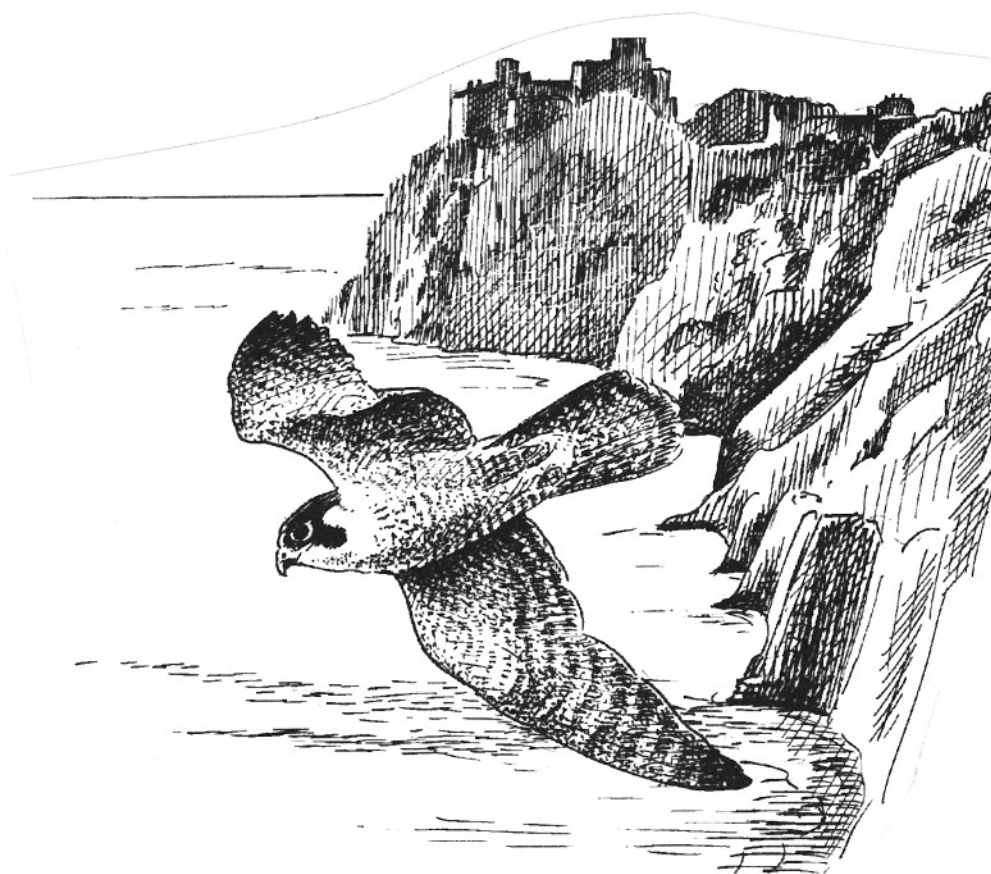

**FROM THE ALPS
TO THE ADRIATIC**

28 May - 7 June 1995



HOLIDAY REPORT

"From the Alps to the Adriatic"

28 May - 7 June 1995

The Party

John Morris, Betty Colbert, Campbell and Janet Rowe, Ron and Margot Hardy, Julian and Alison Taylor, Connie Brooks, Chris Burnett, Peter and Brenda Legard, John Watts and Basil Ribbons, Rosie Steele, Joanna Wieneke.

Leaders: Paul Tout and Richard Hobbs.

Day 1 Sunday

After an easy and comfortable journey we arrived to a warm welcome at the Hotel Alla Pineta in Sistiana, in time for a walk before dinner. After a couple of minutes we reached the Rilke path with wonderful views over the sea and bay. What we thought were hundreds of lines of buoys turned out to be a mussel farm. It was surprising to find a small flock of eider duck enjoying themselves in this area. The highlight was a very clear view of a blue rock thrush conveniently perched on a dead branch. The plants included some of the Karst specialities including the smoke bush *Cotinus coggygria* which was familiar to many as a garden plant. Another local speciality, the pale yellow golden drop *Onosma javorkae* was in full flower. It is one of many attractive plants that can only be seen in this part of the world.

The bare grey limestone had been eroded into wonderful patterns and had very sharp edges. It differed from British limestone in containing less magnesium and having a high aluminum content which makes it much harder. We returned to a lovely meal of good simple local food which became very much a feature of this holiday.

Day 2 Monday

We visited the nearby Monte Steine which is one of the few remaining areas of limestone grassland in the region. In the hot sun, the sheer number of butterflies and flowers was staggering. Great excitement was caused by what was probably the first Italian record for rock nuthatch - which is a bird usually found much further east.

A great many good garden plants were seen on this holiday and at Monte Steine we found hellebore *Helleborus multifidus*, rue *Ruta graveolens* and alpine daphne *Daphne alpina*. Having just plastered ourselves with suncream we were all of a sudden scrambling for waterproofs as the heavens opened. We retreated from the thunder by visiting Isola Della Cona, an area of saline coastal marshes grazed by beautiful Camargue horses. The erect clematis *Clematis recta* and the Bath asparagus *Ornithogalum pyreniacum* lined the main drainage channel and the high banks were covered in yellow birthwort *Aristolochia clematis* which is the food plant of the Eastern festoon butterfly. A large hide not only gave superb views of the birds but also of underwater life. Seeing young perch at eye-level was fascinating. In amongst a large group of little egret was at least one great white egret together with grey, purple and squacco heron. The small pools in the area were full of noisy marsh frogs and black tailed skimmer dragonflies. Scrambling over the bushes was the very attractive purple clematis *Clematis viticella*.

Day 3 Tuesday

This was our first trip into neighbouring Slovenia and a chance to see the dramatic Karst scenery. Our first stop was on a very large natural limestone bridge over the river. The woodland plants were magnificent and included birds nest orchid *Neottia nidus-avis*, summer snowflake *Leucojum aestivum*, lungwort *Pulmonaria rubra* and Christmas rose *Helleborus niger*. The best part of the day was undoubtedly seeing the magnificent and extensive hay meadows - full of flowers and corncrakes. We were hoping for a quick view of the corncrakes but were, in fact, lucky enough to have very close views. The colourful meadows contained burnt tip orchid *Orchis ustulata*, two marsh orchids *Dactylorhiza cordigera* and *D. saccifera*, clustered bellflower *Campanula glomerata* and a meadow

violet *Viola elatior*. Other sightings included fieldfare and two lovely butterflies, The Queen of Spain fritillary and the chequered skipper.

Day 4 Wednesday

Half the party took the opportunity to visit Venice while the rest had a damp day visiting local wildlife sites interspersed with visits to coffee shops and a wine bar! From a wildlife point of view this was not the best day but we did have wonderful views of bee eaters sitting on a fence only about six feet away. They looked magnificent even in the drizzle. The Montagu's harrier was not worried by the wet either - it flew past close enough for us to see it in full detail even with the naked eye.

Day 5 Thursday

First of all we visited a delightful small botanic garden composed entirely of native plants in a natural setting. For the rest of the day we walked to Col D'agnello through beautiful woods and grassland where the plants were magnificent. Highlights were the Carnic lily *Lilium carniolicum*, grass leaved iris *Iris graminea* and paeony *Paeonia officinalis*. Distant views were obtained of one of the area's rarest birds, the short-toed eagle. The Scops owl is often heard but rarely, if ever, seen but that evening we had really good views of this enchanting small owl.

Day 6 Friday

A visit to Trnovski Godz in Slovenia. On the way we had fantastic views of a golden eagle sitting on its nest - it really seemed to be staring at us. We also had good views of two birds that are usually quite difficult to spot - black woodpecker and nutcracker. We passed several mobile bee hives, on the backs of large lorries. The bees were in the area specifically for the acacia honey. Two impressive delenas were visited. The first being the largest in the world and the second the most famous. These deeply eroded holes were relatively warm at the top and cold lower down with snow in the bottom. The prettiest site visited was covered in wild daffodils *Narcissus poeticus radiiflorus*, gentians *Gentiana clusii*, garland flower *Daphne cneorum* and shrubby milkwort *Polygala chamaebuxus*. Not only did they look good but some of them smelled wonderful. The most spectacular plant of the day was the bright orange lily *Lilium bulbiferum* var. *croceum* with its bright yellow centre.

Day 7 Saturday

On our way to the pre-alps we visited a griffin vulture captive breeding centre which was designed to augment the wild population. Griffins were seen together with black kites and some wonderfully noisy ravens. Later in the day we had good views of Bonelli's warbler and hawfinch. We also saw some lovely butterflies including clouded Apollo, heath fritillary and bright eyed ringlet. We saw some very rare plants but it was three familiar ones that provided the most spectacular sights. The Balkan cranesbill *Geranium macrorrhizum* with its deep pink flowers and aromatic foliage is a well known garden plant but it looks even prettier in the wild. The globe flower *Trollius europaeus* grew in large clumps brightening up the grassland with its large greenish yellow flowers. The mountain avens *Dryas octopetala* was found growing in cracks on the rocks with the large white flowers which move so that they always face the sun.

Day 8 Sunday

The bird watchers visited several sites and saw a large number of birds - many of them out in the open drying themselves off after the rain. Very good views were obtained of Cetti's warbler and nightingale. A real surprise was a scarlet rose finch at Doba Do. This was only the third ever record for Italy.

The botanists had a pleasant afternoon at Medeazza on the limestone grassland and in the woods. The butterflies were particularly good with numbers of Southern white admirals being seen at close quarters. Gatekeeper, large wall brown and black veined white were seen in good numbers. One of the most interesting plants was the curious bladder senna *Colutea arborescens* famous for its pods. The prettiest plants were the two St Bernard's lilies *Anthericum ramosum* and *A. lilago* with spikes of pure white flowers - not to be confused with St Bruno's lily.

Day 9 Monday

A damp visit to Slovenia only to find that a large part of the site had been drained and taken into arable cultivation. The weather made bird watching very difficult but we had good views of

grasshopper and river warblers. In the evening we visited Isola Bella Cona and saw little bittern and little crane.

Day 10 Tuesday

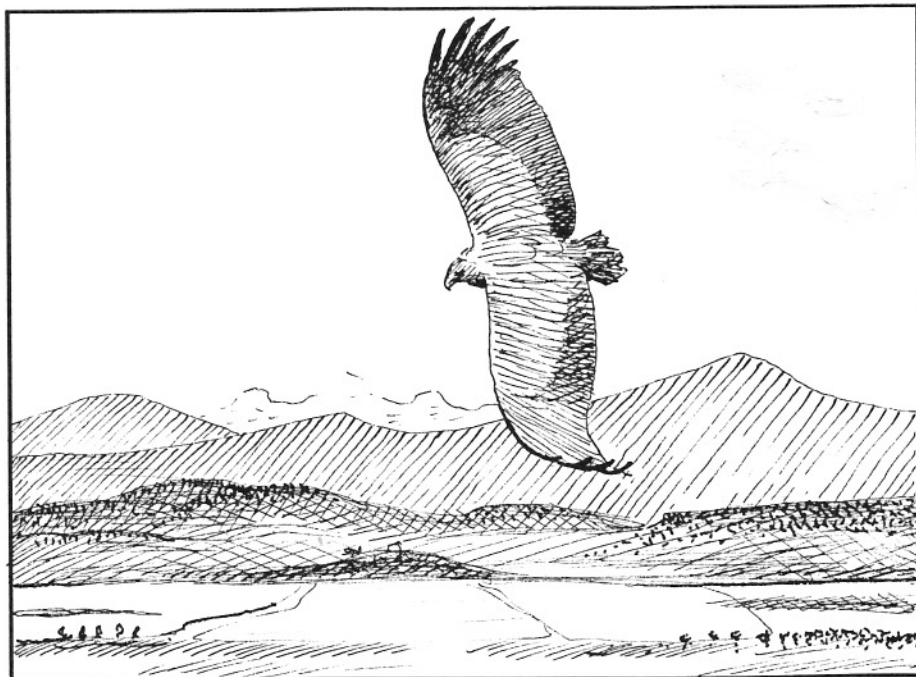
We travelled to Cason di Lanza above the village of Paularo and had views into Austria - our third country of the holiday. The alpine meadows were stunning with gentians *Gentiana verna*, crocus *Crocus vernus*, snowbell *Soldanella montana* and white alpine pasque flower *Pulsatilla alpinus*. Lower down the hay meadows were just as pretty with sweet William *Dianthus barbatus*, sticky catchfly *Lychnis viscaria*, dusky cranesbill *Geranium phaeum* and mountain pansy *Viola lutea*. Ring ouzel and water pipit were seen. At the end of the day, while assembling in the car park, a dipper was spotted in the river below and all had good views of this busy little bird. and when we returned to the coffee shop in the village, all had good views of a dipper in the river.

Conclusion

Despite less than ideal weather conditions a wide range of interesting wildlife was seen. The scenery was spectacular and varied and the plants were quite outstanding. The mix of cultures, beautiful countryside, varied wildlife and good food made for a memorable holiday (and none of us caught pneumonia!).

R. Hobbs

- Appendix 1. List of plants
- Appendix 2. List of butterflies
- Appendix 3. List of birds



Griffon vulture

ALPS TO ADRIATIC June 1995

Acer campestre
Acer monspessulanum
Acer obtusatum
Achillea millifolium
Acinos alpinus
Aconitum napellus
Aconitum vulparia
Actaea spicata
Aegopodium podagraria
Ajuga genevensis
Ajuga reptans
Ajuga pyramidalis
Alyssum scardicum
Amelanchier ovalis
Amorpha fruticosa
Anacamptis pyramidalis
Anemone nemerosa
Anemone ranunculoides
Anemone trifolia
Anthericum liliago
Anthericum ramosum
Anthyllis montana
Anthyllis vulneraria
Aquilegia atrata
Aquilegia nigricans
Aquilegia vulgaris
Arabis turrata
Arabis alpina
Aristolochia clematitis
Aristolochia rotunda
Artemisia absinthium
Artemisia alba
Artemisia vulgaris
Aruncus dioicus
Asarum europaeum
Asparagus acutifolius
Asparagus tenuifolius
Astragalus monospealanus
Betonica officinalis
Biscutella didyma
Buglossoides officinalis
Buglossoides purpureo-caerulea
Buplurum ranunculoides
Calluna vulgaris
Caltha palustris
Campanula carnica
Campanula glomerata
Campanula patula
Campanula pyramidalis
Campanula rapunculoides
Campanula rapunculus
Cardamine bulbifera
Cardamine enneaphyllos
Cardamine pentaphylla
Cardamine septifolia
Cardamine trifolia
Carex otrubae
Carlina corymbosa
Carpinus betulus
Carpinus orientalis
Celtis australis
Centaurea cristata
Centaurea triumfetti
Cephanthera damasonium
Cephanthera longifolia
Cercis siliquastrum
Chamaecytisus purpureus
Chamaecytisus supinus
Chamaespartium sagittale
Chelidonium majus
Chrysosplenium alternifolium
Cirsium erisophales
Cirsium pannonicum
Clematis alpina
Clematis flammula
Clematis recta
Clematis vitalba
Clematis viticella
Colchicum autumnale
Colutea arborescens
Convallaria majalis
Convolvulus cantabricus
Cornus mas
Cornus sanguinea
Coronilla coronata
Coronilla emerus
Coronilla varia
Corydalis bulbosa
Corylus avellana
Cotinus coggygria
Crataegus monogyna
Crepis chondrilloides
Crocus vernus
Cyclamen purpurascens
Dactylorhiza cordigera
Dactylorhiza maculata
Dactylorhiza saccifera
Dactylorhiza sambucina
Daphne alpina
Daphne cneorum
Daphne laureola
Daphne mezereum
Dianthus barbatus
Dianthus carthusianorum
Dictamnus albus
Dorycnium germanicum
Dryas octopetala
Equisetum arvense
Equisetum hyemale
Eryngium campestre
Eryngium amethystinum
Erysimum virgatum
Euonymus europaea
Eupatorium cannabinum

Euphorbia amygaloides
Euphorbia cyparissias
Euphorbia fragifera
Euphorbia nicaeensis
Euphorbia verrucosa
Fagus sylvatica
Filipendula ulmaria
Filipendula vulgaris
Fragaria moschata
Frangula rupestris
Fraxinus ornus
Fraxinus excelsior
Fritillaria tenella
Fumaria officinalis
Galanthus nivalis
Galium lucidum
Galium verum
Genista germanica
Genista holopetala
Genista radiata
Genista sericea
Genista sessiliflora
Genista sylvestris
Genista tinctoria
Gentiana asclepiadea
Gentiana bavarica
Gentiana clusii
Gentiana verna
Geranium dissectum
Geranium macrorrhizum
Geranium molle
Geranium nodosum
Geranium phaeum
Geranium robertianum
Geranium sanguineum
Geranium sylvaticum
Glechoma hederacea
Globularia cordifolia
Globularia meridionalis
Gymnadenia conopsea
Hacquetia epipactis
Helianthemum ovatum
Helianthemum salicifolium
Helleborus multifidus
Helleborus niger
Hepatica nobilis
Heracleum sphondilium
Homogyne alpina
Horminium pyreniacum
Hutchinsia brevicaulis
Inula ensifolia
Iris graminea
Iris pallida illyricus
Iris siberica
Iris pseudocorus
Juniperus communis
Jurinea mollo
Knautia drymea

Knautia arvensis
Knautia illyrica
Laburnum alpinum
Lactuca perenne
Lamium orvala
Lathyrus aureas
Lathyrus niger
Lathyrus pratensis
Lathyrus setifolium
Lathyrus sylvestris
Lathyrus venetus
Lathyrus verna
Legousia speculum-veneris
Leucanthemum liburnicum
Leucojum aestivum
Ligustrum vulgare
Lilium bulbiferum
Lilium carniolicum
Lilium martagon
Limodorum arbotivum
Linum bienne
Linum tenuifolium
Linum tommasini
Litera ovata
Lonicera etrusca
Lonicera alpigena
Lonicera caerulea
Lonicera xylosteum
Lunaria redivida
Luzula nivalis
Luzula sylvatica
Lychnis viscaria
Lycopodium annotinum
Lycopus europaeus
Malva sylvestris
Melampyrum carstiense
Mercurialis perennis
Moehringia tommasinii
Morus albus
Muscari botryoides
Muscari comosum
Narcissus poeticus radiflorus
Neottia nidus-avis
Nymphaea alba
Omphalodes verna
Onosma javorkae
Ophrys sphegodes
Ophrys apifera
Orchis laxiflora
Orchis mascula
Orchis militaris
Orchis morio
Orchis pallens
Orchis tridentata
Orchis ustulata
Orlaya grandiflora
Ornithogalum comosum
Ornithogalum pyreniacum

Ostrya carpinifolius
Osyris alba
Oxalis acetosella
Paeonia officinalis
Paliurus spina-cristi
Paperva rhoeas
Paris quadrifolia
Phalaris arundinacea
Phillyrea latifolia
Phragmites australis
Phytuma betonicifolia
Pinguicula alpina
Pinus nigra
Pistacia terebinthus
Plantago holosteum
Platanthera bifolia
Polygala alpestris
Polygala chamaebuxus
Polygala nicaeensis
Polygonatum latifolium
Polygonatum odoratum
Polygonatum verticillatum
Potentilla crantzii
Potentilla inclinata
Potentilla thungarica
Primula auricula
Primula elatior
Primula spectabilis
Primula veris
Primula vulgaris
Prunus mahaleb
Pulmonaria mollis
Pulmonaria officinalis
Pulmonaria rubra
Pulsatilla alpina
Pulsatilla montana
Quercus cerris
Quercus ilex
Quercus pubescens
Ranunculus aconitifolius
Ranunculus auricomis
Ranunculus pygmeus
Rhamnus alternatus
Rhinanthus freynii
Rhododendron ferrugineum
Rhododendron hirsutus
Rhodothamnus chamaecistus
Rosa carolina
Rosa pendulina
Rosa pimpinellifolia
Rubia perigrina
Ruscus aculeatus
Ruta graveolens
Salix arbuscula
Salix daphneoides
Salvia pratensis
Sambucus ebulus
Sambucus nigra

Sambucus racemosus
Satureja variagata
Saxifraga hostii
Saxifraga cuneata
Saxifraga cochlearis
Saxifraga rotundifolia
Scabious graminifolia
Scabious gramuntia
Scirpus tabernae-montana
Scorzonera austriaca
Scorzonera villosa
Scrophularia canina ssp. bicolor
Scutellaria alpina
Scutellaria hastifolia
Sempervivum arachnoideum
Sedum maximum
Silene italica
Silene otites
Silene nutans
Smilax aspera
Solanum dulcemara
Soldanella montana
Sorbus aria
Spartium junceum
Spirea chamaedrifolia
Stachys scardica
Stipa ericaulis
Symphytum tuberosum
Tamus communis
Tetragonolobus maritimus
Teucrium chamaedrys
Teucrium flavum
Teucrium montana
Thalictrum aquilegifolium
Tilia cordata
Thymus longicaulis
Tragopogon porriifolius
Trollius europaeus
Tussilago farfara
Typha angustifolia
Typha latifolia
Ulmus minor
Valerian officinalis
Valeriana trypteris
Veratrum album
Verbascum phoenecium
Veronica longifolia
Viburnum lantana
Vicia hybrida
Vinca minor
Vincetoxicum huteri
Vincetoxicum hirundinaria
Viola canina
Viola reichenbachiana
Viola lutea
Viola arvensis
Viola biflora
Viola elator

APPENDIX 2

Swallowtail
Scarce swallowtail
Clouded apollo
Large white
Black veined white
Small white
Green veined white
Orange tip
Clouded yellow
Bergers clouded yellow
Brimstone
Woodwhite
Green hairstreak
Small copper
Little blue
Green underside blue
Chequered blue
Mountain argos
Adonis blue
Comma blue
Southern white admiral
Red admiral
Painted lady

Small tortoiseshell
Comma
Queen of Spain fritillary
Twin spot fritillary
Small pearl bordered fritillary
Weavers fritillary
Glanville fritillary
Heath fritillary
Marbled white
Bright eyed ringlet
Meadow brown
Gatekeeper
Small heath
Pearly heath
Speckled wood
Wall brown
Large wall brown
Grizzled skipper
Dingy skipper
Chequered skipper
Large skipper



From the Alps to the Adriatic
28 May - 7 June 1995

Bird checklist

Day 1 Venice to Sistiana
Day 2 Monte Stena and Isola Della Cona
Day 3 Cerknisko Jezero, Slovenia
Day 4 Gonars, Medea, Doberdo Lake
Day 5 Carsiano garden, Monte Lanaro
Day 6 Forest of Trnova, Mount Kucent, Slovenia
Day 7 Griffon vulture centre at Forgaria, Monte Musi
Day 8 Rilke path, Doberdo Lake, Isonzo
Day 9 Ljubljansko Moor, Isola Della Cona
Day 10 High Alps - Paularo, Cason di Lanza

H - heard ✓ - seen

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Red-necked grebe			✓							
Black-necked grebe								✓		
Little grebe		✓	H							
Great crested grebe									✓	
Cormorant				✓				✓		
Shag							✓	✓		
Little bittern									✓	
Squacco heron									✓	
Little egret		✓	✓					✓	✓	
Grey heron	✓		✓	✓						
Purple heron		✓								
White stork			✓	✓						
Great white egret		✓							✓	
Glossy ibis		✓							✓	
Greylag goose		✓						✓	✓	
Mute swan								✓		
Gadwall		✓								
Wigeon		✓							✓	
Teal		✓	✓		✓				✓	
Mallard		✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	
Garganey		✓	✓							
Shoveler		✓							✓	
Ferruginous duck		✓								
Tufted duck		✓	✓		✓					
Eider					✓		✓	✓		
Honey-buzzard								✓		
Black kite							✓			
Griffon vulture							✓			
Short-toed eagle					✓					
Marsh harrier		✓	✓					✓	✓	✓

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Montagu's harrier				✓						
Goshawk				✓						
Sparrowhawk								✓	✓	✓
Buzzard	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Golden eagle						✓				✓
Osprey		✓								
Kestrel				✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Hobby			✓						✓	
Red-footed falcon		✓								
Quail			H							
Pheasant			✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	
Water rail				H						
Moorhen			✓	✓				✓		
Coot			✓	✓					✓	
Little crane									✓	
Corncrake			✓			H			✓	
Black-winged stilt		✓		✓					✓	
Little ringed plover		✓								
Kentish plover								✓		
Lapwing			✓					✓	✓	
Little stint			✓					✓		
Ruff				✓						
Snipe		✓						✓		
Curlew sandpiper								✓		
Little gull								✓		
Black-headed gull				✓				✓	✓	
Yellow-legged gull	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Little tern		✓						✓	✓	
Black tern			✓							
Rock dove	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Stock dove								✓		
Woodpigeon			✓	✓					✓	
Collared dove			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Turtle dove									✓	
Cuckoo			H	H	H	H	✓		H	H
Scops owl			✓	H	✓	H		H	H	H
Nightjar				✓						
Swift			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Alpine swift			✓			✓	✓	✓		
Bee-eater			H	✓						
Hoopoe						✓		✓	✓	✓
Green woodpecker					✓					✓
Black woodpecker					✓					
Great spotted woodpecker			✓	✓				✓	✓	

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Crested lark								✓		
Woodlark			✓							
Skylark		✓		✓						
Crag martin							✓			
Swallow	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
House martin			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Tawny pipit		✓								
Tree pipit						✓	✓		✓	✓
Water pipit										✓
Yellow wagtail			✓	✓				H		
Grey wagtail				✓	✓	✓				✓
White wagtail	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Dipper										✓
Wren				H	H	✓				H
Dunnock					H					✓
Robin				✓	✓	H			✓	H
Nightingale			✓	H	H	H		✓	✓	
Black redstart		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓
Whinchat			✓	✓	✓					
Stonechat									✓	✓
Blue rock thrush	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ring ousel										✓
Blackbird	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
Song thrush					H				✓	H
Mistle thrush										
Fieldfare			✓	✓	✓					✓
Cetti's warbler		H	H					✓		
Fan-tailed warbler			H					✓	H	
Grasshopper warbler									✓	
Sedge warbler			✓	✓						
Marsh warbler		✓	H	✓					✓	
Reed warbler		✓							✓	
Great reed warbler		✓						✓	✓	
River warbler									✓	
Savi's warbler									✓	
Melodious warbler		✓							H	
Sardinian warbler		H	H		✓	H		✓	✓	
Lesser whitethroat									✓	✓
Whitethroat		✓	✓			✓				
Blackcap			H	✓	✓	✓		H	✓	
Bonelli's warbler							✓			
Chiffchaff			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Goldcrest				✓	H					H
Firecrest				H	H					H
Spotted flycatcher										✓
Long-tailed tit				✓	✓	✓		✓		
Willow tit						✓				

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Crested tit		H						✓		✓
Coal tit			✓	H	✓					
Blue tit			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Great tit		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Penduline tit		H							H	
Nuthatch		✓		✓	✓	✓			✓	
Golden oriole			✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
Red-backed shrike			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Woodchat shrike			✓							
Jay			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Magpie	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Nutcracker						✓	H			
Jackdaw				✓	✓			✓	✓	
Hooded crow	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Raven			✓	✓	✓	✓				
Starling	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
House/Italian sparrow	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Tree sparrow		✓								
Chaffinch	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Serín			✓		✓	✓		✓		
Greenfinch		✓		✓				✓	✓	
Goldfinch			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Linnet				✓						
Redpoll										✓
Common crossbill										✓
Bullfinch					✓					
Hawfinch					✓	✓		✓	✓	
Scarlet rosefinch								✓		
Yellowhammer				✓				✓	✓	
Rock bunting		✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓
Ortolan bunting		✓								
Reed bunting		✓		✓				✓	✓	
Corn bunting		✓							✓	

Bird list kindly compiled by Brenda Legard.



Please reply to:-

Italian League for Bird Protection – UK Branch
Lega Italiana Protezione Uccelli (LIPU)

Honorary Patrons: Bill Oddie, Tony Soper.

Dear Chris,

I was delighted to hear that the Honeyguide Alps to the Adriatic holiday was such a success. Congratulations.

Also, thank you so much for the Honeyguide donation of £400 to LIPU UK's Wetland Appeal; the money will be used to help expand LIPU's Torrite reserve near Parma, famous for its black-winged stilts.

I would particularly like to thank you and Honeyguide for organising a holiday which enables British birdwatchers to discover that Italy really is a special place for birds.

With thanks and best wishes for Honeyguide's continuing success.

Yours
Roger.