

Romania's Danube Delta & Carpathian Mountains

Naturetrek Tour Report

26 April – 5 May 2019



European Brown Bear



White Pelican



Village Fields and Haystacks

Report and images by Bob Elliot



Naturetrek

Mingledown Barn

Wolf's Lane

Chawton

Alton

Hampshire

GU34 3HJ

UK

T: +44 (0)1962 733051

E: info@naturetrek.co.uk

W: www.naturetrek.co.uk

Tour participants: Bob Elliot and Florian Stavarache (leaders) with 14 Naturetrek clients

Day 1

Friday 26th April

Our flight from London Heathrow airport was on time and we reached Bucharest looking forward to our adventures in Romania. We met with Florian our local guide and Vali our driver and after stowing our luggage in the vehicle we set off for the Carpathian Mountains, travelling through the flat agricultural zones with the landscape slowly changing from low hills to more mountainous country. The binoculars were retrieved out of bags and a surprisingly diverse list of species were seen from the bus with two mammal highlights being brief sightings of a fox and a wild boar as the afternoon faded into twilight. We checked into our comfortable family run hotel and enjoyed our first dinner together.

Day 2

Saturday 27th April

The morning dawned sunny and clear and early risers were treated to a White Stork lifting from its nest in the town. After a good breakfast we set off for the Zarnesti Gorge in the Piatra Craiului National Park. On our way to the parking spot in the gorge we had great views of Dipper, Grey Wagtails and our first Fire-bellied Salamander seen alongside the stream running through the gorge.

We had a lovely walk up the main track through the woodland with impressive rock walls dominating the view on either side. A loud early morning chorus of songbirds including Wood Warbler and Song Thrush serenaded us and we had some very confiding views of a Firecrest foraging in the conifers at the side of the track. A Red Squirrel ran across the path in front of us.

As the gorge narrowed down, we scanned the rock faces for Wallcreeper, and although we were disappointed this time we had great views of Peregrine, Raven and nesting Kestrels feeding young high up in a crevice on the crag and regularly noisily mobbing the Ravens. Later, Alpine Swifts and Crag Martins were seen along with Cirl and Rock Buntings. On our return walk we were treated to great views of a female Chamois with her young calf. As the morning warmed butterflies started to get on the wing including Orange Tip and Heath Fritillary.

We returned to our hotel for a hot lunch and suitably fortified we set off into the afternoon to the valley where we all hoped to see Brown Bears. We briefly stopped in a small village to view a White Stork nesting on an electricity pole by the side of the road.

We arrived at our valley and had good views of a Red Fox as we drove in. We walked through the species rich grassland with pockets of trees and lovely rolling countryside. A Lesser Spotted Eagle gave great views as it hunted on the ground in the open fields and we had good views of this impressive raptor in flight. Cuckoo, Whitethroat and Lesser Whitethroats sang from the nearby bushes.

We drove the remainder of the route up the valley to the meeting point with the rangers who would be escorting us to the bear hide. As we quietly walked up to the hide many Fire-bellied Salamanders were seen on the damp edges of the wooded track. On approach to the hide we noted a bear family were already in the field outside the hide, the bears taking full advantage of the food left out for them. We quietly entered the hide and over the next two hours we were treated to stunning close views of several female bears with cubs, another young female and a

large male bear who caused the females to be very watchful and wary. At this time of year male bears are obsessed with looking for females to mate with and not too interested in food and can be a real danger to young cubs. It was a real privilege to see these remarkable animals. One other star of the show was the Red Fox that obsessively collected food and buried it in various locations, no doubt to be sniffed out and eaten by the bears later during the night. The fox was dubbed the 'Biscuit Fox' due to its apparent fondness for sweet items!

As darkness set in, we had to reluctantly leave the hide to exit the woods with the rangers, finally returning to our hotel for good Romanian wine (or many beers), to celebrate the end of a special day.

Day 3

Sunday 28th April

Fortified after a superb breakfast we headed off to the National Park to walk up the tracks to a monastery. In the lower slopes of the valley shepherds were tending herds of sheep and goats, along with the attendant large dogs to guard them from wolves and bears. We made our way up the slope towards the start of the tree line seeing distant views of Nutcracker perched at the top of a conifer and close views of Song Thrush and singing Fieldfare showing well at the top of a nearby tree. A quick rain shower had us sheltering briefly in the woodland but as the sun shone once more, we all had great views of another Nutcracker with the bird seen very close before flying off and displaying the distinctive white rump of this species. A nearby dead tree was riddled with woodpecker holes and a large excavation suggested the presence of Black Woodpecker. The grassy areas either side of the track yielded the rare Elderflower Orchid (*Dactylorhiza sambucina*) and a Hoopoe flew close by as we were taking photos. As the sun shone through the clouds later in the morning a Black Kite was seen near the monastery and a Black Woodpecker was heard calling.

After lunch back at the hotel we set off for the hills above Bran Castle. A village road leads over a ridge where we were able to walk close to some beautiful fruit and nut orchards with traditional houses and views across to the snow-covered peaks of the Carpathian Mountains. In and around the orchards Redstarts and Black Redstarts were singing. Nuthatches called and showed well in the fruit trees, and Collared Flycatchers flitted amongst the buildings. A very tranquil part of Romania.

Dropping down to the plateau floor we visited Castle Bran, which is linked in the mind of the public with Dracula! Bran Castle is a 13th Century beauty linked closely with the rulers of the regions of Transylvania, particularly Vlad the Impaler, and was used by Bram Stoker for his anti-hero Dracula - a derivation of the name given to Vlad's father 'Dracul' - Evil. Some of the group visited the castle and others enjoyed a stroll round the markets at the base of the castle and all enjoyed several Kürtőskalács, made from sweet, yeast dough of which a strip is spun and then wrapped around a truncated cone-shaped baking spit, rolled in granulated sugar, cinnamon, ground walnuts and roasted over charcoal until crispy. Suitably fortified we headed back to our hotel to review our days sightings in the trip log. A great day.

Day 4

Monday 29th April

Today was a travel day to journey across Romania to the mighty Danube Delta and the town of Tulcea. After our goodbyes to the guesthouse staff we made two stops en route to Amaru and Harsarlic lakes.

Amaru Lake was a great taster for the birds to come. A substantial Whiskered Tern colony along with Red-footed Falcon, Spoonbill, Mute Swans, Collard Pratincole, Black-winged Stilts, and confiding Savi's Warblers singing their endless insect reeling like sound from the reeds. A Great Reed Warbler afforded excellent views perching prominently and singing out on a reed stem.

On the larger lake and wetland area of Harsarlic large numbers of Coots were seen along with views overhead of Common Buzzard, Whiskered Tern, Red-footed Falcon, European Bee-eater, Collard Pratincole, Caspian Gull, Sand Martins, Common Swifts and a Hoopoe.

Feeding in the shallow pools were Glossy Ibis, Spoonbill, Black-winged Stilt, Spotted Redshank, Black-tailed Godwit, Purple Heron, Squacco Heron, Great Egret, Little Egret and Lapwing. Black-winged Stilt and Ruff probed the muddy margins whilst Marsh Harriers cruised over the reeds. Savi's, Reed and Great Reed Warblers sang from the phragmites reeds adding to the cacophony from the Marsh and European Tree frogs. On the main lake with deeper open water Great and Pygmy Cormorants were fishing along with displaying Great Crested Grebes, and great scope views of Black-necked and Red-necked Grebes and Shoveler. Behind us in the horse paddocks Tree Sparrow and House Sparrow searched for seeds and insects.

As the afternoon progressed we finally crossed over the Danube, the first view of this mighty river that has crossed 10 countries by this point. We passed the north slope of low limestone hills we noted a rookery where Rooks shared their old nests with Red-footed Falcons. Finally, we arrived and joined our floating hotel which was to be our exclusive base for a few nights. After a tasty dinner, some of us went for a walk along the Tulcea Promenade to take in the sights of the Delta, before finally retiring to bed.

Day 5

Tuesday 30th April

We awoke to a sunny morning and after breakfast set off in our small boat, crossing the main channel of the Danube making our way down the smaller tree and reed lined waterways. It was good to be away from the larger ships and boats in the main channel and we often were able to cruise quietly with the current with the engine turned off, a great way to hear the riverside bird chorus including Cuckoo, Common Redstart, Lesser Whitethroat and Golden Oriole. A pair of Grey-headed Woodpeckers were spotted in the nearby trees with one bird drinking from the edge of the narrow channel right in front of us. With the morning warming up we had great views of Pygmy Cormorant, Great Egret, Ruddy Shelduck, Marsh Harrier and many Kingfishers flying close to the boat and also a distant White-tailed Eagle. A stop to enjoy coffee and biscuits at the entrance to a large lake resulted in an amazing sighting of a Muskrat swimming from the reeds and close to the boat; great views of this seldom seen mammal.

With tea and coffee consumed we continued our journey down the smaller channels drifting with the current as the morning wore on. Suddenly there was a cry of "cat"! and sure enough a Wildcat was seen walking close to us on the drier grassy area of the woodland edge. A Sand Martin colony right by the boat with the birds twittering and digging out nest holes was another special sighting. The floating hotel had been moved to a new location and we enjoyed a traditional lunch of Sarmalute (stuffed vine leaves) whilst watching for wildlife from the panoramic windows. The floating hotel was towed from its mooring and we enjoyed two hours of viewing from the roof observation deck. A Golden Jackal was seen hunting on the edge of the main channel with at least five

White-tailed Eagles seen along with countless Great and Little Egrets, Glossy Ibis, Purple Herons, Wood Sandpipers and several Marsh Harriers.

Towards late afternoon we rejoined our small boat and once again we explored the smaller channels, seeing Spotted Redshank and Ferruginous Duck and a Great Spotted Woodpecker feeding in the reeds. As the reeds opened-out into wider channels Dalmatian and White Pelican were watched in flight, a great tutorial to the plumage differences. Another special moment was being able to view four young Long-eared Owl chicks near their nest site and a single adult flew from the trees close by. As the afternoon wore on into evening we made our way back to our hotel which had been moored in the reeds for our stay overnight. Many tales were told over bottles of good Romanian wine as a thunderstorm crashed and the lightning flashed.

Day 6

Wednesday 1st May

Overnight, the calls of Savi's and Great Reed Warblers added to the cacophony from the Marsh and Edible Frogs - a fantastic sound. We awoke to a sunny morning and the sound of a Bittern booming. Early risers watched from the viewing area on the roof of the hotel. A Lesser Spotted Woodpecker and a Penduline Tit were seen. A Badger walking in the reeds close to the hotel was just reward for the early morning start. After breakfast we joined our small boat and headed off down the channels to Yaikob lake with good views of Dalmatian Pelican, Ruff and Greenshank feeding in the muddy edges of the channel. We disembarked and went for a walk round the edge of the old abandoned mining village to look over some salty pools. The sand dunes were mined by the Ceausescu

regime before the collapse of communism for their precious metals, but now are a series of pools and hollows next to the village. We had good views of Curlew Sandpiper and a Pallas's Gull along with several Collared Pratincoles. On the muddy wet areas Wood Sandpiper, Avocet, Ruff and Black-winged Stilt could be seen feeding. Some great views of Caspian Terns were seen through the scope.

Returning to the floating hotel, we had lunch and then sailed down the main channel watching White-tailed Eagles, a stunning male Marsh Harrier and many Pelicans, Wood Sandpipers and Great Egrets. We re-joined our small boat for a late afternoon excursion to an open area of water with many feeding terns, all taking small *Chironomid* flies blown off the reeds in the stiffening breeze. White-winged, Black, Whiskered and Common Terns gave excellent views as they flew around our boat along with a stunning adult plumage Pallas's Gull and six Black-necked Grebes, with the males displaying just in front of us. A Penduline Tit nest was seen in the reeds on our return journey and several Red-necked Grebes were watched as we cruised through the floating vegetation back to our hotel for the night. Back on board the hotel we watched the sun set over the reedbeds, had dinner and then did some star gazing, surrounded as always by the cacophony of the frogs in the reeds. It really was magical

Day 7

Thursday 2nd May

A cooler early morning start on the hotel top deck revealed around 60 White Pelicans feeding in the nearby channel and a further 500 plus birds flew past in the rose-tinted sky. The birds were on their way from the breeding colonies to fish in the nearby lakes. There was a huge noise from the frogs, and this only slackened slightly as we had breakfast as Common Terns displayed nearby, and Bitterns boomed from the reedbeds.

On the small boat we stopped to watch many Edible and Marsh frogs to truly experience their noise first hand. We sailed down channels where, with the engine off, we drifted through floating islands of vegetation containing Water Mint and Water Soldier watching Great Crested and Red-necked Grebes and many Whiskered Terns in flight. A very confident Grass Snake swam from the middle of the channel to the bank edge and many Kingfishers flew and called either side of the boat, several nest holes being seen in the channel banks. A Hoopoe was watched feeding in the grassy fields close to an abandoned fish farm and nesting storks were watched preening, bill clapping and displaying on the top of an electricity pole. Sedge Warblers sang from the bankside vegetation during our coffee stop moored in the channel.

Our cruise continued and Ruff, Wood Sandpiper and Common Sandpiper fed on the muddy edges flying ahead of us. Later a special moment was watching a Lesser Spotted Woodpecker at a tree nest hole feeding young.

After another delicious lunch we cruised on the hotel as it was towed back towards Tulcea. A nest containing two almost fledged White-tailed Eagle chicks was seen from the viewing area on the roof of the hotel and it was great to revisit some of the smaller channels with such a different viewpoint. The hotel was moored at Tulcea once more and we had a walk along the promenade to stretch our legs before dinner (with superb 'napkin art' once again gracing the tables!) After many drinks, and tales of adventures told, we retired to bed.

Day 8

Friday 3rd May

Dawn broke fine and clear in the harbour and early risers watched Swallows nesting under the floating pontoons and fisherman deploying nets in the main channel of the Danube. We said our farewells to the hotel and boat crews and re-joined our bus and driver Vali. We set off through a mix of vineyards and agricultural fields with over 25 White Storks seen feeding in the field margins in the morning sunshine. More storks nests were noted in the villages as we passed by along with three Lesser-spotted Eagles flying alongside the bus. Our first stop was at Babadag Forest with great views of Spur-thighed Tortoise in the grass and several Balkan Green Lizards in the morning sun. Singing Thrush Nightingale and Chiffchaff were heard, and we had great views of Sombre Tit and Tawny Pipits as we walked along the wooded path out into the open areas near the Church. At the viewpoint we watched a dark phase Booted Eagle soaring high above the valley.

We returned to the vehicle and continued our way towards the Black Sea coast and the saline pools to the rear of the dunes. On the way a very close male Marsh Harrier was watched quartering the edges of the arable fields - what a bird!

We arrived at the saline pools and watched nesting Red-footed Falcons in a plantation woodland with one male bird giving amazingly close views. A nearby Bee-eater colony was establishing itself for the breeding season with the birds sitting on wires and landing on the sandy cliff face starting to dig nesting burrows. On the pools Little Stints, Wood Sandpipers, Ruff, Marsh Sandpiper and Redshank all probed the muddy margins. Our first views of Souselik were had on the dry areas of ground, these small mammals comically emerging from burrows and then disappearing at the slightest sign of danger. Savi's warblers reeled from the reeds and Crested Larks rose ahead of us near the track. The Romanian birdline had been working overtime and a report had come in of two White-tailed Lapwings that had been seen and videoed by local birders. Our picnic lunch was served so we decided to watch the nearby lagoons for this rare species. We were lucky to eventually see two birds with many a photo taken. What a productive lunch stop!

We spent the rest of the afternoon birding along the lagoon edges watching Avocets, Temmincks Stints, Knot and Turnstone all in early spring and summer breeding plumage showing what an important area this is for migrating birds to stop and refuel. The final large lagoon contained many terns, with White-winged, Black, Common and Little Terns all seen from our raised viewpoint.

A stunning Pallid Harrier was seen on our return journey and we also had a quick stop to see Calandra and Short-toed Larks in the arable fields before we got back to our guesthouse in Tulcea for drinks, dinner and catch-up with the wildlife log. A good day in the coastal areas of the Black Sea

Day 9

Saturday 4th May

Our last full day and our first stop was made near beautiful wood pastures. Old Pear and Oak trees with Turtle Doves purring and Copper Skinks and Field Crickets watched in the leaf litter. Overhead two male Levant Sparrowhawks displayed in the sunshine, calling, and showing the distinctive pale underwings and black on the wing tips of this species.

Our second stop was at a beautiful area with a monastery and small fields and gardens. Hawfinches were watched feeding in trees in the carpark area and a Red-backed Shrike was in the walnut trees. We had great views of Swallowtail butterflies on the edges of the lanes and Turtle Doves purring from the wires and woodland trees. A Long-legged Buzzard and a passing Goshawk were star birds before we prepared the picnic lunch. One of the most desired species, Golden Oriole was finally seen well and lunches were nearly abandoned in the rush to get scopes and bins onto the nearby trees to get views of the male and female birds. A very confiding Wryneck, Grey-headed Woodpeckers and a calling Black Woodpecker were noted before re-joining our bus to head to the Machin Mountains.

An ice cream stop was most welcome as a thunderstorm rolled through the valley. At the foot of the mountains we scoured the stony steppe habitat for Stone Curlew, but unfortunately no birds were seen on this occasion, although we were rewarded by a superb close view of a Long-legged Buzzard and a distant Pallid Harrier against the mountain slopes. On the low ground fields we were able to see Isabelline Wheatear, Short-toed Larks, Tawny Pipits and ever watchful Sousliks. As we made our way back our first Roller was seen for a few lucky observers. It was time to return to our guesthouse and dinner, enjoyed along with a celebration cake and drinks as we did the final list tally and finally went to bed after another great day.

Day 10

Sunday 5th May

The drive back to the airport passed surprisingly quickly with one or two stops on the way. The first, a quick stop at a small lake to view Ruddy Shelduck and onto a small area with small crags with nesting Bee-eaters. Local beekeepers were taking advantage of the flowering oil seed rape and had moved hives into the nearby fields. One presumes the Bee-eaters were taking advantage of the bees! It was good to see that the two could exist side by side.

At our second stop two Rollers were seen from the bus. We walked from the bus and great views were had looking from the escarpment edge towards the distant Danube, an area that has had migrating Black Storks

passing through in the past. We had to tear ourselves away to return on our journey to the airport and on the way drove past the imposing national buildings including Ceausescu's Palace with its 1,100 rooms (the second largest building in the world after the Pentagon). Then it was on to the airport and the flight home, saying our goodbyes to Florian (the guide) and Vali (the driver), both of whom had been fantastic and helped make it a dream trip.

A great week with fantastic weather, some exceptional wildlife, good food, superb 'napkin art' and great company with new friends made. What more can you ask of a holiday!

Receive our e-newsletter

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

Social Media

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



www.facebook.com/naturetrekwildlifeholidays



www.twitter.com/naturetrektours



www.instagram.com/naturetrek_wildlife_holidays

Species Lists

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

	Common name	Scientific name	April/May 2019										
			26	27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	
1	Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
2	Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
3	Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>						✓		✓			
4	Ruddy Shelduck	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>			✓		✓					✓	
5	Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>			✓		✓		✓	✓			
6	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓			
7	Garganey	<i>Spatula querquedula</i>			✓			✓	✓	✓			
8	Northern Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>			✓				✓				
9	Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>			✓		✓		✓				
10	Red-crested Pochard	<i>Netta rufina</i>											
11	Ferruginous Duck	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓				
12	Tufted Duck	<i>Arthya fuligula</i>	✓										
13	Goldeneye	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>					✓						
14	Grey Partridge	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>	✓										
15	Common Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
16	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>						✓		✓			
17	Red-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps grisegena</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓				
18	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	
19	Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
20	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
21	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
22	Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>				✓	✓	✓					
23	Eurasian Bittern	<i>Botaurus stellaris</i>					H		H	✓			
24	Little Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>											
25	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓				
26	Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓				
27	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	
28	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
29	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
30	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
31	Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bulbulus ibis</i>											
32	Great White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓			
33	Dalmatian Pelican	<i>Pelecanus crispus</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓			
34	Pygmy Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo pygmeus</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓			
35	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
36	European Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>											
37	Short-toed Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>											✓
38	Lesser Spotted Eagle	<i>Clanga pomarina</i>		✓							✓		
39	Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>				✓					✓	✓	
40	Levant Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter brevipes</i>										✓	
41	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>									✓		
42	Northern Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>										✓	
43	Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		
44	Pallid Harrier	<i>Circus macrourus</i>				✓				✓	✓		
45	Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygragus</i>											✓
46	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>				✓						✓	
47	White-tailed Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>				✓	6	✓	✓				

	Common name	Scientific name	April/May 2019											
			26	27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5		
48	Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>											✓	
49	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>		✓	✓								✓	✓
50	Steppe Buzzard	<i>Buteo vulpinus</i>												✓
51	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
52	Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
53	Eurasian Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>							✓		✓			
54	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>				✓	✓	✓			✓			
55	Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>							✓	✓	✓			
56	Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓			✓			
57	White-tailed Lapwing	<i>Vanellus leucurus</i>										✓		
58	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>						✓	✓					
59	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>										✓		
60	Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>										✓		
61	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>				✓	✓			✓				
62	Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>							✓			✓		
63	Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>						✓						
64	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>										✓		
65	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>							✓	✓	✓			
66	Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>						✓				✓		
67	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
68	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>						✓		✓	✓			
69	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>										✓		
70	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>							✓			✓		
71	Temminck's Stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>										✓		
72	Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>							✓			✓		
73	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>										✓		
74	Ruff	<i>Calidris pugnax</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
75	Collared Pratincole	<i>Glareola pratincola</i>				✓			✓	✓	✓			
76	Slender-billed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus genei</i>										✓		
77	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓					
78	Mediterranean Gull	<i>Ichthyaetus melanocephalus</i>										✓		
79	Pallas's Gull	<i>Ichthyaetus ichthyaetus</i>										✓		
80	Caspian Gull	<i>Larus cachinnans</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
81	Yellow legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>						✓						
82	Great Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>												
83	Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>							✓					
84	Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>												
85	Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>										✓		
86	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>							✓	✓	✓			
87	Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
88	White-winged Tern	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>						✓	✓		✓			
89	Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>							✓		✓			
90	Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>						✓	✓					
91	Stock Dove	<i>Columba oenas</i>								✓				
92	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
93	European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>						✓					✓	
94	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
95	Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
96	Long-eared Owl	<i>Asio otus</i>						✓						
97	Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>		✓										
98	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>		✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓		

	Common name	Scientific name	April/May 2019										
			26	27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	
99	European Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>					✓					✓	
100	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>				✓		✓	✓				
101	European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>					✓	✓		✓	✓		
102	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		
103	Wryneck	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>					✓					✓	
104	Middle Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocoptes medius</i>										✓	
105	Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dryobates minor</i>					✓	✓	✓				
106	Syrian Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos syriacus</i>										✓	
107	Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		
108	White-backed Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos leucotos</i>					✓						
109	Black Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus martius</i>			H				✓			H	
110	European Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>		H									
111	Grey-headed Woodpecker	<i>Picus canus</i>					✓	✓	✓			✓	
112	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
113	Red-footed Falcon	<i>Falco vespertinus</i>				✓			✓	✓			
114	Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>					✓	✓	✓			✓	
115	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>		✓							✓		
116	Great Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius excubitor</i>			✓								
117	Lesser Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius minor</i>		✓								✓	
118	Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>									✓	✓	
119	Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>				✓	✓	✓			H	✓	
120	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>		✓	✓	✓						✓	
121	Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
122	Spotted Nutcracker	<i>Nucifraga caryocatactes</i>			✓								
123	Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
124	Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	
125	Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
126	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓					
127	Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>		✓	✓	✓				H	✓		
128	Sombre Tit	<i>Poecile lugubris</i>									✓	✓	
129	Marsh Tit	<i>Poecile palustris</i>		✓	✓								
130	Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>			✓		✓	✓				✓	
131	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			H	
132	Eurasian Penduline Tit	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>					✓	✓	✓				
133	Bearded Reedling	<i>Panurus biarmicus</i>					H		✓				
134	Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>									✓	✓	
135	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>									✓	✓	
136	Calandra Lark	<i>Melanocorypha calandra</i>									✓		
137	Short-toed lark	<i>Calandrella brachydactyla</i>									✓	✓	
138	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
139	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
140	Eurasian Crag Martin	<i>Ptonoprogne rupestris</i>		✓									
141	Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
142	Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>		✓	✓		H	✓	H				
143	Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>			✓		H	H	H				
144	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>		✓	✓	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	
145	Wood Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>		✓	H							H	
146	Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>				✓	✓	H	✓	✓			
147	Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>				✓	H	H	✓	✓			
148	Eurasian Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>				✓	H	H	✓	✓			
149	Savi's Warbler	<i>Locustella luscinioides</i>				✓		H	✓	✓			

	Common name	Scientific name	April/May 2019											
			26	27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5		
150	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>			✓	✓						✓	✓	
151	Garden Warbler	<i>Sylvia borin</i>								✓				
152	Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia curruca</i>		✓	✓	✓		H	H	H	H			
153	Common Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>											✓	
154	Common Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapilla</i>		✓										
155	Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>			✓									
156	Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>		✓	✓				H					
157	Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>		H	✓								✓	
158	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
159	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	
160	Fieldfare	<i>Turdus pilaris</i>				✓								
161	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>			H	✓				✓				
162	Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>		✓	✓									
163	European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓							
164	Bluethroat	<i>Luscinia svecica</i>							✓					
165	Common Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>								✓			✓	
166	Thrush Nightingale	<i>Luscinia luscinia</i>										✓		
167	Collared Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula albicollis</i>			✓					H	H			
168	Pied Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>						✓						
169	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓				
170	Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	H	✓	✓			
171	Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>		✓	✓	✓							✓	
172	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>							✓			✓		
173	Isabelline Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe isabellina</i>										✓	✓	
174	Pied Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe pleschanka</i>										✓		
175	White-throated Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>	✓	✓										
176	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
177	Spanish Sparrow	<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>										✓		
178	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
179	Western Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
180	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	✓	✓	✓									
181	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
182	Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>										✓	✓	
183	Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>			✓									
184	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>			✓									
185	Red-throated Pipit	<i>Anthus cervinus</i>										✓	✓	
186	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	H	✓	✓	✓	✓	
187	Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes Coccothraustes</i>											✓	
188	Eurasian Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>			✓									
189	European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>			H									
190	European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>			✓		✓						✓	
191	Red Crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>			✓									
193	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		✓					✓				✓	
194	Eurasian Siskin	<i>Spinus spinus</i>			✓									
195	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>								✓	✓	✓		
196	Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>		✓	✓							✓		
197	Ortolan Bunting	<i>Emberiza hortulana</i>											✓	
198	Common Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓					

Mammals

Roe Deer, *Capreolus capreolus*
 Golden Jackal, *Canis aureus*
 Red Squirrel, *Sciurus vulgaris*
 Chamois, *Rupicapra rupicapra*
 Wild Boar, *Sus scrofa*
 European Badger, *Meles meles*

European Brown Bear, *Ursus arctos*
 Red Fox, *Vulpes vulpes*
 Muskrat, *Ondatra zibethicus*
 European Wildcat, *Felis silvestris*
 Sousek, *Spermophilus citellus*
 Brown Rat, *Rattus norvegicus*

Amphibians

European Tree Frog, *Hyla orientalis*
 Fire-bellied Toad, *Bombina orientalis*

Marsh/Pond/Edible Frog, *Pelophylax sp*
 Fire-bellied Salamander, *Salamandra atra*

Reptiles

Grass Snake, *Natrix natrix*
 Balkan Wall Lizard, *Podocarpus tauricus*
 Snake-eyed Skink *Ablepharus kitaibelii*

Eastern Green Lizard, *Lacerta viridis*
 Spur-thighed Tortoise, *Testudo graeca*

Butterflies

Small White, *Pieris rapae*
 Green-veined White, *Pieris napi*
 Mountain Small White, *Artogeia ergane*
 Orange Tip, *Anthocharis cardamines*
 Speckled Wood, *Pararge aegeria*
 European Swallowtail, *Papilio machaon*
 Small Tortoiseshell, *Aglais urticae*
 Brimstone, *Gonepteryx rhamn*

Danube Clouded Yellow, *Colias myrmidone*
 Scarce Swallowtail, *Iphiclydes podalirius*
 Painted Lady, *Vanessa cardui*
 Grizzled Skipper, *Pyrgus malvae*
 Comma, *Polygonia c-album*
 Small Heath, *Coenonympha pamphilus*
 Common Blue, *Polyommatus icarus*



Brown Bear



White Stork