

Royal Wings Georgia
A ten day birdwatching tour to Georgia
2nd to 12th May 2019

Trip Report



Great Rosefinch *Carpodacus rubicilla*
Picture by Richard Tyler

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Trip report complete by: Alexander Rukhaia

All bird pictures used in this trip report are taken during this tour by Richard Tyler. To see more of Richard's pictures from this trip or any other from his adorable Western Palearctic collection, kindly visit his website: www.richardtyler.zenfolio.com

Introduction

The Royal Wings Georgia is the Birding Caucasus's annual birdwatching tour implemented once a year and taking place in the first week of May, when the flocks of *Güldenstädt's Redstarts* and *Great Rosefinches* can be yet nicely seen at an elevation of about 1750 meters or simply around the village Stepantsminda. Later in the month a warmer sun is a call and these elusive birds swoop up to their traditional breeding grounds at an elevation of about 3000 meters.

This tour embraces all major and key birding hotspots of northern, eastern and southern Georgia; from the Greater to the Lesser Caucasus mountain range and to the country's steppes in the east. The birding is undoubtedly remarkable, with a composition of diverse quintessential species typical to the region, as well as more widely spread in Europe and Central Asia. Although this tour can easily drop over 200 species, it doesn't focus on race for the quantity, but rather for quality, providing an opportunity to see the selection of most wanted top targets of Georgia and the Caucasus.

In the uplands of the Greater Caucasus the key targets are *Caucasian Snowcock*, *Caucasian Grouse*, *Güldenstädt's Redstart*, *Great Rosefinch*, *Caucasian (or Mountain) Chiffchaff*, *Barred and Green Warblers*, *Wallcreeper*, *Red-fronted Serin*, *Horned Lark*, *Golden Eagle* and *Bearded Vulture* (or *Lammergeier*), while in the Lesser Caucasus part there are many high altitude water bodies, with both *Great White* and *Dalmatian Pelicans* in large flocks, the only in the region isolated population of a *Velvet Scoter* and many other water related highlights. The country's east is a different world. The habitat here consists of steppes, semi-deserts and arid landscapes, with numerous characteristic for the area targets on offer, including *Colchis Pheasant*, *Black Francolin*, *Chukar Partridge*, *Black Stork*, *Demoiselle Crane*, *Rosy Starling*, *Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin*, *Pied and Finsch's Wheatears*, *Blue Rock Thrush*, *Eastern Olivaceous*, *Menetries's* and *Eastern Orphean Warblers*, *Western and Eastern Rock Nuthatches*, *Spanish and Rock Sparrows*, *White-tailed*, *Lesser Spotted*, *Steppe*, *Booted*, *Short-toed* and *Eastern Imperial Eagles*, *Cinereous*, *Eurasian Griffon* and *Egyptian Vultures*, *Montagu's* and *Pallid Harriers*, *Levant Sparrowhawk* and so forth.

The tour map



Summary

Day 1 | 2nd May: On our first morning we had a nice and warm weather. While leaving the hotel and loading our luggage to the bus we had one Laughing Dove seating on a post, House Sparrows feeding on the ground, Common Redstart on the rooftop and Bee-eaters calling in flight. Heading to the Greater Caucasus we've made a few short and slightly longer stops on the way, including our first visit to the pine food not far from Tbilisi. This place is a home for the easternmost population of a **Krüper's Nuthatch** and we've nicely seen one today. Apart from that

we had various other birds; numerous Goldfinches, two Coal Tits, a few Steppe Buzzards, one Black Kite and one **Lesser Spotted Eagle** soaring overhead for a few minutes. We haven't seen, but heard also Black Woodpecker, Woodlark and Common Cuckoo. Heading further it took us a bit more than an hour to reach our next destination, a patch of nice looking lush forest on the edge of the large water reservoir and here we had a pair of a **Semicollared Flycatcher** alongside with a set of other common forest species.

A quick picnic lunch afterwards and then we've tried to explore another part of the forest, where we were given a great show by a male of a **Red-breasted Flycatcher**, hopping from branch to branch around us. We had three professional photographers in the team, so it was a true delight for them. Continuing further, soon we were on the pass, also known as the former military road. Weather wasn't similar to the morning, but windy, already much colder and partly raining. The traffic was also quite busy and we had to miss at least one planned stop, which we thought will

do on the way back. At some point we came across the road block by police. They were letting cargo tracks coming from the Russian side to pass that section. A queue wasn't for long, but enough to look around and spot two **Horned Larks** on the snow covered field.

Soon we arrived to the hotel, quickly unloaded our luggage, checked in and then immediately went out birding. We've visited eastern gorge, where had four distant **Caucasian Grouses** - all males. We could hear **Snowcock** calls, but that part of the gorge was cover in fog. Our first **Red-fronted Serins** provided very nice views, as well as a low gliding in front of the gorge **Bearded Vulture**. By that time rain was about to shower, so we decided to go back. In the hotel we could enjoy a hot tea with a homemade honey, while scanning surroundings from the terrace. Basically some of the common stuff, but then we've spotted four **East Caucasian Turs** (or Eastern Goat) on the opposite gorge.



Looking for a Red-breasted



Semicollared Flycatcher



Red-breasted Flycatcher

Day 2 | 3rd May: Our next morning started before sunlight, exploring the river valley, with some of the scrubby vegetation. Here numerous Dunnocks, Northern Wheatears, Black Birds and Ring Ouzels were among first sights. Later we could hear Common Rosefinches, White-throated Dipper nicely standing on the boulder, a few Grey Wagtails and Common Sandpipers at the river shore and later our first **Wallcreeper** climbing on the wet sandy wall. Further down to the bushes and we've spotted out some nice wings; a small flock of **Güldenstädt's Redstarts**, with four males and two females, numerous **Caucasian** (or **Mountain**) **Chiffchaffs** and four **Great Rosefinches** in flight. The morning task was done and we went back to hotel for a breakfast. Soon it's started to drizzle, and according to the weather forecast it didn't look promising either, but we still went out after breakfast.



Güldenstädt's Redstart

Visiting closest spot, we stayed not far from our bus, in order to shelter when needed. Despite of such conditions we've managed to get some interesting sights, including one **Golden Eagle** in flight, a few Steppe Buzzards, even one European Honey Buzzard and a huge flock of Yellow-billed (Alpine) Choughs. When the weather got worse we decided to escape away from clouds and went northwards to the Russian border. Just about ten kilometers' distance, but surprisingly it was sunny here. We occupied Monastery's terrace and enjoyed nice birds flying around.



The eastern gorge

We had more than ten **Eurasian Griffon** and three **Bearded Vultures**, one **Golden Eagle** again, Eurasian Sparrowhawk and some other common species. Not to forget about two **Eastern Goats** grazing on surrounding rocky slopes. It was a good decision to take a picnic lunch from hotel, because at the monastery yard there is a nice picnic area; newly constructed, very organized with nice long table and enough seats, so we could enjoy our leisurely lunch and coffee in the nature.

We didn't stay very long, but went back to the village. It was sunny this time, but still a bit windy. Visiting the eastern gorge we took a short walk around. Further up we heard **Snowcocks**, while later one just flew overhead and landed a few hundred meters away on the ground. Presumably it was pursued by Fox. One was seen before roaming along the slopes. Here we also saw one male **Rock Thrush**, one distant **Wallcreeper** and three Red-throated Pipits. Later we've shortly relocated to the southern valley, with some of the gorgeous snowy mountain views and a flock of noisy **Red-fronted Serins** all around, numerous Twites in the tree, a pair of a Black Redstarts, curious looking Wrens and a single Hoopoe. Weather kept nice and in the evening we've given another try for the southern gorge, with a hope to get better views of a **Caucasian Grouse**. We had again four males, but closer... much better views than yesterday.



Red-fronted Serin

Day 3 | 4th May: Wishing still a bit better views of a **Caucasian Snowcock**, we've repeated same place again in the morning. Short time scanning and we've spotted two Snowcocks seating on the rock-top and calling... fantastic views, even closer than Grouses yesterday. At the neighboring slope **Caucasian Grouses** were performing a spring dance; five males and three females. Certainly we spent quite some time enjoying these true prides of the Caucasus's birdlife. Later we walked up the slope, where **Great Rosefinches** were seen feeding on the ground. After about an hour it's started to rain and we started back to the car.



Rock Thrush

On a walk down; a **Rock Thrush** on the ground, **Caucasian Chiffchaffs** in the buckthorn bushes and a flock of **Great Rosefinches** hiding from rain in the tree. During a breakfast it was heavily raining continuously, partly snowing and we decided to stay in the hotel. Some of us occupied front windows to watch what's around. The rain dropped down some interesting migrants, such as Tree and Meadow Pipits, Ortolan Buntings, Yellow Wagtails, etc. The rain stopped only in the evening and we immediately stepped out. Visiting one of many scrubby parts along the river valley we've obtained quite some nice observations compensating our half day loss. Among highlights, quite numerous **Güldenstädt's Redstarts** and **Great Rosefinches**, Red-backed Shrikes and a single Lesser Grey Shrike, White-throated Dippers again, European Bee-eaters sheltering in the three and three **Wallcreepers**.



Wallcreeper

Day 4 | 5th May: Next morning we returned back to here again. It was raining and snowing all night long, so supposedly we had to get some nice sightings, especially photographers were keen to have another opportunity to capture **Güldenstädt's Redstart** and **Great Rosefinch**... they were many this morning, more than on all other days together and the activity was quite exciting too. As it was our last day in the Greater Caucasus, after breakfast we loaded our luggage to the bus and headed to the uplands of the Lesser Caucasus Mountains. The journey took us



Great Rosefinch

about seven hours, with all birding stops and a picnic lunch in the nature. Today we again had to skip one planned stop along the military road. Here we would expect seeing a White-winged Snowfinch, but unfortunately everything was covered in snow, with no chance to park. We could luckily stop at the viewpoint further down, where came across with busy raptor migration. The most numerous Steppe and European Honey Buzzards were streaming and floating over the valley, alongside with Black Kites, **Levant Sparrowhawks** and one seen a **Montagu's Harrier**. We also had a few interesting passerines here, such as small flock of Common Linnets, two Alpine Accentors feeding on the ground, etc. A cup of hot wine and we drove further. Before arriving to our town, we had a few

more birding breaks along the way, including one at craggy hillsides, with a pair of **Golden Eagles** soaring around. Upon arrival we first went to the restaurant for dinner. We kept coming to the same place every evening. It was the best place in the town, where cooking delicious mixture of Georgian and Armenian food. Why Armenian, because this town is placed no long from Armenian border, where majority of citizens are ethnic Armenians.

Day 5 | 6th May: On next day we used 4x4 vehicles, taking us northwards to one of many beautiful alpine lakes, where a small isolated colony of **Velvet Scoters** breed. We had twenty-six individuals this morning, alongside with lots of Armenian Gulls and surprisingly single sight of one Lesser black-backed (or Baltic) Gull at the small island. A cup of coffee at the shore and soon we relocated lower down to the marshy area, with some of the interesting array, like Common Cranes, Yellow Wagtails (mainly Feldegg race), both Whinchats and Common Stonechats, a few Steppe Buzzards, Western Marsh Harriers, Black Kites and two **Lesser Spotted Eagles**, while passing boulder fields on the way up to the lake we had quite numerous Song Thrushes.

In the afternoon we returned back to hotel. Weather was pleasant and warm, so we seated out for lunch in the yard. Afterwards we've given a visit to the cave monastery; one of the most impressive cultural and historical sites in the country, also providing some of the quality birding opportunities. Here we had a nice walk and quite a few remarkable species, including very well seen **Blue Rock Thrushes**, **Western Rock Nuthatches**, **Red-fronted Serins**, first for the trip **Alpine Swifts**, one **Bearded Vulture** and many more.



Western Rock Nuthatch



Blue Rock Thrush



Cave town and monastery

Day 6 | 7th May: A bright sunny morning, a few nice birds before departure in park just opposite to our hotel and soon we headed south towards the Turkish border. A few small size wetlands along the road were interesting sites for various water species. Making stop at one of such wetlands we encountered Common Cranes, White Storks, two Purple Herons, one Great Bittern and three **Dalmatian Pelicans**, while exploring much larger lake at the border, both **Dalmatian** and **Great White Pelicans**, as closely flying or floating in the water, as well as far at, so



Armenian Gull

called Pelican Island. Apart from that, Armenian Gulls were another numerous sight here, many heard, but hardly seen Cetti's Warblers, lots of Yellow Wagtails (race *feldegg*), one Siberian Stonechat *maurus* and some other common stuff. Relocating further to the east, today we've visited a few more nice alpine lakes, with more **Dalmatian** and **Great White Pelicans**. Armenian Gulls and Common Cranes also became frequently observed at almost every other spot, as well as White Storks; they nest on the rooftops and pylons in local villages. Our last lake of the day provided slightly different observations: A large colony of Black-crowned Night Herons, Ruddy Shelducks, Northern Lapwings, quit numerous Yellow and **Citrine Wagtails**, Sedge Warblers, a flock of Ruffs, with a few cool looking spring plumaged males amongst, and we also saw two Muskrats.



Alpine lake

Day 7 | 8th May: Today we made slightly longer journey towards the country's easternmost corner. Before completely leaving the Lesser Caucasus part, we have visited a few lakes along the drive, with our first **White-tailed Eagle**, numerous Yellow and **Citrine Wagtails**, Armenian Gulls... plenty again and some of the common wildfowl sights, including quite a few Tufted Ducks. Weather was fantastic and we couldn't refuse having a cup of coffee and tea at the lake shore, with some of the great views of the snowcapped mountains. Once we left an

Yellow Wagtail (race *feldegg*)

alpine zone it became a lot warmer and we've even asked our driver to turn on the air conditioner. Passing already Tbilisi, we made one more break for forest birding. This place usually provides very nice selection of woodpecker species, alongside with other diverse woodland birds. Great, Middle Spotted and Lesser Spotted Woodpeckers were nicely seen, while Black Woodpecker was only heard, as well as Scops Owl. Arriving to our hotel, a wealthy table of Georgian dishes and several types of wine was already served for us... such a great ending of a long and trying day.

Day 8 | 9th May: From today onwards we switched to the two four wheel drive vehicles, supporting during drive communication via walkie-talkies. The area of our last three days' birding consists of vast steppes and semi-deserts... impressive savannah like landscapes, with clay hills and canyons. Today we went to the one of several in the region protected areas, all the way through the large plains and landmasses, with numerous European Bee-eaters, Corn and Black-headed Buntings, Hoopoes, Isabelline Wheatears, lots of Calandra Larks, Common Skylars, a few flocks of **Spanish Sparrows**, Little Owls and many more. Amongst raptors Common and Long-legged Buzzards spotted frequently, both **Eurasian Griffon** and **Cinereous Vultures**, while the delight was to see several **Eastern Imperial Eagles**, including an adult in the nest with two nestlings.



Eastern Imperial Eagle

Close to the afternoon we arrived by the dam. The sun was already baking by that time and we took a break, while sheltering under the tree and enjoying tasty lunch provided by our hotel. A coffee tea afterwards and we took a short walk in the surrounding scrubs, where one of the first spotted birds was a displaying **Eastern Orphean Warbler**. Diving deeper down the slope we did obtain some other highlights, including pair of Penduline Tits busy carrying food for nestlings, one **Eastern Olivaceous Warbler**, couldn't spot, but heard Great Reed and Cetti's Warblers, Syrian



Menetries's Warbler

Woodpecker gifted us with very good views for long enough, as well as after searching for a while we did finally find the area's another expected target, a **Menetries's Warbler**. First we heard its distinct call and soon we spotted it and got very nice prolonged views. What's more, we were hearing **Black Francolins** all the time... seemed they were just a few meters away, but not showing up, so we've decided to walk higher up to the road and occupy the point, from where we would have better views over the entire area. We did so and scanning the gaps of open patches between tall vegetation we encountered quite a few males and females. Exploring some ravines on the other side of the dam, we saw many European Bee-eaters, **Rollers**, one **Pied Wheatear**, one **Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin**, three Lesser Kestrels and some other common stuff.

Day 9 | 10th May: Today we've given a visit to the eastern part of the National Park. Passing large farmlands and wheat fields numerous **Montagu's Harriers** nicely showed in flight, while later one seen on the ground eating its morning prey. Surprisingly one **White-tailed Eagle** flashed from the field... quite an unusual sight for this particular area, and two more **Eastern Imperials Eagles** this morning. In the park Eurasian Golden Orioles, Tawny Pipits, Common and Lesser Whitethroats, Common Nightingales, Hawfinch, our first for the trip **Green Warbler** and a some other species. Here we also discover a small rain puddle, where a few



Montagu's Harrier

nice birds were coming to drink, including Linnets, Black headed Buntings and Ortolan Buntings. Soon we continued eastwards to the viewpoint, with some of the splendid views over the whole valley and both **Pied** and **Finsch's Wheatears**, **Western Rock Nuthatch** and only heard Chukar.

It was already noon and fairly hot, so for a lunch we've returned back to hotel, as well as to have a few hours rest before heading for the second part of our program. After lunch and then about two hours brake we made our way to the gorge, also known as the raptor gorge. This place usually reveals an interesting array of migratory, but specifically local breeding raptors, alongside with a few other non-raptor highlights. Here we had various Buzzards, including European Honey, numerous **Short-toed** and **Booted Eagles**, over a six **Eurasian Griffon** and one **Egyptian Vulture**, two

Lesser Spotted Eagles... later we've witnessed a short, but a few times repeated spectacle of a **Booted Eagle** attacking and chasing a **Lesser Spotted Eagle**. Apart from raptors we had two pairs of **Black Storks** with nestlings. All in all we've spent here couple of exciting hours, before weather changed in a moment. Soon started twisting clouds, thunderstorm and at the end enormous size hail fall. Luckily we've managed to escape on time, but everything ended as quick as started. After long day we still had to work on our species list and pack the luggage for tomorrow's departure.



Black Stork



Booted Eagle attacks Lesser Spotted Eagle



Watching this spectacle...

Day 10 | 11th May: Our last birding day took us through the barren landscapes and to the cave monastery at the southern border with Azerbaijan. We certainly had a few stops along the way, but mostly with common or previously seen species. Exploring surroundings of the monastery we had very nice views of numerous **Rosy Starlings**, **Blue Rock Thrush**, Lesser Grey, Red Backed and Woodchat Shrikes, Black-eared and **Finsch's Wheatears**, one **Green Warbler** and two **Eastern Orphean Warblers**, **Rock Sparrows**, two **Egyptian Vultures** and some other sights. We've also made out a flock of over six **Chukars**... later one was seen taken by a Black Kite. Spending enough time in this interesting and beautiful hotspot, we've relocated to the lake, a distance of about one hour drive.



Eastern Orphean Warbler

Here a big noisy flock of **Rosy Starlings** in the tree, where we had a picnic lunch by the lake, Squacco Herons at the shore, a few species of terns and basically some of the common waterfowl fauna, including a Northern Shoveler. On the way to the capital we again stop at woodlands. We've visited this place on the way to the east on our seventh day, but this time it was a lot more interesting, with five different woodpeckers; Lesser Spotted, Middle Spotted, Great Spotted, Eurasian Green and Syrian Woodpeckers, numerous Golden Orioles, etc.



Rosy Starling

It was another good day indeed! In the evening we took a short walk around the capital's old town and finished our memorable journey with wealthy traditional Georgian dinner in the restaurant. Next morning everyone made an own migration back home.



Team 2019

Overall Conclusions

- ✓ **General:** As the company specializes in organizing small group adventures, this year an announcement was closed in early February, while already having six people signed up for the tour; four persons from the United Kingdom and two persons from Switzerland. Three of our group members arrived a few days earlier in order to spend more time sighting around Tbilisi and visiting different museums, and the rest of the group arrived just night before the commencement day.
- ✓ **Accommodation:** During this tour we used small hotels. Was it a city, town or a village, we occupied some of the best located places, with easy access, organized and properly operating infrastructures, as well as good WiFi. For many people internet connection is one of the key factors, in order to support regular communication with family members or yet to being able to work, while being abroad for so long. What's no less important than anything else is a food. The food was nicely cooked, delicious and quite wealthy in every place we stayed.
- ✓ **Transport:** During most of the tour's days we used regular mini bus... looking new, fresh and comfortable, with properly working heating and air conditioner system. We all know how it goes during birding, especially if visiting remote areas, so our driver was taking care of it every evening and it was always clean. Seats were very comfortable, all with safety belts. By the way, for a group of eight persons in total (including guide and driver) we were using a transport with 16 seats; more than enough places for everyone and all expensive equipment, plus luggage. While birding in the east, we used two similar 4x4 vehicles. Each had six seats, so it was also comfortable enough.
- ✓ **Weather:** A low temperature up in the alpine zones is normal and usual for the beginning of May, but in compare to previous years' experience, so man rainy days in row is unusual. In general, one or two rainy days are fine, even good to force some of the key species to the lower altitudes and this is exactly what gave us big numbers of G黚denst鋎t's Redstarts and Great Rosefinches.
- ✓ **Species:** Surprisingly, this time we have seen much less Booted Eagles and Short-toed Eagles, while these are pretty common sights in the steppes of Georgia. One of the reasons could be weather conditions; the spring has arrived reasonably late this year, what could also make birds to arrive later. We had a different tour afterwards, where also visited Georgia's steppes and this time we saw both species quite frequently.

All in all the tour was successful, with most of the expected target species reached. One of the several factors for it was a team itself; very nice people first of all, but also very experienced and motivated birders, with full mode focus and concentration during entire birding process.

Continue to the final list...

Annotated List of Birds

Nomenclature and taxonomy follow the seven out of nine [IUCN](#) Categories:

NE = Not Evaluated, **DD** = Data Deficient, **LC** = Least Concern, **NT** = Near Threatened, **VU** = Vulnerable, **EN** = Endangered, **CR** = Critically Endangered.

Observation status code:

Number	= quantity seen
Number	= quantity of nestlings seen
Number +	= more than mentioned quantity seen (roughly counted)
N	= numerous seen (uncounted)
F	= frequently observed
H	= heard (but not seen)

Total - **208** | 203 seen and 5 heard

Grebes		Podicipedidae	
1	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	F
2	Red-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps grisegena</i>	32+
3	Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	N
4	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	2
Pelicans		Pelecanidae	
5	Great White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>	N
6	Dalmatian Pelican	<i>Pelecanus crispus</i>	VU N
Hérons, Egrets and Bitterns		Ardeidae	
7	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	F
8	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	F
9	Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>	2
10	Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	N
11	Great White Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	N
12	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	N
13	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	2
14	Great Bittern	<i>Botaurus stellaris</i>	1
Ibises and Spoonbills		Threskiornithidae	
15	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	2
Cormorants		Phalacrocoracidae	
16	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	N
Storks		Ciconiidae	
17	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	N
18	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>	4 ⁴
Waterfowl		Anatidae	
19	Graylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>	2
20	Ruddy Shelduck	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>	N
21	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	N
22	Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>	N
23	Common Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>	N
24	Garganey	<i>Spatula querquedula</i>	N

25	Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>		N
26	Northern Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>		7
27	Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>		N
28	Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>	VU	18
29	Velvet Scoter	<i>Melanitta fusca</i>	VU	26
Birds of Prey		Accipitridae		
30	Egyptian Vulture	<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>	EN	4
31	Bearded Vulture (Lammergeier)	<i>Gypaetus barbatus</i>	NT	6
32	Cinereous Vulture (Eurasian Black Vulture)	<i>Aegypius monachus</i>	NT	4
33	Eurasian Griffon Vulture	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>		F
34	White-tailed Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>		2
35	Short-toed Snake Eagle	<i>Circetus gallicus</i>		6+
36	Eastern Imperial Eagle	<i>Aquila heliaca</i>	VU	6 ²
37	Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>		4
38	Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>		2
39	Lesser Spotted Eagle	<i>Clanga pomarina</i>		9
40	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>		N
41	Levant Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter brevipes</i>		30
42	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>		F
43	Northern Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>		1
44	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>		F
45	Steppe Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo vulpinus</i>		F
46	Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>		N
47	European Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>		F
48	Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>		F
49	Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>		9
50	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>		H
51	Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>		3
52	Red-footed Falcon	<i>Falco vespertinus</i>	NT	2
53	Lesser Kestrel	<i>Falco naumanni</i>		3
54	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>		F
Pheasants and Partridges		Phasianidae		
55	Caucasian Grouse	<i>Lyrurus mlokosiewiczi</i>	NT	15
56	Caucasian Snowcock	<i>Tetraogallus caucasicus</i>		3
57	Chukar	<i>Alectoris chukar</i>		5
58	Common Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>		1
59	Black Francolin	<i>Francolinus francolinus</i>		3
Cranes		Gruidae		
60	Common Crane	<i>Grus grus</i>		10
Rails, Crakes and Coots		Rallidae		
61	Water Rail	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>		H
62	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>		N
63	Common Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>		F
Plovers and Lapwings		Charadriidae		
64	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>		1
65	Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	NT	8
Sandpipers, Stints, Curwels and Snipes		Scolopacidae		
66	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>		N

67	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>	N
68	Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>	1
69	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	N
70	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>	6
71	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>	1
72	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	F
73	Ruff	<i>Calidris pugnax</i>	60
74	Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>	NT 1
Gulls		Laridae	
75	Common Black-headed Gull	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>	N
76	Armenian Gull	<i>Larus armenicus</i>	NT F
77	Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>	1
78	Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>	1
79	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	N
80	White-winged Tern	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>	N
81	Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>	1
82	Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>	N
Pigeons and Doves		Columbidae	
83	Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	F
84	Stock Dove	<i>Columba oenas</i>	2
85	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	N
86	Eurasian Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	VU N
87	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	F
88	Laughing Dove	<i>Spilopelia senegalensis</i>	2
Cuckoos		Cuculidae	
89	Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	F
Owls		Strigidae	
90	Eurasian Scops Owl	<i>Otus scops</i>	H
91	Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>	7
92	Tawny Owl	<i>Strix aluco</i>	H
Nightjars		Caprimulgidae	
93	European Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i>	1
Swifts		Apodidae	
94	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	F
95	Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>	F
Swallows and Martins		Hirundinidae	
96	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	F
97	Eurasian Crag Martin	<i>Hirundo rupestris</i>	N
98	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	N
99	Northern House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	F
Bee-Eaters		Meropidae	
100	European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>	F
Roller		Coraciidae	
101	European Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>	N

Kingfishers		Alcedinidae	
102	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	1
Hoopoe		Upupidae	
103	Common Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>	F
Woodpeckers		Picidae	
104	Black Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus martius</i>	H
105	Eurasian Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>	1
106	Syrian Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos syriacus</i>	2
107	Greater Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>	N
108	Middle Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Leiopicus medius</i>	5
109	Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dryobates minor</i>	1
110	Eurasian Wryneck	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>	1
Larks		Alaudidae	
111	Horned (or Shore) Lark	<i>Eremophila alpestris</i>	3
112	Lesser Short-toed Lark	<i>Calandrella rufescens</i>	N
113	Greater Short-toed Lark	<i>Calandrella brachydactyla</i>	10
114	Calandra Lark	<i>Melanocorypha calandra</i>	N
115	Wood Lark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>	N
116	Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	F
117	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>	F
Pipits and Wagtails		Motacillidae	
118	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>	F
119	Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>	NT F
120	Red-throated Pipit	<i>Anthus cervinus</i>	F
121	Water Pipit	<i>Anthus spinoletta</i>	F
122	Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>	N
123	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	F
124	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	N
125	Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>	F
126	Citrine Wagtail	<i>Motacilla citreola</i>	8
Shrikes		Laniidae	
127	Lesser Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius minor</i>	N
128	Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>	N
129	Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>	F
Accentors		Prunellidae	
130	Hedge Accentor (Dunnock)	<i>Prunella modularis</i>	N
131	Alpine Accentor	<i>Prunella collaris</i>	2
Warblers		Sylviidae	
132	Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>	1
133	Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>	10
134	Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>	N
135	Eastern Olivaceous Warbler	<i>Hippolais pallida</i>	1
136	Common Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>	F
137	Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia curruca</i>	F
138	Garden Warbler	<i>Sylvia borin</i>	1
139	Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	F
140	Eastern Orphean Warbler	<i>Sylvia hortensis</i>	2

141	Menetries's Warbler	<i>Sylvia mystacea</i>	2
142	Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	F
143	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	F
144	Mountain Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus sindianus</i>	F
	Wren	Troglodytidae	
145	Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	2
	Flycatchers	Muscicapidae	
146	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>	N
147	Red-breasted Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula parva</i>	7
148	Semicollared Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula semitorquata</i>	2
149	Common Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquatus</i>	N
150	Siberian Stonechat	<i>Saxicola maurus</i>	2
151	Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>	F
152	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>	F
153	Isabelline Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe isabellina</i>	F
154	Black-eared Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe hispanica</i>	F
155	Pied Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe pleschanka</i>	3
156	Finsch's Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe finschii</i>	7
157	Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>	F
158	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	F
159	Güldenstädt's Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus erythrogaster</i>	60+
160	European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	N
161	Common Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>	N
162	Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin	<i>Erythropygia galactotes</i>	1
	Thrushes	Turdidae	
163	Eurasian Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	F
164	Ring Ouzel	<i>Turdus torquatus</i>	F
165	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	N
166	Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>	N
167	Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>	6
168	Rufous-tailed Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola saxatilis</i>	4
	Long-tailed Tit	Aegithalidae	
169	Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>	N
	Penduline Tit	Remizidae	
170	Eurasian Penduline Tit	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>	2
	Tits	Paridae	
171	Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>	N
172	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>	F
173	Blue Tit	<i>Parus caeruleus</i>	F
	Nuthatches	Sittidae	
174	Wood Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>	1
175	Western Rock Nuthatch	<i>Sitta neumayer</i>	5
176	Krüper's Nuthatch	<i>Sitta krueperi</i>	1
	Wallcreeper	Tichodromidae	
177	Wallcreeper	<i>Tichodroma muraris</i>	6

Dipper		<i>Cinclididae</i>	
178	White-throated Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>	4
Buntings		<i>Emberizidae</i>	
179	Corn Bunting	<i>Miliaria calandra</i>	F
180	Rock Bunting	<i>Emberiza cia</i>	12
181	Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	1
182	Black-headed Bunting	<i>Emberiza melanocephala</i>	F
183	Ortolan Bunting	<i>Emberiza hortulana</i>	N
Finches		<i>Fringillidae</i>	
184	Eurasian Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	F
185	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	F
186	European Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>	F
187	Twite	<i>Carduelis flavirostris</i>	N
188	Eurasian Linnet	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>	F
189	Eurasian Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>	N
190	Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes Coccothraustes</i>	1
191	Red-fronted Serin	<i>Serinus pusillus</i>	N
192	Common Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus erythrinus</i>	F
193	Great Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus rubicilla</i>	50+
Sparrows		<i>Passeridae</i>	
194	Spanish Sparrow	<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>	N
195	Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>	10+
196	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	F
197	Rock Sparrow	<i>Petronia petronia</i>	N
Starlings		<i>Sturnidae</i>	
198	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	F
199	Rose-coloured Starling	<i>Sturnus roseus</i>	N
Orioles		<i>Oriolidae</i>	
200	Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>	13+
Crows		<i>Corvidae</i>	
201	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	F
202	Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	F
203	Red-billed Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>	N
204	Yellow-billed (Alpine) Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax graculus</i>	700+
205	Common Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	F
206	Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>	N
207	Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>	F
208	Eurasian Jackdaw	<i>Corvus monedula</i>	F

Annotated List of Mammals

Wolves, Coyote, Foxes, Jackals		<i>Canidae</i>	
1	Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	1
Squirrels		<i>Sciuridae</i>	
2	Red Squirrel	<i>Tamiasciurus hudsonicus</i>	1
Weasels, Skunks, Otters		<i>Mustelidae</i>	

3	Least Weasel	<i>Mustela nivalis</i>	2
4	Hamsters, New World Rats, Mice and Voles Muskrat	<i>Cricetidae</i> <i>Ondatra zibethicus</i>	2
5	Cattle, Antelopes, Sheep, Goats East Caucasian Tur (or Eastern Goat)	<i>Bovidae</i> <i>Capra caucasica cylindricornis</i>	5

Lepidoptera List

1	Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>
2	Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>
3	Orange-tip	<i>Anthocharis cardamines</i>
4	Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>
5	Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>
6	Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>
7	Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>
8	Comma	<i>Polygonia c-album</i>
9	Queen of Spain Fritillary	<i>Issoria lathonia</i>
10	Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus Icarus</i>
11	Bath White	<i>Pontia daplidice</i>
12	Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>
13	Green-underside Blue	<i>Glaucopsyche alexis</i>
14	Brimstone	<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>
15	Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus malvae</i>
16	Marbled Fritillary	<i>Brenthis ino</i>
17	Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>



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