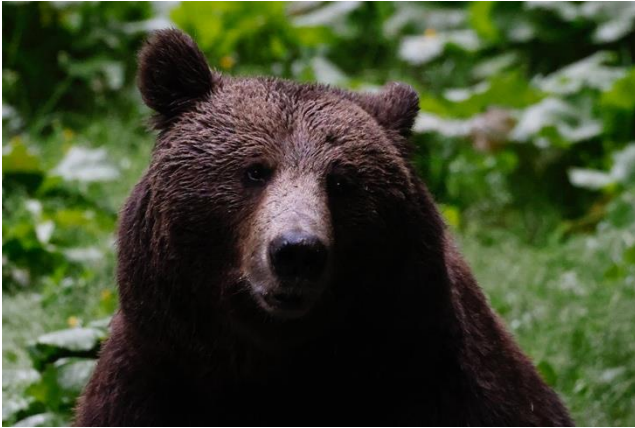


Romania – The Wildlife of Transylvania

Naturetrek Tour Report

24th – 31st May 2022



Brown Bear



Lesser Spotted Eagle



Marsh Fritillary



Fire Salamander

Tour report & images by Barrie Cooper



Naturetrek

Mingledown Barn

Wolf's Lane

Chawton

Alton

Hampshire

GU34 3HJ

UK

T: +44 (0)1962 733051

E: info@naturetrek.co.uk

W: www.naturetrek.co.uk

Tour participants: Barrie Cooper (Tour Leader) & Ionut (Local Guide) with 10 Naturetrek clients

Summary

For some people, Transylvania conjures up images of vampires and the supernatural. For people who have visited on a Naturetrek tour it conjures up memories of beautiful scenery, interesting wildlife, delicious picnics, a fascinating history and a great place for a holiday. Brown Bears are one of the priority species on this tour and nine individuals on a wet Saturday night was a highlight, as were the sightings of a couple of bears from our guesthouse. Daily sightings of Chamois, often accompanied by Roe Deer, from our guesthouse kept us entertained every morning. The countryside is rich in plant and insect life, with several orchids and a variety of butterflies seen daily. The hay meadows were a highlight for many members of the group; they seemed to be everywhere and were a reminder of what we have lost in the UK. Birds such as Yellowhammer and Red-backed Shrike have declined or gone extinct in the UK and Western Europe, but are still common here and an indication of the quality of the countryside due to low-intensity agriculture which has created a mosaic of habitats for wildlife. So, although there are no vampires in Transylvania, it is a magical place with wonderful wildlife and a countryside to support it

Day 1

Tuesday 24th May

We were scheduled to leave Heathrow at late morning, however we had a delay of 165 minutes and, eventually arrived in Bucharest airport two hours behind schedule. After collecting our luggage, we were met by Konstantin, our driver for the trip. Because of the late arrival, most of the journey to our guesthouse in the Carpathian village of Magura was in darkness, with only a couple of us seeing a Red Fox in the headlights. Tired and hungry, we finally arrived and, after a hearty meal, we retired for some very welcome sleep.

Day 2

Wednesday 25th May

As we'd had a late night only a few people rose early to see what might be around the guesthouse on this beautiful, cloudless morning. At least six Chamois were grazing on the other side of the valley and in the meadow below the guesthouse. Common and Black Redstarts, Raven and House Martin were some of the birds seen. After breakfast we met up with Ionut, our local guide, to walk down the valley. Everyone managed to get good views of at least one pair of Common Redstarts, while Fieldfare, Song Thrush and Common Buzzard were also seen. Grey Wagtails, Robins and Chaffinches added to the theme of the morning. A few interesting flowers included Green-winged and Military Orchids, while butterflies included Cardinal Fritillary, Small and Mazarine Blues. The weather forecast was for a dry day, however it can be unpredictable in the mountains and we had light rain before midday. We reached a picnic spot and, on time, Simona, accompanied by her mother Elena and sister Marie, arrived with our picnic lunch. Orange Tip and Speckled Wood butterflies flitted around while we enjoyed our fine meal.

A thirty-minute drive brought us to another picturesque valley. When going through Zarnesti we had to follow a funeral cortege. The open coffin was in the back of a pickup truck, the priest and some mourners with religious banners led the way in front of the open coffin, with most of the mourners at the rear of the cortege. It was, perhaps, an omen of what was to come during the afternoon.

It was raining when we set off on our walk but eventually dried up to bring warm sunshine. A few pairs of Grey and White Wagtails were encountered during the length of stream we walked alongside, but the birdlife was generally subdued. However, a particular highlight was the first of six Camberwell Beauty butterflies that provided good views. All six individuals were worn and probably post-hibernation. The American name for this magnificent butterfly is Mourning Cloak, hence the link with the funeral cortege we had experienced earlier. Another good find was a Montandon's Newt in the remains of what appeared to be a small side stream. Two distant Chamois on the highest part of the mountain in front of us were a bonus. Although distant, most people picked them up when the Chamois were on a patch of snow. After a very pleasant walk we returned to the minibus and returned to Zarnesti to look at a large White Stork nest on top of a building in the main street. It was difficult to work out how many young were in the nest as only one outstretched neck of a chick was seen. There were several House Martin nests on buildings around the town square and Common Swifts screeched through, as they do. We then made our way back to the guesthouse for a rest and to enjoy the late afternoon sunshine before a fine dinner.

Day 3

Thursday 26th May

A thunderstorm during the night disrupted the sleep of some of the group, however a few early-risers were rewarded with the sight of a Brown Bear on the slopes opposite the guesthouse. Frustratingly, it repeatedly moved out of view behind trees and bushes before finally disappearing completely from sight. The first bear that was seen wasn't rediscovered. A couple of Chamois and a male Roe Deer had been showing well in the meadow below the guesthouse. The highlight of a short walk down the road was a male Yellowhammer singing at the top of a tree. A male Common Redstart and a Marsh Tit also provided good views for the group.

It was a drive of over an hour to our destination near Vad where we had meadows, scattered trees and forest. We first walked into a meadow next to the car park where there were several Narcissus in flower and an abundance of Ragged Robin. The forest edge had an obliging Yellowhammer, Tree Sparrows, Great Spotted Woodpecker and a calling Hoopoe, which unfortunately didn't reveal itself. The forest had birdsong of a range of species, some of which remained elusive. We did manage decent views of Nuthatch and a few of us saw Hawfinch, but Golden Oriole and Red-breasted Flycatcher remained hidden to our view while Wood Warblers were only glimpsed. However, a Garden Warbler did show for a few seconds so that many in the group saw it. Duke of Burgundy was the most notable species of butterfly recorded in the forest.

After a pleasant walk through the forest, we returned to the minibus where Marie and Elena were waiting with our picnic lunch. Light rain began to fall while we ate and this continued, so we went for a short drive in the hope of seeing something from the minibus. A pair of Red-backed Shrikes near the road was something we hoped for and fortunately everyone saw them well. The rain eased and had passed through by the time we returned to the car park and we then enjoyed warm sunshine for the remainder of the day. We timed our return to the car park perfectly because in some dead branches at the top of a tree, a male Golden Oriole posed for several minutes providing scope views for everyone. It even perched on top of a closer tree while we were there. Over the course of fifteen minutes, those dead branches hosted Fieldfare, Tree Sparrow, Magpie and both male and female Golden Oriole. From the same spot we also had decent views of another pair of Red-backed Shrikes. We also saw a Red Fox running across a field, pause to have a look at us, before continuing across another field. A walk along the road produced more Red-backed Shrikes, Kestrel, Common Buzzard and the depressing sight of fly-tipping with a lorry dumping rubble from a demolished building on the edge of a field.

The lorry made three visits while we were walking, having already dumped rubble before we arrived. Sad to see such rich countryside being trashed in this way.

The minibus picked us up and we drove a few kilometres before a roadside stop found another target species – Lesser Spotted Eagle. One was flying close to the road before landing in a meadow where it began walking around to seek food and seemed to be taking beetles. Another Lesser Spotted Eagle then flew over us, calling and giving us excellent views before eventually disappearing. Meanwhile, the first eagle continued to walk around the meadow, giving us very pleasing views in the scope. It was the perfect way to end the day, so we drove back through Zarnesti, said goodbye to Ionut and made our way back to the guesthouse. Once it was dark, some of the group joined Barrie to take advantage of the dark, clear sky. The International Space Station was the main priority and we had a splendid pass from one horizon to the other. In addition, we observed a few satellites, constellations and notable stars.

Day 4

Friday 27th May

It was a fine sunny morning and several members of the group gathered pre-breakfast. A couple of Chamois were on the cliffs opposite the guesthouse but it was a couple of Alpine Swifts that were zipping past and reasonably close that was possibly the highlight. The local male Yellowhammer sang in full view at the top of one of the nearby trees, a good bird to hear before breakfast, particularly as it has declined in much of the UK. The Zarnesti Gorge was our destination this morning and after parking the bus before the barrier we set off on the hike. Soon after passing through the barrier, a Chamois took us by surprise when it walked across the track, stopped to look at us, and calmly walked into the forest, just thirty metres in front of us. We hadn't walked far when we found a species that was on several people's wishlists. A stunning Fire Salamander posed in full view just above the stream that passes next to the track. This beautiful yellow and black amphibian was approximately twenty centimetres long and we couldn't have asked for a more obliging individual. Further up, over twenty Alpine Swifts were whizzing through and above the gorge. Wallcreeper was our priority target but only Ian managed a brief and distant view, high up on a cliff. The rest of us had to be content with the plentiful butterflies that included Orange Tip, High Brown Fritillary and Green-veined White. We slowly made our way back down the gorge, passing an increasing number of tourists who probably had different priorities to ours.

Lunch was taken at the picnic site we had used on Wednesday and, much to our surprise, we had tables and the covered area to ourselves, despite lots of cars being parked nearby. All three ladies supplied the excellent picnic lunch today. Simona, Marie and Elena had prepared delicious food and some freshly made elderflower drink. It was difficult to drag ourselves away from the excellent lunch but a drive to Calined Valley on the other side of Zarnesti was our destination. The hot sunshine possibly suppressed some of the bird activity and even butterflies seemed relatively few. We began by walking uphill through a meadow that had a few Green-winged Orchids, Hellebores and a couple of Sand Lizards. After the morning hike some of the group decided to take it easy, relax in the meadow and enjoy the sunshine. The other half of the group continued uphill into a beech forest. Some of the birds recorded by the different groups during the afternoon included Lesser Whitethroat, Mistle Thrush, Chiffchaff, Black Redstart, Fieldfare, White Stork and Common Buzzard.

When we returned to the guesthouse, a Chamois and a male Roe Deer were grazing in the meadow below. After a short break, a few members of the group went for short walks nearby. Phil and Andrew followed their regular routine of enjoying a beer, sitting on the decking in the garden, philosophising and occasionally looking at the

gorge across the way. On this evening, they struck gold with a Brown Bear showing well and grazing between the scattered trees. Once Barrie returned with his scope, set it on the bear and gathered the troops, we enjoyed several minutes where all the group enjoyed very satisfying views of this wonderful species. The bear occasionally disappeared behind a tree, but then did the honourable thing of reappearing before eventually disappearing into the woods at the top of the gorge. Very happy with the sighting, we belatedly went to the dining room for another excellent dinner.

Day 5

Saturday 28th May

It was another fine, sunny start to the day. Cuckoo, Yellowhammer, Red-backed Shrike, five Alpine Swifts, Chamois and a female Roe Deer were some of the species seen before breakfast. Sinca Noua was our first destination today as we had a rendezvous with two horses and carts. Once everyone was onboard, we set off on a pleasant, relaxing, slow paced journey to fully appreciate some of the rich scenery of low intensity farming with meadows, tree-lined river and forest covered hills. Singing Garden Warblers and Common Whitethroats were species we would have missed from the minibus, and a Goshawk that swiftly flew over us was the real bonus of the journey by this method of transport. We eventually reached an area of hay meadows and set off for a walk through the meadows. Several singing Corn Buntings were good to hear and see perched up on bushes. The calling of Bee-eaters was heard but we couldn't see them. Golden Orioles and Red-backed Shrikes were common due to the richness of this landscape. Lesser Butterfly Orchid became more numerous the further we walked and was quite a spread in places. Butterflies included Marsh Fritillary, with several seen. After an interesting walk, we reached the meeting point where Marie and Elena were waiting with another splendid picnic lunch. They take great pride that everything we eat is fresh produce from Romania with most of it sourced locally.

The afternoon walk was through more meadows and woodland edge. The calls of Black Woodpecker were heard from the woodland and we couldn't believe our luck when a female was eventually found near the bottom of an isolated tree. She did a lot of carpentry work on the trunk in search of food and initially she was only partially visible. Fortunately, she moved to the side of the trunk facing us and with no branches or leaves obscuring the view we managed good and prolonged views. A Red-backed Shrike came to check her out and at times was just a metre away from her, but there was no interaction between the birds. A Green Woodpecker flew past and a Marsh Tit was singing while we watched the Black Woodpecker. Moving on through an area with some scattered Silver Birch, a Tree Pipit obligingly performed its parachute display a few times. Just after two o'clock the rain arrived and, although light at first, eventually became quite heavy, so we made hasty progress for the rendezvous with the minibus. Despite the early end to the walk, it was decided to drive to the guesthouse in Sinca Noua where we were due to have an early dinner. The hospitable hostess was very welcoming and provided us with home-made plum brandy and red wine. Most of the meal was composed of ingredients that she had produced on her own land. Following the meal, she gave us a guided tour of her "garden" where a good variety of vegetables were being grown, as well as a separate orchard with plum, apple and walnut trees with free range chickens roaming around. It was quite humbling to witness the hard work and planning she must do to run such a place.

We said our goodbyes to drive to another meeting place in the Stramba valley, this time with rangers who were going to take us to the bear hide. It was still raining as we made the short walk from the minibus to the hide and two bears were already around. It was almost continuous action for the two hours we were there. Nine different

bears appeared during the period of our visit, while the maximum number seen at any time was four. It was interesting to see the differences in appearance and size between each one. The largest was a twenty-five years old male, the youngest a 20-month-old cub, that had recently left its mother. The order of appearance of the bears was:

- 8 year old female
- 14 year old male
- Unidentified female
- Cub of twenty months
- 9 year old female
- 12 year old male
- 5 year old female
- 25 year old male
- 17 year old male

There are worse ways of spending a wet Saturday night. The privilege of watching bears so close will live long in the memories of everybody.

Day 6

Sunday 29th May

It was a grey, misty start to the day and the cliff face wasn't visible around breakfast time. As we drove to a lower altitude the weather improved and we only had the occasional light shower during the day. Dumbravita Lake and the fishpond system northwest of Brasov were our destination today, so it was a complete contrast to other days of the trip. During the journey, Ionut told us about the fate of the Saxons in Romania. The villages we passed through showed us Saxon and Germanic influences on the architecture. The frontages of the residences had huge wooden doors of adequate height to permit the entry of a hay-laden horse and cart. The fortified Saxon churches had a fascinating history and were remarkably well preserved.

As soon as we got off the bus at the lake, a Whinchat was showing and Linnets were flying overhead. Crossing the road to the lake, we were immediately hit by the sound of Marsh Frogs, with several showing well enough in the scope. Common Pochard and Great Crested Grebes were numerous, while a few Marsh Harriers flew low over the reedbeds, with some carrying nesting material. A Little Bittern provided an entertaining flypast and was much closer than a few Black and Whiskered Terns that were flying over the far side of the lake. We moved to a system of fishponds that were bordered with plenty of large willows and other trees and bushes which added to the diversity of species seen and heard here. Cuckoos were common and we had several sightings. Great Reed Warblers and Marsh Warblers were very vocal but characteristically difficult to see, while Sedge Warblers were slightly more obliging. Only one Purple Heron was seen, but Black-crowned Night Heron, Great and Little Egrets were rather more numerous. We then had a test of people's response times when Barrie shouted "Rosy Starlings" as a flock of forty came whizzing past and continued flying away and out of sight. Penduline Tit had been heard and when the nest was described Tricia asked "What's that" and, sure enough, the immaculate structure was found, suspended from a thin branch in a large willow. After a few minutes, one of the adults left the nest and perched briefly in the tree, before returning to the nest.

All this excitement made us a little late for our picnic lunch with Serena, Marie and Elena, but it was excellent as usual. The lunch spot was near to a singing Marsh Warbler that mimicked Tree Pipit as part of its repertoire.

Fortunately, this individual chose to sing in an area of reeds where it could be seen and, eventually, everyone had scope views of this marvellous songster. Light rain began to fall, so we made our way back to the bus and drove to another lake near the village of Rotbav. A breeding colony of Black-headed and Caspian Gulls had a Gadwall discretely settled with them. An island of low bushes held nesting Great Cormorants, Little Egret, Black-crowned Night Heron and one nest of Squacco Heron. Whiskered Terns were much closer than this morning and Marsh Warblers and Penduline Tit were vocal near the lakeside path. Interestingly, there were many more Great-crested Grebe young on this lake, compared to this morning and also several Coot families.

Eventually we had to leave for our visit to Brasov and do a bit of “cultural tourism”. We started at the old town square before Ionut led us to the Black Church which was built by the German community of the city and is the main Gothic-style monument in the country, as well as being the largest and one of the most important Lutheran places of worship in the region. It was originally a Catholic church, but this part of Europe has had a chequered history with rulers such as the Saxons, Hapsburgs and Ottoman. Following a walk inside the church, we went our separate ways to do our own tourism, have a coffee or a beer, or buy some souvenirs. It was then a seventy-minute drive back to the hotel with rain greeting us as we entered the hills.

Day 7

Monday 30th May

Thunderstorms overnight disrupted the sleep of some group members and it was still raining during breakfast, but it brightened up by the time we were due to leave. Most of the group opted for a walk near the guesthouse to explore the local area. A small minority opted to return to the Zarnesti Gorge in the hope of seeing a Wallcreeper. It took them five minutes to see one of the most charismatic birds of Europe and great views were fully appreciated. A Hummingbird Hawkmoth feeding on honeysuckle was another bonus. We all met up at the picnic site for our final rendezvous with Marie and Elena. After another fine lunch of local produce, we made our heartfelt thanks for a week of excellent lunches. It was then a short drive to Sub Barc where we enjoyed a pleasant walk up the hillside in the afternoon sunshine. Fire-bellied Toads were one of the highlights, congregating together in puddles. Ionut picked one up so we could see its beautifully patterned underparts. Red-backed Shrike was the commonest bird with individuals or pairs seemingly everywhere. One or two Red Foxes were interesting to see during the afternoon. Field Crickets, Woodland Ringlets and Orange Tips were also in good numbers. Four species of orchid were among the many plants seen. As we passed through Zarnesti we said our final goodbyes to Ionut, whose local knowledge and expertise had been invaluable during the trip. On return to the guesthouse, a Chamois was grazing in the meadow below.

Day 8

Tuesday 31st May

It was another beautiful sunny morning, so we could have a final appreciation of the excellent location of our accommodation. As always, a Chamois grazed in the meadow below but, unfortunately, there were no bears on the other side of the valley. Linnets flew over while loading our luggage, before we made the one-hour drive to Bran Castle. Simona was waiting for us when we arrived and the multi-talented lady acted as our guide through the castle. It was fascinating to learn about the history of the castle that took over one hundred years to build and was started in 1367. It was originally constructed as a border castle during the time of the Ottoman invasion and served as a link to Brasov. We also learned about Vlad the Impaler and how he was an inspiration for Bram Stoker's character of Dracula. The link between Vlad and Bran Castle seemed rather more tenuous. Most of the castle is decorated and interpreted to some of the recent history of the Romanian royal family, although there

were a few rooms linked to vampires and other myths. Simona had brought a scaled-down picnic lunch for us to enjoy in a local park, with Common and Black Redstarts as our neighbours.

We said our goodbyes to Simona and gave a formal thanks to Konstantin for driving us so safely and patiently for the last week. It was then a three-hour drive to Bucharest Airport where we said our final goodbye to Konstantin. Unfortunately our departure was delayed due to thunderstorms near the airport, but we eventually took off with the pilot carefully taking an alternative flightpath to avoid the worst of the weather. Despite the late arrival at Heathrow, those with connecting flights manage to board them due to those flights also being delayed.

At the end of this interesting and enjoyable trip, thanks must go to our minibus driver, Konstantin. His driving, willingness to help and pleasant personality was greatly appreciated. The knowledge and expertise of our local guide, Ionut, provided us with a great insight into the human and natural history of the area. Simona, Marie and mother Elena for their wonderful homemade and local food that brought great satisfaction during every lunchtime, and was probably beyond everyone's expectations.

Receive our e-newsletter

Join the Naturetrek e-mailing list and be the first to hear about new tours, additional departures and new dates, tour reports and special offers. Visit www.naturetrek.co.uk to sign up.

Social Media

We're social! Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram and be the first to hear about the launch of new tours, offers and exciting sightings and photos from our recently returned holidays.



www.facebook.com/naturetrekwildlifeholidays



www.twitter.com/naturetrektours



www.instagram.com/naturetrek_wildlife_holidays

Species lists

Birds (H = Heard only)

	Common name	Scientific name	May 2022						
			25	26	27	28	29	30	31
1	Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>					✓		
2	Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>					✓		
3	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>				✓	✓		
4	Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>					✓		
5	Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>			✓	✓		✓	
6	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
7	Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
8	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	✓	✓	✓			✓	
9	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
10	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>					✓		
11	Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>					✓		
12	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>					✓		
13	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>					✓		
14	Caspian Gull	<i>Larus cachinnans</i>					✓		
15	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>					✓		
16	Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>					✓		
17	Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>					✓		
18	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
19	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>					✓		
20	Little Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>					✓		
21	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>					✓		
22	Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>					✓		
23	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>		✓			✓		
24	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>					✓		
25	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>					✓		
26	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>					✓		
27	Lesser Spotted Eagle	<i>Clanga pomarina</i>		✓					
28	Northern Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>				✓			
29	Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>					✓		
30	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
31	Tawny Owl	<i>Strix aluco</i>	✓	✓					
32	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>		✓					
33	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>					✓		
34	European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>				✓	✓		
35	Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>	✓	✓		✓		✓	
36	Black Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus martius</i>				✓			
37	European Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>				✓			
38	Grey-headed Woodpecker	<i>Picus canus</i>	✓	✓					
39	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
40	Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>		✓		✓		✓	
41	Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>		✓		✓	✓		
42	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
43	Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

	Common name	Scientific name	May 2022						
			25	26	27	28	29	30	31
44	Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
45	Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>					✓		
46	Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
47	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
48	Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>	✓						
49	Marsh Tit	<i>Poecile palustris</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
50	Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
51	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
52	Eurasian Penduline Tit	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>					✓		
53	Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>		✓					
54	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>					✓		
55	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
56	Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
57	Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>					✓		
58	Wood Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>		✓					
59	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	✓		✓	✓		✓	
60	Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>					✓		
61	Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>					✓		
62	Marsh Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus palustris</i>					✓		
63	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
64	Garden Warbler	<i>Sylvia borin</i>		✓		✓	✓		
65	Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Curruca curruca</i>			✓				
66	Common Whitethroat	<i>Curruca communis</i>		✓		✓	✓		
67	Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	✓		✓				
68	Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>		✓					
69	Wallcreeper	<i>Tichodroma muraria</i>			1			1	
70	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
71	Rosy Starling	<i>Pastor roseus</i>					✓		
72	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
73	Fieldfare	<i>Turdus pilaris</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
74	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
75	Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>			✓			✓	
76	European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	✓	✓	✓			✓	
77	Red-breasted Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula parva</i>		✓					
78	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
79	Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
80	Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>					✓		
81	White-throated Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>	✓				✓	✓	
82	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
83	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>		✓		✓			
84	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
85	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
86	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>	✓		✓	✓		✓	
87	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
88	Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>		✓					
89	European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	
90	Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>			✓		✓		✓
91	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
92	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>				✓			
93	Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓

Other vertebrates

			May 2022						
	Common name	Scientific name	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Mammals									
1	Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>		✓				✓	
2	Brown Bear	<i>Ursus arctos</i>		2	1	9			
3	Roe Deer	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		
4	Chamois	<i>Rupicapra rupicapra</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Reptiles									
1	Green Lizard	<i>Lacerta viridis</i>							
2	Viviparous Lizard	<i>Zootoca vivipara</i>	✓	✓					
3	Sand Lizard	<i>Lacerta agilis</i>			✓				
4	Grass Snake	<i>Natrix natrix</i>				✓			
Amphibians									
1	Montandon's Newt	<i>Lissotriton montandoni</i>	✓						
2	Fire Salamander	<i>Salamandra salamandra</i>			✓				
3	Yellow-bellied Toad	<i>Bombina variegata</i>						✓	
4	Marsh Frog	<i>Rana ridibunda</i>					✓		
5	Common Frog	<i>Rana temporaria</i>							

Butterflies

			May 2022						
	Common name	Scientific name	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Pieridae									
1	Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>	✓		✓			✓	
2	Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>	✓	✓	✓				
3	Green-veined White	<i>Pieris napi</i>			✓	✓			
4	Mountain Small White	<i>Pieris ergane</i>	✓						
5	Orange Tip	<i>Anthocharis cardamines</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
6	Brimstone	<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>		✓		✓			
Lycaenidae									
7	Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>				✓			
8	Little Blue	<i>Cupido minimus</i>	✓						
9	Brown Argus	<i>Aricia agestis</i>						✓	
10	Mazarine Blue	<i>Cyraniris semiargus</i>	✓			✓	✓		
11	Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Riodinidae									
12	Duke of Burgundy Fritillary	<i>Hamearis lucina</i>		✓	✓				
Nymphalidae									
13	Camberwell Beauty	<i>Nymphalis antiopa</i>	6						
14	Small Tortoiseshell	<i>Aglais urticae</i>				✓			
15	Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>	✓	✓	✓				

	Common name	Scientific name	May 2022						
			25	26	27	28	29	30	31
16	Map	<i>Araschnia levana</i>	✓						
17	Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			
18	Cardinal	<i>Argynnis pandora</i>	✓						
19	Marsh Fritillary	<i>Eurodryas aurinia</i>				✓			
20	High Brown Fritillary	<i>Argynnis adippe</i>			✓				
	Satyridae								
21	Woodland Ringlet	<i>Erebia medusa</i>							✓
22	Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
23	Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>	✓	✓	✓				

Other invertebrates

Common name

Scientific name

Moths

Tau Emperor Moth	<i>Agila tau</i>
Black-veined Moth	<i>Siona lineata</i>
Hummingbird Hawkmoth	<i>Macroglossum stellarum</i>
Silver Y	<i>Autographa gamma</i>
Clouded Buff	<i>Diacrisia sannio</i>

Other

Click Beetle sp	<i>Ampedus sp</i>
Wood Ant	<i>Formica rufa</i>
Green Bush Cricket sp	<i>Tettigoniidae sp</i>
Field Cricket	<i>Gryllus campestris</i>
7-spot Ladybird	<i>Coccinella 7-punctata</i>
Millipede sp	<i>Diplopoda sp</i>
Violet Ground Beetle	<i>Carabus violaceus</i>
Long-horn Beetle sp	<i>Cerambycidae sp</i>
Stag beetle	<i>Lucanus cervus</i>
Tick sp	

Plants

Scientific Name

Common Name

Orchids

<i>Platanthera bifolia</i>	Lesser Butterfly Orchid
<i>Gymnadenia conopsea</i>	Long-spurred Fragrant Orchid
<i>Dactylorhiza maculata</i>	Common Heath Spotted Orchid
<i>Anacamptis morio</i>	Green-winged Orchid
<i>Orchis militaris</i>	Military Orchid
<i>Orchis Masculata</i>	Early Purple Orchid
<i>Dactylorhiza majalis</i>	Broad-leaved Marsh Orchid