



LESVOS

April 18 – April 27, 2024

TRIP REPORT



Photos: Group on the flower extension (left) and group on main birding tour (right)

Lesvos - 2024

18th April – 27th April 2024

HIGHLIGHTS

Either for rarity value, excellent views or simply a group favourite.

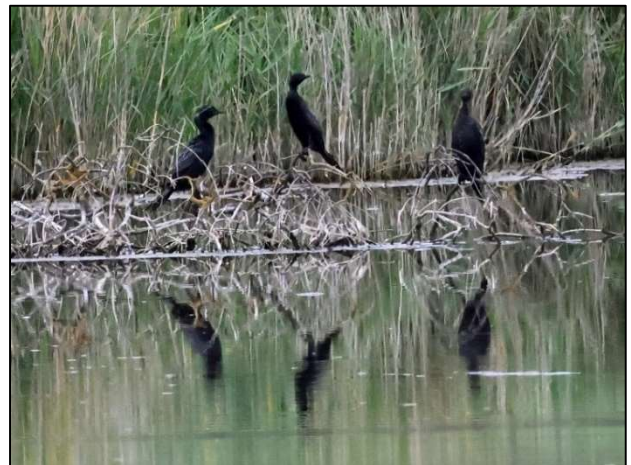
- Krüper's Nuthatch
- Cinereous Bunting
- European Bee-eater
- Dalmatian Pelican
- Pygmy Cormorant
- European Roller
- Montagu's Harrier
- Alpine Swift
- Little Crake
- Black Stork
- Short-toed Eagle
- Eurasian Scops Owl
- Red-footed Falcon
- Barn Owl
- Western Rock Nuthatch
- Spur-winged Lapwing
- Black Tern
- Temminck's Stint
- Red-breasted Flycatcher
- Lesser Grey Shrike
- Long-eared Owls & chicks
- Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin
- Greater Flamingos
- Little Gull
- Blue Rock Thrush
- Golden Oriole
- White-winged Tern
- Little Owl
- Eastern Orphean Warbler
- Black-headed Bunting
- Masked Shrike
- Short-toed Treecreeper
- Cretzschmar's Bunting
- Sombre Tit
- Owlfly
- Glass Lizard
- Lesvos Orchid
- Homer's Orchid
- Naked Man Orchid
- Ashy-loving Orchid
- Yellow Bee Orchid
- Sword-leaved Helleborine
- Four Spotted Orchid
- Komper's Orchid
- Holmboe Butterfly Orchid
- Reinhold's Orchid
- Monkey Orchid
- Provence Orchid
- Woodcock Orchid
- Miniature Orchid
- Toothed Orchid
- Balkan Peonies
- Yellow Rhododendron
- Aegean Tulip

SUMMARY:

This year we enjoyed yet another fantastic tour on favorite island of Lesvos, Greece. We kicked off the tour with two days of fabulous flora! Our expert Paul Manning showed us many of the island's beautiful orchids and seldom seen wildflowers. It was a real treat to see these beautiful flowers and realize that few other people have ever seen them. During our two days, we found no less than 25 species of orchid! Most people on the pre-extension continued onto our regular birdwatching and wildlife tour where once again we were treated some remarkable sightings. Our own personal Krüper's Nuthatch nest site delighted us as we watched the birds come and go to their nest hole totally undisturbed by our group.

Other specialties seen on the tour included Cinereous Bunting, Sombre Tit, **Pygmy**

Cormorants, a family of Long-eared Owls, Dalmatian Pelican, and Red-footed Falcon. A stunning Red-breasted Flycatcher was a rare sighting, and brightly colored birds like European Bee-eaters, Roller, Hoopoe and Golden Orioles brightened our days. Add to this butterfly, moths, lizards, fields full of poppies, the wonderful Ipsilou Monastery, the Petrified Forest Museum and some delicious Taverna lunches and you can see why people return to this magical island again and again.



Pre-tour Orchids and Flowers

Day 1 - 18th April

After a leisurely breakfast we set off east toward our first stop a boggy meadow in an area of limestone adjacent to a very obvious inland cliff that signified a slip fault. We made our way into the tall grasses and were immediately met by a swarth of Loose-flowered and Elegant Bog Orchids with many yet to flower and they looked spectacular. At this time of year, with the majority of orchids being Loose-flowered but we did find a huge flowering Elegant Bog Orchid that was waist high. Heading up into the Olympus range, with the exposed crag of Mt. Olympus almost always in view, we arrived at the tiny mountain village of Asomotos. Our first road side stop was on a corner that looked nothing special, but Paul knew different and we were soon looking at Green-winged Orchid with flower lips ranging from purple to pink. There were also some rather unassuming Serapis orchids - Small flowered plough-share and the much larger Plough-share. Once we got our eyes into scale, Homer's Orchid started to appear among the Peacock Anemones, Lyrate Bellflower, and Shining Cranesbill hanging on to the stones forming the stepped groves which are likely hundreds of years old. A further roadside stop added Naked Man and Ashy-loving Orchids as we headed on up to Agiassos.



Homer's Orchid



Ashy-loving Orchid



Naked Man Orchid

Arriving at the main mountain town of Agiassos, we settled down for a well-deserved coffee stop just off the square and looking up at the imposing Olympus crag above us. Heading up ever higher and after successfully navigating the backstreets of Agiassos, we left the olive groves behind, passed through the Calabrian Pine zone and arrived at our first site which sits on the border of the Calabrian Pines and the beautiful Sweet Chestnut woodland. This woodland seems rather out of place in the Mediterranean; thus, this divide was another clear example of how much geology plays a part in finding orchids. Steve's first bit of rock turning turned up a diminutive Lesvos Small Wood-Scorpion (*Euscorpius lesbiacus*), a recently classified species. The meadow opposite had Peacock Anemones and Hairy Pink, the tiny slender single-flowered plant that Paul gave up trying to pronounce its scientific name and

said we'll get that sorted at dinner. Round-leaved Alexander's grew under the shade with the diminutive Scarlet Pimpernel in a range of colors of which none were scarlet! More hunting found a stand of beautiful Yellow Bee Orchids hiding in the grass plus a number of rather showy pink and white Toothed Orchids. A short wander into the pine forest picked up a couple of brilliant white Sword-leaved Helleborines and slender Four Spotted Orchids. The size



Sword-leaved Helleborine



Four-spotted Orchid



Yellow Bee Orchid

difference between these orchids, with flowers less than half the size of your little fingernail, and the waist high Elegant Bog Orchid was amazing.

Further on down a dirt track and we arrived at a location that appeared no different to the miles of similar tracks crisscrossing this area, but Paul was very careful to ensure we all stayed on the track. Under a bush on the side of the track stood 4 or 5 stems of the very rare and critically threatened Komper's Orchid. Paul thought the flowers were still 2 weeks from coming out but he wanted everyone to see these remarkable Lizard Orchids. A wander down a track and Paul was making sure none of us looked to the left, but he did let us see the Nodding Star of Bethlehem, Eastern Arum on the other side with stunning views out across the forest. We stopped and were allowed to look left to see the extraordinary site of an entire



Balkan Paeony



Aegean Tulip



Reinhold's Orchid

bank covered in flowering Balkan Peonies! Further searching in the area turned up Dark Grape and Tassel Hyacinth, Greek Cyclamen, and the shade loving Leopards Bane. Returning to the road and a very short distance on, we were carefully walking among hundreds of Green-winged and the cream and pink spotted Provence Orchids. The light cream green Holmboe Butterfly Orchids were nearly in flower and hiding among the bracken>



Green-winged Orchid



Provence Orchid



Miniature Orchid

In contrast, the Aegean Tulips lining the track were a brilliant orange and yellow!

Over the top and down to the southern mountain village of Megalochori, we stopped on the side of the road and walked down to a couple of terraced banks. Bull-headed, Miniature and the beautifully varied Reinhold's Orchid were added to our list here and the extraordinary European Birthwort with its hairy cup shaped flower that traps hapless insects was a delight to see. On our way back towards Skala Kalloni, we stopped at a wonderful Caribbean hippy-styled bar for coffee but the owner wouldn't let us leave until a round of local ouzo had been downed. Our final stop was to see the bright yellow very localized endemic Lesvos Alyssum that only grows on rock strata containing heavy metals.

Day 2 - 19th April

Today after breakfast, we set off toward the west of the island. Our first stop was after a long drive along a dirt track up into the mountains near Pteroundi, where we came across a valley of Yellow Rhododendrons growing en masse. It was an amazing spectacle to see these wild flowers in their natural habitat, lining the steep narrow valleys. (While photographing these, we had brief views of a Short-toed Treecreeper and a Subalpine Warbler – because we are never not birding!) This area sits on volcanic strata and exposed areas of Sulphur could be seen on route, the soil is very thin and acidic so few other floras can tolerate these conditions other than a scattering of Violet Limoudures, Spotted Rockrose, and some Sage-leaved Cistus. Paul pointed out the transition zone between the dominant Calabrian Pine forest and the higher altitude and much scarcer Black Pine. Our next stop was near Antissa, which sits alone on a limestone window surrounded by volcanic rock where you can see the dramatic change in flora. A couple of Cream-spotted Tiger moths were noted, but the orchids we were

hoping to see had all gone over. So, we drove into the beautiful Antissa village square for a coffee stop. With the help of some very friendly, local gentlemen, we found a Scops Owl perched in a large Oriental Plane tree. Our next stop was not planned, but thankfully Paul made an amazing spot as we rounded a hairpin bend, finding one of our main target species, the endemic Lesvos Orchid. We had wonderful views of this most rare of orchids. A little further West and down another dirt track a roadside bank held a colony of Monkey Orchids, before we made our way back to Skala Kallonis for lunch.

After lunch, we drove east to Lamborghini Mili to a spot where again, geology is key. Here, the Calabrian Pine Forest stops abruptly and olive groves begin. We walked a stony track among some of the estimated 50 million olive trees on the island and found a couple of Carmel Orchids. The meadows below the trees had numerous florae including, Perforate St. John's-Wort, Viper's Bugloss, Corn Marigold, Five-angled Venus' Looking Glass, French Lavender, and the large flowers of Purple Salsify, some with their big pom-pom seed balls.



Yellow Rhododendron



Lesvos Orchid



Woodcock Orchid

Further searching along the track edge located a very nice Woodcock Orchid and the much larger Homer's Orchid, and a very early flowering Holy Orchid.

Heading back towards Skala Kallonis we had a final stop to take in the sprawling fields full of Field Poppies in bloom with many more still to come out. Just across the road, we stopped off at Kalami Marsh, sighting **Citrine Wagtail** and Great Bittern. Finally, we visited the salt pans before heading back to our hotel.



Birding & Wildlife Tour

Day 1 Charamida - 20th March

Today marked the beginning of our birding tour, with everyone eventually arriving by 3:00 pm. We departed from the airport and drove a short distance to the Charamida coastline. At our favorite spot along the coastal road, we made a stop to survey the hillside. A Cretzschmar's Bunting was singing from an elevated perch as they do. We scoped it enjoying excellent views.



We proceeded to walk a little further along the road until we heard the song of our main target bird, the strikingly smart-looking **Rüppell's Warbler**. A male perched on a bush then, astonishingly, flew just across the road from us, feeding around a flowering bush. This handsome bird treated us to fantastic views, a great start to the tour!

We caught fleeting glimpses of a Sardinian Warbler and spotted a Painted Lady butterfly before moving on to the small village of Loutra. There, it didn't take us long to find at least four Laughing Doves, a recent colonist to the island. As a Short-toed Eagle flew overhead, some Barn Swallows perched nicely nearby offering great views before we set off for our hotel in the quaint fishing village of Skala Kalloni.

Day 2 - 21st April

This morning, we made a pre-breakfast visit to Metochi Lake where we immediately spotted three Squacco Herons perched in the reeds. It didn't take long to spot our first female **Little Crane**, followed by a **male**, and by the end of our birding session we had seen three males

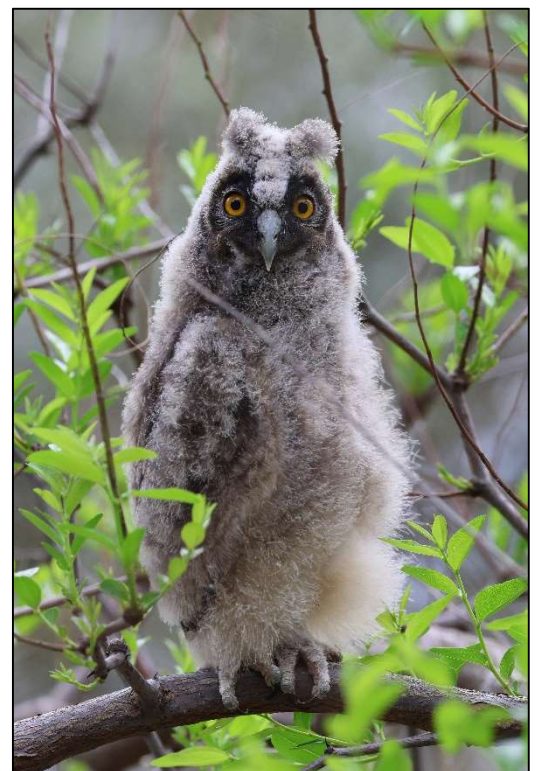


and four females. The reeds were bustling with Great Reed and Common Reed Warblers, as well as Barn Swallows, House Martins, Sand Martins, and the

occasional Red-rumped Swallow. We also caught sight of a Black-crowned Night Heron, and heard the fluting call

of a Golden Oriole.

After returning to the hotel for breakfast, we made a short journey to a spot we found a few days prior to the group arriving. We were delighted to find that a family of Long-eared Owls were there offering absolutely fantastic views. The smallest and cutest of the chicks we had nicknamed '**Gizmo**', and while Gizmo certainly gave us some funny looks, his mother kept a more focused eye on us. What a wonderful experience and



again conducted in a very respectful way. From here we headed towards the Kalloni Salt Pans, one of the top hot spots of the island Where there was always something different to see. Stopping beside the grassy fields, we spotted a Red-throated Pipit perched on a wire



fence, and then in a muddy pool held two elegant looking **Spur-winged Lapwings**. Nearby, we were able to watch three species of harrier hunting the fields with Montagu's, Western Marsh, and a Hen Harrier. What a treat.

At an area of wetlands where the meadows flood and hold water, we found a Spotted Redshank, a Black-tailed Godwit, Glossy Ibis, Ruddy Shelducks, Ruff and Wood Sandpiper, plus, unusually, a Lesser Kestrel perched on a pole. A little further on near some sand dunes and beach we found Northern Wheatear and some bright Western Yellow Wagtails consisting of Black-headed and Blue-headed races.

To top off our wonderful morning we watched European Bee-eaters flying back and forth over our heads. We then returned back to the hotel where we had our picnic lunch.

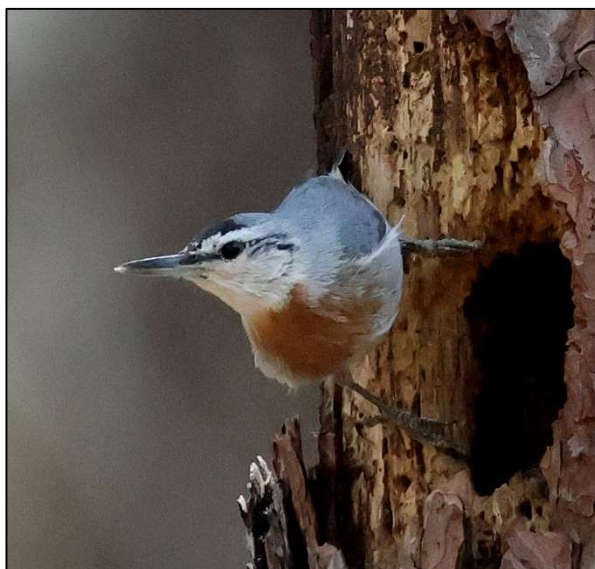
After lunch, we set off toward the Pine Forest and while passing by the salt pans, Frank spotted a Dalmatian Pelican swimming in a channel. We quickly turned around and went back to view this rare, but now regular, visitor to the island.

Moving on to the forest, we were soon treated to fantastic views of the islands star bird the



Krüper's Nuthatch.

We had found a nest a few days before the group arrived and now, we watched as the parents kept returning to the hole in a tree to feed their hungry, fast-growing young. Once again, we kept a respectful distance as to not disturb the birds and when everyone was happy with their views we left them alone. As we made our way out of the forest, we found several Violet Limoudore (orchids) flowering and then got great looks at a **Short-toed Treecreeper**. On our way back, we made a stop at a



reed bed where there had been a report of two Pygmy Cormorants a rare and seldom seen visitor to the island. We found the birds, only to see another two fly in and join them. Four Pygmy Cormorants! Wow!! There were also three Garganey and back by the Salt Pans where the wind had picked up, we watched the groups of Greater Flamingos and Pied Avocets.

Day 3 - 22nd April

This morning, we took a pre-breakfast drive to the nearby Tsiknias River. We stopped for a tree full of European Bee-eaters (40+!) and watched and listened to them all calling to each other. We got to the river ford and immediately heard several **Black-headed Buntings**, a bird that should not be arriving for a few more days, so very early this year. We soon got wonderful views of these brightly colored birds singing from the tops of thistles and small trees. We then drove along the track beside the river stopping to check different areas. We found Eastern Olivaceous Warbler, a noisy Cetti's Warbler, and then in a large dead tree, we spotted Hoopoe, Jays, Greenfinch, Goldfinch, and a brief Middle Spotted Woodpecker.



We returned for breakfast noting a hunting Western Marsh Harrier along the way. After breakfast, we set off west towards our first stop at Ipsilou Monastery. Here we walked up the steep path to the monastery itself and saw a pair of Rock Sparrows sat on a window ledge. From the roof top we got wonderful views of the west of the island and were soon buzzed by huge

Alpine Swifts, and a few Common Swifts.



We made our way down the side road where we met up with our friend Howard and saw a Eurasian Nuthatch, plus a singing Cinereous Bunting, another of the islands big target birds. Turning over a few rocks produced both **Lady Bird Spider** and Black Widow, which we do not see very often. As we got near to the bottom of the monastery road we found a nesting pair of Western Rock Nuthatches, we had to be patient while we waited for the adults to return to their mud-built nest but were eventually rewarded as the birds posed from the top of a large rock.



Black-eared Wheatears and several Northern Wheatears were also present and we could hear several more Cinereous Buntings singing. Continuing on, we drove to Sigri where we first checked out the beach area and, with our scopes pointing out to the sea, we counted hundreds of Yelkouan Shearwaters flying by. There were also European Shag and some Yellow-legged Gulls on the water. We had a fabulous taverna lunch in town, and then drove to the nearby Faneromeni Ford, which soon

had us watching a few Glossy Ibis, and in the bushes either side of the stream we saw European Pied Flycatchers and Spotted Flycatchers. A short walk on a nearby track found us more flycatchers, plus a Common Redstart, Woodchat Shrikes, a lovely group of European Bee-eaters, and two Wood Warblers.

Day 4 - 23rd April

This morning, we took a walk to the Christou River and were treated to good sightings of both Little Stints and Kentish Plovers. In the distance, we spotted a Squacco Heron and several Grey Herons. On our way back, some members of our group were lucky enough to spot an Osprey, while an Eastern Olivaceous Warbler put on a nice show from a treetop for everyone to see. After breakfast, we drove to the east side of the salt pans and walked along the track. Flamingos provided fantastic views in the morning light, and with a thorough

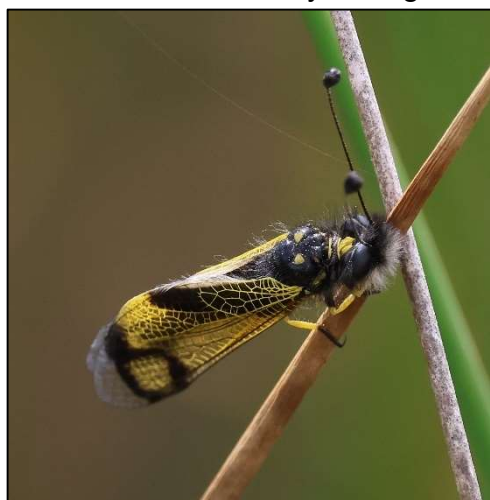


search of the salt pans, we discovered a second-winter **Little Gull**, followed by some Little Terns, Common Terns, and plenty of Pied Avocets. Among the Little Stints,



we observed two Common Ringed Plovers and two Curlew Sandpipers. As we moved on, a

fabulous **adult Little Gull** appeared and flew around us. We heard Zitting Cisticolas and eventually spotted them briefly perched on the reed tops. At the end of the track, we scoped distant Grey Plovers and a Eurasian Curlew. A group of nine Whiskered Terns were seen on a small muddy spit before we slowly made our way back, observing numerous Dark Spreadwing damselflies and a very strange looking **Owlfly**.



From there, we drove to Kalami and witnessed a large flock of 19 Northern Shovelers flying around the bay before landing out of sight on the beach. We then checked out another area and spotted a Great Crested Grebe. Along the river, we observed a Purple Heron, and at the mouth a



Dalmatian Pelican, two Mediterranean Gulls, and plenty of European Bee-eaters.

After lunch, we drove up the Napi Valley and after driving a small rough track, we walked a short

distance and soon enjoyed superb sightings of **Sombre Tits**. Further along, we spotted European Golden Orioles, Woodlarks, and had stunning views of a male Orphean Warbler singing, while a few Tree Pipits never stopped long enough for good views. After our success with the Sombre Tits, we returning to the Salt Pans. Over by the Alykes Wetland we observed Glossy Ibises, three Black Storks, and two female Red-footed Falcons sat on the wires.

Day 5 - 24th April



Our pre-breakfast excursion was to the Metochi Lake again. Little Grebes showed well, plus two Squacco Herons, but surprisingly only one female Little Crake. In the distance, we had two Golden Orioles perched up. The Cetti's Warblers kept singing but would never land long enough for a photo.

We then returned for breakfast and afterwards made a quick visit to the **Long-eared Owls**, where all but one adult were hidden and out of sight. Next up, we visited an area that we have always referred to as the 'Scops Copse' an area traditional for day roosting **Eurasian Scops Owls**. And as we arrived, we met friends who had already located one of these tiny and very camouflaged owls. We



had great looks before setting off northward across the island. Our first stop at Kavaki gave wonderful views of Molivos (Mythimna) and its castle, plus we found Eastern Orphean Warbler, and Eastern Subalpine Warbler as well as two or three Blue Rock Thrushes.

Our next stop was at an old disused reservoir. There were Ruddy Shelducks and lots of Yellow-legged Gulls, while Short-toed Eagle flew overhead and Cirl Bunting and some very showy European Turtle Doves perched nearby. Coffee



and ice cream time! So, we headed for a little café up by the castle and enjoyed a few minutes taking in the spectacular views. From here we made our way slowly along the rugged north coastal track towards the tiny fishing village of Skala Sikaminia. A few stops and short walks along the way found us singing **Cretzschmar's** and Cirl Buntings, Black-eared Wheatears, Woodchat Shrike, but generally the valleys were rather quiet. We then enjoyed another fabulous taverna lunch beside the harbor in the lazy, cat-filled village. Heading back along the coastal road we stopped to sample the incredible hot thermal water rising up in the shallow

coastal water. Just dipping your feet or hands in the right spot was almost scalding! The same birds were seen as earlier but a male Red-backed Shrike was new, and a flowering bush with some Black-veined White butterflies was nice addition to other butterflies seen today. After dinner tonight we decided to go for a walk into town and here we waited near one of the buildings, and sure enough we got to see a pair of Barn Owls coming out of a hole by a chimney.

Day 6 West - 25th April

This morning, we had early breakfast and headed west to start the drive along Meladia Valley. Once we had got over the barren hillside and into the valley where a few scattered trees and bushes could be found, we then made some short walks. By an old farm building, we had Rock Sparrows nesting in an old Rock Nuthatch's nest. There were Red-backed Shrikes and Cretzschmar's Buntings, a Woodlark, plenty of Black-eared Wheatears and Eastern Orphean Warblers. Further on, Gina found a Little Owl perched on a farm building that was about a mile away !!! We walked back and got excellent views of it as well as more shrikes and warblers. Black-headed Buntings were in full song and could be easily picked out because of their bright yellow. But even more bright yellow were the male Golden Orioles that would often sit right out in the open! We added **Whinchats**, European Stonechats, and, at one spot, Ann found us a nice Holy Orchid. We slowly made our way, seeing four Lesser Kestrels on some fence posts. Short-toed Eagles flew over and we found several Linnets. At the old chapel, we got great views of a stunning **Red-breasted Flycatcher**, a species rarely seen



in Lesvos, let alone one in full breeding colors. We then continued on to Sigri and took our picnic lunch at our friend Paul's apartment. He had been using one of my moth lights so entertained us with a few attractive moths and mantids including a nice Oak Hawkmoth.

After lunch, we spent some time at the Petrified Forest Museum before driving back to Faneromeni

Ford. While we were watching European Bee-eaters and Pied Flycatchers, Gina found a European Roller sat on a wire. We got a bunch of other people and another tour group to look at it before returning to look at the stream. On the stream, we got good views of a Ruff, Wood Sandpiper, Common Sandpiper, Little Ringed Plover as well as a Temminck's Stint. As we were leaving the front minibus spotted a Chukar near to

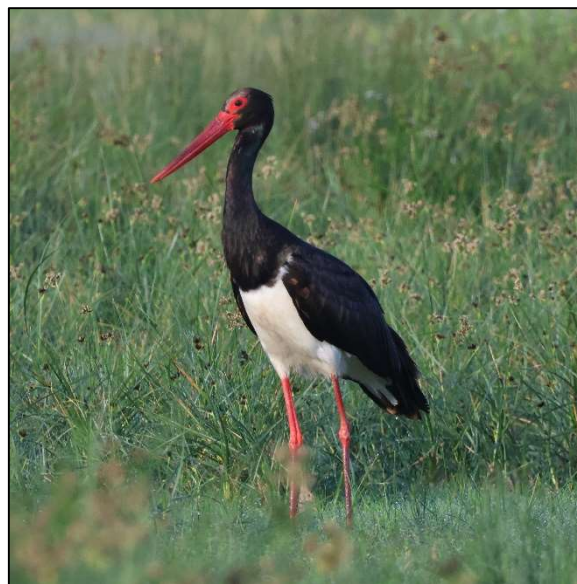


the road so we all stopped and got out to try and re-find it. It was now time to drive back to Skala Kalloni.

Day 7 - 26th April

Today we wanted to try and catch up with any species that we may have missed. So first we visited the Tsiknias River before breakfast. A

Purple Heron (above) showed particularly well right out in the open. In the reeds, we could see Great Reed Warbler, Common Reed Warbler, and a couple of Sedge Warblers, while Cetti's Warbler and Eastern Olivaceous Warbler offered a constant background sound. Woodchat Shrikes, Black-headed Buntings, European Bee-eaters, and a hoopoe were also noted. Back for breakfast and then out again.



We decided to check out the Potamia Old Reservoir and valley track and soon found three Black-crowned Night Herons and two Little Grebes. While up by the bridge, we found several Masked Shrikes and Eurasian Crag Martin. From the bridge we also got to see a Dice Snake and lots of Levant Water Frogs.

As we moved toward Metochi Lake, a Thrush Nightingale started singing, but try and we may it just never showed. The lake was rather quiet excepting a single Gull-billed Tern. Next, we drove to the saltpans, where the two Spur-winged Lapwings were seen again, and both Montagu's and Western Marsh Harriers hunted the grassy meadows offering wonderful flight views. A quick look at the Alykes Wetland produced a group of 6 **Black Storks**, White Stork and Ruddy Shelducks.

We headed back through Lotzaria and stopped by a grass meadow where our attention was aimed at a new bird for the trip a Lesser Grey Shrike perched on a low bush across a meadow. Western Yellow Wagtails were running around and while watching the shrike, both



Frank and I said they saw a bird that looked like a Rufous-tailed Bush Robin. And sure enough, within the next few minutes the Bush Robin hopped up into view! If that wasn't enough a Hoopoe decided to join the spectacle, and a Red-throated Pipit also put in an appearance which was nice to see with its brick red throat. In the distance we also saw the Dalmatian Pelican flying past the bay.

As we headed back for lunch, we had to stop to admire the **European Bee-eaters** sitting around and hawking insects. Then we enjoyed our final lunch at our favorite restaurant in Skala Kalloni by the harbor. After lunch and a short

break, we headed off around the bay with our first stop at Skala Vasilika, another tiny fishing village where a breeding plumaged Black Tern hawked back and forth around the harbor. Moving on to an area of olive groves, we had to wait a while until the rough croaking call of an Olive Tree Warbler was heard. It took a lot of tracking down as it moved from tree to tree but eventually most of us had some sort of view of this notoriously tricky bird. Our final run home had us pass by the salt pans and saying goodbye to the Flamingos, who stood majestically against the backdrop of Mount Olympus! This evening, we celebrated our trip and made a toast to Lisa and Kraig who were celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary!

Day 8 Departure to the airport- 27th April

After a fabulous week, we took take the journey to the airport to drop everyone off in time for their international departures sending them away with memories of the magic of Lesvos!

Thank you for enjoying our favorite island!
Gina, Steve & Paul

BIRDLIST FOR LESVOS 2024

A = Number of species recorded on tour B = Number of days out of 7 recorded C = Highest daily count

H = Days Heard only N/C = No Count

This list follows the IOC WORLD BIRD LIST v (14.3) and as such names may be different than some of the field guides and other taxonomies.

A	SPECIES	SCIENTIFIC NAME	B	C	H
1	Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>	3	2	
2	Ruddy Shelduck	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>	6	10	
3	Garganey	<i>Spatula querquedula</i>	1	3	
4	Northern Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>	1	19	
5	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	2	3	
6	Chukar Partridge	<i>Alectoris chukar</i>	1	1	
7	Scopoli's Shearwater	<i>Calonectris diomedea</i>	1	3	
8	Yelkouan Shearwater	<i>Puffinus yelkouan</i>	1	500	
9	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	3	2	
10	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	1	1	
11	Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>	6	300+	
12	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>	3	8	
13	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	6	3	
14	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	3	20	
15	Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>	1	2	
16	Eurasian Bittern	<i>Botaurus stellaris</i>	1	1	
17	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	2	3	
18	Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>	4	8	
19	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	5	15	
20	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	4	3	
21	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	3	2	
22	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	6	40	
23	Dalmatian Pelican	<i>Pelecanus crispus</i>	3	1	
24	European Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>	4	8	
25	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	4	3	
26	Pygmy Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo pygmaeus</i>	1	4	

27	Western Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	1	1	
28	Short-toed Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>	7	2	
29	Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	6	5	
30	Hen Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	1	1	
31	Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>	2	2	
32	Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>	2	1	
33	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	6	4	
34	Water Rail	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>	1	1	
35	Little Crake	<i>Porzana parva</i>	2	6	
36	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	5	8	
37	Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>	4	4	
38	Eurasian Stone-curlew	<i>Burhinus oedichnemus</i>	1	2	
39	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	5	20	
40	Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>	4	30	
41	Spur-winged Lapwing	<i>Vanellus spinosus</i>	4	2	
42	Grey (Black-bellied) Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	1	1	
43	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	1	2	
44	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>	5	4	
45	Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>	3	4	
46	Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>	1	1	
47	Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>	1	1	
48	Ruff	<i>Calidris pugnax</i>	4	40	
49	Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	1	2	
50	Temminck's Stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>	1	1	
51	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>	4	50	
52	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	3	2	
53	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	4	5	
54	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>	6	50	
55	Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>	1	1	
56	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	3	4	
57	Little Gull	<i>Hydrocoloeus minutus</i>	1	2	
58	Mediterranean Gull	<i>Ichthyaetus melanocephalus</i>	1	2	
59	Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	7	C	
60	Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>	2	1	
61	Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>	1	3	
62	Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>	1	4	
63	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	3	10	
64	Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>	1	9	
65	Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>	1	1	
66	Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	7	6	
67	European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	4	4	
68	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	6	C	
69	Laughing Dove	<i>Spilopelia senegalensis</i>	1	4	
70	Western Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>	2	2	
71	Eurasian Scops Owl	<i>Otus scops</i>	1	1	
72	Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>	1	3	
73	Long-eared Owl	<i>Asio otus</i>	4	5	
74	Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>	2	6	

75	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	6	N/C	
76	European Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>	1	1	
77	European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>	6	30+	
78	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>	5	2	
79	Middle Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocoptes medius</i>	1	1	
80	Lesser Kestrel	<i>Falco naumanni</i>	2	4	
81	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	4	2	
82	Red-footed Falcon	<i>Falco vespertinus</i>	1	2	
83	Eleonora's Falcon	<i>Falco eleonora</i>	1	1	
84	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	1	1	
85	Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>	5	8	
86	Lesser Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius minor</i>	1	1	
87	Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>	5	10	
88	Masked Shrike	<i>Lanius nubicus</i>	3	4	
89	Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>	3	8	2
90	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	4	2	
91	Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>	2	23	
92	Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	7	C	
93	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	6	6	
94	Sombre Tit	<i>Poecile lugubris</i>	3	6	
95	Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>	6	2	
96	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>	4	2	
97	Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>	3	1	1
98	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>	7	C	
99	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	3	10	
100	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	7	C	
101	Eurasian Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>	1	4	
102	Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	6	10	
103	Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Cecropis daurica</i>	5	10	
104	Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>	4	2	2
105	Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>	1	3	
106	Wood Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>	1	2	
107	Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>	2	1	
108	Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>	1	2	
109	Eurasian Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>	4	4	
110	Eastern Olivaceous Warbler	<i>Iduna pallida</i>	3	4	
111	Olive-tree Warbler	<i>Hippolais olivetorum</i>	1	1	
112	Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>	2	4	
113	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	1	1	
114	Eastern Orphean Warbler	<i>Curruca crassirostris</i>	2	2	
115	Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Curruca curruca</i>	1	1	
116	Common Whitethroat	<i>Curruca communis</i>	3	1	
117	Eastern Subalpine Warbler	<i>Curruca cantillans</i>	2	2	
118	Rüppell's Warbler	<i>Curruca ruppeli</i>	1	2	
119	Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>	1	1	
120	Krüper's Nuthatch	<i>Sitta krueperi</i>	1	2	
121	Western Rock Nuthatch	<i>Sitta neumayer</i>	1	2	
122	Short-toed Treecreeper	<i>Certhia brachydactyla</i>	1	1	

123	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	2	1	
124	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	5	2	
125	Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin	<i>Cercotrichas galactotes</i>	1	1	
126	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>	2	10	
127	Thrush Nightingale	<i>Luscinia luscinia</i>	1		1
128	Common Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>	2	1	4
129	European Pied Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>	1	4	
130	Red-breasted Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula parva</i>	1	1	
131	Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>	1	1	
132	Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>	2	3	
133	Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>	6	15	
134	European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>	4	2	
135	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>	3	2	
136	Eastern Black-eared Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe melanoleuca</i>	5	8	
137	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	6	N/C	
138	Spanish Sparrow	<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>	3	25	
139	Rock Sparrow	<i>Petronia petronia</i>	2	2	
140	Western Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>	4	20	
141	<i>Blue-headed Wagtail</i>	<i>M. f. flava</i>	3	2	
142	<i>Black-headed Wagtail</i>	<i>M. f. feldegg</i>	3	12	
143	<i>Intergrade/variant sp</i>	<i>M. f. superciliaris</i>	1	1	
144	Citrine Wagtail	<i>Motacilla citreola</i>	1	1	
145	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	1	1	
146	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>	1	6	
147	Red-throated Pipit	<i>Anthus cervinus</i>	3	4	
148	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	4	4	
149	European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>	5	2	1
150	Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>	1	7	
151	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	5	4	
152	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>	6	C	
153	Cinereous Bunting	<i>Emberiza cineracea</i>	2	1	1
154	Cretzschmar's Bunting	<i>Emberiza caesia</i>	2	10	
155	Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>	5	4	
156	Black-headed Bunting	<i>Emberiza melanocephala</i>	4	4	

Other sightings

A	SPECIES	SCIENTIFIC NAME	B	C
1	Persian Squirrel	<i>Sciurus anomalus</i>	5	1
2	Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	2	1
3	Balkan Terrapin	<i>Mauremys rivulata</i>	4	C
4	Starred Agama	<i>Laudakia stellio</i>	2	1
5	Balkan Green Lizard	<i>Lacerta trilineata</i>	1	1
6	European Glass Lizard	<i>Psuedopus apodus</i>	2	2
7	Dice Snake	<i>Natrix tessellata</i>	1	1
8	Levant Water Frog	<i>Pelophylax bedriagae</i>	3	6
9	Mediterranean Chequered Scorpion	<i>Mesobuthus gibbosus</i>	1	1
9	Lesvos Small Wood-Scorpion	<i>Euscorpis lesbiacus</i>	1	1
10	Dung Beetle	<i>Species not known</i>	2	2

11	Violet Carpenter Bee	<i>Xylocarpus violacea</i>	2	1
12	Scarce Swallowtail	<i>Iphiclides podalirius</i>	2	1
13	Eastern Festoon	<i>Allancastris cerisy</i>	1	1
14	Black-veined White	<i>Aporia crataegi</i>	1	5
15	Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>	2	2
16	Eastern Bath White	<i>Pontia edusa</i>	2	1
17	Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias crocea</i>	1	2
18	Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>	2	2
19	Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>	4	2
20	Holly Blue	<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>	1	1
21	Mallow Skipper	<i>Carcharodus alceae</i>	1	1
22	Levant Hawkmoth	<i>Theretra alecto</i>	1	1
23	Striped Hawkmoth	<i>Hyles livornica</i>	1	1
24	Oak Hawkmoth	<i>Marumba quercus</i>	1	1
26	Lesser Yellow Underwing	<i>Noctua comes</i>	1	1
27	Dark Spreadwing	<i>Lestes macrostigma</i>	2	100
28	Blue Emperor	<i>Anax imperator</i>	1	1
29	Red-veined Darter	<i>Sympetrum fonscolombii</i>	2	2
30	Mediterranean False Black Widow	<i>Steatoda paykulliana</i>	1	1
31	Ladybird Spider	<i>Eresus walckenaeri or kollari</i>	1	1
32	Owlfly	<i>Libelloides rhomboideus</i>	1	1
33	Violet Limoudore	<i>Limodorum abortivum</i>	1	3
34	Holy Orchid	<i>Anacamptis sancta</i>	1	3
35	Narrow-leaved Lupin	<i>Lupinus angustifolius</i>	1	N/C
36	Yellow-horned Poppy	<i>Glaucium flavum</i>	3	N/C
37	Viper's Bugloss	<i>Echium vulgare</i>	3	N/C
39	Hollyhock	<i>Alcea rosea</i>	2	N/C
40	Scarlet Pimpernel	<i>Lysimachia arvensis</i>	5	N/C
41	Purple Milk-Vetch	<i>Astragalus danicus</i>	3	N/C
42	Large Venus's Looking Glass	<i>Legousia pentagonia</i>	2	N/C

FLORA-LIST FOR LESVOS 2024

Seen over 2 days pre-extension on the 18th & 19th April 2024

A	SPECIES	SCIENTIFIC NAME	
1	Sword-leaved Helleborine	<i>Cephalanthera longifolia</i>	3
2	Violet Limodore	<i>Limodorum abortivum</i>	6
3	Holomboë's Butterfly Orchid (Platanthera)	<i>Platanthera holmboei</i>	4
4	Small-flowered Tongue-Orchid	<i>Serapias parviflora</i>	10
5	Plough-share Tongue-Orchid (Long-lipped Tongue Orchid)	<i>Serapias vomeracea</i>	15
6	Elegant Orchid (Marsh Orchid)	<i>Anacamptis palustris elegans</i>	2
7	Green-winged Orchid	<i>Anacamptis morio</i>	30
8	Holy Orchid	<i>Anacamptis sancta</i>	2
9	Loose-flowered Orchid	<i>Anacamptis laxiflora</i>	200
10	Four-spotted Orchid	<i>Orchis quadripunctata</i>	30
11	Provence Orchid	<i>Orchis provincialis</i>	12
12	Monkey Orchid	<i>Orchis simia</i>	8

13	Naked Man Orchid	<i>Orchis italica</i>	6
14	Toothed Orchid	<i>Neotinia tridentata</i>	10
15	Komper's Orchid	<i>Himantoglossum comperiana</i>	6
16	Ashy loving Orchid (Brown Bee Orchid) or (Sombre Bee Orchid)	<i>Ophrys fusca subsp. cinereophila</i>	2
17	Yellow Bee Orchid	<i>Ophrys lutea</i>	20
18	Lion-manned Orchid	<i>Ophrys tenthredinifera</i>	Gone over
19	Carmel Orchid	<i>Ophrys umbilicata</i>	4
20	Bull-headed Orchid	<i>Ophrys umbilicata subsp. bucephala</i>	2
21	Miniature Orchid	<i>Ophrys scolopax var. minutula</i>	2
22	Woodcock Orchid	<i>Ophrys scolopax</i>	1
23	Homer's Orchid (Late Spider Orchid)	<i>Ophrys fuciflora ('homeri')</i>	6
24	Lesbos Orchid	<i>Ophrys argolica lesbis</i>	1
25	Reinhold's Orchid	<i>Ophrys reinholdii</i>	6
26	Yellow Rhododendron	<i>Rhododendron luteum</i>	Lots
27	Balkan Peony	<i>Paeonia mascula</i>	Lots
28	Star of Bethlehem	<i>Ornithogalum umbellatum</i>	20
29	Nodding Star of Bethlehem	<i>Ornithogalum nutans</i>	20
30	Aegean Tulip	<i>Tulipa aegeensis</i>	30
31	Hairy Birthwort	<i>Aristolochia hirta</i>	10
32	Leopard's Bane	<i>Doronicum orientale</i>	Seen
33	Viper's Bugloss	<i>Echium vulgare</i>	Lots
34	Peacock Anemone	<i>Anemone pavonina</i>	25
35	French Lavender	<i>Lavandula stoechas</i>	Seen
36	Burgundy Loosestrife	<i>Lysimachia atropurpurea</i>	Seen
37	Dark Grape Hyacinth	<i>Muscari commutatum</i>	Seen
38	Tassel Hyacinth	<i>Muscari comosum</i>	Seen
39	Pontic Fritillary	<i>Fritillaria pontica</i>	10
40	Greek Cyclamen	<i>Cyclamen graecum</i>	Seen
41	Purple Salsify	<i>Tragopogon porrifolius</i>	Seen
42	Lesvos Alyssum	<i>Alyssum lesbiacum</i>	Seen
43	Thorney Burnet	<i>Sarcopoterium spinosum</i>	Common
44	Oregano	<i>Origanum vulgare</i>	Lots
45	Pale Flax	<i>Linum bienne</i>	Seen
46	Hairy Pink	<i>Kohlrauschia dubia (veluntina)</i>	Seen

