



11 – 29 June, 2025

**Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan & Kyrgyzstan**

**Leader and report by Erik Jansen**

*Rufous-backed Redstart by Erik Jansen.*

**rubythroat**  
BIRDING TOURS

## June 11 | Arrival in Bukhara

After over 30 hours of traveling, Simon and Rahat made it from Canada to Uzbekistan, where the Rubythroat Birding Tours team welcomed them at Bukhara Airport in the morning. The upcoming days would be spent looking for some of Central Asia's most sought-after species, of which many featured on an ambitious target list.

The first day was used to acclimatize to the hot weather, rest, and walk around the beautiful historic city of Bukhara. Of course, we also found some fun birds, such as a **Pied Bushchat** and many **Collared** and **Laughing Doves** in the old city center.

## June 12 | Jeyran Ecocenter & Bukhara

The next morning, on our first birding day, we left for an area southeast of the city, where we immediately found a **White-winged Woodpecker** while drinking our coffee and tea. Further into the area, having reached a small lake, we found a subtly beautiful **Marbled Duck** and several **Red-crested Pochards** and **Northern Shovelers**. Along the shore, **White-tailed Lapwings**, **Marsh Sandpiper** and **Kentish Plovers** were foraging, and **Slender-billed Gulls** were flying around. Beautiful **Blue-cheeked Bee-eaters** were present to add some color. A small herd of (introduced) **Przewalski Horses** was found on the opposite side of the lake. Not a bad start at all!



*The near-threatened Marbled Duck is patchily distributed along this latitude, breeding from Morocco to China.*

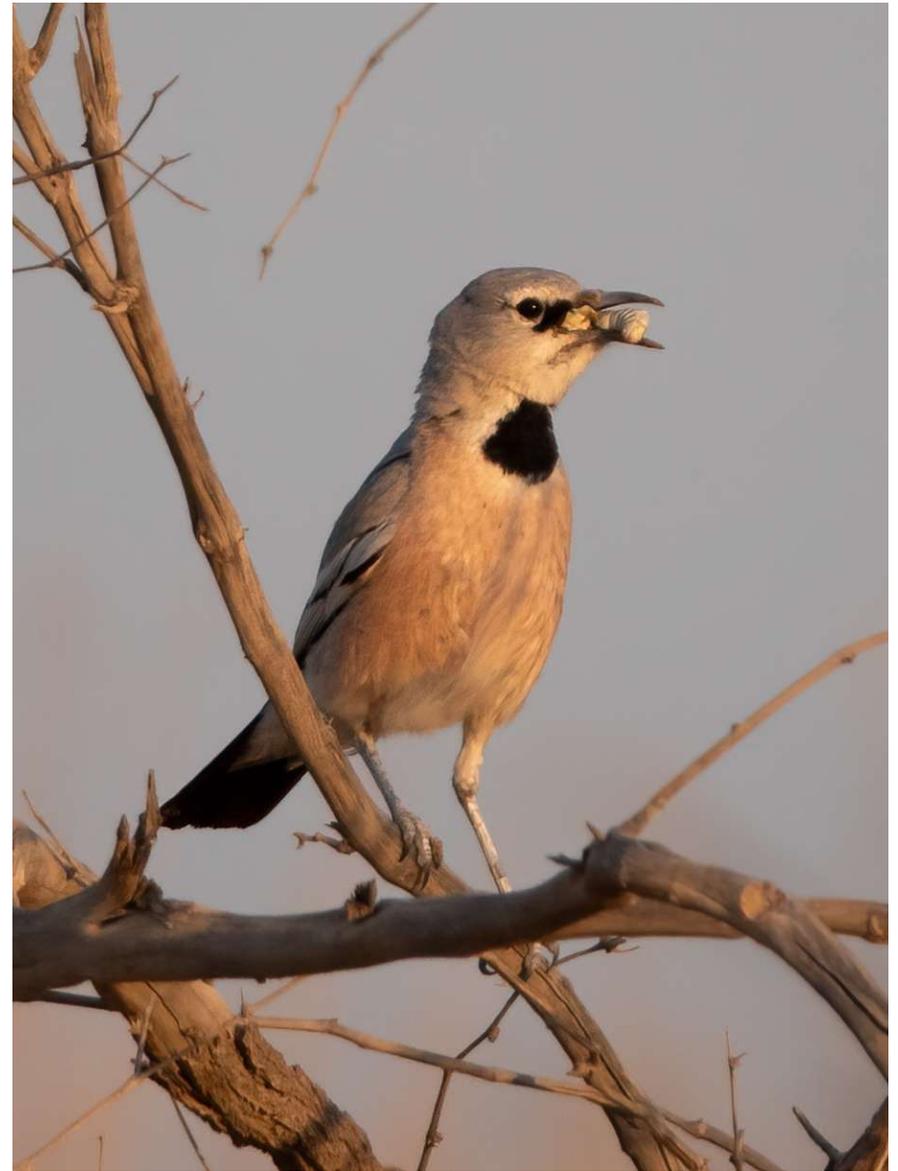
*Photo by Erik Jansen.*

Moving on, we had a **Ferruginous Duck** flying over, and several more **Marbled Ducks**. We enjoyed views of cute **Streaked Scrub Warblers** and saw **Eastern Olivaceous Warbler**, **Menetries's Warbler** and **Rufous-tailed Scrub-Robin**. On our way out, we found several **Sykes's Warblers** skulking around in the bushes, but managed some good views nonetheless. With all target birds in the pocket, and the temperature increasing, we made our way back to Bukhara, where we took a break before we ventured on our cultural exploration of the city.

## June 13 | Kyzylkum Desert & Bukhara

After a very short night, waking up at 02:00 in the middle of the night, we set out into the Kyzylkum Desert to the west to find the enigmatic Turkestan Ground Jay. Arriving at suitable habitat for this species at sunrise, it did not take long before we heard and quickly located our first of at least four **Turkestan Ground Jays**. For a half hour, we enjoyed these birds as they moved around in front of us, occasionally popping up at close distance. It was only the second birding day, but we agreed that we might have already had the highlight of the entire tour!

We enjoyed more **Streaked Scrub Warblers** before heading back to the car, and started heading back to Bukhara, as species density in this part of the desert is quite low. On our way back, we found several **Desert Finches**, **Crested Larks** and **Spanish** and **Indian Sparrows**. Back in Bukhara, we again explored more of the history that can be found in and around the city center.



*This Turkestan Ground Jay perched beautifully in the early morning desert sun. This amazing species is one of the main highlights on the Uzbekistan extension.*

*Photo by Erik Jansen.*

## June 14 | Samarkand

The next day was a travel day, making our way from Bukhara to Samarkand, another wonderful city with an incredibly rich history. After enjoying our lunch there, we went on an excursion showing us the most beautiful parts of the city. After dinner, we quickly went to bed, getting ready for another early morning start.

## June 15 | Takhtakaracha Pass

An hour drive south of Samarkand, we arrived around sunrise at a site that is known to hold Hume's Lark, a difficult to find species in Uzbekistan, and our only realistic chance for this tour. We started walking along the road and quickly found several stunning **Red-headed Buntings** singing everywhere around us, **Eastern Rock Nuthatches** hopping around on big boulders, and a female **Blue Rock Thrush** sitting on the fence.

A **Tawny Pipit** was displaying its song flight when we were suddenly alarmed by a more distant bird in song flight that sounded an awful lot like **Hume's Lark**! The bird disappeared behind some hills behind a fence, so we had to take a little detour in order to get to the approximate location of where the bird disappeared. When we got to the spot, we found two **Hume's Larks** landing not too far away from us, of which one ended up giving great views. Mission successful! Before we moved on to our next birding site, we also found a pair of **Eastern Orphean Warblers**.



*Success! One of our main targets took some effort to locate, but we ended up having great views of this Hume's Lark.*

*Photo by Erik Jansen.*

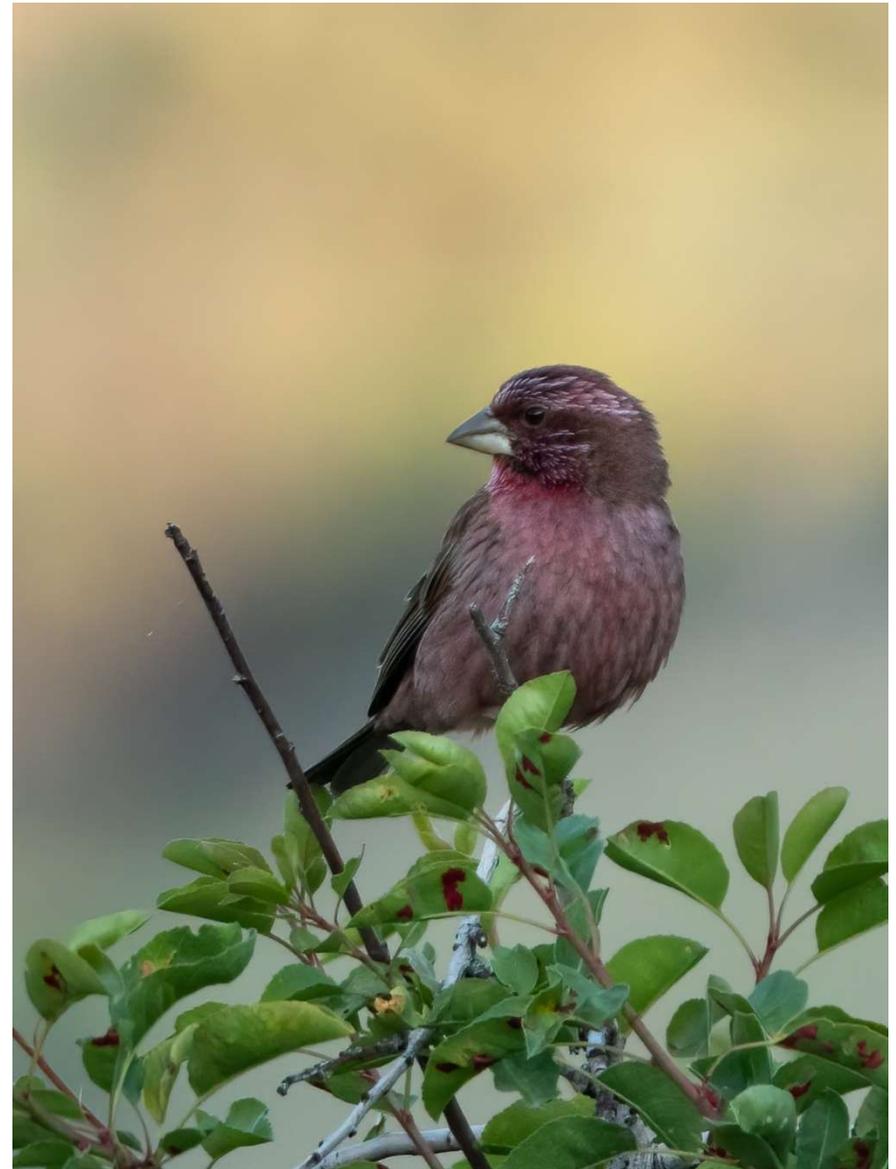
At the next site, we found **European Red-rumped Swallows**, **White-capped Buntings** and some **Turkestan Tits**. On our way back to Samarkand we picked up a nice adult **Egyptian Vulture** flying by at close distance while looking for Finsch's Wheatear, which we failed to find, although we found several **Pied Wheatears**.

After lunch in Samarkand, we embarked on our journey to Zaamin National Park close to the Tajik border. On our way there we were entertained by flocks of **Rosy Starlings** flying around and **European Rollers** occupying wires along the road. We made a quick stop to find **Indian Paradise Flycatcher** and found at least three individuals flying around. Once we made it to our hotel, we had dinner and went to bed early.

## June 16 | Zaamin National Park

The next morning, we rose early and made our way up to higher elevations. It did not take much effort to find the star of Zaamin National Park: **Blyth's Rosefinch**. Several birds were calling and seen well, including some beautiful males. We would see several more individuals throughout the day, often at relatively close distance — such a treat!

Other birds that were highly sought-after and seen incredibly well were **Yellow-breasted (Azure) Tit** and **Hume's Whitethroat**. Bird activity was quite high, and we kept being entertained by wonderful species, including **White-browed Tit Warblers** quickly moving around



*Blyth's Rosefinches are absolutely amazing birds! This stunning male struck a pose, showing off his silvery-pink eyebrow.*

*Photo by Erik Jansen.*



*Another male Blyth's Rosefinch posing for us in the sun.*

*Photo by Erik Jansen.*

the bushes, **Rock Buntings** singing from treetops and **White-winged Grosbeaks** flying back and forth. Every now and then **Rufous-naped Tits** would make an appearance, and we managed to find a pair of **Chukars**. After all this action we returned to the hotel for breakfast, and then went for a walk. The walk was relatively birdless, especially compared to the action-packed early morning, but we did manage excellent views of **White-capped Bunting**.

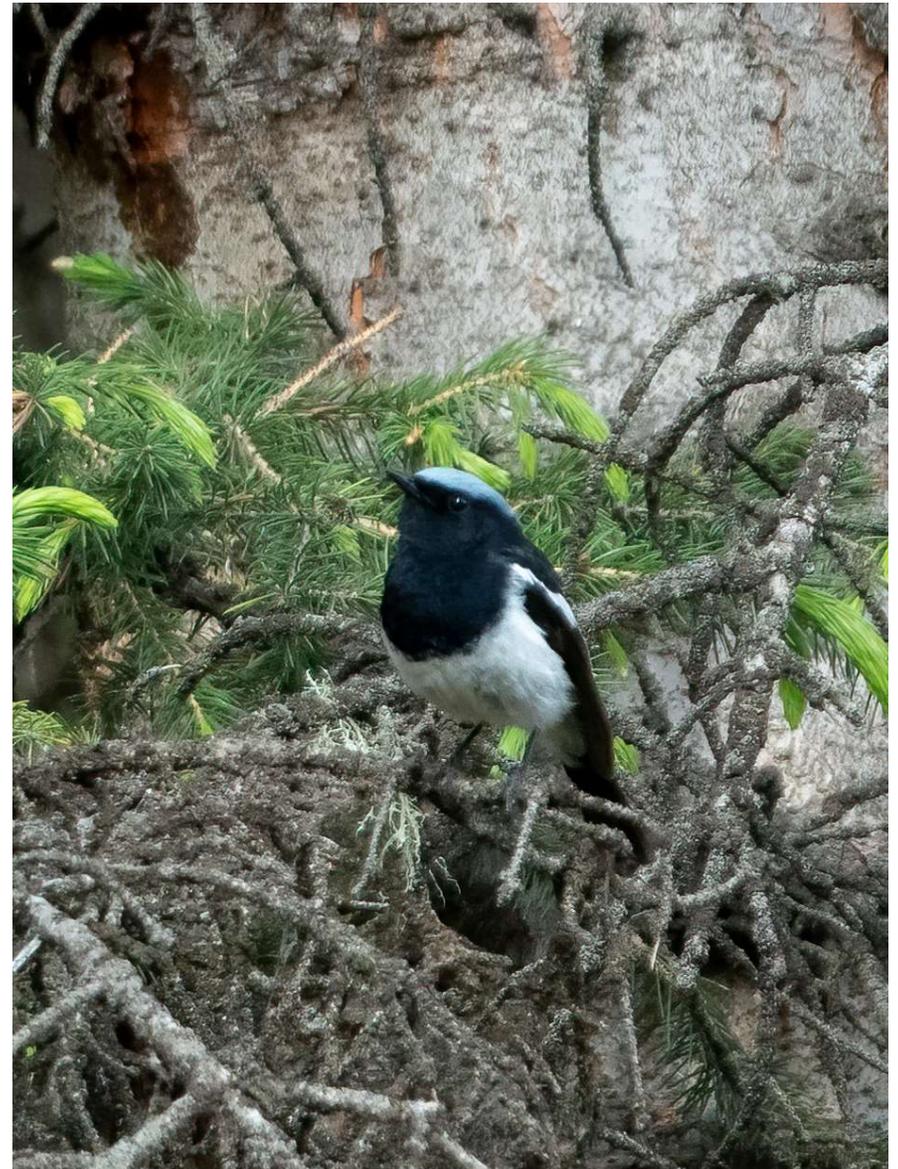
During the heat of the day, we took a break from birding, and later went for a short pre-dinner outing, during which we enjoyed a bunch of **Indian Golden Orioles** messing around, and saw **European Greenfinch** and **Spotted Flycatcher**.

## June 17 | Arrive in Almaty, Kazakhstan

The next day was another travel day, leaving Zaamin National Park early in order to catch our flight from Tashkent to Almaty in Kazakhstan. After getting there, we had an early dinner and went to bed, ready to leave again at 3 in the morning.

## June 18 | Big Almaty Lake & Sogety Valley

Getting to the area below Big Almaty Lake, in the mountains south of Almaty, the sun had just risen. We had a quick coffee and tea, and started birding our way along the road down. Almost immediately we found a nice male **Rufous-backed Redstart**, and as we walked down, we added species like **Songar Tit**, **Tree Pipit** and **Mistle Thrush** to our



*Blue-capped Redstarts are one of five redstart species we regularly see on our tours in Central Asia. It is the only one without its namesake red tail.*

*Photo by Erik Jansen.*

list. A charming **Blue-capped Redstart** made an appearance, and we heard a **Eurasian Three-toed Woodpecker** drumming, our main target this morning. We tried to get a glimpse of this bird, but the drumming seemed too far away, so after a couple of minutes of searching we gave up.

Walking further down the road, we saw **Northern Nutcrackers** and **Red-fronted Serins**. We spent some time in an area where people had reported the woodpecker, but luck did not seem to be on our side. We decided to try hiking up a trail that seemed to take us to the area from where we thought we heard the woodpecker drumming earlier. Along the trail, we found our first **Black-throated Accentor**, and found Simon's nemesis species singing right in front of us: **Common Grasshopper Warbler!**

Some **Red Crossbills** were foraging in the top of a tree and a **Eurasian Goshawk** was loudly calling and flew overhead. However, there was no sign of a woodpecker. We had roamed around the area for well over an hour when we decided to leave, as we had a long day ahead of us. Right when we had started walking back down, we suddenly heard a **Eurasian Three-toed Woodpecker** calling right behind us! Just seconds later the bird flew across the field and landed in a nearby tree. It took us some effort to locate the bird, but eventually we managed great views of this wonderful woodpecker — mission successful!



*We were super happy when we found this Eurasian Three-toed Woodpecker after three hours of searching!*

*Photo by Erik Jansen.*



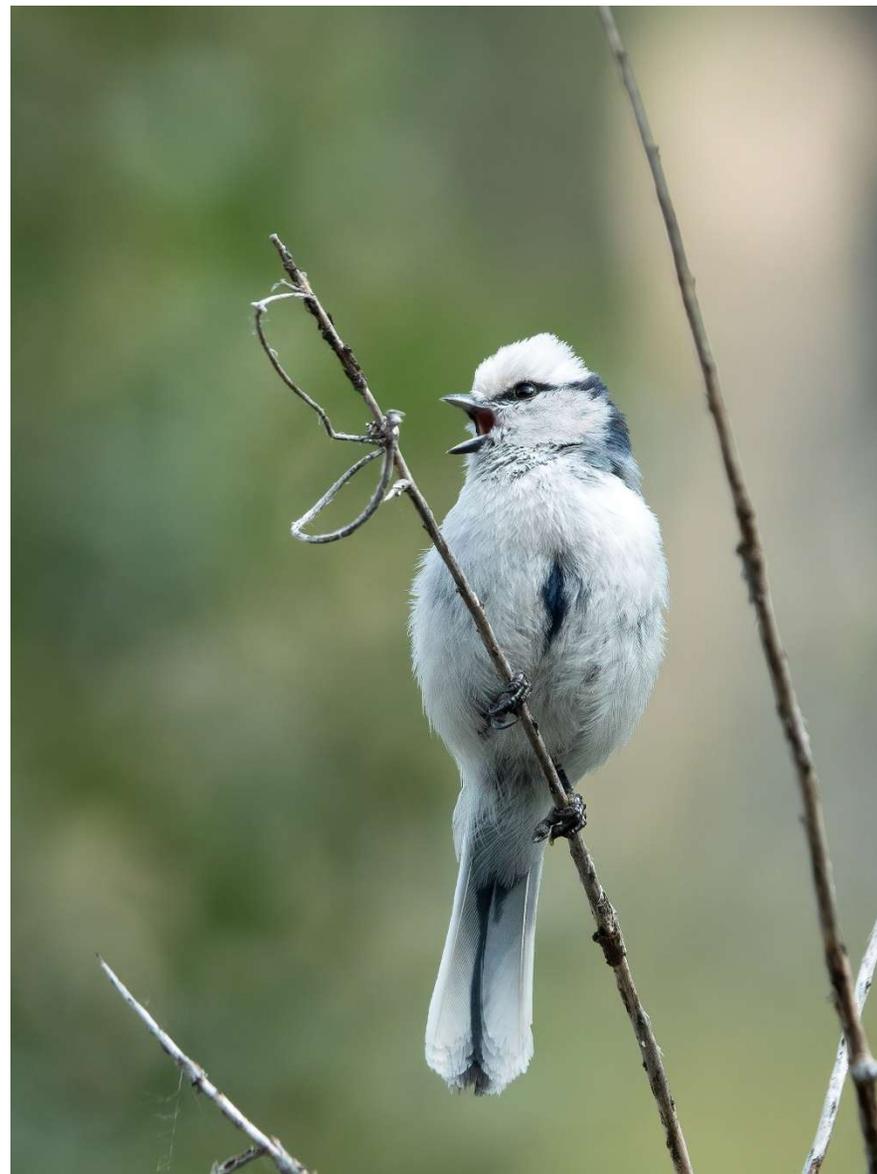
*This Grasshopper Warbler seemed amazingly uninterested in our presence, and was singing from the top of a bush right in front of us!*  
*Photo by Erik Jansen.*

Satisfied with an incredible birding morning, with just the right suspense, we drove down to grab a good breakfast in Almaty. We stopped when we heard an **Azure Tit** singing through the open car window, and found the most confiding **Azure Tit** ever. After a great breakfast, we left Almaty and started driving east.

At our first stop we quickly found several **White-crowned Penduline Tits**, and then made our way over to our guesthouse for lunch and a short nap. The end of the afternoon we spent in the Sogety valley, looking for two targets: **Gray-necked Bunting** and **Mongolian Finch**. The former we found easily as they were abundant, but the finch required more time and effort. After seeing some birds in flight, we finally managed to get great views of a pair on the ground. Furthermore, we found **Eastern Orphean Warblers**, **Rufous-tailed Rock-Thrushes** and several **Long-legged Buzzards**. We also managed to pick up two distantly soaring **Demoiselle Cranes** and a close **Steppe Eagle**. This day had been very long, but incredibly satisfying!

## June 19 | Sogety Valley & Kyrgyzstan

The next morning, we tried to find Pallas's Sandgrouse at a drinking site, but only found **Black-bellied Sandgrouse** — also nice though. Other drinking birds were **Brandt's Horned Larks**, **Greater Short-toed Larks** and **Isabelline Wheatears**. The remainder of the day was mostly spent getting to Kyrgyzstan. On the way there, we stopped by a colony



*Azure Tits are simply beautiful!*

*Photo by Erik Jansen.*

of **Lesser Kestrels** and found a beautiful pair of **Demoiselle Cranes** in a typically Central Asian setting with horses in the background.

After a smooth border crossing into Kyrgyzstan, we stopped for a roadside lunch. At our lunch spot, we found a **Richard's Pipit**, **Citrine Wagtails**, **Eurasian Linnets** and several **Pale Martins** foraging over a small water body. We then moved on to our final destination for the day, Karakol, where we would spend the four upcoming nights.

On our way there, we made one last stop to try to find our main target for the day: **Pallas's Grasshopper Warbler**. These birds start arriving at the very end of May, so coming here in June gives a good chance of finding these birds. It did not take us long to find a singing individual, and on top of that we found a **Paddyfield Warbler** as well. Content with another good birding day, we checked in at our guesthouse and went to bed early.

## June 20 | Chon Ashuu Valley

After a good early morning breakfast, we set out to the mountains around the Chon Ashuu pass. Before we got there, we found several roadside **Ring-necked Pheasants** and some stunning singing **Pine Buntings**.

Further into the valley, we hiked our way up to a nice juniper patch where we settled down for a while and had coffee and tea. Almost immediately a **Red-mantled Rosefinch** started calling, and it did not



*Pine Buntings often sing from powerlines, but this one had chosen a more natural outpost.*

*Photo by Erik Jansen.*



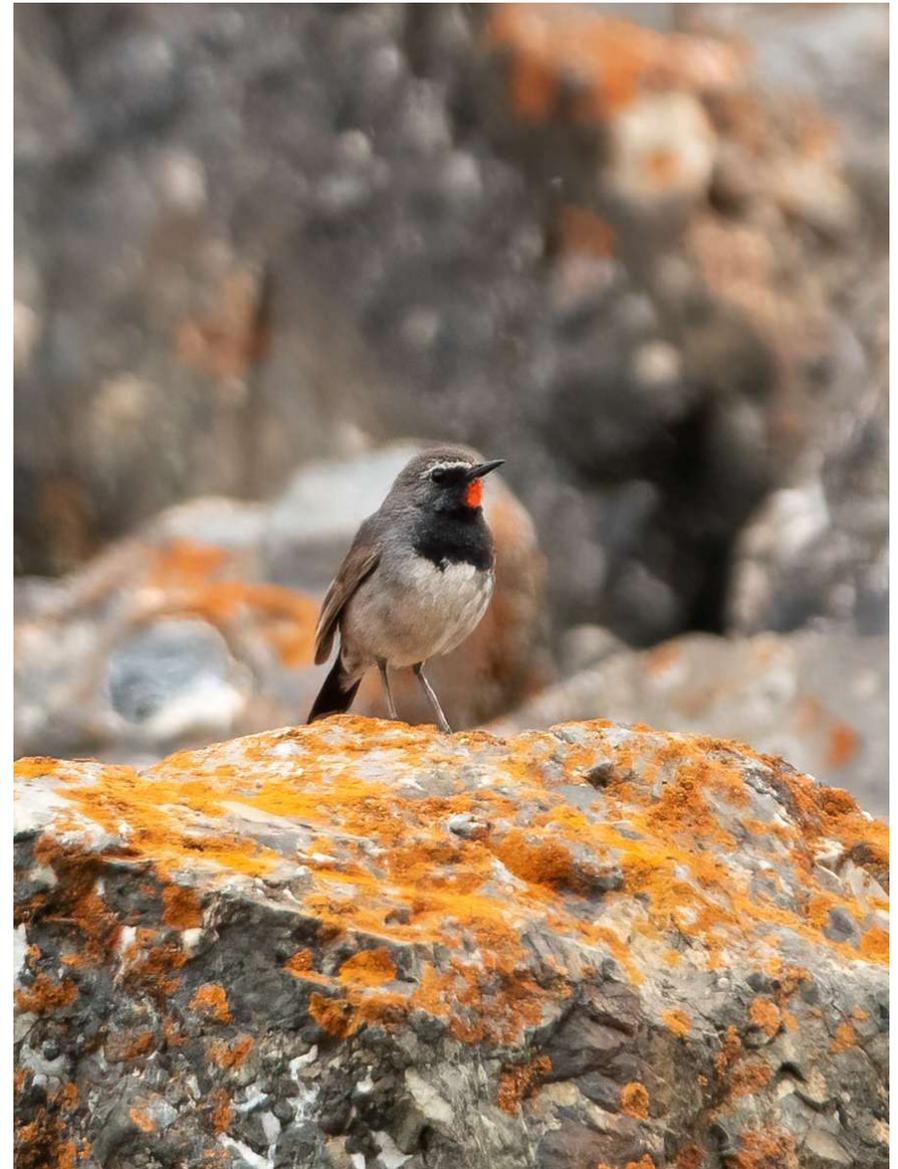
*We had acceptable views of this Bearded Vulture as it flew over our car.*

*Photo by Erik Jansen.*

take long until we had amazing views of several individuals, some out in the open foraging on the ground. We had to search a bit more to find **Himalayan Rubythroat**, but eventually we had excellent views of a singing male. Making our way back down to the car, we found a **Rufous-backed Redstart** singing from the top of a pine tree.

Back down on the road, we did a quick scan to find the enigmatic **Ibisbill**, and surprisingly found one almost instantly! A bit later, we realized we were not looking at just one individual bird, but at a pair with two chicks – very nice! After enjoying these birds for a solid amount of time, we moved deeper into the valley, to higher elevations. While driving up, we had an incredibly low and close fly-over of a wonderful adult **Bearded Vulture**.

Having reached significantly higher altitudes, we found several **Plain Mountain Finches** calling on the mountain slopes. **Water Pipits (ssp. blakistoni)** were flying around, displaying, and we were surprised by a stunning male **White-winged Redstart**. We managed great views of a singing **Altai Accentor**, but a foraging **Sulphur-bellied Warbler** was over-active and kept moving around quickly so that we never got really good views of this interesting rock-loving leaf warbler. A bit later, around our lunch spot, we had a nice **White-throated Dipper (ssp. leucogaster)** flying by, and we had amazing views of a **Himalayan Griffon** flying around not too far away. Our first day in the mountains was a great success!



*This Himalayan Rubythroat was very territorial as it kept chasing off the Altai Accentor on the next page.*

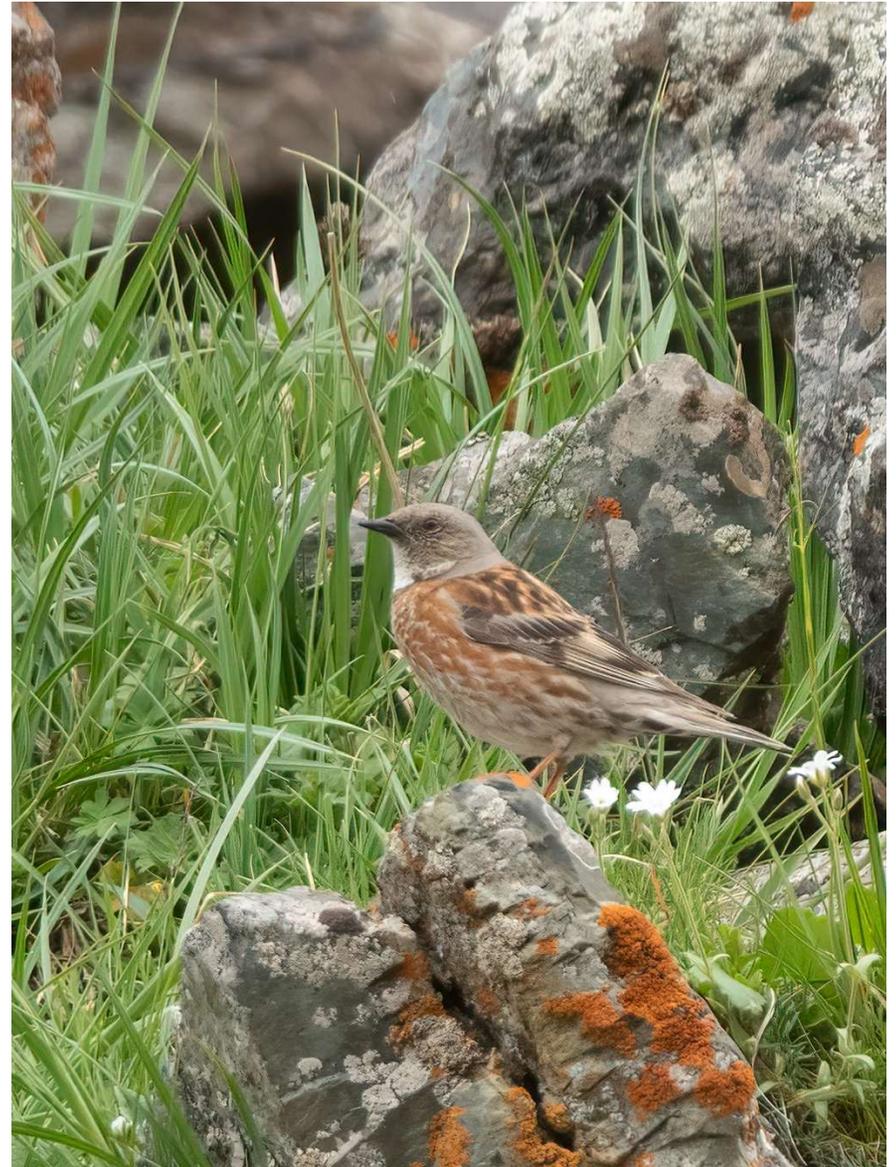
*Photo by Erik Jansen.*

## June 21 | Barskoon Gorge

The next day, we rose even earlier, in order to get to further away mountains south of the town of Barskoon. We had three major targets for this location: Himalayan Snowcock, Brown Accentor and Great Rosefinch. First thing we did was stop at a good site for the snowcock, but there we could only hear distantly calling birds. Thankfully, we did find a **Brown Accentor** at this spot.

Moving downhill a bit, in the direction of the calling snowcocks, we stopped at several spots with good views of the tops of the mountain ridges, but we were no longer able to hear the birds. After more scanning, we finally managed to find two **Himalayan Snowcocks** walking along the very top of a ridge, quickly disappearing on the other side. Not the views we had dreamed of, but definitely happy to have seen the birds!

We then started walking up an interesting looking slope, hoping to find a Great Rosefinch. **Western House Martins** as well as a **Crag Martin** flew over, but there were no signs of a rosefinch's presence. Walking back down, we encountered an incredibly friendly **Sulphur-bellied Warbler** that was actively singing on bushes and rocks just a couple meters in front of us — absolutely beautiful! Making our way further up, we stopped at a waterfall where we found several **Hill Pigeons** flying around. Not much later, we were alarmed by a reddish bird flying distantly across the waterfall, landing on a rock. We managed to quickly scope the bird, and albeit distant, we were looking at our (very



*This poor Altai Accentor had to find a different rock as the Himalayan Rubythroat on the previous page kept chasing it away.*

*Photo by Erik Jansen.*



*The most striking feature of Sulphur-bellied Warblers is their gold-colored eyebrow in front of the eye.*

*Photo by Erik Jansen.*

difficult) target: **Great Rosefinch!** A male briefly perched on a distant rock for a couple of seconds before it vanished. We spent more time in order to get better views, trying to get closer too, but the mountain stream was too wild to safely cross. Eventually, we gave up and decided to be satisfied with what we had seen.

We then drove on uphill, getting to a beautiful plateau at over 3800 meters altitude, where we sat down for a field lunch in the most beautiful scenery. After lunch, we started hiking up the slopes and instantly found a **White-throated Dipper (ssp. leucogaster)**. **Plain Mountain Finches** were calling, and we saw several **White-winged Redstarts**. We did not manage to find more Great Rosefinches, but we did find a different unexpected species: **Black-headed Mountain Finch!** Several individuals were calling and displaying on the rocks around us. After enjoying the high-altitude scenery some more, we made our way downhill again, stopping again at the waterfall, hoping to see the Great Rosefinch again, but activity had died down and we decided to drive back to our accommodation in Karakol.

## June 22 | Barskoon Gorge, again!

Our last day in the Kyrgyz mountains was spent in the same place as the day before, as we were still hoping to get better views of both the snowcock and the rosefinch. While driving up, we stopped at a lower elevation and found a singing **Blue Whistling-Thrush** and several **Greenish Warblers** around us. When we reached our high-altitude



*A great surprise! Several Black-headed Mountain Finches were displaying at high altitude.*

*Photo by Erik Jansen.*

destination, though, it was windy as raining, so there was hardly any activity.

We decided to drive further up the mountain, and rain turned to snow. There was hardly any wind though, so being outside our vehicle was more pleasant. Still, there was not much activity, so we decided to start driving around the higher elevations a bit. Soon, we saw a big flock of finches flying around. When they landed, we managed to get distant scope views of what appeared to be all **Black-headed Mountain Finches**! Very cool to see around 175 birds foraging and flying around at what started off as quite distant, but eventually turned into relatively close, yielding excellent scope views. As we drove higher up, the snow intensified, but we still managed to find several **White-winged Redstarts** foraging along the road.

We reached the highest point of the tour at a little over 4000 meters, when we decided the snow was too much, and we turned around. On our way back down, we found a **Black Stork** standing on an electricity pylon, a wonderful record at this altitude in the snow-covered landscape! While there was a little gap in the snow, we set up for another incredibly scenic field lunch. After lunch, we decided that the weather was not too favorable, and we started making our way back down the mountain.

*A gloomy shot of a single Black Stork standing in the snow at almost 4000 meters altitude.  
Photo by Erik Jansen.*



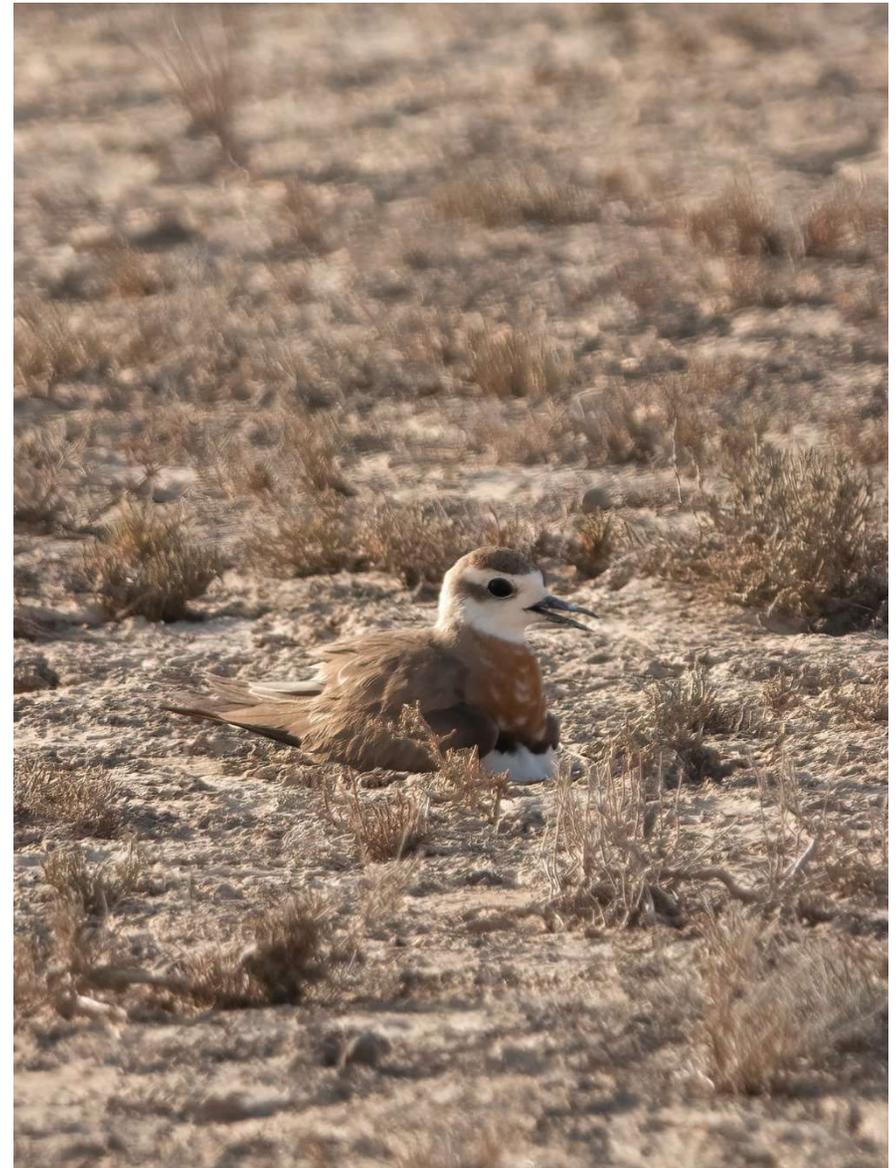
## June 23 | Return to Almaty, Kazakhstan

After a relatively long night, necessary for the long drive back to Almaty, Kazakhstan, we stopped at a couple spots before the border. The first spot was a lake where we found a pair of **Whooper Swans** with chicks. At the second spot, we found a **Common Crane** foraging distantly in a meadow. While these birds are not uncommon on migration, there are only a couple of breeding Common Cranes in the region.

Back in Kazakhstan, we found a flock of 27 **Demoiselle Cranes** flying over. A bit later, we set up lunch at a beautiful viewpoint and were entertained by a flock of **Rosy Starlings** in their finest plumage constantly flying around our lunch spot. We also saw two **Golden Eagles** getting harassed by a **Black Kite**. After a long driving day, we got to Almaty at a reasonable hour, and checked in to our hotel rooms for some well-deserved rest.

## June 24 | Sorbulak Lake & Taukum Desert

The next morning, we set out to the Taukum Desert north of Almaty. On the way there we stopped at Sorbulak Lake, where we found many **Dalmatian Pelicans** among other waterfowl, such as **Common** and **Ruddy Shelducks**, **Ferruginous Ducks**, **Red-crested Pochards**, **Common Redshanks**, **Eurasian Curlews** and **Eurasian Oystercatchers**. Additionally, we found two **Gull-billed Terns**, some **Black Terns** and a **Glossy Ibis**. A pretty good score! We then stopped



*Caspian Plovers are among the most beautiful waders on the planet, and this male was still in his finest plumage.*

*Photo by Erik Jansen.*

at a site known to host the rare White-headed Duck, but after almost an hour of searching we had to give up.

We took a lunch break, and afterwards continued our way to the desert. Upon arrival, we first checked several artesian wells, little oases in the desert, and found **Calandra Larks**, **Eurasian Skylarks** and **Turkestan Short-toed Larks**. And **Rooks**, very many Rooks. The highlight was a group of **Brown-necked Ravens** sitting at a water hole.

We then drove on, deeper into the desert, on our quest to find **Caspian Plover**, one of Central Asia's star birds. It took us a while before we found the first bird, and although we had good views, the bird was a female, lacking the striking plumage of male birds. Therefore, we kept on searching until we found a male – successfully! About an hour later, we found a distant male, and started approaching the bird from within our car, hoping to get better views. We managed to get relatively close to the bird, as it sat down on the ground, and had amazing views of this gorgeous species! Content, we drove to our yurt camp where we had dinner and went to bed immediately after, hoping to get some sleep before another early morning alarm.

## June 25 | Zheltorangy Desert Poplar Forest

We rose before the sun, and started our day with some coffee, tea and cookies, before we set out deeper into the desert, hoping to find Asian Houbara. Every one or two kilometers we stopped and scanned, hoping to find these steppe-desert dwellers, but this morning luck did



*Steppe Gray Shrikes are not found on the steppes, but rather in semideserts. This (sub)species has a large bill as well as an extensive white wing patch.*

*Photo by Erik Jansen.*

not seem to be on our side. After a while, we found a **Montagu's Harrier** flying by, and a bit later we encountered a **Steppe Gray Shrike** that gave good views.

After three hours of scanning for bustards, we started driving back to our camp for breakfast. When we reached a water hole, we found many **Black-bellied Sandgrouse** around it. Some of the birds flushed, and we managed to pick out a pair that were significantly smaller and had long pointy tails: **Pallas's Sandgrouse**! A good consolation price for not finding Asian Houbara.

After a delicious breakfast, we started our journey north to a forested area where we were hoping to find some more Central Asian specialties. On the way there, we found hundreds of larks along the road, including several **Bimaculated Larks**. Even before reaching our final destination, we found one of our main targets: **Saxaul Sparrow** sheltering from the heat of the day. This beautiful sparrow can only be found in a couple of places in Central Asia.

After reaching our main birding destination for the day, we immediately started searching for the rare **Yellow-eyed Pigeon**. It took a remarkably short while before two birds flew by and landed in a nearby tree, giving us excellent views through the telescope. We had lunch, and because we spent less time than expected looking for the pigeons, we decided to dedicate some time to trying to find the near-mythical Black-headed Penduline-Tit. We knew this was going to be a



*A real local specialty: the beautiful Saxaul Sparrow!*

*Photo by Erik Jansen.*

longshot, and the heat in the middle of the day was not the ideal climate to search for this species. Not surprisingly, we did not find any signs of existence of these birds. Nevertheless, we returned to our yurt camp satisfied.

## June 26 | Return to Almaty

The next morning, we tried to find Asian Houbara again, and hopefully get better views of the Pallas's Sandgrouse we found the day before. We found two **Eurasian Hobbies** flying through the desert. A little later, unfortunately, we got caught in a sandstorm. There was hardly any visibility, and it was difficult to follow the tracks through the desert. We called it quits and returned to our camp.

We had breakfast, packed our stuff, and drove back to Almaty. On the way, we stopped at the same spots as on the way to the desert. At the first spot, where we again unsuccessfully looked for White-headed Duck, we found a flock of around 25 **Black-tailed Godwits**. Post-breeding migration had started. At our lunch site, at Sorbulak Lake, we found many of the same birds as some days before, but now there were not just **Dalmatian Pelicans**, but also a big flock of **Great White Pelicans**, giving us a beautiful opportunity to compare the two species and look at the most important identification pointers. We also had a fly-over from a dark morph **Booted Eagle**, a species that we, surprisingly, had not yet seen on this trip.



*Yellow-eyed Pigeons are another key species on our tours in Kazakhstan, where they are very locally distributed.*

*Photo by Erik Jansen.*

## June 27 | Astana & Korgalzhyn Nature Reserve

We left for the airport early morning in order to catch our flight to Astana, where we would spend the last days of the tour, looking for some of Central Asia's most sought-after steppe specialists. Our first stop, just outside of Astana, was quite productive. We enjoyed several **Bluethroats** flying back and forth, feeding their chicks. **Western Yellow Wagtails** and **Siberian Stonechats** were commonly seen all around us, and among the many hunting **Pallid Harriers** we also found a distant **Short-eared Owl** majestically hunting over the fields. Furthermore, we located a singing **Paddyfield Warbler** as well as several **Booted Warblers**. Back in the car, while we were turning back onto the main road, a **Fieldfare** landed on an open branch and gave us short but great views.

As we drove towards Korgalzhyn Nature Reserve, this tour's final destination, anticipation rose as we got closer to seeing the highly-anticipated **Black Lark**. Before long, we found one sitting by the side of the road. These birds are absolute show-stealers with their simple yet beautiful black plumage. We would continue seeing these birds all along the road during our time on the steppes, as the species is locally quite common. Its cousin is a little less common, but also did not take long for us to find: **White-winged Lark**. Not too long after finding our first **Black Larks**, we saw the strikingly white wings of a **White-winged Lark** flying over a field along the road. Both of these lark species are real steppe specialists and it is such a joy to see them quite numerous in this landscape.



*This Booted Warbler was singing abundantly.*

*Photo by Erik Jansen.*

Upon reaching our guesthouse by the end of the day, we sat down for a delicious dinner, but did not go to bed without a final spot of birding by the lake in front of the house. This proved to be super productive, with close views of **Black-winged Pratincoles** flying over our heads, hundreds of **Black-tailed Godwits**, two **Spotted Redshanks** in their finest plumage, and impressive numbers of **Greater Flamingos** flying over in long files, the biggest flock numbering 185 individuals!

## June 28 | Korgalzhyn Nature Reserve

The next morning, we rose early in order to reach a colony of **Red-footed Falcons** while the light was still good. No surprise, the birds were easy to find and we enjoyed good numbers of falcons flying around, even finding several chicks in their nests. A female **Pallid Merlin** was a nice surprise in between all the **Red-footed Falcons**. To further add on the falcon species diversity, we also found a couple of **Eurasian Kestrels** and a **Eurasian Hobby**!

There was, however, still one very exciting option that we wanted to explore further: a month earlier, someone had found an Amur Falcon in the area, and we had been optimistic about the possibility that the bird had stuck around in the falcon colony. Although we thought we had seen the majority of the birds, there were still a couple patches of forest that we had left unexplored, so we set off in a final attempt to find this regional super rarity. After another half hour of searching, suddenly a falcon with a black and white underwing flew over our heads: **Amur Falcon**! Wow! Although we had been optimistic about



*Every single Black Lark is worth stopping for, although it would cost a lot of time as they are common.*

*Photo by Erik Jansen.*



*An absolutely amazing record of a male Amur Falcon that seems to be breeding in a colony of Red-footed Falcons! We could not find his mate, but the chances of it being a female Red-footed Falcon are fairly high.*

*Photo by Erik Jansen.*

the bird still being present, we could barely believe that we had actually refound it. The observation was brief, but very good. As the bird seemed to be transporting food and had been around for at least a month, it seems a fairly safe assumption that the bird was breeding, and was likely paired with a female Red-footed Falcon. We walked some more in the direction of where the bird flew in an attempt to find a potential nest or its mate, but gave up after another half hour.

Full of adrenaline, we left the area, onward to the next birding spot: a lake that hosts a colony of **Pallas's Gulls**. Along the way there, we saw **Northern Pintails**, **Eurasian Wigeons** and **Pied Avocets**, among other birds. At the lake, hundreds of **Pallas's Gull** and **Steppe Gulls** were present with their chicks, as well as good numbers of **Greater Flamingos**. A small flock of distant **Ruffs** and some **Eurasian Curlews** were nice additions.

After a lunch break back at our guest house, we adventured further onto the vast steppes. On and around the lakes in Korgalzhyn Nature Reserve we found stunning **Red-necked** and **Eared Grebes** swimming around in pairs. A **Common Goldeneye** flew over the road, and when we approached some reedbeds, hoping to find Bearded Reedlings, we were suddenly surprised by a pair of **Demoiselle Cranes** dancing by the lakeshore. We were mesmerized by what we saw, and although the birds seemed to have noticed our presence, they kept gracefully interacting with each other for another couple of minutes – absolutely amazing!



*Seeing hundreds of these majestic Pallas's Gulls around their breeding colony was an impressive sight!*

*Photo by Erik Jansen.*



*The beauty and gracefulness of Demoiselle Cranes is beyond words.*

*Photo by Erik Jansen.*

In the reeds, we did not manage to find any Bearded Reedlings, but we got something better: a beautiful male **White-headed Duck** came swimming by not too far away! After missing this species earlier on the trip, this was a very welcome surprise. As the weather was slowly starting to turn abysmal, with strong winds picking up and dark gray clouds approaching, we called it a (wonderful) day and returned to our guesthouse.

## June 29 | Return to Astana

The last day of the tour we initially spent around our guesthouse, looking for reed birds. Our primary target showed up almost immediately: **Bearded Reedling**! This monotypic species is incredibly cute and beautiful, but can be quite tricky to see well, as they typically disappear low into the reeds. One can often catch a glimpse of them by listening for their typical high-pitched calls, as they fly low over the reeds before landing and disappearing again. The first pair we found today, however, showed incredibly well out in the open – lucky us!

A **Moustached Warbler** kept singing, but was incredibly difficult to see well, with only one of us getting an acceptable short view. **Reed Buntings** were flying around and singing, and **Paddyfield Warblers** were skulking through the low reeds. **Great Reed Warblers** could be seen singing from tops of tall reeds, and we were lucky to see no less than three **Little Bitterns** flying over the reedbeds. A pair of **Pallid Merlins** topped off a highly productive start of the day.



*We saw tens of Bearded Reedlings fly over the reeds, but not many were so perfectly visible as this male.*

*Photo by Erik Jansen.*

The remainder of our morning we primarily spent looking for the unique **Saiga Antelope**, which roams the Central Asian steppes. After driving around for a bit, a small group of critically endangered **Sociable Lapwings** flew by. Not much later, we saw our first **Saiga Antelopes** running over the grasslands. We ended up seeing several groups of these amazing mammals throughout the morning, sometimes pretty close.

Furthermore, at one of the lakes, we found a beautiful pair of **Horned Grebes** among several pairs of **Red-necked Grebes**. As dark clouds started appearing, we decided to start driving back to our accommodation for a final lunch before driving back to Astana. Before long, it started raining torrentially, and we were relieved to make it back to the “main road” through the area, although it had become extremely muddy. We managed to slide our way back, had a delicious lunch and packed up one last time.

Driving back to Astana, the weather cleared up, and we stopped one last time to bird. We found one last additional species for the tour: a calling juvenile **Eurasian Penduline Tit** drew our attention, and a little later an entire family of this beautiful species emerged from the willows, giving us good views. A wonderful end to an amazing bird tour, which we celebrated with a final dinner in Astana.



*A female Pallid Merlin perched on top of a dead tree.*

*Photo by Erik Jansen.*

## Ending note

I would like to sincerely thank Simon and Rahat for joining me on this fantastic journey across the wild heart of Central Asia. I hope to see you again soon on another Rubythroat tour!

***Our 2026 departure is confirmed, running from 24 May in Almaty to 6 June in Astana, Kazakhstan. For full details, please visit our website or reach out directly to Machiel Valkenburg at [ceo@rubythroat.team](mailto:ceo@rubythroat.team). We look forward to welcoming you on this unforgettable journey through the heart of Central Asia.***

***<https://rubythroatbirdingtours.com/birding-kazakhstan/>***



*A female Red-mantled Rosefinch foraging in the lush undergrowth in the Kyrgyz mountains.*

*Photo by Erik Jansen.*

# Bird list

The list includes everything that was seen by at least one of the group, including the guides. Taxonomy follows: Clements, J. F., P. C. Rasmussen, T. S. Schulenberg, M. J. Iliff, T. A. Fredericks, J. A. Gerbracht, D. Lepage, A. Spencer, S. M. Billerman, B. L. Sullivan, M. Smith, and C. L. Wood. 2024. The eBird/Clements checklist of Birds of the World: v2024. Downloaded from [CornellLab](https://www.cornell.edu/labs/cornelllab).

## COMMON NAME

### Ducks, Geese & Waterfowl

Mute Swan  
Whooper Swan  
Ruddy Shelduck  
Common Shelduck  
Garganey  
Northern Shoveler  
Gadwall  
Eurasian Wigeon  
Mallard  
Northern Pintail  
Green-winged Teal (Eurasian)  
Marbled Teal  
Red-crested Pochard  
Common Pochard  
Ferruginous Duck  
Tufted Duck  
Common Goldeneye  
White-headed Duck

## SCIENTIFIC NAME

### Anatidae

*Cygnus olor*  
*Cygnus cygnus*  
*Tadorna ferruginea*  
*Tadorna tadorna*  
*Spatula querquedula*  
*Spatula clypeata*  
*Mareca strepera*  
*Mareca penelope*  
*Anas platyrhynchos*  
*Anas acuta*  
*Anas crecca*  
*Marmaronetta angustirostris*  
*Netta rufina*  
*Aythya ferina*  
*Aythya nyroca*  
*Aythya fuligula*  
*Bucephala clangula*  
*Oxyura leucocephala*

### Pheasants, Grouse & Allies

Ring-necked Pheasant

### Phasianidae

*Phasianus colchicus*



Mistle Thrush by Erik Jansen.

Himalayan Snowcock  
Common Quail  
Chukar

*Tetraogallus himalayensis*  
*Coturnix coturnix*  
*Alectoris chukar*

Heard

### Flamingos

Greater Flamingo

### Phoenicopteridae

*Phoenicopus roseus*

### Grebes

Little Grebe  
Horned Grebe  
Red-necked Grebe  
Great Crested Grebe  
Eared (Black-necked) Grebe

### Podicipedidae

*Tachybaptus ruficollis*  
*Podiceps auritus*  
*Podiceps grisegena*  
*Podiceps cristatus*  
*Podiceps nigricollis*

### Pigeons & Doves

Rock Pigeon (I)  
Hill Pigeon  
Stock Dove  
Yellow-eyed Pigeon  
Common Wood-Pigeon  
Oriental Turtle-Dove  
Eurasian Collared-Dove  
Laughing Dove

### Columbidae

*Columba livia*  
*Columba rupestris*  
*Columba oenas*  
*Columba eversmanni*  
*Columba palumbus*  
*Streptopelia orientalis*  
*Streptopelia decaocto*  
*Streptopelia senegalensis*

### Sandgrouse

Pallas's Sandgrouse  
Black-bellied Sandgrouse

### Pteroclididae

*Syrrhaptes paradoxus*  
*Pterocles orientalis*

### Cuckoos

Common (Eurasian) Cuckoo

### Cuculidae

*Cuculus canorus*



Western Yellow Wagtail by Erik Jansen.

**Swifts**

Alpine Swift  
Common Swift

**Rails, Gallinules & Coots**

Eurasian Moorhen  
Eurasian Coot

**Cranes**

Demoiselle Crane  
Common Crane

**Stilts & Avocets**

Black-winged Stilt  
Pied Avocet

**Ibisbill**

Ibisbill

**Oystercatchers**

Eurasian Oystercatcher

**Plovers & Lapwings**

Black-bellied (Gray) Plover  
Northern Lapwing  
Sociable Lapwing  
White-tailed Lapwing  
Caspian Plover  
Kentish Plover  
Little Ringed Plover

**Apodidae**

*Apus melba*  
*Apus apus*

**Rallidae**

*Gallinula chloropus*  
*Fulica atra*

**Gruidae**

*Anthropoides virgo*  
*Grus grus*

**Recurvirostridae**

*Himantopus himantopus*  
*Recurvirostra avosetta*

**Ibidorhynchidae**

*Ibidorhyncha struthersii*

**Haematopodidae**

*Haematopus ostralegus*

**Charadriidae**

*Pluvialis squatarola*  
*Vanellus vanellus*  
*Vanellus gregarius*  
*Vanellus leucurus*  
*Charadrius asiaticus*  
*Charadrius alexandrinus*  
*Charadrius dubius*



Bluethroat by Erik Jansen.

## **Sandpipers & Allies**

Eurasian Curlew  
Black-tailed Godwit  
Ruff  
Common Sandpiper  
Green Sandpiper  
Spotted Redshank  
Marsh Sandpiper  
Common Redshank

## **Pratincoles & Coursers**

Collared Pratincole  
Black-winged Pratincole

## **Gulls, Terns & Skimmers**

Slender-billed Gull  
Black-headed Gull  
Pallas's (Great Black-headed) Gull  
Common Gull  
Caspian Gull  
Lesser Black-backed Gull  
(Steppe Gull)  
Little Tern  
Gull-billed Tern  
Caspian Tern  
Black Tern  
White-winged Tern  
Common Tern

## **Storks**

Black Stork

## **Scolopacidae**

*Numenius arquata*  
*Limosa limosa*  
*Calidris pugnax*  
*Actitis hypoleucos*  
*Tringa ochropus*  
*Tringa erythropus*  
*Tringa stagnatilis*  
*Tringa totanus*

## **Glareolidae**

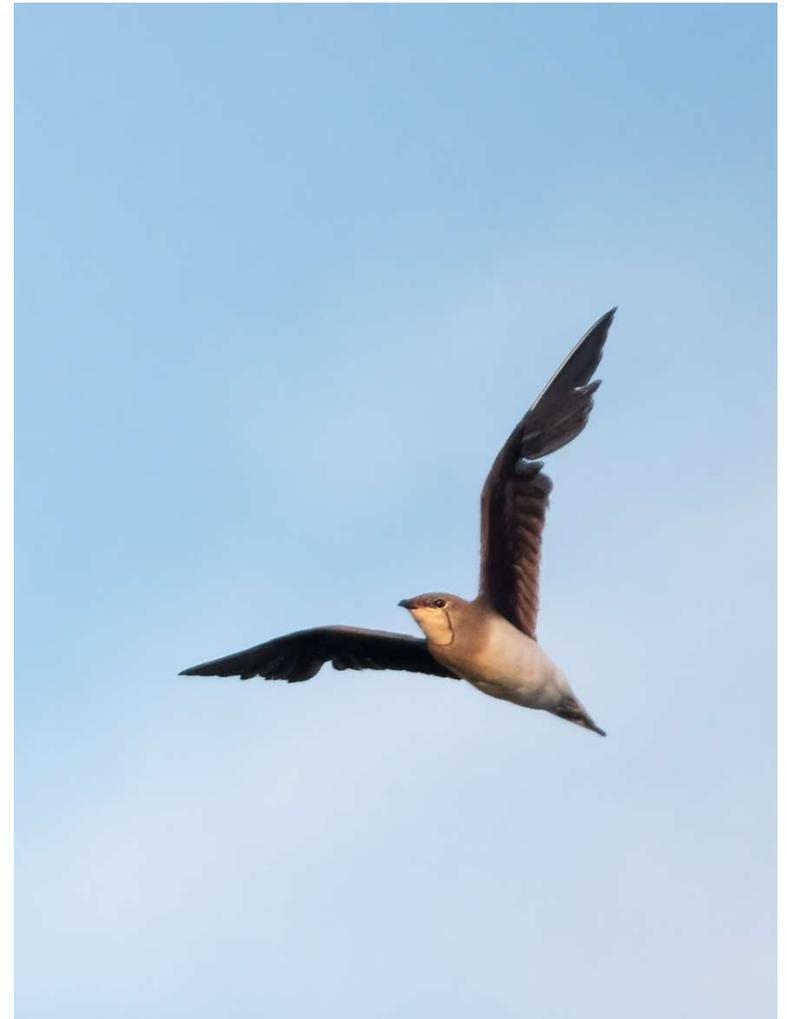
*Glareola pratincola*  
*Glareola nordmanni*

## **Laridae**

*Chroicocephalus genei*  
*Chroicocephalus ridibundus*  
*Ichthyaetus ichthyaetus*  
*Larus canus*  
*Larus cachinnans*  
*Larus fuscus*  
*L. fuscus barabensis*  
*Sternula albifrons*  
*Gelochelidon nilotica*  
*Hydroprogne caspia*  
*Chlidonias niger*  
*Chlidonias leucopterus*  
*Sterna hirundo*

## **Ciconiidae**

*Ciconia nigra*



*Black-winged Pratincole by Erik Jansen.*

White Stork

**Cormorants & Shags**

Pygmy Cormorant

Great Cormorant

**Pelicans**

Great White Pelican

Dalmatian Pelican

**Hérons, Egrets & Bitterns**

Little Bittern

Gray Heron

Purple Heron

Great Egret

Black-crowned Night-Heron

**Ibises & Spoonbills**

Glossy Ibis

**Hawks, Eagles & Kites**

Bearded Vulture (Lammergeier)

Egyptian Vulture

Cinereous (Black) Vulture

Himalayan Griffon

Short-toed Snake-Eagle

Booted Eagle

Steppe Eagle

Golden Eagle

Eurasian Marsh-Harrier

Hen Harrier

*Ciconia ciconia*

**Phalacrocoracidae**

*Microcarbo pygmaeus*

*Phalacrocorax carbo*

**Pelecanidae**

*Pelecanus onocrotalus*

*Pelecanus crispus*

**Ardeidae**

*Ixobrychus minutus*

*Ardea cinerea*

*Ardea purpurea*

*Ardea alba*

*Nycticorax nycticorax*

**Threskiornithidae**

*Plegadis falcinellus*

**Accipitridae**

*Gypaetus barbatus*

*Neophron percnopterus*

*Aegypius monachus*

*Gyps himalayensis*

*Circaetus gallicus*

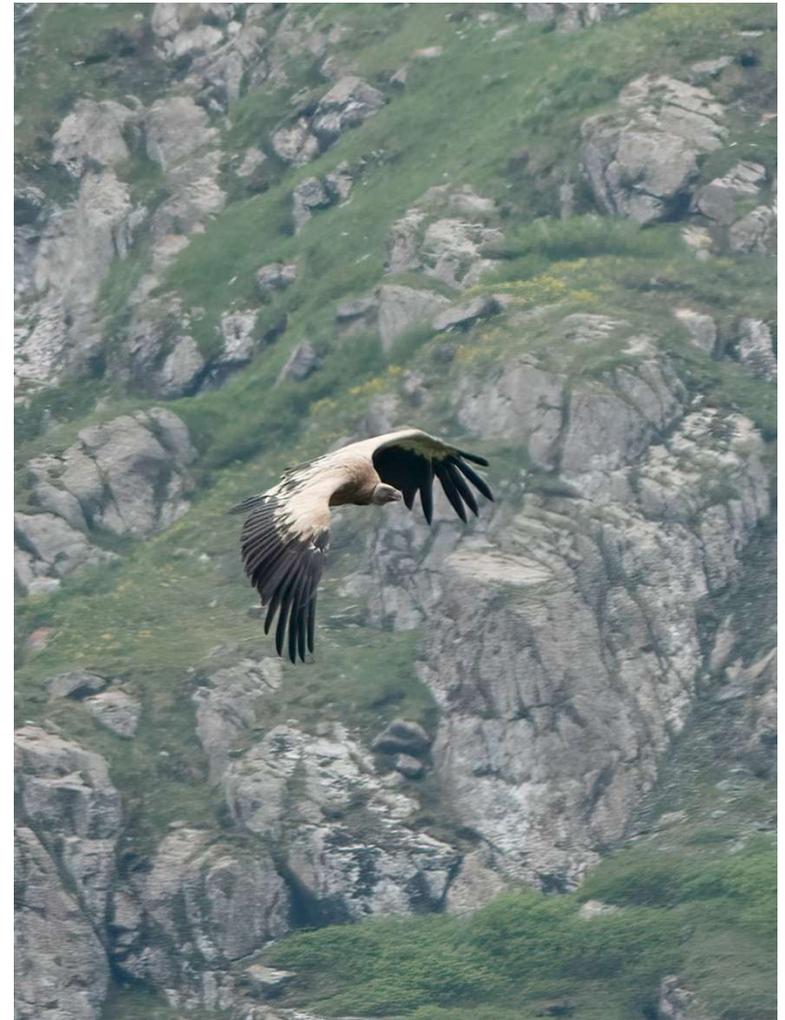
*Hieraaetus pennatus*

*Aquila nipalensis*

*Aquila chrysaetos*

*Circus aeruginosus*

*Circus cyaneus*



*Himalayan Griffon by Erik Jansen.*

Pallid Harrier  
Montagu's Harrier  
Shikra  
Eurasian Sparrowhawk  
Northern Goshawk  
Black Kite  
Common Buzzard  
Long-legged Buzzard

### **Owls**

Little Owl  
Short-eared Owl

### **Hoopoes**

Eurasian Hoopoe

### **Bee-eaters**

Blue-cheeked Bee-eater  
European Bee-eater

### **Rollers**

European Roller

### **Woodpeckers**

Eurasian Three-toed Woodpecker  
White-winged Woodpecker

### **Falcons & Caracaras**

Lesser Kestrel  
Eurasian Kestrel  
Red-footed Falcon

*Circus macrourus*  
*Circus pygargus*  
*Accipiter badius*  
*Accipiter nisus*  
*Accipiter gentilis*  
*Milvus migrans*  
*Buteo buteo*  
*Buteo rufinus*

### **Strigidae**

*Athene noctua*  
*Asio flammeus*

### **Upupidae**

*Upupa epops*

### **Meropidae**

*Merops persicus*  
*Merops apiaster*

### **Coraciidae**

*Coracias garrulus*

### **Picidae**

*Picoides tridactylus*  
*Dendrocopos leucopterus*

### **Falconidae**

*Falco naumanni*  
*Falco tinnunculus*  
*Falco vespertinus*



*Eurasian Goshawk by Erik Jansen.*

Amur Falcon  
Merlin  
Eurasian Hobby

**Old World Orioles**  
Indian Golden Oriole

**Monarch Flycatchers**  
Indian Paradise-Flycatcher

**Shrikes**  
Red-tailed Shrike  
Great (Steppe) Gray Shrike  
Lesser Gray Shrike

**Crows, Jays & Magpies**  
Eurasian Magpie  
Turkestan Ground-Jay  
Eurasian (Spotted) Nutcracker  
Red-billed Chough  
Yellow-billed (Alpine) Chough  
Eurasian Jackdaw  
Rook  
Carrion Crow  
Hooded Crow  
Brown-necked Raven  
Common Raven

**Tits, Chickadees & Titmice**  
Coal Tit  
Rufous-naped Tit

*Falco amurensis*  
*Falco columbarius*  
*Falco subbuteo*

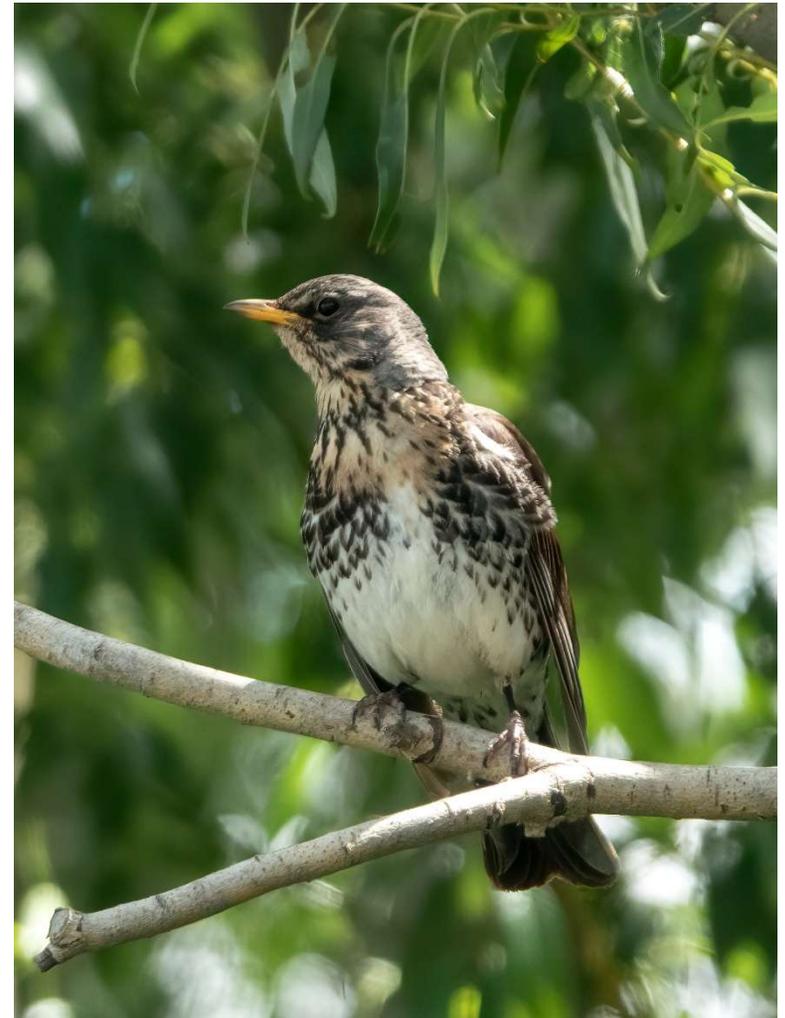
**Oriolidae**  
*Oriolus kundoo*

**Monarchidae**  
*Terpsiphone paradisi*

**Laniidae**  
*Lanius phoenicuroides*  
*Lanius excubitor pallidirostris*  
*Lanius minor*

**Corvidae**  
*Pica pica*  
*Podoces panderi*  
*Nucifraga caryocatactes*  
*Pyrrhonorax pyrrhonorax*  
*Pyrrhonorax graculus*  
*Corvus monedula*  
*Corvus frugilegus*  
*Corvus corone*  
*Corvus cornix*  
*Corvus ruficollis*  
*Corvus corax*

**Paridae**  
*Periparus ater*  
*Periparus rufonuchalis*



Fieldfare by Erik Jansen.

Willow (Songar) Tit  
Azure Tit  
(Yellow-breasted Tit)  
Great Tit  
(Turkestan Tit)

### **Penduline-Tits**

Eurasian Penduline-Tit  
White-crowned Penduline-Tit

### **Larks**

Horned (Shore) Lark  
Greater Short-toed Lark  
Hume's Lark  
Bimaculated Lark  
Calandra Lark  
Black Lark  
Turkestan Short-toed Lark  
White-winged Lark  
Eurasian Skylark  
Crested Lark

### **Bearded Reedling**

Bearded Reedling (Tit)

### **Reed Warblers & Allies**

Booted Warbler  
Sykes's Warbler  
Eastern Olivaceous Warbler  
Sedge Warbler  
Paddyfield Warbler

*Poecile montanus songarus*  
*Cyanistes cyanus*  
*C. cyanus carruthersi*  
*Parus major*  
*P. major bokharensis*

### **Remizidae**

*Remiz pendulinus*  
*Remiz coronatus*

### **Alaudidae**

*Eremophila alpestris*  
*Calandrella brachydactyla*  
*Calandrella acutirostris*  
*Melanocorypha bimaculata*  
*Melanocorypha calandra*  
*Melanocorypha yeltoniensis*  
*Alaudala heinei*  
*Alauda leucoptera*  
*Alauda arvensis*  
*Galerida cristata*

### **Panuridae**

*Panurus biarmicus*

### **Acrocephalidae**

*Iduna caligata*  
*Iduna rama*  
*Iduna pallida*  
*Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*      *Heard*  
*Acrocephalus agricola*



*Paddyfield Warbler by Erik Jansen.*

Eurasian Reed Warbler  
Great Reed Warbler  
Clamorous Reed Warbler

*Acrocephalus scirpaceus*      *Heard*  
*Acrocephalus arundinaceus*  
*Acrocephalus stentoreus*

### Grassbirds & Allies

Pallas's Grasshopper Warbler  
Savi's Warbler  
Common Grasshopper Warbler

**Locustellidae**  
*Helopsaltes certhiola*  
*Locustella luscinioides*      *Heard*  
*Locustella naevia*

### Martins & Swallows

Bank Swallow (Sand Martin)  
Pale Sand Martin  
Eurasian Crag-Martin  
Barn Swallow  
Red-rumped Swallow  
Common House-Martin

**Hirundinidae**  
*Riparia riparia*  
*Riparia diluta*  
*Ptyonoprogne rupestris*  
*Hirundo rustica*  
*Cecropis daurica*  
*Delichon urbicum*

### Leaf Warblers

Hume's Warbler  
Sulphur-bellied Warbler  
Greenish Warbler

**Phylloscopidae**  
*Phylloscopus humei*  
*Phylloscopus griseolus*  
*Phylloscopus trochiloides*

### Bush Warblers & Allies

(Streaked) Scrub Warbler  
Cetti's Warbler

**Scotocercidae**  
*Scotocerca inquieta*  
*Cettia cetti*      *Heard*

### Long-tailed Tits

White-browed Tit-Warbler

**Aegithalidae**  
*Leptopoecile sophiae*

### Sylviid Warblers, Parrotbills & Allies

Lesser (Hume's) Whitethroat

**Sylviidae**  
*Curruca curruca althaea*



*Pallas's Grasshopper Warbler* by Erik Jansen.

Eastern Orphean Warbler  
Menetries's Warbler  
Greater Whitethroat

### **Kinglets**

Goldcrest

### **Nuthatches**

Eastern Rock Nuthatch

### **Dippers**

White-throated Dipper

### **Starlings**

European Starling  
Rosy Starling  
Common Myna

### **Thrushes & Allies**

Mistle Thrush  
Eurasian Blackbird  
Fieldfare

### **Old World Flycatchers**

Spotted Flycatcher  
Rufous-tailed Scrub-Robin  
White-throated Robin  
Common Nightingale  
Bluethroat  
Blue Whistling-Thrush  
Himalayan Rubythroat

*Curruca crassirostris*  
*Curruca mystacea*  
*Curruca communis*

### **Regulidae**

*Regulus regulus*

### **Sittidae**

*Sitta tephronota*

### **Cinclidae**

*Cinclus cinclus*

### **Sturnidae**

*Sturnus vulgaris*  
*Pastor roseus*  
*Acridotheres tristis*

### **Turdidae**

*Turdus viscivorus*  
*Turdus merula*  
*Turdus pilaris*

### **Muscicapidae**

*Muscicapa striata*  
*Cercotrichas galactotes*  
*Irania gutturalis*  
*Luscinia megarhynchos*  
*Luscinia svecica*  
*Myophonus caeruleus*  
*Calliope pectoralis*



*White-browed Tit-Warbler by Erik Jansen.*

Rufous-backed (Eversmann's) Redstart *Phoenicurus erythronotus*  
 Blue-capped Redstart *Phoenicurus coeruleocephala*  
 White-winged (Güldenstädt's) Redstart *Phoenicurus erythrogastrus*  
 Black Redstart *Phoenicurus ochruros*  
 Rufous-tailed Rock-Thrush *Monticola saxatilis*  
 Blue Rock-Thrush *Monticola solitarius*  
 Siberian Stonechat *Saxicola maura*  
 Pied Bushchat *Saxicola caprata*  
 Northern Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe*  
 Isabelline Wheatear *Oenanthe isabellina*  
 Pied Wheatear *Oenanthe pleschanka*

### Accentors

Altai Accentor  
 Brown Accentor  
 Black-throated Accentor

### Old World Sparrows

Saxaul Sparrow  
 House Sparrow  
 (Indian Sparrow)  
 Spanish Sparrow  
 Eurasian Tree Sparrow  
 Rock Sparrow

### Wagtails & Pipits

Gray Wagtail  
 Western Yellow Wagtail  
 Citrine Wagtail  
 White Wagtail (Masked)  
 Richard's Pipit

### Prunellidae

*Prunella himalayana*  
*Prunella fulvescens*  
*Prunella atrogularis*

### Passeridae

*Passer ammodendri*  
*Passer domesticus*  
*P. domesticus bactrianus*  
*Passer hispaniolensis*  
*Passer montanus*  
*Petronia petronia*

### Motacillidae

*Motacilla cinerea*  
*Motacilla flava*  
*Motacilla citreola*  
*Motacilla alba personata*  
*Anthus richardi*



White-winged Redstart by Erik Jansen.

Tawny Pipit  
Tree Pipit  
Water Pipit

**Finches, Euphonias & Allies**

White-winged Grosbeak  
Common Rosefinch  
Great (Spotted) Rosefinch  
Red-mantled Rosefinch  
Blyth's Rosefinch  
Mongolian Finch  
Plain Mountain Finch  
Black-headed Mountain Finch  
Desert Finch  
European Greenfinch  
Eurasian Linnet  
Red Crossbill  
European (Gray-crowned) Goldfinch  
Fire-fronted Serin

**Old World Buntings**

Red-headed Bunting  
Corn Bunting  
Rock Bunting  
White-capped Bunting  
Pine Bunting  
Gray-necked Bunting  
Reed Bunting

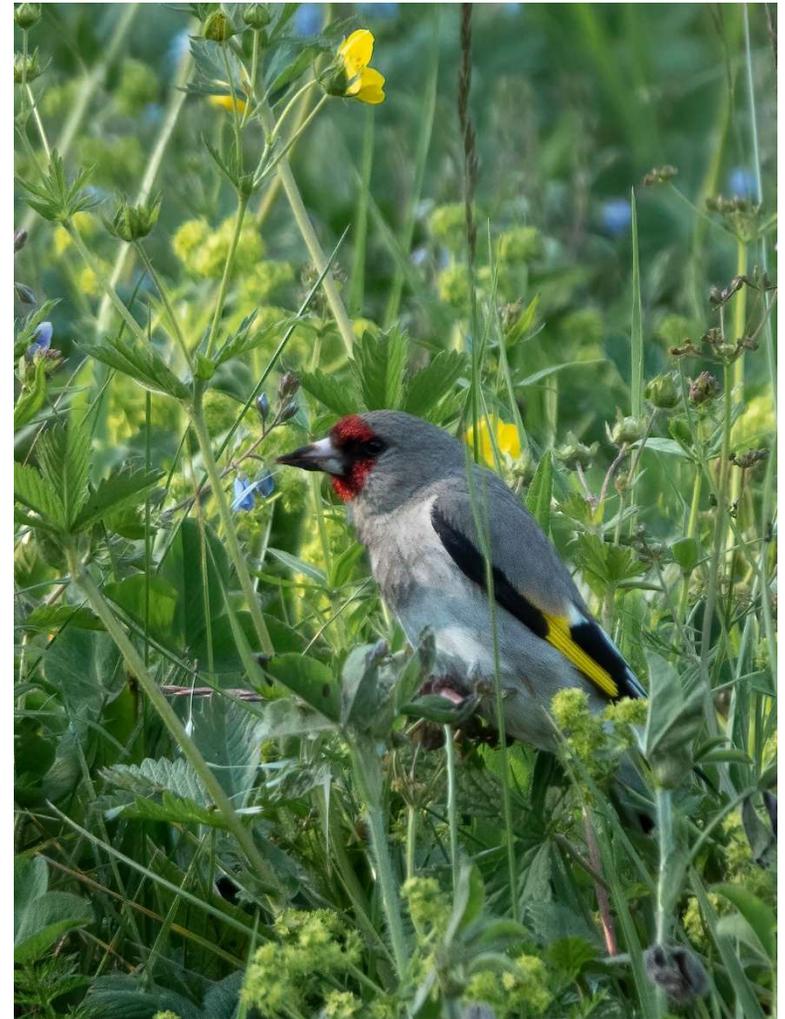
*Anthus campestris*  
*Anthus trivialis*  
*Anthus spinoletta*

**Fringillidae**

*Mycerobas carnipes*  
*Carpodacus erythrinus*  
*Carpodacus rubicilla severtzovi*  
*Carpodacus rhodochlamys*  
*Carpodacus grandis*  
*Bucanetes mongolicus*  
*Leucosticte nemoricola*  
*Leucosticte brandti*  
*Rhodospiza obsoleta*  
*Chloris chloris*  
*Linaria cannabina*  
*Loxia curvirostra*  
*Carduelis carduelis paropanisi*  
*Serinus pusillus*

**Emberizidae**

*Emberiza bruniceps*  
*Emberiza calandra*  
*Emberiza cia*  
*Emberiza stewarti*  
*Emberiza leucocephalos*  
*Emberiza buchanani*  
*Emberiza schoeniclus*



*Gray-crowned Goldfinch by Erik Jansen.*

## Other wildlife

### Dogs

Corsac Fox

### Cattle, Sheep & Antelopes

Goitered Gazelle

### Squirrels

Gray Marmot

Bobak Marmot

Eurasian Red Squirrel

Yellow Ground Squirrel

Muskrat ( I )

### Gerbils

Syrian Jird

Great Gerbil

### Jerboas

Five-toed Pygmy Jerboa

### Rabbits & Hares

Tolai Hare

### Agamas

Steppe Agama

### Wall & Sand Lizards

Rapid Racerunner

### Canidae

*Vulpes corsac*

### Bovidae

*Gazella subgutturosa*

### Sciuridae

*Marmota baibacina*

*Marmota bobak*

*Sciurus vulgaris*

*Spermophilus fulvus*

*Ondatra zibethicus*

### Gerbillidae

*Meriones libycus*

*Rhombomys opimus*

### Dipodidae

*Cardiocranius paradoxus*

### Leporidae

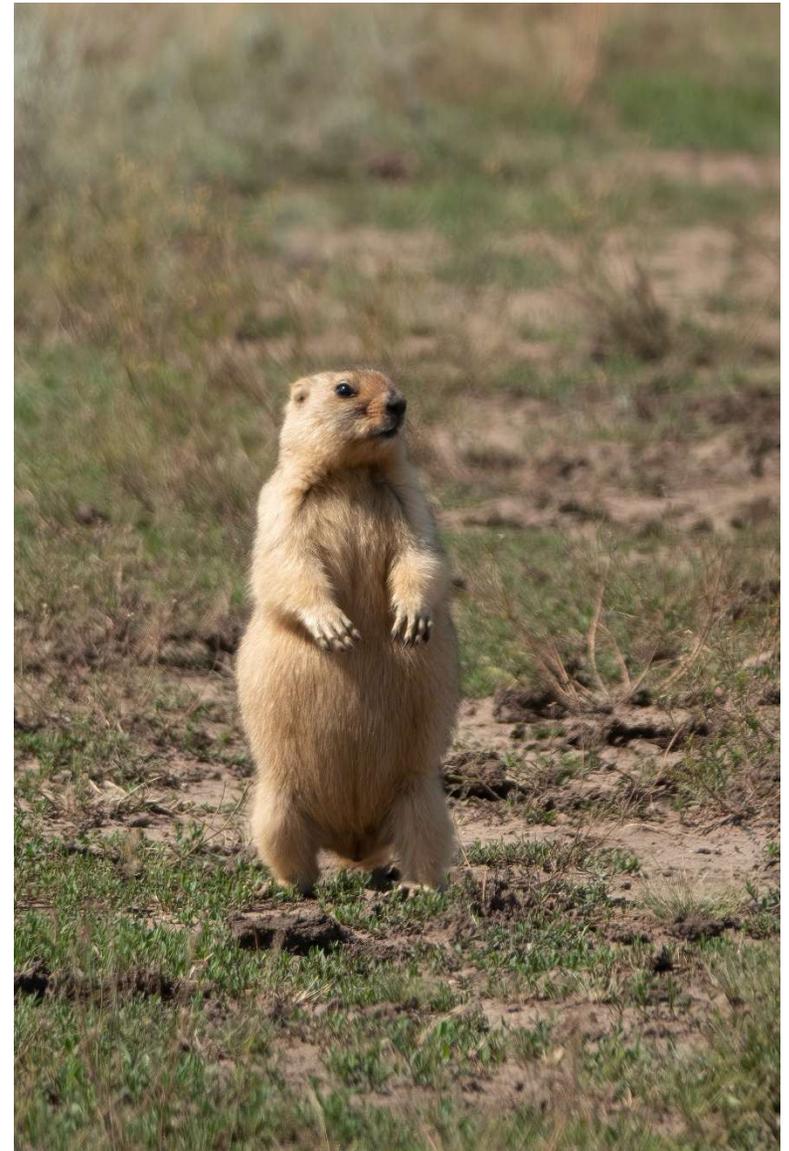
*Lepus tolai*

### Agamidae

*Agama sanguinolenta*

### Lacertidae

*Eremias velox*



Bobak Marmot by Erik Jansen.

**Geckos**

Common Wonder Gecko

**Captive/Re-introduced**

Przewalski's Horse

Bactrian Camel

Dromedary Camel

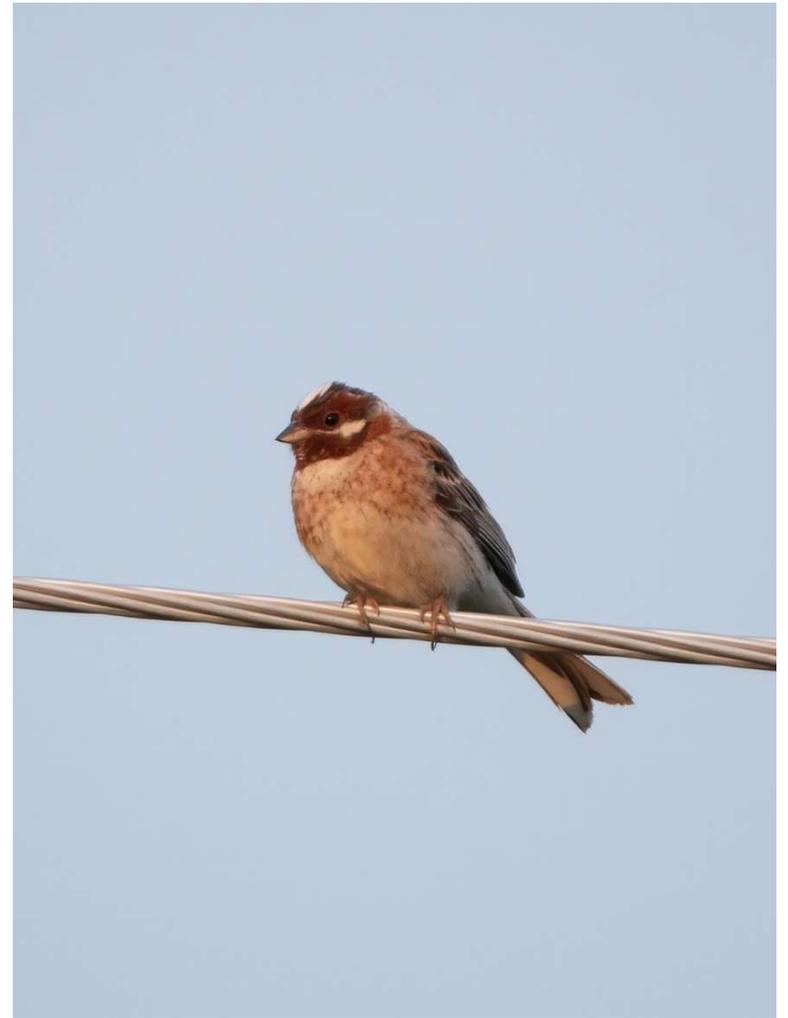
**Gekkonidae**

*Teratoscincus scincus*

*Equus caballus*

*Camelus bactrianus*

*Camelus dromedarius*



*Pine Bunting by Erik Jansen.*