

Romania

18–27 April 2009

Participants:

John and Susan Rowe
Dudley and Mary Baines
Martin and Susanne Frearson
Kevin Tubb
Norma Bye
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Leader: Tudor Blaj

Long-legged Buzzard

Day 1: After everybody arrived we made our way north with a short stop at a monastery north of Bucharest. Initially it was a bit quiet but then a very obliging Syrian Woodpecker showed well. Close to our first night's stop, we checked a gorge to look for Wallcreeper. The walk through the gorge was very pleasant in the warm afternoon sunshine and we were entertained by Common Chaffinch and White Wagtail. At the top of the gorge we found Eurasian Crag-martin, Alpine Swift, Common Raven and Common Kestrel but sadly no Wallcreeper. As it had been a long day, we decided to check in to the welcoming Casa Zada where we enjoyed a nice hot home-cooked dinner.

Day 2: A short pre-breakfast walk gave us views of Blue, Coal, Great, Marsh and Willow Tits, Black and Common Redstarts and a Great Spotted Woodpecker, and, on the way back to the hotel, Sue spotted a Stoat. Our first stop after breakfast was a gorge where after a long walk we found two Wallcreepers as well as Eurasian Crag-martins, Alpine Swifts, Grey Wagtails and a couple of distant Spotted Nutcrackers. Our packed lunches were eaten in an orchard in Transylvania whilst watching and listening to a singing Yellowhammer. Later, we found Common Treecreeper, Green and Middle Spotted Woodpeckers, Willow Warbler and Lesser Whitethroat, whilst raptors were represented by a pair of Lesser Spotted Eagles, Eurasian Kestrel and Common Buzzard. At Dumbravita Fishponds, we had a nice selection of duck as well as Great and Little Egrets, Black-crowned Night-heron and Purple and Grey Herons. We also saw another (but more distant) Lesser Spotted Eagle. Tonight, as Romania is orthodox with Easter a week later, we enjoyed an Easter dinner, which was followed by a pretty good bird list.

Day 3: A short pre-breakfast walk quickly produced a Lesser Whitethroat, a nice singing male Common Redstart, Fieldfares, five White-throated Dippers and a couple of Grey Wagtails. After breakfast, we drove to the scenic town of Sinaia and drove as high as possible into the mountains on a gravel road. Short stops were made for Mistle and Song Thrushes, Common Treecreeper and Goldcrest but the distant but clear drumming of a Black Woodpecker unfortunately refused to honour us with its presence. Whilst looking for it however, we were rewarded with a very obliging pair of Grey-headed Woodpeckers. In the Alpine meadows, spring flowers such as *Anemone nemorosa*, *rannunculoides*, *crocus* and *silla* were much in evidence and birds seen included Water Pipit and Ring Ouzel. Lunch was taken in a game restaurant and whilst we were waiting for the food to be prepared, a short spell of birding behind the restaurant revealed Dunnock, a pair of Eurasian Bullfinches and a Common Treecreeper. After lunch, we stopped at Poiana Brasov where we went for a walk. Amazingly, not only did we find a close (but very quiet) Eurasian Three-toed Woodpecker but this was also followed by a very obliging Black Woodpecker that even allowed itself to be photographed! At the end of a good day, we headed back for our dinner.

Day 4: With quite a long travelling day today we started very early, with a half past five breakfast and six o'clock departure. First stop in Sinaia proved not very successful but the next one en route at Rodeanu Pond revealed Common Pochard, Greylag Goose, a handful of Pied Avocets and a lot of Ruff. Arriving in Tulcea, we boarded the boat for Crisan. The fast boat gave us good views over the banks of the river where Common Kingfisher, Black-crowned Night-heron, Glossy Ibises in their hundreds and Little Egrets made our journey seem much shorter than it actually was. At arrival at Crisan, we dropped our luggage in the boat to be taken to the guesthouse and decided to stretch our legs a bit. In just a short while we saw three White-tailed Eagles and a Syrian Woodpecker that was kind enough to show and stay long enough for all to take pictures of it. After boarding the boat and transferring to the guesthouse, we dropped our luggage in our rooms and decided to take advantage of the good weather and have a walk around the village. This proved very rewarding as we added a Pied Flycatcher that took a long time to show well and be identified and a Purple Heron that decided that it was easier to get one big pike and not have to bother fishing for another day (we have pictures to prove it!). Booming Great Bittern, Pygmy Cormorant, Sedge Warbler and a Muskrat concluded the birding day followed by a nice dinner and a decent list considering that it was mainly a travelling day.

Day 5: After an early breakfast, we were on our way in a small boat to explore the delta properly. Through the choppy water of lakes, and after a couple of blocked channels where we had to ram the floating islands of reeds that were blocking them out of the way, we got good views of a Eurasian Penduline-tit and its nest, fleeting views of Bearded Tit, and then two pelicans side by side (one each of Dalmatian and White) that allowed us quite close views. In a channel, we found a pair of European Hobbies, Red-footed Falcon, ten Eurasian Spoonbills and a couple of Great Spotted Woodpeckers on some surprisingly thin trees. Red-necked, Black-necked and Great Crested Grebes were all seen along with a large flock of Little Gulls followed by a swarm of Whiskered, Black and White-winged Terns blown in by the strong winds. The Danube was by now very choppy so we disembarked a before reaching the guesthouse and walked back for lunch. On the way we found a Grass Snake that secreted on Tudor's hand and Kevin's gloves when picked up. After lunch, we took a short break followed by a walk around the village where Eurasian Hoopoe, Squacco, Purple and Grey Herons, Black-crowned Night-heron, various egrets, a female Northern Wheatear, Lesser Whitethroat and ubiquitous Tree Sparrows were all seen in the by now near gale force winds. Because of the weather, we returned early to the guesthouse and took an early dinner followed by an excellent birdlog.

Day 6: The morning's pre-breakfast walk again took us behind the village of Crisan where from the dyke we had good views of a pair of Ferruginous Ducks, Sedge Warbler and a big flock of about 30 Common Gulls. After breakfast, we took a boat for a tour north of the village on the channels of Bogdaproste and Trei Iezere Lakes in much better weather conditions. Black-crowned Night-herons, Grey-headed Woodpeckers, a pair of Pied Flycatchers and a Collared Flycatcher that showed very well were excellent sightings. Another Eurasian Penduline-tit, a female hepatic-phase Common Cuckoo followed by a couple of normal Common Cuckoos, Red-footed Falcon and European Hobbies all enlivened the journey. Our boatman, Florin, then drew our attention to an Otter just in front of the boat that gave us a short view but long enough view to identify it. A noisy Grey-headed Woodpecker followed us for a while responding to my whistling before heading back on the Old Danube River channel for lunch. A short break was taken after lunch before we met up at 15.30 for another walk. In the extensive reedbeds, we found a number of Western Marsh-harriers, Garganey, Glossy Ibis and eight Squacco Herons that we kept flying ahead of us. We also some nice damselflies including Common Winter and Southern Emerald. Some distant White Pelicans were seen circling in the distance before Kevin spotted one of the noisiest birds in the area a Savi's Warbler followed by a Blue-headed Wagtail that showed very well. More mundane wildlife watching included watching the local cows swimming across the channel to get to the greener pasture on the other side and also to see the consequences of their action as leeches were attaching on them while they were in the water. With the sun slowly sinking and our stomachs reminding us of the time, we

headed back to the guesthouse for dinner, which was a delicious catfish to finish off another good day of a high note.

Day 7: An early breakfast followed by a walk back to the ship that took us back to Tulcea where we rejoined our bus. On the way to Tulcea from the ship we saw four White-tailed Eagles, hundreds of Glossy Ibises, a Black Woodpecker on the nest (seen briefly by Kevin and Mary) a Tawny Owl (seen by Chris) plus Dalmatian Pelicans and a couple of Red-crested Pochards, which made the journey very enjoyable. Our first stop after re-boarding the bus was for a very shy Little Owl followed by a couple of Red-necked Grebes. Heading on, we reached Celic Dere Monastery where we enjoyed a picnic lunch followed by a walk through the grounds where we found three pairs of Sombre Tits, a very tame Grey-headed Woodpecker, Hawfinches, Blackcaps and a Green Wall Lizard. On the way to Constanta, we made further stops for European Stonechat, Gull-billed Tern and Red-footed Falcon. At another stop for a female Red-footed Falcon, Sue found a Nutcracker in the middle of steppe country, which we had good views of it before it flew off to look for more suitable habitat. Further stops included for Calandra Larks and then at Navodari for a variety of ducks and a nice White-winged Tern. After checking into the hotel, we enjoyed a nice dinner followed by a good birdlist including a few surprises.

Day 8: The pre-breakfast walk took us to the scenic Navodari Refinery Ponds, which were really productive. A good number of ducks, 18 Squacco Herons in the reeds, Common and White-winged Terns and Bearded Tits which showed very well. After breakfast, we departed towards Vadu where our first stop brought us a Yellow Wagtail, Whinchat and our first Eurasian Wryneck of the trip. The next stop was for waders where there were masses of Ruff, Collared Pratincoles, Common Redshanks, Marsh and Curlew Sandpipers and Kentish Plover as well as marsh terns and both Dalmatian and White Pelicans. Moving on towards Histria, the trees around museum had a Long-eared Owl nest with two chicks in it, Wood Warbler and Pied Flycatcher. Lunch was taken by the museum followed by a drive through marshes with literally thousands of Ruff in them. It was difficult not to stop too many times but on the stops we did make we saw Little Stint, Eurasian Curlew and Curlew Sandpiper together with about two hundred White Pelicans flying overhead. On the way to Cheia Dobrogea, further short stops revealed Isabelline Wheatear, Tawny Pipit and very good views of Calandra Lark. Cheia Dobrogea was the final site for the day and although at first we could only find Northern Wheatear, eventually we found both. Pied and (Eastern) Black-eared Wheatears as well as Eurasian Hoopoe and Black Redstart. It had been a tiring day and after dinner sometimes it is difficult to do the birdlog but after the excellent birds we had seen it was important to record everything properly.

Day 9: A pre-breakfast walk to the Black Sea resulted in just an assortment of cormorants and gulls. Breakfast was taken then we were away with the first stop being at the Adamclisi Byzantine Citadel where in addition to Northern Wheatears, we found Common Whitethroat, lots of Corn Buntings and some nice raptors including a good and well-seen Short-toed Eagle. A couple of further stops en route were also raptors with Long-legged Buzzard, Eurasian Hobby and Common Buzzard all seen well. Reaching Canaraua Fetei, we watched a roosting bats colony before settling down to our picnic lunch. Lunch was however, constantly interrupted firstly for an Eastern Imperial Eagle, six European Honey-buzzards on passage, Eurasian Hobby and then our first European Bee-eaters of the trip. After lunch, a walk through the forest yielded Hawfinches, at least three Great Spotted Woodpeckers, one Middle Spotted Woodpecker, Spotted Flycatcher and Wood Warbler. We also heard a Grey-headed Woodpecker and then in a clearing Wood Lark. Butterflies were conspicuous today with Queen of Spain Fritillary and Orange Tip amongst others. Moving on, a short stop was made on the shore of Lake Bugeac where there were 15 Ruddy Shelduck, hundreds more Ruff, about 150 Garganeys and Black-necked Grebe. Arriving at the ferry crossing at Silistra, we found a Common Nightingale in a bush in an orchard that stayed for most of us to see. Calarasi Fishponds proved really good with a Dalmatian Pelican close to the road. Hotel, list and a noisy party (a Baptism) ended a great day.

Day 10: An excellent pre-breakfast walk around the hotel where Kevin found our first Little Bittern, another Common Nightingale showed very well and Squacco Heron, Black-crowned Night-heron, Syrian Woodpecker and a male Common Redstart were all seen. After breakfast, we made a stop at the fishponds where birds seen included Black, White-winged and Whiskered Terns, Sedge Warbler, at least four Great Reed-warblers and really close views of Bearded Tits. With time passing however, we had to press on to Bucharest to catch our flight home. There was time however, for a quick stop for coffee and to do the final checklist before reaching the airport and making our final farewells after an excellent trip.

Tudor Blaj

Birdlist : The figure in brackets is the number of days the species was recorded.

Common Quail (*Coturnix coturnix*) (1) Heard on day 8

Common Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*) (6) Seen most days with more than 10 on day 7

Greylag Goose (*Anser anser*) (6) Seen every day around water all of the Eastern race *rubrirostris*

Mute Swan (*Cygnus olor*) (8) Common around water

Common Shelduck (*Tadorna tadorna*) (2) Not as many as the tour leader expected from previous trip but still seen on 2 days in Dobrogea

Ruddy Shelduck (*Tadorna ferruginea*) (2) En route to the delta then on day 9 more than 15 of them on the lake

Gadwall (*Anas strepera*) (6) Common in the delta and in Dobrogea

Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*) (8) Widely scattered in wetlands

Garganey (*Anas querquedula*) (8) On almost every shallow pond

Northern Shoveler (*Anas clypeata*) (4) Widespread in wetland areas

Red-crested Pochard (*Netta rufina*) (3) Seen in the delta and later in Dobrogea

Common Pochard (*Aythya farina*) (8) Very common

Ferruginous Duck (*Aythya nyroca*) (7) Good views on Rodeanu Pond 6+ and very common in the delta

Tufted Duck (*Aythya fuligula*) (2) Twice in the delta

Northern Pintail (*Anas acuta*) (1) One male on the lake with Ruddy Shelduck

Great Crested Grebe (*Podiceps cristatus*) (8) Common on all open water

Red-necked Grebe (*Podiceps grisegena*) (3) Seen in the delta with a maximum of 6 on day 6

Black-necked Grebe (*Podiceps nigricollis*) (3) Common in the delta at Mamaia and on the sea

Great Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo*) (8) Common and widespread around bodies of water

Pygmy Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax pygmeus*) (7) Common in the delta, but seen also in the mountains and later in Dobrogea

White Pelican (*Pelecanus onocrotalus*) (6) Large numbers in flocks of 100+ in the delta and later in Calarasi

Dalmatian Pelican (*Pelecanus crispus*) (4) Seen in Dobrogea and the delta

Great Bittern (*Botaurus stellaris*) (1) Heard on all water areas and one seen only by Mary in the delta

Little Bittern (*Ixobrychus minutus*) (1) Seen on the last day in Calarasi

Black-crowned Night-heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) (7) Very common in the Delta and in Dobrogea

Squacco Heron (*Ardeola ralloides*) (7) Good numbers in the delta and later in Dobrogea

Little Egret (*Egretta garzetta*) (8) Common and widespread

Great White Egret (*Ardea alba*) (6) Widespread

Grey Heron (*Ardea cinerea*) (8) Widespread in ones and twos plus the breeding colony at the ponds in Transylvania

Purple Heron (*Ardea purpurea*) (7) In ones and twos with good numbers in the delta including the one that got a Pike in front of us

White Stork (*Ciconia ciconia*) (10) Very common nesting in every village en route seen every day

Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*) (4) Seen every day in the delta in hundreds maximum 500 on day 7

Eurasian Spoonbill (*Platalea leucorodia*) (3) In the delta, in Dobrogea and en route to the airport

Common Kestrel (*Falco tinnunculus*) (9) Seen almost every day

Red-footed Falcon (*Falco vespertinus*) (6) Seen in the delta and in Dobrogea with a maximum of 50 on day 8

Eurasian Hobby (*Falco subbuteo*) (5) In ones and twos in the delta and Dobrogea with good views in the willows on the banks of the channels

European Honey-buzzard (*Pernis apivorus*) (1) Seen 10 over Canaraua Fetei

White-tailed Eagle (*Haliaeetus albicilla*) (4) In the delta good views of them with a maximum of 4 on days 4 and 7

Osprey (*Pandion halietus*) (1) One fishing in Transylvania at the fishponds

Short-toed Eagle (*Circaetus gallicus*) (1) 1 at Adamclisi

Western Marsh-harrier (*Circus aeruginosus*) (8) Common over marshes and wetlands

Montague's Harrier (*Circus pygargus*) (1) One female in Dobrogea

Northern Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*) (1) One female distant in Dobrogea

Common Sparrowhawk (*Accipiter nisus*) (1) In Dobrogea on day 9

Common Buzzard (*Buteo buteo*) (7) Seen almost every day also two ssp. *vulpinus* Steppe Buzzard seen

Long-legged Buzzard (*Buteo rufinus*) (1) Seen on day 9 in Dobrogea

Lesser Spotted Eagle (*Aquila pomarina*) (2) Twice in Transylvania with a maximum of 3 on day 2

Eastern Imperial Eagle (*Aquila heliaca*) (1) One third year immature over Canaraua Fetei

Water Rail (*Rallus aquaticus*) (H) Heard on day 8

Common Moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus*) (5) Seen on most wetlands

Common Coot (*Fulica atra*) (9) Numerous on all ponds or lakes

Black-winged Stilt (*Himantopus himantopus*) (2) At Vadu and Histria

Pied Avocet (*Recurvirostra avosetta*) (2) On Rodeanu Pond and at Vadu

Collared Pratincole (*Glareola pratincola*) (1) At Vadu more than 50 nesting

Northern Lapwing (*Vanullus vanellus*) (9) Common everywhere especially in delta along banks

Common Ringed Plover (*Charadrius hiaticula*) (1) At Vadu, and Histria

Kentish Plover (*Charadrius alexandrinus*) (1) Most seen at Vadu

Black-tailed Godwit (*Limosa limosa*) (1) 2 birds at Vadu

Spotted Redshank (*Tringa erythropus*) (2) A maximum of 50 in the delta on day 8

Common Redshank (*Tringa tetanus*) (1) 20 at Vadu

Marsh Sandpiper (*Tringa stagnatilis*) (1) At Vadu 4 birds

Greenshank (*Tringa nebularia*) (5) More than 10 in the delta but also in Transylvania

Green Sandpiper (*Tringa ochropus*) (4) At Vadu and in the delta with a maximum of 4

Wood Sandpiper (*Tringa glareola*) (4) At Vadu and in the delta a maximum of 20

Common Sandpiper (*Actitis hypoleucos*) (6) Delta, Navodari, Vadu and Transylvania

Little Stint (*Calidris minuta*) (2) At Vadu more than 35 on day 8

Temminck's Stint (*Calidris temnickii*) (1) At Vadu 6 birds

Dunlin (*Calidris alpina*) (2) In Transylvania and a max of 15 in the delta

Curlew Sandpiper (*Calidris feruginea*) (2) Seen at Vadu and Histria with a max of 20

Ruff (*Philomachus pugnax*) (7) Almost every day with a more than 2000 at Histria on day 8

Common Snipe (*Gallinago gallinago*) (1) Heard at Histria

Eurasian Curlew (*Numenius arquata*) (1) At Histria one bird

Mediterranean Gull (*Larus melanocephalus*) (3) In the delta and en route on days 8 and 9

Black-headed Gull (*Larus ridibundus*) (9) Seen almost every day and often numerous

Little Gull (*Larus minutus*) (2) Seen at Vadu where they are breeding and in the delta a large flock of more than 80.

Yellow-legged Gull (*Larus michahellis*) (7) Widespread

Caspian Gull (*Larus cachinnans*) (7) Common especially in the delta

Common Gull (3) A large flock in the delta of more than 30

Gull-billed Tern (*Gelochelidon nilotica*) (3) 8 birds max in mixed flocks in the delta

Sandwich Tern (*Sterna sandvicensis*) (1) 2 at Navodari pools

Whiskered Tern (*Chlidonias hybrida*) (5) Common and widespread by far the most common tern

Black Tern (*Chlidonias niger*) (3) Seen in the delta at Vadu and Navodari Ponds

White-winged Tern (*Chlidonias leucopterus*) (5) Seen in the delta and at Navodari ponds

Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*) (4) Seen almost every day mainly in the delta but not as common as Whiskered Tern

Little Tern (*Sterna albifrons*) (1) Vadu ponds 9 birds

Feral Pigeon (*Columba livia*) (10) Widespread seen ever day

Stock Dove (*Columba oenas*) (2) Seen in the delta

Common Wood Pigeon (*Columba palumbus*) (4) Seen in the delta

European Turtle-dove (*Streptopelia turtur*) (2) 1 in Transilvania and 5 at Canaraua Fetei

Eurasian Collared-dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*) (10) Widespread

Common Cuckoo (*Cuculus canorus*) (10) Seen or heard everyday with more than 19 on one day in the delta

Little Owl (*Athene noctua*) (2) En route on 7 near Somova Lake and one on day 10 outside Calarasi

Tawny Owl (*Strix aluco*) (2) Heard by some of our group then seen on day 7

Long-eared Owl (*Asio otus*) (1) One adult next to a nest with two chicks at Histria

Common Swift (*Apus apus*) (4) In Transilvania and in Dobrogea

Alpine Swift (*Apus melba*) (3) Up in the mountains nesting and at Canaraua Fetei

Common Kingfisher (*Alcedo atthis*) (5) Common in the delta

European Bee-eater (*Merops apiaster*) (1) Seen only at Canaraua Fetei and not by everybody

Common Hoopoe (*Upupa epops*) (8) Seen all over Dobrogea and in the delta

Eurasian Wryneck (*Jynx torquilla*) (1) Seen at Vadu two birds

Grey-headed Woodpecker (*Picus canus*) (4) In Transilvania and later in Dobrogea

Green Woodpecker (*Picus viridis*) (1) Two birds in Transylvania

Black Woodpecker (*Dryocopus martius*) (2) Seen in Transilvania and in the delta with good views of the one in Transylvania

Great Spotted Woodpecker (*Dendrocopos major*) (6) Seen in Transilvania, Dobrogea and in the delta

Syrian Woodpecker (*Dendrocopos syriacus*) (5) Very good views of the one in the delta

Middle Spotted Woodpecker (*Dendrocopos medius*) (2) Seen in Transilvania a pair and at Canaraua Fetei

Lesser Spotted Woodpecker (*Dendrocopos minor*) (1) En route on day 8

Eurasian Three-toed Woodpecker (*Picoides tridactylus*) (1) One bird with good views in the mountains at the same location as the Black Woodpecker

Calandra Lark (*Melanocorypha calandra*) (3) Good numbers in Dobrogea

Short Toed Lark (*Calandrela brachydactyla*) (1) Heard in Dobrogea on day 9

Crested Lark (*Galerida cristata*) (4) Common in Dobrogea and en route to the delta

Wood Lark (*Lullula arborea*) (1) At Canaraua Fetei spotted by Kevin

Sky Lark (*Alauda arvensis*) (6) In Transilvania and forests in Dobrogea

Sand Martin (*Riparia riparia*) (5) Seen at Histria in the greatest numbers on day 7

Eurasian Crag Martin (*Ptyonoprogne rupestris*) (1) In the gorges we checked in the mountains

Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*) (10) Seen everyday

Red-rumped Swallow (*Hirundo daurica*) (1) At Canaraua Fetei

House Martin (*Delichon urbicum*) (9) Common in all villages

Tawny Pipit (*Anthus campestris*) (1) One on day 7 inland Dobrogea two birds

Tree Pipit (*Anthus trivialis*) (3) In Transylvania and in Dobrogea

Red-throated Pipit (*Anthus cervinus*) (1) At Vadu one bird

Water Pipit (*Anthus spinoletta*) (1) 3 birds in the mountains

Yellow Wagtail (*Motacilla flava*) (4) Seen in Transylvania, around Histria and in the delta also here were counted the Black-headed and Blue-headed Wagtail

Grey Wagtail (*Motacilla cinerea*) (3) Seen well in the mountains streams

White Wagtail (*Motacilla alba*) (10) Seen well and common

Eurasian Wren (*Troglodytes troglodytes*) (4) Seen in the mountains and Vadu and some heard

White-throated Dipper (*Cinclus cinclus*) (3) Seen in the stream along the gorges and on the stream at our accommodation

Dunnock (*Prunella modularis*) (1) Seen at Sinaia

European Robin (*Erithacus rubecula*) (3) Heard and seen in the forest areas in Transylvania

Thrush Nightingale (*Luscinia luscinia*) (1) Heard on day 9

Common Nightingale (*Luscinia megarhynchos*) (2) Heard and seen on day 9 while waiting for ferry and then next morning in Calarasi Park

Black Redstart (*Phoenicurus ochruros*) (8) Seen in the grounds of our accommodation and later almost every day

Common Redstart (*Phoenicurus phoenicurus*) (7) Seen in Transylvania and later in the delta and Dobrogea

Whinchat (*Saxicola rubetra*) (4) Seen in the mountains and also the lowlands

European Stonechat (*Saxicola rubicula*) (1) In Dobrogea

Isabelline Wheatear (*Oenanthe isabellina*) (1) Seen in inland Dobrogea

Northern Wheatear (*Oenanthe oenanthe*) (4) Seen everyday on mainland Dobrogea and in the delta

Pied Wheatear (*Oenanthe pleschanka*) (1) Bird seen on day 8 inland Dobrogea

(Eastern) Black-eared Wheatear (*Oenanthe hisp. Melanoleuca*) (1) 2 birds a male and a female inland Dobrogea on day 8

Eurasian Blackbird (*Turdus merula*) (10) Seen in most forested areas every day

Ringed Ouzel (*Turdus torquatus*) (1) Seen nearby Sinaia

Fieldfare (*Turdus pilaris*) (4) Seen every day in the grounds of our accommodation in the mountains

Song Thrush (*Turdus philomelos*) (6) Seen in most forested areas

Mistle Thrush (*Turdus viscivorus*) (3) Seen in the mountains

Savi's Warbler (*Locustella luscinioides*) (6) Common in the Delta and in Transylvania heard on 6 days but seen only on four

Sedge Warbler (*Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*) (5) Seen in Transylvania, delta and in Dobrogea

Great Reed-warbler (*Acrocephalus arundinaceus*) (4) The most common warbler and the most obvious

Eurasian Reed-warbler (*Acrocephalus scirpaceus*) (5) Common in the delta and Dobrogea

Willow Warbler (*Phylloscopus trochilus*) (3) Seen in the delta

Common Chiffchaff (*Phylloscopus collybita*) (9) Heard most days and seen on four days

Blackcap (*Sylvia atricapilla*) (6) Female up in the mountains and later in the delta and Dobrogea

Lesser Whitethroat (*Sylvia curruca*) (6) Seen in Transylvania and later in the delta

Common Whitethroat (*Sylvia communis*) (3) In Dobrogea on three days

Garden Warbler (*Sylvia borin*) (1) Heard on day six

Wood Warbler (*Phylloscopus sibilatrix*) (3) Heard in the mountains and seen in the Dobrogea

Goldcrest (*Regulus regulus*) (2) Seen in Transylvania on day 3 and 4

Spotted Flycatcher (*Muscicapa striata*) (2) Only on the last two days probably they were just arriving

Collared Flycatcher (*Ficedulla albicollis*) (1) Seen in the delta after a long hide and seek game with the tour leader

Pied Flycatcher (*Ficedulla hypoleuca*) (4) Seen in the mountains and in the lowlands

Bearded Tit (*Panurus biarmicus*) (4) A flock of 12+ at Vadu and then in different locations in the delta

Great Tit (*Parus major*) (10) Common and widespread
Eurasian Blue Tit (*Cyanistes caeruleus*) (9) In the mountains and in the delta
Long-tailed Tit (*Aegithalos caudatus*) (6) Heard and seen in the delta
Marsh Tit (*Parus palustris*) (3) In the mountains seen on days 2 and 3 and then heard on day 6
Willow Tit (*Parus montanus*) (3) Up in the mountains common around our accommodation
Coal Tit (*Parus ater*) (4) Common in the mountains
Sombre Tit (*Parus lugubris*) (1) Seen on day 7 in Dobrogea
Eurasian Penduline-tit (*Remiz pendulinus*) (2) Seen well in the delta
Eurasian Nuthatch (*Sitta europea*) (4) Seen in the mountains and in Dobrogea
Wallcreeper (*Tichodroma muraria*) (1) Seen on day 2, two birds that offered us great views
Common Treecreeper (*Certhia familiaris*) (3) Seen on 3 days in the forests in Transilvania
Eurasian Jay (*Garrulus glandarius*) (8) In the forested areas very common
Eurasian Magpie (*Pica pica*) (10) Widespread and common
Spotted Nutcracker (*Nucifraga caryocatactes*) (2) Seen on day two but distant then very good views on day 7 in the most unlikely place in the steppes of Dobrogea one bird of the Asian subspecies
Eurasian Jackdaw (*Corvus monedula*) (7) Widespread all birds checked were of the silvery collared form *Soemmerringii*
Rook (*Corvus frugilegus*) (7) Widespread and common
Hooded Crow (*Corvus cornix*) (10) Widespread in small numbers
Common Raven (*Corvus corax*) (5) Seen regularly in the mountains and the in Dobrogea
European Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) (10) Common and widespread
House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) (10) Widespread, particularly numerous around towns
Spanish Sparrow (*Passer hispaniolensis*) (1) On day 8 a flock of 5
Eurasian Tree Sparrow (*Passer montanus*) (9) Common outside towns
Chaffinch (*Fringilla coelebs*) (9) Very common in forested areas
European Greenfinch (*Carduelis chloris*) (5) Seen on day 2, 3 in the mountains then in the delta and in Dobrogea
European Goldfinch (*Carduelis carduelis*) (10) Seen every day including the delta
Eurasian Linnet (*Carduelis cannabina*) (4) Seen in the mountains and in Dobrogea
Northern Bullfinch (*Pyrrhulapyrrhula*) (1) Seen in the mountains on day 3
Hawfinch (*Coccothraustes coccothraustes*) (3) In Transilvania briefly and then in Dobrogea
Yellowhammer (*Emberiza citronella*) (3) Heard and seen in Transilvania then later in Dobrogea
Corn Bunting (*Emberiza calandra*) (6) Common bird on the electrical wires
Reed Bunting (*Emberiza schoeniclus*) (6) Seen in Transilvania, delta, Vadu and Histria

Total 192 bird species

Anatidae

Horse Leach
Roman Snail

Butterflies

Peacock
Orange Tip
Small Blue
Small White
Brimstone
Marbled White

Large White
Red Admiral
Clouded Yellow
Small Copper
Scarce Swallowtail
Swallowtail
Queen of Spain Fritillary
Green Veined White

Moths

Winter Day Moth

Dragonflies

Green Emperor Dragonfly
Common Winter Damselfly
Southern Emerald Damselfly

Insects

Fire Bugs (Assasin)

Amphibians:

Tree Frog
Yellow Bellied Toad
Marsh, Edible and Green Frogs

Reptiles:

Grass Snake
Sand Lizard
Balkan Green Lizard

Mammals:

Roe Deer
Red Squirrel
Otter
Muskrat
European Souslik
Brown Hare
Stoat
Hedgehog
Red Fox
Wild Boar (uprooting)