

# Romania's Danube Delta & Carpathian Mountains

Naturetrek Tour Report

4th – 13th August 2023

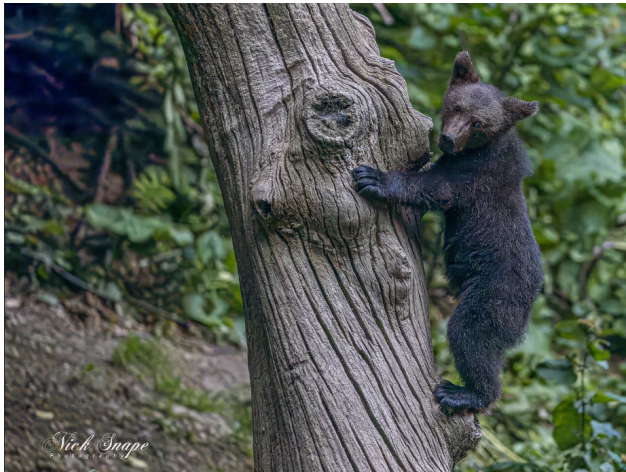
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Hobby by Nigel Carter



Common Souslik by Nick Snape



European Brown Bear by Nick Snape



Purple Emperor by Chris Catling

Tour report by Andy Smith



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Participants: Andy Smith & Florin Palade (leaders) with 14 Naturetrek clients.

## Day 1

**Friday 4th August**

Hot and sunny

We arrived at Bucharest airport on schedule in the mid-afternoon. After meeting up with Florin and our driver, we began the journey towards the Carpathians. It was hot and the roads busy with Bucharest folk heading to the mountains for the weekend, but we made good progress nevertheless. Birds noted along the way included White Storks, Common Kestrels and Common Buzzards, Barn Swallows and House Martins, good numbers of Rooks, a couple of Ravens and several Red-backed Shrikes. We made one very welcome ice-cream stop about halfway and arrived at our guest house in Vulcan around 7pm. After some time to settle in we reconvened for a first dinner together full of anticipation for the days ahead.

## Day 2

**Saturday 5th August**

Hot and sunny with a breeze picking up from mid-morning.

In the morning we walked through meadows and woodland below the spectacular limestone ridge of the Piatra Craiului National Park. We had several reasonable flight views of Spotted Nutcrackers, a brief encounter with a juvenile Goshawk and lots of excellent sightings of Red-backed Shrikes. Butterflies included a Common Glider and a Purple Emperor; our first dragonfly came in the form of a Sombre Golden-ringed, and we also found several Yellow-bellied Toads hanging around in the kind of unappealing muddy puddle that they seem to like best.

After lunch and a welcome siesta back at the guesthouse, we headed off in the late afternoon towards the Strimba Valley. A Lesser Spotted Eagle over some meadows a little down the road occasioned an impromptu stop which also gave us a chance to admire a flock of 30 White Storks foraging out in the recently mowed grass. As we watched them, a Hobby came flashing through and took a hapless young Chaffinch from a nearby flock and, drifting away, began to pluck it whilst on the wing!

At Strimba, we enjoyed a pleasant stroll highlighted by a large flock of Bee-eaters which we watched for some time. In the early evening, we made our way further up the valley to a sturdy wooden hide by a clearing deep in the old wildwood and had sensational views of at least 11 Brown Bears! Indeed, we had all 11 in view together briefly, including a large adult male (not something you see often), and a young female with two cubs of the year. The male was a hugely impressive beast and lorded his way around taking the best of the food that the forester had put out. The young female was naturally very cautious for her cubs, and they had to beat a hasty retreat on a couple of occasions when the big male came a little too close for comfort. Late on, a pair of foxes appeared, an old vixen with a well-grown cub. The bears largely ignored them save for one of the cubs who took exception to the younger fox and repeatedly chased it away. This was all fantastic to watch and we departed as darkness approached very satisfied with our day.

## Day 3

Sunday 6th August

Warm and breezy with a mixture of sunshine and cloud. Thundery showers from mid-am.

This morning we walked up the spectacular Zarnesti Gorge, with its towering limestone cliffs and lovely mixed forest. We hit the jackpot early on with close views of a pair of Wallcreepers at head height on the one of the rock faces just ahead of us. How lucky! This was the first of several encounters in what turned out to be something of a Wallcreeper morning. The birds had bred in this part of the gorge this year and fortunately for us, were still very much around. Through the course of the morning, we all enjoyed some fantastic views of these very charismatic little fellows. Other birds along the way included Marsh Tits, Jays, a couple of Peregrines, some Crag Martins and a few distant Alpine Swifts, whilst butterflies, somewhat restricted by the showery weather, nevertheless included a Map, a Hungarian Glider and lots of Arran Browns. An Agile Frog, discovered as we sheltered from one of the rain showers and complete with resplendent yellow inner thighs, concluded an excellent morning.

Post lunch we visited historic Bran with its famous castle then drove up to a nearby viewpoint where Florin gave us an interesting account of the local geology. From here we headed back towards Vulcan, stopping in an area of meadows, arable fields and scrub where we found the hoped for Great Grey Shrikes plus a few Red-backed and a surprise Lesser Grey, rare this side of the Carpathians. Three Shrike species in one spot – not bad! Also here were Common Kestrels, Tree Sparrows and Bee-eaters.

A Lesser Spotted Eagle perched on a telegraph pole occasioned another unscheduled roadside stop on our way back to Vulcan. As we watched this first bird, we picked up two more in flight plus a distant Goshawk – a great way to end the day!

After dinner a few of us ventured out around the village and found several Green Toads. They were all youngsters and mostly very shy, but handsome little beasts all the same.

## Day 4

Monday 7th August

Sunny with scattered cloud. Cool at first, becoming very warm by mid-afternoon.

A Serin and a Black Redstart were our last birds at Vulcan before we set off on the long journey to Tulcea. We drove out of the mountains and across the flatlands. A petrol station comfort stop produced a covey of Grey Partridges at the edge of a nearby field but apart from a huge flock of Rooks following a tractor there wasn't much wildlife to be seen until we crossed the mighty Danube mid-afternoon and stopped at Hasarluc lake. Here, suddenly, were masses of birds! Highlights in an action-packed hour included over 150 White Pelicans, a few Ferruginous Duck, 30 Ruddy Shelducks, hundreds of Greylag Geese, a Marsh Harrier, dozens of Whiskered Terns and a range of waders. It was a lot to take in and all the while our attention was drawn away from the water by Crested Larks, Bee-eaters, Yellow Wagtails and a couple of dazzling Rollers. Just as we were about to leave a male Red-footed Falcon appeared close overhead and capped things off very nicely.

We continued on through the rolling Dobrudza countryside noting Rollers, Bee-eaters, a Cuckoo and a couple of Long-legged Buzzards as we went and then made a last stop at a spot we knew to be good for Stone Curlew. We were in luck and enjoyed great views of two adults and two small chicks – fantastic! Here too, adding to the

excitement, were a Short-toed and three Booted Eagles. We reached bustling Tulcea and the floating hotel a little later with plenty of time to settle in before dinner.

## Day 5

## Tuesday 8th August

Overcast, cool breezy and intermittently wet through to mid-pm. Sunny with scattered cloud and warmer thereafter.

A White-tailed Eagle being mobbed by a White Stork as it flew low upstream over the river started the day well for the first few of us out on deck, before, with breakfast completed we boarded the small boat and headed off for our first foray into the delta. It proved to be a long session, slightly marred by heavy rain in the latter stages but full of action. At first, we travelled along willow-lined creeks with Kingfishers, Bee-eaters, Golden Orioles, Olivaceous Warblers, Redstarts and a trio of Lesser Spotted Woodpeckers the highlights. Then we moved into more open stretches with reedbeds and areas of open water rich with emergent vegetation. Here were Squacco Herons and Whiskered Terns, Night Herons, Purple Herons, Glossy Ibis, Pygmy Cormorants, Great-crested and Red-necked Grebes, Wood and Green Sandpipers and a few Cuckoos. Raptors included a couple of Hobbies, a Peregrine and several mighty White-tailed Eagles. Late on we came across a superb juvenile Little Crake foraging at the base of the reeds and at the end of the morning we reached the vast Fortuna Lake, thronged with birds. Unfortunately the rain had set in with some force by this stage, but we were still pleased to see the mass of birds present including our first Dalmatian Pelicans and a tightly packed flock of several hundred Whites.

Re-united with the mothership near Gorgova, we enjoyed a good lunch and a rest whilst cruising along the main Sulina Channel towards Lopatna. Various waders and good numbers of Egrets were spotted along the banks as we passed plus Rollers on the wires and a Dalmatian Pelican on the channel. At 5pm, we headed off in the small boat again. It was largely sunny now and much warmer than in the morning and we had a grand time of it exploring a lovely series of channels and lakes. Large numbers of Squacco Herons, Black-headed Gulls and Whiskered Terns continued the morning's theme, but we also saw Ferruginous Ducks, White-winged, Black and Caspian Terns and some more Dalmatian Pelicans. Further highlights included some particularly good views of Purple Herons, a very nice Little Bittern flyover, and a prolonged close encounter with a very handsome male Little Crake.

Back on board the big boat for a late dinner, we reflected on what a fantastic day it had been and then took a turn around the deck to admire the wonderful starry sky.

## Day 6

## Wednesday 9th August

Sunny with scattered cloud. Cool at first, becoming very warm by the afternoon. Breezy.

An early watch from the top deck produced a number of the now familiar delta birds plus a Black Woodpecker calling from a distant willow. Away at 8am in the little boat, we immediately enjoyed some great views of three Grey-headed Woodpeckers in some trees along the channel bank. These were rapidly followed by some obliging Bearded Tits in the reeds, first a moustachioed male and then a bunch of plain-faced juveniles. At well-vegetated Lake Miazazi, we enjoyed the sight of a low-flying White-tailed Eagle being mobbed by a cloud of Whiskered Terns and at the large open expanse of Lake Matita we found huge rafts of Pygmy Cormorants and at least seven sensational Pallas's Gulls. Moving on through Babina Lake we watched hundreds of White Pelicans feeding with

attendant Great and Pygmy Cormorants and then we reached the open farmland at Chilia. A change of scene here and a change of birds. Now we were watching Rollers and Bee-eaters, Hoopoes and Hobbies and Red-footed Falcons. It was all very enjoyable!

We had lunch back on the mothership as usual then set out again in the small boat in the late afternoon. It was hot. Two adult White-tailed Eagles soaring around overhead got things going and then we passed through a small lake which held four species of grebes and a few smart Black Terns and presented us with the interesting vignette of two White Pelicans standing on a raft of vegetation next to both Great and Pygmy Cormorants; those Pelicans really are big! Whilst navigating a reedy channel, we enjoyed a couple of Little Bittern flyovers and some close views of a family of Great Reed Warblers and then we reached the sizeable Liganca Lake. Huge numbers of Black-headed Gulls were roosting on the mats of emergent vegetation, hundreds of Whiskered and White-winged Terns were hawking into the wind and the sky was full of Sand Martins (we estimated well over 1,000!). A couple of pairs of Black-necked Grebes with chicks were here too and we watched one duo of tiny youngsters as they jumped up onto a parent's back and disappeared amongst its feathers.

We reconnected with the big boat by the entrance to Fortuna Lake and enjoyed our dinner reflecting once again on another amazing day in the delta.

## Day 7

Thursday 10th August

Sunny with scattered cloud, warm and breezy.

Away in the little boat again after breakfast we explored Fortuna and Buclanesti Lakes. Top highlights were fabulous prolonged views of a couple of White Pelican "feeding frenzies", first with Great Cormorants in Fortuna Lake, then a separate flock on their own in Buclanesti. In both cases, hundreds of Pelicans were involved and with the masses of Black-headed Gulls and Whiskered Terns in attendance they presented a wonderful spectacle – one of the delta's iconic sights. Through the course of the morning, we saw over 3,000 White Pelicans and thousands too of Whiskered Terns, Black-headed Gulls and Cormorants of both species! Such numbers! We also saw over 1,000 Mute Swans on Buclanesti Lake, plus Spotted Redshanks, Wood Sandpipers, Ruff, White-winged Terns, Garganey, hundreds of Coot and the ever present White-tailed Eagles and Marsh Harriers – it was quite a morning!

We were back on the big boat for lunch and soon on our way towards Tulcea. Two Black Storks, a Levant Sparrowhawk and a couple of Cuckoos were the best of the birds seen up on deck before we arrived back in the big city and moored up prior to dinner.

## Day 8

Friday 11th August

Overcast at first, becoming sunny with scattered cloud from mid-morning. Warm and breezy.

Departing from the flotel after breakfast, we drove out through Tulcea to a hilltop viewpoint near the village of Somova where we could look out over the impressive vastness of the delta. The steppic grassland at our feet produced Sousliks, Tawny Pipits and an Isabelline Wheatear and made for a great start to the day. Next, we took a walk through some Oak parkland a little further on and, as the sun came out, enjoyed a pretty sensational hour

or so. Sightings included Hawfinch, Golden Oriole, Hoopoe, Roller, Woodchat, Red-backed and Lesser Grey Shrikes, Levant Sparrowhawk and Booted Eagle – not bad!

At Celic Dere monastery, either side of a delicious picnic lunch, we explored old orchards, rough grassland and scrub and saw Honey and Long-legged Buzzards, Syrian Woodpeckers, lots of Bee-eaters, a female Collared Flycatcher and another Levant Sparrowhawk. Insects were good here too with Blue-winged Grasshoppers scooting up from our feet as we walked, Southern Skimmer Dragonflies along a small stream and an exciting range of butterflies including Queen of Spain and Cardinal Fritillaries, Lesser Fiery Copper and Mallow Skipper.

Our last call of the day was up in the Macin Hills National Park where we walked up a scrubby valley flanked by steep rocky hills. Here were distant Pied Wheatears and Common Rock Thrushes plus close Long-legged Buzzards, a range of exciting butterflies and an impressive Violet Carpenter Bee. The journey back from Macin took us through some excellent steppe scenery with regular roadside Rollers and Turtle Doves and at one stage a kettle of over 600 migrating White Storks. Phew! It had been another fantastic day!

## Day 9

**Saturday 12th August**

Sunny with scattered cloud, warm and breezy.

Our first stop today was at the isolated steppic hill of Deniz Tepe, a short drive out of Tulcea. Here, in the lovely early morning light, we enjoyed the vastness of the landscape and saw a number of Sousliks and some good birds including Isabelline and Northern Wheatears, Tawny Pipits, Lesser Grey Shrikes, Hoopoes, Bee-eaters and a Long-legged Buzzard.

At Tuzla Lake, some distance further south, we explored a couple of low-lying muddy bays backed by open close-cropped grassland and found a superb range of birds. Among hundreds of roosting Black-headed and Mediterranean Gulls were over 50 dainty Little Gulls, many still sporting their black breeding season hoods. There were lots of White-winged Terns too, some also in immaculate breeding plumage, several Collared Pratincoles, both adults and recently fledged juveniles and various waders including Little and Temminck's Stints, Avocets and Black-winged Stilts. Meanwhile, Sand Martins hawked around our heads, Sousliks sat out on the grassland, a Marsh Harrier hunted along the reedy creeks and, just as we were about to leave, a Short-toed Eagle appeared over a nearby ridge and concluded an excellent wee session.

We ate lunch by an oak plantation overlooking the marshes at Vadu whilst a flock of gorgeous Red-footed Falcons hawked around overhead, then dropped down to explore along the road out to the coast. At the back of one marshy pool we had a big surprise when we found a group of Golden Jackals hunkered down at the edge of the reeds taking a siesta and eyeing us warily. An unexpected bonus! A satisfying range of waders at the pools included Spotted Redshanks, Ruff, Green, Wood and Marsh Sandpipers, Little and Temminck's Stints and Little Ringed Plover. A couple of Gull-billed Terns, an adult and a recently fledged juvenile added a further touch of class and then, after a spell at the beach and a chance to swim in the Black Sea, we set off back towards Tulcea. A male Montagu's Harrier seen coasting over the fields en-route was the last notable bird of the day.

## Day 10

## Sunday 13th August

Sunny with scattered cloud, breezy and very warm.

We set off from Tulcea straight after breakfast. The first stage of the journey, across the Dobrudza, was as interesting as ever with Marsh Harriers, Long-legged Buzzards, a Short-toed Eagle and some Red-footed Falcons all noted. There were Rollers, Bee-eaters and occasional Lesser Grey Shrikes on the wires and as we whizzed past Hasarluc Lake our flock of White Pelicans of a few days previously were just where we had left them. A Black Stork in a roadside field near Slobodzia was a good sighting, whilst the last quality bird came somewhere in the Bucharest suburbs in the form of an unexpected Goshawk bursting out of a belt of trees in hot pursuit of a Collared Dove.

We made the airport in good time, goodbyes and thankyou's were said, the check-in went smoothly, the flight was more or less on time, and we all arrived safely back at Heathrow a few hours later. It had been a great trip!

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## Species lists

Birds (H = Heard only)

Common name	Scientific name	August 2023									
		4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>				100's	100	100		100's		
Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>				30	100's	100's	100 0+	10	100	
Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>				2					5	
Ruddy Shelduck	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>				30					1	
Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>	25				5				2	
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>				100's	100	100	50		15	
Northern Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>				2	3				2	
Garganey	<i>Spatula querquedula</i>					100	100's	100		50	
Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>				2	5				1	
Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>				5						
Ferruginous Duck	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>				1	7	35	5			
Grey Partridge	<i>Perdix perdix</i>				12				1		
Common Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>						1			1	
Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>				1	10	10	8			
Red-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps grisegena</i>					5	10				
Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>				8	20	25	15	2		
Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>					5	7	20			
Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>							3	4		1
White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	25	30	75	5	5			750 +	10	3
Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>				20	100	50	100		5	
Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>				30	1					
Little Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>					2	3		1		
Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>					30	30	25			
Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>				1	500	100's	100's	50		
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	1	8	1	1	50	40	10	1	4	2
Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>					20	40	10	1	4	2
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>				1	30	5	35	1	5	30
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>				5	50	10	110		5	25
Great White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>				150	100's	100 0+	300 0+			150
Dalmatian Pelican	<i>Pelecanus crispus</i>					12	12	10	10		
Pygmy Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo pygmeus</i>					25	100 0+	100 0+	5		
Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>		1		1	100	100's	100 0+	100's	50	5
Western Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>								1		
European Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>								1		1
Short-toed Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>				1					1	1
Lesser Spotted Eagle	<i>Clanga pomarina</i>		1	3							
Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>				4				1	1	



Common name	Scientific name	August 2023									
		4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Levant Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter brevipes</i>				1			2	2		
Northern Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>		1	1							1
Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>				2	4	10	10	2	12	8
Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>									1	
White-tailed Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>					15	6	15		1	
Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>				2				6	4	7
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	3	6	6	4				1		
Water Rail	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>						1				
Little Crake	<i>Porzana parva</i>					4	1+1 h				
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>				2	15	30	20			
Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>				10	100' s	100' s	100' s	100	5	
Eurasian Stone-curlew	<i>Burhinus oedichnemus</i>				4					1	
Eurasian Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>					3	1			3	
Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>					3				6	
Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>									12	
Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>					10	1			15	
Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>									1	
Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>									2	
Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>				1					4	
Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>				1	3				2	
Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>				50	5	2			10	
Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>					100		25		15	
Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>									1	
Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>									3	
Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>				1	10	3	5		5	
Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>				1	6	1	4		4	
Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>				8	50	30	50		40	
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>				1	15				2	
Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>				2					4	
Temminck's Stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>									4	
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>									2	
Ruff	<i>Calidris pugnax</i>				50	15		10		50	
Collared Pratincole	<i>Glareola pratincola</i>					4				10	
Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>				25	100 0+	100 0's	100 0+	50	100' s	1
Little Gull	<i>Hydrocoloeus minutus</i>									50	
Mediterranean Gull	<i>Ichthyaeetus melanocephalus</i>									150	
Pallas's Gull	<i>Ichthyaeetus ichthyaeetus</i>						7				
Caspian Gull	<i>Larus cachinnans</i>				20	100	100	100	25	20	
Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>									2	
Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>					4				1	
Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>				3	30	25	10		100	

		August 2023									
Common name	Scientific name	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>				70	100 0's	100 0's	100 0's	50	100	50
White-winged Tern	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>					5	100	4		50	
Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>					7	8			2	
Feral Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	100 's	50	50	100 's				50	50	30
Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>		8	100	5	10	10	5	2		1
European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>				6	h			30	12	
Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	20	10	10	10		2	2	10	15	6
Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>				1	2	3	3		1	
Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>		1h		1						
Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>			3							
Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>				30				5		3
European Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>				10	4	12		35	15	15
Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>				2	60	20	25			
European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>		35	6	30	50	100' s	20	40	50	15
Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>				1		2		5	12	
Middle Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocoptes medius</i>								1+2 h		
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dryobates minor</i>					4	1+1 h	1h			
Syrian Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos syriacus</i>			1h	1				2		
Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>					2	2h		1+1 h	1h	
Black Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus martius</i>						1				
European Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>		2h	1h					1		
Grey-headed Woodpecker	<i>Picus canus</i>					1h	3				
Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	2	1	5	6	1			2	8	1
Red-footed Falcon	<i>Falco vespertinus</i>				1		3			30	2
Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>		1		1	4	3	1	4	2	
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>		1	2		3		1			
Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>	6	25	10	5	2	2	1	6	30	5
Lesser Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius minor</i>			1	1				3	10	3
Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>								3		
Great Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius excubitor</i>			2							
Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>					10	5	3	5		
Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>			10	1				2		
Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	5	10	8	10	5	2		10	20	5
Spotted Nutcracker	<i>Nucifraga caryocatactes</i>		5	1							
Jackdaw	<i>Corvus monedula</i>				500 +	25		100	25	100' s	20
Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>	100	50	50	100 's			100	100	100' s	50
Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	5	20	15	25	25	20	20	20	30	15
Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	2	25	25	20						
Coal Tit	<i>Periparus ater</i>		5								

		August 2023									
Common name	Scientific name	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Marsh Tit	<i>Poecile palustris</i>		6	4	1h						
Willow Tit	<i>Poecile montanus</i>		1h								
Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		5			10	5	5	5		
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		10			10	8	2	5		
Eurasian Penduline Tit	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>					1h	10	3h			
Bearded Reedling	<i>Panurus biarmicus</i>					h	12	3			
Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>				4				1	4	
Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>				10	100's	1000+			100+	
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	25	20	20	50	100's	50	100	100	100	20
Eurasian Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>			25							
Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	25	30	50	30				50		25
Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Cecropis daurica</i>								5		
Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>			h			20				
Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>		1								
Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>		2	2		2					
Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>						5	6		5	
Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>						1	1			
Eurasian Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>					20	10	10			
Eastern Olivaceous Warbler	<i>Iduna pallida</i>					10	8	5			
Icterine Warbler	<i>Hippolais icterina</i>								1h		
Savi's Warbler	<i>Locustella luscinioides</i>						2	1h			
Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>						4		1		
Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>		3	1					2		
Wallcreeper	<i>Tichodroma muraria</i>			5							
Eurasian Treecreeper	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>			2h							
Short-toed Treecreeper	<i>Certhia brachydactyla</i>					1h					
Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>				30	25	50	100	50	1000's	25
Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	3		4	1				2		
Fieldfare	<i>Turdus pilaris</i>			1							
Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	1	1		1	1					
Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>		2	4							
Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>					2			2		
European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>		4	7							
Thrush Nightingale	<i>Luscinia luscinia</i>					1	2h	2h			
Collared Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula albicollis</i>								1		
Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>		1	1	2						
Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>					5					
Common Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola saxatilis</i>								2		
Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>				3				1	15	

Common name	Scientific name	August 2023									
		4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Isabelline Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe isabellina</i>								1	15	
Pied Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe pleschanka</i>								2		
White-throated Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>		1								
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	10	25	50	50		h		30	30	20
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>		8	30	5	50	5	30	30		
Western Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>			h	10	5	3	1	5	100+	
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>			5	1						
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>		5		2	2	4	4	1	4	
Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>								2	15	
Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>		2	1					1		
Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		30	30	15		4	5	50		
Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>								10		
Eurasian Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>		2								
European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>				1				2		
European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		15			5	h		5		
European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>				1						
Eurasian Siskin	<i>Spinus spinus</i>		5								
Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>				1					1h	
Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>		5								
Common Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>					1h	2	1			

## Others

**Mammals:** European Souslik, Brown Hare, Red Fox, Golden Jackal, Brown Bear, Chamois & Roe Deer.

**Reptiles:** European Pond Terrapin, Sand Lizard, Balkan Wall Lizard and Caspian Whip Snake.

**Amphibians:** Yellow-bellied Toad, Agile Frog, Common Frog & Pelophylax Frog spp.,

**Butterflies:** Scarce Swallowtail, Large White, Small White, Southern Small White, Green-veined White, Eastern Bath White, Clouded Yellow, Pale/Berger's Clouded Yellow, Brimstone, Wood White, Small Copper, Sooty Copper, Lesser Fiery Copper, Short-tailed Blue, Eastern Short-tailed Blue, Little Blue, Holly Blue, Silver-studded Blue, Idas Blue, Green-underside Blue, Brown Argus, Common Blue, Purple Emperor, Freyer's Purple Emperor, White Admiral, Common Glider, Hungarian Glider, Red Admiral, Painted Lady, Comma, Map, Cardinal Fritillary, Silver-washed Fritillary, Dark Green Fritillary, Queen of Spain Fritillary, Spotted Fritillary, Marbled White, Grayling spp., Dryad, Arran Brown, Large Ringlet, Scotch Argus, Meadow Brown, Common Ringlet, Small Heath, Speckled Wood, Wall Brown, Grizzled Skipper spp., Mallow Skipper, Small Skipper & Large Skipper.

**Odonata:** Banded Demoiselle, Beautiful Demoiselle, Small Red-eyed Damselfly, Common Blue-tailed Damselfly, Large Red Damselfly, Blue Hawker, Lesser Emperor, Sombre Golden-ringed Dragonfly, Broad Scarlet, White-tailed Skimmer, Southern Skimmer, Black-tailed Skimmer, Keeled Skimmer and Southern Darter.

**Other notable taxa:** Red-winged Grasshopper, Blue-winged Grasshopper, Slant-faced Grasshopper Long-winged Conehead, Great Green Bush-cricket, Dark Bush-cricket, Violet Carpenter Bee, Hummingbird Hawkmoth, Rose Chafer and Roman Snail.