

HUNGARY SEPTEMBER 2018

Saturday September 15th: Hungry for Hungary

Our group of eleven familiar faces met at Heathrow T3 in plenty of time to complete the tedious process of checking in and passing through security. No introductions were necessary, as we had all travelled together before; it was a nice reunion!

We then passed through a seemingly extensive, perfumed shopping mall to find the actual gates! After a quick lunch or drink or both, we caught the 1.30pm flight to Budapest. Our Hungarian adventure was underway.

Ferenc Liszt airport wasn't exactly bustling, so we were soon through immigration and meeting our guide for the week: István Péntek. We were introduced to Olidar, our driver for the entire tour and were also greeted by the obligatory House Sparrows: our first Hungarian species!

We had a two hour drive to our hotel in the Hortobágy but wiled away the time spotting several Common Buzzards, a couple of Kestrels and a few Magpies. We arrived at 7.30pm and were soon checked into our rooms. After a quick freshen up, we met again at 8.30pm for the short-ish walk to a local restaurant. The food was excellent, the portions were large and it was a relaxed gaggle of birdwatchers who strolled back to the hotel under an amazing sky full of stars. The birding starts in earnest tomorrow!

Sunday September 16th: one Steppe at a time

After a successful shopping trip, István and Neil met the group for breakfast at 8.00am. While eating, people were invited to make their own picnic lunches from supplies just purchased from the local Spar shop and to also choose their evening meals from the restaurant's menu!

With the entire day's food taken care of in one sweep, we headed out into the Hortobágy National Park at 9.15am. It wasn't long before we screeched to a halt beside a small lake covered with Greylag Geese and Mallards. Two Marsh Harriers quartered the marsh and Kestrels were continually in view.

Moving on, we came across a field full of Common Cranes. While admiring them, we also spotted a juvenile Red-backed Shrike, a Turtle Dove and a stunning Cardinal Fritillary butterfly. We next drove down a rough track where we were treated to overhead views of at least two huge White-tailed Eagles. A bit further on, we walked to a slight hump in the flat habitat to scan for bustards.

We failed to find any bustards but we did see two more White-tailed Eagles a male and female Red-footed Falcon and two distant Eastern Imperial Eagles: what a productive stop!

We continued up another dirt track to search another area of steppe for Great Bustards. Again, we failed but were amply compensated with 50 Red-footed Falcons perched in a field and in a dead tree. The light was perfect, so everyone 'filled their boots' with telescope views of these beautiful birds.

We made our way to the Hortobágy visitor centre where the group eagerly dashed out of the bus to use the plush facilities. We strolled to the picnic area and leisurly ate our self-prepared lunches while István and Olidar prepared tea and coffee for us.

After lunch, we next tried to access some fish ponds. We found the track blocked by a gate even though István had specifically arranged access for our group! It was time for Plan B, so we drove to the south of the National Park to resume our quest for bustards.

We tried two areas of steppe but scan as we might, we couldn't find the beasts. However, destiny dictated that we all had telescope views of two very active Bluethroats on the track. A third and final stop saw the group in pessimistic mood; it looked like bustards would elude us today. Suddenly, Catherine took on near-heroine status by declaring she had found four Great Bustards!!

We drank in our fill of these huge birds as they slowly plodded through the grass a fair way off. Telescope views revealed some colouring on the backs and wings of the birds even at this relatively long distance.

Butterflies and dragonflies flitted all around us as we watched the bustards and the day seemed to have come to the perfect end. The birds had other ideas, though, and on the drive back to the hotel, we chanced upon a single White Stork stood in a field next to the road.

We arrived back at 6.30pm with plenty of time to get ready for dinner at 7.30pm. Two ladies even took the opportunity to take a dip in the hotel's swimming pool. After a delicious dinner, we compiled the day's bird log and most found it impossible to choose a bird-of-the-day. More like this tomorrow please, István!

Monday September 17th: rails and cranes

One or two of us were lively enough for a pre-breakfast walk in the hotel garden. We were rewarded with the first Chiffchaffs and Long-tailed Tits of the holiday. The usual Black Redstarts were singing from the roofs.

After a filling breakfast, we set off at 9.00am. We were soon at the Hortobágy NP in the gleaming morning sun. We strolled along a track to view a bird-filled pool with extensive muddy edges. A thorough scan revealed a showy Squacco Heron, Caspian and Yellow-legged Gulls handily stood side by side for comparison, Dunlin, Curlew, one Little Stint, Snipe and Little Ringed Plovers. There were also several Greylag Geese, Mallards and Teal.

We walked a little further, heading for what looked for all the world like a rapeseed field. As we got closer, the yellow spread before us proved to be a large lake covered in Yellow Heartleaf water plants!

A careful scan of the colourful lake produced Pygmy Cormorants, Ferruginous Ducks and many Gadwall, Great Egrets and Great Cormorants. On the stroll back to the bus, Heather, Annabeth and Hazel came across a bird on the track. Annabeth somehow managed a snapshot, which revealed the bird to be an immature Purple Heron.

We made the short drive to the town of Hortobágy and settled in for a pleasant lunch at a bar, al fresco style. We then had a walk to look at the ancient nine-span bridge (where we also saw Ruddy Darter dragonflies) and afterwards the park's visitor centre.

We drove back to the National Park and loaded ourselves onto a narrow gague train. We chugged our way through the reserve, stopping at regular intervals for birding. We all saw The Ladies' Purple Heron, as well as an immature Black-crowned Night Heron perched out in the open. A few gorgeous Large Copper butterflies flitted around our feet.

We stopped at a couple of bird towers that overlooked various bird-filled lakes. Bearded Reedlings (Tits) played hard to get but everyone had good views of Marsh Harriers, a Red-necked Grebe among the Great Cresteds, two Cattle Egrets - quite a rare species in Hungary! - and a Kingfisher. An Icterine Warbler and several Penduline Tits never showed well.

The train rattled on through this vast marsh and drew to a halt at the end of the line. István and Oli magically conjured up tea, coffee and biscuits. After this leisurely break, we split into several factions to walk along the boardwalk to the three hides. For the next ninety minutes, we found obliging Bearded Reedlings (at last!), Spoonbills, Avocets, wild Greylag Geese (they took off at the slightest provocation instead of approaching us for bread!) and lots of other birds.

An early highlight came in the form of three Little Crakes, the last of which virtually walked under the hide as a hushed group of birders watched in awe. As the sun went down, we watched as thousands of Common Cranes appeared in wave after wave of bugling formations and dropped in to roost on the lake. It was an amazing sight but the sound was truly wonderful.

We walked back to the train with the sound of the Cranes ringing in our ears; an experience none of us will ever forget. As the train made its way back to the visitor centre, more Cranes were coming in against the bright orange sunset, joined in the air by Night Herons emerging from their daytime roosting bushes: simply magical!

We drove straight to the usual restaurant from the marsh. Our food was waiting for us being as we had pre-ordered our meals. We then compiled the bird log and chatted about our exciting day: could István keep up the high quality birding tomorrow?

Tuesday September 18th: a nice trip

A few of us took advantage of the glorious morning and had a stroll round the hotel grounds before breakfast. The regular Great Spotted Woodpecker showed really well, joined by cute white-headed Long-tailed Tits and two Spotted Flycatchers.

We left after breakfast and drove to a part of the Hortobágy NP called Angyalhaza. We met a park ranger, Atilla, who guided us to an area not normally open to the general public. We drove along dusty tracks criss crossing the vast steppe. We pulled up and scanned the short grass. Low and behold, there was the large trip of Dotterels in the distance as promised.

Once everyone had seen the birds, we moved closer, looked at them again and then crept closer still. Eventually, the dark blobs resolved themselves into beautiful Dotterels, quietly sunning themselves in the grass. A quick count revealed 132 of these gorgeous plovers! What a treat and all thanks to István's local contacts. Eventually, we drove back onto the road, noting Crested Larks as we went. A local farmer even allowed us to use his 'dunny'.

We drove for about 45 minutes and drew up at the Elep Fish ponds. Thankfully, the gate was open this time! First order of business was to consume our picnic lunches on the picnic table under the shelter of a large tree.

We next drove to the most northern 'pond' (actually a large lake), which was partially drained to reveal extensive muddy patches. It was covered with Greylags and Mallards and also a showy juvenile Whiskered Tern.

Suddenly, István erupted into an excited "oh, oh, OH!" before telling us he had found a Bar-tailed Godwit; his first ever sighting in Hungary! Sure enough, there was the 'barwit' nonchalantly plodding about on the mud amidst some Spotted Redshanks. István immediately put out the news on the local grapevine before continuing to scan the lake. (Footnote: the godwit had vanished a short while later when others looked for it!).

A few moths, butterflies, dragonflies and a magnificent hornet nest kept us busy before we moved on to the southernmost fish pond. This area was almost completely drained and it was a case of mud as far as the eye could see.

A thorough scan of the ooze produced two Temminck's Stints, plenty of Snipe, several Little Ringed Plovers, three Ruff and a juvenile Curlew Sandpiper. Western Yellow Wagtails defied racial identification being as they were all young birds.

In the afternoon heat, the group requested a stop for an ice cream. We piled into a nearby shop, much to the bemusement of the locals, and emptied the freezer! After that refreshing stop, we drove to an agricultural area that István knew was a territory of a pair of Saker Falcons.

An initial scan of the electricity pylons produced a blank until Richard suggested we check out a blob on a more distant pylon. Sure enough, there was a Saker sitting on a cross bar in the centre of the structure!

Once everyone had seen the bird, we drove along the farm tracks to try and get a little closer. This proved a good decision, as when we got out of the bus, the Saker was showing much better. We took time to study and admire the bird as it sat in the sun watching us watching it. A passing tractor spooked the bird and it took to the wing allowing us to appreciate its impressive size. It perched a little further away but it was still a good view through telescopes.

We decided that this would provide a fitting finale to yet another superb day in the Hortobágy, so we headed for our hotel. We arrived at 6.15pm, in time for some of the group to have a dip in the pool.

We met again at 7.20pm to walk to the local restaurant. We enjoyed a lovely meal and said goodbye to the very helpful staff. They hoped we returned but I suspect they may go on holiday for a well-earned rest after dealing with our group for four nights on the trot. Tomorrow, we move to pastures new and further adventures...

Wednesday September 19th: bringing the group to Bukk

After breakfast, we loaded the bus and left our home of four nights at 9.15am. We drove to yesterday's Saker site and caught sight of the bird in flight. The farm tracks were very busy with tractors bringing in the maize harvest, so we decided to move out of their way.

We next drove to Balmazújváros and drew up in a quiet backstreet. The group looked mystified why we were stopping here, mainly because István and I had kept it as a surprise!

Seconds later, we were staring up into the sparse trees oohing and aahing with delight at the sight of five Long-eared Owls roosting just feet away from apartments. We admired them for over half an hour before we had to tear ourselves away.

We continued our journey through neverending agricultural land and turned onto another dusty track. All eyes were peeled for a Rough-legged Buzzard soaring over the steppe but it wasn't to be. We saw loads of Kestrels, a White Stork, several Common Buzzards and a Red-backed Shrike but no RLB.

We gave up in the stifling heat and accompanying strong heat haze and continued onwards. István directed us to a spot by the Tisza River, where we settled down for a picnic lunch overlooking a reedy lake. Unfortunately, someone had removed the picnic tables that had been present on this tour last year! While eating, we found a Little Crake and a Little Grebe among the Teal.

A short walk along a tree-lined road produced calling Green and Black Woodpeckers and a showy Treecreeper. A chain ferry took us across the delightful river to a shady wood full of Long-tailed Tits. It was time to drive on again.

István took us along another long, dusty track where we had our best views yet of a Saker. This was a pale bird, one of an old pair that breed in the area. Two Hobbies caught dragonflies in the same area and an adult White-tailed Eagle flew across the fields.

Further on, we hit upon a mini 'kettle' of raptors which looked interesting. Among the spiralling Common Buzzards were an immature White-tailed Eagle sparring with an Eastern Imperial Eagle. There was also another Hobby, Kestrels and a possible Goshawk.

The raptors disappeared over the horizon, so we completed the journey to our hotel in Noszvaj. We settled into our comfortable rooms for a hot shower to rid us of the day's accumulated dust.

The delicious dinner was at 7.00pm, followed by the bird log. It had been a long, hot travelling day in search of some special species. Some of us had a relaxing drink in the bar before heading back to the rooms.

Thursday September 20th: an exciting encounter with batman

Most people met in the hotel garden at 7.00am for a pre-breakfast walk. Woodland species were much in evidence, including Hawfinches, Nuthatches, Green and Great Spotted Woodpeckers and our first Robin of the trip.

We reached a large pond (or a small lake) at the end of the garden where we found a Kingfisher sitting on the concrete embankment. Black Redstarts sang from several rooftops and Grey Wagtails added a splash of yellow.

We had a wonderful breakfast at 8.00am and also made up our packed lunches (the bread in this hotel was homemade and to die for!). We left at 9.15am and drove for about an hour to a lovely area of Beech forest. Our first attempt at finding woodpeckers was a failure, so we crossed the road to check another area István assured us was good.

A Great Spotted Woodpecker momentarily caused excitement, quickly followed by the appearance of the main target species: White-backed Woodpecker! Two birds flitted about high in the trees but eventually everyone had good views of this sometimes tricky to find species.

As we wandered back to the bus, two Middle Spotted Woodpeckers flew in and posed nicely for us: what a place! We watched them for a while before boarding the bus, almost woodpeckered out. István wasn't finished there, though, and half an hour later we were watching a Lesser Spotted Woodpecker in a small pine tree by the roadside: 'peckertastic!

We took a stroll through the wood and saw Coal Tits, a Goldcrest and a Yellowhammer; all new for the trip. We also saw a species of fritillary and Common Glider butterflies. We next headed to a nearby watchpoint on a hill to look for raptors. We saw a couple of Common Buzzards and a female Marsh Harrier. The setaside field was alive with butterflies and grasshoppers.

A short drive brought us to a community park, where we ate our picnic lunches in the shade of a tree overlooking a small lake. We were kept entertained by the local Red Squirrels and Great Spotted Woodpeckers.

After a leisurely meal, we drove into the hills of Hidegkút Lapossa where Oli, our driver, dropped us off at the head of a track. We made our way through pasture dotted with Ancient oak trees. It was very hot, so birding was slow but there were plenty of wildflowers, butterflies and insects to keep us busy along the way. A Wheatear perched in the same bush as a Whinchat proved popular and a delightful family of *caudatus* Long-tailed Tits performed nicely for allcomers.

The bus met us 2.5km later and we were grateful of the air con on max all the way to the hotel! We arrived at 5.15pm and were at leisure until dinner at 6.45pm. After that it was the day's bird list before heading out into the night for some bat watching.

István knew a mammal researcher who erected nets to trap bats most nights. István persuaded him to show us his work. On the track to the meeting point, a Tawny Owl flew down in front of the bus and snatched an unfortunate item of prey from the ground: a good start!

We were greeted by Peter, the researcher, who already had some bats for us to see. Over the course of the next hour, we were shown several Bechstein's Bats, two Natterer's Bats, a Greater Noctule and a truly amazing Long-eared Bat.

It was a thrill to see these animals up close and personal and hear how each species was adapted to hunt its particular kind of food. Each individual had its own personality, too; some were feisty, while others were docile. Some even flew straight back into the nets when released!

We returned to the hotel at 10.00pm, all excitedly chattering about the evening's thrilling activities. We'll all sleep well tonight!

Friday September 21st: head for the hills!

A few people had an early walk around the garden, seeing the usual range of species and the local Red Squirrels. We all met for breakfast at 8.00am and had our fill from the amazing spread. We also made sandwiches for lunch.

We then drove to the Hor Valley to catch a 'tourist truck' along the forest road, which wasn't suitable for other vehicles. We drew to a halt at a reclaimed quarry and immediately heard one or two Rock Buntings. It took us a while to see one well but it didn't show for long.

We continued through the beautiful forest until the little truck dropped us on the track. We started to walk back through the wood, looking for birds as we went. The scenery was truly beautiful but birds were at a premium. We had better views of a male White-backed Woodpecker, a few Marsh Tits and plenty of butterflies in the dappled wood. Hornets serenely buzzed up and down the track in search of mud in the puddles. They caused us no concern at all and I, for one, loved seeing them.

The truck picked us up again and we headed back to the bus. We tried again for a better view of Rock Buntings in the quarry but it was far too hot. We got our bus back to the hotel and ate our sandwiches in the bar. It was ice creams all round for afters!!

We climbed back onto the bus again at 2.00pm and made the relatively long drive to the Bukk Hills. When we arrived, we walked through another tract of lovely Beech forest looking for woodpeckers. We heard Black Woodpecker but it failed to show. We tried to find them during several stops in the forest but to no avail.

We arrived at our final destination at the top of the mountain at an elevation of 900m. We walked a short way to a meadow surrounded by trees. Almost immediately, a noisy young family in front of us flushed a Ural Owl from the trees off to our left. The bird disappeared up a 'channel' through the pine trees and we thought that would be the end of our encounter.

A quick change of position allowed us to see the area the bird seemed to have gone. Low and behold, there was the owl sat in full view! We watched the Ural Owl for quite a while, also admiring a meadow of crocuses between us and the bird. Another change of position allowed an even better view of the owl than before. The owl was sat on a low tree stump dozing in the evening sun. It occasionally opened its jet black eyes to survey its surroundings.

We eventually left the Ural Owl exactly where we had found it and drove on a little further. Amazingly, just a couple of minutes later, we disturbed another Ural Owl from the side of the track and it drifted into the wood on long, bowed wings.

István took us to a viewpoint over a large meadow with trees as far as the eye could see. The whole area was bathed in a golden glow and we drank in the scene for a while until, sadly, it was time to go.

We arrived back at the hotel at 7.30pm and had a quick freshen up before dinner at 8.15pm. After another delicious meal, we compiled the day's bird log before some of us retired to the bar for a nightcap. Another long but very enjoyable day drew to a close.

Saturday, September 22nd: the first rain!

A few of us gathered for a pre-breakfast walk around the garden and nearby lake. Those that turned up were rewarded with good flight views of a Black Woodpecker, a Lesser Spotted Woodpecker and a few Hawfinches.

At breakfast, we again prepared our own sandwiches from the huge choice of things on the breakfast bar. After packing, we loaded up the bus and headed towards home at 10.15am. What a lovely place this had been.

It wasn't long before we hit our first rain of the trip. István told us there was a storm raging in Budapest, which was bringing down trees in its path! We took the opportunity to do a spot of last minute birding along farm tracks before that storm reached us.

It was decidedly cool this morning but after a few stops, István managed to find us a perched Eastern Imperial Eagle. The bird was distant but everyone managed to see the eagle through telescopes as it tried to avoid the attention of several mobbing Rooks and Hooded Crows. As usual, there were plenty of Kestrels grabbing our attention and a Crested Lark pecking about close to the track was also popular.

It was time to head for the airport. We drove through very heavy rain to a service station on the motorway. It was here that we consumed our lunches before continuing on to the airport. We arrived at 3.15pm and said farewell to István and Olidar, our impressive guide and driver team.

After checking in, we settled in a café for a drink and to compile the Bird-of-the-Trip vote. The runaway winner of the poll was the showy Ural Owl followed by Saker Falcon in second place and White-backed Woodpecker in third. We also agreed that we'd all had a great time on this hugely enjoyable trip.

After an uneventful flight, we said a sad farewell at Heathrow airport and set off to do battle with the south of England's motorway system. I cannot wait to find out where this lovely group of friends intend to take me next...

BIRD SPECIES SEEN (IN ORDER OF THE IOC WORLD CHECKLIST)

Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>
Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>
Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>
Northern Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>
Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>
Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>
Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>
Ferruginous Duck	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>
Common Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>
Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>
Red-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps grisegena</i>
Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>
White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>
Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>
Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>
Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>
Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>
Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>
Pygmy Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax pygmaeus</i>
Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>
Eastern Imperial Eagle	<i>Aquila heliaca</i>
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>
Western Marsh-Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>
White-tailed Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>
Great Bustard	<i>Otis tarda</i>
Water Rail	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>
Little Crake	<i>Porzana parva</i>
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>
Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>
Common Crane	<i>Grus grus</i>
Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>
Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>
Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>
Eurasian Dotterel	<i>Charadrius morinellus</i>
Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>
Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>
Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>
Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>

Ruff	<i>Calidris pugnax</i>
Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>
Temminck's Stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>
Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>
Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>
Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>
Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>
Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>
Caspian Gull	<i>Larus cachinnans</i>
Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>
Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybridus</i>
Rock Pigeon/Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>
Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>
European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>
Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>
Tawny Owl	<i>Strix aluco</i>
Ural Owl	<i>Strix Uralensis</i>
Little Owl	<i>Athene athene</i>
Long-eared Owl	<i>Asio otus</i>
Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>
Middle Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos medius</i>
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos 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>
Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>
Red-footed Falcon	<i>Falco vespertinus</i>
Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>
Saker Falcon	<i>Falco cherrug</i>
Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>
Great Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius excubitor</i>
Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>
Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>
Western Jackdaw	<i>Corvus monedula</i>
Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>
Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>
Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>
Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>
Marsh Tit	<i>Poecile palustris</i>
Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>
Bearded Reedling	<i>Panurus biarmicus</i>
Eurasian Penduline Tit	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>
Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>
Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>
Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>

Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbica</i>
Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>
Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>
Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>
Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>
Eurasian Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>
Icterine Warbler	<i>Hippolais icterina</i>
Savi's Warbler	<i>Locustella luscinioides</i>
Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>
Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>
Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>
Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>
Eurasian Treecreeper	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>
Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>
Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>
Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>
Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>
Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>
European Robin	<i>Erithacus rebecula</i>
Bluethroat	<i>Luscinia svecica</i>
Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>
Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>
European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>
Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>
Western Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>
Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>
Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>
Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>
European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>
European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>
Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>
Rock Bunting	<i>Emberiza cia</i>
Common Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>

BUTTERFLIES & MOTHS

Red Admiral
 Comma
 Peacock
 Cardinal Fritillary
 ??? Fritillary
 Wall Brown
 Large Copper
 Small Copper
 Common Glider

Woodland or Rock Grayling
Marbled White
Clouded Yellow sp
Common Blue
Goat Moth caterpillar

MAMMALS

Bechstein's Bat
Long-eared Bat
Greater Noctule Bat
Roe Deer
Red Squirrel
Brown Hare
Red Fox

DRAGONFLIES

Common Darter
Ruddy Darter
Hawker sp.

REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS

Marsh Frog
