

Bluethroat

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The **bluethroat** (*Luscinia svecica*) is a small passerine bird that was formerly classed as a member of the thrush family Turdidae, but is now more generally considered to be an Old World flycatcher, Muscicapidae. It, and similar small European species, are often called chats.



Female at Keoladeo National Park, Bharatpur, Rajasthan, India.



Red-spotted race

It is a migratory insectivorous species breeding in wet birch wood or bushy swamp in Europe and Asia with a foothold in western Alaska. It nests in tussocks or low in dense bushes. It winters in north Africa and the Indian subcontinent.

The bluethroat is similar in size to the European robin at 13–14 cm. It is plain brown above except for the distinctive black tail with red side patches. It has a strong white supercilium. The male has an iridescent blue bib edged below with successive black, white and rust coloured borders. Some races, such as *L. svecica svecica* (**red-spotted bluethroat**) of northern Eurasia, have a red spot in the centre of the blue bib.

Others, such as *L. svecica cyanecula* (**white-spotted bluethroat**) of southern and central Europe, have a

white spot in the centre of the blue bib. *L. svecica magna* in Turkey has no central spot.

Females of all races usually have just a blackish crescent on an otherwise cream throat and breast. Newly fledged juveniles are freckled and spotted dark brown above.

Despite the distinctive appearance of the males, recent genetic studies show only limited variation between the forms, and confirm that this is a single species.^[2]

The male has a varied and very imitative song (<http://audioblog.sonatura.com/?p=1057>).^[3] Its call is a typical

Bluethroat



Male

Conservation status



Least Concern (IUCN 3.1)^[1]

Scientific classification

- Kingdom: Animalia
- Phylum: Chordata
- Class: Aves
- Order: Passeriformes
- Family: Muscicapidae
- Genus: *Luscinia*
- Species: *L. svecica*

Binomial name

Luscinia svecica

(Linnaeus, 1758)



Distribution of the bluethroat subspecies



Eggs, Collection Museum Wiesbaden, Germany

chat *chack* noise.

References

- Zink *et al.* (2003) Recent evolutionary history of the bluethroat (*Luscinia svecica*) across Eurasia (<http://www.cbs.umn.edu/eeb/faculty/ZinkRobert/Recentevolutionary.pdf>) *Molecular Ecology* **12**:3069-3075
1. BirdLife International (2012). "*Luscinia svecica*" (<http://www.iucnredlist.org/details/22709707>). *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Version 2013.2*. International Union for Conservation of Nature. Retrieved 26 November 2013.
 2. Zink RM, RM; Drovetski SV; Questiau S; Fadeev IV; Nesterov EV; Westberg MC; Rohwer S. (2003). "Recent evolutionary history of the bluethroat (*Luscinia svecica*) across Eurasia.". *Molecular Ecology* **12** (11): 3069–75. doi:10.1046/j.1365-294X.2003.01981.x (<https://dx.doi.org/10.1046%2Fj.1365-294X.2003.01981.x>). PMID 14629386 (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/14629386>).
 3. Metzmacher M. (2008) Les Grillons, muses de la Gorgebleue à miroir blanc (*Luscinia svecica cyanecula*) ? *Parcs & Réserves*, 63 : 17-19.

External links

- Bluethroat song (<http://audioblog.sonatura.com/?p=1057>) on Sonatura audioblog
- Bluethroat videos, photos & sounds (<http://ibc.lynxeds.com/species/bluethroat-luscinia-svecica>) on the Internet Bird Collection
- Ageing and sexing (PDF; 3.4 MB) by Javier Blasco-Zumeta & Gerd-Michael Heinze (http://aulaenred.ibercaja.es/wp-content/uploads/330_BluethroatLsvecica.pdf)
- Information and pictures about the Bluethroat in the Netherlands (<http://www.birdsnetherlands.nl/bluethroat%20luscinia%20svecica%20netherlands.htm>)
- Avibase (<http://www.bsc-eoc.org/avibase/species.jsp?lang=EN&id=2F032C0447A0EA05&ts=1221594067401&sec=summary>)
- Bluethroat 2 / Luscinia svecica (https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=LgdtqBS9BpA)

Retrieved from "<http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Bluethroat&oldid=663201481>"

Categories: IUCN Red List least concern species | Luscinia
 | Birds of Asia | Birds of Pakistan | Birds of Tajikistan
 | Birds of Europe | Birds of Western Sahara
 | Animals described in 1758



Riyadh, KSA 1992

- This page was last modified on 20 May 2015, at 04:19.
- Text is available under the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike License; additional terms may apply. By using this site, you agree to the Terms of Use and Privacy Policy. Wikipedia® is a registered trademark of the Wikimedia Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization.



Wikimedia Commons has media related to *Luscinia svecica*.



Wikispecies has information related to: *Luscinia svecica*