than-ideal conditions.

Day 6

Sunday 24th June

Today we were heading up Pelister Mountain National Park in three 4x4 vehicles. A few of us headed out for a short morning walk, seeing Syrian Woodpecker well again (with Great Spotted nearby for comparison) and a Turtle Dove scoped on a wire as the highlights.

The weather was a little better today, with the cloud not as low as we headed up the mountain slowly in our 4x4s with the park rangers. At our first stop in the forested slopes, we instantly heard Nutcrackers and, sure enough, at least three were seen, perching on the very tops of the pine trees. We all had super views. We trundled on along the bumpy road to a lovely meadow and, as the sun tried its hardest to come out, we started to find butterflies. We did well to find Nickerl's Fritillary, Mazarine Blue, Heath and Marsh Fritillaries and a Yellow-banded Skipper, with our first Grizzled Skipper also noted.

We continued on, stopping again soon after for coffee, this time, and some delicious cherry juice. We managed to find Bright-eyed Ringlet here, Eastern Large Heath and a smart Balkan Fritillary, with Yellowhammer, Black Redstart, Tree Pipit and Grey Wagtail the birds noted here.

Refreshed, we headed now to the highest point and the mountain hut next to "large lake" at around 2200 metres. Here we enjoyed a lovely packed lunch, supplemented by the rangers' fine sheep's cheese, tomatoes and bread and, of course, raki. As the clouds blew away, Red-billed Chough gave us a display overhead, with Water Pipits common up here. After a most memorable lunch stop, we walked back to the vehicles past snow patches, and started out descent. Another Eastern Baton Blue was found first.

As we travelled back down the mountain, Vasko worked wonders to play the England vs Panama game on his laptop, as we bumped along in the back of the 4x4. We watched Kane slot the penalty for 5-nil, and it was a happy van!

We visited the park information centre to learn about the flora and fauna and made one final stop to try and find butterflies. In this meadow we managed to find a few species, with the highlights being a Purple-shot Copper and a very smart and well-identified Freyer's Fritillary. Again, we had managed to have a really fun and memorable day, despite the conditions, and were now lying on 99 butterfly species for the week!

We enjoyed dinner and some more footy afterwards before bed.

Day 7

Monday 25th June

We woke to surprisingly clear weather first thing, but knew it was not set to last. A few of us again went for a morning walk and were rewarded with some great sightings. On a dead tree nearby at one point we had two Syrian and two Lesser Spotted Woodpeckers on the tree at the same time! We watched the woodpeckers and Cirl Buntings in the same tree before scanning some other bare branches to reveal a preening Middle Spotted Woodpecker! We all had ample time to get good scope views to see all the features of this species. A real woodpecker fest and a great start to the day.

After breakfast we headed back to Galicica NP, aiming to explore before the rain set in. A short roadside stop produced our closest views of Dalmatian Pelican but, unfortunately, just as we made it to our first stop in Galicica, the weather set in. We did though have a lovely singing Ortolan Bunting in the gloom and an Idas Blue posed well for us, with a Brown Hare in the road.

We continued higher and the clouds cleared, and rain stopped for a bit, as we continued our quest for 100 butterfly species, with just one more needed. Again, it was very difficult for butterflies, but we did enjoy a very smart male Rock Thrush, Whinchats and a Tawny Pipit, with a Fox hunting the slopes above us. A scorpion under a rock was also found here.

On the way down again, we stopped within the forest where a Silver-washed Fritillary was seen and Red Helleborine enjoyed before we left the higher grounds for the last time and went for some fish and chips Macedonian style at a restaurant overlooking Prespa: whole fish eaten but just larger than our whitebait. Again, there was plenty to go round. As the weather eased up, we went for a walk along the lake edge to an observation tower and enjoyed some excellent birding. On wires were Bee-eaters and Lesser Grey Shrike, Great Reed Warbler were all around, and Tam finally saw a Hoopoe, although not perched, in the scope. We searched hard for that final new butterfly species but it was not to be. Sooty Copper, Marsh Fritillary and Marbled White were a few species found.

With the rain really coming down now we headed back to the hotel to dry off, relax and pack before our early departure in the morning. Some of us did venture out one final time from the hotel and enjoyed a Golden Oriole enjoying a preen as the rain teemed down.

We had a great final meal, looking back over a most exciting and fun-filled week, and all agreed it had been a great success despite the late bad weather.

Day 8

Tuesday 26th June

We left the hotel early this morning with a packed breakfast and after a smooth journey were back at the airport in good time for our flight home. We all said our farewells after a super week full of special wildlife, wonderful scenery, superb food and of course a lot of fun along the way.

Species Lists

Butterflies (✓=recorded but not counted)

	Common name	Scientific name	June							
			19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
1	Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>		✓	✓	✓				
2	Scarce Swallowtail	<i>Iphiclide podalirius</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓				
3	Clouded Apollo	<i>Parnassius mnemosyne</i>					✓	✓		
4	Black-veined White	<i>Aporia crataegi</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
5	Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>	✓	✓						
6	Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓				
7	Southern Small White	<i>Pieris manii</i>	✓	✓		✓				
8	(Balk.) Green-veined White	<i>Pieris napi (balcana)</i>	✓							
9	Eastern Bath White	<i>Pontia edusa</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓
10	Eastern Greenish Black Tip	<i>Elphinstonia penia</i>				✓				
11	Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias crocea</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
12	Berger's Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias alfariensis</i>				✓				
13	Eastern Pale Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias erate</i>				✓				
14	Brimstone	<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>		✓		✓				
15	Wood White	<i>Leptidea sinapis</i>			✓	✓				
16	Sloe Hairstreak	<i>Satyrion acaciae</i>				✓	✓			
17	Ilex Hairstreak	<i>Satyrion ilicis</i>			✓					
18	Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
19	Sooty Copper	<i>Lycaena tityrus</i>		✓	✓	✓			✓	
20	Purple-shot Copper	<i>Lycaena alciphron</i>				✓		✓		
21	Lesser Fiery Copper	<i>Lycaena thersamon</i>		✓	✓					
22	Lang's Short-tailed Blue	<i>Leptotes pirithous</i>		✓						
23	Provencal Short-tailed Blue	<i>Cupido alcetas</i>			✓	✓				
24	Little Tiger Blue	<i>Tarucus balcanicus</i>		✓						
25	Short-tailed Blue	<i>Cupido argiades</i>	✓							
26	Eastern Short-tailed Blue	<i>Cupido decoloratus</i>			✓					
27	Little Blue	<i>Cupido minimus</i>				✓	✓			
28	Osiris Blue	<i>Cupido osiris</i>					✓			
29	Holly Blue	<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>		✓	✓	✓				✓
30	Alcon Blue	<i>Maculinea alcon</i>			✓					
31	Large Blue	<i>Maculinea arion</i>			✓	✓				
32	Iolas Blue	<i>Iolana iolas</i>		✓						
33	Eastern Baton Blue	<i>Pseudophilotes vicrama</i>					✓	✓		
34	Zephyr Blue	<i>Plebejus pylaon</i>					✓			
35	Silver-studded Blue	<i>Plebejus argus</i>			✓	✓	✓			
36	Idas Blue	<i>Plebejus idas</i>				✓				✓
37	Reverdin's Blue	<i>Plebejus argyrognomon</i>				✓				
38	Brown Argus	<i>Aricia agestis</i>		✓	✓	✓				
39	Geranium Argus	<i>Eumedonia eumedon</i>					✓			
40	Mazarine Blue	<i>Cyaniris semiargus</i>				✓	✓	✓		
41	Amanda's Blue	<i>Polyommatus amandus</i>				✓	✓	✓		
42	Chapman's Blue	<i>Polyommatus thersites</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		
43	Ripart's Anomalous Blue	<i>Polyommatus ripartii</i>				✓				
44	Turquoise Blue	<i>Polyommatus dorylas</i>				✓				
45	Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
46	Southern White Admiral	<i>Limenitis reducta</i>		✓	✓	✓				
47	Large Tortoiseshell	<i>Nymphalis polychloros</i>				✓				

	Common name	Scientific name	June							
			19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
48	Peacock	<i>Inachis io</i>			✓	✓				
49	Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>			✓	✓				
50	Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓				
51	Small Tortoiseshell	<i>Aglais urticae</i>					✓			
52	Comma Butterfly	<i>Polygonum c-album</i>		✓	✓	✓				
53	Silver-washed Fritillary	<i>Argynnis paphia</i>		✓	✓	✓			✓	
54	Dark Green Fritillary	<i>Argynnis aglaja</i>				✓				
55	Cardinal	<i>Argynnis pandora</i>			✓	✓				
56	Niobe Fritillary	<i>Argynnis niobe</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓		
57	Queen Of Spain Fritillary	<i>Issoria lathonia</i>		✓	✓	✓				
58	Marbled Fritillary	<i>Brenthis daphne</i>			✓	✓		✓		
59	Balkan Fritillary	<i>Boloria graeca</i>						✓		
60	Pearl-bordered Fritillary	<i>Boloria euphrosyne</i>						✓		
61	Weaver's Fritillary	<i>Clossiana dia</i>			✓					
62	Glanville Fritillary	<i>Melitaea cinxia</i>					✓			
63	Freyer's Fritillary	<i>Melitaea arduinna</i>						✓		
64	Knapweed Fritillary	<i>Melitaea phoebe</i>			✓		✓			
65	Spotted Fritillary	<i>Melitaea didyma</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓			
66	Lesser Spotted Fritillary	<i>Melitaea trivia</i>		✓						
67	Heath Fritillary	<i>Melitaea athalia</i>				✓	✓	✓		
68	Nickerl's fritillary	<i>Melitaea aurelia</i>						✓		
69	Marsh Fritillary	<i>Euphydryas aurinia</i>					✓		✓	
70	Marbled White	<i>Melanargia galathea</i>			✓	✓		✓		
71	Esper's Marbled White	<i>Melanargia russiae</i>					✓			
72	Balkan Marbled White	<i>Melanargia larissa</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓		
73	Delattin's Grayling	<i>Hipparchia volgensis</i>				✓				
74	Great Banded Grayling	<i>Brintesia circe</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓				
75	The Hermit	<i>Chazara briseis</i>		✓		✓				
76	Macedonian Grayling	<i>Pseudochazara cingovskii</i>				✓				
77	Great Sooty Satyr	<i>Satyrus ferula</i>				✓				
78	Bright-eyed Ringlet	<i>Erebia oeme</i>						✓		
79	Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
80	Ringlet	<i>Aphantopus hyperanthus</i>							✓	
81	Eastern Large Heath	<i>Coenonympha rhodopensis</i>							✓	
82	Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
83	Pearly Heath	<i>Coenonympha arcania</i>						✓		
84	Russian Heath	<i>Coenonympha leander</i>					✓			
85	Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>	✓	✓						
86	Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
87	Lattice Brown	<i>Kirinia roxelana</i>		✓		✓				
88	Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus malvae</i>						✓		
89	Oberthur's Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus armoricanus</i>			✓		✓			
90	Olive Skipper	<i>Pyrgus serratulae</i>				✓				
91	Sandy Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus cinarae</i>			✓					
92	Yellow-banded Skipper	<i>Pyrgus sidae</i>						✓		
93	Persian Skipper	<i>Spialia phlomidis</i>			✓					
94	Mallow Skipper	<i>Carcharodus alceae</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓				
95	Oriental Marbled Skipper	<i>Carcharodus orientalis</i>	✓							
96	Dingy Skipper	<i>Erynnis tages</i>		✓	✓		✓			
97	Essex Skipper	<i>Thymelicus lineola</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓		
98	Small Skipper	<i>Thymelicus sylvestris</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓		

	Common name	Scientific name	June							
			19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
99	Large Skipper	<i>Ochlodes venatus</i>			✓	✓			✓	

Birds (H = heard only)

1	Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>					✓			
2	Common Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>					H		H	
3	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>					✓		✓	
4	Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>							✓	
5	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	✓				✓		✓	
6	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>			✓					
7	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
8	Little Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>	✓							
9	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	✓							
10	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>							✓	
11	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	✓				✓		✓	✓
12	Dalmatian Pelican	<i>Pelecanus crispus</i>							✓	
13	Pygmy Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo pygmeus</i>	✓				✓		✓	✓
14	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	✓				✓		✓	✓
15	Egyptian Vulture	<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>			✓	✓				
16	European Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>			✓	✓				
17	Griffon Vulture	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>			✓	✓				
18	Eastern Imperial Eagle	<i>Aquila heliaca</i>			✓					
19	Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>			✓					
20	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>					✓			
21	Northern Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>				✓				
22	Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	✓						✓	
23	Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>				✓				
24	Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>				✓				
25	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>			✓	✓			✓	
26	Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>					✓		✓	
27	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	✓							
28	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	✓				✓		✓	
29	Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	✓						✓	
30	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	✓							
31	Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>			✓		✓			
32	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
33	European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
34	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
35	Eurasian Scops Owl	<i>Otus scops</i>				H	H			
36	Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>		✓	✓	✓				
37	Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymartus melba</i>					✓			
38	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓			
39	European Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>	✓							
40	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>		✓	✓	✓				
41	European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>	✓	✓					✓	
42	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	
43	Eurasian Wryneck	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>				✓				
44	Syrian Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos syriacus</i>				H	2	1	2	
45	Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>	✓					✓		
46	Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos minor</i>					H	H	2	
47	Middle Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocoptes medius</i>							1	

	Common name	Scientific name	June							
			19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
48	European Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>		✓	H	H		✓	✓	
49	Lesser Kestrel	<i>Falco naumanni</i>			✓	✓				
50	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		
51	Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>			✓	✓				
52	Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
53	Lesser Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius minor</i>		✓			✓		✓	
54	Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>		✓	✓	✓				
55	Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
56	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
57	Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
58	Spotted Nutcracker	<i>Nucifraga caryocatactes</i>							3	
59	Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		
60	Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
61	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>				✓				
62	Red-billed Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>								2
63	Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>					✓	✓		
64	Sombre Tit	<i>Poecile lugubris</i>					✓			
65	Marsh Tit	<i>Poecile palustris</i>					✓	✓		
66	Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
67	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		✓			✓	✓		
68	Eurasian Penduline Tit	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>								H
69	Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>			✓	✓	✓			✓
70	Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>					✓	✓	✓	
71	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>	✓		✓	✓				
72	Calandra Lark	<i>Melanocorypha calandra</i>		✓		✓				
73	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	✓							
74	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
75	Eurasian Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>		✓						
76	Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
77	Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Cecropis daurica</i>			✓	✓	✓			✓
78	Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>	H							H
79	Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>			✓	✓		✓	✓	
80	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>						✓		
81	Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>	✓							✓
82	Eurasian Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>	✓							H
83	Eastern Olivaceous Warbler	<i>Iduna pallida</i>	✓	✓		✓				
84	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>		H		✓	H	H	H	
85	Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia curruca</i>				✓	✓	✓		
86	Common Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>		✓		✓				
87	Sardinian Warbler	<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>		✓						
88	Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>			H	✓	H	H		
89	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
90	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
91	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>			✓			✓	✓	
92	Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>				✓		✓	✓	
93	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>			✓					
94	European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>				✓	H	✓	H	
95	Common Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>	H	H		✓	H	H	H	
96	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>				✓		✓		
97	Common Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola saxatilis</i>								✓
98	Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>		✓						

	Common name	Scientific name	June							
			19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
99	Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>						✓	✓	
100	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>			✓			✓	✓	
101	White-throated Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>			✓					
102	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
103	Spanish Sparrow	<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>	✓	✓	✓					
104	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
105	Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>						✓		
106	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>			✓			✓		
107	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
108	Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>								✓
109	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>						✓		
110	Water Pipit	<i>Anthus spinoletta</i>					✓	✓		
111	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
112	Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>						✓	✓	
113	European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
114	Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓		
115	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
116	European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>			✓					
117	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
118	Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>					✓	✓		
119	Rock Bunting	<i>Emberiza cia</i>					✓			
120	Ortolan Bunting	<i>Emberiza hortulana</i>								✓
121	Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>		✓	✓	✓	H			✓
122	Black-headed Bunting	<i>Emberiza melanocephala</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓				
123	Common Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>	✓							

Moths (Thank you to Guy Meredith for supplying this list of moths encountered)

20 June:

Four-spotted *Tyta luctuosa* (Noctuidae)

21 June:

Pachythelia villosella distinctive larval case at hotel

Merrifieldia baliodactylus (Pterophoridae)

22 June:

Lythria cruentaria (Geometridae)

23 June:

Schistostegia decussata (Geometridae)

24 June:

Aethes tessera (Tortricidae)

Hedya pruniana (Tortricidae)

Eurrhysis pollinalis (Pyralidae)

Scoparia pyralis (Crambidae)

Oak Eggar *Lasiocampa quercus*

Black-veined Moth *Siona lineata* (Geometridae)

25 June:

Reed Leopard *Phragmataecia castaneae*

Dragonflies

Bladetail, *Lindenia tetraphylla*

White-legged Damselfly, *Platycnemis pennipes*

Black-tailed Skimmer, *Orthetrum cancellatum*

Small Pincertail, *Onychogomphus forcipatus*

Keeled Skimmer, *Orthetrum coerulescens*

Amphibians and Reptiels

Marsh Frog, *Pelophylax ridibundus*

Agile Frog, *Rana dalmatina*

Balkan Wall Lizard, *Podarcis tauricus*

Balkan Green Lizard, *Lacerta trilineata*

Yellow-bellied Toad, *Bombina variegata*

Common Wall Lizard, *Podarcis muralis*

Erhard's Wall Lizard, *Podarcis erhardii*

European Pond Terrapin , *Emys orbicularis*

Mammals

Brown Hare, *Lepus europaeus*

Red Fox, *Vulpes vulpes*

Red Squirrel, *Sciurus vulgaris*

Plants (many seen, below a particularly striking species)

Balkan Lizard Orchid (variant), *Himantoglossum calcaratum*

Other Taxa

Scorpion Sp,

European Mole-cricket , *Gryllotalpa gryllotalpa*

Bronze Glandular Bush-cricket, *Bradyporus dasypus* (huge cricket)

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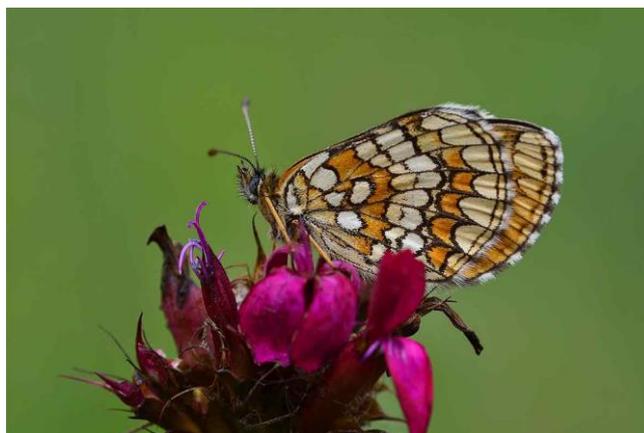
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Macedonian Grayling Pletvar



Nickerl's Fritillary