

Poland in Spring

Naturetrek Tour Report

15 – 22 May 2016



Grass Snake



European Bison



White-backed Woodpecker



'White spotted' Bluethroat

Report and images compiled by Peter J Dunn



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Participants: Peter Dunn & Alison Steele (leaders), Piotr Debowski (local guide) & Mario (driver)
With 13 Naturetrek clients on a two centre visit to eastern Poland.

Day 1

Sunday 15th May

Journey from London – Warsaw to Białoweiza

Peter and Alison met the group at the departure gate at Heathrow Airport and soon we had boarded our aircraft and were airborne, heading for Warsaw. It was a smooth uneventful flight arriving at Frederick Chopin Airport on time. With the airport formalities sorted, we met Piotr and it didn't take long before we had boarded our coaches and were on our way through the centre of Warsaw.

Our journey took us east on one of many routes out of the city and onto a brand new 'motorway' which connects with the 'Via Baltica'. We saw many 'Russian' Jackdaws and Hooded Crows around the streets. On leaving the city our route continued east and we started to see White Storks feeding in the fields and Common Buzzards over the woods. Lunch was taken at the Kamiza Hotel, where pork cutlets (chops in batter), boiled potato and sauerkraut was accompanied by a local beer or juice.

We continued east, pausing by the Bug River at Brok where parties of Black Terns fed over the water before continuing high north on their migrations. We had a further stop to overlook some roadside fields where we saw our first pair of Red-backed Shrikes and Common Crane. During the journey, from the coach we saw Western Marsh and Montagu's Harriers and more flying Common Cranes.

We arrived at our comfortable newly built hotel (Dwór Na Otulinie) in Białoweiza where rooms were allocated and we then walked down to the Unikat for dinner, stopping to watch a pair of Eurasian Golden Orioles in some poplar trees and a singing male Common Redstart.

Following the three course dinner and log call, we discussed the forthcoming days' visits before we all turned in after an early start and a long driving day.

Day 2

Monday 16th May

Białoweiza Forest area.

At 3.50am two sleep-walkers met on the top floor balcony overlooking the forest and immediately became aware that there were European Bison in the field close to the forest edge. Most of the group were summoned from their rooms in all sorts of stages of undress to watch four animals gradually make their way back to the trees, two pausing for a bit of a spar.

At 6am most of the group met, this time fully dressed, for our organised pre-breakfast walk through the Palace Park. Bird song was amazing with Eurasian Golden Oriole, Whinchat, Icterine Warbler and Corn Bunting dominating. We eventually saw them all and also had excellent views of Middle Spotted Woodpecker.

We returned for breakfast at 8.30am, after which we went on a woodpecker hunt. First stop was the known nest of a Black Woodpecker which was being excavated 12 days earlier when Peter was last there. We waited by the nest and saw the male poke his head out to look around. While that was going on a nice Grass Snake was found

basking in the sun, and we had good views of a singing Thrush Nightingale. We continued to the tower on the Teremiski road where we discovered a singing River Warbler. After a frustrating search it was found singing quite high on an almost leafless branch!

During the rest of the morning we visited both the dead wood at Budy and Miejsce Mocy 'Place of Power' just outside Białoweiza. We found plenty of evidence that woodpeckers were around, especially at the dying Spruce where the bark had been removed by woodpeckers searching for grubs of the Spruce Bark Beetle. We added a few birds to the list including a good Lesser Spotted Eagle and much sort-after 'continental – white-headed' Long-tailed Tit, albeit a juvenile.

We returned for a delicious lunch of potato cake served with pork in sauce. Then the coach took us to the start of Wysokie Bagno (High Bog) where we spent the afternoon walking near to the River Narewka in occasional rain and hail showers, visiting tower hides. Highlights on this walk were visiting a European Beaver lodge and dam and good views of singing Thrush Nightingale and Eurasian Wryneck. The coach then picked us up and dropped us at the entrance to the Palace Park where the remainder of the afternoon was spent enjoying three brightly coloured Common Rosefinches and huge Great Reed Warblers singing around the lake and a pair of exquisite Collared Flycatchers which were nesting near the park entrance in a hole around six feet from the ground.

We had an early dinner and then joined Arek, a local guide, to search for Pygmy Owl in the forest. We heard an owl briefly calling and had views of Eurasian Woodcock flying over in the failing light. We returned to the hotel at 9.45pm for a well-earned sleep.

Day 3

Tuesday 17th May

Białoweiza Forest area

A few hardy souls gathered on the upper floor balcony in the hope of seeing bison again, but it was thick mist over the meadow. As it cleared we saw around 10 Red Deer.

We gathered at 5am to walk to the Strict Reserve gates for 5.30am to meet our guide, Mateeuz. He kept us well informed about the plants, animals, birds and insects of the forest and their relationship to each other within this ecosystem. He also informed us about the Polish government's plans to log parts of the forest on the pretext of controlling Spruce Bark Beetle and how signing the social media petitions is helping to delay this. Shortly after entering the forest we had great views of European Pine Martin hunting the path and also a Middle Spotted Woodpecker nest which was active and we watched the parents come to the nest to feed the small young. We visiting an active Black Woodpecker nest and saw the female bring food for the young and also had excellent views of a very showy 'red-throated' Red-breasted Flycatcher singing next to the boardwalk. Having spent around three hours in the reserve, we thanked Mateeuz for his hard work and excellent command of English, with which he had made us much more aware of this special habitat that spans both Poland and Belarus.

After a late breakfast and with the forecast for rain, we headed to a tower hide close to the Palace Park, arriving just in time ahead of a heavy shower. There were a number of Great Reed and Sedge Warblers singing and showing well and at least two Savi's Warblers. Close by a Marsh Warbler sang its imitating song and we had brief

views of a Barred Warbler on the top of the same bush. Plenty of Common Rosefinches had now arrived and were singing everywhere.

Next stop was the Palace Park where we started at the glass observation tower. It was very quiet (bird wise) because of the cold wind and low cloud and the only raptor was a distant Lesser Spotted Eagle sitting in a tree. With a number of school parties arriving, we retreated into the park woodlands to watch a male Grey-headed Woodpecker poke its head from a nest hole.

After a lunch of 'pigeon breast' (cabbage leaves filled with rice and meat), we had two hours of free time before our next planned trip to the forest. During that time some rested, others explored the village, whilst one or two revisited the tower hide and had better views of Barred Warbler and Eurasian Wryneck.

We met at 3pm and headed out of Bialoweiza on the Teremiski road to a small reserve where we walked to another dead wood (flooded). It was alive with both Collared and Spotted Flycatchers and we also had a nice Black Stork fly over. The target of woodpeckers was hard to achieve until a huge Black Woodpecker flew over and later a few had views of a black and white woodpecker which could have been White-backed but positive identification eluded us as it disappeared back into the dense forest. With rain threatening, we returned to the coach and back for an early dinner.

After dinner we boarded the coach and drove to Narew village where we walked down into the flood plain of the Narew River to a site known for its lekking Great Snipe. A roding Eurasian Woodcock set the scene. Mist over the marsh looked like it may hamper our search but we persevered onto a new site, ignoring the brand new hide, and before too long bill clicking was heard and then the first bird jumped, showing off its white outer tail. Soon the jumping became a bit more regular, one and two at a time and everyone had views, better than any of the previous years. Having watched them for 15 minutes, the mist started to roll back in and the site was soon shrouded, however we were happy with our sightings and headed back to the coach and returned for a well-deserved night's sleep.

Day 4

Wednesday 18th May

Siemianówka Reservoir and Kosy Most.

There was no organised walk this morning due to our late night the previous evening, although some still checked out the meadow at dawn and had a pre-breakfast walk.

Breakfast was at 8am and we boarded the coach at 9am, heading for the Siemianówka Reservoir via the supermarket to supplement our picnic. We arrive at Siemieniakowszczyzna village and stopped to photograph the sign which would rival a certain town in Wales and discovered a Green Woodpecker anting in the field, with a Black Woodpecker flying over. We then drove down to the southern shore of the reservoir which had been allowed to overgrow with reeds and grasses to benefit the wildlife. Species new for the list were quickly added: Garganey, Gadwall, Common Pochard, Great Egret and a huge juvenile White-tailed Eagle. All three species of marsh terns were feeding over the reeds and a Eurasian Hoopoe was calling behind us. Walking the bank, we found a very vocal Marsh Warbler whose mimicry repertoire included Common Rosefinch, and we saw a male Penduline Tit attending one of his nests. Peter heard a Citrine Wagtail and it was seen flying over the bushes into the flooded marsh. We staked out the area and sharp-eyed Alison and Clive saw a stunning male appearing from

the bottom of a bush and it eventually showed in full view for us all to admire. Flushed with success, we returned to the picnic table and tower hide to eat our filling packed lunch. Just before we left we went to the top of the tower from where we spotted a male Ferruginous Duck following a pair of Gadwall.

The afternoon was spent back in the forest at a site called Kosy Most, where we walked a three kilometre trail looking for woodpeckers and other woodland birds. We heard a Spotted Nutcracker and found a smart diminutive Eurasian Pygmy Owl with prey in full view, making up for just the calls a couple of nights earlier.

We checked a couple of other sites and arrived back at the hotel around 5.20pm so we could pack and get organised, as tomorrow was a moving day to Biebrza.

Day 5

Thursday 19th May

Białoweiza to Biebrza

Although today was our changeover day for Biebrza, we arranged a very early visit to some meadows in search of bison. On a crisp, cool morning at 4am we gathered and boarded the coach. The meadow behind the hotel was shrouded in mist and nothing could be seen there so we headed out on the Narewka road. As we came into Teremiski a dark shape could be seen behind some willows in the first meadow and, sure enough, there was a fine young bull European Bison. We carefully walked out using the willows as cover and got within a safe distance of this animal for astounding views. It virtually ignored us (apart from glancing up on occasions) and ate its way across the meadow before finally disappearing into the forest just before 5am. We could also hear much woodpecker activity and in particular a number of drumming White-backed Woodpeckers.

Driving back towards Białoweiza we found a singing River Warbler on the top of a roadside bush, affording excellent views. We also visited the tower hide area at Wysokie Bagno and had excellent views of a singing Icterine Warbler and heard another River Warbler singing. Finally, before returning to pack and breakfast, we paid our last visit to the Palace Park where we found a Middle Spotted Woodpecker and added Marsh Tit to the list. The Tawny Owl was seen again and Collared Flycatchers and Hawfinches continued to entertain before we returned to the hotel.

After breakfast we packed the coach, bade farewell to the Dwór Na Otulinie and started our trip north towards Biebrza. We travelled towards Białystok and paused at the village of Trześcianka where the quaint Belarus-style cottages and green Orthodox Church were photographed.

The next stop was at the Dojlidy fish ponds in Białystok where we did a short circular walk. Black-headed Gulls were in full breeding mode; the large colony had newly hatched chicks and the adults vigorously drove off any marauding Western Marsh Harrier or corvids. In the reeds and willows we had great views of Marsh, Sedge and Great Reed Warblers and ponds held two pairs of both Red-necked and Black-necked Grebes. The warm weather had brought out a number of dragonflies and we identified Norfolk Hawker, Hairy Dragonfly, Red-eyed Damsel and Scarce Chaser, but a diminutive small brown damsel with blue eyes needs to be researched. In some dense reeds a Little Crake called but we could not persuade it to show itself, and a huge White-tailed Eagle flew over high above the ponds being mobbed by a Eurasian Sparrowhawk and what looked like a pale buzzard. To complete the scene, Fire-bellied Toads were trying to out-call the smart green Marsh Frogs.

At a small restaurant outside Bialystok we had lunch of pancakes or dumplings accompanied by a refreshing drink. We then continued north, stopping at a small sand quarry outside the town of Tykocin. The Sand Martin colony was in full swing. We also added Northern Wheatear and found two male Tawny Pipits competing for territory.

Our final stop of the day was in Tykocin where some visited the famous synagogue whilst others crossed the River Narew and viewed the reeds and marshes where new sightings included two Eurasian Water Voles and a Berger's Clouded Yellow butterfly.

We arrived at our second hotel at Kiermusy, just outside Tykocin around 5.30pm. Having settled into our rooms, we met to complete our daily log and enjoy a typical Polish dinner after a long but fruitful day.

Day 6

Friday 20th May

South Basin of the Biebrza National Park.

Most met at 6am to drive to Knyszyn Ponds. Many of the ponds were full of water but we found one which had quite a bit of mud and there were waders present. Both Little and Common Ringed Plovers, Wood Sandpiper and Ruff were evident. A small flock of Temminck's Stints include one Little Stint. A pair of Common Teal was new for the tour, as was a single Spotted Redshank.

We returned for a nice buffet breakfast and then headed north to start our visit to the east side of the Southern Basin. We drove to Goniadz where we watched from a platform in the town which was the roof of an old restaurant. Scanning the marsh, a large raptor was found and through telescopes it was seen to be all dark with some white spots on the upper broad wings. A classic Greater Spotted Eagle. This was later followed by a Lesser Spotted Eagle for comparison. We checked the marsh from the nearby watch tower with little else new, so we headed off to Wólka Piaseczna on a secret mission. Driving along the sandy tracks, we stopped at a small river and bridge. Within minutes we heard a woodpecker call and a few moments later we were watching a pair of White-backed Woodpeckers feeding young – a close and memorable experience.

It was now time for lunch so we headed back into Goniadz and down the long straight Czar Road, seeing Eurasian Hoopoe on the way, and arriving at the restaurant Dwór Dobarz for a meats, cheeses and bread lunch. While here we checked the ponds at the back and found some amazing Common Tree Frogs in reeds and some showy Fire-bellied Toads calling.

Continuing down the Czar's Road we stopped at what is known as the elk tower but found no Elk! However the woodland edge revealed Large Tortoiseshell, Map and a scarce Clouded Apollo butterflies. Plant interest came in the form of Northern Marsh Orchid just emerging and a nice flush of the strange Blue Cow-wheat.

Our final call in this basin was at Długa Luca and the boardwalk out into the marsh. From here we heard the very distinctive song of the Aquatic Warbler and saw Eurasian Curlew, Common Snipe and Black-tailed Godwit displaying. After about an hour we left and headed into Tykocin where we checked the sand quarry and almost immediately we saw two graceful European Bee-eaters; a fitting end to an excellent day.

Back at the hotel we complete our checklists and enjoyed another typical Polish three course meal.

Day 7

Saturday 21st May

West side of the Southern Basin.

We met at 6am for a pre-breakfast walk and a visit to the bison enclosure close to the hotel before walking the tracks over the fields towards the Narew River. It was a beautiful, still and mild morning. Great Reed Warblers sang in every patch of phragmites and we also saw Sedge, Icterine and Marsh Warblers. The highlight was watching a Eurasian Hobby hunting and catching insects, which it ate in the wing,

Following breakfast we boarded the coach to spend the day on the west side of the Southern Basin. Our first call was at the Russian Fort at Osowiec where we walked along the boardwalk. At the tower we watched a stunning male white-spotted Bluethroat sing, which it did at eye level and for some time - something everyone will remember for many years. We also saw Eurasian Penduline Tit and Savi's Warbler. On the lower platform a Little Crake was continuously calling but try as we could, it eluded us.

We made a short visit to the National Park Centre before driving south, ending up at Brzotowo at lunch time where we made use of their seating, tower and hot drinks. It was particularly quiet along the river this year due to low water levels and we saw very little apart from Common Cranes, two White-tailed Eagles, displaying Black-tailed Godwits and some Green Toads.

Further south was Burzyn watchpoint where we succeeded in seeing Eurasian Elk: three animals at varying distances, one with a collar. Butterflies also featured here with sightings of Swallowtail, Small Heath and Small Copper to add to the list.

Our last stop was just before the village of Grądy-Woniecko, overlooking the River Narew. Large flocks of Black Terns fed in the distance and a Little Tern hunted the river. Just before leaving a Black Stock appeared in the sky and soared around before landing in the meadow below us, and a second then walked out of the grass to join it.

We arrived back at the hotel with plenty of time to freshen up, book our plane seats and pack before we thanked both Piotr and Mario for being such good and patient guide and driver respectively. Without Piotr's hearing and sharp eyes we would not have seen some of the species and Mario drove anywhere, at any time, without a hint of a frown.

Following the log and dinner we retired for the night in the knowledge that we were to get up early for a final try at seeing the Aquatic Warblers.

Day 8

Sunday 22nd May

Długa Luca and journey to Warsaw then London

We gathered at 5am and headed out on the bus to Długa Luca for a final attempt to see Aquatic Warbler. The morning was still and sunny with some pockets of low lying mist which was very scenic. Roe Deer were grazing in the fields and as we arrived at the boardwalk, birdsong was at a peak. Full of enthusiasm, we headed down to the platform.

Sedge Warbler song dominated the area and they would occasionally mimic Aquatic Warbler but we did not hear any genuine species song. Suddenly John spotted an Aquatic Warbler sat on a reed relatively close to the platform and most got a brief look but it disappeared. During the next hour we did not hear any more although there were a few very distant views. As we waited, we saw Red-backed and Great Grey Shrikes and displaying Black-tailed Godwit and Common Snipe. We had to set a time to leave and 15 minutes before this was due, an Aquatic Warbler appeared on a distant reed. While we watched it, the bird came closer and closer, finally sitting on top of a reed head within 20 metres of us allowing everyone to see the central crown stripe, necklace of breast spots and the tiger-striped back. What a huge relief and a happy group! We visited the Elk tower as planned: no elk but three close Common Cranes. Rob did have a Eurasian Elk cross the road in front of him earlier but it disappeared into the reed bed.

Flushed with success we returned to the hotel for breakfast and final packing, leaving around 10.30am for our journey back to Warsaw and our flight to London. En route we saw Montagu's Harriers and a Common Goldeneye on a fish pond. We stopped at a roadside restaurant where we ate our packed lunches with tea, coffee and beer to drink, and then we continued on to Warsaw.

We arrived at the airport in good time despite the Sunday afternoon Warsaw traffic and bid fond farewells to Piotr and Mario who had served us well throughout the week. Check-in was simple and the flight was on time so we were soon back in London where we all went our separate ways after a productive and enjoyable visit to the forests and marshes of eastern Poland.

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Species List

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

	Common name	Scientific name	May								
			15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
1	Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>				✓	4	✓	✓		
2	Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>	10		3	✓	✓	1	✓		
3	Whooper Swan	<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>						4			
4	Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>				8					
5	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
6	Northern Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>				15					
7	Garganey	<i>Anas querquedula</i>				2		1			
8	Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>						2			
9	Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>				4					
10	Ferruginous Duck	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>				1					
11	Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>					6				
12	Common Goldeneye	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>								1	
13	Grey Partridge	<i>Perdix perdix</i>							2		
14	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>					1				
15	Red-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps grisegena</i>					3				
16	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>				3	✓				
17	Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>					3				
18	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>			1				2		
19	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
20	Eurasian Bittern	<i>Botaurus stellaris</i>					H				
21	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	2	1	1	5	✓	2	✓	1	
22	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>				10		1	3		
23	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>				1					
24	European Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>			2	1					
25	Lesser Spotted Eagle	<i>Clanga pomarina</i>		3	2	4	3	1			
26	Greater Spotted Eagle	<i>Clanga clanga</i>						1			
27	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>	1			1	1				
28	Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	5	1	2	5	6	✓	✓	✓	
29	Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>	2					1	1	2	
30	White-tailed Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>		1			1		2		
31	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	✓	5	✓	6	✓	✓	✓	✓	
32	Water Rail	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>								H	
33	Corn Crake	<i>Crex crex</i>		H	H						
34	Little Crake	<i>Porzana parva</i>					H		H		
35	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>						1	2		
36	Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>				✓	✓	✓			
37	Common Crane	<i>Grus grus</i>	7	1	1		2	6	20	3	
38	Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	✓	1	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
39	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>						3			
40	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>						4	2		
41	Eurasian Woodcock	<i>Scolopax rusticola</i>			1						
42	Great Snipe	<i>Gallinago media</i>			5						
43	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>		7	✓	✓		✓	1	✓	
44	Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>						2	✓	✓	
45	Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>						4		H	
46	Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>						1			
47	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>	2			2	1	2	✓	2	
48	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>							2		

	Common name	Scientific name	May							
			15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
49	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>						6		
50	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>						1		
51	Temminck's Stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>						7		
52	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>						1		
53	Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>						6		
54	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	✓	1	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
55	Caspian Gull	<i>Larus cachinnans</i>						5		
56	Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>							1	1
57	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	1	1	2	1	1	4	3	2
58	Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>				✓	✓	✓		
59	White-winged Tern	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>				✓	✓	✓		
60	Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>	15			✓	✓	✓	✓	
61	Rock Dove (Feral)	<i>Columba livia 'feral'</i>	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓
62	Stock Dove	<i>Columba oenas</i>	1			1		2		
63	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
64	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
65	Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>		1	1	2	H	4	2	2
66	Tawny Owl	<i>Strix aluco</i>		1	H		1			
67	Eurasian Pygmy Owl	<i>Glaucidium passerinum</i>				1				
68	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
69	European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>						2		
70	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>				H		1	1	
71	Eurasian Wryneck	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>		2	1	1		H		
72	Middle Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos medius</i>		3	3		1			
73	White-backed Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos leucotos</i>					H	2		
74	Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>	1	5	3	3	✓			
75	Eurasian Three-toed Woodpecker	<i>Picoides tridactylus</i>			1					
76	Black Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus martius</i>		1	3	1		1		
77	European Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>				1	H	H	H	H
78	Grey-headed Woodpecker	<i>Picus canus</i>		1	1					
79	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	3				1	1		
80	Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>	1						1	
81	Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>	2	✓	✓	✓	✓	1	2	3
82	Great Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius excubitor</i>		1	2	1		1	2	1
83	Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>		✓		H	1	✓	3	H
84	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>		✓	3	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
85	Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	✓		1	1	3	✓	✓	✓
86	Spotted Nutcracker	<i>Nucifraga caryocatactes</i>				H				
87	Russian Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula soemmerringii</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
88	Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
89	Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	✓	1	1	✓	2	✓	✓	
90	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	✓	✓	5	1	2	6	4	2
91	Marsh Tit	<i>Poecile palustris</i>					2			
92	Willow Tit	<i>Poecile montanus</i>		1						
93	Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
94	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
95	Eurasian Penduline Tit	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>				2			1	
96	Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>		1	1	2				
97	Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
98	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	✓	1			✓	✓	✓	
99	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

	Common name	Scientific name	May							
			15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
100	Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
101	Long-tailed Tit (white-headed)	<i>Aegithalos caudatus caudatus</i>		2		1				
102	Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	H	H	H	✓	✓	1	H	H
103	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	H	1	1	✓	✓	H		
104	Wood Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>		✓	✓	✓				
105	Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>		4	✓	✓	✓	3	✓	✓
106	Aquatic Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus paludicola</i>						H		2
107	Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>		1	3		✓	4	✓	5
108	Eurasian Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>		1	1					
109	Marsh Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus palustris</i>		1	1	1	3		1	
110	Icterine Warbler	<i>Hippolais icterina</i>		✓	H	H	1	3	2	1
111	Common Grasshopper Warbler	<i>Locustella naevia</i>			H					H
112	River Warbler	<i>Locustella fluviatilis</i>		1	H		1			
113	Savi's Warbler	<i>Locustella luscinioides</i>			2	2	2	H	1	
114	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	H	✓	✓	✓	✓	H	H	H
115	Barred Warbler	<i>Sylvia nisoria</i>			2	2				
116	Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia curruca</i>		3	2	1	1	2	2	1
117	Common Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>	1	2	✓	✓	✓	✓	H	
118	Common Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapilla</i>				H				
119	Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>					H			
120	Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>		H	✓	H				
121	Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>		5	3	1	✓			
122	Eurasian Treecreeper	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>		2	2	1	✓			
123	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
124	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
125	Fieldfare	<i>Turdus pilaris</i>	✓	✓	✓	3	✓	✓	✓	✓
126	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	1	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
127	Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>	1	1	1	1	1			
128	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>		✓	✓	✓	2	1	1	
129	European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>		3	✓	✓		2		
130	Bluethroat (White-spotted)	<i>Luscinia svecica cyanecula</i>							2	
131	Thrush Nightingale	<i>Luscinia luscinia</i>	H	2	H	1	H	H	H	H
132	European Pied Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>						H		
133	Collared Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula albicollis</i>		✓	✓	2	✓			
134	Red-breasted Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula parva</i>			1					
135	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	1	1
136	Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>	1	1			2	2	2	1
137	Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>	2	✓	✓	✓	✓			
138	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>					4	1		
139	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
140	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
141	Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>			H	2				
142	Blue-headed Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava flava</i>	2			2	4	6	✓	3
143	Citrine Wagtail	<i>Motacilla citreola</i>				1				
144	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
145	Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>					2			
146	Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>						3	1	4
147	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>		1	2		1			
148	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
149	Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>	3	✓	✓	3	✓		1	
150	Common Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus erythrinus</i>	H	3	10	✓	✓	H	✓	2

	Common name	Scientific name	May							
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151	European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
152	Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
153	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	✓	2	2	✓	✓	✓	✓	
154	European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>	1	H	H	H				
155	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>		4	✓	2	✓	✓	✓	
156	Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
157	Common Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>		2	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mammals										
1	Eurasian Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>		3	1					
2	Eurasian Water Vole	<i>Arvicola amphibius</i>					2			
3	European Hare	<i>Lepus europaeus</i>				2	1	1	2	
4	Eurasian Water Shrew	<i>Neomys fodiens</i>					1			
5	Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>					1			1
6	European Pine Marten	<i>Martes martes</i>			1					
7	Eurasian Elk	<i>Alces alces</i>							3	1
8	European Roe Deer	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>	2			1	1	1	4	2
9	Red Deer	<i>Cervus elaphus elaphus</i>		1	10	4	6		2	
10	European Bison	<i>Bison bonasus</i>		4			1			

Amphibians & Reptiles

Common Frog, *Rana temporaria*

Pool Frog, *Pelophylax lessonae*

European Green Toad, *Pseudepidalea viridis*

Pond Slider, *Trachemys scripta* (Escape)

Marsh Frog, *Pelophylax ridibundus*

Common Tree Frog, *Hyla arborea*

European Fire-bellied Toad, *Bombina bombina*

Grass Snake, *Natrix natrix*

Butterflies & Moths

Swallowtail, *Papilio machaon*

Small White, *Pieris rapae*

Orange Tip, *Anthocharis cardamines*

Brimstone, *Gonepteryx rhamni*

Large Tortoiseshell, *Nymphalis polychloros*

Painted Lady, *Vanessa cardui*

Map Butterfly, *Araschnia levana*

Dingy Skipper, *Erynnis tages*

Tau Emperor, *Aglaia tau*

Common Carpet, *Epirrhoe alternata*

Speckled Yellow, *Pseudopanthera macularia*

Burnet Companion, *Euclidia glyphica*

Clouded Apollo, *Parnassius mnemosyne*

Green-veined White, *Pieris napi*

Berger's Clouded Yellow, *Colias australis*

Small Copper, *Lycaena phlaeas*

Peacock Butterfly, *Inachis io*

Small Tortoiseshell, *Aglaia urticae*

Small Heath, *Coenonympha pamphilus*

Small Skipper, *Thymelicus sylvestris*

Flame Carpet, *Xanthorhoe designata*

Latticed Heath, *Chiasmia clathrata*

Mother Shipton, *Callistege mi*

Plants & other taxa of note

Wood Anemone, *Anemone nemorosa*

Toothwort, *Lathraea squamaria*

Ramsons, *Allium ursinum*

Blue Cow-wheat, *Melampyrum nemorosum*

Common Winter Damsel, *Sympecma fusca*

Large Redeye, *Erythromma najas*

Hairy Hawker, *Brachytron pratense*

Common Cockchafer, *Melolontha melolontha*

Scorpion Fly sp.

Hairy Shieldbug, *Dolycoris baccarum*

Fire bug, *Pyrrhocoris apterus*

Wood Stitchwort, *Stellaria nemorum*

Lily-of-the-Valley, *Convallaria majalis*

Northern Marsh Orchid, *Dactylorhiza purpurella*

European Hornet, *Vespa crabro*

Beautiful Demoiselle, *Calopteryx virgo*

Green-eyed Hawker, *Anaciaeschna isoceles*

Four-spotted Chaser, *Libellula quadrimaculata*

Dor Beetle sp. *Geotrupidae*

Great Green Bush Cricket nymph, *Tettigonia viridissima*

Raft Spider, *Dolomedes fimbriatus*

A spider, *Araniella displicata*