

# **WILDLIFE TRAVEL**

## **18<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> May 2013**



**Trip report by Mike Russell**

## Poland trip report, 18<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> May 2013

18 <sup>th</sup> May	Warsaw to Rajgrad
19 <sup>th</sup> May	Marek's Farm Kuligi, Fishponds, Marek's Farm
20 <sup>th</sup> May	Marek's Farm, South Biebrza Marshes (Pluzy)
21 <sup>st</sup> May	Masurian Lakes
22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Rajgrad to Bialowieza Forest
23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Bialowieza Forest and Forest
24 <sup>th</sup> May	Bialowieza Forest and Bison Reserve, Hanowka Forest
25 <sup>th</sup> May	Bialowieza Forest

Viewed from a distance, perhaps the mosquitoes weren't quite so bad and hopefully your memories of Poland are formed by the wonderful landscapes and wildlife we were privileged to see during our week there. Also, the efforts that Marek, Hania and the whole family went to make our stay special; Hania's cakes underpin the whole of the Borkowski operation I think. It was very interesting to note on the last evening how varied the memories were and the number of different birds that were nominated as favourites, just illustrating what an action-packed week we had.

The report is composed entirely from the diary I wrote deep into the night while you were all catching up on long lost sleep, although much of the diary is actually unreadable so I hope I haven't recalled too much that I've actually made up!

### 18<sup>th</sup> May

A smooth flight to Warsaw and we were met at the airport by a brace of Mareks and off through the city where **fieldfare** and **hooded crows** were noted and on to the pretty long journey to the Hotel Knieja at Rajgrad. After a couple of hours though we had a stop where we met with the rest of the Borkowskis', Hania and the three other children, Markha, Andrej and Czibor and the first of many wonderful cake and coffee experiences. We also saw three birds at this stop that we didn't see in the rest of the holiday, the **roller** being the special bird, with good views of it as it made forays from a telegraph wire. The other two were a **grey partridge** and a **pheasant**. A male **Montagu's harrier** also graced the scene, a bird we saw on most days, but its grace and beauty was enough for Moira to make it her favourite bird.

Arriving at the Hotel Knieja we had our first experience of Polish cuisine, which for many of you by the end of the week was probably enough, but after a long journey it was very welcome and set everyone up for the 5.00am start next morning! The Hotel was fine, in an excellent position and for those who had rooms overlooking the lake, their nights and early mornings were enhanced by the sound of booming **bitterns**.

### 19<sup>th</sup> May

16 bleary-eyed birdwatchers assembled outside the hotel in the morning, just awake enough to notice the **goldeneye** on the lake and the **spotted flycatchers** nesting in the side of the hotel. We were to spend the day at and around Marek's Farm to sample some of his common garden birds starting with fieldfares nesting above our heads as we had a pre-breakfast coffee and cookies and a noisy **icterine warbler** singing around us. Soon we were looking through the poplar trees into the nest of a **golden oriole**, while numerous warblers and other birds serenaded our precarious way through the marshland. It was pretty difficult underfoot at times, far worse than I'd known on my previous visits, due to the exceptionally wet spring that Poland had experienced. Hence the mosquitoes!

I will acknowledge the mosquitoes just the once as they did have an impact on our stay in Poland for the whole but they were particularly virulent at Marek's and provided us all with our own personal mosaic of bites and in the end was responsible for a fantastic range of mosquito-thwarting fashion displays, with varying degrees of success. I know the impact affected some people more than others but we all suffered to some extent, trying to come to Marek's announcement that it was a mental problem rather than physical; I get the feeling that most of you weren't convinced by this argument. Before breakfast, we waded through the swamp to stand and stare at a hole but after a period of swatting, slapping and quiet swearing, were rewarded by good views of a **lesser spotted woodpecker**.

## Poland trip report, 18<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> May 2013

This first morning at Marek's brought back memories of Poland in the 1960's for Krystina and therefore she revealed it was her abiding memory of the holiday.

After a wonderful breakfast there was some relief from the mossies when we went off to the local fishponds for a nice walk embellished by numerous views of **marsh harrier**, a number of **white storks** drifted over and some **common cranes**, a bird seen throughout the week and chosen by Sue as her favourite as it really represented the landscape of Poland. In an open area a couple of **little ringed plovers** were noted, and one of the noticeable things about the week in Poland were how few waders we saw, according to Marek due to the late spring. We all got good views of the **great reed warbler** as well. Undoubtedly the star of the walk was the **penduline tit** busily building its wonderful 'penduline' nest, not an east bird to see. Moira voted this the most memorable of the week while Erica similarly her favourite bird. While admiring the penduline tit, a **wryneck** flew in front of us and landed in a nearby tree for a brief moment but it was enough time for Jenny to decide it was the best bird of the week.

Back to the hotel for lunch and a bit of a rest before returning to Marek's in the late afternoon and another trek through the swamp and mossies for a stakeout, again eventually rewarded by a great view of a **middle spotted woodpecker**. Jannet thought this endurance her most special memory! It was a relief to get out of the swamp and woodland and onto the firm surface and onto the bridge to spend the first of spectacularly birding overlooking the marsh and River Narew.

Where to start with the birds. **Cuckoos** were constantly calling and before we got to the bridge a **hoopoe** flew across into a tree while behind us our attention was drawn to a large raptor in a distant tree that was assessed to be a **lesser spotted eagle**. On the bridge our eyes and ears were assailed by wonderful birds not the least **white-winged black terns** numbering over a hundred drifting over our heads, a magnificent sight enough to make it Nigel's best bird.

The reed bed was full of sound and it took a bit of searching to find all the singers with the great reed warbler was the most obvious but also found **reed warbler**, **sedge warbler**, **whinchat** and a very difficult **Savi's warbler** that kept disappearing in the swaying reeds. Meanwhile Rosemary found a **blue-headed wagtail** that sat in full view on top of a handily placed pole much to her liking and it became her favourite. Sitting on a nearby bush glowing in the evening sun was a **common rosefinch** a sight that so impressed Susan she made it her best bird. To round it off, a couple of **snipe** did their 'roding' display over our heads so you could easily here the wonderful drumming sound.

As the sun set it was back to the house for a wonderful meal cooked by Hania and it was this sharing of Marek's home and the care that they took in making sure all dietary requirements were catered for that both Erica and Jenny both thought it the most abiding memory to take home with them. It was lovely to see the horses as well and the new tarpan foals to graze the marshes in the future. Sadly, the hotel bar was closed when we got back much to the chagrin of Nigel but also some others of us as well.

### May 20th

After the exhausting day yesterday not everyone answered the 5.00am call, but those that did spent another lovely couple of hours on the Farm at Marek's and particularly on the bridge again. Many of the birds were the same but we did add **spotted eagle** this time. Back to the hotel for breakfast and afterwards as we waited to depart to the southern end of the marshes, a **honey buzzard** entertained us over the lake and I think everyone caught up with the **goosander**.

A lovely day followed, the good weather lasting to the evening and again we were treated to some excellent avian delights, the first being an **ortolan bunting** that Marek scurried up and down the road as it flitted from tree top to tree top trying to call it in, but eventually settled down for us all to get a good view of. Our first **red-backed shrike** was seen here as well.

Next stop was brilliant as we overlooked the flooded plains of the Narew River with all 3 marsh terns feeding over the water, the white-winged black terns being joined by the **black** and **whiskered terns**.

## Poland trip report, 18<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> May 2013

The pools on the other side of the road contained 7 species of duck including an obliging pair of **garganey** and the observation skills were put to the test trying to sort out the differences between the **red-necked grebe** and **black-necked grebe**. As 23 common cranes fed along the back of the marsh aerial delights were provided by 4 **black storks** circling overhead.

A short drive and another stop to walk through some sand dunes to look across the expanse of marshland which was in effect a large lake and therefore not containing the many waders that I've seen in past visits. However it certainly wasn't without its magical moment as while in the top of the mound, a **white-tailed eagle** circled over the water offering brilliant views and then we were delighted to see it swoop down and catch a fish. Unsurprisingly, this little vignette won Peter's vote as his most memorable moment and Hugh nominated the eagle as his favourite bird.

Time for another one of Hania's excellent lunches to be taken under a very handy shelter where the white-tailed eagle often came into view and a nearby pool contained both **common frog** and **common toads**. A short drive to another part of the marsh with a break at a village shop for a very welcome ice cream before heading off to a rather basic tower hide overlooking another area of the marsh, alive with feeding marsh terns again. The level of the water was very high so again fewer waders but we did get good views of a beautiful summer-plumaged **black-tailed godwit** and our only **great white egret** of the trip. Right out in the distance at the back of the marsh a couple of brown lumps simmering in a heat haze eventually revealed themselves as a pair of **elk**. Coffee and tea provided by the adjoining inn was a bonus, especially as it was accompanied by some **tree sparrows**. This whole day marsh experienced was so enjoyed by Susan that she pronounced it her abiding memory of the holiday.

The heat of the day was starting to manifest itself into a potential storm as the clouds gathered, so we made our way to a café overlooking the river, a lovely location where the meal was, well you could at least say the chips were OK! The sound and smell of a dead pig having its hair erased with a blow torch added to the whole experience. With a storm a-brewing and a majority feeling that they were probably birded out by now, we made our way back, much to the frustration of Marek who wanted to show us yet more avian delights of the south end of the marsh. The journey was not without incident! Some were dozing others admiring the impressive lightening forks that we were driving towards when a loud bang brought about what became known as 'The Great Wing Mirror Incident'. The 45 minutes that it took the drivers of the two vehicles and Marek to sort the problem of a broken mirror elicited mild hysteria which involved amongst other things, stripping nuns! Eventually it was all sorted, the hysteria diminished as we made it back to the hotel surrounded by the storm that never quite materialised, but the whole adventure led Hugh to making it the most memorable holiday moment.

### May 21st

Many of you took advantage of not having any early morning options by having a lie-in while the intrepid amongst you joined me for a walk around the hotel grounds, the weather changing overnight to cloud and eventually drizzle. We heard more than we saw and eventually the rain drove us in, we did pick-up a new bird a **serin**.

After breakfast we were joined by Bogdan Kasperczyk, a long-time friend and colleague of Marek's whom I have worked with on previous visits and who took us around the Masurian Lakes, to the north-west of the marshes and an area Bogdan knows very well. We arrived at the lakes and went to a tower hide overlooking a large stretch of water and huge reedbed in which various small birds briefly popping out of the reeds and back in again buffeted by the a brisk wind, so sounds from the reedbed were more in evidence than views. A few distant terns were quartered the lake and we managed to espy a **little gull** that came a bit nearer.

Bogdan is a man of few words so where to next was an exciting mystery, and it certainly tested the skills of our driver when it came to a point where even he couldn't take the vehicle any further so we undertook a short walk to a raptor watch point, a lovely spot looking over fields, woods and heathlands where we spent a lovely hour with raptors constantly in view with only hunger forcing us away as our picnic was back in the bus!

## Poland trip report, 18<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> May 2013

Marsh harriers was constantly in view, also lesser spotted eagle, white-tailed eagle, **common buzzard** and **hobby** all entertained us, and it was the latter species display of catching the dragonflies in mid-air that captivated Nigel enough to nominate this scene as his most memorable while Jane thought that the whole experience of the raptor watchpoint was hers.

After another excellent picnic we set off to another part of the Lakes this time to a coniferous woodland where a few common woodland species were added including **treecreeper** and **nuthatch** but the species that Bogdan was trying to find for us proved elusive for quite but through great perseverance and a certain amount of desperation he managed to get us all to get great views of a **crested tit**, enough of a view for John to vote it his best bird. Meandering back to the bus, those at the front managed to get a brief view of a **red deer**, while Dennis and Margaret were lucky enough to see a magnificent **black woodpecker**, a bird which the rest of us would catch up with on the last day and Dennis saw it well enough to make it his best bird.

The drive back to the hotel meant that some caught up on some much needed sleep and in time for a beer! After dinner there was one of those great choices in life one has to make from time to time; to stay at the hotel and have another beer or face an evening with yet more mosquitoes and try to hear nightjars. Well, the beer got the majority vote but a few of us met Marek in a wood near his home and with his customary enthusiasm, set about summoning the night-flying bird. During his efforts, a **woodcock** flying over kept up the interest, but just as the light was fading, a churring began and eventually a bird flew nearby, and with the aid of Marek's huge torch, got an excellent view of a **nightjar**.

### May 22<sup>nd</sup>

Those who joined another early morning sojourn into the marsh were rewarded with some excellent views of many birds that we had already seen, but the best being of a **thrush nightingale** which we had only heard up to now, good enough for Jannet to claim it as favourite bird. Also a lucky couple got a brief view of a **citrine wagtail**.

The second half of the holiday was now beginning so a day long journey to Bialowieza Forest got underway. Some excellent stops during the trip, the first being at the southern end of the marsh where we meant to go a couple of nights before when the weather prevented us. Along walk out onto a marsh led us to a viewing platform to overlook the huge vista. We spent a great hour here and it was interesting how the National Park were managing the area, somewhat to the detriment of the ecology.

While there, Montagu's harriers were constantly in view and black-tailed godwits flew over their territory, but the star of this session was the **aquatic warbler**, Europe's rarest warbler and notoriously difficult to see well, but a couple here posed on top of reeds just for our delectation. I joined Jane in voting it the best bird of the holiday.

Next stop was in an open area of grassland which brought us different birds, the first being 4 **bee-eaters** posing as they do on a telegraph wire, always wonderful to see and for Krystina her favourite bird. Perhaps not so exotic, but still a nice bird to see was a **tawny pipit**, also posing on a wire.

The journey then took us to the outskirts of Bialystok and our next stop, a fishpond. Up to now we had stopped at some wonderful scenic and wild places but this wasn't one of them! A scruffy pond surrounded by reeds and overhanging willows, the vegetation strewn with rubbish and our antics bemusing the drivers of the lorries parked alongside. It was here that Krystina's language skills came into their own and, ably assisted by Claire, conveyed the presence of the funny foreigners. Meanwhile, we were able to get a reasonable view of a red-necked grebe while Marek with recorder in hand tried to lure out a special bird here. Marek is nothing if not persistent and invariably that pays off as eventually stunningly close view of a **little bittern** were enjoyed, so both Mike and Claire thought the best bird of the trip. A **black redstart** by the lorries was bit of a bonus as well.

## Poland trip report, 18<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> May 2013

It was a relief to get out of the town and as we made our way to the Hotel in the Palace Grounds we passed through some wonderful traditional farming landscapes and villages and part of the forest, and got settled into the hotel which was fine though basic but in a lovely position.

### May 23<sup>rd</sup>

A new hotel but it didn't mean the end of the 5.00am starts! A walk around the outskirts of Bialowieza produced lots of sound but seeing them proved a bit more difficult, none more than so than the **corncrake** which seemed to be calling within a few feet but remained unseen but just a brief glimpse favoured Nigel in the end. We had a bit more luck with a **barred warbler** that after a while showed itself splendidly to the extent that Peter voted it his best bird. We managed to see a more distant **great grey shrike** as well.

After breakfast and what would turn out to be one of the general highlights of the holiday. A walk down to the Private Forest Reserve where we met Arc one of the Park Biologists who was take us through one of the last remaining untouched woodlands in Europe. It is the 5<sup>th</sup> time I have been around the forest but it never fails to impress and the knowledge imparted by Arc in terms of history and ecology was incredibly impressive. For Sue, it was his knowledge and passion for the plants of the forest that particularly impressed her and was undoubtedly her highlight of the week for her. Also for Dennis, the whole experience of being in the forest and the ecology of it was also his most memorable moment.

Birdlife was fairly quiet but amongst the more familiar woodland birds, we did get some excellent views of some **collared flycatchers**. On the walk back to the hotel, **tree pipit** was added to the week's species list. A rare chance to have an afternoon off for most to have a look around the park and village or just relax in your room while Marek and I accompanied by Nigel and Krystina went off to stare at a hole in a tree in a wood, that was supposed to be contain a Tengmalm's owl, but sadly the occupant never materialised!

Refreshed by the free afternoon and now topped up with all the anti-mosquito repellent and clothing you could muster, we went off back the forest, picking up Arc again, for him to do his conjuring act. Like Marek, Arc is persistence personified and just showed that you have to work hard find the wildlife, but eventually his expert calling summoned up a **pygmy owl** to the top of conifer, looking around to see where the intruder was. Arc, Marek and me all breathed all breathed a sigh of relief at this appearance while Claire recalled it as her most memorable moment of the holiday.

### May 24<sup>th</sup>

Another early morning drive around Bialowieza to try and find some bison but to no avail so we then settled by a bridge over a small river and had a good little session though the nearby constantly 'reeling' **river warbler** defiantly refused to reveal itself. We had more luck though with getting good views of a **white-backed woodpecker** while Nigel quietly found a very viewable **hawfinch** in a nearby tree and we managed to add **sparrowhawk** to the holiday tally as well.

Now after breakfast it was noticed that John was having difficulty getting into his trousers which it has to be said was not due to an over-indulgence of polish cuisine, but to an insect bite that had caused a very nasty swelling, so Marek took John off to town to seek medical help while the rest of you trustingly allowed me to lead you into the forest onto a track that I'd never been down before! Anyway, a very pleasant amble ensued and we managed frustratingly fleeting glimpses of **red-breasted flycatchers** but also the first reasonable view of a **wood warbler**. At the end of the track it was relief to see Marek and a smiling John who had not only managed to save his leg but they had also gone back to the bridge and got excellent views of the river warbler!

We has ended up at the Bison Reserve which is actually a zoo that contains captive examples of species that are native to the forest so it was decided we should have a look around. In fairness, the enclosures were large and allowed the animals to move around and did give us a chance to get a look at some mammals that are very hard to see in the wild. Also, at the end of the visit you were actually allowed to spend some money in the market!

## Poland trip report, 18<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> May 2013

Back then to the hotel for lunch and then onto another area of the forest outside the main town of Hanowka and Marek found us a red-breasted flycatcher that actually had a red breast. One of the main reasons for coming here was to try and find the elusive **three-toed woodpecker** which we did hear but didn't have the courtesy to show itself. On the way back to the hotel the rain had set in so we parked a bus by a hole in a tree that allegedly contained a black woodpecker which indeed it did as one appeared briefly at the hole.

In the evening Marek was slightly bewildered that we didn't want to go off to walk a mile through a bog at dusk, up to your knees in mud, fighting off the mosquitoes to get about a second's worth of viewing a great snipe, but rather settle in for the comfort of the hotel and enjoying the rehearsals of the polish band getting ready for the wedding reception to take place in the hotel that night.

Repairing to an upstairs room, It was great to hear your impressions of the holiday and for a large group we all had different memories and favourite moments and it certainly was an action-packed week. Marek and his family put so much effort into making sure we have a good time and give us the opportunity to see what this part of Poland and perhaps is sometimes is not always aware that not everyone has his stamina to keep up!

### 25<sup>th</sup> May

Our last day and we woke up to rain which thankfully had not been much in evident during the week, so we embarked on the 4-hour drive back to Warsaw largely uneventful apart from a rather unsettling loud bang from the back of the bus. A stop at a garage and a thoughtful stroking of the chin by our driver (embarrassingly I can't remember his name) and his beard by Marek, but they sorted it out and we were on our way without further incidence. Marek being Marek, birding was not quite over so we stopped by the river near Warsaw at a suspected Syrian woodpecker which was not in this time, but we did hear a **green woodpecker** which was new for the trip!

Saying goodbye to Marek at the airport and also to Jane who was making her own way to Germany, the flight home was uneventful and so ended a great action-packed week in Poland with excellent birds, wildlife and excellent company.

## Poland trip report, 18<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> May 2013

	ENGLISH NAME	LATIN NAME	18 <sup>th</sup>	19 <sup>th</sup>	20 <sup>th</sup>	21 <sup>st</sup>	22 <sup>nd</sup>	23 <sup>rd</sup>	24 <sup>th</sup>	25 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Family Anatidae (Ducks, Geese and Swans)</b>										
	Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>	•	•	•	•	•			
	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>		•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>			•					
	Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>			•					
	Wigeon	<i>Anas penelope</i>			•					
	Garganey	<i>Anas querquedula</i>			•					
	Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>			•					
	Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>			•					
	Goosander	<i>Mergus merganser</i>		•			•			
	Goldeneye	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>		•		•	•			
<b>Family Phasianidae (Pheasants and Partridges)</b>										
	Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>	•							
	Grey Partridge	<i>Perdix perdix</i>	•							
<b>Family Podicipedidae (Grebes)</b>										
	Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>			•					
	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>		•	•	•	•			
	Red-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps grisegena</i>			•		•			
<b>Family Phalacrocoracidae (Cormorants)</b>										
	Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>			•	•				
<b>Family Ardeidae (Hérons)</b>										
	Bittern	<i>Botaurus stellaris</i>		H	H	H	H			
	Little Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>					•			
	Great White Egret	<i>Egretta alba</i>			•					
	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>		•	•	•	•			
<b>Family Ciconiidae (Storks)</b>										
	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>			•					
<b>Family Accipitridae (Hawks, Eagles and Vultures)</b>										
	White-tailed Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>			•	•				
	Spotted Eagle	<i>Aquila clanga</i>			•					
	Lesser Spotted Eagle	<i>Aquila pomarina</i>		•		•				
	Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•		
	Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>	•	•	•		•	•		
	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo vulpinus</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
	Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>			•					
	Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>							•	
	Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>						•		
<b>Family Falconidae (Falcons)</b>										
	Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>	•			•		•		
<b>Family Rallidae (Rails and Crakes)</b>										
	Corncrake	<i>Crex crex</i>		H				•		
	Water Rail	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>					H			
	Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>				•	•			
<b>Family Gruidae (Cranes)</b>										
	Common Crane	<i>Grus grus</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•		
<b>Family Charadriidae (Plovers)</b>										
	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>		•						
	Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	•	•	•	•	•			•
<b>Family Scolopacidae (Sandpipers)</b>										
	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>		•		H				
	Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>			•					
	Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>		•	•		•			
	Woodcock	<i>Scolopax rusticola</i>				•		•		
	Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>		•	•	•	•			



## Poland trip report, 18<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> May 2013

	ENGLISH NAME	LATIN NAME	18 <sup>th</sup>	19 <sup>th</sup>	20 <sup>th</sup>	21 <sup>st</sup>	22 <sup>nd</sup>	23 <sup>rd</sup>	24 <sup>th</sup>	25 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Family Laridae (Gulls)</b>										
	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>			•	•				
	Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>			•					•
	Little Gull	<i>Hydrocoloeus minutus</i>				•				
<b>Family Sternidae (Terns)</b>										
	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>			•	•				
	Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>			•	•				
	White-winged Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>		•	•	•	•			
	Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybridus</i>			•					
<b>Family Columbidae (Pigeons and Doves)</b>										
	Stock Dove	<i>Columba oenas</i>						H		
	Woodpigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	•		•	•				•
<b>Family Cuculidae (Cuckoos)</b>										
	Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>		•	•	•	•	•	•	
<b>Family Strigidae (Owls)</b>										
	Pygmy Owl	<i>Glaucidium passerinum</i>						•		
<b>Family Caprimulgidae (Nightjars)</b>										
	Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i>				•				
<b>Family Apodidae (Swifts)</b>										
	Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
<b>Family Upupidae (Hoopoes)</b>										
	Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>		•	•	•	•			
<b>Family Meropidae (Bee-eaters)</b>										
	Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>					•			
<b>Family Coraciidae (Rollers)</b>										
	Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>	•							
<b>Family Picidae (Woodpeckers)</b>										
	Black Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus martius</i>				•		H	•	
	Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>								H
	Grey-headed Woodpecker	<i>Picus canus</i>		•				•	•	
	Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>		•			•	•	•	
	Middle Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos medius</i>		•					•	
	White-backed Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos leucotos</i>							•	
	Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos minor</i>		•						
	Three-toed Woodpecker	<i>Picooides tridactylus</i>							H	
	Wryneck	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>		•		•		•		
<b>Family Alaudidae (Larks)</b>										
	Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>			•	•	•		•	
<b>Family Hirundinidae (Swallows and Martins)</b>										
	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>			•					
	Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	House Martin	<i>Delichon urbica</i>			•	•	•	•	•	•
<b>Family Motacillidae (Wagtails and Pipits)</b>										
	Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>					•			
	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>						•		
	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	•	•	•	•			•	
	Blue-headed Wagtail	<i>Motacilla (flava) flava</i>		•	•	•	•			
	Citrine Wagtail	<i>Motacilla citreola</i>					•			
<b>Family Troglodytidae (Wrens)</b>										
	Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>						H	•	

## Poland trip report, 18<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> May 2013

	ENGLISH NAME	LATIN NAME	18 <sup>th</sup>	19 <sup>th</sup>	20 <sup>th</sup>	21 <sup>st</sup>	22 <sup>nd</sup>	23 <sup>rd</sup>	24 <sup>th</sup>	25 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Family Turdidae (Thrushes and Chats)</b>										
	Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>						•	•	
	Thrush Nightingale	<i>Luscinia luscinia</i>		H	H	H	•	H	H	
	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>					•		•	
	Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>		•	•		•	•		
	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>		•	•	•	H	•	•	
	Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>							•	
	Fieldfare	<i>Turdus pilaris</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•		
	Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>		•	•	•	•	•	•	•
<b>Family Sylviidae (Warblers)</b>										
	Garden Warbler	<i>Sylvia borin</i>		H		H	H	H	H	
	Barred Warbler	<i>Sylvia nisoria</i>			•			•	•	
	Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>		H	H	•	•	•	•	H
	Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>		H	•	•	•	•	•	
	Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>		•	•	•	•	H		
	Aquatic Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus paludicola</i>					•			
	Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>		H	•	H				
	Marsh Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus palustris</i>						H	•	
	Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>		•	•	H	•	•	H	H
	Savi's Warbler	<i>Locustella luscinioides</i>		•	•	H				
	River Warbler	<i>Locustella fluviatilis</i>				H		H	•	
	Icterine Warbler	<i>Hippolais icterina</i>		•	•	H	•	H		
	Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>		H	•	H	•	H		
	Wood Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>		H	H	•	H	•	•	
	Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>		H	H	•	•	•	•	
	Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapillus</i>							•	
<b>Family Muscicapidae (Flycatchers)</b>										
	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>		•	•	•	•	•	•	
	Red-breasted Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula parva</i>							•	
	Collared Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula albicollis</i>						•	•	
<b>Family Paridae ( Tits)</b>										
	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		•	•	•	•	•	•	
	Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>				H			H	
	Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>			•			•	•	
	Crested Tit	<i>Lophophanes cristatus</i>				•				
<b>Family Remizidae (Penduline Tits)</b>										
	Penduline Tit	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>		•						
<b>Family Sittidae (Nuthatches)</b>										
	Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>				•	•	•	•	
<b>Family Certhiidae (Treecreepers)</b>										
	Treecreeper	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>				•	•		•	
<b>Family Laniidae (Shrikes)</b>										
	Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
	Great Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius excubitor</i>						•	•	
<b>Family Corvidae (Crows)</b>										
	Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	•		•		•			•
	Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>			•	•	•	•	•	•
	Nutcracker	<i>Nucifraga caryocatactes</i>		•						
	Jackdaw	<i>Corvus monedula</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	•		•	•	•			•
	Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>			•	•	•	•		
<b>Family Sturnidae (Starlings)</b>										
	Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
<b>Family Oriolidae (Orioles)</b>										
	Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>		•	•	•	•	H	•	

## Poland trip report, 18<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> May 2013

	ENGLISH NAME	LATIN NAME	18 <sup>th</sup>	19 <sup>th</sup>	20 <sup>th</sup>	21 <sup>st</sup>	22 <sup>nd</sup>	23 <sup>rd</sup>	24 <sup>th</sup>	25 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Family Passeridae (Sparrows)</b>										
	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>		•	•		•			
<b>Family Fringillidae (Finches)</b>										
	Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	Linnet	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>					•			
	Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		•	•	•	•	•	•	
	Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>		•	•	•	•	•	•	
	Serlin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>			H	•	•	•		
	Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>			•					
	Common Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus erythrinus</i>		•	•		•	•		
	Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>					•		•	
<b>Family Emberizidae (Buntings)</b>										
	Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>		•	•	•	•			
	Ortolan Bunting	<i>Emberiza hortulana</i>			•					
	Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>		•	•	•	•	•	•	
	Corn Bunting	<i>Miliaria calandra</i>						•		

<b>AMPHIBIANS</b>										
	Common Toad	<i>Bufo bufo</i>		•						
	Common Frog	<i>Rana temporaria</i>		•						
	Marsh Frog	<i>Rana ridibunda</i>		H						
<b>MAMMALS</b>										
	Roe Deer	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>	•		•		•			
	Red Deer	<i>Cervus elaphus</i>				•				
	Elk	<i>Alces alces</i>			•					
	Brown Hare	<i>Lepus europaeus</i>		•						
	Red Fox	<i>Vulpus vulpus</i>			•	•				
	Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>						•	•	•