

Poland in Spring

Naturetrek Tour Report

13 – 20 May 2018



Red-backed Shrike by David Gymer



European Bison by Paul Gymer



Clouded Apollo by Paul Gymer



Chequered Skipper by David Gymer

Report compiled by Peter J Dunn
Images courtesy of David and Paul Gymer



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Tour participants: Peter Dunn (leader), Oliwier Myka (local guide) & Robert (driver)
with 16 Naturetrek clients

Day 1

Sunday 13th May

Journey from London – Warsaw to Białoweiza

We had a surprisingly quick getaway because as soon as the gate was announced, boarding started, so Peter met most of the group on the plane. The flight was smooth and quick and we landed in Warsaw ahead of time. Swiftly through border control and bags collected, we exited the arrivals to be greeted by Oliwier and two group members who had already spent a week in Poland.

A nice-sized 32 seater bus arrived, driven by Robert, and we headed out of Warsaw, west towards Belarus. We had to bypass our usual restaurant because of a communion party, but found an equally obliging one at Brok where we had cucumber soup and a roast chicken dinner. We also had our first special birds when two Honey Buzzards flew over, and both Common Redstart and Serin were singing.

As the weather was good and rain was predicted for the next few days, we decided to go straight to Białoweiza and dine early in order to try for Pygmy Owl afterwards. During the journey we recorded White-tailed Eagle, Common Buzzard, Marsh Harrier and a nice male Montagu's Harrier, with three Common Cranes flying high over some woods.

We arrived at our comfortable family-run hotel where rooms were sorted and we gathered for dinner at 6pm. Later most went out to the 'place of power' or 'magic place' (Miejsce Mocy) where we crossed the railway line and walked the forest track. Not far down the track a woodpecker started to call and Oliwier knew we were close to a Middle Spotted Woodpecker nest. Sure enough, there it was in a large tree. Knowing the best location, we moved back and the bird arrived at the nest with food, and then left back into the big tree – a great start! Oliwier tried to imitate the Pygmy Owl but it was either not there today or was not being fooled.

Returning to the railway line we saw two Red Deer crossing, a Woodcock flew over 'roding', and a large bat was hunting overhead. We drove back to the hotel, arriving at 9pm with thoughts of a 6am start and all fired up for what tomorrow would bring.

Day 2

Monday 14th May

Białoweiza Forest area

At odds with the local weather forecast, we gathered after coffee at 6am in bright sunshine for our first walk around Białoweiza. We headed north out of the village to fields which overlook the Strict Reserve and were immediately into birds. A male Red-backed Shrike showed nicely and a male Barred Warbler sang close by. There seems to be some symbiosis with these species as you regularly find them close together. More familiar were Corn Bunting and Yellowhammer, the former struggling in parts of the UK, and the songs of both Common and Black Redstarts could be compared. Whinchat song was not familiar to many, and the characteristic singing of Woodlark was heard with birds sitting, to be 'grilled' with telescopes, on wires overhead. As we turned to head back into the village a distant Great Grey Shrike was seen and Golden Oriole song echoed from the woodland but alas it not seen.

We walked to a tower close to the river in the village and had great views of another Barred Warbler and a Wryneck preening out in the open. Great Reed, Sedge and Savi's Warblers sang in the marsh, the former showing well, and we thought we could hear a distant River Warbler. We went to look for it but there was no more sound or sight, however a bright red male Common Rosefinch was well seen through telescopes. We walked along the marsh path and arrived back in the Main Street only a short distance from the hotel and in time for breakfast

After a typical Polish continental breakfast, we boarded the bus to search for woodpeckers. But first we picked up Arek, an old friend of Naturetrek, to go to a Pygmy Owl site. Whilst Arek went to look for the best way to view, Oliwier began making owl calls and suddenly, right above us, a male appeared and started to sing. The whole group were amazed and also grateful for the chance to see such a vicious little hunter so close, getting unwanted attention from Marsh and Crested Tits and Chaffinches.

From here we went to check out a White-backed Woodpecker nest site and almost immediately a female came in with food, followed a little later by the male. We watched from a safe distance so not to disturb the birds. Next we visited a good area for Three-toed Woodpecker where there was a lot of dying spruce. On the walk there we saw a nice Camberwell Beauty and a tiny Map butterflies. It didn't take long before we were watching a female Three-toed Woodpecker working the dead trees, bashing bark off to hunt for grubs. We then tried for Nutcracker but they failed to appear, however there was much interest in the Lepidoptera when we found Checkered and Northern Checkered Skippers, Green Hairstreak and lots of fresh Maps. Walking back we found a dead Slow Worm and some saw a live one.

We decided to check the Narew valley just outside the town before lunch, which proved beneficial. First an Icterine Warbler was seen, and a Red-backed Shrike was in the marsh bushes. A Marsh Harrier quartered the reedbed and two Lesser Spotted Eagles soared in the increasing wind, their wing shape and flight aiding identification. A River Warbler started to sing and with Oliwier's sharp eyes, it was tracked down to some small willow trees where we got good telescope views. The Icterine Warbler showed again and we heard (but didn't see) our first Thrush Nightingale. This had been a great start and we headed back to the hotel to eat golabki, literally translated is little pigeon breast, which is meat and rice wrapped in cabbage leaves.

After eating we loaded back onto the bus and headed out towards Budy. As we arrived at our first stop the heavens opened with a short heavy shower, causing us to take shelter under trees. It was soon over and became warm as we arrived at the dead trees on the Budy Bridge. We were greeted with a loud chorus from the bright green Marsh Frogs, which made it difficult to locate and call any woodpeckers. However a Grey-headed Woodpecker responded and eventually, after a few fly-rounds, landed in an open tree for all to admire through the telescope. While all this was going on, a huge Black Woodpecker flew over and two male Collared Flycatchers competed for the attentions of a female. Over the water flew Sedgling damselflies and a Banded Demoiselle was newly hatched in the sedges.

We headed back to the coach, finding Firecrest along the way and stopped at another track, where we walked to a tree with a huge hole - a Black Woodpecker nest. We got set up far enough away so as not to disturb the bird and, almost immediately, a bird poked its head out and flew off, uttering the distinctive flight call. As we waiting for any further sightings the sky darkened and we heard the distant roll of thunder, so we headed back to the coach to try another area. The shower was short lived as we drove to the south side of Bialoweza, to a bridge

over the Narew River. The area was alive with Sedge Warblers and Reed Buntings but no sign of a Bluethroat which had been reported, although we did have great views of a Common Snipe 'singing' from a fence post. As we walked back towards the coach a Thrush Nightingale had been located alongside the track and we got good clear views as it sang from an open branch. A great way to end our day!

That evening we met at 6:30pm to complete our checklists for the last two days, followed by another traditional Polish dinner. We had an early rise tomorrow so most retired to bed early.

Day 3

Tuesday 15th May

Siemianówka Reservoir area

Everyone was up early for coffee or tea before our walk at 5am to look for Bison, however there was quite a thick mist and visibility was low. We walked along the tracks, checking the meadows to the east and back to the west without any success. Oliwier checked some other fields. We did hear plenty of singing Golden Orioles but again not seen, and saw Woodlark and Red-backed Shrike. We headed to the Palace Park rear entrance where we saw Common Treecreepers, a nice male Collared Flycatcher and some saw a Crested Tit. Walking through the park we encountered Red Squirrel and Fieldfare, and also found the reported Greenish Warbler singing strongly near to the accommodation block. It was obliging, allowing telescope views. There was not much on the lake itself, but we had good views of singing Great Reed Warblers and Common Rosefinch. We slowly made our way back to the Unikat for breakfast at 8am

We left at 9am, armed with packed lunches and drove to Siemianówka, via the village of Czyże where we stopped next to a stand of trees. Immediately we could hear the distinctive 'Beethoven's 5th' notes of at least two singing Ortolan Buntings and it wasn't long before the sharp eyes of the group had one male singing from a bare tree and great telescope views. An over-flying Common Buzzard alerted us to another soaring bird and we were watching a superb Black Stork – most unexpected. After our first Blue-headed Yellow Wagtail, we set off again for the reservoir.

Driving along the roads in bright sunshine and the early start made for tired eyes, but it was lucky Rachael and Peter were awake as they spotted and huge male Bison grazing in a cultivated field near to Rabinowka. A hasty stop and reverse and the excited group were stood admiring this huge beast, which also attracted the attention of passing lorry drivers and cyclists who all stopped. This was a day of the unexpected!

We stopped at Siemieniakowszczyzna to admire and photograph the sign and check for raptors, but there was only a distant Common Buzzard. Then we drove down to the water works on the side of the reservoir where we spent the next three hours. All three marsh terns were present and an adult White-tailed Eagle was the first raptor seen. This was followed by both Greater and Lesser Spotted Eagles and Marsh Harriers. A Penduline Tit was seen by most, but singing Marsh Warblers would not reveal themselves. Other water/marsh birds included Great Egret, Grey Heron, Tufted Duck, Gadwall, Coot, Greylag Goose and Little Tern. We ate our huge packed lunches near the tower hide, which we also took advantage of to check the reservoir. Southern Hawker, Four-Spot Chasers and various damselflies took our interest and before we left we heard two calling Corn Crakes from cover deep in the meadowsweet.

We left in the afternoon and drove to a working peat 'mine' near Świnoroje, which Oliwier said was good for waders. We had to wait a few minutes until the heavy tractors left and then we were allowed into the site. The day of the unexpected continued as almost the first bird we saw was a superb male Citrine Wagtail which flew over calling and then landed on a reed, remaining for all to see. Waders are what we had come for and we were not disappointed: up to 10 Temminck's Stints, one Little Stint, Wood Sandpipers, Ruff, Little and Common Ringed Plover and Dunlin in full breeding plumage. Common Tern flew around and a party of eight Whooper Swans, one with a yellow neck collar, were on the water. Another wagtail came into view and was a male Grey-headed or *thumbergi* Yellow Wagtail, which was later feeding alongside a Blue-headed and the Citrine Wagtails. Finally a Hoopoe was watched dispatching and eating a mole cricket, to add the icing on the cake. It had been a long but wildlife-filled day with many surprises, but it was now time to head back to the hotel for dinner. We settled back in our seats and Robert swiftly got us back to prepare for our 7pm dinner followed by the checklist.

Day 4

Wednesday 16th May

Strict Reserve, Białoweiza and Narew Valley

Breakfast was at 6.20am after which we walked to the entrance of the Strict Reserve to meet Arek by 7.30am. As we had a large group both Arek and his wife (Lucy) escorted us through the forest. Arek revealed his great knowledge and love of this Biosphere Reserve with many quips and quotes from over the years. His knowledge of the flora and fauna was immense and there were never-ending questions on plant identification, history and ecology, which he happily answered as we walked along. The commonest birds present were Chaffinch, Blackcap and Collared Flycatcher, and on the boardwalk we got good views of a 'red-throated' Red-breasted Flycatcher singing. We walked for about two and a half hours, arriving back at the huge Jurassic-type gate by 10am and we thanked both Arek and Lucy for the short but detailed insight into such an important habitat.

We then walked through the Palace Park where we used the rest rooms and took refreshments from the café, after which some visited the tower over the centre with views over the park and surrounding woodland. The singing Greenish Warbler was still present and seen by a couple of group members.

Lunch was at noon which consisted of typical Polish beetroot soup (borsch) followed by Russian dumplings (a sort of pierogi of cheese and potato) and meat-filled ones. At 1pm we boarded the coach and drove to the far side of the village to a site called Wysokie Bagno (High Bog) to look for Lesser Spotted Woodpecker. We failed on this mission and had to run back to the coach as a heavy shower came over. Because it was raining we went to the tower hide to shelter and view the area, where Marsh Tits were busily gathering food for young and we could hear both Corn Crake and River Warbler singing.

We left here with it still raining and the majority were dropped off at the town tower hide where we enjoyed sightings of Barred Warbler and Red-backed Shrike, and could hear Savi's Warbler singing, whilst others went back to the hotel. Free time was then spent on various activities until we all met up for dinner at 5.30pm.

After dinner, taking sufficient waterproof gear and wellies with us in the coach, we went to the Narew River valley north of Hajnówka to visit a Great Snipe lek. It was overcast and the light was low so we had to get to the site quickly. Walking down we heard River Warbler and Thrush Nightingale, and a fine male Marsh Harrier sailed close by. We stood quietly, looking over the tall grass to a slightly raised bank of flag irises and occasionally we could hear the clicking of bills. Activity was very low and only one group member and a leader managed to see a

Great Snipe fly a short distance over the grass. Two Woodcock flew low over the marsh causing a bit of excitement, but as we strained our eyes into the ever-increasing gloom, the clicking sounds stopped and apart from a very close reeling Grasshopper Warbler and two to three Corn Crakes calling, we failed to see any more movement before dark. We made our way single file back to the waiting bus and Robert safely transported us back to the Unikat for 10pm and time for bed.

Day 5

Thursday 17th May

Białoweiza to Biebrza

This was our change-over day to Biebrza and the forecast was not too good, so a pre-breakfast walk wasn't arranged although some did venture out before the rain started. We had breakfast and then completed the checklist for yesterday. Then some went with Oliwier to try for Corn Crake and nearly succeeded, whilst others visited the town tower hide or relaxed at the hotel. We left at 10.15am and drove to the "dead forest" near to Budy Bridge for a last attempt at finding Lesser Spotted Woodpecker in the rain, but only succeeded in spotting Collared Flycatcher and Marsh Harrier. With the rain becoming heavier we set off towards Bialystok, pausing briefly in the village of Trześcianka where the quaint Belarus-style cottages and green Orthodox Church were photographed in heavy rain.

We arrived near Bialystok at lunch time and had a chicken dinner in a nice restaurant on the outskirts. Then we headed for Dojlidy fish ponds in Bialystok, where we did the circular walk in improving weather. Black-headed Gulls were in full breeding mode and Bitterns were booming, some quite close but not seen. Red-necked Grebes in full summer plumage were on three ponds and, unusually, a summer plumaged Black-throated Diver was sat on its own. Peter and a few clients located a calling Little Crake, which was eventually seen by most of us later. The far pool held a large flock, mainly of male Mallard with a Shoveler, a Pintail and a Common Pochard tagging along. Up to four Caspian Gulls fed on this pool and two adult Baltic Gulls (Lesser Black-backed) flew over.

We set off from the ponds and negotiated the traffic around Bialystok, heading for our hotel at Goniądz. We checked a flooded field near Zygmunta Augusto where there were Little Ringed Plover, Lapwing and two Whooper Swans.

We arrived at our hotel around 6pm, checked in and had a nice dinner in the huge restaurant on site. We completed the day's checklist and talked through the itinerary for Friday before retiring to bed.

Day 6

Friday 18th May

South Basin of the Biebrza National Park

Most met at 6am to walk to a roof top viewpoint, where we spent some time looking over a some large flooded meadows and the Biebrza river, teeming with Black and Whiskered Terns with a few White-winged Terns for good measure. A male Roe Deer was the only mammal on view when we arrived, but Lucy spotted something in a pool of water which suddenly dived. It was a Beaver but it did not come up into view. One or two Common Cranes fed in the meadow and we watched a changeover in the White Stork's nest close by and could see four chicks. We also saw a Black Stork fly east over the marsh. We walked to the bridge over the river and could see

the beaver lodge close to where Lucy had seen the animal, but there were no further sightings. Black-tailed Godwits and Redshank displayed, while Common Cranes marched proudly through the meadows.

We returned for a nice buffet breakfast and then headed towards the west side of the Biebrza south basin. Our first port of call was a walk along the road out of Mścichy. On this warm day with cooling winds we were no sooner out of the coach when we found a beautiful singing male white-spotted Bluethroat. The bird performed well for the photographers. Other things seen along this walk included Black-tailed Godwit, Redshank and Lapwing. A Swallowtail butterfly was seen and a male Citrine Wagtail was glimpsed twice before settling on top of a dead bush for good views. Finally, on the way a back to the coach, a Great Grey Shrike was viewed through the telescopes.

We called into Brzostowo but sadly the elderly farmer who had previously allowed access to his field and tower had died last winter and his family decided not to continue, so the site was now shut, however we could view from the road and found a good number of Garganey, plenty of all three marsh terns, and Ruff in breeding plumage. An adult White-tailed Eagle soared over the far wood and a first-summer Little Gull was added to the list.

Lunch time approached so while the weather was good we headed to Burzyn, where we scanned the large flooded area of meadows from our raised position whilst we ate our packed lunches. At least six Elk were visible but quite distant, and we saw more herons, ducks and wader species, including a Greenshank.

The afternoon forecast was for wind and rain but the latter never appeared, so we headed round to the east side of the southern basin with the first stop at Zajki, where a good population of breeding White-winged Terns could be seen and photographed, and Fire-bellied Toads called from their hideouts in the reeds.

As we were to pass Długa Luca we took a chance with the gusty wind to walk the Aquatic Warbler boardwalk. We could hear them calling and singing, and saw a couple in song flight. A few saw one briefly perched but because of the wind, viewing was not good so we promised to return the next day. We called at the tower hide at the other side of the marsh where more Elk were seen, and we found Blue Cow-wheat, quite a few Clouded Apollo butterflies (one which was marked 102) and a nice Common Clubtail dragonfly.

We returned via Wólka Piaseczna, scanning the fields as we went, but only found Northern Raven. We arrived back at our Hotel at 5.15pm where we prepared for dinner at 6.30pm, followed by a briefing for the next day and the checklist.

Day 7

Saturday 19th May

Northern and Southern Basins & Tykocin

We met for a pre-breakfast walk at 6am and walked from the hotel, following the river to the bridge. It was relatively quiet and a little cool in the overcast conditions. No Elk were seen from the hotel this year but cranes, storks, herons, egrets and the breeding Black Terns entertained us. We headed back to the hotel early to warm up and have breakfast early.

At 9am we headed out on the coach, stopping briefly in Goniądz for souvenirs and then on to the old Russian fort at Osowiec. Here the sun came out and we walked the boardwalk which was alive with damsel and dragonflies: mainly Blue-tails or Variable Damsels, but also both Banded and Beautiful Demoiselles. Various dragonflies were seen and photographed including Hairy Dragonfly and both Dark and Yellow-spotted White-faced Darters. On the bird list we saw a Penduline Tit attending a nest and another Bluethroat, and heard two Marsh Warblers. With all the assorted invertebrates to see and photograph, we took over two hours to complete the whole boardwalk.

Next we headed south towards Tykocin, stopping for a short while to see the White-tailed Eagles at Zygmunt Augusta reservoir. There were at least six of different ages, and also a nice party of Common Cranes flew overhead. Arriving in Tykocin, we ate our packed lunch in the town 'square' after which some went to see the synagogue whilst others watched a very obliging Marsh Warbler at the bridge over the river.

After being suitably refreshed, we headed south out of the town to a sand quarry where, to our surprise, we found ten European Bee-eaters. Sometimes one or two pairs nest here and none had been reported this year, so to find this number was a red letter day! We could not find any Tawny Pipits, which was one of the prizes here, but a stop on sandy heathland at Piaski and this was the first bird – sat on telephone wires. Also here we had some close Great Grey Shrikes and a recent hatch of Small Pearl-bordered Fritillaries.

Our final stop was back at Długa Luca to try for the Aquatic Warblers again as the wind was starting to decrease. After a nerve-racking wait, birds began to sing and most were able to see one through the telescope. We were all happy, so headed back to the hotel for a 7pm dinner.

Following our meal Peter paid thanks to Richard, our safe and obliging driver who managed to get the coach to every location, and Oliwier the local guide for serving us so well and finding all the sought-after species. He presented them each with a 'thank-you' envelope. Their caring nature and sense of humour was something everyone would take away with them. On behalf of the group, Nigel thanked Peter for his organisation and leadership. Because of a competing lively party, we then adjoined to the conference centre where we completed our final day's checklist and Peter outlined the departure details and checked some in for their flight home. The party in the restaurant continued and some joined the welcoming locals to celebrate a birthday in traditional song and dance!

Day 8

Sunday 20th May

Southern Basin and journey to Warsaw then London

It was a casual start this morning with people doing their own thing in their own time. From the garden, Common Cranes and an overflying Montagu's Harrier were seen.

Following breakfast we loaded the bags and boarded the coach, leaving at 9am. We took the road down the west side of the southern basin and first stop was the watchpoint at Burzyn. Oliwier had some information and on scanning the flooded fields, he located a Little Egret: quite scarce for Poland. The bird fed with lots of Great Egrets and stood close to Grey Herons to show the size. No Elk this time but we saw Marsh Harrier and White-tailed Eagle. As we left a Tawny Pipit was calling but we could not find it. We continued south and stopped at a new site in the village of Sieburczyn. There was a nice road down to the river with a fantastic view of the

marshes. We picked out a Black Stork, all three marsh terns, Pochard, Garganey and Tufted Duck. Also here was our biggest count of Cormorants. With fisherman in small canoes, the scene was idyllic and the weather also matched this with an almost cloudless sky and little wind. It was however time to move and start our journey back to Warsaw.

We stopped for lunch at the Karmiza restaurant. With reasonable Sunday traffic we made good time and dropped off two group members in the centre for an extended stay in the city. At the airport the rest of us bid farewell to Robert who had driven us well and a new good friend Olivier who was staying on in Warsaw to continue his studies at the university. We only had a short time to wait before checking in. Our plane was on time and we were soon heading back to London, landing slightly ahead of time. We bid farewell to each other after a very successful and friendly visit to some of the best wildlife watching in Poland.

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Eurasian Pygmy Owl by David Gymer

Species List

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

	Common name	Scientific name	May							
			13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1	Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>			✓			✓	✓	✓
2	Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>			1			✓	✓	✓
3	Whooper Swan	<i>Cygnus Cygnus</i>			8		2			
4	Garganey	<i>Spatula querquedula</i>						25	2	1
5	Northern Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>					1	2		
6	Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>			✓		2	3		1
7	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
8	Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>					1			
9	Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>						2		
10	Common Pochard	<i>Aythya farina</i>					1			5
11	Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>			4			2		2
12	Common Goldeneye	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>			3		1			
13	Grey Partridge	<i>Perdix perdix</i>			1					
14	Common Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>		H						
15	Black-throated Diver	<i>Gavia arctica</i>					1			
16	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>					H			
17	Red-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps grisegena</i>					3			
18	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>			2		3	2		1
19	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>			1			1		1
20	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
21	Eurasian Bittern	<i>Botaurus stellaris</i>					H	H		
22	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	1		✓	1	2	✓	✓	✓
23	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>			✓			✓	✓	✓
24	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>								1
25	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>						1		10
26	European Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>	2			1		1	1	
27	Lesser Spotted Eagle	<i>Clanga pomarina</i>		2	2			1		
28	Greater Spotted Eagle	<i>Clanga clanga</i>			1					
29	Northern Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>			1					
30	Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	1	1	✓	1	6	5	6	✓
31	Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>	1				1	1	3	1
32	White-tailed Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>					1	1	6	1
33	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	3	1	✓	1		1	3	✓
34	Corn Crane	<i>Crex crex</i>		H	H	H	H			
35	Little Crane	<i>Porzana parva</i>					1			
36	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>					1	1		
37	Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>			1		2	5	✓	✓
38	Common Crane	<i>Grus grus</i>	3				2	11		10
39	Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	✓	1			4	✓	✓	✓
40	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>			2					
41	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>			3		2	2		
42	Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>						✓	1	1
43	Ruff	<i>Calidris pugnax</i>			5			✓		3
44	Temminck's Stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>			10					
45	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>			10					
46	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>			1					
47	Eurasian Woodcock	<i>Scolopax rusticola</i>	2			3				

	Common name	Scientific name	May							
			13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
48	Great Snipe	<i>Gallinago media</i>				1				
49	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>		✓		2	2	4	2	✓
50	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>						1	2	
51	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>		1						
52	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa tetanus</i>			1			✓	1	
53	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>			15			2	3	
54	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>						1		
55	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>			✓		-3	✓	✓	✓
56	Little Gull	<i>Hydrocoloeus minutus</i>						1	3	
57	Caspian Gull	<i>Larus cachinnans</i>					4	1		
58	Lesser Black-backed Gull (Baltic)	<i>Larus fuscus fuscus</i>					2			
59	Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>			1					
60	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>			✓		1	✓		2
61	Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>			✓			✓	✓	✓
62	White-winged Tern	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>			✓			✓	✓	✓
63	Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>			✓		4	✓	✓	✓
64	Rock Dove (Feral)	<i>Columba livia 'feral'</i>			✓		✓		✓	✓
65	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
66	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
67	Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	✓	1	1	H	H	2	1	1
68	Eurasian Pygmy Owl	<i>Glaucidium passerinum</i>		1						
69	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
70	European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>							10	
71	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>			1			1	1	
72	Eurasian Wryneck	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>		1		H	2			
73	Eurasian Three-toed Woodpecker	<i>Picoides tridactylus</i>		1						
74	Middle Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocoptes medius</i>	1	1						
75	Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>	✓	1	H	3			1	
76	White-backed Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos leucotos</i>		2	1					
77	Black Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus martius</i>		2					1	
78	Grey-headed Woodpecker	<i>Picus canus</i>		1		H	H			
79	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>				1	1		1	
80	Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>		1						
81	Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>		6	2	4	✓	2	1	1
82	Great Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius excubitor</i>		1				1	3	
83	Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>		H		H	H	1	H	
84	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>		1	✓	1	1		✓	
85	Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	✓	1			✓	✓	✓	✓
86	Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
87	Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
88	Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	✓		1		✓	✓	✓	✓
89	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	2	2	1			4	4	1
90	Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>		H					H	
91	European Crested Tit	<i>Lophophanes cristatus</i>		1	1					
92	Marsh Tit	<i>Poecile palustris</i>		6	2	2				
93	Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
94	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
95	Eurasian Penduline Tit	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>			1		H		1	
96	Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>		4	2	1				
97	Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	2	2	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
98	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>		1	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓

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			13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
99	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
100	Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
101	Long-tailed Tit (Northern)	<i>Aegithalos caudatus caudatus</i>			2		H		2	
102	Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>		H	2	✓		✓	✓	H
103	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita abietinus</i>		H	H	✓	H	✓	1	H
104	Wood Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>		1	H	3				
105	Greenish Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochiloides</i>			1	1				
106	Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>		6	✓	5	✓	✓	H	H
107	Aquatic Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus paludicola</i>						3	3	
108	Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>	✓	✓	2	✓	✓	✓		
109	Eurasian Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>		H			H		✓	
110	Marsh Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus palustris</i>			2		H		1	
111	Icterine Warbler	<i>Hippolais icterina</i>		1	H	H		H		
112	Common Grasshopper Warbler	<i>Locustella naevia</i>				H		1	H	
113	River Warbler	<i>Locustella fluviatilis</i>		1	H	H				
114	Savi's Warbler	<i>Locustella luscinioides</i>		H		H	2	H	H	H
115	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>		1	1	✓	H	✓	✓	1
116	Garden Warbler	<i>Sylvia borin</i>			H	H	H	✓	1	
117	Barred Warbler	<i>Sylvia nisoria</i>			H	1	1			
118	Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia curruca</i>			H	2	3	✓	✓	1
119	Common Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>		1	2			1	✓	2
120	Common Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapilla</i>		1		H				
121	Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>				H				
122	Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>		H	1	H	H			
123	Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>		1	1	2				
124	Eurasian Treecreeper	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>		H	2	2				
125	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
126	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
127	Fieldfare	<i>Turdus pilaris</i>	2	2	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
128	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
129	Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>		1	2		1	2	H	
130	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>		4	1	2		1		
131	European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>		H		H				
132	Bluethroat (White-spotted)	<i>Luscinia svecica cyanecula</i>						1	1	
133	Thrush Nightingale	<i>Luscinia luscinia</i>		1	H	H	H	H	H	H
134	Collared Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula albicollis</i>		3	1	✓	2			
135	Red-breasted Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula parva</i>				1				
136	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	1	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	2
137	Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>	1	1			1	✓	1	
138	Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>		6	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	1
139	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>								1
140	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
141	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>		1	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
142	Western Yellow Wagtail (Blue-headed)	<i>Motacilla flava flava</i>			3		2	3	✓	✓
	Western Yellow Wagtail (Grey-headed)	<i>Motacilla flava thunbergi</i>			1					
143	Citrine Wagtail	<i>Motacilla citreola</i>			1			1		
144	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	1	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
145	Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>							1	H
146	Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>						3	✓	
147	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>			H	1				
148	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

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149	Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>	1	✓	✓		✓			
150	Eurasian Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula pyrrula</i>			H	1				
151	Common Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus erythrinus</i>		5	3	2	2	2	✓	
152	European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>	2	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
153	Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>	1		2	2	2	2	✓	✓
154	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
155	European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>	1	1	1	1		1	1	
156	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>		✓	✓	✓				
157	Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citronella</i>	1	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
158	Ortolan Bunting	<i>Emberiza hortulana</i>			2					
159	Common Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Mammals

1	Eurasian Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>			1					
2	Eurasian Beaver	<i>Castor fiber</i>						1		
3	European Hare	<i>Lepus europaeus</i>	1		1		1		2	2
4	Large bat sp		1							
5	Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	2		1					
6	Beech Marten	<i>Martes foina</i>		1						
7	Eurasian Elk	<i>Alces alces</i>						6		
8	European Roe Deer	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>			1			1	1	2
9	Red Deer	<i>Cervus elaphus</i>	2			2	1	1		
10	European Bison	<i>Bison bonasus</i>			1					

Odonata

1	Sedgling	<i>Nehalennia speciosa</i>		6						
2	Banded Demoiselle	<i>Calopteryx splendens</i>		1				✓	✓	✓
3	Beautiful Demoiselle	<i>Calopteryx virgo</i>			1			1	✓	
4	White Featherleg	<i>Platycnemis latipes</i>			3				1	
5	Azure Damselfly	<i>Coenagrion puella</i>		1						
6	Variable Bluet	<i>Coenagrion pulchellum</i>			✓				✓	
7	Blue-tailed Damselfly	<i>Ischnura elegans</i>			✓			✓	✓	
8	Large Red Damsel	<i>Pyrrhosoma nymphula</i>			1					
9	Green-eyed Hawker	<i>Anaciaeschna isoceles</i>						3	1	
10	Hairy Hawker	<i>Brachytron pratense</i>							1	
11	Common Clubtail	<i>Gomphus vulgatissimus</i>						1	1	
12	Downy Emerald	<i>Cordulia aenea</i>	1	1					1	
13	Dark Whiteface	<i>Leucorrhinia albifrons</i>						1	1	
14	Yellow-spotted Whiteface	<i>Leucorrhinia pectoralis</i>							1	
15	Broad-bodied Chaser	<i>Libellula depressa</i>		1				✓	✓	
16	Southern Darter	<i>Sympetrum meridionale</i>							✓	

Butterflies

1	Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>			1			1	2	
2	Clouded Apollo	<i>Parnassius mnemosyne</i>						8		
3	Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>	✓	✓						
4	Green-veined White	<i>Pieris napi</i>		✓				1	✓	
5	Brimstone	<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>		2				✓	✓	
6	Wood White	<i>Leptidea sinapis</i>		1						
7	Green Hairstreak	<i>Callophrys rubi</i>		1						

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8	Sooty Copper	<i>Lycaena tityrus</i>			3					
9	Holly Blue	<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>							1	
10	Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>						1		
11	Camberwell Beauty	<i>Nymphalis antiopa</i>		1						
12	Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>		2	✓					
13	Map Butterfly	<i>Araschnia levana</i>		8						
14	Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary	<i>Clossiana selene</i>							5	
15	Weaver's Fritillary	<i>Clossiana dia</i>						1		
16	Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>			✓					
17	Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>		✓						
18	Chequered Skipper	<i>Carterocephalus palaemon</i>		1				✓		
19	Northern Chequered Skipper	<i>Carterocephalus silvicolus</i>		1						

Amphibians & Reptiles

Common Frog, *Rana temporaria*

Natterjack Toad, *Bufo calamita*

Marsh Frog, *Pelophylax ridibundus*

Grass Snake, *Natrix natrix*

Green Toad, *Bufo viridis* (H)

European Fire-bellied Toad, *Bombina bombina* (H)

Viviparous Lizard, *Zootoca vivipara*

Slow Worm, *Anguis fragilis*

Moths

The Drinker, *Philudoria potatoria* (caterpillar)

Bordered White, *Bupalus piniaria*

Burnet Companion, *Euclidia glyphica*

Latticed Heath, *Chiasmia clathrata*

Black-veined Moth, *Siona lineata*

Other taxa of note,

Red Poplar Leaf Beetle, *Chrysomela populi*

Weaver Beetle, *Lamia textor*

Common Scorpionfly, *Panorpa communis*

Various flies, beetles, bugs and mosquitoes yet to be identified!

Dor Beetle sp., *Geotrupidae*

European Hornet, *Vespa crabro*



Melaprium nemorosum by Paul Gymer



Bracket Fungus by David Gymer



Black-veined Moth by Paul Gymer