

Spring Birding in Sicily

Naturetrek Tour Report

27 April - 3 May 2017



Zitting Cisticola



Rock Bunting



Butterfly Orchid



Willowherb Hawk-moth

Report and images by Luca Boscain



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Day 1

Thursday 27th April

We had an early morning flight, leaving Gatwick airport at 6.25am. After a safe flight, we landed at Catania Fontanarossa airport where we met our Italian guide Luca and got Tom's minibus with legendary Sicilian calm, giving everybody the time to have a good Italian coffee. We then set off south and after about an hour's drive, we reached Case del Feudo, a lovely 17th century cottage in the heart of the Syracuse countryside. On the way, we saw five White Stork nests on poles near the Simeto River.

After lunch with the first unmissable Italian pasta, we left for a short drive to Capo Murro di Porco, one of the best sites in Sicily to find migrants. The Mediterranean maquis with dwarf palms, thorny burnets and shrubby Thyme was surprisingly rich in flowers, with millions of Barbary Nut Irises together with Byzantine Gladiolus, Italian Viper's Bugloss, Statice and Three-horned Stocks. Breeding birds were in full concert, with a lot of Crested Larks, Zitting Cisticolas, Sardinian Warblers and Spotless Starlings perching on prominent branches or flying above our heads.

From the lighthouse, built of a characteristic whitish limestone, we scanned the smooth sea, finding a few Scopoli's and Yelkouan Shearwaters and Yellow-legged and Audouin's Gulls. On the way back, we found a lot of migrants: Stone-curlew, Hoopoe, Turtle Dove, Whinchat, Woodchat Shrike and, above all, a stunning Nightjar sleeping on an exposed branch of a pine and enjoyed through the telescopes! We also discussed how to identify the very similar wall lizards present in Sicily, as both Italian and Sicilian Wall Lizards were seen.

We enjoyed a happy end to the day with a delicious dinner at Case del Feudo, enjoying the Mediterranean diet so healthy and rich in tasty Sicilian vegetables.

Day 2

Friday 28th April

Some of the group at 6.45am for a pre-breakfast walk in the Case del Feudo estate and observed Bee-eater, Nightingale, Woodchat Shrike and Golden Oriole. Coming back, Luca showed the gifts of a night of moth-trapping: Cream-spot Tiger (ssp. *konewkaii*), Olive-tree Beauty, Common Plume and many more.

After breakfast in the rustic dining room of Case del Feudo, we drove south again for less than one hour, to the gorgeous reserve of Vendicari. It is probably one of the best places in Italy for waders, so we could test ourselves in the identification of these hard birds, with helpful advice from Tom and Luca. Reaching the hides, we spotted a couple of Ocelated Skinks and Moorish Geckos, and we had a great view through telescopes of a calling Turtle Dove. From the first hide the view was really breathtaking, with hundreds of waders moulting to their breeding plumage: Black-winged Stilt, Ringed and Grey Plovers, Little Stint, Curlew Sandpiper, Dunlin, Ruff, Wood Sandpiper and Spotted Redshank. Amongst this bonanza, we managed to spot two Kentish Plovers, two Turnstones and a rare Marsh Sandpiper. We continued walking on a smooth path among marshes, reaching first the stunning beach of Vendicari, and then the second hide, facing the main brackish water lagoon. On the way, we observed Shelduck, Great Flamingo, Curlew, Slender-billed Gull, Reed Warbler and an Osprey, as well as Green Hairstreak and Speckled Wood butterflies, and Common Bee-orchid and Small-flowered Tongue-orchid.

Lunch was at a small bar, sitting in lovely shade. The owners use only local products in preparing a surprising 'nine tastes' meal, allowing us to try a lot of specialities from olive paté to artichokes, Sicilian capponata and lemon jam.

In the afternoon we went to the one of the most southerly points of Sicily, Capo Passero, where we observed Mediterranean and Audouin's Gulls, Woodchat Shrike, Corn Bunting, Western Whip Snake and Swallowtail. Coming back, we had a cure-all stop for Italian coffee, ice-cream and granita in Portopalo: a good starter before the sumptuous dinner in Case del Feudo.

Day 3

Saturday 29th April

We had an early breakfast at 6.30am in order to arrive early at Mount Etna. The UNESCO World Heritage Site is a very popular destination for tourists, but with this strategy we managed to arrive in time to enjoy a quiet ascent. The transfer to the volcano took about one-and-a-half hours, so we had the time to stop for some birding on the foothills where the maquis of Mount Etna Broom intersperses Chestnut woodlands. We observed Great Spotted Woodpecker, Pied Flycatcher, Nuthatch, Italian Sparrow, Cirl Bunting and Elder-flowered Orchid.

At the cablecar we got our tickets without the need to queue, so we rose comfortably to 2,500 metres, enjoying the view from the gondolas and spotting our first Mount Etna Violets and Northern Wheatear. We then climbed further in huge 4x4 buses, crossing moon-like deserts of ash with some patches of snow here and there, to reach an altitude of 2,800 metres. We then walked a short way to a month-old lava flow. By digging a little in the stones it was possible to perceive the warmth coming directly from the heart of Earth! On the way back to the cablecar we stopped at a lookout facing Valle del Bove; the basin where lava flows usually run. We spotted Black Redstart and Raven here. We descended to Rifugio Sapienza for lunch, tasting the rich buffet of a self-service restaurant.

In the afternoon we had a short walk to explore a couple of habitats on the slopes of Mt. Etna. We stopped first in a pine grove where we saw some interesting passerines including Short-toed Treecreeper, Coal Tit and Firecrest. We continued walking along some old lava flows with scattered Mount Etna Broom and meadows. Rock Bunting was seen as well as two Marsh Harriers on migration, Woodlark, Whinchat and Linnet.

We then drove down from Mt. Etna and returned to Case del Feudo in time to have a shower before a lovely dinner, accompanied as usual by superb local wines like Nero d'Avola, Syrah, Chardonnay and Moscato.

Day 4

Sunday 30th April

At 6.45am we had a pre-breakfast walk in the Case del Feudo estate. We spotted good birds like Bee-eater, Subalpine Warbler and Woodchat Shrike, while the moth-trap offered two Cream-spot Tigers, Ox-tongue Conch, Portland Ribbon Wave, the green *Phaiogramma etruscaria* and many more.

After breakfast we had a short drive to Penisola Magnisi: a peninsula surrounded by contrasting ugly chimneys and deep blue sea. In the dry meadows were plenty of hidden birds and we managed to observe Common Quail, Stone-curlew, Crested, Short-toed and Calandra Larks, Tawny and Tree Pipits, Yellow Wagtail and Woodchat Shrike. In the sky were migrants including four Marsh Harriers, two Red-footed Falcons and tens of Pallid and

Common Swifts. Among interesting flowers we found Eastern Dappled White and Large Skipper butterflies, Ragusa's Nine-spotted Moth, and a couple of Sicilian Wall Lizards.

After birding, we had a comfort break in Priolo Gargallo and a visit to an amazing bar-pasticceria, stocked with homemade ice-creams, pastries, Sicilian cannolos, cassatas and granitas. We had lunch inside the Saline di Priolo LIPU reserve, sitting in the shade of tamarisks and again enjoying the pleasure of Italian life-style in a picnic rich in tastes, from gorgonzola and pecorino cheeses to Sicilian prosciutto crudo, fresh tomatoes and oranges etc.

Later we had time to walk along the peaceful paths of the reserve, watching birds from five different hides. A lot of birds showed from a close distance, starting with hundreds of stunning Great Flamingoes building their nests, and ending with Curlew and Common Sandpipers, Slender-billed Gulls, Little Terns and an amazing Western (previously called Purple) Swamphen.

In the late afternoon, some pre-dinner birding and aperitifs were accompanied by the observation of three Marsh and four Montagu's Harriers on migration, before checklist time and a lovely dinner, as always assisted by the helpful Yeasin.

Day 5

Monday 1st May

This morning the pre-breakfast group found an unexpected Great Reed Warbler in the Case del Feudo estate, while the moth trap collected good specimens like Ruby Tiger, Willow Beauty, *Omphalophana serrata*, *Ethmia bipunctella* and the large beetle *Pentodon bidens*.

After breakfast, we drove south for about an hour to visit first Pantano Morghella, a big lake near Pachino, the town of tomatoes. We were welcomed by a singing Icterine Warbler, and on scanning the area we found Black-necked Grebe, Squacco and Purple Herons, Marsh Harrier and Audouin's Gull.

We had a comfort stop at a bar-gelateria in the main square of Pachino, before moving west to some more lakes: Pantano Cuba and Pantano Longarini. These big brackish water lakes were, in the past, home to innumerable hunters, but in recent years have been bought by a German Foundation in order to protect the wintering and migrant birds that frequent the area. At the first stop we found Spoonbill, Peregrine Falcon and Pied Avocet. We then had a picnic on the wonderful sandy beach of Longarini. At the end of lunch, we enjoyed watching a stunning Osprey, fishing only few metres away.

The birding in the afternoon was great, with the observation of about 160 Greater Flamingoes, Squacco Heron, Ferruginous Duck and Slender-billed Gull. We spent some time scanning some little ponds for interesting aquatic creatures, and we saw Italian Edible Frog, Sicilian Pond Terrapin and Island Bluetail damselfly.

In the evening, after a delicious dinner, we went out again to look for owls. Barn Owl, heard the day before by one of the group, wasn't heard again, but we were consoled by the songs of Scops Owls.

Day 6

Tuesday 2nd May

Whilst there was no pre-breakfast birding today, we did check the moth trap. Willowherb Hawk-moth, Large-yellow Underwing, Sorcerer and Purple Marbled were some of the more interesting species.

After breakfast, we drove to Avola to go shopping in our favorite supermarket and buy the best cheeses, tomatoes, olives and hams for our picnic. Then we drove inland and climbed up the slopes of Cava Grande. It's a breathtaking gorge, 500 metres deep, cutting the Monti Iblei and offering amazing look-outs on its dramatic landscape. We had a couple of stops along the way to take pictures and look for birds. European Stonechat, Blue Rock Thrush, European Serin and a big Western Whip Snake were seen.

Next we parked on the edge of the gorge and started a peaceful walk of a couple of hours. The meadows and Mediterranean maquis were real botanical gardens, with innumerable flowers of every colour. We spotted six different species of orchid: Dull Orchid, Yellow-bee Orchid, Pyramidal Orchid, Butterfly orchid, *Anacamptis longicornu* and Long-lipped Serapias. A lot of Mediterranean birds were around and we had very good views of Woodlark, Spectacled Warbler, Rock Sparrow and Cirl Bunting. Also our eyes were attracted by some very nice butterflies including Scarce and Common Swallowtails, Cleopatra, Small Blue and Wall Brown.

The picnic was prepared on the tables of the bar of Cava Grande and we enjoyed, in the shade, our last delicious ricotta, pecorino di Enna and Sicilian water melon.

The first half of the afternoon was spent in the amazing Syracuse Archeological Park. We visited the huge Greek theatre, now set for some summer shows, the exciting 'Ear of Dionisus' and the Roman amphitheatre. The lovely gardens, rich in old plants and Citrus trees, offered good birding and we saw Pallid Swift, Blue Rock Thrush, Wood Warbler, Pied Flycatcher and much more.

After carefully packing the luggage and doing our checklist, we moved to the ancient centre of Syracuse, the Ortigia, for a last surprise: we were invited to the Palace of Baron Pietro! The Baron, owner of Case del Feudo and the producer of all the excellent wines we had enjoyed during the week, is one of the few members of ancient Sicilian aristocracy and maintains his charismatic influence on the society and strives to take care of his family's historical heritage. We had the privilege to visit some rooms containing frescos and to appreciate the progress of restoration work. We also had an aperitif with the Baron, listened to his interesting stories about the famed guests at his palace, looked out from his terrace that faces the Duomo, and shared with him an impressive banquet. Something really hard to forget!

Day 7

Wednesday 3rd May

Today was our last day in Sicily. We met for breakfast at 6.15am in order to be on time for our flight home. After thanks to Yeasin for taking care of us during the week at Case del Feudo, we drove north to Catania and the Fontanarossa airport, where we said our thanks and goodbyes to Luca.

The flight was delayed, so we had some additional time to enjoy a last Italian coffee, ice-cream or granita before returning to the UK. Once back at Gatwick we said our thanks and goodbyes to Tom, and another Naturetrek adventure came to an end.

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Species Lists

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

| | Common name | Scientific name | April/May | | | | | | |
|----|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|-----|----|-----|-----|---|---|
| | | | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1 | Common Shelduck | <i>Tadorna tadorna</i> | | 10 | | 3 | 10 | | |
| 2 | Mallard | <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i> | | 5 | | 3 | 2 | | |
| 3 | Common Pochard | <i>Anas ferina</i> | | | | 1 | | | |
| 4 | Ferruginous Duck | <i>Aythya nyroca</i> | | | | | 8 | | |
| 5 | Common Quail | <i>Coturnix coturnix</i> | | | | 1 | | | |
| 6 | Common Pheasant | <i>Phasianus colchicus</i> | H | H | | H | H | | |
| 7 | Black-necked Grebe | <i>Podiceps nigricollis</i> | | | | | 1 | | |
| 8 | Little Grebe | <i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i> | | | | 2 | 1 | | |
| 9 | Great Crested Grebe | <i>Podiceps cristatus</i> | | 2 | | | 10 | | |
| 10 | Scopoli's Shearwater | <i>Calonectris diomedea</i> | 1 | | | | 2 | | |
| 11 | Yelkouan Shearwater | <i>Puffinus yelkouan</i> | 1 | | | | | | |
| 12 | Great Cormorant | <i>Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis</i> | | 1 | | | | | |
| 13 | Black-crowned Night Heron | <i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i> | | | | | 6 | | |
| 14 | Western Cattle Egret | <i>Bubulcus ibis</i> | | | | | 2 | | |
| 15 | Squacco Heron | <i>Ardeola ralloides</i> | | | | | 3 | | |
| 16 | Little Egret | <i>Egretta garzetta</i> | | 10 | | 15 | 10 | | |
| 17 | Great Egret | <i>Ardea albus</i> | | 1 | | | | | |
| 18 | Grey Heron | <i>Ardea cinerea</i> | | 2 | | | 2 | | |
| 19 | Purple Heron | <i>Ardea purpurea</i> | | | | | 3 | | |
| 20 | White Stork | <i>Ciconia ciconia</i> | 1 | | 3 | | | | 1 |
| 21 | Eurasian Spoonbill | <i>Platalea leucorodia</i> | | | | | 1 | | |
| 22 | Greater Flamingo | <i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i> | | 100 | | 500 | 160 | | |
| 23 | Common Kestrel | <i>Falco tinnunculus</i> | 3 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 5 | 6 | |
| 24 | Red-footed Falcon | <i>Falco vespertinus</i> | | | | 2 | | | |
| 25 | Peregrine Falcon | <i>Falco peregrinus</i> | | | | | 1 | | |
| 26 | Western Osprey | <i>Pandion haliaetus</i> | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 27 | Western Marsh Harrier | <i>Circus aeruginosus</i> | | 1 | 2 | 7 | 1 | | |
| 28 | Montagu's Harrier | <i>Circus pygargus</i> | | | | 4 | | | |
| 29 | Common Buzzard | <i>Buteo buteo</i> | 1 | ✓ | 2 | 3 | 2 | 5 | |
| 30 | Water Rail | <i>Rallus aquaticus</i> | | | | | 2H | | |
| 31 | Common Moorhen | <i>Gallinula chloropus</i> | | | | 2 | H | | |
| 32 | Eurasian Coot | <i>Fulica atra</i> | | 20 | | 10 | 100 | | |
| 33 | Western Swampphen | <i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i> | | | | 1 | | | |
| 34 | Eurasian Oystercatcher | <i>Haematopus ostralegus</i> | | 1 | | | | | |
| 35 | Pied Avocet | <i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i> | | 10 | | | 6 | | |
| 36 | Black-winged Stilt | <i>Himantopus himantopus</i> | | 10 | | 10 | 15 | | |
| 37 | Eurasian Stone-curlew | <i>Burhinus oedicephalus</i> | 2 | | | 5 | | | |
| 38 | Ringed Plover | <i>Charadrius hiaticula</i> | | 5 | | | | | |
| 39 | Kentish Plover | <i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i> | | 2 | | | 3 | | |
| 40 | Grey Plover | <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> | | 10 | | | | | |
| 41 | Sanderling | <i>Calidris alba</i> | | | | 1 | 1 | | |
| 42 | Ruddy Turnstone | <i>Arenaria interpres</i> | | 2 | | | | | |
| 43 | Dunlin | <i>Calidris alpina</i> | | 3 | | | | | |
| 44 | Curlew Sandpiper | <i>Calidris ferruginea</i> | | 30 | | 4 | | | |
| 45 | Little Stint | <i>Calidris minuta</i> | | 50 | | | 6 | | |
| 46 | Wood Sandpiper | <i>Tringa glareola</i> | | 5 | | | 1 | | |
| 47 | Common Sandpiper | <i>Actitis hypoleucos</i> | | 2 | | 1 | 2 | | |
| 48 | Common Redshank | <i>Tringa totanus</i> | | 2 | | | | | |

| | Common name | Scientific name | April/May | | | | | | | |
|----|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|---|---|
| | | | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 1 | 2 | 3 | |
| 49 | Spotted Redshank | <i>Tringa erythropus</i> | | 20 | | | | | | |
| 50 | Common Greenshank | <i>Tringa nebularia</i> | | 6 | | | 1 | | | |
| 51 | Marsh Sandpiper | <i>Tringa stagnatilis</i> | | 1 | | | | | | |
| 52 | Green Sandpiper | <i>Tringa ochropus</i> | | | | | 1 | | | |
| 53 | Eurasian Curlew | <i>Numenius arquata</i> | | 2 | | | | | | |
| 54 | Common Snipe | <i>Gallinago gallinago</i> | | 1 | | | | | | |
| 55 | Ruff | <i>Philomachus pugnax</i> | | 30 | | | | | | |
| 56 | Black-headed Gull | <i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i> | | 1 | | | 1 | | | |
| 57 | Slender-billed Gull | <i>Chroicocephalus genei</i> | | 10 | | 2 | 2 | | | |
| 58 | Mediterranean Gull | <i>Larus melanocephalus</i> | | 1 | | | | | | |
| 59 | Yellow-legged Gull | <i>Larus michahellis</i> | 10 | 30 | 1 | 4 | 10 | | | |
| 60 | Audouin's Gull | <i>Larus audouinii</i> | 3 | 2 | | | 1 | | | |
| 61 | Little Tern | <i>Sternula albifrons</i> | | 5 | | 10 | | | | |
| 62 | Sandwich Tern | <i>Sterna sandvicensis</i> | | | | 1 | | | | |
| 63 | Gull-billed Tern | <i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i> | | | | | 6 | | | |
| 64 | Whiskered Tern | <i>Chlidonias hybrida</i> | | | | | 4 | | | |
| 65 | Rock Dove / Feral Pigeon | <i>Columba livia feral</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 66 | Common Wood Pigeon | <i>Columba palumbus</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 67 | Eurasian Collared Dove | <i>Streptopelia decaocto</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| 68 | European Turtle Dove | <i>Streptopelia turtur</i> | 3 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 2 | H | | |
| 69 | Common Cuckoo | <i>Cuculus canorus</i> | | | H | | 1 | | | |
| 70 | Eurasian Nightjar | <i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i> | 1 | | | | | | | |
| 71 | Barn Owl | <i>Tyto alba</i> | | | | H | | | | |
| 72 | Eurasian Scops Owl | <i>Otus scops</i> | H | 2H | | 3H | 3H | | | |
| 73 | Common Swift | <i>Apus apus</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 74 | Pallid Swift | <i>Apus pallidus</i> | | | | 30 | | 10 | | |
| 75 | Eurasian Hoopoe | <i>Upupa epops</i> | 1 | H | H | | 1 | | | |
| 76 | European Bee-eater | <i>Merops apiaster</i> | | 50 | 15 | 50 | 15 | 5 | | |
| 77 | Great Spotted Woodpecker | <i>Dendrocopos major</i> | | | H | | | | | |
| 78 | Crested Lark | <i>Galerida cristata</i> | 5 | 5 | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| 79 | Woodlark | <i>Lullula arborea</i> | | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 80 | Greater Short-toed Lark | <i>Calandrella brachydactyla</i> | | | | 3 | | | | |
| 81 | Calandra Lark | <i>Melanocorypha calandra</i> | | | | 1 | | | | |
| 82 | Common Sand Martin | <i>Riparia riparia</i> | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | |
| 83 | Barn Swallow | <i>Hirundo rustica</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 84 | Common House Martin | <i>Delichon urbicum</i> | 1 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| 85 | Tawny Pipit | <i>Anthus campestris</i> | | | | 1 | | | | |
| 86 | Tree Pipit | <i>Anthus trivialis</i> | | | | 1 | | 1 | | |
| 87 | White Wagtail | <i>Motacilla alba alba</i> | 1 | 1 | | | | | | |
| 88 | Blue-headed Yellow Wagtail | <i>Motacilla flava sp.</i> | 2 | | | 30 | | | | |
| 89 | European Robin | <i>Erithacus rubecula</i> | | | H | | | | | |
| 90 | Common Nightingale | <i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i> | | 2 | H | H | H | 3 | | |
| 91 | Black Redstart | <i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i> | | | 2H | 1 | | | | |
| 92 | Northern Wheatear | <i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i> | | | 2 | | | | | |
| 93 | Whinchat | <i>Saxicola rubetra</i> | 4 | | 4 | 3 | 1 | | | |
| 94 | Common Stonechat | <i>Saxicola rubicola</i> | | | | | | 2 | | |
| 95 | Common Blackbird | <i>Turdus merula</i> | | 3 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| 96 | Blue Rock Thrush | <i>Monticola solitarius</i> | | | | | | 3 | | |
| 97 | Eurasian Blackcap | <i>Sylvia atricapilla</i> | | H | 2 | H | | | | |
| 98 | Common Whitethroat | <i>Sylvia communis</i> | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | |
| 99 | Spectacled Warbler | <i>Sylvia conspicillata</i> | | | | | | 1 | | |

| | Common name | Scientific name | April/May | | | | | | |
|-----|------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------|----|----|----|---|---|---|
| | | | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 100 | Sardinian Warbler | <i>Sylvia melanocephala</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 101 | Subalpine Warbler | <i>Sylvia cantillans albistriata</i> | | 1 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| 102 | Sedge Warbler | <i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i> | | | | 1 | | | |
| 103 | Zitting Cisticola | <i>Cisticola juncidis</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 104 | Cetti's Warbler | <i>Cettia cetti</i> | H | H | H | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 105 | European Reed Warbler | <i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i> | | 5 | | 1 | ✓ | | |
| 106 | Great Reed Warbler | <i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i> | | | | | 1 | | |
| 107 | Icterine Warbler | <i>Hippolais icterina</i> | | | | | 1 | | |
| 108 | Wood Warbler | <i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i> | | | | 1 | | 3 | |
| 109 | Common Chiffchaff | <i>Phylloscopus collybita</i> | | | 2H | | | | |
| 110 | Firecrest | <i>Regulus ignicapilla</i> | | | 2 | | | | |
| 111 | Winter Wren | <i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i> | | | H | | | 2 | |
| 112 | Spotted Flycatcher | <i>Muscicapa striata</i> | 1 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | |
| 113 | Pied Flycatcher | <i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i> | | | 2 | 1 | | 1 | |
| 114 | Great Tit | <i>Parus major</i> | | 3 | H | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 115 | Coal Tit | <i>Parus ater</i> | | | ✓ | | | | |
| 116 | European Blue Tit | <i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i> | | | ✓ | | | ✓ | |
| 117 | Eurasian Nuthatch | <i>Sitta europaea</i> | | | 1 | | | | |
| 118 | Short-toed Treecreeper | <i>Certhia brachydactyla</i> | | | 2 | | | | |
| 119 | Woodchat Shrike | <i>Lanius senator</i> | 1 | 1 | 5 | 5 | 1 | 2 | |
| 120 | Common Magpie | <i>Pica pica</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 121 | Eurasian Jay | <i>Garrulus glandarius</i> | | 5 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 122 | Western Jackdaw | <i>Corvus monedula</i> | | | | | | ✓ | |
| 123 | Hooded Crow | <i>Corvus cornix</i> | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | 2 | ✓ | |
| 124 | Common Raven | <i>Corvus corax</i> | | | 1 | | | 2 | |
| 125 | Spotless Starling | <i>Sturnus unicolor</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 126 | Eurasian Golden Oriole | <i>Oriolus oriolus</i> | | 4 | 1 | 3 | 1 | | |
| 127 | Italian Sparrow | <i>Passer italiae</i> | | | 2 | 1 | | | |
| 128 | Spanish Sparrow | <i>Passer hispaniolensis</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 129 | Eurasian Tree Sparrow | <i>Passer montanus</i> | 1 | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 130 | Common Rock Sparrow | <i>Petronia petronia</i> | | | | | | 2 | |
| 131 | Common Chaffinch | <i>Fringilla coelebs</i> | | | 2 | | | | |
| 132 | Common Linnet | <i>Linaria cannabina</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 133 | European Goldfinch | <i>Carduelis carduelis</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 134 | European Greenfinch | <i>Chloris chloris</i> | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | |
| 135 | European Serin | <i>Serinus serinus</i> | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 136 | Cirl Bunting | <i>Emberiza cirlus</i> | | | 3 | | | | |
| 137 | Corn Bunting | <i>Emberiza calandra</i> | | 1 | | H | 1 | H | |
| 138 | Rock Bunting | <i>Emberiza cia</i> | | | 4 | | | | |

Mammals

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| 1 | European Free-tailed Bat | <i>Tadarida teniotis</i> | | H | H | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|---|---|--|--|--|--|

Amphibians & Reptiles

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------------------------|---------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| 1 | Italian Edible Frog | <i>Pelophylax cf. hispanica</i> | | | | | ✓ | | |
| 2 | Sicilian Pond Terrapin | <i>Emys trinacris</i> | | | | | 2 | | |
| 3 | Western Green Lizard | <i>Lacerta bilineata</i> | | 1 | | | | 1 | |
| 4 | Moorish Gecko | <i>Tarantola mauritanica</i> | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 5 | Turkish Gecko | <i>Hemidactylus turcicus</i> | | 2 | | | 1 | | |
| 6 | Italian Wall Lizard | <i>Podarcis sicula</i> | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 7 | Sicilian Wall Lizard | <i>Podarcis wagleriana</i> | 1 | 2 | | 3 | 1 | 1 | |

| | Common name | Scientific name | April/May | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|----|----|----|---|---|---|--|
| | | | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 1 | 2 | 3 | |
| 8 | Ocelated Skink | <i>Chalcides ocellatus</i> | | 2 | | | | | 1 | |
| 9 | Western Whip Snake | <i>Hierophis viridiflavus</i> | | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | |

Butterflies

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----------------------|------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| 1 | Scarce Swallowtail | <i>Iphiclides podalirius</i> | | | | | | | ✓ | |
| 2 | Swallowtail | <i>Papilio machaon</i> | | 2 | | ✓ | | | ✓ | |
| 3 | Large White | <i>Pieris brassicae</i> | | 2 | | | | | | |
| 4 | Small White | <i>Pieris rapae</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| 5 | Cleopatra | <i>Gonepteryx cleopatra</i> | | | | 1 | | | ✓ | |
| 6 | Clouded Yellow | <i>Colias crocea</i> | | ✓ | 1 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| 7 | Green Hairstreak | <i>Callophrys rubi</i> | | 2 | | | | | | |
| 8 | Small Copper | <i>Lycaena phlaeas</i> | | 1 | | | | | | |
| 9 | Little Blue | <i>Cupido minimus</i> | | | | | | | ✓ | |
| 10 | Green-underside Blue | <i>Glaucopsyche alexis</i> | | | | | | | | |
| 11 | Southern Blue | <i>Polyommatus celina</i> | | ✓ | | | | | ✓ | |
| 12 | Painted lady | <i>Vanessa cardui</i> | | 1 | | | | | | |
| 13 | Speckled Wood | <i>Pararge aegeria</i> | 2 | | | ✓ | | | | |
| 14 | Meadow Brown | <i>Maniola jurtina</i> | | | | 1 | | | | |
| 15 | Wall Brown | <i>Lasiommata megera</i> | | 1 | | | | | ✓ | |
| 16 | Small Heath | <i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i> | 1 | | | 1 | | | ✓ | |
| 17 | Large Skipper | <i>Ochlodes sylvanus</i> | | ✓ | | 1 | | | | |
| 18 | Pygmy Skipper | <i>Gegenes pumilio</i> | | | | | | 1 | | |

Moths

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|--|
| 1 | Dark Spectacle | <i>Abrostola cf. triplasia</i> | | 1 | | | | | | |
| 2 | Eastern Alchymist | <i>Aedia leucomelas</i> | | | | | | | 1 | |
| 3 | Turnip Moth | <i>Agrotis segetum</i> | | 1 | | | | | | |
| 4 | Gregson's Dart | <i>Agrotis spinifera</i> | | 1 | | | | | | |
| 5 | Ragusa's Nine-spotted Moth | <i>Amata cf. kruegeri</i> | ✓ | | | ✓ | | | | |
| 6 | Sicilian (Cream-spot) Tiger | <i>Arctia villica konewkaii</i> | | 1 | | 2 | 2 | 3 | | |
| 7 | Embellished Thorn | <i>Campaea cf. honoraria</i> | | | | | | | 1 | |
| 8 | Clancy's Rustic | <i>Caradrina kadenii</i> | | 1 | | | | | | |
| 9 | Privet Tortrix | <i>Clepsis consimilana</i> | | | | | | | 1 | |
| 10 | Ox-tongue Conch | <i>Cochylis molliculana</i> | | | | 1 | 1 | | | |
| 11 | | <i>Coleophora sp.</i> | | | | | | | 1 | |
| 12 | Concealer Moth | <i>Denisia luctuosella</i> | | | | | | | 1 | |
| 13 | Hoary Footman | <i>Eilema caniola</i> | | | | | | | 1 | |
| 14 | Common Plume | <i>Emmelina monodactyla</i> | | 1 | | | | | 2 | |
| 15 | Viper's Bugloss Moth | <i>Ethmia bipunctella</i> | | 1 | | 1 | | | | |
| 16 | Purple Marbled | <i>Eublemma ostrina</i> | | | | | | | 1 | |
| 17 | Small Marbled | <i>Eublemma parva</i> | | | | | | | 1 | |
| 18 | | <i>Euchromius bellus</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| 19 | | <i>Eupithecia breviculata</i> | | 1 | | | | | | |
| 20 | Lime-speck Pug | <i>Eupithecia centaureata</i> | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | | |
| 21 | | <i>Hadena sp.</i> | | | | 1 | | | | |
| 22 | Rustic | <i>Hoplodrina sp.</i> | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| 23 | Portland Ribbon Wave | <i>Idaea degeneraria</i> | | | | 1 | | | | |
| 24 | | <i>Idaea filicata</i> | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | | |
| 25 | Delicate Moth | <i>Mythimna vitellina</i> | | 1 | | | | | | |
| 26 | Large Yellow Underwing | <i>Noctua pronuba</i> | | | | | | | 1 | |
| 27 | | <i>Nodaria nodosalis</i> | | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ | | |

| | Common name | Scientific name | April/May | | | | | | |
|----|----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------|----|----|----|---|---|---|
| | | | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 28 | Rush Veneer | <i>Nomophila noctuella</i> | | | | | | 1 | |
| 29 | Bramble Shoot Moth | <i>Notocelia cf. uddmanniana</i> | | 1 | | | | | |
| 30 | Gem | <i>Nycterosea obstipata</i> | | | | | | 1 | |
| 31 | | <i>Omphalophana serrata</i> | | | | | 1 | | |
| 32 | Willow Beauty | <i>Peribatodes rhomboidaria</i> | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 33 | Olive-tree Beauty | <i>Peribatodes umbraria</i> | | 1 | | | | | |
| 34 | | <i>Phaiogramma etruscaria</i> | | | | 1 | | | |
| 35 | Ruby Tiger | <i>Phragmatobia fuliginosa</i> | | | | | | 1 | |
| 36 | Willowherb Hawk-moth | <i>Proserpinus proserpina</i> | | | | | | 1 | |
| 37 | Porter's Rustic | <i>Proxenus hospes</i> | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 38 | Vestal | <i>Rhodometra sacraria</i> | | | | | | 1 | |
| 39 | | <i>Sesamia nonagrioides</i> | | | | 1 | | | |
| 40 | Four-spotted | <i>Tyta luctuosa</i> | | ✓ | | | | ✓ | |
| 41 | Burnet | <i>Zygaena sp.</i> | | | | ✓ | | | |

Other Invertebrates

| | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----------------------------|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| 1 | Island Bluetail Damselfly | <i>Ischnura genei</i> | | | | | 1 | | |
| 2 | Black-tailed Skimmer | <i>Orthetrum cancellatum</i> | | | | | 1 | | |
| 3 | Red-veined Darter | <i>Sympetrum fonscolombii</i> | | 2 | | | 3 | | |
| 4 | Carpenter Bee | <i>Xylocopa violacea</i> | | ✓ | | ✓ | | | |
| 5 | Ichneumon wasps | <i>Ichneumonoidea sp.</i> | | | | | | 1 | |
| 6 | Devil's Coach-horse Beetle | <i>Ocyopus olens</i> | | | | | | 1 | |
| 7 | A Beetle | <i>Pentodon bidens punctatus</i> | | | | | 1 | | |
| 8 | B Beetle | <i>Carabus morbillosus IMG_9662 01.05.17</i> | | | | | 1 | | |
| 9 | Shield Bug | <i>Lygaeus creticus</i> | | | | | 1 | | |
| 10 | A Spider | <i>Nomisia cf. exornata</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| 11 | B Spider | <i>Olios argelasius</i> | | | | | ✓ | | |
| 12 | A Millipede | <i>Julus sp.</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |

Orchids

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|---|--|--|--|---|--|
| 1 | Pyramidal Orchid | <i>Anacamptis pyramidalis</i> | | | | | | 1 | |
| 2 | | <i>Anacamptis longicornu</i> | | | | | | 1 | |
| 3 | Butterfly Orchid | <i>Anacamptis papilionacea</i> | | | | | | ✓ | |
| 4 | Dull Orchid | <i>Ophrys fusca</i> | | | | | | 1 | |
| 5 | Early Spider Orchid | <i>Ophrys sphegodes</i> | | | | | | 1 | |
| 6 | Yellow Bee-orchid | <i>Ophrys lutea</i> | | | | | | ✓ | |
| 7 | Common Bee-orchid | <i>Ophrys apifera</i> | | 3 | | | | | |
| 8 | Small-flowered Tongue-orchid | <i>Serapias parviflora</i> | | 1 | | | | | |
| 9 | Long-lipped Tongue-orchid | <i>Serapias vomeracea</i> | | | | | | ✓ | |

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