

Poland in Spring

Naturetrek Tour Report

16 - 23 May 2009



Narew valley Great Snipe watching



Red Squirrel in the 'Strict Reserve'



Bluethroat at the Russian Fort



Aquatic Warbler singing at Długa Luka

Report and photos compiled by Peter Dunn



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Summary: This trip was based on two centres in some of the most productive and naturally scenic areas of north-east Poland, in what is locally known as the ‘green lungs’ of Poland. The first three nights were spent in the Pension Unikat in the village of Bialoweiza, home of the primeval forest where we get access to the ‘strict’ reserve of unmanaged forest. Up to nine species of woodpecker can be found here together with some of the favourite eastern specialities such as River and Barred Warbler, Collared and Red-breasted Flycatcher and if we are lucky, Hazel Hen. Large mammals such as European Bison and Elk can be seen also. The second half of the trip concentrates on the marshland and flood plain of the Biebza River with its abundance of marsh and water birds such as all three marsh terns, White-tailed Eagle, Black Stork and many hundreds of wader and is one of the strong holds of the much threatened Aquatic Warbler.

Day 1

Saturday 16th May

This year British Airways reverted back to Heathrow, flying from Terminal 5 into Warsaw. Peter managed to meet most of the members of the group at the departure gate and we were soon allowed to board our aircraft to settle back for the two hour flight in an orderly and timely manner. The time seemed to pass quickly and after collecting our luggage in Warsaw we were greeted by Lucasz in the arrivals hall and were soon on the coach, this year again having the luxury of a large vehicle with under floor luggage storage!

Leaving Warsaw was quick as we avoided the multitude of road works (working on improvements for the 2012 football European Cup) and immediately we noticed the *soemmerringii* race of Jackdaw, with its whiter nape band. We made a planned stop at a roadside restaurant where our *pirrogi* was ready for us after which our only Marsh Harrier of the journey sailed by.

Continuing on towards the east, we stopped at a small bar next to the Bug River to find that it had closed for a large wedding feast and with the rain starting to fall we still managed to start our Polish list with views of Thrush Nightingale and Golden Oriole. Later on some saw both Red-backed and Great Grey Shrikes from the coach, a Brown Hare in the fields and a number of White Storks nesting in roadside villages.

We finally arrived in Bialoweiza around 6.30pm with the raining starting to become more persistent and we were allocated our rooms and then met for a welcoming drink and excellent if not over indulging dinner with pleasant conversation. Peter and Lucasz outlined the next day's itinerary before everyone retired to bed to boost the batteries for our early morning start.

Day 2

Sunday 17th May

The morning came all too quick and we stumbled across the yards to serve ourselves with the warmish teas and coffees left in reception before heading out for our pre-breakfast walk in the forest at 5.00am. The weather was a little disappointing as the forecast showed the rain clearing overnight but we still had a light drizzle and a dark overcast sky. However this did not deter us as we slowly walked the village road stopping to watch both singing Marsh and Barred Warblers, Black and Common Redstart and many Fieldfare. We continued along over the Narewka River, checking a Grey-headed Woodpecker nest but no sign of life, whilst a Lesser Spotted Woodpecker 'drummed' in the distance. There was plenty of bird activity judging by the calls with Icterine Warblers and Thrush Nightingales singing in all the suitable habitats and occasionally the high pitched calls of Hawfinches as they flew over.

We entered the forest reserve of Wysokie Bagno and walked through managed but superb forest of mixed spruce, oak and hornbeam. Wood Warblers and Chiffchaff were the most obvious species, their song sounding out from every part of the forest together with the more exotic Golden Oriole and the more familiar species such as Wren, Robin and Blackbird being in their natural woodland habitat. We tried calling out Hazel Hen but the bird earned its rightful Polish name of 'sneaky chicken' and kept hidden however some of the group were fortunate to see a White-backed Woodpecker leave its feeding tree. At the second bridge over the Narewka, Marsh, River and Great Reed Warblers were singing but only the latter showed briefly. With the drizzle becoming slightly heavier we retraced our steps to the road where the coach was waiting for us, and some of the 'back-markers' getting their first views of a male Collared Flycatcher, its' song almost sounding 'Russian' or being played backwards. Boarding the waiting bus we headed back to the hotel for a welcome breakfast.

Following our continental but filling breakfast we headed out again for an area of forest near Budy village. This was a known site for White-backed Woodpecker and involved a 1.5km walk in open farm land and mixed forest. The farm land held a good number of breeding Whinchat, the smart males giving their scratchy songs from high perches and a male Marsh Harrier hunted the fields above two Brown Hares. At one point Ed spotted a raptor moving fast over the fields, which turned out to be a Hobby moving with some conviction. As we entered the forest we were hit with a chorus of bird song, by far the commonest being Wood Warbler. As we walked deeper into the forest towards the Narewka River, we started to see small parties of Common Crossbill feeding on spruce cones and then a male Red-breasted Flycatcher started singing. This bird led us a merry dance with most getting fleeting glimpses as it flitted from tree to tree. It proved to be a young male with no red in the throat.

Crossing the river we descended the bank into the forest and arrived at a point where we could see the White-backed Woodpecker nest hole from a safe distance. While we waited a nice male Collared Flycatcher showed well, then the male woodpecker came twice to the nest to feed well grown young. This sighting enabled Peter Morgan to complete his collection of European 'peckers! Successful, we returned to the coach, and headed to an area known as the dead forest at 'Budy Bridge'. Beaver activity had caused the river to flood into the area where we usually stand and it was impossible to enter the lower banks so we watched from the road. It appeared quiet at first and Nuthatch and a nesting Treecreeper kept us amused until a Black Woodpecker flew over and pause on a dead tree for good by brief views. It then flew deeper in the forest and began to drum. The ever present male Collared Flycatcher was also entertaining and a brief views of 'black & white' woodpeckers could have been either Three-toed or Middle-spotted but not good enough to count. A brief view of a pair of 'white-headed' Long-tailed Tits was a bonus before we boarded the bus for lunch.

After a lunch of pirrogi we headed out on the Hajnówka road to follow a track south in an area known as the 'power place' because of a strange circle of stones. We followed the railway line for a while before turning south again on a forest track. Crossbill and Wood Warbler were again obvious and we saw 'pale' Marsh Tits and another pair of 'white-headed' Long-tailed Tits. Our main aim was Three-toed Woodpecker and Nutcracker. The former indicating its' presence by two males drumming on either side of he road but the latter did not make an appearance at all. We eventually managed to track down one of the Three-toeds and got excellent views of it drumming and confirmation of it being a male with its yellow crown. We retraced our steps trying for Nutcracker all the while and even Hazel Hen but only succeeded in adding a Sparrowhawk to the list. Before long it was time to board the coach again and back to the hotel for dinner!! Eating again!!

Dinner was arranged early at 6pm as we were going to try for a Pygmy Owl on the Hajnówka road. We met up with Arek (our guide for the strict reserve tomorrow), who was with two clients and as we were to check this site he would check another. After an hour of whistling there was not sight nor sound of the bird (neither did Arek) so we headed back to Bialoweiza to check the river for Beaver. As the light faded Neil spotted a distant beaver with his 'scope and a Nightjar flew over. There appeared to be at least two River Warblers singing indicating that they may have just arrived after the rain and a Savi's Warbler competed with them. As large bats hunted over the tree and woodcock squeaked and croaked overhead in the gathering darkness we returned to the hotel for a refreshing drink and completion of the daily log.

Day 3

Monday 18th May

A lie-in this morning, as we met for coffee just before 6am!! The night had been clear so the temperature had dropped bringing misty low cloud over the marshes by dawn. We had our coffee and tea then boarded the bus to walk the forest near to the bison reserve. It was a marvellous feeling to be in such diverse forest habitat with many species of birds singing. Song Thrush seemed to be the commonest songster followed by Wood Warbler and then Collared Flycatcher. A single Pied Flycatcher tried to compete and we also heard Crested Tit scolding Lukasz's attempt at Pygmy Owl calls. Lucasz headed off into the trees trying to find any signs of Bison as we walked the road towards the reserve. There had been Bison activity with dropping and feeding but probably over 12 hours old. A Red-breasted Flycatcher sang strongly and briefly seen by a few as it moved quickly around its' territory and the purring of Turtle Doves was a new sound for the trip. The coach came to meet us and we headed back to the hotel for another continental breakfast, this time with pancakes stuffed with cream cheese.

After breakfast we gathered together in the main road and walked toward the Palace Park. This area houses the conservation centre and museum for the Bialoweiza area. The last few in the group saw a Wryneck in one of the gardens mobbing a cat before we all entered the park and went straight to the observation tower. The tower affords excellent views over the forest on all sides and also of all the birds that fly over the forest. Very quickly we had good views of an adult Lesser Spotted Eagle and also at least Honey Buzzards, one of which was doing its' wing-clapping display. Looking into the tops of the trees gave views of Hawfinches and the numbers of Spotted Flycatchers was amazing compared with the dwindling numbers in the UK. A large female Goshawk flew close past the tower, enabling good views of the head markings and in the distance Common Buzzard, Marsh Harrier and Raven were seen over the trees.

Having satisfied ourselves with the views from the tower we walked through the park and around the lake. Great Reed and Icterine Warblers were singing and showing well and a showy red male Common Rosefinch sang from the top of a bush on the island. Walking around the back of the lake we saw brief views of Thrush Nightingale, white-headed Long-tailed Tit and best of all a Middle Spotted Woodpecker to add to our tally. We slowly walked back to the hotel for lunch.

The afternoon was spent in the company of Arek in the strict reserve, where he gave us an excellent tour of the ancient woodland and explained the ecology, history and showed us all manner of flora and fauna. The variety of fungi and flowers was amazing and we even saw four species of woodpecker (Black, Great and Middle Spotted and White-backed).

Following an early dinner we boarded the coach heading for the Narew valley where we walked out into the flood plain to see a Great Snipe lek. Cuckoos abounded on the edges of the woodland and parties of Roe Deer moved through the marsh. As we approached the site we could hear the tell-tale clicking of the snipe beaks as part of their lek and we seen were watching birds in the telescope as the 'displayed' for the attention of any females. It took some time to actually see them jump up as part of the display by which time the mist was starting to creep in, reducing visibility. Walking back we had good views of Grasshopper Warblers singing and heard a Roe Deer 'barking'. Following tea and coffee served in the coach we settled back for the journey back to the hotel, arriving around 10.15 pm.

Day 4

Tuesday 19th May

Our last full day in Bialoweiza and we headed back to the bridge near Wysokie Bagno while the weather was good, at 6.15am. The coach dropped us off at the last house and immediately we saw a male Red-backed Shrike on top of the street light. A male Barred Warbler sang well and showed even better in the telescope and eventually a Wryneck was pinned down in a bare tree, much to Ed's relief. We paused by the Grey-headed Woodpecker nest hole but still no signs and the Lesser Spotted Woodpecker was still drumming in the wood close by as it was on Sunday.

The River Warblers (at least three) were in full song and only one was seen as it flew from one bush to another, as they preferred to sit on the 'sunny side' of the bushes (opposite to us), but a Thrush Nightingale was more obliging singing right out in the open. We enjoyed this wonderful sunlit morning but all too soon it was time to return to the hotel for breakfast, as the coach arrived.

After breakfast we collected our packed lunches again and headed north to spend the day around the reservoir at Siemianówka. Leaving the metalled road near Budy we travelled to Kosy Most, a car parking area in the north of the forest to try and find Nutcracker. The sun was shining and there were many butterflies about in the grass circle including Map, Sooty Copper and Orange-tip. We started to play the contact call of Nutcracker and things did not look good as there were no replies and previous groups had also failed here. Suddenly Lucasz and Peter noticed movement in the trees next to them and there was a pair of Nutcrackers staring down at us. During the next 10 minutes the group got good views as these birds flew around us and checked us out before disappearing back into the forest. Elated by our good fortune we headed to Siemianówka Reservoir to look at a completely different habitat. We completed our look at the southern side with a walk in the pine woods looking for Hazel Hen, where we heard them calling. After waiting for a while we gave up and started to walk back and a couple of the clients were lucky to have one fly across the path in front of them, which then typically disappeared – a regular occurrence with birders!!

We stopped to look at the road sign at Siemianówkaszczyzna, one of the longest in eastern Poland before arriving at the southern edge of the reservoir. The bus was parked at the pumping station where we immediately saw all three marsh terns hunting over the reeds, Whiskered being the dominant species and Great White Egrets equalled Grey Herons in the marsh. Gadwall was the commonest duck and a pair of Garganey played hide and seek in the flooded grass. A Penduline Tit was busy flying back and forth along the shore, probably feeding young in a nest somewhere and eventually our quest was rewarded with a female Citrine Wagtail which also appeared to be feeding young in the grass. This bird was easily identified by the light grey back like Pied/White Wagtail, striking white wing bars and a rich yellow wash to the face and upper breast. It is a rare breeding species in Poland, maintaining a foothold from the east. We completed our look at the southern side with a walk in the pine woods looking for Hazel Hen, where we heard them calling.

It was getting towards lunch time and we went round to the north shore where we ate our sandwiches whilst viewing the lake – not before stopping at a small supermarket at Bondary for cool drinks and ice creams!!. While sat on the bank a pair of Honey Buzzards entertained us and an adult White-tailed Eagle flew over. The weather turned warmer, so we had an after-lunch stroll down towards the railway line whilst viewing the marsh. Many Downy Emerald Dragonflies hunted the waters edge with a few Broad-bodied Chasers and Great Reed, Reed and Marsh Warblers sang from suitable habitat. A movement in the reeds proved to be a pair of Bearded Tits and a Penduline Tit was seen taking food to a very obvious nest.

We set off back towards Bialoweiza around 4pm stopping on the main road to find an obliging Ortolan Bunting singing in the trees. We returned through the forest and attempted a Pygmy Owl site without success, but this did not belittle the excellent day we had had, especially as the weather had been so good and by the time we had returned to the hotel it started to rain with rumbles of thunder in the distance. We had another excellent dinner again that evening followed by our checklist and some general ‘housekeeping’ before retiring to bed ready for our move to Biebza the next day.

Day 5

Wednesday 20th May

There was no organised walk this morning allowing for packing of bags and sorting out rooms before breakfast, although some took the spare time to revisit the Palace Park or the village.

We said our goodbyes to the forest and its' community and boarded the bus at 9am for the start of our journey north to Biebrza. The weather was forecast to be good and warm so we were going to make the most of it. Leaving the forested area we travelled north through Hajnówka towards Białystok and made a quick tourist stop in the village of Trezescianka, where they maintain some of the traditional Belarusian housing, each with its side profile facing the road to save taxes, and being made of wood.

We made a scheduled stop at the Dojlidy Fish Ponds in Białystok and walked the causeways between the ponds. With lunch time being fixed due to Polish dignitaries visiting Waniewo, we only had an hour at the ponds so we targeted four sought after species. Both Black-necked and Red-necked Grebe breed here and to see both in breeding plumage was a treat for those of us who see them mainly in winter dress. The star however was a male Penduline Tit who was busy building a nest and was desperately trying to attract a female. Lucasz managed to imitate the female call and the bird totally ignored us and began trying to attract the mate with song and flight. A right little charmer!! The fourth species, Bearded Tit could not be found but Bitterns were busily booming.

Our timing was impeccable and we settled back in the coach for the drive to Waniewo, situated on the Narew River, where we were given a pleasant lunch of pancakes and cold meats. Seven of the group opted for the boat ride around the river and its reed beds whilst the rest of the group walked the new board walk out into the marsh to a tower hide. Between the two groups, we notched up good sightings of Marsh Harriers, Common Cranes, Little Ringed Plover, Ruff (in breeding dress), Blue-headed Wagtails and Common Rosefinch to name a few.

The sunny calm weather made it an ideal afternoon and because the weather was so good, Peter and Lucasz decided to visit the Aquatic warbler site at Długa Luka, stopping near the flooded meadows at Zajkie to collect our permits. The meadows held good numbers of summer plumaged White-winged Black Terns, a pair of nesting Whooper Swans and a Red Fox. Ideal conditions at Długa Luka and we were almost immediately greeted with a singing Aquatic Warbler, giving great 'scope views from the new board walk. In fact we ended up with up to five birds singing at any one time, against a background of displaying Black-tailed Godwits, Curlew and Common Snipe. As we were passing, we climbed the tower hide at Gugny where our first Elk of the trip was seen, at a fairly close distance. Also nearby were two singing Icterine Warblers and a Common Rosefinch, whilst over the marsh, waders displayed. We arrived at the Bartek Hotel in Goniadz at 7pm which gave us time to unpack and freshen up for dinner at 8pm, which was served in a large tent, due to the old restaurant burning down at the beginning of the year. After our meal we completed the days log and retired to bed ready for the walk out, the next morning.

Day 6

Thursday 21st May

We gathered at 6am to climb into the town and view the marsh from the roof of an old restaurant. The weather was calm, slightly overcast but warm. On the way to our vantage point a Thrush Nightingale sang out in the open and there was a chorus of warbler song, including Icterine. From our elevated view we had good views of a Wryneck calling in a tree and the marsh held White Storks, Roe Deer and both White-winged Black and Black Terns followed the river with the occasional Common Gull for company. A large raptor was spotted being mobbed by a Marsh Harrier, and it landed in view on the top of a distant tree. It was our first (Greater) Spotted Eagle, showing its plain dark upperparts and large head and bill. A male Montagu's Harrier flew by and in the distance a Hoopoe called. We wondered back to the Bartek for breakfast, listening out for Greenish Warbler on the way but it was probably too early as they arrive nearer June.

After our 8am breakfast we headed for the west side of the southern basin of the National Park. As we headed south, there was a change to the weather and it started to rain. The plan was to call at Mścichy Dam to see if we could find the Bluethroat and Citrine Wagtail there but as the bus pulled up the rain got heavier. A quick change of plan was needed and we continued south to Brzostowo where there is a sheltered tower hide (and the farmer offers tea and coffee!!!). There were a number of waders here that added to our list for Poland. Temminck's Stint was best with two summer plumaged birds and add to this a summer plumaged Turnstone, Dunlin and Wood Sandpiper, the day started to look better. Those who missed yesterday's birds caught up with Black Stork here and a first summer Little Gull paused to be identified. Garganey moved regularly around the marsh and a single Shoveler was added to the duck list. The teas and coffees were most welcome considering the weather and we decided to stay with the hides by visiting the one at Burzyn.

The added height of the viewpoint at Burzyn helped us look down into the sedges and reeds and when two Black Storks flew in and landed, we were able to 'scope them easily. Apart from the godwits, Lapwings and storks it was relatively quiet although visibility was reduced due to the rain. As we left Andrew and Ed saw a female Citrine Wagtail on top of the wooden toilet – a new location for this species! ...and near the coach we all managed to see a Hoopoe which did a 'fly-by' before pausing briefly on a roof to call.

With the rain not easing Lucasz negotiated with the owner of a bar at Wizna where we could eat our packed lunch and buy drinks before we moved onto Tycocin, a village steeped in history and was a site of mass murder of Jews during the war. Part of the group spent some visiting the synagogue and museum whilst the other braved the rain to view the Narew River from the bridge. Here we briefly saw a bedraggled male Bluethroat and Sedge and Marsh Warblers and a Musk rat swam down the river. A group of British birders told us of their sighting of a pair of Syrian Woodpeckers approximately 500 meters up the road, so joined by the synagogue 'crew' we went to check it out. However Neil had heard a 'green woodpecker' type call from an area of trees and we saw a Green Woodpecker enter a nest hole and later fly out over the fields. The Syrian Woodpeckers were also found near to the old castle hotel and we again found the nest hole which caused Lucasz some excitement and many phone calls to the Polish Bird Service!

Flushed with success we started to head north and called in at the Zygmunta Augusta Reservoir where up to seven White-tailed Eagles could be seen, together with Montagu's and Marsh Harriers, but better still Neil found a male Velvet Scoter with the Pochard – another bird for the 'Bird Service'. Our final stop was at the Russian fort at Osowiec where Peter and Lucasz had found a Bluethroat the previous year. A little bit of persuasion by Lucasz and we were all watching a superb male white-spotted variety singing loudly from the top of a bullrush – a fitting end to the day. Returning to the Bartek we gather for dinner after which we completed the day's log.

Day 7

Friday 22nd May

Our final full day started at 6am in cool damp conditions after an exciting thunder storm overnight. We decided to walk to the tower hide across the river, pausing for Thrush Nightingale again. Just over the Narew River a Corncrake began to call at the side of the road so we placed a recording on the other side and we were treated to some excellent views as it peered out of the grass, throwing its' head back as it called. Walking to the tower we had a White-tailed Eagle and four Common Cranes flying and the roadside bushes had a Marsh Warbler almost every 100 meters. Red-backed Shrike and Common Rosefinch were seen in the fields whilst Common Snipe displayed overhead. The coach arrived spot on time to take us back to the hotel for our 8am breakfast.

At 9am we headed out towards the central basin of the National Park, stopping first for souvenirs at the National Park HQ at Osowiec. Here we also saw our first Woodlark of the day. We continued to Kapice where we walked the track towards the forest. A Barred Warbler (or two) showed briefly before well at the entrance of the track and a Hoopoe was watched through telescopes as it sang in a distant tree. Overhead a Lesser Spotted Eagle drifted by, and two or three Honey Buzzards made purposeful progress. The landscape was a fine example of rural Poland with large grazing meadows and old trees lining the hedgerows. The bird life was also rich with Icterine Warblers, Red-backed Shrike, Common Rosefinch and Golden Orioles being very obvious. We paused by a Lesser Spotted Woodpecker nest and the bird was seen a few times, in and out of the hole but we could not find the 'missing woodpecker' Grey-headed to make up the Polish set! A Wryneck did put in an appearance and both Red Kite and female Hen Harrier were added to the list. Before turning back we were entertained by some noisy, sparring Common Cranes and another eagle flew over, this one looking dark, broad 'short' winged and had some primaries missing from the right one. It was a Greater Spotted Eagle, one that Lucasz knew because of the missing primaries. We returned to the coach adding Bullfinch to the list and headed back to the hotel for a lunch at 1.30pm

We gathered back at the coach at 2.30 to have our final tour into the central basin, our first port of call being Wolka Piacenza, just across the river from the Bartek. Here we searched for the elusive Grey-headed Woodpecker, only finding what was probably a fresh nest hole but no birds. A male Lesser Spotted Woodpecker did show briefly and for the butterfly enthusiasts both Northern Chequered and Chequered Skippers were found along with brief views of Adder and Slow Worm. We then came back through Goniadz stopping briefly to stock up on drink and/or ice creams before making our way east towards the village of Kopykowo. Although a nice area with lots of pasture and willow scrub, we only recorded a few Montagu's and Marsh Harriers, Common Buzzard but a party of about ten Common Rosefinches made it seem worth while as they feed on plants seeds at the side of the road.

We headed back to return to the hotel by 6.30pm in time to do some packing and online check-in before dinner at 8pm. Our final dinner in the hotel restaurant was a traditional 'fish & chip supper' followed by ice cream. The final log showed that we had achieved a total of 163 bird species (of which three we heard only) a record count for a Naturetrek spring trip. Heavy rain outside indicated what the next day would be like, so all declined an early morning walk.

Day 8

Saturday 23rd May

Our journey home started at 9am when we began to head south west towards Warsaw. The morning had started bright but clouds began building and rain was in the air. We decided to pay a brief visit to Brzostowo for a final look over the marshes. White-winged Black Terns were dominant but few waders. The three English birders who told us about the Syrian Woodpecker were there and they said a Marsh Harrier had flushed everything including three Red-necked Phalaropes and in the short time we had, we could not locate them.

We had to drag ourselves away as we needed to start the journey to Warsaw. On route two new species were seen, Pheasant and Northern Wheatear bringing the final total to 165 (three heard)

We said our goodbyes to Peter, Linda, Trevor and Judith who were staying on in Warsaw, and our driver Krzysiek thanked for his safe and patient driving. Lucasz joined us in the departure area as he had a Swiss group to guide later that day and we eventually said goodbye to him as we booked in and went into the departure lounge.

The flight was on time and less than half full so there was plenty of room to stretch out and we were soon back at Heathrow where we said our goodbyes to a whole bunch of new friends.

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Species Lists

Birds (H = heard only)

	Common name	Scientific name	May							
			16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
1	Red-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps grisegena</i>					5			
2	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>				6	4			
3	Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>					4			
4	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>				8				
5	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	1		2	✓	2	✓	✓	5
6	Great White Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>				8		2		
7	Great Bittern	<i>Botaurus stellaris</i>				H	H			
8	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>					2	3	1	
9	Eurasian White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	✓	6	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
10	Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>				✓	6	✓	✓	
11	Whooper Swan	<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>				1	7			
12	Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>				25		✓		
13	Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>				✓	6			
14	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
15	Garganey	<i>Anas querquedula</i>				5	1	7		
16	Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>						1		
17	Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>				1	1	10		
18	Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>				5	3	2		
19	Velvet Scoter	<i>Melanitta fusca</i>						1		
20	European Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>			3	2	1		4	
21	Red Kite	<i>Milvus milvus</i>							1	
22	White-tailed Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>				3		7	1	3
23	Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	1	1	1	✓	8	✓	✓	✓
24	Hen Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>							1	
25	Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>			1		1	8	15	1
26	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>		1				1	1	
27	Northern Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>			1					
28	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	1		4	4	3	4	6	2
29	Lesser Spotted Eagle	<i>Aquila pomarina</i>			2	5	2	1	3	
30	Greater Spotted Eagle	<i>Aquila clanga</i>						1	1	
31	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	1						1	2
32	Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>		1			2			
33	Hazel Grouse	<i>Bonasa bonasia</i>		H		1				
34	Grey Partridge	<i>Perdix perdix</i>						3		
35	Common Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>								1
36	Common Crane	<i>Grus grus</i>			5		15	10	20	15
37	Corncrake	<i>Crex crex</i>		H	H	H			1	
38	Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>				H				
39	Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>				✓	10	✓		
40	Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	1			4	12	✓	✓	✓
41	Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>						1		
42	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>					1			
43	Eurasian Woodcock	<i>Scolopax rusticola</i>			5					
44	Great Snipe	<i>Gallinago media</i>			4					
45	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>			6	1	✓	✓	✓	✓
46	Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>					20	✓	10	6
47	Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>					1			

	Common name	Scientific name	May							
			16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
48	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>		3		1				
49	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>						1		
50	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>					6	✓	2	2
51	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>						1		
52	Temminck's Stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>						2		
53	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>						4		
54	Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>					1	1		
55	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	5		1	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
56	Little Gull	<i>Hydrocoloeus minutus</i>								
57	Lesser Black-backed (Baltic) Gull	<i>Larus fuscus fuscus</i>	3							
58	Caspian (Yellow-legged) Gull	<i>Larus cachinnans</i>				1				
59	Common Gull	<i>Larus canus</i>						2		
60	Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>			2	4				
61	Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>					4	10		2
62	White-winged Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>		4		30	✓	✓	20	✓
63	Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>				8	15	✓		
64	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	2		2	✓	4	2		
65	Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia 'feral'</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
66	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
67	European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>			1					
68	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	4	✓
69	Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	1	1		6	1	1	6	
70	European Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i>		1						
71	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
72	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	1	1						
73	European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>						2		
74	Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>						1	3	
75	Eurasian Wryneck	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>		H		1	2	2	1	
76	Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos minor</i>		H		H			2	
77	Middle Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos medius</i>		1	2					
78	White-backed Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos leucotos</i>		2	1					
79	Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>		✓	6	2	H			
80	Syrian Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos syriacus</i>						2		
81	Eurasian Three-toed Woodpecker	<i>Picoides tridactylus</i>		1						
82	Black Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus martius</i>		1	1	1				
83	Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>						1		
84	Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	6	4	4		✓	✓	✓	✓
85	Wood Lark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>							8	
86	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	✓				2	✓	✓	✓
87	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
88	House Martin	<i>Delichon urbica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
89	Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>		1	4		3		2	
90	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>		4	4	5				
91	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	6		2	6	4	✓	✓	✓
92	Blue-headed Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava flava</i>				1	8	✓	✓	2
93	Citrine Wagtail	<i>Motacilla citreola</i>				1		1		
94	Winter Wren	Troglodytes troglodytes		H						
95	Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>			1					
96	Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>	2		1	1				
97	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	2	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	3	
98	Fieldfare	<i>Turdus pilaris</i>		4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

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			16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
99	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	6	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
100	Thrush Nightingale	<i>Luscinia luscinia</i>	1	✓	✓	2	2	1	2	2
101	White-spotted Bluethroat	<i>Luscinia svecica cyaneacula</i>						2		
102	European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>		1	4	3	1		1	
103	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	2	✓	✓	✓	✓	2	2	3
104	Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>		2	2	1				
105	Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>		10	✓	✓	✓		✓	4
106	Common Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquatus</i>			1					
107	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>			1					1
108	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>	1	2	12	4	6		3	1
109	European Pied Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>		1	1					
110	Collared Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula albicollis</i>		10	20		1			
111	Red-breasted Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula parva</i>		2	3					
112	Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>		2	3	3				
113	Grasshopper Warbler	<i>Locustella naevia</i>			3					
114	Eurasian River Warbler	<i>Locustella fluviatilis</i>		3H	3H	1			1H	
115	Savi's Warbler	<i>Locustella luscinioides</i>		H	H		2	H	H	
116	Aquatic Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus paludicola</i>					5			
117	Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>			1	2	✓	✓	4	
118	Eurasian Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>				1		✓	2	
119	Marsh Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus palustris</i>		1	3	2	1	4	✓	1
120	Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>		1	4	✓	✓	3	✓	
121	Icterine Warbler	<i>Hippolais icterina</i>	1	5	2	3	2	7	4	1
122	Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
123	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
124	Wood Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>		✓	✓	✓			3	
125	Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
126	Garden Warbler	<i>Sylvia borin</i>		3	4	4	2	3	1	
127	Barred Warbler	<i>Sylvia nisoria</i>		1	3	1			2	
128	Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia curruca</i>	1	3	2	3	4	4	4	1
129	Common Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>	3	4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	2
130	Bearded Tit	<i>Panurus biarmicus</i>				2				
131	Marsh Tit	<i>Poecile palustris</i>		2	2					
132	European Crested Tit	<i>Lophophanes cristatus</i>		H	1	H				
133	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>	1	6	✓	2	✓	✓	✓	4
134	Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>			4		2	✓	✓	2
135	Eurasian Penduline Tit	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>				2	3	1		
136	White-headed Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus caudatus</i>		4	2					
137	Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>		3	3	1	1			
138	Eurasian Treecreeper	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>		2	1					
139	Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>	2	H	H	4	6	2	✓	H
140	Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>	1	1	4	8	2	5	✓	2
141	Great Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius excubitor</i>	2		1	1	1	1	2	
142	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	1	✓	✓	6	✓	✓		
143	Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	✓	2	2	1	✓	6		✓
144	Eurasian Nutcracker	<i>Nucifraga caryocatactes</i>				2				
145	Eurasian Jackdaw	<i>Corvus monedula</i>			1	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
146	Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓
147	Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	✓		1	1	4	✓	✓	✓
148	Common Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	1		2	4		2	5	2
149	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

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			16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
150	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
151	Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
152	Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
153	Common Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus erythrinus</i>			6	1			✓	
154	Common Crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>		✓	✓					
155	European Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>	✓	5	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
156	Eurasian Siskin	<i>Carduelis spinus</i>		3	4		3			
157	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
158	Common Linnet	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
159	European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>		2	4	1	5	5	4	2
160	Common Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>							1	
161	Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>		10	✓	✓				
162	Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	✓	8	✓	8	✓	6	✓	✓
163	Ortolan Bunting	<i>Emberiza hortulana</i>				1			1	
164	Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>	1		6	4	✓	✓	✓	
165	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>	2		3					1

Mammals

European Hare	<i>Lepus europaeus</i>	Red Deer	<i>Cervus elaphus elaphus</i>
Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	Eurasian Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>
American Mink	<i>Neovision vison</i>	Eurasian Beaver	<i>Castor fiber</i>
Eurasian Elk	<i>Alces alces</i>	Common Muskrat	<i>Ondatra zibethicus</i>
European Roe Deer	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>		

Butterflies

Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>	Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>
Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>	Map Butterfly	<i>Araschnia levana</i>
Small White	<i>Artogeia rapae</i>	Queen Of Spain Fritillary	<i>Issoria lathonia</i>
Green-veined White	<i>Artogeia napi</i>	Glanville Fritillary	<i>Melitaea cinxia</i>
Orange Tip	<i>Anthocharis cardamines</i>	Heath Fritillary	<i>Mellicta athalia</i>
Brimstone	<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>	Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>
Wood White	<i>Leptidea sinapis</i>	Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>
Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>	Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>
Sooty Copper	<i>Lycaena tityrus</i>	Dingy Skipper	<i>Erynnis tages</i>
Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>	Chequered Skipper	<i>Carterocephalus palaemon</i>
Peacock Butterfly	<i>Inachis io</i>	Northern Chequered Skipper	<i>Carterocephalus silvicolus</i>

Moths

Oak Eggar	<i>Lasiocampa quercus</i>	Clouded-bordered Brindle	<i>Apamea crenata</i>
Dingy Mocha	<i>Cyclophora pendularia</i>	Silver Barred	<i>Deltote bankiana</i>
The Magpie	<i>Abraxas grossulariata</i>	Silver Y	<i>Autographa gamma</i>
Pale Tussock	<i>Calliteara pudibunda</i>	Mother Shipton	<i>Callistege mi</i>
White Ermine	<i>Spilosoma lubricipeda</i>	Burnet Companion	<i>Euclidia ghyphica</i>

Dragonflies

Banded Demoiselle	<i>Calopteryx splendens</i>	White Featherleg	<i>Platynemis latipes</i>
Common Bluetail	<i>Ischnura elegans</i>	Downy Emerald	<i>Cordulia aenea</i>
Common Bluert	<i>Enallagma cyathigerum</i>	Four-spotted Chaser	<i>Libellula quadrimaculata</i>
Small Red Damsel	<i>Ceriagrion tenellum</i>		

Other Notable Taxa

Common Lizard	<i>Lacerta vivipara</i>	Common Toad	<i>Bufo bufo</i>
Sand Lizard	<i>Lacerta agilis</i>	Green Toad	<i>Bufo viridis</i>
Slow Worm	<i>Anguis fragilis</i>	Fire-bellied Toad	<i>Bombina bombina</i>
Adder	<i>Vipera berus</i>	European Tree Frog	<i>Hyla arborea</i>
Marsh Frog	<i>Pelophylax ridibundus</i>	Mole Cricket Sp.	<i>Gryllotalpidae sp.</i>
Common Frog	<i>Rana temporaria</i>		