

Romania's Danube Delta & Carpathian Mountains

Naturetrek Tour Report

11th – 20th September 2025



Common Cuckoo



Brown Bear



Dalmatian Pelican



Great White Pelican

Tour report by Michael Burton-Smith
Plant list compiled by Diane Blood



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Day 1

Thursday 11th September

Bucharest to Zarnesti

We arrived in Bucharest in the mid-afternoon, met our local guide, Bogdan, and set off on our drive across the northern Wallachian Plain. This vast expanse of flat land has been largely converted into agriculture, and so supports a relatively low diversity of wildlife. We had several views of Eurasian Kestrels and Common Buzzards, and large numbers of Rooks evidenced the expansive cereal crops.

As we continued northwards, the landscape began to change as we wove our way through the sub-Carpathians, a series of hills between 800-900 metres high, which eventually gave way to the Carpathian Mountains, though the heavy cloud cover gave only tantalising views of the landscape. Passing into the historic province of Transylvania, we had our first views of the famous Bran Castle. While the heavy mist may have dampened views of the mountains, it certainly gave a dramatic mood to this historic building.

After checking in at the Transylvanian Inn, we enjoyed the best of Romanian hospitality and stunning views of the castle from the hotel restaurant.

Day 2

Friday 12th September

Zărnești Gorge and Stramba Valley bear watching

On day two, we set off to the Zărnești Gorge. Carved by a small stream, this gorge was simply awe-inspiring, with sheer limestone cliffs on either side. It is no wonder it is so popular for rock climbing and other extreme sports. The rain and mist only added to the walk, as the low rolling clouds enhanced the drama of the spectacle. Through occasional gaps, we could see the mountains that towered over us, tinged orange as the forest adopted the colours of autumn. Birds were relatively thin on the ground due to the conditions, although we had views of Marsh Tit and regular Grey Wagtail. The bird of the morning was certainly an Alpine Swift, slightly unexpected so late in the season, which whizzed above us in and out of the low clouds. An Alpine Shrew dashing through the undergrowth was an initial mammal highlight, though it was a family group of Carpathian Chamois clinging to the hillsides that stole the show.

After a welcome afternoon pause in the hotel to dry off, we set off around 4.00pm to the Stramba Valley. With the rain well and truly passed, we made regular stops in the valley to look for birds. A Red-backed Shrike and Black Redstart were both exciting entries at first, but both were soon eclipsed by a Golden Eagle which appeared in the skies above us! Flying alongside it was a Common Buzzard, dwarfed in comparison to the eagle's mighty wingspan.

At the end of Stramba Valley, we met our ranger, who led us to a hide on the edge of a small clearing. Here, we had the most unbelievable views of twelve (yes, twelve!) Brown Bears. Particularly enjoyable were the mothers with young cubs, which curiously poked their heads in every nook and cranny, in the hope of finding a tasty snack. It was a fantastic end to a brilliant day.

Day 3

Saturday 13th September

Rasnov Gorge and Piatra Craiului

We set out on the third day to the Rasnov Gorge. The drive was a contender for highlight of the day; we flushed a party of Grey Partridge from the roadside as we drove along. This was only the warm-up act, as our driver hurriedly pulled to the side after Bogdan spotted a Great Grey Shrike perched on the power lines. This stately bird happily stayed as we got out and had a look, and allowed for some quick photos before we continued on our way to the gorge.

Without the rain, we were able to hear and see many more birds than we had the day before. These included better views of Marsh Tit, as well as Coal Tit, Blackcap and other woodland birds. A Northern Nutcracker flying from treetop to treetop was particularly exciting, as was a group of Peregrine Falcons noisily battling it out overhead.

We spent the afternoon taking a gentle climb up the Piatra Craiului Mountains, enjoying spectacular views down the valley. Here were more Nutcrackers, this time affording much better views as they fed in the canopy. A Northern Wheatear, a flock of Linnets, and a few Black Redstarts provided entertainment in the scattered boulders, and a podgy Yellow-bellied Toad in a muddy pool was an unexpected find. On our descent, birds of prey could be seen using the thermals to gain altitude above us. A Honey Buzzard, with its slightly ungainly shape and wing plumage, provided good views, with Common Buzzards for comparison.

Before returning to the hotel, we made a stop in the village of Bran, so people could have a closer look at the castle and historic boundary between the lands of Wallachia and Transylvania, though many paid more attention to the local beer available at a nearby pub!

Day 4

Sunday 14th September

Zărnești to Tulcea

As we said goodbye to Transylvania and the Carpathian Mountains, the sunny weather allowed us to take in the views we had missed due to cloud cover on our way up on the first day, before we rejoined the Wallachian Plain and turned east towards the Black Sea coast. Along the way, we crossed the Danube and began seeing several lowland species of bird. These included small numbers of Marsh Harriers and Common Buzzards, huge flocks of Rooks, Jackdaws and Hooded Crows, and occasional Red-backed Shrikes perched atop powerlines. Particularly exciting were the few Black Storks we saw making their southward migration. Unlike the White Stork, which migrates in massive flocks earlier in the autumn, the Black Stork makes the journey either alone or in small, loose groups.

We made a stop at Lacul Hazarlac, a lake not far from the Danube River. Here, the expansive reed fringes and occasional muddy banks made for a birder's paradise, and we enjoyed views of migrating waders such as Common Greenshank, Wood Sandpiper, Common Snipe, and Black-tailed Godwit. The most exciting waders were certainly the small group of Temminck's Stint, which migrates south via the coasts of the Black and Caspian Seas, and is relatively uncommon in Britain.

Along with the waders were several species of waterfowl, including some lovely Garganey. Three species of gull were also present: the familiar Black-headed Gull, the Caspian Gull, which is very much a bird of south-eastern

Europe and scarce in Britain, and very unexpectedly a juvenile Slender-billed Gull, an uncommon species with a localised distribution around the Mediterranean and on the Indian Ocean.

In the late evening, we arrived at what would be our home for the next four nights: the floating hotel on the Danube Delta.

Day 5

Monday 15th September

Danube Delta

We left the floating hotel and climbed aboard our smaller boat early in the morning, and set off along the broad Tulcea Branch on the Danube Delta. This vessel allowed us to navigate the smaller channels and shallow lakes of the delta, giving closer wildlife experiences while the floating hotel stuck to the deep channels. As we headed deeper into the delta, the rewards were almost instantaneous, with cracking views of Little Egret, Kingfisher and immature Black-crowned Night Heron. In the distance, we heard the distinctive cry of a Black Woodpecker, and then had two of them flying across the channel right above our boat! Overhead, we saw evidence of the migration route with Black Stork, Levant Sparrowhawk, Red-footed Falcon, and Common, Honey and Long-legged Buzzards passing in the thermals.

While the channels were often fairly quiet, the small lakes which form in the delta could not have been more different. Here, we saw huge flocks of waterfowl, made up largely of Gadwall, along with Great White Pelicans and the occasional Dalmatian Pelican; the latter is a globally rare bird. Egrets and herons abounded, as did the Great and Pygmy Cormorants which feasted on the abundant fish. Whiskered Terns were also ever-present on the shallow lakes.

In the evening, we set out again and were rewarded with cracking views of Caspian Tern and Caspian Gull roosting on the canal banks. The Caspian Tern in particular was a huge hit, given its heavy carrot bill. Overhead passed swarms of Ferruginous Duck; they are hard to spot at other times of year, but in autumn they can be found in huge congregations. We were rewarded with many more views of waterbirds, including some brilliant pelicans in the sunset, but it was the evening appearance of the Red-footed Falcon which capped off a great first day on the water.

Day 6

Tuesday 16th September

Danube Delta

Heading out again on the small boat, we navigated our way through the channels to a series of vast lakes. Along the way, we had a chance encounter with a quite charming Grey-headed Woodpecker, working its way through the willows along the bank. In autumn the lakes are the congregation place for waterfowl and other water birds as they flee the cold European winter. We were given fantastic views of Ferruginous Duck, Little Grebe and Whiskered Tern resting among the lilies, but all was eclipsed by a huge flock of roughly two thousand Great White Pelican in a feeding frenzy on Lac Trei Iezere. They teamed up with cormorants, grebes and terns in what was certainly one of the greatest visual spectacles of the trip. On the same lake, we also had our first views of the entertaining Squacco Heron, which hung onto the fisherman's poles and wait patiently for passing meals. Though they appear a muddy brown at rest, when they fly they take off in an explosion of white as they unfold their wings.

In the late afternoon, we set off on another journey, and within metres of leaving the floating hotel were rewarded with unbelievable views of a female Little Crake. Usually so secretive and reported only occasionally on the delta, this particular individual seemed totally unbothered by our presence, and carried on foraging on the reed edges in full view. She really was a highlight for many!

As we worked our way along the channels and the sun began to set, we had another unbelievable encounter, but now of the mammalian kind. A family of Golden Jackals, which we suspected were a combination of this year's and last year's pups, stalked the tall grass on the banks along the canal edge. Totally unbothered by us, we had special views of their family lives and stalking techniques. A very late European Roller on the wires along the canal capped off an incredible evening.

Day 7

Wednesday 17th September

Danube Delta

For our final day on the delta, we left slightly earlier in the morning to capitalise on the good weather. We were rewarded with pleasant views of the usual waterfowl early on, including a cheeky Cetti's Warbler peeking from the reed beds. As we navigated further along the channels, a distinctive call rang out of the reeds and we stopped the boat. After a few minutes waiting and listening, a pair of Penduline Tits emerged for brief views. Along the river, we made a stop to look at their unique hanging nest, built earlier in the season.

Continuing past the Russian village of Mila 23, we had close views of Teal and Black-tailed Godwit, as well as the ever-present White-tailed Eagles which had escorted us throughout our three days on the delta. A Cuckoo made a curious appearance on the wires overhead, far later than one would expect for them to still be in Europe. Atop a dead tree emerging from the reeds was another unexpected delight: a Lesser Spotted Woodpecker in full view!

As we climbed back on board the floating hotel to return to Tulcea, it was as though the heavens took their cue and the skies opened. Heavy rain was not unwelcome though, as the sound of rain on the river made for a wonderful ambience after three busy days on the water.

Day 8

Thursday 18th September

Somova Forest and the Macin Mountains

Our first day back on dry land started with a trip up a hill west of Tulcea, overlooking the Danube Delta. In the fields near the summit were European Sousliks, a species of ground squirrel, busily going about their day. As we looked out over the delta, we had cracking views of Black Storks making their way south, along with two Ruddy Shelducks resting on the shallow pools.

From there we headed to the open oak forest of Somova. Though the heavy grazing of the hills prevents any of the young saplings taking root, many of the old oaks still stand, and as the eldest begin to die this creates an opportunity for the charming Middle Spotted Woodpecker. We were lucky enough to find one on our walk, but it was only a brief encounter. On our descent we enjoyed the many plants and insects unique to this steppe forest.

Continuing west, we passed the Celic Dere Monastery for lunch in a quiet, wooded valley. Here we enjoyed several butterflies feeding among the thistles, and a Nursery Web Spider carrying her babies on her back. Switching between looking down and looking up, we also had brief views of Hawfinch flitting between the trees above.

Our final destination was the Macin Mountains, made from some of the oldest rocks in Europe. Though the birds were relatively quiet on the ascent, things changed quickly. At the highest point on our climb, Bogdan spotted a Long-legged Buzzard perched on the mountainside. On the way down, a lucky few in the group saw four Quails flush from the long grass and, even more extraordinarily, two Sombre Tits! These are declining fast in Romania, so we were exceptionally lucky to find any.

Day 9

Friday 19th September

Deniz Tepe and Vadu

For our final full day in Romania, we set out first to Deniz Tepe. This name is a holdover from the Ottoman rule and translates to Hill of the Sea, referencing the time when the Black Sea stretched further inland and surrounded this site as an island. The agricultural fields held few birds other than Crested Larks, but the skies overhead were very rewarding. The thermals coming off the outcrop act as a perfect place for migrating birds to gain altitude, and we enjoyed the Black Storks, Eurasian Sparrowhawk, and Long-legged and Common Buzzards which passed overhead. Particularly noteworthy was a late Montagu's Harrier, our first of the trip.

We then headed to Vadu at the extreme south of the Danube Delta. This was a fantastic site, with Little Owls calling in the background, Wood Sandpiper and Common Snipe in the mud, Bearded Reedlings calling out, and many waterfowl being disturbed by the Marsh Harrier and Osprey passing by.

A small path lined with willows proved a very popular spot for migrating songbirds, attracted by the swarms of mosquitoes. We had great views of Spotted Flycatcher, Willow Warbler, Reed Warbler and Common Redstart, and tantalising snatches of a Red-breasted Flycatcher which refused to pose for a better view. A Whinchat watched from a nearby post. On a lake leftover by an old rare earth minerals plant, we also found our first Little Gull and Spotted Redshank for the trip, along with Little Ringed Plover and Ruff.

As a fitting final destination, we made it to the end of the Danube and the coast of the Black Sea. While many took this as an opportunity to get their feet wet and enjoy some beach time, the keen birders were rewarded with Mediterranean Gulls and Sandwich Terns out to sea, and a family of three Black-necked Grebes among the Little Grebes, told apart by their red eyes.

Day 10

Saturday 20th September

Return to Bucharest

On our final day, we had a leisurely morning, which gave the group a chance to visit the Tulcea fruit markets and ogle the remarkable crops available due to Romania's long, dry summers. Our first stop of the day was on the outskirts of Nicolae Bălcescu village, where we had great views of Crested Larks foraging and singing. A group of Great White Pelicans passed overhead, almost as though they had come to say goodbye.

With time to spare we made another stop at Lacul Hazarlac for lunch, and once again enjoyed the many waterfowl and waders which use this as a migration pitstop. While the Temminck's Stint from earlier in the week had left, we had wonderful views of Little Stints which had taken their place among the Ruffs, and three juvenile Dunlins proved a very entertaining identification challenge, even if the conclusion was slightly less exciting!

Arriving at Bucharest in the late evening, we said our farewells to Romania, and reflected on what had been a truly remarkable trip, with a great diversity of birds, butterflies, plants and mammals, made better by amazing company and plenty of good laughs!

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Species lists

Birds (H = Heard only)

I=Introduced		September 2025										
Common name	Scientific name	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Ruddy Shelduck	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>								✓		✓	
Garganey	<i>Spatula querquedula</i>				✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	
Northern Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>				✓					✓		
Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>					✓	✓	✓		✓		
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>									✓		
Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>				✓			✓		✓	✓	
Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>						✓					
Ferruginous Duck	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>					✓	✓					
Grey Partridge	<i>Perdix perdix</i>			✓						✓		
Common Pheasant - I	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Common Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>								✓			
Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>		✓									
Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>							✓				
Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
Stock Dove	<i>Columba oenas</i>							✓				
Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Water Rail	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>									H		
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>					✓	✓	✓				
Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>				✓	✓				✓	✓	
Little Crake	<i>Zapornia parva</i>						✓					
Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>						✓	✓		✓		
Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>				✓		✓	✓			✓	
Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>									✓		
Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>									✓		
Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>				✓					✓	✓	
Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>				✓	✓				✓	✓	
Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>				✓			✓			✓	
Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>				✓					✓	✓	
Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>				✓	✓		✓			✓	
Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>				✓					✓		
Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>									✓		
Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>				✓					✓		
Ruff	<i>Calidris pugnax</i>				✓					✓	✓	
Temminck's Stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>				✓							
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>				✓						✓	
Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>										✓	
Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>					✓	✓	✓		✓		
Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>						✓	✓		✓		
Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>									✓		
Little Gull	<i>Hydrocoloeus minutus</i>									✓		

I=Introduced		September 2025									
Common name	Scientific name	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Slender-billed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus genei</i>				✓						
Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mediterranean Gull	<i>Ichthyaetus melanocephalus</i>									✓	
Caspian Gull	<i>Larus cachinnans</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>				✓						
Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>				✓	✓			✓	✓	
Pygmy Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo pygmaeus</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>				✓						
Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>					✓	✓	✓			
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>					✓		✓	✓	✓	
Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>						✓				
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>					✓	✓	✓		✓	
Great White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dalmatian Pelican	<i>Pelecanus crispus</i>					✓	✓	✓			
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>						✓			✓	
European Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>			✓		✓					
Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>		✓								
Levant Sparrowhawk	<i>Tachyspiza brevipes</i>					✓					
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>									✓	
Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>									✓	
White-tailed Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>					✓	✓	✓			
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>					✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>								H	H	H
European Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>						✓				
Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>					✓	✓	✓			
European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		
Middle Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocoptes medius</i>								✓		
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dryobates minor</i>							✓			
Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓		
Black Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus martius</i>					✓	✓				
European Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>			H					H		
Grey-headed Woodpecker	<i>Picus canus</i>						✓	✓			
Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Red-footed Falcon	<i>Falco vespertinus</i>					✓	✓		✓		
Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>					✓	✓	✓		✓	
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>			✓							
Great Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius excubitor</i>			✓	✓						
Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>		✓	✓					✓		
Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Northern Nutcracker	<i>Nucifraga caryocatactes</i>			✓							
Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>	✓			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

I=Introduced		September 2025									
Common name	Scientific name	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>		✓	✓		✓					
Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>		H	✓							
Sombre Tit	<i>Poecile lugubris</i>								✓		
Marsh Tit	<i>Poecile palustris</i>		✓	✓							
Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		✓				✓	✓	✓		
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		✓			✓	✓	✓		✓	
Eurasian Penduline Tit	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>							✓			
Bearded Reedling	<i>Panurus biarmicus</i>						✓	✓		H	
Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>								✓		
Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>								✓	✓	✓
Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>						✓				
Eurasian Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>			✓							
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Western House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>		✓								
Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>							✓			
Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>					✓	✓				
Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>			✓		✓	H	✓			
Common Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>									✓	
Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>			✓		✓			✓		
Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Curruca curruca</i>						✓				
Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>			✓	✓				✓		
Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>		✓	✓							
Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		
Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>		✓	✓						✓	
Red-breasted Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula parva</i>									✓	
Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>		✓	✓							
Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>					✓				✓	
Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>									✓	
Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>			✓							
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓		
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓
Western Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>				✓						
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>		✓	✓							
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>								✓		
Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>			✓							
European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>			✓		✓		✓			
Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>								✓	✓	
Common Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>							✓			

Mammals

Common name	Scientific name	September 2025									
		11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Brown Rat	<i>Rattus norvegicus</i>			✓							
European Sousek	<i>Spermophilus citellus</i>								✓	H	
Alpine Shrew	<i>Sorex alpinus</i>		✓								
Common Noctule	<i>Nyctalus noctula</i>		✓								
Western Roe Deer	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>			✓					✓		
Carpathian Chamois	<i>Rupicapra carpatica</i>		✓								
Golden Jackal	<i>Canis aureus</i>					✓	✓				
Brown Bear	<i>Ursus arctos</i>		✓								

Amphibians & reptiles

Common name	Scientific name	September 2025									
		11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Yellow-bellied Toad	<i>Bombina variegata</i>			✓							
Common Frog	<i>Rana temporaria</i>		✓								
Agile Frog	<i>Rana dalmatina</i>		✓								
Sand Lizard	<i>Lacerta agilis</i>								✓		
Slow Worm	<i>Anguis fragilis</i>			✓							
Eastern Grass Snake	<i>Natrix natrix</i>			✓			✓			✓	
Spur-thighed Tortoise	<i>Testudo graeca</i>									✓	
European Pond Terrapin	<i>Emys orbicularis</i>							✓			

Butterflies

Common name	Scientific name	September 2025									
		11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Oberthür's Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus armoricanus</i>			✓					✓		
Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias croceus</i>			✓				✓	✓		
Danube Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias myrmidone</i>								✓		
Eastern Bath White	<i>Pontia edusa</i>							✓			
Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>			✓							
Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>			✓	✓						
Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>			✓							
Silver-studded Blue	<i>Plebejus argus</i>							✓			
Brown Argus	<i>Aricia agestis</i>								✓		
Chapman's Blue	<i>Polyommatus thersites</i>							✓	✓		
Queen of Spain Fritillary	<i>Issoria lathonia</i>							✓			
Silver-washed Fritillary	<i>Argynnis paphia</i>							✓			
Cardinal	<i>Argynnis pandora</i>			✓				✓			
Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>			✓		✓			✓		
Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>			✓							
Common Marbled White	<i>Melanargia galathea</i>				✓						
Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>							✓			

Other invertebrates

		September 2025									
Common name	Scientific name	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Moths											
a moth	<i>Dysauxes punctata</i>									✓	
a plume moth	<i>Pterophoridae</i> sp.									✓	
Hummingbird Hawk-Moth	<i>Macroglossum stellatarum</i>		✓	✓	✓				✓		
Beetles											
Seven-spot Ladybug	<i>Coccinella septempunctata</i>			✓					✓	✓	
Alder Leaf Beetle	<i>Agelastica alni</i>			✓							
Leather Beetle	<i>Carabus coriaceus</i>		✓						✓		
Flies											
Marmalade Hoverfly	<i>Episyrphus balteatus</i>			✓							
Bees											
Buff-tailed Bumblebee	<i>Bombus terrestris</i>			✓							
Grasshoppers											
Littoral Dark Bush-cricket	<i>Pholidoptera littoralis</i>			✓							
Small Gold Grasshopper	<i>Euthystira brachyptera</i>			✓							
Mediterranean Slant-faced Grasshopper	<i>Acrida ungarica</i>				✓				✓	✓	✓
Bugs											
Forest Bug	<i>Pentatoma rufipes</i>			✓							
European Firebug	<i>Pyrrhocoris apterus</i>				✓						
Pied Shield Bug	<i>Tritomegas bicolor</i>			✓							
European Green Sheildbug	<i>Nezara viridula</i>						✓				
European Striped Shield Bug	<i>Graphosoma italicum</i>								✓		
Weevils											
a weevil	<i>Coniocleonus nigrosuturatus</i>									✓	
Spiders											
Nursery Web Spider	<i>Pisaura mirabilis</i>								✓		
Wolf Spider	Family Lycosidae								✓		
Jumping Spider	<i>Mendoza canestrinii</i>					✓	✓				
Molluscs											
Eastern Heath Snail	<i>Xerolenta obvia</i>										✓

Plants

E=Endemic	
Scientific name	Common name
Equisetaceae	Horsetails
<i>Equisetum arvense</i>	Field Horsetail
Salviniaceae	Water-ferns
<i>Salvinia natans</i>	Floating Fern
Aspleniaceae	Spleenworts
<i>Asplenium trichomanes</i>	Maidenhair Spleenwort
<i>Asplenium scolopendrium</i>	Common Hart's-tongue
Onocleaceae	Sensitive Ferns
<i>Onoclea struthiopteris</i>	Ostrich Fern
Thelypteridaceae	Marsh Fern Family
<i>Thelypteris palustris</i>	Marsh Fern

E=Endemic	
Scientific name	Common name
<i>Pinaceae</i>	Pine Family
<i>Picea abies</i>	Norway Spruce
<i>Larix decidua</i>	European Larch
<i>Nymphaeaceae</i>	Water-lilies
<i>Nymphaea alba</i>	European White Water-lily
<i>Nuphar lutea</i>	European Yellow Water-lily
<i>Aristolochiaceae</i>	Birthwort Family
<i>Asarum europeum</i>	European Ginger/Asarabacca
<i>Alismataceae</i>	Water-plantain Family
<i>Sagittaria sagittifolia</i>	Common Arrowhead
<i>Butomaceae</i>	Flowering-rushes
<i>Butomus umbellatus</i>	Flowering-rush
<i>Hydrocharitaceae</i>	Frog-bit Family
<i>Hydrocharis morsus-ranae</i>	Frog-bit
<i>Stratiotes aloides</i>	Water-soldier
<i>Colchicaceae</i>	Meadow Saffron Family
<i>Colchicum autumnale</i>	Meadow Saffron
<i>Liliaceae</i>	Lily Family
<i>Lilium martagon</i>	Martagon Lily
<i>Typhaceae</i>	Bulrush Family
<i>Typha angustifolia</i>	Lesser Bulrush
<i>Typha latifolia</i>	Common Bulrush
<i>Cyperaceae</i>	Sedge Family
<i>Schoenoplectus lacustris</i>	Common Club-rush
<i>Cyperus glomeratus</i>	Clustered Flat-sedge
<i>Scirpus radicans</i>	Creeping Club-rush
<i>Poaceae</i>	Grasses
<i>Phragmites australis</i>	Common Reed
<i>Agropyron cristatum</i>	Crested Wheatgrass
<i>Ranunculaceae</i>	Buttercup Family
<i>Aconitum lycoctonum</i>	Common Wolf's-bane
<i>Aconitum anthora</i>	Yellow Monk's-hood
<i>Clematis integrifolia</i>	Entire-leaved Clematis
<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	Meadow Buttercup
<i>Clematis vitalba</i>	Old Man's Beard/Travellers Joy
<i>Saxifragaceae</i>	Saxifrage family
<i>Saxifraga cuneifolia</i>	Lesser London Pride
<i>Crassulaceae</i>	Stonecrop Family
<i>Hylotelephium telephium</i>	Orpine
<i>Hylotelephium maximum</i>	Greater Orpine
<i>Vitaceae</i>	Vine Family
<i>Vitis vinifera</i>	Common Grape-vine
<i>Vitis sylvestris</i>	European Wild Grape
<i>Zygophyllaceae</i>	Caltrops Family
<i>Tribulus terrestris</i>	Small Caltrops/Goathead
<i>Fabaceae</i>	Pea Family
<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i>	Honey Locust
<i>Amorpha fruticosa</i>	False-indigo Bush
<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	Black Locust

E=Endemic	
Scientific name	Common name
<i>Vicia cracca</i>	Tufted Vetch
<i>Ononis spinosa</i>	Spiny Restharrow
<i>Medicago sativa subsp. falcata</i>	Sickle Medick
<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Red Clover
<i>Melilotis albus</i>	White Sweet Clover
<i>Vicia sativa</i>	Common Vetch
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Birds Foot Trefoil
<i>Melilotus officinalis</i>	Sweetclover
<i>Melilotus albus</i>	White Sweetclover
Rosaceae	Rose Family
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn
<i>Cydonia oblonga</i>	Common Quince
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Common Hawthorn
<i>Potentilla erecta</i>	Common Tormentil
<i>Agrimonia eupatoria</i>	Common Agrimony
<i>Rosa canina</i> agg.	Dog Rose
<i>Crataegus rhipidophylla</i>	Calycine Hawthorn
<i>Spiraea chamaedryfolia</i>	Elm-leaf Spiraea
<i>Geum urbanum</i>	Wood Avens
<i>Prunus avium</i>	Wild Cherry
<i>Prunus pyraster</i>	European Wild Pear
<i>Rubus caesius</i>	European Dewberry
Elaeagnaceae	Oleaster Family
<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i>	Narrow-leaved Oleaster
Ulmaceae	Elm Family
<i>Ulmus glabra</i>	Wych Elm
<i>Ulmus elata</i>	Winged Elm
Cannabaceae	Hemp Family
<i>Cannabis sativa</i>	Indian Hemp
Urticaceae	Nettle Family
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Common Nettle
Fagaceae	Beech Family
<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	European Beech
<i>Quercus robur</i>	Pedunculate Oak
<i>Quercus pubescens</i>	Downy Oak
<i>Quercus pedunculiflora</i>	Pale Oak
Juglandaceae	Walnut Family
<i>Juglans regia</i>	White Walnut
Betulaceae	Birch Family
<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver Birch
<i>Carpinus orientalis</i>	Eastern Hornbeam
<i>Corylus avellana</i>	European Hazel
<i>Ostrya carpinifolia</i>	Hop Hornbeam
<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	Black Alder
Cucurbitaceae	Cucumber Family
<i>Bryonia cretica</i>	White Bryony
Celastraceae	Spindle Family
<i>Euonymus latifolius</i>	Large leaf Spindle
<i>Euonymus europea</i>	Spindle

E=Endemic	
Scientific name	Common name
Violaceae	Violets
<i>Viola tricolor</i>	Wild Pansy
<i>Viola arvensis</i>	Common Field Pansy
Salicaceae	Willow Family
<i>Populus alba</i>	White Poplar
<i>Populus tremula</i>	European Aspen
<i>Salix alba</i>	White Willow
<i>Salix cinerea</i>	Grey Willow
<i>Salix caprea</i>	Goat Willow
<i>Salix purpurea</i>	Purple Willow
<i>Populus nigra</i>	Black/Lombardy Poplar
<i>Salix fragilis</i>	Crack Willow
Euphorbiaceae	Spurge Family
<i>Euphorbia paralias</i>	Sea Spurge
<i>Euphorbia amygdaloides</i>	Wood Spurge
<i>Mercurialis perennis</i>	Dog's Mercury
<i>Euphorbia cyparissias</i>	Cyprus Spurge
<i>Euphorbia seguieriana</i>	Steppe spurge
Linaceae	Flaxes
<i>Linum extraaxillare</i>	Carpathian Flax
Geraniaceae	Crane's-bills
<i>Geranium pratense</i>	Meadow Crane's-bill
<i>Geranium phaeum</i>	Dusky Crane's-bill
<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	Common Herb Robert
<i>Geranium palustre</i>	Marsh Geranium
Lythraceae	Purple Loosestrife Family
<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	Purple Loosestrife
<i>Trapa natans</i>	Water-chestnut
Sapindaceae	Soapberry Family
<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>	Common Horse-chestnut
<i>Acer platanoides</i>	Norway Maple
<i>Acer campestre</i>	Field Maple
<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Common Sycamore
<i>Acer negundo</i>	Box Elder Maple
Simaroubaceae	Quassia Family
<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	Tree-of-heaven
Malvaceae	Mallow Family
<i>Tilia tomentosa</i>	Silver Lime
<i>Tilia cordata</i>	Small-leaved Lime
<i>Althaea officinalis</i>	Marsh Mallow
<i>Malva sylvestris</i>	Common Mallow
<i>Malva neglecta</i>	Dwarf Mallow
Cistaceae	Rock-rose Family
<i>Helianthemum nummularium</i>	Common Rock-rose
Resedaceae	Mignonettes
<i>Reseda lutea</i>	Common Mignonette
Brassicaceae	Cabbage Family
<i>Berteroa incana</i>	Hoary Alysum
<i>Lunaria rediviva</i>	Perennial Honesty

E=Endemic	
Scientific name	Common name
<i>Crambe maritima</i>	Common Sea Kale
<i>Diplotaxis tenuifolia</i>	Perennial wall rocket
Loranthaceae	Showy Mistletoes
<i>Loranthus europaeus</i>	Yellow-berried Mistletoe
Polygonaceae	Knotgrass Family
<i>Persicaria hydropiper</i>	Common Water-pepper
<i>Rumex acetosella</i>	Sheep Sorrel
<i>Persicaria maculosa</i>	Redshank
<i>Persicaria lapathifolia</i>	Pale Persicaria
Caryophyllaceae	Campion Family
<i>Spergularia marina</i>	Lesser Sea-spurrey
<i>Stellaria aquatica</i>	Water Chickweed
<i>Saponaria officinalis</i>	Common Soapwort
<i>Dianthus nardiformis</i>	Dobrogea Pink - E
<i>Dianthus carthusianorum</i>	Carthusian Pink
<i>Stellaria media</i>	Common Chickweed
<i>Heliosperma pusillum</i>	Alpine Catchfly
<i>Gypsophila paniculata</i>	Baby's Breath
Amaranthaceae	Amaranth Family
<i>Salicornia perennis</i>	Perennial Glasswort
<i>Suaeda maritima</i>	Annual Sea-blite
<i>Salsola kali</i>	Prickly Saltwort/ Roly Poly
<i>Amaranthus retroflexus</i>	Common Amaranth
Phytolaccaceae	Pokeweeds
Cornaceae	Dogwood Family
<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>	Common Dogwood
Balsaminaceae	Balsam Family
<i>Impatiens glandulifera</i>	Indian Balsam
Rubiaceae	Bedstraw Family
<i>Galium odoratum</i>	Sweet Woodruff
<i>Galium humifusum</i>	Spreading Bedstraw
<i>Galium verum</i>	Lady's Bedstraw
Boraginaceae	Borage Family
<i>Echium vulgare</i>	Common Viper's-bugloss
<i>Anchusa azurea</i>	Large Blue Alkanet
<i>Heliotropium europaeum</i>	European Heliotrope
<i>Echium italicum</i>	Pale Bugloss
<i>Anchusa officinalis</i>	Common Bugloss
Convolvulaceae	Bindweed Family
<i>Cuscuta campestris</i>	Yellow Dodder
Solanaceae	Nightshade Family
<i>Solanum nigrum</i>	Black Nightshade
<i>Solanum dulcamara</i>	Bittersweet/Woody Nightshade
<i>Datura stramonium</i>	Common Thorn-apple
<i>Hyocyamus niger</i>	Black Henbane/Stinking Nightshade
Oleaceae	Olive Family
<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>	European Privet
<i>Fraxinus ornus</i>	Manna Ash

E=Endemic	
Scientific name	Common name
<i>Fraxinus angustifolia</i>	Narrow-leaved Ash
Plantaginaceae	Plantain Family
<i>Linaria genistifolia</i>	Balkan Toadflax
<i>Linaria vulgaris</i>	Common Toadflax
Scrophulariaceae	Figwort Family
<i>Verbascum nigrum</i>	Dark Mullein
<i>Verbascum thapsus</i>	Great Mullein
Verbenaceae	Vervain Family
<i>Verbena officinalis</i>	Common Vervain
Lamiaceae	Dead-nettle Family
<i>Salvia glutinosa</i>	Sticky Clary
<i>Salvia nemorosa</i>	Balkan Clary
<i>Salvia verticillata</i>	Whorled Clary
<i>Lycopus europaeus</i>	Gypsywort
<i>Thymus pannonicus</i>	Pannonic Thyme
<i>Mentha aquatica</i>	Water Mint
<i>Mentha longifolia</i>	Horse Mint
<i>Clinopodium vulgare</i>	Wild Basil
<i>Teucrium capitatum</i>	Eastern Felty Germander/ Cat Thyme
<i>Stachys palustris</i>	Marsh Woundwort
<i>Marrubium peregrinum</i>	Horehound
<i>Lamium maculatum</i>	Spotted Dead-nettle
<i>Lamium album</i>	White Dead-nettle
<i>Teucrium chaemydrys</i>	Wall Germander
<i>Glechoma hirsuta</i>	Creeping Charlie
<i>Mentha arvensis</i>	Wild Mint
<i>Marrubium vulgare</i>	White Horehound
<i>Origanum vulgare</i>	Oregano
<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	Selfheal
Campanulaceae	Bellflower Family
<i>Campanula carpatica</i>	Carpathian Bellflower
<i>Campanula trachelium</i>	Nettle-leaved Bellflower
<i>Campanula rapunculoides</i>	a rampion
Menyanthaceae	Bogbean Family
<i>Nymphoides peltata</i>	Fringed Water-lily
Asteraceae	Daisy Family
<i>Carlina acaulis</i>	Stemless Carline Thistle
<i>Centaurea arenaria</i>	Sand Knapweed
<i>Cirsium erisithales</i>	Yellow Melancholy Thistle
<i>Carduus personata</i>	Great Marsh Thistle
<i>Carduus crispus</i>	Wetted Thistle
<i>Arctium tomentosum</i>	Woolly Burdock
<i>Sonchus palustris</i>	Marsh Sow-thistle
<i>Cichorium intybus</i>	Common Chicory
<i>Senecio ovatus</i>	Wood Ragwort
<i>Erigeron annuus</i>	Eastern Daisy Fleabane - I
<i>Solidago virgaurea</i>	European Goldenrod
<i>Artemisia absinthium</i>	Common Wormwood

E=Endemic	
Scientific name	Common name
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	European Yarrow
<i>Tanacetum vulgare</i>	Common Tansy
<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	Oxeye Daisy
<i>Pulicaria dysenterica</i>	Common Fleabane
<i>Telekia speciosa</i>	Large Yellow Oxeye
<i>Bidens frondosa</i>	Common Beggar-ticks
<i>Xanthium strumarium</i>	Rough Cocklebur
<i>Xanthium spinosum</i>	Spiny Cocklebur
<i>Artemisia campestris</i>	Field Sagewort
<i>Chondrilla juncea</i>	Rush Skeletonweed
<i>Centaurea jacea</i>	Brown Knapweed
<i>Centaurea niger</i>	Common Knapweed
<i>Centaurea scabiosa</i>	Greater Knapweed
<i>Artemisia vulgaris</i>	Mugwort
<i>Achillea filipendula</i>	Fern-leaved Yarrow
<i>Eupatorium cannabinum</i>	Hemp Agrimony
<i>Tusilaga farfara</i>	Coltsfoot
<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>	Dandelion
<i>Tragopogon dubius</i>	Yellow Salsify
<i>Artemisia pontica</i>	Roman Wormwood
<i>Eclipta prostrata</i>	False Daisy
<i>Carduus acanthoides</i>	Plumeless Thistle
<i>Carduus nutans</i>	Musk/Nodding thistle
<i>Taraxacum officinalis</i>	Dandelion
<i>Artemisia annua</i>	Sweet Wormwood
<i>Hieracium piloseloides</i>	Tall Hawkweed
<i>Hieracium umbellatum</i>	Hawkweed
<i>Inula germanica</i>	German Fleabane
<i>Echinops sphaerocephalus</i>	Glandular Globe Thistle
<i>Achillea filipendula</i>	Fern-leaved Yarrow
<i>Tripolium pannonicum</i>	Sea Aster
Adoxaceae (ex Viburnaceae)	Moschatel Family (ex Viburnum)
<i>Sambucus ebulus</i>	Dwarf Elder
<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	European Elder
<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	Guelder-rose
<i>Sambucus racemosa</i>	Red Elderberry
<i>Viburnum lantana</i>	Wayfaring Tree
Caprifoliaceae	Honeysuckle Family
<i>Scabiosa columbaria</i>	Small Scabious
<i>Scabiosa ochroleuca</i>	Pale Yellow Scabious
<i>Dipsacus fullonum</i>	Common Teasel
<i>Knautia arvensis</i>	Field Scabious
Araliaceae	Aralia Family
<i>Hedera helix</i>	Common Ivy
Apiaceae	Umbellifers
<i>Eryngium maritimum</i>	Sea-holly
<i>Eryngium campestre</i>	Field Eryngo
<i>Astrantia major</i>	Greater Masterwort

E=Endemic	
Scientific name	Common name
<i>Berula erecta</i>	Lesser Water-parsnip
<i>Daucus carota</i>	Common Carrot
<i>Pastinaca sativa</i>	Common Parsnip
<i>Eryngium ritro</i>	Globe Thistle
<i>Peucedanum austriacum</i>	Austrian Hog's Fennel
<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	Common Hogweed
<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	Cow Parsley
<i>Bupleurum falcatum</i>	Sickle leaved Hare's Ear
<i>Orlaya grandiflora</i>	White Laceflower
<i>Sium latifolium</i>	Greater Water Parsnip
<i>Angelica sylvestria</i>	Wild Angelica