

Catalonia - The Eastern Pyrenees

Naturetrek Tour Report

10 – 17 May 2017



Alpine grasslands in Aran Valley



Narcissus pseudonarcisus



A male Fallow Deer in the National Park



Fritillary (*Fritillaria lusitanica*)

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Day 1

Wednesday 10th May

The tour started with a flight from the UK to Barcelona. We landed in the evening and were welcomed by Philippa (Pip) and Juame. We then headed out of the Barcelona metropolitan area. This went quite smoothly as, fortunately for us, rush hour had been earlier. During the transfer we had some showers of rain. A coffee and comfort stop half way to Espot kept us awake enough for the drive, and also to spot Wild Boar and Fox!

Day 2

Thursday 11th May

After a lazy 9.30am start to make up for our very late arrival last night, we headed into the high Pyrenees and the Bonaigua pass. The first stop in a ski lift car park gave us our first wildlife and flowers. A small group of Chamois were feeding on the very high grasslands of the mountain faces. It seemed like they didn't want to be disturbed. The first glimpses of Citril Finch and Water Pipit came together with a good number of alpine flowers, such as *Gentiana verna*, *Gentiana acualis*, sheets of *Erythronium dens-canis*, the pinky purple *Corydalis solida*, delicate white *Ranunculus pyrenaicus*, Hepaticas, dazzling pink *Daphne cneorum* and a charming little sedge about four centimetres tall subsequently identified as *Carex pyrenaica*.

We carried on, driving through the Bonaigua mountain pass where we stopped and enjoyed close views of Water Pipits frisking around on a large expanse of snow, and a very cooperative Ring Ouzel. The sight of large clumps of bright yellow *Vittelina* scattered across the slope was too much for some of the group and they were off, up the hill like Chamois, discovering *Narcissus pseudonarcissus*, *Gagea pyrenaica*, milkworts and violets.

As we continued over the top and down towards the Aran Valley, we passed through a couple of weirdly deserted ski villages, completely shuttered and closed up. However a little further on we found a real village and stopped at a bar for a substantial snack which, for some, was accompanied by wine and beer. This stop gave us our first views of Black Kite, Red Kite and Golden Eagle as the sun came out.

After lunch we set off uphill, driving along the Beret plains and heading for the Montgarri chapel. This is a very interesting plateau and a division of waters, as one river flows to the Atlantic Ocean and the other to the Mediterranean Sea. A very productive stop gave us views of a large group of Red Deer, a couple of Golden Eagles and migrating Bee-eaters. Plant lovers enjoyed sheets of gentians sparkling in the sunlight. There were little clumps of what we took to be a Pale Cowslip but which, on investigation, turned out to be the Pyrenean Oxlip. There were also tantalising Butterwort leaves but no flowers and the charming little *Primula farinosa*, scattered in groups across the grass.

The Montgarri lands offered us some birds such as Yellowhammer and Common Buzzard, and we also saw a very unexpected Weasel! Heading back down towards Espot, we stopped for a few minutes to see if we could see any Alpine Chough. We had no such luck, but were treated to a breathtaking flypast by a Lammergeier (Bearded Vulture) who cruised over us, golden in the evening sunlight and so close that we could see him looking at us curiously!

Day 3

Friday 12th May

This morning we planned to go into the Parc Nacional d'Aigüestortes. We drove up the little valley, following the Escrita River to the boundary car park at the entrance to the National Park. As we arrived, so did the taxis to pick us up. The transfer to Sant Maurici took a very short time, and as we arrived we enjoyed two male Fallow Deer feeding no further than 50 metres from us.

A brief explanation about the history of the National Park preceded a walk along a track. Soon we found some plant specialities such as Alpine Rose (*Rhododendron ferrugineum*) and Bearberry (*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*). We also saw Crested Tit, Chiffchaff and glimpses of Rock Bunting. We reached an enormous ruined building which belonged to the army during Franco times. From there we had lovely panoramic views of the Encantats Mountain. A male Siskin approached really close to sing from the top of a Silver Fir, and this was followed by a pair of Citril Finches which also showed very well.

We were lucky enough to have two fern experts in the group who quickly spotted Brittle Bladder Fern (*Cystopteris fragilis*), Holly Fern (*Polystichum lonchitis*), Common Polypody (*Polypodium vulgare*), Hard Shield Fern (*Polysatichum aculiatum*), Forked Spleenwort (*Asplenium septentrionale*) and finally a little further down the hill Wall Rue (*Asplenium ruta-muraria*).

The walk down with a comfort stop at the National Park toilets came with Green Hellebore (*Helleborus viridis*), Houseleek (*Sempervivum tectorum*) and Mezereon (*Daphne mezereum*). By midday we arrived at the Sant Maurici chapel, very well settled at the base of a cliff. This would be our picnic spot for the day, giving us some more views of Black Redstart and Crag Martins acrobatically flying close to us.

The highlight of the walk was Large-flowered Butterwort (*Pinguicula grandiflora*), which was spotted first singly, then in drifts as we progressed down the mountain to warmer levels. The intensity of colour of the flowers had to be seen to be believed, as our cameras did not seem capable of capturing it!

On the way down we found Eurasian Treecreeper, very striped on the back as Jaume explained, and we also saw a family of Crested Tits, Goldcrest and Firecrest. We continued on a very beautiful path inside the ancient Silver Fir woodland. Then the last part of the walk, through grassland and a wooded path, came with rain, but soon we were dry and safely at the vehicles, and to Espot for a coffee.

We had a short stop at the National Park office for maps before a visit to Estaís. This charming little village, not far from Espot, still keeps the essence of what it was like in the past. All the houses are built of local stone and the church is of the old Romanesque style. Birds around this spot included Stonechat, glimpses of Cirl Bunting and Crag Martins.

Day 4

Saturday 13th May

Today we drove down the valley to visit the Pre-Pyrenees. After a stop at the river to find Grey Wagtail, we eventually got off the main road and were soon exploring a very unspoilt part of the territory. We arrived at the vulture feeding station in Buseu and the sky was covered in raptors in a few minutes as Jordi, the manager, got close to the feeding point. We had the most inspiring views of more than 400 huge majestic Griffon Vultures

feeding just across the valley from where we stood. Approximately 25-30 Lammergeier (Bearded Vultures) and a few Black (Cinereous) Vultures tried their best to find a bit of food among so many Griffon Vultures. Three Egyptian Vultures also joined the feast and started fighting in the sky. They were a pair pushing out a stranger bird, we reckoned. The Lammergeiers, being majestic but shy birds, preferred to land when some of the Griffon Vultures had already gone from the feeding grounds, and through the telescope we could enjoy their amazing behaviour. Some were directly swallowing bones and others just grabbing them and going elsewhere, probably to break them on a cliff. The massive attendance of vultures today was due to the wind, which helps them travel long distances.

At midday we left the feeding station and headed to the bottom of the valley, to a picnic area by the river. Lunch was served in the shade, which helped avoid the strong sun. From this spot, dozens of Griffon Vultures could be seen flying along the cliffs, as well as a Short-toed Eagle, and a Cirl Bunting was heard.

After lunch we took the road up the valley for half an hour, getting into a neighbouring valley where we had a coffee on a camping site. From the camping we walked down a path that followed the river and saw Iberian Green Woodpecker on an elegant flight across the fields. We spotted large clumps of the extraordinary Purple Toothwort (*Lathyrus clandestina*) huddled round the bases of a grove of Aspens and scattered along the edge of a small stream. Next was a large boulder covered in a tiny matted Common Globularia (*Globularia repens*) with ferns and saxifrages to keep it company.

Further down the track, the entrance to a small meadow was studded with Star of Bethlehem (*Ornithogalum angustifolium*). Tempted into the meadow, we found clumps of Pheasant's-eye Daffodil (*Narcissus poeticus*), then Clove-scented Broomrape (*Orobancha caryophyllacea*) and finally, dotted through the grass, a number of delicate Burnt Orchids (*Orchis ustulata*). Just before heading to the hotel we spotted Roe Deer and Common Buzzard.

Day 5

Sunday 14th May

Today was a transfer day to the steppe but, as usual, many stops on the way made it an enjoyable day. We didn't want to leave the Pyrenees without having seen Black Woodpecker. We found a nest that had been craftily built on an old site, thus not leaving any fresh chippings on the ground. We were lucky enough to get several very good views of Black Woodpecker on a large group of Aspens.

The transfer to Avellanes started with a coffee, and then travelling through some of the most beautiful parts of the Pre-Pyrenees. Our first stop was in Vilamolot, a tiny village near Castell de Mur, where we spread out our picnic in the town square. Vistas from the village were incomparable, and we saw Bee-eater, Cirl Bunting, Corn Bunting and Serin.

After lunch we explored the unspoilt valley of Sant Esteve de la Sarga, with brief but productive spots where we enjoyed Subalpine Warbler and a Fox hunting voles in a field. The road scaled Montsec through pine forests ravaged by the Pine Processionary Moth (*Thaumetopoea pityocampa*). At our first stop we found a large colony of *Ornithogalum narbonense* plus groups of *Thalictrum tuberosum*. Nearing the top of the hill, we stopped to look for the beautiful Fritillaries (*Fritillaria lusitanica*) and found a huge group in full flower and showing lots of variation, from plain brown petals to ones with yellow or green stripes down the outside. Amongst them were a group of orange

Wild Tulips (*Tulipa australis*), Muscari (*Muscari neglectum*), tiny *Narcissus assoanus* and the wickedly spiked blue Hedgehog Broom (*Erinacea anthyllis*).

On the very top of the plateau we stopped and found *Valeriana salianca*, the tiny red Rue-leaved Saxifrage (*Saxifraga tridactylites*) and strangest of all on this dry limestone plateau, a clump of *Polygonatum odoratum*. After enjoying all this flower richness, some Red-billed Choughs, Griffon Vultures and a Dartford Warbler, we headed to our hotel in Avellanes.

Day 6

Monday 15th May

This morning we visited Mont-roig. This is a very beautiful cliff, based on limestone with a good dose of clay, which gives a characteristic red colour to its southern face. We parked our vehicles and walked up the track, finding Subalpine Warbler and a very cooperative Orphean Warbler. Continuing our walk, we started enjoying a few birds which are linked to the cliffs such as Common Rock Thrush, Blue Rock Thrush, Peregrine Falcon, Alpine Swift, Rock Sparrow, Red-billed-Chough, Griffon Vulture and Crag Martin. And something very interesting; a natural colony of House Martins nesting on the cliff!

Plant life was the richest we had found on the trip with all the contents of a good herb garden on display. The Fringed Rue (*Ruta chalapensis*) and Pitch Trefoil added to the pungent scents in the air. A Woody Convolvulus (*Convolvulus cantabrica*) was a pleasing find, as was *Phomis hibernica*. High on the cliff we spotted the dwarf snapdragon *Antirrhinum molle*, but the end of the walk was the best. Moving round the end of the cliff we were confronted with a view that reached all the way to the snow-capped peaks of the Pyrenees, and hidden among the thick grass we came across purple spikes of Violet Bird's-nest Orchid (*Limnorchis abortivum*).

On our walk back we could see something going on in front of the House Martin colony. Having a better look, we realised that a Southern Smooth Snake had got inside some of the nests in search of the chicks! Also, Roger found a couple of very interesting Bush Crickets which are still to be identified by a local expert.

We had our picnic by the chapel at the top of Montroig, which provided breathtaking views of both the Pyrenees and the Lleida plains. In the afternoon we headed down to the plains towards Estany d'Ivars i Vila-sana. After stopping for a coffee on the way, we arrived in the wetland at mid-afternoon. The lagoon belongs to a very interesting restoration project that started in 2004, which brought it back after being drained in the fifties. Just after parking our vehicles we found a Melodious Warbler singing from the top of a Poplar. A visit to the main observatory and water edges provided a good number of new aquatic birds for the trip. Purple Herons were coming in and out of the reedbeds where they breed. Also Little Bittern, Night Heron and Squacco Heron were soon spotted. A few Whiskered Terns were flying over the water and pecking invertebrates from the surface. Great Crested Grebes appeared to be one of the loudest birds of the lagoon, together with Great Reed Warblers singing from everywhere. Another careful look around gave us views of a Penduline Tit before we headed to the hotel.

Day 7

Tuesday 16th May

Today we had an optional early start to the Balaguer plains, which nearly everybody attended. Getting into the vehicles, it was still dark. After a 20-minute drive we were on very extensive agricultural land, based on a

combination of set-aside fields covered in Poppy (*Papaver rhoeas*) and Shepherds Needles (*Scandix pecten-venris*), and fields containing cereal, mostly barley. A diverse array of bird species were soon being seen. Calandra Larks were very evident in flight, displaying their song and covering most of the background sound. We visited a special nesting building promoted by the Catalan Environmental Department to favour steppe birds. We saw several pairs of Lesser Kestrel using it, together with Stock Dove and Jackdaw. A little further, on a set-aside field, we enjoyed a male Little Bustard displaying.

It was then time for a civilised coffee to cope with the early start and late breakfast we would have. As we kept going, Bee-eaters were flying around hunting insects and perching on the Almond trees, and a bit further on we saw a couple of Little Owls and a Red-legged Partridge. Suddenly a Great Spotted Cuckoo flew into a tree and was so shy it didn't want to show itself, even being very close. But eventually it flew across the fields giving a reasonable view of its shape and colours. The end of the morning gave us Stone-curlew and a cooperative Wryneck before heading back to the hotel for a well deserved breakfast.

Next, we continued down the road, stopping in Balaguer and watching several pairs of White Storks nesting inside the town. After a 15-minute drive we stopped at the picturesque village of Montsonís. From a viewpoint that faces the valley we scanned for birds and caught glimpses of Golden Orioles and saw nesting Griffon Vultures on the cliff.

After a bit of time to enjoy the medieval castle and its charming buildings, we moved down the gorge, finding a pair of Bonelli's Eagle. They were flying over us carrying nesting material, after apparently having failed this season in the attempt to breed. A short walk gave us several butterflies such as Scarce Swallowtail, Moroccan Orange Tip and Clouded Yellow. Golden Orioles gave the most exotic of sounds, together with Nightingales. Plants included Montpellier Maple (*Acer monspessulanum*), Elderberry (*Sambucus nigra*) and Portuguese Oak (*Quercus faginea*). Our walk ended by Salgar chapel where a quite insistent Rock Sparrow was calling from the cliff.

We enjoyed our picnic by a historical cottage before moving down the river to explore the Poplar woodland. We went along a track and caught a glimpse of Woodchat Shrike before heading to the hotel.

Before doing the checklist and having dinner, we met in the gardens for a walk and enjoyed the magnificent ancient Nettle Trees and spotted Short-toed Treecreeper.

Day 8

Wednesday 17th May

This morning we drove down to the southern part of Lleida plains; a much drier area. After a necessary stop for petrol we entered a nature reserve. The first stop gave us very good views of Black-eared Wheatear, Bee-eater, Thekla Lark and Short-toed Eagle.

Going deeper into the reserve, we stopped by a cottage from where we enjoyed Lesser Kestrel and quite a few Red-billed Choughs. A chick had fallen from its nest so we rescued it and put it back! A Hoopoe was flying in and out of a dry stone wall which looked like its nest site.

We then moved to another corner of the steppes, finding more Calandra Lark, Turtle Dove and Thekla Lark. The morning ended at a little chapel upon the hill from where we enjoyed a pair of Bonelli's Warblers. A civilised

lunch in the area preceded our transfer to the hotel. We stopped by the Montserrat Mountain to enjoy its beautiful shapes and landscape; one of the most picturesque places in the whole Catalonia!

It was then time to head to the airport for our flight back to the UK, where another Naturetrek adventure came to an end.

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House Martins collecting mud from a pool

Species Lists

Plants

Scientific name

Common name

PTERIDOPHYTES

FERNS & ALLIES

Aspleniaceae

Asplenium adiantum-nigrum

Asplenium ruta-muraria

Asplenium septentrionale

Asplenium trichomanes

Ceterach officinarum

Spleenwort Family

Black Spleenwort

Wall rue

Forked Spleenwort

Maidenhair Spleenwort

Rustyback

Dryopteridaceae

Polystichum lonchitis

Buckler-fern Family

Holly Fern

Polypodiaceae

Polypodium vulgare

Polypody Family

Common Polypody

PINOPSIDA

CONIFERS

Cupressaceae

Juniperus communis subsp. alpina

Juniperus communis subsp. communis

Juniperus oxycedrus

Juniper Family

Dwarf Juniper

Juniper

Prickly Juniper

Pinaceae

Abies alba

Pinus nigra subsp. nigra

Pinus sylvestris

Pinus uncinata

Pine Family

European Silver Fir

Austrian or Black Pine

Scot's Pine

Mountain Pine

MAGNOLIOPSIDA

FLOWERING PLANTS

Magnoliidae

Aceraceae

Acer campestre

Acer monspessulanum

Acer platanoides

Maple Family

Field Maple

Montpellier Maple

Norway Maple

Anacardiaceae

Pistacia lentiscus

Pistacia terebinthus

Sumach Family

Mastic Tree

Turpentine Tree

Apiaceae

Eryngium campestre

Ferula communis

Foeniculum vulgare

Meum athamanaticum

Orlaya grandiflorum

Carrot Family

Field Eryngo

Giant Fennel

Fennel

Spignel

Orlaya

Scientific name**Asteraceae**

Antennaria dioica
Artemisia absinthium
Artemisia campestris
Bellis perennis
Calendula arvensis
Cirsium vulgare
Lactuca perennis
Lactuca serriola
Rhaponticum coniferum (*Leuzea conifera*)
Santolina chamaecyparissus
Silybum marianum
Taraxacum agg.

Betulaceae

Alnus glutinosa
Betula pendula
Corylus avellana

Boraginaceae

Anchusa arvensis
Cynoglossum cheirifolium
Echium vulgare
Lithospermum arvense
Lithospermum fruticosum
Myosotis arvensis
Pulmonaria officinalis

Brassicaceae

Biscutella didymus
Capsella bursa-pastoris
Cardamine raphanifolia
Draba incana
Erysimum sp.
Hesperis matronalis
Iberis pruitii
Lepidium draba

Buxaceae

Buxus sempervirens

Caprifoliaceae

Lonicera periclymenum
Lonicera pyrenaica
Sambucus nigra
Sambucus racemosus

Caryophyllaceae

Silene alpestris
Silene otites
Silene vulgaris
Stellaria holostea

Common name**Daisy Family**

Mountain Everlasting
Wormwood
Field Wormwood
Daisy
Field Marigold
Spear Thistle
Blue or Mountain Lettuce
Prickly Lettuce
Leuzea or Cone Knapweed
Lavender Cotton
Milk Thistle
Dandelion

Birch Family

Alder
Silver Birch
Hazel

Forget-me-not Family

Bugloss
a Hound's-tongue
Viper's-bugloss
Corn Gromwell
Shrubby Gromwell
Field Forget-me-not
Common Lungwort

Cabbage Family

a Buckler-mustard
Shepherd's Purse
Radish-leaved Bitter-cress
Hoary Whitlow grass
a Treacle-mustard
Dame's Violet
a Candytuft

Box Family

Box

Honeysuckle Family

Honeysuckle
Pyrenean Honeysuckle
Elder
Red-berried Elder

Pink Family

Spanish Catchfly
Bladder Campion
Greater Stichwort

Scientific name	Common name
Cistaceae	Rock-rose Family
<i>H. nummularium subsp. pyrenaicum</i>	Pink Rock-rose
<i>Helianthemum oelandicum subsp. canum</i>	Hoary Rock-rose
<i>Helianthimum salicifolium</i>	-
Clusiaceae	St. John's-wort Family
<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	Perforate St. John's-wort
Convolvulaceae	Bindweed Family
<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	Field Bindweed
<i>Convolvulus cantabrica</i>	Pink Convolvulus
<i>Cuscuta europaea</i>	Greater Dodder
Cornaceae	Dogwood Family
<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>	Dogwood
Crassulaceae	Stonecrop Family
<i>Sedum dasyphyllum</i>	Fat-leaved Stonecrop
<i>Sedum ochroleucum</i>	Cream Stonecrop
<i>Sedum telephium</i>	Orpine
<i>Sempervivum arachnoideum</i>	Cobweb Houseleek
<i>Sempervivum tectorum</i>	Houseleek
<i>Umbilicus rupestris</i>	Wall Pennywort
Cucurbitaceae	Cucumber Family
<i>Bryonia dioica</i>	White Bryony
Dipsacaceae	Teasel Family
<i>Dipsacus fullonum</i>	Teasel
Ericaceae	Heath family
<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i>	Bearberry
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>	Heather
<i>Rhododendron ferrugineum</i>	Alpenrose
<i>Vaccinium myrtillus</i>	Bilberry
Euphorbiaceae	Spurge Family
<i>Euphorbia amygdaloides</i>	Wood Spurge
<i>Euphorvia chamaebuxus</i>	Pyrenean spruge
<i>Euphorbia characias subsp. characias</i>	Mediterranean Spurge
<i>Euphorbia cyparissias</i>	Cypress Spurge
<i>Euphorbia helioscopia</i>	Sun Spurge
<i>Euphorbia serrata</i>	-
Fabaceae	Pea Family
<i>Anthyllis montana</i>	Mountain Kidney-vetch
<i>Anthyllis vulneraria subsp. pyrenaica</i>	Pink' Kidney-vetch
<i>Bituminaria bituminosa</i>	Pitch Trefoil
<i>Cercis siliquastrum</i>	Judas Tree
<i>Colutea arborescens</i>	Bladder Senna
<i>Crononilla scorpiodes</i>	
<i>Cytisus pungens</i>	Pyrenean Broom
<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	Broom

Scientific name	Common name
<i>Dorycnium hirsutum</i>	-
<i>Dorycnium pentaphyllum</i>	-
<i>Erinacea anthyllis</i>	Hedgehog Broom
<i>Lathyrus longifolia</i>	
<i>Lathyrus setifolius</i>	-
<i>Onobrychis viciifolia</i>	Sainfoin
<i>Ononis fruticosa</i>	
<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	False Acacia
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White Clover
<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	Gorse
<i>Vicia cracca</i>	Tufted vetch
<i>Vicia sativa</i> agg.	Common Vetch
<i>Vicia sepium</i>	Bush Vetch
<i>Vicia villosa</i>	Fodder Vetch
Fagaceae	Oak & Beech Family
<i>Quercus coccifera</i>	Kermes Oak
<i>Quercus ilex</i>	Holm Oak
<i>Quercus robur</i>	Pendunculate Oak
<i>Quercus pyrenaica</i>	Pyrenean Oak
Fumariaceae	Fumitory Family
<i>Corydalis solida</i>	Bird-in -a-Bush
<i>Fumaria officinalis</i> agg.	Common Fumitory
Gentianaceae	Gentian Family
<i>Blackstonia perfoliata</i>	Yellow wort
<i>Gentiana acaulis</i>	Trumpet Gentian
<i>Gentiana verna</i>	Spring Gentian
Geraniaceae	Geranium Family
<i>Erodium botrys</i>	a Long-beaked Stork's-bill
<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	Common Stork's-bill
<i>Erodium malacoides</i>	Mallow-leaved Stork's-bill
<i>Geranium molle</i>	Dove's-foot Crane's-bill
<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	Herb Robert
Globulariaceae	Globularia Family
<i>Globularia cordifolia</i>	Matted Globularia
<i>Globularia punctata</i>	Common Globularia
<i>Globularia repens</i>	
Grossulariaceae	
<i>Ribes alpinum</i>	
<i>Ribes petraeum</i>	
Lamiaceae	Dead-nettle Family
<i>Ajuga pyramidalis</i>	Pyramidal Bugle
<i>Marrubium vulgare</i>	White Horehound
<i>Mentha aquatica</i>	Water Mint
<i>Origanum vulgare</i>	Wild Marjoram
<i>Phlomis lychnitis</i>	-
<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>	Rosemary

Scientific name

Salvia officinalis
Salvia pratensis
Satureja montana
Sideritis romana
*Thymus mastichina**
Thymus vulgaris

Common name

Sage
Meadow Clary
Winter savory
a Sideritis
-
Garden Thyme

Lentibulariaceae

Pinguicula grandiflora

Bladderwort Family

Large-flowered Butterwort

Linaceae

Linum perenne agg.
Linum suffruticosum subsp. *salsoloides*
Linum trigynum

Flax Family

Perennial Flax
Pyrenean Flax
-

Malvaceae

Malva neglecta
Malva sylvestris

Mallow Family

Dwarf Mallow
Common Mallow

Moraceae

Ficus carica

Fig Family

Fig

Oleaceae

Fraxinus excelsior
Jasminum fruticans
Ligustrum vulgare

Olive Family

Ash
Wild Jasmine
Wild Privet

Orobanchaceae

Lathraea clandestina
Orobanche caryophyllacea
Orobanche rapum-genistae

Broomrape Family

Toothwort
Clove-scented Broomrape
Greater Broomrape

Oxalidaceae

Oxalis acetosella

Wood-sorrel Family

Wood Sorrel

Papaveraceae

Papaver rhoeas

Poppy Family

Corn Poppy

Plantaginaceae

Plantago media

Plantain Family

Hoary or Lamb's-tail Plantain

Polygalaceae

Polygala alpina
Polygala comosa

Milkwort Family

Alpine Milkwort
Tufted Milkwort

Primulaceae

Anagallis arvensis subsp. *arvensis*
Anagallis arvensis subsp. *foemina*
Primula elatior
Primula farinosa
Primula veris
Vitaliana primuliflora

Primrose Family

Scarlet Pimpernel
Blue Pimpernel
Oxlip
Bird's-eye Primrose
Cowslip

Scientific name**Ranunculaceae**

Anemone nemorosa
Aquilegia vulgaris
Caltha palustris
Clematis vitalba
Hepatica nobilis
Helleborus foetidus
Helleborus viridis
Ranunculus amplexicaulis
Ranunculus pyrenaicus
Thalictrum tuberosum

Resedaceae

Reseda lutea
Reseda phyteuma

Rosaceae

Alchemilla glaucescens
Amelanchier ovalis
Crataegus monogyna
Fragaria vesca
Geum pyrenaicum
Geum rivale
Potentilla aurea
Potentilla cinerea
Potentilla erecta
Prunus spinosa
Rosa canina agg
Rubus idaeus
Rubus ulmifolius
Sanguisorba minor agg
Sorbus aria agg
Sorbus aucuparia

Rubiaceae

Galium verum

Rutaceae

Ruta chalapensis

Salicaceae

Populus alba
Populus nigra agg.
Populus tremula
Populus x canadensis

Saxifragaceae

Saxifraga granulata
Saxifraga tridactylites

Scrophulariaceae

Antirrhinum molle
Misopates orontium

Common name**Buttercup Family**

Wood Anemone
 Columbine
 Marsh Marigold
 Traveler's Joy
 Hepatica
 Stinking Hellebore
 Green Hellebore
 Amplexicaule Buttercup
 Pyrenean Buttercup
 Tuberous Meadow Rue

Mignonette Family

Wild Mignonette
 Corn Mignonette

Rose Family

Small Lady's-mantle
 Juneberry
 Hawthorn
 Wild Strawberry

 Golden Cinquefoil
 Grey Cinquefoil
 Tormentil
 Blackthorn
 Dog Rose
 Raspberry
 a Bramble
 Salad Burnet
 Whitebeam
 Rowan

Bedstraw Family

Lady's Bedstraw

Rue Family

Fringed Rue

Willow & Poplar Family

White Poplar
 Black Poplar
 Aspen
 Hybrid Black Poplar

Saxifrage Family

Meadow Saxifrage
 Rue-leaved Saxifrage

Figwort Family

a dawrf snapdragon
 Weasel Snout

Scientific name	Common name
<i>Pedicularis sylvatica</i> <i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>	Common Lousewort Germander Speedwell
Thymelaeaceae <i>Daphne cneorum</i> <i>Daphne mezereum</i>	Mezereon Family Garland Flower Mezereon
Ulmaceae <i>Celtis australis</i>	Elm Family Nettle Tree
Urticaceae <i>Urtica dioica</i>	Nettle Family Common Nettle
Valerianaceae <i>Valeriana salianca</i>	Valerian Family Entire-leaved Valerian
Violaceae <i>Viola canina</i> <i>Viola paulustris</i> <i>Viola riviniana</i> <i>Viola tricolor</i> agg.	Violet Family Heath Dog Violet Marsh violet Common Dog Violet Heartsease
Viscaceae <i>Viscum album</i> subsp. <i>album</i> <i>Viscum album</i> subsp. <i>austriacum</i>	Mistletoe Family Mistletoe Mistletoe
Liliidae	
Liliaceae <i>Aphyllanthes monspeliensis</i> <i>Asphodelus albus</i> <i>Dipcardi serotinum</i> <i>Erythronium dens-canis</i> <i>Fritillaria lusitanicus</i> <i>Gagea soleirolii</i> <i>Gladiolus italicus</i> <i>Muscari neglectum</i> <i>Narcissus assoanus</i> <i>Narcissus poeticus</i> <i>Narcissus pseudonarcissus</i> <i>Narcissus pseufonarcissus</i> var <i>Moschatus</i> <i>Ornithogalum angustifolium</i> <i>Ornithogalum narboenses</i> <i>Tulipa sylvestris</i> subsp. <i>australis</i>	Lily Family Blue Aphyllanthes White Asphodel Brown Bluebell Dog's-tooth Violet Portugese Fritillary Pyrenean Gagea Field Gladiolus Grape Hyacinth Rush-leaved Jonquil Pheasant's-eye Daffodil Common Star of Bethlehem Wild Tulip
Orchidaceae <i>Limodorum abortivum</i> <i>Ophrys sphegodes</i> <i>Orchis ustulata</i>	Orchid Family Violet Bird's-nest Orchid Early Spider Orchid Burnt Orchid

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

	Common name	Scientific name	May						
			11	12	13	14	15	16	17
1	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	✓				✓	✓	
2	Red-legged Partridge	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>						✓	
3	Common Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>						H	
4	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>					✓	H	
5	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>					✓		
6	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>					✓	✓	✓
7	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>					✓		
8	Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>					✓		
9	Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>					✓		
10	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>					✓		
11	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>					✓		
12	Little bittern	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>						✓	
13	Cinereous Vulture	<i>Aegypius monachus</i>			✓				
14	Bearded Vulture	<i>Gypaetus barbatus</i>	✓		✓				
15	Egyptian Vulture	<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>			✓	✓		✓	
16	European Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>		✓			✓		
17	Griffon Vulture	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
18	Short-toed Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>			✓				✓
19	Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	✓			✓			
20	Bonelli's Eagle	<i>Aquila fasciata</i>						✓	
21	Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>					✓	✓	✓
22	Red Kite	<i>Milvus milvus</i>	✓		✓	✓		✓	
23	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
24	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	✓		✓	✓			✓
25	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>					H	H	
26	Eurasian Stone-curlew	<i>Burhinus oedicephalus</i>						✓	
27	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>						✓	
28	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>				✓			
29	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>					✓		
30	Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>					✓	✓	
31	Whiskered tern	<i>Chlidonias hybridus</i>						✓	
32	Rock Dove (Feral)	<i>Columba livia (Feral)</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
33	Stock Dove	<i>Columba oenas</i>						✓	✓
34	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
35	European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>				✓		✓	✓
36	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
37	Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>			H	H	H	H	H
38	Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>						✓	✓
39	Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>				✓	✓	✓	
40	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
41	European Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>						✓	✓
42	European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>	H		✓		✓	✓	✓
43	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓
44	Eurasian Wryneck	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>						✓	
45	Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>	✓			✓		✓	
46	Black Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus martius</i>				✓			
47	Iberian Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus sharpei</i>			✓	✓	✓	H	
48	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>					✓		
49	Lesser Kestrel	<i>Falco naumanni</i>						✓	✓

	Common name	Scientific name	May						
			11	12	13	14	15	16	17
50	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
51	Southern Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius meridionalis</i>							✓
52	Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>					✓	✓	✓
53	Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>			H	✓	✓	✓	✓
54	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
55	Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
56	Red-billed Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
57	Alpine Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax graculus</i>	✓						
58	Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓
59	Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			
60	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
61	Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>	✓	✓		✓			
62	European Crested Tit	<i>Lophophanes cristatus</i>	✓	✓					
63	Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>	H	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
64	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>	✓	✓	H	✓	✓	✓	
65	Eurasian Penduline Tit	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>					✓	H	
66	Thekla Lark	<i>Galerida theklae</i>							✓
67	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>						✓	✓
68	Calandra Lark	<i>Melanocorypha calandra</i>						✓	✓
69	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
70	Eurasian Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
71	Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
72	Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>					H	H	
73	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>		✓					
74	Western Bonelli's Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus bonelli</i>				H	✓	H	✓
75	Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>					✓		
76	Eurasian Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>					H		
77	Melodious Warbler	<i>Hippolais polyglotta</i>				✓	✓	H	
78	Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>						H	
79	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>		✓		H		✓	
80	Western Orphean Warbler	<i>Sylvia hortensis</i>				H	✓		
81	Common Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>	✓						
82	Dartford Warbler	<i>Sylvia undata</i>				✓	✓		
83	Subalpine Warbler	<i>Sylvia cantillans</i>				✓	✓	H	
84	Sardinian Warbler	<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>					✓	H	
85	Common Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapilla</i>		✓			H		
86	Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>		✓					
87	Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>		H			H		
88	Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>				✓			
89	Eurasian Treecreeper	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>		✓					
90	Short-toed Treecreeper	<i>Certhia brachydactyla</i>						H	
91	Spotless Starling	<i>Sturnus unicolor</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓
92	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	✓			✓			
93	Ring Ouzel	<i>Turdus torquatus</i>	✓						
94	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	H	H	
95	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>		H					
96	Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
97	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>						✓	
98	European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	✓	✓		H		H	
99	Common Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>			H	H	H	✓	H
100	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		

	Common name	Scientific name	May						
			11	12	13	14	15	16	17
101	Common Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola saxatilis</i>					✓		
102	Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>			✓				
103	European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>		H		✓			✓
104	Black-eared Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe hispanica</i>							✓
105	White-throated Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>		✓	✓				
106	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
107	Rock Sparrow	<i>Petronia petronia</i>					✓	✓	✓
108	Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>	✓	H		✓			
109	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			
110	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
111	Water Pipit	<i>Anthus spinoletta</i>	✓	✓					
112	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	✓	✓	✓	H	H	✓	
113	Eurasian Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>	✓	✓					
114	European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>			H	✓	✓	✓	✓
115	Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
116	Red Crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>	✓	✓					
117	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓
118	Citril Finch	<i>Carduelis citrinella</i>	✓	✓	✓				
119	Eurasian Siskin	<i>Spinus spinus</i>		✓					
120	European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
121	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓
122	Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	✓						
123	Rock Bunting	<i>Emberiza cia</i>		✓					
124	Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>			H	✓		✓	H

Mammals

1	Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	✓			✓	✓		
2	Wild Boar	<i>Sus scrofa</i>	✓						
3	Red Deer	<i>Cervus elaphus</i>		✓					
4	Fallow Deer	<i>Dama dama</i>			✓				
5	Roe Deer	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>				✓	✓		
6	Chamois	<i>Rupicapra rupicapra</i>		✓					
7	Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>			✓				
8	Weasel	<i>Mustela mustela</i>		✓					

Amphibians & Reptiles

1	Common Toad	<i>Bufo bufo</i>	✓						
2	Common Frog	<i>Rana temporaria</i>					✓		
3	Common Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis muralis</i>			✓				
4	Large Psammmodromus	<i>Psammmodromus algirus</i>					✓		
5	Southern Smooth Snake	<i>Coronella girondica</i>						✓	
6	Montpellier Snake	<i>Malpolon monspessulanus</i>						✓	
7	Ocellated Lizard	<i>Lacerta lepida</i>							✓

Butterflies

1	Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>					✓		
2	Scarce Swallowtail	<i>Iphiclides podalirius</i>			✓	✓	✓		
3	Spanish Festoon	<i>Zerynthia rumina</i>					✓		
4	Black-veined White	<i>Aporia crataegi</i>				✓			
5	Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>				✓	✓	✓	

	Common name	Scientific name	May						
			11	12	13	14	15	16	17
6	Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>							✓
7	Orange Tip	<i>Anthocharis cardamines</i>			✓				
8	Moroccan Orange Tip	<i>Anthocharis belia</i>			✓				
9	Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias crocea</i>			✓	✓	✓		
10	Brimstone	<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>			✓	✓			
11	Cleopatra	<i>Gonepteryx cleopatra</i>					✓		
12	Green Hairstreak	<i>Callophrys rubi</i>		✓					
13	Southern White Admiral	<i>Limenitis reducta</i>				✓	✓	✓	
14	Camberwell Beauty	<i>Nymphalis antiopa</i>		✓					
15	Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>				✓			
16	Iberian Marbled White	<i>Melanargia lachesis</i>			✓		✓	✓	
17	Small Tortoiseshell	<i>Aglais urticae</i>	✓	✓					
18	Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>		✓			✓		✓
19	Water Ringlet	<i>Erebia pronoe</i>		✓					

Macro Moths

1	Garden Tiger Moth	<i>Arctia caja</i>					✓		
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Other Invertebrates

1	Wood Ant	<i>Formica rufa</i>		✓					
2	Buff-tailed Bumblebee	<i>Bombus terrestris</i>		✓					
3	Net-winged insect	<i>Libelloides baeticus</i>					✓		
4	a Dung Beetle	<i>Scarabaeidae family</i>		✓					



Medieval village of Vilamolot