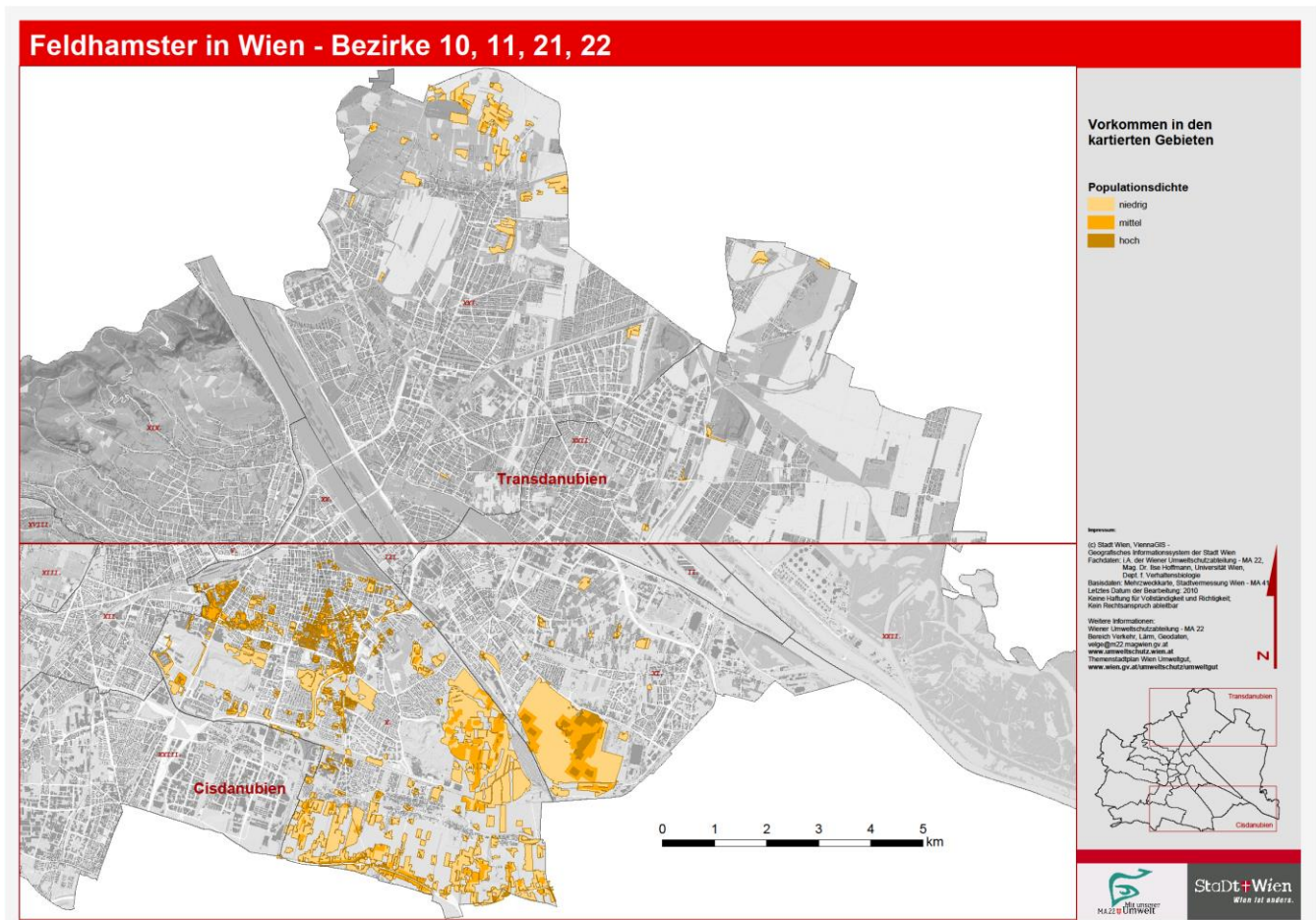


Vienna, Austria

In late July/early August 2016 I spent a week in Vienna with my family. This was mainly a culture-oriented trip, but I managed to look up some information on mammals and to sneak away on some mornings to look up some species. Here are some notes; underlined are the species that I saw.

Zentraler Friedhof (Central Cemetery)

Vienna has a large urban population of **Black-bellied Hamsters** that is partly diurnal to avoid predation by foxes. Below is a map of hamster density in Vienna. Possibly the best place to see them is the central cemetery (the large on the lower right on the map). I took S6 to stop Zentralfriedhof Eingang 2 and headed to the left to some large meadows that are kept free of graves. Here, I saw a hamster crossing a track within 10 minutes of arriving, but the tall grass and fairly late hour (the place opened at 7 am and it was already hot and sunny) meant that I was unable to get closer looks. I also saw a **Western Roe Deer**, some **Red Squirrels** and plenty of **Red Fox** scat.



Lainzer Tiergarten

A former imperial hunting area, this 2450 ha area of forests and meadows is now managed as a fenced-in nature reserve. It has large managed populations of **Red** and **Fallow Deer**, **Mouflon**, and **Wild Boar** as well as many small mammals. Unfortunately, opening hours are very viewer-unfriendly. They vary over the year, during my visit they were 8 am to 20:30 pm, i.e., 2 hours after sunrise and before sunset. So no chance for bats and not good for much else, either. I spent 2 hours there one morning (8-10 am) and only had 4 encounters with **Wild Boars** (8 animals in total). The forest looked heavily overgrazed.

Donau-Auen Nationalpark

This national park just east of the city protects large areas of Danube flood plain forest, meadows, and lakes. There is a reintroduced population of **European Ground Squirrel** next to the main visitor center. There are also many **European Beavers**, but I have no details on how easy they might be to see. I did not visit the park.

Vienna City

In the parks and gardens, I saw several **Red Squirrels**, and after several hours of poking around at night, a **Western White-breasted Hedgehog**.

Bats

According to what I have found out, there are about 22 bat species in Vienna and the surrounding areas. I have found some details on the following:

Lesser Horseshoe Bat: Rare in Lainzer Tiergarten

Geoffroy's Bat: Rare in Lainzer Tiergarten and adjacent forest areas

Bechstein's Bat: Uncommon in Lainzer Tiergarten and adjacent forest areas; rare in city area

Greater Mouse-eared Bat: Uncommon in Lainzer Tiergarten and adjacent forest areas; rare in city area

Barbastelle: Fairly common in Lainzer Tiergarten and adjacent forest areas; uncommon in Donauauen; rare in city area

Daubenton's Bat: Fairly common, especially close to the Danube

Whiskered Bat: Uncommon in Lainzer Tiergarten and adjacent forest areas

Brandt's Bat: Uncommon in Lainzer Tiergarten and adjacent forest areas

Alcantoe Whiskered Bat: Rare in Lainzer Tiergarten and adjacent forest areas

Natterer's Bat: Uncommon in Lainzer Tiergarten and adjacent forest areas

Noctule: Common throughout

Lesser Noctule: Uncommon in Lainzer Tiergarten, adjacent forest areas, and city area

Common Pipistrelle: Fairly common throughout

Soprano Pipistrelle: Common throughout; the most common bat species in Vienna

Nathusius's Pipistrelle: Uncommon in the city area

Kuhl's Pipistrelle: Fairly common in the central city area, especially close to the river

Savi's Pipistrelle: Common throughout; the second most common bat species in Vienna

Parti coloured Bat: Fairly common throughout in late summer/fall. Does not reproduce in the area, but migrates to Vienna, first the males in early August, later followed by the females. Has conspicuous social calls that are readily audible, which makes it easy to recognize.

Serotine Bat: Fairly common throughout

Brown Long-eared Bat: Rare in Lainzer Tiergarten, adjacent forest areas, and city area

Gray Long-eared Bat: Rare in western city area