

Poland

Ancient Wildwood and the mountains of Bieszczady

A Greentours Trip Report

17th to 29th September 2009

Led by Andrzej Petryna and Phil Benstead

Trip report compiled by Phil Benstead

Day 1 Thursday 17th September arrival and journey to
Bialowieza

We all met up at the airport having come via a number of routes. Taking to the bus we negotiated the traffic and enjoyed the view of the Warsaw skyline from the Vistula River crossing. The city skyline includes the brooding, Soviet era “Palace of Culture and Science” and Andrzej explained the ambivalence that most Poles felt towards this 1950s edifice. Driving on we noted the gradual slide into rural north-eastern Poland and spotted the occasional common wayside bird. After three hours we stopped to eat our simple, tasty lunch at a most welcome roadside hotel and afterwards we drove the short distance to the Bug River.

At the Bug we had a pleasant half hour of sun and fresh air. Dragonflies were on the wing and a few butterflies were spotted too, including an obliging pale clouded yellow. A mudbank hosted a single migrating greenshank and upstream a sand bar had a large flock of lapwing. Three goosander bobbed about on the river. A single bugling call was enough to draw our attention to a splendid flock of 26 cranes which flew south directly overhead at high altitude. John found us five more on the ground shortly afterwards, but these too soon headed off south. Special birds.

Back into the bus for the last two hours of driving to our hotel situated in a village nestled in a clearing in the middle of Bialowieza Forest. We were quickly settled in and after a bit of a briefing enjoying our first dinner. We all looked forward to dawn and our first foray into the Bialowieza forest.

Day 2

Friday 18th September

Bialowieza

Half the group made it out the door at 5 o'clock for the dawn beaver patrol. The short walk down to the bridge was uneventful, although the village dogs did not think so! At the bridge we settled into position as the first light of dawn gave us a glimpse of the reed-fringed river in front of us. After half an hour Phil spotted the first of perhaps four beavers that shuttled back and forth and up the river for about fifteen minutes before going to bed for the day. Although distant, and in the dawn light, this was an excellent series of observations! Through the scope the head shape and small 'teddy-bear' ears could be seen. Andrea spotted a woodcock flying over and the dawn chorus included a number of chiffchaffs. Having successfully scored the beavers we elected to walk the long-way home and set off. A few new birds were added to the list but the easy highlight of this leg of our walk was an obliging pair of nutcrackers. They were busy raiding a hazelnut tree in someone's garden and showed very well. Nearly every building in the village seemed to have a singing black redstart and we even found one on the hotel on our return.

After breakfast we walked from the hotel and did an easy circuit through the woods. Our main purpose was to get an idea of the nature of the managed woodland in the area. This would provide us with a important benchmark when visiting the pristine forest area the next day. We pottered along. Andrzej pointed out a silent black woodpecker flying through the trees and out of sight. We could hear loud hammer blows as the bird foraged but could not tempt it back for a better view. Close by we bumped into a mixed-species feeding flock that produced our first crested tits, as well as more familiar birds such as marsh tit, treecreeper and nuthatch. Fungi were spotted including the giant funnel (*Leucopaxillus giganteus*), a nice Amanita (the blusher) and the substrate of the path itself had the occasional clump of orange-peel fungus. More birds appeared including several beautiful, white-headed long-tailed tits, which make the UK subspecies look rather unkempt. Hornets buzzed up and down the rides and butterflies were much in evidence in sunny patches. Crossing the Narewka on a rickety bridge produced some excellent beaver gnawings on reasonably large alder trees, as well as an obliging kingfisher. Occasionally during the walk we heard the trumpeting of migrating cranes but none strayed overhead for views. A pleasant walk, which set us up nicely for lunch back at the hotel.

The afternoon session took us to the Zebra Zubra trail and a magnificent example of alder carr woodland. If you are familiar with this habitat from the UK, you will not fail to be amazed by the towering height of the alders. This carr woodland also included good amounts of ash and spruce and is typified by large amounts of dead wood. Fungi were much in evidence and included the scarce alder bracket (*Inonotus radiatus*), shaggy parasol (*Macrolepiota rhacodes*) and the common honey fungus (*Armillaria mellea*). A large flock of 110 cranes circled high over the forest, appearing providentially in a gap in the canopy. Nearer the small zoo the land rose slightly and the dryer soil supported an oak-lime-hornbeam association. Interesting stuff.

We wandered about the zoo, adding yellowhammer to the bird list but failing to find any woodpeckers. We commiserated with the captive lynx, marvelled at the apparent contentment of the wolf pack and took sneaky pictures of the bison (trying artfully to eliminate any trace of fencing or captivity). Arriving back at the van we did one last short walk around the majestic and

ancient oaks of Stara Bialowieza. Each oak named for Polish or Lithuanian royalty of days gone by and in its own little clearing. The bulk of some of these trees and their growth forms were impressive. On the way home we checked out the old Czarist railway station (now a restaurant) in the village and picked up a hitch-hiking Richard. So ended our first full day.

Day 3 Saturday 19th September Bialowieza

A six o'clock start saw us all assembled in good time in reception for tea, coffee and biscuits. Then it was out into the van and away to meet our guide Arek for a walk in the only accessible part of the strictly protected area. With clear skies and the first, albeit slight, frost of the season we had to wrap up to keep warm this morning. We all enjoyed Arek's quirky haiku-style English. Having spent the previous morning in managed tall forest we were well equipped to appreciate the different nature of this last remaining wildwood fragment. Our first impressions were of a towering canopy with a surprisingly open understorey. Dead wood both standing and prone was abundant. Some of the trees especially the spruces were reaching heights in excess of 40 metres, impressive stuff. The post-dawn atmosphere was magical and induced a feeling of serenity in some members of the group. The peace and quiet was however occasionally shattered by the stentorian roars of the nearby (but invisible) rutting male red deer.

All this splendid habitat was bound to yield results of one kind or another and the birds started to appear at regular intervals. First up was a splendid female white-backed woodpecker. This bird was out in the open mostly and obliging enough for us all to get good views. Great spotted woodpeckers followed swiftly and we found plenty of the work-stations of this species, spruce cones wedged into various nooks and crannies to facilitate the removal of the seeds. Another white-backed followed but we had to be content with just hearing lesser spotted, middle spotted and black woodpeckers. Arek kindly took us on a very short unofficial detour to enjoy a huge clump of toothwort – a speciality of the reserve.

Walking on, Arek showed us yet more fungi including the gruesomely named dead-man's-fingers. Bracket fungi featured heavily throughout and we found a small area where a cluster of beautiful common earth-stars (*Geastrum triplex*) were evident. Leaving the forest we basked like reptiles in the sun and rejuvenated, headed for the van. By the time we got back to the hotel it was 0930 and we hit the excellent breakfast buffet with a vengeance, having built up quite an appetite during our morning stroll.

A short hour-long walk in the 'Administrative' Park was offered before lunch to the die-hards and we enjoyed our wanderings. John scored our first middle-spotted woodpecker, which showed well and we also saw a number of great spotted for comparison. Green woodpecker called nearby but we could not find him.

After lunch we headed out along a bumpy track to the Kosy Most area. This part of the forest is typified by a high density of Scots pine and spruce and so it was no surprise that we could hear crested tit as we got out of the van. We walked the track down to the river and wandered along the track to the bison feeding area. This spot is only used by the bison in the winter but we had a few

dragonflies for our trouble including *Lestes viridis*, *Sympetrum sanguineum* and *Sympetrum vulgatum*. A kingfisher appeared briefly and all around us were the sign of beaver and wild boar. On the way back we took a side-track that led to a high watch-tower. We spent a short time here and were just about to draw a blank when Marisha told us she had just seen a tail! Various tail/tale puns were experimented with, until suddenly a lovely wild boar emerged and paraded through an open area in good light. A very nice view. The route home took us through an area with very fresh wolf scat (early morning/last night?). Thrilling stuff. There are only two wolf packs in the park, totalling circa 20 animals, so seeing any sign in such a vast area is good going indeed.

Some of us headed back out with Arek almost straight away on our return. Our target was a pair of pygmy owls but they did not play ball at dusk, despite Arek's best efforts. Instead we made do with two splendid red deer stags, the distant hoots of a tawny owl and a splendid sunset.

Day 4 Sunday 20th September Bialowieza

With no takers for the beaver patrol this morning, we had a relatively late start this morning, leaving at 0800 for an area of woodland that often produces woodpeckers. Andrzej took us to the boggy edge of a clearing and almost straight away we heard the call of a black woodpecker. We had some great views of the female to start with and then the male. Moving on a little we also had a splendid encounter with a pair of three-toed woodpeckers, the male drumming furiously and the female offering moral support. David spotted a fine sun-bathing middle-spotted woodpecker too. Amazing woodpecker diversity here. A pair of nutcrackers remained noisy but elusive throughout. We also had our first good views of both hawfinch and spotted flycatchers in this area, although both were rather elusive. A few migrating tree pipits called as they flew south overhead. The roadside produced our first 'eastern' spindle (*Euonymus verrucosa*), this part of Poland being part of the zone where both species can be found.

Walking the road we took a side-track into an area often frequented by bison. The clearing at the end, and the immediate woodland bordering it, displayed abundant fresh sign of very recent use by a family group of bison. We searched the open woodland for signs of them resting up but could not find them. Frustrating but also satisfying to know they are out there!

The afternoon was a game of two halves. First up was a quick look in the former palace park. Here we enjoyed a look at the weekend fungal exhibition. Specimens neatly laid out to touch and smell (and more than a little helpful in identifying some of the species we have been photographing over the last few days). This event was well-attended by Polish people and it was quickly evident that they have a much deeper connection with edible forest products than we British. We took a quick look at the visitor centre and found some fresh beefsteak fungus on the impressive oaks outside. A quick look at the park revealed lots of visitors (Sunday) and a sparrowhawk trying to catch siskins. Lastly we walked the lake edge and finally added a live sighting of grass snake to our list. Sadly this species is rather common as a road casualty in the area, this individual however was quick and demonstrated its superb swimming ability by crossing part of the lake in front of us. Also here

spotted a nice Queen-of-Spain fritillary. As we sat down for lunch on the grass a large juvenile white-tailed eagle flapped past. A freight train bound for Belarus rumbled past on the causeway. With plenty to drive still we had to keep moving but we stopped at the Dojlidy fish ponds near Bialystock for a stretch. Here we had good views of a variety of waterfowl. The bird highlight was a fly-past by a first calendar-year hobby. He was munching on a dragonfly as he flew nonchalantly past. We squirted a few squirting cucumbers (*Echinocystis lobata*) whilst we walked around here and Andrzej found us another penduline tit nest.

The last half an hour seemed to go on for ever! But, eventually, we arrived at the hotel. An attractive wood and stone edifice with great wildlife on the doorstep. Amphibians were especially noticeable and opening the door inevitably involved shoo-ing frogs back outside!

Day 6

Tuesday 22nd September

Biebrza Marshes

Today we set out on a tour of the southern half of this vast marsh complex. Near the hotel we stopped to look closely at seven cranes in roadside fields. The graceful adults accompanied by one or two gawky youngsters. We were to see and hear small groups of cranes throughout the day. Our circular driving tour took us south down the west side, across the river and back up the east side of the marshes. We stopped along the way at observation towers and boardwalks. Our first stop was for a good walk along a track through the marshes. More cranes here, but the hoped-for harriers failed to put in an appearance. The roadside ditches were full of familiar aquatic macrophytes – such as frogbit and water soldier, as well as less familiar ones such as water violet *Hottonia palustris*. At the tower we gazed out over a sea of fen vegetation. A great grey shrike perched up and occasionally harassed blue tits. John found the best bird though – a fantastic goshawk that was being buzzed by a seemingly miniscule sparrowhawk. Great stuff.

Bumping back down the track in the van we drove on a short distance, often on 19th century cobbled country roads to our lunch stop. En route Andrzej explained a bit about the geology and we admired the use of Scandinavian granites to construct many of the older houses and farm buildings. This stone was dumped as erratics by the retreating ice sheet in the last glaciation. Bigger erratics dot the landscape and are a pitfall for the unwary elk spotter. We took lunch back by the river, watched by a dozing goosander. Out on the marsh a few herds of cows and domestic geese could be seen and a large mixed flock of crows made a racket. A distant white-tailed eagle sailed out of a belt of woodland but would not come closer. A farmer provided hot tea and coffee here and then we were on our way again.

Andrzej took us to two choice viewpoints overlooking the marsh. Biebrza is a lot like the pristine part of Bialowieza in some respects, in that it takes some time for the extent and quality of the habitat to truly sink in. A slow burn. From these viewpoints we could see marvellous serried ranks of oxbow lakes in different stages of succession, alongside the current river channel. Sue spots our first marsh harrier – a slightly overdue addition to the bird list. From the site of a 9th century raised fortification we find a selection of flowering plants including soapwort, thrift and spiked

speedwell. Sue finds a hedgehog snuffling about after we have all gone, presumably disturbed by our activities.

The next stop is interesting but a bit frustrating. The area we normally see our first elk is undergoing management. Incredible tracked harvesters are taking a crop off a fen that is so wet walking across it is not an option. We admire the machinery though and enjoy a walk along the boardwalk. Josephine finds a lovely raft spider (*Dolomedes fimbriatus*) and the team that makes it to the end find a basking adder (that leaps off into the fen). The nearby tower offers a view of the machinery at work but no sign of any elk – the tension mounts. A distant harrier is probably a Montagu's but like many of the raptors today keeps its distance. We try one last tower, overlooking a different clearing but again we fail with elk. Desperate stuff, we drive back to the hotel somewhat downcast. Halfway home though Andrzej become very animated pointing and squeaking "elk elk". We turn the bus and are treated to the sight of not just a male but also a female with a calf at heel very close to the road. These animals regularly feed close to the road here and are habituated enough to tolerate us leaving the van for photographs. Magic stuff and a great end to the day. It is not quite over though, after dinner we discover a juvenile great crested newt wandering through the archway at the hotel en route to its hibernation site.

Day 7 Wednesday 23rd September Biebrza Marshes

Our last day on the marshes dawned beautifully again. The weather really has been superb so far. Before dawn a select team assembled outside the hotel and we walked down the track to the river. As first light filtered through to us we entered an area with large open grassy fields. Here we encountered some male roe deer competing for the attention of two females. There was much seemingly playful chasing before the victor left with his prizes. Overhead we encountered wave after wave of migrating birds. Mostly chaffinch, but with the odd brambling, dunnock, siskin, fieldfare and even a nutcracker. Blue tit and goldcrests adopted a more sedate method of migration, leap-frogging from bush to bush along the track but heading inexorably in the same direction. Reaching the river we disturbed a kingfisher and spotted a few reed buntings before the trusty Romek arrived to pick us up and whisk us to a welcome breakfast.

After breakfast we walked out to the pond at the back of the hotel. None of the hoped-for amphibians could be found in a short search, so we headed for the van and another look at the incomparable Biebrza marshes. Some people elected to take it easy today ahead of tomorrow's big journey and we bade them farewell. The reduced team had a good day. We started at the boardwalk near the fortifications at Osowiec. The easy highlight here were a family party of penduline tits that Andrzej called into the willows by one of the watchtowers. Superb views of this special little bird. The team elected to check out the fortifications (mostly demolished by the retreating German army in WWII) and Phil pottered about the excellent moat looking for dragonflies.

Our next stop was at a tower overlooking a broad expanse of marshland near Goniadz. Here we finally got good views of spotted and lesser spotted eagle, as well as finding at least one white-

tailed eagle. A roe deer peered at us from a nearby bush. Happy with our haul we moved to nearby Goniadz and sat on some old septic tanks and had lunch with the marsh spread out in front of us!

With the afternoon well upon us we headed for Augustow Lake. The occasional forking larkspur cheered up the edges of the fields as we walked to a good vantage point. Here we enjoyed views of three more white-tailed eagles. The waterfowl on the lake included our first whooper swan (7) and pintail (4). Next stop was the Popielewo fish-ponds. This site is often very good for birds and we were not disappointed. The stars of the show were two ospreys and three white-tailed eagles. At one point we noticed that a young osprey was carrying a large goldfish! A white-tailed eagle gave chase and we watched fascinated as the mugging unfolded. The eagle worked himself steadily into a position of air superiority and without a blow being exchanged the goldfish changed hands in mid-air. Spectacular. The next goldfish taken was rushed low and fast off-site by an osprey that had learnt a valuable lesson. We never discovered which pond held goldfish but mortality must be high. Despite the availability of mud here we only saw a few snipe and ruff. One of the consequences of the settled high pressure system that was giving us such splendid weather was a widespread lack of migrant birds – Poland had emptied! Another *Sympetrum pedemontanum* here was pleasing though.

On the way home Andrzej showed us an interesting area. Small peat diggings pock-marked the birch woodland, each filled with water or choked with *Sphagnum*. Labrador tea and *Vaccinium uliginosum* dominated the understory and the tracks of elk were found along the path. A good day.

Day 8 Thursday 24th September departure or transfer to Bieszczady

Today saw us all up and about early for our big drive south. Our journey took us through Warsaw where we dropped Marisha and David for their flight to Heathrow. The rest of the team continued south. Very little was spotted en route although we did pass a fish-pond with a white-tailed eagle sailing over it and we added pheasant to the list. The drive was punctuated by plenty of rest breaks and seemed to take forever! En route we watched Poland flash by and eventually we slipped onto smaller, quieter roads and arrived at our next and final hotel. We all looked forward to exploring the park in the morning.

Day 9 Friday 25th September Bieszczady

The drive into the park in the morning took longer than expected but we were off on a walk by 1030. We had travelled by car as far east as you can get in the park and did a pleasant loop trail. The road in went very close to the Ukrainian border and Andrzej filled us in en route about the history and geology of the area. A forest guard at the start informed us that there was a female bear and cub in the area and to be careful! A few nutcrackers were spotted at the start but were the only ones of the day. The walk took us through large meadows to a small forested patch that contained the ruins of a church and a 15th century font. The wood had a few hawfinches in it, one of which perched for distant scope views. Our first crossbill 'glipped' past. Walking on we found a

patch of nice willow gentian and helped ourselves to apples from a tree planted by the ethnic Ukrainians that were forcibly removed from the area in the aftermath of WWII. We found a superb wolf track, just before it was erased by a park vehicle. We searched all the open high meadow areas with the scope but failed to turn up any mammals. A comma perched on a pile of old wolf dung, reminding us again that we were in a rare area where wolves still thrive. Pools in the track produced a newt we could not identify initially.

Lunch was late but huge as usual. We took it in an incredible wooden restaurant, a dark interior with bison carved into the wall, animal skins everywhere and incredible murals from times gone-by. Afterwards Andrzej took us to a splendid boardwalk through a small raised bog area. The autumn colours here were very pleasant – the orange of the stunted aspen, the yellow of the *Molinia* and the reds of the fading *Vaccinium uliginosum*. We found some great plants with plenty of *Vacciniums*, *Empetrum*, more Labrador tea and even a bog rosemary in flower. Munching on berries we tramped along a path through the bog. Phil spotted a small irate adder, which slowly slid into the middle of a clump of heather.

The last stop of the day saw us walking a logging road up to and beyond a viewpoint. On the way up, Andrzej showed us the splendidly named Jupiter's distaff – distinctive, despite its lack of flowers – and a *Spirea*. This walk was quiet although flattened fauna figured with a salamander and a hummingbird hawk moth. Driving back late to the hotel we see a red deer hind bounding across the road. A rather quiet day but spent in a great landscape.

Day 10 Saturday 26th September Bieszczady

After two long days in the van the group decided they would like to walk from the hotel today. The only trail available was the red trail from the hotel and by combining it with the black trail we had a pleasant if gruelling (at times) 8 hour walk. We climbed from approximately 600m to a high point of nearly 1100. The climb onto the ridge took some time, with everyone going at their preferred pace. In the early part of the climb and very close to the hotel we bumped into white-backed woodpecker and nutcracker. For birds it was rather quiet thereafter but the beech forest on the mid-section of the ridge showed abundant recent sign of bison and we found tracks of wolf (possibly tracking or hunting red deer). Fungi featured too with some more nice coraltooth and a small mushroom smelling strongly of garlic (*Marasmius scorodoni*). Sunny, grassy clearings were alive with Orthopterans and we spotted Roesel's bush-cricket amongst them.

After lunch we started our descent to Jablonka, the highlight being the discovery of a pile of bear dung, plums and apples appear to feature heavily in the diet at this time of year. Another great looking bush-cricket appeared on the track (*Barbitistes?*). A short distance took us to a charcoal burners camp and then we were out and climbing into the van for the short drive back to the hotel. Great walk.

Some of us headed out for a short nightwalk after dinner. We tried tape-luring for Ural owl, and we got a distant response from across the valley but could not tempt it in. We also heard a closer

female tawny owl and got great views of Neptune and its moons through the scope. A purple slug on the track was a Carpathian endemic (*Bielzia coerulans*).

Day 11 Sunday 27th September Bieszczady

This morning we drove an hour into the San Valley and walked up an attractive river with a wide, flat rocky bed. Nutcrackers were commonplace here and we saw several at close range as they stripped hazels. This area also proved to be full of woodpeckers but seeing them was another matter. We had a close encounter with an elusive female grey-headed woodpecker but most of us had to settle for flight views. We also heard black woodpecker and middle spotted. On the way back, Andrzej dived into a puddle in the track and emerged holding our first yellow-bellied toad.

Andrzej found us a place to eat our packed lunches and rustled up some beer and coffee. Sue spotted a late Camberwell beauty but it winged off before we could see it. Nearby, nectar-rich Michaelmas daisies produced a number of butterflies including our first green-veined whites. Afterwards we walked along a track on the other side of the river. The sun blazed down and it felt quite warm. We have been fortunate and experienced no rain in the field in 11 days, will the weather break on the last day? The track produced some late-flowering plants including Jupiter's distaff and large-flowered hemp-nettle, as well as some seeding Carpathian orpine. No sign of any dippers on this stretch of river but from the 'bench with a view' we had a too-distant golden eagle.

On the way back to the hotel we stopped to look at the wooden Uniate church at Muczne and dropped in on the cheese-smokers ("run out, come back tomorrow").

Day 12 Monday 28th September Bieszczady and Slovakia

The last full day dawned bright and sunny again – a phenomenal run of good weather that we all appreciated. Today we decided to tackle another long walk up onto the tops, allowing us to take in the 'polononie' high meadows. The climb up into the meadows took us through nice mixed woodland, with a large beech component. The occasional red squirrel was spotted feeding on beech-mast. The transition from woodland to meadow is quite abrupt here, the trees lowering in height gradually and then you are out in the sun again.

The meadows have not been grazed for some time, but seem to be holding their own. No doubt florally rich in high summer, we made do with the impressive single-flowered cats-ear that was still putting on a good show. Reaching the mountain rescue/tea café on top we got great views of a pair of water pipit. The views from up on the ridge were splendid, we could see yesterday afternoon's 'bench with a view' on the San River below us. From our eyrie we could spot migrating birds and butterflies heading south and crossing the 1000m high east-west ridge we were perched on. The ridge walk accomplished we dropped down to the road on a gentle path through the woods. Nice walk, with a very fit group.

After dinner some of us went for a night-drive down the side road to Slovakia. Our first stop produced a calling Tengmalm's owl in response to tape-playback. It called briefly and then kept quiet and did not come in. The border guards came in though and soon the windscreen was full of flashing blue lights. They rigorously checked out the Polish contingent and cheerily examined us. Fortunately we gave a very good impression and they were soon on their way and we continued on to Slovakia. We walked across the border and tried for more owls but changing countries did not alter our fortunes. The moon, the trees and the clouds scudding across the sky made for a pleasant outing.

Day 13 Tuesday 29th September departure

The weather broke this morning finally and the rain came down. It was pleasant driving out of the park and through the neighbouring landscape park. It had been dark when we last went this way on our only other rainy day of the trip. The five hour journey was soon complete (kestrel being added to the bird list at last) and the airport beckoned. Thanking and bidding farewell to Team Poland we headed into the transportation machinery.

Systematic List Number 1

Mammals

Square brackets indicate species recorded only by sign.

Common shrew	<i>Sorex araneus</i>	A few road casualties noted at Bialowieza and Bieszczady.
Hedgehog	<i>Erinaceus europaeus</i>	Sue saw one on the second day at Biebzra. The rest of us had to be content with flat ones.
[Mole]	<i>Talpa europaea</i>	Signs regularly noted.
[Brown bear]	<i>Ursos arctos</i>	Sign on one day at Bieszczady.
[Fox]	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	Sign of feeding at Dojlidy and other sign elsewhere.
[Raccoon dog]	<i>Nyctereutes procyonoides</i>	Tracks at Bialowieza.
Red squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>	1-5 per day at Bialowieza.
European beaver	<i>Castor fiber</i>	Signs at Bialowieza and Biebrza. A dawn session at the bridge near the hotel in Bialowieza produced a family group of perhaps four animals.
Wild boar	<i>Sus scrofa</i>	Abundant sign at Bialowieza, single individual seen very well at Kosy Most (Bialowieza).
Red deer	<i>Cervus elephas</i>	Five animals seen at Bialowieza, including two fine stags. Rutting in full swing at this site and Bieszczady and many males heard. Just one seen at Bieszczady.
Elk	<i>Alces alces</i>	Biebzra – a group of three, watched at close range at Osowiec. A male ‘assisting’ a female with calf.
Roe deer	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>	2-3 at Bialowieza. Many seen at Biebzra.
[European bison]	<i>Bison bonasus</i>	Abundant sign at Bialowieza on two days. Sign also noted at Bieszczady.

Systematic List Number 2

Birds

Species in square brackets were heard only or recorded by sign.

Little grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	Small numbers at fish-ponds.
Great crested grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	Small numbers at Semianovka and Dojlidy fish-ponds.
Red-necked grebe	<i>Podiceps grisegena</i>	Single at Popielewo fishponds.
Great cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	Just one at Augustow Lake.
Great egret	<i>Casmerodius alba</i>	Widespread and frequently encountered in suitable habitat.
Grey heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	Scattered records.
[White stork]	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	Plenty of empty nests in rural areas.
Mute swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>	Small numbers at Semianovka, Biebzra and Augustow Lake.
Whooper swan	<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>	A total of 7 at the Augustow Lake.
Greylag goose	<i>Anser anser</i>	Three at Semianovka.
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	Widespread and common.
Pintail	<i>Anas acutus</i>	At least five at Augustow Lake.
Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>	Small numbers at Dojlidy and Popielewo fish-ponds.
Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>	Small numbers at Semianovka and Dojlidy fish-ponds.
Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>	Small numbers in wetland areas.
Wigeon	<i>Anas penelope</i>	Small numbers at Dojlidy and Augustow Lake.
Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>	Small numbers at Dojlidy and Popielewo fish-ponds.
Tufted duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>	Small numbers at Dojlidy and Augustow Lake.
Goosander	<i>Mergus merganser</i>	Three at the Bug River on the first day. Another at Biebzra.
White-tailed eagle	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>	Single immature at Semianovka. 2-8 daily at Biebzra. Single en route to Bieszczady on the long transfer drive.
Hen harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	Female at Semianovka. Small numbers daily at Biebzra.
Marsh harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	Just one at Biebzra this year.
Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>	Scattered records.
Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>	Single at Biebzra was a trip highlight for some. Richard had another from the hotel at Bieszczady.
Common buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	Very common and widespread.
Golden eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	Single distant bird at Bieszczady.
Lesser spotted eagle	<i>Aquila pomarina</i>	One on the last day at Biebzra.
Spotted eagle	<i>Aquila clanga</i>	Single adult at Semianovka. A total of three at Biebzra.
Common kestrel	<i>Falco tinunculus</i>	At least three on the way to Kracow on the last day.
Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>	Single young bird hunting at Dojlidy fishponds.
Hazel grouse	<i>Bonasa bonasia</i>	Bialowieza – an excellent encounter with one individual on the last day. Seen well by all.
Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>	Single en route to Bieszczady.
Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropsis</i>	Single at Dojlidy.
Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>	Single on small pond at Kosy Most (Bialowieza). Small numbers at Semianovka. Common at Dojlidy.
Common crane	<i>Grus grus</i>	A total of 31 at the Bug River on the first day. Migrating flocks encountered frequently over Bialowieza on two days. Up to 100 per day in Biebzra area.
Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	150 resting at the Bug River on the first day. Small numbers in Biebzra area.
Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>	Three at Popielewo fishponds.
Common snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	Small numbers at most wetlands visited.
Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	Single at the Bug River.

Woodcock	<i>Scolopax rusticola</i>	Only one at Bialowieza.
Black-headed gull	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>	Noted in small numbers at Dojlidy fish-ponds.
Yellow-legged gull	<i>Larus cachinans</i>	Several at one fishpond on drive to Bieszczady.
Feral pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	Widespread in towns.
Woodpigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	Scattered records.
Collared dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	Widespread and common near human habitation.
[Ural owl]	<i>Strix uralensis</i>	Single heard calling briefly in response to tape-playback near the hotel at Bieszczady.
[Tawny owl]	<i>Strix aluco</i>	Singles heard at Bialowieza and Bieszczady.
[Tengmalm's owl]	<i>Aegolius funereus</i>	Single heard calling briefly in response to tape-playback along the Slovak border road at Bieszczady.
Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	Bialowieza (2 birds). At least three along the San River (Bieszczady).
Grey-headed woodpecker	<i>Picus canus</i>	Single elusive female along the San River (Bieszczady).
Green woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>	Two at Bialowieza.
Black woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus martius</i>	Three seen at Bialowieza, several others heard. Also heard at Bieszczady.
White-backed woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopus leucotos</i>	A total of two birds observed at Bialowieza. Single at Bieszczady on the red trail.
Great spotted woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopus major</i>	Bialowieza and Bieszczady – small numbers daily.
Middle spotted woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopus medius</i>	At least four birds seen well at Bialowieza. Heard at Bieszczady.
Lesser spotted woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopus minor</i>	Two birds seen and another heard at Bialowieza.
Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	Semianovka and Biebzra (small numbers).
[Woodlark]	<i>Lullula arborea</i>	Heard singing by the hotel in Biebzra.
Barn swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Widespread.
House martin	<i>Delichon urbica</i>	Bug River and Biebzra – small numbers.
Tree pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>	A few migrants noted flying overhead on some mornings.
Meadow pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>	Biebzra (small numbers).
Water pipit	<i>Anthus spinoletta</i>	A few seen in the high meadows at Bieszczady on the last day.
Grey wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	Bieszczady.
White wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	Widespread and common.
Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	Widespread.
Duncock	<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	Widespread (mostly heard), also some heard migrating at Biebzra.
Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	Widespread.
Common redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>	Single at Biebzra.
Black redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochrurus</i>	Local around habitation.
Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>	Two near the hotel at Biebzra. Single at Bieszczady.
Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	Widespread in small numbers.
Fieldfare	<i>Turdus pilaris</i>	Scattered records.
Song thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	Scattered records.
Mistle thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>	Scattered records throughout.
Reed warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpeus</i>	Single at Biebzra.
Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	Singles at Biebzra and Bieszczady.
Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	Very common and widespread.
Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>	Widespread.
Spotted flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>	Bialowieza (2).
Long-tailed tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>	Single group at Wisokie Bagno (Bialowieza).
Marsh tit	<i>Parus palustris</i>	Commonly heard and occasionally seen at Bieszczady.
		Widespread. The most numerous tit at Bieszczady.

Willow tit	<i>Parus montanus</i>	Bialowieza and Biebzra (singles heard). More frequently encountered at Bieszczady, where almost common.
Crested tit	<i>Parus cristatus</i>	Several encounters at Bialowieza.
Coal tit	<i>Parus ater</i>	Bieszczady – where common.
Blue tit	<i>Parus caeruleus</i>	Widespread and common.
Great tit	<i>Parus major</i>	Widespread and very common.
Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>	Common in Bialowieza and Bieszczady.
Common treecreeper	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>	Recorded daily at Bialowieza. Heard at Bieszczady.
Penduline tit	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>	Old nests at Semianovka and Dojlidy fish-ponds. Small family party encountered on last day at Biebzra.
Red-backed shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>	Single at Semianovka.
Great grey shrike	<i>Lanius excubitor</i>	Widespread and reasonably common.
Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	Common at Bialowieza and Biebzra.
Nutcracker	<i>Nucifraga caryocatactes</i>	Small numbers daily at Bialowieza. Single migrating bird over Biebzra. Frequently encountered at Bieszczady.
Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	Widespread and common.
Jackdaw	<i>Corvus monedula</i>	Widespread and common.
Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>	Widespread and common.
Hooded crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>	Widespread and fairly common.
Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	Widespread and fairly common.
Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	Widespread and very common.
House sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	Widespread.
Tree sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>	Dojlidy and at the hotel in Biebzra.
Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	Widespread and common.
Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>	Two birds at Augustow Lake.
Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	Scattered records.
Siskin	<i>Carduelis spinus</i>	Widespread and locally common.
Linnet	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>	Bialowieza (2).
Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>	Heard at Bialowieza. A few at Bieszczady.
Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothrustes</i>	Small numbers at Bialowieza and Bieszczady.
Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	Widespread but uncommon.
Reed bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>	Scattered records in suitable wetlands.

Systematic List Number 3

Amphibians & Reptiles

The taxonomy and systematic order follow 'A Field Guide to the Reptiles and Amphibians of Britain and Europe' by E.Nicholas Arnold, Collins 2nd edition 2002. Square brackets indicate species not seen alive.

[Fire salamander]	<i>Salamandra salamandra</i>	Single flat individual on forest track at Bieszczady.
Alpine newt	<i>Mesotriton alpestris</i>	Bieszczady. Single found at night by the hotel at Biebzra may also have been this species.
Yellow-bellied toad	<i>Bombina variegata</i>	Two in a puddle along the San River track (Bieszczady).
Common toad	<i>Bufo bufo</i>	Widespread and common.
Common frog	<i>Rana temporaria</i>	Widespread and common.
Pool/edible frog	<i>Rana lessonae/esculenta</i>	Widespread.
[European tree frog]	<i>Hyla arborea</i>	Heard occasionally.
[Slow worm]	<i>Anguis fragilis</i>	Single dead example at Bialowieza.
Common lizard	<i>Lacerta vivipara</i>	Bieszczady.
Grass snake	<i>Natrix natrix</i>	Bialowieza – obviously common but only one encountered.
Adder	<i>Vipera berus</i>	Single along a boardwalk at Biebzra and another at Bieszczady in the raised bog.

Systematic List Number 4 Butterflies

Large white	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>	Widespread.
Small white	<i>Artogeia rapae</i>	Widespread.
Green-veined white	<i>Artogeia napi</i>	Bieszczady.
Pale clouded yellow	<i>Colias hyale</i>	Scattered records.
Brimstone	<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>	Semianovka, Biebzra, Bieszczady
Small copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>	Bialowieza, Biebzra.
Large copper	<i>Lycaena dispar</i>	Single obliging individual, well photographed at Semianovka.
Peacock	<i>Inachis io</i>	Bialowieza, Biebzra, Bieszczady.
Red admiral	<i>Vanessa atlanta</i>	Bialowieza, Biebzra, Bieszczady.
Painted lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>	Scattered records.
Small tortoiseshell	<i>Aglais urticae</i>	Bialowieza, Semianovka, Biebzra
Comma	<i>Polygonum c-album</i>	Bialowieza, Biebzra, Bieszczady.
Camberwell beauty	<i>Nymphalis antiopa</i>	Sue had one briefly in the San Valley (Bieszczady).
Queen-of-Spain fritillary	<i>Issoria lathonia</i>	Semianovka, Biebzra.

Systematic List Number 5 Odonata

Western willow spreadwing	<i>Lestes viridis</i>	Bialowieza – small numbers at Kosy Most.
Blue-tailed damselfly	<i>Ischnura elegans</i>	Dojlidy fishponds only.
Common blue damsel	<i>Enallagma cyathigerum</i>	Single at Dojlidy fishponds.
Southern hawker	<i>Aeshna cyanea</i>	Bialowieza – the commonest <i>Aeshna</i> at this site. Two males on a pond at Bieszczady on the last day.
Migrant hawker	<i>Aeshna mixta</i>	Widespread and common.
Brown hawker	<i>Aeshna grandis</i>	Bialowieza (park) and Osowiec (Biebzra).
Common darter	<i>Sympetrum striolatum</i>	Single male caught at Semianovka.
Moustached darter	<i>Sympetrum vulgatum</i>	Widespread and very common at some sites (eg Semianovka).
Ruddy darter	<i>Sympetrum sanguineum</i>	Widespread and common.
Banded darter	<i>Sympetrum pedemontanum</i>	Singles at Semianovka and Popielewo fishponds.
Black darter	<i>Sympetrum danae</i>	Semianovka, Biebzra

Systematic List Number 6

Conifers

Pinaceae

Norway Spruce
Scot's Pine

Picea abies
Pinus sylvestris

Dominant in wetter forest.
Locally dominant.

Cupressaceae

Juniper

Juniperus communis

Siemianovka understory

Systematic List Number 7

Flowering Plants

Salicaceae

White Poplar
Black Poplar
Aspen

Populus alba
Populus nigra
Populus tremula

Between Warsaw and Bialowieza.
Bialowieza.
Damp forest and streamsides.

Betulaceae

Alder
Silver Birch

Alnus glutinosa
Betula pendula

Widespread and very common.
Drier woodland.

Corylaceae

Hornbeam
Hazel

Carpinus betulus
Corylus avellana

Bialowieza.
Bialowieza.

Fagaceae

Common Oak

Quercus robur

Scattered.

Ulmaceae

Wych Elm

Ulmus glabra

Bialowieza.

Cannabaaceae

Hop

Humulus lupulus

Bialowieza.

Urticaceae

Stinging Nettle
Stingless Nettle

Urtica dioica
Urtica galeopsifolia

Loranthaceae

Mistletoe

Viscum album

Bialowieza, on poplar.

Aristolochiaceae

Asarabacca

Asarum europaeum

Locally common in leaf in forest.

Polygonaceae

Amphibious Bistort	<i>Persicaria amphibia</i>	Siemianovka, Biebzra.
Bistort	<i>Persicaria bistorta</i>	Biebzra.
Least Water-pepper	<i>Persicaria minor</i>	Siemianovka.
Knotgrass	<i>Polygonum aviculare</i>	
	<i>Polygonum arenastrum</i>	Bialowieza.
Redshank	<i>Polygonum persicaria</i>	
Giant Knotweed	<i>Reynoutria sachalinensis</i>	Bialowieza.
Water Dock	<i>Rumex hydrolapathum</i>	Widespread in suitable habitat.

Chenopodiaceae

Fat Hen	<i>Chenopodium album</i>	
	<i>Chenopodium rubrum</i>	Biebzra.

Caryophyllaceae

Carthusian Pink	<i>Dianthus carthusianorum</i>	Bialowieza.
Maiden Pink	<i>Dianthus deltooides</i>	Siemianovka.
White Campion	<i>Silene alba</i>	
Bladder Campion	<i>Silene vulgaris</i>	Siemianovka.
Lesser Stitchwort	<i>Stellaria graminea</i>	Bialowieza.
Wood Stitchwort	<i>Stellaria nemorum</i>	Bialowieza, common in woods.

Nymphaeaceae

Yellow Water-lily	<i>Nuphar lutea</i>	
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Ceratophyllaceae

Hornwort	<i>Ceratophyllum demersum</i>	Ponds, Bialowieza.
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Ranunculaceae

Wood Anemone	<i>Anemone nemorosa</i>	In flower in Bialowieza!
Marsh Marigold	<i>Caltha palustris</i>	Biebzra, 1 in flower!
Forking Larkspur	<i>Consolida regalis</i>	Widespread in first week.
Hepatica	<i>Hepatica nobilis</i>	Leaves in forests.
Meadow Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	Biebzra.
Lesser Spearwort	<i>Ranunculus flammula</i>	Biebzra.
Goldilocks	<i>Aster linosyris</i>	

Papaveraceae

Great Celandine	<i>Chelidonium majus</i>	Bialowieza.
Long-headed Poppy	<i>Papaver dubium</i>	Siemianovka.

Cruciferae

Shepherd's Purse	<i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i>	
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Rosaceae

Wild Strawberry	<i>Fragaria vesca</i>	Scattered records.
Silverweed	<i>Potentilla anserina</i>	Scattered records.
Raspberry	<i>Rubus idaeus</i>	Very common in forests.
Stone Bramble	<i>Rubus saxatilis</i>	Bialowieza.

Rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*
Wild Cherry *Prunus avium*

Leguminosae

Narrow-leaved everlasting pea *Lathyrus sylvestris* Siemianovka, in leaf.
White Melilot *Melilotus albus*
Ribbed Melilot *Melilotus officinalis*
False Acacia *Robinia pseudacacia* Planted in shelter belts.
Zigzag Clover *Trifolium medium* Local.
Red Clover *Trifolium pratense*
White Clover *Trifolium repens*
Lesser Trefoil *Trifolium dubium*

Oxalidaceae

Wood Sorrel *Oxalis acetosella* Common in leaf in Bialowieza.
Yellow oxalis *Oxalis corniculata* Bialowieza

Geraniaceae

Marsh Crane's-bill *Geranium palustre* Bialowieza.
Herb Robert *Geranium robertianum*

Hippuridaceae

Mare's-tail *Hippuris vulgaris*

Linaceae

Fairy Flax *Linum catharticum* Biebzra.

Aceraceae

Norway Maple *Acer platanoides*
Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*
Field maple *Acer campestre*

Balsaminaceae

Small balsam *Impatiens parviflora* Scattered records.
Touch-me-not balsam *Impatiens noli-tangere* Bialowieza

Celastraceae

Spindle-tree *Euonymus europaeus* Around Bialowieza village, in fruit.
Eastern spindle *Euonymus verrucosa* Just one at Bialowieza.

Rhamnaceae

Alder Buckthorn *Frangula alnus*

Tiliaceae

Small-leaved Lime *Tilia cordata*

Guttiferae

Common St. John's-wort *Hypericum perforatum*

Violaceae

Field Pansy *Viola arvensis*

Cucurbitaceae

Prickly Cucumber *Echinocystis lobata* Bialystok fishponds.

Lythraceae

Purple Loosestrife *Lythrum salicaria* Bialowieza.

Onagraceae

Hoary Willow-herb *Epilobium parviflorum* Siemianovka.
Evening Primrose sp. *Oenothera* sp.

Cornaceae

Dogwood *Cornus sanguinea*

Umbelliferae

Milk Parsley *Peucedanum palustre* Siemianovka, Biebzra.
Great Water-parsnip *Sium latifolium* In leaf.
Cowbane *Cicuta virosa* Biebzra

Ericaceae

Ling *Calluna vulgaris* Local.
Bog rosemary *Andromeda polifolia* Biebzra and Bieszczady.
Bilberry *Vaccinium myrtillus* Local at Bialowieza and Biebzra.
Cowberry *Vaccinium vitis-idaea*
Northern bilberry *Vaccinium uliginosum*
Labrador Tea *Ledum palustre* Biebzra, Bieszczady

Plumbaginaceae

Thrift *Armeria maritima* Dam near Siemianovka, and Biebzra.

Oleaceae

Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*

Rubiaceae

Marsh Bedstraw *Galium palustre*

Convolvulaceae

Field Bindweed *Convolvulus arvensis*

Boraginaceae

True Alkanet *Anchusa officinalis* Biebzra.
Viper's Bugloss *Echium vulgare* Siemianovka.
Water Forget-me-not *Myosotis scorpioides*

Labiatae

Black Horehound	<i>Ballota nigra</i>	Bialystok fishponds.
Wild Basil	<i>Clinopodium vulgare</i>	Bison reserve.
Ground-ivy	<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>	Bialowieza.
Yellow Archangel	<i>Lamiastrum galeobdolon</i>	Leaves in forest.
Gipsywort	<i>Lycopus europaeus</i>	Biebzra.
Self-heal	<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	Bialowieza.

Solanaceae

Bittersweet	<i>Solanum dulcamara</i>
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Scrophulariaceae

Common Toadflax	<i>Linaria vulgaris</i>	Widespread but local.
	<i>Melampyrum nemorosum</i>	Flowering at Bialowieza.
	<i>Verbascum densiflorum</i>	Strekowa Gora and roadsides.
Dark Mullein	<i>Verbascum nigrum</i>	Bialowieza.
Green Field Speedwell	<i>Veronica agrestis</i>	Arable weed, Biebzra.

Plantaginaceae

Ribwort Plantain	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>
Greater Plantain	<i>Plantago major</i>

Caprifoliaceae

Common Elder	<i>Sambucus nigra</i>
Snowberry	<i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>
Guelder-rose	<i>Viburnum opulus</i>

Dipsacaceae

Field Scabious	<i>Knautia arvensis</i>	Scattered records.
Sulphur Scabious	<i>Scabiosa ochroleuca</i>	Siemianovka.
Devil's-bit Scabious	<i>Succisa pratensis</i>	

Campanulaceae

Giant Bellflower	<i>Campanula latifolia</i>	Several plants in Bialowieza.
Spreading bellflower		Bialowieza
Sheep's-bit	<i>Jasione montana</i>	Siemianovka and Kosy Most.

Compositae

Yarrow	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Very common.
Mugwort	<i>Artemisia vulgaris</i>	Common and widespread.
Nodding Bur-marigold	<i>Bidens cernua</i>	Bialowieza and Siemianovka.
Trifid Bur-marigold	<i>Bidens tripartita</i>	Bialowieza and Siemianovka.
Greater Burdock	<i>Arctium lappa</i>	Scattered records.
Brown Knapweed	<i>Centaurea jacea</i>	Siemianovka.
	<i>Centaurea pannonica</i>	
Greater Knapweed	<i>Centaurea scabiosa</i>	Scattered.
Chicory	<i>Cichorium intybus</i>	Widespread.
Creeping Thistle	<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	
Cabbage Thistle	<i>Cirsium oleraceum</i>	Local. Common at Bieszczady.

Marsh Thistle	<i>Cirsium palustre</i>	Scattered records.
Spear Thistle	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Widespread.
Canadian Fleabane	<i>Conyza canadensis</i>	
Hemp-agrimony	<i>Eupatorium cannabinum</i>	Locally very common.
Annual Sunflower	<i>Helianthus annuus</i>	Siemianovka.
Jerusalem Artichoke	<i>Helianthus tuberosus</i>	Roadsides east of Warsaw.
Umbellate Hawkweed	<i>Hieracium umbellatum</i>	Grassland by Park Narodowy gate.
Nipplewort	<i>Lapsana communis</i>	
Wall Lettuce	<i>Mycelis muralis</i>	Bialowieza.
Butterbur	<i>Petasites hybridus</i>	
Garden Golden-rod	<i>Solidago canadensis</i>	Naturalised on verges.
Prickly Sow-thistle	<i>Sonchus asper</i>	Biebzra.
Tansy	<i>Tanacetum vulgare</i>	Near Warsaw.
Dandelion	<i>Taraxacum</i> sp.	
Scentless Mayweed	<i>Tripleurospermum inodorum</i>	
Shaggy soldier	<i>Galinsoga ciliata</i>	
Mouse-ear hawkweed	<i>Pilosella officinarum</i>	

Monocotyledones

Alismataceae

Common Water-plantain	<i>Alisma plantago-aquatica</i>	Leaves at Bachory fishponds.
Arrowhead	<i>Sagittaria sagittifolia</i>	Biebzra.

Hydrocharitaceae

Canadian Waterweed	<i>Elodea canadensis</i>	
Frog-bit	<i>Hydrocharis morsus-ranae</i>	Biebzra.
Water Soldier	<i>Stratiotes aloides</i>	Biebzra.

Liliaceae

Lily-of-the-valley	<i>Convallaria majalis</i>	In fruit at Bialowieza.
May Lily	<i>Maianthemum bifolium</i>	In fruit at Bialowieza.

Gramineae

Reed	<i>Phragmites australis</i>	
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Lemnaceae

Common Duckweed	<i>Lemna minor</i>	
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Sparganiaceae

Branched Bur-reed	<i>Sparganium erectum</i>	Bialowieza, Biebzra.
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Typhaceae

Lesser Reedmace	<i>Typha angustifolia</i>	Dojlidy and Popielewo fishponds.
Great Reedmace	<i>Typha latifolia</i>	Bialowieza.

Orchidaceae

Dark Red Helleborine	<i>Epipactis atrorubens</i>	1 dead spike at Kosy Most.
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Systematic List Number 8

Fungi

[Cep]	<i>Boletus edulis</i>	Collector's discards noted by roadside at Bieszczady.
Fly agaric	<i>Amanita muscaria</i>	Bialowieza
The blusher	<i>Amanita rubescens</i>	Bialowieza
	<i>Pholiota</i> spp.	A member of this genus growing in dense clumps on dead wood in the Strict Protection Area (Bialowieza). Perhaps <i>alnicola</i> .
The parasol	<i>Macrolepiota procera</i>	Bialowieza, Biebzra
Shaggy parasol	<i>Macrolepiota rhacodes</i>	Bialowieza
Honey fungus	<i>Armillaria mellea</i>	Widespread.
	<i>Marasmius scorodonius</i>	Andrzej pointed out this little mushroom at Bieszczady – smells strongly of garlic.
Giant funnel-cap	<i>Leucopaxillus giganteus</i>	Bialowieza and Bieszczady.
Chicken-of-the-woods	<i>Laetiporus sulphureus</i>	Only seen in transit at Biebzra and Bieszczady (a bracket)
Birch polypore	<i>Piptoporus betulinus</i>	Bialowieza (a bracket)
Root fomes	<i>Heterobasidion annosum</i>	Bialowieza (a bracket)
Tinder fungus	<i>Fomes fomentarius</i>	Bialowieza (a bracket)
Red-banded polypore	<i>Fomitopsis pinicola</i>	Bialowieza (a bracket)
	<i>Trametes versicolor</i>	Bialowieza and Bieszczady (a bracket)
Tripe fungus	<i>Auricularia mesenterica</i>	Bialowieza (a bracket)
Beefsteak fungus	<i>Fistulina hepatica</i>	Bialowieza (a bracket) – one small example on an oak tree in front of visitor centre.
Willow bracket	<i>Phelinus ignarius</i>	Widespread.
	<i>Daedaleopsis confragosa</i>	Bialowieza (a bracket).
Alder bracket	<i>Inonotus radiatus</i>	Bialowieza.
Anise mazegill	<i>Gleophyllum odoratum</i>	Bialowieza (a bracket)
Stump puffball	<i>Lycoperdon pyriforme</i>	Bialowieza – grows on wood.
Common puffball	<i>Lycoperdon perlatum</i>	Bieszczady.
Shaggy ink-cap	<i>Coprinus comatus</i>	Bialowieza, Biebzra.
Common stinkhorn	<i>Phallus impudicus</i>	Bialowieza.
Dead-man's fingers	<i>Xylaria polymorpha</i>	Bialowieza.
Leopard earthball	<i>Scleroderma areolatum</i>	Bieszczady.
Coraltooth fungus	<i>Hieracium clathroides</i>	Bialowieza (Strict Protection Area). Another similar looking <i>Hieracium</i> at Bieszczady.
	<i>Polyporus durus</i>	Bialowieza and Bieszczady.
Orange peel fungus	<i>Aleuria aurantia</i>	Bialowieza.
Common earthstar	<i>Geastrium triplex</i>	Only in the SPA at Bialowieza.
	<i>Helvella crispa</i>	Bieszczady.

Plus a load of unidentified *Lactarius*, *Russula* and *Inocybe*!