

# Poland in Autumn

Naturetrek Tour Report

4th – 12th September 2021



Queen of Spain Fritillary



Knot



European Hornet by Peter Hickson

Report and images by Neil McMahon & Peter Hickson



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Tour participants: Neil McMahon & Andy Petryna (leaders) with eight Naturetrek clients.

## Day 1

Saturday 4th September

### Warsaw and Bialowieza

Most of our party threaded their way to Luton Airport where we met up and flew out with Whizzair, almost on time. The two-hour flight was unremarkable and on landing we were anticipating an increase in bureaucracy post-Brexit and also because of the Covid-19 implications. But we needn't have worried as we were swiftly processed with the minimum of fuss and Andy, our local guide, and the last two of our party, Derek and Jan, were there to meet us.

Shortly afterwards we left Warsaw Chopin Airport on our comfortable minibus and began the journey to the Bialowieza area. After about an hour we stopped for a tasty chicken salad lunch and drinks. Opposite the restaurant there were lots of birds in the fields which included Starlings, Woodpigeons and corvids. A kettle of raptors rising on a thermal was made up of ten Honey Buzzards plus a couple of Common Buzzards and some Ravens. Peacock and unidentified white butterflies fluttered past as we boarded the bus again to journey on for roughly another two and a half hours. Mammals in roadside fields included Roe Deer and Red Fox and interesting birds included several, yet-to-migrate White Storks, Common Buzzards, Black Redstart, Great Grey Shrike and flocks of Woodpigeons, Collared Doves, Jackdaws, Rooks, Swallow and House Martins.

We arrived at the Bojarski Gosciniec pension hotel in Narewka on the edge of the Bialowieza Forest, a last minute venue after army manoeuvres and special measures had been put in place along the nearby Belarus border only the day before. After our room allocation we took a drive on the northern outskirts and meadows of the forest and liaised with a Police Border Patrol.

The adjacent meadows here sometimes attract European Bison and we went for a walk through some of the woodlands and climbed an observation tower in the hope of seeing them. We didn't see Bison, but three Roe Deer were on view and a Lesser Spotted Eagle could be seen perched up on a hay rick. There were quite a number of mosquitoes too and we wished the attendant Swallows and subsequent bats would consume a lot more of them!! With dusk approaching we headed back to our hotel, the best of the additional birds seen en-route being a track-side Red-backed Shrike.

We ate our evening meal just after 8pm and some of us went out for a short night walk with torches. A local folk-music event drowned out most of the night sounds but the night sky overhead was amazing. And then we heard them, with a break in the music, the mournful howling of distant Wolves!! The local dogs responded and then all went quiet as the howling ceased. After a long day travelling, it was then time for bed.

## Day 2

Sunday 5th September

### Bialowieza

We opted for an early start and were at the minibus for 6am. Three Black Redstarts were flitting around the buildings and a couple of hundred Swallows were gathering on telegraph wires in company with rather fewer House Martins. Greenfinch, Tree Pipit and White Wagtail also put in an appearance. We drove out of the village back to the meadows of the previous evening where a mist had formed and then slowly cleared over the wet grass. The hoped-for mammals didn't show but a tit flock near the watch tower contained Crested and Willow Tits.

We drove quite a way to another cross-section of meadows and light woodland which was particularly favourable for up to six Red-backed and eight Great Grey Shrikes. We heard Green Woodpecker here and saw Jays, Ravens, a Marsh Harrier, Common Buzzards, Yellow Wagtail and both Meadow and Tree Pipits. The mammals again eluded us so we drove back to our hotel for an enjoyable buffet breakfast, very much continental style.

An hour later, and before we boarded our bus, Chiffchaffs and a few Tree Sparrows were visible on adjoining land. We spent the morning checking a few meadows and walking various sections of woodlands still accessible since the recently introduced special measures. Butterflies included Red Admiral, Peacock, Comma and Silver-Washed Fritillary. Peter H managed to capture an image of a Red Squirrel and we saw the first of many Great Spotted Woodpeckers that day. Odonata included Blue Emperor, Black-tailed Skimmer and Ruddy Darter. A roadside Fritillary or two were later identified as Queen of Spain. More raptors included Sparrowhawk and Hobby and several Hornets were active as were plenty of frogs and grasshoppers.

We ate our packed lunches and hot drinks at a small restaurant on the edge of the forest and one of the relatively few local Robins put in an appearance.

After our lunch, we took a slow walk along a straight forest track with stunning woodland all around – Hornbeams prevailing but also ancient Oaks, Lime, Norway Maple, Birch, Scot's Pine, many dead and dying Spruce and some Ash. Large stands of Golden Rod dominated uncut meadows and rough growth with heather and other tough plants at the woodland edge. Some of us had seen a Black Woodpecker in flight in the morning and our afternoon walk provided views of a couple of Middle-spotted Woodpeckers and a vocal White-backed Woodpecker which showed just once in flight. We had also seen a Lesser Spotted Woodpecker in the morning, so were quite pleased with our growing Woodpecker list.

An unknown raptor calling from woodland sounded like a begging, juvenile 'aquila' eagle of some kind. Marsh Tits were both vocal and showy and a flock of white-headed Long-tailed Tits were a treat. Associating with them were Chiffchaff, and both Goldcrest and Firecrest. Nuthatch and Common Treecreeper were present in low numbers, as were Wrens.

On our return to the minibus it was time for a coffee break and then a return to the hotel at Narewka for a comfort break. Birds in the village included Spotted Flycatcher, more Marsh Tits and another Middle-spotted Woodpecker.

We then drove along tracks bordering the meadows, many of them cut, and light woodland trying to find Bison. Roe Deer were in good numbers and we enjoyed sightings of Lesser Spotted Eagles including a relatively close bird perched atop a hay bale. Two falcons on a sandy track proved to be two migrant Red-footed Falcons but sadly they disappeared on our approach. Kestrels and Common Buzzards provided more raptor interest but we just couldn't find the elusive Bison. With the mist appearing over the meadows at dusk again we departed hoping for better luck the following day.

After our evening meal at the hotel, some of us went out for a night walk. Again the night sky was very clear with identified planets, satellites and shooting stars all visible. Distant Wolves again howled mournfully and all the local dogs barked and vocalized in response. At least one stag Red Deer could be heard roaring. Chloe and Richard heard Tawny Owl and a backward glance turned into a transfixed and focused viewing of a single Wolf loping along one of the village streets. It gave them a cursory glance and gently jogged off up a side street and away into the gloom. Very exciting and unanticipated and a huge bonus as this is an animal not frequently actually seen.

### Day 3 Bialowieza

### Monday 6th September

An early start saw us mustering at 5.30am and we made our way by minibus to the meadows and woodland edges in another effort to see Bison and any other wildlife on offer. The Bison remained hidden but a Fox sat curled up on a hay rick, there were several Roe Deer spotted and raptors included perched and flying Lesser Spotted Eagles, Common Buzzards (including a very white bird) and Kestrel. Several Whinchats were working the ditches and weedy areas and Red-backed Shrike, Great Grey Shrike and common tits became active as the mist dissipated and the morning sun broke through. White Wagtail, Tree Pipit and Chiffchaffs were on show but our subsequent drive around the meadows and village edges mostly provided repeats of Jays, some Fieldfares and another Black Woodpecker in flight. After our meanderings and repeat visits and scanning we returned to our hotel for breakfast and packing.

We left Narewka for the last time and skirted some new areas by minibus and then went for a walk along one of the gridded forest tracks. The walk began sedately with Spotted Flycatcher, Marsh Tit and Treecreeper plus large numbers of frogs and insects. At one of the intersections of forest paths Stephen seemed to become rather agitated and pointed down one of the connecting rides. Keeping completely silent and with some trepidation we joined him at the crossroads and came face to face with a fabulous male Bison! Wow, exactly what we were looking for! Although less than 50 metres away he was unconcerned by our presence and browsed the vegetation by the side of the ride and then melted away into the forest, but not before we managed a series of photographs. Further down the track we encountered Middle-spotted and Great Spotted Woodpeckers, an unidentified dark snake and a further variety of small frogs.

We retired for lunch at a woodland restaurant and then headed out of the area towards Bialystok where we spent a couple of hours walking around some reed-filled fish ponds. Water birds dominated with four species of grebe including Red-necked and Black-necked. Marsh Harrier, Hobby, Common Buzzard, common ducks and a small variety of warblers which included Chiffchaff, Blackcap, Common Whitethroat, Reed and Sedge Warbler were added to the day's list. A calling Penduline Tit remained hidden and plenty of dragonflies included Migrant Hawker. Probably the best bird for many was a Little Crake which worked the base of the reeds on a pond

opposite us and which at one stage caught and ate a Blue Emperor Dragonfly. Common Crane, Grey Heron, Spotted Flycatcher and several Red-backed Shrikes added more variety.

The remainder of the evening was spent driving to the Biebrza Marshes and checking into the Dwor Dobarz hotel. After our evening meal a short night walk provided spotlighted Red Fox and Roe Deer but little else before eventually retiring for the night rather late again.

## Day 4

Tuesday 7th September

### Biebrza Marshes

The weather continued still and dry with plenty of warm sunshine during the day, but the mornings started cold and often with a slowly clearing mist and heavy dew. A 6am walk along the road outside the hotel coincided with the morning fly-past of a small flock of vocal Common Cranes – a fabulous sight and sound. Swallows were gathering excitedly, and other migrants included White Wagtail, Yellow Wagtail, Meadow and Tree Pipits. Jays filed past us and we found a Firecrest in some small roadside Spruce trees. Birds of the nearby taller trees included at least two Middle-spotted Woodpeckers and a small congregation in some bushes was made up of Starling, Redwing and Fieldfare. A Sparrowhawk was playing hide and seek with all of them.

After breakfast we concentrated on the southern portion of the large marsh reserve, our first three stops being at elevated scanning positions. Raptors were at the fore with a couple of adult Spotted Eagles with a close sighting of one of them, a juvenile female Goshawk soaring above the trees whilst being mobbed by a Sparrowhawk and a Marsh Harrier, plus Common and Honey Buzzards, our first White-tailed Eagles of the trip and an Osprey. Andy found us a fabulous female Elk in the valley below browsing a willow bush until being disturbed by a male sporting a big rack of antlers. Distant Great Grey Shrikes, more hunting Sparrowhawks, common corvids and lots of Swallows prevailed all morning. Flocks of Starling and Lapwings rose and swirled on the approach of the raptors. A pair of Mute Swans had both the grey and 'Polish' white form of cygnets.

Lunch was chicken and chips on the balcony of a restaurant overlooking the river and a flock of Tree Sparrows were feeding on the seed-heads of plants below us.

We spent the afternoon at a roadside stop hoping for White-backed Woodpecker, which sadly didn't materialise, but large numbers of Common Lizards kept us entertained. A walk out on a boardwalk across a managed bog (where in the summer the Aquatic Warblers breed) was quiet but odonata included Black Darter. More scanning from a nearby observation tower yielded warblers and tits, a hot air balloon and a paraglider! Distant flying birds included Common Cranes and a White-tailed Eagle before we retired back to the hotel.

## Day 5

Wednesday 8th September

### Biebrza Marshes

Our early morning excursion was to return to the tower overlooking the marsh and forest edge after first checking the verges of the road and woodland. The birds seen were mostly repeats in the form of common warblers, Marsh and Willow Tits, Jays and a Lesser Spotted Woodpecker. There was no sign of any Elk which was our main target but close views of Roe Deer and brief views of Red Squirrel was some compensation.

We left the hotel after breakfast armed with our packed lunches and enjoyed a pleasant stroll in a woodland park dominated by Birch and Aspen. A couple of Hazel Grouse were flushed but the hoped-for woodpeckers didn't materialise. Small numbers of Siskins were our first of the trip and Nuthatch and other common birds showed well. Butterflies included Queen of Spain and Silver-washed Fritillaries and a Large Tortoiseshell was spotted. A Red Fox also showed nicely.

We subsequently drove on to a large freshwater lake managed as a Carp fishery where most of the birds were rather distant but included White-tailed Eagle, Marsh Harrier and common wildfowl. Corvids were also quite numerous and Yellow Wagtails were on the fields. Two different sets of fishponds were next on the itinerary and our walk around the first one provided views of White-tailed Eagle, Osprey, Hobby, a flock of Whooper Swans including a pair with seven cygnets, Ruff, Goosander, Caspian Gull, Whinchat and Pintail.

It was a warm and very pleasant day and we needed water to remain hydrated. The second set of fishponds were surrounded by woodlands growing on island sand dunes and here at least five White-tailed Eagles showed well plus a couple of Ospreys, Marsh Harrier, Honey Buzzard, Greenshank and similar fare. We heard but couldn't see Penduline and Bearded Tits. Old Wolf scats suggested that Beaver had been its prey.

We returned to our comfortable hotel a little earlier than usual and took a 5pm evening meal to make time for an evening excursion. After our meal we boarded our bus and drove for about 45 minutes before reaching an idyllic little settlement next to a river with high embankments. Here a local naturalist monitors the local Beavers and other riverside wildlife and standing on his wooden veranda facing the river we quickly spotted an adult Beaver feeding on vegetation a little way off. This animal remained on view throughout as daylight turned to dusk and then darkness fell. Splashes in the river indicated some closer activity and we watched as another individual swam the width of the river and fed on the opposite bank. Here we spotlighted it which afforded us very good views.

We left this aquatic venue and drove slowly along the straight roads with forest on both sides. An Elk strode across the road in front of us, its white legs shining out in the headlights. The next mammal created some debate as to its identity as only the people at the front of the bus enjoyed a good view, but was clinched as a Raccoon Dog – a new species for most of us. A roadside Red Fox was the last animal of the day as we journeyed back to the hotel. There we retired for the night in anticipation of more wildlife spectacles in the morning.

## Day 6

Thursday 9th September

### Biebrza Marshes and drive to Gdansk

Our last morning at Dwor Dobarz began with some early morning birding around the hotel. Andy had said that it was possible to locate scarcer woodpecker species here and it proved to be true with six species seen or heard including a prolonged view of the elusive White-backed Woodpecker. Common Cranes flew over us, bugling as they went and Hobby and Sparrowhawk made brief appearances. Migrants included Spotted Flycatcher, Tree Pipit, Blackcap and Black Redstart and a couple of Crossbills made a quick guest appearance. After finishing our packing, having breakfast and taking group photos we boarded our minibus for the long journey to Gdansk and the last section of the tour.

Our lunch-stop was made overlooking the UNESCO freshwater lake of Łuknajno which is large and shallow and a place where many Mute Swans gather to moult and feed. Scanning from an observation tower produced distant views of three hulking White-tailed Eagles, Marsh Harrier, Common Buzzards and waterfowl which included distant Red-crested Pochard. Unseen Penduline Tits called from the phragmites reedbed as we chomped our packed lunches and sipped hot drinks. A nearby restaurant sold ice-creams and other beverages and a short walk in the woodland and lake edges yielded common woodland birds, a Kingfisher and an 'old man of the woods' carving. Here the Naturetrek tour-leader was reunited with his mobile phone after foolishly leaving it at the Dwor Dobarz hotel and then we continued on our long journey to Gdansk which was dogged by a couple of big diversions. Little wildlife was noted en-route but Richard spotted two Little Terns fishing a river towards the outskirts of Gdansk.

We arrived at the Amber Hotel at about 7pm and relaxed there for the evening ahead of our exploration of the Baltic coast and the tour of the city the following day.

## Day 7

Friday 10th September

### Baltic Coast and Gdansk

Yet again the splendid weather continued with warm sunshine and a pleasing south-westerly breeze. After our 7am breakfast we drove out of the city and visited the Ptasi Raj reserve just in from the coast. Penduline Tit could again be heard calling and we eventually managed some reasonable views of two birds. Small flocks of migrating Blue Tits were nervously hopping around the bushes in preparation for their flight across the River Vistula and beyond. Small numbers of Great Tits, Coal Tits, Crested Tit and Chiffchaff were associated with them. We walked along the river bank with a lagoon on our right hand side. Goosanders were quite numerous and there was a good selection of ducks and other waterbirds including plenty of Little Grebes. A White-tailed Eagle dwarfed several hunting Marsh Harrier and Common Buzzards. Gulls included Caspian, Great Black-backed and Lesser Black-backed plus a couple of Little Gulls. A Caspian Tern flew east and Sandwich Terns flew along the distant coastline.

Walking back the way we had come, we then deviated along a sandy track through woodland and visited a couple of observation towers, the second providing good views of waterbirds in excellent light. Bearded Tits were calling in front of the tower but declined to show themselves. It was quiet on our circular walk back, but there were plenty of common butterflies flitting in the sunlit rides. Back at the bus it was lunchtime and Common Cranes and Crossbills provided some fly-over entertainment whilst we were grazing.

The afternoon was taken up with a guided tour by Andy around the historical aspects of the main town and then we were unleashed to wander at will! Tourism plays a big part in the economics of this very scenic town with super Dutch/German wharf architecture, a huge Roman Catholic church built for a congregation of thousands, large numbers of shops selling amber jewelry and artifacts and river side attractions – bars and restaurants. This cultural and tourist tour was much enjoyed and a little break from the intensity of wildlife watching. We gathered together again at 6pm and jumped aboard our bus for the return to our hotel, evening meal, Covid-19 tests and passenger locator forms where appropriate.



## Day 8

Saturday 11th September

### Baltic Coast

Our last full day in the field followed our breakfast buffet at the hotel with a morning walking out to the Vistula Spit section of the Baltic coastline and where a brackish lagoon is created by a sweeping sand bar and small sand banks prove to be a magnet for waterbirds and waders. The river was in full flow and high following heavy rain over the preceding week. We walked about two kilometres alongside the swirling current, the wildlife highlights being a Kingfisher, a super Grass Snake and a Lesser Spotted Woodpecker. Penduline Tits were emitting their high-pitched, reedy whistles and two showed in flight. Small Heath butterflies were visible at the start of the walk. Scats suggested the presence of Pine Marten and Mink. Three Little Gulls flew past us. A collection of loafing gulls on the concrete causeway towards the end of our walk included a Yellow-legged and several Caspian Gulls. Two Common Sandpipers fidgeted amongst the gulls as Cormorants fished the river mouth. A distant Arctic Skua was pursuing gulls further out and an adult White-tailed Eagle was attracted to the fishing Cormorants and attempted to snatch a meal. The heads of Grey Seals bobbing in the water indicated that the Cormorants had competition for the fish there which included flat fish.

The lagoon held a mass of birds both in terms of numbers of species and of biomass! Greylag Geese and Cormorants were in their hundreds. A White-tailed Eagle, probably the same bird we had seen earlier, was lordling it over the avian mass and causing consternation each time he made a pass in an effort to snatch a duck before retiring to his driftwood perch. On one of these forays, a juvenile, female Peregrine mobbed the huge eagle before she herself made an unsuccessful stoop in an attempt to catch a wader.

Tufted Duck were in large numbers with a few Goldeneye and Pochard intermixed. Surface-feeders included Shoveler, Wigeon, Gadwall and Pintail. For many though the main attraction was the abundance of waders, in particular the confiding juvenile Dunlin and Knot that fed little more than twenty feet away from us. Bar-tailed Godwits, a couple of Little Stints, seven Spotted Redshanks and other species of wader made it fun searching through the birds on the edge or in the shallows. The terns didn't linger for long on this occasion but included Black, Sandwich and Common and with the warm weather many of the birds on the near shore were being continually disturbed by walkers, cyclists, dogs and amber seekers.

It was difficult to prise ourselves away from this spectacle, but with a 2km return walk in warm conditions we peeled away and retraced our steps back the way we had come. Andy and Chloe enjoyed a good view of a North American Mink on the way back and other sightings were of a Lesser Spotted Woodpecker, Siskins, Black Tern and similar fare. It was lunchtime when we arrived back at the bus and the weather continued to be pleasant and warm despite the forbidding clouds west of the river. By the time we had eaten we had heard thunder and the anticipated afternoon storms were creeping closer.

We drove further east and walked about 500 metres to a large wooden platform and tower constructed in the main to monitor raptor migration along the Baltic coast. All the way along the path there were excellent interpretation boards depicting the birds of the area and the migrants that might be encountered. On arrival at the tower we could see the stormy weather catching us up but we persevered and were rewarded with a Hobby and a very pale Honey Buzzard which flew close by us. Two White-tailed Eagles also flew over the water to our right but with the clouds becoming ever darker to our left, we hastened back to our bus, with a few Crossbill and

calling Middle-spotted and Lesser Spotted Woodpeckers being the best of our encounters as we walked. We began our journey back to Gdansk and it wasn't long before quite heavy rain enveloped us.

We enjoyed our last evening meal together, with Andy providing wine with our food and we relaxed for the evening in anticipation of our journey the following day.

## Day 9

**Sunday 12th September**

### The journey home

Our last day all together was one of travel. After breakfast we boarded our bus and headed for Warsaw. We stopped for lunch at a pleasant roadside restaurant and birds there included Raven, Sparrowhawk and our only Pied Flycatcher and Pheasant of the trip! Birds seen in transit included White Stork, Great Grey Shrike and an unidentified eagle.

In Warsaw we said "Good-bye" to Jan and Derek who were stopping an extra day in the city – and enjoyed their time watching the street entertainers and appreciating the historic significance of the buildings in the capital.

The rest of us drove to the airport where we said our good-byes to our guide, Andy, and our trusty driver and made our way to the Departure Hall. Experiences varied whilst trying to successfully display our negative Covid-19 certificates and passenger locator forms, but we all found ourselves gathered together at the departure gate in the end!

After a two hour, twenty minute flight, we arrived at Luton Airport and travelled our separate ways home.

## Checklist

### Birds

			Date: 4th -12th September 2021								
	Bird Species	Scientific name	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
1	Hazel Grouse	<i>Tetrastes bonasia</i>					2				
2	Grey Partridge	<i>Perdix perdix</i>				✓					
3	Common Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>									✓
4	Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>					H	✓	✓	✓	
5	Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
6	Whooper Swan	<i>Cygnus Cygnus</i>					25				
7	Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>			✓			✓	✓	✓	
8	Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Mareca penelope</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
9	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
10	Northern Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>						✓	✓	✓	
11	Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>					1		1	4	
12	Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
13	Red-crested Pochard	<i>Netta rufina</i>						✓			
14	Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>			1		✓	✓	✓	✓	
15	Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>			1		1		✓	✓	
16	Common Goldeneye	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>						✓	✓	✓	
17	Goosander	<i>Mergus merganser</i>					1	1	✓	✓	
18	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>			✓		✓		✓		
19	Red-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps grisegena</i>			✓						
20	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
21	Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>			✓						
22	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	✓								✓
23	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓

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	Bird Species	Scientific name	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
24	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>					1	✓	✓	✓	✓
25	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>				2	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
26	Western Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>				1	3				
27	European Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>	10			10	1			1	
28	White-tailed Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>				3	8+	3	1	3	
29	Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>		1	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
30	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>		2	1	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
31	Northern Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>				1♀					
32	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
33	Lesser Spotted Eagle	<i>Aquila pomarina</i>	1	3/4	1+						
34	Greater Spotted Eagle	<i>Aquila clanga</i>				2+					
35	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	2	2	✓			1	1	✓	✓
36	Red-footed Falcon	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>		2							
37	Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>		2	1		1	1		1	
38	Water Rail	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>			H	H	H		H	H	
39	Little Crane	<i>Porzana parva</i>			1						
40	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>					✓				
41	Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
42	Common Crane	<i>Grus grus</i>		H	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
43	Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
44	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>								✓	
45	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>								✓	
46	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>			H		✓		✓		
47	Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>								✓	
48	Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>								1	
49	Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>				✓					
50	Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>								7	

			Date: 4th -12th September 2021								
	Bird Species	Scientific name	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
51	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>								1	
52	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>					1			✓	
53	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>					H				
54	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>								2	
55	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>								2	
56	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>								✓	
57	Ruff	<i>Calidris pugnax</i>					40		✓	✓	
58	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓	
59	Little Gull	<i>Hydrocoloeus minutus</i>							3	3	
60	Common Gull	<i>Larus canus</i>						1		✓	
61	Great Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>							1	✓	
62	European Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>							✓	✓	
63	Caspian Gull	<i>Larus cachinnans</i>					✓		1	✓	
64	Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>								1	
65	Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>							1	✓	
66	Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>							1		
67	Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>							✓	✓	
68	Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>						2			
69	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>						1	✓	✓	
70	Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>								3	
71	Arctic Skua	<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>								1	
72	Rock Dove / Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
73	Stock Dove	<i>Columba oenas</i>					6				
74	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
75	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓				✓		✓	✓	✓
76	Tawny Owl	<i>Strix aluco</i>	H	H							
77	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	✓								

	Bird Species	Scientific name	Date: 4th -12th September 2021								
			4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
78	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>						1	H	1	
79	Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos minor</i>		1			1	1		3	
80	Middle Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos medius</i>		3	H	2/3	H	1		H	H
81	White-backed Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos leucotos</i>		1				1			
82	Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>		✓	✓	✓	1	2	✓	H	
83	Black Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus martius</i>		1	1	1	2	H			
84	European Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>		H	H			H			
85	Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>	1	c.6	✓	✓	1				
86	Great Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius excubitor</i>	1	c.8	✓	✓	1				✓
87	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
88	Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
89	Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
90	Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
91	Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
92	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	H	✓	✓
93	Marsh Tit	<i>Poecile palustris</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓				
94	Willow Tit	<i>Poecile montanus</i>		✓		✓	H	H	✓	✓	
95	Coal Tit	<i>Periparus ater</i>		H			✓		✓	✓	
96	European Crested Tit	<i>Lophophanes cristatus</i>		✓	✓		H	H		✓	
97	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	H
98	Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	H
99	Eurasian Penduline Tit	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>			H		H	H	3	3+	
100	Bearded Reedling	<i>Panurus biarmicus</i>					H		H	H	
101	Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>			1	1	✓				
102	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
103	Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
104	Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>		✓				H			

			Date: 4th -12th September 2021								
	Bird Species	Scientific name	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
105	Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>		H	H	✓	H	H	H	H	
106	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	H	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	H
107	Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>			✓	✓	✓				
108	Eurasian Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>			✓					H	
109	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>		H	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
110	Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia curruca</i>				2					
111	Common Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>			✓	✓					
112	Common Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapilla</i>		✓		✓			H		
113	Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>		✓	H				H	H	
114	Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>		✓	✓	H	H	H	H	H	
115	Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓				
116	Eurasian Treecreeper	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	H		H	
117	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
118	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>		H	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
119	Fieldfare	<i>Turdus pilaris</i>			✓	✓		✓			
120	Redwing	<i>Turdus iliacus</i>				✓				H	H
121	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓		
122	European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	H
123	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
124	Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>			✓		✓				
125	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>							1		
126	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>	H	1	1			1			
127	European Pied Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>									1
128	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	H
129	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	H			
130	Blue-headed Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava flava</i>		✓		H	✓	✓	✓	✓	
131	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

			Date: 4th -12th September 2021								
	Bird Species	Scientific name	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
132	Meadow Pipit	Anthus pratensis		✓		✓	✓	✓			
133	Tree Pipit	Anthus trivialis		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
134	Common Chaffinch	Fringilla coelebs		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
135	European Greenfinch	Chloris chloris	✓	✓		✓		H			1
136	Eurasian Siskin	Carduelis spinus					✓			✓	
137	European Goldfinch	Carduelis carduelis		✓	✓	✓	✓				H
138	Common Redpoll	Carduelis flammea							H		
139	Common Linnet	Carduelis cannabina			✓			✓			
140	Red Crossbill	Loxia curvirostra						2	8-10	✓	
141	Hawfinch	Coccothraustes coccothraustes		H		H	H				
142	Yellowhammer	Emberiza citrinella	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	H	✓	
143	Common Reed Bunting	Emberiza schoeniclus			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

## Other

			Date: 4th-12th September 2021								
	Common name	Scientific name	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
1	Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	1		1	1	✓	✓			
2	Raccoon Dog	<i>Nyctereutes procyonoides</i>					1				
3	Red Deer	<i>Cervus elaphus</i>		H							
4	Elk	<i>Alces alces</i>				2	1				
5	Roe Deer	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
6	European Bison	<i>Bison bonasus</i>			1						
7	European Beaver	<i>Castor fiber</i>					2+				
8	Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>		1			2				
9	Marten sp. (dead)		✓								
10	Wolf	<i>Canis lupis</i>	H	1							



			Date: 4th-12th September 2021								
	Common name	Scientific name	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
11	bat sp.		✓								
12	Pine Marten	<i>Martes martes</i>				1					
13	North American Mink	<i>Neovison vison</i>								1	
14	Grey Seal	<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>								✓	
15	Common Frog	<i>Rana temporaria</i>		✓	✓		✓				
16	Tree Frog sp.	<i>Hyla sp</i>		✓			H				
17	Edible Frog	<i>Pelophylax kl. esculentus</i>				✓	✓				
18	Common Toad	<i>Bufo bufo</i>					✓				
19	Grass Snake	<i>Natrix natrix</i>								1	
20	snake sp.				✓		✓				
21	Common Lizard	<i>Zootoca vivipara</i>		✓	✓	✓					
22	Blue Emperor	<i>Anax imperator</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓				
23	Ruddy Darter	<i>Sympetrum sanguineum</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓				
24	Black-tailed Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum cancellatum</i>		✓							
25	Migrant Hawker	<i>Aeshna mixta</i>			✓		✓		✓	✓	✓
26	Black Darter	<i>Sympetrum danae</i>				✓					
27	Blue-tailed Damselfly	<i>Ischnura elegans</i>									
28	Eurasian Hornet	<i>Vespa crabo</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
29	Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>		✓	✓		✓			✓	
30	Queen of Spain Fritillary	<i>Issoria lathonia</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓				

			Date: 4th-12th September 2021								
	Common name	Scientific name	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
31	Silver-washed Fritillary	<i>Argynnis paphia</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓				
32	Peacock	<i>Aglais io</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
33	Green-veined White	<i>Pieris napi</i>		✓		✓	✓				
34	Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
35	Brimstone	<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
36	Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>			✓	✓	✓				
37	Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
38	Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>				✓	✓				
39	Comma	<i>Polygonia c-album</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
40	Small Tortoiseshell	<i>Aglais urticae</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		
41	Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>			✓				✓		
42	Large Copper	<i>Lycaena dispar</i>				✓					
43	Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>								✓	
44	Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>							✓		✓
45	Large Tortoiseshell	<i>Nymphalis polychloros</i>					✓				
	<b>Notable Plants</b>										
46	Wild Ginger	<i>Asarum europaeum</i>									
47	Liverwort/Pennywort	<i>Hepatica nobilis</i>									
48	Wood Cow-wheat	<i>Melampyrum nemorosum</i>									
49	Cabbage Thistle	<i>Cirsium oleraceum</i>									
50	Spring Vetch	<i>Lathyrus vernus</i>									
51	Touch-me-not Balsam	<i>Impatiens nolitangere</i>									
52	Cream Scabious	<i>Scabiosa ochroleuca</i>									

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