

# Romania's Danube Delta & Carpathian Mountains

Naturetrek Tour Report

5 - 14 May 2018



European Brown Bear



European Roller



White-tailed Eagle



Dalmatian Pelican

Report and images compiled by Justin Carr



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Tour participants: Justin Carr (leader) & Florin Stavarache (local guide) with 14 Naturetrek clients

## Day 1

Saturday 5th May

Nine group members met in the airport departure lounge at our boarding gate prior to our 1.15pm flight to Bucharest. Thankfully our flight was on time and a rather smooth one at that. At Bucharest airport we met with our local guide Florin and driver George, both of whom would be with us for our nine day adventure to this stunning country. Due to the time difference it was now 6.15pm local time, so we went to a rather nice restaurant just out of town where we enjoyed their hospitality and a great three-course meal. With satisfied appetites, we then took the three-hour drive, including a short comfort break, to our hotel in Zanesti, arriving around midnight. Very little of note was recorded on the way to our destination as darkness soon fell en route.

## Day 2

Sunday 6th May

After a hearty continental breakfast we all gathered just before 9am in the courtyard of the hotel. Whilst waiting to board the coach our first Black Redstart of the day was seen and heard singing on a roof opposite. From here we drove a short distance to park at the bottom of a track that led up to the Coltul Chiziilor monastery. The walk was taken at a leisurely pace, taking in the stunning mountain scenery, mixed forest and the flora and fauna, of which there was always something of note.

First were White Wagtail, Black Redstart and many singing Tree Pipits, which favoured the more open wooded areas on the lower slopes. A large flock of Ravens was noted high over the mountain peaks. As we climbed higher, Florin found probably the bird of the day for most; a rather splendid Nutcracker. Many butterfly species were noted with highlights of Swallowtail, Pearl-bordered Fritillary and Wood White. Avian highlights included Black Woodpecker, Grey-headed Woodpecker (heard only), Crossbills, Hawfinch and a single-observer Peregrine.

We then travelled back to the hotel for lunch and a well-deserved and needed break. Back on the road at 3pm, we headed up into the hills to a traditional Romanian village with great views overlooking steep wooded hillsides; the views were simply breathtaking. Best bird to be had was a fine pair of Red-backed Shrikes on the hillside below. Also of interest was a really obliging Green Hairstreak butterfly which many were able to photograph.

We then made our way back down to the town of Bran, which holds the centuries old Castle Bran, infamously connected with Bram Stoker's Dracula. As we pulled into town the sky darkened and it was obvious that a storm was on its way with dark clouds all around us. Florin picked up our first migrating White Storks rising on thermals and great views were had by all. We then stopped for a quick photo shoot of the castle, which proved rather productive with a flock of 15 Hobbies and a Marsh Harrier moving through.

It was then refreshment time in the town and no sooner had we stopped the coach and David picked up our first Honey Buzzard, which flew straight over our heads. Then straightaway Florin picked up three distant harriers which came close enough to be identified as two Montagu's Harriers with the third resembling a ring-tail Pallid Harrier, but too distant to confirm. With refreshments enjoyed, we relaxed for the short drive back to the hotel, reflecting on a good start to the trip.

## Day 3

Monday 7th May

After a continental breakfast, we left the hotel at 9am. It was another fine sunny morning if a little cool, and after ten minutes we reached a steep limestone gorge covered in mixed woodland on its lower reaches, the upper opened up to sheer cliffs. The drive followed a fast moving stream and around every corner there seemed to be a Grey Wagtail, most with beaks full of small insects, presumably for feeding young. The bus dropped us off half way up the gorge and we set off on a walk, which was easy going with frequent stops to take in the stunning views. Along with the views, the wildlife kept our eyes and ears busy too.

No sooner had we got off the bus than we found the first of four Fire Salamanders. We then made our way up the gorge on foot, noting singing Coal Tits, Chaffinches and plenty more Grey Wagtails. Then a splendid Wood Warbler was found, giving good views as it sang and flitted from branch to branch. With the sun now breaking through, flying insects were noted including Speckled Wood butterfly. As we neared the top, good views were gained of two Chamois on the top of the cliff face. But the main species on everyone's mind was Wallcreeper and it didn't disappoint, giving great views on the cliff face above us. Also of note was a single fly through by an Alpine Swift. With lots of happy faces, we walked back down to the bus to go for lunch. A Dipper gave great views just outside the bus.

After lunch we set off for the Stramba Valley, which is a low-lying valley covered in ancient woodland but with plenty of traditional hay meadows. The first birds of note were singing Serin and nesting White Stork. Interestingly, House Sparrows and Starlings were nesting in the stork's nest. Then our target species gave us stunning views over our heads: a splendid Lesser Spotted Eagle, the first of at least four birds. We also had good telescope views of the crow-sized Black Woodpecker. Other birds of note were three Golden Orioles (heard only), Green Woodpecker and Great Spotted Woodpecker. The hay meadows were alive with butterflies, with Swallowtail and Marsh and Pearl-bordered Fritillaries to name but a few. And one lucky observer saw a Common Glider. Florin found a Fire-bellied Toad which was new to many.

We then drove a short distance to meet the park rangers to go to the Brown Bear hide. We weren't disappointed as during the two-and-a-half hours spent there we had amazing close views of three different female Brown Bears. We also recorded Red Fox and plenty of greedy Ravens gorging on the food put down for the bears. With everyone happy we made our way back in near-darkness to the bus. One the way back to the main highway Florin scanned with his torch and found a Wildcat, not more than 20 feet away, staring straight at us! We spent nearly five minutes watching this fearless cat. What a treat! Also recorded were Red and Roe Deer. What a fantastic end to a wildlife-rich day.

## Day 4

Tuesday 8th May

Today we left Zarnesti to travel to Tulcea to meet up with our floating hotel (Floatel). The drive took most of the day and was broken with comfort/refreshment breaks and birding stops.

Our first stop was a short walk into a mature Lime tree forest. Caroline came up trumps finding a splendid singing male Collared Flycatcher, which stayed long enough for everyone to see before it disappeared. Firecrest, Marsh Tit and Red Squirrel were also recorded. Moving on, very little of note was seen till we stopped at

services for a coffee break, where we added species such as Whinchat, Crested Lark, Yellow Wagtail (black-headed form) and Tree Sparrow.

Our next stop was at a fantastic wetland with a marshy area and some small pools. All the birds seen would be seen again later in the trip, but it was fantastic to get our first views of Whiskered Tern, Spoonbill, Great and Little Egrets, Squacco, Night, Purple and Grey Herons, Little Bittern, Glossy Ibis, Roller, many Wood Sandpipers, Ruff, Garganey, and fantastic views of numerous singing Great Reed Warblers singing from the tops of reeds.

With the wind picking up and the sky darkening, rain was on its way so, with packed lunches eaten, it was time to go. From here the habitat changed to vast open crop fields with telegraph wires holding interesting birds including Red-footed Falcon, Red-backed Shrike and Corn Bunting. A small pool in a field held 20+ Glossy Ibis and a few Black-winged Stilts, whilst in the air two Honey Buzzards were seen. Florin told us we were coming to a large rookery where some 30 pairs of Red-footed Falcon breed in old rook nests, and we saw up to six birds as we drove past. Also we had great views of a Bee-eater from the bus. By now the rain was starting so we made our way into Tulcea, noting Caspian Gull.

We arrived at the floatel for our next four nights and were greeted with a complimentary cherry brandy. After being shown our cabins and a quick wash and brush up, we settled down to a rather fine three-course meal with complimentary wine. With dinner done it was time for the all-important log, for everyone to record the day's sighting with much banter included. The last bird to be recorded was a Scops Owl, heard by the leader from the cabin whilst settling down for the night.

## Day 5

## Wednesday 9th May

Today was our first full day on the floatel. Once breakfast was out of the way we boarded the small accompanying motorboat and ventured north-east onto the huge Sulina channel before turning left onto the much narrower Mile 36 channel. Immediately the air was alive with birdsong from the densely wooded edges of the channel. Thrush Nightingale, Collared Flycatcher and Common Redstart were the most in evidence, with smaller numbers of Icterine and Garden Warblers and also a few Common Nightingales, with one that showed well to everyone. Also in evidence were the woodpeckers with Grey-headed Woodpecker being the most numerous, but Middle, Great and Lesser Spotted Woodpeckers were also seen. Everyone was delighted to see so many kingfishers, with someone saying you can never tire of seeing them - so true! As we continued Squacco Herons became abundant along with Pygmy and Great Cormorants. Then everyone became excited at seeing our first flock of White Pelicans soaring high on thermals, and then the excitement continued with our first White-tailed Eagle.

Moving on, we turned left onto a larger channel that was surrounded on one side by agricultural land and here we encountered several European Rollers, with one allowing the boat to get within a few metres of it. We also had a much-wanted first for the trip in the form of a rather brief Hoopoe in flight. Moving onwards, a lucky few had brief views of an Otter whilst entering a large lake. It was a bit of a shock to the system as this lake was really exposed to the chilly wind, but it was well worth it as we saw all three Marsh Tern species.

Entering a calmer channel, we came across an open sandy area with small flooded pools. These were alive with waders; mainly Ruff with some in fine breeding plumage. Also present in good numbers were Wood Sandpipers with the odd Spotted Redshank and Pied Avocet. Last but not least was a splendid adult White-tailed Eagle perched on the ground. From here we headed back to the floatel for a much needed lunch.

After lunch we set out on the motorboat again, heading to some sandbanks. En route we passed a nice floating Whiskered Tern colony. After spending a short time with the terns we moved on. We soon encountered our first Dalmatian Pelican, flying away in the distance. When we arrived at the sandbank Florin found a stunning Lesser Grey Shrike and it took a while for us all to see the bird. The skipper brought us aground on the sandbank as there was more to look at: another White-tailed Eagle passed overhead, our first Little Ringed Plover looked to be holding territory, and a Spoonbill gave us close views on a small pool. Richard shouted "Golden Jackal" - our mammal list was growing nicely!

We moved on a few hundred yards to encounter a small feeding party of White Pelicans, which wowed us as these huge birds flew past within metres - the flying boat of the bird world surely! They certainly kept the photographers among us happy. Then a party of feeding Glossy Ibis was spotted further along, so we moved on for closer views. Then Florin shouted "Ferruginous Duck" as a pair flew away - another first for the trip. Our attention turned once again to waders with a mixed feeding flock of mostly Ruff, some stunning breeding plumage males. Once again the skipper brought us to the shore to give us better views. The wader flock again contained Wood Sandpipers and this time a small number gave incredible views down to a few metres. Also of note was a party of five summer plumage Curlew Sandpipers. A pair of Marsh Harrier past close by. Then it was time to make our way back. We had time to reflect on another truly amazing day and it was said "how can we top that?"

## Day 6

Thursday 10th May

The morning was cold and wet with a stiff northerly wind; not good for being out but potentially good for migration. Good was a slight understatement as we headed out on our motorboat through the North channel to Letea, a small traditional Ukrainian village. The first birds of note as we left the River Danube were a handful of Rollers in the trees next to the channel. The boat headed straight into the wind and rain. It was most unpleasant, but we soon forgot about being cold when two stunning male Bearded Reedlings (previously called Tits) showed down to within a few feet. Also there were at least two pairs of Red-footed Falcons nesting in old crows' nests. Then a male Little Bittern flew over, and if that wasn't enough excitement, a superb adult Pallas's Gull flew in the distance, unfortunately missed by most.

Moving on, we recorded many Squacco, Purple and Night Herons. It seemed that every 100 metres or so we would put up herons. We had brief views of Collared and Spotted Flycatchers, and Savi's Warblers were numerous but, as usual, not to be seen. One bird that did show well was our first Syrian Woodpecker. Penduline Tits were present in areas with many willows but only heard, to the frustration of many. Every now and then a Marsh Harrier would glide past, as well as the odd Hobby, and two Turtle Doves passing through.

When we finally reached Letea, no-one was prepared for the spectacle of birds present on the nearby wetlands. The numbers and variety were amazing and few of us had witnessed a wetland like this in Europe. Noteworthy species included Black-winged Stilt, Black-tailed Godwit, Greenshank, Curlew Sandpiper, many Wood

Sandpipers, many Ruff, Little Stint, Kentish Plover, Common Ringed Plover, Grey Plover (rare here), Dunlin, Golden Plover, Avocet, all three Marsh Terns, Little Gull, Pallas's Gull (2nd of the day), Red-footed Falcon, Hobby, Garganey, Red-crested Pochard, many Ferruginous Ducks, Glossy Ibis, Spoonbill, Golden Oriole, Hoopoe, Syrian Woodpecker and Bee-eater. What a fantastic place! We had probably encountered the perfect weather conditions for forcing migrating birds down. We headed back for lunch, seeing many more herons and hearing our first booming Bittern of the trip. Catherine's sharp eyes picked up a group of four Golden Orioles that alighted in some willows long enough for everyone to get their first perched views.

After lunch we set off north-west for some large lakes. The trip was much quieter. The wind had dropped, the sun had come out and the birds were much less obvious. We did, though, find a splendid male Penduline Tit constructing its nest. It was such a treat to see it as we had heard many but not seen one. Moving on, we passed close to a floating (on white Water Lilies) colony of Whiskered, White-winged and Black Terns. The raptor highlight of the afternoon came in the form of another White-tailed Eagle being mobbed by a pair of Hooded Crows, and it highlighted the sheer size of these majestic birds.

We arrived back to the floatel with the sun beginning to dip in the sky. After freshening up, a number of the party met on the top deck with alcoholic refreshments in hand. Birding was not over yet as we had our first view of a singing Savi's Warbler, albeit distantly, and a Little Bittern perched near the top of the reeds long enough for three or four to see it. As the sun set the air was still alive with calls, and our last White-tailed Eagle flew over to its evening roost.

Well did we top the previous day – it's pretty safe to say we did!

## Day 7

Friday 11th May

The day dawned rather cloudy with rain in the distance, which thankfully stayed there. The forecast was good with sun and temperatures in the high teens. The birds started before breakfast with those that missed the Savi's Warbler the evening before getting to grips with the same singing bird, which was the only one we saw in the Delta, even though many were heard.

With breakfast out of the way, we set out to explore the channels north of the Sulina Channel. Our first passerines of note were a singing Thrush Nightingale, Common Redstart and good views of a Great Reed Warbler which flitted around at the water's edge. We then came across yet another Marsh Tern colony with mostly Whiskered Terns, but a few White-winged and Black Terns mixed in. The highlight was a dapper pair of displaying Red-necked Grebes. Also present was a single Dalmatian Pelican. By far the commonest passerine in the delta surely must be the Great Reed Warbler, as in the reedbeds they were always to be heard singing. Next to delight the group was a small party of Red-footed Falcons which wheeled around the sky just above our heads. More Penduline Tits could be heard calling and one showed briefly on top of the phragmites, and then another White-tailed Eagle flew close by.

Moving on towards some old fish farms, we noted an upsurge in Roller numbers, and good views of Hoopoe, two Whinchats, Corn Bunting, Red-backed Shrike and our first Stock Dove of the trip. By now the day had turned glorious and sunny without a cloud in the sky. We passed a recently flooded area where the water had receded to leave some nice pools. Here we saw more Wood Sandpipers and the largest number of Grey Herons

encountered so far on the trip. Onwards we went past the floatel into a large lake where a White-tailed Eagle sat on a dead branch just above the water. This bird wowed the photographers as it allowed us to approach within metres. But the highlight for many was the Red-footed Falcon colony where there was plenty of activity with mating and chasing. The icing on the cake for Tina and Tom was a superb male Montagu's Harrier that flew by, giving both of them a new life bird.

We returned to the floatel for lunch and headed back to Tulcea, spending the afternoon chilling on the top deck and reflecting on how fantastic the Danube Delta had been.

## Day 8

Saturday 12th May

After an early breakfast on the boat, we thanked the staff for a fabulous few days and then set off for the coastal wetlands of Vadu. En route we noticed the habitat growing more intensively agricultural, but this didn't stop us seeing birds like Lesser Grey Shrike and Calandra Larks, and nearly every field seemed to have a quartering Marsh Harrier.

It livened up when we reached the wetlands as no sooner had we got off the bus than Florin picked up a calling Wood Warbler in nearby trees. There were plenty of waders on the pools near the roadside, with good numbers of Little Stints and Curlew Sandpipers, and a single skulking Temminck's Stint which eventually gave itself up to everyone. There was a group of 20 plus Little Gulls and 40 Black Terns (which had gone by the time we came back in the afternoon). Also present were Hoopoe, Bee-eater, Northern Wheatear and Crested Lark. As we walked along the road leading to the back we came to more pools. One had a small party of shorebirds that contained Broad-billed Sandpiper and Marsh Sandpiper, both firsts for the trip. Then Florin pointed out a reedbed where he had seen Paddyfield Warbler in the past. It didn't take long for one to show itself and in all we saw at least four birds, and two Savi's Warblers showed well too.

Catherine's wanted bird of the trip was Collared Pratincole, and this was the place to see them. At least 20 showed and also present on the same pools were many more Little Stints and Curlew Sandpipers with two more Broad-billed Sandpipers. A single Red-crested Pochard flew in over our heads as four Purple Herons flew off. Garganey were noted in small numbers, but Marsh Harriers were always on view, quartering the adjacent reedbeds. Hoopoes also seemed to be at their most numerous of the trip too.

We then boarded the coach again for a short but bumpy drive to the beach, where we spent a pleasant time eating our packed lunch and doing a spot of sea-watching. Terns were in evidence, mostly moving north, with all three Marsh Terns, Common Tern, Sandwich Tern and two Little Terns. Three Harbour Porpoises were our twelfth mammal species so far. Star find went to Bob for finding a fine Black-necked Grebe bobbing (no pun intended) up and down on the sea close inshore.

With picnic eaten, we were back on the bus and headed inland, back through the vast reedbeds. To our amazement we came across an Eurasian Bittern stood out in the open not ten metres from the bus. For many this was the best views they had ever had. It stood long enough for the photographers to get the shots they wanted. It was then time to celebrate with an ice-cream, thanks to Florin, and then on to our next destination, Dobogei Gorge.

We took a short cut to the gorge which was bumpy but had many interesting birds. We made a few stops to scope the birds. Florin heard a singing Black-headed Bunting it was soon picked up, singing its heart out on top of the oil seed rape. We then had fantastic views of a ringtail Pallid Harrier, noting the dark secondaries on the underwing. This was joined by a Marsh Harrier. Corn Buntings were abundant, along with various races of Yellow Wagtail and the odd Spanish Sparrow. The rolling crop fields held Calandra Larks, obvious in flight with their large size (Song Thrush size) and dark underwing with white trailing edge. Another Golden Jackal was seen on the road ahead. We slowly carried on with many Marsh Harriers seen. We then crossed a main highway and Florin pointed out an area to the right which was good for Stone-curlew. He was not wrong and we saw a sitting bird really close to the bus and another bird feeding close by. We stayed on the bus so as not to disturb this breeding pair. Our first Isabeline Wheatear was seen here too. With Richard picking up another ringtail Pallid Harrier, a bit of rivalry between the left and right side of the bus was forming!

We eventually came to the gorge and what a stunning place it was too. No sooner had we departed the bus than the first of four Pied Wheatears was seen, with good telescope views. Our attention turned to a wooded corner where a singing Ortolan Bunting could be heard. This proved really difficult to locate but top spotter Caroline again came up trumps and we all had distant telescope views. With time moving on, we had to make our way back to Tulcea.

Just as we were boarding the coach a distant Booted Eagle being harassed by a Kestrel were spotted. On our way out of the gorge we found the first Tawny Pipit of the trip. Then the bus pulled to a halt with Tawny Pipit, Calandra Lark and Ortolan Bunting on the road just in front of us! We also saw more Spanish Sparrows and the last bird of note for the day was a pair of Grey Partridge.

It had been a full twelve hours in the field, but we all agreed it had been well worth it with 112 species for the day!

## Day 9

## Sunday 13th May

Today we headed west of Tulcea to the Celic Dere monastery. En route we stopped at an area of open woodland and no sooner had we got off the bus than birds were being noted. First was a small group of raptors circling high on a thermal with Honey Buzzard, Booted Eagle and, new for the trip, Levant's Sparrowhawk. Also of note was a singing Ortolan Bunting, Red-backed Shrike and singing Golden Oriole. Florin had told us that these woods were good for Sombre Tit and whilst a lucky few had brief views of one, this species eluded most.

We then made our way to the monastery where a singing Icterine Warbler showed well, giving us our first view of this amazing songster. Golden Orioles were numerous and we had our best view yet of Booted Eagle when two circled overhead, one pale phase and the other dark phase, so a nice comparison. Our butterfly enthusiast Richard noted many species including Map and Scarce Swallowtail.

From there we walked a short distance to some mature woodland where Icterine Warblers were singing all around us - by far the most numerous songster in the woods. The songs of Wood Warbler and Turtle Dove were also heard. We then made our way back to the bus where we had a picnic lunch.

With lunch over, we had an 80-kilometre drive to our next destination, the Macin mountains. Unfortunately the weather had deteriorated with a strong chilly wind and rain moving in, so this site produced few birds with one or two Isabeline Wheatears and Long-legged Buzzard, but best for most was a superb male Hawfinch.

We then had an ice-cream break in the nearest town before a short drive to our last destination of the day: a disused quarry and a good site for Common Rock Thrush. As we drove into the quarry, Florin picked one up briefly before it flew, leaving the rest of us frustrated. Time to take a walk but as the rain was coming steadily down, half the group stayed on the bus. A good 40 minutes was spent searching to no avail, but Northern Wheatears were present in good numbers with a few Pied Wheatears mixed in. Also a pair of Ruddy Shelduck had taken up residence in the quarry. It was then time to make our way back down to the bus, feeling a tad fed up. When we got back we learned that those left on the bus had been watching the Rock Thrush in the exact spot Florin had seen it. It didn't take long for the bird to show again, so smiling faces all around! By now it was getting late so we made our way back to the hotel, en route recording another Lesser Spotted Eagle and at least 15 Turtle Doves.

## Day 10

Monday 14th May

We still had a bit of birding to do en route to the airport. First we stopped to take a short walk along a track into a wooded area with open fields around. On departing the bus, Nightingales were noted with Honey Buzzard soaring nearby, but the real surprise came when a distant reeling was confirmed as a River Warbler, well out of its normal range. With rain falling steadily, it was time to move on. We made a brief stop to pick up some gifts from a local shop.

The next birding stop was to be at a Red-footed Falcon colony but on passing the colony, Caroline shouted "Owl!" We parked uphill from the colony and walked back to find a Long-eared Owl nest with at least two chicks and an adult showing well. This, for most, turned out to be the bird of the trip. We also saw at least ten Red-footed Falcons, but they played second fiddle. Also of note were displaying Calandra Larks, a pair of mating Lesser Grey Shrikes and a single Ortolan Bunting. The last bird of note on the trip was a Syrian Woodpecker from a service station stop.

Now on to the airport and a sad farewell and thanks to Florin and George, without whom the trip would not have been the same. The flight back to Heathrow was a little late but we still managed to arrive back to the UK for 8pm. With luggage collected and hugs and handshakes all round, an amazing tour came to an end.

## Naturetrek Facebook

We are delighted to launch the Naturetrek Facebook page so that participants of Naturetrek tours can remain in touch after the holiday and share photos, comments and future travel plans.

Setting up a personal profile at [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) is quick, free and easy. The [Naturetrek Facebook page](#) is now live; do please pay us a visit!

## Species Lists

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

	Common name	Scientific name	May										
			5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
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	Northern Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>							✓		✓		
8	Garganey	<i>Spatula querquedula</i>				✓		✓			✓		
9	Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>							✓				
10	Red-crested Pochard	<i>Netta rufina</i>						✓	✓		✓		
11	Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
12	Ferruginous Duck	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>						✓	✓	✓	✓		
13	Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>						✓					
14	Grey Partridge	<i>Perdix perdix</i>										✓	
15	Common Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>				✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	
16	Red-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps grisegena</i>						✓	✓	✓			
17	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>						✓	✓	✓	✓		
18	Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>									✓		
19	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
20	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>				✓	✓	✓				✓	
21	Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
22	Eurasian Bittern	<i>Botaurus stellaris</i>						✓	✓	✓	✓		
23	Little Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>				✓		✓					
24	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓				
25	Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
26	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
27	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
28	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
29	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
30	Great White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
31	Dalmatian Pelican	<i>Pelecanus crispus</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
32	Pygmy Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo pygmeus</i>						✓	✓	✓	✓		
33	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
34	European Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>		✓	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓
35	Lesser Spotted Eagle	<i>Clanga pomarina</i>			✓							✓	
36	Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraetus pennatus</i>									✓	✓	
37	Levant Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter brevipes</i>										✓	
38	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>						✓					
39	Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
40	Pallid Harrier	<i>Circus macrourus</i>									✓		
41	Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>		✓						✓			
42	White-tailed Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>						✓	✓	✓			
43	Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>									✓	✓	
44	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>		✓	✓	✓					✓	✓	
45	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>						✓	✓	✓	✓		
46	Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>				✓				✓	✓		

	Common name	Scientific name	May											
			5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14		
47	Eurasian Stone-curlew	<i>Burhinus oedicanus</i>										✓		
48	Eurasian Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>										✓		
49	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
50	Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>						✓	✓		✓			
51	Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
52	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>								✓		✓		
53	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>								✓		✓		
54	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>						✓				✓		
55	Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>								✓		✓		
56	Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>								✓				
57	Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>						✓						
58	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>										✓		
59	Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>										✓		
60	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>					✓			✓				
61	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
62	Broad-billed Sandpiper	<i>Limicola falcinellus</i>										✓		
63	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>						✓				✓		
64	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>								✓		✓		
65	Temminck's Stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>										✓		
66	Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>						✓	✓			✓		
67	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>								✓		✓		
68	Ruff	<i>Calidris pugnax</i>					✓	✓	✓			✓		
69	Collared Pratincole	<i>Glareola pratincola</i>										✓		
70	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
71	Little Gull	<i>Hydrocoloeus minutus</i>								✓		✓		
72	Pallas's Gull	<i>Ichthyaetus ichthyaetus</i>								✓				
73	Caspian Gull	<i>Larus cachinnans</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓				
74	Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>						✓	✓			✓		
75	Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>								✓				
76	Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>										✓		
77	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
78	Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>										✓		
79	Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
80	White-winged Tern	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>						✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
81	Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>						✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
82	Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>		✓										
83	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
84	European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>								✓			✓	
85	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓	
86	Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓	
87	Long-eared Owl	<i>Asio otus</i>												✓
88	Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>			✓									
89	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓	
90	European Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
91	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>						✓			✓			
92	European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
93	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
94	Middle Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocoptes medius</i>						✓						
95	Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dryobates minor</i>						✓						
96	Syrian Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos syriacus</i>			✓					✓				✓
97	Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>		✓			✓	✓						

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			5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14		
98	Black Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus martius</i>		✓	✓			✓		✓				
99	European Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>		✓	✓								✓	
100	Grey-headed Woodpecker	<i>Picus canus</i>		✓				✓	✓	✓				
101	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
102	Red-footed Falcon	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>				✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
103	Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
104	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>		✓										
105	Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
106	Lesser Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius minor</i>						✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
107	Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
108	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>		✓	✓	✓					✓	✓		
109	Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
110	Spotted Nutcracker	<i>Nucifraga caryocatactes</i>		✓										
111	Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
112	Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
113	Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
114	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>		✓	✓								✓	
115	Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>		✓	✓	✓								
116	Sombre Tit	<i>Poecile lugubris</i>											✓	
117	Marsh Tit	<i>Poecile palustris</i>				✓								
118	Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓			✓	
119	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	
120	Eurasian Penduline Tit	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>						✓	✓	✓				
121	Bearded Reedling	<i>Panurus biarmicus</i>						✓	✓	✓				
122	Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>				✓				✓	✓			
123	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>				✓				✓	✓			
124	Calandra Lark	<i>Melanocorypha calandra</i>				✓					✓	✓	✓	
125	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			
126	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
127	Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
128	Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>						✓	✓					
129	Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>		✓				✓	✓	✓				
130	Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
131	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
132	Wood Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>		✓								✓	✓	
133	Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
134	Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>							✓	✓				
135	Paddyfield Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus agricola</i>										✓		
136	Eurasian Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>						✓	✓	✓	✓			
137	Icterine Warbler	<i>Hippolais icterina</i>						✓		✓			✓	
138	River Warbler	<i>Locustella fluviatilis</i>												✓
139	Savi's Warbler	<i>Locustella luscinioides</i>							✓	✓	✓			
140	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	
141	Garden Warbler	<i>Sylvia borin</i>		✓				✓	✓	✓				
142	Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia curruca</i>		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓			✓	
143	Common Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapilla</i>		✓		✓								
144	Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>		✓	✓									
145	Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>		✓	✓									
146	Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>		✓	✓	✓							✓	
147	Wallcreeper	<i>Tichodroma muraria</i>			✓									
148	Eurasian Treecreeper	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>			✓	✓								

	Common name	Scientific name	May											
			5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14		
149	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
150	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	
151	Fieldfare	<i>Turdus pilaris</i>		✓	✓									
152	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓							
153	Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>		✓	✓	✓								
154	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>						✓	✓	✓			✓	
155	European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>		✓	✓									
156	Thrush Nightingale	<i>Luscinia luscinia</i>						✓	✓	✓				
157	Common Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>		✓				✓					✓	✓
158	Collared Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula albicollis</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓				
159	Red-breasted Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula parva</i>												✓
160	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>		✓								✓	✓	
161	Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>						✓		✓				
162	Common Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola saxatilis</i>												✓
163	Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>					✓					✓	✓	
164	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>										✓	✓	
165	Isabelline Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe isabellina</i>										✓	✓	
166	Pied Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe pleschanka</i>										✓	✓	
167	White-throated Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>				✓								
168	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
169	Spanish Sparrow	<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>										✓		
170	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
171	Western Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>												✓
171a	Blue-headed Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava flava</i>							✓			✓		
171b	Black-headed Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava feldegg</i>					✓	✓		✓				
171c	Grey-headed Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava thunbergi</i>					✓		✓			✓		
172	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>		✓	✓									
173	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
174	Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>										✓	✓	
175	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	
176	Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>		✓										✓
177	European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>		✓	✓	✓						✓	✓	
178	Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>		✓										
179	Red Crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>		✓										
180	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
181	European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>				✓								
182	Eurasian Siskin	<i>Spinus spinus</i>		✓										
183	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
184	Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>		✓	✓									
185	Ortolan Bunting	<i>Emberiza hortulana</i>										✓	✓	
186	Black-headed Bunting	<i>Emberiza melanocephala</i>										✓		
187	Common Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>							✓	✓				

## Mammals:

1	Roe Deer	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>			✓	✓								
2	Red Deer	<i>Cervus elaphus</i>			✓									
3	European Brown Bear	<i>Ursus arctos</i>			✓									
4	Golden Jackal	<i>Canis aureus</i>						✓						
5	Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>					✓							
6	Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>				✓								
7	European Hare	<i>Lepus europaeus</i>		✓										

	Common name	Scientific name	May											
			5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14		
8	Chamois	<i>Rupicapra rupicapra</i>			✓								✓	
9	Otter	<i>Lutra lutra</i>						✓						
10	Souslik	<i>Spermophilus citellus</i>										✓	✓	
11	Harbour Porpoise	<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>										✓		
12	Wildcat	<i>Felis silvestris</i>			✓									

## Reptiles &amp; Amphibians:

1	Marsh/Pond/Edible Frog	<i>Pelophylax sp</i>						✓	✓	✓	✓			
2	Fire-bellied Toad	<i>Bombina bombina</i>			✓			✓	✓					
3	European Tree Frog	<i>Hyla arborea</i>						✓						
4	Fire Salamander	<i>Salamandra salamandra</i>			✓									
5	Eastern Green Lizard	<i>Lacerta viridis</i>		✓										
6	European Pond Terrapin	<i>Emys orbicularis</i>						✓						
7	Balkan Green Lizard	<i>Lacerta trilineata</i>											✓	

## Butterflies:

1	Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>		✓										
2	Green-veined White	<i>Pieris napi</i>											✓	
3	Mountain White	<i>Pieris ergane</i>		✓	✓									
4	Danube Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias myrmidone</i>										✓		
5	Mallow Skipper	<i>Cacharodus tripolinus</i>		✓								✓	✓	
6	Orange Tip	<i>Anthocharis cardamines</i>		✓	✓									
7	Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>		✓	✓							✓	✓	
8	Scarce Swallowtail	<i>Iphiclides podalirius</i>										✓	✓	
9	European Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>		✓	✓									
10	Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus malvae</i>		✓	✓									
11	Glanville Fritillary	<i>Melitaea cinxia</i>										✓	✓	
12	Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>						✓				✓	✓	
13	Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>										✓		
14	Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>		✓	✓							✓	✓	
15	Lesser Firey Copper	<i>Lycaena thersamon</i>												
16	Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>											✓	
17	Little Blue	<i>Cupido minimus</i>		✓										
18	Green Hairstreak	<i>Callophrys rubi</i>		✓										
19	Pearl-bordered Fritillary	<i>Clossiana euphrosyne</i>		✓	✓									
20	Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary	<i>Clossiana selene</i>											✓	
21	Marbled Skipper	<i>Carcharodus lavatherae</i>		✓										
22	Black-veined White	<i>Aporia crataegi</i>		✓	✓									
23	Clouded Apollo	<i>Parnassius mnemosyne</i>		✓										
24	Brimstone	<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>		✓	✓									
25	Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>			✓									
26	Marsh Fritillary	<i>Eurodryas aurinia</i>			✓									
27	Common Glider	<i>Neptis sappho</i>			✓									
28	Dingy Skipper	<i>Erynnis tages</i>			✓								✓	
29	Map Butterfly	<i>Araschnia levana</i>											✓	

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