

Romania's Danube Delta & Carpathian Mountains

Naturetrek Tour Report

22 – 31 August 2015

Report & images compiled by Marcus John



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Introduction

We all enjoyed every part of this varied trip, from the dramatic Carpathian Mountains to the intricate backwaters of the vast Danube Delta. The weather was dry with sunny spells for the first two days, then hot and sunny for the remainder of our holiday. An early highlight was the evening visit to the bear hide. This was an extraordinary experience, with seven adult bears and three delightful young cubs, who were interacting right in front of us! Next, we drove across the plains to Tulcea and spent four days aboard the floating hotel, which took us into the very heart of the delta. The sheer abundance of water birds was breathtaking; hundreds of herons and egrets thronged the muddy margins and reedbeds, pelicans massed in hidden lakes and White-tailed Eagles were a majestic presence. Kingfishers, terns and a variety of waders added to the spectacle. Finally, we spent two days exploring the Baltic Sea coast, which revealed yet another side to this fascinating country, which remains relatively unspoilt.

Day 1

Saturday 22nd August

Bucharest - Zarnesti

After a pleasant flight from London, we arrived in Bucharest on schedule and were met by Laurentiu, our Romanian guide. He was in typically buoyant mood as we set off on the long drive for Zarnesti. Our journey took us north-west across the wide plains that surround the capital city. Although we didn't have time for any proper birding, we did see a selection of raptors from the coach including a Hobby, two Marsh Harriers and another Harrier that was either Montagu's or Pallid - the views were too distant to be certain! As we passed a small wetland, we also saw Caspian Gulls and a Whiskered Tern.

After a couple of hours, we left the plain and entered the Carpathian foothills. The road passed through a succession of ski resorts before we eventually arrived at our Transylvanian guesthouse in Zarnesti. We were welcomed with a glass of "Dracula's Tears" - a local spirit that was actually very pleasant! After a delicious meal, we retired to our rooms, looking forward to a full day in the mountains.

Day 2

Sunday 23rd August

Coltul Chiliilor - Valea Stramba - Valea Plaulfoii

After breakfast, we drove the short distance to the valley of Coltul Chiliilor. We set off on foot to follow a path up through lovely alpine meadows, where we found two Black Redstarts and two Crossbills. We were also delighted to see several Red-backed Shrikes, which is now such a rare sight back in the UK. As we climbed higher and entered the forest, we heard the distinctive calls of Nutcracker; soon several birds flew across and perched briefly in the treetops. A Black Woodpecker was even more obliging, perching on a tree trunk long enough for everyone to enjoy great views through the scope. Higher still, we saw Sparrowhawks, Common Kestrels and a Honey Buzzard.

In the afternoon, we walked along the gently sloping Valea Stramba, where a large flock of European Bee-eaters were hawking overhead and dropping into tall trees to consume the dragonflies they had caught...a superb sight

in the scope! It was lovely, warm afternoon and more interesting birds were found including Golden Oriole, Wryneck and Spotted Flycatcher.

In the evening we set off in search of Brown Bears. Anticipation grew as we drove up the steep track; a sudden movement and a shout drew our attention. However, it was not a bear but a Black Stork, flying along a forest stream. A Red Fox was also seen and some of us glimpsed a Marten. We parked the coach and walked on for a few minutes before crossing a wooden footbridge and entering the large and well-constructed hide. Almost immediately, a mother with two cubs walked into the open area right in front of us! They spent a long time feeding on the nuts and other food placed in hollow logs, and were soon joined by several other bears. At one point, something spooked the two cubs, one of which ran off as the other quickly clambered up the trunk of a large tree! By the time it was dark, we had spent over an hour in the company of seven adults and three young, a truly magical experience.

Day 3

Monday 24th August

Zarnesti Gorge - Bran

The day dawned bright and clear as we set off for the Zarnesti Gorge. The scenery here is spectacular and there were birds to match; a Honey Buzzard flew quite low overhead, being pursued by a male Goshawk! As we strolled up the narrow valley towards the gorge itself, we had time to enjoy close views of a range of smaller birds. It was good to have the opportunity to appreciate the key features that separate Marsh and Willow Tits; several of each species were feeding close to the path.

When we walked between the precipitous rock walls of the gorge, our attention was drawn to a cacophony of high-pitched calls overhead. A flock of about 40 Alpine Swifts made an impressive sight as they banked and wheeled above us. We ate our packed lunch sitting in a sunny clearing where a range of butterflies included Water Ringlet, Swallowtail and Dark Green Fritillaries. On our way back out of the gorge, we had prolonged views of a smart Black-bellied Dipper by a mountain stream.

In the late afternoon, we visited Castle Bran, which has connections to the infamous Vlad the Impaler. During the last century, it was restored as the summer home of King Ferdinand and his very popular British wife, Queen Marie. As we drove out of the town, we stopped to look back at the Castle, a magnificent sight as it towers above the surrounding rooftops. We also found a high flying raptor, which on closer examination turned out to be our first Lesser Spotted Eagle.

Day 4

Tuesday 25th August

Zarnesti - Hasar Lake - Tulcea

Today we had the long drive from Zarnesti across to the port of Tulcea, from where we would sail off to explore the Danube Delta. After another excellent breakfast, we bid goodbye to our genial hosts and settled into our comfortable coach. We made the most of the journey by scanning from our windows and were rewarded with lots of Red-backed Shrikes and a dozen each of Common Buzzard and Marsh Harrier. The scenery underwent a real transition as we descended from the Carpathian mountains, and crossed the open plains of central Romania before entering the low-lying region of Dobruja, on the Black Sea coast.

It was a dry, hot day and we stopped regularly for drinks and ice-creams; during one such stop we found our first Crested Larks, on open ground by a petrol station! We broke the journey properly when we spent some time at Ciorani Forest; here we had close views of several Spotted Flycatchers. As we travelled further south and east, we began to see European Rollers on the roadside wires.

In the late afternoon, we visited Hasar Lake, our first real chance to look for wetland species. An assortment of ducks included ten Garganey and there were good numbers of Great Egrets, as well as several Pygmy Cormorants. There were plenty of waders feeding on the nearshore: Black-winged Stilt, Wood Sandpiper, Little Stint and Red-necked Phalarope were the most exciting finds amongst the commoner species.

We arrived in the harbour at Tulcea and went aboard the floating hotel; everyone was pleasantly surprised at how well-equipped and comfortable it was. We had a large air-conditioned dining room and bar, an open deck outside and access to the roof for a more elevated view.

Day 5

Wednesday 26th August

Danube Delta (Central-Northern)

The Danube Delta comprises a vast network of various channels, reedbeds and lakes, covering an area of approximately 1,600 square miles. Our floating hotel enabled us to stay in the heart of this amazing area. In the smaller boat (which was towed behind us), we were able to travel along shallow channels and access the quiet backwaters and less disturbed areas, where the birdlife is abundant.

It was turning into another hot, sunny day as we were towed slowly through the docks and out into the wide Sulina channel. We saw dozens of Whiskered Terns mixed with smaller numbers of Common Terns. A real bonus came in the form of a lovely Musk Rat, which we watched as it swam across the channel right in front of us.

We spent most of the morning enjoying our first journey on the smaller launch. We explored the narrower channels in the northern part of the Delta, travelling slowly along tree-lined waterways, with Common Kingfishers seemingly on every other tree! We saw dozens of Glossy Ibis feeding in the muddy margins and regularly flushed both Squacco and Black-crowned Night Herons; by the end of the day, we estimated that we had seen about a hundred of each species! This was less surprising once we noticed that wherever we went, the water was teeming with frogs. Looking down into the water, we also found two European Pond Terrapins.

After an excellent three course lunch back on the hotel, we again boarded the launch for our late afternoon trip. With the sun low in the sky, we explored a sheltered lake covered with water lilies and fringed with reeds. Here we found a flock of over 100 Great White Pelicans, over which flew hundreds of Greylag Geese. We also saw our first White-tailed Eagle, perched in a distant tree. Reluctantly, we left this captivating scene and returned to the floating hotel for another delicious meal and evening drinks.

Day 6

Thursday 27th August

Danube Delta (Central-Southern)

Today we stopped on dry land and went for a two hour walk to visit some shallow pools. Unfortunately, it had been a dry summer and only one pool held any water. However, this had concentrated the birds and, amongst hundreds of gulls, we found 40 Caspian Terns, their large red bills making them quite easy to pick out. As we explored the open landscape, big flocks of Great White Pelicans were spiralling high overhead. Much closer were four Eurasian Spoonbills, which were feeding in a shallow creek. We had good views of several Rollers and also our first Northern Wheatears of the trip.

When we returned to the floating hotel, we stayed on board as it was towed to a stunning new location at the confluence of two channels. From the roof-top deck, the views across the vast reedbeds were simply stunning. In the late afternoon, we made our way to a little lake, where we watched Whiskered Terns feeding their downy chicks, which were sitting on floating mats of vegetation. Dozens of herons and egrets of seven different species added to the spectacle. To round off the experience, as we made our way slowly back to the floating hotel, an adult White-tailed Eagle flew low in front of the boat, affording excellent views.

On our return, we gathered together on the roof-top deck before dinner. As we watched the sun set over the water and reeds, a group of Purple Herons flew across the rising moon, a fitting end to a wonderful day.

Day 7

Friday 28th August

Danube Delta (West) - Lake Fortuna

Most of us were up at dawn to watch the sun rise from the roof-top deck. A White-tailed Eagle showed first, shortly followed by two Hobbies that flew in to perch in a dead tree by the bank, before flying out over the water to hawk dragonflies. Just as we were about to go down for breakfast, a Black Woodpecker flew into another dead tree and we were able to watch it through the scope.

We set off on the launch immediately after breakfast and being first out on the smaller waterways worked to our advantage. We disturbed a roost of about twenty Black-crowned Night Herons, including stunning adult birds in their beautiful white, grey and black plumage. The western part of the delta has more reedbeds and so we saw good numbers of Little Bitterns, including a very obliging juvenile that was hunting frogs. Best of all, we saw our first Great (Eurasian) Bittern as it flew above the reeds.

We explored several lakes, the largest of which was Lake Fortuna. As well as dozens of herons and egrets, there were hundreds of ducks, including Ferruginous Duck and Garganey. There were also hundreds of Great White Pelicans and over a thousand Eurasian Coots! The sheer number of waterbirds, all bathed in glorious sunshine, was a sight that will live long in the memory.

Once back on the floating hotel, we sat out on deck to enjoy the warm sunshine. On the way back to Tulcea, we saw another Black Woodpecker, a Montagu's Harrier and two more White-tailed Eagles. During the day we had also seen three Musk Rats and two Grass Snakes swimming in the channels.

It is fair to say that the Danube Delta had exceeded everyone's expectations. The wide open vistas, the sheer abundance of waterbirds and the exceptional views of some iconic species had left us with wonderful memories.

Day 8

Saturday 29th August

Deniz Tepe - Black Sea Coast

After breakfast in the rather elegant dining room of the guesthouse in Tulcea, we set off for Deniz Tepe. This large hill stands out from the surrounding plains; the open, steppe habitat could not have offered a greater contrast to the previous three days. We were looking for new bird species but what caught our attention first were the Souseliks. These endearing little ground squirrels are very much at home in the arid grassland. One individual kept popping into view at the top of a low mound, occasionally standing up on his hind-legs, wary of potential predators.

We soon found typical steppe birds, including Isabelline Wheatear and Tawny Pipit, but it was the raptors that stole the show. We had excellent views of Black Kite, Short-toed Eagle, Montagu's Harrier, Long-legged Buzzard, Lesser Spotted Eagle and Booted Eagle as well as several Steppe Buzzards!

In the afternoon we visited the Black Sea coast. It was very hot and we took a welcome break for cold drinks before exploring some open ground near the historical site of Histria. Birds were hard to find in the heat of the day but we did see our only Calandra Larks. We drove on to Vadu, where a rough track took us out past some brackish lagoons and reedbeds to the beach. Although it was quite busy with day trippers, we did find some interesting birdlife. Little Gulls and Gull-billed Terns flew past, whilst together on the edge of one lagoon were Green, Wood and Common Sandpipers. Some of the group were lucky enough to find a Collared Pratincole; easier to see were two Black-necked Grebes. A Spur-thighed Tortoise and three Common Lizards were a nice bonus.

The number of roadside birds is testament to the traditional farming methods that still predominate in Romania. On the drive back to Tulcea we saw lots of Bee-eaters, Rollers and even a few Lesser Grey Shrikes perched on roadside wires. We also saw big flocks of Yellow Wagtail; we estimated around 400 birds in total.

Day 9

Sunday 30th August

Celic Dere Monastery - Macin Mountains

The monastery at Celic Dere is situated in a gentle landscape with a wide stream, open grassy fields and mixed woodland. There is an abundance of wildlife and we spent two hours exploring the various habitats. As well as birds, butterflies were abundant - we saw literally hundreds of beautiful Silver-washed Fritillaries.

A large group of finches was moving around the tree tops; we quickly found one or two Hawfinches and gradually realised that they made up the majority of the flock, about 80 in total! As we strolled around an old orchard, we saw a number of woodpeckers flitting from tree to tree. On careful inspection, we identified Great Spotted, Middle Spotted and Syrian Woodpeckers; everyone enjoyed extended views of all three species.

At the woodland edge, we saw a small passerine dropping down from a low perch before flicking up again, reminiscent of a Robin. However, its small size and cocked tail alerted us to the presence of a Red-breasted Flycatcher, a first view for most of us. When we left the woodland again, raptors were moving overhead. Amongst the Steppe Buzzards were four Booted Eagles and one Lesser Spotted Eagle.

In the afternoon, we enjoyed a complete contrast in scenery as we visited the Macin Mountains. The heat of the afternoon inevitably meant reduced bird activity but we did find Hoopoe, Woodlark and Common Redstart. We also had good views of at least three Balkan Wall Lizards and several butterfly species, including Great Banded Grayling.

We returned to our guest house with plenty of time to freshen up and pack before the last of our delicious dinners (everyone agreed that the food had been very good throughout our trip).

Day 10

Monday 31st August

We said goodbye to the guest house staff and boarded the coach for our last journey back to the airport in Bucharest. As we travelled through villages and farmland, we saw many more Rollers, Bee-eaters and Red-backed Shrikes, which had been such a feature of our time in Romania.

We arrived at the airport with time to spare and said goodbye to our excellent local guide and driver. Laurentiu had been very good company and his bird-finding skills were superb. Everyone had thoroughly enjoyed every day of a memorable holiday.

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Species Lists

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

	Common name	Scientific name	August										
			22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
1	Common Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>									H	H	
2	Common Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>					✓	✓			✓		
3	Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>		✓			✓	✓	✓				
4	Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>				4	10	20	100+	20	100		
5	Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>					4						
6	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
7	Northern Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>				2							
8	Garganey	<i>Anas querquedula</i>				10	30	20	100+				
9	Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>				2	10	40	100+				
10	Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>				20+							
11	Ferruginous Duck	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>					6	30	50				
12	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>					2	4	6	5			
13	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>					4	8	2	1			
14	Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>								2			
15	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>		1		4	3		10	3		2	
16	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>		1	1	1				40		7	
17	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>					50	40	100+				
18	Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>					2	4					
19	Eurasian Bittern	<i>Botaurus stellaris</i>							1				
20	Little Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>					2	3	10				
21	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>					100	25	40				
22	Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>					100	150	100	1			
23	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>		1	8	10	60	40	60	4			
24	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>					12	40	50	1			
25	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>				10	40	30	50	1	2		
26	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>			1	3	100	60	100+				
27	Great White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>					200	140	1000+	30			
28	Pygmy Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo pygmeus</i>				10	100	40	100+	20			
29	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>					50	30	100+	20			
30	European Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>		1	1		1						
31	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>								6			
32	White-tailed Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>					1	2	3				
33	Short-toed Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>								1			
34	Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	2		2	12	8	10	20	40	6	2	
35	Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>							1	2	3		
36	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>		2							1		
37	Northern Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>			1								
38	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>		8	4	12	1	1	2	30	10	2	
39	Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>								1			
40	Lesser Spotted Eagle	<i>Aquila pomarina</i>			1					1	1		
41	Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraetus pennatus</i>								2	4		
42	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>		3	3	6	1	1	1	6	2		
43	Red-footed Falcon	<i>Falco vespertinus</i>								1			
44	Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>	1				1	3	10		1		
45	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>						1					
46	Water Rail	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>							H				
47	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓				

	Common name	Scientific name	August										
			22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
48	Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
49	Eurasian Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>					6						
50	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>				1	8	2					
51	Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>						H					
52	Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>				20	25	50	30				
53	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>						2					
54	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>				6	2	10	1				
55	Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>				100	50	40	40				
56	Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>						1					
57	Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>				2	2		1	1			
58	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>						2					
59	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>					6	10	6				
60	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>					2	6	10	2			
61	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>				12	50	10	10	1			
62	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>					4	6	6	3			
63	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>				2							
64	Red-necked Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>				1							
65	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>					6						
66	Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>				12	10	30	4				
67	Collared Pratincole	<i>Glareola pratincola</i>									1		
68	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
69	Little Gull	<i>Hydrocoloeus minutus</i>									L		
70	Caspian Gull	<i>Larus cachinnans</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
71	Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>									2		
72	Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>					3	70	40				
73	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>				1	20	20	20	10			
74	Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>				20	100+	100+	100+	12			
75	White-winged Tern	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>					3						
76	Rock Dove / Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓		
77	Stock Dove	<i>Columba oenas</i>							3				
78	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>		2	2	2	1	3	4		4		
79	European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>				2					1		
80	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
81	Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>					2						
82	Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>										H	
83	Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>			30								
84	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>		✓									
85	European Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>				6	1	30			30	20	6
86	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>					40	10	10				
87	European Bee-Eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>		40		1	10	1			30	50	10
88	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>						5			3	3	
89	Eurasian Wryneck	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>		1	1						1		
90	Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos minor</i>					H	H	H				
91	Middle Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos medius</i>										2	
92	Syrian Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos syriacus</i>										2	
93	Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>										2	
94	Black Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus martius</i>		1			2		2				
95	European Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>										H	
96	Grey-headed Woodpecker	<i>Picus canus</i>			H		3		1				
97	Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
98	Lesser Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius minor</i>						1			5	1	

	Common name	Scientific name	August										
			22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
99	Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>		1			2					1	
100	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>		2	2							2	
101	Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
102	Spotted Nutcracker	<i>Nucifraga caryocatactes</i>		10	H								
103	Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>				✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	
104	Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	
105	Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
106	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>		10	6						4		
107	Marsh Tit	<i>Poecile palustris</i>		4	10							4	
108	Willow Tit	<i>Poecile montanus</i>			4								
109	Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>		6	10								
110	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		4	4	2	6	2	10			6	
111	Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		4	2	2	4	2	10			6	
112	Calandra Lark	<i>Melanocorypha calandra</i>									2		
113	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>				3					5		
114	Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>										3	
115	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>									✓		
116	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
117	Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
118	Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>			2		8	12	10				
119	Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>		1								6	
120	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>		H								H	
121	Wood Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>				1	2						
122	Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>						1					
123	Eurasian Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>					1		10	6	4		
124	Icterine Warbler	<i>Hippolais icterina</i>						1					
125	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>		3			1						
126	Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia curruca</i>		2								1	
127	Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>		H	H								
128	Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>			1			1					
129	Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>			H							H	
130	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>				✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
131	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>		1								2	
132	Fieldfare	<i>Turdus pilaris</i>			35								
133	European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>		2									
134	Common Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>					2						
135	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>		2									
136	Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>					2		1	1	1		
137	Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>		10			2					1	
138	Isabelline Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe isabellina</i>									3		
139	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>						2		10			
140	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>		2	1	6	2	2	2	1	2		
141	European Pied Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>			L								
142	Red-breasted Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula parva</i>			1		1					1	
143	White-throated Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>			1								
144	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
145	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>		4		2	6	6			1	1	
146	Western Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>				2	H	2			c400	2	
147	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>			5								
148	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
149	Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>									4		

	Common name	Scientific name	August										
			22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
150	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>		3	2								
151	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		3	6	H							
152	European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>		2	4							1	
153	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>			4							1	
154	Red Crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>		2									
155	Eurasian Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>		H									
156	Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>										80	
157	Common Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>					1	H	1				

Mammals

1	Roe Deer	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>					1						
2	European Brown Bear	<i>Ursus arctos</i>		10									
3	Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>		1									
4	Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>		1									
5	European Hare	<i>Lepus europaeus</i>					1			1	1		
6	Musk Rat	<i>Ondatra zibethicus</i>					1		4				
7	Souslik	<i>Spermophilus citellus</i>									3		
8	Bat sp.			1									
9	Golden Jackal	<i>Canis aureus</i>									L		
10	Marten sp.	<i>Martes sp.</i>		1									

Amphibians

1	Marsh/Pond/Edible Frog	<i>Pelophylax sp</i>					✓	✓	✓				
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Reptiles

1	Grass Snake	<i>Natrix natrix persa</i>						1	2				
2	Balkan Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis tauricus</i>									1	3	
3	Spur-thighed Tortoise	<i>Testudo graeca</i>									1		
4	European Pond Turtle	<i>Emys orbicularis</i>					2		1				

Butterflies

1	Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓		
2	Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>									✓		
3	Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>		✓		✓						✓	
4	Balkan Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias myrmidone</i>					✓	✓			✓		
5	Scarce Swallowtail	<i>Iphiclides podalirius</i>				✓							
6	Green-veined White	<i>Pieris napi</i>			✓	✓							
7	Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>			✓				✓			✓	
8	Lesser Fiery Copper	<i>Lycaena thersamon</i>											✓
9	European Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>			✓								✓
10	Eastern Baton Blue	<i>Pseudophilotes vicrama</i>		✓									
11	Idas/Silver studded Blue	<i>Plebejus idas/argus</i>		✓		✓							✓
12	Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>		✓	✓								✓
13	Brimstone	<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>		✓	✓								
14	Berger's Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias alfariensis</i>		✓									
15	Marbled White	<i>Melanargia galathea</i>			✓								
16	Water Ringlet	<i>Erebia pronoe</i>			✓								
17	Comma	<i>Polygonia c-album</i>			✓	✓							
18	Silver-washed Fritillary	<i>Argynnis paphia</i>			✓						✓	✓	

	Common name	Scientific name	August									
			22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
19	Dark Green Fritillary	<i>Argynnis aglaja</i>			✓							
20	Camberwell Beauty	<i>Nymphalis antiopa</i>						✓				
21	Purple Emperor	<i>Apatura iris</i>								✓		
22	Great Banded Grayling	<i>Brintesia circe</i>								✓	✓	
23	Bath White	<i>Pontia daplidice</i>								✓		
24	Large Copper	<i>Lycaena dispar</i>									✓	

Other Taxa

Blue-tailed Damselfly, *Ischnura elegans*

Golden-ringed Dragonfly, *Cordulegaster boltonii*

Common Darter Dragonfly, *Sympetrum striolatum*

Praying Mantis, *Mantis religiosa*

Shieldbug sp.,

Humming-bird Hawk-moth, *Macroglossum stellatarum*

Dor Beetle, *Geotrupes stercorarius*

Banded Demoiselle, *Calopteryx splendens*

Common Hawker Dragonfly, *Aeshna juncea*

Grasshopper sp.,

Brassica Bug, *Eurydema oleracea*

Firebug, *Pyrrhocoris apterus*

Hornet, *Vespa crabro*