

Romania - The Wildlife of Transylvania

Naturetrek Tour Report

28 May - 4 June 2016



European Brown Bear



Hungarian Snowbells



Narcissus poetica



Mosorel Guesthouse

Report and images by Rob Murray



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Bogdan (bus driver)

Summary

Exploring this fascinating, mountainous region of limestone gorges, pine and beech forests and eutrophic lakes introduced us to a very diverse range of wildlife and culture. From wildflower meadows of Yellow Rattle, orchids, and Campanulas to rock face flowers such as Alpine Bells, Alpine Clematis and Hungarian Snowbells, the botanists had plenty to study. However, the highlights of the tour were provided by the mammals. Up to eighteen Alpine Chamois on the rugged cliff face by the hotel were a daily delight. On four occasions bears were seen in the same area from the hotel. Two visits to bear hides gave us record-breaking close encounters with a total of twenty seven European Brown Bears! Traditional farming methods including hand-scything of hay, horse-drawn ploughing of strips, shepherding with the help of a pack of dogs to ward off wolves and bears, and the widespread use of horse-drawn wooden carts made us appreciate how tough the farm workers have to be to sustain themselves. Cultural visits to the medieval town of Brasov and a Saxon church were enjoyed, as was the celebrated Bran Castle of Dracula fame. The tour will long be remembered for the high quality of the outdoor picnic lunches which were anticipated with gusto!

Day 1

Saturday 28th May

The flight from Heathrow Terminal 5 was delayed by over an hour. However, a strong tail wind combined with speedy immigration procedures and the lack of traffic on the roads enabled us to make up some of the lost time.

We arrived at Magura in the Carpathian Mountains only a bit behind schedule at 9pm. Our bus was very comfortable and air-conditioned which was just as well as it was 26 degrees and sunny. The short break at the customary service station produced plenty of Field Crickets and three butterflies. Notable birds seen en route included a Common Buzzard and a White Stork. We meandered through the foothills of the Carpathians seeing just one White-throated Dipper flying rapidly upstream. Now the topography rose starkly as we ascended the mountain up a rough road festooned with potholes and hairpin bends to the village of Magura and the Mosorel Guesthouse.

The guesthouse stands in isolation at 1,000 metres opposite a ridge and overlooking magnificent mountain scenery cloaked in forest and meadows. Our host George loaded our cases onto his car as the bus was unable to ascend the last 75 metres of steeply inclined, rutted track. An Alpine Swift gave us a taste of what to expect tomorrow but the light was fading and there was no prospect of any birding this evening. Once rooms were allocated, our first meal was soon on the table and included a delicious soup made with fresh vegetables and a tasty turkey dish. Replete and full of anticipation for tomorrow, most of the group opted for an early night. One took a walk along the track as it became dark and stumbled upon a Mole Cricket issuing its nightjar-like churring from the sanctity of its burrow.

Day 2

Sunday 29th May

Dawn gave way to bright sunshine which persisted throughout the day and it was pleasantly warm. The dawn light was magnificent with Alpine Swifts launching themselves off the cliff face into the slowly rising air.

Common Cuckoos were calling nearby and three engaged in a game of tag around the pine trees. A very smart, male Red-backed Shrike was pretending to be a flycatcher and made sorties from a lofty perch to which it frequently returned. Up to eight Alpine Chamois were scrambling about on the cliff face opposite the hotel.

By 7.30am breakfast was ready. This was a prodigious feast of cereals, toast, home-made jam, fruits, meats and salads. Much of the produce was grown in the hotel garden or sourced from the village.

By 8.15am we were on the bus and heading for the Barsa area where we explored two different valleys during the course of the day. All were gentle, leisurely paced strolls amid uplifting wooded, mountain scenery. Today was part of a national long-weekend holiday and there were many other people out enjoying the countryside and fine weather in a variety of ways. Despite a fair amount of disturbance we still enjoyed some exciting finds. A Honey Buzzard circled above the valley in excellent light enabling us to see all of its diagnostic features clearly. Being in the company of three Common Buzzards was useful for a comparison to be made. Then a Northern Goshawk took to the sky and circled above, again with buzzards nearby. Both fresh and older bear footprints were examined on a muddy slope after we had made a precarious crossing of a stream to see them. A Broad-bodied Chaser perched in full view over a swampy bog. Butterflies were not conspicuous this morning except for a few familiar British species.

Our first picnic lunch arrived by what we dubbed 'the magic carpet'. Simona and her mother had prepared a feast of home-made dishes, wine, cherries and elderflower juice. It was scrumptious. After eating our fill and over-indulging somewhat, we were ready to move on. We opted for an easy walk along an established track through shaded woodland in an area on the other side of town. Here we saw European Serin and a few other birds, but the margins of the track provided the best sightings. Wheel ruts tend to fill with water and retain it for a lengthy period. They make superb breeding grounds for Yellow-bellied Toads. We found many of these superbly adapted amphibians languishing in the shallow water. Newly hatched tadpoles accompanied them. A small Grass Snake was also interested in the wildlife of the ditch. On the drier, sun-drenched rise we found a vividly coloured male Sand Lizard which obligingly posed for portraits to be taken. A Red Squirrel munching a cone entertained us for a while. There were interesting flowers along the verges such as Twayblade, Narrow-leaved Helleborine, Coralroot and Yellow Pimpernel. Examination of muddy areas led to the discovery of footprints belonging to Roe Deer, Wild Boar and Red Fox.

We ambled back to the bus with thoughts of a cold beer after a very enjoyable day. Those who stayed out for a while were rewarded with excellent views of Alpine Chamois, Red-backed Shrike and Black Redstart. After dinner we sat outside as dusk descended. Twenty-one Alpine Swifts raced across the darkening sky and a quite large, slow-flying bat followed them.

Day 3

Monday 30th May

At 5am there was a red glow bleeding across the horizon and seeping around the distant mountains. The dawn chorus was loud and emphatic, being dominated by the far-carrying songs of Common Blackbirds and thrushes. Only a lone Chamois scrambled up the glistening limestone rock as the sun's rays crept over the crags opposite the hotel.

At 8.15am we were on our way to Sinca Noua, but first we stopped to admire a trailer of beehives as the bee keeper and driver unhitched the multi-coloured hives. These itinerant honey manufacturers start the year in the Danube Delta and follow the blooms of False Acacia northwards as they flower. Then we made a short stop at the roadside by a colony of Bug Orchids and assorted wild flowers.

As we arrived in Sinca Noua village two horse-drawn carts resembling medieval coffins rumbled down the road to greet us. Stately horses adorned with gory-red tassels waited patiently for us to scramble onto blanket-covered boards ready to be transported to the Vala Strambei meadows. Although birdwatching was difficult due to constant jolting we did see Red-backed Shrike, a few Fieldfares plus the added bonus of a Lesser Spotted Eagle on the ground. After a jaunt of several kilometres we alighted in the foothills of the Vala Strambei. Ambling unhurriedly up the track and across flower rich meadows in search of plants, insects and birds was how we passed the rest of the morning. White False Helleborine stood proudly above the meadow dwarfing all beneath them. A Lesser Spotted Eagle flew along the stream line and perched in a tree close enough for the entire group to appreciate its hefty bill and regal appearance. Another one and possibly a third was seen higher up the open valley. Two large birds circling in the distance on wide wings in the company of Common Buzzards were high-flying White Storks. Indeed, there were a good number of buzzards taking advantage of the hot, humid weather and the associated updrafts.

The choice of picnic site was calculated with shade in mind, but it was also beside a flower rich meadow where a few species of orchids were found and more White False Helleborine too. We walked further up this scenic valley and rested by the babbling, swirling stream. The aquatic life was abundant with caddis flies scuttling across the stream bed in cases constructed of either sand grains or fragments of vegetation. A little higher up we took a short, but muddy, ramble into the forest. Hawfinches flew overhead but it was the tracks in the mud that were our focus. We were shown bear, wolf, Red Fox, Roe and Red Deer, Wild Boar and dog tracks. The puddles therein were occupied by Yellow-bellied Toads whose "poop-poop" calls resembled the sound of a submarine's sonar ping. The chance lifting of a log revealed a young, strikingly black and yellow Fire Salamander which proved to be very popular discovery.

Our final stop in the village of Sinca before our early evening meal at 5pm was for a cultural visit to a wooden church. This unusual place of worship is one of only four remaining in this part of Romania, although there are many elsewhere. It was built in 1762 and looked fit for a few hundred years more of providing a place of worship for the local people. Although there is a new church, at Easter the entire village gathers for worship at the wooden one. Our meal was provided by the wife of the cart driver and taken in their large village homestead beneath a canopy of vines roofing a spacious courtyard. They were very generous with the plum and cherry brandies and then produced flagons of local wine. Our bear count may need some close scrutiny after the consumption of so much hallucinogenic liquor whose full effect kicks in a while after consumption. Before leaving we were shown the barns and market garden to the rear of the house.

It was now time to head out for the bear hide. We followed the ranger who was transporting bags of assorted bear bait, mainly maize and biscuits, to the prepared clearing. Gingerly shuffling across an insecure-looking footbridge and cautiously heaving ourselves up a muddy slope led us to the steep steps of the hide. We were safely ensconced within as the rangers filled the hollow logs and feeding troughs with maize and what looked like tons of biscuits. Silent anticipation filled the confined space of the hide. Last minute adjustments to cameras were completed with flash and focussing beams switched off. Then the first bears emerged warily from the forest

lumbering down the slope and into the clearing. One bear stood upright on its hind legs showing its immensity and causing gasps from within the hide. For two hours we were captivated by their comings and goings. At any one time there were seven bears reluctantly tolerating their proximity to each other as they shared the feeding area. By the end of the session we had seen 15 different individual bears. It was 10.45pm when we tackled the incline back up to the guesthouse reflecting upon our superb encounters with Europe's largest carnivore during a very long and interesting day in the field.

Day 4

Tuesday 31st May

Scanning the cliff face before breakfast from the hotel room proved to be worthwhile. In addition to the expected Alpine Chamois a huge black male bear sauntered across the rocks. What a start to the day!

After breakfast we began a very slow and leisurely descent into the Zarnesti Gorge in the Piatra Craiului National Park. Several species of orchids were discovered by the vigilant botanists in the group including a spectacular Military Orchid. Wood Warblers were singing once we entered the Beech Woods. A couple of Bladder Gentians were growing in the meadow but not close enough to the track for photographs. It took us two hours to reach the stream-crossing point from which we began the gentle ascent into the jaws of a very imposing and impressive gorge. Superb plants such as Alpine Clematis, Alpine Bells and Hungarian Snowbell adorned the path edges. In the dank, darker recesses there were plenty of Mouse-eared Saxifrage eking a living from the bare rock face. The remains of last year's flowers on Edelweiss plants were noted high above on a vertical rock face. Here they grow at their lowest altitude in Romania. A large number of species of flowering plants were identified. As today was designed with botanists in mind it was not too surprising that few species of birds were recorded. Buzzards wheeled high above the limestone crags and Grey Wagtails flitted in front of us as we ambled up the impressive gorge.

Lunch arrived via 'Shanks's pony' as Simona and her mother had to haul the food as far as the climbing hut. They apologised for the absence of a table and chairs today! Courgette fritters, delicious cherries and home-made raspberry jam were amongst the exceptionally creative fare being offered which all had to be carried up the gorge from the access barrier.

A rain shower delayed the continuation of our exploration of this geological wonder. We ascended as far as the end of the gorge before retracing our steps. During the brighter intervals there were plenty of butterflies to test our identification skills. Clouded Apollo was probably the pick of the bunch. Some species which are decidedly rare in UK are common here. We saw Wood White, Duke of Burgundy and Checkered Skipper. Conversely, it was reassuring to find Speckled Wood thriving here too. As we walked back to the barrier thunder resounded through the gorge and a heavy shower of rain sent us scrambling through our rucksacks for waterproofs and umbrellas. It didn't last for long and we were soon back onto the bus and returning to the hotel for some welcome free time and a sundowner or two.

Choosing to spend time scrutinising the rock face at the back of the hotel was a good decision. A female European Brown Bear accompanied by a young cub revealed themselves at the edge of the wood. What a sight to end the day!

Day 5

Wednesday 1st June

At dawn this morning Alpine Chamois were already beginning to emerge from the thickets and scramble nimbly across the rocks. There were 18 in view including two very young offspring. The slopes were cloaked in patches of a vivid blue Iris which stood out against the swards of fresh, green grass. Alpine Swifts chattered as they gained height to soar above the awakening forest.

By 8.15am we were on the bus and heading for a forest of marshy oakwoods near Vad where Narcissus flowers thrive. There has been a great deal of rain in recent weeks and the woodland trails and open meadows were muddy and waterlogged in places. The woodland flora was rich and diverse but only about 20 white flowers of Narcissus (*Narcissus poeticus*) were still in bloom. Lesser Butterfly Orchids were scattered throughout the woods and White False Helleborine caught our attention. Frequently encountered flowers included Cow Wheat, Spiked Rampion and Spotted Heath Orchid. The fluty calls of Eurasian Golden Oriole added an exotic atmosphere to the woodland chorus, but the birds remained steadfastly concealed and only brief glimpses by a few of the group were secured. No clear views were obtained of any woodpeckers either. Although the only mammal actually observed in the wood was a Roe Deer, we did enjoy interpreting the tracks and trails laying testimony to their presence. A bear had been toiling at unearthing an ants' nest. It had swiped it open, plunged its paw inside and licked off all of the clinging ants. Evidence of the snuffling and scraping activities of Wild Boars at the edges of the pathway were so frequently encountered that it seemed odd that we failed to unearth one. As thermals developed, raptors rose in the updrafts. Common Buzzards were always on view but a single Honey Buzzard flying at low level was a pleasing find. One Common Buzzard flew up from the open ground clutching a Field Mouse in its talons. Suddenly a broader winged, paler bodied raptor hovered above the woods. It was a Short-toed Eagle. There were also four Lesser Spotted Eagles seen in the vicinity.

These oak woods are a joy to explore as the under storey is a rich carpet of flowers and the canopy houses a wide range of singing birds. Lepidopterists fared well today in the warm sunshine. There were many Marsh Fritillaries amongst a range of skippers and blues. Black-veined Moths were very conspicuous too. It is always pleasing to stumble upon a few Red-backed Shrikes, but we were delighted to find several Lesser Grey Shrikes in this area as well. One was catching Cockchafers and dismembering them from the concealment of a thorny Dog Rose bush. The "prup, prup" calls of a flock of European Bee-eaters flying high overhead drew our attention skywards and two were seen quite well with their triangular-shaped wings being particularly obvious. Probably the ornithological highlight of the day was the discovery of a Collared Flycatcher darting about in the oak canopy.

Day 6

Thursday 2nd June

Heavy and persistent rain greeted the early risers on a miserable morning, but visibility was sufficiently clear for scanning the cliff face. A mother bear with her cub sticking close to her was snuffling in the scant covering of grass by an escarpment edge. It was a wonderful sight!

Undaunted by the weather, we set off to begin our second long day in the field. Driving past remnants of the communist era was chilling as one derelict expanse of uninspiring architecture was a munitions factory that used to employ 15,000 workers under the guise of a bicycle factory. One day a bomb exploded causing death and destruction. It was difficult for the authorities to explain how a bicycle could cause so much damage. The tower blocks of dilapidated flats are used to house only the destitute now, but once supported the munitions factory

employees. Continuing through the settlement of Vulcan showed us Saxon and Germanic influences on the architecture. The frontages of the residences had huge wooden doors of adequate height to permit the entry of a hay-laden horse and cart.

Rain continued to fall steadily which made birding difficult at Dumbrovita Fish Ponds. It is a RAMSAR site but far from safe as the owner of the fish farm would prefer there to be no birds here. We identified a fair range of aquatic birds including Great and Little Egrets, Marsh Harrier and Purple Heron. Great Reed Warblers were croaking and churning loudly from elevated reed perches enabling everyone in the group to see them and to appreciate their size. Savi's Warblers reeled loudly and intermittently from the sanctity of a dense reed bed. They were very difficult to locate and the rain made the task even more challenging. A few Purple Herons gave us excellent flight views, as did a good number of Black-crowned Night Herons. Three graceful and elegant Whiskered Terns dipped delicately to the water surface to pluck hapless insects from the vice-like grip of the meniscus. A Marsh Warbler performed its mimetic warble from a sparsely leaved willow which enabled us to see it clearly even to the extent of appreciating its orange gape. Some fine clumps of robust Bladder Campion plants adorned the trackway. Then the highlight of the visit lazily flew over the entire length of the reed beds enabling enough time for everyone to latch onto it. It was a splendid Eurasian Bittern and the first seen here by a Naturetrek group.

In view of the dismal weather we curtailed our walk as an extremely muddy path lay ahead. The alternative proved to be a wise choice. We visited a eutrophic lake festooned with pond weed and marginal vegetation near to the village of Rotbav. Some Great Crested Grebes performed a repertoire of their courtship rituals while others busily dived for fish to satiate eager, humbug-striped youngsters who were constantly begging. A weeping willow tree right by the path had been chosen by a pair of Penduline Tits as an ideal site for constructing their remarkable nest. It hangs like an oval purse or basket and swings in the breeze. We saw a male industrially collecting fluff from reed mace heads like a masked bandit. Then we were remarkably fortunate to see a Little Bittern climbing a tree in what appeared to be slow motion as it gingerly placed one foot above the other to haul itself up the branch. A second Little Bittern was seen in flight. Two Marsh Warblers fought a vocal battle giving us excellent views in the process. Some lucky people spotted a Musk Rat swimming with a reed stalk grasped across its mouth.

The rain had abated and we were able to enjoy our picnic lunch from the back of a 4x4 vehicle. It stayed dry during our visit to the Black Church in the town of Brasov, but as we emerged from viewing the guild's carpets and other artefacts, the rain returned with interest. It poured down as we made our way to a fine restaurant willing to feed very scruffy birders. Being given a free choice from the menu and wine list was indeed an unexpected bonus. As it was only 3.30pm we needed to show some restraint ahead of a long evening at a bear hide.

After all of the day's downpours the stream was in spate and couldn't be crossed by vehicles. We had to find a wooden footbridge upstream to safely cross it and then it was quite a route march to the bear hide. These bears have become habituated to the sound of the ranger's jeep. He had gone on ahead to lay the bait and retreated to the hide. When we finally ascended the winding, root-strewn path and entered the hide a bear was already slurping up yoghurt from a hewn out log. There were six bears in the clearing, one of which was a scrawny male. He had moulted a great deal of hair and had a dishevelled, lean appearance but he was healthy and active nevertheless. It was interesting watching the behaviour of bears at the feeding station. Suddenly one would cease

feeding, become alert and show signs of fear and uncertainty as it stared out of the clearing. It then scampered away to the cover of the forest as a new bear sauntered onto the stage. After a while, with renewed confidence, the exile returned. It seems that until a bear knows for certain the identity of the interloper it deems it prudent to retreat.

Another successful bear-watching session came to a close and we trooped jauntily back to the bus for a late return home.

Day 7

Friday 3rd June

It is definitely worth the effort of rising early and scanning the cliff face at the rear of the guest house. For the third time this week a European Brown Bear clambered across the scrubby mountain face. It was in view from 5.20am to 6.20am. The Alpine Chamois did not seem to be perturbed by its wanderings.

After another breakfast offering a stunning range of home produced foods, we trudged down the slope to board the bus for a day of walking along the Coltii Chilieii trail. This more or less contours the high peaks running parallel to the road. There were wild flowers in profusion on the open ground. Meadow Clary, Yellow Rattle, Viper's Grass, Globe Flower and many orchids lined the route. In some places Greater and Lesser Butterfly Orchids were in sizeable patches. Twayblade, Elder-flowered Orchid, Fragrant Orchid, Greater White Helleborine, Heart-shaped Orchid and Early Marsh Orchid were identified. It certainly was a walk of immense pleasure for the botanists, but the ornithologists did quite well too. Very close views of a Spotted Nutcracker was probably the highlight for most. Displaying Tree Pipits were entertaining, especially as one defied the field guides by parachuting directly to the ground instead of to the top of a tree! A singing Eastern Olivaceous Warbler was loathe to show itself. Two Wood Ants nests showed clear evidence of attacks by bears. The centres had been scraped out. A Pine tree also revealed bear activity as the bark had been gouged out and the sugary secretion imbibed. A large bear was close by in a temporal sense. We knew this because a flock of sheep had but minutes ago passed along the trail and was feeding on the open hillside. Brown Bear footprints were clear and superimposed upon the sheep tracks proving that the bear was the most recent animal to pass this way and not much before us! Attention returned to flowers and a few intensely blue Bladder Gentians were an attractive find. The trail ended at the Monastery, but some of the group tackled the steep pathway up to the cave shrine which is still a holy place of significance to the local people. Within it hang many paintings and artefacts of religious themes. The descent to the awaiting bus took us past a shepherd camp with its vicious guard dogs. A skilful shepherd called the dogs off and we passed without incident.

Unfortunately the National Park office was closed at 2pm so we came straight back to the hotel and resumed our hunt for a bear. Several chamois were frolicking about or lounging on rocks.

Day 8

Saturday 4th June

Dawn was barely discernible from night as thick, low cloud obscured the view and retarded the breakout of daylight.

After breakfast we loaded the bus to make our way to Bucharest. There was one more stop to come; a sojourn at the infamous Bran Castle. Here atrocities were committed by the mythical Count Dracula and the all too real

Vlad the Impaler. Simona's many talents included acting as a guide to the castle and she told us stories and facts about this labyrinthine building. There are very few authentic historical artefacts remaining in the castle as most have been relocated to museums. Items exist from the period of medieval conquest to the time when one of Queen Victoria's granddaughters lived here with the King of Romania. The plethora of deplorable souvenirs on sale from a multitude of kiosks was a source of amusement. However, some of the wooden, locally made crafts and cloth were of high quality. The gardens are wooded and attract a variety of birds. Swifts, European Serin and Black Redstart were at home here.

Before midday we resumed our journey to Bucharest making a short stop for a final legendary picnic lunch at the war memorial site. There were no hitches at the airport to hinder our return to the UK. We could relax and re-run the highlights of the week, which for all of us would certainly include the magical moments with bears, but also the convivial atmosphere and friendliness within a wonderful group of Naturetrekkers.

Special thanks must go to our first class bus driver, Bogdan. His careful driving, willingness to please and his very cheerful personality made him a major factor in the success of this trip. The inexhaustible knowledge and patience of our brilliant local guide, Dan, brought tremendous pleasure to all of us. Simona and her wonderful mother cannot be thanked enough for their ability to bring food of outstanding quality out to us in the wilds of Transylvania. Heartfelt thanks to you all!

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Species Lists

Birds (H = heard only; X = seen but not counted)

	Common name	Scientific name	May/June							
			28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4
1	Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>						6		
2	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	2		5		10	8		
3	Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>						60		
4	Ferruginous Duck	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>						3		
5	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>						30		
6	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	1	4	2		30	12	2	12
7	Eurasian Bittern	<i>Botaurus stellaris</i>						1		
8	Little Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>						2		
9	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>						9		
10	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>						7		
11	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>						5		
12	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>						4		
13	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>						3		
14	European Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>		1			1			1
15	Short-toed Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>					1			
16	Lesser Spotted Eagle	<i>Clanga pomarina</i>			4		4			
17	Northern Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>		1						
18	Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>						3		
19	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	1	25	15	2	12	7	5	4
20	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>						2		
21	Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>						16		
22	Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	6							
23	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>		1						
24	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>						100		
25	Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>						3		
26	Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	20	10	10		8	20	10	30
27	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>		5	4	4	5	2	4	
28	European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>					2			
29	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	10	5	3		3	5	2	2
30	Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>		3	H	H	1	4	1	
31	Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymartus melba</i>	1	23	10	8	12			1
32	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	20	25	12		10		1	25
33	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>						1		
34	European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>					2	H		
35	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>					1			
36	Middle Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos medius</i>			1		H			
37	Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>			4	2	1			
38	European Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>				H				
39	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	1	3	2	4	5			2
40	Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>		1						
41	Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>		3	15	1	2		3	
42	Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>					2			
43	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>		4	12	2	2	3	1	1
44	Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	3	8	9	3	4	6	10	5
45	Spotted Nutcracker	<i>Nucifraga caryocatactes</i>							1	
46	Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>	50	10			1			

	Common name	Scientific name	May/June							
			28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4
47	Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>	25	6	1		1	100		50
48	Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	20	10	2		5	6	12	6
49	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>		2	2				1	5
50	Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>		1		H			8	
51	Marsh Tit	<i>Poecile palustris</i>			2					
52	Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		1	2	1	1			
53	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>	2	6	2	5	6		3	2
54	Eurasian Penduline Tit	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>						1		
55	Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>			2					
56	Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>					2			
57	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>						25		
58	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	30	7	20	5	10	20	7	3
59	Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>		25	35	15	12	10	10	
60	Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>		2						
61	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>		H	H	H	H	H	H	H
62	Wood Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>				2	2			
63	Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>						6		
64	Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>						2		
65	Eurasian Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>						4		
66	Marsh Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus palustris</i>						3		
67	Eastern Olivaceous Warbler	<i>Iduna pallida</i>							1	
68	Savi's Warbler	<i>Locustella luscinioides</i>						H		
69	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>		H	H	H	H	H	H	H
70	Garden Warbler	<i>Sylvia borin</i>		H	H	H				
71	Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia curruca</i>						H	H	
72	Common Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>			1			1		
73	Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>		H		1		H	H	
74	Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>		H	H	H				
75	Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>					H			
76	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>		6	10	6	40	20	4	
77	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	1	8	5	2	4	4	2	1
78	Fieldfare	<i>Turdus pilaris</i>		3	8	4	12	1		
79	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>		2	2	2			1	
80	Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>		2	2	1	2	H	4	1
81	European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>			2	1	2			
82	Common Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>		H						
83	Collared Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula albicollis</i>					1			
84	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	1	7	6	3	1		5	1
85	European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>								
86	Lesser Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius minor</i>					5			
87	White-throated Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>	1	5			2	1	1	1
88	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	20	30	12	5	4	10	2	
89	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>					8	5		4
90	Western Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>					1			
91	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>		2	1	4	2		1	
92	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	5	7	10	4	9	6	8	4
93	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>			1	1	2		7	
94	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		H	5	1	2	3	3	
95	Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>			5	2	4			
96	Eurasian Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>		2					2	H

	Common name	Scientific name	May/June							
			28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4
97	European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>							2	
98	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		2				1		
99	European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>		1						1
100	Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>		3	4	1	1		6	
101	Common Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>						2		

Mammals

1	Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>		1						
2	Muskrat	<i>Ondatra zibethicus</i>						1		
3	Brown Bear	<i>Ursus arctos</i>			15	3		8	1	
4	Roe Deer	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>			2		4			
5	Alpine Chamois	<i>Rupicapra rupicapra</i>		10	2	2	18	1	9	

Reptiles

1	Sand Lizard	<i>Lacerta agilis</i>		2	2		7			
2	Slow Worm	<i>Anguis fragilis</i>						1		
3	Grass Snake	<i>Natrix natrix</i>		1						

Amphibians

1	Fire Salamander	<i>Salamandra salamandra</i>			1			3		
2	Common Toad	<i>Bufo bufo</i>			2					
3	Yellow-bellied Toad	<i>Bombina variegata</i>		40	20		3		6	
4	Marsh Frog	<i>Rana ridibunda</i>			1			10	H	

Butterflies

1	Clouded Apollo	<i>Parnassius mnemosyne</i>				X				
2	Orange Tip	<i>Anthocharis cardamines</i>	X		X	X			X	
3	Green-veined White	<i>Pieris napi</i>				X				
4	Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>								
5	Eastern Pale Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias erate</i>		X	X					
6	Brimstone	<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>		X	X	X	X		X	
7	Wood White sp.	<i>Leptidea sp.</i>			X	X	X			
8	Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>	X		X	X	X		X	
9	Bath White	<i>Pontia daplidice</i>								
10	Little Blue	<i>Cupido minimus</i>				X			X	
11	Large Copper	<i>Lycaena dispar rutilus</i>			X					
12	Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>			X					
13	Duke of Burgundy	<i>Hamearis lucina</i>			X	X				
14	Small Tortoiseshell	<i>Aglais urticae</i>					X			
15	Map	<i>Araschnia levana</i>				X				
16	Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary	<i>Boloria selene</i>					X			
17	Marsh Fritillary	<i>Euphydryas aurinia</i>			X					
18	Poplar Admiral	<i>Limenitis populi</i>			X					
19	Comma	<i>Polygonia c-album</i>		X						
20	Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>			X	X	X		X	
21	Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>					X		X	
22	Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>			X		X			
23	Woodland Ringlet	<i>Erebia medusa</i>			X	X	X		X	
24	Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>			X					

	Common name	Scientific name	May/June							
			28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4
25	Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>		X		X	X			
26	Chequered Skipper	<i>Carterocephalus palaemon</i>		X						
27	Large Skipper	<i>Ochlodes sylvanus</i>					X			
28	Peacock	<i>Aglais io</i>	X	X						

Odonata

1	Emperor Dragonfly	<i>Anax imperator</i>					X			
2	Beautiful Demoiselle	<i>Calopteryx virgo</i>			X		X			
3	Ornate Bluet	<i>Coenagrion ornatum</i>		X						
4	Blue-tailed Damselfly	<i>Ischnura elegans</i>						X		
5	Broad-bodied Chaser	<i>Libellula depressa</i>		X	X		X			
6	Ruddy Darter	<i>Sympetrum sanguinea</i>			X					