

## **Samos, Greece, June 2008**



**Trip report by Per Henningsson**

## **Background and logistics**

This is a short report on a week's vacation on the Greek island Samos in the eastern Aegean Sea in second week of June. The character of the trip was primarily relaxing and general nature exploring, but with a fair bit of birding involved of course. The timing of the visit was not adjusted to the peak in bird activity/intensity and therefore the species list is not very impressive. The report may still be of interest to anyone visiting the island during the summer months. Me and my girlfriend, Teresa, left Kastrup Airport, Denmark, at 8:30 (one hour delay) on the 8<sup>th</sup> of June after spending the whole night at the airport. The flight was ca 3.5 hours. The traveling agency was the Swedish company "Ving" and we flew with Sterling. The emissions from the flight was compensated using GreenSeat ([www.greenseat.com](http://www.greenseat.com)) at a cost of 13 € including both ways. The flight was pleasant and without any problem. The airport of Samos is a bit unusual. The island is very mountainous and has more or less only one flat area around Pythagorio in the south where the airport lies. This area is not very big and surrounded by mountains and water which means that both landing and take-off involves a steep banking turn at low altitude just before landing and just after take off. Both landing and take off was performed perfectly during our flights, though. This is just mentioned to anyone with a fear of flying, to avoid any unpleasant surprises.

From the airport we took a transfer bus to our hotel, "Anastasia Village", 3 km east of Pythagorio. This hotel was very nice. The location was really perfect for us; it is situated well outside the village in a very quiet area. Perfect if you are here for relaxing and bird watching. A small warning, though, there is no grocery store nearby and only a couple of very simple taverns. Bus service is so so, but on the other hand a taxi into the village costs only about 4 €. First afternoon was mostly food hunting and this was a bit annoying. If you are going to any hotel outside Pythagorio you should know that this is how it is. After solving these simple, yet important, practical things we really enjoyed the location. From the balcony we were overlooking the narrow sound towards Turkey just a couple of kilometers away. Very beautiful.

To get around the island we rented a Hyundai Atos for 4 days at a cost of 100 €. Ask around a bit in Pythagorio for a good deal, there are many companies in the market and the stores are even nicely aligned along the main road from the small harbor. We went from place to place asking what offers they could give us. John's Rental turned out to be the best, offering good insurance and the best price. On this particular island we for the first time got to know that a Swedish B-drivers license (car) is not enough to drive a scooter! Strange as it sounds, we still did not want to risk getting a fine and therefore rented a car instead. If you are used to be able to rent scooters on other Greek islands you should be aware of this. The roads on Samos are fairly good and many have asphalt or cement surface, but there were many tempting gravel roads, unsuitable for cars, that we would have liked to explore... We covered most of the island during the four days and drove about 500 km. The island is not very big but very mountainous and therefore going from point A to B is everything else but a straight line.

## **Literature**

We did not manage to find any birding guide books to this island but found on the net a very thorough trip report by Terry Fenton. It can be found at this address: <http://www.birder.pwp.blueyonder.co.uk/Samos%200506.htm>. In this report several birding sites are mentioned which all were easy to find. Although bare in mind that some of the wetland areas dry out during the summer and the quality drastically drops. For example, the site that Terry holds as the best one on the island, "Potokaki Pools", was dry and provided

mediocre amounts of birds. When it comes to maps the ones you get from the rental offices are a joke. Some roads are just ignored and, what's worse, some are invented. Instead get one at any mini market or newspaper store or, as we did, find one on the net prior to the trip. This one for example: <http://www.diavlos.gr/maps/bigamosmap.html>. Otherwise, if you want a really good map order the "Road Edition" 1:50 000 map No 210, ISBN 9608481031.

Bird literature used was the "Collins Bird Guide" ("Fågelguiden" in Swedish) by Lars Svensson et al. For nature related information about the island we used Sunflower Books' guide "Samos- Car tours and walks" (ISBN 1856912884). This book is only good if you are a pure hiker and not very interested in where you actually are walking, to put it bluntly. The guide is not very good for finding information about different sites, it is too focused on giving only suggestions on where to walk, where to turn and how to find the right track and so on, and often forgets to mention anything about the places you pass. Try to find a better guide, we didn't have the time to order any online since we did a last minute booking of the trip.

### **The island and the birding sites**

Samos is a wonderful little island, ca 47 km long and 20 km wide. It is relatively green, with some real forests and overall quite dense vegetation. The island is very mountainous with two major mountain areas; Mt. Karvounis (1153 m) in the centre and Mt. Kerkis (1434 m) in the west. The landscapes are very beautiful. The south coast and the north coast are very different, the north coast being much "wilder" with mostly rocky shores, more wind and higher waves compared to the south with sand or stone beaches and small coves, more lowland areas and less wind. Both have their special qualities of course, but personally I would not have chosen to stay on the north coast. The south coast feels more suitable for birds, at least a wider range of bird species. The mountain areas are very beautiful and provide a large range of habitats, with many valleys and mountain peaks. The habitats range from dense lush forest (especially in the Aidona Gorge, Vourliotes called "Valley of the Nightingales",) to the bare rock mountain peaks.

The location of this island just off the coast of Turkey and 150 km south of the more famous birding island Lesbos is without a doubt a good place to do birding during migration. I would guess that the optimal time to visit would be around last week of April or first week of May. During the time of year that we visited, second week of June, the amount of birds was not overwhelming, but still we had a constant flow of interesting species. It appears, if one reads other trip reports, that the island of Lesbos has higher bird concentrations even off migration season (possibly due to more wetlands) but on the other hand on this island you will be more alone at the birding sites and will do more of your own explorations. The birding on this island was very nice; there were many beautiful and interesting areas that were easily explored and accessed. I believe we did not see a single "private-property" sign during the whole week. This does of course not mean that one can go in to people's gardens, olive groves or vineyards, but it gives you a hint that there is no hostility towards visitors.

The weather during our stay was exceptionally good, not only was the sun shining from a constantly blue sky but also the temperature and the winds were perfect. In the mornings and evenings the temperature was around 22 degrees and there were no wind. During midday the temperature was somewhere between 27 and 30 degrees, hot but not too hot, and then there was a perfect soft breeze. The perfect weather for a vacation. When it comes to birds a slightly cooler weather might have been preferable but on the other hand at this time of year

we are already well into the breeding period and I doubt that any change in weather would have affected the bird activity to any considerable extent. It would have been a completely different case during migration season.

## **The birding**

Day 1 (8/6-08) (Around Hotel Anastasia outside Pythagorio)

The arrival day included mostly settling in on the hotel and getting food and water sorted out. Still, we started by walking around the areas closest to the hotel and during this walk we saw the first **Eleonoras' Falcon** (Eleonorafalk) of the trip, dark phase. This individual was seen also later during the week at this location in the small mountain just by the hotel. Other birds worth mentioning were a couple of **Fan-tailed Warblers** (Grässångare) and several **Crested Larks** (Tofslärka) just outside the hotel area and some **Yellow-legged Gulls** (Medelhavstrut) seen flying along the coast. After being up more or less 34 hours straight we went to bed early so the first day was not super productive.

Day 2 (9/6-08) (Around Pythagorio)

This second day still involved a couple of practical things as for example booking the rental car for the next four days. Therefore the day was spent around the Village Pythagorio and around the Hotel. Two **Short-toed Eagles** (Ormörn) were seen flying over the small mountain ridge behind the hotel. Very nice! Also near the hotel a couple of **Jays** (Nötskrika) of the subspecies *samios*. All jays on this island are of this subspecies, which was new to us. During a walk through the beautiful surroundings we saw and heard several **Olivaceous Warblers** (Eksångare). These birds are quite common on the island and are easy to find, as long as they are singing, at least. Also along this walk the first **Black-eared Wheatears** (Medelhavsstenskväta) were seen, a pair apparently close to their nest in an old farmhouse ruin. Both the male and the female were seen very well. Most of the Black-eared Wheatears on the island are of the race *melanoleuca* that are almost completely black and white with only a slight fade of apricot on the chest (see picture below). Furthermore, they exist as a white-throated and a black-throated morph, these particular individuals were black-throated. They look very exotic and the race was new to us.



Black-eared Wheatear of the race melanoleuca.  
This one of the black-throated morph.

As the day before, and all other days for that matter, several **Fan-tailed Warblers** (Grässångare) and many **Crested Larks** (Tofslärka) were heard and seen, but other than that not much more worth mentioning. Fan-tailed Warblers are common all over the island and are heard wherever there is a suitable habitat; often open dry grassy areas. Also the Crested Larks are very common, maybe one of the most common birds. At the time of our visit they were singing intensely and their song is actually quite beautiful compared to their otherwise slightly sad and lonely call.

Day 3 (10/6-08)

(Around the island tour; including Psili Amos and north coast)

This was the first day with car and we were eager to see the island. Therefore we did an around-the-island-trip this day, starting with the wetland area Psili Amos ca 10 km east of Pythagorio. On the way there we spotted a **Woodchat Shrike** (Rödhuvad törnskata) just by the road and further along the same road one **Sardinian Warbler** (Sammetshättä). These are common warblers on the island. Also during a short stop one **Turtle Dove** (Turturduva) flew past. Then finally reaching Psili Amos. This small area is one of few wetlands on the island and one would expect to find piles of birds here. That was not at all the case. The shallow pond, that by the way *looked* very promising, hosted only a bunch of **Black-winged Stilts** (Styltlöpare) and a few **Ruddy Shelducks** (Rostand). These were observed perfectly and that was of course very nice, but the low number of birds was a bit surprising. Well, this area also had its share of **Fan-tailed Warblers** (Grässångare), **Crested Larks** (Tofslärka) and **Yellow-**

**legged Gulls** (Medelhavstrut), but not much more. I guess the site is good during migration, though. This area is profiled by the traveling agencies as the “Flamingo-lake” and I am sure many tourists come here to see the pink birds. What they forget to mention to the tourists is that the only time of year that a visitor can count on finding any Greater Flamingos here are during the migration season and according to the information I have found they do not breed here. Psili Amos is only a stopover site for these birds. Although, we did find our “own” Greater Flamingo later during the week at a different site.

After Psili Amos we headed towards Vathi and Samos Town. On the way there a small flock of 7 **Red-rumped Swallows** (Rostgumpssvala) were found sitting on a telephone-wire. In Samos Town not much in terms of birds are worth mentioning a part from the only heron for the week; a **Grey Heron** (Gråhäger) flying along the coastline in the town. Vathi and Samos Town are both very nice and lies at a wonderful location inside the Vathi Gulf.

After a lunch in Samos Town we headed west along the north coast towards Kokkari. From the road we spotted an adult **Eleonora’s Falcon** (Eleonorafalk). We stopped and could watch the bird at close distance when it flew past us. The bird was a light phase, actually the first of that phase for us ever. Fantastic! We past Kokkari and then took the mountain road up towards the monastery Vronta. The road up there was very beautiful. We saw a couple of **Turtle Doves** (Turturduva) on the way and from the parking by the monastery we saw one female **Blue Rock Thrush** (Blåtrast) briefly. At these higher elevations it is worth paying some extra attention to these birds since it is possible to find Rock Thrushes (Stentrast) on this island, although they are not common. We walked around the monastery and the atmosphere around it was special. The landscape and the calmness were very soothing. Behind the monastery a couple of **Cretzschmar's Buntings** (Rostsparv) were singing their delicate song. On the roof of the Monastery a pair of **Black-eared Wheatears** (melanoleuca, black-throated) was jumping around. We took a short stroll around the monastery and saw one male **Black-eared Wheatear** of the light-throated morph and higher up in the mountain a **Long-legged Buzzard** (Örnvråk) landed. On the way down from M. Vronta we found one male **Blue Rock Thrush** that we could study at close range and even take some photos of (see below).



Blue Rock Thrush by the road down from M. Vronta.

When returning down from Vurliotes to the coastal road we found a dog lying just by the roadside. The dog was in very bad condition; weak and with hundreds of ticks. We fed the dog and just by luck we had earlier noticed a sign along the north coastal road ca 2 km west of Samos Town showing the way to an animal rescue centre. We contacted the centre the next day and the dog was taken to the shelter. Samos has a lot of stray animals and we encourage you to contact “Animal Care Samos” if you happen to find a dog or a cat in need of help. Their phone number is (00)30-6947584112 and their homepage is <http://www.animalcaresamos.com>. If you need to meet them in person follow the signs from the coastal road ca 2-3 km west of Samos Town. The sign says ”Animal Care Samos”. Opening hours 10-12 every day.

We took the next mountain road up towards Manolates. This road goes through the famous “Valley of the Nightingales” and this valley has a dense green lush forest. The road takes you through the valley and from the road many trails go into the forest. You can basically stop anywhere you find interesting and start from there. We took a short walk into the valley and it is truly magnificent! In terms of birds, not much, just some **Chaffinches** (Bofink) and a couple of **Wrens** (Gärdsmyg) were heard. Along our stroll we came to the most beautiful vineyard I’ve seen so far, but that’s a different story.

The village of Manolates is an extraordinary little mountain village, with narrow streets built without any sense of order. As small as the village is we manage to get a little lost among all the small alleys. Here life is slow. In the village many **Swifts** (Tornseglare) and swallows were flying, **Red-rumped Swallow** (Rostgumpsvala) **House Martins** (Hussvala) and **Barn Swallows** (Ladusvala).

After Manolates we continued along the coastal road to Potami beach. It was rather windy and the waves were big. After a while we realized that there were many shearwaters flying further out over the sea. We scanned with the scope and found first one **Cory's Shearwater** (Gulnäbbad lira) and then a constant flow of **Yelkouan Shearwaters** (Medelhavslira) for the rest of the time we spent here. This was a very exiting experience!

Continuing along our route we went towards Platanos which is the highest inhabited village of the island. Along the road we heard one **Nightingale** (Sydnäktergal) singing just outside Konteika. The road up to Platanos goes between the two mountain ranges Mt. Karvounis and Mt. Kerkis and provides spectacular views. The island is narrow at this point so all of a sudden you are in the south again. Heading east towards Pirgos we saw along the road a **Red-footed Falcon** (Aftonfalk) hanging against the wind over a cliff and an adult female **Masked Shrike** (Masktörnskata) sitting on a wire. From here we went past Chora and finally returned back at the hotel just before sunset. We finished off with one **Little Owl** (Minervauggla) flying and sitting on a wire over a field near the hotel. In total 150 km driven this day.

Day 4 (11/6-08)                      (Glyfada wetlands, Potokaki, Ireo, Pagondas, Pirgos)

This day we started at Glyfada wetlands along the main road from Pythagorio by the junction towards Potokaki. “Wetland” is maybe a bit flattering since it really is just a small pond by the road. The site did not provide any breathtaking discoveries, just one **Moorhen** (Rörhöna) and one **Fan-tailed Warbler** (Grässångare). Again, during migration it may well be a good birding site. After this we drove to Potokaki and to what Terry in his report call “Potokaki Pools”. The pools were dry and bird activity low. 4 **Cetti’s Warblers** (Cettisångare) were heard during the walk along the coast and 5 **Fan-tailed Warblers** (Grässångare). The only

part that was not dried out was the small creek that runs from the wetlands towards the sea. From the reeds a **Green Sandpiper** (Skogssnäppa) flew up and landed further up along the creek. This individual must have been very late on its migratory journey.

Ireo did not provide any interesting bird observations. From Ireo we headed towards Pagondas and then up into the mountains towards Spatharei. I strongly recommend this route. Along it we saw the first **Alpine Swifts** (Alpseglare) of the trip, maybe 15 of them. We also saw one **Cretzschmar's Buntings** (Rostsparv), one **Black-eared Wheatear** (Medelhavsstenskvätta) and one **Blue Rock Thrush** (Blåtrast). One **Long-legged Buzzard** (Örnvråk) was hanging in the wind in a beautiful valley where we also saw 2 **Ortolan Buntings** (Ortolansparv). Close to M. Evangelistrias just after the view opens up towards the coast and the little islet Samiopula we stopped after seeing something very yellow flying over the road in front of us. It turned out to be a **Black-headed Bunting** (Svarthuvad sparv). At this spot there were several of them singing. They were seen very well, sometimes even from just a couple of meters distance. It was such a nice experience! It may be worth a stop here even another year, since it seemed to be a breeding site. The view from here is magnificent. While admiring the landscape we spotted something flying among the shrubs and boulder further down in the slope. It turned out to be a pair of **Rüppell's Warblers** (Svarthakad sångare), one of the target species for the trip! They had their nest in the slope just 30 meters below us and especially the male was seen very well.



Black-headed Bunting near M. Evangelistrias along the road between Pagondas and Spatharei.

Continuing along the road we saw just before Spatharei one **Woodchat Shrike** (Rödhuwad törnskata), one **Black-eared Wheatear** (Medelhavsstenskvätta), one **Olivaceous Warbler** (Eksångare) and several **Alpine Swifts** (Alpseglare). All in all, the road between Pagondas and Spatharei turned out to be very productive! After a lunch in Pirgos we drove to what Terry call “Honey Pure Raptor Ridge”. This place is, as heard from the name, good for raptors, but of course especially during migration. To find this spot go west 1.5 kilometers on the main road from Pirgos until you find a small honey-hut with the sign “Honey Pure” on



your left. From here you have a perfect view over the valley. We spent some time here even though it was off season and manage to find at least a couple of **Short-toed Eagles** (Ormörn), some **Sand Martins** (Backsvala) and some **Alpine Swifts** (Alpseglare). This must be some place during migration! After this, we drove up the road towards Mesagio and found a wonderful valley. In this valley one **Common Buzzard** (Ormvråk) and one **Long-legged Buzzard** (Örnvråk; this time of a dark phase) were flying and yet some more **Alpine Swifts** (Alpseglare). Very nice area.

On the way back we drove by the monastery Megali Panagias and along the road a **Chukar** (Berghöna) flew up and was seen briefly before disappearing among the shrubs. They are very shy creatures, the Chukars. No more exciting things this day. In total 100 km driven during the day.

Day 5 (12/6-08) (Eastern peninsula)

This day we started at the ruins of the ancient town of Pythagorio just above where the village lies today. There is a sign down by the road in the eastern part of the village pointing you to the right road. This road then, after this point, has no sign towards the site anymore. We just guessed the location. It is under a kilometer from the main road up to the site. This area is also very nice. There is a shallow valley just north of it that obviously hosted many birds. The valley contained olive groves and as always with this habitat it was hard to get a view of the birds. Many were left unidentified. In the valley several **Olivaceous Warblers** (Eksångare) were singing and also the first **Olive Tree Warbler** (Olivsångare). The bird was never seen, though. The rest of the day was spent exploring the eastern peninsula and we did not see very much in terms of birds, apart from a few **Cirl Buntings** (Häcksparv) singing here and there, but the nature on this part of the island is very beautiful. The view from the road up to the monastery Zoodochou Pigis for example is extraordinary (see front page picture). On the way home we again saw a **Chukar** (Berghöna) just next to the road, this time together with 5 or 6 young. In total 100 km driven this day.

Day 6 (13/6-08) (Potokaki, M. Timiou Stavrou, Pirgos, Pefko, Mytilini)

This day started again in Potokaki with the hope of finding some Spanish Sparrows (Spansk Sparv). These are common mostly during migration, but still we thought that we should be able to dig out a least one, but no! However, added to the trip list was two **Yellow Wagtails** (Gulärsla). After this stop we went on a small road up the mountains west of Chora to the monastery Timiou Stavrou. This monastery lies beautifully in the beginning of a valley and in this valley all of a sudden a **Roller** (Blåkråka) flew up! The bird flew around a lot along the valley and displayed itself to our delight. After a short while yet another Roller appeared. The pair then mated and thus revealed that they were breeding in the area. Seeing these magnificent birds in such wonderful surroundings is truly a memorable experience. Also on the site one **Turtle Dove** (Turturduva).



A female roller in the valley next to M. Timiou Stavrou.  
(Mating just before this picture, therefore the sex is known).

Heading towards the area around Neochorion and Skureika we saw the only **Stonechat** (Svarthakad buskskvätta) of the trip, a female, and by the junction of the road down to Neochorion we stopped and heard two **Black-headed Buntings** (Svarthuvad sparv), saw one **Eleonora's Falcon** (Eleonorafalk) and one female **Blue Rock Thrush** (Blåtrast). By Pefko beach (by the way a very nice spot for a swim) we saw one **Cory's Shearwater** (Gulnäbbad lira) foraging relatively close to the shore and far out over the sea many **Yelkouan Shearwaters** (Medelhavslira). Also one **Audouin's Gull** (Rödnäbbad trut) was seen flying just offshore. From here we worked our way slowly back towards the hotel. In Chora (or Hora) one **Short-toed Eagle** (Ormörn) of light phase was seen (completely white throat) and one male **Woodchat Shrike** (Rödhubad törnskata). An afternoon trip to Mytilini gave one more **Roller** (Blåkråka) and back at the Hotel the **Eleonora's Falcon** (Eleonorafalk) was seen again. In total 100 km driven this day. From the balcony in the evening, just by sheer luck, I manage to find one **Greater Flamingo** (Större flamingo) flying low over the water in the sound! We didn't see any other Flamingos after this during the evening or the rest of the trip either so we realized how extremely lucky we were to find it!

Day 7 (14/6-08)

(Around the hotel)

The car was returned the evening before so this day was spent around the hotel area and at a slow pace. During a stroll in the surroundings we saw and heard more or less the same birds as before during the week (naturally) but added to the list was one **Peregrine Falcon** (Pilgrimsfalk) that passed right over our heads at close range. In the evening we did yet another stroll up in the small mountain behind the hotel through lovely olive groves and then down to and along the coast. On this walk, other than the usual birds, we saw one female **Orphean Warbler** (Mästersångare) and one **Chukar** (Berghöna) with 6 young at short distance. In the evening after sunset one **Tawny Owl** (Kattuggla) was seen from the balcony flying past the hotel.

Day 8 (15/6-08)

(Around the hotel)

Last day. Our pick-up time for going to the airport was 10:00 am so we only took a short stroll around the hotel area to the coast. While waiting for the transfer bus the **Eleonora's Falcon** (Eleonorafalk) swung by a final time. The return trip was perfect and we returned very satisfied from this relaxing and interesting trip.

We both really liked Samos and it is not at all unlikely that we will return some day. The list of birds was not impressively long (66 species), but considering the time of year I must say that I am pleased and we did see several of the species (or races) we were hoping to see and that are a bit special for the island.

If you have any questions or just liked this trip report, please drop me a line.

*Per Henningsson, Sweden*

*perhenningsson@yahoo.com*



Female Black-eared Weathear.

## Species List

	<b>English name</b>	<b>Swedish name</b>	<b>Note</b>
1	Cory's Shearwater	Gulnäbbad lira	Offshore Potami Beach, Pefko beach, from hotel balcony. In total ca 10.
2	Yelkouan Shearwater	Medelhavslira	Many offshore Potami Beach, Pefko beach, from hotel balcony and by Psili Amos.
3	Grey Heron	Gråhäger	Only one, flying along the coast in Samos town
4	Greater Flamingo	Större Flamingo	Seen flying offshore from hotel balcony
5	Ruddy Shelduck	Rostand	4 Psili Amos
6	Mallard	Gräsand	Only one, in Posidonion
7	Short-toed Eagle	Ormörn	By the hotel, in Chora and at Pirogos Raptor Ridge
8	Long-legged Buzzard	Örnvråk	1 Vurliotes, 1 Pagondas, 1 Pirogos
9	Common Buzzard	Ormvråk	1 Pirogos
10	Red-footed Falcon	Aftonfalk	1 along road between Platanos and Pirogos
11	Eleonora's Falcon	Eleonorafalk	Seen at a few places around the island
12	Peregrine Falcon	Pilgrimsfalk	One near hotel
13	Kestrel	Tornfalk	Seen only once. Location not noted.
14	Chukar	Berghöna	A few here and there
15	Moorhen	Rörhöna	Only one at Glyfada
16	Black-winged Stilt	Styltlöpare	Psilli Amos
17	Green Sandpiper	Skogssnäppa	One in "Potokaki Pools"
18	Audouin's Gull	Rödnäbbad trut	One Pefko beach, a few seen from balcony
19	Yellow-legged Gull	Medelhavstrut	Widespread along the coast
20	Rock dove	Klippduva	Here and there
21	Woodpigeon	Ringduva	Only a pair, inland near Vathi
22	Collared Dove	Turkduva	Widespread
23	Turtle Dove	Turturduva	Here and there. More than other islands we've visit
24	Tawny Owl	Kattuggla	One seen from balcony
25	Little Owl	Minervauggla	One near hotel
26	Common Swift	Tornseglare	Widespread
27	Alpine Swift	Alpseglare	Here and there in the mountains
28	Roller	Blåkråka	M. Timiou Stavrou and near Mytilini
29	Crested Lark	Tofslärka	Widespread at lower altitudes
30	Sand Martin	Backsvala	A few Pirogos Raptor Ridge
31	Barn Swallow	Ladusvala	Widespread
32	Red-rumped Swallow	Rostgumpsvala	Here and there
33	House Martin	Hussvala	Widespread
34	White Wagtail	Sädesärsla	A few at different sites along the coast
35	Yellow Wagtail	Gulärsla	Only two in Potokaki
36	Wren	Gärdsmyg	"Valley of the nightingales" and some other places
37	Nightingale	Sydnäktergal	Near Konteika
38	Black-eared Wheatear	Medelhavsstenskvätta	melanoleuca, black- and white throated. Common
39	Stonechat	Svarthakad buskskvätta	Only one near Pirogos
40	Blue Rock Thrush	Blåtrast	Seen at several places in suitable habitats

41	Blackbird	Koltrast	Widespread
42	Blackcap	Svarthätta	Only one heard singing. Location not noted.
43	Orphean Warbler	Mästersångare	Near hotel
44	Sardinian Warbler	Sammetshätta	Widespread
45	Rüppell's Warbler	Svarthakad sångare	A pair near M. Evangelistrias
46	Fan-tailed Warbler	Grässångare	Widespread
47	Cetti's Warbler	Cettisångare	Potokaki and near hotel
48	Olive Tree Warbler	Olivsångare	Ancient walls and near hotel
49	Olivaceous Warbler	Eksångare	Widespread
50	Great Tit	Talgoxe	A few here and there
51	Woodchat Shrike	Rödhuvad törnskata	Seen at several locations in lowland areas
52	Masked Shrike	Masktörnskata	Near Pirkos
53	Jay	Nötskrika	Subspecies samios. Widespread
54	Magpie	Skata	Only one seen from the transfer bus leaving
55	Jackdaw	Kaja	Only seen in Pythagorio centre
56	Hooded Crow	Kråka	Widespread
57	Raven	Korp	Seen here and there especially in the mountains
58	House Sparrow	Gråsparv	Widespread
59	Tree Sparrow	Pilfink	Just a few near hotel at one occasion. Overlooked?
60	Chaffinch	Bofink	Common
61	Greenfinch	Grönfink	Here and there
62	Serin	Gulhämpling	A few heard while driving near the flatlands
63	Ortolan Bunting	Ortolansparv	2 between Pagondas and Spatharei
64	Cretzschmar's Bunting	Rostsparv	Here and there in the mountains
65	Cirl Bunting	Häcksparv	Heard along the roads in lowland areas
66	Black-headed Bunting	Svarthuvad sparv	Near M. Evangelistrias and by Neochorion junction