

Southwest Turkey

August 21'st – September 3'rd 2005

by Morten Møller Hansen, Denmark

Preparations

The choice of Southwest Turkey in late hot summer was primarily due to a wish by my wife and I guess also our two children age 5 and 1. They persuaded me to enter a type of holiday, which was supposed to consist mainly of hours of daily swimming in some hotel pool. Of course I had made some other plans at least for half the vacation as I went off in search of 3 target-species (White-throated Robin, Rock Nuthatch and Cinereous Bunting).

I had little doubt that I would come across the wanted Nuthatch, but I was unsure about whether or not some of the two other species would still be around late August.

We were based in Marmaris in the southwest corner of the country. It has been written before but it doesn't hurt to repeat that this city lives for the tourists so if you are looking for a quiet nights sleep then you should choose a different resort or maybe just a different hotel than the one we picked (Portobello Apts). This hotel offered karioke and late night parties and there was no escape from the noise until at least 1 a.m.

I invested some hours on the Internet in search of reports from the area and I found a handful of useful tips and tripreports. I also chose to buy Dave Gosneys *Finding Birds in Western Turkey*, which covered my target area. Unfortunately I had a break-in in my car at Korkuteli (the WTR-site) and lost my bag and with it all my notes. Among the pieces of glass from the broken front passenger seat window I pulled out a road map and one of my fieldguides (Mullarney, Svensson & Zetterström) as well as Gosney and so he became my full source of inspiration for the remainder of the trip.

Getting around

We rented a car (a nice 4-dours Ford Focus) through the travel agency in Denmark and as it turned out I had good use of the full insurance that came with the car. After the break-in I had to drive 3½ hours back to Marmaris with plenty of wind in the cabin due to the missing window. The rental car company was contacted and they had a new car ready for me the same evening. By the way the thief sliced up one of the tires so I had to change that as well while looking over my shoulder to see if he was still around. It took around 3-4 hours the next morning to document the theft at the local policestation but eventually I could set off again in the afternoon and enjoy a few hours of birding.

The deal with my family was to rent the car in the middle one week of our 14 days stay there and therefore this report mainly concentrates on the period 24/8-30/8.

Getting around was relatively easy, as there are not so many obvious detours to make. However the vast distances should not be underestimated. Turkey is a big country and getting from A to B covering just a few inches on the roadmap may easily take 2-3 or even 4 hours especially if your road takes you into the mountains or through some of the larger cities. Most of the main roads in mountainous terrain offers a third lane for cars to overtake lorries or other slow moving cars, but beware that head on traffic often uses this lane too as they swirl down the mountain in the other direction!

Gasoline is expensive costing around 12 DKK/liter (a little over 1 £) but at least you will typically get a swift car wash and a check of the tires included in the price.

Beware that quite atypically there are absolutely no gas stations in nearby Icmeler. One day I spent nearly 40 min. searching in vain before I had to concede and return to Marmaris on the fumes of an almost empty tank.

It seems impossible to get through a whole trip program without being pulled in at some sort of police control. It happened to me/us 4 times during one week but none of them posed any problems and they would usually just hold you for less than 3 minutes before you could drive on. At the time we visited this region they were having trouble with occasional bombs going off at various tourist sites so they were alert and were out to catch some of the bad guys. At one point I was waved in at 5:30 in the morning near Mugla and I had my telescope on the floor behind the drivers seat. I felt pretty sure that they wouldn't appreciate my efforts to locate Cinereous Bunting going in for a 3 hour drive from Marmaris towards Menemen so when the flash light zoomed in on the scope and the policeman asked about my business at this hour I simply told him that I was going to Izmir followed by the word "tourist" and at the same time waving my hands in the air to give him the impression of a camera. After a few words with his colleagues and a slight shake on his head I was allowed to move on...

Points to remember

At this time of year the sun rises at around 6 a.m. and depending on the number of high altitude mountains nearby, which could cover the rising sun you should have enough light to begin searching for birds at 06:15.

You reach the main crossing north of Marmaris where you have to decide whether to go west (Mugla) or east (Dalaman) after a 20-minute drive.

Amazingly few birds were seen along the roadside but as soon as I would arrive at the well-known sites lots of birds would soon start to appear. This leads to the advice (at this time of year) to skip most of the shortstops while being en route to a major site.

The scorching heat reaching up to 37-42°C every day meant that during the two hottest days I preferred to stay within a short walking distance from the car and its nice cool air condition. However I did spend a lot of time kicking the bushes at three White-throated Robin sites as well as walking other areas since the dry heat wasn't as unbearable as one might think.

We had trouble finding banks and shops that would accept American Express so we had to use our Visa-cards. As it turned out Mastercard was widely accepted as the main credit card.

Useful information regarding the sites

Golluk Marshes

A new road, which provides excellent views, was under construction at the time I visited the site. The road begins some 100 m after you pass the village signpost "Golluk" just after the Noordzee Seefood Export Company. The road takes you along the banks of the lake towards the sea and offers great elevated views over the huge marshy areas.

Icmeler forest

Situated less than 10 km from Marmaris this forest offers a convenient chance to find Krüper's Nuthatch. In fact I found two birds right away at my second shortstop 9 km from where the Marmaris-Icmeler coastal road begins to climb up into the forest. A Little Owl (roadkill) was also found on this stretch.

This road leads to the main route towards Datca and soon after the road passes the village Degirmenyali, which lies in a rural area. A Cretzschmar's Bunting was located here perched on a wire next to the road.

A good site for Alpine Swifts was apparently found on the road towards Bozborun some 22 km from Icmeler. Turn right towards Dezeörü and continue 800 m down the road. Pull in at a white building (perhaps related to water supply?) on the left-hand side of the road. From here I could watch good numbers of this species constantly feeding in the air just above the building.

Knidos archaeological site

Situated at the far western end of the Marmaris-peninsula this site is recommended and is well worth further investigations, as it seems to be an obvious site on which to expect migrants. An Eleonora's Falcon patrolled the coastline at Knidos signalling this potential for migratory birds in the area.

Excavations are well under way and ruins can be seen for several miles before you reach the end of the road. The ruins and cliffs are guaranteed to hold lots of Rock Nuthatches as well as Cretzschmar's Bunting and Rüppell's Warbler.

The peninsula ends in two natural protected harbours separated only by a small strip of land that leads to the last bit of land that rises from the surrounding terrain. This piece of land has a lighthouse, which could attract migrants. From the parking lot you can enter the area (entry fee is 4 lira) which also has a very nice restaurant from where you can overlook a great deal of the area. Look out for the "Nut's and Buntings" on the steps of the very first theatre ruin on the right hand.

As you head back towards Datca you will find a small lay-by just next to a big rock on your left hand after about 27,5 km (or 3 km after the Knidos sign if you head west). This is big enough to allow you to turn the car. I walked into this open rocky area and soon after found 3 flocks of Chukar, 2 Rock Nuthatches and a Short-toed Eagle, which was patrolling the hillsides for almost 15 minutes.

White-throated Robin site at Mugla

I spent quite a while searching for the right road that would take me up into the mountains above the military compound at Mugla. Eventually I found it 300 m north of the mosque and it was marked by a hand-written signpost leading you to a number of villages and among these one was called Kucukluk. The site is next to the road just after the first U-bend of this mountain-route. I should mention that there was no sign of any WTR's here or on the next few sites further on when I searched the area on 25'th of August.

The mountains near Korkuteli

It was here at the famous WTR site 4 km south of Korkuteli that I had a window smashed and my notes and bag etc. stolen from the floor in front of the passenger seat. It happened in broad daylight but I didn't see anybody in the area while searching for the WTR. A single White-throated Robin was luckily found here after nearly an hour of frustrating searches in the empty bushes and in the scorching heat and just when I was about to give up. This area is a classic spot where WTR's are said to be abundant in May-June and so it seems to be a good advise not to try and find the species here in late August as they more or less all seem to have migrated south at this time of year!?. Also worth noting were two Sombre Tits that showed well as I headed back to my car.

The Seki-Elmali mountain route

I definitely recommend taking the Seki-Elmali route towards Korkuteli as an alternative to the fast highways from the coastal cities. I drove through Fethiye and headed north towards Korkuteli at the Kemer-crossing. Turn right at the sign towards Seki. This road takes you through a rural area with lots of Shrikes on the wires. It's a beautiful mountain route from Seki to Elmali and I made several shortstops on this almost traffic-free road. Look out for the first drinking pool after you pass the village Zorfar. Here I had 3 Ortolan Buntings, 4 Rock Buntings (drinking), Bonelli's Warbler and Rock Nuthatch.

11,6 km from Seki at a road sign saying "Elmali 32" and "Antalya 150" I chose to stop at a very small field the size of a football course just down to the left of the road. To my delight I discovered a large flock of 40 Red-fronted Serins of all ages and plumages that were feeding on the ground giving superb views for 30 min. or so before I forced myself to move on. Further down the road I noted another 4 Red-fronted Serins as well as 3 Crimzon-winged Finches flying overhead and 4 more Ortolan Buntings.

A drinking pool 18,0 km from Seki produced a Middle Spotted Woodpecker that came down to drink and perhaps of interest a single Crag Martin feeding in the narrow gorge at the Gügö bridge.

Hamitköy and Koycegiz Gölü

The road between Hamitköy and Koycegiz passes 3 small bridges and especially the first one was literally flooded with birds as I arrived there early in the morning. Most notably was a White-breasted Kingfisher that drew attention to itself with its loud calls, a single Citrine Wagtail flew by me calling a few times and an adult Saker suddenly appeared over the meadows and soon after took off in rapid speed towards north. The second bridge produced another calling White-breasted Kingfisher, 2 Penduline Tits, 3 Tawny Pipits and 6 Glossy Ibises overhead.

The Hamitköy-bridge crossing the Koycegiz river known for holding both large Kingfisher species is found by turning at the signpost for Hotel Inceler (coming from Koycegiz) or Villa Salkim (if you enter from Dogusbelen). Apart from a single Honey Buzzard soaring at the nearby hillside, 2 Penduline Tits and a single Common Kingfisher nothing else was worth noting at my visit there.

Bafa Gölü

Coming from south you will drive along this huge lake to get to the area, which Gosney concentrates on, but remember to take a few shortstops to check the shoreline for herons, gulls and waders. The road passes Turgut Motel next to the shoreline and then turns upward and inland but soon after dives down to the lowland again. Turn right about 500 m before you get to the bridge and head for the cypress wood. A Cirl Bunting was found at the edge of this wood. I tried to drive through this forest but ended up at a dead end at the farmhouse. Instead take the main gravel track that passes some sort of factory and head for the next track on a raised embankment. This track was open (Gosney warns that this is often closed by a gate) and it was possible to proceed to the village Sercin.

This raised track offered lots of birds (mainly Red-backed Shrikes) but also a roost of Night Herons in a tree 100 m west of the road just opposite from where a tractor track goes down into the farmland towards the lake. The most rewarding spot was at a bridge crossing just before you enter the village. From here you have nice views from above of feeding waders and among these I found a single female Greater Sand Plover, Spur-winged Plover and Temminck's Stint.

Work your way around the village Sercin as you follow the river. This leads to an elevated area from where you have nice but distant views of the lake. A Red-necked Phalarope was found in the delta and a total of 305 Flamingos were present. A local birdwatcher told me that one should go to Heraklia at the northeast side of the lake to find Dalmatian Pelicans as they favour a sheltered bay here which is not visible from the west end. I didn't take the time to check this advice since I saw a small flock at my next stop at the coast.

Karagol harbour and fjord

I took the coast road from Akköy towards Didem and headed for the harbour. Soon after passing a signpost with a pelican on it signalling a protected area I pulled in next to a buspassenger shelter. From here you have excellent views of the entire coastline and small islands of sand. Gulls, waders, lots of flamingos and a flock of 8 Dalmatian Pelicans were seen. Perhaps the biggest hit was an adult Great Black-backed Gull just below my observation post. It turned out not to be a first for Turkey but it is completely outside its normal range. From Akköy it is possible to drive west and get even closer to the pelicans.

Buyuk Menderes delta

A short detour to the beautiful archaeological site Millet produced a Green Woodpecker. Souvenir shops at the ancient theatre gives you a chance to enjoy a cool drink while looking at Black-eared Wheatear and good numbers of Red-backed Shrikes. Otherwise you just have to work the area from the main north-south going road. Every river or channel crossing is worth a shortstop. It was burning hot and with very little activity in the reedbeds along the channels but I managed among others to find Squacco Heron and Penduline Tit.

Along the road to Söke there were dozens of "wire-birds" – mostly shrikes but I also noted a single Roller and a single Rufous Bush Robin. In the village Atburgazi a Red-rumped Swallow flew around a nest below the roof of one of the first houses as you enter the village from the west.

A day to day list of the sites visited

		<u>Total km</u>
21/8-23/8	days were spent within the city limits of Marmaris	
24/8	Golluk Marshes (the whole family joined me in the car)	296 km
25/8	Marmaris-Icmeler forest-Datca-Knidos	
	the archaeological site of Knidos and return to Marmaris	205 km
	White-throated Robin site near Mugla and return to Marmaris	133 km
26/8	mountain route Marmaris-Fethiye-Seki-Elmali-Korkuteli	278 km
	steppe route Korkuteli-Yersiba-Sögüt-Marmaris	284 km
27/8	(morning spent at the police station to report the theft and all damages)	
	Icmeler forest then Bozborun-Bayinköy and return to Marmaris	58 km
28/8	Hamitköy marshes	62 km
	lake and marshes at Koycegiz Gölü and the lake and forest at Dalyan	
	Hamitköy bridge over Koycegiz river (the Pied/Whitebreasted Kingfisher-site)	
	and return to Marmaris	148 km
	then an afternoon family-trip Icmeler-Turunck-Bayirköy to the waterfall at Osmaniye and return to Marmaris via Haninköy	92 km
29/8	Marmaris-Mugla-Denizli to the world famous white mountain at Pammukale (family-trip) and return to Marmaris	423 km
30/8	Marmaris – Bafa Gölü	158 km
	road along the large lake Bafa Gölü	35 km
	Bafa Gölü, the Menderes riverdelta and village Sercin	
	Sercin-Sarikemar-Akköy-Karagol harbour/fjord and return to Akköy	35 km
	Akköy-Milet ruins	4 km
	Buyuk Menderes delta and marshes	
	Ana Thaliya channel/marsh at Söke	5 km
	Söke-Milas-Mugla-Marmaris	225 km
		Total 2.441 km
1/9-3/9	days were spent within the city limits of Marmaris until departure from Dalyan Airport.	

Selected observations of birds and mammals

Only the species considered to be of broad interest to the readers are described below. In some cases high numbers of common species are added to give an impression of the potential of the site.

23. August

Marmaris

Red-rumped Swallow 3 feeding above the swimming pools of Portobello Apts.

24. August

Marmaris-Golluk 09:20 - 11:55

Great Spotted Cuckoo 1 juv. near Milas

Golluk Marshes

Little Grebe 60, Greater Flamingo 22, Hobby 1, Moorhen 55, Whiskered Tern 1, Kingfisher 2, Hoopoe 2, Red-rumped Swallow 1, Penduline Tit 2, Lesser Grey Shrike 1, Red-backed Shrike 1

25. August

Icmeler-forest

Little Owl 1 (roadkill), Hoopoe 1, Krüper's Nuthatch 2

Icmeler-Knidos 07:00 - 09:25

- Cretzschmar's Bunting 1 Degirmenyali
- Red-rumped Swallow 6 (61 km from Icmeler), Krüper's Nuthatch 1 overhead,
- Short-toed Eagle 1, Chukar 3 flocks with 14 birds (3,0 km west of signpost "Knidos" outside Datca), Rock Nuthatch 2
- Rock Nuthatch 1 in a roadside quarrel 8,5 km from signpost "Knidos" outside Datca
- Lesser Grey Shrike 2 Yakaköy

Knidos archaeological site incl. the last 2-3 km with ruins before the parking lot

Eleonora's Falcon 1, Turtle Dove 1, Northern Wheatear 6, Black-eared Wheatear 1, Blue Rock Thrush 2, Rüppell's Warbler 3, Rock Nuthatch 11, Jay 4, Cretzschmar's Bunting 2

White-throated Robin site near Mugla

Short-toed Eagle 1, Northern Wheatear 2, Black-eared Wheatear 3, Subalpine Warbler 1, Rock Nuthatch 1, Tortoise sp. 1

26. August

Marmaris-Fethiye-Ugurlu 05:00 - 07:10

Eurasian Badger 1 (roadkill) Toparlar

The bridge at river Ecenkay near Ugurlu

Kingfisher 3, Sedge Warbler 1

Ugurlu-Seki

Lesser Grey Shrike 4, Red-backed Shrike 1, Woodchat Shrike 2, Raven 1

Seki-Elmali

Hoopoe 1, Middle Spotted Woodpecker 1 drinking pool 18,0 km from Seki, Crag Martin 1, Black-eared Wheatear 9, Mistle Thrush 7, Eastern Bonelli's Warbler 1, Rock Nuthatch 5, Red-backed Shrike 3, Red-fronted Serin 44 (40 of these 11,6 km from Seki), Crimson-winged Finch 3, Ortolan Bunting 8, Rock Bunting 4, Black-headed Bunting 4

Elmali-Korkuteli

Black-eared Wheatear 1, Lesser Grey Shrike 1, Red-backed Shrike 1

Korkuteli area (13 km and 4 km south of the city)

- Turtle Dove 2, Black-eared Wheatear 3, Orphean Warbler 1, Rüppell's Warbler 1, Long-tailed Tit 4, Red-backed Shrike 3, Black-headed Bunting 2
- Hoopoe 2, Black-eared Wheatear 2, White-throated Robin 1 (partly singing and warning but only giving brief views), Icterine Warbler 1, Sombre Tit 2, Red-backed Shrike 2

Korkuteli-Sögüt-Marmaris 13:45 - 18:10

Short-toed Eagle 1 Yersiba, Isabelline Wheatear 1 Yersiba, Lesser Grey Shrike 5

27. August

Icmeler-Bayinköy

Turtle Dove 4, Alpine Swift 27

28. August

Marmaris-Hamitköy 05:50 - 06:45

Turtle Dove 3 migrating near Dögüsbelen at sunrise, Barn Swallow 350 migrating, Red-backed Shrike 2

Hamitköy (the first channel-bridge towards Koycegiz)

Purple Heron 1, Saker 1 adult, Bee-eater 14, Kingfisher 2, White-breasted Kingfisher 1, Hoopoe 1, Crested Lark 10, Short-toed Lark 2, Yellow Wagtail 17, Citrine Wagtail 1, Thrush Nightingale 1, Icterine Warbler 1, Red-backed Shrike 5

Hamitköy (the second channel-bridge towards Koycegiz)

Glossy Ibis 6, Bee-eater 10, Kingfisher 2, White-breasted Kingfisher 1, Hoopoe 2, Tawny Pipit 3, Red-rumped Swallow 1, Yellow Wagtail 22 migr., Olivaceous Warbler 3, Penduline Tit 2, Lesser Grey Shrike 5, Red-backed Shrike 4

Koycegiz lake

Little Grebe 24, Shag 1 (flying at great distance)

Dalyan towards Sulungur Gölü

Little Egret 3, Middle Spotted/Syrian Woodpecker sp. 1 overhead, Yellow Wagtail 5, Lesser Grey Shrike 5, Red-backed Shrike 3

The large Hamitköy/Dogusbelen bridge over the Koycegiz river

Honey Buzzard 1, Kingfisher 1, Penduline Tit 2

29. August

Marmaris-Mugla-Denizli-Pammukale 08:20 - 12:30

Turtle Dove 1, Jay 3, Red-backed Shrike 1

Returning the same way

- Yellow-vented Bulbul 1 perched on a wire in a garden 10 km south of Pammukale. A surprising observation apparently well outside the normal range for this species?
- Pallid Swift 6 migrating in low height at the steppes near Kale

30. August

Marmaris-Bafa Gölü 05:10 - 07:20

Krüper's Nuthatch 1 just north of Milas at a cemetery in the woods.

Bafa Gölü incl. Menderes riverdelta at Sercin

Little Grebe 15, Little Egret 60, Night Heron at least 3 at a day-time roost, Grey Heron 18, Greater Flamingo 305, Black-winged Stilt 2, Greater Sand Plover 1 female, Spur-winged Plover 1, Temminck's Stint 1, Little Stint 1, Red-necked Phalarope 1, Black Tern 1, Turtle Dove 4, Bee-eater 8, Kingfisher 3, Crested Lark 9, Yellow Wagtail 30, Red-backed Shrike 10, Cirl Bunting 1 at the Cypress wood

Karagol harbour and coastline southwest of Akköy

Dalmatian Pelican 8 (1 juv.), Little Egret 20, Greater Flamingo 210, Kentish Plover 10, Mediterranean Gull 1, Yellow-legged Gull 1200, Great Black-backed Gull 1 adult (a rarity in Turkey)

Milet ruins

Green Woodpecker 1, Black-eared Wheatear 1, Lesser Grey Shrike 1, Red-backed Shrike 5

Bridge over Buyuk Menderes river

Squacco Heron 1, Kingfisher 2, Cetti's Warbler 2, Lesser Grey Shrike 1

Bridge over Ana Thaliya channel

Moorhen 29, Kingfisher 2, Cetti's Warbler 3, Penduline Tit 1

Road to Söke

Roller 1, Crested Lark 13, Red-rumped Swallow 1 (at nest Atburgazi), Rufous Bush Robin 1, Lesser Grey Shrike 2, Red-backed Shrike 2

Söke-Marmaris

Lesser Grey Shrike 2, Red-backed Shrike 5

Marmaris

Alpine Swift 20 feeding above the city just before sunset

3. September

Dalyan Airport

Lesser Grey Shrike 2

Complete list of the 120 birdspecies seen 21/8-3/9

Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis*

Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*

Shag *Phalacrocorax aristotelis*
28/8 1 Koycegiz lake (flying at great distance)

Dalmatian Pelican *Pelecanus crispus*
30/8 8 (1 juv.) Karagol harbour and coastline
southwest of Akköy

Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax*
30/8 3+ Menderes riverdelta

Squacco Heron *Ardeola ralloides*
30/8 1 adult Buyuk-Menderes river

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*

Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea*
28/8 1 Hamitköy

Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus*
28/8 6 Hamitköy

Greater Flamingo *Phoenicopterus ruber*
24/8 22 Golluk Marshes, 30/8 305 Bafa Gölü and
210 Akköy coastline

Honey Buzzard *Pernis apivorus*
28/8 1 bridge at Koycegiz river/Hamitköy

Common Buzzard *Buteo buteo*

Short-toed Eagle *Circaetus gallicus*
25/8 1 patrolling 3,0 km west of Datca and 1
hunting Mugla, 26/8 1 Yersiba

Hobby *Falco subbuteo*
24/8 1 Golluk Marshes

Eleonora's Falcon *Falco eleonora*
25/8 1 Knidos

Saker *Falco cherrug*
28/8 1 adult Hamitköy

Chukar *Alectoris chukar*
25/8 14 (3 flocks) 3,0 km west of Datca

Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus*

Coot *Fulica atra*

Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus*

Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula*

Kentish Plover *Charadrius alexandrinus*

Greater Sand Plover *Charadrius leschenaultii*
30/8 1 female Menderes riverdelta/Bafa Gölü

Spur-winged Plover *Hoplopterus spinosus*
30/8 1 Menderes riverdelta/Bafa Gölü

Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus*

Little Stint *Calidris minuta*

Temminck's Stint *Calidris temminckii*
30/8 1 Menderes riverdelta/Bafa Gölü

Snipe *Gallinago gallinago*

Redshank *Tringa totanus*

Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*

Red-necked Phalarope *Phalaropus lobatus*
30/8 1 Menderes riverdelta/Bafa Gölü

Mediterranean Gull *Larus melanocephalus*
30/8 1 Karagol harbour at Akköy coastline

Black-headed Gull *Larus ridibundus*

Yellow-legged Gull *Larus cachinnans*

Great Black-backed Gull *Larus marinus*
30/8 1 adult Karagol harbour (a rarity)

Black Tern *Chlidonias niger*
30/8 1 Menderes riverdelta/Bafa Gölü

Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybridus*
24/8 1 Golluk Marshes

Rock Dove *Columba livia*

Collared Dove *Streptopelia decaocto*

Turtle Dove *Streptopelia turtur*

Great Spotted Cuckoo *Clamator glandarius*
24/8 1 juv. near Milas

Little Owl *Athene noctua*
25/8 1 dead (roadkill) Icmeler Forest

Alpine Swift *Apus melba*
27/8 27 Icmeler-Bayinköy, 30/8 20 Marmaris

Pallid Swift *Apus pallidus*
29/8 6 migrating near Kale

Common Swift *Apus apus*

Common Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis*
A total of 17.

White-breasted Kingfisher *Halcyon smyrnensis*
28/8 2 Hamitköy

Bee-eater *Merops apiaster*
32 in total

Roller *Coracias garrulus*
30/8 1 between Tuzburgazi and Söke

Hoopoe *Upupa epops*
A total of 9.

Green Woodpecker *Picus viridis*
30/8 1 Milet ruins

Middle Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopus medius*
26/8 1 Seki-Elmali and 28/8 1 unidentified Middle Spotted/Syrian sp. flew overhead at the forest south of Dalyan

Skylark *Alauda arvensis*

Crested Lark *Galerida cristata*

Short-toed Lark *Calandrella brachydactyla*
28/8 2 Hamitköy

Crag Martin *Ptyonoprogne rupestris*
26/8 1 Seki-Elmali

Sand Martin *Riparia riparia*

Red-rumped Swallow *Hirundo daurica*
23/8 3 Marmaris, 24/8 1 Golluk Marshes, 25/8 6 Icmeler-Knidos route, 28/8 1 Hamitköy, 30/8 1 at a nest in the village Atburgazi

Swallow *Hirundo rustica*

House Martin *Delichon urbica*

Tawny Pipit *Anthus campestris*
28/8 3 Hamitköy

Pied Wagtail *Motacilla alba*

Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava*

Citrine Wagtail *Motacilla citreola*
28/8 1 flew by close to the ground and calling Hamitköy. Appears to be outside normal range.

Thrush Nightingale *Luscinia luscinia*
28/8 1 Hamitköy

Rufous Bush Robin *Cercotrichas galactotes*
30/8 1 between Tuzburgazi and Söke

White-throated Robin *Irania gutturalis*
26/8 1 partly agitated singing and calling 4 km south of Korkuteli

Northern Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe*

Isabelline Wheatear *Oenanthe isabellina*
26/8 1 near Yersiba between Korkuteli and Söğüt

Black-eared Wheatear *Oenanthe hispanica*
20 individuals were counted all in all.

Blue Rock Thrush *Monticola solitarius*
25/8 2 Knidos

Blackbird *Turdus merula*

Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos*

Mistle Thrush *Turdus viscivorus*
26/8 7 Seki-Elmali

Fan-tailed Warbler *Cisticola juncidis*

Cetti's Warbler *Cettia cetti*

Sedge Warbler *Acrocephalus schoenbaenus*
26/8 1 Ecenkay river near Ugurlu

Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*

Olivaceous Warbler *Hippolais pallida*

28/8 3 Hamitköy

Icterine Warbler *Hippolais icterina*

26/8 1 Korkuteli and 28/8 1 Hamitköy

Subalpine Warbler *Sylvia cantillans*

25/8 1 Mugla

Lesser Whitethroat *Sylvia curruca*

Whitethroat *Sylvia communis*

Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla*

Rüppell's Warbler *Sylvia rueppelli*

25/8 3 Knidos and 26/8 1 Korkuteli

Sardinian Warbler *Sylvia melanocephala*

Orphean Warbler *Sylvia hortensis*

26/8 1 Korkuteli

Eastern Bonelli's Warbler *Phylloscopus bonelli*

26/8 1 Seki-Elmali

Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus*

Pied Flycatcher *Ficedula hypoleuca*

Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa striata*

Penduline Tit *Remiz pendulinus*

24/8 2 Golluk Marshes, 28/8 2 Hamitköy and 2 Koycegiz river and 30/8 1 Ana Thaliya channel in the Buyuk-Menderes riverdelta

Sombre Tit *Parus lugobris*

26/8 2 Korkuteli

Great Tit *Parus major*

Coal Tit *Parus ater*

Long-tailed Tit *Aegithalos caudatus*

26/8 4 Korkuteli

Krüper's Nuthatch *Sitta krueperi*

25/8 2 Icmeler forest and 1 Icmeler-Knidos route plus 30/8 1 north of Milas

Rock Nuthatch *Sitta neumayer*

25/8 3 Datca-Knidos, 11 Knidos and 1 Mugla, 26/8 5 Seki-Elmali

Yellow-vented Bulbul *Pycnonotus xanthopygos*

29/8 1 ca. 10 km south of Pammukale

Red-backed Shrike *Lanius collurio*

At least 41 individuals were seen.

Lesser Grey Shrike *Lanius minor*

At least 31 individuals were seen.

Woodchat Shrike *Lanius senator*

Jay *Garrulus glandarius*

Magpie *Pica pica*

Jackdaw *Corvus monedula*

Raven *Corvus corax*

26/8 1 Ugurlu-Seki

Carrion Crow *Corvus corone*

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*

Red-fronted Serin *Serinus pusillus*

26/8 two flocks of 40(!) and 4 Seki-Elmali

Greenfinch *Carduelis chloris*

Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis*

Linnet *Carduelis cannabina*

Crimson-winged Finch *Rhodopechys sanguinea*

26/8 3 overhead calling Seki-Elmali

Cirl Bunting *Emberiza cirlus*

30/8 1 near Cypress-wood at Bafa Gölü

Ortolan Bunting *Emberiza hortulana*

26/8 8 Seki-Elmali

Rock Bunting *Emberiza cia*

26/8 4 outside Zorfar on the Seki-Elmali route

Cretzschmar's Bunting *Emberiza caesia*

25/8 1 Degirmenyali and 2 Knidos

Black-headed Bunting *Emberiza melanocephala*

26/8 4 Seki-Elmali and 2 Korkuteli