

Birding trip report

The island of Vis 16/7–29/7 2015



Edited by Christian Löwbeer

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The island of Vis (Dalmatia, Croatia) including Split and the ferry Split–Vis return ticket

Front page photo: Little Owl (*Athene noctua*), Vis July 2015 by Christian Löwbeer.

Species: 41 (38 on Vis)

Underlined species were not seen on Vis.

Swedish birdwatchers did some slow birding in warm summer weather in July 2015.

Observers: Christian Löwbeer, Marina Löwbeer, Mats Gothnier, Kjell Dahl, Pär Häggquist and Dragica Valenticovic Häggquist.

Our dream is to make a complete guide/list to the birds on the island. If you want to share information about birding on Vis, please contact:

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Bird names in: English (Swedish), *Latin*.

Pheasants, Fowl & Allies 1

Common Pheasant (Fasan), *Phasianus colchicus*. Some observed at cultivated areas.

Petrels, Shearwaters 1

Cory's Shearwater (Gulnäbbad lira), *Calonectris diomedea*. At least 6-8 observed from the boat to Vis 16/7.

Cormorants, Shags 2

European Shag (Toppskarv), *Phalacrocorax aristotelis*. At least 1-5 on reefs and islands outside Milna.

Great Cormorant (Storskarv), *Phalacrocorax carbo*. Some along stony parts of the coast.

Hérons, Bitterns 1

Gray Heron (Gråhäger), *Ardea cinerea*. 1 Milna 17/7.

Kites, Hawks & Eagles 3

Common Buzzard (Ormvråk), *Buteo buteo*. 2 over the bee-eaters breeding place close the northern road between Milna and Vis. 1+2+3 along the road Milna–Podhumlje 21/7.

Black Kite (Brunglada), *Milvus migrans*. 1 over the fields 500 meters N. of Zenka 27/7.

Osprey (Fiskgjuse), *Pandion haliaetus*. 1 Zenka 25/7 and 27/7.

Caracaras, Falcons 3

Eurasian Kestrel (Tornfalk), *Falco tinnunculus*. 1 near the freshwater pond S. of Podselje 19/7.

Eleonora's Falcon (Eleonorafalk), *Falco eleonora*. 3-4 (one dark morf) at Komitza-Stupitsce 20-21/7, 1 Okljucna 24/7, 2 Tommy supermarket Vis Samogor 25/7.

Peregrine Falcon (Pilgrimsfalk), *Falco peregrinus*. 1 near the freshwater pond S. of Podselje 18/7; 2 Podhumlje 21/7.

Sandpipers, Snipes 3

Wood Sandpiper (Grönbenä), *Tringa glareola*. 1-3 the freshwater pond S. of Podselje 18-22/7.

Green Sandpiper (Skogssnäppa), *Tringa ochropus*. 1-3 the freshwater pond S. of Podselje 19/7.

Common Sandpiper (Drillsnäppa), *Actitis hypoleucos*. 1 on the reef outside Zenka 23/7.

Gulls, Terns & Skimmers 4

Black-headed Gull (Skrattmå), *Larus ridibundus*. 2 in the harbor of Vis 16/7, 1 on the reef outside Zenka 23/7.

Mew Gull (Fiskmå), *Larus canus*. 1 Fort George, Vis 20/7.

Yellow-legged Gull (Medelhavstrut), *Larus michahellis*. Common, at most approx. 200 at W. of Parzanj.

Common Tern (Fisktärna), *Sterna hirundo*. 1 at the northern coast of the island V. Budicovac 28/7.

Pigeons, Doves 2

Eurasian Collared-Dove (Turkduva), *Streptopelia decaocto*. Approx. 5 in the harbor of Vis 16-29/7.

Rock Dove (Klippsduva), *Columba livia*. Some observed in cultivated areas and in the town Vis.

Owls 3

European Scops Owl (Dvärguv), *Otus scops*. 1-2 in Milna 17-22/7; 1 near the police station, Vis 19/7.

Little Owl (Minervauggla), *Athene noctua*. 1 daytime approx. 500 meters N. of Zenka 22/7 and 27/7.

Long-eared Owl (Hornuggla), *Asio otus*. 2 begging juveniles N. of Zenka 17-21/7.

Shrikes 1

Woodchat Shrike (Rödhuwad törnskata), *Lanius senator*. 1 seen from the bus airport–Split 16/7.

Crows, Jays 2

Hooded Crow (Kråka), *Corvus cornix*. Common.

Common Raven (Korp), *Corvus corax*. 1 Ravno 20/7.

Nightjars 1

European Nightjar (Nattskärja), *Caprimulgus europaeus*. 1 Podhumlje 20/7, 1 W. and 1 NE. of Milna respectively 21/7, 1 Stoncica 23/7.

Swallows, Martins & Swifts 5

Common House Martin (Hussvala), *Delichon urbica*. Rare in the town of Vis in the evenings.

Barn Swallow (Ladusvala), *Hirundo rustica*. Rather common.

Pallid Swift (Blek tornseglare), *Apus pallidus*. Rather common. For example good observations over the freshwater pond S. of Podselje 19/7.

Common Swift (Tornseglare), *Apus apus*. Rare with the pallid swifts.

Alpine Swift (Alpseglare), *Apus melba*. At least 20 observed Stupitsce-Komitza 20-21/7.

Bee-eaters 1

European Bee-eater (Biätare), *Merops apiaster*. A site with at least a few breeding birds in a sandpit close to the northern road between Milna and Vis, approx. half the distance between Milna and Vis. About 15 were seen approx. 500 meters N. of Zenka along the road 22/7, 15 Stoncica 23/7.

Sylviid Babblers 1

Sardinian Warbler (Sammetshatta), *Sylvia melanocephala*. 1 male roadkilled near Podspilje 20/7 and at least 2 bird singing at Stupitsce 21/7.

Thrushes 1

Eurasian Blackbird (Koltrast), *Turdus merula*. 1 Split 22/7.

Wagtails, Pipits 1

White Wagtail (Sädesärta), *Motacilla alba*. 1 on the green grass close to the beach in the town of Vis 17/7.

Finches 3

European Greenfinch (Grönfink), *Chloris chloris*. 1 at the freshwater pond S. of Podselje 19/7.

European Goldfinch (Steglits), *Carduelis carduelis*. 1 at the freshwater pond S. of Podselje 18/7.

Eurasian Linnet (Hämpling), *Carduelis cannabina*. About 10 at the freshwater pond S. of Podselje 21/7.

Old World Sparrows, Snowfinches 2

House Sparrow (Gråsparv), *Passer domesticus*. Common in the town of Vis 16-22/7.

Spanish Sparrow (Spansk sparv), *Passer hispaniolensis*. 2-3 at the freshwater pond S. of Podselje 19/7.

Relevant websites:

<http://croatiabirding.hr/islands/pelagic-islands-the-home-of-the-eleonora-s-falcon-in-croatia/>

<http://croatiabirding.hr/bird-check-list/>

<http://www.visinfo.org/>