

# Captivating Croatia: Birding the Adriatic Coast

## April 8–20, 2025 | Species List | by Amelia Morrow



**Compiled by Naturalist Journeys' host, Amelia Morrow, guide Gerard Gorman, and guests Carol, Eleanor, Joseph, Kathy, Linda, Malcolm, Marcie, Mary, Patricia, and Valerie.**

This immersive birding tour through Croatia begins in the capital city of Zagreb and quickly ventures into the richly diverse habitats of the River Kupa Basin. Here, we explored woodlands, wetlands, and farmlands teeming with early spring migrants and nesting species such as White Stork, various raptors, and a wide range of tits and waterfowl. Moving southward, the tour stops in the charming port town of Skradin, the gateway to Krka National Park. Over two days in this karstic landscape, participants enjoy boat rides, cascades, and striking Mediterranean scenery while spotting species like Pygmy Cormorant, Blue Rock Thrush, and Gray Wagtail, along with a fascinating variety of amphibians, butterflies, and dragonflies.

Continuing along the scenic Adriatic coast, we visited Lake Vrana, the Nin salt pans, and the historical town of Nin, rich in both birdlife and cultural heritage. We then headed to the starkly beautiful island of Pag, where dry stone walls and sage-covered hillsides host species like Little Owl, Rock Partridge, and Eurasian Thick-knee, while wetlands and bays attract herons, raptors, and migrating wagtails. To round out the journey, the tour concluded with time spent exploring the dramatic canyons and forests of Paklenica National Park, a pristine corner of the Velebit Mountains known for its raptors and striking karst scenery—a perfect finale to a richly varied and rewarding Croatian nature adventure.

### **BIRDS (140):**

The eBird link below details the 140 species of birds our group observed during the tour. If you're new to eBird, be sure to click "Show All Details" on the right side of the list to expand the report and reveal where and when each of the birds were seen and how many.

[Captivating Croatia: Birding the Adriatic Coast | April 8 - 20, 2025 | eBird Trip Report](#)

### **MAMMALS (2):**

**Red Fox** *Vulpes vulpes* – Several looks while exploring the Ravni Gora area.

**Red Squirrel** *Sciurus vulgaris* – Semi-frequent views while exploring near the villages and around forests.

### **REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS (8):**

**Hermann's Tortoise** *Testudo hermanni* – Juvenile spotted near Lake Vrana

**European Pond Turtle** *Emys orbicularis*

**Eurasian Tree Frog (H)** *Hyla arborea*

**Marsh Frog** *Pelophylax ridibundus*

**European Toad (H)** *Bufo bufo* – Many spotted in Krka National Park

**Italian Wall Lizard** *Podarcis sicula*

**Dalmatian Wall Lizard** *Podarcis melisellensis*

**Alpine Newt** *Ichthyosaura alpestris* – lovely armada spotted by our local guide in the Ravna Gora area.

**BUTTERFLIES (11):**

**Orange-tip Butterfly** *Anthocharis cardamines*

**Common Swallowtail** *Papilio machaon*

**Common Brimstone** *Gonepteryx rhamni*

**Scarce Swallowtail** *Iphiclides podalirius*

**Speckled Wood Butterfly** *Pararge aegeria*

**Large White Butterfly** *Pieris brassicae*

**Small White Butterfly** *Pieris rapae*

**Painted Lady** *Vanessa cardui*

**Dalmatian Ringlet** *Proterebia afra*

**Clouded Yellow Butterfly** *Colias croceus*

**Southern Festoon** *Zerynthia polyxena*

**OTHER (3):**

**Roman Snail** *Helix pomatia*

**Egyptian Grasshopper** *Anacridium aegyptium*

**European Firebug** *Pyrrhocoris apterus*