

# The Butterflies & Birds of Macedonia

Naturetrek Tour Report

18 - 25 June 2019



Macedonian Grayling



Black-headed Bunting



Bladetail



Spoon-winged Lacewing

Report & images by Nicola Scatassi



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Tour participants: Nicola Scatassi (leader), Martin Hrouzek & Dime Melovski (local guides)  
With 14 Naturetrek clients

## Introduction

We all thoroughly enjoyed this tour, which allowed us to see just over half the species of butterflies (103) in the North Macedonia country list, 128 bird species, 24 dragonfly and damselfly species, plus a lot of other wildlife and some nice flowers. We also enjoyed the beautiful scenery, lovely hotels and tasty food.

The success of a trip like this depends on various factors, which obviously include the variety of places visited, the number and quality of species seen, and the level of logistics and accommodation, and all of these were very good during this tour. Another key factor is how well the participants get along together, and their skills and interests in the field: our group was indeed a great one in these regards. And then of course there are the local guides, who take you to the right sites and relentlessly search for new species to be seen, and identified: in this case, Martin and Dime did a tremendous job, and the success of this trip is largely due to them.

North Macedonia has really a lot to offer and is a country which deserves various visits to be more properly explored.

## Day 1

## Tuesday 18th June

The group arrived on the flight from London shortly after 1pm at the small Skopje International Airport, where the members were greeted by Martin, Nicola and Nikola, the local driver. During the drive towards our first stop we noticed a few roadside White Stork nests, with grown-up chicks, while a single Black Stork was seen in flight. One village had a lot of Lesser Kestrels flying over the houses. Our first stop was by the river Vardar near the village of Badar, where we remained well over an hour with plenty of things to see. As we had noticed while driving, Painted Ladies were just about everywhere, countless individuals all over the place. Our other first butterflies were Small and Sooty Copper, Large Tortoiseshell, Reverdin's Blue and Black-veined White. Quite a lot of dragonflies were active, with the most numerous being Banded Demoiselle and Blue Featherleg, probably followed by Keeled Skimmer; a few freshly emerged brightly coloured Broad Scarlet were seen and photographed, while other species included both Blue and Lesser Emperors, White-tailed Skimmer and Broad-bodied Chaser. A couple of Green-eyed Hawker showed quite well, albeit only in flight. Various Golden Orioles were singing and we managed to see them, though only in flight, while the numerous Olivaceous Warblers allowed only for brief glimpses. A Short-toed Snake Eagle appeared for a few seconds over a slope.

Our second stop for today was at the Pletvar Pass, where we saw a family of Stonechats, a few Linnets and some nice orchids: Bee, Bug, Pyramidal and Woodcock Orchids. As we were looking for butterflies on the dry slope, a heavy thunderstorm suddenly approached and we had to find shelter in an abandoned building; it was also apparently popular with sheep, given the number of droppings we found inside! A more pleasant find was a couple of old Red-rumped Swallow nests, with their peculiar shape and their long entrance tunnel. During an almost-dry spell we managed to rush to the minibuses and then we drove to our hotel, where rain eventually stopped. After dinner a pair of Scops Owl was singing from the trees in the garden.

## Day 2

Wednesday 19th June

This morning started with a pre-breakfast walk which allowed us to see some nice birds, including two juvenile woodpeckers, Syrian and Green. Hoopoes were singing and we saw a couple of them, while a singing Cirl Bunting eluded us, hiding behind the leaves on top of a tree. Tree Sparrows were numerous, and a single Nuthatch was heard. Our last sighting was a pretty Red Squirrel on the ground near the hotel.

After breakfast we drove for about half an hour to the shore of the big Lake Prespa, famous for its Dalmatian Pelicans, hosting a significant percentage of the global population of this species, listed as vulnerable. Their breeding grounds are far away in the Greek section of the lake, but several individuals were present here, not too far from the shore, allowing for good views, especially when they soared with the backdrop of the mountains around us; some of them were in Albanian territory. Other birds noticed were Great Crested and Little Grebes, Pochard, the very common Nightingale which accompanied us with its beautiful song, and single Squacco Heron and Little Bittern which flew by low on the water. Pigmy Cormorants were also numerous here, and a party of Bearded Reedlings (also known as Bearded Tits) was a nice sight. Butterflies seen here included Turquoise Blue, Lesser Spotted Fritillary, Black-veined White and a very fresh Marbled Fritillary. Several brightly coloured Balkan Wall Lizards were seen, and though very active and fast, we managed to get good photos. New dragonflies were Blue-eyed Damselfly and Black-tailed Skimmer.

Another stop, further on by the lake shore, resulted in great views of various male Red-backed Shrikes, more Red-rumped Swallows, and a gorgeous adult *Empusa fasciata*, a Conehead Mantis. Butterflies included Southern White Admiral and Large Tortoiseshell. For lunch we stopped at a roadside restaurant by the lake, and then we drove through Galicica National Park, where we made one stop by a mountain spring which proved to be very good for butterflies: species seen here included a group sucking minerals from the ground, such as Turquoise Blue, Grizzled Skipper and Zephyr Blue. The meadow had several Marsh Fritillaries, Russian Heaths and Amanda's Blue.

Our final stop today was at the nice coastal town of Ohrid, which gives its name to the other very big lake of Macedonia: here we had a stroll in the historical centre, visiting a lovely ancient Roman church with wonderful frescos inside. We then drove back to our hotel, where after dinner, we managed to see the Scops Owl, albeit only in flight.

## Day 3

Thursday 20th June

This morning three off-road cars were waiting for us, a Nissan, an Isuzu and a Land Rover, ready to take us into the heart of the Pelister National Park. Dime, our local guide and butterfly expert (but not only), had eventually joined the group, and we soon started to gain height passing through beautiful coniferous forest, which included the endemic Macedonian Pine. We made various stops on the way, and we saw Nutcracker and Firecrest among the birds, while butterflies included Yellow-banded Skipper, Bright-eyed Ringlet, Nickerl's Fritillary and Silver-washed Fritillary. One particularly productive stop, almost at the tree line, allowed us to have good views of a set of typical mountain species of the area: Yellowhammer, Whinchat, Dunnock, Northern Wheatear, and a brief passage of a group of 17 Red Crossbills. Elder-flowered Orchid were present here (plus other *Dactylorhiza* species), as well as Northern Wall Brown and Orange Tip butterflies, which indicated a delayed season.

As we continued to climb, Water Pipits and Skylarks became commoner, and from the car some of us were able to have good views of a soaring Golden Eagle, rather unusually seen from above. Other birds seen today included a single Horned Lark, and a female Common Rock Thrush. Butterflies were missing as the season had apparently just started and weather wasn't ideal. However, many thousands of Painted Ladies were flying across the high-lying saddle. Our lunch consisted of a huge selection of homemade vegetable pies, meat loaves, and homegrown vegetables and fruits, as well as local sheep's cheese, provided by our guide and driver for today Ilye, who works as a ranger in the National Park. Everything was delicious and much appreciated. We consumed it inside a fascinating mountain hut situated by a glacier lake, which we reached just in time, before a heavy downpour.

On the way back, our final stop, not far from the hotel, allowed us to see two nice amphibians: Fire Salamander and Yellow-bellied Toad, two very welcome sights.

## Day 4

Friday 21st June

A few of us went out for a pre-breakfast short walk, checking out the White Stork nest close to the hotel, and managing to see a male Montagu's Harrier. Today we went again to the Galicica National Park, stopping at various sites at different altitudes. Our first stop in a nice Macedonian Oak woodland produced a few new orchids (*Himantoglossum caprinum*, Red Helleborine) and a few new butterflies like Eastern Baton Blue and Blue Argus. We then had a longer stop higher up, exploring a meadow and the edge of a beech forest, where we saw a variety of new species, including such beauties as Balkan Copper, Duke of Burgundy and Clouded Apollo. A few Green Toads were also found, and we saw Woodlark, Marsh Tit and Corn Bunting.

After a packed lunch consumed by the same spring where we had stopped on our first day, which produced a few new butterflies including Nettle-tree Butterfly, Adonis Blue and other butterflies seen previously, we then had another stop exploring a high open meadow, where we found Chapman's Blue, a single Small Pincertail and even more Painted Ladies, which were literally all around the place. On our way back, we had a final stop in a beautiful plateau dotted with shrubs, where we saw a lot of birds, including a male Common Rock Thrush, a pair of Red-backed Shrikes, singing Skylark and Quail, Rock Bunting, Cuckoo, Northern Wheatear and Whinchat. A few minutes before reaching our hotel, we stopped to admire our first tortoise of the tour, which was bravely crossing the road: it turned out to be a Hermann's Tortoise.

## Day 5

Saturday 22nd June

This morning, after breakfast, we had to leave our very nice hotel, load the luggage into the minibuses, and leave for another destination. Having passed through some wonderful hilly landscape, our first stop was by a beautiful river, one of the tributaries of the Vardar. Here we very soon started to find new butterfly species, such as Sloe Hairstreak, Purple-shot Copper, Balkan Grayling and Eastern Rock Grayling. The river itself teemed with dragonflies and damselflies, especially Banded Demoiselles, with a few Beautiful Demoiselles as well, Blue Emperor and Small Pincertail. But certainly, the best was the very sought-after Odalisque! It was unexpected here, as it had never been reported from this part of the country, this being a very interesting record, actually. A mating pair was noted and photographed, and one was briefly caught in order to fully appreciate its peculiar characteristics. Everyone was very happy with this find! A Map Butterfly record may sound not so thrilling, but it is yet another dot provided by our group for an empty mapping grid!

Our second stop was at the Pletvar Pass, where heavy downpours occurred on our first day: this time we were much luckier with the weather and the endemic Macedonian Grayling was soon found, yet another highlight of the tour, for sure. Other butterflies included Eastern Greenish Black-tip, Twin-spot Fritillary and flying Great Sooty Satyr, while several very nice Robust Spreadwings and a single Azure Bluet were seen around a tiny pond.

Our final stop was at the very impressive Treskavec Monastery, high near the top of some rocky hills. Here a lone monk is currently living, though they are building new structures for people to come and stay here. Common Kestrel were flying around, a few Black Redstarts sat on top of the rocks, and perhaps the best find was the gorgeous Owlfly *Libelloides macaronius*. The view from up there was really stunning and it was interesting to talk with the monk who told us a bit of the story of this place, which has been continuously inhabited for centuries.

We then drove towards our new hotel in Demir Kapjia, about an hour and a half away. Briefly stopping along the road to watch Black-headed Bunting, Long-legged Buzzard and a few distant Rollers. After dinner, quite a few Kotschy's Geckos, with their lizard-like fingers, appeared on the hotel's wall hunting for insects.

## Day 6

## Sunday 23rd June

An early start today allowed us to reach the vulture feeding station at the right time, but despite being there for over an hour, no raptors showed up. We did enjoy the site, anyway, finding a few new butterflies for the tour, including Lesser Fiery Copper and Southern Small White. A couple of tortoises were found, which proved to be not so easy to identify, and were eventually identified as one Hermann's and one Spur-thighed. A group of four or five Sombre Tits was found, allowing good views for some of us.

We then drove to our second destination, the village of Bosava, where we soon found a few more butterflies, such as Large Blue, Idas Blue, Southern White Admiral and Oberthur's Grizzled Skipper, and where we also saw the local pair of breeding Egyptian Vultures. This area was by a small river, and among dragonflies we again saw at least three Odalises and a couple of powerful Goldenrings, which were briefly caught and identified as Balkan Goldenrings. Another new species was the beautiful Eastern Spectre, a really nice one. A lot of Beautiful Demoiselles were much in evidence. Our first Honey Buzzard was also seen.

On our way to the lunch stop in a local restaurant, we had two stops for watching two great raptors: a Short-toed Snake Eagle which obligingly sat on top of a pylon allowing good scope views, and a pair of Griffon Vultures which passed quite low over our vehicles, most probably returning to their nest after having visited the feeding station where we had been waiting in vain for them. The lunch was really delicious and abundant, and the location was great, with many Barn Swallow nests in the open dining hall. In the stream nearby we observed at least three different Dice Snakes on some rocks by the water, and a family of Dippers, while we were able to watch in the scope a Black Stork nest on a distant cliff.

We then returned to our hotel and had a welcome siesta, before going out again for a couple of hours before dinner: just as we were about to get on our vehicles, a beautiful male Levant Sparrowhawk showed very well above us at close range. We then drove only a short distance and reached at first a roadside cliff we saw Blue Rock Thrush and where both Crag and House Martins had their nests. A bit further on we entered a wild valley and had scope views of a single Griffon Vulture on its nest: this area was very productive, and we found Lesser

Grey Shrike and at least a pair of the much rarer and gorgeous Masked Shrike, as well as another group of Sombre Tits. Other highlights included a few Hawfinches and Eastern Subalpine Warblers, Eastern Spectre, again patrolling the stream, and the huge antlion *Palpares libelluloides*.

## Day 7

Monday 24th June

Our pre-breakfast short walk this morning allowed us to see the huge Bronze Glandular Bush-cricket, a truly impressive, massive insect! We had great views of the gorgeous Black-headed Bunting, a pair of Sardinian Warblers was seen, a Tawny Pipit briefly flew over us, and four Hoopoes were seen together. A new raptor was actually seen during breakfast, a Booted Eagle. After an abundant and varied breakfast, we headed north to reach a hill above the rubbish dump at Velec, where we stood our best chances to see the mighty Eastern Imperial Eagle, and sure enough, we almost immediately found a juvenile sitting in a tree, which we saw in the scope. But better still, we later enjoyed great views of an adult and a subadult flying low over us. Here we also found another huge insect, Ramme's Predatory Bush-cricket *Saga rammei*.

We then drove a short distance to a small stream where Martin a few years ago had found the localized Blue-eyed Goldenring, and one was immediately seen, caught, well observed for a few minutes and then safely released. Another longer stop in a nearby valley produced our butterfly number 100 for the tour, the Tufted Marbled Skipper: this was a big relief for Dime and Martin, who wanted to reach triple figures for the butterfly list! Two more butterflies found today were particularly enjoyed given their rarity, rather widespread Hermit and Kruper's Small White, which Dime had seen only twice before. New birds included Western Rock Nuthatch at the nest and Eastern Black-eared Wheatear.

Our last stop for today was at the Mladost lake, where we had yet another excellent lunch and where the much sought-after Bladetail was amazingly abundant: we saw dozens of this large and attractive dragonfly, a real stunner. It was now time to thank and say farewell to our fantastic guide Martin, who was due to drive north back home in the Czech Republic. We then headed to our hotel for our last night there, just as some heavy rain was beginning to fall; we'd also been lucky with the weather.

## Day 8

Tuesday 25th June

The flight back to Luton was at 6.10am this morning, so we had to wake up and leave very early; after about an hour we reached the airport and said goodbye to our local guide Dime and driver Nikola and to a beautiful country, all wishing to come back for another exciting tour.

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## Species Lists

Birds (✓=recorded but not counted; H = heard only)

	Common name	Scientific name	June						
			18	19	20	21	22	23	24
1	Common Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>				H			
2	Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>		✓					
3	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>		✓		✓		✓	
4	Pallid Swift	<i>Apus pallidus</i>					✓		
5	Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>		✓	H	✓	H		H
6	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
7	European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	H	H		✓	✓	H	✓
8	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
9	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>		✓					
10	Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>		✓					
11	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>		✓					
12	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>		✓					
13	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>		✓					✓
14	Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>		✓		✓	✓		
15	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>	✓					✓	
16	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
17	Pygmy Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo pygmeus</i>		✓					
18	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	✓	✓		✓			✓
19	Little Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>		✓					
20	Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>		✓					
21	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	✓				✓		
22	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>		✓					
23	Great White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>		✓					
24	Dalmatian Pelican	<i>Pelecanus crispus</i>		✓					
25	Egyptian Vulture	<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>						✓	
26	European Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>						✓	
27	Griffon Vulture	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>						✓	
28	Short-toed Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>	✓					✓	
29	Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>							✓
30	Eastern Imperial Eagle	<i>Aquila heliaca</i>							✓
31	Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>			✓				
32	Levant Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter brevipes</i>						✓	✓
33	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		
34	Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>		✓		✓	✓		✓
35	Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>					✓		
36	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
37	Eurasian Scops Owl	<i>Otus scops</i>	H	✓		✓			
38	Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>		✓			✓	✓	
39	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>		✓	H		✓		✓
40	European Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>					✓	✓	
41	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	✓						
42	European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>	H				✓	✓	✓
43	Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dryobates minor</i>						✓	
44	Syrian Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos syriacus</i>		✓	✓				✓
45	Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>							H
46	European Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>		✓	H			V	H
47	Lesser Kestrel	<i>Falco naumanni</i>	✓				✓	✓	

	Common name	Scientific name	June						
			18	19	20	21	22	23	24
48	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>					✓	✓	
49	Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	
50	Lesser Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius minor</i>	✓				✓	✓	
51	Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>					✓	✓	
52	Masked Shrike	<i>Lanius nubicus</i>						✓	
53	Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
54	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
55	Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
56	Spotted Nutcracker	<i>Nucifraga caryocatactes</i>			✓				
57	Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>		✓			✓	✓	✓
58	Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
59	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>		✓			✓	✓	✓
60	Coal Tit	<i>Periparus ater</i>		H					
61	Sombre Tit	<i>Poecile lugubris</i>						✓	
62	Marsh Tit	<i>Poecile palustris</i>	H			✓			
63	Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>				✓		✓	
64	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	
65	Eurasian Penduline Tit	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>		H					✓
66	Bearded Reedling	<i>Panurus biarmicus</i>		✓					
67	Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>				✓			
68	Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>			✓	✓	✓		
69	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>					✓		✓
70	Horned Lark	<i>Eremophila alpestris</i>			✓				
71	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
72	Eurasian Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>						✓	
73	Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
74	Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Cecropis daurica</i>	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
75	Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>	H				H	✓	✓
76	Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>	✓		H	✓	H	✓	
77	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>		H	✓	H		H	
78	Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>		✓					H
79	Eurasian Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>		H					
80	Eastern Olivaceous Warbler	<i>Iduna pallida</i>	✓	H		✓	✓	✓	✓
81	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>			H	✓			
82	Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia curruca</i>		H		H			
83	Common Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>				H	✓	✓	✓
84	Subalpine Warbler	<i>Sylvia cantillans</i>						✓	
85	Sardinian Warbler	<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>							✓
86	Common Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapilla</i>			✓				
87	Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>			✓				
88	Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>		H				H	
89	Western Rock Nuthatch	<i>Sitta neumayeri</i>							✓
90	Eurasian Treecreeper	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>		H					
91	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
92	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
93	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>			✓	H			
94	Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>				✓	✓		
95	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>						✓	
96	European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>			✓	H			
97	Common Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>	H	H	H	H	H	✓	✓
98	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>			✓		✓		

	Common name	Scientific name	June						
			18	19	20	21	22	23	24
99	Common Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola saxatilis</i>			✓	✓	✓		
100	Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>						✓	✓
101	Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>			✓	✓			
102	European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>	✓						
103	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>			✓	✓			
104	Black-eared Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe hispanica</i>							✓
105	White-throated Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>						✓	
106	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
107	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
108	Alpine Accentor	<i>Prunella collaris</i>			✓				
109	Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>			✓				
110	Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>					✓		
111	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>					H		
112	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
113	Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>				H			✓
114	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>			H	✓			
115	Water Pipit	<i>Anthus spinoletta</i>			✓				
116	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		H	✓	✓		✓	H
117	Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>					✓	✓	✓
118	European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>		H	✓	✓		✓	✓
119	Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓
120	Red Crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>			✓				
121	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	✓	✓					✓
122	European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>						✓	
123	Eurasian Siskin	<i>Spinus spinus</i>			✓				
124	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>	H	✓		✓	✓	✓	
125	Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>			✓	H			
126	Rock Bunting	<i>Emberiza cia</i>		H		✓		✓	
127	Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirius</i>		✓			✓	✓	
128	Black-headed Bunting	<i>Emberiza melanocephala</i>					✓	✓	✓

## Butterflies

1	Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>				✓	✓		
2	Scarce Swallowtail	<i>Iphiclides 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	(Balkan) Green-veined White	<i>Pieris napi (balcana)</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
9	Krueper's Small White	<i>Pieris krueperi</i>							✓
10	Eastern Bath White	<i>Pontia edusa</i>		✓					
11	Eastern Greenish Black-tip	<i>Euchloe (Elphinstonia) penia</i>					✓		
12	Orange Tip	<i>Anthocharis cardamines</i>			✓				
13	Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias crocea</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
14	Berger's Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias alfacariensis</i>		✓		✓			
15	Brimstone	<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>		✓		✓	✓		
16	Wood White	<i>Leptidea sinapis</i>	✓		✓		✓	✓	
17	Eastern Wood White	<i>Leptidea duponcheli</i>		✓			✓		
18	Sloe Hairstreak	<i>Satyrium acaciae</i>					✓	✓	✓
19	Ilex Hairstreak	<i>Satyrium ilicis</i>				✓		✓	

	Common name	Scientific name	June						
			18	19	20	21	22	23	24
20	White-letter Hairstreak	<i>Satyrrium w-album</i>	✓				✓		
21	Green Hairstreak	<i>Callophrys rubi</i>				✓			
22	Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>	✓				✓	✓	✓
23	Sooty Copper	<i>Lycaena tityrus</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
24	Purple-shot Copper	<i>Lycaena alciphron</i>					✓	✓	
25	Lesser Fiery Copper	<i>Lycaena thersamon</i>						✓	
26	Balkan Copper	<i>Lycaena candens</i>				✓			
27	Little Tiger Blue	<i>Tarucus balcanicus</i>					✓		✓
28	Little Blue	<i>Cupido minimus</i>		✓		✓			
29	Osiris Blue	<i>Cupido osiris</i>				✓			
30	Holly Blue	<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>	✓				✓	✓	✓
31	Green-underside Blue	<i>Glaucopsyche alexis</i>		✓					
32	Large Blue	<i>Maculinea arion</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	Mountain Argus	<i>Aricia artaxerxes</i>				✓			
40	Blue Argus	<i>Ultraaricia anteros</i>				✓	✓		
41	Geranium Argus	<i>Eumedonia eumedon</i>				✓			
42	Mazarine Blue	<i>Cyaniris semiargus</i>		✓		✓	✓		
43	Amanda's Blue	<i>Polyommatus amandus</i>		✓		✓	✓		
44	Chapman's Blue	<i>Polyommatus thersites</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓
45	Turquoise Blue	<i>Polyommatus dorylas</i>		✓		✓			
46	Adonis Blue	<i>Polyommatus bellargus</i>				✓	✓		✓
47	Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
48	Duke of Burgundy	<i>Hamearis lucina</i>				✓			
49	Nettle-tree Butterfly	<i>Libythea celtis</i>				✓	✓		
50	Southern White Admiral	<i>Limenitis reducta</i>		✓				✓	✓
51	Large Tortoiseshell	<i>Nymphalis polychloros</i>		✓					
52	Peacock	<i>Inachis io</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	
53	Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>	✓		✓	✓			
54	Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
55	Small Tortoiseshell	<i>Aglais urticae</i>		✓	✓	✓			
56	Comma Butterfly	<i>Polygonum c-album</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
57	Map Butterfly	<i>Araschnia levana</i>					✓		
58	Silver-washed Fritillary	<i>Argynnis paphia</i>				✓			
59	Dark Green Fritillary	<i>Argynnis aglaja</i>				✓			
60	High-Brown Fritillary	<i>Argynnis adippe</i>				✓			
61	Niobe Fritillary	<i>Argynnis niobe</i>					✓		
62	Queen of Spain Fritillary	<i>Issoria lathonia</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
63	Twin-spot Fritillary	<i>Brenthis hecate</i>					✓		
64	Marbled Fritillary	<i>Brenthis daphne</i>		✓		✓	✓		
65	Pearl-bordered Fritillary	<i>Boloria euphrosyne</i>			✓	✓			
66	Weaver's Fritillary	<i>Clossiana dia</i>					✓	✓	
67	Glanville Fritillary	<i>Melitaea cinxia</i>			✓	✓			
68	Knapweed Fritillary	<i>Melitaea phoebe</i>	✓			✓		✓	
69	Spotted Fritillary	<i>Melitaea didyma</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
70	Lesser Spotted Fritillary	<i>Melitaea trivia</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		

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			18	19	20	21	22	23	24
71	Heath Fritillary	<i>Melitaea athalia</i>			✓	✓			
72	Nickerl's fritillary	<i>Melitaea aurelia</i>			✓				
73	Marsh Fritillary	<i>Euphydryas aurinia</i>		✓		✓			
74	Marbled White	<i>Melanargia galathea</i>	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
75	Balkan Marbled White	<i>Melanargia larissa</i>					✓		✓
76	Eastern Rock Grayling	<i>Hipparchia syriaca</i>					✓		
77	Delattin's Grayling	<i>Hipparchia volgensis</i>					✓		
78	Great Banded Grayling	<i>Brintesia circe</i>	✓				✓	✓	✓
79	The Hermit	<i>Chazara briseis</i>							✓
80	Macedonian Grayling	<i>Pseudochazara cingovskii</i>					✓		
81	Great Sooty Satyr	<i>Satyrus ferula</i>					✓		
82	Woodland Ringlet	<i>Erebia medusa</i>		✓		✓	✓		
83	Bright-eyed Ringlet	<i>Erebia oeme</i>			✓	✓			
84	Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
85	Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
86	Pearly Heath	<i>Coenonympha arcania</i>				✓			
87	Russian Heath	<i>Coenonympha leander</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		
88	Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>			✓				✓
89	Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>						✓	
90	Large Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata maera</i>					✓		
91	Northern Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata petropolitana</i>			✓				
92	Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus malvae</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
93	Oberthur's Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus armoricanus</i>	✓			✓		✓	
94	Olive Skipper	<i>Pyrgus serratulae</i>		✓		✓	✓		
95	Sandy Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus cinarae</i>						✓	
96	Yellow-banded Skipper	<i>Pyrgus sidae</i>			✓			✓	
97	Hungarian Skipper	<i>Spialia orbifer</i>	✓		✓				
98	Mallow Skipper	<i>Carcharodus alceae</i>						✓	✓
99	Tufted Marbled Skipper	<i>Carcharodus flocciferus</i>							✓
100	Dingy Skipper	<i>Erynnis tages</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			
101	Essex Skipper	<i>Thymelicus lineola</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	
102	Small Skipper	<i>Thymelicus sylvestris</i>	✓	✓			✓	✓	
103	Large Skipper	<i>Ochlodes venatus</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓	

### Dragonflies

1	Banded Demoiselle	<i>Calopteryx splendens</i>	✓					✓	✓
2	Beautiful Demoiselle	<i>Calopteryx virgo</i>					✓	✓	
3	Odalisque	<i>Epallage fatime</i>					✓	✓	
4	Robust Spreadwing	<i>Lestes dryas</i>					✓		
5	Azure Bluet	<i>Coenagrion puella</i>					✓		
6	Blue-eye	<i>Erhythomma lindenii</i>		✓					
7	Common Bluetail	<i>Ischnura elegans</i>	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
8	Blue Featherleg	<i>Platycnemis pennipes</i>	✓				✓	✓	✓
9	Green-eyed Hawker	<i>Aeshna isoceles</i>	✓	✓					✓
10	Blue Emperor	<i>Anax imperator</i>	✓				✓		
11	Lesser Emperor	<i>Anax parthenope</i>	✓						✓
12	Eastern Spectre	<i>Caliaeschna microstigma</i>						✓	
13	Turkish Clubtail	<i>Gomphus schneiderii</i>					✓		
14	Common Clubtail	<i>Gomphus vulgatissimus</i>					✓	✓	
15	Bladetail	<i>Lindenia tetraphylla</i>							✓
16	Small Pincertail	<i>Onychogomphus forcipatus</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	

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			18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
17	Balkan Goldenring	<i>Cordulegaster heros</i>							✓	
18	Blue-eyed Goldenring	<i>Cordulegaster insignis</i>								✓
19	Broad Scarlet	<i>Crocothemys erythraea</i>	✓	✓						✓
20	Broad-bodied Chaser	<i>Libellula depressa</i>	✓				✓	✓		
21	White-tailed Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum albistylum</i>	✓	✓						✓
22	Black-tailed Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum cancellatum</i>		✓						✓
23	Keeled Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum coerulescens</i>	✓							✓
24	Red-veined Darter	<i>Sympetrum fonscolombii</i>		✓						

### Other Insects

1	Bronze Glandular Bush-cricket	<i>Bradyporus dasypus</i>								✓
2	Anatolian Predatory Bush-cricket	<i>Saga natoliae</i>							✓	
3	Ramme's Predatory Bush-cricket	<i>Saga rammei</i>								✓
4	An Antlion	<i>Palpares libelluloides</i>							✓	
5	Spoon-winged (Balkan) Lacewing	<i>Nemoptera sinuata</i>					✓			✓
6	An Owlfly	<i>Libelloides lacteus</i>				✓				
78	An Owlfly	<i>Libelloides macaronius</i>			✓		✓			
9	Rhinoceros Beetle	<i>Oryctes nasicornis</i>							✓	
10	A Snakefly	<i>Raphidiidae</i>							✓	
11	A Conehead Mantis	<i>Empusa fasciata</i>		✓						

### Reptiles and Amphibians

1	Marsh Frog	<i>Rana ridibunda</i>					✓	✓		
2	Common Toad	<i>Bufo bufo</i>						✓		
3	Green Toad	<i>Bufo viridis</i>				✓				
4	Yellow-bellied Toad	<i>Bombina variegata</i>			✓					
5	Fire Salamander	<i>Salamandra salamandra</i>			✓					
6	Eastern Green Lizard	<i>Lacerta viridis</i>	✓	✓			✓	✓		
7	Balkan Green Lizard	<i>Lacerta trilineata</i>								✓
8	Balkan Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis tauricus</i>		✓					✓	
9	Common Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis muralis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓			
10	Kotschy's Gecko	<i>Mediodactylus kotschyi</i>					✓	✓		
11	Dice Snake	<i>Natrix tessellata</i>	✓						✓	
12	Hermann's Tortoise	<i>Testudo hermanni</i>				✓	✓	✓		
13	Spur-thighed Tortoise	<i>Testudo graeca</i>							✓	

### Mammals (D=Dead)

1	Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>		✓						
2	European Hare	<i>Lepus europaeus</i>					✓			
3	Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>					D			

### Notable Plants Recorded

Bug orchid, *Anacamptis coriophora*

White Helleborine, *Cephalanthera damasonium*

Elder-flowered Orchid, *Dactyloriza sambucina*

Fragrant Orchid, *Gymnadenia conopsea*

Bee Orchid, *Ophrys apifera*

A Crocus, *Crocus pelistericus*

Macedonian Oak, *Quercus trojana*

Pyramidal Orchid, *Anacamptis pyramidalis*

Red Helleborine, *Cephalanthera rubra*

Helleborine sp., *Epipactis* sp.

Balkan Lizard Orchid, *Himantoglossum caprinum*

Woodcock Orchid, *Ophrys scolopax*

Sintenisa Iris, *Iris sintenisii*

Macedonian Pine, *Pinus peuce*

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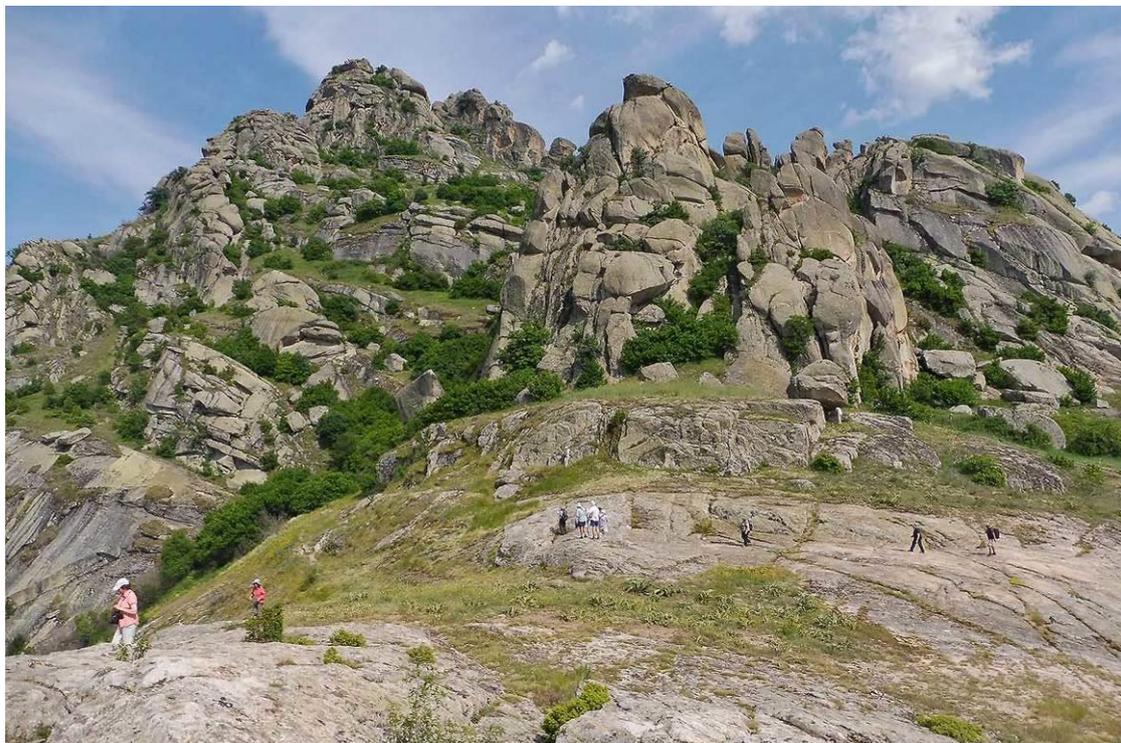
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Ramme's Predatory Bush-cricket



Odalisque



Treskavec