

Romania's Danube Delta & Carpathian Mountains

Naturetrek Tour Report

11 - 20 May 2013



Lesser Spotted Eagle



Bearded Tit



Red-backed Shrike



Grass Snake

Report compiled by Nick Acheson
Images courtesy of Colin Brown



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Day 1

Saturday 11th May

All eyes were trained on Bucharest airport today, for two of you having arrived from Italy the day before, and for the rest of you arriving from Heathrow with me. Our journeys smoothly accomplished we were soon on the road to Zarnesti, our base for three nights of exploration of the beautiful Carpathian Mountains. Along the road, as we climbed into the mountains (or rather Florin's expert and careful accelerating foot climbed into the mountains), we saw a small selection of birds including – most excitingly for those arriving from the UK – a couple of White Storks.

Day 2

Sunday 12th May

We opted for a lazy start today, having breakfast at eight and leaving for our day's walk at nine. Our walk took us into the Zarnesti Gorge. The forest around us was beautiful – a rich mix of conifers and beech, with hornbeam and sycamore plentiful, especially on the lower slopes along the road as we drove up. The forest under-storey was fascinating too and the botanically-minded among us were in our element, identifying (or attempting to identify) species in the genera *Oxalis*, *Viola*, *Soldanella*, *Doronicum*, *Geranium* and many others. The birds were quieter, however: a male Red-breasted Flycatcher on migration offering an early flush of excitement after which we heard several widespread European species in song, including Wood Warbler, Chiffchaff, Chaffinch and Blackcap, but we saw few birds in the dense and diverse canopy of the forest. There was nonetheless plenty to see here, as we passed through beautiful limestone gorges whose tectonic origins Laurentiu explained to us in detail. Here we searched for the famously elusive Wallcreeper which – alas – proved famously elusive. We sat with our eyes on the cliffs, we picnicked with our eyes on the cliffs, we digested our picnic with our eyes on the cliffs and we chatted with our eyes on the cliffs but Wallcreepers came there none.

In the afternoon Laurentiu, whose knowledge of his country's wildlife, culture and landscape is hugely impressive, guided us around the celebrated castle of Bran, which is said – on the most spurious of evidence – to have a connection with Vlad the Impaler, himself spuriously connected to Bram Stoker's fictional Dracula. Dracula or no Dracula, this is a stunning castle and we greatly enjoyed learning about its illustrious royal history. Thereafter we stopped to admire the view of the two ridges of mountains flanking the town and drifted home for dinner and sleep in preparation for the following long day.

Day 3

Monday 13th May

This morning saw us attacking the gentle but persistent slope to the monastery at Coltii Chiliilor, through open meadows, deciduous scrub and forest and a wonderful higher-altitude forest of beech and fir. Chaffinches and chiffchaffs sang from the trees as we walked up. Chaffinches and chiffchaffs? We didn't come to Romania to see Chaffinches and Chiffchaffs! Coal Tits... can I interest anyone in Coal Tits? Mistle Thrushes? Breeding Fieldfares: at least meet me half way with Fieldfares. And a singing Woodlark... Yes, the birding on the way up was slow, though the scenery was striking, the air clear, the weather beautiful and the plants fascinating: here were flowers of *Sanicula*, *Orchis*, *Anthyllis*, *Bartsia*, *Thymus*, *Alchemilla*, *Potentilla*, *Rhamnus*, *Cardamine* and *Polygala* to name but a few. At the top we briefly visited the monastery and its holy cave (plus its splendid guard dogs and resident White Wagtail) and some stayed to drink tea with a young monk. Others began to drift down the beautiful mountainside, and the birding began in earnest. A firecrest sang from a fir above us and popped out for a good look. Nearby a male Collared Flycatcher perched briefly on top of yet another fir. On the tops of even more firs were male Red-backed Shrikes, Coal Tits (with much bigger black bibs than ours at home) and parachuting Tree Pipits. A Common Buzzard got up from the forest across the valley and far away a female Sparrowhawk circled.

We lunched at the friendly Pension Elena (thanks to Gigi and Elena for our splendid welcome there), and had time for reading, note-taking and a siesta, with the blue sky above us full of Swifts, House Martins and Barn Swallows. In the afternoon, we headed again to the forested valleys, in search this time of birds and bears. We walked along the Stramba Valley, and seemed never to be out of the company of the resident pair of Lesser Spotted Eagles. Ravens were overhead too, and singing Skylarks. Hobbies and Buzzards went by and a pair of Hawfinches dropped into a tree not far from the road. As dusk approached we met the reserve's bear warden and went with him to the hide. No sooner had we arrived than the heavens opened and for the whole time we sat in the hide it poured. This, and perhaps other factors, kept the bears away until the dying rays of daylight but we did eventually see as many as five Brown Bears, including youngsters and a courting pair. As we left the hide, in the dwindling rain, we saw that their courtship had moved on a stage, and they were indulging themselves not far from the hide from which we were emerging. We were reassured by the thought that their minds were elsewhere!

Day 4

Tuesday 14th May

This was a day of travel, from the beautiful Carpathian Mountains to the equally beautiful Danube at Tulcea. We stopped to buy honey from a charming lady in the hornbeam forests. We stopped too by the roadside for Romanian sausages (or, in some cases, just chips and a passing Long-legged Buzzard).

We stopped to visit a rookery where silver-winged male Red-footed Falcons sliced over the poplars, Golden Orioles burred loudly from the trees, Bee-eaters and a Montagu's Harrier floated through the near-stratosphere and a pair of Falcons sat – to our telescopic delight – at their nest.

We stopped in the late afternoon at a splendid lake for a foretaste of the wonderful birds awaiting us in the Danube Delta. Here were herons - Little Bittern, Squacco Heron, Purple Heron – here were ducks – Gadwall, Garganey, Pochard – here were cormorants – Great flying by and Pygmy on the water – and here were singing Great Reed Warblers and a Corn Bunting.

In the evening we reached Laurentiu's home town of Tulcea and moved to the floating hotel which would be our home for the next four nights. As we sat on the top deck, beers and wine in hand, Common Terns shrieked above us and in the clouds was a yelping pair of Mediterranean Gulls

Day 5

Wednesday 15th May

To the delta we took this morning, in our floating hotel's small boat. The reeds rang with the strident songs of Great Reed Warblers and every poplar, it seemed, played host to a singing Cuckoo. Nightingales fluted and purred from the undergrowth and from high in the trees came the chiming songs of Redstarts. Kingfishers flashed along the banks and everywhere we looked there were waterbirds. Common and Whiskered Terns floated above us; Great Cormorants cut through the sky in skeins, accompanied by their fast-flapping Pygmy cousins; the two first of numerous pelicans we saw came in quick succession and were – helpfully – a Dalmatian followed by a White; and all about us were Squacco, Grey and Purple Herons.

Stopping at the mouth of the fully protected Crazy Lake we drank coffee and watched birds: a Penduline Tit in the reeds, two White-tailed Eagles soaring overhead, and more White Pelicans. We saw so much that it can't all be listed here but more highlights included aptly named Glossy Ibis, glowing in the early afternoon sun, a pair of Ferruginous Ducks flashing their white wings as they flew away, Rollers on broken snags of many waterside willows, Grass Snakes swimming through the channels and Red-eyed Damselflies on the rails of our boat. After peaceful hours of drifting through the delta we returned to our floating hotel, moored beside a small community, for lunch and the afternoon's sailing. As we reached the boat a flight of Black Storks drifted over.

In the afternoon we cruised along Sulina, one of the main channels of the delta, past traditional thatched houses, great reed beds, a foursome of White-winged Terns in a flock of Whiskered, and fields of happy-looking cows. We reached our mooring – loud with the songs of frogs – in the evening, in time to watch Purple Herons and Black-crowned Night-Herons fighting past in the burnished light of evening.

Day 6

Thursday 16th May

We again took the small boat this morning, to the historic Ukrainian village of Letea. To get there we explored small channels through mighty floating reed beds. Here Reed and Sedge Warblers were singing joyfully and the channels seemed filled with Squacco Herons and Black-crowned Night-Herons.

A Grass Snake wove through the water ahead of our boat, and in the tall reeds flanking us were Bearded Tits, Penduline Tits (with exquisitely woven nests) and singing Savi's Warblers. We walked around the village for a couple of hours, admiring the beautiful traditional houses with blue-painted woodwork and flower-filled palisaded gardens. Here too were Bee-eaters, singing Hoopoes, Northern Wheatears, Fire-bellied Toads (singing too) and a very friendly tan-coloured dog who accompanied us round the whole village. We rejoined the small boat for coffee and drifted back to the floating hotel, watching displaying Marsh Harriers, shrieking Hobbies, yet more singing Cuckoos, mats of White and Yellow Water Lilies and Water Soldiers, and miles and miles of beautiful unspoiled reed beds.

Lunch, as always, was delicious and in the afternoon we again cruised, keeping eyes peeled for birds, landscapes, people and beauty along the banks of the river. A Black Tern and a White-winged Black Tern hawked in a swirl of Whiskered Terns. As many as three Black Woodpeckers were seen in riverside trees, as was a Grey-headed Woodpecker which bounded across the river in front of us. Two pairs of White-tailed Eagles perched in dead trees out in the great reed beds beside the river and all along the wires were Rollers. With the possible exception of the Cuckoo, which was everywhere, the Roller was surely the most conspicuous and ubiquitous bird of our visit to the beautiful Danube Delta.

By the time we reached our mooring a great storm was brewing. Lightning crashed from the dark clouds and a chill wind whipped up. We'd hoped to take an evening boat ride but, in the face of the storm (which in the end quickly abated), chose not to, preferring to visit the area around our mooring the following day at dawn.

Day 7

Friday 17th May

At five this morning most of the group were aboard the small boat, setting off for a nearby lake to watch the sunrise. Plenty of finer writers have described sunrises far better than I could so I'll refrain. It was very pink, very peaceful and very beautiful, and all around us were the same lovely birds we had been seeing for the past two days. Among the Whiskered Terns around us was a Black Tern and from the reeds a Savi's Warbler trilled contentedly. As we returned to the floating hotel a Dalmatian Pelican fished in the bay nearby and all was well in our lovely corner of Romania.

After breakfast we again set out on the little boat, to explore more of the channels, bays and lakes of this delightful delta. On one lily-carpeted lake were flocks of Whiskered and Black Terns – at their colonies – and with them were a pair of Red-necked Grebes and several pairs of Great Crested and Black-necked. Bright White Pelicans soared in flocks above us and Hobbies slammed through the sky, mobbing Magpies and harrowing dragonflies.

We stopped for a walk at a disused fish-farm from the communist era. Corn Buntings tinkled all around us, a Lesser Grey Shrike perched on a tamarisk, and Hoopoes flapped heavily across the fields. There were Yellow Wagtails here too, trotting round the White Storks which were building a nest on top of a cement pole. However, undoubtedly the finest show was put on by the several Red-footed Falcons – sooty-silvery males and warm apricot females – which hunted over the fields.

There were more Red-footed Falcons in a rookery on an islet of willows on a further lake, there were White-tailed Eagles, there were many Rollers and many Cuckoos, there were Pygmy Cormorants (of course there were) and there were happy Naturetrekkers! We reached the floating hotel for lunch and set sail, bound for Tulcea harbour where we would moor for the night.

Day 8

Saturday 18th May

This morning saw us bidding good-bye to our helpful crew and heading by road to the southern edge of the Danube Delta and to the Black Sea coast. We called first at the Deniz steppe where Spanish Sparrows decked the concrete posts holding the telegraph lines. Calandra and Short-toed Larks sang above the cereal fields and on the stony hillside were a male Pied Wheatear and a family of Isabelline Wheatears with well-grown chicks. All around our bus were inquisitive Susliks, popping up as if to see that our friend Florin was taking good care of his vehicle.

At Babadag we walked through a beautiful forest, with many Oriental Hornbeams and a fascinating under-storey flora, to reach a lightly wooded grassland busy with the blooms of hundreds of wildflowers. In addition to speedwells and spurges here was a little female Spur-thighed Tortoise laying her eggs as Ortolan Buntings sang from the surrounding trees.

On the coast at Grindul Lupilor, Bee-eaters swooped and dived around their colonies and Starlings took over their old nests. Our main aim here was to see Paddyfield Warblers and, in addition to Reed and Great Reed Warblers, we saw several males of this attractive eastern species in song.

Our final stop today was Vadu, where a magnificent colony of Common Terns was joined by Little Stints, Curlew Sandpipers, Mediterranean Gulls and plenty of Collared Pratincoles, and where some were brave enough to swim in the Black Sea while others cheerfully botanised in the dunes or took photos of the area's birdlife. I say our final stop, but it wasn't quite. Our absolute final stop was in a café nearby where beers and ice creams were consumed against the strong heat of the Romanian day.

Day 9

Sunday 19th May

First this morning we explored the lovely shady forests and hay-meadows around the historic Celic Dere monastery. A Black Redstart greeted us from the roof of an outbuilding and both Golden Oriole and Icterine Warbler were in song within a few paces of the start of our walk. A little further on Hawfinches dropped into the top of a dead tree, and not much further was the first of two Middle Spotted Woodpeckers. In the woods a male Red-breasted Flycatcher was easy to track down but several singing Wood Warblers were extremely hard to see.

Our next stop was a wooded pasture hillside at Telita. Almost as soon as we'd emerged from the vehicle a Levant Sparrowhawk flapped overhead, the first of a couple we would see here. Other raptors here included several point-blank Honey Buzzards and a circling Long-legged Buzzard.

As we walked up the slope we admired at least four species of oak, many wildflowers (though the site's celebrated peonies had sadly already finished flowering), and several magnificent *Bradyporus dasyptus* bush-crickets. Here too were a Smooth Snake, Balkan Wall Lizards and Snake-eyed Skinks.

We picnicked outside the Macin Mountains protected area, with Lesser Grey Shrikes in the trees around us and a Pied Wheatear bobbing on a distant metal tank. From here we walked into the park where a Short-toed Eagle scowled at us from the rock-face and, after much searching, Laurentiu found our prize – a distant male (Rufous-tailed) Rock Thrush. As we walked down from this beautiful park, which protects the oldest rock formations in Romania, thunder and light rain started. By the time we reached a nearby village the rain was falling heavily in the hills so, the end of the tour being nigh, we called off our final walk in favour of more celebratory beers and ice creams in a café.

Day 10

Monday 20th May

Today was taken up with the drive to Bucharest, a visit to the town centre, including Ceausescu's grandiose administrative palace (the second biggest administrative building in the world, after the Pentagon), and our journey home.

With sincere thanks we said good-bye to Laurentiu, our immensely knowledgeable local leader, and Florin, our friendly, helpful and attentive driver. Many thanks to them and to all the kind people who helped us get the most from this tour.

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Species List

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

| | Common Names | Scientific Names | May | | | | | | | | | |
|----|---------------------------|-------------------------------|-----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|
| | | | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | |
| 1 | Grey Partridge | <i>Perdix perdix</i> | | | | | | | | | ✓ | |
| 2 | Common Pheasant | <i>Phasianus colchicus</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | h | h | ✓ | h | |
| 3 | Greylag Goose | <i>Anser anser</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| 4 | Mute Swan | <i>Cygnus olor</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| 5 | Common Shelduck | <i>Tadorna tadorna</i> | | | | | | | | | ✓ | |
| 6 | Gadwall | <i>Anas strepera</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| 7 | Mallard | <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i> | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| 8 | Garganey | <i>Anas querquedula</i> | | | | ✓ | | | ✓ | | | |
| 9 | Red-crested Pochard | <i>Netta rufina</i> | | | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | | |
| 10 | Common Pochard | <i>Aythya ferina</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| 11 | Ferruginous Duck | <i>Aythya nyroca</i> | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| 12 | Little Grebe | <i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i> | | | | | | h | | | | |
| 13 | Red-necked Grebe | <i>Podiceps grisegena</i> | | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | | | |
| 14 | Great Crested Grebe | <i>Podiceps cristatus</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| 15 | Black-necked Grebe | <i>Podiceps nigricollis</i> | | | | | | | ✓ | | | |
| 16 | Black Stork | <i>Ciconia nigra</i> | | | | | ✓ | | | | | |
| 17 | White Stork | <i>Ciconia ciconia</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 18 | Glossy Ibis | <i>Plegadis falcinellus</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| 19 | Eurasian Spoonbill | <i>Platalea leucorodia</i> | | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| 20 | Eurasian Bittern | <i>Botaurus stellaris</i> | | | | | ✓ | h | | | | |
| 21 | Little Bittern | <i>Ixobrychus minutus</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| 22 | Black-crowned Night-Heron | <i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i> | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| 23 | Squacco Heron | <i>Ardeola ralloides</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| 24 | Grey Heron | <i>Ardea cinerea</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 25 | Purple Heron | <i>Ardea purpurea</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 26 | Great Egret | <i>Ardea alba</i> | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ | | |
| 27 | Little Egret | <i>Egretta garzetta</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| 28 | Great White Pelican | <i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i> | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 29 | Dalmatian Pelican | <i>Pelecanus crispus</i> | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| 30 | Pygmy Cormorant | <i>Microcarbo pygmeus</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| 31 | Great Cormorant | <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| 32 | European Honey Buzzard | <i>Pernis apivorus</i> | | | | | | | | | ✓ | ✓ |
| 33 | White-tailed Eagle | <i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i> | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| 34 | Short-toed Eagle | <i>Circaetus gallicus</i> | | | | | ✓ | | | | | ✓ |
| 35 | Western Marsh Harrier | <i>Circus aeruginosus</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 36 | Montagu's Harrier | <i>Circus pygargus</i> | | | | ✓ | | | | | ✓ | |
| 37 | Levant Sparrowhawk | <i>Accipiter brevipes</i> | | | | | | | | | | ✓ |
| 38 | Eurasian Sparrowhawk | <i>Accipiter nisus</i> | | | ✓ | | | | | | | |

| | Common Names | Scientific Names | May | | | | | | | | | |
|----|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|
| | | | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | |
| 39 | Common Buzzard | <i>Buteo buteo</i> | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | ✓ | ✓ |
| 40 | Long-legged Buzzard | <i>Buteo rufinus</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | ✓ |
| 41 | Lesser Spotted Eagle | <i>Aquila pomarina</i> | | | ✓ | | | | | | | |
| 42 | Booted Eagle | <i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i> | | | | | | | | | ✓ | ✓ |
| 43 | Common Kestrel | <i>Falco tinnunculus</i> | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 44 | Red-footed Falcon | <i>Falco vespertinus</i> | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 45 | Eurasian Hobby | <i>Falco subbuteo</i> | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 46 | Water Rail | <i>Rallus aquaticus</i> | | | | | | h | | | | |
| 47 | Common Moorhen | <i>Gallinula chloropus</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| 48 | Eurasian Coot | <i>Fulica atra</i> | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| 49 | Eurasian Oystercatcher | <i>Haematopus ostralegus</i> | | | | | | | | | | ✓ |
| 50 | Black-winged Stilt | <i>Himantopus himantopus</i> | | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| 51 | Pied Avocet | <i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i> | | | | ✓ | | | | | ✓ | |
| 52 | Northern Lapwing | <i>Vanellus vanellus</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 53 | Grey Plover | <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> | | | | | | | | | | ✓ |
| 54 | Kentish Plover | <i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i> | | | | | | | | | | ✓ |
| 55 | Little Ringed Plover | <i>Charadrius dubius</i> | | | | | ✓ | | | | | |
| 56 | Common Sandpiper | <i>Actitis hypoleucos</i> | | | | ✓ | | | | | | |
| 57 | Common Redshank | <i>Tringa totanus</i> | | | | | | | | | | ✓ |
| 58 | Little Stint | <i>Calidris minuta</i> | | | | | | | | | | ✓ |
| 59 | Curlew Sandpiper | <i>Calidris ferruginea</i> | | | | | | | | | | ✓ |
| 60 | Collared Pratincole | <i>Glareola pratincola</i> | | | | | | | | | | ✓ |
| 61 | Black-headed Gull | <i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 62 | Mediterranean Gull | <i>Ichthyaetus melanocephalus</i> | | | | ✓ | | | | | | ✓ |
| 63 | Caspian Gull | <i>Larus cachinnans</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 64 | Common Tern | <i>Sterna hirundo</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 65 | Little Tern | <i>Sterna albifrons</i> | | | | | | | | | | ✓ |
| 66 | Whiskered Tern | <i>Chlidonias hybrida</i> | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 67 | White-winged Black Tern | <i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i> | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| 68 | Black Tern | <i>Chlidonias niger</i> | | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 69 | Feral Pigeon | <i>Columba livia</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 70 | Stock Dove | <i>Columba oenas</i> | | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | | | |
| 71 | Woodpigeon | <i>Columba palumbus</i> | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 72 | European Turtle Dove | <i>Streptopelia turtur</i> | | | | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 73 | Eurasian Collared Dove | <i>Streptopelia decaocto</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 74 | Common Cuckoo | <i>Cuculus canorus</i> | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 75 | Tawny Owl | <i>Strix aluco</i> | | | | | | | | ✓ | | |
| 76 | Alpine Swift | <i>Tachymarptis melba</i> | | ✓ | | | | | | | | |
| 77 | Common Swift | <i>Apus apus</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ | | |
| 78 | European Roller | <i>Coracias garrulus</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 79 | Common Kingfisher | <i>Alcedo atthis</i> | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| 80 | European Bee-eater | <i>Merops apiaster</i> | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |

| | Common Names | Scientific Names | May | | | | | | | | |
|-----|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 81 | Eurasian Hoopoe | <i>Upupa epops</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 82 | Lesser Spotted Woodpecker | <i>Dendrocopos minor</i> | | | | | | | h | | |
| 83 | Middle Spotted Woodpecker | <i>Dendrocopos medius</i> | | | | | | | | | ✓ |
| 84 | Great Spotted Woodpecker | <i>Dendrocopos major</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| 85 | Black Woodpecker | <i>Dryocopus martius</i> | | | h | | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| 86 | Grey-headed Woodpecker | <i>Picus canus</i> | | | | | h | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| 87 | Red-backed Shrike | <i>Lanius collurio</i> | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 88 | Lesser Grey Shrike | <i>Lanius minor</i> | | | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 89 | Eurasian Golden Oriole | <i>Oriolus oriolus</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ |
| 90 | Eurasian Jay | <i>Garrulus glandarius</i> | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | |
| 91 | Eurasian Magpie | <i>Pica pica</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 92 | Spotted Nutcracker | <i>Nucifraga caryocatactes</i> | | | h | | | | | | |
| 93 | Western Jackdaw | <i>Coloeus monedula</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 94 | Rook | <i>Corvus frugilegus</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 95 | Hooded Crow | <i>Corvus cornix</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 96 | Northern Raven | <i>Corvus corax</i> | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | |
| 97 | Marsh Tit | <i>Poecile palustris</i> | | h | ✓ | | | | | | |
| 98 | Coal Tit | <i>Parus ater</i> | | h | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | |
| 99 | Great Tit | <i>Parus major</i> | | h | ✓ | h | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 100 | Eurasian Blue Tit | <i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i> | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| 101 | Eurasian Penduline Tit | <i>Remiz pendulinus</i> | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| 102 | Bearded Tit | <i>Panurus biarmicus</i> | | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 103 | Calandra Lark | <i>Melanocorypha calandra</i> | | | | | | | | ✓ | |
| 104 | Greater Short-toed Lark | <i>Calandrella brachydactyla</i> | | | | | | | | ✓ | |
| 105 | Crested Lark | <i>Galerida cristata</i> | | | | | | | | ✓ | ✓ |
| 106 | Woodlark | <i>Lullula arborea</i> | | | ✓ | | | | | h | ✓ |
| 107 | Eurasian Skylark | <i>Alauda arvensis</i> | | | | ✓ | | | | ✓ | |
| 108 | Sand Martin | <i>Riparia riparia</i> | | | | ✓ | | | | ✓ | |
| 109 | Barn Swallow | <i>Hirundo rustica</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 110 | Common House Martin | <i>Delichon urbicum</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ |
| 111 | Common Chiffchaff | <i>Phylloscopus collybita</i> | | h | ✓ | | h | | h | h | h |
| 112 | Wood Warbler | <i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i> | | h | | | | | | | ✓ |
| 113 | Great Reed Warbler | <i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 114 | Paddyfield Warbler | <i>Acrocephalus agricola</i> | | | | | | | | ✓ | |
| 115 | Sedge Warbler | <i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i> | | | | | h | h | ✓ | | |
| 116 | Eurasian Reed Warbler | <i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i> | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 117 | Savi's Warbler | <i>Locustella luscinioides</i> | | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | h | |
| 118 | Icterine Warbler | <i>Hippolais icterina</i> | | | | | | | | | ✓ |
| 119 | Eurasian Blackcap | <i>Sylvia atricapilla</i> | | h | ✓ | h | h | | | h | h |
| 120 | Garden Warbler | <i>Sylvia borin</i> | | | ✓ | | ✓ | | h | | |
| 121 | Lesser Whitethroat | <i>Sylvia curruca</i> | | | ✓ | ✓ | h | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| 122 | Common Whitethroat | <i>Sylvia communis</i> | | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | h | h |

| | Common Names | Scientific Names | May | | | | | | | | | |
|-----|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|
| | | | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | |
| 123 | Common Firecrest | <i>Regulus ignicapilla</i> | | | ✓ | | | | | | | |
| 124 | Goldcrest | <i>Regulus regulus</i> | | h | h | | | | | | | |
| 125 | Eurasian Wren | <i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i> | | h | h | | | | | | | |
| 126 | Eurasian Nuthatch | <i>Sitta europaea</i> | | | | | | | | | | ✓ |
| 127 | Common Starling | <i>Sturnus vulgaris</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 128 | Common Blackbird | <i>Turdus merula</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | h | ✓ | | | ✓ |
| 129 | Fieldfare | <i>Turdus pilaris</i> | | | ✓ | | | | | | | |
| 130 | Song Thrush | <i>Turdus philomelos</i> | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | h |
| 131 | Mistle Thrush | <i>Turdus viscivorus</i> | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | | |
| 132 | European Robin | <i>Erithacus rubecula</i> | | h | ✓ | | | | | | | |
| 133 | Common Nightingale | <i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i> | | | | | h | | h | | | h |
| 134 | Black Redstart | <i>Phoenicurus ochuros</i> | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | ✓ |
| 135 | Common Redstart | <i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i> | | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| 136 | Northern Wheatear | <i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i> | | | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 137 | Pied Wheatear | <i>Oenanthe pleschanka</i> | | | | | | | | | ✓ | ✓ |
| 138 | Isabelline Wheatear | <i>Oenanthe isabellina</i> | | | | | | | | | ✓ | |
| 139 | European Stonechat | <i>Saxicola rubicola</i> | | | | | | | | | | ✓ |
| 140 | Whinchat | <i>Saxicola rubetra</i> | | | | | | | | | ✓ | |
| 141 | Spotted Flycatcher | <i>Muscicapa striata</i> | | | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 142 | Collared Flycatcher | <i>Ficedula albicollis</i> | | | ✓ | | | | | | | |
| 143 | Red-breasted Flycatcher | <i>Ficedula parva</i> | | ✓ | | | | | | | | ✓ |
| 144 | House Sparrow | <i>Passer domesticus</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 145 | Spanish Sparrow | <i>Passer hispaniolensis</i> | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ | | |
| 146 | Eurasian Tree Sparrow | <i>Passer montanus</i> | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 147 | Duncock | <i>Prunella modularis</i> | | h | | | | | | | | |
| 148 | Western Yellow Wagtail | <i>Motacilla flava</i> | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| 149 | Grey Wagtail | <i>Motacilla cinerea</i> | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | |
| 150 | White Wagtail | <i>Motacilla alba</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 151 | Tawny Pipit | <i>Anthus campestris</i> | | | | | | | | | ✓ | ✓ |
| 152 | Tree Pipit | <i>Anthus trivialis</i> | | | ✓ | | | | | | | |
| 153 | Common Chaffinch | <i>Fringilla coelebs</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | h | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 154 | European Greenfinch | <i>Carduelis chloris</i> | h | h | ✓ | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 155 | European Goldfinch | <i>Carduelis carduelis</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| 156 | Hawfinch | <i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i> | | | ✓ | | | | | | | ✓ |
| 157 | Corn Bunting | <i>Emberiza calandra</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 158 | Yellowhammer | <i>Emberiza citrinella</i> | | | ✓ | | | | | | | |
| 159 | Common Reed Bunting | <i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i> | | | | | | ✓ | h | ✓ | | |
| 160 | Ortolan Bunting | <i>Emberiza hortulana</i> | | | | | | | | | ✓ | ✓ |

| | Common Names | Scientific Names | May | | | | | | |
|--|--------------|------------------|-----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |

Mammals

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|------------------------------|--|--|---|--|--|--|--|---|---|---|
| 1 | European (Brown) Hare | <i>Lepus europaeus</i> | | | | | | | | | | ✓ |
| 2 | European Suslik | <i>Spermophilus citellus</i> | | | | | | | | | ✓ | ✓ |
| 3 | Bank Vole | <i>Myodes glareolus</i> | | | ✓ | | | | | | | |
| 4 | Brown Bear | <i>Ursus arctos</i> | | | ✓ | | | | | | | |
| 5 | Red Fox | <i>Vulpes vulpes</i> | | | ✓ | | | | | | ✓ | |
| 6 | Roe Deer | <i>Capreolus capreolus</i> | | | | | | | | ✓ | | |

Herptiles

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|----------------------------|------------------------------|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Spur-thighed Tortoise | <i>Testudo graeca</i> | | | | | | | | | ✓ | |
| 2 | European Pond Terrapin | <i>Emys orbicularis</i> | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| 3 | European Green Lizard | <i>Lacerta viridis</i> | | | | | | | | | ✓ | ✓ |
| 4 | Balkan Wall Lizard | <i>Podarcis tauricus</i> | | | | | | | | | ✓ | ✓ |
| 5 | European Snake-eyed Skink | <i>Ablepharus kitaibelii</i> | | | | | | | | | ✓ | ✓ |
| 6 | Smooth Snake | <i>Coronella austriaca</i> | | | | | | | | | | ✓ |
| 7 | Grass Snake | <i>Natrix natrix</i> | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8 | European Fire-bellied Toad | <i>Bombina bombina</i> | | | | | | | ✓ | h | | |
| 9 | Pool/Edible/Marsh Frogs | <i>Pelophylax spp.</i> | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | |



Marsh Harrier



Lesser Grey Shrike