

# Romania's Danube Delta and Carpathian Mountains

Naturetrek Tour Report

14 - 23 May 2011



Feeding frenzy on the Danube



Great Peacock Moth



Lesser Grey Shrike



2011 Naturetrek Group photo

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Participants	Peter Bryant Alan Canning Julie Canning David Evans Carol Fardoe Keith Lowe Lesley Lowe Alan Pilley Bob Snellgrove Sandra Snellgrove Glenda Young Michael Young

## Day 1

**Saturday 14th May**

Most of the group met one another at the boarding gate in Terminal 5, a prelude to an incident free and punctual flight to Bucharest, where we were met by our Romanian guide, Daniel and our driver, Jonel. The cases were stored away and we made the transfer north in our very comfortable bus. Initially the countryside was very flat, before starting to climb into the mountains, where we had a drinks stop. Then we descended onto the Brasov Plateau and eventually reached Zarnesti and our 'guest house' Elena. The welcome with local pre-dinner plum brandy set an appropriate tone for our stay. After a tiring journey we decided not to have a log call, but retire promptly, looking forward to our first full day.

## Day 2

**Sunday 15th May**

We awoke to bright blue sky and apart from a few wispy clouds that is how it stayed all day. A pre-breakfast stroll produced a Little Owl, but more interesting was the family cow being let out of the houses – one from each, and following the herdsman to pasture! The extensive breakfast buffet has a secondary purpose: it provides the basis for our packed lunches.

Just outside Zarnesti we walked off the road up the hillside pasture to the start of the coniferous belt. As well as acquainting us with the large groups of (harmless) sheepdogs and the shepherding system, we saw 5 Tree Pipits performing their parachute display with such a pleasant song, had our first encounter with 'Steppe' Buzzards, a brief view of Crested Tit, worked out that Cuckoo is more common here than in the UK, saw our first Lesser Spotted Eagle and were lucky enough to have a Nutcracker fly over us.

From here we drove for almost an hour to the start of the Stramba Valley. However a Stork's nest at the edge of the village of Sinca Noua provoked an interesting stop, with nesting Fieldfares, Tree Sparrows, singing Serin and our first 'white-headed' Long-tailed Tits providing a real bonus.

In the valley proper the first couple of hundred metres had us lengthily entertained by a variety of Warblers, just as one would expect in the UK, Honey Buzzard and the 'crek' 'crek' of a calling Corncrake. We eventually made some progress with Cuckoos all around and eventually well seen, and then took our lunch. We then slowly moved a total of 6 km up the valley in about 5 hours. Lesser Spotted Eagles are always a good bird, especially when seen so well. A Hoopoe showed well as Daniel expertly called in a Grey-headed Woodpecker for all to see through the scopes. A few White Storks spiralled over with two Flycatchers, Spotted and Collared, and more 'white-headed' Long-tailed Tits the other highlights, before we met the mountain ranger just after 6 pm. He joined us on the bus and we took the restricted access track a few kilometres further into the mountains and then walked to the hide in the hope of seeing European Brown Bear. That hope was immediately realised as 2 two-year old youngsters were seen before we reached the hide!

Once inside we settled down to see a total of 6 bears over two and a half hours including one of the huge and rarely seen adult males. We left the hide very quietly in the gathering gloom with a female less than 100 metres away: fantastic, but providing something of a frissant! The slow journey back produced one of those 'almost' moments when what was in all probability a Ural Owl lifted off a post next to the bus, but clinching views they were not. So a very late return and dinner of delicious chicken escalopes at 10.45 pm, and no log ... again... but so worthwhile.

### Day 3

Monday 16th May

Breakfast was the usual excellent affair, but with yesterday's lessons learned the group laid into the various meats and cheeses to make up their packed lunches (the bread is so good) supplemented by huge radishes, small cucumbers and tomatoes. Then it was off to the start of Zarnesti Gorge and a viewpoint at the village of Magura. A Goshawk, a Honey Buzzard and a Peregrine claimed the skies, while a stunning and obliging Camberwell Beauty butterfly split the group somewhat. Eventually the tally of the latter was to reach 6. Almost immediately a pair of Black-bellied Dippers feeding two young was brilliantly entertaining and an adult spent about 15 minutes on the same elevated rock to the delight of the photographers. Both Goldcrest and Firecrest were only heard on the short ascent to enable views over the forest and mountains, but a Treecreeper and Red Squirrel were very obliging. Returning down the same track a Black Woodpecker was 'called in' and performed decently.

Then we set off up the gorge proper. Grey Wagtails were the regular feature up the whole length of our walk, advertising their nests by alarming and perching in both deciduous and evergreen trees overhanging the stream. Other obvious nesters were Alpine Swifts which zoomed in and out of their fissures high above us. We took lunch in the hope of connecting with our main prize - Wallcreeper. After 20 minutes looking at the huge bare cliff holding a pair of Kestrels, we moved a couple of hundred metres to a possible nest site. After half an hour of nothing except eating lunch in the sunshine, there they were: a pair who performed and strutted their stuff for ages, the female was even walking about on the track! This was voted favourite bird by Carol, Julie, Glenda, Lesley, David, Keith and Michael (as well as by Andy and Dan!).

All, including a party of German birders who arrived at the right time, were exultant to say the least. The walk back down the gorge was delightful if not producing anything new. A regular feature of the gorge was a large fast orange day-flying moth, which initially fooled us into attempting to identify some kind of Fritillary butterfly, but eventually these Tau Emperors with their 4 eyes were seen properly.

We then took the scenic route past Draculas' castle at Bran up to a fantastic viewpoint. Thence back to our guesthouse for leisurely preparation for tomorrow's journey and this evening's dinner, which proved delicious as usual – meatballs, followed by the log call for the last three days!

## Day 4

Tuesday 17th May

Most of the group members were woken by a tremendous thunderstorm during the night – just as well that didn't happen yesterday. Consequently we rose to a very damp and misty morning, but since we were on our way south at 08.30, after bidding farewell to our hosts at 'Elena', this was not of concern.

A brief stop in Sinaia allowed a few purchases, including postcards and also views of Swifts and Crag Martin, and then we were on the long journey to the Danube Delta, during which our weather stayed warm and fine all day. The first petrol and coffee stop produced a distant view of a probable Imperial Eagle. However the first proper birding and indeed lunch stop was a Poplar plantation north of Ciorani. Here a Rookery attracted a colony of Red-footed Falcons of which we had tremendous views of around 10 and several Hobbies. For some however 4 or 5 Golden Orioles were the highlight here, added to by a few Bee-eaters and with background song provided by a Nightingale.

Further south we stopped at a roadside lake north of Jilavede where Squacco Herons, Ferruginous Ducks, a highly visible Great Reed Warbler singing its heart out and some Black-headed Wagtails were the highlights. While a few things of interest were noted en route for the next lengthy stretch of the journey, which included a cool and shady café drink stop, it was not until we had nearly reached Hasarlic that things exploded into life. In the next few kilometres Lesser Grey Shrikes, Rollers, Bee-eaters were the staple fare, along with the largest Rookery the group had ever seen - in very small trees. Views over wetland saw large numbers of White Pelicans, Whiskered Terns and Cormorants. Pygmy Cormorant, Purple Heron and Glossy Ibis also entered the equation. Calandra and Short-toed Larks flying just outside the bus were our last memories of this area.

An hour later we boarded our floating hotel, welcomed by sour Cherry Brandy, followed, after a freshening up period, by a superb dinner, the centrepiece of which was Carp. Dan gave us an introduction to the Delta before the log and after some post-prandial chat to bed before our first experience of water-borne birding!

## Day 5

Wednesday 18th May

We awoke in Tulchea Harbour with the sun burning off the last of the mist, and only a few wispy clouds broke the expanse of blue sky all day. At 08.30 we shifted across to one of the smaller boats and as soon as we turned off the main channel, the engine was switched off which produced a magical moment, with only bird song, dominated by an incredibly loud Thrush Nightingale (Bob's bird of the trip), to break the silence. We meandered about in this fashion seeing one or two of the more interesting birds every so often – Night and Squacco Herons, Pygmy Cormorants, Rollers, and Glossy Ibis.

Then we came across a large colony of Whiskered Terns. Both Grey-headed and Black Woodpecker were seen well in waterside dead trees. Having initially seen distant flocks of White Pelicans – hundreds of them, eventually numbers built up, with Dan's estimation that we saw around 4000 in total (Sandra's favourite bird of the trip, so she had good value!). This spectacle was about to be outshone: due to quite low water levels a large flock of cormorants started collective feeding in the channel about 200m in front of the moving boat with a few Pelicans and Herons.

As the boat moved down the channel, so did the feeding frenzy, being joined by ever more birds piling in from all directions. Eventually 2-300 White Pelicans, the same number of Cormorants, 50 Pygmy Cormorants, 50 Little Egrets, 15 Squacco Heron and a few Great White Egrets and Grey Herons were engaged and every time we turned a corner they were just in front of us taking off and flying 50-100 metres before trying to fish again – an incredible sight!

That is not to say that Golden Orioles, White-tailed Eagle, Spoonbills and Red-footed Falcons were not enjoyed. As was the late three-course lunch in the boats dining room! The main boat/hotel then moved position for about an hour and a half. Those who stayed on deck saw another five White-tailed Eagles en route!

The evening excursion didn't do the list any harm with excellent views of Penduline Tit and a couple of additional waders in the shape of Greenshank and Little Ringed Plover. We were also able to hear a Little Bittern calling gruffly. However, perhaps the best was also the last...four Glossy Ibises shimmering in incredible light at close range, and an immaculate White-winged Black Tern seen at point blank range. Perhaps all the birds were exceeded by the excellent chicken dinner, while we were moored up in a secluded creek. The very packed log was interrupted by a large moth which appeared at the window. When its true size became apparent some people became even more excited: Great Peacock Moth – Europe's largest and a true giant. A second joining it delayed the log by another 15 minutes. Leaving the windows open risked a little loss of sleep caused by near deafening Thrush Nightingale song accompanied by the many thousands of frogs – yet somehow it still seemed so tranquil.

## Day 6

Thursday 19th May

One of the Great Peacocks was still present for all to enjoy again before breakfast. The day started brightly in more ways than one with multiple close range Kingfisher views and a Lesser Spotted Woodpecker – now so rare in the UK. Purple Herons were much the commonest of the larger herons today and frequently flew from bank side fishing spots as opposed to their usual reed-hunting behaviour. A Black Woodpecker flyover was another highlight followed by a superb first-summer Pallas' Gull, aka Great Black-headed Gull, which flew straight over the boat and circled back around as we travelled along the old course of the Danube. Our destination was the unspoilt 'island' village of Letea, with its extraordinary Ukrainian houses of reed and mud and also at least seven Lesser Grey Shrikes and both species of Redstart.

Because of low water levels we couldn't take a short cut to meet the mother ship, but retracing our steps proved a great move. As we slowed back in Lesser Spotted Woodpecker territory, a female Black Woodpecker was seen gouging out huge chunks of the base of a dead Poplar. It stayed there for at least 20 minutes and was at times joined by a Grey-headed Woodpecker, keen to capitalise on this food supply, and a Roller – all at point-blank range. We then were towed down the main channel for another two hours in glorious evening sunshine with Hobbies and Rollers catching insects for company through much of the journey. Our mooring spot for dinner and the night was a sheer delight, with a huge expanse of the Delta wilderness all around.

## Day 7

Friday 20th May

Our setting seemed just as idyllic before and during breakfast – 8 Squacco Herons on the nearby lily pads! We then took in a different area of the delta in the small boat.

The wonderful array of birds continued to accompany us, so new species were difficult to come by. Good views of Savi's Warbler and Great Reed Warbler, as opposed to simply hearing them, and a few Black Terns were much appreciated. A couple of scattered pairs of Black-necked Grebe were supplemented by a colony of 24, while Red-necked Grebes were also more frequent – both these species in superb summer plumage. A Muskrat which hauled up on the bank and preened was a big improvement on those seen simply swimming. For the first time while in the field (or river) this holiday, rain was in the air, and although we took appropriate action to prepare for it, we got off comparatively lightly, while it fulminated all around. Towing out a very large recently fallen branch to clear a channel was something of an adventure as we tried to locate the flocks of White Pelicans which were clearly fishing somewhere nearby. Eventually we did exactly that, with a huge flock occupying a broad channel right in front of us, with large numbers of herons, egrets and gulls hovering around to pick up the scraps – a wonderful end to our morning.

Our three course lunch was centre-pieced by sesame seed -coated Zander, of which nothing remained when we moved back to the top-deck for the 4 hour sun-drenched journey back to Tulchea, with Rollers, Shrikes, White-tailed Eagles and lots of Herons and Pelicans as regular companions. A singing Eastern Olivaceous Warbler was a new bird for the trip. Our final dinner on the boat was another delightful and convivial occasion.

## Day 8

Saturday 21st May

There was nothing but blue sky when we bade a reluctant farewell to the Danube Delta and particularly our 'floating hotel' and its very friendly staff. Our first stop was near Parches for a high level view over some of the Delta towards Ukraine, with the usual Delta birds below and Bee-eaters and Rollers at eye level. Our second stop was only a couple of kilometres away with a focus on Barred Warbler and 3 Long-legged Buzzards.

Then we moved on to Somova with its forest steppe. Something of a surprise was Corn Bunting in this habitat. More expected during a lengthy walk in this fascinating place, with its beautiful red wild Peonies, were Sombre Tit, Ortolan, Woodlark and Levant Sparrowhawk. As well as a few butterflies our reptile list grew again here with Spur-thighed Tortoise, Snake-eyed Skink and the Giant endemic Green Lizard. We had our picnic lunch here with a surprise appearance of two Syrian Woodpeckers which performed brilliantly (Alan P's favourite bird of the trip), against a backcloth of Nightingale song. On this beautifully warm day an ice-cream stop in Jijilla was very welcome. From there we moved on to a quarry area near Murcin. We were delayed in the bus by a heavy shower for 30 minutes, but emerged to find the breeding Isabelline Wheatears drying off. Northern Wheatears were here for comparison, but in that department Pied Wheatears stole the show. It is then debatable if two male Rock Thrushes outshone the Pieds ... probably ... before we headed back to the bus and the journey back to Tulchea by different route. We were welcomed in our new guesthouse with the usual brandy and cakes with our main luggage already parked close to our rooms. Carp in a delicious sauce was the centrepiece for our excellent dinner, before the usual outline of tomorrow's activities, the log and then to bed.

## Day 9

Sunday 22nd May

After breakfast we set off south to visit two different coastal areas. Before we reached our first stop over 30 Collared Pratincole in a roadside pool immediately delivered one of the days main targets, followed almost straight away by a surprise to the group: a Golden Jackal on the track in front of the bus.

At our first scheduled stop near Sinoe we were greeted by colonies of Bee-eaters and hundreds of Sand Martins, and the first of a dozen Paddyfield Warblers singing in dead reed tops. However it was not until we reached the lagoons that the scale of the bird life present, and for this trip the new bird life, became apparent. For the wader gull or tern enthusiast, it was a dream. Perhaps pride of place should be given to the four Pallas' Gulls there, but the Gull-billed Terns passing through or the Broad-billed Sandpipers accompanying almost incredible numbers of Curlew Sandpipers and Little Stints might have been preferred by some. Also a Red-necked Phalarope took the eye and was subsequently voted bird of the trip by both Alan C and Peter. However the sheer variety within those aforementioned groups was probably more impressive than the special species. Don't forget that there is always a large supporting cast of 'common' species at such locations such as Black-headed and other subspecies of *Flava* Wagtails and two Hen Harriers in addition to the permanently viewable Marsh Harriers.

After another excellent picnic lunch we moved to the Vadu area, which offered lagoons, some semi flooded fields and an enormous Common Tern colony. Upwards of 40 nesting Pratincole, a few Black-winged Stilts, some Ruffs and Redshanks occupied the flooded fields and a small number of Little Terns augmented the Common Tern colony. This same area allowed us to dip our toes in the Black Sea after a slow and careful drive to the shore. While only adding Turnstone and Sandwich Tern to our trip list, this seaside visit allowed us a reflective and enjoyable last hour of 'semi-serious birding' before we returned for another excellent meal topped off by champagne and a very special dessert prepared by the excellent chef at 'Ibis Hotel'.

## Day 10

Monday 23rd May

We rose to another gloriously warm day, took breakfast a little later than usual, allowing a little extra time for the sad chore of last day packing. We bide farewell to all at 'Hotel' Ibis except for Dan and Jonel and set off for Bucharest. The open country produced the usual, if interesting by British standards, species, if rather irregularly. We avoided the motorway, enabling us to see a little more of the life in everyday Romania, and after stops for a leg stretch at a lake, accompanied by Nightingale, and a coffee stop, arrived at the airport bang on schedule. There were warm farewells for both Dan and Jonel, and then we were in the normal international airport environment, followed by our flight to Heathrow, more farewells at the carousel and then, eventually, home.

Yet another Naturetrek trip which, as well as all the things seen and done described in these pages, gave me the very enjoyable company of a helpful, friendly, sociable and humorous group of clients, who gelled so well and all of whom contributed greatly to our mutual enjoyment of a great holiday. Thank you all.

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## Species Lists

Birds (h = heard only ✓ = recorded but uncounted)

	Common name	Scientific name	May										
			14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
1	Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>								30			
2	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>					1	1					2
3	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>				3	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
4	Red-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps grisegena</i>					4	1	9				
5	White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>				✓	4000	2500	2500	1000	✓		
6	Dalmatian Pelican	<i>Pelecanus philippensis</i>					2	3	4		9		
7	Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
8	Pygmy Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax pygmeus</i>				✓	400	✓	✓	✓			
9	Bittern	<i>Botaurus stellaris</i>					h	h					
10	Little Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>					h						
11	Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>				3	100	30	✓	✓	5		
12	Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>					65	40	✓				
13	Great White Egret	<i>Egretta alba</i>					40	20	✓	1	3		
14	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	2			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		
15	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	x			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
16	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	1			4	30	40	20		4		
17	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	60	18	2	✓	4	4		2	30	✓	
18	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>					4						
19	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>				3	40	4	12				
20	Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>					11		4		2		
21	Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
22	Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
23	Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>				1					40		
24	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
25	Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>					8	10	12		✓	✓	
26	Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>									20		
27	Garganey	<i>Anas querquedula</i>					3	2					
28	Red-crested Pochard	<i>Netta rufina</i>									5		
29	Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
30	Ferruginous Duck	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>	3			4	24	30	✓		✓		
31	White-tailed Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>				1	7	2	2	3			
32	Lesser Spotted Eagle	<i>Aquila pomarina</i>		3									
33	Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>								2			
34	Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	1	1		4	12	10	4	4	20		
35	Hen Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>									2		

	Common name	Scientific name	May										
			14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
36	Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>									5		
37	Steppe' Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo vulpinus</i>		16	10						5		
38	Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>		1	2						3		
39	Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>		1									
40	Levant Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter brevipes</i>									1		
41	Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>			1								
42	Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>			1	6	9	12	8	4	5		
43	Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>		1	6	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		
44	Red-footed Falcon	<i>Falco verspertinus</i>				20	3	4	2		2	✓	
45	Peregrine	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>			1								
46	Grey Partridge	<i>Perdix perdix</i>				4							
47	Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>				2	h	h		✓	1		
48	Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>								h			
49	Corncrake	<i>Crex crex</i>			h								
50	Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>					✓	✓	✓				
51	Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
52	Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>					1						
53	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>				1		6				✓	
54	Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>										10	
55	Collared Pratincole	<i>Glareola pratincola</i>										100	
56	Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>										5	
57	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>					1					2	
58	Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>										2	
59	Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>										2	
60	Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>				7	15	6	✓			✓	
62	Broad-billed Sandpiper	<i>Limicola falcinellus</i>										19	
63	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>										25	
64	Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>										150	
65	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>										70	
66	Temminck's Stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>										1	
67	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>											
68	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>					1						
69	Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>										4	
70	Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>					1					1	
71	Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>										3	
72	Red-necked Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>										1	
73	Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>										4	
74	Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>										10	

	Common name	Scientific name	May									
			14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
75	Black-headed Gull	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
76	Mediterranean Gull	<i>Larus melanocephalus</i>										5
77	Caspian Gull	<i>Larus cachinnans</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
78	Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>				2	1					✓
79	Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>				1						
80	Pallas's Gull	<i>Larus ichthyaetus</i>						1				4
81	Little Gull	<i>Larus minutus</i>										2
82	Sandwich Tern	<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>										8
83	Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>										2
84	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>					✓	✓	✓			✓
85	Caspian Tern	<i>Sterna caspia</i>										1
86	Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>										4
87	Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>								2		4
88	White-winged Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>						1				
89	Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybridus</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
90	Rock Dove / Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓
91	Stock Dove	<i>Columba oenas</i>						1		1		1
92	Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>		6	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
93	Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
94	Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>		1					1		5	2
95	Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>		6	✓	✓	60	40	✓	✓	✓	✓
96	Tawny Owl	<i>Strix aluco</i>			h							
97	Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>		1		1						
98	Alpine Swift	<i>Apus melba</i>				4						
99	Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	2	10	✓	✓				12		
100	Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>				1	5	6	2			
101	Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>		2		7		2		10	20	✓
102	Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>				✓	2	2	2	✓	✓	
103	Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>				11	70	50	35	10	4	✓
104	Black Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus martius</i>			1		2	2				
105	Grey-headed Woodpecker	<i>Picus canus</i>		1	h		2	2	1	h		
106	Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>		h								
107	Syrian Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos syriacus</i>									2	
108	Great-spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>	1	h			4		1			
109	Lesser-spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos minor</i>						1				
110	Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>			2		✓			1	✓	
111	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>								1	5	
112	Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>								2		

	Common name	Scientific name	May										
			14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
113	Short-toed Lark	<i>Calandrella brachydactyla</i>				1					1		
114	Calandra Lark	<i>Melanocorypha calandra</i>				2						2	
115	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>				✓			✓			200	
116	Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>				5							
117	House Martin	<i>Delichon urbica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
118	Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
119	Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>									2	3	
120	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>		6									
121	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>		4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
122	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>		3	12								
123	Dombrowski's Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava dombrowskii</i>										2	
124	Black-headed Wagtail	<i>Motacilla (flava) feldegg</i>				6	3			x			
125	Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>		h			1						
126	Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>			4								
127	Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>			1								
128	Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>		h	h	1	h						
129	Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>			1						h		h
130	Thrush Nightingale	<i>Luscinia luscinia</i>				20h		h	h				
131	Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>					2	2	1				
132	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>						1		1			
133	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>				1		2		8	20		
134	Isabelline Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe isabellinus</i>								6			
135	Pied Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe pleschanka</i>								3			
136	Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>								2			
137	Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>		11		1							
138	Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola saxatilis</i>								2			
139	Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>		2	1	1	1						
140	Fieldfare	<i>Turdus pilaris</i>		4									
141	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	1		1								
142	Garden Warbler	<i>Sylvia borin</i>		4			5	8	✓	1			
143	Barred Warbler	<i>Sylvia nisoria</i>				1				3			
144	Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>		6	2		8	2	✓				
145	Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia curruca</i>		3			2	2				h	
146	Common Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>		2									
147	Savi's Warbler	<i>Locustella luscinioides</i>					4h	6h	1+3h		1+2h		
148	Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>					2	h	h				
149	Paddyfield Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus agricola</i>									12		
150	Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>				1	10h	✓	✓		✓		

	Common name	Scientific name	May										
			14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
151	Olivaceous Warbler	<i>Hippolais pallida</i>								h			
152	Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>							2				
153	Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>		5	2	2	4	3	✓	1			
154	Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>			h								
155	Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapillus</i>			h								
156	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>		2		1	1	3				1	
157	Red-breasted Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula parva</i>						1					
158	Collared Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula albicollis</i>		1									
159	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		2	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓			
160	Blue Tit	<i>Parus caeruleus</i>				2	✓	✓	✓				
161	Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>		1	✓	2							
162	Crested Tit	<i>Parus cristatus</i>		1									
163	Marsh Tit	<i>Parus palustris</i>		2	1								
164	Sombre Tit	<i>Parus lugubris</i>									3		
165	Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>		4				10	2				
166	Bearded Tit	<i>Panurus biarmicus</i>						6	3+h	1+h		2	
167	Penduline Tit	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>						2	2+h	h			
168	Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>		h	h								
169	Wallcreeper	<i>Tichodroma muraria</i>			2								
170	Common Treecreeper	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>			1								
171	Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>				4	1	10	3	✓	✓	✓	✓
172	Lesser Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius minor</i>				4	2	20	1	✓	✓	✓	✓
173	Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
174	Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>		3	6								
175	Nutcracker	<i>Nucifraga caryocatactes</i>		1									
176	Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>				✓	✓				✓	✓	
177	Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus corone cornix</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
178	Jackdaw	<i>Corvus monedula</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
179	Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>		10	✓								
180	Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
181	Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>		1		5	20	30	8	5	h		
182	Spanish Sparrow	<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>				1							
183	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
184	Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>		2		11	2	30	h	5	1		
185	Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
186	Linnet	<i>Acanthis cannabina</i>									2		
187	Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>		✓									
188	Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>		1									

	Common name	Scientific name	May										
			14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
189	Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	2	
190	Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>		2							h		
191	Ortolan Bunting	<i>Emberiza hortulana</i>									2		
192	Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>					h	12				2	
193	Corn Bunting	<i>Miliaria calandra</i>				✓					✓	✓	

### Mammals

Brown Bear

Red Fox

Golden Jackal

Red Squirrel

Musk Rat

Suslik

Eastern Hedgehog

### Reptiles & Amphibians

Spur-thighed Tortoise

Snake-eyed Skink

Giant Green Lizard

Green Lizard

Balkan Wall Lizard

Agile Lizard

Viviparous Lizard

Grass Snake

Whip Snake

Edible Frog

Alpine Frog

Yellow-bellied Toad

Alpine Newt

Common Toad

Green Toad

### Butterflies

Swallowtail

Scarce Swallowtail

Fenton's Wood White

Green-veined White

Small White

Orange Tip

Brimstone

Brown Argus/Peacock

Red Admiral

Map Butterfly

Heath Fritillary

Speckled Wood

Small Heath

Comma

Camberwell Beauty

Dingy Skipper

Grizzled Skipper

### Moths

Great Peacock Moth

Tau Emperor

Blood vein

Wood Carpet