

Holiday Highlights  
Poland  
15 -23 May 2013

**Guides:** Mark Denman and Attila Steiner

**Guests:** Ann & Martin Reith, Tessa & Roger Oliver, Grainne Farrington and Mark Fisher

**Day 1:** After a very early start we're soon on our way east to a pleasantly warm and sunny Warsaw. A smiling Attila is there to meet us and after loading up the van we start making our way through the city, our first birds all being members of the crow family. As buildings give way to fields we start seeing our first White Storks, along with a few Common Buzzards and a couple of Whooper Swans. We make a stop for a very pleasant lunch, the highlight of which is a splendid goulash soup much enjoyed by the two Marks. Grainne finds a Whitethroat and a Yellowhammer before we set off again and after another couple of hours we arrive at our very comfortable hotel in the heart of the Bialowieza Forest.

After freshening up we go for a stroll in the nearby Palace Park seeing Black Redstarts and many Spotted Flycatchers en route. A Great Reed Warbler delivers its croaky song and we get terrific views as it moves from one song-post to another. Beautiful Scarlet Rosefinches deliver their cheerful 'pleased to meet you' song and we get fantastic views of these lovely birds in the scopes - much to the delight of Grainne who missed them on her previous trip to Poland. We also hear the jazzy song of an Icterine Warbler nearby, along with Blackcap, Thrush Nightingale and the slightly mournful 'yaffle' of a Grey-headed Woodpecker. Hawfinch and Garden Warbler show very well, but even the numerous Spotted Flycatchers can't keep the mosquitos away so we make a tactical retreat to our hotel for our first dinner together.

**Day 2:** A few of us venture out into Palace Park before breakfast and Mark F manages some nice photos of Middle Spotted Woodpecker, other highlights being lots of singing Rosefinches, good views of Icterine Warbler and Thrush Nightingale along with Collared Flycatcher and a single Common Tern.

Our first port of call is a very special bit of woodland known as the Strict Reserve. We can only enter this protected area with a local guide and after breakfast we meet Wieslaw by the van and follow him the short distance as he leads the way on his bicycle! Wieslaw manages to dodge the potholes more efficiently than us, but we soon catch up and park next to some open fields. Whinchats deliver their scratchy song from overhead wires and we find a Grasshopper Warbler that reels away from a low bush, other nice birds here including Yellowhammers, our first Red-backed Shrikes and a Corncrake that typically remains heard but not seen.

We enter this 'magic forest' through some big wooden gates and Wieslaw tells us how the area was once used by royalty for hunting, but is now preserved for wildlife, as we would soon discover. It really is like entering another world and we hear many Collared Flycatchers both singing and calling, and although tricky to see at first we eventually get fantastic views of several of these beautiful flycatchers. A Pied Flycatcher causes some confusion when it perfectly mimics the song of Collared Flycatcher and we also get nice views of both Treecreeper and Nuthatch. Most of us see the male White-backed Woodpecker that feeds at the bottom of a nearby tree, but we all get brilliant scope views of a female White-backed that appears nearby, a real highlight as this is one of the rarest and most sought after of birds on this holiday. There are several Great-spotted Woodpeckers close-by, but a male Lesser Spotted Woodpecker proves more elusive - however thoughts of small woodpeckers turn big when a fantastic male Black Woodpecker swoops in and lands right in front of us - amazing!

There are Chaffinches everywhere and we add to our woodpecker list when we hear the familiar 'yaffle' of a Green Woodpecker and see a pair of delightful Middle Spotted Woodpeckers, one of which hangs upside down as it feeds in a tree. Red-breasted Flycatchers are singing and after a couple of attempts most of us see this beautiful little bird as it flits from tree to tree, never still for long! Wood Warblers are trilling above us and a couple of Red Squirrels scamper through the branches, and with the now familiar song of Collared Flycatcher all around we say goodbye to our guide Wieslaw as he speeds off on his bike! We have lunch back by the van amidst the sounds of Corncrake, Yellowhammer and Tree Pipits that song-flight from overhead wires.

After lunch we make a stop at a beautiful looking meadow, and upon leaving the van can immediately hear the song of Skylark and a close Barred Warbler. Mark briefly sees a low flying Lesser Spotted Eagle so we decide to follow in the general direction in the hope of re-locating it. Fieldfares show well here and we see our first Great Grey Shrike of the trip, along with a most obliging male Red-backed Shrike and a Woodlark. The River Warbler that we've been hearing since climbing out of the van is finally picked out by Grainne as it sits on a low fence, and we get nice scope views of this eastern speciality. The warm sunshine is encouraging a few butterflies and we see Holly Blue, Map and Weaver's Fritillary. The Great Grey Shrike then shows well again and we see both Icterine and Barred Warbler, the latter's vivid yellow eye showing brilliantly. The Lesser Spotted Eagle then re-appears above us and in the lovely afternoon light we can see all the diagnostic features that help us separate this magnificent bird from the similar Greater Spotted Eagle.

We're having an early dinner tonight as we're hoping to try for Pygmy Owl later, but we still have time for a quick look in our 'local patch' Palace Park. Collared Flycatchers are calling from high in the mature trees and we see both Common and

Black Redstarts, along with a singing Serin that pleases Ann as she's never had a good view of one before. We also see Tree Sparrows here, a brief Lesser Whitethroat and finally get views of a Chiffchaff, which is nice as we've been hearing them all day.

After dinner we rendezvous with Arek, our guide for the evening and set off on the short drive to an area that he hopes will produce Europe's smallest owl. Arek proves to be quite a character and bounds off down the woodland track in front of us, all the while doing his best Pygmy Owl impression. It's obviously an extremely good likeness as an owl starts calling back straight away and the excitement grows as the calls get closer and closer! A Great Spotted Woodpecker shows very well, but frustratingly we just can't pinpoint the owl, but just as we're starting to think about giving up Mark F sees it fly in and land very close to us. The frame filling views through the scopes are brilliant and we all thoroughly enjoy this diminutive and bold little predator as it looks disapprovingly down at us, a wonderful end to a very memorable day.

**Day 3:** The day dawns beautiful and sunny and after breakfast we're going to try an area that Arek has suggested might be good for Three-toed Woodpecker. As we walk down a beautiful woodland track we get nice views of a couple of Willow Tits and nice views of Arek as he speeds past on his bike! We reach an area that looks really good for Three-toed Woodpecker and try playing a bit of tape to encourage one to come in, unfortunately there doesn't seem to be any within range and all we see are a couple of Great Spotted Woodpeckers. Wood Warblers show well and there are lots of Green-veined White and Map butterflies on the wing, while back at the van a Wryneck is heard but flies away before we all see it. Just as we're driving away Attila spots an interesting blue that turns out to be a Short-tailed Blue, so we get out for a better look. As so often happens, one sighting leads to another and we also see Chequered Skipper and Wood White, but best of all is the Wryneck that has returned to a dead tree over the road and is calling constantly, allowing us good views of this most unusual of Woodpeckers.

We then drive to a large reservoir where we hope to see a completely different set of birds. We take a dirt track through the heart of the forest and pass several small villages and very pretty areas of farmland. There is a big tower hide overlooking the reservoir and from here we have distant views of White-winged, Black and Whiskered Terns along with Gadwall, Garganey and an awful lot of Mute Swans. Willow and Garden Warblers sing close by as do a couple of Red-backed Shrikes whose fast song is full of both 'flutey' melody and mimicry. Black-headed Gulls and Common Terns are on the wing too and we find some distant Great Egrets along with a Common Crane that lands in the tall reed-beds. A little colony of Sooty Coppers are a nice find and our Odonata list really takes off with Hairy Dragonfly, Downy Emerald, Yellow-spot Whiteface and Common Blue Damselfly. Attila finds a very distant Lesser Spotted Eagle that has the unwanted attention of a Common Buzzard and

Tessa points out a rather closer male Whinchat that looks very handsome in the sunshine. A few Whiskered Terns pass nearby and we finally get nice views of a Thrush Nightingale, much to the delight of Ann. A Whitethroat shows well, and we hear the slow reel of a River Warbler along with a mixed Chorus of Common Cuckoos and Fire-bellied Toads. With a little coaxing a Penduline Tit shows briefly and we get super views of a Downy Emerald Dragonfly that seems just as interested in us!

An ice-cream is most welcome in one of the small villages we pass through before continuing our quest for more of the wonderful wildlife that Poland has to offer. Back in the forest, we go for a short walk to try for Hazel Hen, getting some bemused looks from some sun bathing locals. Although we have no luck on the walk, Mark and Attila then hear one from the van and see it flying into the forest from by the side of the road. We try playing some tape to no avail and return to the hotel for another early dinner as we have plans to visit a Great Snipe lek later.

Our local guide for the evening is Mateusz, son of Arek and he certainly takes after his dad as he bounds off in front when we arrive on site. We're certainly glad of our wellington boots as we squelch to the viewing area, and listen to the sounds of the marsh with singing Sedge Warblers, Common Snipe and the rather less enjoyable sound of an army of mosquitos! Five Common Cranes drift past as do an impressive 21 Great Egrets, and just as the sun begins to set we start hearing the slightly strange calls of the Great Snipe as they limber up for the evenings show. As the light fades we see flashes of white outer tail feathers as the Snipe begin their display, and we all manage fleeting views through the scopes despite the confusion of Lapwings flying in front of the lekking area and the most unpleasant attention of the mosquitos! The sounds of the night are beautiful with the soft hypnotic churring of a Nightjar adding to Grasshopper and Sedge Warblers that are in full song, and I don't think any of us would argue that it has been an evening we won't forget in a hurry!

**Day 4:** It's another beautiful day and Mark F makes the most of an early morning sortie into Palace Park and bags a great shot of a rare White-backed Woodpecker! A Lesser Whitethroat sings its rattling song from an overhead wire as we pack the van for the day, and with everything we need on board we head back to an area where we heard Hazel Hen yesterday. We try playing a recording of the curious high pitched whistle of this attractive little grouse but sadly there is no reply, although its wonderful to be in this luxurious forest. A Red-breasted Flycatcher shows really well and we get nice views of a tiny Goldcrest and a pair of Middle Spotted Woodpeckers, but the Crested Tit that sings above us in the canopy remains on the heard list only.

As we walk along the old railway line there are lots of dainty Wood Whites on the wing but pride of place goes to the gorgeous Northern Chequered Skipper that poses for the cameras and eventually we reach some open country and a bridge where

we hear the mechanical reel of a River Warbler along with Icterine Warbler, a few Sand Martins and a brief Stock Dove. Once again however its an insect that steals the show when Mark finds a stunning Lime Hawk Moth and when we've all photographed this stunning moth we have our lunch overlooking a meadow by the river. A distant Lesser Spotted Eagle drifts behind some trees and a Barred Warbler is singing close by, eventually showing really well, its bright yellow eye gleaming in the sun. A Corncrake is calling just the other side of the river in some long grass and with a little encouragement from Attila's phone it flies towards us and comes out of hiding to show absolutely brilliantly on the side of the track - an amazing opportunity to see this normally most secretive of birds. A Red Deer grazes in the meadow and the cheery song of a Rosefinch fills the air as we head back towards the van, once again trying for a Hazel Hen that calls but remains in the deep cover.

After coffee and some very interesting cherry flavoured Jaffa cakes we try another bit of woodland for the elusive Three-toed Woodpecker and once again the habitat looks very good with lots of decaying, wet dead trees. We see and hear Great Spotted Woodpecker and get great views of a Black Woodpecker that is passing through, giving us a nice selection of its crazy sounding calls. It's a bit quiet on the bird front but we do enjoy the dragonflies here and a Grass Snake that shows well in the scopes. We try walking a track into the very heart of the habitat and get great views of a displaying Green Sandpiper but the 'mossies' win the battle and we make a hasty retreat for the sanctuary of the van and the promise of ice-cream!

After an early dinner and some packing we go for a night drive on the rough tracks through the forest, seeing Red Deer, Wild Boar, Brown Hare and hearing a distant Tawny Owl.

**Day 5:** We're moving today and before breakfast we have an optional final try for Woodpeckers. It's another cracking day and warblers and flycatchers are in full song as we walk through the forest. Once again we get superb views of a Black Woodpecker and several Great-spots, but the elusive Three-toed Woodpecker eludes us once more, although a singing Barred Warbler that poses for us back at the van is some consolation.

As we pack the van a female Montagu's Harrier drifts over and we find Lobster and Pale Prominent Moths that have been attracted by the hotel lights. A quick look at the Pygmy Owl site is rather quiet bird-wise but we're pleased to see Northern Chequered Skipper again and set off towards Biebrza Marshes, stopping at some fishponds where we hope to add some wildfowl and grebes to our list.

It's a glorious day, and the first of the fishponds has attracted a lot of people, many of them swimming but from the second pond there are lots of birds and we start finding good birds straight away. There is a noisy Black-headed Gull colony here and several Great Crested Grebes displaying on the second pond, while both Marsh and

Reed Warblers sing from the deep cover that fringes the water. Walking along the bank we get super views of Red-necked Grebes including a bird hidden in the reeds on a nest. there are lots of dragonflies including Chasers, Hairy Dragonfly, White-faced Darters and both Variable and Red-eyed Damselfly. Marsh Harriers patrol the reed-beds and we see more Red-necked Grebes and a single Tufted Duck, along with good scope views of both Sedge and Savi's Warbler. We decide to have our picnic here and re-park the van in the shade, listening to the short phrases of Whitethroat and the masterful mimicry of a Marsh Warbler, while a splendid male Common Redstart sings from overhead wires, allowing Martin to get some excellent digi-scoped shots.

Moving on we drive through some very pretty countryside with a mixture of farmland and meadows to a large lake that can be good for White-tailed Eagle. As we approach the lake the first bird we see is an eagle, and after driving up a dirt track for a closer look we get out for a scan. Within minutes we've seen at least four eagles including a young bird that is being mobbed by a Marsh Harrier. We find another three Sea Eagles sitting in a tree and drive around the lake for a closer look, eventually seeing at least eight birds, and hearing the adults giving their 'yaffle' like calls as they pass overhead. The reed-beds are full of birds and we get terrific views of Penduline Tit, Reed Bunting and smart Yellow Wagtails but the Bearded Tits here are much more elusive and we only get fleeting glimpses. Our first Hoopoe of the trip calls from close-by and we find it on the corner of some farm buildings and Mark F tries very hard to photograph a nearby Icterine Warbler that frustratingly stays hidden for the most part. In spite of much searching we fail to locate a singing Ortolan Bunting and with time marching on we make for our very nice hotel that lies on the edge of the famous Biebrza Marshes.

After freshening up we have a little time before dinner and make our way to one of the tower hides that overlook this fantastic habitat. Lots of White-winged and Black Terns float past and we get great views of a Black Stork that glides past, looking green in the early evening sunshine. Black-tailed Godwits and Common Snipe fly past us and a smart drake Garganey flies in and shows nicely, however although we hear Bittern, Spotted Crake and Water Rail these secretive denizens of the reeds remain hidden despite much searching, another great day.

**Day 6:** We're spending the day with local guide Zbyszek, and at our first stop we're hoping to see the beautiful Bluethroat. From a little platform we can hear a Bluethroat singing but it remains hidden in deep cover - for now! There are Pochard and Garganey on the pools before us and we add another White-tailed Eagle to yesterday's impressive haul, but the star of the show here is a lovely Penduline Tit that shows very well. From a nearby platform we've not been scanning long when Tessa spots our first Bluethroat that sadly doesn't linger - we needn't have worried though as over the next half an hour or so we get brilliant views of at least four

Bluethroats, along with Reed Buntings and another Penduline Tit. There are a few Common Redshank here and we get nice views of a drake Garganey along with a pair of mating Hairy Dragonflies, and walking back to the van we get even better views of several Bluethroats.

At our next stop we walk out into the marshes and get views of Common Cranes amongst the masses of White Storks, along with Black-tailed Godwits and our first Elk (Moose) that is grazing some way off. Walking further we negotiate several rather large 'puddles' and are constantly entertained by White-winged Terns that dance around us along with Lapwings, Redshank and Godwits that call noisily from various vantage points. Bitterns and Spotted Crakes call from deep in the reeds and we get super flight views of Cuckoo and a Raven that has an unwanted posse of several dozen very irate Terns! Icterine Warblers are in fine voice and Tessa and Roger get superb views of a Cuckoo that seems oblivious to their presence. We finally reach a crossing that proves just a little beyond us so we head back towards the van, somehow acquiring a group of cows that seem to have become very attached to us. Unfortunately Martin takes a bit of a tumble in one of the streams that crosses the path but we rally around for some spare clothes and have our lunch in the shade of some convenient trees.

After lunch we make a couple of stops overlooking the river adding Wood Sandpiper, Teal and Cormorant to the list, along with close views of Whiskered Tern and some handsome Yellow Wagtails that Grainne points out. There are few birds, save a couple of distant Great Egrets at our second stop so despite the beautiful view we decide to move on to another unscheduled stop that thankfully proves to be far more productive. A Lesser Spotted Woodpecker that flashes past is too quick for most, but we all have plenty of time to admire the big collection of water-birds here that include Garganey, Shoveler, Teal, Tufted Duck along with grebes - Black-necked, Little and Red-necked. We get a real sense of just how many birds are here when first a Montagu's and then a Marsh Harrier put everything up, all in all a great place!

We need to move on to our final location today as we are hoping to catch up with Europe's rarest and fastest declining songbird - Aquatic Warbler. Three dancing Montagu's Harriers distract us momentarily but back to the task in hand and Attila soon picks up on our target bird singing fairly close by. He finds it fairly quickly but the views are slightly into the sun, so we progress to the end of the boardwalk, eager to get better views of this rare bird. We can also hear both Sedge and Savi's Warblers here and get nice views of more Marsh and Montagu's Harriers but we think that perhaps its getting a little late in the day for Aquatic Warbler so we call it a day, vowing to return on our last day here.

**Day 7:** We're out with Zbyszek again today, and thankfully the overnight storms have cleared but it's still rather cloudy and windy! Our first stop is to be at a tower that overlooks

a Greater Spotted Eagle territory and en route we get nice views of a male Monty's Harrier quartering a field and three Brown Hares. It's rather windy on the tower and although both Mark and Attila get fleeting views of a couple of very distant eagles the only birds we see well here are both male and female Marsh Harriers and Common Buzzard. Deciding to move on we get amazing views of a Grey Partridge right by the van, and although we have to shoot through the windows we manage to get some great shots of what is normally a difficult bird to approach. We also get great views of a couple of Hoopoes as we travel, along with Whinchats and lovely blue-headed Yellow Wagtails.

We have our lunch by a canal in lovely warm sunshine with both Great Reed Warbler and Common Rosefinch serenading us. Mark F finds a Mink sitting in a tree and just as we are admiring this handsome if not entirely welcome mammal Attila spots an Eagle above us. Checking the features carefully we realise the dark coverts and compact shape mean that amazingly this is our main target bird of the day, a splendid adult Greater Spotted Eagle, and we really can't believe our luck when a Lesser Spotted Eagle joins it and we're able to compare all the diagnostic differences between the two species - amazing! We also get flight views of both Golden Oriole and Green Woodpecker here and find a newly emerged Clubtail Dragonfly.

The plan now is to visit a lake where Attila saw some interesting birds a few days ago, but we've not gone far when we have to stop for another Lesser Spotted Eagle, this one doing a fantastic switchback display. Only Grainne is looking in the right direction when a Hobby dashes past, but we all can see several Buzzards circling over some distant woodland and when a quick check reveals one of them to be a Honey Buzzard we decide to try and get a little closer. Unfortunately the Honey Buzzard doesn't show again but we do see two White-tailed Eagles, one with a fish, another Lesser Spotted Eagle and as we drive on our first Common Kestrel.

At the lake we re-acquaint ourselves with Polish mosquitos but lots of good birds soon have us scanning. There are a few Black Terns skimming over the surface of the water and lots of Great Crested Grebes and Tufted Ducks. Attila then brilliantly picks out a distant Velvet Scoter and we see three Goldeneye and a couple of Red-necked Grebes. A Black Kite carrying a fish is a nice surprise, Zbyszek telling us that a pair breed nearby, and we enjoy super flight views for the next few minutes as it flies almost directly above us.

Moving on we see both shrikes on roadside wires before Attila sees a bridge over a small river that he fancies having a look from, a choice that was to prove inspired! We watch a man with tractor collecting water, also getting nice views of Red-backed Shrike and the ubiquitous White-winged Terns. A Common Buzzard hunts close by and then Mark finds a 'Spotted' Eagle sitting in a tree. When it flies we see its of the Lesser Spotted variety and we get brilliant scope views when it lands next

to some farm buildings. It then very obligingly flies back and Mark F gets some fantastic photos when it takes off again, in fact its hard to imagine better pictures of this great bird! Walking back towards the bridge what appears at first to be a Jay flying towards us then reveals itself to be a Nutcracker!! It's high fives all round as we thought our chance for this special bird had gone when we left the heavily forested areas and it just goes to prove that you never know what's round the corner in this amazing country. An amazing day!

**Day 8:** It's our final day of the holiday and normal service has been resumed with blue skies and warm sunshine. We start once more at the Citrine Wagtail site, this time electing to drive rather than negotiate the puddles in our wellies! A very smart and extremely obliging Black-tailed Godwit has us practicing our digi-scoping skills. As always the White-winged Terns are a delight and we all agree that we could watch them all day. Icterine Warblers sing from the bushes and Bitterns boom, but our attention turns to the sky when Grainne spots a very large dark bird being mobbed by dozens of terns. We get great views of the young Greater Spotted Eagle as it tries to shake the attention of the angry terns and then amazingly an adult pair of Greater Spotted Eagles cruise over, this time with the unwanted attention of an extremely pale Buzzard - an amazing sight!

It's been an action packed morning and we find a lovely viewpoint overlooking the river for a rather more serene lunch. There are a few butterflies floating round the meadow and we see Pale Clouded Yellow, Common Blue and Sooty Commas as well as a Blue Featherleg.

Driving on both Mark and Attila hear an Ortolan Bunting singing so we stop and try to find this most attractive of buntings. Unfortunately the bunting eludes us again but we do find a Tawny Pipit on the wires and set up scopes to look at that, much to the utter bemusement of some local farmers! We also see Yellow Wagtail and more Grey Partridges here before moving on towards the Aquatic Warbler site. We stop to check some wildfowl, seeing Wigeon, Pochard, Shoveler, Teal, Goldeneye and Garganey, along with Red-necked Grebes and Dabchick but there is no sign of the Black-necked Grebe that was here two days ago although a passing Marsh Harrier causes utter chaos again when it cruises over! At the Aquatic Warbler reed-bed we've not walked far on the boardwalk when Attila hears our target bird and we get nice scope views of this rarity. Another bird then starts singing close-by and we see it in song-flight as it parachutes down, landing close to Mark F who manages to get some nice shots. Walking to the end of the boardwalk we see a lovely male Whinchat singing along with several Marsh Harriers but unfortunately as some of us drift back down towards the van only four of us see the two Aquatic Warblers that appear very close, in full song and in perfect light, showing brilliantly for the next five minutes.

We can't resist a final visit to the Bluethroat site and we've not been driving long when Attila brilliantly spots a Goshawk flying behind the trees, reversing quickly enough for us to see it fly across a clearing - an amazing birding manoeuvre!! Parking at the site we're hoping to see Bluethroat again and Mark and Martin can't resist a quick digi-scoping session with a very tame Yellow Wagtail before joining the rest of the group. The Bluethroats certainly don't let us down and we get our best views of this beautiful bird when a male pops up right next to us in full song, showing brilliantly and allowing a unique opportunity to photograph this special bird. Four Great Egrets fly past and then Roger spots a bird of prey being mobbed by terns. A quick check of its lovely flat flight profile reveals it to be a Honey Buzzard and we're able to go through all the features that separate this bird from the much more numerous Common Buzzard. Once again the mossies are enjoying our presence so we head back to the hotel for our final dinner together, and discussion about our favourite birds, places and magic moments.

Votes for bird of the trip include Lesser Spotted Eagle, Pygmy Owl, Bluethroat, White-winged Tern and Red-necked Grebe but 'pipping' them at the post was Aquatic Warbler with three votes.

Place of the trip is evenly spread between the Forest and the Marshes, but a special mention must go to The Strict Reserve that pulled in three votes.

As always there were many different magic moments and they included the Bluethroats, views of Cuckoo, Black Woodpecker, Aquatic Warbler, Rosefinch and perhaps not surprisingly the amazing Corncrake!

It's been an amazing trip to this beautiful and unspoiled country, many thanks to all for the great spotting and great fun we had together and we hope to see you all very soon.

PS: we finally saw Ortolan on the way to the airport!

## BIRDS

Little Grebe  
Great Crested Grebe  
Red-necked Grebe  
Black-necked Grebe  
Cormorant  
Bittern (Heard)  
Great White Egret  
Grey Heron  
Black Stork  
White Stork  
Mute Swan  
Whooper Swan  
Greylag Goose  
Wigeon  
Gadwall  
Teal  
Mallard  
Garganey  
Shoveler  
Pochard  
Tufted Duck  
Goldeneye  
Velvet Scoter  
Honey Buzzard  
Black Kite  
White-tailed Eagle  
Marsh Harrier  
Montagu's Harrier  
Goshawk  
Sparrowhawk  
Common Buzzard  
Lesser Spotted Eagle  
Greater Spotted Eagle  
Kestrel  
Hobby  
Hazel Grouse  
Grey Partridge  
Quail (Heard)  
Water Rail (Heard)  
Spotted Crake (Heard)  
Corncrake  
Moorhen (Heard)  
Coot  
Common Crane  
Lapwing  
Ruff  
Common Snipe  
Great Snipe  
Black-tailed Godwit

Curlew  
Redshank  
Green Sandpiper  
Wood Sandpiper  
Black-headed Gull  
Caspian Gull  
Common Tern  
Whiskered Tern  
Black Tern  
White-winged Tern  
Feral Pigeon  
Stock Dove  
Wood Pigeon  
Collared Dove  
Cuckoo  
Pygmy Owl  
Tawny Owl (Heard)  
Nightjar (Heard)  
Swift  
Hoopoe  
Wryneck  
Grey-headed Woodpecker (Heard)  
Green Woodpecker  
Black Woodpecker  
Great-spotted Woodpecker  
Middle-spotted Woodpecker  
White-backed Woodpecker  
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker  
Woodlark  
Skylark  
Sand Martin  
Swallow  
House Martin  
Tree pipit  
Meadow Pipit  
Tawny Pipit  
Yellow Wagtail  
White Wagtail  
Wren  
Dunnock (Heard)  
Robin  
Thrush Nightingale  
Bluethroat  
Black Redstart  
Common Redstart  
Whinchat  
Northern Wheatear  
Blackbird  
Fieldfare  
Song Thrush

Mistle Thrush  
Grasshopper Warbler  
River Warbler  
Savi's Warbler  
Aquatic Warbler  
Sedge Warbler  
Marsh Warbler  
Reed Warbler  
Great Reed Warbler  
Icterine Warbler  
Barred Warbler  
Lesser Whitethroat  
Common Whitethroat  
Garden Warbler  
Blackcap  
Wood Warbler  
Chiffchaff  
Willow Warbler  
Goldcrest  
Firecrest (Heard)  
Spotted Flycatcher  
Red-breasted Flycatcher  
Collared Flycatcher  
Pied flycatcher  
Bearded Tit  
Long-tailed tit (Heard)  
Marsh Tit (Heard)  
Willow Tit  
Crested Tit (Heard)  
Coal Tit  
Blue Tit  
Great Tit  
Nuthatch  
Treetreeper  
Penduline Tit  
Golden Oriole  
Red-backed Shrike  
Northern Grey Shrike  
Jay  
Magpie  
Nutcracker  
Jackdaw  
Rook  
Hooded Crow  
Raven  
Starling  
House Sparrow  
Tree Sparrow  
Chaffinch  
Serin

Greenfinch  
Goldfinch  
Linnet  
Common Rosefinch  
Hawfinch  
Yellowhammer  
Ortolan Bunting  
Reed Bunting  
Corn Bunting

#### **MAMMALS**

Brown Hare  
Red Squirrel  
Roe Deer  
Red Deer  
Elk (Moose)  
Wild Boar  
Bank Vole  
Pine Marten  
American Mink

#### **REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS**

Slow Worm  
Grass Snake  
Common Lizard  
Sand Lizard  
Marsh Frog  
Common Frog

Common Toad  
Tree Frog  
Fire-bellied Toad (Heard)

#### **BUTTERFLIES**

Swallowtail  
Pale Clouded Yellow  
Large White  
Small White  
Green-veined White  
Wood White  
Orange Tip  
Brimstone  
Comma  
Map  
Red Admiral  
Peacock  
Painted Lady  
Weaver's Fritillary  
Small Heath  
Speckled Wood  
Small Copper  
Sooty Copper  
Common Blue  
Holly Blue  
Short-tailed Blue  
Chequered Skipper  
Northern Chequered Skipper

#### **MOTHS**

Tau Emperor  
Brown Silverline  
Small Yellow Under-wing  
Common Heath  
Lattice Heath  
Burnet Companion  
Garden Carpet  
Lime Hawk Moth  
Pale Prominent  
Lobster Moth

#### **ODONATA**

Azure Bluet  
Common Blue Damselfly  
Blue Featherleg  
Large Red Damselfly  
Large Red-eyed Damselfly  
Variable Damselfly  
Dark Whiteeye  
Common Bluetail  
Downy Emerald  
Hairy Dragonfly  
Yellow-spotted whiteface  
Broad-bodied Chaser  
Four-spot Chaser  
Common Clubtail