

# France - Provence in Spring

Naturetrek Tour Report

28 April - 5 May 2009

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Yellow Rock Jasmine *Androsace vitaliana*



The Rocher de Cire Nesque Gorge

Report and images compiled by Philip Thompson



Naturetrek Cheriton Mill Cheriton Alresford Hampshire SO24 0NG England

T: +44 (0)1962 733051

F: +44 (0)1962 736426

E: [info@naturetrek.co.uk](mailto:info@naturetrek.co.uk)

W: [www.naturetrek.co.uk](http://www.naturetrek.co.uk)

Tour Leaders:	Philip Thompson David Morris
Participants:	Ron Brown Molly Brown Anne Buckney Ron Sears Gill Sears Gillian Hammill Al March Chrissie March Rodney France Margaret France Jane Fletcher Ursula Milner-White Rhoddy Wood Derek Goodban

## Day 1

Tuesday 28th April

The flight arrived in good time to be met by Philip at the airport where the group was quickly transferred to the minibuses for our departure to our hotel for the week in Sault. Due to the late afternoon arrival time the transfer was undertaken with no stopping in order to arrive at a reasonable time at the hotel for room allocation and a much needed dinner. A few birds were seen en route, most notably the large numbers of Yellow-legged Gulls and Black Kites swirling around the rubbish dump on the outskirts of Marseille and a couple of Cuckoos in the wooded plateau areas.

## Day 2

Wednesday 29th April

We awoke to find Sault market day being prepared so a leisurely start to the day was in order to allow the group to have a quick look around the stalls of wonderful and appetising local produce before we set off for the first morning's walk along the Gorge du Nesque. Following the stream into the narrowing gorge many plants were found that thrive on the rocky limestone soil, most of them actually occurring in the UK, but extremely rare there, being on the edge of their natural range. These included Bristol Rock Cress-*Arabis stricta*, Hutchinsia-*Hornungia petraea*, Little Robin-*Geranium purpureum*, Stinking Hellebore-*Helleborus foetidus*, Cotswold Penny Cress-*Thlaspi perfoliatum*, and the White & Hoary Rockroses-*Helianthemum appeninum* & *H. canum*. The woodland here was predominantly White Oak-*Quercus pubescens*, and Box-*Buxus sempervirens* with other shrubs such as the pretty Snowy Mespilus-*Amelanchier ovalis*, while Cowslip-*Primula veris*, and the pretty blue Hepatica-*Hepatica nobilis* were amongst the ground flora. Birds were not abundant here but we were fortunate to get a very obliging Bonelli's Warbler singing prominently for the whole group to grasp the finer plumage details for comparison with our more familiar Willow Warbler. There were several Crag Martins and Ravens among the rocky outcrops to add to the overall scene.

The areas of damp grassland alongside the stream and warm rocky track sides were an attraction for numerous butterflies, with Scarce Swallowtail, Orange & Moroccan Orange Tip, Rosy Grizzled & Dingy Skippers, Green Hairstreak, Glanville & Queen of Spain Fritillaries, and Baton Blue all identified.

After a picnic lunch next to the lake we drove up to the top of the gorge, where at a viewpoint, we could admire the huge Rocher du Cire towering away above our heads. It was here that we encountered a single Alpine Swift, a couple of Alpine Chough and a pair of Peregrine Falcons breeding on the rock face. Moving on down the twisting scenic road the occupants of the second bus were witness to the wholly unexpected and very rare sighting of a pair of Golden Eagles mating close to the road before flying up to their nest site on the nearby cliffs! A scene the unlucky first bus occupants were constantly reminded of during the rest of the trip!

Continuing on down the gorge we parked at the start of the Coomb de Hermitage where more colourful plants were enjoyed including Rock Soapwort-*Saponaria ocymoides*, Buckler Mustard-*Biscutella laevigata*, Birthwort-*Aristolochia pistolochia*, Montpellier Milk Vetch-*Astragalus monspessulanus*, Star of Bethlehem-*Ornithogalum umbellatum*, Large Mediterranean Spurge-*Euphorbia characias*, and the small *Aphyllanthes monspeliensis*. Butterflies were also numerous here with many Cleopatra's being most notably added.

Returning to the hotel by another route we then had time to stop and admire the delicate little Dwarf Daffodil-*Narcissus requienii*, in a roadside scrubby meadow, a fitting end to a very good first day in the field. As a final bonus for the day a few intrepid members of the group went out after dinner with David to catch a brief glimpse of the resident Scops Owl which could be heard calling nightly from close to the hotel.

## Day 3

Thursday 30th April

Today we drove north from Sault around the back of Mont Ventoux via the scenic Brantes valley for the drive to the spectacular needle shaped rocks of the Dentelles de Montmirail, so named because the weather over the eons has eroded the limestone rock into dramatic molar-like shapes and points. Nearing our destination the last two kilometres necessitated traversing a very bumpy but safe track, before parking at the Col de Cayron. The roadside verges were full of flowers among which the Blue Lettuce *Lactuca perennis* and Beautiful Flax *Linum narbonense* were most obvious.

The climb to the top was short but steep so a couple of the group opted to remain below and explore the surrounding area. On the way up the rest of the group noted some interesting plants including Fly Honeysuckle-*Lonicera xylosteum*, Rock Candytuft-*Iberis saxatile*, Alpine Currant-*Ribes alpinum*, Montpellier Maple-*Acer monspessulanum*, and Nottingham Catchfly-*Silene nutans*. Reaching the top of the ridge we were greeted to magnificent views in all directions. Birds present included the stunning Alpine Swifts performing effortlessly in the strong wind whipping around the exposed crags. A few of the group also had a single roaming Griffon Vulture. Back at the buses we took our lunch on a large boulder.

Our next port of call was the summit of Mont Ventoux where we had a short stop to take in the view in the clear crisp air. We then moved on to explore the rocky Juniper covered slopes lower down near the ski resort chalets. Our target here was Citril Finch primarily, which proved to be elusive for the group even though a couple were seen briefly.

Other birds seen included the highlight of a pair of Rock Thrush, Crossbill and displaying Northern Wheatears. The rather scant plant life at this early stage of the season did include plenty of *Androsace vitaliana* and Yellow Whitlow-grass *Draba azoides* with the skeletons of *Eryngium spina-alba* to hint at plants still yet to show.

## Day 4

Friday 1st May

It was off to the Camargue today to sample just a little bit of a totally different habitat, and of course to see the white horses, black bulls and pink flamingos. After a near two hour drive via Gordes and Arles we arrived at the edge of the national park noticing that most of the fields here had been flooded for the increasingly important rice crop, among which were a large flock of foraging Mediterranean Gulls and a pair of Gull-billed Terns.

Our first stop was to view an area of ploughed fields and dry sandy ground. We were very fortunate here with large numbers of Collared Pratincoles on the ground and swooping around with some very close views. We then moved the short distance further on to the marshes either side of the road at Mas d'Agon, immediately seeing typical wetland birds such as Cattle, Great White & Little Egrets, Purple & Grey Herons, with Cetti's, Great Reed & Fan-tailed Warblers in the reed beds. On the wing over the marshes were good numbers of Whiskered and Black Terns with the addition of several pairs of Gull-billed Terns, also abundant Mediterranean Gulls were constantly present. For the botanists the attractive and interesting Round-leaved Birthwort-*Aristolochia rotunda* was also abundant here with its yellow relative Common Birthwort-*A. clematitis* nearby.

We then drove the short distance to la Capelière, a national nature reserve with a trail, hides and an exhibition of the flora and fauna of the Camargue, where we had our lunch in the shade of the picnic area before splitting the group in two and walking round the trail. There was not a great deal to be seen from the hides although good views of Coypu were had. One half of the group had a brief flyover Roller which unfortunately did not linger. There were also some interesting plants present here including Glasswort-*Salicornia europaea*, Shrubby Seablite-*Sueda vera*, Sea Purslane-*Atriplex portulacoides*, Yellow Vetch-*Vicia lutea*, Sea Clover-*Trifolium squamosum*, Reversed Clover-*Trifolium resupinatum*, Italian Arum-*Arum italicum*, and Bur Chervil-*Anthriscus caucalis*. A very obliging Common Tree Frog provided extra interest. On leaving the reserve we stopped to get some photos of a nearby group of Greater Flamingos before stopping once more at Mas D'Agon where we found a real highlight in the shape of a pair of Glossy Ibis feeding at the back of the marsh. We also found our only Squacco Heron of the visit which had been proving to be unusually elusive.

## Day 5

Saturday 2nd May

The next morning we headed north and once again skirted the northern flank of Mont Ventoux, before entering the valley of the Eygues River near Nyons. Here we turned upstream and gradually climbed into an increasingly steep and rocky gorge. A stop here to refuel was enlivened by the sighting of 2 Black Vultures and a couple of Griffons drifting along the mountain ridge above us, necessitating the mass disembarkation of the whole group to the bewilderment of the petrol station owner!

On arriving at the small hamlet of Saint May we turned off the main road and started climbing the side of the gorge by means of a steep, narrow road, eventually emerging high on the plateau. We were to visit a view point where Griffon Vultures (re-introduced here in 1996) could be observed at close quarters from the Rocher du Caire, overlooking the small village of Rémuzat.

The walk produced several Subalpine Warblers in the hillside scrub, a Hoopoe (pointed out for us by a leader of a group of French birders) and numerous butterflies. Once at the cliff top viewpoint we were able to watch the Griffon Vultures fly by above and below us. Flowers included some as yet unopened Lesser Butterfly Orchids-*Platanthera bifolia* and likewise Swallow-wort-*Vincetoxicum hirundinarium*, Wild Stock-*Matthiola fruticosa*, Nice Milkwort-*Polygala nicaeensis*, and the little Annual Candytuft-*Iberis pinnata*.

We then returned to the buses before driving back down into the Eygues Gorge for lunch and then up into the Gorge du Trente Pas to scan for raptors. Unfortunately the dull rainy weather did not help with much beyond a Peregrine and Short-toed Eagle and the hoped for vultures being a no-show. We took a short stop within the gorge on our return to admire the very narrow passage and attractive scenery. During our return to Sault on nearing Aurel we took a short detour to admire a meadow which was literally covered with hundreds of Green-winged Orchids-*Orchis morio*, in different shades of purple, with also some pink and white specimens amongst them, a good end to a fine day.

## Day 6

## Sunday 3rd May

Today we drove the short distance across the plateau south to an area called le Colorado, a range of hills composed of acid sands and clays which in the past were mined to extract the ochre for the dying of paints and other materials. This has left a fabulous landscape of chimneys, stacks, and eroded areas of varying colours, and whilst very attractive in itself, also has a completely different flora from the predominantly surrounding limestone. Again a couple of the group opted to remain at the bottom of the climb either as it was viewed as a little too strenuous for their capabilities or to have time to concentrate on the abundant butterflies in the warm damp meadows which included several Fritillary species.

As we set off on a circular route we immediately noticed trees such as Silver Birch, Maritime & Scots Pine, Sweet Chestnut, and Grey Alder, that had not been seen previously. Some handsome Sword-leaved Helleborines-*Cephalanthera longifolia* were growing here, while other interesting low growing plants of these acid soils were Twayblade-*Listera ovata*, St Bernard's Lily-*Anthericum liliago*, Hairy Greenweed-*Genista pilosa*, Spanish Gorse-*Genista hispanica*, *Cistus laurifolius* in bud, Meadow Saxifrage-*Saxifraga granulata*, Southern Shepherd's Cress-*Teesdalia coronopifolia*, Spring Vetch-*Vicia lathyroides*, Besom Heath-*Erica scoparia* and the attractive blue Shrubby Gromwell-*Lithodora fruticosa*. One particularly interesting plant was the parasitic *Cytinus hypocistis* growing abundantly at the base of the white-flowered Sage-leaved Cistus-*Cistus salvifolius* from which it derived its nourishment.

Birds were represented most notably by a prominently singing Common Redstart near the car park, a couple of Golden Oriole, of which views were obtained of one as it flew from one area of woodland to another and the numerous Bee-eaters in the quarry-like areas.

After a picnic at the car park tables we then moved on for the afternoon to the Luberon hills. Here we parked up below the Fort de Buoux for a gentle walk up to the fort entrance where a few opted to relax in the shade on the garden benches while the remainder undertook the climb up into the historic fort itself. Alongside the track up to the fort entrance several new plants had been seen including Broad-leaved Spindle-*Euonymus latifolia*, Spurge Laurel-*Daphne laureola* and the Southern Nettle Tree-*Celtis australis* complete with Nettle Tree Butterfly. From within the fort the views were outstanding coupled with a wonderful array of wildflowers growing effectively on a limestone pavement. Most noticed was the ancestor of the garden pea *Pisum sativum* with its large two coloured flower and several large robust examples of the Giant Orchid-*Himmantoglossum robertianum*.

## Day 7

Monday 4th May

Today we headed for the hills of les Alpilles. Here the famous village of les Baux-de-Provence, perches precariously on a high cliff, topped with a magnificent castle giving wide-ranging views towards to the Camargue and the coast to the south. We arrived there mid morning, whereupon the group had the choice of either spending until lunchtime sight-seeing around the village, or going on a walk around the outside of the town below the sheer cliffs which in winter are a well known Wallcreeper site. Today the only birds of note were many Alpine Swift, Sardinian Warblers and a few Crag Martins. There were also a few interesting plants with Shrubby Hare's Ear-*Bupleurum fruticosum*, Kermes Oak-*Quercus coccifera*, *Viburnum tinus*, Sweet Alyssum-*Lobularia maritima*, and Tassel Hyacinth-*Muscari comosum* all present. The pick of the bunch was once again another parasite. This time it was the other species of *Cytinus*, *Cytinus alba*, which parasitizes pink-flowered *Cistus* which here was on *Cistus albidus*.

Regrouping at the mini buses we then drove the short distance up to the parking area for the walk up to la Caume, where we were to spend the afternoon after eating our lunch in the shade of the Aleppo Pines. Unfortunately the strong winds put paid to any hopes of abundant butterflies but several new plants were seen to compensate, most notably Felty Germander-*Teucrium polium* and Smoke Bush-*Cotinus coggyria*.

## Day 8

Tuesday 5th May

A leisurely final day was undertaken in the run-up to catching our afternoon flight home. We firstly travelled the short distance to Aurel where we took a short walk below the village to look at the orchids in the meadows - the main highlight here being the localised endemic *Ophrys aegirtica* which were just beginning to come into flower. The meadow also contained numerous Green-winged Orchids *Orchis morio* in several colour forms and single specimens of *Ophrys araneola* and *Ophrys scolopax*. Further along the path we came to a wet meadow containing several Broad-leaved Marsh Orchid *Dactylorhiza majalis*. On the return to the vehicles we had a splendid Short-toed Eagle soar overhead.

Returning to Sault to collect the luggage and the rest of the group we headed south taking a quick stop at a roadside verge to check out the good assemblage of orchids there, which included abundant Lady Orchid and several Burnt-tip and Monkey Orchids. We also found the only Early Purple Orchid of the trip. Whilst here we had an even closer Short-toed Eagle overhead!

Heading on we took a pleasant roadside picnic alongside the gorge. We had then intended on having a final coffee in the attractive village of Gordes which is set up high on the hillside. Unfortunately it turned out to be market day there and parking proved impossible so we instead had our café stop in Roubion. All that was left was the final motorway run to the airport and the group's homeward flight.

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## Species Lists

### Plants

Scientific name	Common name
<b>FERNS</b>	
<i>Ophioglossum vulgatum</i>	Adder's-tongue
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Bracken
<i>Athyrium filix-femina</i>	Lady Fern
<i>D. filix-mas</i>	Male Fern
<i>Polypodium vulgare</i>	Common Polypody
<i>Phyllitis scolopendrium</i>	Hart's-tongue Fern
<i>Ceterach officinarum</i>	Rustyback
<b>CONIFERS</b>	
<i>P. pinaster</i>	Maritime Pine
<i>P. halepensis</i>	Aleppo Pine
<i>P. pinea</i>	Stone Pine
<i>Cedrus libani</i>	Cedar of Lebanon
<i>Picea abies</i>	Norway Spruce
<i>Juniperus communis</i>	Common Juniper
<i>J. oxycedrus</i>	Prickly Juniper
<i>J. phoenicea</i>	Phoenician Juniper
<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>	Italian Cypress
<i>Taxus baccata</i>	Yew
<b>JUGLANDACEAE</b>	
<i>Juglans regia</i>	Walnut
<b>BETULACEAE</b>	
<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	Alder
<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver Birch
<b>CORYLACEAE</b>	
<i>Coryllus avellana</i>	Hazel
<b>FAGACEAE</b>	
<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	Beech
<i>Castanea sativa</i>	Sweet Chestnut
<i>Quercus petraea</i>	Sessile Oak
<i>Q. robur</i>	Common Oak
<i>Q. pubescens</i>	Downy Oak
<i>Q. coccifera</i>	Kermes Oak
<i>Q. ilex</i>	Holm Oak
<b>RAFFLESIIACEAE</b>	
<i>Cytinus hypocistis</i>	
<i>Cytinus ruber</i>	
<b>ULMACEAE</b>	
<i>Ulmus glabra</i>	Wych Elm
<i>U. minor</i>	Small-leaved Elm

Scientific name	Common name
<i>Celtis australis</i>	Southern Nettle Tree
<b>URTICACEAE</b>	
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Stinging Nettle
<i>U. urens</i>	Annual Nettle
<i>U. pilulifera</i>	Roman Nettle
<i>Parietaria officinalis</i>	Pellitory-of-the-wall
<b>SANTALACEAE</b>	
<i>Osyris alba</i>	Osyris
<b>LORANTHACEAE</b>	
<i>Viscum album</i>	Mistletoe
<b>ARISTOLOCHIACEAE</b>	
<i>Aristolochia rotunda</i>	Round-leaved Birthwort
<i>A. pistolochia</i>	
<b>POLYGONACEAE</b>	
<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	Sorrel
<i>R. acetosella</i>	Sheep's Sorrel
<i>R. obtusifolius</i>	Broad-leaved Dock
<i>R. crispus</i>	Curled Dock
<i>R. scutatus</i>	French Sorrel
<i>Persicaria macalata</i>	Redshank
<i>Polygonum aviculare</i>	Knotgrass
<b>CHENOPODIACEAE</b>	
<i>Chenopodium album</i>	Fat Hen
<i>C. bonus-henricus</i>	Good King Henry
<i>Beta vulgaris ssp maritima</i>	Sea Beet
<i>Salicornia europaea</i>	Glasswort
<i>Atriplex prostrata</i>	Spear-leaved Orache
<i>A. patula</i>	Common Orache
<b>CARYOPHYLLACEAE</b>	
<i>Paronychia capitata</i>	
<i>Cerastium arvense</i>	Field Mouse-ear
<i>C. fontanum</i>	Common Mouse-ear
<i>C. glomeratum</i>	Sticky Mouse-ear
<i>Stellaria media</i>	Common Chickweed
<i>Sagina apetala</i>	Annual Pearlwort
<i>Moehringia trinerva</i>	Three-veined Sandwort
<i>M. muscova</i>	
<i>Arenaria serpyllifolia</i>	Thyme-leaved Sandwort
<i>Scleranthus annuus</i>	Annual Knawel
<i>Silene nutans</i>	Nottingham Catchfly
<i>Silene otites</i>	Spanish Catchfly
<i>S. latifolia</i>	White Champion
<i>S. vulgaris</i>	Bladder Champion
<i>Saponaria ocymoides</i>	Rock Soapwort



Scientific name	Common name
<b>RANUNCULACEAE</b>	
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Creeping Buttercup
<i>R. ficaria</i>	Lesser Celandine
<i>R. acris</i>	Meadow Buttercup
<i>R. bulbosus</i>	Bulbous Buttercup
<i>Hepatica nobilis</i>	Liverwort
<i>Helleborus foetidus</i>	Stinking Hellebore
<i>Caltha palustris</i>	Marsh Marigold
<i>Clematis vitalba</i>	Old Man's Beard
<i>Thalictrum minus</i>	Lesser Meadow Rue
<b>PAPAVERACEAE</b>	
<i>Chelidonium majus</i>	Greater Celandine
<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>	Common Poppy
<i>P. hybridum</i>	Rough Poppy
<b>BRASSICACEAE</b>	
<i>Cardamine hirsuta</i>	Hairy Bitter-cress
<i>C. heptaphylla</i>	
<i>Biscutella brevicaulis</i>	Buckler Mustard
<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>	Garlic Mustard
<i>Barbarea vulgaris</i>	Common Winter-cress
<i>Arabidopsis thaliana</i>	Thale Cress
<i>Erophila verna</i>	Common Whitlow-grass
<i>Draba aizoides</i>	Yellow Whitlow-grass
<i>Sisymbrium officinale</i>	Hedge Mustard
<i>S. orientale</i>	Eastern Rocket
<i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i>	Shepherd's Purse
<i>Arabis hirsuta</i>	Hairy Rock-cress
<i>A. turrita</i>	Tower Rock-cress
<i>A. stricta</i>	Bristol Rock-cress
<i>Thlaspi perfoliatum</i>	Cotswold Penny-cress
<i>Thlaspi praecox</i>	
<i>Cardaria draba</i>	Hoary Cress
<i>Iberis saxatilis</i>	Rock Candytuft
<i>Aethionema saxatile</i>	Burnt Candytuft
<i>Sinapis arvensis</i>	Charlock
<i>Isatis tinctoria</i>	Woad
<i>Hornungia petraea</i>	Hutchinsia
<i>Alyssum alyssoides</i>	Small Alyssum
<i>Erysimum burnati</i>	a Treacle Mustard
<b>RESEDACEAE</b>	
<i>Reseda luteola</i>	Weld
<i>R. lutea</i>	Wild Mignonette
<i>R. phyteuma</i>	Corn Mignonette
<b>CRASSULACEAE</b>	
<i>S. sediforme</i>	
<i>S. dasyphyllum</i>	Thick-leaved Stonecrop

Scientific name	Common name
<b>SAXIFRAGACEAE</b>	
<i>Saxifraga granulata</i>	Meadow Saxifrage
<i>S. tridactylites</i>	Rue-leaved Saxifrage
<b>GROSSULARIACEAE</b>	
<i>R. alpinum</i>	Mountain Currant
<b>ROSACEAE</b>	
<i>Fillipendula ulmaria</i>	Meadowsweet
<i>Rubus idaeus</i>	Wild Raspberry
<i>R. fruticosus ssp</i>	Bramble
<i>Agrimonia eupatoria</i>	Agrimony
<i>Sanguisorba minor</i>	Salad Burnet
<i>S. officinalis</i>	Greater Burnet
<i>Geum urbanum</i>	Herb Bennet
<i>Potentilla tabernaemontani</i>	Spring Cinquefoil
<i>P. cinerea</i>	Grey Cinquefoil
<i>Fragaria vesca</i>	Wild Strawberry
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Mountain ash
<i>S. aria</i>	Whitebeam
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn
<i>P. avium</i>	Wild Cherry
<i>P. mahaleb</i>	St Lucie's Cherry
<i>P. dulcis</i>	Almond
<i>Amelanchier ovalis</i>	Snowy Mespilus
<i>Cotoneaster integerrimus</i>	Wild Cotoneaster
<i>Pyrus amygdaliformis</i>	Almond-leaved Pear
<b>FABACEAE</b>	
<i>Circis siliquastrum</i>	Judas Tree
<i>Spartium junceum</i>	Spanish Broom
<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	Broom
<i>C. sessilifolius</i>	
<i>Genista pilosa</i>	Hairy Greenweed
<i>G. hispanica</i>	Spanish Gorse
<i>G. scorpius</i>	
<i>Robinia pseudacacia</i>	False Acacia
<i>Astragalus monspessulanus</i>	Montpellier Vetch
<i>Vicia hirsuta</i>	Hairy Tare
<i>V. sepium</i>	Bush Vetch
<i>V. sativa ssp nigra</i>	Narrow-leaved Vetch
<i>V. cracca</i>	Tufted Vetch
<i>V. lathyroides</i>	Spring Vetch
<i>V. pannonica</i>	
<i>Lathyrus pratensis</i>	Meadow Vetchling
<i>L. latifolius</i>	Broad-leaved Everlasting Pea
<i>Pisum sativum</i>	Wild Pea
<i>Medicago lupulina</i>	Black Medick
<i>M. sativa</i>	Lucerne
<i>M. arabica</i>	Spotted Medick

Scientific name	Common name
<i>M. minima</i>	Bur Medick
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White Clover
<i>T. campestre</i>	Hop Trefoil
<i>T. dubium</i>	Lesser Trefoil
<i>T. arvense</i>	Hare's-foot Clover
<i>T. pratense</i>	Red Clover
<i>Tetragonolobus maritimus</i>	Dragon's Teeth
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Bird's-foot Trefoil
<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i>	Kidney Vetch
<i>Coronilla emerus</i>	False Senna
<i>C. scorpiodes</i>	Annual Scorpion Vetch
<i>C. valentina</i>	
<b>GERANIACEAE</b>	
<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	Herb Robert
<i>G. purpureum</i>	Little Robin
<i>G. lucidum</i>	Shining Crane's-bill
<i>G. molle</i>	Dove's-foot Crane's-bill
<i>G. dissectum</i>	Cut-leaved Crane's-bill
<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	Common Stork's-bill
<i>E. malachoides</i>	Mallow-leaved Stork's-bill
<i>E. ciconium</i>	
<b>LINACEAE</b>	
<i>L. narbonense</i>	Blue Flax
<b>EUPHORBIACEAE</b>	
<i>Mercurialis perennis</i>	Dog's Mercury
<i>M. annua</i>	Annual Mercury
<i>Euphorbia cyparissias</i>	Cypress Spurge
<i>E. characias</i>	Large Mediterranean Spurge
<i>E. serratula</i>	
<b>RUTACEAE</b>	
<i>Ruta angustifolia</i>	Narrow-leaved Rue
<b>POLYGALACEAE</b>	
<i>Polygala vulgaris</i>	Common Milkwort
<i>P. nicaeensis</i>	Nice Milkwort
<b>PLATANACEAE</b>	
<i>Platanus x hybridus</i>	Plane Tree
<b>ACERACEAE</b>	
<i>Acer campestre</i>	Field Maple
<i>A. monspessulanum</i>	Montpellier Maple
<b>ANACARDIACEAE</b>	
<i>Cotinus coggyria</i>	Smoke Tree
<i>Pistacia lentiscus</i>	Mastic Tree

Scientific name	Common name
<b>BUXACEAE</b>	
<i>Buxus sempervirens</i>	Box
<b>AQUIFOLIACEAE</b>	
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly
<b>CELASTRACEAE</b>	
<i>Euonymus europaeus</i>	Spindle
<i>E. latifolius</i>	Broad-leaved Spindle
<b>RHAMNACEAE</b>	
<i>Rhamnus catharticus</i>	Buckthorn
<i>R. alaternus</i>	Mediterranean Buckthorn
<b>TILACEAE</b>	
<i>Tilia platyphyllos</i>	Large-leaved Lime
<i>T. x vulgaris</i>	Common Lime
<b>MALVACEAE</b>	
<i>Malva sylvestris</i>	Common Mallow
<b>HYPERICACEAE</b>	
<i>H. perforatum</i>	Perforate St John's-wort
<b>VIOLACEAE</b>	
<i>Viola tricolor</i>	Wild Pansy
<i>V. riviniana</i>	Common Dog Violet
<i>V. reichenbachiana</i>	Wood Dog Violet
<i>V. odorata</i>	Sweet Violet
<b>THYMELAEACEAE</b>	
<i>D. laureola</i>	Spurge Laurel
<b>CISTACEAE</b>	
<i>Helianthemum appeninum</i>	White Rockrose
<i>H. nummularium</i>	Common Rockrose
<i>H. canum</i>	Hoary Rockrose
<i>Cistus albidus</i>	Grey-leaved Cistus
<i>C. laurifolius</i>	Laurel-leaved Cistus
<i>C. salvifolius</i>	Sage-leaved Cistus
<b>CORNACEAE</b>	
<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>	Dogwood
<b>ARIALACEAE</b>	
<i>Hedera helix</i>	Ivy
<b>APIACEAE</b>	
<i>Erngium campestre</i>	Field Eryngo
<i>E. spina-alba</i>	Silver Eryngo
<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	Cow Parsley

Scientific name	Common name
<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	Fennel
<i>Bupleurum fruticosum</i>	Shrubby Hare's-ear
<i>Trinia glauca</i>	Honewort
<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	Hogweed
<i>Daucus carota</i>	Wild Carrot
<i>Scandix pecten-veneris</i>	Shepherd's Needle
<b>ERICACEAE</b>	
<i>Erica arborea</i>	Tree Heather
<i>E. scoparia</i>	Besom Heath
<i>Arbutus unedo</i>	Strawberry Tree
<b>PRIMULACEAE</b>	
<i>Primula veris</i>	Cowslip (leaves only)
<i>P. vulgaris</i>	Primrose
<i>Anagallis foemina</i>	Blue Pimpernel
<i>A. arvensis</i>	Scarlet Pimpernel
<i>A. vitaliana</i>	Yellow Rock Jasmine
<i>Coris monspeliensis</i>	Coris
<b>OLEACEAE</b>	
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash
<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>	Wild Privet
<i>Phillyrea angustifolia</i>	
<i>P. latifolia</i>	
<i>Olea europaea</i>	Olive
<i>Jasminum fruticans</i>	Wild Jasmine
<b>MENYANTHACEAE</b>	
<i>Vinca major</i>	Greater Periwinkle
<i>V. minor</i>	Lesser Periwinkle
<b>ASCLEPIADACEAE</b>	
<i>Vincetoxicum hirsutinaria</i>	Swallow-wort
<b>RUBIACEAE</b>	
<i>Rubia peregrina</i>	Wild Madder
<i>Cruciata laevipes</i>	Crosswort
<i>Sherardia arvensis</i>	Field Madder
<i>Galium verum</i>	Lady's Bedstraw
<i>G. odoratum</i>	Sweet Woodruff
<i>G. mollugo</i>	Hedge Bedstraw
<i>G. aparine</i>	Goose-grass, Cleavers
<b>CONVOLVULACEAE</b>	
<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	Field Bindweed
<i>C. cantabricus</i>	Pink Bindweed
<b>BORAGINACEAE</b>	
<i>Lithodora fruticosa</i>	Shrubby Gromwell
<i>Echium vulgare</i>	Viper's Bugloss

Scientific name	Common name
<i>Symphytum tuberosum</i>	Tuberous Comfrey
<i>A. azurea</i>	Large Blue Alkanet
<i>Borago officinalis</i>	Borage
<i>Myosotis arvensis</i>	Field Forget-me-not
<i>M. ramosissima</i>	Early Forget-me-not
<b>LAMIACEAE</b>	
<i>Ajuga reptans</i>	Bugle
<i>Teucrium polium</i>	Felty Germander
<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>	Rosemary
<i>Lamium maculatum</i>	Spotted Dead-nettle
<i>L. purpureum</i>	Red Dead-nettle
<i>L. garganicum</i>	Large Red Dead-nettle
<i>L. amplexicaule</i>	Henbit Dead-nettle
<i>Ballota nigra</i>	Black Horehound
<i>Stachys recta</i>	Yellow Woundwort
<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	Self-heal
<i>Salvia pratensis</i>	Meadow Clary
<i>S. verbenaca</i>	Wild Clary
<i>Acinos arvensis</i>	Basil Thyme
<i>Thymus praecox</i>	Wild Thyme
<i>T. serpyllum</i>	Breckland Thyme
<b>SOLANACEAE</b>	
<i>Solanum dulcamara</i>	Bittersweet
<i>S. nigrum</i>	Black Nightshade
<b>SCROPHULARACEAE</b>	
<i>Antirrhinum latifolium</i>	Snapdragon
<i>Veronica hederifolia</i>	Ivy-leaved Speedwell
<i>V. chamaedrys</i>	Germander Speedwell
<i>V. arvensis</i>	Wall Speedwell
<i>V. persica</i>	Common Field Speedwell
<i>V. serpyllifolia</i>	Thyme-leaved Speedwell
<i>V. urticifolia</i>	Nettle-leaved Speedwell
<i>Rhinanthus minor</i>	Common Yellow Rattle
<b>GLOBULARIACEAE</b>	
<i>Globularia punctata</i>	Globularia
<b>PLANTAGINACEAE</b>	
<i>Plantago major</i>	Great Plantain
<i>P. lanceolata</i>	Ribwort Plantain
<i>P. media</i>	Hoary Plantain
<b>CAPRIFOLIACEAE</b>	
<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	Elder
<i>V. tinus</i>	Laurustinus
<i>Lonicera xylosteum</i>	Fly Honeysuckle
<i>L. implexa</i>	

Scientific name	Common name
<b>VALERIANACEAE</b>	
<i>Centranthus ruber</i>	Red Valerian
<i>C. angustifolius</i>	Narrow-leaved Valerian
<i>C. calcitrapa</i>	
<b>DIPSACACEAE</b>	
<i>Scabiosa columbaria</i>	Small Scabious
<b>ASTERACEAE</b>	
<i>Bellis perennis</i>	Daisy
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Yarrow
<i>Matricaria matricaroides</i>	Pineapple-weed
<i>M. recutita</i>	Scented Mayweed
<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	Ox-eye Daisy
<i>Artemisia vulgaris</i>	Mugwort
<i>Senecio vulgaris</i>	Groundsel
<i>Silybum marianum</i>	Milk Thistle
<i>Onopordum acanthium</i>	Scotch Thistle
<i>Cichorium intybus</i>	Chicory
<i>Scolymus hispanicus</i>	Spanish Oyster Plant
<i>Hypochoeris maculata</i>	Spotted Cat's-ear
<i>H. radicata</i>	Cat's-ear
<i>Tragopogon pratensis</i>	Goat's-beard
<i>T. dubius</i>	
<i>T. porrifolius</i>	Salsify
<i>Sonchus asper</i>	Prickly Sow-Thistle
<i>S. oleraceus</i>	Smooth Sow-Thistle
<i>Picris echioides</i>	Bristly Ox-tongue
<i>P. hieracioides</i>	Hawkweed ox-tongue
<i>Myecelis muralis</i>	Wall Lettuce
<i>Lapsana communis</i>	Nipplewort
<i>Pilosella officinalis</i>	Mouse-ear Hawkweed
<i>Lactuca perennis</i>	Blue Lettuce
<b>LILACEAE</b>	
<i>Aphyllanthes monspeliensis</i>	
<i>Anthericum liliago</i>	St Bernard's Lily
<i>Cochicum autumnale (leaves)</i>	Meadow Saffron
<i>Muscari comosum</i>	Tassel Hyacinth
<i>M. neglectum</i>	Grape Hyacinth
<i>Ornithogalum umbellatum</i>	Common Star of Bethlehem
<i>Tulipa sylvestris</i>	Wild Tulip
<i>Asparagaus acutifolius</i>	Spiny Asparagus
<i>Smilax aspera</i>	Common Smilax
<i>Ruscus aculeatus</i>	Butcher's Broom
<b>AMARYLLIDACEAE</b>	
<i>Narcissus poeticus</i>	Pheasant's Eye Narcissus
<i>N. requienii</i>	

Scientific name	Common name
<b>DIOSCOREACEAE</b>	
<i>Tamus communis</i>	Black Bryony
<b>ARACEAE</b>	
<i>Arum maculatum</i>	
<i>Arum italicum</i>	Large Cuckoo Pint
<b>ORCHIDACEAE</b>	
<i>Cephalanthera damasonium</i>	White Helleborine
<i>Cephalanthera longifolia</i>	Sword-leaved Helleborine
<i>Limodorum abortivum</i>	Violet Limodore
<i>Listera ovata</i>	Twayblade
<i>Platanthera bifolia</i>	Lesser Butterfly Orchid
<i>Orchis mascula</i>	Early Purple Orchid
<i>O. purpurea</i>	Lady Orchid
<i>O. ustulata</i>	Burnt-tip Orchid
<i>O. simia</i>	Monkey Orchid
<i>O. morio</i>	Green-winged Orchid
<i>Anacamptis pyramidalis</i>	Pyramidal Orchid
<i>Dactylorhiza fuchsii</i>	Common Spotted Orchid
<i>Himantoglossum robertianum</i>	Giant Orchid
<i>Ophrys araneola</i>	Small Spider Orchid

## Birds (H = heard only)

	Common name	Scientific name	April/May							
			28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5
1	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>		4		H				
2	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>				20				
3	Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>				10				
4	Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>				6				
5	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcis ibis</i>				30+				
6	Great White Egret	<i>Egretta alba</i>				3				
7	Squacco heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>				2				
8	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>				6				
9	Bittern	<i>Botaurus stellaris</i>				H				
10	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>				10				
11	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>				6				
12	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>				2				
13	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>				2				
14	Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopteroformis ruber</i>				30				
15	Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>				✓				
16	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>		✓		✓				
17	Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>				2				
18	Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>				1				
19	Griffon Vulture	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>			1		10			
20	Black Vulture	<i>Aegypius monachus</i>					2			
21	Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>		2	1		1			
22	Short-toed Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>	1	1		2	2	1	1	
23	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	12	1	2	6	4	1	1	



	Common name	Scientific name	April/May							
			28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5
24	Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>				3				
25	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	1	2	1	2	2	1		
26	Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>			4			1		
27	Sparrow Hawk	<i>Accipter nisus</i>	1			1		1	1	
28	Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>		3		4	1		1	
29	Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>				2	1			
30	Peregrine	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>		2	1		1			
31	Red-legged Partridge	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>				2				
32	Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>				H				
33	Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>		1		✓				
34	Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>		2		✓				
35	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>				20+				
36	Collared Pratincole	<i>Glareola pratincola</i>				40				
37	Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>				6				
38	Black-headed Gull	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>				4				
39	Mediterranean Gull	<i>Larus melanocephalus</i>				30				
40	Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus cachinnans</i>				12				
41	Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>				6				
42	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirunda</i>				2				
43	Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>				12				
44	Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybridus</i>				8				
45	Feral Dove	<i>Columbia livia</i>		✓	✓	✓			✓	
46	Stock Dove	<i>Columba oenus</i>		2						
47	Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
48	Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
49	Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>						1		
50	Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	2							
51	Tawny Owl	<i>Strix aluco</i>			H					
52	Scop's Owl	<i>Otus scops</i>	H	1	H	H	H	H		
53	Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
54	Alpine Swift	<i>Apus melba</i>		1	30		1	1	8	
55	Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>	1	1			1	H		
56	Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>				20	1	60	1	
57	Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>				1				
58	Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>		H			H	H		
59	Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>				6	10			
60	Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>			H		3			
61	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>				100				
62	Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>	6	20	10		6	4	4	
63	Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
64	House Martin	<i>Dilichon urbica</i>		✓	15	✓	✓	✓	✓	
65	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
66	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>					1			
67	Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>		H	1			H		
68	Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>			4					
69	Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>		✓	H			H	H	
70	Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>		H	H	2	✓	H	H	
71	Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>						2	H	
72	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>		6	3	H	H		H	
73	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>			4		6			
74	Black-eared Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe hispanica</i>			1					

	Common name	Scientific name	April/May							
			28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5
75	Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>				1	1			
76	Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola saxatalis</i>			2					
77	Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>		H						
78	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>						H		
79	Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>		✓			✓	✓	✓	
80	Garden Warbler	<i>Sylvia borin</i>		1	H					
81	Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>		H	H	H	H	✓	✓	
82	Sardinian Warbler	<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>							✓	
83	Subalpine Warbler	<i>Sylvia cantillans</i>		H			3		H	
84	Dartford Warbler	<i>Sylvia undata</i>							H	
85	Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>				H				
86	Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>				H				
87	Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>				H				
88	Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>				2				
89	Wood Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>		H						
90	Bonelli's Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus bonelli</i>		10	H		H	H	H	
91	Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>		H		H	H	H	H	
92	Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>						H		
93	Firecrest	<i>Regulus gnicapillus</i>		H						
94	Pied Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>		1						
95	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		✓	H	✓	✓	✓	✓	
96	Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		✓	6	✓	✓	✓	✓	
97	Crested Tit	<i>Lophophanes cristatus</i>								2
98	Marsh Tit	<i>Poecile palustris</i>		1	H					
99	Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegythalos caudatus</i>		✓			✓	✓		
100	Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europea</i>						H		
101	Short-toed Treecreeper	<i>Certhia brachydactyla</i>		1				H		
102	Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	✓	✓	2	✓	✓	✓	✓	
103	Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
104	Jackdaw	<i>Corvus monedula</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
105	Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓			
106	Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>		20	1		12	4	2	
107	Alpine Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax graculus</i>		2						
108	Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
109	Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>				1		2		
110	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
111	Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>		H						
112	Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		✓	H	✓	✓	✓	✓	
113	Linnet	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>			15	✓	✓	✓	✓	
114	Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		✓	6	✓	✓		✓	
115	Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>		H					✓	
116	Citril Finch	<i>Serinus citronella</i>			2					
117	Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>		6	12		✓	✓	✓	
118	Ortolan Bunting	<i>Emberiza hortulana</i>					H			
119	Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>		1					H	
120	Corn Bunting	<i>Millaria calandra</i>				6		3		

## Butterflies

1. Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>
2. Scarce Swallowtail	<i>Iphiclides podalirius</i>
3. Wood White	<i>Leptidea sinapsis</i>
4. Black-veined White	<i>Aporia crataegi</i>
5. Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>
6. Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>
7. Southern Small White	<i>Pieris manii</i>
8. Green-veined White	<i>Pieris napi</i>
9. Orange Tip	<i>Anthocharis cardamines</i>
10. Moroccan Orange Tip	<i>Anthocharis euphonoides</i>
11. Western Dappled White	<i>Euchloe crameri</i>
12. Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias crocea</i>
13. Berger's Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias alfacariensis</i>
14. Brimstone	<i>Gonepteryx rhanni</i>
15. Cleopatra	<i>Gonepteryx cleopatra</i>
16. Provence Hairstreak	<i>Tomares ballus</i>
17. Green Hairstreak	<i>Callophrys rubi</i>
18. Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>
19. Sooty Copper	<i>Lycaena tityrus</i>
20. Provence Short-tailed Blue	<i>Everes alcetas</i>
21. Little Blue	<i>Cupido minimus</i>
22. Holly Blue	<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>
23. Green-underside Blue	<i>Glaucopsyche alexis</i>
24. Black-eyed Blue	<i>Glaucopsyche melanops</i>
25. Baton Blue	<i>Pseudophilotes baton</i>
26. Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>
27. Brown Argus	<i>Aricia agestis</i>
28. Nettle-tree Butterfly	<i>Libythea celtis</i>
29. Southern White Admiral	<i>Limenitis reducta</i>
30. Large Tortoiseshell	<i>Nymphalis polychloros</i>
31. Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>
32. Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>
33. Comma	<i>Polygonia c-album</i>
34. Southern Comma	<i>Polygonia egea</i>
35. Queen of Spain Fritillary	<i>Issoria lathonia</i>
36. Pearl-bordered Fritillary	<i>Clossiana euphrosyne</i>
37. Glanville Fritillary	<i>Melitaea cinxia</i>
38. Knapweed Fritillary	<i>Melitaea phoebe</i>
39. Spotted Fritillary	<i>Melitaea didyma</i>
40. Provençal Fritillary	<i>Mellicta dejone</i>
41. Meadow Fritillary	<i>Mellicta parthenoides</i>
42. Marsh Fritillary	<i>Eurodryas aurinia</i>
43. Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>
44. Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>
45. Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>
46. Dingy Skipper	<i>Erynnis tages</i>
47. Mallow Skipper	<i>Carcharodus alcaea</i>
48. Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus malvae</i>
49. Rosy Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus onopordi</i>

## Naturetrek Facebook

Many participants of Naturetrek tours like to remain in touch after the holiday, to share photos, comments and future travel plans. Until now we've provided no suitable platform for post-tour networking. Now, though, we're delighted to launch the Naturetrek Facebook page.

The Naturetrek Facebook page is now live: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Naturetrek-Wildlife-Holidays/9765181485>. Setting up a personal profile at [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) is quick, free and easy. Do please pay us a visit!