

# Romania's Danube Delta and Carpathian Mountains

Naturetrek Tour Report

12 – 21 September 2015



Wallcreeper



View over Carpathian Mountains



Afloat on the Danube Delta



White Pelicans

Report and images by Jason Mitchell



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Tour Participants: Jason Mitchell (Leader) & Laurentiu Petrescu (local guide) with 14 Naturetrek clients

## Day 1

Saturday 12th September

### Transfer from Bucharest Airport to Zarnesti

Overcast but dry, 19°C. Laurentiu and Jason met with the group at Bucharest Airport, whose flight had arrived on time. With luggage safely stowed, we drove north across the plains to Ploiesti and then north-west into the mountains. Birds seen were mostly raptors, the best of which were several Marsh Harriers, these proving to be the first of many. We arrived at our comfortable guest house in the small Transylvanian town of Zarnesti in time to enjoy a glass of 'Dracula's Tears', compliments of the owners Gigi and Elena. After finding our rooms, we sat down to enjoy the first of many wonderful meals together.

## Day 2

Sunday 13th September

### Piatra Craiului National Park and Stramba Valley

Warm and sunny, 22°C. Following breakfast, a short drive found us in the Piatra Craiului National Park. We parked in view of the towering limestone ridge and, on leaving the minibus, we were greeted with super-close views of several Red-backed Shrikes, a Whinchat and dozens of Tree Pipits who were joined by a solitary Water Pipit. As we approached the forest edge, the raucous cries of Nutcrackers became increasingly frequent and the whole group had great views of this exciting member of the crow family. Black Woodpeckers were also evident by their calls and it was decided that, as the breeding season had passed, we would use a sound recording in an effort to lure one out of hiding. Shortly a duet commenced and, eventually, this usually shy and retiring species landed in a pine tree. Everyone had amazing views of this impressive woodpecker before we returned to the bus.

Back at the guest house, we were treated to a three-course meal before heading out once more, this time to the Stramba Valley. Immediately on arrival a large raptor was seen standing in a meadow next to the bus; on closer examination it proved to be a Lesser Spotted Eagle. With admiring on-lookers, it went casually about its business, hunting for small prey in the long grass before eventually walking out of sight. Ambling at a gentle pace, enjoying the views and good weather, we spotted several small birds in the hedgerows, the best being a smart 'sulphur-breasted' Icterine Warbler and a group of Yellowhammers.

Leaving the lower slopes behind, we headed further up the valley to our main destination, a hide where we hoped to observe Brown Bears. On meeting the warden, we quietly made our way to the bear hide. As we approached, we caught sight of a bear which had got there before us but, sadly, our arrival scared it off. However, our disappointment was short-lived as it soon returned and was later joined by four other individuals. With gasps and clicking camera shutters, we marvelled as the bears competed for the food on offer. As the evening progressed, we enjoyed incredible views of this huge and powerful wild animal. Leaving the reserve, we headed home feeling most privileged by what we had witnessed.

## Day 3

Monday 14th September

### Zarnesti Gorge and Castle Bran

Scattered cloud, turning sunny later, 20°C. The morning was spent enjoying the splendour of the Zarnesti Gorge and we all agreed it was no wonder that so many films have been shot there. As we entered the gorge, following the route of a small stream, a Grey Wagtail flashed by and several Firecrests called from deep within the emerald-green foliage of the Beech woodland. Distant, but raucous calls of Nutcracker became increasingly frequent but frustratingly all kept hidden from view.

Having just reassured the group that we were moments from our picnic site, a sudden flash of crimson stopped us in our tracks and we gazed on with great excitement as a Wallcreeper shuffled up the rock face just metres away! This charismatic species is rarely seen in the gorge before colder weather arrives, so observing it during our lunch stop whilst bathed in sunshine made the sighting even more memorable. After a relaxed picnic in the company of the Wallcreeper and dozens of hawker dragonflies, we headed back down the gorge to the waiting bus.

Our next destination was Castle Bran, the reputed former abode of Vlad the Impaler, but not before a stop at a local beauty spot with breath-taking views of the surrounding Carpathian landscape followed by a drink in a local café. Refreshed, we all headed up to the castle which dominates the skyline from the village below. After an interesting, yet leisurely look-around we returned to our accommodation and final evening in Zarnesti.

## Day 4

Tuesday 15th September

### Transfer from Zarnesti to Tulcea

Sunny, 23°C. Bidding farewell to our hosts in Zarnesti, we left the mountains for the Danube Delta via Ploiesti. Our route took us across the open plains fairly close to Bucharest then east towards Tulcea. On this occasion there was little evidence of raptor migration with relatively few birds seen other than a few Common Buzzards, Marsh Harriers and a dashing Hobby. As such, we all agreed to limit our stops to a couple of comfort breaks and a lunch stop, in favour of getting to the Delta before sunset.

It was during a stop in a service station that the group enjoyed close views of a Crested Lark, and it demonstrated perfectly why it is sometimes referred to as the 'carpark lark'. Our journey was further enlivened by sightings of several Rollers on overhead wires and 40 or more Black Storks along the dykes. Our last stop took in Lake Hasar, which was alive with a wide variety of water birds. Here we enjoyed our first views of Pygmy Cormorant, along with what proved to be our only Penduline Tit of the tour; fortunately it performed extremely well, perching in vegetation just metres away and affording good views to everyone.

A final short drive saw us arrive in Tulcea in good time to relax ahead of a sumptuous dinner aboard the floating hotel which would be home for the next few days.

## Day 5

Wednesday 16th September

### Danube Delta – Tulcea to Crisan

Sunny, 25°C. Due to a technical issue the day's itinerary was reversed and so we enjoyed a leisurely morning cruising along the main Sulina Channel rather than in the afternoon as originally planned. This proved to be an excellent decision, as it happened that there was some good raptor migration in progress and, by the end of the morning, we had seen a total of 10 species; the best of which included Lesser Spotted Eagle, Honey Buzzard and Red-footed Falcon! However, the stars of the show were an adult and immature White-tailed Eagle which flew around the boat at close quarters, giving everyone the opportunity to marvel at this truly magnificent bird of prey.

After lunch, we boarded a launch allowing us to explore some of the Delta's network of smaller channels. With Kingfishers zigzagging ahead of the boat, we enjoyed views of Great White Egret, Night Heron and our first Squacco Heron of the trip: a popular species that featured many times during our time on the Delta

At the end of a narrow channel, we stopped at the edge of Lake Iacob which was teeming with many different species of water bird. Wildfowl were especially numerous with hundreds of Greylag Geese, Mallard and Teal plus smaller numbers of Garganey and Gadwall present. Spotted Redshank, Wood Sandpiper and Ruff made up the more unusual waders, but of particular note were four Spoonbills and a group of Caspian Terns posing nicely on the exposed mud, while Bearded Tits called from nearby reeds.

Re-joining a larger channel, a distant but large flock of Ferruginous Duck lifted all too briefly before being lost from sight again; however, an even larger group of White Pelicans drifted high overhead and we remarked at their grace on the wing. As we returned to the floating hotel, a smattering of waders lined the shores including Greenshank, Black-tailed Godwit and Common Snipe.

## Day 6

Thursday 17th September

### Danube Delta – Crisan to Mila 23

Sunny, 26°C. Following a hearty breakfast we were back on the launch for another day exploring the Delta. We soon found ourselves on a smaller channel with various passerines darting amongst the riverside vegetation, one of which eventually gave itself up as a rather smart Red-breasted Flycatcher. A short distance along the same stretch a delicately marked juvenile Little Bittern was struggling to finish its breakfast; sadly for the frog it was a rather one-sided contest!

As we progressed towards a lake, the shore side trees gave way to reeds and extensive areas of water lilies. It was along this stretch where a Little Crake broke cover and we watched on as it and a second bird tip-toed over lilies right alongside the boat; we all agreed it was a treat to see this elusive species up close, enabling us to appreciate the subtleties of its cryptic plumage. At the end of the channel, we found ourselves at the edge of a large lake. Our arrival sent hundreds of ducks flying: Gadwall, Teal and dozens of Garganey. With the boat quietly 'beached' on a sandbank, the birds soon settled down and we scanned through the flocks turning up two Dalmatian Pelicans in amongst the hundreds of White Pelicans present.

Leaving the lake behind, we re-traced our route back towards the 'mother ship'. With our thoughts turning to lunch, we were soon back in the zone as a young White-tailed Eagle was spotted perched in a tree close to the channel. As we approached ever nearer, it held its nerve, only flying once the boat was virtually underneath it, allowing the photographers to capture some excellent flight shots.

After lunch, the afternoon was a leisurely affair, drifting along channels enjoying great views of Grey-headed Woodpecker, more eagles and pelicans before arrive at our mooring for the night. As darkness fell, three Water Rails put on a great performance as they slipped in and out of the adjacent reed bed. After a quick 'refresh', we all settled down to another wonderful dinner.

## Day 7

Friday 18th September

### Danube Delta – Mila 23 to Tulcea

Sunny, 27°C. To make the most of our last day on the Danube, most of us gathered, under clear and sunny skies, on the top deck for a pre-breakfast birdwatch. We were greeted by a large and noisy flock of Tree Sparrows, moments before a fly-by from six Spoonbills. Woodpeckers were in fine voice with both Middle Spotted and Lesser Spotted being heard; the more discreet calls of a Red-breasted Flycatcher drew our attention to it flitting in nearby willows just before we headed to the dining room for breakfast.

Breakfast over, we boarded the launch and headed towards Lake Furtuna. Once at the lake, the engine was switched off and we admired the fishing skills of a large flock of Pygmy Cormorants. Hundreds of pelicans were present too and, as we scanned the expanse of water, an impressive, four species of grebe were recorded: Little, Great Crested, Red-necked and Black-necked. Moving to another part of the lake, we stopped briefly en route in an effort to lure a Great Reed Warbler from cover but to no avail; however, it became apparent that the reeds were hiding many other passerines. Returning to the hotel, a Grey-headed Woodpecker landed in a dead tree affording excellent views of this tricky-to-see species.

After another fine lunch, the remainder of the day was a relaxed affair, birdwatching from the top deck as we slowly returned to Tulcea. A particularly cooperative Grey-headed Woodpecker responded well to whistled imitations of its call and a brightly-marked Red-breasted Flycatcher flitting in some willows lived up well to its name. With Tulcea almost in view and the group reflecting on what an enjoyable time we'd spent on the Delta, three Black Kites glided overhead, minutes before an Osprey took off alongside the boat as if to bid us farewell ahead of our last night on the mighty Danube.

## Day 8

Saturday 19th September

### Denis Tepe, Babadag Forest and Black Sea Coast

Hot and sunny, 28°C. Leaving the floating hotel for the last time, we were back on the bus once more and heading south. We drove a short distance through thick fog but, on arriving at our first destination, it began to lift unveiling Denis Tepe, an impressive steppe-land hill. Careful scanning soon produced an Isabelline Wheatear, one of the location's specialities, and the tour's first Long-legged Buzzards glided low overhead, revealing their distinctive rusty-coloured tails. As we drove back down the entrance track, a Roller balanced on overhead wires and a curious Little Owl gave us a 'hard stare' from its hiding place.

Moving on, we stopped and explored a wooded hillside in the Babadag Forest that seemed alive with the calls of woodpeckers. With temperature soaring, a Spur-thighed Tortoise seemed at home in the heat while most of us were seeking out shade. Other sun-loving creatures were in evidence too: a Praying Mantis allowed some macro photography while a handsome Cardinal butterfly was harder to 'pin down'.

Lunch was enjoyed in the shady garden of a small chapel where a flock of Bee-eaters hawked overhead giving their soft rippling calls before we pressed on towards the Black Sea coast. On arrival some of us headed along the shore in search of waders while others relaxed in the sun. Caspian Gulls were present in their hundreds with a handful of other gull species dotted amongst them: Little, Mediterranean and Yellow-legged. Terns were evident too with Common, Whiskered, Black, Sandwich and Caspian all putting in an appearance. Sanderling and Kentish Plover made up the majority of the waders, and a sighting of some dolphins off-shore was something of a highlight.

With a drive of an hour or more ahead of us to reach our guesthouse in Tulcea, we all agreed a stop at a local café for refreshment was in order. En-route to the café, a brief stop was made to identify what proved to be a Grass Snake basking on the road, while a large flock of Corn Buntings fed in a field nearby and a Wood Sandpiper flew overhead. On arrival in Tulcea we settled into our rooms before meeting for dinner ahead of our final day.

## Day 9

## Sunday 20th September

### Macin Mountains and Celic Dere

Hot and sunny, 30°C. Well-fed and back on the bus, we headed out towards the town of Macin. Again luck was on our side and the fog burnt off just as we arrived, revealing another glorious day. After passing through the town we were soon on a dusty track where the first Susliks of the tour were spotted. This endearing ground squirrel is always a crowd pleaser and performed well with some appearing just alongside the bus. Disembarking, we set off on a short walk into the Oriental Hornbeam woodland at the base of the Macin Hills. Sombre Tit was soon on show, giving us a great chance to enjoy the subtle plumage of this unobtrusive yet handsome species. Common Redstart and Whinchat flitted amongst the trees and the fluty song of a Woodlark carried on the still air.

Our next destination and lunch stop was in the Muntii Macinului National Park. Lunch finished, we set about a short walk into the Macin Hills; reaching a high point the group were able to enjoy impressive views of the surrounding countryside with several raptors passing overhead, including a possible Levant Sparrowhawk which proved to be 'the one that got away'...every tour has at least one!

After another short drive, we arrived at a large woodland adjacent to a monastery known as Celic Dere. Almost immediately, a couple of Hawfinch landed high up in a tree above us: although views were brief, it was a popular sighting of a difficult-to-see species in the UK. The site is well known for its diverse woodpecker fauna and we weren't to be disappointed as the air was full of their calls. Moving up a slope into an orchard at the edge of the woodland, we were rewarded with stunning views of Syrian, Middle Spotted and Grey-headed Woodpeckers. In total six species were seen or heard during our visit!

Reluctantly, we boarded the bus and headed back to Tulcea for our final dinner of the tour and to reflect on what had been an amazing holiday experiencing the best of Romania's wildlife.

## Day 10

Monday 21st September

### Transfer from Tulcea to Bucharest Airport

Hot and sunny, 30°C. Leaving Tulcea behind, we set-off for Bucharest airport. As we travelled, we recorded several types of raptor; harriers, buzzards, an eagle, plus a couple of Red-footed Falcons. Black Storks were again feeding in adjacent field, while a large flock flying overhead had an interloper in the form of a White Stork.

We arrived at the airport in good time to say our goodbyes and after a smooth flight, the group arrived safely back in the UK a few hours later.

## Acknowledgements

Thanks to Laurentiu, for his expertise and efforts, along with the various hotel staff that made our stay so enjoyable. And thanks too, to the members of the group for making it such an enjoyable and memorable trip.

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## Species Lists

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

	Common name	Scientific name	September									
			12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
1	Common Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>					✓	✓		✓		
2	Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>				1	100s	100s	100s			
3	Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
4	Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>					30+		70+	40+		
5	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
6	Northern Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>						8				
7	Garganey	<i>Anas querquedula</i>				5	10+	20+	10+			
8	Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>				40+	100+	100s	100s			
9	Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>				2						
10	Ferruginous Duck	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>					100+		20+			
11	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>				3		1	40+	10+		
12	Red-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps grisegena</i>							2			
13	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>				✓		✓	✓	✓		
14	Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>							4	3		
15	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>				40+	2	5	2		3	40+
16	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>										1
17	Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>					4		6			
18	Little Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>					1	5				
19	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>					30+	20+	15+			
20	Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>					40+	50+	40+	2		
21	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
22	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>					2	15+	2	4	1	
23	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
24	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
25	Great White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>					200+	100s	1000+			
26	Dalmatian Pelican	<i>Pelecanus crispus</i>						2				
27	Pygmy Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo pygmeus</i>				50+	40+	100s	100s	20+		4
28	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓		

	Common name	Scientific name	September									
			12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
29	Western Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>								1		
30	European Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>					2					
31	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>								3		
32	White-tailed Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>					5	10	10			
33	Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	4	3	4	10+	15+	20+	10+	8	3	3
34	Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>			1							
35	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>				1	3	1	2	2	4	
36	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	4	3	4	10+	5		1			
37	Steppe Buzzard	<i>Buteo vulpinus</i>								10+	6	2
38	Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>								6	6	1
39	Lesser Spotted Eagle	<i>Aquila pomarina</i>		1		1	3		1		1	
40	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
41	Red-footed Falcon	<i>Falco vespertinus</i>					15+	10+	6			2
42	Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>				1	15+	20+	10+	3	4+	1
43	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>					1					
44	Water Rail	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>						3	H			
45	Little Crake	<i>Porzana parva</i>						2				
46	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>					✓	✓	✓			
47	Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
48	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>				1						
49	Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	15				10	✓	✓			
50	Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>								20+		
51	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>				20+	30+	20+	10+	6		
52	Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>				15+	2	6	2			
53	Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>				4	3	2				
54	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>					2					
55	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>					1	H				
56	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>					1			1		
57	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>							H			
58	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>				2				1		
59	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>								50+		

	Common name	Scientific name	September									
			12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
60	Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>				1	1	3	1			
61	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
62	Little Gull	<i>Hydrocoloeus minutus</i>								12		
63	Mediterranean Gull	<i>Ichthyaetus melanocephalus</i>								1		
64	Caspian Gull	<i>Larus cachinnans</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
65	Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>								3		
66	Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>								3		
67	Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>					4	50+	4	1		
68	Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>								20+		
69	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>					6	10+	6	6		
70	Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>					20+	10+	10+	10+		
71	Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>								6		
72	Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓
73	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
74	European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>				5					1	
75	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
76	Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>								1		
77	Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>								1	H	
78	European Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>				5	3	1		3		
79	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>					4	10+	15+			
80	European Bee-Eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>				20+	30+	40+		20+		
81	Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos minor</i>			H			H	H			
82	Middle Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos medius</i>							H	H	3	
83	Syrian Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos syriacus</i>									6	
84	Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>		H	H	1		3	3		3	
85	Black Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus martius</i>		2			2		1		H	
86	European Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>			H						H	
87	Grey-headed Woodpecker	<i>Picus canus</i>						3	1		2	
88	Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>		6+		1		1		15+	12+	
89	Great Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius excubitor</i>				1						
90	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>		✓	✓	✓				H	3	

	Common name	Scientific name	September									
			12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
91	Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
92	Spotted Nutcracker	<i>Nucifraga caryocatactes</i>		10+	H	1						
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>		4	4		2				2	
97	Marsh Tit	<i>Poecile palustris</i>		2	6						1	
98	Sombre Tit	<i>Poecile lugubris</i>								H	6	
99	Coal Tit	<i>Pariparus ater</i>		✓	✓							
100	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	
101	Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		✓			✓	✓	✓		✓	
102	Eurasian Penduline Tit	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>				1juv						
103	Bearded reedling	<i>Panurus biarmicus</i>					H					
104	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>				1				6	4	
105	Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>									H	
106	Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>								2	1	
107	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>							2			
108	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
109	Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	✓	✓	✓							
110	Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>		✓			10+	H	20+			
111	Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>		3					1			
112	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>		4	2				H			
113	Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>						1	H			
114	Eurasian Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>							1			
115	Icterine Warbler	<i>Hippolais icterina</i>		1								
116	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>		1+					H			
117	Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia curruca</i>								1		
118	Common Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>		1								
119	Common Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapilla</i>		6	6							
120	Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>		H								
121	Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>		H	1							

	Common name	Scientific name	September										
			12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
122	Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>		1	1							2	
123	Wallcreeper	<i>Tichodroma muraria</i>			1								
124	Short-toed Treecreeper	<i>Certhia brachydactyla</i>			1+								
125	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	✓			1000s	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
126	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>		✓	✓						H	3	
127	Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>		✓									
128	European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>		✓	✓								
129	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>		✓	✓								
130	Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>										1	
131	Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>		1							1	2	
132	European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>										1	
133	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>									2	1	
134	Isabelline Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe isabellina</i>									2+		
135	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>						6	4	2	1		
136	Red-breasted Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula parva</i>						1	3				
137	White-throated Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>			1								
138	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		
139	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>				2		6	40	100+	20+		
140	Western Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>					2H			30+	H		
141	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>		1	4				3				
142	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
143	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>		20+	2								
144	Water Pipit	<i>Anthus spinoletta</i>		1									
145	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		
146	European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>										2	
147	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		H									
148	Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>										2	
149	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>								30+	H		
150	Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>		6									

## Mammals

European Brown Bear, *Ursus arctos*

Steppe Polecat, *Mustela eversmanni*

Cetacean sp.

Musk Rat, *Ondatra zibethicus*

Vole sp.

European Sousek, *Spermophilus citellus*

Deer sp.

## Reptiles & Amphibians

Grass Snake

Green Lizard

Common Toad

Dice Snake

Spur-thighed Tortoise

Balkan Wall Lizard

Fire-bellied Toad

## Butterflies

Small White

Clouded Yellow

Brown Argus

Freyer's Purple Emperor

Queen of Spain Fritillary

Grizzled Skipper

Water Ringlet

Green-veined White

Berger's Clouded Yellow

Lesser Fiery Copper

Red Admiral

Weaver's Fritillary

Grayling

Small Heath

Eastern Bath White

Common Blue

Wall Brown

Peacock

Cardinal

Great Banded Grayling

Brimstone

## Dragonflies

Willow Emerald

Red-veined Darter

Blue-tailed Damselfly

Southern Darter

Migrant Hawker