

Poland in Spring

Naturetrek Tour Report

15 - 22 May 2012



White Stork



White-backed Woodpecker



Hotel Bartek Goniadz



Hawfinch

Report and images compiled by Rob Murray



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Summary:

Whilst birds were the main focus of our tour of the Biebrza Marshes and Bialowieza Forest, searching for them inevitably brought us into contact with exquisite plants, enthralling insects, bizarre fungi and noisy amphibians. The ease with which we found birds that are scarce in Britain never ceased to amaze us. Common and Black Redstarts, Wrynecks, Red-backed Shrikes, Icterine and Marsh Warblers, Great Reed Warblers and Common Rosefinches were all in the local park or hotel grounds. Even random stops by a river or in a forest yielded exciting birds. There were many highlights, but few will forget the Tengmalm's Owl fiasco when we thought Piotr had been devoured by wolves or succumbed to the lure of a lustful, siren-like witch of the woods!

The atmosphere of expectation at the Great Snipe lek vies for prominence in our memories with White-backed Woodpeckers bounding back and forth to feed hungry nestlings. The operatic songs of Thrush Nightingales accompanied us everywhere and will be recalled with fondness. Nine of the ten species of woodpeckers came our way with only Syrian eluding us.

Our success with a Pygmy Owl was all the more rewarding as our first attempt failed. We had to work hard for it but eventually we were treated to fantastic views in broad daylight of this fierce-looking, diminutive owl. A variety of raptors, usually on the horizon kept us guessing, but there was no mistaking the majestic Greater Spotted Eagle which flew so very close to us.

The varied and interesting local Polish food was certainly appreciated. Once each day's birding activities approached the close of play, we still had the evening meal to look forward to! Those who attempted to predict the menu were well and truly thwarted when Bison meatballs appeared on our plates! It was truly as wonderful experience of Polish wildlife, cuisine and culture...

Day 1

Saturday 12th May

Raining, windy and cool in Warsaw (11°C) Cleared up later but still very cool

Our flight departed on time and arrived 20 minutes ahead of schedule. Piotr was waiting to greet us and we piled our baggage into a comfortable 20-seater bus to begin the long drive through heavy drizzle towards Goniądz. It was one o'clock and time for lunch. So we stopped at a hotel called Karczma where we had a choice of excellent pork dishes.

Extremely pale-naped Jackdaws caught our attention and the absence of Carrion Crows was noted. We saw Montagu's and Marsh Harriers on the left and White Storks and Buzzards on the right. Our constant switching of direction from left to right was reminiscent of watching a Wimbledon final. The neck muscles had a good work-out! Peering out of the bus windows to search for birds proved to exacerbate the tiredness due to the early start and consequently one by one we nodded off starting at the back and advancing like a peristaltic wave to the front!

It was 6.30pm but we just had to stop at the bridge over the River Narewka as the adjoining marshes were alive with birds. Black Terns angrily chased a lame Ruff from the proximity of their floating nests. White-winged Black Terns cavorted and squawked over the river as Black-tailed Godwits and Ruff concentrated upon displaying to inconspicuous females. A final stop by some marshes yielded a pair of Whooper Swans and a wonderful displaying Snipe whose drumming overhead was a thrilling new experience for several of the group.

The clock chimed 7.30pm as we arrived at the Hotel Bartek in the village of Goniądz. This imposing red-roofed and white-walled building has grounds extending to the very edge of the squelchy marshes and bird-watching from the balcony of our rooms would be a possibility in the morning.

Day 2

Sunday 13th May

Drizzle and cold early on but sunshine on and off for the rest of the day

Clacking Fieldfares and tinkling Serins; warbling Black Redstarts, demonstrative Thrush Nightingales and the harsh rasping of White-winged Terns were sounds that were unfamiliar to most of us but all could be enjoyed from our beds as soloists amidst the cacophonous croaking accompaniment of Marsh frogs. The short, fluty calls of a Golden Oriole took centre stage in this orgy of sound. Then the ceaseless industrial, resonating, low hum of Fire-bellied Toads assaulted the tympanum like an unwanted bout of tinnitus.

The pre-breakfast walk was a noteworthy introduction to 'pitfalls for the unwary'. These took the form of two species new to science; namely the Hoopoe Dog and the Quail Starling. We had splendid views of singing Icterine Warblers, Great Reed Warblers and Common Rosefinches. On the marsh, Ruff resplendent in their Elizabethan attire and Black Storks sporting an iridescence of metallic colours, were the highlights of a really enjoyable stroll despite the cold and irritating drizzle.

Our first stop after breakfast was at the crossroads for Szafranki where 40 White Storks were foraging in a field. Two Red-backed Shrikes impressed the party and a distant White-tailed Eagle made us long for the closer views to come. Ripples of suppressed laughter undulated through the group as Piotr announced that he had seen a Buzzard Hoovering. (Other cleaning machines are available!)

We drove back to Goniądz Bridge and walked to the tower hide. Good views of a singing Savi's Warbler and a very close encounter with a Thrush Nightingale were the highlights. Eagles again remained distant with Lesser Spotted soaring away from our expectant gazes. Then pulses raced as Piotr announced that a spectacular Greater Spotted Eagle was within range of the naked eye. What a stunning view we had; even to the extent of being able to see a satellite transmitter on its back. This was one of only 30 birds in Poland. What a privilege!

The village of Wolka was our next port of call in the hope of finding Hoopoes. We were not disappointed. We also saw Wood Warblers, Hawfinches and a Bullfinch. By now it was lunch time so we had a picnic in the grounds of the Park HQ near Osowiec. The tower hide and boarded trail near the fortifications of Osowiec proved to be highly productive. Penduline Tits were calling and patrolling the osiers bordering the pathway affording us first class views. These masters of nest architecture had suspended their pendulous chamber from a willow tree very close to the boardwalk. It was near to this spot that we admired the striking plumage of a male white-spotted Bluethroat in full song. Although restless it was not elusive and everyone eventually gained immense pleasure from this obliging bird. White-faced Darters and Variable Damselflies; Grass snakes and Common Lizards; Water Avens and Comfrey all added to the natural history delights of this fascinating walkway.

However, a sight yet to come was set to upstage all of these. We witnessed the mating behaviour and post-coital display of a pair of Little Crakes just below us as we stood awestruck in the tower. We approached the sedge beds of Długa Luka fearing that our good fortune must surely desert us. It didn't! We enjoyed brilliant views of four strikingly marked Aquatic Warblers as they sang from low perches just above the sedge tops. Drumming Snipe saluted us like a military flypast with tails spread and stiff feathers vibrating furiously against the resistance of the evening air. What an enigmatic conclusion to a most absorbing day. All of this and there was still food to come!

Day 3

Monday 14th May

Sunny and warm all day with bubbly cumulus clouds

A punctual 6am departure still provided insufficient time for the pre-breakfast visit to the superb area centred upon the wooden bridge near Dolistowo. There was so much to see! Six singing male Ortolan Buntings, a pair of Red-backed Shrikes, lolloping Hares and a Red Fox searching for leverets enlivened the drive. A Thrush Nightingale sang its heart out from a thicket and then emerged into full view. We enjoyed actually seeing this secretive bird performing. Common Rosefinches pleaded "pleased to meet you" greetings and an Icterine Warbler embarked upon a sustained bout of singing. A proud Roe buck deserved more of our admiration, but we were racing back a little behind schedule for a hearty breakfast!

A Hobby flashed across the car park as we loaded up for a trip to Mścichy which is a 35 minute drive away. This is a vast area of marsh and woods where we quickly located a singing Bluethroat, but we were frustrated by our target species being either a very long way off or only permitting fleeting glimpses. Lesser Spotted Eagles assumed the former mantle and Citrine Wagtails the latter. Can black and white and shades of grey be considered an attractive colour scheme? When splashed around the plumage of a White-winged Black Tern it certainly can and when over 100 of them are dancing before your eyes the effect is mesmerising! The dykes bordering the track here support healthy populations of Downy Emerald, White-faced Darter, Four-spotted Chaser and Variable Damselfly.

Brzostowo village was our destination for lunch. The picnic site overlooks the river and marshes and holds a huge number of birds. Two Black-winged Stilts were Polish firsts for Piotr. We had not fully realised just how many birds were concealed by the rushes and reeds until a White-tailed Eagle flapped over and hundreds of waders, wildfowl and terns leaped skywards and whirled about in panic. At Burzyn there is a lookout on top of a rise which gives a spectacular view for miles around. Five Elks were on view and proved to be popular subjects for digiscoping. Our finest views to date of White-tailed Eagles were enjoyed here but Lesser Spotted Eagles continued to frustrate by appearing way into the distance. Great Reed and Savi's Warblers ably demonstrated the distance over which their voices can carry as they sang from remote reed beds way out into the marsh. On the way back to base we paused to listen for Red-breasted Flycatchers but only succeeded in making intimate contact with mosquitoes. A White-backed Woodpecker called briefly but wasn't seen.

Day 4

Tuesday 15th May

Cloudy all day with prolonged shower. Cool

We concentrated upon birds of the hotel gardens for our pre-breakfast activity this morning. The quality of the species encountered was remarkable - there were singing Icterine Warblers, Common Rosefinches, Thrush Nightingale, Penduline Tit, Serin and Golden Oriole.

After breakfast we loaded the bus and left the Biebrza Marshes for the transfer to Bialoweiza. The first stop was at the village Post Office and gift shop in Goniądz where we saw an Icterine Warbler in the village square. Just beyond the celebrated Długa Luka site there is a road bridge spanning a stream - here we located a nesting pair of White-backed Woodpeckers which kept us entertained and absorbed as the parents hacked at trees and gathered beetle larvae to take back to their nestlings. A Green Sandpiper in such a dank and dark habitat took us by surprise.

Next we kept a sharp lookout for birds as we wended our way to Tykocin for lunch. Montagu's Harriers and Tawny Pipit were the real conquests. Old nesting sites of Syrian Woodpecker were discovered, but not the one in use this year. Dojlidy is next to a large, bustling town with some industrial zones, but the series of fish ponds that have been excavated for recreation attract an array of wildlife. A pair of Whooper Swans, with six signets, Red-necked Grebes in full breeding plumage, and a number of very conspicuous Great Reed Warblers were the highlights of a lightning visit. It was 8pm before we reached Bialoweiza so there was little time to freshen up before yet another enjoyable Polish dinner.

[Very little spraying occurs here. The landscape is carpeted with cheerful, beaming and intensely yellow clusters of Dandelions. It is a beautiful sight. I am certain that had Van Gogh been Polish, then Dandelions would be as revered as Sunflowers and cheering up our living room walls.]

Day 5

Wednesday 16th May

Increasing cloud. Thunderstorms. Clearing up by mid evening. Mild

Our pre-breakfast walk was centred upon The Palace Park which is just a gentle stroll from the hotel. A Marsh Warbler gave a wonderful rendition of mimicry and we enjoyed identifying its selection of European bird songs.

A Common Rosefinch sang in full view to an accompaniment of Golden Orioles and a croaking Great Reed Warbler. A Bank Vole shot out of the undergrowth and made a few circuits around the concrete path as two Red Squirrels chased each other with great alacrity and self-assurance to defy gravity by the narrowest of margins.

After breakfast we visited several sites within a short drive of our base. The first was an area of scrub and Lilac bushes where we quickly located an active Barred Warbler once again associating with a Red-backed Shrike. The next spot also held Barred Warblers which were more willing to show off their barring, yellow-staring eyes and long, white-edged tails. Its appearance prompted much discussion. We concluded that Barred Warblers suggest a fusion between a Wryneck and Red-backed Shrike or perhaps a tropical Antshrike. The third stop was on the bridge crossing Bialoweiza Glade where a River Warbler was heard together with Golden Orioles, Thrush Nightingale and Common Rosefinch. (Why can't we still call it Scarlet Rosefinch? It's a more apt name.)

We returned to the hotel for lunch expecting sandwiches, but we were given a fully cooked course which was a very welcome surprise. The afternoon was spent in pursuit of woodpeckers along the forest trail of Wysokie Bagno (high bog). Parking by the old railway carriages and steam engine seemed to be ideal. A well camouflaged Grass Snake slithered out of harms way into the concealment a woodland glade densely carpeted in stitchworts. A Middle-spotted Woodpecker gave a brave and confident display, often perching close by and in the open. The best Thrush Nightingale of the trip sat on an exposed perch enabling everyone to see its diagnostic features. Other woodland delights included an array of trail-side flowers, Map and Large Tortoiseshell butterflies and a Beautiful Demoiselle.

There is a stretch of open land just beyond the village border where we witnessed the parachute descent of a displaying male Tree Pipit. Just beyond here, habitat eminently suitable for Red-breasted Flycatchers was identified and quite quickly we located a fully adult male resplendent in its vivid red breast. In the proximity to the Forestry Institute and secondary school, a Collared Flycatcher was discovered. A return visit to the vicinity of the river bridge unearthed an occupied Hawfinch's nest which we were able to observe and digiscope from a safe distance.

We returned to the hotel to prepare ourselves for this evening's adventure into the realm of the Great Snipe. The afternoon rain yielded to present us with a cool evening which mercifully deterred the mosquitoes (and other birding groups) which led to a feeling of greater intimacy with our quarry and enabled us to enjoy the bizarre spectacle as we wished. Narew is about 45 minutes drive followed by a trudge across boggy marshland. There was rain and expectancy in the air in equal measures as we peered towards the few square metres of this vast marsh that Great Snipe have selected to perform their amusing courtship rituals. Tripods and telescopes had scarcely been erected before a cry of incredulity burst out from an ecstatic member of our group. A Great Snipe had leaped into the air as if fired from a clay pigeon launcher. This was swiftly followed by three others together. It was indeed fortuitous that the vegetation in front of the lek was lower than usual as this gave us the opportunity to see the snipe on the ground. "I can see the white bars across the wings," cried one observer. "And I have just seen the flashes of white in the tail," added another. "Proportionally, the bill is shorter than on a Common Snipe," noted a third. After a brief distraction to watch a singing Aquatic Warbler and to try to pinpoint a reeling Grasshopper Warbler, we re-focussed on the amorous behaviour of the testosterone infused Great Snipe. The loud, insistent racket from a River Warbler brought the session to a close and as the gloom gathered we threaded our way back to the bus through the forest.

Day 6

Thursday 17th May

A cold, wet and windy day

We approached the Strict Reserve via the Palace Park. Arek, our guide, greeted us with a countenance to match the reserve's name and issued firm conditions governing our access to this ancient woodland of towering trees. He explained the history of the forest where wooden crosses stood defiantly as grim reminders of the grief stricken war years. A Firecrest put on a good display with his crest fully expanded. Collared and Pied Flycatchers flittered around the canopy. Our attention was drawn to a most unusual Wren's nest which was suspended from a wispy branch just like that of a Penduline Tit. This is such an awe inspiring habitat that few of noticed that it was raining and really quite miserable and cold!

The familiar Wood Anemone, Wood Sorrel and Yellow Archangel concealed treasures such as Asarabacca (*Asarum europaeum*). This member of the Birthwort family has flowers resembling the hats of pixies. They bloom level with the forest floor so that ants gain access and pollinate them. A female Three-toed Woodpecker held our attention for a while as it poked its head out of the nest hole then flew closer to a tree giving us all time to appreciate it fully. As we tramped across the wooden boardwalk and bridges, expecting a Troll to leap out at any moment, we saw Bracket, Oyster, Hoof and many other bizarre fungi clinging to the rotting trees. The discovery of a few Toothwort plants parasitizing tree roots was of great interest. Bank Voles were racing about in high numbers. As we strolled back up the track past rough grassland we noted three Red-backed Shrikes and a Whinchat. Corncrakes began rasping and although they were very close to the path they remained concealed from view.

We returned to the hotel for a lunch of welcome hot Russian pasta with assorted fillings. This certainly warmed us up. Rain set in, the wind got up and the temperature dropped during the afternoon. Patience was required in abundance as we stood expectantly by assorted woodpecker holes. A notable success was the speed with which Lesser Spotted Woodpeckers surrendered. A pair showed themselves within seconds of our arrival, but our luck ran out with Grey headed and Black. Two beautiful white-headed Long-tailed Tits and close views of Hawfinches sustained us through a long, damp and ultimately fruitless vigil.

Having opted for an early dinner, we were ready to depart at 6pm for a visit to a locality which is close to the Belarusian border. Here we hoped to find elusive Pygmy Owls. We heard two birds calling. Despite our best efforts we could not locate them amongst the dense branches of the Spruce trees, even though one of them was very close to us Woodcock were roding above our heads and Green Sandpipers were calling. The most notable sighting was of a Three-toed Woodpecker close to the track. As we retreated dusk fell and we returned to the hotel with a firm resolution to try even harder tomorrow night.

Day 7

Friday 18th May

Sunshine all day and quite warm

The Palace Park was the venue for the early morning risers who tried with much patience to secure just a glimpse of the Grey Headed Woodpeckers at their nest site. We had excellent views of Icterine Warblers and listened to the variable song and mimicry of a Marsh Warbler, but there was no sign of the woodpecker.

After breakfast we headed towards the vast lake of Siemianówka, but made a few stops at strategic points for adding more species to our already impressive list. The first roadside stop yielded Red-backed Shrikes perched like sentinels, a reeling River Warbler, a flashy Golden Oriole and a pair of industrious Marsh Harriers who were busily gathering nesting material. I suppose it is reasonable to refer to any owl choosing to call during daylight as an insomniac. One such Pygmy Owl was encountered deep within the forest. Once it began calling locating it was straight forward and everyone enjoyed superb views as it squatted on a high branch and glared down at us with penetrating yellow eyes. Soon it relaxed and began preening nonchalantly.

Moving on to Kosy Most we sauntered down a Cowslip-lined track to a point where two bridges span the river. A River Warbler was singing from an exposed perch which permitted everyone to locate it and enjoy studying its singing postures. Map Butterflies, Speckled Woods and Orange tips fluttered along the forest ride. In the open agricultural land in the proximity of Siemianówka Lake we noted Whinchats, Red-backed Shrikes, and a Great Grey Shrike clutching an item of prey. Sky scanning for raptors is often rewarding in this area. Today was no exception as a splendid Goshawk graced the skies.

The site chosen for lunch was near to a pumping station, a canopy hide and a set of picnic tables. The warm, sloping grassy bank was riddled with round-entranced deep holes belonging to an unknown species of chirping, burrowing cricket. Citrine Wagtails were uncooperative at first as their restless behaviour ensured that they were seen only fleetingly. However, one spectacular male perched in full view on top of a gently swaying reed head. A Grass Snake and three Common Lizards were also found. Sky-watchers were rewarded with views of Buzzard, Marsh Harrier, Lesser Spotted Eagle, White-tailed Eagle and Hobby.

An evening visit to Sciniki Droga took us so close to the border with Belarus that mobile messages displayed “welcome to Belarus.” The woodland is more open here and less imposing. It provided an enjoyable walk even though the precise position of our quarry, Tengmalm's Owl, couldn't be located.

Day 8

Saturday 19th May

Cloudy with brief sunny periods. 20°C

At 6am the group was assembled for regrettably the last time. We scoured The Palace Park and adjacent avenues of trees in search of the elusive Grey-headed Woodpecker, which only two people saw. Our diligence unearthed a spectacular female White-backed Woodpecker drumming. Yes, females do drum! A conspicuous River Warbler belted out its racket with mouth gaping widely and body vibrating with the effort. An Icterine Warbler issued a plausible mimic of a Marsh Warbler, which must have confused the nearby Marsh Warbler no end!

Being packed and ready to move by 9am ensured that we could make two stops in the nearby woodlands for a last effort at finding some of the special birds of the forest. A Black Woodpecker provided all we could have asked of it and a Honey Buzzard performed its spectacular wing-clapping display over our heads. A Sparrow Hawk was a first for the trip. Some of us saw a male Red-breasted Flycatcher at our final stop and a fresh Chequered Skipper butterfly posed for the cameras. Now it really was time to embark upon the five hour drive back to Warsaw, but there was yet one more exciting bird to cross our path. A Lesser Spotted Eagle flew over the bus giving us our closest views of the trip. We arrived in Warsaw at 4pm. Perfect timing for checking in for our 18.15 flight to the UK.

Species Lists

Birds (H = heard only)

	Common name	Scientific name	May							
			12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
1	Grey Partridge	<i>Perdix perdix</i>	1							
2	Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>	13	11	60	2			30	
3	Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>	6	7	20	2			20	
4	Whooper Swan	<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>	2		1	8				
5	Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>		1	4	3			7	
6	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	6	11	10	6	5	4	20	5
7	Northern Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>			10		1			
8	Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>			1					
9	Garganey	<i>Anas querquedula</i>	1	3	24	4			2	
10	Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>			1					
11	Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>			4					
12	Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>				10			1	
13	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>				H				
14	Red-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps grisegena</i>				5				
15	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>				4				
16	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>		4					1	
17	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	50	40+	100	20	6	2	25	8
18	Eurasian Bittern	<i>Botaurus stellaris</i>		H	H	H				
19	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	3	10	15	7	1		8	1
20	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>		12	25	1			8	
21	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>							55	
22	European Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>								1
23	White-tailed Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>		3	5				4	
24	Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	7	12	20	10	1		9	
25	Northern Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>		1						
26	Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>	2		1	6				1
27	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>								1
28	Northern Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>			1				1	2
29	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	4	5	7	2	1		5	1
30	Lesser Spotted Eagle	<i>Aquila pomarina</i>			5				2	
31	Greater Spotted Eagle	<i>Aquila clanga</i>		1						
32	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	3	1	1					
33	Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>		1	1	1			6	
34	Water Rail	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>		H						
35	Corn Crake	<i>Crex crex</i>	H	H				H		
36	Little Crake	<i>Porzana parva</i>		2						
37	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>			1					
38	Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>		1	8	6	1		1	
39	Common Crane	<i>Grus grus</i>	5	11	12	6	9		2	8
40	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>			2					
41	Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	11	6	25	12			5	10
42	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>			1					
43	Eurasian Woodcock	<i>Scolopax rusticola</i>			1			2	2	

	Common name	Scientific name	May							
			12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
44	Great Snipe	<i>Gallinago media</i>					3+			
45	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	1	7	3	1	1			
46	Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>	6	1	20	2				
47	Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>		H						
48	Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>	4							
49	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>	7	2	6					
50	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>			1					
51	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>				1		H		
52	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>	2	25	20	1				
53	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>			2	3				
54	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>			60					
55	Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>	10+	40	500					
56	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	27	8	80	500	1	2	120	
57	Little Gull	<i>Hydrocoloeus minutus</i>				2				
58	Common Gull	<i>Larus canus</i>	1							
59	European Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	1						1	
60	Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>			1					
61	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	20+		30	1	1	1	6	
62	White-winged Tern	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>	50+	30	100+	50			6	
63	Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>	30		50	9		1	2	
64	Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>	2		20					
65	Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	20	20	20	20	20	4	6	20
66	Stock Dove	<i>Columba oenas</i>							H	
67	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	20	4	10	20	10	4	10	4
68	European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>			1					
69	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	6	2	2	6	2		3	
70	Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>		2	1	1	H	H	2	H
72	Eurasian Pygmy Owl	<i>Glaucidium passerinum</i>						H	1	
73	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	50	6	10	200	100	12	12	10
74	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>	H	2		H				
75	Eurasian Wryneck	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>		H	H		8	H	H	H
76	Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos minor</i>						2		
77	Middle Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos medius</i>					1	1		
78	White-backed Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos leucotos</i>			H	2				1
79	Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>			1	1	2	4	6	H
80	Eurasian Three-toed Woodpecker	<i>Picoides tridactylus</i>						2		
81	Black Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus martius</i>				1				1
82	European Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>					1			
83	Grey-headed Woodpecker	<i>Picus canus</i>					H			1
84	Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>		2	6		6	4	5	
85	Great Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius excubitor</i>	2			4			2	
86	Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>		3	2	4	3	H	1	H
87	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>			1	1	1	2	2	1
88	Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	8	1	4	3	2		1	
89	Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>	13	20	20	40	20		20	20
90	Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>	200	15		11				100
91	Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	20	2	10	10	6		2	5

	Common name	Scientific name	May							
			12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
92	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	3	1	2	2			6	1
93	Marsh Tit	<i>Poecile palustris</i>					H	4		1
94	Coal Tit	<i>Pariparus ater</i>						1	2	H
95	European Crested Tit	<i>Lophophanes cristatus</i>					2		2	2
96	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>	1	1	1	3	2	4	6	
97	Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		2	1	1	4	1	1	
98	Eurasian Penduline Tit	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>		2	H	1				
99	Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>	1	H		1			2	
100	Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>		4	10	15			2	
101	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	24	16	6	6	5		20	
102	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	100+	200	100+	50	20	2	40	10
103	Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	30	15	20	20	15	2		20
104	Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus caudatus</i>					H	2		
105	Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	H	1	1	1	2	H	1	
106	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	1	1	H	1	1	H	2	1
107	Wood Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>		3		H	1	1	H	H
108	Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>		1	H	10	2	1	1	2
109	Aquatic Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus paludicola</i>		4			1			
110	Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>	1	5	6	5	2		H	
111	Eurasian Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>		1		1	H			
112	Marsh Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus palustris</i>					H	H	H	H
113	Icterine Warbler	<i>Hippolais icterina</i>		1	1	3	H	H	4	1
114	Common Grasshopper Warbler	<i>Locustella naevia</i>					H			
115	River Warbler	<i>Locustella fluviatilis</i>					1		2	1
116	Savi's Warbler	<i>Locustella luscinioides</i>		3	H	1	H			
117	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	H	1	1	H	1	2	1	H
118	Garden Warbler	<i>Sylvia borin</i>			H	1		H	1	
119	Barred Warbler	<i>Sylvia nisoria</i>					2			
120	Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia curruca</i>		3	1	1	1		1	H
121	Common Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>	1	10	5	2	3		3	1
122	Common Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapilla</i>						1		H
123	Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>						H	1	H
124	Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>				H	H	1		
125	Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>					2	1	2	
126	Eurasian Treecreeper	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>					H	2	H	
127	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	30	20	20	20	20	20	40	15
128	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	2	2	3	2	5	20	25	
129	Fieldfare	<i>Turdus pilaris</i>	1	6	13	20	6	6	6	4
130	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>		2		3	10	30	20	4
131	Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>	H	1	1	3	1	1	8	2
132	European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>			H	H	2		4	1
133	Bluethroat	<i>Luscinia svecica</i>		1	H					
134	Thrush Nightingale	<i>Luscinia luscinia</i>	H	2	1	1	1	1	H	H
135	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	2	2	1		1	1	3	
136	Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>			1	1	4		1	
137	Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>		4	5		2	2	6	
138	European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>							2	

	Common name	Scientific name	May							
			12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
139	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>				2				
140	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>		3	2	5	10	6	4	1
141	European Pied Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>				1		1		
142	Collared Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula albicollis</i>					1	2		
143	Red-breasted Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula parva</i>					1			1
144	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	1	12	20+	10	6	6	10	4
145	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>	4	16	12	12	12	6	1	2
146	Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>						H		
147	Blue-headed Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava flava</i>	4	4	6	5			1	
148	Citrine Wagtail	<i>Motacilla citreola</i>			1				3	
149	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	2	3	3	4	1	5	10	4
150	Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>			1	1				
151	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>					1	1	H	
152	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	4	6	8	6	8	10	10	6
153	European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>		1	1	3	8	6	2	2
154	European Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>	2	2	2	4	6	1	1	
155	Eurasian Siskin	<i>Carduelis spinus</i>						2	3	
156	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		4	2	2	2		2	4
157	Common Linnet	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>	3	2		1	1	2	1	1
158	Common Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus erythrinus</i>		4	2	2	5	2	1	H
159	Red Crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>						H		
160	Eurasian Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>		1						H
161	Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>		4		1	10	20	3	2
162	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>								
163	Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	2	4	1	6	2	1	3	
164	Ortolan Bunting	<i>Emberiza hortulana</i>			5					
165	Common Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>	H	13	20	4	2		3	

Mammals

1	Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>		3	1				5	
2	Elk	<i>Alces alces</i>			5					
3	Roe Deer	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>	1	4	3		2			
4	Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>					2			
5	Bank Vole	<i>Clethrionomys glareolus</i>					1			
6	Brown Hare	<i>Lepus europaeus</i>	1		20	1			1	

Reptiles & Amphibians

Grass Snake, *Natrix natrix*

Marsh Frog, *Pelophylax ridibundus*

Moor Frog, *Rana arvalis*

Common Lizard, *Zootoca vivipara*

Common Frog, *Rana temporaria*

Common Toad, *Bufo bufo*

Dragonflies

Beautiful Demoiselle, *Calopteryx virgo*

Azure Damselfly, *Coenagrion puella*

Blue-tailed Damselfly, *Ischnura elegans*

Variable Damselfly, *Coenagrion pulchellum*

Common Blue Damselfly, *Enallagma cyathigerum*

Emerald Damselfly, *Lestes sponsa*

Red-eyed Damselfly, *Erythromma najas*
 Downy Emerald, *Cordulia aenea*
 Four-spotted Chaser, *Libellula quadrimaculata*

White-faced Darter, *Leucorrhinia dubia*
 Hairy Dragonfly, *Brachytron pratense*

Butterflies

Bath White, *Pontia daplidice*
 Large White, *Pieris brassicae*
 Green-veined White, *Artogeia napi*
 Speckled Wood, *Pararge aegeria*
 Large Tortoiseshell, *Nymphalis polychloros*
 Orange Tip, *Anthocharis cardamines*
 Moorland Clouded Yellow, *Colias palaeno*
 Brimstone, *Gonepteryx rhamni*
 Small Heath, *Coenonympha pamphilus*

Wood White, *Leptidea sinapsis*
 Small White, *Artogeia rapae*
 Chequered Skipper, *Carterocephalus palaemon*
 Peacock, *Inachis io*
 Red Admiral, *Vanessa atalanta*
 Map Butterfly, *Araschnia levana*
 Pale Clouded Yellow, *Colias hyale*
 Swallowtail, *Papilio machaon*

Notable Plants

Alternate-leaved Golden Saxifrage	Asarabacca	Billberry
Bog Asphodel	Bog Bean	Bugle
Coltsfoot	Columbine	Comfrey
Coralroot Bittercress	Cotton Grass	Cowberry
Cowslip	Cypress Spurge	Dog's Mercury
Evening Primrose	Field Clary	Field Scabious
Geranium sanguineum	Germander Speedwell	Greater Burnet
Greater Celandine	Greater Stitchwort	Ground Ivy
Heath Violet	Herb Paris	Herb Robert
Horseradish	Lady's Mantle	Lady's Smock
Lesser Celandine	Lily of the Valley	Liver Leaf
Marsh Marigold	Martagon	Meadow Rue
Oxslip	Ragged Robin	Ramsons
Red Campion	Red Valerian	Salad Burnet
Sedum acres	Shepherd's Purse	Snake's Head Fritillary
Soapwort	Solomon's Seal	Spring Pea
Sweet Woodruff	Toothwort	Water Avens
Water Soldier	Wild Parsnip	Wild Strawberry
Wood Anemone	Wood Avens	Wood Cow Wheat
Wood Horsetail	Wood Millet	Wood Sorrel
Wood Violet	Woolly Buttercup	Wormwood
Yellow Archangel	Yellow Flag	

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