**Estonia** April - May 2015

# <u>Preface.</u>

I've long wanted to visit the Baltic States, but something else has always come up to delay my plans. However, finding myself with time to make my wish come true in the spring of 2015, I jumped at the chance to finally go there. My initial thoughts were to include both Estonia and Latvia, since travel distances are manageable and they both seem like very interesting countries for bird and mammal watching as well as tourism in general. However, when I started planing it soon became clear that I wouldn't really be able to do them both justice with the relatively little time I had available. Actually I wouldn't even have time to see most of just one of them without to much rush for my taste, so I decided to concentrate my efforts on the western part of Estonia, since my visit was going to coincide with the famous arctic migration along the coast.

I never once regretted my decision to go there, since it is a near perfect travel destination in many ways. Many of the East European species, western birders yearn to see, are fairly common here, and surely it must be one of the best places in Europe to see large mammals such as Elk, Beaver and Lynx, as well as many smaller ones like Siberian Flying Squirrel which is much easier to see in the northeastern part of the country, though. Even if the country is quite easy to travel in, you get the feeling of truly being in the wilderness in many places, and I can highly recommend a vacation there.

### Timing and weather.

When I began planning the trip it soon became apparent that there are no such thing as "the best time to go" on a spring visit to Estonia. Any time between March and June is good in general, but can be poor for certain species. For instance March is probably the best time for Steller's Eiders, owls and woodpeckers, while mid May to early June is naturally best for late arriving species like Common Rosefinch, Red-breasted Flycatcher, Blyth's Reed Warbler and for seeing orchids as well. I finally decided to go in late April and early May, since I reckoned it would provide me with an opportunity to see a mix of early and late species, which it certainly did. It should also give me a chance of catching some of the impressive migration along the coast, which it unfortunately didn't. I was lucky to arrive just before the leaves started to appear on the trees, thus making owl and woodpecker spotting a bit easier, which definitely helped me. On the last days of my holiday the trees really started coming into leaf, which is always nice to see. As expected this time of year, the weather was a bit of a mixed bag, but generally pretty nice. It was awful when the plane touched down in Tallinn, though, but gradually became better while driving south towards Pärnu. From then on, I

only experienced showers on a few days, and clear skies alternated with periods of more cloudy weather. It was mostly quite calm during my stay, but there were a couple of windy days as well. Maximum daytime temperatures were typically around 15-17°C, and between 0 and 5°C at night, give and take a few degrees. All in all I felt pretty lucky with the weather, and was never really hampered by it, which was great.

#### Travel arrangements.

Estonia really is a very easy and lovely travel destination. Tallinn is well connected with flights to many European countries, roads - tarmaced as well as gravel - are generally good, rental cars and accommodation are easy to find and book online, and it's no problem finding places to shop, eat and fuel the car.

I booked my accommodation on Booking.com and Hotels.com, and stayed at three different hotels. I paid 213 Euros for 5 nights including breakfast in Hotel Emmi in Pärnu. It was quite adequate, with the all important (when partly self catering) refrigerator, and was conveniently situated near a supermarket and one of the main roads going out of town.

Just outside Haapsalu I stayed 3 nights at the more luxurious Fra Mare Thalasso Spa paying 180 Euros including breakfast. It is nicely situated on the coast west of town and approximately midway between the migration point of Põõsaspea and the fantastic Matsalu NP. My last night was spent in Hotel Ülemiste just next to the airport in the outskirts of Tallinn. I paid 65 Euros for a single night in a very nice room there, and the walk to the airport terminal from my room was just a few hundred metres. From the hotel there's a 3,5 kilometre walk (or drive) to the old town of Tallinn, which I did on my final afternoon, and it was definitely worth it.

Estonian Air, which sadly doesn't exist anymore, took me non stop from Copenhagen to Tallinn, and I paid 190 Euros

for the return ticket. My rental car was booked through Rentalcars.com and cost me 240 Euros for a Ford Focus Estate which did the job very well. All in all this amounted to 888 Euros which isn't to bad. Of course, the cost could have been reduced considerably by picking cheaper hotels or by travelling more people together. There certainly are benefits of travelling alone, but of course it's not very cost effective.

### Resources.

As usual the two excellent web sites <u>www.cloudbirders.com</u> and <u>www.mammalwatching.com</u> were good sources when looking for trip reports, and there are plenty covering Estonia to be found, though of varying quality. There are also a decent selection of books for identifying birds, mammals and other wildlife in Estonia, and finally there's Dave Gosneys site guide "Finding Birds in Estonia". I wouldn't exactly call it a book, though it claims to be on the front cover, but rather a glorified trip report based on, as far as I can tell, just two holidays. The descriptions and drawn maps are pretty good and helpful, though, and it covers a number of the country's most famous birding destinations. However, it also omits some really good ones like Soomaa NP, which really is a shame, I think.



### Places visited.

<u>Nigula Bog and "Magic Corner":</u> The bog at Nigula was one of the places I very much looked forward to visit. I went there on a beautiful morning and it started really well with Lesser Spotted and White-backed Woodpeckers at the small car park and Montagu's Harrier and Black Grouses on the bog. Unfortunately the boardwalk across the bog was in a miserable condition and became impassable after less than a kilometer. Reluctantly I had to turn back, and since the day was still young, I decided to go to Dave Gosney's "Magic Corner" north of the bog instead, and certainly didn't regret it. Black Woodpecker was breeding in a clearing, Black Stork and Osprey were passing over and there were fresh signs of Wild Boar activity, but even if I enjoyed my stay here, I'm not really convinced that the forest here is much better than other similar places. It did, however, produce one of the undisputed highlights of the trip, since I

had exceptionally good and prolonged views of Ural Owl along one of the roads in the middle of the day. Nigula Bog is absolutely worth a visit when the boardwalk gets fixed, and the parking lot on the eastern side of the bog is easily found along road 337 going south from the village Tali, where I heard Grey-headed Woodpecker at the junction. "Magic Corner" is reached by going south on road 334 from the junction with road 330. A good 3 kilometers

down the road, turn left and follow the road going east for 1.7 kilometers. "Magic Corner" is the square (approximately 2x2 kilometers) of forest stretching east from here and is easy to explore from the forest roads.



Roe Deer – Matsalu NP.

<u>Luitemaa NR</u>: From the main road (E67) I drove 7 kilometers south on road 333 from Uulu, and took a walk from here in the forest north of the bog. The forest here is obviously used commercially, but still quite good for bird watching. Several Hazel Grouses were found along the road just north of the bog, where they were feeding on fresh buds of the bushes along the road, before flying in to the coniferous forest. Different species of woodpecker were also seen here as well as Willow Tit, Parrot Crossbill, Northern Goshawk and a female Capercaillie. A Pine Marten was seen briefly crossing a path while several Elks favoured the area of grass and bushes on the other side of the road. All in all a pretty nice place, though probably no better than the forest further south and east.

<u>Soomaa NP</u>: I absolutely loved this place and wonder why it isn't included in the Gosney booklet. With it's many trails and observation towers, it makes an ideal day excursion from Pärnu for those in search of an easily accessible "wilderness experience". Even though I went there several times, there are still places I didn't have time to see, and I'd love to come back some other time. From my hotel in Pärnu there was a 40 minute drive via road 59 to the park headquarters at Tõramaa, which sits at the junction between the two roads traversing the park from north to south (road 151) and from east to west (road 128).

Mammals are well represented in the park and in addition to common species like Roe Deer, Red Fox and Eurasian Red Squirrel, I had a fantastic Pine Marten encounter here. Eurasian Beaver was also seen extremely well in the stream along the trail by the HQ. Unfortunately, but not surprisingly, I didn't see Lynx here, though there's a healthy population of this sought after species in the park. Especially the area around Öördi should be good, but since the area isn't easily accessible, the best chance of seeing the elusive cat might be to watch the meadows from the tower at Tipu, or by driving road 151 between the tower and the village of Kõpu.

As you'd expect, the area is also very good from a birders perspective, with species like Hazel Grouse, Black Stork, Common Crane, Lesser Spotted Eagle, Golden Eagle, Spotted Nutcracker, Great Grey Shrike and lots of woodpeckers. I had a truly memorable experience with the later by the car park at Ingatsi, where I saw all 4 pied species (Whitebacked & Lesser, Middle and Greater Spotted) at the same time late one afternoon. At Ingatsi the tower also offers great views of the northern parts of the park and Lesser Spotted Eagle is often seen from there.

Another nice tower is situated at the end of a small road leading west just south of the park HQ. From here there's a nice view of the meadows along the Halliste River and the surrounding forest edges. I'm sure this could prove a good place for watching mammals as well as birds, but I never got to be there at the best time around dawn or dusk. Hobby was seen on both my visits there and Three-toed Woodpecker was seen and heard extremely well along the road

leading to the tower. The short loop trail at Kuuraniidu along road 128 also looks very good for woodpeckers, and there are several other interesting places to visit in this magnificent park.

<u>Häädemestee - Pikla - Pärnu</u>: This entire stretch of coast is good for birds with lots of swans and geese on the coastal meadows and at sea, where there are also high numbers of ducks and a few grebes and divers. Citrine Wagtail is probably quite common along the coast, but I only found them in good numbers on the meadows in the outskirts of

Pärnu – probably because they were only just beginning to arrive on their breeding grounds. I found the area around the ponds at Pikla to be especially good with different waders and ducks as well as Bittern, Savi's Warbler and the only Hoopoe of the trip – seen by a farm along the road leading to the pools from the main road. Beaver is, of course, also present here, though I didn't actually see the animals myself.

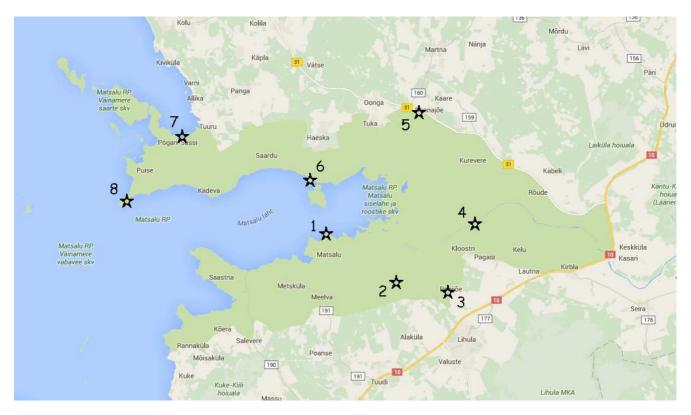
<u>Audru Meadows:</u> A 10 minute drive from downtown Pärnu the Audru Meadows offer some pretty good birdwatching and are an easy place to see Beaver. Signs of the later are easily found along the canals by the road following the coastline west of the pumping station. The animals themselves were seen very well at dusk here also, but of course this is by no means a rare sight in Estonia. Large numbers of geese, White-tailed Eagles and Great White Egret were also present here, and Citrine Wagtail seems to be a fairly common breeder as well. Non were seen on my first trip there, but a few days later several beautiful males had taken up residence along the road, apparently arriving from their winter quarters in the beginning of May. Other notable observations from here was Short-eared Owl, Bittern, Caspian Tern and a Grass Snake.

To reach the meadows from Pärnu simply take road 60 towards Lihula. Shortly after leaving town turn left (south) on a small road signposted "Valgeranna 3", and follow it for 3.2 kilometers to a strangely shaped intersection. Go straight ahead (as straight as possible, anyway) on the gravel road in this junction. This road will lead to the coast and follow it to the small village of Saulepa offering good views across the meadows as well as the sea.

<u>Töhela Järv</u>: I passed this lake by taking a small detour on my drive between Audru Meadows and the southern part of Matsalu NP, and unlike the lake, Ermistu Järv, a bit further south, there were quite a few birds around. I later found out that there's an observation tower in the northeastern "corner" of the lake, but I actually had a pretty good view from the camping site which was apparently still closed for the winter. Both places are situated near road 131 which run along the eastern shore of the lake. Grey-headed Woodpecker and the only Common Moorhen of the trip was seen by the camping area, and lots of geese, Little Gulls and Black Terns were feeding and resting on and above the lake together with a nice, if distant, pair of Slavonian Grebes.

No Mammals were seen here, though they must certainly be around, and the large area of bogs, meadows and forest between here and Audru also looks quite promising for both birds and mammals - I had a very nice couple of Hazel Hens driving through there a few days earlier.

<u>Matsalu NP</u>: This is surely the most famous area for watching wildlife in Western Estonia, and with good reason, I think. Mammals and birds abound on the bay and in the surrounding meadows, reed beds and woods, and there are a fair number of access points offering good views of the area from a variety of observation towers. I visited the following sites at least once, and would have loved to spend more time in this wonderful area in general:



Keemu (1) is situated by a small harbour on the southern shore of the bay, and the tower offers good views of the bay and coastal meadows. Lots of waterbirds and White-tailed Eagles hang around here and a nice Red Fox and some distant Elks were also seen. Some very big flocks of Barnacle Goose were feeding on the meadows along the road leading from the village Meelva to the tower.

The 21 meter high tower at Suitsu (2) is standing in the forest edge, but rises above the canopy giving good views of the reed beds at the inner bay, as well as the meadows along the river Tuudi Jõgi. Sadly I only had time to spend a couple of hours late one afternoon here, but did see many Barnacle and White-fronted Geese passing close by the tower. I feel confident that more time spent here in the evening or early morning would be worth while, especially from a mammal watchers point of view. Suitsu is easily found by taking the small road leading west about halfway down the road between Penijöe and main road 10 - it's signposted "Suitsu vaatetorn 5,5". Boat rides on the river departing from here can apparently be chartered, but I'm not sure how. Maybe help on that matter can be found at the visitor center at...

Penijõe (3) which is located just a couple of kilometers of the main road 10. Unfortunately it was a foggy morning on my visit there, and thus my walk across the meadows (the tower was in a poor condition and closed) didn't yield very much. The small park at Penijöe Manor was another matter, however. Wryneck was very common here and a pair of White-backed Woodpecker also showed really well.

The road going east from Penijöe will take you to the tower at Kloostri (4) which is well signposted. This tower was one of my favourite places in the national park and offered fantastic views of the flood plains along the river Kasari Jõgi. Newly arrived migrants Corncrake and Thrush Nightingale were heard and White-tailed Eagles and Common Cranes were seen well from the tower. While the tower is worth a visit for the birds and views alone, it's even better for mammals, I reckon. Elk, Roe Deer and Beaver are all very common and easy to see and there are potential for even more exciting stuff, I'm sure. If you're going to the northern part of the national park from here, just take the road leading east through the village of Pagasi. This will take you to the main road and Black Grouse can be found along this stretch.

The most easterly tower in the northern part of the national park is the one at Rannajõe (5), situated along main road 31. The tower is not very tall, but quite new and the only one accessible by wheelchair, I think. The lack of height is not a big problem since it overlooks a flat area of meadows and forests. At first it can seem a little dull, but with a bit of patience it's certainly worth a visit. I went there twice, once in the evening and once late in the morning, and good numbers of Elk were seen both times, though a bit distant. Other nice mammals seen on my evening visit were a female Wild Boar with piglets, several Beavers and Red Foxes as well as a surprise Otter who came running across the meadows before disappearing into a water-filled ditch. Both Corncrake and Spotted Crake was also heard from here on a really nice evening. Mammals were much less obvious on my second visit, but that was made up for by good numbers of raptors beginning to appear late in the morning. Several Lesser Spotted and White-tailed Eagles were seen and so was Hobby, Black Kite and a newly arrived Honey Buzzard - the only one of the trip. The tower at Haeska (6) is probably the most famous among birders and holds the record for most species seen in 24 hours in Estonia. I found it no better than the one at Keemu on the other side of the bay, but perhaps more time spent here might change that perception. I only went there once late one afternoon, and enjoyed the view of the bay and coastal meadows, but no new mammal or birds were added to the list. I'm sure an early morning visit here would be nice and the hinterland also looks interesting with a mix of forests, meadows and farmland. This area has good potential for mammals and Lynx is around as witnessed by a group of Danish birders a few years ago! In the extreme western part of the park, a road leads from Tuuru towards Puise. The first part of the road offers good views of the bay and surrounding coastal meadows at Põgari-Sassi (7). I found no better place than this for watching waders and species like Little Stint and Red Knot were seen nowhere else. Large numbers of Barnacle Goose were also seen here as well as the only Merlin and Red-backed Shrike of the trip. Further west the road passes through Puise (8) and ends at a harbour and a small settlement. I imagine this is a good place to watch the migration of waterfowl, but the weather wasn't exactly good on my visit there - windy and bad visibility. Black Redstart was seen around the houses, though, and Wryneck and a flock of Waxwings was seen up the road. All in all a trip to Matsalu NP is highly recommended for both birders and mammal watchers! A visit to this area shouldn't be rushed, though, since it's guite large and has so much to offer - I certainly would have loved to spend more time here.

Sutlepa & Silma: These two bodies of water lie north and east of Haapaalu and are part of the same ecosystem. Lake Sutlepa to the north is reached by following the road signposted "Saare mõis - Lyckholmi muuseum 3,5" going east from the small village of Pürksi. Drive straight through the settlement 3 kilometers down this road and continue for another couple of kilometers to the end of the road, where there's a small car park. From here there's a somewhat obscured view of parts of the lake which is surrounded by extensive reed beds. Sadly when I was there, the tower and most of the boardwalk was closed because they were both in a pretty bad state. Hopefully they'll be fixed soon making this a much more interesting place to visit

Silma is the easternmost part of the Bay of Haapsalu and can be viewed from several observation towers. The one I visited lies on the eastern shore and can be found by driving north on the small road signposted "Silma Õpikoda 4" from road 17 midway between main road 9 and the town Linnamäe. 2.9 kilometers up the road there's small car park from where a trail - signed "Matkarada" - leads to the shore. There's a really good view of the area from the tower at the end of the path. Lots of waterbirds can be seen from here, and I suspect that an early morning visit might also give some interesting mammals.

<u>Põõsaspea and Dirhami</u>: Approximately a 40 minute drive north of Haapsalu, this is a very good place from where to watch the spring migration of divers, geese, ducks and skuas etc. along the coast. On the first of my two visits there was a little bit of migration to be seen, but on the second there was virtually nothing. On the upside, I did see a couple of Ring Ousels, a Red-throated Pipit and several Whinchats and Northern Wheatears on the meadows at Spithami just south of the tip. Another bird worth a mention was a female Capercallie feeding by the side of the gravel road leading through the forest south of Spithami. The entire area is probably quite good for mammals as well, and I found the only Grey Seals of the trip near the coast here. A walk in the forest along the coast at Dirhami didn't produce much, but the place does seem to hold some promise.

Põõsapea isn't difficult to find, though a bit out of the way. From main road 230 between Höbringi and Riguldi take the small road leading north signposted "Dirhami 10". A good 4.5 kilometers up the road, which ends at Dirhami, take a right turn at the sign "Spithami 6". From here there's an 8 kilometer drive on good gravel roads to the tip of the small peninsula. Watch from the parking lot which offer good views along the shore on both sides.

<u>Pakri:</u> Situated some 50 kilometres by road west of Tallinn, and apparently the best place to find Black Guillemot in Estonia. I certainly had no problems finding them, but of course I was helped greatly by the weather which was very nice with almost no wind at all. The birds were lying on the water beneath the cliffs by the lighthouse at the tip of the peninsula. The places is easily found by driving north through the town of Paldiski, and then just following the road along the western coast of the peninsula almost to the end.



Red Fox - Matsalu NP.

A report from this trip with a more detailed bird list, but otherwise similar, can be found here: <u>http://www.cloudbirders.com/tripreport/repository/LEHMBERG\_Estonia\_0405\_2015.pdf</u>

### <u>29/4</u>

### Tallinn > Pärnu 12.45 - 14.50.

Bean Goose 80, Greater White-fronted Goose 45, Barnacle Goose 30, Tundra Swan 65, Whooper Swan 40, Mallard 2, White Stork 13, Western Marsh Harrier 1m, Common Crane 18, Northern Lapwing 8, Common Gull 400, Herring Gull 70, Black-headed Gull 110, Wood Pigeon 1, Jackdaw 7, Carrion Crow 16, Skylark 2, Starling 20, Mistle Thrush 1, House Sparrow 2, White Wagtail 2, Chaffinch 3, Greenfinch 2.

# Audru Meadows 16.25 - 18.50 & 20.55 - 21.45.

Bean Goose 200, Greylag Goose 2, Greater White-fronted Goose 4000, Barnacle Goose 3000, Mute Swan 40, Whooper Swan 5, Gadwall 7m+6f, Mallard 5m+2f, Northern Shoveler 16m+8f, Garganey 11m+6f, Common Teal 60, Tufted Duck 350, Greater Scaup 550, Black Scoter 25, Common Goldeneye 6, Goosander 9m+8f, Red-throated Diver 2, Black-throated Diver 1, Great Crested Grebe 12, White Stork 5, Grey Heron 55,
Great White Egret 18, Common Kestrel 1, White-tailed Eagle 3ad+5imm, Western Marsh Harrier 2m+2f, Buzzard 9, Common Crane 14, Northern Lapwing 30, Eurasian Golden Plover 35, Common Snipe 1, Eurasian Curlew 1,
Spotted Redshank 1, Common Greenshank 1, Ruff 6, Common Gull 100, Great Black-backed Gull 2, Herring Gull 50, Lesser Black-backed Gull 1, Black-headed Gull 125, Little Gull 11ad+3imm, Caspian Tern 5-6, Common Tern 2, Rook 2, Carrion Crow 9, Northern Raven 1, Sand Martin 3, Barn Swallow 75, House Martin 11, Skylark 6, Wren 1, Starling 8, Yellow Wagtail 1m, White Wagtail 1, Meadow Pipit 4, Chaffinch 3, Greenfinch 3, Reed Bunting 1m+2. Eurasian Beaver 2-3.

Kõima – Seliste – Tõstamaa – Ermitsu – Kihlepa – Kõima 18.50 – 20.55.

Hazel Grouse 2, Bean Goose 18, Greater White-fronted Goose 85, Mallard 3m+3f, Northern Shoveler 5m+3f, Common Teal 4m+4f, White Stork 1, Grey Heron 23, Great White Egret 2, White-tailed Eagle 2, Western Marsh Harrier 1m, Eurasian Sparrowhawk 1, Buzzard 3, Common Crane 7, Northern Lapwing 9, Black-tailed Godwit 8, Common Greenshank 1, Green Sandpiper 2, Wood Sandpiper 6, Ruff 17m+14f,
Common Gull 200, Herring Gull 40, Black-headed Gull 150, Black Woodpecker 1, Magpie 1, Spotted Nutcracker 1, Jackdaw 30, Carrion Crow 35, Blue Tit 2, Skylark 4, Starling 3, Blackbird 2h+1m, Mistle Thrush 4h+1, Eurasian Robin 3, White Wagtail 4, Chaffinch 14, Greenfinch 3, Hawfinch 2, Yellowhammer 7.

### <u>30/4</u>

#### Pärnu > Nigula 4.55 - 6.00.

Bean Goose 8, Greater White-fronted Goose 19, White Stork 19, Grey Heron 2, White-tailed Eagle 2imm,
 Common Crane 32, Northern Lapwing 2, Herring Gull 1, Wood Pigeon 2, Grey-headed Woodpecker 1h, Magpie 3,
 Jackdaw 7, Carrion Crow 2, Great Tit 1, Skylark 3, Common Chiffchaff 1h, Starling 3, Blackbird 3,
 Song Thrush 5, Mistle Thrush 17, Eurasian Robin 2, Redstart 2m+1f, White Wagtail 2, Chaffinch 6.
 European Hare 1, Red Fox 1.

Nigula Bog 6.00 - 7.40.

Black Grouse h+5m+1f, Mallard 1f, Common Teal 1m, Common Goldeneye 9m+7f, Montagu's Harrier 1m, Common Crane h, Northern Lapwing 18, Eurasian Golden Plover 2, Eurasian Curlew 4, Common Redshank h+4, Common Greenshank 1, Green Sandpiper h, Common Sandpiper 1, Common Gull 6, Lesser Spotted Woodpecker 1, White-backed Woodpecker 1m, Willow Warbler 1, Common Chiffchaff 2, Wren 2, Treecreeper 1, Song Thrush 2, Eurasian Robin 1, Whinchat 5, Northern Wheatear 1m+2f, White Wagtail 7, Meadow Pipit 8, Tree Pipit 17, Chaffinch 4, Siskin h+1m+1f.

Nigula Bog - Tuuliku - Massiaru - "Magic Corner" 7.40 - 8.20.

Buzzard 1, Common Crane 3, Northern Lapwing 6, Wood Pigeon 2, Eurasian Wryneck 1, Magpie 3, Jackdaw 4, Carrion Crow 2, Barn Swallow 2, Skylark 4, Willow Warbler 1, Common Chiffchaff 2, Wren 1, Starling 2, Blackbird 7, Song Thrush 19, Mistle Thrush 27, Eurasian Robin 1, White Wagtail 3, Chaffinch 20, Bullfinch 7, Yellowhammer 2m.

Roe Deer 1.

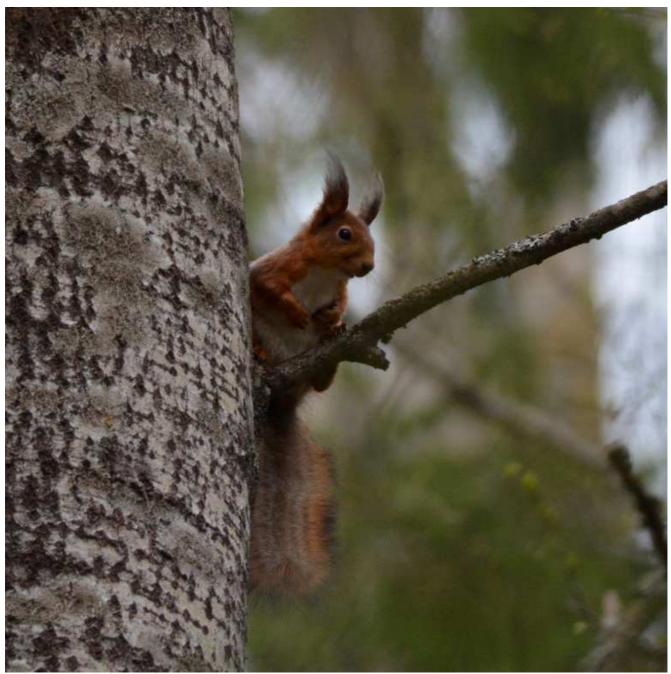
"Magic Corner" 8.20 - 12.25.

Hazel Grouse h+1 , Black Stork 1-2 , White Stork 1 , Osprey 1 , Eurasian Sparrowhawk 1 , Buzzard 3 ,

Green Sandpiper 1, Stock Dove 2-3h, Wood Pigeon 5, Ural Owl 1-2, Great Spotted Woodpecker 5, Black Woodpecker 1pair, Grey-headed Woodpecker 1h+1, Jay h+4, Northern Raven 1, Great Tit 4, Blue Tit 3, Crested Tit 1, Barn Swallow 1, Skylark 2, Willow Warbler 2, Common Chiffchaff 20, Wood Warbler 6, Wren 15, Song Thrush 4, Mistle Thrush 9, Eurasian Robin 7, Redstart 1, Pied Flycatcher 1m+1, Dunnock 1, Tree Pipit 19, Chaffinch 75, Siskin h+1m, Bullfinch 1m+2f.

### "Magic Corner" - Soomaa NP 12.25 - 13.25.

Mallard 2m+2f, Tufted Duck 1m+f, Common Goldeneye 6m+2f, Buzzard 1, Common Crane 1, Northern Lapwing 2, Herring Gull 2, Stock Dove 2, Wood Pigeon 1, Magpie 2, Jackdaw5, Carrion Crow 2, Barn Swallow 4, Skylark 2, Starling 3, Whinchat 1, White Wagtail 3, Chaffinch 15, Yellowhammer 4.



Eurasian Red Squirrel - Soomaa NP.

Soomaa NP 13.25 - 22.00.

Mallard 2m+2f , Garganey 1m+1f , Common Teal 28 , Black Stork 1 , White Stork 1 , Hobby 1 , Western Marsh Harrier 1m+2f , Montagu's Harrier 2f , Eurasian Sparrowhawk 4 , Buzzard 6 ,

Lesser Spotted Eagle 1pair+1-2 , Eagle sp. 1 , Common Crane h+9 , Northern Lapwing 22 , Eurasian Golden Plover h+3 , Woodcock 3-4 , Common Snipe 3 , Eurasian Curlew h+1 , Common Redshank 2 , Wood Sandpiper 2pair+1 ,

Common Sandpiper 2 , Wood Pigeon 8 , Eurasian Cuckoo 1h , Long-eared Owl 1 , Lesser Spotted Woodpecker 1m+1f+1 , Middle Spotted Woodpecker 1m , White-backed Woodpecker 2m+2f , Great Spotted Woodpecker 1f ,

Black Woodpecker 2h , Jay 3 , Spotted Nutcracker h , Carrion Crow 3 , Northern Raven 2 , Great Tit 7 , Blue Tit 5 ,

Barn Swallow 9 , Long-tailed Tit 1 , Willow Warbler 4 , Common Chiffchaff 15 , Wood Warbler 1 , Wren 9 , Starling 7 ,

Blackbird 15 , Fieldfare 4 , Redwing 14 , Song Thrush 13 , Mistle Thrush 39 , Eurasian Robin 7 , Whinchat 2m+3f ,

Pied Flycatcher 1 , White Wagtail 6 , Tree Pipit 50 , Chaffinch 120 , Bullfinch 1f , Yellowhammer 2m+1 , Reed Bunting 1. European Water Vole 1 , Roe Deer 1m.

### <u>1/5</u>

Luitemaa Nature Reserve 5.20 - 11.05 & 20.20 - 22.00.

Hazel Grouse h+4, Capercaillie 1f, Greater White-fronted Goose 23, Mallard 2m+1f, White Stork 8,

White-tailed Eagle 1imm, Northern Goshawk 1m, Buzzard 3, Common Crane 6, Woodcock 4-5, Common Snipe 3, Green Sandpiper 7, Herring Gull 1, Stock Dove 1h+2, Wood Pigeon 6, Eurasian Cuckoo 1h,

White-backed Woodpecker 1m , Great Spotted Woodpecker 1f+2 , Black Woodpecker 1h+1f+4 ,

Grey-headed Woodpecker 1, Jay 3, Spotted Nutcracker 1h, Carrion Crow 1, Northern Raven 4, Great Tit 14,

Coal Tit 1 , Willow Tit 4 , Crested Tit 2h , Barn Swallow 2 , Willow Warbler 6 , Common Chiffchaff 20 ,

Wood Warbler 3 , Goldcrest 2 , Wren 20 , Treecreeper 1 , Blackbird 6 , Song Thrush 7 , Mistle Thrush 13 ,

Eurasian Robin 5 , White Wagtail 2 , Tree Pipit 17 , Chaffinch 85 , Siskin h , Bullfinch 2h , Parrot Crossbill 2 ,

Yellowhammer 1.

European Hare 2 , Pine Marten 1 , Roe Deer 2 , Elk 1m+6f.

Häädemestee 11.35 - 15.20.

Greater White-fronted Goose 1800, Barnacle Goose 3500, Mute Swan 27, Tundra Swan 12, Gadwall 1m+1f, Eurasian Wigeon 65, Mallard 2m+2f, Northern Shoveler 7m+4f, Northern Pintail 13m+11f, Common Teal 45, Common Goldeneye 3, Goosander 2, White Stork 1, Grey Heron 55, Great White Egret 6, Great Cormorant 450, White-tailed Eagle 2ad+9imm, Western Marsh Harrier 2m+1f, Buzzard 1, Common Crane h+1, Northern Lapwing 60, Eurasian Golden Plover 1, Common Snipe 4, Black-tailed Godwit 1, Eurasian Curlew 2, Common Redshank 3, Common Greenshank 17, Common Sandpiper 1, Ruff 19, Great Black-backed Gull 15, Herring Gull 50, Black-headed Gull 60, Little Gull 330, Caspian Tern 2, Common/Arctic Tern 30, Wood Pigeon 4, Magpie 1, Carrion Crow 1, Northern Raven 2, Great Tit 2, Barn Swallow 14, Skylark 5, Savi's Warbler 1h, Common Chiffchaff 2, Starling 35, Blackbird 2, Redstart 1m, Whinchat 2m, Northern Wheatear 3m+1f, Yellow Wagtail 1m+1f+1, White Wagtail 6, Meadow Pipit 8, Chaffinch 2, Greenfinch h, Goldfinch 1, Reed Bunting 1m.

Pikla 15.45 - 19.30.

Greylag Goose 2, Greater White-fronted Goose 180, Barnacle Goose 1500, Mute Swan 26, Tundra Swan 2, Shelduck 4, Gadwall 4m+4f, Mallard 8m+4f, Northern Shoveler 17m+9f, Common Teal 31, Long-tailed Duck 450, Common Goldeneye 60, Goosander 5m+5f, Red-breasted Merganser 2m+2f, Slavonian Grebe 3, Bittern 3h, Grey Heron 83, Great Cormorant 90, White-tailed Eagle 1ad+1imm, Western Marsh Harrier 1m+1f, Common Crane 2, Oystercatcher 2, Pied Avocet 2, Northern Lapwing 35, Common Ringed Plover 1, Little Ringed Plover 1, Common Snipe h+1, Black-tailed Godwit 2, Eurasian Curlew h, Common Redshank 17, Common Greenshank 3, Wood Sandpiper 6, Ruff 23, Common Gull 10, Great Black-backed Gull 8, Herring Gull 20, Black-headed Gull 30, Little Gull 18, Sandwich Tern 4, Common Tern 6, Common/Arctic Tern 25, Hoopoe 1, Carrion Crow 3, Northern Raven 5, Barn Swallow 2, Skylark 6, Savi's Warbler 4-5h, Great Reed Warbler 2h, Reed Warbler 1h, Common Chiffchaff 3, Wood Warbler 1, Bearded Tit h+3m+1f+1, Starling 40, Northern Wheatear 2m, Yellow Wagtail 2m, White Wagtail 7, Meadow Pipit 10, Reed Bunting 4m+1f.

### <u>2/5</u>

Pärnu - Soomaa NP 9.45 - 10.25.

Mallard 4m+4f, White Stork 4, Herring Gull 2, Wood Pigeon 2, Magpie 1, Spotted Nutcracker 1, Carrion Crow 6, Skylark 2, Common Chiffchaff 1, Starling 55, Mistle Thrush 2, House Sparrow 3, Tree Sparrow 2, White Wagtail 8, Meadow Pipit 1, Chaffinch 4, Yellowhammer 2.

#### Soomaa NP 10.25 - 20.55.

Black Grouse 1f, Mallard 8m+3f, Common Teal 2m+2f, Common Goldeneye 1f, White Stork 14, Grey Heron 1,
Great White Egret 2, White-tailed Eagle 1, Western Marsh Harrier 1m+3f, Eurasian Sparrowhawk 1m, Buzzard 7,
Rough-legged Buzzard 1, Lesser Spotted Eagle 1, Common Crane h+3, Northern Lapwing 3, Eurasian Golden Plover 2,
Common Snipe 1, Green Sandpiper 3, Common Sandpiper 5, Herring Gull 1, Black-headed Gull h, Wood Pigeon 12,
Great Spotted Woodpecker 3, Black Woodpecker 1, Great Grey Shrike 1, Jay 5, Magpie 3, Northern Raven 7,
Great Tit 8, Blue Tit 6, Willow Tit 3, Barn Swallow 7, Skylark 1, Willow Warbler 9, Common Chiffchaff 13,
Wood Warbler 3, Wren 3, Nuthatch 2, Treecreeper 1h+1, Starling 2, Blackbird 11, Fieldfare 3, Redwing 8,
Song Thrush 18, Mistle Thrush 9, Eurasian Robin 4, Pied Flycatcher 2m, Dunnock 1, White Wagtail 14,
Tree Pipit 13, Chaffinch 65, Siskin 6, Bullfinch 3m+3f.

Roe Deer 2.

# <u>3/5</u>

Pärnu - Soomaa NP 6.20 - 6.50 & 19.05 - 19.35.

Bean Goose 55, Greater White-fronted Goose 120, Mallard 1m+1f, White Stork 6, Great Cormorant 7, Buzzard 1, Common Crane 3, Northern Lapwing 4, Jay 3, Magpie 3, Carrion Crow 6, Starling 8, White Wagtail 1. Roe Deer 2.

#### Soomaa NP 6.50 - 19.05.

Hazel Grouse 1, Mallard 5m+3f, Garganey 1m+1f, Common Teal 1m+1f, Black Stork 1, White Stork 10, Hobby 1, Eurasian Sparrowhawk 1, Buzzard 6, Lesser Spotted Eagle 1, Golden Eagle 1-2ad, Common Crane h+4, Northern Lapwing 7, Common Snipe 4, Common Redshank 2, Green Sandpiper 6, Wood Sandpiper 8, Common Sandpiper 1, Wood Pigeon 8, Eurasian Cuckoo 2h+1, Lesser Spotted Woodpecker 3-4h+1m, Great Spotted Woodpecker 2m, Three-toed Woodpecker 1m, Black Woodpecker 2h+1pair,
Grey-headed Woodpecker 1-2h+1, Jay 5, Spotted Nutcracker 2, Carrion Crow 1, Northern Raven 7, Great Tit 6, Blue Tit 5, Coal Tit 2, Marsh Tit 2-3pairs, Willow Tit 2pairs, Crested Tit 2h+1, Barn Swallow 4, House Martin 6, Willow Warbler 8, Common Chiffchaff 14, Wood Warbler 4h+2, Lesser Whitethroat 1, Wren 3, Treecreeper 1h+1, Starling 6, Blackbird 23, Redwing 3h, Song Thrush 25h+10, Mistle Thrush 3h+8, Eurasian Robin 6, Redstart 1m,

Whinchat 1f , Pied Flycatcher 1m , Dunnock 2 , White Wagtail 9 , Tree Pipit 11 , Chaffinch 150 , Siskin 3h+1f , Bullfinch 2h , Yellowhammer 1 , Reed Bunting 2m.

Eurasian Red Squirrel 2 , Eurasian Beaver 1 , Red Fox 1 , Pine Marten 2 , Roe Deer 6.

Taali – Pölendmaa – Kikepera – Saunametsa – Lähkma – Tammuru 19.5 – 22.25.

Black Grouse 3m, Grey Partridge 2, Mallard 1m+1f, White Stork 10, Grey Heron 3, Northern Lapwing 2, Eurasian Golden Plover 3, Woodcock 7, Common Snipe 1h, Green Sandpiper 1, Wood Pigeon 2, Eurasian Cuckoo 1h, Barn Swallow 2, Skylark 5, Willow Warbler 1, Common Chiffchaff 2, Wood Warbler 1, Lesser Whitethroat 1, Starling 16, Blackbird 16, Redwing 3h, Song Thrush 15h+3, Mistle Thrush 2h+4, Eurasian Robin 6, Dunnock 1, White Wagtail 2, Siskin 1h, Yellowhammer 3.

Roe Deer 1.

### <u>4/5</u>

#### Pikla 5.35 - 7.25.

Grey Partridge 2, Greylag Goose 2, Greater White-fronted Goose 18, Mute Swan 14, Shelduck 1, Gadwall 6m+6f, Mallard 6m+5f, Northern Shoveler 8m+6f, Garganey 7m+1f, Common Teal 18, Tufted Duck 16m+13f, Greater Scaup 13m+11f, Long-tailed Duck 2000, Common Goldeneye 350, Red-breasted Merganser 8m+6f, Bittern 3h, Grey Heron 40, Great White Egret 1, Great Cormorant 400, White-tailed Eagle 1,
Western Marsh Harrier 1m+1f, Common Crane h, Oystercatcher 3, Northern Lapwing 20, Little Ringed Plover 1, Common Snipe 2, Black-tailed Godwit 1, Common Redshank 25, Ruff 16, Common Gull 45,
Great Black-backed Gull 20, Herring Gull 200, Black-headed Gull 25, Little Gull 1ad+1imm, Sandwich Tern 2,
Common/Arctic Tern 13, Eurasian Cuckoo 1h, Carrion Crow 5, Northern Raven 6, Barn Swallow 2, Skylark 8,
Savi's Warbler 14h, Great Reed Warbler 3h, Reed Warbler 5h, Willow Warbler 1, Bearded Tit h+9, Starling 8,
Mistle Thrush 1, Northern Wheatear 3m+1f, Yellow Wagtail 5m+2f, Citrine Wagtail 1f, White Wagtail 2,
Meadow Pipit 5, Greenfinch 2, Linnet 4, Reed Bunting 7m+2f.



Elk, Common Crane, Eurasian Beaver, Citrine Wagtail and Black Stork.

#### Pärnu 7.50 - 9.20.

Gadwall 1m+1f, Mallard 1m, Northern Shoveler 7m+6f, Common Teal 7, Bittern 1h, Grey Heron 6, Great White Egret 7, Western Marsh Harrier 1m N, Northern Lapwing 30, Eurasian Golden Plover 9,
Common Redshank 20, Wood Sandpiper 26, Ruff 1f, Common Gull 30, Herring Gull 100, Black-headed Gull 80, Little Gull 6ad, Common/Arctic Tern 20, Carrion Crow 9, Barn Swallow 2, Savi's Warbler 2h,
Great Reed Warbler 1h, Reed Warbler 1h, Willow Warbler 1, Wood Warbler 1, Blackbird 1h, Fieldfare 1h,
Yellow Wagtail 3m+1f, Citrine Wagtail 11m+2f, White Wagtail 3, Meadow Pipit 7, Chaffinch 1, Reed Bunting 14.

# Audru Meadows 9.50 - 12.45.

Bean Goose 70, Greater White-fronted Goose 2000, Barnacle Goose 65, Mute Swan 22, Whooper Swan 8, Gadwall 5m+5f, Eurasian Wigeon 6m+6f, Mallard 8m+8f, Northern Shoveler 13m+11f, Garganey 5m+3f, Common Teal 4m+4f, Common Pochard 1m+1f, Tufted Duck 400, Greater Scaup 650, Common Goldeneye 90, Goosander 1f, Great Crested Grebe 24, White Stork 4, Bittern 1h, Grey Heron 40, Great White Egret 34, White-tailed Eagle 33, Western Marsh Harrier 1m+1f, Buzzard 7, Common Coot 11, Northern Lapwing 65, Spotted Redshank 7, Common Redshank 13, Wood Sandpiper 4, Common Sandpiper 2, Herring Gull 150, Black-headed Gull 45, Little Gull 38, Common/Arctic Tern 15, Wood Pigeon 2, Short-eared Owl 1, Magpie 2, Carrion Crow 8, Northern Raven 3, Great Tit 2, Blue Tit 1, Barn Swallow 12, Skylark 15, Savi's Warbler 2h, Great Reed Warbler 2h, Willow Warbler 6, Common Chiffchaff 2, Starling 17, Fieldfare 1h, Citrine Wagtail 6m+2f, White Wagtail 7, Meadow Pipit 10, Tree Pipit 1, Chaffinch 3, Greenfinch 4, Linnet 2, Reed Bunting 25.

Roe Deer 1m.

Grass Snake 1.

Audru - Torila Ots - Ermistu Järv - Tõhela Järv (see below) -Tuhu - Matsalu NP 12.45 - 16.50.
Mute Swan 16, Shelduck3, Gadwall 1m+1f, Mallard 6m+6f, Northern Shoveler 1m+1f, Common Teal 1m+1f, Long-tailed Duck 13, Goosander 3m+3f, Red-necked Grebe 2, Great Crested Grebe 14, White Stork 6, Grey Heron 3, Great Cormorant 7, White-tailed Eagle 1ad+1, Montagu's Harrier 1m, Eurasian Sparrowhawk 1, Buzzard 4, Common Crane h+2, Northern Lapwing 8, Eurasian Golden Plover 1, Black-tailed Godwit 3, Common Redshank 2, Common Sandpiper 4, Common Gull 30, Great Black-backed Gull 5, Herring Gull 150, Black-headed Gull 40, Little Gull 2ad+1imm, Sandwich Tern 1, Common Tern 75, Wood Pigeon 2, Jay 1, Magpie 2, Carrion Crow 7, Northern Raven 2, Barn Swallow 8, Skylark 4, Starling 5, Blackbird 3, Song Thrush 3h+2, Mistle Thrush 2, Northern Wheatear 2f, Yellow Wagtail 2, White Wagtail 9, Meadow Pipit 4, Tree Pipit 2, Chaffinch 10, Goldfinch 2, Linnet 2, Yellowhammer 5, Reed Bunting 3. Red Fox 1.

Töhela Järv.

Bean Goose 950, Greater White-fronted Goose 15, Mute Swan 12, Whooper Swan 4, Mallard 2m+2f, Common Pochard 6m+1f, Tufted Duck 35, Common Goldeneye 9m+8f, Goosander 1m+1f, Great Crested Grebe 18, Slavonian Grebe 2, Bittern 1h, Common Moorhen 1, Common Coot 22, Common Crane 1, Whimbrel 5, Common Sandpiper 9, Black-headed Gull 60, Little Gull 235, Black Tern 11, Stock Dove 2, Grey-headed Woodpecker 1h, Great Tit 1, Barn Swallow 3, Willow Warbler 1, Common Chiffchaff 1, Blackcap 1m, White Wagtail 3, Chaffinch 2, Reed Bunting 2.

### Matsalu NP (Keemu) 18.30 - 20.00.

Bean Goose 250, Greylag Goose 2, Greater White-fronted Goose 2000, Barnacle Goose 15000, Mute Swan 75, Whooper Swan 1, Gadwall 12m+12f, Eurasian Wigeon 7m+5f, Mallard 20, Northern Shoveler 11m+7f, Northern Pintail 13m+6f, Garganey 1m, Common Teal 20, Tufted Duck 500, Common Goldeneye 50, Smew 1m+1f, Goosander 7m+7f, Great Crested Grebe 30, Bittern 1h, Grey Heron 17, Great White Egret 3, Great Cormorant 45, White-tailed Eagle 16, Western Marsh Harrier 3m+2f, Oystercatcher 2, Northern Lapwing 40, Common Snipe 6, Whimbrel 3, Eurasian Curlew h+1, Spotted Redshank 11, Common Redshank 20, Common Greenshank 8, Wood Sandpiper 35, Common Sandpiper 2, Dunlin 6, Ruff 200, Common Gull 75, Great Black-backed Gull 30, Herring Gull 80, Black-headed Gull 150, Little Gull 75, Caspian Tern 1, Common Tern 35, Arctic Tern 15, Black Tern 16, Magpie 1, Carrion Crow 4, Northern Raven 2, Barn Swallow 6, Skylark 20, Starling 26, Whinchat 1m, Northern Wheatear 2m, Yellow Wagtail 2, White Wagtail 4, Meadow Pipit 15, Linnet 2, Yellowhammer 6, Reed Bunting 3.

Red Fox 1, Roe Deer 2, Elk 7.



Elk - Matsalu NP.

### Matsalu NP - Haeska - Panga - Haapsalu 20.00 - 22.05.

Greater White-fronted Goose 350, Barnacle Goose 2, Mallard 1m, White Stork 1, Montagu's Harrier 2m, Common Crane 26, Northern Lapwing 9, Eurasian Golden Plover h, Ruff 130, Common Gull 20, Herring Gull 6, Black-headed Gull 15, Long-eared Owl 2, Magpie 2, Carrion Crow 1, Northern Raven 1, Barn Swallow 4, Skylark 8, Starling 17, Blackbird 1, Fieldfare 1h, Eurasian Robin 2, Northern Wheatear 1f, Chaffinch 2, Yellowhammer 5. European Hare 1, Red Fox 1, Roe Deer 5.

# <u>5/5</u>

Haapsalu – Põõsaspea 5.20 – 6.10. Bean Goose/Greater White-fronted Goose 120 , Buzzard 1 , Common Crane 35 , Blackbird 3. European Hare 3 , Eurasian Red Squirrel 1.

### Põõsaspea & Dirhami 6.10 - 11.20.

Greater White-fronted Goose 4, Mute Swan 16, Shelduck 4, Mallard 2m+1f, Greater Scaup 3m+2f,
Common Eider 25m+2f, Velvet Scoter 65, Black Scoter 200, Long-tailed Duck 600, Common Goldeneye 55,
Goosander 7m+6f, Red-breasted Merganser 18m+14f, Red-throated Diver 165, Black-throated Diver 36,
Great Crested Grebe 3, Grey Heron 1, Great Cormorant 35, Common Crane 2, Oystercatcher 117,
Little Ringed Plover 1, Whimbrel 1, Eurasian Curlew 2, Common Redshank 2, Common Sandpiper 1, Common Gull 20,
Great Black-backed Gull 5, Herring Gull 14, Black-headed Gull 20, Common Tern 25, Arctic Tern 8, Arctic Skua 1,
Wood Pigeon 3, Eurasian Cuckoo 1h, Magpie 2, Carrion Crow 2, Northern Raven 1, Great Tit 1, Crested Tit 1-2h,
Barn Swallow 46, House Martin 2, Skylark 3, Willow Warbler 3, Common Chiffchaff 2, Blackcap 1f, Starling 3,
Ring Ousel 1m+1f, Blackbird 1m, Fieldfare 2, Song Thrush 1, Mistle Thrush 3, Eurasian Robin 1, Redstart 1m+1,
Whinchat 13, Northern Wheatear 8, Tree Sparrow 2, White Wagtail 4, Meadow Pipit 18, Tree Pipit 2,
Red-throated Pipit 1, Chaffinch 5, Siskin h+70, Goldfinch 4, Bullfinch 1m, Yellowhammer 1m.
Grey Seal 3-4, Roe Deer h+1.

### Sutlepa 12.10 - 13.30.

Greylag Goose 6, Greater White-fronted Goose 110, Mute Swan 17, Gadwall 1m+1f, Mallard 4m+4f, Northern Shoveler 1m+1f, Garganey 1m+1f, Common Teal 2m+2f, Tufted Duck 55, Common Goldeneye 15,
Goosander 1m+1f, Red-necked Grebe h+1, Great Crested Grebe 19, Slavonian Grebe 2, White Stork 6, Bittern 1h, Grey Heron 65, Great White Egret 7, White-tailed Eagle 1imm, Western Marsh Harrier 3m+2f, Eurasian Sparrowhawk 1, Water Rail 3h, Common Coot 35, Common Crane h+1, Northern Lapwing 20,
Common Ringed Plover 4, Little Ringed Plover 2, Common Snipe 6, Temminck's Stint 1, Ruff 26, Common Gull 20, Herring Gull 40, Black-headed Gull 60, Caspian Tern 2, Black Tern 2, Wood Pigeon 2, Eurasian Wryneck 1h, Jay 3, Magpie 1, Carrion Crow 4, Northern Raven 2, Great Tit 2, Blue Tit 1, Barn Swallow 30, Skylark 5, Savi's Warbler 1h, Great Reed Warbler 2h, Willow Warbler 10, Common Chiffchaff 1, Starling 4, Song Thrush 1, Redstart 1m, Northern Wheatear 1m+2f, Tree Sparrow 2, White Wagtail 2, Tree Pipit 1, Chaffinch 9, Yellowhammer 8, Reed Bunting 1m.

Silma 13.50 - 15.00.

Bean Goose 110, Greylag Goose 6, Greater White-fronted Goose 400, Barnacle Goose 50, Mute Swan 350, Mallard 30, Common Teal 3m+3f, Tufted Duck 250, Common Goldeneye 70, Smew 65, Goosander 85, Great Crested Grebe 24, Grey Heron 70, Great White Egret 18, Great Cormorant 250,
Western Marsh Harrier 2m+1f, Buzzard 1, Common Crane h+5, Northern Lapwing 6, Eurasian Curlew 2, Spotted Redshank 6, Common Redshank 5, Ruff 17, Common Gull 125, Great Black-backed Gull 10,
Herring Gull 35, Black-headed Gull 200, Little Gull 650, Caspian Tern 11, Common/Arctic Tern 40, Black Tern 1, Crested Tit 1-2h, Barn Swallow 500, Savi's Warbler 1h, Great Reed Warbler 1h, Willow Warbler 9, Common Chiffchaff 2, Lesser Whitethroat 1, Starling 7, Song Thrush 1, Dunnock 1, Chaffinch 2, Reed Bunting 2m.

Matsalu NP 16.00 - 22.30.

(Kloostri - Suitsu - Kloostri - Rannajöe)
Black Grouse 1m, Bean Goose 150, Greylag Goose 4, Greater White-fronted Goose 2000, Barnacle Goose 7000, Mute Swan 13, Gadwall 1m+1f, Eurasian Wigeon 2m+2f, Mallard 15, Northern Shoveler 25, Northern Pintail 6, Garganey 6m+3f, Common Teal 110, Tufted Duck 65, Common Goldeneye 12, Goosander 26, White Stork 18, Bittern 2h, Grey Heron 28, Great White Egret 4, Great Cormorant 17, White-tailed Eagle 14, Western Marsh Harrier 3m+4f, Buzzard 3, Corncrake 2-3h, Spotted Crake 2h, Common Coot 18, Common Crane 450, Northern Lapwing 70, Eurasian Golden Plover 8, Woodcock 1, Common Snipe 17, Eurasian Curlew h+5, Common Redshank 6, Wood Sandpiper 45, Common Sandpiper 1, Ruff 300, Common Gull 20, Great Black-backed Gull 8, Herring Gull 45, Black-headed Gull 250, Little Gull 90, Black Tern 6, Wood Pigeon 3, Eurasian Cuckoo 2h, Great Spotted Woodpecker 1, Jay 1, Magpie 3, Carrion Crow 4, Great Tit 2, Blue Tit 1, Barn Swallow 550, Skylark 6, Willow Warbler 18, Common Chiffchaff 2, Starling 16, Blackbird 4h+3, Fieldfare 1, Song Thrush 4, Eurasian Robin 2, Thrush Nightingale 1h, Redstart 1m+1, Whinchat 2m, Northern Wheatear 2m+4f, White Wagtail 9, Meadow Pipit 15, Chaffinch 4h, Greenfinch 1, Siskin 1, Goldfinch 2, Linnet 2, Hawfinch 3, Yellowhammer 8, Reed Bunting2m+1.
European Hare 2, Eurasian Beaver 5-6, Red Fox 3, Eurasian Otter 1, Wild Boar 1ad+5juv, Roe Deer 24,

uropean Hare 2 , Eurasian Beaver 5-6 , Red Fox 3 , Eurasian Otter 1 , Wild Boar 1ad+5juv , Roe Deer 24 , Elk 18ad+3juv.

### <u>6/5</u>

Haapsalu – Põõsaspea 5.20 – 6.00. Buzzard 1 , Common Crane 4 , Jackdaw9 , Carrion Crow 3 , Blackbird 2 , Thrush Nightingale 1h , Chaffinch 3.

### Põõsaspea 6.00 - 8.55.

Capercaillie 1f, Barnacle Goose 77, Mute Swan 11, Shelduck 4, Gadwall 1m+1f, Mallard 4m+1f, Common Eider 6m, Black Scoter 4m+2f, Long-tailed Duck 400, Common Goldeneye9, Goosander 2m+2f, Red-breasted Merganser 27, Red-throated Diver 5, Black-throated Diver 1, Great Cormorant 28, Hobby 1, Western Marsh Harrier 1f, Common Crane h, Oystercatcher 4, Common Redshank 2, Common Greenshank 1, Green Sandpiper 1, Wood Sandpiper 2, Common Sandpiper 2, Common Gull 9, Great Black-backed Gull 5, Herring Gull 15, Black-headed Gull 20, Arctic Tern 6, Wood Pigeon 47, Magpie 2, Jackdaw 6, Carrion Crow 3, Barn Swallow 8, Woodlark 1, Skylark 3, Willow Warbler 3, Common Chiffchaff 2, Lesser Whitethroat 1h+2, Starling 12, Blackbird 1h, Mistle Thrush 6, Eurasian Robin 1, Thrush Nightingale 1h, Whinchat 1m+1f, Northern Wheatear 1f, White Wagtail 6, Meadow Pipit 4, Tree Pipit 1, Chaffinch 80, Greenfinch 3, Siskin 30, Goldfinch h, Redpoll 1, Red Crossbill 2, Bullfinch 1m+1f, Yellowhammer 2, Reed Bunting 1f+3.

Red Fox 1.

### Haapsalu 12.20 - 12.50.

Mute Swan 2 , Gadwall 2m+2f , Common Pochard 3m+1f , Tufted Duck 5m+2f , Goosander 1m+1f , Great Crested Grebe 8 , Common Coot 7 , Common Gull 12 , Black-headed Gull 65 , Common/Arctic Tern 7 , Starling 2. Matsalu NP 13.20 - 22.20.

(Puise - Kiideva - Haeska).

Bean Goose 8, Greylag Goose 16, Greater White-fronted Goose 800, Barnacle Goose 20000, Mute Swan 175, Shelduck 3, Gadwall 7m+6f, Eurasian Wigeon 9m+6f, Mallard 8m+5f, Northern Shoveler 35, Northern Pintail 8m+7f, Common Teal 80, Tufted Duck 400, Greater Scaup 150, Common Goldeneye 30, Smew 1f, Goosander 7m+7f, Red-breasted Merganser 8m+10f, Great Crested Grebe 4, Grey Heron 23, Great Cormorant 100, Merlin 1f, White-tailed Eagle 2ad+5imm, Western Marsh Harrier 1f, Buzzard 1, Common Crane 2, Oystercatcher 6, Pied Avocet 24, Northern Lapwing 90, Eurasian Golden Plover 72,

Common Ringed Plover 106, Common Snipe 7, Black-tailed Godwit 3, Bar-tailed Godwit 6, Eurasian Curlew h+4, Spotted Redshank 42, Common Redshank 20, Common Greenshank 8, Wood Sandpiper 17, Common Sandpiper 2,

- Red Knot 1, Little Stint 2, Temminck's Stint 4, Dunlin 47, Ruff 425, Little Tern 2, Common Gull 200, Great Black-backed Gull 10, Herring Gull 75, Black-headed Gull 100, Little Gull 4ad, Common Tern 30, Arctic Tern 8, Wood Pigeon 2, Eurasian Cuckoo 2h, Eurasian Wryneck 1, Magpie 3, Carrion Crow 5,
- Northern Raven 2 , Waxwing 17 , Great Tit 1 , Barn Swallow 150 , Skylark 25 , Savi's Warbler 1h , Willow Warbler 3 , Common Chiffchaff 2 , Lesser Whitethroat 1 , Starling 35 , Blackbird 2h+5 , Fieldfare 4 , Song Thrush 3 ,

Mistle Thrush 1 , Eurasian Robin 2 , Thrush Nightingale 2h , Black Redstart 1f , Redstart 1m , Whinchat 8 ,

Northern Wheatear 13 , House Sparrow 7 , Yellow Wagtail 2m+1f , White Wagtail 25 , Meadow Pipit 10 ,

 $Chaffinch \ 20 \ , \ Greenfinch \ 3 \ , \ Gold finch \ 5 \ , \ Linnet \ 6 \ , \ Bull finch \ h+1m \ , \ Haw finch \ 1 \ , \ Yellow hammer \ 20 \ ,$ 

Reed Bunting 1h+1m+2.

European Hare 2 , Striped Field Mouse 1 , Wild Boar 1 , Roe Deer 1.

# <u>7/5</u>

Matsalu NP 5.45 - 10.20 & 11.35 - 12.05.

(Penijõe - Kloostri - Rannajõe - Puise).

Black Grouse h+1m, Bean Goose 2, Greylag Goose 4, Greater White-fronted Goose 250, Barnacle Goose 15000, Mute Swan 26, Gadwall 1m+1f, Mallard 12, Northern Shoveler 1m+1f, Garganey 2m+2f, Common Teal 8, Tufted Duck 350, Common Goldeneye 45, Goosander 1m+1f, Red-breasted Merganser 7m+5f, Great Crested Grebe 14, White Stork 13, Bittern 2-3h, Grey Heron 8, Great Cormorant 130,
Common Kestrel 1f, Hobby 1, Honey Buzzard 1, Black Kite 2, White-tailed Eagle 8, Western Marsh Harrier 1f+1, Eurasian Sparrowhawk 1, Buzzard 7, Rough-legged Buzzard 1, Lesser Spotted Eagle 3, Corncrake 1h,
Common Crane 165, Oystercatcher 3, Northern Lapwing 80, Eurasian Golden Plover 7, Common Ringed Plover 36,

Common Snipe 16, Eurasian Curlew 3, Spotted Redshank 9, Common Redshank 18, Wood Sandpiper 55, Dunlin 16, Ruff 45, Common Gull 40, Great Black-backed Gull 2, Herring Gull 70, Black-headed Gull 35, Little Gull 2ad, Common Tern 20, Arctic Tern 6, Little Tern 1, Wood Pigeon 2, Eurasian Cuckoo 3h, Eurasian Wryneck 6,

White-backed Woodpecker 1m+1f , Red-backed Shrike 1m , Magpie 4 , Spotted Nutcracker 3 , Jackdaw 6 , Rook 1 ,

Carrion Crow 4, Northern Raven 9, Great Tit 2, Blue Tit 2, Barn Swallow 25, Skylark 20, Savi's Warbler 1h, Willow Warbler 15, Common Chiffchaff 2, Blackcap 1m, Lesser Whitethroat 1, Nuthatch 1, Starling 13,

Blackbird 4h+3, Fieldfare 2, Song Thrush 2, Thrush Nightingale 3h, Whinchat 9, Northern Wheatear 11,

Pied Flycatcher 2m , Tree Sparrow 5 , Yellow Wagtail 3m+1f , White Wagtail 16 , Meadow Pipit 20 , Tree Pipit 1 ,

Chaffinch 20, Greenfinch 2, Goldfinch h+1, Linnet 2, Bullfinch h, Hawfinch 1, Yellowhammer 6,

Reed Bunting 2m+1f.

European Hare 2 , European Water Vole 1 , Red Fox 2 , Wild Boar 3 (S of Haapsalu) , Roe Deer 17 , Elk 5ad+1juv.

## Pakri 13.40 - 14.30.

Common Eider 21m+2f, Long-tailed Duck 96, Goosander 1f, Red-breasted Merganser 22, Great Cormorant 13, Herring Gull 50, Black-headed Gull 6, Arctic Tern 4, Black Guillemot 19, Carrion Crow 2, Northern Raven 4, Great Tit 1h, Blue Tit 1, Barn Swallow 7, House Martin 1, Skylark 2, Willow Warbler 2, Blackbird 1h+1, Northern Wheatear 1m, White Wagtail 3, Tree Pipit 1, Chaffinch 2.

## Tallinn 16.00 - 21.55.

Barnacle Goose 40, Mute Swan 2, Eurasian Sparrowhawk 1, Herring Gull 4, Black-headed Gull 9, Carrion Crow 1, Great Tit 2, Blue Tit 1, Common Chiffchaff 1, Blackbird 2, Black Redstart 1m, Redstart 1m, Pied Flycatcher 1m, House Sparrow 7, White Wagtail 4, Chaffinch 3.

# Mammals.

European Hare (*Lepus europaeus*) 30/4 1 Pärnu – Nigula. 1/5 2 Luitemaa NR. 4/5 1 Matsalu NP – Haapsalu. 5/5 3 Haapsalu – Põõsaspea. 5/5 2 ; 6/5 2 ; 7/5 2 Matsalu NP.

Eurasian Red Squirrel (*Sciurus vulgaris*) 3/5 2 Soomaa NP. 5/5 1 Haapsalu – Põõsaspea.

### Eurasian Beaver (Castor fiber)

29/4 2-3 Audru Meadows. 3/5 1 Soomaa NP. 5/5 5-6 Matsalu NP.

- Surely Estonia must be the best places in Europe to see this species. Where ever there's fresh water they seem to be around, and in addition to the animals seen, I found signs of them in many other places. A more dedicated search at dawn and dusk would no doubt have boosted the total count significantly.

European Water Vole (*Arvicola amphbius*) 30/4 1 Soomaa NP. 7/5 1 Matsalu NP.

Striped Field Mouse (*Apodemus agrarius*) 6/5 1 Matsalu NP – Haapsalu.

Red Fox (Vulpes vulpes) 30/4 1 Pärnu – Nigula. 3/5 1 Soomaa NP. 4/5 1 Audru – Matsalu NP. 4/5 2 ; 5/5 3 ; 7/5 2 Matsalu NP. 6/5 1 Põõsaspea. **Grey Seal** (*Halichoerus grypus*) 5/5 3-4 Põõsaspea.

### Eurasian Otter (Lutra lutra)

5/5 1 Rannajõe, Matsalu NP. - Seen running across the meadows at dusk, before finding a water filled ditch.

## Pine Marten (Martes martes)

1/5 1 Luitemaa NR.

3/5 2 Soomaa NP.
The two animals from Soomaa NP were seen chasing each other down the road running towards me. They came quite close before turning into the forest. It was a rare treat seeing them so well!

### Wild Boar (Sus scrofa)

5/5 1ad+5juv ; 6/5 1 Matsalu NP. 7/5 3 S of Haapsalu.

### Roe Deer (Capreolus capreolus)

30/4 1 Nigula - "Magic Corner".
30/4 1m ; 2/5 2 ; 3/5 6 Soomaa NP.
1/5 2 Luitemaa NR.
3/5 3 Pärnu - Soomaa NP.
4/5 1m Audru Meadows.
4/5 2 ; 5/5 24 ; 6/5 1 ; 7/5 17 Matsalu NP.
4/5 5 Matsalu NP - Haapsalu.
5/5 h+1 Põõsaspea.

### Elk (Alces alces)

1/5 1m+6f Luitemaa NR.
4/5 7 ; 5/5 21 ; 7/5 6 Matsalu NP.
Quite easy to see at Matsalu NP, not least from the tower at Kloostri.



Eurasian Beaver - Soomaa NP.

# <u>Birds.</u>

Hazel Grouse (Tetrastes bonasia) Capercaillie (Tetrao urogallus) Black Grouse (Lyrurus tetrix) Grey Partridge (Perdix perdix) Bean Goose (Anser fabalis) Greylag Goose (Anser anser) Greater White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons) Barnacle Goose (Branta leucopsis) Mute Swan (Cygnus olor) **Tundra Swan** (*Cygnus columbianus*) Whooper Swan (Cygnus cygnus) Shelduck (Tadorna tadorna) Gadwall (Anas strepera) Eurasian Wigeon (Anas penelope) Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos) Northern Shoveler (Anas clypeata) Northern Pintail (Anas acuta) Garganey (Anas querquedula) Common Teal (Anas crecca) Common Pochard (Aythya ferina) **Tufted Duck** (Aythya fuliqula) Greater Scaup (Aythya marila) Common Eider (Somateria mollissima) Velvet Scoter (Melanitta fusca) Black Scoter (Melanitta nigra) Long-tailed Duck (Clangula hyemalis) Common Goldeneye (Bucephala clangula) Smew (Mergellus albellus) Goosander (Mergus merganser) Red-breasted Merganser (Mergus servator) Red-throated Diver (Gavia stellata) Black-throated Diver (Gavia arctica) Red-necked Grebe (Podiceps grisegena) **Great Crested Grebe** (*Podiceps cristatus*) Slavonian Grebe (Podiceps auritus) Black Stork (Ciconia nigra) White Stork (Ciconia ciconia) **Bittern** (*Botaurus stellaris*) Grey Heron (Ardea cinerea) **Great White Egret** (Ardea alba) Great Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) Common Kestrel (Falco tinnunculus) Merlin (Falco columbarius) Hobby (Falco subbuteo) **Osprey** (Pandion haliaetus) Honey Buzzard (Pernis apivorus) Black Kite (Milvus migrans) White-tailed Eagle (Haliaeetus albicilla) Western Marsh Harrier (Circus aeruginosus) Montagu's Harrier (Circus pygarus) Eurasian Sparrowhawk (Accipiter nisus) Northern Goshawk (Accipiter gentilis) Buzzard (Buteo buteo) Rough-legged Buzzard (Buteo lagopus)

Lesser Spotted Eagle (Aquila pomarina) Golden Eagle (Aquila chrysaetos) Water Rail (Rallus aquaticus) Corncrake (Crex crex) Spotted Crake (Porzana porzana) Common Moorhen (Gallinula chloropus) Common Coot (Fulica atra) Common Crane (Grus grus) **Oystercatcher** (*Haematopus ostralegus*) **Pied Avocet** (*Recurvirostra avosetta*) Northern Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus) Eurasian Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria) Common Ringed Plover (Charadrius hiaticula) Little Ringed Plover (Charadrius dubius) Woodcock (Scolopax rusticola) Common Snipe (Gallinago gallinago) Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa) **Bar-tailed Godwit** (*Limosa lapponica*) Whimbrel (Numenius phaeopus) Eurasian Curlew (Numenius arguata) Spotted Redshank (Tringa erythropus) Common Redshank (Tringa totanus) Common Greenshank (Tringa nebularia) Green Sandpiper (Tringa ochropus) Wood Sandpiper (Tringa glareola) Common Sandpiper (Actitis hypoleucos) **Red Knot** (*Calidris canutus*) Little Stint (*Calidris minuta*) Temminck's Stint (Calidris temminckii) Dunlin (Calidris alpina) **Ruff** (*Philomachus puqnax*) Common Gull (Larus canus) Great Black-backed Gull (Larus marinus) Herring Gull (Larus argentatus) Lesser Black-backed Gull (Larus fuscus) Black-headed Gull (Larus ridibundus) Little Gull (Larus minutus) Caspian Tern (Sterna caspia) Sandwich Tern (Sterna sandvicensis) Common Tern (Sterna hirundo) Arctic Tern (*Sterna paradisaea*) Little Tern (Sterna albifrons) Black Tern (Chlidonias niger) Arctic Skua (Stercorarius parasiticus) Black Guillemot (Cepphus grylle) Stock Dove (Columba oenas) Wood Pigeon (Columba palumbus) Eurasian Cuckoo (Cuculus canorus) Ural Owl (Strix uralensis) Long-eared Owl (Asio otus) Short-eared Owl (Asio flammeus) Hoopoe (Upupa epops) Eurasian Wryneck (Jynx torquilla) Lesser Spotted Woodpecker (Dendrocopos minor)



Nigula Bog.

Middle Spotted Woodpecker (Dendrocopos medius) White-backed Woodpecker (Dendrocopos leucotos) Great Spotted Woodpecker (Dendrocopos major) Three-toed Woodpecker (Picoides tridactylus) Black Woodpecker (Dryocopus martius) Grey-headed Woodpecker (Picus canus) Red-backed Shrike (Lanius collurio) Great Grey Shrike (Lanius excubitor) Jay (Garrulus glandarius) Magpie (Pica pica) Spotted Nutcracker (Nucifraga caryocatactes) Jackdaw (Corvus monedula) Rook (Corvus frugilegus) Carrion Crow (Corvus corone) Northern Raven (Corvus corax) Waxwing (Bombycilla garrulus) **Great Tit** (*Parus major*) Blue Tit (Parus caeruleus) Coal Tit (Parus ater) Marsh Tit (Parus palustris) Willow Tit (Parus montanus) **Crested Tit** (*Parus cristatus*) Sand Martin (Riparia riparia) Barn Swallow (Hirundo rustica) House Martin (Delichon urbicum) Long-tailed Tit (Aegithalos caudatus) Woodlark (Lullula arborea) Skylark (Alauda arvensis) Savi's Warbler (Locustella luscinioides) Great Reed Warbler (Acrocephalus arundinaceus) **Reed Warbler** (*Acrocephalus scirpaceus*) Willow Warbler (Phylloscopus trochilus) Common Chiffchaff (Phylloscopus collybita) Wood Warbler (*Phylloscopus sibilatrix*) Blackcap (Sylvia atricapilla) Lesser Whitethroat (Sylvia curruca) **Bearded Tit** (*Panurus biarmicus*) Goldcrest (Regulus regulus)

Wren (Troglodytes troglodytes) Nuthatch (Sitta europaea) **Treecreeper** (*Certhia familiaris*) Starling (Sturnus vulgaris) Ring Ousel (Turdus torquatus) Blackbird (Turdus merula) Fieldfare (Turdus pilaris) Redwing (Turdus iliacus) Song Thrush (Turdus philomelos) Mistle Thrush (Turdus viscivorus) Eurasian Robin (Erithacus rubecula) Thrush Nightingale (Luscinia luscinia) Black Redstart (Phoenicurus ochruros) Redstart (Phoenicurus phoenicurus) Whinchat (Saxicola rubetra) Northern Wheatear (Oenanthe oenanthe) Pied Flycatcher (Ficedula hypoleuca) House Sparrow (Passer domesticus) Tree Sparrow (Passer montanus) Dunnock (Prunella modularis) Yellow Wagtail (Motacilla flava) Citrine Wagtail (Motacilla citreola) White Wagtail (Motacilla alba) Meadow Pipit (Anthus pratensis) Tree Pipit (Anthus trivialis) Red-throated Pipit (Anthus cervinus) Chaffinch (Fringilla coelebs) **Greenfinch** (*Carduelis chloris*) Siskin (Carduelis spinus) **Goldfinch** (*Carduelis carduelis*) **Redpoll** (*Carduelis flammea*) Linnet (Carduelis cannabina) Parrot Crossbill (Loxia pytyopsittacus) Red Crossbill (Loxia curvirostra) Bullfinch (Pyrrhula pyrrhula) Hawfinch (Coccothraustes coccothrauses) Yellowhammer (Emberiza citrinella) Reed Bunting (Emberiza schoeniclus)