Report of a birding trip to

Romania

2 – 7 May 2015

by

Dick Meijer and Peter van Scheepen

Dalmatian Pelican, Danube Delta

Danube Delta
Introduction

Intending to enjoy the birds in pristine nature in the Danube Delta and its surroundings we (Juke and Peter van Scheepen and Inge and Dick Meijer) visited Romania from 2 May to 8 May. We had our trip organized by SakerTour (www.sakertour.com or sakertour.office@gmail.com) and were guided and driven by Zoltán Baczó quite professionally. We had no target species (hoped to find Saker Falcon though we didn’t) but expected to see species rarely encountered in our home country and to improve records of those. We recorded 156 species of bird, of which Great Bittern, Common Quail, Common Nightingale, Savi’s Warbler and Willow Warbler were heard only. Also we found 5 species of mammal and 2 species of snake. We were apparently too early for species like Rose-colored Starling, European Honey-Buzzard, Olivaceous Warbler, Icterine Warbler and Levant Sparrowhawk, which we did not see. Especially from the small vessel in which we explored the many creeks and lakes between Tulcea and M23 (Mila 23) photographic opportunities were excellent, the more so as our guide and boats-man had a good sense for ideal photographic situations. We were lucky with the weather with a little rain in Bucharest in the first afternoon and heavy rainfall and a thunderstorm in the last afternoon. In between we had excellent weather, with pleasant temperatures and sunshine, perhaps a little windy, especially on the major lakes. We look back on an interesting and relaxing trip!

Area info

Reservaţia Biosferei Delta Dunării has a surface of 5,800 km² and is not very densely populated. Creeks in the Danube Delta are quite similar to the creeks in the Dutch National Park De Biesbosch (www.nl-debiesbosch.nl) which is much smaller though (90 km²), and surrounded by numerous towns and villages. Wildlife in the Danube Delta, including the lagoons south of it, is of course different from wildlife in De Biesbosch. Striking differences are: Dalmatian and Great White Pelican, Pygmy Cormorant, Red-necked Grebe, Ferruginous Duck, Pallas’s Gull, Squacco Heron, Red-footed Falcon, Gray-headed Woodpecker, Syrian Woodpecker, Black Woodpecker, European Roller, Red-backed Shrike, Hooded Crow, Tawny Pipit, Calandra lark, Greater Short-toed Lark, Crested Lark, Paddyfield Warbler, Sombre Tit (not recorded by us), Collared Flycatcher, Pied Wheatear, Isabelline Wheatear, Ortolan Bunting, Black-headed Bunting, Corn Bunting and Spanish Sparrow; bird species which are easily found in the Danube
Delta and so far not recorded or very rare in De Biesbosch. The same holds for mammals such as Suslik, Raccoon Dog, Otter and Golden Jackal (the latter three were not encountered by us though). On the other hand De Biesbosch has a few species not seen by us in Danube Delta: Cetti’s Warbler, Bluethroat, Short-toed Treecreeper, Carrion Crow, Eurasian Wren, Song Thrush and Dunnock. Beaver is a Biesbosch mammal not found in the Danube Delta.

**Itinerary**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Transport and activities</th>
<th>Accommodation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 May</td>
<td>Flight from Amsterdam to Bucharest and by bus to centre. Walked to the historical centre of Bucharest.</td>
<td>Hotel Relax Comfort Suites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 May</td>
<td>By minibus from Bucharest to Sinoe Lagoon, birding en route.</td>
<td>Pensiunea Grindul Lupilor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 May</td>
<td>Explored the surroundings of Sinoe by minibus.</td>
<td>Pensiunea Grindul Lupilor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 May</td>
<td>By minibus from Sinoe to Tulcea and by boat from Tulcea to M23/Mila 23.</td>
<td>Paradise Delta House</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 May</td>
<td>Explored creeks and lakes west and east of M23 by boat.</td>
<td>Paradise Delta House</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 May</td>
<td>By boat from M23 to Tulcea and by minibus Tulcea to Bucharest; flight from Bucharest to Amsterdam.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Daily log**

**2 May**

Flew from Amsterdam to Bucharest with KLM flight KL 1373, arrived in Bucharest at 13.15 hrs. (1 hour time difference) after a flight of 2 hours and 20 minutes. Drove by bus 783 from Henri Coanda International Airport to station Universitate and checked in at Hotel Relax Comfort Suites ([www.relaxcomfort-suites.ro](http://www.relaxcomfort-suites.ro) or hotel@relaxcomfortsuites.ro). Went by foot to nearby historical centre of Bucharest, went to the giant Houses of Parliament, and had dinner in town. Raincoats were necessary because of drizzle. No noteworthy birds. Slept in Hotel Relax Comfort Suites which was okay.
3 May

Were picked up by our guide/driver Zoltán Baczó (baczozoli@yahoo.com or +40740562215) at our hotel at 9.30 hrs. and drove by minibus from Bucharest to Sinoe Lagoon via Constanța with stops at fishponds of Călărași, cement works of Năvodari and lakes near Vadu. Fine weather. Best birds today: Great White Pelican, Dalmatian Pelican, Little Bittern, Lesser Spotted Eagle (en route, along A2), Collared Pratincole, Long-legged Buzzard, White-winged Tern, Red-footed Falcon, Calandra Lark, Eurasian Penduline-Tit, feldegg-subspecies of Yellow Wagtail and Black-headed Bunting. Slept in Pensiunea Grindul Lupilor (www.grindul-lupilor.ro or +40241876162) with spacey rooms, excellent food and a very hospitable landlady.

4 May

explored the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon in the morning and drove to Sitorman Quarry, passing an interesting rocky slope, Vadu and the gull roost at the Wolf Peninsula again in the afternoon. Beautiful weather. Best birds today: Ruddy Shelduck, Red-crested Pochard, both species of Pelican, Pallid Harrier, Montagu’s Harrier, Broad-billed Sandpiper, Collared Pratincole, Slender-billed Gull, Mediterranean Gull, Pallas’s’ Gull, White-winged Tern, Red-footed Falcon, Lesser Gray-Shrike, Bearded Reedling, Calandra Lark, Greater Short-toed Lark, Paddyfield Warbler (Wolf Peninsula), Thrush Nightingale and Collared Flycatcher (Vadu) and Red-breasted Flycatcher (Sinoe village), Isabelline Wheatear and Tawny Pipit (rocky slope), Pied Wheatear (Sitorman Quarry). Slept in Pensiunea Grindul Lupilor again.

5 May

Drove from Sinoe to Tulcea in the morning with stop at forest on Babadag Hills (missed Sombre Tit there) and went by boat from Tulcea to M23, also called Mila 23, initially on the Danube but most of the time on narrow creeks and lakes, a labyrinth for strangers but apparently familiar ground for our boats-man Romi. Were struck by numbers of Pygmy Cormorant, Great White Pelican, Purple
Heron, Squacco Heron, Black-crowned Night-Heron, White-tailed Eagle, Caspian Gull, Black Tern, Whiskered Tern and Great Reed Warbler. Beautiful weather. Best birds: Red-necked Grebe, Pygmy Cormorant, Great White Pelican, White-tailed Eagle, European Roller, Lesser Spotted Woodpecker, Syrian Woodpecker (only in Sinoe village), Gray-headed Woodpecker, Ortolan Bunting and Hawfinch (latter two in the forest on Babadag Hills).

Slept in Paradise Delta House (www.paradise-delta-house-ro), a modern, well designed hotel with rooms with a view, serving a variety of fish meals.

6 May

7 May

Returned by boat to Tulcea and drove by minibus from Tulcea to Bucharest with stops at pylons near Saraui (where unfortunately Saker Falcon could not be found) and wetlands beyond Saraui. Were dropped off at Henri Coanda International Airport of Bucharest at 16.30 hrs. right in time to catch our KLM flight KL 1376 to Amsterdam (2 hours and 35 minutes). Arrived in Amsterdam at 20.00 hrs. Had strong winds in the Danube Delta and heavy rainfall near Saraui. Best birds: Ruddy Shelduck (Saraui) and Middle Spotted Woodpecker (Danube Delta). Slept at home.

Acknowledgements

We thank Kees Verburg for his comments on an earlier version of this report.
References

Books:

Reports:
- Romania, 1 May to 12 May 2009 by Jan Vermeulen.
- Danube Delta-Dobrudja Spring Tour with Sakertour, 17 – 24 May 2014 by Gábor Simay.
- Romania, Danube Delta & Black Sea, 3 May -11 May 2013 with Limosa Holidays by Stephen Daly.
- Romania, Danube Delta and Black Sea with Limosa Holidays, 9 May to 17 May 2014 by Zoli Baczo.

Websites:
- www.rombird.ro for records of rare Romanian birds.
- www.sakertour.com

Maps:

Inge en Dick Meijer, dfmeijer@hotmail.com
Juke en Peter van Scheepen, p.van.scheepen@casema.nl
Systematic list of birds


1. Graylag Goose (*Anser anser anser*)
   Small numbers seen daily.

2. Mute Swan (*Cygnus olor*)
   Common.

3. Ruddy Shelduck (*Tadorna ferruginea*)
   1 seen at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon and 2 near Sarauí.

4. Common Shelduck (*Tadorna tadorna*)
   Common, not seen in the Danube Delta.

5. Gadwall (*Anas strepera strepera*)
   Small numbers seen.

6. Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos platyrhynchos*)
   Small numbers seen daily.

7. Garganey (*Anas querquedula*)
   12 seen on the fishponds of Călărași; 23 at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon; 7 in the Danube Delta and 2 en route from Tulcea to Bucharest.
8. **Red-crested Pochard** (*Netta rufina*)

   1 seen at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon.

9. **Common Pochard** (*Aythya farina*)

   Common.

10. **Ferruginous Duck** (*Aythya nyroca*)

    10 seen on the fishponds of Călărasi; 8 on the lakes near Vadu and 30 in the Danube Delta on 6-5 and 3 there on 7-5.

11. **Common Quail** (*Coturnix coturnix*)

    2 heard only en route from Bucharest to Constanța; 1 near the Sitorman Quarry and 2 near Saraui.

12. **Ring-necked Pheasant** (*Phasianus colchicus*)

    A few seen and heard.

13. **Little Grebe** (*Tachybaptus ruficollis ruficollis*)

    2 seen in the Danube Delta.

14. **Red-necked Grebe** (*Podiceps grisegena grisegena*)

    Only seen in the Danube Delta, 6 on 5-5; 15 on 6-5 and 1 on 7-5.

15. **Great Crested Grebe** (*Podiceps cristatus cristatus*)

    20 seen on the fishponds of Călărasi and common in the Danube Delta.
16. Eared Grebe (*Podiceps nigricollis nigricollis*)

5 seen on the fishponds of Câlărasi and 16 in the Danube Delta.

17. White Stork (*Ciconia ciconia ciconia*)

Common, a migrating group of 70 birds was seen at Câlărasi.

18. Great Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis*)

Common.

19. Pygmy Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax pygmaeus*)

Common in the Danube Delta.

20. Great White Pelican (*Pelecanus onocrotalus*)

Common in the Danube Delta. Migrating/roosting groups up to 700 birds seen.
21. **Dalmatian Pelican** (*Pelecanus crispus*)

Small numbers seen daily.

22. **Great Bittern** (*Botaurus stellaris stellaris*)

2 heard only around the lakes near Vadu; 1 at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon and 1 in the Danube Delta on 6 & 7-5.
23. **Little Bittern** (*Ixobrychus minutus minutus*)
   
   1♂♀ seen at the fishponds of Călărași.

24. **Gray Heron** (*Ardea cinerea cinerea*)
   
   Small numbers seen daily, more common in the Danube Delta.

25. **Purple Heron** (*Ardea purpurea purpurea*)
   
   Small numbers seen daily.

26. **Great Egret** (*Ardea alba alba*)
   
   5 seen at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon; 15 in the Danube Delta on 6-5; 3 there on 7-5 and 1 seen en route from Tulcea to Bucharest.

27. **Little Egret** (*Egretta garzetta garzetta*)
   
   Small numbers seen daily, more common in the Danube Delta.

28. **Squacco Heron** (*Ardeola ralloides*)
   
   Small numbers seen daily, more common in the Danube Delta.

29. **Black-crowned Night-Heron** (*Nycticorax nycticorax nycticorax*)
   
   Small numbers seen daily, more common in the Danube Delta.
30. **Glossy Ibis** (*Plegadis falcinellus*)
   
   2 seen around the lakes near Vadu; 10 in the Danube Delta on 5-5; 120 there on 6-5 and 15 near Sarau.

31. **Eurasian Spoonbill** (*Platalea leucorodia leucorodia*)
   
   1 seen around the fishponds of Călărași; 2 at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon; 1 in the Danube Delta and 4 near Sarau.

32. **Lesser Spotted Eagle** (*Clanga pomarina*)
   
   1 seen en route along the A 12 from Bucharest to Constanța.

33. **Eurasian Marsh-Harrier** (*Circus aeruginosus aeruginosus*)
   
   Common.

34. **Pallid Harrier** (*Circus macrourus*)
   
   1♀ seen near the Sitorman Quarry.

35. **Montagu's Harrier** (*Circus pygargus*)
   
   Up to 3 seen daily.

36. **Eurasian Sparrowhawk** (*Accipiter nisus nisus*)
   
   1 seen at Constanța and 1 en route from Sinoe to Tulcea.

37. **White-tailed Eagle** (*Haliaeetus albicilla*)
   
   6 seen in the Danube Delta on 5-5 and 1 there on 6 & 7-5.

38. **Common Buzzard** (*Buteo buteo buteo*)
   
   Common en route from Bucharest to Constanța; 1 seen at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon and 1 in the Danube delta.
39. Long-legged Buzzard (*Buteo rufinus rufinus*)
   1 seen en route to Constanța along the A 12; 3 at the Sitorman Quarry and 1 en route from Tulcea to Bucharest.

40. Eurasian Moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus chloropus*)
   1 seen on the fishponds of Călărași; heard only in the Danube Delta on 5-5; 5 seen there on 6-5 and 2 on 7-5 and 1 near Saraui.

41. Eurasian Coot (*Fulica atra atra*)
   5 seen on the fishponds of Călărași; 50 in the Danube Delta on 5-5; 80 there on 6-5 and 20 on 7-5 and 5 near Saraui.

42. Common Crane (*Grus grus*)
   2 seen flying at the Sitorman Quarry.

43. Black-winged Stilt (*Himantopus himantopus*)
   15 seen around the lakes near Vadu; 20 at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon; 4 in the Danube Delta on 6-5 and 15 there on 7-5.

44. Pied Avocet (*Recurvirostra avosetta*)
   10 seen at the cement works of Năvodari; 1 around the lakes near Vadu and 20 at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon.

45. Black-bellied Plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*)
   1 seen around the lakes near Vadu.

46. Northern Lapwing (*Vanellus vanellus*)
   Small numbers seen daily, also 1 en route from the airport to Bucharest.

47. Kentish Plover (*Charadrius alexandrines alexandrines*)
   1 seen at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon.

48. Common Ringed Plover (*Charadrius hiaticula tundra*)
   1 seen at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon.

49. Common Sandpiper (*Actitis hypoleucos*)
   1 seen at the fishponds of Călărași.

50. Spotted Redshank (*Tringa erythropus*)
   1 seen at the cement works of Năvodari; 3 at the lakes near Vadu; 5 at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon and 3 near Saraui.
51. **Common Greenshank** (*Tringa nebularia*)
   
   2 seen at the lakes near Vadu and 1 in the Danube Delta.

52. **Marsh Sandpiper** (*Tringa stagnatilis*)
   
   2 seen at the lakes near Vadu and 2 at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon.

53. **Wood Sandpiper** (*Tringa glareola*)
   
   2 seen at the cement works of Năvodari; 4 at the lakes near Vadu; 50 at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon; 5 in the Danube Delta and 8 near Saraui.

54. **Common Redshank** (*Tringa totanus totanus*)
   
   Heard only at the lakes near Vadu; 2 at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon; heard only in the Danube Delta on 5-5 and 2 there on 6-5.

55. **Eurasian Curlew** (*Numenius arquata arquata*)
   
   3 seen at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon.

56. **Black-tailed Godwit** (*Limosa limosa limosa*)
   
   2 seen at the lakes near Vadu; 5 at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon and 2 in the Danube Delta.

57. **Ruff** (*Calidris pugnax*)
   
   30 seen at the lakes near Vadu; 50 at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon; 1 in the Danube Delta and 1 near Saraui.

58. **Broad-billed Sandpiper** (*Calidris falcinellus falcinellus*)
   
   2 seen at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon.

59. **Curlew Sandpiper** (*Calidris ferruginea*)
   
   12 seen at the lakes near Vadu and 30 at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon.

60. **Dunlin** (*Calidris alpina alpina*)
   
   30 seen at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon.

61. **Little Stint** (*Calidris minuta*)
   
   20 seen at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon.
62. **Collared Pratincole** (*Glareola pratincola pratincola*)

20 seen at the fishponds of Călărași; 5 at the lakes near Vadu and 20 at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon.

63. **Slender-billed Gull** (*Chroicocephalus genei*)

1 seen at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon.

64. **Black-headed Gull** (*Chroicocephalus ridibundus*)

Common.

65. **Little Gull** (*Hydrocoloeus minutus*)

1 seen on the fishponds of Călărași; 10 at the cement works of Năvodari and 40 at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon.

66. **Mediterranean Gull** (*Ichthyaetus melanocephalus*)

3 seen at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon and 2 in the Danube Delta.

67. **Pallas's Gull** (*Ichthyaetus ichthyaetus*)

2 seen at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon.

68. **Yellow-legged Gull** (*Larus michahellis michahellis*)

Common along the coast.

69. **Caspian Gull** (*Larus cachinnans cachinnans*)

Common inland and in the Danube Delta, also seen at Bucharest.
70. **Lesser Black-backed Gull** *(Larus fuscus fuscus)*

1 adult seen at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon.

71. **Little Tern** *(Sternula albifrons albifrons)*

12 seen at the cement works of Năvodari and 2 at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon.

72. **Caspian Tern** *(Hydroprogne caspia)*

17 seen at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon.

73. **Black Tern** *(Chlidonias niger niger)*

20 seen on the fishponds of Călărasi; 1 at the cement works of Năvodari; 5 at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon and 100 in the Danube Delta.

74. **White-winged Tern** *(Chlidonias leucopterus)*

1 seen on the fishponds of Călărasi; 15 at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon and 8 in the Danube Delta.

75. **Whiskered Tern** *(Chlidonias hybrida hybrida)*

Common.

76. **Common Tern** *(Sterna hirundo hirundo)*

Common.
77. **Stock Dove** (*Columba oenas oenas*)

4 seen in the Danube Delta on 5-5; 2 there on 6-5 and 1 on 7-5.

78. **Common Wood-Pigeon** (*Columba palumbus palumbus*)

3 seen around the fishponds of Călărași; 6 in the Danube Delta on 5-5; 12 there on 6-5 and 7 on 7-5.

79. **Eurasian Collared-Dove**

(*Streptopelia decaocto decaocto*)

Common.

80. **Common Cuckoo** (*Cuculus canorus canorus*)

Common.
81. **Little Owl** (*Athene noctua indigena*)
   3 seen at Vadu; 1 at Snoe on 4-5 and 5-5.

82. **Long-eared Owl** (*Asio otus otus*)
   2 seen at the hotel at Sinoe and 1 near Vadu.

83. **Common Swift** (*Apus apus apus*)
   Common at Bucharest, only a few seen outside Bucharest.

84. **Common Kingfisher** (*Alcedo atthis atthis*)
   1 seen at the fishponds of Călărasi; 1 at the cement works of Năvodari and up to 10 in the Danube Delta.

85. **European Bee-eater** (*Merops apiaster*)
   12 seen around the lakes near Vadu; 2 at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon; 4 en route from Sinoe to Tulcea and 4 in the Danube Delta.

86. **European Roller** (*Coracias garrulus garrulus*)
   7 seen in the Danube Delta on 5-5; 5 there on 6 & 7-5 and 3 en route from Tulcea to Bucharest.
87. Eurasian Hoopoe (*Upupa epops epops*)

Seen and heard daily.

88. Eurasian Wryneck (*Jynx torquilla torquilla*)

1 seen at the rocky slope near the Sitorman Quarry.

89. Lesser Spotted Woodpecker
(*Dendrocopos minor buturlini*)

1 seen in the Danube Delta on 5 & 6-5.

90. Middle Spotted Woodpecker
(*Dendrocopos medius medius*)

1♂ seen in the Danube Delta.

91. Great Spotted Woodpecker
(*Dendrocopos major pinetorum*)

1♂♀ seen in the Danube Delta.

92. Syrian Woodpecker (*Dendrocopos syriacus*)

1 seen at Sinoe.

93. Black Woodpecker (*Dryocopus martius martius*)

2 seen in the Danube Delta on 6-5 and 1 there on 6-5.

94. Gray-headed Woodpecker (*Picus canus canus*)

6 seen and heard in the Danube Delta on 5 & 6-5.

95. Eurasian Kestrel (*Falco tinnunculus tinnunculus*)

Common.
96. **Red-footed Falcon** (*Falco vespertinus*)

3 seen around the lakes near Vadu on 3-5 and 6 there on 4-5; 1 en route from Sinoe to Tulcea; 2 in the Danube Delta on 5-5, 4 there on 5-5 and 3 on 7-5 and 5 en route from Tulcea to Bucharest.

97. **Eurasian Hobby** (*Falco subbuteo subbuteo*)

Common, also 1 at Bucharest.

98. **Peregrine Falcon** (*Falco peregrinus peregrinus*)

1 seen in the Danube Delta.

99. **Red-backed Shrike** (*Lanius collurio*)

Common, only 2 seen in the Danube Delta.

100. **Lesser Gray Shrike** (*Lanius minor*)

2 seen at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon.

101. **Eurasian Golden Oriole** (*Oriolus oriolus*)

2 heard only at the Babadag Hills and heard and seen daily in the Danube Delta.

102. **Eurasian Magpie** (*Pica pica pica*)

Common, also seen at Bucharest.

103. **Eurasian Jackdaw** (*Corvus monedula soemmerringii*)

Common, also seen at Bucharest.
104. **Rook** (*Corvus frugilegus frugilegus*)

Common, not seen in the Danube Delta.

105. **Hooded Crow** (*Corvus cornix cornix*)

Common, also seen at Bucharest.

106. **Bearded Reedling** (*Panurus biarmicus biarmicus*)

1 seen at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon.

107. **Calandra Lark** (*Melanocorypha calandra calandra*)

5 seen around the lakes near Vadu; 10 at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon; 30 at the rocky slope near the Sitorman Quarry and 1 en route from Tulcea to M23.
108. Greater Short-toed Lark (*Calandrella brachydactyla brachydactyla*)

3 seen at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon and 10 at the rocky slope near the Sitorman Quarry.

109. Crested Lark (*Galerida cristata tenuirostris*)

Small numbers seen outside the Danube Delta.

110. Sky Lark (*Alauda arvensis cantarella*)

Common outside the Danube Delta.

111. Bank Swallow (*Riparia riparia riparia*)

10 seen above the fishponds of Călărași; and 5 at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon.

112. Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica rustica*)

Common, also seen at Bucharest.
113. **Common House-Martin** (*Delichon urbicum urbicum*)
   Small numbers seen daily.

114. **Great Tit** (*Parus major major*)
   1 heard only at Bucharest; 1 heard only at the Babadag Hills; and common in the Danube Delta.

115. **Eurasian Blue Tit** (*Cyanistes caeruleus caeruleus*)
   Common in the Danube Delta.

116. **Eurasian Penduline-Tit** (*Remiz pendulinus pendulinus*)
   1 seen around the fishponds of Cărărași; 1 heard only in the Danube Delta on 5-5 and 6 seen and heard there on 6-5.

117. **Long-tailed Tit** (*Aegithalos caudatus europaeus*)
   5 seen and heard in the Danube Delta daily.

118. **Eurasian Treecreeper** (*Certhia familiaris familiaris*)
   1 seen at the Danube Delta.

119. **Willow Warbler** (*Phylloscopus trochilus trochilus*)
   1 heard only at Sinoe and small numbers heard only in the Danube Delta.

120. **Common Chiffchaff** (*Phylloscopus collybita collybita*)
   1 seen at Sinoe; 1 around the lakes near Vadu and small numbers heard only in the Danube Delta.

121. **Sedge Warbler** (*Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*)
   1 seen around the fishponds of Cărărași.

122. **Paddyfield Warbler** (*Acrocephalus agricola*)
   5 seen at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon.
123. **Eurasian Reed-Warbler**  
(*Acrocephalus scirpaceus scirpaceus*)

1 seen around the fishponds of Călărasi; 2 at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon and 5 heard only in the Danube Delta.

124. **Great Reed-Warbler**  
(*Acrocephalus arundinaceus arundinaceus*)

Common.

125. **Savi’s Warbler**  
(*Locustella luscinioides luscinioides*)

1 heard only around the fishponds of Călărasi; 2 at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon and 2 in the Danube Delta on 5-5 and 4 there on 6-5.

126. **Blackcap**  
(*Sylvia atricapilla atricapilla*)

1 heard only at Sinoe; 2 seen at the lakes near Vadu; up to 8 heard only in the Danube Delta.

127. **Garden Warbler**  
(*Sylvia borin borin*)

Up to 6 seen and heard in the Danube Delta.

128. **Lesser Whitethroat**  
(*Sylvia curruca curruca*)

Small numbers seen and heard daily.

129. **Greater Whitethroat**  
(*Sylvia communis volgensis*)

1 seen around the lakes near Vadu.
130. **Spotted Flycatcher** (*Muscicapa striata stiata*)

1 seen around the lakes near Vadu and 2 in the Danube Delta.

131. **Thrush Nightingale** (*Luscinia luscinia*)

1 heard only at Sinoe; 2 seen around the lakes near Vadu and 2 heard only in the Danube Delta.

132. **Common Nightingale** (*Luscinia megarhynchos megarhynchos*)

2 heard only en route from Bucharest to Constanța; 1 at the Babadag Hills and 2 in the Danube Delta.

133. **Collared Flycatcher** (*Ficedula albicollis*)

1 seen around the lakes near Vadu and 1 heard only in the Danube Delta.

134. **Red-breasted Flycatcher** (*Ficedula parva*)

5 seen at Sinoe on 4-5 and 2 there on 5-5 and 3 round the lakes near Vadu.

135. **Common Redstart** (*Phoenicurus phoenicurus phoenicurus*)

Common in the Danube Delta.

136. **Whinchat** (*Saxicola rubetra*)

3 seen at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon.

137. **Northern Wheatear** (*Oenanthe oenanthe oenanthe*)

Small numbers seen, not in the Danube Delta.
138. **Pied Wheatear** (*Oenanthe pleschanka*)

8 seen at the Sitorman Quarry.

139. **Isabelline Wheatear** (*Oenanthe isabellina*)

6 seen at the rocky slope near the Sitorman Quarry; 1 en route from Sinoe to Tulcea and 1 en route from Tulcea to Bucharest.

140. **Eurasian Blackbird** (*Turdus merula aterrimus*)

1 seen and 1 heard only at Bucharest and 2 at the Babadag Hills.

141. **European Starling** (*Sturnus vulgaris vulgaris*)

Common, also seen at Bucharest.

142a. **Western Yellow Wagtail (Gray-headed)** (*Motacilla flava thunbergi*)

1♂ seen at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon.

142b. **Western Yellow Wagtail (Black-headed)** (*Motacilla flava feldegg*)

Common, not seen in the Danube Delta.
142c. Western Yellow Wagtail (Black-headed) \((\text{Motacilla flava feldegg})\) ‘superciliaris’

The most common "form" observed. Not seen in the Danube Delta.

142d. Western Yellow Wagtail (Black-headed) \((\text{Motacilla flava feldegg})\) ‘dombrowskii’

At least 1 seen at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon.
143. **White Wagtail** (*Motacilla alba alba*)

Small numbers seen daily.

![White Wagtail](image1.jpg)

144. **Tawny Pipit** (*Anthus campestris campestris*)

1 seen and 1 heard at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon; 5 seen at the rocky slope near the Sitorman Quarry and 1 en route from Sinoe to Tulcea.

![Tawny Pipit](image2.jpg)

145. **Ortolan Bunting** (*Emberiza hortulana*)

1 heard only at the Sitorman Quarry and 3 seen and heard at the Babadag Hills.

![Ortolan Bunting](image3.jpg)
146. **Black-headed Bunting** (*Emberiza melanocephala*)

1 seen en route to Constanța along the A 12 from Bucharest to Constanța.

147. **Reed Bunting** (*Emberiza schoeniclus intermedia*)

2 seen at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon.

148. **Corn Bunting** (*Emberiza calandra*)

Common, not seen in the Danube Delta.

149. **Common Chaffinch** (*Fringilla coelebs coelebs*)

1 seen at Bucharest and common in the Danube Delta.

150. **European Greenfinch** (*Chloris chloris aurantiiventris*)

3 seen at Sinoe and 1 heard only at the Babadag Hills.

151. **European Goldfinch** (*Carduelis carduelis balcanica*)

Small numbers seen outside the Danube Delta.

152. **Eurasian Linnet** (*Carduelis cannabina cannabina*)

1 seen at the Sitorman Quarry.

153. **Hawfinch** (*Coccothraustes coccothraustes nigricans*)

1 seen at the Babadag Hills.
154. **House Sparrow** (*Passer domesticus domesticus*)

Common, also seen in Bucharest.

155. **Spanish Sparrow** (*Passer hispaniolensis hispaniolensis*)

30 seen at Sinoe and at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon; 10 at Sinoe and 20 en route from Tulcea to Bucharest.

156. **Eurasian Tree Sparrow** (*Passer montanus montanus*)

Small numbers seen daily.
Systematic list of mammals

1. **Roe Deer** *(Capreolus capreolus)*

   3 seen en route from Bucharest to Constanța and 3 en route from Tulcea to Bucharest.

2. **Muskrat** *(Ondatra zibethicus)*

   1 seen in the fishponds of Călărasi.

3. **Hare** *(Lepus europaeus)*

   1 seen en route from Bucharest to Constanța and 3 en route from Tulcea to Bucharest.

4. **Red Fox** *(Vulpes vulpes)*

   1 seen at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon.

5. **European Souslik** *(Spermophilus citellus)*

   1 seen at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon; 20 at the rocky slope near the Sitorman Quarry and 1 en route from Sinoe to Tulcea.
Systematic list of reptiles

1. **Dice Snake** (*Natrix tessellate*)
   
   1 seen at the Wolf peninsula in the Sinoe Lagoon.

2. **European Grass Snake** (*Natrix natrix*)
   
   1 seen swimming in the Danube Delta.

3. **European Pond Turtle** (*Emys orbicularis*)

   1 seen at the fishponds of Călărași.
Frogs
Orchids