



**BULGARIA WINTER BIRDING WONDERLAND:
SET-DEPARTURE TOUR
TRIP REPORT**

4 – 11 FEBRUARY 2019

By Dylan Vasapolli



*The prized **White-backed Woodpecker** was one of the major highlights on the tour.*

Overview

This Winter Birding Wonderland Bulgarian tour takes in essentially the best of Bulgaria, as we visit the many important bird wintering sites along the Black Sea, along with exploring various woodlands and mountains that play host to some of Europe's most sought-after species. All these combine for a short, well-rounded tour that is not to be missed.

This particular winter was relatively mild, in comparison to what it usually is, which, although it meant that we didn't need to brave extremely cold conditions, did also mean that the large numbers of geese which use this region to overwinter didn't show up to the fullest. And despite the mild winter the weather wasn't fantastic on the tour; we had to battle cold and windy conditions on most days, which made the birding tough at times. This tour is timed to give us the best chances at the prized **Red-breasted Goose**, and we were very successful, enjoying sightings on a few occasions, including some great and prolonged looks at a relatively large flock feeding in a wheat field. We still did well on the tour, though, finding many other prized species, including **Whooper** and **Tundra Swans**, **Ruddy Shelduck**, **Red-crested Pochard**, **Ferruginous Duck**, **Greater Scaup**, **Smew**, **White-headed Duck**, **Black-throated Loon**, **Eurasian Bittern**, **Dalmatian Pelican**, **Golden Eagle**, **Slender-billed**, **Pallas's**, and **Caspian Gulls**, **Eurasian Eagle-Owl**, a flock of **Long-eared Owls**, **Middle-spotted**, **Syrian**, **White-backed**, **Black**, and **Grey-headed Woodpeckers**, **Spotted Nutcracker**, **Sombre**, **Marsh**, and **Willow Tits**, **Eurasian Penduline Tit**, **Calandra Lark**, **Moustached Warbler**, **Short-toed Treecreeper**, **White-throated Dipper**, and **Cirl Bunting** among many others.

We finished the tour just shy of 130 species, also noting 3 mammals, with which we were very pleased considering the suboptimal conditions at times.



*The localized **Sombre Tit** was one of the many eastern European specials seen on the tour.*

Detailed Report

Day 1, 4th February 2019. Birding around Varna and transfer to Kavarna

Together with Yordan, our local guide, we collected Urban and Nancy from Varna following breakfast, and transferred to the western edge of Lake Varna, where we began our birding. We had a glorious day with bright sunshine, next to no wind, and warm temperatures (with us even reducing our layered clothing to T-shirts during the day!).

The marshes and pools in this area held many waterbirds, despite being close to the industrial zone, and things took off to a good start, with us finding an obliging **Cetti's Warbler** that gave us some good views. As we continued working the area we noted two of the scarce **Ruddy Shelducks** and a small flock of **Northern Lapwings** that had arrived early along with the sought **Pygmy Cormorant**, while other species present included **Common Shelduck**, **Common Pochard**, **Little, Black-necked**, and **Great Crested Grebes**, **Grey Heron**, **Great Cormorant**, **Western Marsh Harrier**, **Green Sandpiper**, **Common Redshank** and **Black-headed Gull**.

The surrounding open plains held numbers of **Crested Larks**, together with a few **White Wagtails**, while more numerous species included **Common Buzzard**, **European Goldfinch**, **Common Kestrel**, and **Western Jackdaw**. A small woodlot gave us the stunning **European Green Woodpecker** and **Hawfinch** before we made our way into a small village for lunch. While enjoying our meal we were interrupted by both **Syrian** and **Great Spotted Woodpeckers** and **Great** and **European Blue Tits**.

Our afternoon was spent birding the Yatata Reserve, where we found many of the waterbirds we had seen earlier in the day, and new additions were **Northern Shoveler**, **Gadwall**, an early **Eurasian Spoonbill**, **Great Egret**, and **Dalmatian Pelican**, while **Common Kingfisher** frustrated us, remaining heard only.

Following our time here we began making our way north to Kavarna and spent the later part of the afternoon into the evening searching for Eurasian Eagle-Owl. We scanned the cliffs for a while, patiently hoping we'd find the bird, and with it getting darker and darker, and just before we were going to call it a day, we heard a few hoots. The call was a bit further up the valley, so we headed slightly further up the road and began scanning. After some time, with almost no light left, we still had had no joy and were about to give up when we spotted the bird perched atop a pine tree. We got it in the scope and enjoyed a great, rather atmospheric sighting of **Eurasian Eagle-Owl** as it sat atop the tree, calling every so often.

Following this great end to the day we headed to Kavarna and enjoyed an excellent meal before settling in for the evening.



*We had good looks at **Eurasian Eagle-Owl** on a few occasions.*

Day 2, 5th February 2019. Birding Durankulak, Shabla, and Bolata

We awoke to a stark contrast in the weather to yesterday, with an icy wind, cold temperatures, thick fog, and some drizzle – rather bleak conditions. Following breakfast we braved the conditions and headed to Durankulak Lake near the Romanian border. The fog seemed to come and go, and we began working the area, but this proved challenging, as the wind kept most of the birds down and at times the fog prevented us from seeing far. A pair of **Syrian Woodpeckers** showed well in a small woodlot, while the coast was rather quiet, with only gulls moving around every once in a while. Scanning through the gull flocks, however, proved successful, as we found a few of the scarce **Pallas's Gulls**, along with some **Mew Gulls**, among the common **Black-headed** and **Yellow-legged Gulls**. While watching a group of gulls flying around we picked something dark going overhead and immediately recognized it as a **Red-breasted Goose**. We all were able to watch it, as it came around over us, giving us some good, albeit brief flight views, and then lost it as it disappeared out into the fog over the Black Sea. This is one of the most prized species for this region during the winter, and one of the main targets of the trip, so it was a good one to get so early in the trip, considering that this winter hadn't seen many individuals present in Bulgaria. Other species here during the morning included **Eurasian Teal**, **Common Pochard**, **Red-breasted Merganser**, **Western Marsh Harrier**, and **Common Reed Bunting**. We then transferred to a different section of the lake, and some scanning here produced many **Tufted Ducks** and **Common Pochards**, while the surrounding fields yielded groups of **Grey Partridges** and **Stock Doves**.

Our next stop saw us heading to a small village, where we enjoyed a big **Long-eared Owl** roost of probably close to 10 individuals – what a privilege! We spent some time watching the birds as they peered down at us through the pine leaves before leaving them in peace.

After warming up over a great lunch we headed into the bleak conditions once more and birded some of the Shabla wetlands. Here we managed to find a small group of **Caspian Gulls** along with a few ducks including **Common Shelduck**, **Northern Shoveler**, and **Northern Pintail**. A coastal stop gave us a few of the sought **European Shags** among their similar **Great Cormorant** cousins.

We finally ran into our first flock of Geese, albeit a small one – 14 **Greater White-fronted Geese** feeding near to the road, and while enjoying them we found a large group of **Calandra Larks**. We ended our day in the incredibly scenic Bolata valley, where we managed to enjoy some fine birding despite the wind. Soon after entering we picked up one of the resident **Eurasian Eagle-Owls** and enjoyed some excellent scope views of the bird, and just as we were loading up, going to try another vantage for the owl, we found a **Eurasian Bullfinch** that had just flown in and managed to enjoy some good scope views of this tricky bird. We worked our way further along and enjoyed some more fine views of the owl before visiting the beach. **Eurasian Jay** and **Syrian Woodpecker** were also seen before we called it a day and headed back to our accommodation.



*A pair of the snazzy-looking **Eurasian Teal***

Day 3, 6th February 2019. Birding Durankulak and Kaliakra and surroundings

We had another full day to work the northern Black Sea coast region of Bulgaria and started our day at Durankulak Lake again. Although we didn't have the dense fog of yesterday we had a much colder day with a stiff wind blowing, which kept most of our stops short. We worked a different area from yesterday, and although it was very quiet in the beginning we soon found a flock of **European Greenfinches** and a surprise **Water Pipit** that gave us good scope views as it foraged on the beach. We just caught the tail end of a geese flock as they came in and landed out of sight, and while trying to find a vantage point to see where the birds had settled we noticed a **Common Snipe**, which gave us some good flight views. We managed to track down the flock of geese and found the majority to be **Greater White-fronted Geese**, with the remainder being the prized **Red-breasted Geese**! We enjoyed some good scope view, even though the birds were a bit distant, before trying to get a bit closer. They were on the opposite side of the lake, which meant that we had to backtrack some distance to get to them, and on arriving at the field found only a handful of **Greater White-fronted Geese** remaining – the rest had apparently taken off. We began working the dam from here, finding a group of the scarce **Red-crested Pochards**, before we picked up on another distant, small flock of geese flying in. As they got closer they turned out to be **Red-**

breasted Geese, and we had some good flight views as they flew by. We continued to another section of the lake and, after scanning for some time, were rewarded with a small group of **Ferruginous Ducks**, which showed really well. Just as we had finished with the ducks a glorious **White-tailed Eagle** flew by and eventually landed in a distant field. Other species present here were **Common Pochard**, **Tufted Duck**, **Red-breasted Merganser**, **Pygmy Cormorant**, and **Western Marsh Harrier**.

We then headed to town for lunch, relishing being out of the cold wind for a bit. Following lunch we worked the coastal strip between Kamen Bryag and Cape Kaliakra, finding **Hen Harrier**, a large flock of **Calandra Larks** that gave us excellent views, and a flock of **Common Linnets**. Cape Kaliakra was next and afforded us great views of the surrounding coastline, while a sheltered bay below the cape held a frenzy of feeding birds, the majority of which were **Great Cormorants** and **Yellow-legged Gulls**, but also present were many **Black-necked Grebes**, **European Shag**, and a few **Black-throated Loons**, while **Peregrine Falcon** and **Common Kestrel** worked the rocky cliffs. We also enjoyed a few **Common Bottlenose Dolphins** off the coast here. We ended our day in the Bolata valley, but it was a lifeless afternoon, and we retired to our guesthouse for the night.



A Calandra Lark pauses for a few moments.

Day 4, 7th February 2019. Transfer from Kavarna to Pomorie, birding en-route

We awoke to another chilly morning with a strong wind blowing, and, following breakfast, began our journey to Pomorie. Our first stop would be at the Baltata Nature Reserve, although, with the strong wind blowing, we were a bit unsure what the birding would be like. As it turned out, we were well sheltered from the wind and enjoyed some fine birding, picking up a few of the prized **Grey-headed Woodpeckers**, while the scarce **Middle-spotted Woodpecker** also showed well, together with its **Great Spotted Woodpecker** cousin. There were also many **Eurasian Nuthatches** and **Short-toed Treecreepers** bounding around the trees, and we enjoyed some good looks at them.

Then we made our way out of the nature reserve and onward to Goritsa via Varna. Close to Goritsa we stopped at a large roadside group of swans, which gave us some good views. They turned out to be mainly **Whooper Swans**, but we did find at least one **Tundra Swan** with them, along with a lone **Greylag Goose**. Some roadside pools held a large flock of **Northern Lapwings**, a lone **Greater White-fronted Goose**, a stunning male **Hen Harrier**, and a surprise **Broad-billed Sandpiper**, which we observe at some length.

After having our fill here we enjoyed a good lunch in Goritsa before heading into the nearby woodlands. Although the birding was on the quiet side we managed to find **European Green Woodpecker**, while **Great Spotted Woodpecker** also showed well, as did a few lively **Long-tailed Tits**. We then drove onward to our last stop, where we had hoped to track down Sombre Tit, but the wind had picked up, and it was incredibly quiet in the wooded valley we found ourselves in, with sadly only a few **Great Tits**, **Common Blackbirds**, and a group of **Common Chaffinches** being seen.

After cutting our loses here we pressed onward to the coast, but not before stopping in one of the roadside villages, where we finally managed looks at a **Little Owl** along with **Black Redstart**, and while doing so a flock of **Ruddy Shelducks** passed by overhead – a great way to end the day!



*Stunning **Dalmatian Pelicans** were always a highlight!*

Day 5, 8th February 2019. Birding Pomorie, Burgas and surrounds.

We had an exciting day in store for us, as we'd try and track down the geese flocks that were present in the area. Our day, however, started off at Lake Pomorie, just across from our hotel, where we spent some time working this vast area. Although we had a cold wind blowing right onto us and could only manage a few minutes of looking through the scope before having to take a break as our eyes watered up, we did exceptionally well, with the standouts going to a number of sought-after **Smews** and a few rare **Greater Scaups**. We also enjoyed many other species, including **Eurasian Wigeon**, **Common Shelduck**, **Northern Pintail**, **Eurasian Teal**, **Common Pochard**, **Tufted Duck**, and **Red-breasted Merganser**, while we also managed to find the likes

of **Sandwich Tern** and shorebirds in form of a few **Grey Plovers** and **Dunlin** along with our first **Eurasian Sparrowhawk** and **Water Pipit**. After having had enough of the wind in our faces we tried to track down the geese and managed to find the flock without much effort. We were absolutely gobsmacked by the huge numbers of geese present, with the majority going to **Greater White-fronted Geese**, which numbered between 80,000 and 100,000 individuals, and the flock also held our main target, the spectacular **Red-breasted Goose**, which numbered between 500 and 1,000 individuals. While we had seen the geese earlier on the trip the views had left us wanting more, and it was great to connect with them again in substantial numbers. We spent some time watching the geese and listening to them chatter before trying to get a bit closer, stalking them through some rank vegetation. We reached our end point, where we enjoyed some truly fantastic views of these birds and were able to just take in the enormous amount of birds present in the field.



*Only a small portion of the huge flock of **Red-breasted** and **Greater White-fronted Geese***

We eventually had to tear ourselves away, as lunch beckoned, and as we were making our way out if the area we picked up many more geese coming in (well into the thousands) and watched as they too joined the ranks of the geese already present in the field. Also present in the flock was a large group of **Whooper Swans**, but, try as we might, unfortunately we couldn't pick out any Tundra Swans amongst them.

Following a great celebratory lunch we made our way back to Burgas, birding a few wetland sites. Our main goal was the tricky and localized **White-headed Duck**, and we struck gold finding a large flock, probably near 100 individuals, that gave us great views. Other birds seen included **Gadwall**, **Dalmatian Pelican**, **Pygmy Cormorant**, and **Little** and **Caspian Gulls** among other more widespread waterbirds.

We ended our day at the Burgas salt pans, where we again marveled at the many birds present here. Although the majority were **Common Shelduck** and **Eurasian Teal** we were also able to pick out a single **Great White Pelican** among the many **Dalmatian Pelicans**, while a scan of the gull roost gave us a few of the smart **Slender-billed Gulls** and a single **Mediterranean Gull**, and

we were also able to add to our shorebird list, picking up **Common Greenshank**, **Black-tailed Godwit**, and **Eurasian Curlew**. A good bottle of wine rounded off our highly successful day.

Day 6, 9th February 2019. Birding the Strandzha mountain massif and surroundings

We left the hotel early, bound for the Strandzha mountains on the Turkish border, which would be our primary location today. Our first stop was at a small coastal wetland, where we would search for Moustached Warbler. The first bird we saw as we got out the car was a **Eurasian Bittern** that we saw flying over the reeds, and as it disappeared we picked up a **European Stonechat** flitting about, which gave us some good views. Not a bad start to the morning! We soon heard a calling **Moustached Warbler** and managed to track it down, but the views were brief, as it stuck to thick cover, not coming out into the open. Our perseverance paid off, however, as we all eventually enjoyed great scope views of this tough bird on a few occasions. Some close **Crested Larks** saw us off as we continued into the hills.

The Strandzha mountains were quiet when we first arrived and only slowly began to liven up as we continued deeper into the area. **Eurasian Blue** and **Great Tits** formed the bulk of the birds encountered, but we also found **Great Spotted Woodpecker**, **Eurasian Nuthatch**, **Short-toed Treecreeper**, and a few **Marsh Tits**. The large **Black Woodpecker** was our first big target to fall, and we had great, prolonged looks at a male that appeared in answer to our tape – always a privilege seeing this bird!



*A curious **Black Woodpecker** peered at us from behind a trunk.*

One of our other main targets, **White-backed Woodpecker**, proved difficult to find, and only after quite a bit of time walking the trails we eventually heard a drumming bird, which took a bit of time to track down. But we were well rewarded in the end with great looks at this prized species. We were also able to enjoy good comparative looks at the similar **Middle-spotted Woodpecker** and even had both birds in the same scope view at one time! Other birds seen in the mountains were **Eurasian Sparrowhawk**, **Common Raven**, **Eurasian Jay**, **Mistle Thrush**, and **Hawfinch**.

After enjoying a good picnic lunch we began the trip back to Burgas, stopping along the way at the Beglik Tash ruins. While this was primarily a non-birding stop we were fortunate to come across two species here that had been evading us on the trip so far, **Sombre Tit** and **Lesser Spotted Woodpecker**, both of which showed incredibly well.

Our last stop for the day was at the Burgas salt pans in the late afternoon, hoping for any new species. Although we didn't find any new species we still enjoyed repeat views at many of the usual waterbirds as well as a few **Eurasian Spoonbills**, **Black-tailed Godwit**, **Eurasian Curlew**, **Dalmatian Pelican**, and **Slender-billed Gull**.

A fine dinner ended another excellent and highly successful day!



*The highly prized **White-backed Woodpecker** made us work to find it.*

Day 7, 10th February 2019. Transfer from Pomorie to Sofia, birding en route

We once more started the day at Lake Pomorie, near our hotel, where we scanned through the many waterfowl present. We had a very similar suite of species to what we'd had over the last few days, with the standouts being **Smew**, **Common Shelduck**, **Gadwall**, **Northern Pintail**, **Red-breasted Merganser**, **Greater Scaup**, and **Water Pipit**. However, the biggest surprise was when a small group of **Eurasian Penduline Tits** came flying in, only to disappear into the reeds. We heard them calling for a while before they took flight once more and disappeared out of sight, leaving us wanting a bit more.

A quick stop at another nearby lake gave us a large flock of the localized **White-headed Ducks**, but little else, and we soon began the drive to Sofia via the Balkan Mountains. We passed by a number of **Greater White-fronted Geese** and **Whooper Swans** close to the road outside of Burgas, but our next main stop came some time further along the lower Balkan slopes, where we were after **Golden Eagle**. As if right on cue, a stunning adult bird came flying in, giving us a grand show as it was mobbed repeatedly by a **Common Buzzard** before settling on the top of a pine tree, allowing us to take in every detail of it!

We eventually had to drag ourselves away from this glorious bird, as we progressed to our next stop, which was a pass going over the Balkan Mountains. The upper reaches of the pass were closed due to heavy snowfall, but we birded the slopes up to that point, finding many great species on the route. These included the likes of **Mistle Thrush**, **Willow** and **Long-tailed Tits**, **Goldcrest**, **Red Crossbill**, **Eurasian Bullfinch**, **Brambling**, and **Cirl Bunting**.

All too soon our time had run out and we had to press onward to Sofia, where we arrived in the early evening and enjoyed a fantastic final dinner together, reliving the many great moments we had had on the tour!



*A glorious view of a **Golden Eagle** sailing overhead!*

Day 8, 11th February 2019. Birding the Vitosha mountain massif and departure

Our final day had arrived, and we spent the morning on the snow-covered Vitosha mountain, which looms over Sofia. It was quiet on the way up, and on arriving in the upper reaches, where we would focus our birding, we were greeted with a strong wind. This didn't deter us, though, and we enjoyed some fine birding in some of the sheltered woods. **Spotted Nutcracker** was first, and these confiding birds gave us excellent, close-up views. **Coal Tit** proved a bit trickier in the wind, but we eventually all saw a bird, and, as it so often goes, the trees then came alive with **Coal Tits**, and we couldn't quite seem to get rid of them! Large flocks of **Red Crossbills** were also moving around between the pines and gave us good views perched atop the pines.

After spending some time working the area we had to begin making our way back down the mountain, where we searched for **White-throated Dipper** on the lower reaches. It took some time and scanning, but we eventually encountered a single bird, which, although it proved to be a little erratic, did show well. A good lunch in town brought the tour to an end, and we said goodbye to Urban and Nancy.

I would just like to thank Urban and Nancy for a truly great trip with good fun had, and even better birding, right throughout the trip! We did exceptionally well, finding almost all of the region's

winter specials, along with a host of other prized species, but our time with the immense flock of **Greater White-fronted** and **Red-breasted Geese** will surely stick with us for a long time. A close second, however, was the great time had in the Strandzha mountains, enjoying really fine birding with the likes of the highly-prized **Black** and **White-backed Woodpeckers** being on top of the list. I look forward to the next one!



*We had great looks at **Spotted Nutcracker** to end the tour.*

Bird List - Following IOC 9.1

Birds 'heard only' are marked with (H) after the common name, and 'guide only' birds are marked with a (G) – all other species were seen.

The following notation after species names is used to show conservation status following BirdLife International: CE = Critically Endangered, EN = Endangered, VU = Vulnerable, NT = Near Threatened.

Common name	Scientific name
Ducks, Geese, Swans (Anatidae)	
Red-breasted Goose - VU	<i>Branta ruficollis</i>
Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>
Greater White-fronted Goose	<i>Anser albifrons</i>
Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>
Tundra Swan	<i>Cygnus columbianus</i>
Whooper Swan	<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>
Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>
Ruddy Shelduck	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>
Northern Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>
Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>
Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Mareca penelope</i>
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>
Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>
Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>
Red-crested Pochard	<i>Netta rufina</i>
Common Pochard - VU	<i>Aythya ferina</i>
Ferruginous Duck - NT	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>
Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>
Greater Scaup	<i>Aythya marila</i>
Smew	<i>Mergellus albellus</i>
Red-breasted Merganser	<i>Mergus serrator</i>
White-headed Duck - EN	<i>Oxyura leucocephala</i>
Pheasants and allies (Phasianidae)	
Grey Partridge	<i>Perdix perdix</i>
Common Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>
Loons (Gaviidae)	

Common name	Scientific name
Black-throated Loon	<i>Gavia arctica</i>
Grebes (Podicipedidae)	
Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>
Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>
Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>
Ibises, Spoonbills (Threskiornithidae)	
Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>
Herons, Bitterns (Ardeidae)	
Eurasian Bittern	<i>Botaurus stellaris</i>
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>
Pelicans (Pelecanidae)	
Great White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>
Dalmatian Pelican - NT	<i>Pelecanus crispus</i>
Cormorants, Shags (Phalacrocoracidae)	
Pygmy Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo pygmeus</i>
European Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>
Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>
Kites, Hawks, Eagles (Accipitridae)	
Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>
Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>
Hen Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>
White-tailed Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>
Rails, Crakes and Coots (Rallidae)	
Water Rail (H)	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>
Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>

Common name	Scientific name
Plovers (Charadriidae)	
Northern Lapwing - NT	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>
Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>
Sandpipers, Snipes (Scolopacidae)	
Eurasian Curlew - NT	<i>Numenius arquata</i>
Black-tailed Godwit - NT	<i>Limosa limosa</i>
Ruff (G)	<i>Calidris pugnax</i>
Broad-billed Sandpiper	<i>Calidris falcinellus</i>
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>
Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>
Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>
Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>
Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>
Gulls, Terns and Skimmers (Laridae)	
Slender-billed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus genei</i>
Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>
Little Gull	<i>Hydrocoloeus minutus</i>
Mediterranean Gull	<i>Ichthyaetus melanocephalus</i>
Pallas's Gull	<i>Ichthyaetus ichthyaetus</i>
Mew Gull	<i>Larus canus</i>
Caspian Gull	<i>Larus cachinnans</i>
Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>
Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>
Pigeons, Doves (Columbidae)	
Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>
Stock Dove	<i>Columba oenas</i>
Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>
Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>
Owls (Strigidae)	
Eurasian Eagle-Owl	<i>Bubo bubo</i>
Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>
Long-eared Owl	<i>Asio otus</i>

Common name	Scientific name
Kingfishers (Alcedinidae)	
Common Kingfisher (H)	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>
Woodpeckers (Picidae)	
Middle Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocoptes medius</i>
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dryobates minor</i>
Syrian Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos syriacus</i>
Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>
White-backed Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos leucotos</i>
Black Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus martius</i>
European Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>
Grey-headed Woodpecker	<i>Picus canus</i>
Caracaras, Falcons (Falconidae)	
Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>
Crows, Jays (Corvidae)	
Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>
Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>
Spotted Nutcracker	<i>Nucifraga caryocatactes</i>
Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>
Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>
Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>
Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>
Tits, Chickadees (Paridae)	
Coal Tit	<i>Periparus ater</i>
Sombre Tit	<i>Poecile lugubris</i>
Marsh Tit	<i>Poecile palustris</i>
Willow Tit	<i>Poecile montanus</i>
Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>
Penduline Tits (Remizidae)	
Eurasian Penduline Tit	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>

Common name	Scientific name
Larks (Alaudidae)	
Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>
Calandra Lark	<i>Melanocorypha calandra</i>
Cettia Bush Warblers and Allies (Cettiidae)	
Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>
Bushtits (Aegithalidae)	
Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>
Reed Warblers and Allies (Acrocephalidae)	
Moustached Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus melanopogon</i>
Goldcrests, Kinglets (Regulidae)	
Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>
Wrens (Troglodytidae)	
Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>
Nuthatches (Sittidae)	
Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>
Treecreepers (Certhiidae)	
Short-toed Treecreeper	<i>Certhia brachydactyla</i>
Starlings, Rhabdornis (Sturnidae)	
Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>
Thrushes (Turdidae)	
Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>
Fieldfare	<i>Turdus pilaris</i>
Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>
Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>
Chats, Old World Flycatchers (Muscicapidae)	
European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>
Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>

Common name	Scientific name
European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>
Dippers (Cinclidae)	
White-throated Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>
Old World Sparrows, Snowfinches (Passeridae)	
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>
Wagtails, Pipits (Motacillidae)	
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>
Water Pipit	<i>Anthus spinoletta</i>
Finches, Euphonias (Fringillidae)	
Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>
Brambling	<i>Fringilla montifringilla</i>
Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>
Eurasian Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>
European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>
Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>
Red Crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>
European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>
Buntings (Emberizidae)	
Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>
Common Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>

Total seen:	127
Total heard only:	2
Total guide only:	1
Total recorded:	130

Mammal List

Common name	Scientific name
Oceanic Dolphins (Delphinidae)	
Common Bottlenose Dolphin	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>

Common name	Scientific name
Rabbits, Hares (Leporidae)	
European Hare	<i>Lepus europaeus</i>
Nutrias (Myocastoridae)	
Coypu	<i>Myocastor coypus</i>
Total seen:	3