

Albania in Spring

Naturetrek Tour Report

30 May - 6 June 2018



Eastern Green Lizard



Cream-spot Tiger Moth



None-spotted Moth on Hyssop



View from Koman Ferry

Report and images compiled by Neil Anderson



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Day 1

Wednesday 30th May

Arrive Tirana and transfer to Berat

We had a mid-afternoon flight departing from Gatwick to the Albanian capital, Tirana. We were over an hour late departing, which meant it was pretty late by the time we reached Tirana. At the airport some of the group changed money for Albanian Leks, the local currency. After passing through customs we met our enthusiastic local guide, Mirjan, who was with us for all but the last day of our tour, sharing his knowledge with a great sense of humour.

After our two hour journey in a very comfortable tour bus we arrived about midnight in the UNESCO heritage city of Berat, where a good spread of food was supplied. It was about 1am before we fell into bed!

Day 2

Thursday 31st May

Vjose-Narte

As we stirred on a beautiful sunny morning we could admire the wonderful views from our lovely hotel. We soon spotted the many Red-rumped Swallows around the hotel, along with more familiar Barn Swallows. John and Viv had started early and had spotted a Goshawk, while many of us saw the Peregrine which appeared to have a Collared Dove in its talons.

Today we headed to the coast, south-west from Berat, to Vjose-Narte. Before we reached the expansive wetlands we started to see quite a few Bee-eaters hawking insects and perched on wires. Everybody appreciated these beauties and they were the first of a large number of “lifers” for our two youngest members, Charlotte and Maddie.

We started along the path with reedbeds to one side and a large waterbody on the other. The latter was largely birdless apart from a diving Little Grebe and some Little Terns, but on the other side Great Reed Warblers were noisily singing and we counted seven sitting up. Competing with them on the decibel front were numerous Marsh Frogs and a Cetti’s Warbler.

Hunting at the edge of the path were a couple of Norfolk Hawkers, one just missing a Humming-bird Hawk-moth. The abundant flowers attracted plenty of insects. Quite a few of the group were keen on insects: John particularly on hoverflies, beeﬂies and robberﬂies, and Gail was always stalking a bug somewhere with her camera.

Amongst the flowers were the attractive pink thistle *Galactites tomentosa*, the bugloss *Echium plantagineum*, yellow Crown Daisies, and it was good to see some Downy Woundwort. Clouded Yellow and Meadow Brown butterflies were numerous, and we also saw some Gatekeepers and a couple of Swallowtails.

Some attractive Orthoptera were noted. Several *Poecilimon* species were seen and photographed, and while looking at these, Maddie spotted another beauty which we identified as Schmidt’s Marbled Bush-cricket.

Walking along the path a Hobby flew over us, and several of us saw an Eastern Olivaceous Warbler that had been singing in some bushes. Singing Nightingales remained invisible but we were treated to a pair of close Black-headed Buntings; the male a very stunning bird! A few of us connected with a Hoopoe that disappeared over a bund, not to be seen again! Bee-eaters were more obliging as they perched on wires.

Following lunch under the shelter of a pine, we visited the Salinas where we saw about 500 Greater Flamingoes and up to thirty Dalmatian Pelicans. A small variety of waders was recorded, with Avocet the most numerous and a few Black-winged Stilts were also present, whilst Collared Pratincoles flew over us. Crested and Short-toed Larks with a couple of Tawny Pipits were the main passerine interest.

We then headed back for a good meal at our hotel and an early night.

Day 3

Friday 1st June

Karavasta National Park

Today was another sunny and warm day as we headed north-west to the wetland reserve of Karavasta, with diverse habitats. When we arrived we were greeted by a large school party who were very enthusiastic and loved looking through our 'scopes. The area around the visitor centre had some pine woodland with sunny glades. The *Echium* was a magnet for the numerous Cleopatras and the other butterflies of note were several large Great Banded Graylings that never posed for photographs! Several dragonflies were on the wing including Emperor, Ruddy Darter and a perched White-tailed Skimmer. A couple of Small Emerald Damselflies were found amongst the grass and we were thrilled to find a couple of Hermann's Tortoises in this area.

We met the resident Dalmatian Pelican, Johnny and the three-legged dog, but then spotted a Woodchat Shrike perched in the pines. The biggest surprise was a Calandra Lark perched on the top of a pine by the edge of the lagoon. Even our guide Mirjan was surprised to see this species here! Around the lake we saw a couple of Pygmy Cormorants flying over, and Charlotte was experimenting with her underwater camera. Hopefully she managed some decent footage!

The next stop near the beach was less productive but we did see some more Black-headed Wagtails. The highlight was a Caspian Tern picked up by John. Anthea and David headed to the shade of a café and we then all headed to the restaurant for a sumptuous fish lunch.

Following lunch, we headed down a track to see where the Dalmatian Pelicans breed, and eventually we saw just under thirty of them on their islands. Squacco Heron and a couple of Slender-billed Gulls were also seen, and a male Balkan Lizard gave good views on the path.

As we arrived back at our hotel a Southern Comma butterfly was basking on the wall. After time for a shower we got back into our bus and then walk around the historic castle. This is also known as the Citadel of Berat and largely dates back to the 13th century and overlooks the town. A couple of Little Owls enlivened the walk and the day was completed by a meal in the castle.

Day 4

Saturday 2nd June

Berat via Prizren, Kosovo to Valbona

Today was a travelling day and a chance to see more of Albania. We went through Kosova, visiting Prizren for a hearty lunch by the pretty river which runs through the town. After lunch Neil spotted a juvenile Dipper and we all got to see two recently fledged birds under the busy bridge. Several White Wagtails and a Grey Wagtail were also present along the river, and we also saw a Common Wall Lizard.

In Kosovo we noticed how much richer the country appeared compared to neighbouring areas. We saw a White Stork on a nest and another pair which was collecting some nest material. John and Viv picked up four Rosy (Rose-coloured) Starlings from the bus, a species which was having a large influx in parts of Europe with a few even reaching England!

Leaving Kosovo through passport control again, we headed for the so-called Albanian Alps in Valbona National Park, where we spent the next four nights. The small town where we stopped yielded a couple of Alpine Swifts flying over, and a scruffy piece of land near the shops held a couple of Serins and a few Tree Sparrows, with more numerous House Sparrows. A stop by a bridge revealed a Blue Rock Thrush high up, and a couple of Crag Martins, while numerous House Martins were breeding under the bridge which both David and Charlotte were keen to film.

Day 5

Sunday 3rd June

Valbona: Snake Head

Today was our first opportunity to explore the magnificent mountain scenery of Valbona National Park. Using 4 x 4 vehicles for the rugged terrain, four vehicles headed off in glorious sunny conditions through Beech woodland and picturesque flowering meadows to an area called Snake Head. Red-backed Shrikes were seen regularly and gave some superb views, and the first vehicle was lucky enough to see a pair of Rock Buntings by the road. Birds were not that plentiful but at least a couple of the group saw Black Woodpecker, while more could hear it. Familiar Chaffinch, Blackcap and Chiffchaff could be heard singing from the woods.

The meadows were a delight with a heady mix of blooms. Amongst them were two cranesbills- the familiar Bloody Cranesbill (the county flower of Northumberland) and *Geranium tuberosum*, blue flowers of Cross Gentians, Alpine Calamint and white flowers on Cut-leaved Self-heal. With so many flowers and sunshine there was an abundance of butterflies and other insects, the like of which we rarely get back home. Steve spotted our only Scarce Swallowtail of the trip while Neil found our only Yellow-banded Skipper and a Duke of Burgundy investigating a Cowslip to lay her eggs. Brimstones and Clouded Yellows were numerous and a good mix of blues, skippers and a small number of Glanville Fritillaries were also seen. Other insects included the black and red striped shieldbug *Graphosoma lineatum*, and another attractive shieldbug *Acrosternum heegeri*. Striking was the bright coloured assassin bug *Rhynocoris iracundus*, of which we found a couple, while several metallic green Rose Chafers were encountered.

We were fortunate to have a traditional Albanian lunch at a picnic table outside the shepherd's house. As usual, hospitality was warm and everybody appreciated the fine local cuisine. Towards the end of our meal we could hear the first rumbles of thunder.

Walking back through the first field Brian asked Neil if he'd seen the orchids, which he hadn't! Going back to look at them, Neil was delighted to see a small number of Burnt Tip Orchids. A little way further down the road the heavens began to open. Most of us opted to get in the vehicles while John, Viv, Maddie and Charlotte were made of sterner stuff and vowed to keep walking.

As the rains cleared some of us decided to visit a small lake not far from our base. Walking through some dense shady woodland we saw the distinctive leaves of Hepatica, Bird's-nest Orchid emerging from the leaf litter, and some delightful Red Helleborines; the latter restricted to two sites in the Cotswolds back in England.

While watching a male each of Black-tailed Skimmer and Broad-bodied Chaser, Gail spotted what she thought was a snake sitting on a rock. It was a Dice Snake which is a fairly aquatic species, specialising in fish and amphibia. Mirjan put his telescope on it, and then the group that walked through the rain turned up. At this point Steve said there was another snake, this time in the water. Seeing the neck markings, it was clearly a young Grass snake, though the body was much darker than those at home. This was the fourth species of snake seen today as many of us saw a Smooth Snake on our walk down, while Sue described what was a Nose-horned Viper.

In the evening we walked down the road for our evening meal.

Day 6

Monday 4th June

Valbona: Maja e Thate

This was the day for the big climb, for those that felt up to it. Neil advised the group that some would probably not wish to go all the way, but there would be much to see lower down if they wished to take it easier, which about half the group did.

Soon after we set off Bullfinches were heard and Steve saw one. Again, Black Woodpecker was vocal. Four lucky people, John, Viv, Eric and Gail, connected with a White-backed Woodpecker that flew in front of them. Not seen but regularly heard was the unmistakeable sound of a male Cuckoo. Lizards were often seen with both Common Wall and Eastern Green Lizards spotted. A pair of the latter was frequently seen by our accommodation and proved to be very photogenic as the male courted his mate - both vivid green with bright blue heads.

It was interesting to see how the flora changed as we ascended. Lower down were many of the flowers seen yesterday and plenty of pink Mountain Sainfoin, Kidney Vetch and a few Paeonies *Paeonia mascula* which had largely gone over. Higher up were the mats of *Globularia cordifolia*, with bluish flowers, a mass of electric blue Spring Gentians, a few flowers of *Corydalis bulbosa*, a mass of yellow and purple flowered Elder-flowered Orchids, and on our final stretch we got to see our main target of *Lilium albanicum*, a near endemic. Initially they all appeared in bud but as our local guide, Catherine went a little further we started to see quite a lot of pretty yellow flowers. Lower down Neil also found a small number of the orange variety.

The diverse flora and vista from the top was breathtaking, and the hardy souls who made it this far were Neil, Catherine, Anne, Dennis, John, Viv and Charlotte. While we had our lunch, we were treated to lots of Alpine Choughs wheeling around us. They didn't take too kindly to a Honey Buzzard flying through and started mobbing it. We also saw them interacting with a vocal pair of Ravens. Also up here was a singing Yellowhammer

and a couple of Tree Pipits. Not only did the flora change with altitude but so did the butterflies, with both Clouded Apollo and Woodland Ringlet becoming numerous higher up.

Those that stayed lower down had many photographic opportunities with species such as Small and Mazarine Blues, and day-flying moths such as Speckled Yellow and Nine-spotted amongst the more attractive species.

We were fortunate that the rain showers held off until we were back at our vehicles.

Day 7

Tuesday 5th June

Valbona: Motine

This was supposed to be a flatter walk according to Catherine, along a small river, but involved a little more ascending than most of us were expecting, especially through the woods. Catherine did say that White-backed Woodpecker had been seen here on the April trip!

Soon after setting off three Hawfinches flew in front of us, landing in small trees the other side of the flowing river. Amanda's Blue butterflies mud-puddled by our feet, and some flowering Hyssop with bright blue flowers, growing in the riverside gravel, attracted many insects. John was particularly interested in the bee-flies. One of the floral highlights in the wood was the distinctive orchid Violet Limodore, which is reliant on mycorrhizal fungi for its nutrition. Pearl-bordered Fritillaries were common amongst the sunny bracken-filled glades but refused to settle.

At the next opening the group paused and Steve was elated to find his first White-backed Woodpecker. It disappeared as swiftly as it was seen so nobody else got on it. More excitement came in the form of a distant eagle. There was much discussion over its identity. It showed a very pale head and nape and along with other features was identified as an Eastern Imperial Eagle. Later in the afternoon some other raptors over the mountain resulted in much debate, and they were probably Long-legged Buzzards. Also a pair of Golden Eagles were seen.

The afternoon was restful back by the river where the group relaxed or stalking various insects with their cameras. Silver-studded Blues seemed keen on sweaty socks! It was nice to see another Owlfly, *Libelloides macaronius* too.

We returned earlier today so people could pack and have our final (and best) meal at the restaurant. Sadly, we also had to say farewell to our excellent guide Mirjan as he had to go and present at a conference the next day. We met his replacement Nima who was a tourist guide and a very outgoing personality.

Day 8

Wednesday 6th June

After an early coffee, we departed the wonderful mountains and headed towards the Koman Ferry. While waiting for the ferry we watched a pair of Black-eared Wheatears on the quayside, as Nightingales sang in the scrub. Steve went wandering along the road and came up trumps when a tit he could hear revealed itself to be a Sombre Tit. Gail spotted the attractive foxglove *Digitalis lanata*.

The lake is a reservoir built between 1979 and 1988 and based on the Drin River, with the Valbona and Shala Rivers feeding into it. The scenery was outstanding with a deep gorge and forested hillsides. The only thing spoiling the experience were the numerous plastic bottles floating on the water! As we approached the end of our two-hour cruise we had stunning views of large groups of Alpine Swifts chasing each other and entering the breeding cave. We also had our best view of Alpine Chough, which also entered the cave.

It was good to reunite with our bus driver Zimmer, who was always so careful and courteous to the group. We made a stop, as earlier in the trip he and Mirjan had tried to obtain some white mulberries for us to try, but he now succeeded and we had them with our lunch at a very attractive lakeside location.

Following our excellent lunch, we headed for our last tourist location at the historic town of Kruje, two kilometres north of Tirana and situated between Mount Kruje and the Ishem River. In ancient times this town was occupied by the Illyrian tribe and later taken over in the Ottoman era. Nima guided us around the castle and we looked at the various artefacts on sale along the cobble-stoned bazaar.

Regrouping, we had a light meal before departing for the airport. Here we said farewell to Anne and Dennis, who were continuing for a further week in southern Albania before moving on to Corfu, and also to Nima and our driver. Processing for the flight was swift but unfortunately the flight itself was delayed by a couple of hours due to problems caused by French industrial action and thunderstorms in central Europe.

At Gatwick we said our farewells after an enjoyable week seeing the best of flora, fauna and scenery, and laced with a little local culture amongst warm, friendly people.

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Group in Albania

Species Lists

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

	Common name	Scientific name	May/June						
			31	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>	2	1					
2	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	1						
3	Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>	500						
4	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	1+3Y		3				
5	Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>		3					
6	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>		1	1				
7	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>		8	2				
8	Dalmatian Pelican	<i>Pelecanus crispus</i>	15	30					
9	Pygmy Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo pygmaeus</i>		4					1
10	Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>			1				
11	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>			1				
12	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>			4	2		1	6
13	Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>					1		
14	Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetus</i>					1	2	
15	Eastern Imperial Eagle	<i>Aquila heliaca</i>						1	
16	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	H						
17	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	8	1					
18	Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>		3					
19	Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>	40						
20	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>							1
21	Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>	8	6					
22	Collared Pratincole	<i>Glareola pratincola</i>	10						
23	Mediterranean Gull	<i>Larus melanocephalus</i>	2						
24	Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	3	15					20
25	Slender-billed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus genei</i>	4	2					
26	Little Gull	<i>Hydrocoloeus minutus</i>		2					
27	Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>	20	4					
28	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	2	2					
29	Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>		1					
30	Rock Dove (Feral Pigeon)	<i>Columbia livia</i>	□	□	□	□	□	□	□
31	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columia palumbus</i>				2			
32	European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>			5				
33	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓				✓
34	Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>				H	H	H	
35	Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>		2					1
36	Eurasian Scops Owl	<i>Otus scops</i>	H	H	H		H		
37	Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymartia melba</i>			3	1	5	5	60
38	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	3	3	4				5
39	European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>	20	1	2				
40	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>	1		1	1	H		
41	Black Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus martius</i>				1	1		
42	White-backed Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos leucotos</i>					1	1	
43	Great-spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>				H			
44	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	3		3	1			1
45	Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>	1	1	1				
46	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	1	1					
47	Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>	1	2	1				

	Common name	Scientific name	May/June						
			31	1	2	3	4	5	6
48	Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>			1	4	2	2	
49	Lesser Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius minor</i>							1
50	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>			4	2	2	2	
51	Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	10	5	6				8
52	Alpine Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax graculus</i>			3	30	50	10	2
53	Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>	5		40				2
54	Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	10	10	✓	8	4	2	10
55	Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>			✓				
56	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>			1	2	2		
57	Marsh Tit	<i>Poecile palustris</i>				3	1		
58	Sombre Tit	<i>Poecile lugubris</i>							1
59	Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>				H	2		
60	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>	!		H	2	2	1	4
61	Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>				1	1		
62	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>	5	H	1				
63	Calandra Lark	<i>Melanocorypha calandra</i>		1					
64	Greater Short-toed Lark	<i>Calandrella brachydactyla</i>	3						
65	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	2			✓
66	Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbica</i>	30	30	✓	2	2		✓
67	Eurasian Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>			4				
68	Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Cecropis daurica</i>	40	50	20	4	4	8	✓
69	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>				H	H		
70	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>			H	H	H	H	H
71	Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia curruca</i>					2		
72	Eastern Subalpine Warbler	<i>Sylvia cantillans</i>							1
73	Eastern Olivaceous Warbler	<i>Iduna pallida</i>	3	2					
74	Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>	7	H					1
75	Eurasian Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>		1					
76	Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>	3	H					H
77	Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>	H						
78	Common Starlin	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	3	1	80				✓
79	Rosy Starling	<i>Pastor roseus</i>			4				1
80	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	2		2	4	2	2	2
81	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>				H	H	H	H
82	Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>					1		
83	European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>				H	H		
84	Common Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>	H	H					H
85	European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>			1				
86	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>			1		1		
87	Black-eared Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe hispanica</i>	1		1				3
88	White-throated Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>			2				
89	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓		5		10
90	Spanish Sparrow	<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>	15		2				
91	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>			6				
92	Black-headed Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava feldegg</i>	8	5					
93	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>			2	1	1	11	
94	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	1	1	6	4	1	1	3
95	Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>	3	1					
96	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>					3		
97	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		H		H	5	3	
98	European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>			5	1	1		

	Common name	Scientific name	May/June						
			31	1	2	3	4	5	6
99	European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>	4	6	2	H	1	2	
100	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	10	4	4				4
101	Eurasian Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>					1		
102	Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>				1		3	
103	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>	5	6	1	1			
104	Rock Bunting	<i>Emberiza cia</i>				2	2		
105	Black-headed Bunting	<i>Emberiza melanocephala</i>	3						

Mammals

Two different bat species noted by Viv.

Tracks of Golden Jackal

Scats of Brown Hare, Brown Bear, marten sp and Grey Wolf

Reptiles & Amphibians

Hermann's Tortoise *Testudo hermanni*

Smooth Snake *Coronella austriaca*

Grass Snake *Natrix natrix*

Dice Snake *Natrix tessellate*

Nose-horned Viper *Vipera ammodytes*

Common Wall Lizard *Podarcis muralis*

Balkan Wall Lizard *Podarcis tauricus*

Eastern Green Lizard *Lacerta viridis*

Balkan Green Lizard *Lacerta trilineata*

Dalmatian Algyroides *Algyroides nigropunctatus*

Marsh Frog *Pelophylax ridibundus* (vocal at wetlands)

Butterflies & Moths

Hungarian Skipper *Spialia orbifer*

Grizzled Skipper *Pyrgus malvae*

Yellow-banded Skipper *Pyrgus sidae*

Dingy Skipper *Erynnis tages*

Lulworth Skipper *Thymelicus action*

Small Skipper *Thymelicussylvestris*

Mallow Skipper *Carcharodus alceae*

Clouded Apollo *Parnassius mnemosyne*

Swallowtail *Papilio machaon*

Scarce Swallowtail *Iphiclides podalirius*

Brimstone *Gonepteryx rhamni*

Cleopatra *Gonepteryx cleopatra*

Berger's Clouded Yellow *Colias alfacariensis*

Clouded Yellow *Colias crocea*

Black-veined White *Aporia crataegi*

Large White *Pieris brassicae*

Small White *Pieris rapae*

Southern Small White *Pieris mannii*

Orange Tip *Anthocharis cardamines*

Eastern Bath White *Pontia edusa*

Wood White *Leptidea daplidice*

Green Hairstreak *Callophrys rubi*

Small Copper *Lycaena phlaeas*

Chequered Blue *Scolantides orion*

Brown Argus *Aricia agestis*

Holly Blue *Celastrina argiolus*

Small Blue *Cupido minimus*

Mazarine Blue *Cyaniris semiargus*

Common Blue *Polyommatus Icarus*

Amanda's Blue *Polyommatus amandus*

Adonis Blue *Polyommatus bellargus*

Silver-studded Blue *Plebejus argus*

Osiris Blue *Cupido osiris*

Southern Comma *Polygonia egea*

Comma *Polygonia c-album*

Painted Lady *Vanessa cardui*

Red Admiral *Vanessa atalanta*

Peacock *Aglais io*

Small Tortoiseshell *Aglais urticae*

Camberwell Beauty *Nymphalis antiopa*

Silver-washed Fritillary *Argynnis paphia*

Glanville Fritillary *Melitaea cinxia*

Heath Fritillary *Mellicta athalia*

Pearl-bordered Fritillary *Boloria euphrosyne*

Queen of Spain Fritillary *Issoria lathonia*

Twin-spot Fritillary *Brenthis hecate*

Duke of Burgundy *Hamaeris lucina*

Speckled Wood *Pararge aegeria*

Large Wall Brown *Lasiomata maera*

Woodland Ringlet *Erebia medusa*

Great Banded Grayling *Brintesia circe*
 Gatekeeper *Pyronia tithonus*
 Transparent Burnet Moth *Zygaena purpuralis*
 Humming-bird Hawk-moth *Macroglossum stellatarum*
 Pale Tussock *Calliteara pudibunda*
 Tawny Prominent *Harpyia milhauseri*
 Burnet Companion *Euclidia glyphica*
 Latticed Heath *Chiasmia clathrate*

Meadow Brown *Maniola jurtina*
 Small Heath *Ceonympha pamphilus*
 Nine-spotted *Amata phegea*
 Broad-bordered Bee Hawk-moth *Hemaris fuciformis*
 Four-spotted Footman *Lithosia quadra*
 Speckled Yellow *Pseudopanthera macularia*
 Cream-spot Tiger *Arctia villica*
 a Crambid moth *Pyrausta purpuralis*

Dragonflies & Damselflies

Green-eyed Hawker *Aeshna isosceles*
 Black-tailed Skimmer *Orthetrum cancellatum*
 Scarlet Darter *Crocothemis erythraea*
 Ruddy Darter *Sympetrum sanguineum*
 Scarce Chaser *Libellula fulva*
 Blue-tailed Damselfly *Ischnura elegans*

Blue Emperor *Anax imperator*
 White-tailed Skimmer *Orthetrum albistylum*
 Red-veined Darter *Sympetrum fonscolombii*
 Broad-bodied Chaser *Libellula depressa*
 Goldenring *Cordulegaster sp*
 Small Emerald *Lestes virens*

Other Invertebrates

Owlfly sp *Libelloides macaronius*
 Carpenter Bee *Xylocopa sp*
 Rose Chafer *Cetonia aurata*
 Lily Beetle *Liloceris lili*
 Checkered Beetle *Trichodes sp*
 Longhorn Beetle *Cerambyx sp*
 Schmidt's Marbled Bush-cricket *Eupholidoptera scmidtii*
 Ladybird Spider *Eresus sandaliatus*

Hornet *Vespa crabro*
 Paper Wasp *Polistes sp*
 Seven-spot Ladybird *Coccinella 7-punctata*
 Bee Beetle *Trichius fasciatus*
 Longhorn beetle *Agapantia cardui*
 Southern Field Cricket *Gryllus bimaculatus*
 Bush-cricket *Poecilimon sp*
 Jumping spider *Philaeus chrysops*

Plants

Scientific Name	Common Name
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Pteridopytes

<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Bracken
<i>Polypodium vulgare</i>	Common Polypody
<i>Asplenium trichomanes</i>	Maidenhair Spleenwort
<i>Asplenium ruta-muraria</i>	Wall-rue
<i>Asplenium ceterach</i>	Rustyback Fern

Gymnosperms

Cupressaceae

<i>Juniperus communis</i>	Common Juniper
<i>Juniperus oxycedrus</i>	Prickly Juniper

Pinaceae

<i>Pinus halepensis</i>	Aleppo Pine
<i>Pinus heldreichii</i>	Bosnian Pine
<i>Pinus nigra</i>	Black Pine
<i>Pinus pinea</i>	Stone Pine

Angiosperms

DICOTS

Amaranthaceae

Atriplex portulacoides Sea Purslane

Anacardaceae

Cotinus coggyria Smoke Bush

Pistacia lentiscus Mastic Tree

Apiaceae

Aegopodium podagraria Ground Elder

Conium maculatum Hemlock

Eryngium amethystinum

Eryngium campestre Field Eryngo

Foeniculum vulgare Fennel

Orlaya grandiflora

Sanicula europaea Sanicle

Smyrniolum perfoliatum Perfoliate Alexanders

Apocyanaceae

Nerium oleander Oleander

Asclepiadaceae

Cynanchum acutum

Asteraceae

Achillea abrotanoides

Achillea crithmifolia

Achillea millefolium Yarrow

Artemisia absinthium Wormwood

Artemisia campestris Field Wormwood

Bellis sylvestris Southern Daisy

Carduus thoemeri

Cichorium intybus Chicory

Cirsium eriophorum Woolly Thistle

Dittrichia viscosa Stink Aster

Galactites tomentosa

Leucanthemum vulgare Ox-eye Daisy

Mycelis muralis Wall Lettuce

Onopordum tauricum

Ptilostemon afer

Scolymus hispanica Spanish Oyster Plant

Senecio leucanthemifolius

Silybum marianum Milk Thistle

Betulaceae

Carpinus orientalis Eastern Hornbeam

Ostrya carpinifolia Hop Hornbeam

Boraginaceae

Anchusa officinalis Alkannet

Cynoglossum hungaricum

Cynoglossum officinale Common Hound's-tongue

Echium italicum Pale Bugloss

<i>Echium plantagineum</i>	Purple Viper's Bugloss
<i>Echium vulgare</i>	Viper's Bugloss
Brassicaceae	
<i>Arabis turrita</i>	Tower Cress
<i>Alyssum</i> sp	
<i>Erysimum sylvestre</i>	
<i>Sisymbrium officinale</i>	Hedge Mustard
Campanulaceae	
<i>Campanula lingulata</i>	
<i>Campanula ramosissima</i>	
<i>Edraianthus tenuifolius</i>	
<i>Legousia speculum-veneris</i>	Venus's Looking-glass
Caprifoliaceae	
<i>Sambucus ebulus</i>	Dwarf Elder
<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	Elder
Caryophyllaceae	
<i>Arenaria serpyllifolia</i>	Thyme-leaved Sandwort
<i>Cerastium alpinum</i>	
<i>Drypis spinosa</i>	
<i>Saponaria bellidifolia</i>	
<i>Silene latifolia</i>	White Champion
<i>Silene nutans</i>	Nottingham Catchfly
<i>Silene viscaria</i>	Sticky Catchfly
Cistaceae	
<i>Cistus creticus</i>	
<i>Cistus salvifolius</i>	
<i>Helianthemum nummularia</i>	Common Rockrose
<i>Helianthemum oelandicum</i>	Hoary Rockrose
Convolvulaceae	
<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	Field Bindweed
Cornaceae	
<i>Cornus mas</i>	Cornelian Cherry
Crassulaceae	
<i>Sedum album</i>	White Stonecrop
<i>Sedum acre</i>	Biting Stonecrop
<i>Umbilicus rupestre</i>	Navelwort
Dipsacaceae	
<i>Dipsacus fullonum</i>	Teasel
<i>Scabiosa columbaria</i>	Small Scabious
Ericaceae	
<i>Erica arborea</i>	Tree Heath
Euphorbiaceae	
<i>Euphorbia cyparissias</i>	Cypress Spurge
<i>Euphorbia myrsinites</i>	Glaucous Spurge
<i>Mercurialis perennis</i>	Dog's Mercury
Fabaceae	
<i>Astragalus glycyphllos</i>	Wild Liquorice

<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i>	Kidney Vetch
<i>Cercis siliquistrum</i>	Judas Tree
<i>Colutea arborescens</i>	Bladder Senna
<i>Dorycnium hirsutum</i>	
<i>Dorycnium pentaphyllum</i>	
<i>Galega officinalis</i>	Goat's-rue
<i>Hippocrepis comosa</i>	Horseshoe Vetch
<i>Lathyrus vernus</i>	Spring Vetchling
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Bird's Foot Trefoil
<i>Medicago sativa</i>	Lucerne
<i>Melilotus indica</i>	Small Melilot
<i>Onobrychis montana</i>	
<i>Trifolium angustifolium</i>	
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White Clover
<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Red Clover
<i>Trigonella balansae</i>	
<i>Vicia villosa</i>	Fodder Vetch
Fagaceae	
<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	Beech
<i>Quercus cerris</i>	Turkey Oak
<i>Quercus frainetto</i>	Hungarian Oak
Fumariaceae	
<i>Fumaria officinalis</i>	Common Fumitory
Gentianaceae	
<i>Blackstonia perfoliate</i>	Yellow-wort
<i>Centaurium pulchellum</i>	Lesser Centaury
<i>Gentiana cruciata</i>	Cross Gentian
<i>Gentiana verna</i> ssp. <i>Balkanica</i>	Spring Gentian
Geraniaceae	
<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	Herb Robert
<i>Geranium dissectum</i>	Cut-leaved Cranesbill
<i>Geranium molle</i>	Dovesfoot Cranesbill
<i>Geranium phaeum</i>	Dusky Cranesbill
<i>Geranium rotundifolium</i>	Round-leaved Cranesbill
<i>Geranium sanguineum</i>	Bloody Cranesbill
<i>Geranium tuberosum</i>	
Juglandaceae	
<i>Juglans regia</i>	Walnut
Lamiaceae	
<i>Clinopodium vulgare</i>	Wild Basil
<i>Hyssopus vulgaris</i>	Hyssop
<i>Lamium garganicum</i>	Large red Dead-nettle
<i>Origanum vulgare</i>	Marjoram
<i>Phlomis fruticosa</i>	Jerusalem Sage
<i>Salvia officinalis</i>	Common Sage
<i>Salvia verticillata</i>	
<i>Stachys germanica</i>	Downy Woundwort

<i>Teucrium chamaedrys</i>	Wall Germander
<i>Teucrium polium</i>	Felty Germander
<i>Thymus</i> sp	Thyme
Linaceae	
<i>Linum catharticum</i>	Fairy Flax
Malvaceae	
<i>Malva neglecta</i>	Dwarf Mallow
<i>Malva sylvestris</i>	Common Mallow
Moraceae	
<i>Ficus carica</i>	Fig
<i>Morus alba</i>	White Mulberry
Myrtaceae	
<i>Myrtus communis</i>	Myrtle
Oleaceae	
<i>Fraxinus ornus</i>	Manna Ash
<i>Olea europaea</i>	Olive
Orobanchaceae	
<i>Euphrasia</i> sp	Eyebright
<i>Orobranche alba</i>	Thyme Broomrape
<i>Orobranche minor</i>	Common Broomrape
<i>Rhinanthus</i> sp	Yellow Rattle
Papaveraceae	
<i>Chelidonium majus</i>	Greater Celandine
<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>	Field Poppy
Plantanaceae	
<i>Platanus orientalis</i>	
Plantaginaceae	
<i>Globularia cordifolia</i>	
<i>Linaria peloponnesiaca</i>	
<i>Plantago coronopus</i>	Buckshorn Plantain
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort
<i>Plantago maritima</i>	Sea Plantain
<i>Plantago media</i>	Hoary Plantain
<i>Veronica austriaca</i>	
<i>Veronica montana</i>	Wood Speedwell
Plumbaginaceae	
<i>Limonium vulgare</i>	Common Sea-lavender
Polygalaceae	
<i>Polygala vulgaris</i>	Common Milkwort
Primulaceae	
<i>Lysimachia nummularia</i>	Creeping Jenny
<i>Lysimachia punctata</i>	Dotted Loosestrife
<i>Primula elatior</i>	Oxslip
<i>Primula veris</i>	Cowslip
<i>Primula vulgaris</i>	Primrose
Ranunculaceae	
<i>Anemone nemorosa</i>	Wood Anemone

<i>Aquilegia vulgaris</i>	Columbine
<i>Clematis vitalba</i>	Wild Clematis
<i>Helleborus cyclophyllus</i>	Greek Hellebore
<i>Hepatica nobilis</i>	Hepatica
Rhamnaceae	
<i>Paliurus spina-christi</i>	Christ's Thorn
Rosaceae	
<i>Aremonia agriminooides</i>	Bastard Agrimony
<i>Fragaria vesca</i>	Wild Strawberry
<i>Geum urbanum</i>	Herb Bennet
<i>Rosa pendulina</i>	Alpine Rose
<i>Rubus idaeus</i>	Raspberry
<i>Sanguisorba minor</i>	Salad Burnet
Rubiaceae	
<i>Cruciata laevipes</i>	Crosswort
<i>Galium verum</i>	Lady's Bedstraw
Saxifragaceae	
<i>Saxifraga paniculata</i>	Live-long Saxifrage
Scrophulariaceae	
<i>Digitalis lanata</i>	
<i>Digitalis lutea</i>	
Tamaricaceae	
<i>Tamarix dalmatica</i>	
Thymelaceae	
<i>Daphne laureola</i>	Spurge Laurel
<i>Daphne oleiodes</i>	
Ulmaceae	
<i>Ulmus minor</i>	Smooth-leaved Elm
Urticaceae	
<i>Parietaria Judaica</i>	Pellitory of the Wall
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Nettle
Valerianaceae	
<i>Valeriana officinalis</i>	Common Valerian
Verbenaceae	
<i>Vitex agnus-castus</i>	Chaste Tree
Violaceae	
<i>Viola calcarata</i>	
MONOCOTS	
Asparagaceae	
<i>Asparagus tenuifolius</i>	
<i>Convallaria majalis</i>	Lily of the Valley
Dioscoreaceae	
<i>Dioscorea communis</i>	Black Bryony
Iridaceae	
<i>Iris pumila</i>	
Juncaceae	
<i>Juncus acutus</i>	Sharp Rush

Liliaceae*Lilium albanicum**Muscari* sp*Polygonatum multiflorum**Scilla bifolia***Orchidaceae***Anacamptis morio**Cephalanthera damasonium**Cephalanthera rubra**Dactylorhiza sambucina**Dactylorhiza saccifera**Gymnadenia conopsea**Limodorum abortivum**Neottia nidus-avis**Neottia ovata**Neotinea ustulata***Poaceae***Arundo donax**Avena barbata**Dactylis glomerata**Hordeum murinum**Lagurus ovatus**Melica ciliaata**Phragmites communis*

Grape Hyacinth

Solomon's-seal

Green-winged Orchid

White Helleborine

Red Helleborine

Elder-flowered Orchid

Fragrant Orchid

Limodore

Bird's-nest Orchid

Common Twayblade

Burnt Orchid

Giant Reed

Cock'sfoot

Wall Barley

Harestail Grass

Common Reed

*Lilium albanicum*

Thyme Broomrape