

Azerbaijan

6-14 May 2016

trip report summary



Tomas Axén Haraldsson

cover photo: the Ilandag mountain in Nakhchivan with Lesser Caucasus in the background. by Kai Gauger



Spring time birding in Azerbaijan means summer-plumaged spectacular species in equally spectacular surroundings! Clock wise from upper left Raddes Accentor, Blue Rock Thrush, See-see Partridge, Blue-cheeked Bee-eater, Rose-coloured Starling and Lesser Grey Shrike. Photos by Niklas Andersson, 6-14 May 2016.

Welcome to the English summary of the fifth Swedish-run group trip to Azerbaijan. This program aimed at seeing the target species of the Greater Caucasus, the Shikras in the deep south and the very seldom visited Autonomus Republic of Nakhchivan. The planning and arrangements, drawing on previous trips in April 2012, October 2013, May 2015 and October 2015, were organized by me in co-operation with Swedish bird tour operator AviFauna and local travel agency Caspian Tours. As excellent co-leader we were lucky to have Kai Gauger with us the whole trip. For the Nakhchivan part we organized it through a contact of Caspian Tour and they also appointed a local ornithologist who joined us those last days.

We were thrilled to see a-l-l the target species go down one by one and had an overall outstanding trip through this spectacular country with nearly 220 species seen! We were 12 Swedes, one Dane and three Germans plus me and Kai and it worked out very good.

See trip reports of the above mentioned birding tours on www.tomasharaldsson.se and read this full trip report (in Swedish) at www.avifauna.se

Itinerary

It was a rather fast paced trip where we wanted to cover several habitats and target species within a one week program. Similar in plan as the previous trips with days in the Caucasus and then covering the coastal plains, wetlands and shores of the Caspian Sea south to Masalli. This time we also spent the last three nights and two full days in the autonomous republic of Nakhchivan (NAR).

- 6/5** flights to Istanbul and on to Baku, arriving 05:30 on the 7th.
- 7/5** Shirvan Nationalpark. Overnight in Salyan.
- 8/5** Machmud Chala and Kizil Agach. Shikra site. Overnight in Masalli.
- 9/5** transport day 450km to the Caucasus, Overnight in Nazli Bulaq.
- 10/5** Xinaliq, evening drive to Laza. Overnight in homestay in Laza.
- 11/5** until lunch in Laza, afternoon drive to Baku, 6pm flight to Nakhchivan.
- 12/5** full day in Nakhchivan
- 13/5** full day in Nakhchivan
- 14/5** early morning flight from Nakhchivan to Istanbul and on to points of departure.

Short daily accounts

7 May

Upon arrival driving straight for the Shirvan Nationalpark 110 km south of Baku. Pleasant weather and lots of birds, an excellent start to get familiar with the birds of the steppe habitats. Rufous Bush-chats, Lesser Grey Shrikes, both bee-eaters, flocks of Rose-coloured Starlings, Black-headed Buntings and all other "locals". Further out on the steppe a huge gathering of some 4.000 White-winged Black Terns. The reed-fringed lake was surprisingly empty. We stayed at the Olympic Complex sports facilities and had dinner at a local restaurant with Scops Owls calling in the garden.

8 May

Morning walk around the hotel area by the Kura River, Syrian Woodpeckers and Olivaceous Warblers. Continuing southwards and stopping at the Machmud Chala lakes, two female White-headed Ducks were certainly unexpected. Lunch in Masalli at the garden restaurant opposite the local Olympic Complex and we saw the Shikras well after some time. Afternoon in rain at the coastal lagoons of Kizil Agach with lots of wetland stuff; hundreds of waders including 17 Broad-billed Sandpiper, 6 Terek Sandpipers, 2 White-tailed Plovers and hundreds of terns, gulls and egrets. An injured but still majestic adult Pallas' Gull was by the creek estuary up at Baliqçilar. Overnight at the Masalli Hotel which was pleasant enough and food was rich too.

9 May

Long day of transport northwards all the way to the Caucasus, starting badly with the bus and driver missing upon departure and we had to arrange other buses from the local bus station! Got underway 45min later though. Lunch pause and some birding at the Gobustan rock art preserve; Finsch's and Pied Wheatears, Rock Sparrows, Rock Nuthatch, Steppe Eagle, Woodchat Shrikes and more.

Late afternoon birding break at the rest houses below the Besh Barmag rock, enough still to see migrating Montagues (13) and Pallid (2) Harriers, Lesser Spotted and Steppe Eagles as well as the local Black Vultures. Arrival and dinner at the Nazli Bulaq mountain lodge, on the way to Xinaliq.

10 May

Some of us were out at dawn to marvel at the brisk green sceneries around the lodge with Green Warbler song heard from every direction! Also Semi-collared Flycatcher here during the day. After breakfast we crammed into two sturdy 4wd vehicles and headed up the river valley towards Xinaliq. After the dramatic gorge we stopped for Red-fronted Serins, Rock Buntings and other mountain birds and arrived at Xinaliq in wonderful weather and with the breathtaking snowcovered peaks all around us.

The hike up towards the rocks and boulder fields at some 3.000m on the slopes of Gizilgaya was very tough and we divided the group according to ambition and health. Our first Lammergeiers appeared as did distant Caucasian Snowcocks (10 during the day) and several pairs of Gldenstdts (White-winged) Redstarts, Alpine Accentor, Shore Larks, Water Pipits, Red-billed Choughs and much more.

In the afternoon we returned to the lodge, re-arranged our stuff and changed to the big bus that took us to Quba for dinner. Evening drive up the next river valley to Laza where we had to leave the bus at the ski resort and divide the group and equipment in four different 4wd Lada to take us the last section of small road to the mountain village of Laza where we had accommodation with a private family of the Lezghin ethnic minority.

11 May

Genuine wake up sounds before dawn by cock-a-doodle-do and our hosts clanking with the tea pots in the kitchen. Chilly outside at 1800m but warming tea, fresh cow milk and excitement as we see displaying Caucasian Black Grouse from just outside the house! From here also our first Wallcreeper and soon also the first of several Lammergeiers. Later in the morning we walk the short but slightly exhausting tracks towards the Suvar Resort and spend the hours on the green slopes with spectacular sceneries. We manage to find Mountain Chiffchaffs, hear Caucasian Snowcock calls, enjoy Golden Eagles and more Lammergeiers on the sky as well as two distant Wolves on the highest ridges. We work hard to find Greater Rosefinch and just before departure we manage to get two birds flying by!

Long afternoon drive back to the capital and out to the airport, but logistics working fine and soon we find ourselves onboard an Azerbaijan Airlines flight high above the region with exciting views down towards Iran and Armenia. Landing in the Autonomous Republic of Nakhchivan (NAR), and the little "capital" Nakhchivan city, we are immediately whisked off

for the 10 minute drive to the really nice hotel where we will be based for the coming three days.

12 May

Full day exploring NAR starting with an excited bus load of birders heading out of the city at dawn. First stop at dry hills in the outskirts of agriculture land results in our first Pale Rock Sparrows, familys of Finsch's Wheatears, Armenian Gulls and nice fly-by's of Rose-coloured Starlings and Ruddy Shelducks. Then on to a slightly greener little valley between rugged slopes and with a continuing array of goodies – White-throated Robin, Grey-necked Bunting, close-ups on Upchers Warblers, Rock and Black-headed Buntings side by side and plenty of smiles all around.

We reach some 2200m at the mountain site of Batabat and here our local bird guide found one Raddes Accentor recently. So with slight hope that the bird would still be around we braved the rain and after a hard search Kai and the team actually finds it! A very little known species from the Azeri part of its known distribution. Mega!

A cup of tea at a nice *chay khane* (tea house) in the city and we are ready for the wadis and semi-desert eastwards in the Negram region, towards the Iranian border. Sunny and warm with over 25C. Slowly walking into the wadi we have plenty of views of Pale Rock Sparrows, Grey-necked Buntings, Eastern Rock Nuthatch, our first Persian Wheatears, Upchers Warblers and on the sky both Long-legged Buzzard, Lammergeier and Egyptian Vulture. After some intense search further in the wadih we get some See-see Partridges and also Trumpeter Finch.

Slightly exhausted and overwhelmed by the rich birding we head back to the city and dig in to the buffé style food at a good restaurant. Magnificent day.

13 May

Another full day in NAR and with some final distinct targets. At sunrise we drive eastwards and on bumpy tracks out in the Negram semi-desert to a known location for Mongolian Finch. At an escarpement and with lots of boulders and some small creeks we find both Trumpeter and Mongolian Finch but they are restive and hard to track down. Black-bellied Sandgrouse overhead as well as a pair of See-see's and more of the stuff from yesterday. Tea beneath a cliff with Crag Martins, Red-billed Choughs and Rock Nuthatches before we bump our way back to the main road.

Second area for the day the imposing and mythical mountain of Ilandag where the Ark of Noah is said to have crunched the keel into the peak and split it in two. Picnic lunch on the barren plains by the mountain and with three species of vultures, Steppe Eagle and Honey Buzzard around it. Short-toed Lark and many Crested Larks before Kai finally manages to hunt down the reason for the hours here – Bimaculated Larks at nesting site. Our very last birding for this trip is done at a Desert Finch site where quickly a few birds appear. We check out the mountain road nearby and are awarded by more Greynecks, See-sees and yet more Desert Finches.

Final dinner at the restaurant, one final species check and we are nearing 220 species in just a week of birding and on a very limited geographical area. Impressive, Aze!

14 May

Early morning departure to the airport, takeoff on time and via an hour on the ground in Gänjä we turn west for Istanbul and then on to our respective home destinations.



Early May migrants over the coastal plains of the Caspian Sea – Montagues Harrier and White-winged Black Tern. Photos Niklas Andersson.

See the movie made by Niklas Andersson during the trip with l-o-t-s of target species included!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z8fOacC_N00&t=7s

Species list

Generated through the iGoTerra system and with checklist: Clements (Birds) 6.8.

Species name in **English** *Latin* and (Swedish). Comments in Swedish and also in English on the more interesting species.

- 1 **Mute Swan** *Cygnus olor* (Knölsvan)
2 Shirvan NP 7.5 och 1 Machmud Chala 8.5
- 2 **Ruddy Shelduck** *Tadorna ferruginea* (Rostand)
4 Shirvan NP 7.5 och 7 Nachivan 12.5
- 3 **Common Shelduck** *Tadorna tadorna* (Gravand)
2 Machmud Chala 8.5
- 4 **Gadwall** *Anas strepera strepera* (Snatterand)
2 Machmud Chala 8.5
- 5 **Mallard** *Anas platyrhynchos platyrhynchos* (Gräsand)
15 Nachivan 12.5
- 6 **Northern Shoveler** *Anas clypeata* (Skedand)
15 Machmud Chala 8.5
- 7 **Northern Pintail** *Anas acuta* (Stjärtand)
2 Machmud Chala 8.5
- 8 **Garganey** *Anas querquedula* (Årta)
4 Machmud Chala 8.5
- 9 **Green-winged Teal** *Anas crecca* (Kricka)
50 Machmud Chala 8.5
- 10 **Red-crested Pochard** *Netta rufina* (Rödhuwad dykand)
1 Shirvan NP 7.5
A lone male in the lake.
- 11 **Common Pochard** *Aythya ferina* (Brunand)
10 Machmud Chala 8.5

- 12 **White-headed Duck** *Oxyura leucocephala* (Kopparand)
2 Machmud Chala 8.5
Two females and one of the trip surprises. Sparse wintering bird in Azerbaijan.
- 13 **Chukar** *Alectoris chukar* (Berghöna)
6 Nachivan 12.5.
During the day.
- 14 **Caucasian Snowcock** *Tetraogallus caucasicus* (Kaukasisk snöhöna)
9 Xinaliq 10.5 och 7 Laza 11.5
- 15 **Black Francolin** *Francolinus francolinus* (Svart frankolin)
10 Shirvan NP 7.5 och 2 hörda Machmud Chala 8.5
- 16 **See-see Partridge** *Ammoperdix griseogularis* (Visselhöna)
2 Nachivan 12.5 och 4 Nachivan 13.5
Pairs at three different locations!
- 17 **Caucasian Grouse** *Tetrao mlokosiewiczi* (Kaukasisk orre)
8 Laza 11.5
Displaying males and one female, seen from the home stay but far above the village, opposite the Suvar Resort on the slopes.
- 18 **Little Grebe** *Tachybaptus ruficollis* (Smådopping)
1 Shirvan NP 7.5
- 19 **Great Crested Grebe** *Podiceps cristatus cristatus* (Skäggdopping)
2 Shirvan NP 7.5, 2 Machmud Chala 8.5, 2 Machmud Chala 8.5 och 100 Machmud Chala 8.5
- 20 **Eared Grebe** *Podiceps nigricollis* (Svarthalsad dopping)
7 Machmud Chala 8.5
- 21 **Greater Flamingo** *Phoenicopterus roseus* (Större flamingo)
550 Machmud Chala 8.5 och längs vägen 9.5
- 22 **White Stork** *Ciconia ciconia ciconia* (Vit stork)
Several records in Nachivan 12-13.5.
- 23 **Great Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax carbo* (Storskarv)
1 Kizil Agach 8.5

- 24 **Pygmy Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax pygmaeus* (Dvärgskarv)
22 Kizil Agach 8.5
- 25 **Gray Heron** *Ardea cinerea cinerea* (Gråhäger)
12 Machmud Chala 8.5 and several in Nachivan 12-13.5
- 26 **Purple Heron** *Ardea purpurea* (Purpurhäger)
2 Shirvan NP 7.5, 2 Machmud Chala 8.5, 2 Machmud Chala 8.5 och 10 Machmud Chala 8.5
- 27 **Great Egret** *Ardea alba* (Ägretthäger)
20 Kizil Agach 8.5
- 28 **Little Egret** *Egretta garzetta garzetta* (Silkeshäger)
10 Shirvan NP 7.5. Observed during four days.
- 29 **Cattle Egret** *Bubulcus ibis ibis* (Kohäger)
30 Shirvan NP 7.5, 12 längs vägen 8.5 och 1 längs vägen 11.5. Observerad 6 dagar totalt
- 30 **Squacco Heron** *Ardeola ralloides* (Rallhäger)
1 Kizil Agach 8.5
- 31 **Black-crowned Night-Heron** *Nycticorax nycticorax* (Natthäger)
5 längs vägen 7.5, 10 längs vägen 8.5 och längs vägen 9.5
5 vid råkkoloni norr om Salyan dag 1.
- 32 **Lammergeier** *Gypaetus barbatus* (Lammgam)
2 Xinaliq 10.5, 5 Laza 11.5, 1 Nachivan 12.5 och 2 Nachivan 13.5
Surprisingly easily seen and in Nachivan also on lower levels.
- 33 **Egyptian Vulture** *Neophron percnopterus* (Smutsgam)
1 Qubustan 9.5, 1 Nachivan 12.5 och 6 Nachivan 13.5
Seemingly widespread in Nachivan.
- 34 **European Honey-buzzard** *Pernis apivorus* (Bivråk)
1 Shirvan NP 7.5, 1 längs vägen 10.5 och 1 Nachivan 13.5
- 35 **Cinereous Vulture** *Aegypius monachus* (Grågam)
8 Besh Barmag 9.5 och 3 Xinaliq 10.5

- 36 **Eurasian Griffon** *Gyps fulvus* (Gåsgam)
11 längs vägen 10.5, 2 Laza 11.5 och 5 Nachivan 13.5
small colony near Xinaliq.
- 37 **Lesser Spotted Eagle** *Clanga pomarina* (Mindre skrikörn)
2 Besh Barmag 9.5
migrating.
- 38 **Booted Eagle** *Hieraaetus pennatus* (Dvärgörn)
2 Nachivan 12.5
- 39 **Steppe Eagle** *Aquila nipalensis* (Stäppörn)
1 Masalli 8.5, 1 Qubustan 9.5 och 1 Nachivan 13.5
2cy birds.
- 40 **Golden Eagle** *Aquila chrysaetos* (Kungsörn)
2 längs vägen 10.5, 2 Laza 11.5, 3 Nachivan 12.5 och 1 Nachivan 13.5
- 41 **Eurasian Marsh-Harrier** *Circus aeruginosus* (Brun kärrhök)
25 Shirvan NP 7.5, 20 Kizil Agach 8.5, 1 Xinaliq 10.5, 1 längs vägen 12.5 och 2 Nachivan 13.5. Observerad 6 dagar totalt
- 42 **Pallid Harrier** *Circus macrourus* (Stäpphök)
2 Besh Barmag 9.5
migrating.
- 43 **Montagu's Harrier** *Circus pygargus* (Ängshök)
13 Besh Barmag 9.5
migrating.
- 44 **Shikra** *Accipiter badius cenchroides* (Shikra)
3 Masalli 8.5
In the park with restaurant opposite the Masally *olympik kompleksi*
- 45 **Eurasian Sparrowhawk** *Accipiter nisus* (Sparvhök)
1 längs vägen 10.5, 1 Laza 11.5 och 1 längs vägen 12.5
- 46 **Black Kite** *Milvus migrans migrans* (Brun glada)
2 Besh Barmag 9.5, 1 Xinaliq 10.5 och 1 Nachivan 13.5

- 47 **Common Buzzard** *Buteo buteo menetriesi* (Ormvråk)
50 Shirvan NP 7.5, 62 längs vägen 8.5, 25 Besh Barmag 9.5, 1 längs vägen 10.5, 1 Laza 11.5, 15 Nachivan 12.5 och 3 Nachivan 13.5
Most looking like *menetriesi/vulpinus*
- 48 **Long-legged Buzzard** *Buteo rufinus* (Örnvråk)
4 Nachivan 12.5 och 3 Nachivan 13.5
- 49 **Eurasian Moorhen** *Gallinula chloropus* (Rörhöna)
Längs vägen 8.5 och längs vägen 12.5
- 50 **Eurasian Coot** *Fulica atra atra* (Sothöna)
5 Shirvan NP 7.5. Observerad 3 dagar totalt
- 51 **Black-winged Stilt** *Himantopus himantopus* (Styltlöpare)
15 längs vägen 7.5, längs vägen 9.5 och längs vägen 11.5. Observerad 4 dagar totalt
- 52 **Pied Avocet** *Recurvirostra avosetta* (Skärfläcka)
50 Machmud Chala 8.5
- 53 **Black-bellied Plover** *Pluvialis squatarola* (Kustpipare)
5 Kizil Agach 8.5
- 54 **Northern Lapwing** *Vanellus vanellus* (Tofsvipa)
1 Shirvan NP 7.5 och 8 Kizil Agach 8.5
- 55 **White-tailed Lapwing** *Vanellus leucurus* (Sumpvipa)
2 Kizil Agach 8.5
By the little creek estuary at Baliqcilar.
- 56 **Kentish Plover** *Charadrius alexandrinus* (Svartbent strandpipare)
2 Kizil Agach 8.5
- 57 **Common Ringed Plover** *Charadrius hiaticula* (Större strandpipare)
85 Kizil Agach 8.5
- 58 **Little Ringed Plover** *Charadrius dubius* (Mindre strandpipare)
1 längs vägen 7.5
- 59 **Terek Sandpiper** *Xenus cinereus* (Tereksnäppa)
6 Kizil Agach 8.5

- 60 **Common Sandpiper** *Actitis hypoleucos* (Drillsnäppa)
1+1 hörd Machmud Chala 8.5, 1 Besh Barmag 9.5 och 1 längs vägen 12.5
- 61 **Green Sandpiper** *Tringa ochropus* (Skogssnäppa)
1 Shirvan NP 7.5 och 2 Machmud Chala 8.5
- 62 **Spotted Redshank** *Tringa erythropus* (Svartsnäppa)
25 Machmud Chala 8.5
- 63 **Wood Sandpiper** *Tringa glareola* (Grönbena)
1 Kizil Agach 8.5
- 64 **Common Redshank** *Tringa totanus* (Rödbena)
3 Kizil Agach 8.5 och 4 Nachivan 12.5
- 65 **Eurasian Curlew** *Numenius arquata* (Storspov)
1 Kizil Agach 8.5
- 66 **Ruddy Turnstone** *Arenaria interpres* (Roskarl)
2 Kizil Agach 8.5
- 67 **Ruff** *Calidris pugnax* (Brushane)
30 Kizil Agach 8.5
- 68 **Broad-billed Sandpiper** *Calidris falcinellus* (Myrsnäppa)
17 Kizil Agach 8.5
- 69 **Curlew Sandpiper** *Calidris ferruginea* (Spovsnäppa)
300 Kizil Agach 8.5
- 70 **Dunlin** *Calidris alpina* (Kärnsnäppa)
50 Kizil Agach 8.5
- 71 **Little Stint** *Calidris minuta* (Småsnäppa)
35 Kizil Agach 8.5
- 72 **Common Snipe** *Gallinago gallinago* (Enkelbeckasin)
1 Kizil Agach 8.5 och 1 Nachivan 12.5
- 73 **Red-necked Phalarope** *Phalaropus lobatus* (Smalnäbbad simsnäppa)
9 Machmud Chala 8.5

- 74 **Collared Pratincole** *Glareola pratincola pratincola* (Rödvingad vadarsvala)
10 Shirvan NP 7.5, 25 Kizil Agach 8.5 och 25 Besh Barmag 9.5
migration at Besh Barmag.
- 75 **Slender-billed Gull** *Chroicocephalus genei* (Långnäbbad mås)
2 Kizil Agach 8.5
- 76 **Black-headed Gull** *Chroicocephalus ridibundus* (Skrattmåsa)
5 Shirvan NP 7.5 och 500 Kizil Agach 8.5
- 77 **Little Gull** *Hydrocoloeus minutus* (Dvärgmåsa)
8 Kizil Agach 8.5
- 78 **Pallas's Gull** *Ichthyiaetus ichthyiaetus* (Svarthuvad trut)
1 Kizil Agach 8.5.
An adult bird with wing injury at the creek estuary, Baliqçilar.
- 79 **Caspian Gull** *Larus cachinnans cachinnans* (Kaspisk trut)
30 Shirvan NP 7.5. Observerad 3 dagar totalt
- 80 **Armenian Gull** *Larus armenicus* (Armenisk trut)
50 Nachivan 12.5 och 25 längs vägen 13.5
- 81 **Little Tern** *Sternula albifrons* (Småtärna)
2 längs vägen 7.5 och 30 Kizil Agach 8.5
- 82 **Gull-billed Tern** *Gelochelidon nilotica* (Sandtärna)
35 längs vägen 7.5. Observerad 2 dagar totalt
- 83 **White-winged Tern** *Chlidonias leucopterus* (Vitvingad tärna)
4000 Shirvan NP 7.5, 500 Kizil Agach 8.5 och längs vägen 9.5.
Incredible swarm hawking for insects, or migrating, high above the steppe.
- 84 **Whiskered Tern** *Chlidonias hybrida* (Skäggtärna)
5 Shirvan NP 7.5, 15.000 (!!) Kizil Agach 8.5 och längs vägen 9.5
rough estimate over the lagoons at Kizil Agach
- 85 **Common Tern** *Sterna hirundo* (Fisktärna)
2 Shirvan NP 7.5, 5 Machmud Chala 8.5 och längs vägen 12.5

- 86 **Black-bellied Sandgrouse** *Pterocles orientalis* (Svartbukig flyghöna)
2 Nachivan 13.5
passing overhead in Negram, by the cliffs.
- 87 **Rock Pigeon** *Columba livia gaddi* (Klippduva)
4 Qubustan 9.5. Observerad 2 dagar totalt
- 88 **Stock Dove** *Columba oenas* (Skogsduva)
10 Besh Barmag 9.5
- 89 **Common Wood-Pigeon** *Columba palumbus* (Ringduva)
15 Shirvan NP 7.5. Observerad 5 dagar totalt
- 90 **European Turtle-Dove** *Streptopelia turtur arenicola* (Turturduva)
1 längs vägen 7.5 och 5 längs vägen 8.5. Observerad 3 dagar totalt
- 91 **Eurasian Collared-Dove** *Streptopelia decaocto* (Turkduva)
10 längs vägen 7.5 och 4 längs vägen 10.5. Observerad 7 dagar totalt
- 92 **Laughing Dove** *Streptopelia senegalensis* (Palmduva)
1 längs vägen 7.5 och längs vägen 9.5. Observerad 4 dagar totalt
- 93 **Common Cuckoo** *Cuculus canorus* (Gök)
25 Shirvan NP 7.5. Observerad 7 dagar totalt
- 94 **European Scops-Owl** *Otus scops* (Dvärguv)
3 calling in Salyan, by the restaurant at night, 7.5
- 95 **Little Owl** *Athene noctua bactriana* (Minervauggla)
2 Shirvan NP 7.5 och 1 Xinaliq 10.5
- 96 **Long-eared Owl** *Asio otus* (Hornuggla)
1 Kizil Agach 8.5
- 97 **Short-eared Owl** *Asio flammeus* (Jorduggla)
2 Shirvan NP 7.5
- 98 **Eurasian Nightjar** *Caprimulgus europaeus* (Nattskärra)
1 Xinaliq 10.5
- 99 **Alpine Swift** *Apus melba* (Alpseglare)
50 längs vägen 10.5. Observerad 4 dagar totalt

- 100 **Common Swift** *Apus apus* (Tornseglare)
Observerad 7 dagar totalt
- 101 **Common Kingfisher** *Alcedo atthis* (Kungsfiskare)
1 Shirvan NP 7.5 och 1 Machmud Chala 8.5
- 102 **Blue-cheeked Bee-eater** *Merops persicus* (Grön biätare)
150 Shirvan NP 7.5, 100 längs vägen 8.5 och 10 längs vägen 13.5. Observerad 5 dagar totalt
common in southern Azerbaijan but almost replaced by European in Nachivan.
- 103 **European Bee-eater** *Merops apiaster* (Biätare)
15 Shirvan NP 7.5, 1 Xinaliq 10.5 och 150 längs vägen 12.5. Observerad 7 dagar totalt
- 104 **European Roller** *Coracias garrulus* (Blåkråka)
Rather common.
- 105 **Eurasian Hoopoe** *Upupa epops epops* (Härfågel)
2 Shirvan NP 7.5, 2 Machmud Chala 8.5 och 5 längs vägen 9.5. Observerad 6 dagar totalt
- 106 **Great Spotted Woodpecker** *Dendrocopos major poelzami* (Större hackspett)
2 längs vägen 10.5
- 107 **Syrian Woodpecker** *Dendrocopos syriacus* (Balkanspett)
3 längs vägen 8.5, 1 längs vägen 12.5 och 1 längs vägen 13.5
- 108 **Black Woodpecker** *Dryocopus martius* (Spillkråka)
1 Nazli Bulaq 10.5
- 109 **Lesser Kestrel** *Falco naumanni* (Rödfalk)
100 Shirvan NP 7.5 och 100 längs vägen 9.5. Common and widespread.
- 110 **Eurasian Kestrel** *Falco tinnunculus tinnunculus* (Tornfalk)
5 Shirvan NP 7.5. Observerad 5 dagar totalt
- 111 **Eurasian Hobby** *Falco subbuteo* (Lärkfalk)
2 Besh Barmag 9.5 och 1 längs vägen 11.5
- 112 **Peregrine Falcon** *Falco peregrinus* (Pilgrimsfalk)
1 längs vägen 10.5
One adult by the Griffon colony near Xinaliq.

- 113 **Red-backed Shrike** *Lanius collurio* (Törnskata)
3 Shirvan NP 7.5 och 3 Kizil Agach 8.5. Observerad 7 dagar totalt
- 114 **Lesser Gray Shrike** *Lanius minor* (Svartpannad törnskata)
10 Shirvan NP 7.5, 30+ 8.5 och 25 längs vägen 9.5. Common in the right habitat.
- 115 **Woodchat Shrike** *Lanius senator* (Rödhuwad törnskata)
6 Qubustan 9.5 och 4 Nachivan 13.5
- 116 **Eurasian Golden Oriole** *Oriolus oriolus* (Sommargylling)
Upp till 5 längs vägen 7-10.5. Observerad 6 dagar totalt
- 117 **Eurasian Jay** *Garrulus glandarius krynicki* (Nötskrika)
2 längs vägen 11.5 och 1 Nachivan 12.5
- 118 **Eurasian Magpie** *Pica pica* (Skata)
Observerad 6 dagar totalt
- 119 **Red-billed Chough** *Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax* (Alpkråka)
100 Xinaliq 10.5, 50 Laza 11.5 och 1 längs vägen 12.5. Observerad 4 dagar totalt
- 120 **Yellow-billed Chough** *Pyrrhocorax graculus* (Alpkaja)
25 Xinaliq 10.5
- 121 **Eurasian Jackdaw** *Corvus monedula* (Kaja)
Observerad 3 dagar totalt
- 122 **Rook** *Corvus frugilegus frugilegus* (Råka)
Observerad 6 dagar totalt
- 123 **Hooded Crow** *Corvus cornix* (Gråkråka)
Observerad 7 dagar totalt
- 124 **Common Raven** *Corvus corax* (Korp)
2 Qubustan 9.5, 2 Laza 11.5 och 5 Nachivan 12.5. Observerad 5 dagar totalt
- 125 **Calandra Lark** *Melanocorypha calandra* (Kalanderlärka)
5 Shirvan NP 7.5
- 126 **Bimaculated Lark** *Melanocorypha bimaculata* (Asiatisk kalanderlärka)
6 Nachivan 13.5, at breeding site along the road by mount Ilandag.
- 127 **Greater Short-toed Lark** *Calandrella brachydactyla* (Korttålaräka)
25 Nachivan 13.5

- 128 **Lesser Short-toed Lark** *Calandrella rufescens pseudobaetica* (Dvärglärka)
20 Shirvan NP 7.5
- 129 **Crested Lark** *Galerida cristata* (Tofslärka)
Observerad 6 dagar totalt
- 130 **Sky Lark** *Alauda arvensis* (Sånglärka)
Observerad 2 dagar totalt
- 131 **Wood Lark** *Lullula arborea* (Trädlärka)
1 längs vägen 10.5
- 132 **Horned Lark** *Eremophila alpestris* (Berglärka)
20 Xinaliq 10.5
- 133 **Bank Swallow** *Riparia riparia* (Backsvala)
10 Shirvan NP 7.5 och 30 längs vägen 8.5. Observerad 3 dagar totalt
- 134 **Eurasian Crag-Martin** *Ptyonoprogne rupestris* (Klippsvala)
2 längs vägen 10.5 och 2 Laza 11.5. Also in several areas in Nachivan.
- 135 **Barn Swallow** *Hirundo rustica* (Ladusvala)
Observerad 7 dagar totalt
- 136 **Common House-Martin** *Delichon urbicum urbicum* (Hussvala)
Observerad 6 dagar totalt
- 137 **Coal Tit** *Periparus ater gaddi* (Svartmes)
2 Nazli Bulaq 10.5
- 138 **Great Tit** *Parus major major* (Talgoxe)
Längs vägen 9.5. Observerad 6 dagar totalt
- 139 **Eurasian Blue Tit** *Cyanistes caeruleus* (Blåmes)
2 hörda Masalli 8.5 och längs vägen 9.5. Observerad 4 dagar totalt
- 140 **Eurasian Penduline-Tit** *Remiz pendulinus* (Pungmes)
4 Shirvan NP 7.5 och 3 Machmud Chala 8.5
- 141 **Rock Nuthatch** *Sitta neumayer rupicola* (Klippnötväcka)
7 Qubustan 9.5 och 4 Nachivan 13.5
Appearing next to Persian Nuthatch in Nachivan.

- 142 **Persian Nuthatch** *Sitta tephronota* (Östlig klippnötväcka)
15+ Nachivan 12-13.5.
- 143 **Wallcreeper** *Tichodroma muraria* (Murkrypare)
2 Laza 11.5, one behind the home stay and one near the Suvar Resort.
- 144 **Eurasian Wren** *Troglodytes troglodytes* (Gärdsmyg)
1 Kizil Agach 8.5 och längs vägen 10.5
- 145 **Cetti's Warbler** *Cettia cetti* (Cettisångare)
4 Kizil Agach 8.5
- 146 **Willow Warbler** *Phylloscopus trochilus* (Lövsångare)
1 längs vägen 7.5, 1 längs vägen 8.5 och 5 längs vägen 10.5. Observerad 5 dagar totalt
- 147 **Common Chiffchaff** *Phylloscopus collybita* (Gransångare)
1 längs vägen 8.5 och 1 Nachivan 12.5
- 148 **Mountain Chiffchaff** *Phylloscopus sindianus lorenzii* (Berggransångare)
4 Laza 11.5, in the uppermost birch scrubs and sparse vegetation near Suvar Resort.
- 149 **Green Warbler** *Phylloscopus nitidus* (Kaukasisk lundsångare)
15 längs vägen 10.5, 5 Laza 11.5 och 1 hörd längs vägen 12.5
The verdant low level forests in the Caucasus were alive with its song!
- 150 **Eastern Olivaceous Warbler** *Iduna pallida* (Eksångare)
15 Shirvan NP 7.5, 10 längs vägen 8.5 och 1 Masalli 9.5. Observerad 4 dagar totalt
- 151 **Upcher's Warbler** *Hippolais languida* (Orientsångare)
10+ and seemingly widespread in Nachivan 12-13.5.
- 152 **Sedge Warbler** *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus* (Sävsångare)
5 Batabat, Nachivan 12.5, territorial at the lake on some 2.200m!
- 153 **Eurasian Reed-Warbler** *Acrocephalus scirpaceus fuscus* (Rörsångare)
Observerad 2 dagar totalt
- 154 **Great Reed-Warbler** *Acrocephalus arundinaceus* (Trastsångare)
4 Shirvan NP 7.5 och 2 Kizil Agach 8.5
- 155 **Blackcap** *Sylvia atricapilla dammholzi* (Svarthätta)
Observerad 2 dagar totalt

- 156 **Garden Warbler** *Sylvia borin* (Trädgårdssångare)
3 hörda Nachivan 12.5
- 157 **Lesser Whitethroat** *Sylvia curruca* (Ärtsångare)
1 hörd längs vägen 7.5 och 2 Nachivan 12.5
- 158 **Menetries's Warbler** *Sylvia mystacea* (Östlig sammetshatta)
15+ Shirvan NP 7.5. Common in the Shirvan with some other scattered records.
- 159 **Greater Whitethroat** *Sylvia communis* (Törnsångare)
3 Nachivan 12.5 och 2 Nachivan 13.5
- 160 **Spotted Flycatcher** *Muscicapa striata* (Grå flugsnappare)
1 Shirvan NP 7.5 och 1 längs vägen 9.5. Observerad 4 dagar totalt
- 161 **Rufous-tailed Scrub-Robin** *Cercotrichas galactotes* (Trädnäktergal)
4 Shirvan NP 7.5, 1 längs vägen 8.5, 1 Qubustan 9.5 och 10 Nachivan 12.5
- 162 **European Robin** *Erithacus rubecula hyrcanus* (Rödhake)
2 Nazli Bulaq 10.5
- 163 **White-throated Robin** *Irania gutturalis* (Vitstrupig näktergal)
3 Nachivan 12.5
Dry hillsides with bushes and green patches north of Nachivan City, first stop during the drive up to Batabat.
- 164 **Common Nightingale** *Luscinia megarhynchos* (Sydnäktergal)
5 hörda längs vägen 7.5 och längs vägen 12.5. Observerad 4 dagar totalt
- 165 **Semicollared Flycatcher** *Ficedula semitorquata* (Balkanflugsnappare)
At least 2 in song at the lodge Nazli Bulaq, near Quba 10.5.
- 166 **Common Redstart** *Phoenicurus phoenicurus* (Rödstjärt)
Several records during the trip, *samamisicius*.
- 167 **White-winged Redstart** *Phoenicurus erythrogaster erythrogaster* (Bergrödstjärt)
7 Xinaliq 10.5, at nearly 3.000m on Gizilgaya among rocks and gravel fields.
- 168 **Black Redstart** *Phoenicurus ochruros ochruros* (Svart rödstjärt)
10 Laza 11.5. Observerad 2 dagar totalt
semirufus and *ochruros*

- 169 **Rufous-tailed Rock-Thrush** *Monticola saxatilis* (Stentrast)
3 males Xinaliq 10.5
- 170 **Blue Rock-Thrush** *Monticola solitarius* (Blåtrast)
4 Nachivan 12.5 och 5 Nachivan 13.5
- 171 **Whinchat** *Saxicola rubetra* (Buskskvätta)
1 längs vägen 10.5 och 1 Laza 11.5. Observerad 3 dagar totalt
- 172 **Northern Wheatear** *Oenanthe oenanthe* (Stenskvätta)
Observerad 3 dagar totalt
- 173 **Finsch's Wheatear** *Oenanthe finschii* (Finschstenskvätta)
1 Qubustan 9.5, 15 Nachivan 12.5 och 15 Nachivan 13.5
Widespread in Nachivan.
- 174 **Pied Wheatear** *Oenanthe pleschanka* (Nunnestenskvätta)
4 Qubustan 9.5, by the rock art site among the boulders.
- 175 **Black-eared Wheatear** *Oenanthe hispanica melanoleuca* (Medelhavsstenskvätta)
1 Qubustan 9.5, 6 Nachivan 12.5 och 5 Nachivan 13.5
- 176 **Persian Wheatear** *Oenanthe chrysopygia* (Persisk stenskvätta)
6 Nachivan 12.5 och 10 Nachivan 13.5
Fairly easily seen in rugged wadis in the Negram region.
- 177 **Isabelline Wheatear** *Oenanthe isabellina* (Isabellastenskvätta)
10 Shirvan NP 7.5 och 10 Besh Barmag 9.5. Observerad 4 dagar totalt
- 178 **Ring Ouzel** *Turdus torquatus* (Ringtrast)
1 hörd längs vägen 10.5 och 5 Laza 11.5
- 179 **Eurasian Blackbird** *Turdus merula aterrimus* (Koltrast)
2 Masalli 8.5. Observerad 7 dagar totalt
- 180 **Song Thrush** *Turdus philomelos* (Taltrast)
2 hörda längs vägen 10.5
- 181 **Mistle Thrush** *Turdus viscivorus* (Dubbeltrast)
2 längs vägen 10.5 och 3 Nachivan 12.5

- 182 **Rosy Starling** *Pastor roseus* (Rosenstare)
750 Shirvan NP 7.5, 100 längs vägen 8.5, 1 Xinaliq 10.5 och 250 Nachivan 13.5.
Widespread but mainly with flocks flying by.
- 183 **European Starling** *Sturnus vulgaris caucasicus* (Stare)
Observerad 7 dagar totalt
- 184 **Alpine Accentor** *Prunella collaris montana* (Alpjärnsparv)
9 Xinaliq 10.5
- 185 **Radde's Accentor** *Prunella ocularis* (Svartkronad järnsparv)
1 Batabat, Nachivan 12.5
Discovered a few days before by our local co-guide, very little knowledge of this species in the region and one of the trip highlights!
- 186 **Dunnock** *Prunella modularis* (Järnsparv)
Observerad 2 dagar totalt
- 187 **Western Yellow Wagtail** *Motacilla flava* (Gulärärla)
1 Shirvan NP 7.5 och 40 Kizil Agach 8.5. Observerad 5 dagar totalt
Breeding *feldegg* in Nachivan and several ssp on migration.
- 188 **Gray Wagtail** *Motacilla cinerea* (Forsärärla)
7 längs vägen 10.5 och 1 Laza 11.5
- 189 **White Wagtail** *Motacilla alba* (Sädesärärla)
Observerad 7 dagar totalt
- 190 **Tawny Pipit** *Anthus campestris* (Fältpiplärka)
2 Nachivan 13.5
- 191 **Tree Pipit** *Anthus trivialis* (Trädpiplärka)
Observerad 2 dagar totalt
- 192 **Red-throated Pipit** *Anthus cervinus* (Rödstrupig pipilärka)
2 Shirvan NP 7.5, 1 Kizil Agach 8.5 och 1 Besh Barnag 9.5
- 193 **Water Pipit** *Anthus spinoletta* (Vattenpipilärka)
Common on higher altitudes at Xinaliq and Laza.
- 194 **Rock Bunting** *Emberiza cia prageri* (Klippsparv)
4 längs vägen 10.5, 3 Nachivan 12.5 och 3 Nachivan 13.5

- 195 **Gray-hooded Bunting** *Emberiza buchanani* (Bergortolan)
15+ Nachivan 12-13.5
Surprisingly widespread in Nachivan!
- 196 **Ortolan Bunting** *Emberiza hortulana* (Ortolansparv)
5 Nachivan 12.5
Resting birds by the Raddes Accentor at Batabat.
- 197 **Black-headed Bunting** *Emberiza melanocephala* (Svarthuvad sparv)
8 Shirvan NP 7.5, 14 längs vägen 8.5 och 20 längs vägen 9.5. Observerad 5 dagar totalt
- 198 **Reed Bunting** *Emberiza schoeniclus* (Sävsparv)
1 Shirvan NP 7.5
- 199 **Corn Bunting** *Emberiza calandra* (Kornsparv)
1 Shirvan NP 7.5 och 5 längs vägen 9.5. Observerad 6 dagar totalt
- 200 **Common Chaffinch** *Fringilla coelebs solomkoi* (Bofink)
Observerad 2 dagar totalt
- 201 **Trumpeter Finch** *Bucanetes githagineus* (Ökentrumpetare)
1 Nachivan 12.5 och 2 Nachivan 13.5
Two sites in the Negram.
- 202 **Mongolian Finch** *Bucanetes mongolicus* (Mongolfink)
3 Nachivan 13.5
By the rocks and cliffs in semi-desert Negram.
- 203 **Desert Finch** *Rhodospiza obsoleta* (Ökenfink)
10 Nachivan 13.5.
- 204 **Eurasian Bullfinch** *Pyrrhula pyrrhula rossikowi* (Domherre)
2 Nazli Bulaq 10.5
- 205 **Common Rosefinch** *Carpodacus erythrinus* (Rosenfink)
1 Masalli 9.5, 5 längs vägen 10.5 och 15 Laza 11.5. Observerad 4 dagar totalt
- 206 **Great Rosefinch** *Carpodacus rubicilla* (Större rosenfink)
2 Laza 11.5
Quick fly-by of two birds at Suvar Resort, Laza.

- 207 **European Greenfinch** *Chloris chloris turkestanica* (Grönfink)
Observerad 2 dagar totalt
- 208 **European Goldfinch** *Carduelis carduelis colchicus* (Steglits)
Observerad 7 dagar totalt
- 209 **Twite** *Carduelis flavirostris brevirostris* (Vinterhämpling)
10 Xinaliq 10.5, 15 Laza 11.5 och 5 Nachivan 12.5
- 210 **Eurasian Linnet** *Carduelis cannabina* (Hämpling)
2 längs vägen 10.5. Observerad 4 dagar totalt
- 211 **Fire-fronted Serin** *Serinus pusillus* (Rödpannad gulhämpling)
10+ längs vägen 10.5 och 20 Laza 11.5. Easily seen around Laza and also at several places along the road towards Xinaliq.
- 212 **Hawfinch** *Coccothraustes coccothraustes* (Stenknäck)
1 Nazli Bulaq 10.5
- 213 **House Sparrow** *Passer domesticus* (Gråsparv)
Observerad 7 dagar totalt
- 214 **Spanish Sparrow** *Passer hispaniolensis transcaspicus* (Spansk sparv)
10 Shirvan NP 7.5 och 5 Machmud Chala 8.5. Observerad 3 dagar totalt
- 215 **Eurasian Tree Sparrow** *Passer montanus* (Pilfink)
4 Shirvan NP 7.5. Observerad 3 dagar totalt
- 216 **Rock Petronia** *Petronia petronia exigua* (Stensparv)
3 Qubustan 9.5, 10 längs vägen 10.5 och 25 Nachivan 12.5. Observerad 4 dagar totalt
Common in Nachivan.
- 217 **Pale Rockfinch** *Carpospiza brachydactyla* (Blek stensparv)
10 Nachivan 12.5 och 5 Nachivan 13.5
Seemingly common in suitable habitat in Nachivan.
- 218 **White-winged Snowfinch** *Montifringilla nivalis alpicola* (Snöfink)
Several records at Xinaliq.

DÄGGDJUR

- 1 **European Hare** *Lepus europaeus* (Fälthare)
2 Shirvan NP 7.5 och 1 Laza 11.5

- 2 **Coypu** *Myocastor coypus* (Sumpbäver)
1 Kizil Agach 8.5
- 3 **Golden Jackal** *Canis aureus* (Guldschakal)
1 Kizil Agach 8.5
- 4 **Gray Wolf** *Canis lupus* (Varg)
2 Laza 11.5, seen from near Suvar Resort, high on the slopes on the opposite side of the valley.
- 5 **Red Fox** *Vulpes vulpes* (Rödräv)
1 Nachivan 12.5 och 1 Nachivan 13.5
- 6 **Bezoar** *Capra aegagrus* (Vildget)
2 Nachivan 12.5 och 1 Nachivan 13.5
- 7 **Eastern Tur** *Capra cylindricornis* (Östkaukasisk stenbock)
5 Xinaliq 10.5 och 5 Laza 11.5
- 8 **Goitered Gazelle** *Gazella subgutturosa*
20 Shirvan NP 7.5

REPTILER

- 1 **Spur-thighed Tortoise** *Testudo graeca* (Morisk sköldpadda)
1 Nachivan 12.5 och 1 Nachivan 13.5. Observerad 2 dagar totalt
en 6-kilos!
- 3 **Blunt-nosed Viper** *Macrovipera lebetina*
1 Nachivan 12.5. Fresh road kil, a large individual nearly a meter in length!