

Trip report

Javakheti NP (Georgia) - Lake Arpi NP (Armenia) and sites South of Yerevan

27.04.-05.05.16

1 INTRODUCTION

The National Parks of Javakheti (Georgia) and Lake Arpi (Armenia) were visited in the scope of a tourism development project. Main goal of the trip was to evaluate the potential of these parks for birdwatchers and develop recommendations for the promotion of eco-tourism activities. This also involved a couple of meetings and the visit of the park's infrastructure, so not all the time spent in the National Parks could be dedicated to birdwatching.

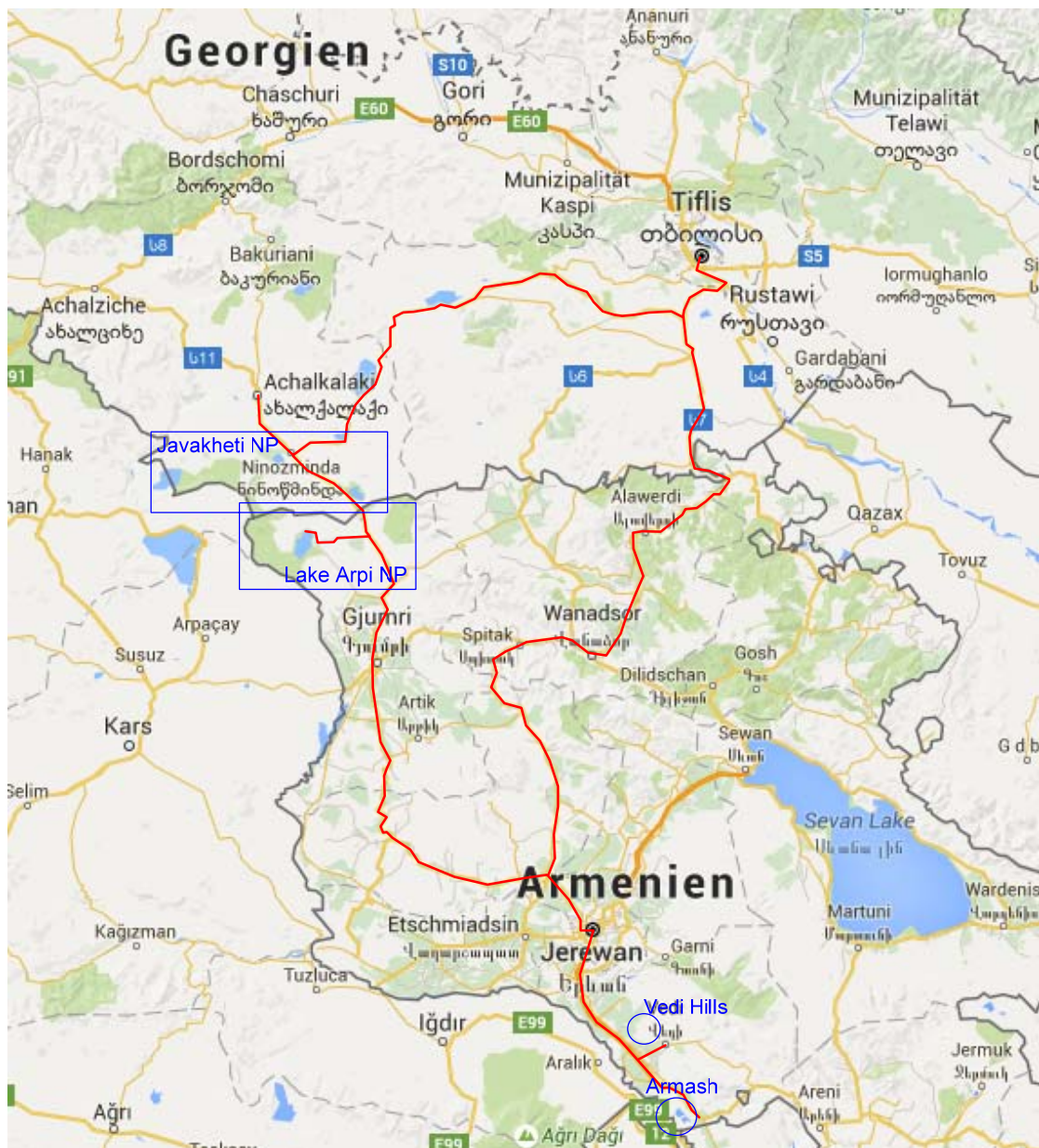


Figure 1: Geographical situation

The following sites were visited:

- Javakheti National Park (Georgia)
- Lake Arpi National Park (Armenia)
- Sites south of Yerevan (Armenia): Vedi, Armash

Our “travel group” comprised Mariana, Steffen, Soso and myself being the only serious birdwatcher. In Lake Arpi NP we were supported by the Armenian birder Vasil Ananian, to whom I am also grateful for providing useful information about Armash and Vedi.

The trip started and ended in Tbilisi (flight with Pegasus from Basel/Mulhouse via Istanbul, 390 EUR).

Roads

Roads in Javakheti NP are mostly paved and most sites can be accessed with a normal car. At Lake Arpi the situation is worse, a 4x4 is definitely recommended for most tracks away from the main road. Due to the rainy weather most tracks were in a terrible state.

Accommodation

In Javakheti we stayed in a hotel in Hotel Art Seg in the city centre of Akhalkalaki (31 Mesrop Mashtotsi Street), which was ok though a bit unfriendly. And there were no chairs in the breakfast room, which was a new experience. Private guesthouses exist at Sulda and Sameba (Madatapa Lake)

At Lake Arpi NP, basic accommodation was provided at the guesthouse of the National Park, situated in the small village of Mets Sepasar. No other hotels or guesthouses are known inside or near the National Park. The next city is Gyumri, where several hotels and restaurants can be found.

In Yerevan we stayed at the reasonable priced Shirak Hotel in the city centre (13a Movses Khorenatsi Street).

2 JAVAKHETI NATIONAL PARK

Javakheti National Park is located in southern Georgia in the Province of Javakheti. The park is located on a volcanic plateau, with elevations of 2,000 masl and more. The plateau is a large grassland plain (alpine steppe) with wetlands and several alpine lakes. The weather conditions are harsh, and some migrating birds do not return to their breeding sites before mid-May.

Main cities close to the park are Akhalkalaki and Ninotsminda. Accommodation, restaurants and further infrastructure can be found here. Most of the local population belongs to the Armenian minority in Georgia.

Main attractions of the National Park are several lakes (Kartsakhi, Khanchali, Bugdasheni, Madatapa), a wetland at Sulda and the Javakheti mountain range along the border with Armenia. The latter is accessible e.g. via the ‘Tiger Trail’ south of Ninotsminda. Birds can be watched at all these sites. At the lakes, a few hides and observation towers have been constructed to facilitate bird observation.

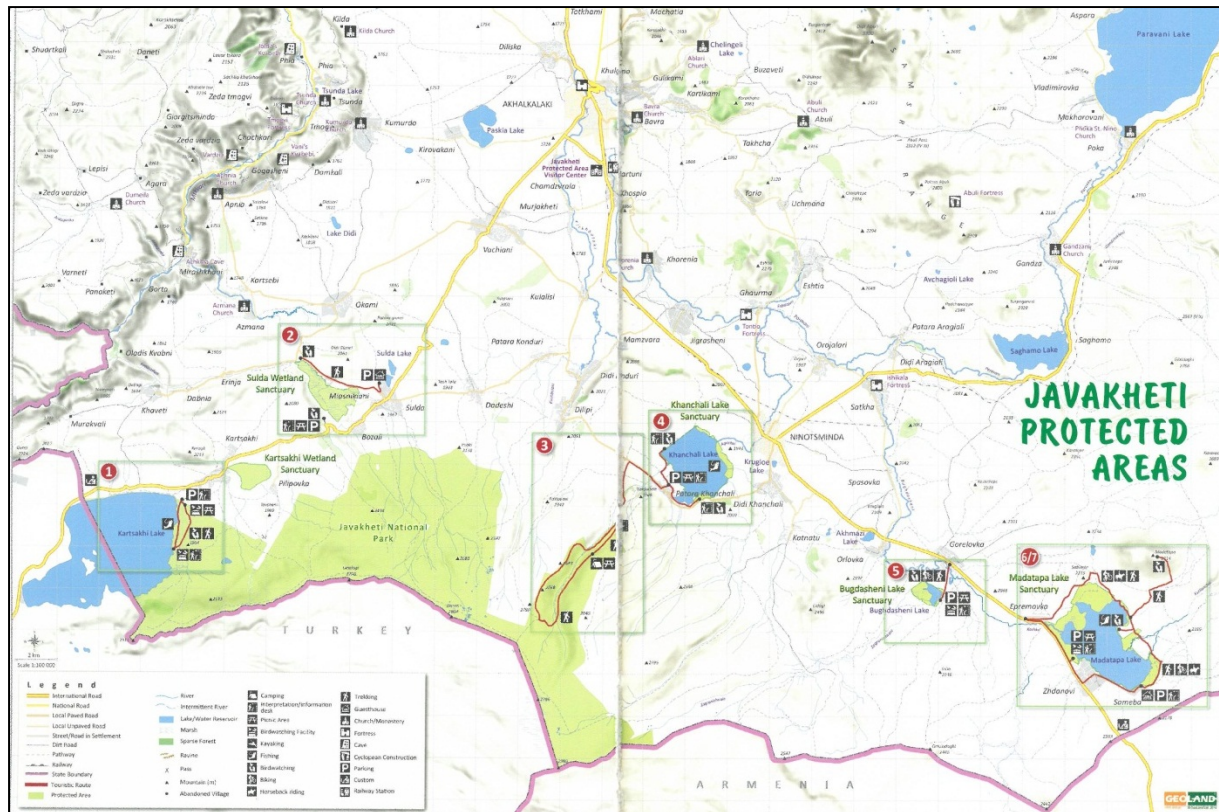


Figure 2: Javakheti National Park (Georgia)



Wetland at Sulda



Kartsakhi Lake

‘Flagship’ species of the National Park are the two pelican species (Dalmatian and Great White Pelican). These are breeding on an island on the Turkish side of Kartsakhi Lake, but can be seen frequently fishing on any other lake in the region. Other interesting species are Velvet Scoter, Citrine Wagtail, Crimson-winged Finch and Radde’s Accentor. I failed to find the latter. The rangers at the National Park’s Visitors Centre were not able to provide stakeouts for this species.

At the time of visit the by far most interesting place was Khartsakhi Lake (site 1 in the map), which was teeming with birds. The weather was mostly rainy and cold with temperatures around 10°C during daytime. Spring hadn’t fully started in the region at the time of visit; the

surrounding peaks were still covered with snow. Some of the local breeding birds like Common Rosefinch and Black-headed Bunting had not arrived from their wintering grounds, so bird wise a visit a little bit later in the year is recommended (mid May-June). However, during this visit many migrating birds, particularly passerines, could be observed.

3 LAKE ARPI NATIONAL PARK

Lake Arpi National Park is located in northern Armenia (Shirak Province). As Javakheti NP, the park is located on a volcanic plateau, with elevations of 2,000 masl and more. The plateau is a large grassland plain (alpine steppe) with wetlands and alpine lakes.



Figure 3: Lake Arpi National Park (Armenia)

Main attractions of the National Park are Lake Arpi (1), Lake Ardenis (2), the Akhuryan gorge (3) and Alvar wetlands (4). Birds can be watched at all these sites, but no particular installations for birdwatchers like hides or observation towers exist. The mountain range host high alpine bird species, but access is limited due to its proximity to the borders with Turkey and Georgia.

The birds that can be expected are basically the same as in Javakheti National Park. Main 'flagship' species of the National Park are Armenian Gull and Dalmatian Pelican. Both are breeding on islands in Lake Arpi, although the pelicans do not breed annually. Great White Pelican does not breed but can sometimes be seen fishing on the lake. Another important species is Common Crane, although only 2-3 breeding pairs seem to be left and these are difficult to observe.

Other local interesting species include Eagle Owl, Montagu's Harrier, a number of passerines, such as Crimson-winged Finch, White-winged Snowfinch, Twite, Citrine Wagtail

and Caucasian Chiffchaff. Interesting species during migration here include Pallas's Gull, terns (Whiskered and White-winged Terns) and waders (Great Snipe, Terek Sandpiper). A good selection of West Palearctic raptors regularly occur here on migration, including Pallid and Montagu's Harriers, Lesser Spotted, Steppe and Booted Eagles, and rarities such as Greater Spotted and Imperial Eagles, Saker and Red-footed Falcon. The park is one of the few known habitats for Darevsky's Viper (*Vipera darevskii*) in the world.

At the time of visit (begin of May 2016) the weather was mostly rainy and cold with temperatures around 10°C during daytime. Like in Javakheti, spring hadn't fully started in the region and the mountain range was still covered with snow.



Lake Arpi



Akhouryan Gorge

4 DAILY SIGHTINGS

During the visit to Javakheti National Park 86 different bird species have been observed between 27th and 29th April 2016. In Lake Arpi National Park 85 species have been registered from 29th April to 2nd May 2016, giving a total of 110 species for the entire Transboundary National Park. The visit at Armash and Vedi yielded another 33 species, raising the total to 143.

26.04.16 Tbilisi

The first day in was basically a day of meetings. Apart from two Laughing Doves in the city centre and a Night Heron at Kura river no birds of interest were seen.

27.04.16 Tbilisi to Akhalkalaki/Javakheti NP

Madatapa Lake (6): 11:00-12:00

Madatapa is a shallow and partially reed-fringed lake close to the Armenian border. Observations were made from the southern part (observation hide) and close to the village of Sameba. Highlights: 1-2 Little Egrets, c. 10 Gadwalls, 2 Pintails, c. 10 Common Pochards, c. 50 White-winged Terns, 1 Marsh Sandpiper.

Bugdasheni Lake (5): 15:00-15:30

Another shallow lake. At the time of visit only few birds were present. All observations were made from the observation tower on the east side of the lake. Highlights: c. 30 Ruddy Shelducks, 1 White-winged Tern, 2 Yellow Wagtails (race *feldegg*).

28.04.16 Javakheti National ParkSulda Wetland (2): 09:00-09:30

Observations were made from the viewpoint at the road to Kartsakhi Lake, quite distant and around 100 m above the wetland. Highlights: 1 European Bittern (heard only), 2 Cranes, 2 Ring Ouzels.

Kartsakhi Lake: (1): 10:00-13:00

Kartsakhi Lake is located at the border and the western part of the lake is already in Turkey (where it is known as Aktaş Gölü). The lake is famous for its breeding colony of Great White and Dalmatian Pelicans, which is located on an island in the Turkish part of the lake. Best easy accessible viewpoint from the Georgian site to the island is from the border control station north of the lake. However, views are still distant and a scope is needed. Highlights: at least 100 pelicans of both species (Great White and Dalmatian Pelican), many ducks (particularly Garganey, Shoveler, Teal), 1 Water Rail (heard only), c. 10 White-winged Terns, 1 Wryneck, several Red-backed Shrikes, 1 Lesser Grey Shrike, 1 Red-throated Pipit, several Bearded Reedlings, Reed Warblers and Great Reed Warblers.

Vardzia: 14:00-15:00

Vardzia is a famous cave monastery to the west of Akhalkalaki (not located inside the National Park). Birds were recorded only during lunch in a restaurant. This spectacular site can be easily combined with a visit to the National Park. Highlights: 1 Rock Nuthatch, 1 Red-billed Chough. During a previous visit in May 2012 many more species have been seen with little effort, e.g. Levant Sparrowhawk, Black-eared Wheatear, Blue Rock Thrush, Red-fronted Serin, Rock Sparrow, Ortolan Bunting, Black-headed Bunting, Rock Bunting and Nightjar.

Tiger Canyon (3): 16:00-18:00

The mountain trail to the Tiger Canyon starts southwest of Ninotsminda near the village of Patara Khanchali and leads up to elevations of more than 2,700 meters in the Javakheti Range. At the time of visit the upper parts of the trail were still covered with snow, so that we only walked until the camp site. Highlights: 2 Grey Partridges, 2 Lesser Spotted Eagles, many Water Pipits, Whinchats and Northern Wheatears. Dozens of Banded Frogs (*Rana camerani*) were crossing a snow field and heading to the next stream.

29.04.16 Akhalkalaki to Lake Arpi NPMadatapa Lake (6): 12:00-13:00

Another visit to Madatapa, this time at the northern end of the lake (no observation facilities). Highlights: 2 Red-necked Grebes, 6 Dalmatian Pelicans, 2 Cranes, >200 White-winged Terns.

30.04.16 Lake Arpi NPLake Arpi (1): 09:00-16:00

We surrounded Lake Arpi, which is said to host the biggest colony of Armenian Gulls in the world (located on an island). Dalmatian Pelicans are breeding irregularly. Highlights: Several Teals, Shovelers, Gadwalls and Garganeys on the lake, c. 6 Dalmatian Pelicans, c. 5 Montagu's Harrier, c. 80 migrating Honey Buzzards, several hundred Armenian Gulls,

several Red-backed Shrikes, 2 Thrush Nightingales (migrants), several Mountain Chiffchaffs. Traces of Eurasian Otter (*Lutra lutra*) and Transcaucasian Mole Vole (*Ellobius lutescens*).

Lake Ardenis (2): 16:30-17:00

This is a small, eutrophic lake near the settlement of Ardenis that usually holds a few ducks and waders. Highlights: Several Garganeys, Tufted Ducks and Common Pochards, 2 Citrine Wagtails.

01.05.16 Lake Arpi National Park

Akhouryan Gorge (3): 09:00-17:00

Beautiful hike through the gorge SW of Mets Sepasar (c. 8 km one way), always along the river. Highlights: 1 Night Heron, 3 Black Storks, 1-2 Lesser Spotted Eagles, 1-2 Booted Eagles, 2-3 Long-legged Buzzards, many Common Buzzards (nominata and ssp. *vulpinus*), 1 male Levant Sparrowhawk, many displaying Common Sandpipers along the river, 2 Citrine Wagtails, c. 5 Mountain Chiffchaffs, 2-3 Rock Buntings.

02.05.16 Lake Arpi National Park

Alvar wetland (4): 08:00-10:00

A wetland south of the village of Ardenis. This site was hosting a breeding pair of Common Crane in the last years, which could not be found this time. Highlights: c. 5 Redshanks, c. 30 Ruffs, 1 Marsh Sandpiper, c. 5 Citrine Wagtails, c. 30 Twites (race *brevirostris*). At least two displaying Common Snipes were interesting, since the species is not known to breed in the area according to Vasil Ananian.

03.05.16 Yerevan

This was basically a day of rest and meetings. During a walk in the really wild botanical garden of Yerevan some birds were seen. Among others: Syrian Woodpecker, Eurasian Golden Oriole, Common Whitethroat. A possible Levant Sparrowhawk was seen all too briefly.

04.05.16 South of Yerevan

Armash (08:00-09:30)

This is a huge area with many fishponds close to the borders with Turkey and Nakhichevan. The area is private and a permit is needed (10 USD p.p.). The ponds are of outstanding importance for birds and the only known breeding site for White-tailed Lapwing in the Western Palearctic. At the time of visit the area was teeming with birds, particularly herons, ducks, terns and 5 different Acrocephalus Warblers. Although we didn't spend much time and checked just two ponds in the south of the area and the adjacent salt marsh, most of the interesting species were seen. Highlights: 1 male White-headed Duck, 1 Marbled Duck, 1 Ferruginous Duck, many Red-crested Pochards, c. 5 Purple Herons, 1 Night Heron, 1 Osprey, c. 6 White-tailed Lapwings, c. 20 Collared Pratincoles, hundreds of White-winged Terns, 2 Blue-cheeked Bee-eaters, 2 Paddyfield Warblers, 1 Moustached Warbler. Bearded Reedlings were virtually everywhere.

Goravan Sands (10:00-11:00)

This is a small protected steppe area south of the town of Vedi, where several rare plants and reptiles are said to occur. We saw Bee-eater, Hoopoe, Black-headed Bunting, Long-legged Buzzard and at least 3 singing Menetrie's Warblers.

„Vedi Hills“ (11:30-13:00)

The hills a few kilometres west of the town of Vedi are known as “Vedi Hills” among birdwatchers. The terrain is arid and rocky with only little vegetation and few bushes. Access is possible with 4x4D only. Highlights: 2 Woodchat Shrikes, 1 Green Warbler, Many Eastern Black-eared Wheatears, c. 3 Grey-necked Buntings, c. 5 Trumpeter Finches, 1 Rock Sparrow, 2 Raven. No Eastern Rock Nuthatches were found and probably it was still too early for Upcher’s Warbler.

Khor Virap Marsh and Monastery 13:30-15:00)

This is a large wetland area along the border with Turkey, just to the Northwest of the famous Khor Virap Monastery. The area cannot be properly accessed; it is only possible to walk along its borders or to look from above from the bordering hills. The thick reed vegetation generally does not allow good views. Many Great Reed Warblers, Reed Warblers, Bearded Reedlings etc., but most birds were heard only. At Khor Virap Monastery itself a Quail was calling.

05.05.16 Yerevan to Tbilisi

Six hours drive back to Tbilisi via Vanadzor, along the beautiful Debed Gorge. The faster road via Lake Sevan was not recommended at the time of visit due to the armed conflict with Azerbaijan. Before Alaverdi we passed many kilometres of suitable habitat for Semi-collared Flycatcher, but unfortunately there was no time for stops. Many Crag Martins have been observed en route, as well as 2 circling Bearded Vultures near Tsater. Several nightingales were singing between the Armenian and the Georgian border post.

5 SYSTEMATIC LIST

No	English	Scientific	Observation
1	Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>	6 at Kartsakhi Lake
2	Ruddy Shelduck	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>	L. Bugdasheni, L. Arpi
3	Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>	common on lakes
4	Common Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>	Kartsakhi L.
5	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	common
6	Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>	2 at Madatapa Lake
7	Garganey	<i>Anas querquedula</i>	several in Javakheti and L. Arpi NP
8	Northern Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>	L. Arpi, Kartsakhi
9	Marbled Duck	<i>Marmaronetta angustirostris</i>	1 at Armash
10	Red-crested Pochard	<i>Netta rufina</i>	Armash
11	Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>	Armash, L. Arpi, Kartsakhi
12	Ferruginous Duck	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>	1 at Armash
13	Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>	Armash, L. Arpi, Kartsakhi
14	White-headed Duck	<i>Oxyura leucocephala</i>	1 male Armash
15	Grey Partridge	<i>Perdix perdix</i>	Javakheti NP, L. Arpi
16	Common Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>	1 Khor Virap
17	Common Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>	Botanical Garden Yerevan
18	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	several
19	Red-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps grisegena</i>	2 at Madatapa Lake
20	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	common on lakes
21	Great White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>	Kartsakhi L.
22	Dalmatian Pelican	<i>Pelecanus crispus</i>	Kartsakhi L., Madatapa L., L. Arpi
23	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	L. Arpi
24	Pygmy Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax pygmaeus</i>	Armash

No	English	Scientific	Observation
25	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	common
26	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	Kartsakhi L., Armash
27	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	several
28	Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	Tbilisi, Kartsakhi L., Armash
29	Eurasian Bittern	<i>Botaurus stellaris</i>	Sulda Wetland (heard)
30	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	c. 10 Armash
31	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>	3 Akhouryan Gorge
32	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	Common
33	Bearded Vulture	<i>Gypaetus barbatus</i>	2 Debed Gorge near Tsater (Armenia)
34	Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	1 Armash
35	Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>	L. Arpi NP, migrating
36	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	3 Mets Sepasar
37	Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	common in wetlands
38	Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>	Kartsakhi, L. Arpi
39	Levant Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter brevipes</i>	1 male Akhouryan Gorge
40	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>	Akhouryan Gorge
41	Northern Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>	1 Mets Sepasar
42	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	Common
43	Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>	several
44	Lesser Spotted Eagle	<i>Aquila pomarina</i>	2 Tiger Canyon, 1 Akhouryan Gorge
45	Booted Eagle	<i>Aquila pennata</i>	Akhouryan Gorge
46	Lesser Kestrel	<i>Falco naumanni</i>	1 near Tsalka (Geo)
47	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	few
48	Water Rail	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>	Kartsakhi L.
49	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	Armash
50	Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>	common on lakes
51	Common Crane	<i>Grus grus</i>	2 Kartsakhi, 2 Sulda, 1 Madatapa L.
52	Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	Armash, Alvar Wetland
53	White-tailed Lapwing	<i>Vanellus leucurus</i>	c. 8 Armash
54	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	Armash
55	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	2 displaying Alvar Wetland
56	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>	Common at Alvar Wetland and Armash
57	Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>	1 Madatapa L., 1 Alvar Wetland
58	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>	singles at Alvar and Armash
59	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	several displaying Akhouryan Gorge
60	Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>	Alvar Wetland, Armash
61	Collared Pratincole	<i>Glareola pratincola</i>	c. 20 Armash
62	Armenian Gull	<i>Larus armenicus</i>	common, big colony at L. Arpi
63	Black-headed Gull	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>	L. Arpi
64	White-winged Tern	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>	many Kartsakhi, Madatapa, Armash
65	Common Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	common
66	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	2 Akhouryan Gorge
67	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	common
68	Laughing Dove	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>	2 Tbilisi
69	Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	common
70	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	common
71	Blue-cheeked Bee-eater	<i>Merops persicus</i>	2 at Armash
72	European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>	common
73	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>	common
74	Eurasian Wryneck	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>	1 Kartsakhi
75	Syrian Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos syriacus</i>	1-2 Botanical Garden Yerevan
76	Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>	common
77	Lesser Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius minor</i>	1 Kartsakhi L.
78	Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>	2 "Vedi Hills"
79	Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>	2 Botanical Garden Yerevan
80	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	2 Akhouryan Gorge

No	English	Scientific	Observation
81	Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	common
82	Red-billed Cough	<i>Pyrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>	1 Vardzia
83	Western Jackdaw	<i>Corvus monedula</i>	common
84	Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>	only Yerevan
85	Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	common
86	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	Kartsakhi, Akhouryan G., "Vedi Hills"
87	Bearded Reedling	<i>Panurus biarmicus</i>	Kartsakhi L., very common Armash
88	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>	common around Yerevan
89	Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	common
90	Eurasian Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>	Vardzia, Akhouryan Gorge
91	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	common
92	Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbica</i>	singles
93	Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>	common in Javakheti NP and L. Arpi
94	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>	Botanical Garden Yerevan
95	Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>	Kartsakhi, Armash
96	Western Rock Nuthatch	<i>Sitta neumayer</i>	1 near Vardzia
97	Winter Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	Kartsakhi L.
98	White-throated Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>	near Akhalkalaki
99	Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	common (passage)
100	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	several (passage)
101	Mountain Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus sindianus lorenzii</i>	common in Javakheti NP and L. Arpi
102	Moustached Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus melanopogon</i>	Armash
103	Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>	Kartsakhi, Armash
104	Paddyfield Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus agricola</i>	at least 2 singing at Armash
105	Eurasian Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>	Kartsakhi, Armash
106	Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>	Kartsakhi, Armash
107	Common Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>	common
108	Menetries's Warbler	<i>Sylvia mystacea</i>	several near Vedi and Armash
109	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>	almost daily singles
110	Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>	1 at the border Armenia/Georgia
111	Thrush Nightingale	<i>Luscinia luscinia</i>	2 seen very well at Lake Arpi (passage)
112	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	common in Javakheti & L. Arpi NP
113	Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>	1 female L. Arpi
114	Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>	common in Javakheti & L. Arpi NP
115	Eurasian Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquatus</i>	Kartsakhi
116	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>	common in Javakheti & L. Arpi NP
117	Black-eared Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe hispanica</i>	many "Vedi Hills", ssp. <i>melanoleuca</i>
118	Isabelline Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe isabellina</i>	West of Yerevan
119	Ring Ouzel	<i>Turdus torquatus</i>	Akhouryan Gorge, above Sulda
120	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	only Akhouryan Gorge
121	Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>	3 in Akhouryan Gorge
122	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	common
123	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	common
124	Citrine Wagtail	<i>Motacilla citreola</i>	1 male Kartsakhi, many in L. Arpi NP
125	Western Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>	common, all <i>feldegg</i>
126	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	1 Akhouryan Gorge
127	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>	common in L. Arpi and Javakheti NP
128	Red-throated Pipit	<i>Anthus cervinus</i>	1 Kartsakhi
129	Water Pipit	<i>Anthus spinoletta</i>	common in Javakheti & L. Arpi NP
130	Rock Bunting	<i>Emberiza cia</i>	3 Akhouryan Gorge
131	Grey-necked Bunting	<i>Emberiza buchanani</i>	c. 3 "Vedi Hills"
132	Black-headed Bunting	<i>Emberiza melanocephala</i>	only S of Yerevan
133	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>	common
134	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	common
135	European Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>	Akhalkalaki
136	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	common

No	English	Scientific	Observation
137	Twite	<i>Carduelis flavirostris</i>	flock of c. 30 at L. Arpi, ssp. <i>brevirostris</i>
138	Common Linnet	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>	common
139	European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>	common
140	Trumpeter Finch	<i>Bucanetes githaginea</i>	c. 5 "Vedi Hills"
141	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	common
142	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>	near Yerevan
143	Rock Sparrow	<i>Petronia petronia</i>	1 "Vedi Hills"

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W. Meinken