

Mongolia - Birding in the Steppes of Genghis Khan

Naturetrek Tour Report

4 - 19 June 2017



Amur Falcon



Siberian Meadow Bunting



White-crowned Penduline Tit



Steppe Eagle

Report and images by Alan Curry



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Summary

The tour proved a great success with generally smooth logistics, comfortable ger camps, exceedingly clement weather and some top-notch birding. We were fortunate not only to connect with but also see extremely well most of the regional specialities including Swan Goose, Black-billed Capercaillie, White-naped Crane, Siberian White Crane, Asian Dowitcher, Oriental Plover, Pallas's Gull, Pallas's Sandgrouse, Ural Owl, Saker, Henderson's Ground Jay, Siberian Rubythroat, Kozlov's Accentor, Azure Tit and Long-tailed Rosefinch. However it was not just about the birds, as almost every day was spent amongst simply fabulous scenic splendour!

Day 1

Sunday 4th June

The tour started with flights from the UK to Ulaanbaatar via Moscow, thankfully all pretty seamless and hiccup-free, with all our luggage arriving intact. A good positive start to the tour!

Day 2

Monday 5th June

Arriving in Ulaanbaatar (UB) around 6am, we soon cleared the airport formalities and met up with our local guide Odkhuu and his friendly team, seeing our first Pacific Swifts over the airport car park in the process. After meeting up with Sally, our Antipodean group member who had found her way independently to UB, we were soon heading out of the city bound for Terelj National Park, situated a couple of hours drive to the north-east of the city.

A brief roadside stop on the city outskirts gave us some great views of a smart male Amur Falcon on a telegraph pole, and as we continued our journey it was the regular encounters with urban Red-billed Choughs and spanking Daurian Jackdaws that really caught the attention. Another stop at a damp meadow gave a stunning pair of Citrine Wagtails and a singing Radde's Warbler, while a Booted Eagle circled low overhead.

Lunch was taken at our comfortable ger camp with noisy Red-billed Choughs breeding in the chimney of the restaurant and Long-tailed Ground Squirrels skipping outside the window. A late afternoon walk through the neighbouring pine woods reverberated to the sound of calling Common and Oriental Cuckoos, although the afternoon was very hot and generally there was little activity other than a pair of Willow Tits repeatedly visiting a nest hole in a tree stump. After what seemed like a long day, it was soon time to return to the camp for dinner and a much needed early night.

Day 3

Tuesday 6th June

With a nice bright sunny start to the day, we embarked on a long drive bound for an area of pine forest at Shar Guya, where we hoped to encounter some of the local specialities. The route took us across an area of extensive open steppe where we had our first encounter with an accommodating Demoiselle Crane, as well as multiple sightings of Daurian Jackdaw and White-cheeked Starling. An intended short stop at an area of riverine scrub turned into a long one (this was to become a theme) as a male Pine Bunting performed admirably, quickly

followed by a male Long-tailed Rosefinch, singing Greenish Warbler and a cracking male Lesser Spotted Woodpecker; the woodpecker in particular going down well with one group member.

Lunch was taken high on a ridge on the edge of the pine woods, which afforded some fantastic panoramic views of the surrounding area, before embarking on a slow downhill walk through the forest. Olive-backed Pipit proved plentiful along with several Asian Brown Flycatchers, while great views were obtained of both Wryneck and Asian Three-toed Woodpecker. Wood Lemming tunnels abounded and a few were glimpsed; good Ural Owl tucker no doubt. A lucky few were in the right place at the right time as two individual male Black-billed Capercaillies were briefly encountered before vanishing down the slopes. In a dense scrubby gully on the edge of the forest, several super-skulking Siberian Rubythroats were heard singing and allowed occasional good views.

The return journey back to camp was punctuated by sightings of a pair of Steppe Eagles attending a nest in a distant pine tree and a much more accommodating roadside Grey-headed Woodpecker, before arriving back at camp for dinner and log. However, the birding day was not quite over as a calling Ural Owl was discovered, just after darkness fell, a few minutes walk up the valley, which soon turned into two Ural Owls calling to each other and offering fantastic close range torch-lit views in the process. Wow!

Day 4

Wednesday 7th June

A nice cool but sunny start to the day saw us exploring the pine forest adjacent to the camp before breakfast. Compared to the first afternoon, there was a lot more activity with great sightings of Daurian Redstart, Olive-backed Pipit, Yellow-browed Warbler, Common Rosefinch, Pine Bunting and Lesser Whitethroats of a debatable sub-specific form!

After a good breakfast, we chose to stay relatively close to camp and explore the local riparian forest along the Terelj River. Here we had some great encounters with Grey-headed and both Great and Lesser Spotted Woodpeckers, Eurasian Nuthatch of the white-breasted form 'asiatica', Taiga and Asian Brown Flycatchers, 'caudatus' Long-tailed Tit and gorgeous Red-throated Thrushes. Greenish Warbler proved fairly common in these woods but as usual was far easier to hear than actually set eyes on.

A leisurely lunch was taken back at the camp before another venture to a different section of the Terelj River, where it proved a lot quieter than the morning visit. The highlight was undoubtedly the discovery of two active Lesser Spotted Woodpecker nest holes which afforded us some fantastic views in the process.

We returned to camp in good time for our evening meal and log, where there was a keen anticipation that we may well have a repeat Ural Owl performance. And so it proved to be, with one bird calling and showing from the pine tops in the same area as the previous night, allowing one or two group members a second bite at the cherry after missing out the evening before.

Day 5

Thursday 8th June

It was a calm, cool and overcast start to the day as we said our goodbyes to the friendly camp staff and embarked on the long drive to our next destination of Hustai NP, located to the west of Ulaanbaatar. After picking up some essential supplies at a sizeable city supermarket (notably sweets and chocolate) we had our late morning

coffee-break amid some huge agricultural fields where we began to encounter our first typical steppe species. Most notable were the profoundly impressive Mongolian Larks as well as good numbers of Asian Short-toed Lark, while raptors were represented by numerous Cinereous Vultures, Steppe Eagles, Upland Buzzards and our first distant Saker. A short while later we pulled up near a roadside electric pole, where a Saker's nest contained four almost-fledged young along with an attendant adult. Wow indeed!

Then it was on to Hustai where we checked into our gers at the park entrance before enjoying a late lunch. As the afternoon began to cool we set out to explore the bordering reserve where mammals proved to be the initial centre of our focus. It did not take too long to encounter our first groups of Przewalski's Horse, along with Red Deer and Mongolian Marmots dotted around the hillsides. Mongolian Larks were common within the park along with Horned Lark of the distinctive form 'brandti'. A walk up a narrow rocky valley gave us our first views of Golden Eagle, while passerines were well represented in the form of Isabelline and Pied Wheatears, Common Rock Thrush, Siberian Meadow Bunting and a surprise migrant Pallas's Leaf Warbler. The return journey back to camp gave more outstanding views of Przewalski's Horse before our arrival in time for dinner and the evening log.

Day 6

Friday 9th June

An early morning walk up a broad grassy valley within the reserve gave us some nice encounters with a few of the local residents including a small group of Amur Falcons, Lesser Kestrel, another Golden Eagle, and a brief Daurian Partridge for a fortunate few. Siberian Meadow Buntings were particularly prominent with several singing males giving some great photographic opportunities.

With the day beginning to heat up, we returned to camp for breakfast, after which we once again loaded up the vehicles and headed off further west across the expansive steppes. A brief stop near an isolated stock enclosure gave us views of a pair of Little Owls perched on top of the crumbling walls. A nearby vantage point on top of a small ridge revealed a fairly close Mongolian Gazelle, while another group were located on a distant hill side.

Lunch was taken beside Tsagaan Nuur, a large reedy lake where, for the first time on the tour, we encountered a large selection of wildfowl. For some, a pair of Whooper Swans with four small chicks took pride of place but there were plenty of other distractions including our first Swan Geese, several Demoiselle Cranes, a single White-naped Crane, Marsh Sandpiper and a swathe of White-winged Terns. With lunch completed we set out to walk around the shore of the lake but were soon heading back to the vehicles when a difficult dust storm engulfed us. Thus a revision of the afternoon strategy was forced upon us as we elected to continue our journey towards our next destination.

We arrived at our next ger camp at Ugi Nuur by mid-evening, but with the wind still gusting hard, the shelter of the dining room proved very welcome.

Day 7

Saturday 10th June

In stark contrast to the previous evening, the day dawned calm and cloudless and revealed breathtaking views across the expansive lake. It started well bird-wise too, with a male Pere David's Snowfinch and a migrant Dusky Warbler foraging around the gers.

Departing the camp nice and early, we slowly travelled along the southern shore of the lake, stopping frequently before reaching the marshy west end. Here we found extensive numbers of wildfowl including Whooper Swan, Swan Goose (200+), Bar-headed Goose (20+), White-winged Scoter (20+) and Red-crested Pochard (20+). To the pleasure of several group members, we located a roosting flock of over 50 Eurasian Spoonbills. Also along the shore, among the smattering of common shorebirds, we were fortunate to discover a group of four breeding plumaged Asian Dowitchers which proceeded to offer superb telescope views. Add to these sightings of White-tailed Eagle, Demoiselle and White-naped Cranes, Mongolian and Pallas's Gulls, Caspian Tern and, perhaps best of all, hundreds of White-winged Terns feeding at very close range, it all added up to quite a memorable morning!

After lunch which was taken back at the ger camp and a short rest, we set out to visit another lake located to the south-west of Ugii Nuur, that turned out to be a little bit further than anticipated! Stopping off en route to enjoy some excellent breeding plumaged Slavonian Grebes, we arrived at Doitiin-tsagen Nuur to find a seriously impressive gathering of Whooper Swans (145+) amongst which was an unexpected sub-adult Siberian White Crane, possibly the rarest species we would see on the tour. White-winged Terns also featured strongly here with a Gull-billed Tern also making an appearance. All too soon it was time to begin the return journey back to camp after what had been a pretty epic day!

Day 8

Sunday 11th June

The day again started calm and sunny, and there was time before breakfast for some of the group to catch up with yesterday's Pere David's Snowfinch, as well as a brief encounter with a Eurasian Hobby dashing through the ger camp.

After a good breakfast, we bid our farewells to the camp's friendly crew and once again hit the road, bound for a return visit to Ulaanbaatar. We still had a fair bit of unfinished business in relation to the local mammal possibilities and it was not far down the road before we encountered our first Corsac Fox, stealthily making its way across the steppe. A little further on and another fox was spotted, this time an adult Red Fox, and as we followed this individual making its way up a ridge it became apparent that it was returning to an earth, where five small cubs were playing out in the early morning sun!

Once again, we stopped for lunch at Tsagaan Nuur, this time in far more clement conditions. Unfortunately, time did not allow us to make an extended walk around the shoreline but we did manage some great views of both Citrine Wagtail and Blyth's Pipit in the vicinity of our picnic table!

With lunch completed it was now time to undertake the final leg of our long drive, arriving in UB by early evening and the comforts of a good hotel.

Day 9

Monday 12th June

A very early start today in order to meet our 5.30am flight down to Dalanzdgdad (DZ) which unfortunately, for unknown reasons, ended up delayed for five and a half hours: the joys of air travel! Finally, after a short flight we landed in DZ just after midday in the heart of the Gobi region. With our new local crew and bus awaiting us, we

were soon on our way on the relatively short drive to our ger camp on the edge of the Gurvan Saikhan Mountains.

The day was significantly hotter than we had so far experienced, so after a good camp lunch we all retired to the shade of our gers until the afternoon began to cool a little. Initially we chose to have a short hike along a shaded rocky gully behind the camp. Here we easily found several White-winged Snowfinch (or rather they found us) that literally walked around our feet! Other passerines in the gully included several Isabelline Wheatears, Rock Sparrow and Grey-headed Bunting. As the afternoon began to cool further we embarked on a bus tour of the vast local sandy plains, searching for one of our key targets, Oriental Plover which could be best described as looking for a needle in a haystack! Horned Larks proved to be the predominant species out on the plains with regular sightings, however despite the best efforts of our local guide, on this occasion success was not be ours on the plover front.

Day 10

Tuesday 13th June

Today was calm and cool first thing, becoming progressively hotter. We had another early start, bound for the impressively scenic Yolyn Am valley which lies a short drive to the west of our ger camp. A Little Owl greeted us at the park entrance along with a roosting Saker on a roadside crag. The road slowly climbed up through the foothills and it did not take long before we encountered our first Ibex, posing nicely for photographs on a nearby ridge line. Just short of the main parking area we began searching the surrounding slopes and ridges in earnest, hoping to locate our main target species, Altai Snowcock. No sooner had we vacated the bus than several White-winged Snowfinch appeared again, almost walking around our feet. A pair of Brown Accentor also performed well on a nearby rocky outcrop. Several groups of Ibex were also located on the higher slopes, along with a Chukar Partridge which briefly got the juices going as it masqueraded as a distant snowcock, but unfortunately there was neither sight nor sound of the real deal. After a couple hours of intense scanning it was now time to return to the camp for breakfast. Despite the absence of any snowcock it had been a cracking morning!

We returned to Yolyn Am immediately after breakfast, this time intent on taking the easy hike down to the gorge itself. A brief stop along the access road to check out an interesting passerine yet again turned into a long one as we enjoyed some great views of Beautiful Rosefinch and Eastern Black Redstart, as well as several Chukar calling at close range. Eventually reaching the main parking area, we set off down the trail. Delightful White-winged Snowfinch seemed perpetually on view and we also encountered several accommodating Brown Accentors before eventually connecting with a Koslov's Accentor, the only Mongolian endemic bird species and therefore a much valued sighting. Pallas's Pika, a highly attractive and endearing small rodent proved very common along the grassy slopes of the valley. The morning was beginning to ebb away as we finally reached the gorge where we encountered two Golden Eagles being mobbed by two tiny looking Lesser Kestrels, as several Himalayan Vultures soared high overhead. It was now time however to backtrack and return to the camp for lunch, but not before encountering a beautiful adult Rose-coloured Starling, seemingly quite a rarity in the region!

Post lunch and after a short rest, it was yet again another return to Yolyn Am and another attempt to explore the gorge. This time we achieved our aim comfortably, joining the hordes of tourists in finally reaching the point where the ice blocks the gorge, and it was at this point that we finally caught up with a Wallcreeper that gave a low flyover for most of the group. The return walk to the bus typically proved quiet, though we were treated to

some great views of Lammergeier (Bearded Vulture) circling the valley near the parking area. All in all it had been a superb day's birding in a superbly scenic area.

Day 11

Wednesday 14th June

Today was calm, hot and sunny all day. We had a re-run of yesterday as we made another early morning attempt to locate a snowcock, this time from a higher position in Yolyn Am that offered us stunning views of the valley and surrounding ridges. Despite our best efforts, it was not meant to be, with again no sight nor sound from the ridge tops, but it was undeniably a fabulous locality in which not to see a snowcock!

After returning to the camp for a well-earned breakfast, it was then time for another bus excursion around the local desert plains. Here we encountered a pair of Demoiselle Cranes and disturbed a Saker consuming its breakfast. On a distant power line we found a Eurasian Collared Dove sat uncomfortably close to another Saker, which was undoubtedly eyeing up its own breakfast platter. On seeing the bus approaching however, the dove flew straight towards us and sat on the roof, seeking sanctuary from the attendant predator! After a short while the Saker surprisingly gave up on its quarry, flying off into the distance and allowing the dove the opportunity to slip away in the opposite direction! Eventually, after what seemed like an age of patient searching, we finally located a pair of absolutely stunning Oriental Plovers. It was clear that the female had a nest nearby, so we maintained a polite distance but still enjoyed some brilliant telescope views of this highly desired local speciality. With the heat now building it was a good time to return to camp for lunch and a bit of down time.

Late afternoon we chose to visit Mukhar Shivert, another highly scenic narrow rocky valley located not far from Yolyn Am. It proved a great visit with outstanding views of Isabelline Shrike, Godlewski's Bunting, Barred Warbler and Beautiful Rosefinch, as well as an epic Lammergeier soaring low overhead – an extremely good end to the birding day!

Day 12

Thursday 15th June

On another calm and fine morning, and after an early breakfast, we departed camp bound for Hongoryn Els, a long and bumpy but exhilarating full day's drive away amid some spectacular scenery. It didn't take long after our departure however before a roadside Steppe Eagle commanded our attention and proved a real treat for the photographer's amongst us. After a brief stop in the small town of Bayan Dalai for some essential supplies (more sweets and chocolate) we headed off east across a pan-flat stony valley floor. In quick succession we stopped for our first Pallas's Sandgrouse of the tour followed by a pair of Greater Sandplover with two small chicks by the side of the road. Desert Wheatears were frequently encountered as we meandered along, while stopping at a roadside stock compound gave a pair of Little Owls and Rock Sparrows breeding in a wall.

Stopping at a more scrubby area gave us our first encounter with Henderson's Ground Jay that seemed to have perfected the art of always keeping one step ahead of us, but offered us all some really good telescope views eventually. Tolai Hares also featured here with several being disturbed during our walk. Lunch was taken in a narrow rocky gorge in the shade of a tall cliff. The day was now very hot and the stream running through the gorge proved attractive to quite a few drinking passerines including our first Mongolian Finch of the trip, as well as great views of Godlewski's Bunting.

Continuing towards our destination, interesting sightings slowed down in the afternoon heat although the dramatic scenery on offer was more than adequate compensation with the vast Hongoryn Els sand dunes dominating the horizon. We arrived at the Gobi Erdene Ger Camp by late afternoon, leaving us with plenty of time before dinner and the evening log.

Day 13

Friday 16th June

We had an overcast and surprisingly cool start to the day. With an early start to proceedings, we headed for an area of pools situated at the base of the huge sand dune system. Unfortunately birds proved rather thin on the ground on this occasion with just a handful of Ruddy Shelduck, Common Redshank and Little Ringed Plover dotted around the shorelines. Two Pallas's Sandgrouse circled in the distance and a Long-legged Buzzard attended its nest in a low bush on the edge of the dunes. Passerines were represented by one or two cracking Isabelline Shrikes and an unexpected migrant Pallas's Warbler lurking in a dense shrub.

Post breakfast, we again headed for the same general area but this time concentrating on an open area of Saxaul trees where we spent the remainder of the morning in the ever-increasing heat. Parking by a bridge over a river, we disturbed several Hill Pigeons that were obviously breeding in the bridge structure. Amongst the Saxaul grove we obtained much improved views of Isabelline Shrike that were proving to be the commonest passerine here. In the short stunted trees we located huge occupied nests of both Black Kite and Long-legged Buzzard, and within the tangle of dead wood at the base of these we found breeding super-smart Saxaul Sparrows; a key regional speciality and a much welcomed addition to the tour list. Other species noted during the morning included several Desert Wheatears and the ever-puzzling Asian Short-toed Larks that seemed to sound very different to their cousins in the higher steppes.

After an extended lunch we again returned to the Saxaul woodland and after a long search we eventually located our final remaining target species here when a pair of Steppe Grey Shrikes with at least three fledged young gave themselves up on the edge of the wooded area. One of the juveniles in particular proved highly accommodating and gave us some lovely photographic opportunities. The Saxaul Sparrows were also sitting up much better now that the afternoon was cooling, and one or two group members were fortunate to encounter a Great Gerbil at the entrance of their burrows. We then took a walk to a picturesque natural spring on the very edge of the huge Hongoryn Els dunes and the source of the sizeable river we had parked beside. Surrounded by a verdant meadow, this area positively throbbed with breeding Horned and Asian Short-toed Larks with several Isabelline Shrikes thrown in for good measure, before we returned to camp for dinner.

Day 14

Saturday 17th June

After an early breakfast, it was time to collect our things together, say goodbye to the Desert Wheatears that abounded around the camp and board the bus for our long bumpy journey back to Dalanzdgdad and the comforts of a good hotel! It was another hot and sunny morning, though in the distance we could see some ominous dark storm clouds gathering over the Western Beauty Mountains ahead of us.

An hour or so along the road, the bus came to an abrupt halt as a small group of Goitered Gazelle were spotted grazing in the distance. A short while later and a roadside coffee stop produced a pair of Pallas's Sandgrouse and a fine male Asian Desert Warbler, performing admirably singing from the tops of small bushes. Pushing on

further, we stopped again at the area of the original Henderson's Ground Jay sighting where we quickly located perhaps one of the same individuals behaving much in the same manner as before. Another group of gazelle were noted, this time much closer than earlier and proving to be Mongolian Gazelle. Another Asian Desert Warbler gave itself up, on this occasion singing from outside the bus window! Lunch was also taken by the road side at the edge of a dry stream bed with yet another Asian Desert Warbler entertaining us! The wind was increasing and light rain was beginning to fall, suggesting to us that it was probably a good idea to push on to Dalanzgdad.

Day 15

Sunday 18th June

An early flight to Ulaanbaatar allowed us to plenty of time for a good morning's birding amongst an area of riparian woodland along the Tuul River, downstream of UB. Here we were greeted by a cracking male Amur Falcon circling above us. Hoopoe's abounded and we encountered a couple of groups of noisy Azure-winged Magpies. Our key target was Azure Tit and they did not disappoint, with some excellent encounters including a pair attending a nest hole. White-crowned Penduline Tit, another species that can sometimes be hard to find, also performed with aplomb after we once again located a nest site.

Moving on to an area of pools in a heavily industrialised area gave us a good selection of wetland species including Demoiselle Crane, breeding 'longipennis' Common Tern and amongst the hoards of familiar wildfowl, an impressive drake Falcated Duck.

It was now time to return to our Ulaanbaatar city centre hotel which left the afternoon free for some down time and a bit of sightseeing.

Day 16

Monday 19th June

Today we had an early start for our return flights home after what had been a great trip, for most that was to London via Moscow, but for a lucky few it was next stop Beijing....

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Species Lists

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

	Common name	Scientific name	June													
			5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
1	Swan Goose	<i>Anser cygnoides</i>					2	200								
2	Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>						15								
3	Bar-headed Goose	<i>Anser indicus</i>						20	2							
4	Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>					1									
5	Whooper Swan	<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>					6	145	2							7
6	Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>					100	40	✓							
7	Ruddy Shelduck	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>	2	6	4	2	40	50	✓				45	12		1
8	Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>	1	8			5	20								140
9	Falcated Duck	<i>Anas falcata</i>														1
10	Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Anas penelope</i>					4									
11	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>		2		1		50								10
12	Northern Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>						15								
13	Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>					3	2								
14	Garganey	<i>Anas querquedula</i>						12								
15	Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>						4								
16	Red-crested Pochard	<i>Netta rufina</i>						20								
17	Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>					1	200								
18	Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>						10								45
19	White-winged Scoter	<i>Melanitta deglandi</i>						30								
20	Common Goldeneye	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>		1				35								10
21	Common Merganser (Goosander)	<i>Mergus merganser</i>		5	1	1		3								1
22	Black-billed Capercaillie	<i>Tetrao urogalloides</i>		2												
23	Chukar Partridge	<i>Alectoris chukar</i>									10	1	4			
24	Daurian Partridge	<i>Perdix dauurica</i>					1									
25	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>						35								4
26	Slavonian Grebe	<i>Podiceps auritus</i>					8									
27	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>				1										
28	Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>							50							
29	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>					5	6	2							

	Common name	Scientific name	June														
			5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
30	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>							4								
31	Bearded Vulture	<i>Gypaetus barbatus</i>										3	1	1			
32	Himalayan Vulture	<i>Gyps himalayensis</i>										12			1	1	
33	Cinereous Vulture	<i>Aegypius monachus</i>	2			5	10	8	10					3		2	
34	Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraetus pennatus</i>	4	1	1							2					
35	Steppe Eagle	<i>Aquila nipalensis</i>		2		3	8	2						1			
36	Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>				1	1					2					
37	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>		1													
38	Northern Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>		1													
39	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	10	6	10	6	10	10	10						3		10
40	White-tailed Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>							2								
41	Upland Buzzard	<i>Buteo hemilasius</i>				3	10	4	6	2	4	1					
42	Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>													3	1	
43	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	4	15	1												
44	Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>						60									
45	White-naped Crane	<i>Grus vipio</i>					1	1									
46	Demoiselle Crane	<i>Grus virgo</i>		1		4	6	40	12			2					1
47	Siberian White Crane	<i>Grus leucogeranus</i>					1										
48	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>					1	15									4
49	Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>					50	10	20								
50	Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>					20	80	30								
51	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>						1									
52	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>					2	1									1
53	Greater Sandplover	<i>Charadrius leschenaultii</i>												4			
54	Oriental Plover	<i>Charadrius veredus</i>										2					
55	Asian Dowitcher	<i>Limnodromus semipalmatus</i>						4									
56	Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>						4	1								
57	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>						1							2		2
58	Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>					2	10									
59	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>					2										
60	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>		1	6	1											
61	Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>						1									

	Common name	Scientific name	June													
			5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
62	Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>						1								
63	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>						12	12							
64	Vega Gull	<i>Larus vegae mongolicus</i>					4	25	8							
65	Pallas's Gull	<i>Larus ichthyaetus</i>						1								
66	Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>						1								
67	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>						30								40
68	White-winged Tern	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>					40	200	50							
69	Pallas's Sandgrouse	<i>Syrrhaptes paradoxus</i>											4	20	3	
70	Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓		✓	2	1		✓	✓			8	✓	✓	✓
71	Hill Pigeon	<i>Columba rupestris</i>			5									25		
72	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>										1	1			
73	Oriental Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus optatus</i>	h	h	1	h										
74	Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	4	10	16	h	2	h			4	4				
75	Ural Owl	<i>Strix uralensis</i>		2	1											
76	Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>					2				1		2			
77	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>				20	10	4								
78	Pacific Swift	<i>Apus pacificus</i>	50	12	2				1	4	50	10	20	5	1	20
79	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>	4	1	2	h		1		1		1				8
80	Eurasian Wryneck	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>		1												
81	Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos minor</i>		1	3											
82	Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>		1	2											
83	Eurasian Three-toed Woodpecker	<i>Picoides tridactylus</i>		1												
84	Grey-headed Woodpecker	<i>Picus canus</i>		1	2											
85	Lesser Kestrel	<i>Falco naumanni</i>		5		2	2		1		4					1
86	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>		1	1	1										
87	Amur Falcon	<i>Falco amurensis</i>	3				4									1
88	Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>							1							
89	Saker Falcon	<i>Falco cherrug</i>				8					2	2	1			
90	Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>	1													
91	Brown Shrike	<i>Lanius cristatus</i>	1													1
92	Isabelline Shrike	<i>Lanius isabellinus</i>										1		8	3	
93	Steppe Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius lahtora pallidirostris</i>												5		

	Common name	Scientific name	June													
			5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
94	Azure-winged Magpie	<i>Cyanopica cyanus</i>														13
95	Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	10	10	✓	✓	✓									10
96	Henderson's Ground Jay	<i>Podoces hendersoni</i>											2		1	
97	Red-billed Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>	50	76	✓	✓	✓	4	2		15		2			25
98	Daurian Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus dauuricus</i>	5	126	✓	✓										2
99	Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>				38										2
100	Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>	10	25	✓	✓										20
101	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	6	8		2	10	1	2	1			4	3	10	
102	Azure Tit	<i>Cyanistes cyanus</i>			1											8
103	Willow Tit	<i>Poecile montanus</i>	2	1	3	2										
104	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		1	5	1										
105	White-crowned Penduline Tit	<i>Remiz coronatus</i>														2
106	Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>		3					6						1	
107	Horned Lark	<i>Eremophila alpestris</i>				4	4	8	10	20	16	20	50	6	20	
108	Asian Short-toed Lark	<i>Calandrella cheleensis</i>				6	10	50	20					30	10	
109	Mongolian Lark	<i>Melanocorypha mongolica</i>		1		30	50	50	20							
110	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>						50								
111	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	4			2	6	30	10							
112	Eurasian Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>								3	15	19	2			
113	Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>			30			20			1	2				
114	Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>			1											
115	Dusky Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus fuscatus</i>						1								
116	Radde's Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus schwarzi</i>	3													
117	Pallas's Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus proregulus</i>				1									1	
118	Yellow-browed Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus inornatus</i>	4	1	1	h					1					
119	Greenish Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochiloides</i>		2	3											
120	Barred Warbler	<i>Sylvia nisoria</i>									2	4				
121	Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia curruca</i>			3	5									1	
122	Asian Desert Warbler	<i>Sylvia nana</i>														3
123	Common Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>										2				
124	Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>			3											
125	Wallcreeper	<i>Tichodroma muraria</i>									1					

	Common name	Scientific name	June														
			5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
126	White-cheeked Starling	<i>Spodiopsar cineraceus</i>		4												8	
127	Rosy Starling	<i>Pastor roseus</i>									1						
128	Red-throated Thrush	<i>Turdus ruficollis</i>		1	3												
129	Asian Brown Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa dauurica</i>		3	3												
130	Siberian Rubythroat	<i>Calliope calliope</i>		8													
131	Taiga Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula albicilla</i>			1												
132	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>									4						
133	Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>	1		3					1	2	1					
134	Daurian Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus aureoreus</i>		6	1												
135	Common Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola saxatilis</i>	1			1						4	4				
136	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>	20	12	1	4	1				4		1			1	
137	Isabelline Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe isabellina</i>	6	30	10	20	20	10	20	8	20	10	20	6	10		
138	Desert Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe deserti</i>											6	12	5		
139	Pied Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe pleschanka</i>				4	6			1	1	2	8	1			
140	Saxaul Sparrow	<i>Passer ammodendri</i>												10			
141	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓									✓	✓
142	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
143	Rock Sparrow	<i>Petronia petronia</i>					2	2		1	2	2	2				1
144	White-winged Snowfinch	<i>Montifringilla nivalis</i>								10	40	12	2				
145	Pere David's Snowfinch	<i>Pyrgilauda davidiana</i>						1	2								
146	Brown Accentor	<i>Prunella fulvescens</i>									8	1					
147	Kozlov's Accentor	<i>Prunella koslowi</i>									1	1					
148	Western Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>					1		1								
149	Citrine Wagtail	<i>Motacilla citreola</i>	2				2		1								
150	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>			5												
151	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	2	4	2		2	1									3
152	Blyth's Pipit	<i>Anthus godlewskii</i>		1					2								
153	Olive-backed Pipit	<i>Anthus hodgsoni</i>		10	4												
154	Mongolian Finch	<i>Bucanetes mongolicus</i>											3				
155	Common Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus erythrinus</i>	4		6	6						1					
156	Himalayan Beautiful Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus pulcherrimus</i>									12	8					
157	Long-tailed Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus sibiricus</i>		3													

	Common name	Scientific name	June														
			5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
158	Twite	<i>Linaria flavirostris</i>										2	2				
159	Common Crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>				2											
160	Pine Bunting	<i>Emberiza leucocephalos</i>		2		2											
161	Godlewski's Bunting	<i>Emberiza godlewskii</i>											2	4			
162	Meadow Bunting	<i>Emberiza cioides</i>			1	2	3										
163	Grey-necked Bunting	<i>Emberiza buchanani</i>									1						

Mammals

1	Eurasian Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>	1	2	3												
2	Tarbagan (Mongolian) Marmot	<i>Marmota sibirica</i>		1		50	20		2								
3	Daurian Ground Squirrel	<i>Spermophilus dauricus</i>				2											
4	Red-cheeked Ground Squirrel	<i>Spermophilus erythrogenys</i>		✓	✓	2	2										
5	Long-tailed Ground Squirrel	<i>Spermophilus undulatus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	12			1	2	1	1				1
6	Siberian Chipmunk	<i>Tamias sibiricus</i>			3												
7	Brandt's Vole	<i>Lasiopodomys brandtii</i>				1		5	2		4						
8	Wood Lemming	<i>Myopus schisticolor</i>		4													
9	Mongolian (Gerbil) Jird	<i>Meriones unguiculatus</i>					4				2	6					
10	Great Gerbil	<i>Rhombomys opimus</i>													2		
11	Pallas's Pika	<i>Ochotona pallasi</i>									40	30	6				
12	Tolai Hare	<i>Lepus tolai</i>				3			1				3				
13	Corsac Fox	<i>Vulpes corsac</i>							1								
14	Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>						1	7								1
15	Przewalski's Horse (Takhi)	<i>Equus ferus przewalskii</i>				50	4										
16	Maral (Red Deer)	<i>Cervus elaphus</i>			h	15	10										
17	Goitered Gazelle	<i>Gazella subgutturosa</i>															20
18	Mongolian Gazelle	<i>Procapra gutturosa</i>					17		1								6
19	Siberian Ibex	<i>Capra sibirica</i>									22	1					