

# WILDLIFE TRAVEL

Bulgaria 2012



## Bulgaria trip report, 9<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> September 2012

#	DATE	LOCATIONS & NOTES
1	9 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Luton to Varna
2	10 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Lake Durakulak & Lake Shabla
3	11 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Cape Kaliakra, Russalka Steppes, Bolata Valley
4	12 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Topola Cliffs, Goritsa Forest, Panitsovo Raptor Watch Point
5	13 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Vanya Lake, Izvorska River, Poda Visitor Centre, Atanaskovska Lake, Pomarie Salt Pans
6	14 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Gyulyovtsa, Kableshovo, Atan Watchpoint
7	15 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Kableshovo Woods, Poda Visitor Centtre, Fakiiska River
8	16 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Kableshovo Woods, Pomarie Saltpans, Vanya Lake, Burgas Return to UK.

### **LIST OF TRAVELLERS**

#### **Leaders**

Mike Russell

Mladen Vasilev

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### 9<sup>th</sup> September

A small but perfectly formed group met up at the far-flung Luton Airport and tip-toed our way through the organisational maelstrom known as Wizz Airlines, arriving at Varna Airport on time to be met by Dimiter, the MD of Neophron and Mladen our guide for the week, and our pudding-sharing driver Evgeny. The hour long journey saw us arrive at Kavarna and our multi-staired but comfortable Hotel Verena with its view of the Black Sea and the cunningly designed grain store to look like a castle in the dark, and to be greeted by the very smiley owner Georgi.

Our first meal was enhanced by very good and cheap beer which set the tone for Nigel's holiday and live entertainment was provided by a spectacular **convolvulus hawkmoth**. Anyway, we settled for our first night in Bulgaria, excited by the prospect of the days ahead.

### 10<sup>th</sup> September

From various balconies of the hotel over the couple of days we were there, we were able to see some birds that we didn't see elsewhere, the most obvious being the screaming parties of **Alpine swifts**, which at some points reached over 50 in number; a **black redstart** that frequented the unfinished building opposite and a much more reticent **thrush nightingale** that not everyone got to see.

After breakfast we were off, to enjoy a fantastic day where, at the end, 87 species were recorded. Very soon the pattern of the week was set; we were pootling along in the bus, Mladen would suddenly leap into action, Evgeny would shudder the bus to a halt and out we would get to see what was in store for us. The first occasion this happened was instigated by me, having previously placed a handy **little owl** on a roof by the side of the road, just so Lesley and I could re-live our 'little owl' moment in the Algarve. It was here also that we all got very excited by our first **red-back shrike**, which probably ended up the most common bird of the holiday and it was great to see 7 **turtle doves** on a wire.



**Grain Castle from Hotel Verena**

We headed for Lake Durankukuk an area of marshland, reedbeds adjoining the beach and here the birds started coming thick and fast. There were some familiar birds but also lots of unfamiliar to try and sort out, the first of which was **red-breasted flycatcher**, another species that we saw every day and then an **icterine warbler** skulking in a nearby bush.

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Shortly following this were 4 very close **pied wheatears** on the beach, before we turned to look towards the open water in the marsh. Here we soon were feasting on birds such as **purple heron, squacco heron**, the very diminutive **pygmy cormorant** alongside a particularly inactive **ferruginous duck**. Large numbers of sparrows included all three species, **house, tree and Spanish** and the morning ended by seeing our first **bee-eaters**, their beautiful bubbling calls and kaleidoscope colouring became the backdrop to the week and enough for both Lesley and Mike to nominate as their best bird of the holiday.

A very nice meal in a restaurant in a village I didn't make a note of but apparently had a very interesting locking mechanism on the WC, but thankfully everyone got out alive and we headed off to Shabla Lake where, despite a pretty persistent wind we were treated to a feast of ornithological delights, particularly waders of which 20 species were present. As they were all in various stages of plumage, mainly juvenile and winter, so sorting them out was not easy, but with the expert help of Mladen we struggled through.

The nearest group enabled us to distinguish similar species such as **little stint, dunlin** and a new bird for all of us, **broad-billed sandpiper**. In amongst them was a single **Temminck's stint** as well and at various times were joined by a group of **ruff**. A bit more distant but still identifiable were a group of busy **spotted redshank, greenshank** and 3 very white, slim **marsh sandpipers**. Floating elegantly over the water were both **whiskered** and **black terns**, and the elegance of the whiskered terns was enough for Janet to declare it her favourite bird. This spending 2 hours sorting out the variety of waders gave me my most memorable moment of the holiday, except of course for the kingfisher moment!

Having over-dosed on waders, we made our way slowly back to the bus with just hundreds of hirundines swooping over our heads as we went, a wonderful spectacle and including a few **red-rumped swallows**. If this was not enough before we got into the bus we had a brief fly over by a **golden oriole** and then a perfect view of a **honey buzzard**. Just in case anything else flew over we bundled you onto the bus to head back to the hotel, with the sound of feverish turning of pages of your Collins Field Guide filling the bus....until you all fell asleep. Thoughts turned to wondering whether we were going to eat yet more chicken at dinner, which we didn't so interest turned to Moira's meal to see if she had more cunningly disguised cheese!

### 11<sup>th</sup> September

A similar assortment of birds were on display outside the hotel before breakfast and then off to Cape Kaliakra to enjoy a lovely warm sunny day again. The day started as yesterday with the bus getting not very far before a lump on a telegraph pole casually dismissed by myself as a common buzzard was miraculously turned into an **osprey** by Jan. Having admired the bird to our satisfaction it was back on the bus only to come to screeching halt a few minutes later, this time Mladen managed to hear distant **stone curlew** calls from inside the noisy bus. Leaping out to try and find them, but sadly failing, Mladen left us to enjoy great views of **common redstart** while a close **short-toed eagle** drifted over. Before getting back on board, we had time to find a **whinchat**.

We were on prime steppe habitat, which had been planted with endless wind turbines, a real conservationists conundrum. Arriving at Cape Kaliakra before the main tourist invasion I managed to usher everyone past the oh so alluring fridge magnets and soon we were enjoying views looking down on some of the birds. It was great to get such good views of a male red-breasted flycatcher and a **wood warbler**, while out at sea **Mediterranean shags** were sitting out on the fishing nets. Sadly no shearwaters or cetaceans could be seen out at sea so we decided to have a

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break at a coffee shop that didn't have any coffee, but did have ice creams. By this time tourists were outnumbering the birds so we headed back to the bus, enjoying good views of **northern wheatear** and then a **hoopoe** as we did, plus a low flying **sparrowhawk**.

Heading back to a nearby village for lunch with Mladen's promise of good chips and he was not wrong. Here Mike won everyone's admiration as being the only one to find the bottom of the salad bowl! Back to the Steppe area and a walk amongst good numbers of bee-eaters and were able to watch a **roller** on a distant telegraph wire, but not too many other birds. Before heading home we were taken to Bolata Valley, a lovely walk along this valley between sandstone cliffs with a long reedbed and wetland area on the valley floor. It really was a lovely walk even though there were relatively few birds though at the end of the valley there was a spot with a lot of common warblers and we did get excellent views of a **Syrian woodpecker**.

### September 12<sup>th</sup>

Transfer day and after the obligatory group photo outside the hotel we said goodbye to Georgi and a day long birding journey to our new base at Sarafovo. Jannet nominated the general numbers of birds outside the hotel as her most memorable moment, particularly the noisy parties of Alpine swifts and all the hirundines that were constantly swooping around over our heads.

After about 20 minutes we stopped at a point at the Topola Cliffs to look in vain for the local eagle owl. A bit disappointing that we didn't see it, but I don't think any of us was as quite as disappointed as Mladen. Having given up on the owl, we were soon compensated by another quick stop, piling out the bus to admire a **long-legged buzzard** gliding over the bus. After a couple of other stops we eventually arrived at the next birding stop, Goritsa Forest.

A walk through a lovely woodland meant that we added some common woodland species to the list, where **nuthatch** was particularly numerous. Very soon we were all onto **short-toed treecreeper**, but it took us a little while to get **middle spotted woodpecker** but eventually succeeded. Butterflies were added here as well, particularly our first **cardinal fritillary** and the fast flying **Eastern rock grayling**. Opposite the woodland was a very attractive restaurant so the familiar salad followed by chips and probably chicken all washed down with an excellent beer, ensured we weren't in a very fit state to go birding after lunch, but somehow we managed.

Another excellent stop at Panitsovo, a woodland area which will principally be remembered for the stunning view of the **grey-headed woodpecker** sitting out for ages on top of a dead tree, something that this species is not particularly renowned for. I was actually starting to want to move on as after a while I was wanting to look at something else, but this was a great spot for woodpeckers with 5 species recorded here. The other new bird here was a **girl bunting** drinking at a water trough and while we were about to head back to the bus, a **raven** 'kronked' over our head.

Continuing on we left the woodland to travel through open hilly country and sure enough it wasn't long before we stopped at a point to look at low-flying raptors. As we got out our attention was diverted to a high-flying bird that Mladen confidently identified as a **golden eagle**. However it was the other 2 birds that we focussed on as they were now putting on an excellent display very near to us. They turned out to be **Montagu's harriers** and they did indeed exhibit performance just for us, particularly the one that seemed to have an injured leg, so dutifully christened 'peg-leg' What a brilliant way to spend 20 minutes or so, just watching these birds glide backwards and forwards, and it was no wonder that three of you, Jan, Moira and Nigel voted it bird of the trip.





**Goritska Forest Ent!**



**Lesley, Mike & Janet looking for....i've no idea!**

We spent a lovely hour or so looking for raptors here of which there were quite a few, but all passing high overhead, but the sheepdogs at eye level kept us amused until neck strain forced us to call it a day.

A relatively short journey with no more stops brought us to the Hotel Mirana with its multitudeness steps and the Bulgarian equivalent of Basil Fawlty as the proprietor, but nonetheless very comfortable. There did seem a quite a few bits of the hotel coming off in people's hands, particularly Janet who presented us with the door handle to her balcony at dinner. Mike and I were dispatched to a room in a hotel opposite for the first night, comfortable in its own way, but we both had interesting neighbours. Next to me were a couple who were obviously enjoying a late afternoon reminiscence of a days birding going by the crescendo of sound the woman was making, while Mike's neighbour decided to pay him a visit, making its entrance through the shower grill!

### **September 13th**

After breakfast we headed to Burgas and our first stop, Lake Vanya. Now if you picked an ideal site to watch birds it probably wouldn't be by a very busy dual carriageway, underneath a huge electricity pylon, standing in a rubbish strewn, unpleasant fishing bay looking across a huge lake surrounded by all kinds of industrial scarred buildings, but this is what we did and was choc full of thousands of birds! It overwhelmed Mike who would every so often mutter softly to himself 'I've never seen so many birds!' A long line of pinkish white in the distance turned out to be a huge number of **white pelicans** and in amongst them but less numerous **Dalmation pelicans**. This blur of white that enveloped the lake along with the sheer number of birds was enough for Mike to nominate it as his most memorable moment. Janet thought my throwaway comment about the Dalmation pelicans untidy look around the head was a bit like me was very appropriate!

To counteract all that white the lake was also full of black birds, the majority of which were **coot**, but were also **tufted duck**, **pochard**, more ferruginous duck and a single **red-crested pochard** as well. **Cormorants**, including some pygmy's were there as were **little** and **great crested grebe's** while in the distance along the shore were a group of feeding **spoonbills** . Terns and

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gulls were also numerous, while amongst the herons and egrets a juvenile **night heron** flew serenely across us. Amongst all the debris and rubbish along the shore, marsh frogs were popping in and out of the water.

Gently dragging Mike away from all those birds we then went to an aesthetically far more pleasing place to watch birds which Mladen said was Izvorska River, although it looked more like a lake to me. Again lots of birds on the lake, but on the far shore the ever thorough Jannet found a brown blob which suddenly moved and could then be distinguished as a juvenile **white-tailed eagle**. Not long afterwards, a large bird was noted in the sky, not too far from us and with a white-tail gleaming in the sun it was an even more spectacular adult, leaving Jan in no doubt it was the best bird of the week.



**Spot the Night Heron**

Overlooking a reedbed and lakes we had we spent a lovely our so watching herons, egrets, including our first **great white egrets**, spoonbills and ducks and where Jan and I had our '**kingfisher**' moment, as one came flying towards and landed about 2 feet away on the bridge right in front of us, eliciting a gentle gasp of delight from Jan!

Hunger beckoned and off we went to the Poda Information Centre run by the Bulgarian Birdwatching Society and so could have lunch sitting down and in the shade, overlooking marshes, reedbeds and lakes. Birdwise, **marsh harriers** were never of of view, and the distant pool was full of spotted redshank and a few other waders. Occasional raptors passed over our head and so we got our best view to date of a **booted eagle**, while not everyone got onto a **Caspian tern** as it flew away from us. You also had to be quick to get the fleeting glimpse of a **water rail**.

Suitably refreshed we were off again the first stop being Attanasovska Lake, and salt pans, but there were few birds here so we continued on to Pomarie Salt pans and another couple of hours of some wonderful birding. Again a fantastic variety of waders very close to us including a few broad-billed sandpipers, little stints and we also added **bar-tailed godwit** and **knot** to the wader list. A still slightly pinkish **slender-billed gull** was a treat and it was great to get good views of both **little gull** and **Mediterranean gull**. The star of this little session was a **short-eared owl** that came marauding across the salt pan and set everything up in a panic, that and the Visitor Centre with coffee and toilets run by the Green Balkans Conservation Organisation.



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With no-one taking up the offer of mud wrestling we set off back to the hotel, basking in the glory of another 80+ birds under our belt.

### September 14<sup>th</sup>

The hottest day of the trip with temperatures up to 35° C, but our day started well as we headed to a wood at Gyulyovtza where, despite Mladen's best effort, he still wasn't able to summon up a sombre tit. We did add **mistle thrush** to the list and then a couple of **crag martins** and everyone finally got good views of a **lesser spotted woodpecker** as well. Four other woodpecker species were also around and a new butterfly for us was seen, a **Frayer's purple emperor** while 2 new dragonfly species as well, **lesser emperor** and **migrant hawkler**.

The week's birding and the heat was starting to take its effect, so Mladen and I reluctantly agreed to have a longer lunchtime so we headed back to the hotel, but not before admiring another juvenile Montagu's harrier this time devouring a Balkan green lizard which provided Mladen with his moment of the week.

After lunch, people did their own thing for a couple of hours, sit by the pool, sample the delights of Sarafovo or simply catch up on a bit of sleep. Later in the afternoon we headed off to the Atan Raptor Watchpoint with a distinct lack of raptors so finished off at a nearby saltpan where again excellent views of waders with another new one for the trip, **curlew sandpiper**. It was great to have many little gulls floating over our head hear as well.



**The lizard-eating Monty!**



**The Holiday's ruined, no sombre tit!**

### September 15<sup>th</sup>

Another day and really what was one of the main reasons for coming to Bulgaria, a really good raptor migration, and Lesley consolidated her role as queen raptor spotter, seeing birds clearly in the blue sky where I couldn't differentiate between bird and spots before my eyes! However, before we got to the raptors at Kableshevo we at last got a lovely male red-backed shrike and a field full of whinchat.

At a point on the hill we stopped for a couple of hours, Jannet heroically offered to go and get the pastries from the bus and gradually the birds started moving over our heads. The stars of the morning were undoubtedly the **lesser spotted eagles**, with well over 100 birds drifting over



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with good numbers of booted eagle and short-toed eagle as well and a single **black kite**, the only one of the trip. 3 species of buzzard put in an appearance and it was a chance to sort out the identification nuances. Both common and **Levant sparrowhawk** and then a **red-footed falcon** zoomed over, enabling comparison with **hobby** that was also seen. Moira also managed to find a sole **common swift** amongst all the hirundines and the grand finale, a majestic flotilla of 19 **black storks** glided over us, an end to a wonderful mornings birding, 16 species of raptor seen. We all learned a new term this morning, 'kettling', where groups of raptors circled around in the thermals and, unsurprisingly, Lesley thought this morning was her most memorable moment. As a reward for all this fantastic birding we had to push the minibus, a starter motor problem in the end!

Basking in the glory of the morning, we took our lunch to the Poda information Centre again and the excellent birding just kept on going. What was lovely here was the close views in perfect light of **wood sandpiper** and **snipe** feeding together just below us, with every intricate detail of their plumage standing out. A lone **white stork** was located on the edge of the lake and a couple of terns flying over the open water were juvenile **white-winged terns**.

Also here everyone enjoyed the skeins of pelicans that drifted past in the distance making alternate black and white waves in the sky and at various points would form a thermal and drift further upwards, and in perfect unison Nigel and Moira both recalled it as their most memorable sights of the trip, as indeed did Jannet.

Although some of us managed to see very high flying **collared pratincoles** on Thursday, everyone now got to see them flying over. Another excellent session, and an encounter with another group seemed to make everyone grateful that didn't go with Ornitholidays! We headed off to the Fatiiska River and more excellent birds to see including another great view of a kingfisher and a purple heron, while quite a few of you got a reasonable view of a **little bittern** as well, while a **Cetti's warbler** gave a brief burst of song. There were a number of **tree pipits** on the wires here as well.

However, the undoubted star here was small, secretive bird that was threading its way through the edge of the reeds and was infuriatingly difficult to see. At first not everyone was able to see the **little crane** and after a while we went on further a bit, but luckily when we returned it decided to come out in the open and I think everyone got a good view in the end. Definitely my bird of the week.

### September 16th

Our last day in Bulgaria but still plenty of birding, so we went to Kableshevo Woods for one last attempt for the sombre tit, but no luck again. Not that worried us too much as we now got some excellent views of a number of **hawfinch**. Even better was a **goshawk** crashing into the top of a tree where all the hawfinches were perched! Plenty of flycatchers and a common redstart as well as a great view of a hoopoe.

Something else we hadn't experienced all week, rain set in, so we Mladen suggested we went back to Pomorie Saltpans where we could carry on birding in the shelter and also consume our wonderful packed lunch. The birds here was just as good as the the previous visit though it was nothing like as warm. An overhead osprey set up everything when we arrived but after everything settled we back to sorting through the waders here and ere able to add 3 new species to the list, **oystercatcher**, **grey plover** and **golden plover**. In addition some **black-necked grebes** were located on the now choppy lake, though Nigel took some convincing of this as

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everytime he looked though the scope, they would all dive! Mike, Jan, Moira and Jannet then took part in a spontaneous identification exams, all passing with flying colours! Their reward was to help push the van again!

Sadly time was nearly up, but not before we headed into the City for a very nice last dinner in an Bulgarian pasta restaurant where even then the birding never stopped as Mladen was up and down as 5 species of raptor drifted over and a really grand finale, a flotilla of white storks!

And so to the airport and farewell to Mladen and an after-shaved drenched Evgeny according to Jan and a delayed flight back to Luton complete with the obligatory crying children and an undignified scrabble for some of us to get onto the Luton long-term car park bus.



Black-necked grebes? Yeah, right says Nigel!

Thanks to Jannet and Moira for the photographs.

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<b>Family Anatidae (Ducks, Geese and Swans)</b>										
	Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>		•			•		•	•
	Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>		•			•	•	•	•
	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>		•			•	•	•	•
	Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>		•						
	Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>		•			•		•	
	Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>					•	•		•
	Red-crested Pochard	<i>Netta rufina</i>					•			•
	Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>					•		•	•
	Ferruginous Duck	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>		•			•		•	•
	Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>					•			
<b>Family Podicipedidae (Grebes)</b>										
	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>					•		•	•
	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>					•	•	•	•
	Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nicricollis</i>								•
<b>Family Pelecanidae (Pelicans)</b>										
	White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>					•	•	•	•
	Dalmatian Pelican	<i>Pelecanus crispus</i>					•		•	•
<b>Family Phalacrocoracidae (Cormorants)</b>										
	Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>		•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	(Mediterranean) Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis desmarestii</i>			•					
	Pygmy Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax pygmeus</i>		•			•		•	•
<b>Family Ardeidae (Hérons)</b>										
	Little Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>					<b>H</b>		•	
	Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>					•			
	Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola rolloides</i>		•			•			•
	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>				•	•	•	•	•
	Great White Egret	<i>Egretta alba</i>					•		•	
	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>		•			•	•	•	•
	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>		•					•	
<b>Family Ciconiidae (Storks)</b>										
	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>							•	•
	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>						•	•	•
<b>Family Threskiornithidae (Ibises and Spoonbills)</b>										
	Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>					•			•
<b>Family Accipitridae (Hawks, Eagles and Vultures)</b>										
	White-tailed Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>					•			
	Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>			•					•
	Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>				•				
	Lesser Spotted Eagle	<i>Aquila pomarina</i>				•	•	•	•	
	Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraetus pennatus</i>				•	•	•	•	
	Short-toed Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>			•	•		•	•	•
	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>							•	
	Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>		•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>			•	•		•	•	•
	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>		•	•	•	•	•	•	•

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	Common 'Steppe' Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo vulpinus</i>				•				
	Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>				•	•		•	
	Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>		•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	Northern Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>						•	•	•
	Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>			•	•	•	•	•	•
	Levant Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter brevipes</i>		•	•	•	•	•	•	
<b>Family Falconidae (Falcons)</b>										
	Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>		•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	Red-footed Falcon	<i>Falco vespertinus</i>							•	
	Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>			•	•			•	
<b>Family Rallidae (Rails and Crakes)</b>										
	Water Rail	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>			H		•			
	Little Crake	<i>Porzana parva</i>							•	
	Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>		•			•		•	•
	Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>		•			•		•	•
<b>Family Haematopidae (Oystercatchers)</b>										
	Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>								•
<b>Family Recurvirostridae (Stilts and Avocets)</b>										
	Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>		•			•	•	•	•
	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>							•	•
<b>Family Burhinidae (Stone Curlews)</b>										
	Stone Curlew	<i>Burhinus oedicnemus</i>			H					
<b>Family Glareolidae (Pratincoles and Coursers)</b>										
	Collared Pratincole	<i>Glareolus pratincola</i>					•		•	
<b>Family Charadriidae (Plovers)</b>										
	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>		•			•			•
	Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>					•	•	•	•
	Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>		•				•		•
	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>								•
	Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>								•
	Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>		•						
<b>Family Scolopacidae (Sandpipers)</b>										
	Knot	<i>Calidris canutus</i>					•			
	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>		•						•
	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>		•			•	•		•
	Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferrugina</i>					•			
	Broad-billed Sandpiper	<i>Limicola falcinellus</i>		•			•			•
	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>		•			•			•
	Temminck's Stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>		•						
	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>		•			•			•
	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>		•						
	Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>		•			•	•		•
	Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>		•			•	•	•	•
	Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>		•				•	•	•
	Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>		•						
	Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>		•			•	•		
	Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>					•			•



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	Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>		•			•	•	•	
	Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>		•						
<b>Family Laridae (Gulls)</b>										
	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>		•			•	•	•	•
	Slender-billed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus genei</i>					•	•		•
	Mediterranean Gull	<i>Larus melanocephalus</i>			•		•			•
	Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>		•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	Caspian gull	<i>Larus cachinnans</i>								•
	Lesser black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>		•						
	Little Gull	<i>Hydrocoloeus minutus</i>					•	•	•	•
<b>Family Sternidae (Terns)</b>										
	Sandwich Tern	<i>Sterna sandvicencis</i>					•	•		•
	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>		•	•		•	•		•
	Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>						•	•	
	White-winged Tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>							•	
	Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybridus</i>		•			•		•	•
<b>Family Columbidae (Pigeons and Doves)</b>										
	Rock Dove/Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>		•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>		•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>		•	•					
<b>Family Cuculidae (Cuckoos)</b>										
	Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>		•						
<b>Family Strigidae (Owls)</b>										
	Short-eared owl	<i>Asio flameus</i>					•			
	Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>		•						
<b>Family Apodidae (Swifts)</b>										
	Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>							•	
	Alpine Swift	<i>Apus melba</i>		•	•					
<b>Family Upupidae (Hoopoes)</b>										
	Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>			•					•
<b>Family Alcedinidae (Kingfishers)</b>										
	Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</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>										
	Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>		•		•	H	H		•
	Grey-headed Woodpecker	<i>Picus canus</i>				•		H		
	Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>				•		•	•	•
	Syrian Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos syriacus</i>		•	•				•	•
	Middle Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos medius</i>				•	H	•		
	White-backed Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos leucotos</i>								
	Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos minor</i>				•		•	H	
<b>Family Alaudidae (Larks)</b>										
	Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>			•	•			•	
	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>		•		•	•	H	•	

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<b>Family Hirundinidae (Swallows and Martins)</b>										
	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>		•			•	•	•	•
	Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>						•		
	Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>		•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Hirundo daurica</i>		•		•		•	•	
	House Martin	<i>Delichon urbica</i>		•	•	•	•	•	•	•
<b>Family Motacillidae (Wagtails and Pipits)</b>										
	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>							•	
	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>		•	•	•	•		•	•
	Black-headed Wagtail (Yellow)	<i>Motacilla (flava) feldegg</i>		•			•	•	•	
<b>Family Turdidae (Thrushes and Chats)</b>										
	Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>				•				
	Thrush Nightingale	<i>Luscinia luscinia</i>		•	•	•				
	Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>		•	•	•				•
	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>		•	•	•				
	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>		•	•					
	Pied Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe pleschanka</i>		•	•					
	Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>			•				•	
	Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>		•						
	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>			•	•				
	Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>						•		
	Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>			•	•	•	•		
<b>Family Sylviidae (Warblers)</b>										
	Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>			•		•	•		
	Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>		•	•	•				
	Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia curruca</i>		•	•	•				
	Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>					•			
	Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>		•						
	Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>							H	
	Icterine Warbler	<i>Hippolais icterina</i>		•						
	Wood Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>			•					
	Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>		•			•	•	H	
	Willow warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>		•	•	•			H	
<b>Family Muscicapidae (Flycatchers)</b>										
	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>		•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	Red-breasted Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula parva</i>		•	•	•	•	•	•	•
<b>Family Paridae ( Tits)</b>										
	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		•		•	•	•	•	•
	Blue Tit	<i>Parus caeruleus</i>				•	•	•	•	•
<b>Family Aegithalidae (Long-tailed Tits)</b>										
	Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>					H			H
<b>Family Remizidae (Penduline Tits)</b>										
	Penduline Tit	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>		H			H			
<b>Family Sittidae (Nuthatches)</b>										
	Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>				•		•		
<b>Family Certhiidae (Treecreepers)</b>										
	Short-toed Treecreeper	<i>Certhia brachydactyla</i>				•		•		

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<b>Family Laniidae (Shrikes)</b>									
Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>		•	•	•	•	•	•	•
<b>Family Corvidae (Crows)</b>									
Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>		•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Jackdaw	<i>Corvus monedula</i>		•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</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>		•						
<b>Family Passeridae (Sparrows)</b>									
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Spanish Sparrow	<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>		•			•		•	
Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>		•					•	•
<b>Family Fringillidae (Finches)</b>									
Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>				•	•	•	•	•
Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		•	•		•	•		•
Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>				•	•		•	•
Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>		H	•	•		•		•
<b>Family Emberizidae (Buntings)</b>									
Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>				•		•		
Corn Bunting	<i>Miliaria calandra</i>				•		•		

### AMPHIBIANS

Marsh Frog *Rana ridibunda*

### REPTILES

European Pond Terrapin *Emys orbicularis*

Common Wall Lizard *Podarcis muralis*

### BUTTERFLIES & MOTHS

Bath White *Pontia duplidice*

Clouded Yellow *Colias crocea*

Berger's Clouded Yellow *Colias alfacariensis*

Eastern Wood White *Leptidea duponcheli*

Small Copper *Lycaena phlaeas*

Freyer's Purple Emperor *Apatura metis*

Red Admiral *Vanessa atalanta*

Cardinal Fritillary *Argynnis pandora*

Woodland Grayling *Hipparchia fagi*

Eastern Rock Grayling *Hipparchia syriaca*

Meadow Brown *Maniola jurtina*

Wall Brown *Lassiomata megera*

Small Heath *Coenonympha thyrus*

Convolvulus Hawkmoth *Agrius convolvuli*

Hummingbird Hawkmoth *Maccroglossum stellatarum*

### DRAGONFLIES

Lesser Emperor *Anax parthenope*

Migrant Hawker *Aeshna mixtra*

Red-veined Darter *Sympetrum fonscolombii*