

Georgia

A lot of Caucasus mountains and a bit of steppe.

06 UNTIL 14-04-2021



Great Rosefinch and Guldenstadt's Redstart both in Kazbegi.

Legenda:

*AAAA = New (Holarctic) Species (1 according to IOC 10/21)

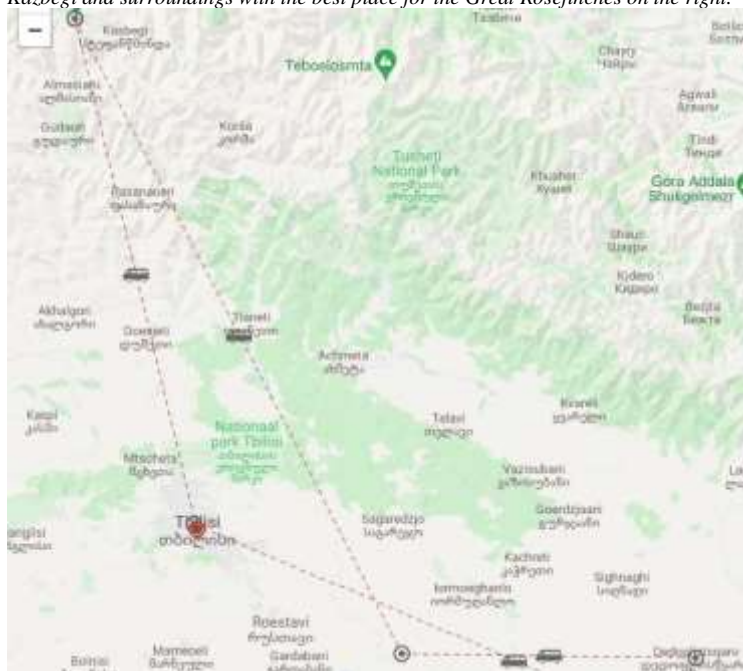
AAAAA = Good species for the trip or for me (because not often seen)

The list order is conformed the WP checklist with the recent changes on the splitting and lumping issue mainly based on publications in the "important magazines". Subspecies is only mentioned when thought to be important and really visible in the field. The totals of birds per species are just a total of the birds I saw to give an idea how many of a species you encounter during a trip. Only species seen are mentioned, and heard when, no lifer.

On this trip the weather was cold and rainy/snowy in the mountains between 5 and 10 degrees Celsius but with periods of sunshine and warmer (20 degrees) in the Steppes.



Kazbegi and surroundings with the best place for the Great Rosefinches on the right.



The route we travelled in the week we birded there.

Itinerary

06-04 Flew during the evening and night from Dusseldorf to Tbilisi to arrive in the early morning, and met my guide **Alexander Rukhaia**, [Alexander Rukhaia \(@alexanderrukhaia\) • Instagram-foto's en -video's](#) later on drove to the close by Kumisi Lake to bird and later on drove with birding stops to Stephantsminda in the Kazbegi area.

07-04 Birded all day in the Kazbegi area with the focus on the snowcocks.

08-04 Birded all day in the Kazbegi area

09-04 Birded all day in the Kazbegi area

10-04 Birded all day in the Kazbegi area because we were stuck because the pass was closed.

11-04 In the morning birded in the Kazbegi area and later on, because of the reopening of the pass, drove down with birding stops to the steppe area and spend the night in Dedoplistskaro.

12-04 Birded in the Steppe area and slept in Dedoplistskaro.

13-04 Drove from Dedoplistskaro via the David Gareji Monastery to Kumisi Lake and birded there. In the afternoon we got totally stuck with the car so I had to take another driver to bring me back to Tbilisi.

14-04 Flew back in the early morning to Dusseldorf .

The trip was organized with Starling Reizen, [Vogelreizen - STARLING natuur- en fotografiereizen \(starlingreizen.be\)](#)

THE BIRD SPECIES

01. Lesser White-fronted Goose – Anser erythropus

06+13-04

2 ex. (only one found on the 13th) seen and filmed well

along the shore of Kumisi Lake. Classical birds with the yellow eye-ring sometimes seen (when in the sun). Small, high white forehead in a small point and less belly streaking than adult (and Greater White-front.). See also: https://www.instagram.com/p/COsbfVAAEeB/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link



One of the Lesser White fronts from a videostill



And by Nika Budagasvhili

02. **Greyleg Goose – *Anser anser* ssp: *rubrirostris***

13-04

5 ex. seen well with one of the Lesser-WF Goose along the shore of Kumisi Lake.



The Greylegs (with one of the LWG's by Nika Budagasvhili

03. **Ruddy Shelduck - *Tadorna ferruginea***

06+13-04

30 ex. at Kumisi Lake. Often in pairs but in one group together.

04. **Mallard – *Anas platyrhynchos***

06+13-04

22 ex. seen mainly at Kumisi Lake.

05. **Pintail – *Anas acuta***

06+13-04

7 ex. in one flock at Kumisi Lake.

06. **Shoveler – *Anas clypeata***

06+13-04

Common at Kumisi Lake.

07. **Wigeon – *Anas Penelope***

13-04

2 ex. at Kumisi Lake.

08. **Teal – *Anas crecca***

06+13-04

Common at Kumisi Lake

09. **Garganey – *Anas querquedula***

06+13-04

Very common at Kumisi Lake with the most on 06.

10. **Pochard – *Aythya ferina***

06+13-04

About 30 ex. at Kumisi Lake

11. **Ferruginous Duck – *Aythya nyroca***

06-04

1 female with the Pochards at Kumisi Lake

12. **Greater Scaup – *Aythya marila***

06-04

1 female at Kumisi Lake an uncommon winter visitor.

13. **Tufted Duck – *Aythya fuligula***

06+13-04

About 50 ex. at Kumisi Lake

14. **Red-crested Pochard – *Netta rufina***

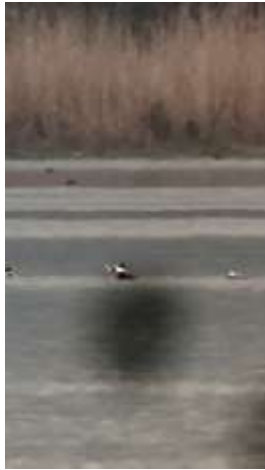
13-04

7 ex. in one flock at Kumisi Lake

15. **White-headed Duck – *Oxyura leucocephala***

13-04

2 ex, a pair with the male in breeding plumage at Kumisi Lake. Nice views with the spiked tails and the black upper head of the white head.



The pair (sorry for the raindrop)

16. **Cacaussian Grouse – Lyrurus mlokosiewiczii**

A total of 15 seen in the Kazbeki area. Often quite far on the slope but in the scope nice views, with the tail shape well seen and the red above the eyes one time seen.

17. ***CACAUSIAN SNOWCOCK – Tetraogallus caucasicus**

07-04

11 ex. giving nice scope views while calling. Also heard on other days (but not seen, because the lack of effort). Big grey white-headed “chicken”. All the details from the books (like the brown belly streaking) seen well . The call was a typical like a snowcock. See also: https://www.instagram.com/p/CNaQ4aMgUen/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link



Two stills out of the video of the snowcocks



Chukar giving nice views.

18. **Chukar – Alectoris chukar ssp: kurdestanica**

About 7 seen spread over the trip.

Common Pheasant - Phasianus colchicus ssp: colchicus

12-04

5 ex. heard calling but not seen east of Dedoplistskaro . I have seen this species in the wild in China luckily.

19. **Black-headed Grebe – Podiceps nigricollis**

13-04

7 ex. at Kumisi Lake.

20. **Great Crested Grebe – Podiceps cristatus**

13-04

8 ex. at Kumisi Lake.

21. **Dalmatian Pelican – Pelecanus crispus**

06+13-04

9 ex. in one flock, all immatures at Kumisi Lake. See also:

https://www.instagram.com/p/CNY2lw6A64o/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link



The group of Dalmatian Pelicans a few days earlier by an unknown photographer.

22. **Cormorant – Phalacrocorax carbo**

13-04

10 ex. at Kumisi Lake.

23. **Night Heron – Nycticorax nycticorax**

06-04

2 ex. along the old city wall in Tbilisi.

24. **Little Egret – Egretta garzetta**

13-04

2 ex. at Kumisi Lake.

25. **Great Egret - Casmerodius albus**

A total of 15 birds spread over the trip.

26. **Grey Heron – Ardea cinerea**

A total of 15 birds spread over the trip.

27. **Spoonbill – Platalea leucorodia**

13-04

2 ex. at Kumisi Lake.

28. **Lammergeier – Gypaetus barbatus**

A total of 8 birds seen soaring on most of the days over the Kazbegi area. Some nice adults.

29. **Griffon Vulture – Gyps fulvus**

About 20 birds seen spread over the trip, in the mountains and also some in the steppes.

30. **Black Vulture – Aegypius monachus**

12-04

3 ex. seen in the steppes, one giving very nice flyby views.

31. **Egyptian Vulture – Neophron percnopterus**

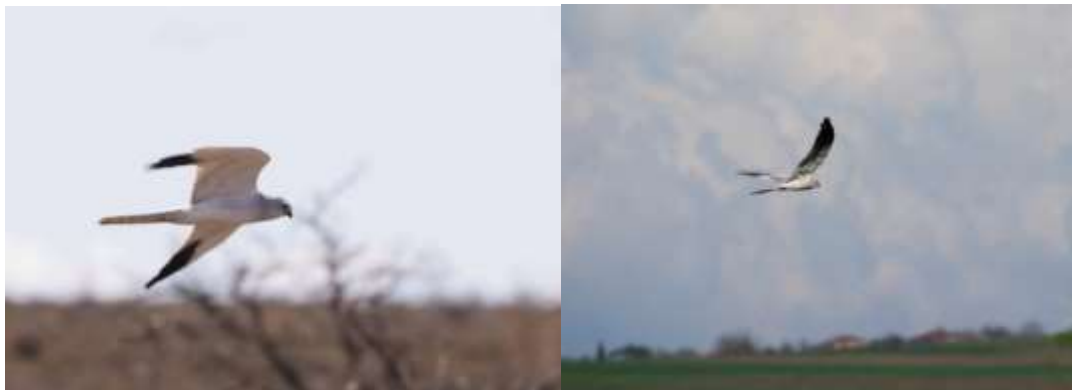
A total of 6 birds seen in the Steppes.

32. **White-tailed Eagle – Haliaeetus albicilla**

06+13-04

2 ex. on both days along the shores of Kumisi Lake.

33. **Imperial Eagle – Aquila heliacal**
12-04 1 subadult. seen in the steppes quite high circling above us.
34. **Spotted Eagle – Aquila clanga**
12-04 1 subadult seen near Dedoplistskaro, nice close views of the bird flying low past.
35. **Steppe Eagle – Aquila nipalensis**
A total of 12 birds seen, sometimes in small groups, on migration and mainly in the steppe area.
36. **Short-toed Eagle – Circaetus gallicus**
A total of 2 birds seen in the steppes.
37. **Black Kite – Milvus milvus**
A total of 3 birds seen in the steppes.
38. **Marsh Harrier – Circus aeruginosus**
A total of 10 birds seen in the steppes and Kumisi Lake.
39. **Hen Harrier – Circus cyaneus**
A total of 2 birds seen in the steppes.
40. **Montagu's Harrier - Circus pygargus**
A total of 14 birds seen in the steppes, birds had just arrived.



Pallid and Montagu's Harriers both by Alexander Rukhaia

42. **Pallid Harrier – Circus macrorus**
06-04 2 immatures flying over Kumisi Lake.
12-04 1 nice male flying low past the car at a little lake near Dedoplistskaro.
43. **Long-legged Buzzard – Buteo rufinus**
12-04 2 birds seen, one giving very nice close views flying above us in Eagle Gorge.
44. **Common (Steppe) Buzzard – Buteo buteo ssp: vulpinus**
The common raptor seen, many on migration in the mountains. Nice to see this taxon again after so many years.



Long-legged Buzzard by Alexander Rukhaia



Montagu's Harrier seen perched.

45. **Sparrowhawk – *Accipiter nisus***

A total of 4 seen spread over the trip.

46. **Goshawk – *Accipiter gentilis***

12-04

pheasant.

1 ex in flight east of Dedoplistskaro while searching for a

47. **Kestrel – *Falco tinnunculus***

A total of 7 seen spread over the trip.

48. **Hobby – *Falco Subbuteo***

13-04

1 ex sitting in a tree on a rainy slope.

49. **Peregrine – *Falco peregrinus***

13-04

1 ex. seen along the way.

50. **Eurasian Coot – *Fulica atra***

13-04

40 ex. seen at Kumisi Lake.

51. **Avocet – *Recurvirostra avosetta***

13-04

20 ex. seen at Kumisi Lake.

52. **Black-winged Stilt – *Himantopus himantopus***

Common at all visited lakes mainly at Kumisi Lake.

53. **Little-ringed Plover – *Charadrius dubius***

06+13-04

Kentish.

Common at Kumisi lake along the shores mixed in with

54. **Kentish Plover – *Charadrius alexandrinus***

55. 06+13-04

Little Ringed.

Common at Kumisi lake along the shores mixed in with



The Greater Sandplover by Alexander Rukhaia.

56. **Greater (Anatolian) Sand Plover – *Charadrius leschenaultia* ssp: *columbinus***

13-04

1 adult summer plumage giving very nice and prolonged views along the shores of Kumisi lake with other small plover species. The forth record for Georgia I believe. See also: https://www.instagram.com/p/CNo03RjgCyg/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link

57. **Northern Lapwing – *Vanellus vanellus***
13-04 5 birds along the shores of Kumisi Lake.
58. **Dunlin – *Calidris alpina***
13-04 4 birds in summer plumage at the shore of Kumisi Lake
59. **Temminck's Stint – *Calidris temminckii***
13-04 2 birds in summer plumage at the shore of Kumisi Lake
60. **Little Stint – *Calidris minuta***
06+13-04 2 birds at the shore of Kumisi lake.
61. **Wood Sandpiper – *Tringa glareola***
06+13-04 2 birds at the shore of Kumisi lake.
62. **Green Sandpiper – *Tringa ochropus***
06+13-04 3 birds at the shore of Kumisi lake.
10-04 1 ex. near the little dam at Stephantsminda
63. **Common Sandpiper – *Actitis hypoleucos***
Common at Kumisi lake.
64. **Redshank – *Tringa tetanus***
13-04 1 bird at the shore at Kumisi lake.
65. **Greenshank – *Tringa nebularia***
06+13-04 20 birds at the shore of Kumisi lake.
66. **Marsh Sandpiper – *Tringa stagnatilis***
06+13-04 3 birds at the shore of Kumisi lake. Not a common migrant in Georgie.
67. **Common Snipe – *Gallinago gallinago***
06+13-04 4 birds at the shore of Kumisi lake.
68. **Red-necked Phalarope – *Phalaropus lobatus***
13-04 80 ex. in one flock at Jandari Lake on the way to Tbilisi
69. **Ruff – *Philomachus pugnax***
06+13-04 3 birds at the shore of Kumisi lake in small flocks.
70. **Black-headed Gull – *Chroicocephalus ridibundus***
06+13-04 100+ birds at Kumisi lake
71. **Slender-billed Gull – *Chroicocephalus genei***
06-04 3 birds in nice summer plumage at Kumisi lake
72. **Armenian Gull – *Larus armenicus***
06+13-04 20+ birds at Kumisi lake, many immatures and a few nice adults. It was for me a long time since I saw that taxon.
73. **Caspian Tern – *Hydroprogne caspia***
06-04 2 birds at Kumisi lake, calling a lot.
74. **White-winged Black Tern – *Chlidonias leucopterus***
13-04 2 birds at Kumisi lake in nice summer plumage.
75. **Rock Dove – *Columba livia***
Quite common in the mountains, only wild looking birds counted.
76. **Stock Dove – *Columba oenas***
12-04 1 bird seen along the way.
77. **Wood Pigeon – *Columba palumbus***
12-04 5 birds seen along the way
78. **Collared Dove – *Streptopelia decaocto***
About 3 birds seen in the steppe villages.

79. **Eagle Owl - Bubo bubo**

06-04

1 bird seen very nice at a breeding site near Tbilisi.

80. **Little Owl – Athene noctua ssp: *indigena***

About 5 birds seen spread over the trip

81. **Eurasian Scops Owl – Otus scops**

12-04

1 bird a rufous face seen extremely well in a bush near Dedoplistskaro. A great experience to see one staring at me with its yellow eyes.



Nice Eagle Owl

The Scops Owl if only I knew how manual focus worked 😊....

82. **Common Swift – Apus apus**

13-04

30 ex. in one flock over the hotel in Dedoplistskaro

83. **Alpine Swift – Apus melba**

Quite commonly seen in small groups during the trip in the mountains and steppes.

84. **Hoopoe – Upupa epops**

Quite commonly seen during the trip in the mountains and steppes mainly migrants.

85. **Great Spotted Woodpecker – Dendrocopos major**

11-04

1 ex. during a lunch stop along the way.

86. **Skylark – Alauda arvensis**

Quite common in the steppes.

87. **Crested Lark – Galerida cristata**

Quite common in the steppes.

88. **Woodlark – Lullula arborea**

11-04

3 ex. heard singing while birding in the evening near Dedoplistskaro.

89. **Greater Short-toed lark – Calandrella brachydactyla ssp: *artemisiana***

13-04

25 ex. in small flocks in the steppe area visited.



Larks galore, Calandra by Alexander Rukhaia

and Short-toed by myself.

90. **Calandra Lark – *Melanocorypha calandra***

The commonest lark in the steppes with big flock and displaying birds.

91. **(Caucasian) Horned Lark – *Eremophila alpestris* ssp: *penicillata***

11-04

8 birds seen while driving over the Kazbegi pass. Nice brown hindneck.

92. **Sand Martin – *Riparia riparia***

13-04

10 ex. seen at Kumisi Lake.

93. **Crag Martin - *Ptyonoprogne rupestris***

10-04

2 ex. seen about one of the visited cliffs near Dedoplistskaro.

94. **Barn Swallow – *Hirundo rustica***

Common throughout the trip also migrants in the mountains.

95. **House Martin – *Delichon urbicum***

13-04

10 ex. seen at Kumisi Lake.

96. **Tawny Pipit – *Anthus campestris***

12-04

3 ex. seen very well in the steppes, migrating birds.



97. **Water Pipit – *Anthus spinoletta* ssp: *coutellii***

Very common throughout the trip, in the beginning also in the lowlands (Kumisi Lake)

98. **Meadow Pipit – *Anthus pratensis***

11-04

7 ex. seen in one little flock entering the steppes.

99. **Tree Pipit – *Anthus trivialis***

A total of 3 birds heard and seen in the steppe area.

100. **White Wagtail – *Motacilla alba* ssp:**

Common throughout the trip, mainly in the lowlands.

101. Western Yellow Wagtail – *Motacilla flava* ssp: *feldegg, thunbergi* + form: *dombrowskii*

Feldegg was the most common throughout the trip.

13-04

40 *Thunbergi* seen at Kumisi Lake.

06+13-04

Dombrowskii common in big flocks at the shore of Kumisi lake.



A flock of the Western Yellow Wagtails at Kumisi Lake by Nika Budagashvili with all "forms" on it.

102. Citrine Wagtail – *Motacilla citreola* ssp: *verae*?

06+13-04

15 birds seen in total at Kumisi Lake, breath taking adult

males

along

them,

see

also:

https://www.instagram.com/p/CNxUzYsgmOz/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link

103. Grey Wagtail – *Motacilla cinerea*

Quite common in the mountains near streams.

104. Dipper – *Cinclus cinclus* ssp: *caucasicus*

A total of 5 birds seen in mountain streams in the Kazbegi area.

105. (Caucasian) Dunnock – *Prunella (modularis)* ssp: *obscura*

Very common in the mountains of the Kazbegi area. Very spotted underparts and quite a different song than the birds I know.

106. Nightingale – *Luscinia megarhynchos* ssp: *africana*

12-04

1 ex. seen while searching for the pheasant, paler than our birds.

107. Robin – *Erithacus rubecula*

A total of 2 birds seen in the Kazbegi area.

108. Bluethroat – *Luscinia svecica* ssp: *magna*

08-04

1 ex. a female type and migrant in the dam bushes near Stephantsminda

109. Common Redstart – *Phoenicurus phoenicurus* ssp: *phoenicurus*

A total of 10 ex. seen all migrants spread over the trip (mainly in the mountains). Surprisingly no real wing panels noticed so classified as the nominate subspecies.

110. Black Redstart – *Phoenicurus ochruros* ssp: *ochruros*

Common in the mountains, nice to see the all red underpart. Song quite different from ours.



What is the most interesting redstart in this photo?

111. **Guldenstadt's Redstart – *Phoenicurus erythrogastus***

Common in the mountains and seen daily with 40+ individuals. Nice adult male, females and some first year males. One of the targets of this trip to see in big numbers.



112. **Northern Wheatear – *Oenanthe oenanthe***

Common throughout the trip, mainly in the mountains, already paired birds.

113. **Isabelline Wheatear – *Oenanthe isabellina***

Common throughout the steppe part of the trip.

114. **Eastern Black-eared Wheatear - *Oenanthe melanoleuca***

A total of 30 birds seen on the steppe days of the trip. Great views and often in pairs.





Black-eared in the Steppe. Pied near Dedoplistskaro and a probable Finch hybrid?? around David Gareji Monastery

115. Finsch Wheatear – *Oenanthe finschii*

13-04 1 ex. most likely a hybrid bird because the brownish borders of the white mantle and also the bird did not look particular small.

116. Pied Wheatear – *Oenanthe pleschanka*

A total of 15 birds seen in the steppe area. One bird showed white feathers on the lower back. This bird was near David Gareji Monastery and suspected of hybrid influences.

117. Whinchat – *Saxicola rubetra*

07-04 2 ex. in the Kazbegi area

118. Siberian Stonechat – *Saxicola maurus* ssp: *variegatus*

Quite common during the whole trip, also in the mountains (but less than in the lowlands). Great to see these “white tail based” birds. The white at the tail base was not often seen well when perched.

119. European Stonechat – *Saxicola rubicola* ssp: *rubicola*

A total of 5 (most likely one family) at the river dam at Stepantsminda. Looking like the normal stonechats I see most of my days at home.

120. Song Thrush – *Turdus philomelos*

Common during the whole trip.

121. Mistle Thrush – *Turdus viscivorus*

07-04 1 ex. in the Kazbegi area



Nice males variegatus, very knowledgeable

122. Fieldfare – *Turdus pilaris*

A total of 7 birds seen well in the Kazbegi area.

123. **Blackbird – Turdus merula**

Common throughout the trip.

124. **Ring Ouzel – Turdus torquatus ssp: *amicorum***

Commonly seen in the Kazbegi area, also singing.



125. **Blue-rock Thrush – Monticola solitarius**

12-04

1 male in a visited gorge.

126. **Blackcap – Sylvia atricapilla**

11-04

20 ex. in one flock at a lunch stop in a fruiting forest tree.

127. **Lesser Whitethroat – Sylvia curruca ssp: *curruca* or *blythi***

Common in the steppe area's also migrating (*blythi*??) birds.

128. **Eastern Orphean Warbler – Sylvia crassirostris**

A total of 10 birds seen in the steppe area, some nice views of singing birds, big and a pale eye. Often in song but secretive.

129. **Menetries Warbler – Sylvia mystacea ssp: *mystacea***

A total of 4 birds seen in the steppe area of which the last bird seen very well singing along a dried out river in bare bushes. Nice orange eye-ring. The birds looked very pale on the underparts without pink (as supposed to be with this subspecies)??

130. **Willow warbler – Phylloscopus trochilus**

07-04

1 bird seen a migrant in the bushes of Stepantsminda.

131. **Chiffchaff – Phylloscopus collybita ssp: *caucasicus*?**

About 30 birds seen all migrants in the Kazbegi area. These birds called as Siberian Chiffchaff and did not respond on the song of the nominate??



Very confusing these Chiffchaffs in Georgia..

132. Goldcrest – *Regulus regulus*

10-04

1 ex. seen near Stepantsminda.

133. Firecrest – *Regulus ignicapilla*

11-04

1 ex. at a lunchstop in a fruiting forest tree.

134. Eurasian Wren – *Troglodytes troglodytes* ssp: *hyrcanus*

Common, mainly in the mountains.

135. Red-breasted Flycatcher - *Ficedula parva*

11-04

1 ad. male at a lunch stop in a fruiting forest tree. Singing and, after a while, showing well with the tail pattern and red throat and upper breast.

136. Semicollared Flycatcher – *Ficedula semitorquata*

10-04

1 female at the bushes near Stepantsminda. A female “out of the book” with the white tips on the lesser wing coverts.



A Semi-collared female was a nice surprise in the mountains.

137. Great Tit – *Parus major*

Common throughout the trip.

138. Coal Tit – *Parus ater* ssp: *micchalskii*

About 10 birds seen spread over the mountain days. Quite pale belly.

139. Blue Tit – *Cyanistes caeruleus*

Common throughout the trip.

140. Long-tailed Tit – *Aegithalos caudatus* ssp: *major*

10-04 4 ex, seen in one flock at a lake area beneath
Stephantsminda. Quite different than our birds with nice grey-blue upperpart.

141. Eurasian Nuthatch - *Sitta europaea* ssp: *caucasica*

11-04 1 ad. at a lunch stop, looking very much like the birds I see
in my area with warm colored underparts.

142. Kruper's Nuthatch – *Sitta krueperi*

06-04 2 ex. at a place near Tbilisi. Great views of birds inspecting
nesting holes.



143. Western Rock Nuthatch – *Sitta neumayer*

12-04 1 ex. seen quite well at a visited gorge, also heard calling.

144. Wallcreeper – *Tichodroma muraria*

A pair seen very well on most of the days at a bridge near Stephantsminda.



145. Treecreeper – *Certhia familiaris* ssp: *persica*

10-04 2 ex. in a small forest patch in the village of Stepantsminda. Not very different from the other subspecies I saw in my life.

146. Magpie – *Pica pica*

Common throughout the trip.

147. Eurasian Jay – *Garrulus glandarius* ssp: *krynicky*

Quite common during the trip, quite white- faced birds.

148. Jackdaw – *Corvus monedula* ssp: *soemmerringii*

12-04 2 ex. seen while birding along the way. Very striking birds, see the (not sharp unfortunately) photo.



149. Red-billed Chough – *Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*

Quite common in big flocks in the mountains.

150. Alpine Chough – *Pyrrhocorax graculus*

Less common than Red-billed but two big flocks seen in the mountains.

151. Rook – *Corvus frugilegus*

Common in the steppe areas.

152. Hooded Crow – *Corvus cornix*

Common throughout the trip mainly in the lowlands.

153. Raven – *Corvus corax*

Common in the mountains.

154. Common Starling – *Sturnus vulgaris*

Common throughout the trip mainly in the steps.

155. House Sparrow – *Passer domesticus*

Locally common during the trip.

156. Spanish Sparrow – *Passer hispaniolensis*

11-04 60 ex. in one flock near Stepantsminda. Migrants.



157. Tree Sparrow – *Passer montanus*

About 20 birds seen in the steppe area.

158. Rock Sparrow – *Petronia petronia*

12-04

1 male inspecting nests and giving great views, see the little

movie: https://www.instagram.com/p/CNljxAaAkXw/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link

159. Chaffinch – *Fringilla coelebs* ssp: *solomkoi*

Common in the visited forests, not different than our birds, song also the same.

160. Linnet – *Carduelis cannabina*

Common in the lowlands.

161. Twite – *Carduelis flavirostris* ssp: *brevirostris*

About 15 birds seen in the Kazbegi area, nice to see this totally different looking from our birds (again).

Quite a surprise nobody “dived” into this group for splitting.

162. Goldfinch – *Carduelis carduelis*

Common mainly in the lowlands.

163. Greenfinch – *Chloris chloris*

12-04

2 ex. seen in a village.

164. Siskin – *Carduelis spinus*

10-04

2 ex. while birding in the mountains.

165. Red-Fronted Serin – *Serinus pusillus*

Common in flocks and also singing in the Kazbegi area. Great birds to see again.

166. Bullfinch – *Pyrrhula pyrrhula* ssp: *rossikowi*

About 10 birds seen spread over the days in the Kazbegi area. I do not know if this subspecies is the same or related to the “Komi Bullfinches” which in some winters occur in our country? There call was not much different.



167. Hawfinch – *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*

11-04

3 ex. in flight near Stephantsminda. Good views and calling.

168. Great Rosefinch – *Carpodacus rubicilla* ssp: *rubicilla*

About 130 birds seen on most days (the most when bad weather) around Stephantsminda. Very nice views of big flocks also calling. Much darker than the Tibetan birds I have seen. A target for this trip.



169. Reed Bunting – *Emberiza schoeniclus* ssp: *caspia*

13-04

2 ex. along the shore of Kumisi Lake.

170. Yellowhammer – *Emberiza citrinella*

10-04

2 ex. seen well in the bushes near Stephantsminda

171. Corn Bunting – *Emberiza calandra*

Very common in the steppe area, singing everywhere.

172. Rock Bunting – *Emberiza cia*

About 20 birds seen in small flocks spread over the days in the mountains. Nice views often feeding and not singing.

I did not kept a mammal list this trip but Jungle cat [Moeraskat - Felis chaus - Observation.org](#) was the best mammal.



One of the best spots of the trip, the shore of Kumisi lake by Alexander Rukhaia

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