

Spring Birding in Sicily

Naturetrek Tour Report

20 - 26 April 2018

Report compiled by Dave Nevitt



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Tour participants: Dave Nevitt & Jonathan Mycock (leaders) with 15 Naturetrek clients

Day 1

Friday 20th April

The week started with our leisurely midday flight from Gatwick to Catania which was on time and all the party arrived safely. On the flight it was a bit cloudy, so we didn't have views of Vesuvius or Mount Etna.

Getting our minibuses was remarkably quick and we were soon on our way, the group having logged Italian Sparrows, Swifts and House Martins from the car park. On the hour's journey to the Case del Feudo we saw several White Storks nests. We were welcomed by Jassin who was to look after our needs for the week. We settled in to our rooms, then assembled for our first dinner in the setting of our rustic accommodation. It was warm enough to meet outside for aperitifs then we went inside for dinner. We sampled for the first time the superb wines which are made on the premises, and delicious food. What a welcome!

We retired, tired but replete.

Day 2

Saturday 21st April

Our pre-breakfast walk produced our first Turtle Dove, Nightingale singing, a brief Woodchat Shrike, Italian and Spanish Sparrows, Sardinian Warblers, Zitting Cisticolas, two fine male Whinchats and a glorious collection of amazing Bee-eaters, a bird that was to become a feature every day at our wonderful accommodation. The moth trap delivered Knot-Grass, the impressive Cream-spot Tiger of the Sicilian form, Scalloped Barred, Spotted Sulphur, The Delicate, Porter's Rustic, Grouville Dart and *Ethmia bipunctella* – a great haul.

After a tasty continental breakfast, we left for our first sortie of the week – to the Southern Lakes. On the way, we saw Corn Buntings singing on roadside wires and a Hoopoe flew over.

Our first stop was Pantano Morghella where we saw two Black-necked Grebes, and a Marsh Harrier quartered the reeds. But it was the waders which stole the show – Black-winged Stilts tip-toed through the shallow water and we soon found a star bird – summer plumaged Marsh Sandpiper! All were able to admire it in the scopes, and then we found another two! Five Wood Sandpipers were feeding on the muddy edges alongside a Ruff and two Redshanks. Two Gull-billed Terns flew over then hawked insects over the lagoons and an impressive 35+ Glossy Ibises fed on the far lagoon.

We moved on to another pool at Marzememi but it was rather full of water and only held a pair of Black-winged Stilts, so we moved on for coffee in a bar overlooking the picturesque harbour. An adult Audouin's Gull grabbed a large fish then sadly disappeared, leaving just Yellow-legged Gulls, thereby frustrating all except Dave who was the only one who had seen it!

We continued to our next stop at the lakes of Pantani Longarini and Cuba. Cuba held three Common Sandpipers on the rafts, a Lesser Kestrel flew over and two Squacco Herons flew right in front of us. The sound of Serins singing was all around us, another feature of the week. Back at Longarini, we saw Great Egret and Little Egret from the roadside, together with fly-by Ferruginous Duck. We drove further on to an open swampy area and were soon watching two magnificent Purple Herons. What gorgeous birds they are. As we prepared lunch, Shoveler was added to the list and a flock of Black-necked Grebes was spotted. Great Crested Grebes were also

present, plus more Ferruginous Ducks, and several confiding Squacco Herrons. A flock of five Garganey dropped in to be admired and Water Rails and Reed Warblers called from the reeds. Yellow Wagtails were flying over intermittently, and a flock of Greenshank passed by. In the distance, groups of Flamingos paraded around in the shallows to complete the amazing vista.

Time was ticking on and we set off to Portopalo Harbour to look for some seabirds. Offshore we spotted a succession of Scopoli's Shearwaters, some of which were quite close to shore. In the picturesque harbour we found many Yellow-legged Gulls but sadly no Audouin's Gulls. We then popped in to town and partook of delicious ice creams & *granite* before making our way home. Back at the Case del Feudo, we enjoyed time to freshen up and relax before another lovely dinner after a successful day.

Day 3

Sunday 22nd April

Our morning walk was rewarded with 60 Bee-eaters, Nightingales and Spotless Starlings. The moth trap did very well, producing highlights of three Hawk-Moths – Elephant, Striped and Spurge, as well as Flame, L-album Wainscot, Four-spotted, Small Mottled Willow and *Zebeeba falsalis*.

Being Sunday, we had a leisurely breakfast then set off north through the rather unsightly petrochemical works to our pleasant destination of Penisola Magnisi. We stopped at the beach where we found three Little Ringed Plovers.

We moved further north to park the bus by the shore. As we walked on to the peninsular it was a lovely temperature and we scanned the trees looking for migrants but only found a Sardinian Warbler. Further on we saw a Skylark, and then a Red-rumped Swallow was found amongst the many Swallows. A lone raptor sauntered past – a fine juvenile Pallid Harrier, another new species for many. Jonathan then spotted a fantastic Stone Curlew on the ground and we were all very pleased to admire it through the scopes. Yellow Wagtails were calling overhead and we saw some on the deck too – those put to subspecies were the local one. Some buzzing notes caught our ear – three Short-toed Larks which sadly then flew off. We examined the many Swifts overhead and soon were watching several Pallids, noting the various ways to tell them from their Common cousins. Dave netted a mystery butterfly and the group successfully identified it from the book as Eastern Dappled White – well done all! Wheatears were perched up on the buildings, more Stone Curlews were flying around, Corn Buntings were singing from prominent perches and a dark phase Booted Eagle flew over – it was all happening! Another flock of Short-toed Larks appeared, three Whinchats were found, along with three Tawny Pipits and more Yellow Wagtails. As we looked and listened for Calandra Larks, the wailing of Stone Curlews provided the backdrop. After a little wait, we finally all saw and heard these charismatic birds as they wheeled around over the semi-desert.

With thunderstorms threatening, we returned to the buses after a very successful morning. We drove to the nearby town for a welcome drink, loo stop and sampling of the local *granite* lemon sorbet. We returned to the Salinas reserve where we managed to secure the picnic area for our lunch.

After eating, we explored the Salinas. Fortunately, the water level was not as high as yesterday's lakes, so we encountered some waders. A party of Avocets entertained, a lone Greenshank was feeding away and a flock of Spoonbills flew over. The islands in front of the hides entertained with really close views of Little Stints, Dunlin,

and breeding Ringed Plover, Kentish Plover and Black-winged Stilts. Several Little Terns were typically full of character and a dozen Slender-billed Gulls showed off their rosy chests. A Penduline Tit was heard but failed to show; while more confident were Cattle Egrets, Cormorants and Black-necked Grebes which caused much debate about their identity! All this to the backdrop of many nesting Flamingos that cackled away all afternoon. What a wonderful place.

On the way back to the buses we were fortunate to come across a magnificent beast – a male Western Green Lizard, resplendent in its bright green and blue finery. How showy!

Alas it was soon time to go so we drove back to the Case for a rest before checklists and another lovely dinner. In the evening, we tried to lure Scops Owls in, but it was a chilly night and, although we could hear a couple in the distance, they were having nothing of it!

Then it was time for bed after another enjoyable and very productive day.

Day 4

Monday 23rd April

We were up with the lark and breakfasted early for our 07:00 departure to Mount Etna. We headed off northwards, again encountering several White Storks on their pylon nests on the journey. As we drove, many took the opportunity for a quick snooze. An hour and a half later we were at the Etna foot slopes and we stopped for a photo opportunity. The summit was very snowy but largely clear and there was no wind at our stopping point which promised well for our ascent. We had a beautiful male Golden Oriole singing and perched up in a tree which was understandably very popular.

We drove further up the mountain then stopped briefly at an area of chestnut trees. A Short-toed Treecreeper was calling, soon joined by a second, and all were able to see them well – often a difficult feat with a group.

We pressed on to the Rifugio Sapienza and parked up the bus and donned all the clothes that we had as it could be cold at the top. We soon had our tickets for our ascent and boarded the cable cars.

The cable car took us swiftly up the mountainside and two White Wagtails were spotted on the way up. After a brief stop at the café we then boarded the 4x4 vehicles and wound our way up to the base of the 2002/03 crater. They had pushed a way through the 2017 lava flow, so we were able to get through.

It was remarkably windless, and everyone wondered why Dave had said to put on all the clothes we had! We followed the guide for the walk up and around the crater rim, stopping occasionally for him to tell us the fascinating story of the volcano. And the views were stunning. As we rose up over the ridge, the wind suddenly hit us, and everyone was grateful for the many layers! We dug 50cm into the volcanic ash to pick up rocks that were still warm to the touch from the lava beneath! It was a very pleasant walk and thoroughly enjoyed by all – what an amazing experience!

We were soon back at the bus turn, where we checked we hadn't left anyone behind, then we assembled for a talk from Dave about the amazing geological spectacle that was before us whilst we were still on it. Whilst we were there, we spotted two raptors overhead in superb light. The first was a harrier that turned out to be our

second Pallid – a young male whose underwing pattern was magical from underneath in the light. It shared a thermal with a large falcon that was soon identified as a Lanner Falcon no less – what a bird! These sightings were all the more stunning given that we have never even seen a bird at this altitude before over many years of running the trip!

Once the excitement had died down, we then descended in the 4x4 vehicles and were soon back at the café. After a chance to appreciate the delights of the tourist shop, we decided to descend to take lunch at a restaurant at the bottom. We found a lovely traditional restaurant and enjoyed a varied selection of local cuisines washed down with local wines.

Returning to the buses, we descended a little further to have a walk. Pine Processionary Moths gave away their presence with their “nests” conspicuous in the pine trees. We spent some time in the pine woods where we clocked several Short-toed Treecreepers, Firecrests and Coal Tits. We explored the open grassy area, logging Stonechats, two lovely Woodlark, Cuckoo, Northern Wheatears and two Black Redstarts. Overhead, passing raptors included two Honey Buzzards and an adult female Red-footed Falcon. After some stealthy searching we also found our main quarry in the form of a fine male Rock Bunting that sat on a rock right in front of us singing at us!

We relocated to further down the mountain in an area of Sweet Chestnuts where our “pishing” soon brought out Nuthatches, Wrens, Blackcaps and a selection of tits.

Time was pressing on, so we headed back to the buses and gently made our way back down the slopes, to the motorway and back to the Case.

After the long trip, there was a welcome rest before dinner and an early night after we had admired a Moorish Gecko at the Case and again heard Scops Owls.

Day 5

Tuesday 24th April

The pre-breakfast walk logged four Turtle Doves, a Golden Oriole seen and two more heard. The overnight moth trap added The Vestal and *Alucita cymatodactyla* to our list.

Today we headed south again, this time to the huge wetland reserve of Vendicari. We parked up to the beautiful summer sound of purring Turtle Doves, now sadly all but gone from Britain. As we approached the entrance, a superb Great Spotted Cuckoo flew past and was seen by some of the group. We walked back to try to relocate it but sadly it wasn't to be seen. We spent the next couple of hours in the three hides overlooking the pools as well as the beach, which was covered with egagropili, - fibrous bundles of foliage from the underwater Neptune Grass (*Posidonia oceanica*) that are endemic to Mediterranean shores.

The water levels were very high, so we didn't connect with as many waders as we had hoped but over the course of the morning we logged several Great White Egrets, amazingly our first Grey Heron, two very confident Spoonbills, many Flamingos, Avocets, five Little Ringed Plovers and five Wood Sandpipers which just landed in front of the hide we were in. There were also 12 Slender-billed Gulls, a Gull-billed Tern, Greenshank and a Marsh Sandpiper and a Dartford Warbler was seen in the reedbed. Overhead we had another Booted Eagle.

Many were thrilled by the discovery of an Ocellated Skink in a stone wall right by the path and Violet Dropwing dragonfly was photographed by some.

After such a busy morning, we were well up for lunch which we took at a friendly café on the lane there.

Afterwards we headed back north and stopped at the Saline di Siracusa. In the late afternoon sun, it was pretty quiet, but we found a Little Tern fishing on the pools giving its usual energetic, excited calls. What wonderful charismatic birds they are! Offshore we found some Sandwich Terns and several Bee-eaters entertained as they wheeled above us. Then, just when we had to cut our visit short, what should pop out of the reeds but a magnificent adult male Purple Heron! What a great end to the afternoon!

We then returned to base to relax and get prepared as we had been invited to dine at the Barone's palace in Ortigia tonight. We put on our best togs for this special event then drove to Ortigia where we were soon in the luxurious surroundings of the Barone and Baroness's abode overlooking the impressive Piazza Duomo. We were extra privileged tonight as the Barone, an internationally recognised expert on the painter Caravaggio, had offered us a private showing and personal explanation of the famous Burial of Santa Lucia painting on Piazza Duomo. We were spellbound as we made our way across the Piazza and entered the church where it is housed, and then the Barone talked us through the various parts of the painting and their interpretation. How fascinating, and our evening had only just begun! We returned to the palace and were regaled by fascinating stories about the history of the building and of the Barone's family. This was followed by a gorgeous meal which rounded off a definite highlight of the trip for all.

Day 6

Wednesday 25th April

After a tasty continental breakfast, we left for today's first destination – the gorge at Cava Grande. From Avola we wound our way up the S-bends inland until we reached the lookout half way up the hill. There was again precious little wind, but we scanned the surrounding hills for raptors. Initially there was little on view but over the course of the next half hour we started to get some action. A couple of Marsh Harriers and Common Buzzards were followed by two Honey Buzzards. Then a large raptor was spotted, interacting with a Kestrel. It was an immature Golden Eagle! Nice. A group of small falcons were identified as four Red-footed Falcons and a Lesser Kestrel, with a Hobby in tow. Two other raptors using the updrafts from the hillside were Short-toed Snake Eagles – magnificent birds indeed. We saw a very close Blue Rock Thrush and heard another singing afar, but otherwise small birds were a bit thin on the ground, so we pressed on.

We moved on to the car park with a breath-taking view down over the gorge. Many hundreds of metres below you could just make out the river in the bottom. We could hear a Cirl Bunting but, as is often the case with this species, he had positioned himself just where we couldn't quite see him! Changing positions, we then saw him well in the scopes, hiding in the depths of a pine - another new bird for many. After the convenient loos were taken advantage of, we walked along the gorge-top path. Several more Cirl Buntings followed along with a Stonechat, and eventually, after much patience, great views of two fine male Subalpine Warblers.

Further along, with Serins singing all around, we entered an area of low vegetation and started our search for the elusive Spectacled Warbler. We had a little lesson in what to look for first, then all eyes were peeled for these ground-loving birds. It wasn't long before we spotted one, perched atop a bush. One by one, the group all

managed to get good views of him as he popped up for a few seconds each time on a succession of bushes. What a great result, for a bird that is often very difficult to get a whole group on to.

A Garden Warbler was singing away as we left this tranquil place. On the way back, we stopped at a cliff-top lookout and heard some Rock Sparrows. We waited a while and saw them well in flight, but they were being a bit elusive today. Another Blue Rock Thrush was fine compensation. On the way back, we heard Woodlark singing and we had a fly-over Tawny Pipit.

We enjoyed our picnic lunch on the limestone walls with trees conveniently providing shade.

We then drove back towards Siracusa and parked to get tickets for the amphitheatres site; this also provided the opportunity to buy souvenirs from the many stalls here. The Roman Amphitheatre was fortunately open after the recent renovation work, so we were lucky in being able to admire this stunning structure. Keen eyes also found our first Pied Flycatcher here.

We moved on to enjoy a look around the magnificent Greek Amphitheatre and the Ear of Dionysius, both stunning and very impressive in separate ways. Bird interest was provided by our first European Starlings and several close Pallid Swifts overhead.

Culturally and spiritually fulfilled, we then returned the short journey back to base to relax before doing our checklists then enjoying another lovely dinner.

Day 7

Thursday 26th April

After a tasty continental breakfast, we left for today's first destination – the gorge at Cava Grande. From Avola Today was sadly our last day, so we packed up our bags, then enjoyed our lovely breakfast.

We loaded up our suitcases and then headed back to Catania Airport for our flight home.

What a week we had enjoyed – splendid birds and other wildlife, and a group who all got on so well together, sharing knowledge and stories to enhance the overall enjoyment of the trip. Dave and Jonathan would like to thank all the tour participants for a highly entertaining week and hope that everyone had an enjoyable week, seeing many new species on a beautiful island. We look forward to seeing you all on your next Naturetrek trip.

Naturetrek Facebook

We are delighted to launch the Naturetrek Facebook page so that participants of Naturetrek tours can remain in touch after the holiday and share photos, comments and future travel plans.

Setting up a personal profile at www.facebook.com is quick, free and easy. The [Naturetrek Facebook page](#) is now live; do please pay us a visit!

Species Lists

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

	Common name	Scientific name	April						
			20	21	22	23	24	25	26
1	Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>		✓	✓		✓		
2	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>		✓	✓		✓		
3	Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>		✓	1				
4	Garganey	<i>Spatula querquedula</i>		5					
5	Ferruginous Duck	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>		6					
6	Common Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>		H	H	H	H		
7	Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>		10	3				
8	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>		✓	✓		✓		
9	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>		✓			✓		
10	Scopoli's Shearwater	<i>Calonectris diomedea</i>		8					
11	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis</i>			3		1		
12	Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>			10		1		
13	Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>		5					
14	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>		✓	✓		✓		
15	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>		3			2		
16	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>					1		
17	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>		2			1		
18	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	1			3			
19	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>		35					
20	Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>			7		2		
21	Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>		10	300		200		
22	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
23	Lesser Kestrel	<i>Falco naumanni</i>	1	2				2	
24	Red-footed Falcon	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>				1		4	
25	Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>						1	
26	Lanner Falcon	<i>Falco biarmicus feldeggii</i>				1			
27	Booted Eagle	<i>Aquila pennata</i>			1		1		
28	Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>		8	2		2	3	
29	Pallid Harrier	<i>Circus macrourus</i>			1	1			
30	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
31	European Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>				2		2	
32	Short-toed Snake-Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>						2	
33	Water Rail	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>		H			H		
34	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>		✓	✓		✓		
35	Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>		✓	✓		✓		
36	Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>			6		3		
37	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>		15	✓		✓		
38	Stone Curlew	<i>Burhinus oedichnemus</i>	H		5			H	
39	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>			3		5		
40	Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>			3				
41	Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>			2				
42	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>			1				
43	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>			6				
44	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>		5			5		
45	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>			2				
46	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>		4	1		2		
47	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>		2					

	Common name	Scientific name	April							
			20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
48	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>		20	1			1		
49	Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatalis</i>		3				1		
50	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>		H						
51	Ruff	<i>Calidris pugnax</i>		1						
52	Slender-billed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus genei</i>			12			12		
53	Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>		✓	✓			✓		
54	Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>			3			1		
55	Sandwich Tern	<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>						2		
56	Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>		2				1		
57	Rock Dove / Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
58	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
59	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
60	European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>		1	1	1	4	1		
61	Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>				H				
62	Great Spotted Cuckoo	<i>Clamator glandarius</i>						1		
63	Eurasian Scops Owl	<i>Otus scops</i>		2H	3H	3H	3H			
64	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
65	Pallid Swift	<i>Apus pallidus</i>			6				20+	
66	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>	1	1					H	
67	European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>		15	60	40	40	40		
68	Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>				2				
69	Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>			1					
70	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		
71	Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>				2			H	
72	Greater Short-toed Lark	<i>Calandrella brachydactyla</i>			9					
73	Calandra Lark	<i>Melanocorypha calandra</i>			4					
74	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>		10	100+					
75	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
76	Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Hirundo daurica</i>			1					
77	Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓		
78	Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>			3				H	
79	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>		1						
80	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba alba</i>				4				
81	Blue-headed Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava sp.</i>		3	40					
82	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>							H	
83	Common Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>		2	2	1			2S 2H	
84	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>				2				
85	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>			6	4				
86	Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>		2	3			3	1	
87	Common Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquatus</i>				1			1	
88	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
89	Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>							2S 1H	
90	Garden Warbler	<i>Sylvia borin</i>							1	
91	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>				3				
92	Spectacled Warbler	<i>Sylvia conspicillata</i>							1	
93	Sardinian Warbler	<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
94	Subalpine Warbler	<i>Sylvia cantillans</i>							2	
95	Dartford Warbler	<i>Sylvia undata</i>						1		
96	Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
97	Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
98	Eurasian Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>		✓	✓		✓			

	Common name	Scientific name	April						
			20	21	22	23	24	25	26
99	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>				3			
100	Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapilla</i>				3			
101	Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>				H		H	
102	European Pied Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>						1	
103	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
104	Coal Tit	<i>Periparus ater</i>				✓			
105	European Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>				✓	✓	✓	
106	Penduline Tit	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>			H				
107	Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>				2			
108	Short-toed Treecreeper	<i>Certhia brachydactyla</i>				6			
109	Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>		1					
110	Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
111	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	
112	Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>						4	
113	Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
114	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>			1	1		3	
115	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>						2	
116	Spotless Starling	<i>Sturnus unicolor</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
117	Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>				1	3	1	
118	Italian Sparrow	<i>Passer italiae</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
119	Spanish Sparrow	<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
120	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>		✓	✓			✓	
121	Rock Sparrow	<i>Petronia petronia</i>						6	
122	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>				✓		✓	
123	Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
124	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
125	European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
126	European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	
127	Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>						2	
128	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>		3	8				
129	Rock Bunting	<i>Emberiza cia</i>				1			

Mammals:

1	European Free-tailed Bat	<i>Tadarida teniotis</i>			✓		✓		
2	Brown Rat	<i>Rattus norvegicus</i>			✓				

Amphibians & Reptiles

1	Italian Edible Frog	<i>Rana esculenta</i>		✓					
2	Western Green Lizard	<i>Lacerta bilineata</i>			✓				
3	Italian Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis sicula</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
4	Sicilian Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis wagleriana</i>			✓		✓		
5	Ocellated Skink	<i>Chalcides ocellatus</i>					✓		
6	Moorish Gecko	<i>Tarentola mauritanica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

Butterflies

1	Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	
2	Scarce Swallowtail	<i>Iphiclidides podalirius</i>						✓	
3	Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
4	Small White	<i>Artogeia rapae</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
5	Bath White	<i>Pontia daplidice</i>			✓			✓	

	Common name	Scientific name	April						
			20	21	22	23	24	25	26
6	Eastern Dappled White	<i>Euchloe ausonia</i>			✓				
7	Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias crocea</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
8	Cleopatra	<i>Gonepteryx cleopatra</i>				✓	✓	✓	
9	Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>			✓	✓			
10	Holly Blue	<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>		✓					
11	(Southern)Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus celina</i>						✓	
12	Painted lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>				✓		✓	
13	Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>				✓			
14	Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	
15	Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>			✓		✓	✓	
16	Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
17	Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>					✓	✓	
18	Small Skipper	<i>Thymelicus sylvestris</i>		✓					

Macro Moths:

(F - In The Field)

1	Knot Grass	<i>Acronicta rumicis</i>		✓	✓				
2	Grey/Dark Dagger	<i>Acronictya sp.</i>		✓					
3	Grouville Dart	<i>Agrotis catalaunensis</i>		✓	✓				
4	Ragusa Nine-spotted	<i>Amata kruegeri</i>		✓	✓				
5	Cream-spot Tiger	<i>Arctia villica</i>		✓	✓			✓	
6	Silver Y	<i>Autographa gamma</i>			F				
7	Flame	<i>Axylia putris</i>			✓				
8	Scalloped Barred	<i>Campaea(Gerinia) honoraria</i>		✓					
9	Pale Mottled Willow	<i>Caradrina clavipalpis</i>		✓	✓				
10	Elephant Hawk-Moth	<i>Deilephila elpenor</i>			✓				
11	Hoary Footman	<i>Eilema caniola</i>						✓	
12	Spotted Sulphur	<i>Emmelia trabealis</i>		✓					
13	Spurge Hawk-moth	<i>Hyles euphorbiae</i>			✓				
14	Striped Hawk-Moth	<i>Hyles livornica</i>			✓				
15	Small Fan-footed Wave	<i>Idaea biselata</i>		✓					
16	Portland Ribbon Wave	<i>Idaea degeneraria</i>		✓	✓				
17	Lustrous Least Carpet	<i>Idaea filicata</i>		✓	✓				
18	Coral-bordered Wave	<i>Idaea ostrinaria</i>		✓					
19	Fox Moth	<i>Macrothylacia rubi</i>						✓	
20	L-album Wainscot	<i>Mythimna l-album</i>		✓					
21	The Delicate	<i>Mythimna vitellina</i>		✓	✓				
22	Large Yellow Underwing	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>					✓		
23	Willow Beauty	<i>Peribatodes rhomboidaria</i>					✓	✓	
24	Ruby Tiger	<i>Phragmatobia fuliginosa</i>		✓	✓				
25	Porter's Rustic	<i>Proxenus hospes</i>		✓	✓				
26	Vestal	<i>Rhodometra sacraria</i>					✓		
27	Pinion-streaked Snout	<i>Schrankia costraestrigalis</i>					✓		
28	Small Mottled Willow	<i>Spodoptera exigua</i>			✓				
29	Pine Processionary Moth	<i>Thaumetopoea pityocampa</i>				✓			
30	Cinnabar	<i>Tyria jacobaeae</i>		✓	✓				
31	Four-spotted	<i>Tyta luctuosa</i>			✓				
32	Six-spot Burnet	<i>Zygaena filipendulae</i>			✓				
33	Narrow-bordered Five-spot Burnet	<i>Zygaena lonicerae</i>						✓	

	Common name	Scientific name	April						
			20	21	22	23	24	25	26

Micro Moths

1		<i>Achyra nudalis</i>			✓				
2		<i>Acleris variegana</i>		✓					
3		<i>Alucita cymatodactyla</i>			✓		✓		
4	Crambid	<i>Angustalius malacellus</i>		✓					
5	Bee Moth	<i>Aphomia sociella</i>		✓					
6		<i>Ethmia bipunctella</i>		✓	✓				
7	Crambid	<i>Euchromius bellus</i>		✓	✓				
8	Wax Moth	<i>Galleria mellonella</i>		✓					
9	Citron Plume	<i>Hellinsia carphodactyla</i>		✓	✓				
10	Rush Veneer	<i>Nomophila noctuella</i>			✓				
11		<i>Oegoconia sp.</i>		✓	✓				
12		<i>Synaphe moldavica</i>		✓					
13		<i>Zebeeba falsalis</i>			✓				

Other Invertebrates:

1	House Centipede	<i>Scutigera coleoptrata</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2	Carpenter Bee	<i>Xylocopa violacea</i>			✓		✓	✓	
3	A Bee Fly	<i>Bombylius medius</i>			✓				
4	Froghopper	<i>Cercopis intermedia</i>					✓		
5	Honey Bee	<i>Apis mellifera</i>		✓					
6	Millipede	<i>Diplopoda sp</i>		✓					
7	Harlequin Ladybird	<i>Harmonia axyridis</i>		✓				✓	
8	Great Green Bush Cricket	<i>Tettigonia viridissima</i>						✓	
9	Red-veined Darter	<i>Sympetrum fonscolombi</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	
10	Scarlet Darter	<i>Crocothemis erythraea</i>						✓	
11	Common Winter Damselfly	<i>Sympecma fusca</i>			✓				
12	Emperor Dragonfly	<i>Anax imperator</i>		✓			✓	✓	
13	Lesser Emperor	<i>Anax parthenope</i>		✓				✓	
14	Violet Dropwing	<i>Trithemis annulata</i>					✓		
15	Scarce Blue-tailed Damselfly	<i>Ischnura pumilio</i>					✓		

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