

Cyprus Trip Report March 10th to 24th 2030



Brian Carruthers, Tom Kavanagh, Rachel Hynes and I travelled to Cyprus between March 10th to 24th 2023. The others had travelled there in 2020 but due to Covid had to go home after only 3 days and wanted to make a return visit, so I was happy to tag along. We probably would have gone a week or two later, but 3 months prior, Ryanair only had flights available up to the 24th and we wanted to nail down accommodation, etc so we went ahead and booked. We were staying in the village of Anogyra (<https://goo.gl/maps/8VjgBYGigRxpVnq4A>) in the foothills, which was about 20 minutes' drive to the A6, the main artery to getting around the country. It was a lovely comfortable 3-bedroom house with two additional folding couches. It was also stocked with enough food for the first day or so, meaning we didn't have to go shopping straight away. There were a number of restaurants but only one appeared to be open and that was only open at the weekends due it being off season. In saying that when we did visit the food was great, plentiful and very inexpensive. Other days we either ate in, went to Possouri, or went somewhere on our way home from a day's birding. I had spent a bit of time researching species and sites and came up with a list of places to visit. We didn't have a set itinerary but decided to alternate between birding locally (less than an hour's drive) one day and visiting sites further away on the next day. We then decided based on recent gen and weather conditions. We had also pre booked two walks organised by Birdlife Cyprus so we could learn the best areas to bird within the two sites visited, namely Akrotiri and Paphos headland. Brian looked after the car hire, which was a Dacia Duster, a little bit of a squeeze to and from the airport with all our luggage but otherwise perfect for 4 people with our birding gear and any of the rough tracks we ended up on. The birding started from the airport with Alpine Swift being one of the first birds of note. After checking in we explored the locally. The garden had singing Sardinian Warbler and mixed flock of House and Spanish Sparrow, the latter nesting in the dead fronds of a large palm tree. A Laughing Dove was picked up nearby. That evening a number of Cyprus Scops Owls could be heard calling in and around the village.

References:

Between to four of us we had the following:

Birds of Cyprus: Colin Richardson & Richard Porter, ISBN: 9781472960849

Finding Birds in Cyprus: Gosney, ISBN: 9781898110132 Out of Print

Birdwatching Guide to Cyprus: Arthur Stagg and Graham Hearl, ISBN: 9781900159807 Out of Print

Birdwatching in Cyprus: Where to go and what to look out for. English edition, Jane Stylianou, ISBN: 978-9925-7734-2-8

Collins Bird Guide app

Merlin app – Good assistant for bird calls, but unless you are familiar with the call or see the bird, I would not trust its id. Probably correct about 80% of the time.



eBird map showing sites visited.

11th March: We were going on the first of the pre booked bird trips to Akrotiri but arrived early and birded around Zakaki Marsh (<https://goo.gl/maps/R2rTTgGYRAbck7Td8>) area for an hour or so. Reed and Cetti's warblers were singing, and we had our first Crested Lark, Isabelline Wheatear, Zitting Cisticula, Bluethroat and a couple of distant Black Francolin. The tour was led by Anders Gray, a well-known guide in the area with excellent bird knowledge. We headed to the nearby fish farms



Crested Lark

(<https://goo.gl/maps/CgWFvmcVkJZAeNDSP8>) where there had been a large wintering flock of gulls the previous week, but unfortunately they had dispersed and only a few Yellow-legged Gulls remained. We then birded along Lady's mile (<https://goo.gl/maps/XEAQkUBJcT3CPQbn8>) and across to the gravel pits (<https://goo.gl/maps/VW2v5EXHn3AWSwhAA>) picking up Little and Kentish Plover, Little Stint and a distant Steep Buzzard. At St Georges Chapel (<https://goo.gl/maps/Qc55Vf7LcmuNwyjJ6>) we added Chukar and Red-rumped Swallow, but no sign



Corn Bunting

of the Desert Wheatear that was there the previous week. Along the coast near the gravel pits we had a small flock of Tawny Pipits near the track and a large flock of about 100 Gargany on the sea. Further on at Akrotiri Marsh

(<https://goo.gl/maps/eEGiPQS6xssZ6vqe7>) we had Spur-winged Lapwing, Marsh Harrier, a much closer Steep Buzzard, Great, Cattle and Little Egret, Glossy Ibis, Water Pipit and our first Red-throated Pipits. When we finished up the tour, we got some good gen from Anders on roosting Cyprus Scops Owl. We then

headed to Anarita Park (<https://goo.gl/maps/9RGj1w4cKUxW1psg7>) to search for a Finschs Wheatear that had been wintering there and seen the previous day, but we did not locate it. We did add Serin and Corn Bunting to our trip list. We stopped off at Asprokremmos Dam (<https://goo.gl/maps/QreViWmqxRdjNbSx6>) where we had a Harrier species but were unable to nail the id. We had an impressive flock of over 60 Corn Bunting in the area.

12th March: We started off exploring the fields in the Madrina area (<https://goo.gl/maps/hYADmHsTogWK9sa46>) and had several calling Black Francolin with one giving good views. We also heard a Quail but did not see it. Crested Lark were everywhere and very approachable. A Stonechat sitting on a bush turned out to be a male Siberian which was a nice tick for all. Shortly after another tick in the form of a male Pallid Harrier gave good views as it hunted along the edge of a field being harassed by Hooded Crows. A freshly dug potato field had a few Short-toed Lark, one of which was very pale. Several Yellow-wagtail were also present, and all turned out to be black-headed(feldegg) as well as a few more Red-throated Pipits and a Water Pipit. A local birder gave us a location where two Stone curlew were seen earlier so on our way for coffee, we made a small detour and found them in a freshly ploughed field. A visit to Timi beach

(<https://goo.gl/maps/qhkX7UhHE2wSAMfv8>) produced nothing new so we headed to Episkopi (<https://goo.gl/maps/y3RySBfqZvX9oxNK7>) to look for the Cyprus Scops Owl. Despite knowing the exact tree to look in it still took us nearly 10 minutes to locate the pair thanks to Brian and after adjusting our angle we had excellent views. A cliff face nearby (<https://goo.gl/maps/KzhDLwXZXuYT1Uzp8>) had good numbers of Eastern Jackdaw. While driving out of Episkopi we spotted a black and white Wheatear along the side of the road

(<https://goo.gl/maps/DDETKNFA3Qwdt5aC8>), but it quickly dropped into a field. We got out to search for it and I had another brief view before it disappeared into another field not to be seen again. It had nice clean white parts but I didn't get a good view of the back and tail in order to clinch the id. After seeing plenty of Cyprus Wheatear later in the trip I'm inclined to think this bird was a Finschs. Continuing on we stopped on a hill overlooking Anarita park (<https://goo.gl/maps/6NV6B9MGDRbPhnBp8>) which we had visited the previous day and a Long-legged Buzzard lifted from a bush in front of us. Soon after Rachel picked up a large bird of prey but it disappeared behind another hill before we could get any id features. Another quick visit to Asprokremmos dam added Great crested Grebe and Great tit to our list.



Cyprus Scops Owl



13th March: We were up early and heading to the east of the country where a Greater Sand Plover had been reported, but despite extensive searching along the coast near Ayia Napa

Cyprus Warbler

(<https://goo.gl/maps/BnNxmW6tcWayYa23A>) there was no sign. We did have Grey Plover, Whimbrel, Common Sandpiper, Greenshank and our only Audouin's Gull of the trip. I had a Hoopoe but it had flown off before the others got to me. As we headed to Paralimni Lake (<https://goo.gl/maps/4fsv8bm32jMpkBXWA> & <https://goo.gl/maps/tZfME18hbqGxg3xB9>) the skies



Greater Flamingo at Paralimni Lake

darkened and a heavy downpour started so we had to sit in the car and wait for it to clear. When it finally did, we had Flamingo, lots of Shoveler as well as Gadwall, Garganey, Teal, 4 Red-crested Pochard and 2 Ferruginous Duck along with more of the previously seen birds. We then went to Cape Greco (<https://goo.gl/maps/Ws9SPQXxYxRe3PkL7>) where amongst all the Sardinian Warblers had our first Cyprus Warblers of the trip, a singing but skulky male and a female. I also heard a Robin calling in the area.

14th March: We went to Paphos headland (<https://goo.gl/maps/jQQd3hppf6423PhC7>) and birded outside the archaeological site while we waited for it to open at 8:30. We had already been informed

that the exterior coastal track was closed to upgrade the path, but it looks like it's going to be more like a promenade! We also heard that a lot of trees and scrub had been cleared because the new Major wanted it 'tidied up'. There was a nice selection of birds, and everyone finally got to see Hoopoe and our first Lesser Whitethroat of the trip. There were two adults in a bush along with 3 other birds that had us scratching our heads for a bit, but we figured out later that these were juvenile Sardinian warblers. We also had our first Northern Wheatear of the trip. From here we went to Cape Drepanon (<https://goo.gl/maps/PdJLrWKVF6K3VDY78>). The island offshore had breeding Yellow-legged Gull, Rock Dove and a few Mediterranean Shag were sitting on the rocks. After a bit of searching we found a Male Blue Rock Thrush on the rocky outcrop. The only other thing of note was a flock of over 200 Eastern Jackdaw circling over the hill. From here we went on to Avakas Gorge (<https://goo.gl/maps/QzM74iSntgJkHLU27>) but the main route in was closed to cars. We drove around and found another track in where we could then walk down into the gouge only to discover the trail into the gorge itself was closed due to a high risk of falling rocks after the heavy rains. Two Blue Rock Thrush were the only birds of note here. A quick visit to Mavrokolympus Dam (<https://goo.gl/maps/YYAM8i92U4VSvAuC8>) proved fruitless so we headed back to the coast to find a restaurant for dinner and picking up a ringtail Hen Harrier on the way.



Cyprus race of Crossbill

15th March: Today we were heading into the Trodos Mountains (<https://goo.gl/maps/8YoLU42uDbAoBSHa7>) and arrived to the last remnants of the winter snow and frozen puddles! Almost immediately we saw a Cyprus Jay, which at one stage came down to raid one of the bins along the road. There were Chaffinch singing everywhere and the few Swift that were flying around were all Common. We soon located the local race of Coal Tit, quickly followed by Crossbill. We could hear Dorothy's Short-toed Treecreeper and Tom got good views of one, but it took a lot of searching before we all finally got eyes on them. Stopping off on the way back downhill we saw a couple of Grey Wagtail and heard a couple of Wren, but didn't see them. We also had our first Blackbirds of the trip here. At another stop lower down (<https://goo.gl/maps/pBonvYTSY2L9PEtQ7>) we had a nice Long-legged Buzzard, Hoopoe, and a

mixed flock of Barn and Red-rumped Swallow. Our final destination of the day was the pools at Agia Varvara(<https://goo.gl/maps/2XhxTKHkCmSk4Yr27>). The first pool had a Black-tailed Godwit and a Green Sandpiper as well as a fabulous Citrine Wagtail. There were lots of White Wagtails and lots more Barn and Red-rumped Swallow. A skulky warbler in a small patch of reeds turned out to be a Moustached Warbler.

16th March: Back to Agia Varvara for seconds, the Citrine Wagtail was still present along with a Black-

headed Wagtail and nearby both White and Grey Wagtail. We had 3 Great Spotted Cuckoo flying around and landing in trees and giving great views, this was a tick for me. We then went to the base of Asprokremmos dam (<https://goo.gl/maps/taDNcxYPHrLBSQc3>) and along with the many Sardinian Warbler we had a male Ruppelle's Warbler and a pair of Cyprus Warblers. Great to be able to compare these similar species in the same area. We then went back to the Mandria beach area and although we had nothing new we did find two Stone Curlew (possibly the previous two relocating), 5 Greater short-toed Lark and great views of Marsh Harrier and a female Kestrel feeding on a mouse about 10m from the car. The last stop of the day was at Kensington Cliffs

(<https://goo.gl/maps/4zp5J2gGf5Poo7Sj6>) where we had 2 very distant Griffon vultures going to roost. There was also a very distant falcon on the cliff but too far away to id. About 60 Alpine Swift flying over calling was a highlight.



Cyprus race of Jay



Alpine Swift

17th March: A day trip to Larnica, we started at the south pools

(<https://goo.gl/maps/XNKQ6V1kqRSyQvfD9>) and along with more of previously sighted birds we



Water Pipit

had a mixed flock of Black-headed and Slender-billed Gulls. Moving on to Larnica Sewage works

(<https://goo.gl/maps/KNw6QYpBnnrUztTW6>

)we added Pintail, Wigeon, Green Sandpiper, Wood Sandpiper, Baltic Gull, Glossy Ibis, 3 marsh Harrier, ringtail and 3 Ruddy Shelduck.

We had super views of Water Pipit along with a couple of races of Yellow wagtail including Black-headed and a Flava type. At Spiro's pool

(<https://goo.gl/maps/YA5XhCHsS9Seu5gYA>

)we had at least 25 Kentish Plover with a

single Dunlin and 2 Little Stint as well as a flock of over 30 Greater short-toed Lark. At the north pools

(<https://goo.gl/maps/D97EsZRnnR1xJuYm>) we had a single Gargany, 2 Redshank (new for the trip),

Wood Sandpiper and more Black-headed and Slender-billed Gulls. We had excellent views of a

Hoopoe and a flock of Black-winged Stilt that kept flying around. We soon discovered the reason was

a guy flying a drone over the lake. He quickly packed up and left as we approached him. A very dark

wheatear caught our eye and after a bit of searching we relocated a female Eastern Black-eared

wheatear feeding along the path at the edge of the lake and shortly after we also found a male.

Next stop was the southern hide at Oroklini Lake (<https://goo.gl/maps/ZJ5oCrDBJp4W8ZF46>) which

had good numbers of Coot and ducks including 4 Red-crested Pochard and 6 Ferruginous Duck. There

was lots of variety here but nothing new. We decided to head towards home and stop at Zakaki

Marsh on the way. Here we had

great views of Waterrail, Reed

Warbler, Cetti's Warbler and

Bluethroat.

18th March: We were back at

Paphos Headland for the

second pre booked bird trip

with Birdlife Cyprus. We

explored the eastern side and

got fantastic views of a male

Rüppell's Warbler and had

several Black Redstart hopping

around the ruins. There seemed

to have been a fall of migrants

as we soon added 2 Eastern

Black-eared Wheatear and a Cyprus Wheatear as well as up to 12 Hoopoe flybys. Corn Buntings were

in several bushes and Lesser Whitethroat were regularly seen in this area. I spotted a male Ficedula

Flycatcher in one of the large trees and informed the group I had a Semi-collared Flycatcher only to

be told it was too early for Semi-collared. Doubting myself I double checked and got everyone onto

the bird and indeed confirmed it was a Semi-collared. We soon picked up a second bird and shortly



Semi-collared Flycatcher & Collared Flycatcher

after a male Collared Flycatcher. Two ticks in one tree! It was great to be able to compare these two species side by side. Apparently there has only been a few previous records of Semi-collared Flycatcher in March. As we followed them along the tree line, they were joined by a lovely male Common Redstart. We had a Tree Pipit flyover as we made our way towards the Lighthouse. Beyond the



Cretzschmar's Bunting

Lighthouse the scrub held more Lesser Whitethroat, Greenfinch, Goldfinch, lots of Spanish and House Sparrows and 2 nice Cretzschmar's Buntings. After that it was more of the same, including very close views of a perched male Kestrel.

We then moved on to Cape Drepanon where we had a Glossy Ibis flyover. This time we found 2 Blue Rock Thrush, at least 5 Eastern Black-eared Wheatear, 4 Isabelline Wheatear and a few Northern Wheatear. There were several hundred Sparrows, both Spanish and House in a large flock. We had more Hoopoe, lots of Lesser Whitethroat, Sardinian and Rüppell's Warblers including a few females of the latter. There was 3 each of Common and Black Redstarts, and 3 more



Male Kestrel

Cretzschmar's Buntings. I hiked to the top and briefly had a Wryneck but then couldn't relocate it for the others. The birds on the island were the same as before with the addition of a hunting Peregrine.

19th March: An early start to Akrotiri Marsh after a bit of backtracking when google maps brought us down a very mucky track that deteriorate the further we went. On route we stopped at a bakery for coffee and were treated to very close views of Laughing Dove. At the marsh we had 3 species of Egret, Spoonbill, Spotted Redshank, Green and Wood Sandpiper. Serin were singing in the trees over head and a couple of Little Owl called nearby. I scanned through the hirundines and Swifts hoping for



Laughing Dove

a Pallid but instead picked up a Little Swift and then a second. I got the others onto them as well as a couple of British birders and their guide before they disappeared. There were good numbers of Yellow Wagtail in the fields with the cattle and we added superciliaris type.

At the Gravel pits we had Little Stint, Kentish Plover and Dunlin and a very brief Tawny Pipit.

At St Georges Chapel we had Chukar and I flushed another Wryneck that

disappeared into a large bush never to reappear! This was becoming a bogey bird for the others. We searched the area around the fish farms for a Bimaculated Lark that had been reported there a few days previous but had no luck. On our way to Zakaki Marsh we detoured after spotting what looked like a Baltic Gull at the end of one of the lakes. Several Crested Lark were feeding along the edge of the track, but one looked a bit different and when we got our bins onto it discovered it was the Bimaculated Lark. What a super bird and it gave great views as it fed on bugs in front of us. At Zakaki Marsh we had more good views of previously seen birds. As the light was beginning to fade, I picked up movement at the far end of the open area in front of the hide. Views were difficult but I eventually identified it as a male Little Crane. I took a bit of time to get the others onto it but did in the end and we soon spotted a second bird, this time a female. We watched them until the light was nearly gone before heading home happy.



Bimaculated Lark

20th March: This morning saw us at Cape Greco sea cave area

(<https://goo.gl/maps/dU2mVZSPgdWvfi8>) and we soon had our first Shrike of the trip with a Woodchat Shrike sitting on a fence. There was lots of Sardinian, Rüppell's and Cyprus Warbler, Lesser Whitethroat and at least 3 Spectacled Warbler. There was Eastern Black-eared, Isabelline, Northern and Cyprus Wheatear and after the trip we discovered Brian had also photographed a female Finsch's Wheatear. We had great views of a ringtail Hen Harrier as it soared overhead.

At Cape Greco National Forest Park (<https://goo.gl/maps/1JqLwRSu2VGSErdJ9>) Brian flushed a Stone



Masked Shrike

Curlew and Tom had a probable Common Cuckoo, but the star of the show here was a Masked Shrike as it used nearby bushes to hunt from.

On our way up to Cape Greco headland we had another Semi-collared Flycatcher bathing in a puddle alongside a Chiffchaff. 2 Blue Rock Thrush were the only birds of note at the top.

We then went to Akhna Dam (<https://goo.gl/maps/ojuPsjQT3kAQ8Tty5>) and the water levels were much higher then when I was here back in 2007. There was a distant Marsh Harrier sitting at the top of a tree and on the opposite shoreline there were 3 Spotted Redshank and about 30 Cattle Egret. There were more Cattle Egret in the trees behind and more were flying in all the time, easily over 200 in total. On the way down to another access point (<https://goo.gl/maps/hHDG1hrCpiuX1yBd6>) we had a Little Owl on a bank along the track. Here we had 5 Green Sandpiper and 12 Spur-winged Lapwing.

We stopped for food near the north hide on Oroklini Lake (<https://goo.gl/maps/HKfQEMeh8H46j6vFA>) and after ordering food I went out for a quick look. A Black-crowned Night Heron circled the lake and landed in some reeds and there were 100's more Cattle Egret coming into roost. As I went back to the restaurant a Peregrine flew over in the near dark.

21st March: Another visit to Akrotiri Marsh where we had more of the same from the last trip, but there were more Wood Sandpiper about and a flock of 45 Ruff and 3 Marsh Sandpiper. There were 15 Glossy Ibis and 5 Spoonbill but the bird of the morning was a Great Bittern that flew in and landed in the reedbed, giving brief views before disappearing only to fly out again about 20 minutes later. We also had a pair of Siberian Stonechat, 3 Great Spotted Cuckoo and up to 7 Hoopoe.



Siberian Stonechat

At Agia Varvara we had more Great Spotted Cuckoo, 5 Green Sandpiper, Common and Jack Snipe. On the raptor front we had Kestrel, Peregrine, a pair of Sparrowhawk, Long-legged Buzzard and a distant pair of Bonelli's Eagle.

22nd March: A trip to the west this morning starting at the Baths of Aphrodite (<https://goo.gl/maps/baKRZfucgLZJTLCE7>) but it seemed we were too early for migrants to make it this far and nothing new or of note was seen. Likewise, Smigies Nature Trail (<https://goo.gl/maps/Qti5xC8XVF4AJzkDA>) was very quiet as was Polis wetlands (<https://goo.gl/maps/sicuYKgCZhXyRzqd9>) and Evretou Dam (<https://goo.gl/maps/GRoagkU9Wf9UKedA9>). On our route home we discovered we were passing the Cyprus Scops Owl site so stopped for seconds but we were unable to locate the Owls although we did hear owls calling nearby in the village. We stopped again at the spot outside Episkopi (<https://goo.gl/maps/DDETKNFA3Qwdt5aC8>) and this proved productive picking up our 4th Semi-Collared Flycatcher, a Cyprus Wheatear and male Common Redstart. I spotted a phylloscops warbler and on rearing it call knew this was no Chiffchaff. I soon got decent views and confirmed it was an Eastern Bonelli's Warbler and got the others onto it.

The final stop of the day at a view point (<https://goo.gl/maps/ifWkrQ4CjQ1SGWQb9>) produced Long-legged Buzzard, Sparrowhawk, Kestrel and a pair of Bonelli's Eagles.

23rd March: Following up on a sighting of a Black-bellied Sandgrouse on a track beside a potato field at Mandria we searched the area and actually found its footprints (<https://goo.gl/maps/J2H7CGcDFek7pGKSA>). We met a British birder who had heard the bird was



Black-bellied Sandgrouse

relocated near the picnic site so we headed there and were joined by several other birders but no sign of the sandgrouse. We decided to move on but again fortuitously bumped into another birder who heard the bird was back at its original location. We rushed back and got fantastic views as if fed along the track. I had seen these birds in Spain before, but the views were nothing like this.



Woodchat Shrike

Delighted with the mornings start we moved onto Paphos headland. We followed the same route as before and shortly after entering we had a fly over Black-crowned Night Heron. There were more of the previously seen warblers as well as a pair of Eastern Subalpine Warbler. After watching these for a while Rachel spotted a bird on a nearby bush which turned out to be a Wryneck. At last everyone got views of this one. We had great views of a Woodchat Shrike and had lovely male Pallid Harrier

fly by. A walk along the seaward side produced lots of Meadow and Red-throated Pipits and a Short-eared Owl coming in off the sea.

On to Cape Drepanon we added another Wryneck, Woodchat Shrike and a pair of Siberian Stonechat. There were lots of Wheatear but nothing new. Rachel picked up a singing Nightingale near the boat yard but we didn't see it, however on walking back up around the rocky outcrop we got a brief flight view of a 2nd bird as well as a pair of Eastern Subalpine Warbler.

24th March: For our final morning we decided to bird around the village and walk up to the ridge nearby (<https://goo.gl/maps/2o4pPvG5TuwJb15QA>). Nothing new but we did have good views of Great Spotted Cuckoo, Cyprus Wheatear, Cyprus Warbler and Cretzschmar's Bunting.

Species List: Total 149, Lifers 25

- 1 (Island) Chukar Partridge (*Alectoris.chukar.cypriotes*) Widespread



Chukar

- 2 (Western) Black Francolin (*Francolinus.francolinus.francolinus*) Widespread
- 3 Common Quail (*Coturnix.coturnix.coturnix*) 1 heard at Mandria
- 4 Ruddy Shelduck (Brahminy Duck) (*Tadorna ferruginea*) 3 at Larnaca Sewage Works
- 4 Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*) Widespread
- 6 Gadwall (*Anas.strepera.strepera*) Common at Paralimni Lake & Oroklini Lake
- 7 Pintail (*Anas acuta*) Small numbers at various wetlands
- 8 Eurasian Wigeon (*Anas penelope*) 3 at Paralimni Lake
- 9 Northern Shoveler (*Anas clypeata*) Very common

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| 10 | Garganey (<i>Anas querquedula</i>) | Seen at Akrotiri Marsh, Paralimni Lake and a large flock at sea near Akrotiri gravel pits |
| 11 | Common Teal (<i>Anas.crecca.crecca</i>) | Widespread |
| 12 | Red-crested Pochard (<i>Netta rufina</i>) | 4 at each Paralimni Lake & Oroklini Lake |
| 13 | Ferruginous Duck (<i>Aythya nyroca</i>) | 2 at Paralimni Lake & 6 at Oroklini Lake |
| 14 | Little Grebe (<i>Tachybaptus.ruficollis.ruficollis</i>) | Seen at most wetlands |
| 15 | Great Crested Grebe (<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>) | Seen in small numbers at Asprokremmos Dam, Paralimni Lake & Akhna Dam |
| 16 | Greater Flamingo (<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>) | Seen at all suitable wetlands |



Greater Flamingo

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| 17 | Glossy Ibis (<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>) | Seen at several locations, regular at Akrotiri |
| 18 | Eurasian Spoonbill (<i>Platalea.leucorodia.leucorodia</i>) | 5 at Akrotiri Marsh |
| 19 | Eurasian Bittern (<i>Botaurus stellaris</i>) | 1 at Akrotiri Marsh |
| 20 | Black-crowned Night Heron (<i>Nycticorax.nycticorax.nycticorax</i>) | 1 at Oroklini Lake & Paphos |
| 21 | (Western) Cattle Egret (<i>Bubulcus.ibis.ibis</i>) | Common at Akrotiri Marsh, with big numbers at Oroklini Lake & Akhna Dam |
| 22 | Grey Heron (<i>Ardea.cinerea.cinerea</i>) | Common |
| 23 | Great Egret (<i>Ardea.alba.alba</i>) | Small numbers at Akrotiri Marsh, Paralimni Lake & Asprokremnos Dam |

- 24 Little Egret (*Egretta.garzetta.garzetta*) Seen at most wetlands
- 25 Great Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax.carbo.carbo*) Common along the coast
- 26 (Mediterranean) European Shag (*Phalacrocorax.aristotelis.desmarestii*) Small numbers at Lady's Mile Beach, Cape Drepanon & Baths of Aphrodite
- 27 Common Kestrel (*Falco.tinnunculus.tinnunculus*) Common
- 28 Peregrine Falcon (*Falco.peregrinus.peregrinus*) Singles at various locations
- 29 Griffon Vulture (*Gyps.fulvus.fulvus*) 2 at Kensington Cliffs
- 30 Western Marsh Harrier (*Circus aeruginosus*) 1 or 2 at most wetlands
- 31 Hen Harrier (*Circus cyaneus*) 1 at Ayia Napa Sea Caves, plus a couple of other unconfirmed ringtails



Hen Harrier

- 32 **Pallid Harrier** (*Circus macrourus*) 2 at Mandria, 1 at Paphos
- 33 Eurasian Sparrowhawk (*Accipiter.nisus.nisus*) 1 or 2 at various locations
- 34 Common(Steppe) Buzzard (*Buteo.buteo.vulpinus*) Singles at various locations
- 35 Long-legged Buzzard (*Buteo.rufinus.rufinus*) 1 or 2 at various locations
- 36 **Bonelli's Eagle** (*Aquila fasciata*) 2 north of Agia Varvara on a couple of occasions
- 37 Water Rail (*Rallus.aquaticus.aquaticus*) Seen at Zakaki, heard at Akrotiri Marsh
- 38 **Little Crane** (*Porzana parva*) 2 at Akrotiri Marsh
- 39 Common Moorhen (*Gallinula.chloropus.chloropus*) Widespread

40	Eurasian Coot (<i>Fulica atra</i>)	Widespread
41	Eurasian Stone Curlew (<i>Burhinus.oedicus</i>)	2 in the Mandria area, Cape Greco National Forest Park & Agia Varvara
42	Black-winged Stilt (<i>Himantopus.himantopus.himantopus</i>)	Common in suitable habitat
43	Spur-winged Lapwing (<i>Vanellus spinosus</i>)	Widespread
44	Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>)	12 at Ayia Napa
45	Little Ringed Plover (<i>Charadrius.dubius.curonicus</i>)	2 at Paralimni Lake, common around Akrotiri
46	Kentish Plover (<i>Charadrius.alexandrinus.alexandrinus</i>)	25 at Spiro's Pool, common around Akrotiri
47	Jack Snipe (<i>Lymnocyptes minimus</i>)	1 at Agia Varvara
48	Common Snipe (<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>)	Small numbers at various wetlands
49	Black-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa.limosa.limosa</i>)	1 at Agia Varvara, 5 at Akrotiri Marsh
50	Whimbrel (<i>Numenius.phaeopus.phaeopus</i>)	2 at Ayia Napa
51	Eurasian Curlew (<i>Numenius.arquata.arquata</i>)	2 at Akrotiri Marsh
52	Spotted Redshank (<i>Tringa erythropus</i>)	2 at Akrotiri Marsh & 3 at Akhna Dam
53	Common Redshank (<i>Tringa.totanus.totanus</i>)	2 at Larnaca North Pools
54	Common Greenshank (<i>Tringa nebularia</i>)	1 at Ayia Napa, 3 at Larnaca Sewage Works
55	Marsh Sandpiper (<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>)	3 at Akrotiri Marsh
56	Green Sandpiper (<i>Tringa ochropus</i>)	Small numbers at various wetlands
57	Wood Sandpiper (<i>Tringa glareola</i>)	up to 17 at Akrotiri Marsh, 1 at Larnaca) Sewage Works & Larnaca North Pools
58	Common Sandpiper (<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>)	2 at Ayia Napa
59	Little Stint (<i>Calidris minuta</i>)	Small numbers in Akrotiri area, 2 at Spiro's Pool
60	Dunlin (<i>Calidris.alpina.alpina</i>)	1 at Spiro's Pool, 3 at Akrotiri Gravel Pits
61	Ruff (<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>)	3 at Larnaca Sewage Works, up to 50 at Akrotiri Marsh
62	Black-headed Gull (<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>)	Small numbers, mainly around the coast

- 63 Slender-billed Gull (*Chroicocephalus genei*) Common in Larnaca area



Slender-billed Gull & Black-headed Gull

- 64 Audouin's Gull (*Ichthyaeetus audouinii*) 1 at Ayia Napa
- 65 Yellow-legged Gull (*Larus michahellis*) Common along the coast. Breeding on the island at Cape Drepanon
- 66 (Eastern Lesser Black-backed Gull) Baltic Gull (*Larus.fuscus.fuscus*) Small numbers at Larnaca, Paralimni Lake, Lady's Mile & Baths of Aphrodite
- 67 Black-bellied Sandgrouse (*Pterocles orientalis*) 1 at Mandria
- 68 Rock Dove (*Columba.livia.livia*) Common
- 69 Common Wood-pigeon (*Columba.palumbus.palumbus*) Very common
- 70 Eurasian Collared Dove (*Streptopelia.decaocto.decaocto*) Common
- 71 Laughing Dove (*Streptopelia.senegalensis.senegalensis*) Common in small numbers, mainly around towns

- 72 **Great Spotted Cuckoo** (*Clamator glandarius*) 1 to 3 at Agia Varvara, Akrotiri, Akhna Dam, Evretou Dam & Anogyra



Great Spotted Cuckoo

- 73 **Cyprus Scops Owl** (*Otus cyprius*) 2 seen at Episkopi as well as day calling birds. Several around Anogyra village
- 74 **Little Owl** (*Athene Noctua*) 2 near Anarita Park, Akrotiri Marsh(heard only) & Akhna Dam
- 75 **Short-eared Owl** (*Asio flammeus*) 1 in off the sea at Paphos
- 76 **Alpine Swift** (*Tachymarptis melba*) One of the first birds seen from the airport, about 60 at Kensington Cliffs
- 77 **Common Swift** (*Apus apus*) widespread
- 78 **Little Swift** (*Apus affinis*) 2 at Akrotiri Marsh
- 79 **Common Kingfisher** (*Alcedo atthis atthis*) 1 at Agia Varvara, Akrotiri Marsh & Zakaki Marsh
- 80 **Eurasian Hoopoe** (*Upupa epops epops*) None for the first few days but a few every day after that
- 81 **Eurasian Wryneck** (*Jynx torquilla torquilla*) 1 at Cape Drepanon, St Georges Chapel & Paphos



Hoopoe

- | | | |
|----|---|--|
| 82 | Woodchat Shrike (<i>Lanius senator</i>) | 1 at Cape Drepanon, Cape Greco Sea Caves & Paphos |
| 83 | Masked Shrike (<i>Lanius nubicus</i>) | 1 at Cape Greco National Forest Park |
| 84 | (Cyprus Jay) (<i>Garrulus glandarius glazneri</i>) | 2+ at Troodos |
| 85 | Eurasian Magpie (<i>Pica.pica.pica</i>) | Widespread |
| 86 | Western Jackdaw (<i>Corvus.monedula.monedula</i>) | Widespread with large flocks in some locations |
| 87 | Hooded Crow (<i>Corvus.cornix.pallescent</i>) | Widespread |
| 88 | (Cyprus Coal Tit) (<i>Periparus.ater.Cypriotes</i>) | 7 at Troodos |
| 89 | Great Tit (<i>Parus major aphrodite</i>) | Widespread |
| 90 | Bimaculated Lark (<i>Melanocorytha bimaculata</i>) | 1 near Zakaki Marsh |
| 91 | (European) Greater Short-toed Lark (<i>Calanderlla.brachydactyla.brachydactyla</i>) | Mostly in small numbers near the coast, but over 30 at Spiro's Pool & 11 at Cape Greco Sea Caves |
| 92 | (Cyprus) Crested Lark (<i>Galerida.cristata.cyriaca</i>) | Common |
| 93 | Sand Martin (<i>Riparia.riparia.riparia</i>) | 2 at Akrotiri Marsh |
| 94 | (Eurasian) Barn Swallow (<i>Hirundo.rustica.rustica</i>) | Widespread |
| 95 | (South-European) Red-rumped Swallow (<i>Cecropis.daurica.rufula</i>) | Widespread, but in smaller numbers than Barn Swallow |

- 96 House Martin (*Delicon.urbicum*) Widespread in small numbers
- 97 Zitting Cisticola (*Cisticola.juncidis...?*) Widespread in small numbers
- 98 Cetti's Warbler (*Cetti cetti*) Common in suitable habitat



Cetti's Warbler

- 99 Moustached Warbler (*Acrocephalus melanopogon*) 1 at Agia Varvara
- 100 Sedge Warbler *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus* 2 at Agia Varvara
- 101 (Eastern Reed Warbler) (*Acrocephalus.scirpaceus.fuscus*) Common in reed beds
- 102 Common Chiffchaff (*Phylloscopus.collybita.collybita*) Common
- 103 **Eastern Bonelli's Warbler** (*Phylloscopus orientalis*) 1 near Episkopi
- 104 (Eastern) Eurasian Blackcap (*Sylvia.atricapilla.dammholzi*) Common
- 105 (Eastern Lesser Whitethroat) (*Sylvia.curruca.blythi*) Common
- 106 **Rüppell's Warbler** (*Sylvia ruppeli*) None for the first few days but a few every day after that
- 107 Sardinian Warbler (*Sylvia.melanocephala. melanocephala*) Common
- 108 **Cyprus Warbler** (*Sylvia melanothorax*) 1 or 2 at Cape Greco, Asprokremnos Dam & Anogyra

109 **Eastern Subalpine Warbler** (*Sylvia.cantillans.albistriata*) 2 at Cape Drepanon, 1 at Paphos



Sardinian Warbler

- 110 Spectacled Warbler (*Sylvia.conspicillata.conspicillata*) 3 at Ayia Napa Sea Caves
- 111 East Mediterranean Winter Wren (*Troglodytes.(Troglodytes.cypriotes)*) Heard near Troodos
- 112 Dorothy's (Short-toed) Treecreeper (*Certhia.brachydactyla.dorotheae*) Seen & heard at Troodos
- 113 Common Starling (*Sturnus.vulgaris.vulgaris*) A few around Paphos
- 114 Eurasian Blackbird (*Turdus.merula.merula*) 4 at Troodos, 1's at Platres, Limasol & Ayia Napa
- 115 Song Thrush (*Turdus.philomelos.philomelos*) 1 or 2 at Cape Drepanon, Cape Greco, Episkopi & Anogyra
- 116 (Caucasian) European Robin (*Erithacus rubecula.caucasicus*) 1 at Cape Greco, Agia Varvara, Kensington Cliffs, Zakaki Marsh & Baths of Aphrodite
- 117 Common Nightingale (*Luscinia megarhynchos*) 2 at Cape Drepanon
- 118 **(Red Spot) Bluethroat** (*Luscinia.svecica.svecica*) 2 at Zakaki Marsh
- 119 Western Black Redstart (*Phoenicurus.ochruros.gibraltariensis*) Common in small numbers
- 120 Common Redstart (*Phoenicurus.phoenicurus.phoenicurus*) Singles at Paphos, Episkopi, Cape Greco National Forest Park & Anogyra, 3 at Cape Drepanon
- 121 European Stonechat (*Saxicola.rubicola.rubicola*) Common in small numbers



Bluethroat

- 122 **Siberian Stonechat** (*Saxicola.maurus.maurus*) 1 at Mandria, 2 at Akrotiri Marsh & Cape Drepanon
- 123 Northern Wheatear (*Oenanthe.oenanthe.oenanthe*) Common in small numbers
- 124 **Finsch's Wheatear** (*Oenanthe finschii*) 1 presumed at Episkopi, 1 at Cape Greco sea caves
- 125 **Eastern Black-eared Wheatear** (*Oenanthe melanoleuca*) Common in small numbers after the first week
- 126 **Cyprus Wheatear** (*Oenanthe cyprica*) Only started to arrive in week 2



Cyprus Wheatear

- 127 Isabelline Wheatear (*Oenanthe isabellina*) Common in small numbers
- 128 Blue Rock Thrush (*Monticola solitarius solitarius*) 2 at Cape Drepanon, Avakas Gorge
& Cape Greco, 1 along road near Kensington Cliffs
- 129 **Collared Flycatcher** (*Ficedula albicollis*) 1 male at Paphos
- 130 **Semi-collared Flycatcher** (*Ficedula semitorquata*) 2 at Paphos, 1 at Cape Greco &
Episkopi, all males
- 131 (Levant) House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus biblicus*) Very common
- 132 (Eastern) Spanish Sparrow (*Passer hispaniolensis transcaspicus*) Very common
- 133 White Wagtail (*Motacilla alba alba*) Common
- 134 Citrine Wagtail (*Motacilla citreola citreola*) 1 at Agia Varvara
- 135 Yellow Wagtail (*Motacilla flava flavissima*) 1 at Larnaca Sewage Works
- (Russian Yellow Wagtail)** (*Motacilla flava superciliaris*) Several at Akrotiri Marsh
- Black-headed Wagtail** (*Motacilla feldegg*) Common, the most widespread race
- 136 Grey Wagtail (*Motacilla cinerea*) 2 at Platres, 1 at Saittas Dam & Agia Varvara
- 137 **Tawny Pipit** (*Anthus campestris*) 5 at Akrotiri Gravel Pits



Red-throated Pipit

- 138 **Tree Pipit** (*Anthus trivialis*) 1 at Paphos
- 139 Meadow Pipit (*Anthus pratensis*) Common

- 140 **Red-throated Pipit** (*Anthus cervinus*) Common in small numbers
- 141 (Caucasian Water Pipit) (*Anthus spinoletta coutellii*) 4 at Akrotiri Marsh, 1 at Mandria, Larnaca Sewage Works & Spiro's Pool
- 142 (Levant) Chaffinch (*Fringilla coelebs syriaca*) Common in Troodos, smaller numbers elsewhere
- 143 European Serin (*Serinus serinus*) Common in small numbers, one flock of 25 at Agia Varvara
- 144 (Levant) Greenfinch (*Chloris chloris chlorotica*) Common
- 145 (Eastern) Eurasian Goldfinch (*Carduelis carduelis niediecki*) Common
- 146 (Mediterranean) Common Linnet (*Linaria cannabina mediterranea*) Common
- 147 (Levant) Red Crossbill (*Loxia curvirostra guillemardi*) 4 at Troodos
- 148 Corn Bunting (*Emberiza calandra*) Common, with some large flocks
- 149 **Cretzschmar's Bunting** (*Emberiza caesia*) 2 at Paphos & Anogyra, 3 at Cape Drepanon



Corn Bunting



Paphos Lighthouse