

# **RUSSIA**

## **- A birding trip on our own during 4 weeks in May/June 2000**

*Ulf and Bodil Lindell*

### ***Our way of travelling***

We like to combine several hobbies when we travel around. In a short period of time we want to obtain a broad picture of places and people. But the main interest is nature and especially birdwatching. Therefore the tempo sometimes is a bit speedy.

We try to obtain means of travelling and living at a low or "medium" budget level and - if it is possible.

The chase for birds though is not always as intense. Sometimes we put birding aside for visits in towns and villages with its people and architecture. We seldom miss the opportunity to take a good bath and try the exciting local food specialities. To put it short – we like to at least get a glance at the country that welcomes us.

### ***Travel destinations - itinerary***

27 –29 May: Moscow

30 May: Sergiev Posad and Abramtsevo, north of Moscow.

31 May – 1 June: Moscow.

2 – 5 June: Listvyanka.

6 – 8 June: Ulan-Ude and Selenga Delta.

9 –10 June: Irkutsk.

11 –12 June: Moscow.

13 –14 June: Vladimir and Suzdal, east of Moscow.

15 –18 June: Astrakhan and Volga Delta.

18 –22 June: Moscow.

### ***Birding experiences***

#### **27 May – 1 June**

We arrived in Moscow for the first five days of sunny and hot weather. A surprising Beeater the first day was certainly promising. Sokolniki Park close to our hotel is worth exploring – we had Blyth's Reed and Greenish Warbler. Next morning in Botanical Garden – with lot of active, singing birds – White-backed Woodpecker, Red-throated Flycatcher and Bluethroat. Next day visit to Sergiev Posad and Abramtsevo was rewarding with Booted Warbler as the gem. Bittsewskij and Bittsa Park in the southern suburbs gave Golden Oriole and Corncrake the following day. Back again the following morning to the eastern outskirts of the Botanical Garden for more White-backed Woodpecker, Bluethroat – both red- and white-spotted - and a Booted Warbler.

#### **2 - 5 June**

Arrived at the airport in the early morning. We were picked up by our travel agents Maria and transported the 60 km to Listvyanka. At 6 a.m. the Siberian bird concert was at it's best. The whole day was spent in the village surroundings and along the shore of Baikal. Cuckoo and Oriental Cuckoo, Eye-browed Thrush, Daurian Redstart, Brown Flycatcher, Siberian Blue Nightingale, and the almost dominating Two-barred Greenish Warbler. And a lot more, of course.

The following morning we hitch-hiked the 40 km to the Korolok bog - much to the surprise of the Russian tourist's who picked us up. We were then several kilometres

from the nearest hamlet. Korolok hosted a great variety of birds – Swinhoe's Snipe, Pallas' Grasshopper, Lanceolated and Thick-billed Warbler and Black-faced Bunting were some of them. On our walk back to inhabited areas we noted Brown, Spotted and Red-breasted Flycatcher, White's Thrush and Chestnut Bunting. Another hike towards and we were at Bolshaja Retjka and saw Ruddy Shelduck, Crested Honey-Buzzard, Richard's Pipit and Citrine Wagtail.

The next day in Listvyanka gave new species like Greater Spotted Eagle, Rufous-tailed Robin, Siberian Rubythroat, Spotted Bush Warbler, Gray's Grasshopper Warbler and Brown Shrike.

The last day close to Baikal gave new experiences such as Eastern Rock Dove, Needle-tailed Swift and a pale race of Sand Martin. In Irkutsk we met the black-billed race of Common Tern and our first Siberian Chiffchaff.

#### 6-8 of June

We took the night train further east to Ulan-Ude. We arrived in the morning and got acquainted with the birdlife along the Selenga shores. A taxi brought us to Ivolginsk where we experienced a windy afternoon around the Buddhist datsan – in a grassy steppe area. Some bushy and boggy parts made good contributions to the birdlife. Lapwing, Curlew, Mongolian and Short-toed Lark, Jackdaw and Pine Bunting were just a few of the species we noticed.

Next day, we started early for a taxi-trip to the south and east of Ulan-Ude. First we made attempts along the Selenga River with Ruddy Shelduck, Steppe Eagle, Upland Buzzard, Azure Tit, Azure-winged Magpie, Long-tailed Rosefinch and Meadow Bunting. The wooded hills further east produced Siberian Rubythroat, Black-eared Wheatear, Daurian Jackdaw and a very surprising Pallas's Rosefinch.

The same taxi driver took us 100 km north to Selenga Delta the next morning. A prayer to Buddha was taken by throwing small coins from the car when the Volga succeeded its climb over a mountain pass. After a strange and exciting ferry passage over the Selenga near Trescova executed by two tugboats – we arrived at the delta. We had a lovely time at high banks overlooking the marshy delta. Almost immediately we got a warm welcome by 10 over-flying Demoiselle Cranes. Other gem's was Spot-billed and Falcated Duck, Peregrine, Black Stork, Long-toed Stint and Marsh Sandpiper. Top numbers included Oriental Stork, Asiatic Dowitcher and Buff-bellied Pipit. On our way back to Ulan-Ude we had Gray's Grasshopper Warbler, Thick-billed Warbler and Meadow Sparrow.

#### 9-10 of June

The night train took us back to Irkutsk for urban excursions in 32 degrees Celsius. Interesting wooden architecture and a big crowded market hall full of fish, meat, vegetables and fruit. The small hamlet called Bolshoj Goudonov about 40 km east of Irkutsk was the goal for a taiga excursion arranged by Maria Travel agent. A guide took us through the game and bird rich territory. We encountered some new species here such as Eagle Owl, Mugimaki Flycatcher and Brambling. There were a lot of ticks as well. A perfectly grilled shashlyk accompanied by Thick-billed Warbler and Brown Shrike ended a pleasant day. The next morning we flew back to Moscow.

### 11-14 of June

Arrived at Sheremetievo airport in the morning and the welcome committee included a Red-footed Falcon and six Little Gulls. Thereafter we had new opportunities to visit the Botanical Garden.

A combined old-church and birding trip to Vladimir and Suzdal followed. Good birding south of the River Kliasma in Vladimir where we met our first and only Quails and Barred Warbler.

### 15-18 of June

We took the flight to Astrakhan from the Domododevo Airport. From the Astrakhan Airport we took a taxi direct to our Hotel Lotos, next to Volga River. The same driver was engaged to take us on a bird sight seeing tour west of Astrakhan and the River Volga. First we had a brief look over the river from the restaurant – and there were three Red-footed falcons and an adult Great Black-headed Gull together with a dozen Herring Gulls - a good start to the visit here. Later we tried our best to avoid too much of suburban traffic and instead concentrate on the steppe areas, the ponds and the canals. We were rewarded with lots of different Herons, Red-footed Falcons, Bee-eaters and Rollers. Better still was some Black-winged Pratincole, Pallid Harrier and Paddyfield Warbler.

The taxi-driver turned out to be a real handyman offering both fresh black caviar ("Ikra" in Russian), further sight-seeing and boat trips to the Volga Delta. As the sturgeon population has reduced to a tenth of its normal, we turned down his first offer. But we certainly agreed to the last proposal. So we ended our day with an agreement with Mr Nikolaj Bytjek in his house boat, to pick us up early at the hotel for a trip all the way out to the Caspian Sea. In the evening we booked a new taxi outside our hotel for the following morning.

The 16:th at 5.30 a.m. it was time to leave for a tour out in the semi-desert west of Astrakhan. A paradoxical dry landscape scattered with small narrow lakes stretched out from west to east. There was heavy reedbeds in between. A rich birdlife included Red-crested Pochard, Ferruginous Duck, Terek Sandpiper, Blue-cheeked Bee-eater, Calandra Lark and Isabelline Wheatear. Near the hamlet Nikolajevka (30 km W of Astrakhan) there was a large colony of Rose-coloured Starling. Further Southwest – about 100 km from Astrakhan – lies Liman, said to host several nests of Steppe Eagle. We did not visit this area though.

The following morning we were picked up early as arranged for the trip through the Volga Delta. We paid 2000 roubles for the tour in a small boat. Accompanied by Nightingale and Penduline Tit, we steamed – or rather burst – out from the Astrakhan harbour in a small "racing" boat. The Ukrainian Nikolaj Bytjek – a copy of Papa Hemingway – was our guide and captain. The somewhat speedy start slowed down as we entered the real delta with its surrounding reedbeds. We saw cormorants, herons and terns everywhere. We had very good numbers of Sea Eagle, Red-footed Falcon, Great Black-headed Gull and Roller as well. Highlights were Pygmy Cormorant, Saker and four surprising Arctic Skuas.

Our last morning in the south was destined for the desert-dry sanddunes north west of Astrakhan – around Narimanov. The nature experience was a bit disturbed by all the power lines cutting the landscape in pieces but we saw some exciting birds. Steppe Eagle and a probable Desert Warbler were most thrilling, Ménéties's Warbler and

Lesser Grey Shrike was more abundant. At mid-day it was time for us to leave for Moscow.

### 18-22 of June

Back in Moscow again. Must mention the White Stork I saw below the aircraft when landing in southern Moscow. We had just erratic birdwatching the rest of our stay in Russia. A trip to Serpuchov and the Oka River 100 km south of Moscow was too rainy to be successful.

## ***Visited bird areas***

### In Moscow

For most western birders the most interesting birding spots are east of the Ural. But some of the parks in Moscow can be very rewarding for the cultural naturalist or “family tourist”. One of the best birding spots in Moscow is in - and just east of Moscow's Botanical Garden. To get here take the Metro to Botanitjeskij Sad and head through the small forest heading west. Pass the Yauza stream and the open field – good birding here. Continue further west, crossing the road near a small bridge over Likhoborka stream and continue for the Garden.

One morning we took the Metro to the southern end station Bittsevsckij Park and crossed the park birding from south to north. Good reward with species such as Oriole, Bluethroat, River and Greenish Warbler and Red-breasted Flycatcher. The northern part of the park (Bittsa Park) – including the area around the Hippodrome - was the best.

### North of Moscow

Abramtsevo is famous for its artist's museum but has also a nice nature environment. The area includes fir forest, meadows and a small lake. We had some fine birding here – with Wryneck, Booted Warbler and Blyth's Reed Warbler. To get here take the suburban train from Yaroslavl Station in direction Sergiev Posad. Three stop from there (we took it on our way back) is the platform. From there take the path westwards through the forest to the lake. Near the artist museum up the hill there is a small grocery.

### South of Moscow

Our day in Serpuchov near the River Oka was not successful – due to heavy rain. However the Oka estuary is said to have a great potential – with species such as Pallid Harrier, Black and White-winged Terns and Citrine Wagtail. Near Serpuchov – in Danki – there is a Biosphere Reserve (Prioxko-Terrasny) with marshes and meadow steppe. The parks gem is the European bison. To get here take the suburban train from Kursk station – at Serpuchov station (2 hours and 15 minutes later) take a taxi to the reserve for a guided tour. Give the driver a time to pick you up for the returntrip.

### Around Irkutsk - Listvyanka

Sixty kilometres from Irkutsk is Listvyanka – a splendid location at the mouth of the Angara River with fantastic view over Lake Baikal. The coastline is steep but small streams and rivers have created valleys that stretch inland. Along the lakeside are a couple of hamlets consisting of charming wooden houses. The hills are below 1000 meter and covered with mixed forest – mainly birch some other leaf trees and fir. The best birding opportunities are along dirt roads in the valleys and some paths in the forest and the road near Hotel Intourist Baikal. See the map below.

Bolshaja Retjka is a village some ten kilometres from Listvyanka. South of the village is a moorland and banks connected to the Angara River. This area is good for ducks, waders, Richard's Pipit and Citrine Wagtail. Another "must" for the birder in this area is the Korolok bog. It is some 35 kilometres from the Baikal and we got there by an early morning hitchhike with some Russian tourist's. The birdlife in the bog and the surrounding forest is very rich. Ongoing small fires and smoke in the forest made some limits to our sight.

### South of Ulan-Ude

Ulan-Ude offered effective transportation only by taxi. Our time south of the city was limited to two days and we had no birding information to follow. We took short footwalks mainly in the flat steppe area not far from the Selenga River. Therefore our birdobservations were rather limited.

About 60 km SW from Ulan-Ude is the Buddhist's datsan of Ivolginsk. The area consists of grassy steppe, with scattered group of trees. The area between the Datsan and the hills further west was good for Buntings, Swifts and Woodpeckers. The drier areas further north produced larks – among them Mongolian Lark.

South of Ude along the Selenga we saw Ruddy Shelduck, Upland Buzzard, Steppe Eagle, Short-eared Owl, Daurian Jackdaw, Long-tailed Rosefinch, Meadow Bunting and some more. After 25 km we took an eastern route back north to Ude. The road follows hillsides mainly covered with pine. A stop at a small pond just 10 km from Ude produced Pallas' and Long-tailed Rosefinch, Rubythroat and Crested Honey-Buzzard. The first one was a real surprise.

### Selenga Delta

100 km north west of Ulan-Ude the Selenga River transforms into the vast Selenga Delta. The taxi took us there on the west bank of the river, and we later crossed it by ferry near Treskovo.

At the village of Kodara and further east one get good overviews of this part of the delta. High sandy banks covered with short grass made our viewpoint. We had some splendid moments out here. A white Stork came overhead and landed for a short while, then took off for a flight further north into the delta. Sadly I couldn't be positive about the colour of the beak. Most likely - according to the species normal distribution – it was an Oriental Stork, probably not a White Stork (*C. c. asiatica*). Ten Demoiselle Cranes flew over. There was a lot of Greylag Geese and ducks – and among them at least one pair of Falcated Duck and four Spotbill Ducks. Among the Bar-tailed Godwits, an Asian Dowitcher was discovered, and at close range, also a Long-toed Stint. The most exciting passerine was a singing Buff-bellied Pipit.

The Selenga Delta must be even more fantastic during bird migration – in May and September-October.

### Astrakhan

The city centre is situated on Volga's east bank some 90 kilometres North of the Caspian Sea. The lush delta holds a great variety of birds. Except for the delta the town is surrounded by semi-desert with specialities like Menétriés's Warbler, Desert Warbler, Black-winged Pratincole and Steppe Eagle.



Great Black-headed Gull, Volga Delta

### ***Bird observations***

The taxonomy below follows D. W. Snow and C. M. Perrins "Handbook of the Birds of Europe, the Middle East, and North Africa", Concise Edition (1998), or BWP. We saw a total of 255 species during four weeks in Russia.

**Great Crested Grebe** *Podiceps cristatus* 25 8.6 Selenga Delta, 1 16.6 W Astrakhan, 1 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Black-necked Grebe** *Podiceps nigricollis* 5 8.6 Selenga Delta.

**Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax carbo* 18 15.6 and 120 16.6 W Astrakhan, 200 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Pygmy Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax pygmeus* 1 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Bittern** *Botaurus stellaris* 1 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Little Bittern** *Ixobrychus minutus* 1 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Night Heron** *Nycticorax nycticorax* 70 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Squacco Heron** *Ardeola ralloides* 18 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Little Egret** *Egretta garzetta* 36 15.6 and 25 16.6 W Astrakhan, 100 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Great White Egret** *Egretta alba* 1 15.6 and 18 16.6 W Astrakhan, 30 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Grey Heron** *Ardea cinerea* 1 6.6 Ulan Ude, 40 8.6 Selenga Delta, 17 15.6 and 45 16.6 W Astrakhan 100 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Purple Heron** *Ardea purpurea* 2 15.6 and 24 16.6 W Astrakhan, 40 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Black Stork** *Ciconia nigra* 2 8.6 Selenga Delta.

**White Stork** *Ciconia ciconia* 1 18.6 Moscow (Domododevo Airport).

**Oriental Stork** *Ciconia boyciana* 1 8.6 Selenga Delta. The white stork I saw here was probably this species, though I can not swear the bill was black. The bird flew in direction from me.

**Glossy Ibis** *Plegadis falcinellus* 4 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Mute Swan** *Cygnus olor* 1 pair 12.6 Moscow, 12 pairs 16.6 Astrakhan, 18 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Bean Goose** *Anser fabalis* 2 2.6 Listvyanka.

**Greylag Goose** *Anser anser* 200 8.6 Selenga Delta.

**Ruddy Shelduck** *Tadorna ferruginea* 2 pair, 24 pull 27.5 Moscow, 2 3.6 Bolshaja Retjka, 4 pair 7.6 S Ulan-Ude, 1 8.6 N Ulan Ude, 14 8.6 Selenga Delta, 1 pair 16.6 W Astrakhan, 8 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Shelduck** *Tadorna tadorna* 3 15.6 and 30 16.6 W Astrakhan.

**Wigeon** *Anas penelope* 5 males, 1 female 3.6 Bolshaja Retjka, 5 males, 1 female 8.6 Selenga Delta.

**Falcated Duck** *Anas falcata* 1 male 1 female 8.6 Selenga Delta. Seen together in the delta together with *A. crecca*.

**Gadwall** *Anas strepera* 1 pair, 6 males 8.6 Selenga Delta.

**Teal** *Anas crecca* 35 8.6 Selenga Delta.

**Mallard** *Anas platyrhynchos* 5 27.5, 20 28.5, 10 31.5, 1 female, 3 pull 1.6 and 8 12.6 Moscow, 20 3.6 Bolshaja Retjka, 27 8.6 Selenga Delta, 1 female 16.6 W Astrakhan, 16 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Spotbill Duck** *Anas poecilorhyncha* 4 8.6 Selenga Delta.

**Pintail** *Anas acuta* 1 pair, 2 males 8.6 Selenga Delta.

**Garganey** *Anas querquedula* 5 males, 1 female 3.6 Bolshaja Retjka, 1 male 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Shoveler** *Anas clypeata* 3 males, 1 female 3.6 Bolshaja Retjka, 2 pairs, 20 males 8.6 Selenga Delta.

**Red-crested Pochard** *Netta rufina* 45, 1 fem+17 pull 16.6 W Astrakhan, 35 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Pochard** *Aythya ferina* 40 8.6 Selenga Delta.

**Ferruginous Duck** *Aythya nyroca* 4 males 2 females 16.6 W Astrakhan.

**Tufted Duck** *Aythya fuligula* 20 8.6 Selenga Delta.

**Velvet Scoter** *Melanitta fusca* 2 2.6 Listvyanka.

**Goldeneye** *Bucephala clangula* 4 29.5 Moscow, 300 2.6 Listvyanka.

**Red-breasted Merganser** *Mergus serrator* 1 pair 2.6 Listvyanka.

**Goosander** *Mergus merganser* 20 3.6 Listvyanka.

**Honey-Buzzard** *Pernis apivorus* 1 15.6 Astrakhan.

**Crested Honey-Buzzard** *Pernis ptilorhynchus* 3 3.6 Bolshaja Retjka, 1 4.6 Listvyanka, 2 7.6 SE Ulan Ude.

**Black Kite** *Milvus migrans* 30 3.6 Bolshaja Retjka, 6 7.6 S-SE Ulan Ude, 5 8.6 Selenga Delta, 1 10.6 Bolshoj Goudonov, 1 15.6 Astrakhan, 1 18.6 N Astrakhan.

**White-tailed Sea-Eagle** *Haliaeetus albicilla* 9 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Marsh Harrier** *Circus aeruginosus* 12 8.6 Selenga Delta, 3 13.6 Vladimir, 3 15.6, 9 16.6 and 9 18.6 W Astrakhan, 2 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Hen Harrier** *Circus cyaneus* 1 female 7.6 S Ulan-Ude.

**Pallid Harrier** *Circus macrourus* 1 male, 1 female 15.6 W Astrakhan.

**Goshawk** *Accipiter gentilis* 1 30.5 Abramsevo.

**Sparrowhawk** *Accipiter nisus* / sp 1 4.6 Listvyanka, 1 8.6 Selenga Delta. Both observations made at long distance – could be this species – or *A. virgatus/gularis*.

**Buzzard** *Buteo buteo vulpinus* 1 30.5 Abramtsevo.

**Buzzard** *Buteo buteo japonicus* 1 2.6 and 5 4.6 Listvyanka.

**Long-legged Buzzard** *Buteo rufinus* 1 15.6 Astrakhan.

**Upland Buzzard** *Buteo hemilasius* 1 7.6 S Ulan-Ude, 3 N Ulan-Ude/Selenga Delta.

**Greater Spotted Eagle** *Aquila clanga* 1 ad 4.6 Listvyanka, 1 14.6 Vladimir.

**Steppe Eagle** *Aquila nipalensis* 1 ad 7.6 S Ulan-Ude, 1 18.6 NW Astrakhan.

**Osprey** *Pandion haliaetus* 2 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Lesser Kestrel** *Falco naumanni* 1 male 7.6 S Ulan-Ude, 1 pair 8.6 Selenga Delta.

**Kestrel** *Falco tinnunculus* 1 1.6 Moscow (Sheremetievo Airport), 8 7.6 S Ulan-Ude, 2 females 8.6 Selenga Delta, 2 15.6 and 1 16.6 W Astrakhan, 1 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Red-footed Falcon** *Falco vespertinus* 1 female 11.6 Moscow (Sheremetievo Airport), 40 15.6, 35 16.6 and 30 18.6 W Astrakhan, 80 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Merlin** *Falco columbarius* 1 male 6.6 Ulan-Ude.

**Hobby** *Falco subbuteo* 2 2.6 Listvyanka, 1 6.6 Ivolginsk, 1 7.6 Ulan-Ude, 1 8.6 Selenga Delta, 2 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Saker** *Falco cherrug* 1 most likely this species 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Peregrine** *Falco peregrinus* 1 8.6 Selenga Delta, 1 17.6 Astrakhan.

**Quail** *Coturnix coturnix* 3 14.6 Vladimir.

**Corncrake** *Crex crex* 1 31.5 Moscow (Bittsevsckij Park), 1 10.6 Bolshoj Goudonov, 1 12.6 Moscow (E Botanical Garden), 1 14.6 Vladimir.



**Moorhen** *Gallinula chloropus* 1 1.6 Moscow (Sheremetievo Airport).

**Coot** *Fulica atra* 7 15.6 and 5 16.6 W Astrakhan.

**Crane** *Grus grus* 2 3.6 Korolok, 2 8.6 Selenga Delta, 1 16.6 W Astrakhan.

**Demoiselle Crane** *Anthropoides virgo* 10 8.6 Selenga Delta, 2 16.6 W Astrakhan.

**Black-winged Stilt** *Himantopus himantopus* 35 15.6 and 40 16.6 W Astrakhan, 20 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Black-winged Pratincole** *Glareola nordmanni* 9 15.6 and 6 16.6 W Astrakhan.

**Little Ringed Plover** *Charadrius dubius* 5 3.6 Bolshaja Retjka, 2 6.6 SE Ulan-Ude, 3 8.6 Selenga Delta, 1 16.6 W Astrakhan.

**Kentish Plover** *Charadrius alexandrinus* 2 16.6 W Astrakhan.

**Lapwing** *Vanellus vanellus* 8 6.6 S Ulan-Ude, 30 8.6 Selenga Delta, 8 13.6 Vladimir/Suzdal, 5 16.6 W Astrakhan, 9 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Long-toed Stint** *Calidris subminuta* 1 8.6 Selenga Delta.

**Ruff** *Philomachus pugnax* 1 3.6 Bolshaja Retjka.

**Snipe** *Gallinago gallinago* 2 3.6 Korolok.

**Swinhoe's Snipe** *Gallinago megala* 2 3.6 Korolok, 1 3.6 E Korolok.

**Asian Dowitcher** *Limnodromus semipalmatus* 1 8.6 Selenga Delta. Observed feeding in the delta (normal habitat?) and comparison was possible with *L. limosa*.

**Black-tailed Godwit** *Limosa limosa* 6 8.6 Selenga Delta.

**Curlew** *Numenius arquata* 1 6.6 Ivolginsk, 1 7.6 S Ulan-Ude.

**Redshank** *Tringa totanus* 1 3.6 Bolshaja Retjka.

**Marsh Sandpiper** *Tringa stagnatilis* 5 8.6 Selenga Delta.

**Green Sandpiper** *Tringa ochropus* 1 7.6 S Ulan-Ude, 2 17.6 Volga Delta, 2 NW Astrakhan.

**Wood Sandpiper** *Tringa glareola* 1 3.6 Bolshaja Retjka, 2 8.6 Selenga Delta.

**Terek Sandpiper** *Xenus cinereus* 5 16.6 W Astrakhan.

**Common Sandpiper** *Actitis hypoleucos* 1 6.6 Ivolginsk, 5 7.6 S Ulan-Ude, 5 8.6 Selenga Delta.

**Arctic Skua** *Stercorarius parasiticus* 4 subadult 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Great Black-headed Gull** *Larus ichtyaetus* 3 adult 2 1K 15.6 Astrakhan, 35 (different ages) 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Little Gull** *Larus minutus* 6 11.6 Moscow (Sheremetievo Airport).

**Black-headed Gull** *Larus ridibundus* 10 27.5, 3 29.5, 20 31.5, 10 1.6 and 5 12.6 Moscow, 4 30.5 Abramtsevo, 10 5.6 Irkutsk, 200 8.6 Selenga Delta, 300 13.6 Suzdal, 15 16.6 and 10 18.6 Astrakhan, 20 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Common Gull** *Larus canus* 1 30.5 Abramtsevo, 80 13.6 Suzdal.

**Herring Gull** *Larus argentatus cachinnans* 15 2.6 Listvyanka, 200 3.6 Bolshaja Retjka, 10 5.6 Irkutsk, 400 8.6 Selenga Delta, 40 15.6 and 20 18.6 Astrakhan, 100 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Herring Gull** *Larus argentatus* ? 1 13.6 Suzdal.

**Gull-billed Tern** *Gelochelidon nilotica* 3 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Caspian Tern** *Sterna caspia* 1 16.6 Astrakhan, 2 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Common Tern** *Sterna hirundo* 1 29.5, 1 31.5, 1 1.6 and 3 12.6 Moscow, 1 30.5 Abramtsevo, 30 5.6 Irkutsk, 30 6.6 Ivolginsk/Ulan-Ude, 30 7.6 S Ulan-Ude, 40 8.6 Selenga Delta, 25 15.6 and 60 16.6 Astrakhan, 150 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Little Tern** *Sterna albifrons* 1 16.6 Astrakhan, 5 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Whiskered Tern** *Chlidonias hybrida* 20 15.6 and 40 16.6 W Astrakhan, 200 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Black Tern** *Chlidonias niger* 12 15.6 and 30 16.6 W Astrakhan, 25 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Rock / Feral Dove** *Columba livia* Several seen in urban Moscow, Irkutsk, Ulan-Ude and Astrakhan. In addition: 3 2.6 Listvyanka, 8 6.6 Ivolginsk, 3 7.6 S Ulan-Ude, 10 8.6 Selenga Delta.

**Eastern Rock Dove** *Columba rupestris* 4 5.6 Listvyanka, 20 6.6 Ivolginsk, 8 7.6 S Ulan-Ude, 8 8.6 Selenga Delta.

**Stock Dove** *Columba oenas* 1 29.5 Moscow (Botanical Garden).

**Woodpigeon** *Columba palumbus* 2 16.6 Astrakhan, 23 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Collared Dove** *Streptopelia decaocto* 2 18.6 Astrakhan.

**Turtle Dove** *Streptopelia turtur* 2 16.6 and 4 18.6 W Astrakhan, 2 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Rufous Turtle Dove** *Streptopelia orientalis* 2 6.6 Ivolginsk, 27.6 S Ulan-Ude, 1 S Selenga Delta, 1 10.6 Bolshoj Goudonov.

**Cuckoo** *Cuculus canorus* 1 30.5 Abramsevo, 2 2.6, 1 3.6 and 2 4.6 Listvianka, 1 3.6 Korolok, 2 6.6 Ivolginsk, 2 7.6 S Ulan-Ude, 6 15.6 and 7 16.6 W Astrakhan, 80 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Oriental Cuckoo** *Cuculus saturatus* 1 2.6, 2 3.6, 3 4.6 and 1 5.6 Listvianka, 2 3.6 Korolok, 1 6.6 Ivolginsk.

**Eagle Owl** *Bubo bubo* 1 10.6 Bolshoj Goudonov.

**Short-eared Owl** *Asio flammeus* 1 7.6 S Ulan-Ude.

**Needle-tailed Swift** *Hirundapus caudacutus* 8 5.6 Korolok, 30 5.6 Irkutsk, 4 6.6 Ivolginsk, 4 7.6 E Ulan-Ude.

**Swift** *Apus apus* Common in and around Moscow, 20 6.6 Ulan-Ude, 10 7.6 S Ulan Ude.

**Pacific Swift** *Apus pacificus* 2 3.6 Korolok, 2 3.6 Bolshaja Retjka, 20 5.6 Korolok, 200 5.6 Irkutsk, 300 6-9.6 Ulan-Ude.

**Bee-Eater** *Merops apiaster* 1 27.5 Moscow, 25 15.6, 100 16.6 and 10 18.6 W Astrakhan, 6 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Blue-cheeked Bee-eater** *Merops persicus* 2 16.6 W Astrakhan.

**Roller** *Coracias garrulus* 25 15.6, 12 16.6 W Astrakhan, 30 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Hoopoe** *Upupa epops* 1 7.6 S Ulan-Ude, 1 8.6 Selenga Delta, 11 15.6 and 8 W Astrakhan, 12 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Wryneck** *Jynx torquilla* 1 30.5 Abramsevo, 1 12.6 Moscow, 1 13.6 Vladimir.

**Green Woodpecker** *Picus viridis* 1 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Black Woodpecker** *Dryocopus martius* 1 4.6 Listvyanka, 2 7.6 E Ulan-Ude, 1 10.6 Bolshoj Goudonov.

**Great Spotted Woodpecker** *Dendrocopos major* 1 29.5, 2 31.5 and 2 1.6 Moscow, 1 30.5 Abramtsevo, 1 2.6 Listvyanka, 2 3.6 Korolok, 1 3.6 Bolshaja Retjka, 2 6.6 Ivolginsk, 1 10.6 Bolshoj Goudonov, 1 15.6 and 1 16.6 Astrakhan, 4 17.6 Volga Delta.

**White-backed Woodpecker** *Dendrocopos leucotos* 2 29.5 and 1 1.6 Moscow (E Botanical Garden). It was very white-backed.

**Lesser Spotted Woodpecker** *Dendrocopos minor* 1 male 29.5, 2 1.6 and 2 12.6 Moscow, 1 14.6 Vladimir.

**Tree-toed Woodpecker** *Picoides tridactylus* 1 female 4.6 Listvyanka, 1 male 10.6 Bolshoj Goudonov.

**Calandra Lark** *Melanocorypha calandra* 4 16.6 and 2 W Astrakhan.

**White-winged Lark** *Melanocorypha leucoptera* 2 16.6 W Astrakhan.

**Mongolian lark** *Melanocorypha mongolica* 1 6.6 Ivolginsk.

**Short-toed Lark** *Calandrella brachydactyla* 2 6.6 Ivolginsk, 1 8.6 Selenga Delta, 2 16.6 W Astrakhan.

**Crested Lark** *Galerida cristata* 2 15.6 and 9 16.6 W Astrakhan.

**Sky lark** *Alauda arvensis* 50-100 6.6 Ivolginsk/Ulan-Ude, 5 7.6 S Ulan-Ude, 15 8.6 Selenga Delta, 3 16.6 and 1 18.6 W Astrakhan.

**Sand Martin** *Riparia riparia* 3 5.6 Listvyanka, 6 6.6 Ulan-Ude, 30 7.6 S Ulan-Ude, common 8.6 at Selenga Delta.

**Swallow** *Hirundo rustica* Common in all visited areas.

**House Martin** *Delichon urbica* Common in Moscow and 8.6 at Selenga Delta, 2 2.6 Listvyanka, 10 6.6 Ivolginsk, 15 7.6 S Ulan-Ude.

**Richard's Pipit** *Anthus richardi* 2 3.6 Bolshaja Retjka, 3 5.6 Listvyanka.

**Tawny Pipit** *Anthus campestris* 1 8.6 Selenga Delta, 2 15.6 W Astrakhan.

**Olive-backed Pipit** *Anthus gustavi* 6 2.6 and 5 4.6 Listvyanka, 10 3.6 E Korolok, 3 10.6 Bolshoj Goudonov.

**Tree Pipit** *Anthus trivialis* 1 28.5 and 3 31.5 Moscow, 2 2.6 and 4 4.6 Listvyanka, 10 3.6 E Korolok.

**Meadow Pipit** *Anthus pratensis* 1 30.5 Abramtsevo.

**Buff-bellied Pipit** *Anthus rubescens* 1 8.6 Selenga Delta. Observed in area with short grass connected to the delta. Song seemed to resemble *A. pratensis*.

**Yellow Wagtail** *Motacilla flava lutea* 1 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Yellow (Dark-headed) Wagtail** *Motacilla flava flava* 1 1.6 Moscow, 4 13.6 Suzdal.

**Yellow (Dark-headed) Wagtail** *Motacilla flava feldegg* 2 17.6 Volga Delta, 1 18.6 W Astrakhan.

**Yellow (Dark-headed) Wagtail** *Motacilla flava thunbergi* 4 31.5 Moscow (S suburb).

**Yellow (Dark-headed) Wagtail** *Motacilla flava beema* 2 8.6 Selenga Delta.

**Citrine Wagtail** *Motacilla citreola* 2 males, 1 female 3.6 Korolok, 5 females 3.6 Bolshaja Retjka, 2 8.6 Selenga Delta.

**Grey Wagtail** *Motacilla cinerea* 3 4.6 and 3 5.6 Listvyanka.

**Pied Wagtail** *Motacilla alba* Common in Moscow, 5 30.5 Abramtsevo, 3 2.6 and 5 4.6 Listvyanka, common in Ulan-Ude, 5 15.6 and 16.6 Astrakhan.

**Wren** *Troglodytes troglodytes* 1 30.5 Abramtsevo.

**Robin** *Erithacus rubecula* 6 28.5, 10 29.5, 12 31.5, 3 1.6 and 2 12.6 Moscow, 4 30.5 Abramtsevo.

**Rufous-tailed Robin** *Luscinia sibilans* 1 4.6 Listvyanka, 1 10.6 Bolshoj Goudonov.

**Thrush Nightingale** *Luscinia luscinia* 1 28.5, 1 29.5, 11 31.5, 3 1.6 and 2 12.6 Moscow, 1 30.5 Sergiev Posad, 3 30.5 Abramtsevo.

**Nightingale** *Luscinia megarhynchos* 2 15.6 W Astrakhan, 2 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Siberian Rubythroat** *Luscinia calliope* 2 3.6 Korolok, 2 4.6 Listvyanka, 1 7.6 E Ulan-Ude, 1 8.6 Selenga Delta.

**Bluethroat** *Luscinia svecica svecica* 3 29.5, 2 31.5 (Bittsa Park), 2 1.6 and 2 12.6 Moscow (E Botanical Garden).

**Bluethroat** *Luscinia svecica cyaneola* 2 29.5, 2 1.6, 5 12.6 and 5 14.6 Moscow (E Botanical garden).

**Siberian Blue Robin** *Luscinia cyane* 6 2.6 and 3 4.6 Listvyanka, 1 8.6 Korolok, 1 10.6 Bolshoj Goudonov.

**Red-flanked Bluetail** *Tarsiger cyanurus* 1 3.6 and 2 4.6 Listvyanka, 2 3.6 E Korolok, 1 8.6 N Ulan-Ude, 1 10.6 Bolshoj Goudonov.

**Redstart** *Phoenicurus phoenicurus* 1 28.5 and 2 31.5 Moscow, 1 2.6 Listvyanka, 1 3.6 Korolok.

**Daurian Redstart** *Phoenicurus aureus* 3 2.6 and 5 4.6 Listvyanka, 5 3.6 Bolshaja Retjka, 3 6.6 Ulan-Ude, 3 8.6 Selenga Delta.

**Whinchat** *Saxicola rubetra* 1 28.5, 1 29.5 and 1 1.6 Moscow, 4 13.6 Suzdal.

**Stonechat** *Saxicola torquata variegata* 1 16.6 W Astrakhan.

**Stonechat** *Saxicola torquata maura* 2 males 3.6 Korolok.

**Isabelline Wheatear** *Oenanthe isabellina* 6 16.6 W Astrakhan.

**Wheatear** *Oenanthe oenanthe* 1 pair 31.5 Moscow, 1 pair 2.6 Listvyanka, 2 pairs 2 males 6.6 Ivlginsk, 15 7.6 S Ulan-Ude, 20 8.6 N Ulan-Ude and Selenga Delta, 10 16.6 W Astrakhan.

**Black-eared Wheatear** *Oenanthe hispanica* 1 female 7.6 S Ulan-Ude.

**White's Thrush** *Turdus dauma* 1 3.6 E Korolok.

**Siberian Thrush** *Turdus sibiricus* 1 3.6 and 1 4.6 Listvyanka, 1 singing, 1 female 10.6 Bolshoj Goudonov.

**Blackbird** *Turdus merula* Few in Moscow.

**Eye-browed Thrush** *Turdus obscurus* 2 2.6 and 3 4.6 Listvyanka, 3 3.6 E Korolok, 2 10.6 Bolshoj Goudonov.

**Naumann's Thrush** *Turdus naumanni naumanni* 1 4.6 Listvyanka.

**Fieldfare** *Turdus pilaris* Common in Moscow and Abramtsevo.

**Song Thrush** *Turdus philomelos* 1 27.5, 1 28.5, 2 29.5, 1 31.5 and 1 1.6 Moscow.

**Red-winged Thrush** *Turdus musicus* 3 28.53 29.5, 3 31.5 and 4 1.6 Moscow.

**Mistle Thrush** *Turdus viscivorus* 1 30.5 Abramtsevo.

**Cetti's Warbler** *Cettia cetti* 6 16.6 W Astrakhan, 40 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Spotted Bush Warbler** *Bradypterus thoracicus* 1 3.6 and 2 4.6 Listvyanka.

**Pallas's Grasshopper Warbler** *Locustella certhiola* 2 3.6 Korolok, 1 4.6 Listvyanka.

**Lanceolated Warbler** *Locustella lanceolata* 6 3.6 Korolok / E Korolok, 7 4.6 Listvyanka, 2 6.6 Ivlginsk, 1 10.6 Bolshoj Goudonov.

**Grasshopper Warbler** *Locustella naevia* 1 29.5 Moscow (E Botanical Garden).

**River Warbler** *Locustella fluviatilis* 3 29.5, 1 31.5 and 13 1.6 Moscow (E Botanical Garden).

**Savi's Warbler** *Locustella luscinioides* 1 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Gray's Grasshopper Warbler** *Locustella fasciolata* 1 4.6 Listvyanka, 2 8.6 N Ulan-Ude.

**Moustached Warbler** *Acrocephalus melanopogon* 2 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Sedge Warbler** *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus* 1 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Paddyfield Warbler** *Acrocephalus agricola* 1 15.6, 2 16.6 and 1 18.6 W Astrakhan.

**Blyth's Reed Warbler** *Acrocephalus dumetorum* 1 28.5 and 1 1.6 Moscow, 1 30.5 Abramtsevo, 1 5.6 Listvyanka (!), 1 13.6 Suzdal.

**Marsh Warbler** *Acrocephalus palustris* 1 28.5, 3 29.5, 1 31.5, 2 1.6 and 2 12.6 Moscow, 1 30.5 Abramtsevo.

**Reed Warbler** *Acrocephalus scirpaceus* 1 13.6 Suzdal.

**Great Reed Warbler** *Acrocephalus arundinaceus* 5 15.6, 20 16.6 and 7 18.6 W Astrakhan, 30 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Thick-billed Warbler** *Acrocephalus aedon* 1 3.6 and 1 5.6 Korolok, 1 5.6 Listvyanka, 2 N Ulan-Ude, 2 10.6 Bolshoj Goudonov.

**Booted Warbler** *Hippolais caligata* 1 30.5 Abramtsevo, 1 1.6 Moscow (E Botanical Garden).

**Icterine Warbler** *Hippolais icterina* 3 28.5, 3 29.5 and 3 1.6 Moscow, 1 30.5 Abramtsevo, 2 14.6 Vladimir.

**Ménétries's Warbler** *Sylvia mystacea* 7 males 3 females and a nest 18.6 NW Astrakhan.

**Desert Warbler** *Sylvia nana nana* 1 uncertain 18.6 NW Astrakhan. A small sand-coloured bird in the area we saw *S. mystacea*, should have been this species.

**Barred Warbler** *Sylvia nisoria* 1 14.6 Vladimir.

**Lesser Whitethroat** *Sylvia curruca* 2 2.6 Listvyanka, 3 3.6 E Korolok, 3 6.6 Ivolginsk, 3 7.6 S Ulan-Ude, 1 12.6 Moscow.

**Whitethroat** *Sylvia communis* Common in Moscow, 2 6.6 Ivolginsk, 3 13.6 Suzdal, 2 14.6 Vladimir, 1 16.6 W Astrakhan.

**Garden Warbler** *Sylvia borin* Common in Moscow, 2 30.5 Abramtsevo, 2 14.6 Vladimir, 1 16.6 W Astrakhan.

**Blackcap** *Sylvia atricapilla* Common in Moscow, 3 30.5 Abramtsevo, 2 14.6 Vladimir.

**Greenish Warbler** *Phylloscopus trochiloides viridanus* 2 28.5, 1 29.5, 31.5, 1 1.6 and 1 12.6 Moscow, 1 13.6 and 2 14.6 Vladimir.

**(Two-barred) Greenish Warbler** *Phylloscopus trochiloides plumbeitarsus* 20-25 2.6-5.6 in Listvyanka, 6 3.6 Korolok, 4 6.6 Ivolginsk, 1 7.6 S Ulan-Ude.

**Arctic Warbler** *Phylloscopus borealis* 1 2.6 and 1 5.6 Listvyanka, 3 3.6 Korolok and E Korolok.

**Pallas's Warbler** *Phylloscopus proregulus* 2 2.6 and 4 4.6 Listvyanka, 1 6.6 Ivolginsk, 2 10.6 Bolshoj Goudonov.

**Yellow-browed Warbler** *Phylloscopus inornatus* 1 2.6, 5 4.6 and 1 5.6 Listvyanka, 1 6.6 Ivolginsk, 1 10.6 Bolshoj Goudonov.

**Radde's Warbler** *Phylloscopus schwarzi* 2 2.6 and 2 4.6 Listvyanka, 2 3.6 E Korolok, 1 10.6 Bolshoj Goudonov

**Dusky Warbler** *Phylloscopus fuscatus* 2 2.6 and 4 4.6 Listvyanka, 5 3.6 E Korolok, 3 8.6 N Ulan-Ude.

**Wood Warbler** *Phylloscopus sibilatrix* 2 2.5, 16 29.5, 25 31.5 and 6 1.6 Moscow, 3 30.5 Abramtsevo.

**Chiffchaff** *Phylloscopus collybita abietinus* 4 30.5 Abramtsevo, 4 31.5 Moscow, 3 14.6 Vladimir.

**Siberian Chiffchaff** *Phylloscopus collybita tristis* 1 2.6 Listvyanka, 1 5.6 Irkutsk, 1 6.6 Ivolginsk.

**Willow Warbler** *Phylloscopus trochilus* 5 28.5, 7 29.5, 12 31.5 and 4 1.6 Moscow, 8 30.5 Abramtsevo, 2 14.6 Vladimir.

**Goldcrest** *Regulus regulus* 1 30.5 Vladimir.

**Sooty Flycatcher** *Muscicapa sibirica* 2 3.6 and 1 5.6 Listvyanka, 5 3.6 E Korolok, 1 10.6 Bolshoj Goudonov.

**Brown Flycatcher** *Muscicapa latirostris* 2 2.6 Listvyanka, 2 3.6 E Korolok.

**Spotted Flycatcher** *Muscicapa striata* 4 28.5, 4 29.5 2 31.5, 1 1.6 and 1 12.6 Moscow, 1 30.5 Abramtsevo.

**Red-breasted Flycatcher** *Ficedula parva parva* 2 29.5, 4 31.5 and 1 1.6 Moscow, 1 14.6 Vladimir.

**Red-breasted Flycatcher** *Ficedula parva albicilla* 1 3.6 E Korolok.

**Mugimaki Flycatcher** *Ficedula mugimaki* 1 male 14.6 Bolshoj Goudonov.

**Pied Flycatcher** *Ficedula hypoleuca* 8 28.5, 17 29.5, 15 31.5 and 3 1.6 Moscow, 2 30.5 Abramtsevo, 4 14.6 Vladimir.

**Bearded Tit** *Panurus biarmicus* 100-150 16.6 W Astrakhan, 40 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Long-tailed Tit** *Aegithalos caudatus* 3 3.6 Korolok, 1 14.6 Vladimir.

**Marsh Tit** *Parus palustris* 4 3.6 Korolok, 2 4.6 Listvyanka.

**Willow Tit** *Parus montanus* 1 2.6 and 10 4.6 Listvyanka, 1 3.6 Korolok.

**Coal Tit** *Parus ater* 3 2.6 Listvyanka, 20 3.6 E Korolok, 5 6.6 Ivolginsk, 4 7.6 S Ulan-Ude, 5 10.6 Bolshoj Goudonov.

**Blue Tit** *Parus caeruleus* 3 30.5 Abramtsevo, 20 31.5 and 5 1.6 Moscow, 3 14.6 Vladimir, 4 15.6 W Astrakhan, 10 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Azure Tit** *Parus cyanus* 1 7.6 Ulan-Ude, 1 10.6 Bolshoj Goudonov, 1 14.6 Vladimir.

**Great Tit** *Parus major* Common in Moscow, 5 30.5 Abramtsevo, 3 2.6 and 3 4.6 Listvyanka, 4 3.6 Korolok, 3 6.6 Ivolginsk, 20 7.6 S Ulan-Ude, 2 10.6 Bolshoj Goudonov, 4 14.6 Vladimir, 10 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Common Nuthatch** *Sitta europaea* 1 28.5 Moscow, 6 14.6 Vladimir.

**Common Treecreeper** *Certhia familiaris* 1 30.5 Abramtsevo.

**Penduline Tit** *Remiz pendulinus* 5 15.6 and 12 16.6 W Astrakhan, 30 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Golden Oriole** *Oriolus oriolus* 5 31.5 Moscow (S suburb), 2 16.6 W Astrakhan, 12 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Brown Shrike** *Lanius cristatus* 2 4.6 Listvyanka, 3 7.6 S Ulan-Ude, 1 10.6 Bolshoj Goudonov.

**Red-backed Shrike** *Lanius collurio* 2 males 1.6 Moscow, 1 16.6 W Astrakhan.

**Lesser Grey Shrike** *Lanius minor* 8 16.6 and 12 18.6 W Astrakhan, 15 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Jay** *Garrulus glandarius* 1 3.6 Korolok.

**Azure-winged Magpie** *Cyanopica cyanus* 1 7.6 S Ulan-Ude, 9 8.6 N Ulan-Ude.

**Magpie** *Pica pica* 2 1.6 and 2 12.6 Moscow, 1 5.6 Listvyanka, 5 5.6 Irkutsk, 20 7.6 S Ulan-Ude, 40 8.6 Selenga Delta / N Ulan-Ude, 13 15.6 and 10 18.6 W Astrakhan.

**Jackdaw** *Corvus monedula* 15 1.6 Moscow (Sheremetievo Airport), 2 6.6 Ivolginsk, 6 8.6 Selenga Delta, 10 18.6 NW Astrakhan.

**Daurian Jackdaw** *Corvus dauuricus* 1 6.6 Ulan-Ude, 2 7.6 S Ulan-Ude, 20 Selenga Delta.

**Rook** *Corvus frugilegus* 35 1.6 Moscow (Sheremetievo Airport), 200 15.6 and 500 18.6 W Astrakhan.

**Crow** *Corvus corone cornix* Common in Moscow and Astrakhan.

**Crow** *Corvus corone orientalis* Common in Listvyanka, Irkutsk and Ulan-Ude.

**Raven** *Corvus corax* 2 3.6 Korolok, 1 5.6 Listvyanka, 15 6.6 Ivolginsk, 6 7.6 S Ulan-Ude, 20 Selenga Delta, 2 10.6 Bolshoj Goudonov.

**Starling** *Sturnus vulgaris* Just a few in Moscow, 2 5.6 Listvyanka, 4 7.6 S Ulan-Ude, 8 Selenga Delta, common around Astrakhan and Volga Delta.

**Rose-coloured Starling** *Sturnus roseus* 150 16.6 W Astrakhan.

**House Sparrow** *Passer domesticus* Common in Moscow, Irkutsk, Ulan-Ude and Astrakhan.

**Tree Sparrow** *Passer montanus* Common in Moscow, Irkutsk, Ulan-Ude and Astrakhan.

**Chaffinch** *Fringilla coelebs* Common in Moscow, 15 30.5 Abramtsevo, 2 2.6 and 1 4.6 Listvyanka.

**Brambling** *Fringilla montifringilla* 1 10.6 Bolshoj Goudonov.

**Greenfinch** *Carduelis chloris* 3 28.5 and 5 31.5 Moscow, 2 16.6 and 5 18.6 Astrakhan.



**Goldfinch** *Carduelis carduelis* 3 28.5, 15 31.5 and 6 12.6 Moscow, 10 30.5 Abramtsevo, 2 17.6 Volga Delta.

**Siskin** *Carduelis spinus* 5 28.5 Moscow, 4 3.6 Korolok, 6 4.6 Listvyanka, 2 7.6 S Ulan-Ude.

**Linnet** *Carduelis cannabina* 2 30.5 Abramtsevo, 2 31.5 Moscow, 1 8.6 Selenga Delta.

**White-winged Crossbill** *Loxia leucoptera* 3 juv 2.6 and 1 male 4.6 Listvyanka.

**Red Crossbill** *Loxia curvirostra* 20 4.6 Listvyanka.

**Scarlet Rosefinch** *Carpodacus erythrinus* 1 28.5, 2 31.5 and 3 1.6 Moscow, 2 31.5 Abramtsevo, 6 2.6 and 3 4.6 Listvyanka, 8 3.6 E Korolok, 2 6.6 Ivolginsk, 1 7.6 S Ulan-Ude, 3 8.6 Selenga Delta, 2 10.6 Bolshoj Goudonov.

**Pallas's Rosefinch** *Carpodacus roseus* 1 (male) 7.6 S Ulan-Ude. Seen in coniferous forest, in low altitude "mountain" area (x m). Uncertain (and surprising), but a good view and saw no wing-bars and it looked like this species.

**Pine Grosbeak** *Pinicola enucleator* 1 8.6 N Ulan-Ude.

**Long-tailed Rosefinch** *Uragus sibiricus* 2 pairs, 3 males 7.6 S Ulan-Ude, 2 8.6 N Ulan-Ude.

**Bullfinch** *Pyrrhula pyrrhula* 1 30.5 Abramtsevo.

**Hawfinch** *Coccothraustes coccothraustes* 2 31.5 Moscow (S suburb).

**Black-faced Bunting** *Emberiza spodocephala* 5 3.6 Korolok, 5 4.6 and 2 5.6 Listvyanka, 4 6.6 Ivolginsk, 4 7.6 S Ulan-Ude, 2 N Ulan-Ude, 1 10.6 Bolshoj Goudonov.

**Pine Bunting** *Emberiza leucocephalos* 1 2.6 Listvyanka, 2 3.6 E Korolok, 2 6.6 Ivolginsk, 3 8.6 Selenga Delta, 2 10.6 Bolshoj Goudonov.

**Yellowhammer** *Emberiza citrinella* 2 30.5 Abramtsevo, 1 2.6 and 1 5.6 Listvyanka, 1 3.6 Korolok, 2 13.6 Suzdal.

**Pine Bunting x Yellowhammer** *Emberiza leucocephalos* / *E. citrinella* (probable hybrid) 1 5.6 Korolok. Looked much like a Yellowhammer, but with belly whitish and body sides brown like Pine Bunting.

**Meadow Bunting** *Emberiza cioides* 1 7.6 S Ulan-Ude, 1 Selenga Delta.

**Rustic Bunting** *Emberiza rustica* 1 3.6 Korolok.

**Chestnut Bunting** *Emberiza rutila* 2 males, 3 females, 5 4.6 Listvyanka, 4 males, 2 females 3.6 Korolok, 1 10.6 Bolshoj Goudonov.

**Yellow-breasted Bunting** *Emberiza aureola* 3 2.6, 3 4.6 Listvyanka, 3 3.6 Korolok, 3 6.6 Ivolginsk, 12 7.6 S Ulan-Ude, 20 8.6 Selenga Delta / N Ulan-Ude.

**Reed Bunting** *Emberiza schoeniclus* 1 male 29.5 and 1 female at nest 1.6 Moscow, 1 30.5 Abramtsevo, 2 8.6 Selenga Delta, 5 14.6 Vladimir.

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