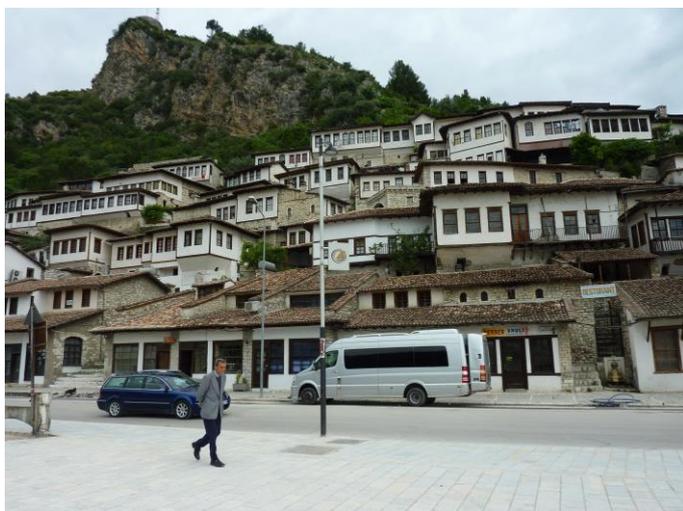


Albania in Spring

Naturetrek Tour Report

13 - 20 May 2016



From top left: UNESCO town of Berat, lunch prepared by local shepherds, walking in Valbona and Nose-horned Viper (*Vipera ammodytes*)

Report compiled by Philip Thompson and photos by Glynis and Chris Bond.



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Day 1

Friday 13th May

The group all arrived safely into Tirana Airport where we were met by our local leader and quickly transferred to our minibus. We were due to drive south towards our base for the next 3 nights in the UNESCO World Heritage city of Berat.

We broke the journey with a visit to a small wine estate where, after a tour of the winery, we were able to relax in their gardens while a selection of local wines were brought out for the group to taste alongside a selection of tasty local cheeses. Despite the culinary distractions, we were still able to enjoy views of a pair of Red-rumped Swallows passing to and fro over the garden and a Common Wall Lizard on the building.

Feeling suitably mellow, we were then driven on to our comfortable hotel in central Berat. Once settled in we then went out to enjoy an evening meal in a local restaurant.

Day 2

Saturday 14th May

A full day was spent visiting the coastal lagoons of the Divjaka-Karavasta NP. Upon arrival, we drove directly to the coastal fringe where we took a walk through the scrubby vegetated sand bars alongside open water. At our feet as we stepped from the vehicle, it was difficult not to step on a multitude of orchids, mainly comprising Bug Orchid (*Anacamptis coriophora*), Lax-flowered Orchid (*Anacamptis (Orchis) laxiflora*) and a variety of Tongue Orchid species of *Serapias parviflora*, *S. lingua* and *S. vomeracea*. The reeds fringing the lagoon held a small number of singing Eurasian Reed Warblers from which a few brief glimpses were obtained.

Viewing across the lagoons, several Dalmatian Pelicans were spotted roosting on the sandbars whilst several Pygmy Cormorants periodically flew past. A small passage flock of Whimbrel were disturbed by the group but only flew on a short distance. Nearby, a group of Greater Flamingos was feeding in the short brackish lagoons. A number of Little and Common Terns kept up a constant movement as they scanned the shallows for fishing opportunities. Among the reeds and sedges, a small number of *Dactylorhiza baumanniana (smolikana)* had put up their large robust spikes of deep pink flowers. As we continued along the sandy track, several interesting species of plant continued to be found but the increasingly windy conditions was making birding difficult. As we neared an observation tower, a Tawny Pipit flew up and performed its simple song flight before dropping down out of sight. A climb up the tower, whilst providing good distant views all around, resulted in experiencing even stronger buffeting wind and hence any meaningful observations were somewhat curtailed. It was decided to return and try a walk to another lagoon that might be more sheltered. As we neared the bus and the shelter of the tamarisk scrub, a Mediterranean Skipper was spotted. Even this normally extremely rapid-flying butterfly was keeping down out of the wind!

We returned by vehicle to within the pine forest where we took a walk through the trees leading to a different lagoon. A pair of breeding Woodchat Shrikes were sighted within the open glade and posed obligingly on the nearby concrete posts. Entering the pines, a couple of Cirl Buntings gave fleeting views as they retreated into the forest. A couple of handsome Cleopatra butterflies proved more amenable to observation as they moved among

the sunny glades. Reaching the shore of the lagoon, it was clear the wind was still a factor and no birds of note could be found sheltering.

We next drove the short distance to a local restaurant within the forest where we enjoyed a wonderful meal with a multitude of courses washed down with local beer and rather rough cider! Whilst eating, several Spotted Flycatchers were actively feeding from perches nearby and a pair of rival male Golden Orioles lost their customary caution and openly chased each other past our table on a couple of occasions.

For the afternoon, we took a walk from another track leading through the forest alongside the open marshes and ultimately reaching the main lagoon of the reserve (the largest in Albania). Growing alongside the track we discovered several spikes of the localized *Iris sintenisii* with its deep blue flowers. Further excitement ensued when a European Glass Lizard was nearly stepped on, giving a fright to the local leader, whose cry of “snake” brought the group’s attention! After getting good views of this large legless lizard as it hid within a small bush, calm was regained once its harmless nature was understood.

Out on the open marshes numerous Little Egrets were seen, among which a trio of Great Egret were also found, giving ample opportunity for comparison. At the culmination of the walk, we were able to view across the lagoon to the breeding islands of the important population of Dalmatian Pelicans. Several large young could be seen among the adults with parental feeding observed on a couple of occasions. We then made our way back to return to Berat where we ate out at a different restaurant in the heart of the old city on a rooftop terrace with a splendid view of the historic centre.

Day 3

Sunday 15th May

We made another visit to the coast today with a trip to the salt lagoons of Narte. After a winding and interesting journey taking us through rural countryside, and becoming caught up in the busy market day of one small town where everything under the sun could be purchased from the various roadside stalls, we eventually arrived at the lagoons.

Immediately apparent were the large number of Greater Flamingos present, among which a selection of smaller waders and terns milled about. Typical waders of these salty conditions were well represented with good numbers of Black-winged Stilts, Avocets and Kentish Plovers all vying for our attention. Other passage waders included Little Stint and Common Redshank. In the far distance, a colony of Collared Pratincoles could be seen swooping over their breeding site. In the shallow dykes and sandy ground a few Greater Short-toed Larks put in a brief appearance, joining the commoner Crested Larks seen throughout the area.

We drove on a short distance to take another, lesser embankment track where we paused in order to pick up a pair of Stone-curlew which had bred by the track and whose eggs had obviously now hatched and the young concealed among the short vegetation. The adults remained on guard with their baleful glare of their large eyes keeping us under close observation. We stopped at the end of the track by a pumping station. The lagoon here held a large flock of Slender-billed Gulls close by, allowing us to enjoy wonderful views of these attractive gulls. In close company was a small flock of Curlew Sandpipers and Little Stints, with several birds exhibiting handsome breeding plumage.

A further move led beside the main lagoon where a stop was taken to pick up the roosting Dalmatian Pelicans and a couple of Spoonbills. A short move further led us to the coastal pine shelter-belt where we paused for a couple of Little Owls on the walls of some ruined buildings before finally stopping for our picnic lunch. Several of the group were drawn by the local Bee-eaters to interrupt their lunches. As we relaxed and explored our surroundings, a fantastic group of Alpine Swifts began swooping low overhead, presumably making a circuit of the area as they fed. The Bee-eaters were apparently breeding nearby in an embankment, allowing the photographers a chance of capturing these popular birds 'on film'.

After lunch, we took a short walk to an ephemeral marshy area where more marsh orchids were found but nothing of note bird-wise. We then returned to Berat to enjoy a visit to the historic Citadel perched high above the main town. The curators of the Cultural Museum of Onufri Icons had kindly kept it open until our arrival, in order to show us around. Onufri was a famous C16 icon painter, and many of his and his son's works are contained in the museum. A very informative talk was given by the lady proprietor on the significance of these religious paintings. The restored church was also an incredible experience, having been restored after the period of Communism. We finished up with another excellent meal in a small restaurant within the Citadel's walls.

Day 4

Monday 16th May

We transferred from Berat up into the Valbona Valley mountains today, entailing a long road trip. It was not all driving though, as we firstly broke the journey with a visit to the medieval town of Kruje, birthplace of the Albanian hero, Skanderbeg. With our fairly limited time available, we were able to enjoy a guided tour around a wonderfully restored and preserved dignitary's house within Kruje Castle. The displays showed many elements of the lives of the original inhabitants, with particular attention to the living quarters and traditional clothing displays. A lunch was then taken in a nearby restaurant of local and traditional dishes washed down, as had become customary with the group, with a few local beers. Whilst in the castle area, a couple of Black-eared Wheatears and Blue Rock Thrushes had kept the birders interested.

Our journey continued onwards, interrupted at one point by the sighting of a large number of migrating Honey Buzzards working their way north, using thermals to gain height and glide on to the next one. After having turned eastwards, we reached the border with Kosovo where we stopped to carry out the immigration formalities. This proved apt, as from the bus window a Lesser Grey Shrike and Subalpine Warbler were seen in the nearby trees.

Now in Kosovo, we headed for the town of Prizren where we stopped once more to take a brief exploration of this historic, dynamic and ethnically diverse place. For many a coffee in a local café proved their main interest, with a little local sausage and baklava bought along the way! For some, a quick wander along the narrow streets, with a peek at the large Sinan Pasha Mosque and fast flowing Prizrenska Bistrica river, was squeezed in before we hit the road once more for the final leg into the Albanian Alps and the Valbona Valley. We arrived at dusk to a warm and comfortable guesthouse having had a taster of the wonderful scenery all around during our drive up. We walked down to the local restaurant for a pleasant dinner before retiring to bed!

Day 5

Tuesday 17th May

We awoke to the stunning mountain views from our hotel, in a complete contrast to the previous few days, and were eager to get out and explore. With our weather forecast (inaccurately) to be a little unsettled, we opted to take a walk along the Valbona River keeping to the lower meadows and forest.

We got off to a good start with a couple of brief Nutcracker sightings that unfortunately did not stay long. Over the river good numbers of Crag Martins were active, constantly sweeping back and forth. As we made our way through the lightly wooded riverside, we encountered several interesting plants such as *Euphorbia myrsinites*, *Helianthemum oelandicum* subsp. *incanum* and *Veronica austriaca*. Upon reaching an area of open meadow, several species of butterfly made an appearance with the highlights being the Chequered Blue, Hungarian Skipper and Glanville Fritillary. Several large specimens of Cornelian Cherry (*Cornus mas*) were already showing signs of fruit formation. The group spotted a trio of Honey Buzzards, distantly circling among the highest peaks. Rather easier to see was a pair of Red-backed Shrikes on territory among an area of young willow growth. Both male and female were observed, with most of the group getting an opportunity to admire these handsome birds through the scope. Close to the river, a good find was a single flowering specimen of *Edraianthus tenuifolius* growing among the alluvial shingle.

The route next led into thicker mixed beech woodland where several specialist plants of the deep shade occurred, most notably Asarabacca (*Asarum europaeum*) and Bird's-nest Orchid (*Neottia nidus-avis*). The track continued through various stages of forest growth with some parts thick with young regenerating trees. We came to a high viewpoint on a rocky ledge overlooking the river where we paused to rest, eat our lunch and enjoy the view before returning by our original route. A couple of Willow Tits were encountered by a few of the group (we had become a little strung out by this point) as they called and passed by in the deep forest. Upon reaching the open meadow section, we opted to cross the river by a rustic wooden bridge and then to join the main road. From here a few of the group had opted to be picked up and driven back whilst those that continued walking were rewarded with a Golden Eagle appearing overhead and to hunt along the steep forested slopes above us.

Day 6

Wednesday 18th May

A rather more strenuous day was today spent walking in the Kukaj valley. We began with the group boarding a trio of 4x4 vehicles to be taken across the river and up the rough stony track to a shepherd's seasonal home with the animal pens. This being the furthest the vehicles could take us, it was now down to leg power to take us along the gently rising track through some beautiful scenery and forest.

Not long after we had set out, we encountered a very unconcerned Forest Dormouse chomping his way through the young crop of Beech mast on a trackside tree. Our initial caution on first spotting this delightful mammal gradually subsided as we approached nearer and nearer with no apparent affect on the feeding activities. Eventually, after we had all managed some incredible views, we carried on, leaving the dormouse to his breakfast! The stunted pine forest held an interesting mix of birds rapidly darting to and fro, making ID and good sightings difficult. After patient watching, we had managed to see Bullfinch, Serin, Short-toed Treecreeper, Nuthatch and Coal, Crested and Marsh Tits!

As we slowly made our way up the path, the pines thinned and more open areas of meadow began to appear, resulting in a more interesting and varied ground flora. We were very fortunate in discovering a very early example of the endemic Albanian Lilly (*Lilium albanicum*). It was still in bud but clearly showing the yellow petals. Part of the group opted to return, having climbed as far as they felt comfortable. Those that carried on arrived at more open grassland above the tree line and framed all around by the stunning rocky summits of the park. We rested and ate our lunch whilst a large flock of Alpine Chough did likewise, feeding in the grassy meadows. A wander through these pastures found a number of choice alpine flowers of which the dwarf *Iris pumila* and *Fritillaria messanensis* subsp. *gracilis* were the highlights.

A gentle walk for the return allowed time to reflect and enjoy this peaceful unspoilt region.

Day 7

Thursday 19th May

For our final mountain walk, we travelled up to Cemek Stan, passing through the plum orchards and meadows as we went. We set out from the simple shepherd's seasonal homestead with a contour walk beneath the high rocky summits. With the sun out and the air warming, plenty of butterflies were on the wing with several new species for the trip seen. Red-backed Shrikes were notable, with several seen perched prominently. Overhead, raptors were well represented with Kestrel, Buzzard and Honey Buzzard all seen.

The track led around the mountain into a steep valley where we stopped to enjoy the views. After a period of rest we retraced our steps back towards the farmhouse. As we approached the farm buildings, a Golden Eagle was spotted above us patrolling the steep ridges and forest edge. It was periodically mobbed by the local Raven when it strayed into its territory. It settled on a couple of occasions on a tall dead pine before drifting high and away.

Elated, we arrived at the shepherd's house where we were entertained to a lunch of local produce, which included bread, cheese, yoghurt and raki, all made on the farm. As a result, we all enjoyed a splendid meal outside, with amazing views thrown in. During lunch, a Sparrowhawk shot through with a Mistle Thrush chasing it off.

For the afternoon, we walked most of the way back down the gravel track towards the main road, enjoying a wide variety of birds, plants, butterflies and reptiles as we went. A number of large Green Lizards were seen by all, with a couple of mating pairs spotted that allowed a close approach and view. We finally managed a sighting of the ever-elusive but vocal Cuckoos, with a bird calling prominently from the top of a bare tree above the track. A rich selection of orchids was seen as we went, with the highlight being a small population of Monkey Orchids (*Orchis simia*). Nearing the bottom, we were picked up by the 4x4 vehicles to be ferried the rest of the way back to our hotel.

Day 8

Friday 20th May

An early start was required as we undertook the transfer from the mountains back to Tirana for our homeward flight. We began setting out in the minibus in the early light following the winding roads with a deadline to catch the ferryboat service that passes down the Komani Lake.

Having safely caught the ferry, the weather began to deteriorate with a light to heavy rain falling. This was a great shame as the trip through the dramatic steep gorge and cliffs was only viewed through the windows of the simple ferry. A small party of Goosander with chicks was seen, part of a small isolated breeding population in these mountains.

At the end of the lake at the large hydro dam, we disembarked and were met by our first driver and bus. We were then able to complete the rather long journey to the airport, after our fascinating week..

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Species Lists

Birds (✓=recorded but not counted; H = heard only)

	Common name	Scientific name	May							
			13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1	Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>			3					
2	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>			2					
3	Goosander	<i>Mergus merganser</i>								8
4	Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>		6	150+					
5	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>				2				
6	Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>			5					
7	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>				12				
8	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>		6						
9	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>		30	30					
10	Dalmatian Pelican	<i>Pelecanus crispus</i>		40	30					
11	Pygmy Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo pygmeus</i>		5						
12	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>		1						
13	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>								2
14	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>				2				2
15	Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>						1		1
16	European Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>				70+	3	1		1
17	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>				3	1	1		3
18	Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>				1				
19	Peregrine	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>				1				
20	Eurasian Stone-curlew	<i>Burhinus oedichnemus</i>			2					
21	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>			40					
22	Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>			40					
23	Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>			3					
24	Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>			20					
25	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>		8						
26	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>			1					
27	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>			2					
28	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>			4					
29	Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>			8					
30	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>			1					
31	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>		5	✓					
32	Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>		12	6					
33	Slender-billed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus genei</i>			35					
34	Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>		3	100					
35	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>		3	12					
36	Rock/Feral Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
37	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>						1		
38	European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>			H					
39	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓				
40	Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>					H	H		1
41	Tawny Owl	<i>Strix aluco</i>				H				
42	Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>			3					
43	Eurasian Scops Owl	<i>Otus scops</i>			H					
44	Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymartus melba</i>			25	8				1
45	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>			1	20				
46	European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>		3	24	12				
47	Black Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus martius</i>					H	1	H	

	Common name	Scientific name	May							
			13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
48	European Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>					H			
49	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>					2	1	5	
50	Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓				
51	Spotted Nutcracker	<i>Nucifraga caryocatactes</i>					2			
52	Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>			✓	✓				
53	Alpine Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax graculus</i>						50		
54	Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
55	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>				1	2	H	1	
56	Marsh Tit	<i>Poecile palustris</i>					1	1		
57	Willow Tit	<i>Poecile montanus</i>					2			
58	Coal Tit	<i>Periparus ater</i>						2	1	
59	European Crested Tit	<i>Lophophanes cristatus</i>						1		
60	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>			1		3	✓	✓	
61	Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>					1	2		
62	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>			6	2				
63	Greater Short-toed Lark	<i>Calandrella brachydactyla</i>			1					
64	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	1	3		
65	Eurasian Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>					30	6	1	
66	Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			12	
67	Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Cecropis daurica</i>	2	6	12	25		2	2	
68	Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>				2	2		2	
69	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>					H	H	1	
70	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>					H	H	3	
71	Subalpine Warbler	<i>Sylvia cantillans</i>			H	1				
72	Sardinian Warbler	<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>		1						
73	Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>			H	H				
74	European Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>		3						
75	Olivaceous Warbler	<i>Iduna pallida</i>		H						
76	Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>					H	1		
77	Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>						3		
78	Short-toed Treecreeper	<i>Certhia brachydactyla</i>						2	H	
79	Lesser Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius minor</i>				1				
80	Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>				1	2	4	12	
81	Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>					2	1	5	
82	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>			6	10				
83	Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>		3						
84	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>		1		✓	✓	✓	✓	
85	Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>							1	
86	European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>						✓	✓	
87	Common Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>		H	H					
88	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>					1	2	2	
89	Black-eared Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe hispanica</i>			2	2				
90	Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>			1	2				
91	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>		3				1		
92	White-throated Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>				2	3			
93	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
94	Spanish Sparrow	<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>			4					
95	Black-headed Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava feldegg</i>		6	20					
96	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	2		2					
97	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	1		1	1	3	1	2	
98	Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>		1						

	Common name	Scientific name	May							
			13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
99	Water Pipit	<i>Anthus spinoletta</i>						H		
100	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		✓				✓	✓	✓
101	European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>		H				1	3	8
102	European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>		1	1					1
103	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
104	Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>								2
105	Eurasian Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>						2	1	
106	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>		1		H				
107	Rock Bunting	<i>Emberiza cia</i>						2	2	
108	Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>		2						
109	Common Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>		H	H					

Butterflies

Grizzled Skipper, *Pyrgus malvae*
 Hungarian Skipper, *Spialia orbifer*
 Mediterranean Skipper, *Gegenes nostradamus*
 Swallowtail, *Papilion machaon*
 Large White, *Pieris brassicae*
 Orange Tip, *Anthocharis cardamines*
 Clouded Yellow, *Colias crocea*
 Wood White, *Leptidea sinapis*
 Green Hairstreak, *Callophrys rubi*
 Little Blue, *Cupido minimus*
 Green-underside Blue, *Glaucopsyche alexis*
 Brown Argus, *Aricia agestis*
 Red Admiral, *Vanessa atalanta*
 Pearl-bordered Fritillary, *Clossiana euphrosyne*
 Woodland Ringlet, *Erebia medusa*
 Wall Brown, *Lasiommata megera*
 Small Heath, *Coenonympha pamphilus*

Oberthur's Grizzled Skipper, *Pyrgus amouretus*
 Dingy Skipper, *Erynnis tages*
 Scarce Swallowtail, *Iphiclydes podalirius*
 Clouded Apollo, *Parnassius mnemosyne*
 Small White, *Pieris rapae*
 Berger's Clouded Yellow, *Colias alfacariensis*
 Cleopatra, *Gonepteryx cleopatra*
 Eastern Wood White, *Leptidea duponcheli*
 Small Copper, *Lycaena phlaeas*
 Osiris Blue, *Cupido osiris*
 Chequered Blue, *Scolitantides orion*
 Common Blue, *Polyommatus icarus*
 Painted Lady, *Vanessa cardui*
 Glanville Fritillary, *Melitaea cinxia*
 Speckled Wood, *Pararge aegeria aegeria*
 Large Wall Brown, *Lasiommata maera*

Other Invertebrates:

Common Bluetail, *Ischnura elegans*
 Broad-bodied Chaser, *Libellula depressa*

Green-eyed Hawker, *Aeshna isoceles*
 Ruddy Darter, *Sympetrum sanguineum*

Mammals

Red Fox, *Vulpes vulpes*
 Forest Dormouse, *Dryomys nitedula*

Alpine Chamois, *Rupicapra rupicapra*

Reptiles & Amphibians

Hermann's Tortoise, *Testudo hermanni*
 Green Lizard, *Lacerta viridis*
 Common Wall Lizard, *Podarcis muralis*
 European Glass Lizard, *Ophisaurus apodus*

European Pond Terrapin, *Emys orbicularis*
 Balkan Green Lizard, *Lacerta trilineata*
 Balkan Wall Lizard, *Podarcis taurica*
 Nose-horned Viper, *Vipera ammodytes*

Plants

Group/Series	English Name (if any)
PTERIDOPHYTES	FERNS & ALLIES
Dennstaedtiaceae	Bracken Family
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Bracken
PINOPSIDA (GYMNOSPERMS)	CONIFERS
Cupressaceae	Juniper Family
<i>Juniperus communis</i>	Common Juniper
<i>Juniperus foetidissima</i>	Stinking Juniper
<i>Juniperus oxycedrus</i>	Prickly Juniper
<i>Juniperus phoenicea</i>	Phoenician Juniper
<i>Juniperus sabina</i>	Savin
Pinaceae	Pine Family
<i>Picea abies</i>	Norway Spruce
<i>Pinus halepensis</i>	Aleppo Pine
<i>Pinus heldreichii</i>	Bosnian Pine
<i>Pinus nigra</i>	Black Pine
MAGNOLIOPSIDA (ANGIOSPERMS)	FLOWERING PLANTS
Magnoliidae (Dicotyledons)	
Amaranthaceae	Amaranth Family
<i>Atriplex portulacoides</i>	
Anacardiaceae	Sumach Family
<i>Cotinus cogyria</i>	Smoke Tree
<i>Pistacia lentiscus</i>	Mastic Tree
<i>Pistacia terebinthus</i>	Terpentine Tree
Apiaceae	Carrot Family
<i>Eryngium campestre</i>	Field Eryngo
<i>Eryngium maritimum</i>	Sea Holly
<i>Orlaya grandiflora</i>	
<i>Sanicula europaea</i>	Sanicle
<i>Torilis nodosa</i>	
<i>Tordylium apulum</i>	Tordylium
Aristolochiaceae	Birthwort Family
<i>Asarum europaeum</i>	Asarabacca
Asclepiadaceae	Milkweed Family
<i>Cynanchum acutum</i>	
<i>Periploca graeca</i>	Silk-vine
<i>Vincetoxicum fuscatum</i>	
<i>Vincetoxicum hirundinaria</i>	Swallow-wort
Asteraceae	Daisy Family
<i>Achillea ageratifolia</i>	

Group/Series	English Name (if any)
<i>Bellis sylvestris</i>	Southern Daisy
<i>Dittrichia viscosa</i>	Stink Aster
<i>Filago pygmaea</i>	
<i>Senecio leucanthemifolius</i> subsp. <i>vernalis</i>	
<i>Silybum marianum</i>	Milk Thistle
Betulaceae	Birch Family
<i>Carpinus orientalis</i>	Oriental Hornbeam
Boraginaceae	Borage Family
<i>Anchusa arvensis</i>	Bugloss
<i>Anchusa undulata</i> subsp. <i>hybrida</i>	
<i>Cynoglossum officinale</i>	Hound's-tongue
<i>Echium italicum</i>	Pale Bugloss
<i>Echium vulgare</i>	Viper's Bugloss
<i>Glandora diffusa</i>	
<i>Pulmonaria officinalis</i>	Common Lungwort
<i>Symphytum tuberosum</i>	Tuberous Comfrey
Brassicaceae	Cabbage Family
<i>Aethionema saxatile</i>	
<i>Cardamine bulbosa</i>	
Campanulaceae	Bellflower Family
<i>Campanula lingulata</i>	
<i>Campanula ramosissima</i>	
<i>Edraianthus tenuifolius</i>	
Caprifoliaceae	Honeysuckle Family
<i>Lonicera xylosteum</i>	Fly Honeysuckle
Caryophyllaceae	Pink Family
<i>Drypis spinosa</i>	
<i>Silene colorata</i>	
<i>Silene fabarioides</i>	
<i>Silene gallica</i>	Small-flowered Catchfly
Cistaceae	Rockrose Family
<i>Cistus creticus</i>	
<i>Cistus salvifolius</i>	Sage-leaved Cistus
<i>Helianthemum nummularium</i>	Common Rockrose
<i>Helianthemum oelandicum</i> subsp. <i>incanum</i>	Hoary Rockrose
Convolvulaceae	Bindweed Family
<i>Convolvulus lineatus</i>	Silvery-leaved Pink Convolvulus
Cornaceae	Dogwood Family
<i>Cornus mas</i>	Cornelian Cherry
Crassulaceae	Stonecrop Family
<i>Sedum hispanicum</i>	
<i>Umbilicus rupestris</i>	Navelwort

Group/Series	English Name (if any)
Ericaceae <i>Erica arborea</i>	Heather Family Tree Heath
Euphorbiaceae <i>Euphorbia cyparissias</i> <i>Euphorbia myrsinites</i>	Spurge Family Cypress Spurge Glaucous Spurge
Fabaceae <i>Cercis siliquastrum</i> <i>Dorycnium hirsutum</i> <i>Lathyrus aphaca</i> <i>Ononis reclinata</i> <i>Scorpiurus muricatus</i> <i>Securigera cretica</i> <i>Trifolium angustifolium</i> <i>Trifolium noricum</i> <i>Trigonella balansae</i> <i>Vicia cracca</i>	Pea Family Judas Tree Yellow Vetchling Cream Clover Tufted Vetch
Fagaceae <i>Fagus sylvatica</i> <i>Quercus frainetto</i>	Beech Family Beech Hungarian Oak
Gentianaceae <i>Blackstonia perfoliata</i> <i>Centaurium pulchellum</i> <i>Gentiana cruciata</i>	Gentian Family Yellow-wort Cross Gentian
Geraniaceae <i>Geranium asphodeloides</i>	Geranium Family
Juglandaceae <i>Juglans regia</i>	Walnut Family Walnut
Lamiaceae <i>Lamium garganicum</i> <i>Melittis melissophyllum</i> <i>Micromeria graeca</i> <i>Salvia officinalis</i> <i>Salvia pratensis</i> <i>Stachys cretica</i>	Dead-nettle Family Large Red Dead-nettle Bastard Balm Common Sage Meadow Clary
Linaceae <i>Linum bienne</i> <i>Linum strictum</i>	Flax Family Pale Flax Upright Yellow Flax
Myrtaceae <i>Myrtus communis</i>	Myrtle Family Myrtle
Oleaceae <i>Fraxinus ornus</i> <i>Ligustrum vulgare</i> <i>Olea europaea</i>	Olive Family Manna Ash Privet Olive

Group/Series	English Name (if any)
<i>Phillyrea latifolia</i>	
Orobanchaceae	Broomrape Family
<i>Bartsia trixago</i>	Bellardia
<i>Parentucellia viscosa</i>	Yellow Bartsia
<i>Parentucellia latifolia</i>	Southern Red Bartsia
Oxalidaceae	Wood-Sorrel Family
<i>Oxalis acetosella</i>	Wood-sorrel
Paeoniaceae	Peony Family
<i>Paeonia mascula</i>	
Papaveraceae	Poppy Family
<i>Papaver apulum</i>	
<i>Pseudofumaria alba</i>	
Platanaceae	Plane Family
<i>Platanus orientalis</i>	
Plantaginaceae	Plantain Family
<i>Globularia cordifolia</i>	Matted Globularia
<i>Linaria peloponnesiaca</i>	
<i>Veronica austriaca</i>	
Polygalaceae	Milkwort Family
<i>Polygala major</i>	Large Milkwort
<i>Polygala nicaeensis</i>	Nice Milkwort
Primulaceae	Primrose Family
<i>Cyclamen hederifolium</i>	Ivy-leaved Cyclamen
<i>Primula elatior</i>	Oxlip
<i>Primula veris</i>	Cowslip
<i>Primula vulgaris</i>	Primrose
Ranunculaceae	Buttercup Family
<i>Aquilegia vulgaris</i>	Columbine
<i>Helleborus cyclophyllus</i>	Greek Hellebore
<i>Hepatica nobilis</i>	Hepatica
Rhamnaceae	Buckthorn Family
<i>Paliurus spina-christi</i>	Christ's Thorn
Rosaceae	Rose Family
<i>Fragaria vesca</i>	Wild Strawberry
<i>Sanguisorba minor</i>	Salad Burnet
Rubiaceae	Bedstraw Family
<i>Cruciata laevipes</i>	Crosswort
<i>Galium odoratum</i>	Sweet Woodruff
Saxifragaceae	Saxifrage Family
<i>Saxifraga paniculata</i>	Live-long Saxifrage

Group/Series	English Name (if any)
<i>Saxifraga rotundifolia</i>	Round-leaved Saxifrage
<i>Saxifraga tridactylites</i>	Rue-leaved Saxifrage
Scrophulariaceae	Figwort Family
<i>Verbascum sinuatum</i>	
Sapindaceae	Maple Family
<i>Acer obtusatum</i>	Italian Maple
Tamaricaceae	Tamarisk Family
<i>Tamarix dalmatica</i>	
<i>Tamarix parviflora</i>	
Thymelaeaceae	Daphne Family
<i>Daphne cneorum</i>	Garland Flower
Ulmaceae	Elm Family
<i>Ulmus glabra</i>	Wych Elm
<i>Ulmus minor</i>	Smooth-leaved Elm
Urticaceae	Nettle Family
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Nettle
Verbenaceae	Verbena Family
<i>Verbena officinalis</i>	
<i>Vitex agnus-castus</i>	Chaste Tree
Violaceae	Violet Family
<i>Viola allchariensis</i>	
<i>Viola calcarata</i> subsp. <i>zoysii</i>	
<i>Viola orphanidis</i>	
Liliidae (Monocotyledons)	
Amaryllidaceae	Amaryllis Family
<i>Narcissus poeticus</i>	Pheasant's-eye Narcissus
Araceae	Arum Family
<i>Arum italicum</i>	
Asparagaceae	Asparagus Family
<i>Asparagus maritimus</i>	
<i>Asparagus officinalis</i>	
<i>Convallaria majalis</i>	Lily of the Valley
<i>Muscari neglectum</i>	Grape-hyacinth
<i>Ruscus aculeatus</i>	Butcher's Broom
<i>Scilla bifolia</i>	Alpine Squill
Dioscoreaceae	Yam Family
<i>Dioscorea communis</i>	Black Bryony
Iridaceae	Iris Family
<i>Gladiolus italicus</i>	

Group/Series**English Name (if any)***Iris pumila**Iris sintenisii***Liliaceae***Fritillaria messanensis* subsp *gracilis**Lilium albanicum***Lily Family****Orchidaceae***Anacamptis coriophora**Anacamptis (Orchis) laxiflora**Anacamptis morio**Cephalanthera damasonium**Dactylorhiza baumanniana**Dactylorhiza saccifera**Dactylorhiza sambucina**Neottia nidus-avis**Neottia ovata**Neotinea tridentata**Neotinea ustulata**Ophrys insectifera**Orchis mascula**Orchis simia**Platanthera chlorantha**Serapias lingua**Serapias parviflora**Serapias vomeracea***Orchid Family**

Bug Orchid

Loose-flowered Orchid

Green-winged Orchid

White Helleborine

Elder-flowered Orchid

Bird's-nest Orchid

Common Twayblade

Toothed Orchid

Burnt Orchid

Fly Orchid

Early Purple Orchid

Monkey Orchid

Greater Butterfly Orchid

Tongue Orchid

Small-flowered Tongue Orchid

Ploughshare Tongue Orchid

Smilacaceae*Smilax aspera***Greenbrier Family**

Smilax

Xanthorrhoeaceae*Asphodelus ramosus***Asphodel Family**

Branched Asphodel