

Armenia - Butterflies of the Caucasus

Naturetrek Tour Report

20 – 27 June 2015



Caucasian Heath Jajur Pas



Eastern Mazarine Blues Jajur Pas



Euphydryas provincialis Jajur Pas



Mud-puddling Norovankk Gorge

Report compiled by Tom Brereton
Images courtesy of David Ferguson



Naturetrek Mingledown Barn Wolf's Lane Chawton Alton Hampshire GU34 3HJ UK

T: +44 (0)1962 733051

E: info@naturetrek.co.uk

W: www.naturetrek.co.uk

Tour Participants: Tom Brereton & Hasmik Ter Voskanyan (leaders) with Naturetrek clients

Day 1

Saturday 20th June

Outbound from UK

Our journey began with an Aeroflot morning flight from London to Moscow that departed and arrived on time. We then took an early evening flight to the Armenian capital, Yerevan. After meeting our driver and ornithologist guide for the trip Hasmik, we took a short drive to a comfy city hotel, the Aviatrans in bustling Yerevan city, arriving by mid-evening and in time for a light evening meal at the hotel.

Day 2

Sunday 21st June

Hatsavan, Gaghadir and Garni

After an excellent buffet breakfast we headed south-east, driving for just under an hour to steppe and semi-desert habitat near Hatsavan. Our first taster of Yerevan butterflies was at a road junction west of Garni, where we had a little time in between transferring from our air conditioned minibus into jeeps for the bumpy road ahead. Here, in the arid bushy steppe, Clouded Yellow and Queen of Spain Fritillary were seen.

Our first scheduled stop for butterflies was in a beautiful semi-desert area several kilometres down this dusty road which leads to Lanjazat. We walked along a dusty track, then back along a dried up river bed, where grayling/rockbrowns were common with Great Steppe Grayling, Klug's Tawny Rockbrown and *Pseudochasara telephassa* noted along with numerous Hermits, Bath Whites and Balkan Marbled Whites. As in all steppe and semi-desert areas on this trip, beautiful Thread-winged Antlions were very common in this area, whilst Conehead Mantis was also seen. This was an excellent area for birds with Bee-eater, Roller, Western Rock Nuthatch, Upcher's Warbler, Pale Rock Sparrow, Rufous Bushchat (Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin) and large numbers of Rose-coloured Starlings seen.

For lunch we drove to Garni gorge and had a picnic in the shade underneath the spectacular basalt columns carved out by the Goght River. Overhead we were accompanied by Alpine Swifts and Crag Martins. Before eating we had a short walk across the river up into an area of valley-side scrub and steppe grassland to a viewpoint overlooking the gorge close to the edge of Khosrov National Park. This was highly productive yielding Sooty Copper, Black-veined White, Spotted Fritillary and Eastern Baton Blue.

After lunch, and near to our picnic spot, a small damp area with flowering Bramble supported Cardinal, Comma, Silver-washed Fritillary, Niobe Fritillary, White Admiral, Southern White Admiral and Powdered Brimstone. In afternoon heat, we headed into Garni for ice creams and a visit to the first century Hellenic Garni Temple, where three Common Swallowtails and a Large Wall Brown added butterfly interest to this cultural visit.

The final stop of the day was made on our way back to Yerevan, in a narrow valley near to Gaghadir. With water in short supply, several damp areas within the valley proved a magnet for mud-puddling butterflies, especially blues. There were large numbers of Silver-studded Blues, together with Odd-spot Blue, Green-underside Blue, Amanda's Blue, Adonis Blue, Eastern Mazarine Blue, Loew's Blue, Eastern Brown Argus and the rare *Agrodiaetus belovi*. A superb variety of other butterflies were present including Common Swallowtail, Dawn Clouded Yellow,

Freyer's Fritillary, Knapweed Fritillary, Hungarian Glider, Mallow Skipper, Turkish Fiery Copper and Yellow-banded Skipper. Birds here included a colony of Rock Sparrows nesting on a sandy cliff face at the valley entrance.

This has been an excellent day for moths with noteworthy sightings including *Drasteria rada*, Dewick's Plusia, the clearwing *Synansphecchia triannuliformis* and the burnets *Zygaena cuvieri* and presumed *Zygaena loti georgiae*.

In the evening we had an early evening log call before sampling delicious Armenian cuisine in a nearby restaurant.

Day 3

Monday 22nd June

Acharkut Beech Forest and Dilijan

Today we left Yerevan by 8am, as we had 160 kilometres of travelling to do to reach our destination for the day, the Acharkut Beech Forest, and as we wanted to be there by mid-morning in time for peak butterfly activity. Leaving Yerevan we travelled in a northerly direction, passing Lake Sevan after an hour or so, where Armenian Gulls could be seen scavenging along the roadside, and then Dilijan, a spa town in the Tavush province of Armenia. Raptors seen along the journey included Booted Eagle and Long-legged Buzzard.

At Archaukayt we transferred into jeeps to enable passage on the rough road through the forest reserve. We were dropped off at the eastern end of the forest to spend a full day looking for butterflies along the forest trails. In warm and sunny weather, there was a large amount of activity along the tracks, especially where muddy pools had been created in pot-holed parts of the forest road, due to recent wet weather and timber extraction by heavy vehicles.

One of the striking features compared with 2014, was the large numbers of mud-puddling Nettle-tree Butterflies present, with approximately 400 counted over the day compared with just one the previous year! Other species present along the tracks and surrounding scrubby meadows included an impressive count of 50 Queen of Spain Fritillaries, a late Pearl-bordered Fritillary, Weaver's Fritillary, Heath Fritillary, Caucasian Fritillary *Melitaea caucasogenita*, Hungarian Glider, Southern White Admiral, Holly Blue, Brimstone, Speckled Wood, Comma, Cardinal, Knapweed Fritillary, Glanville Fritillary, Spotted Fritillary, Cyprus Grayling, Syrian Rock Grayling and numerous mud-puddling Southern Small Whites.

By lunchtime it was getting very hot, and it was interesting to see large numbers of Silver-washed Fritillaries taking shade by resting on the sheer rock faces that adjoined parts of the track. A picnic lunch was taken in a welcome shady picnic spot about three kilometres down the trail, marking the western limit of our walk. After lunch, we headed back towards the reserve entrance, following a narrow and somewhat overgrown pathway through secondary woodland interspersed with small cattle-grazed pastures. These areas produced numerous Pearly Heaths, plus Scotch Argus, Wood White, White Admiral, Adonis Blue, Small Blue, Berger's Clouded Yellow, Eastern Mazarine Blue and large numbers of Brown Argus, with an estimated 500 seen. Moths present included numerous Four-spotted Footman and the tiger moth *Amata marjana ssp. sheljuzkoi*. We were a bit out of season for woodland birds though Green Warbler was abundant, whilst Golden Oriole, Short-toed Snake Eagle, Red-breasted Flycatcher, Crossbill and Red-backed Shrike added further interest.

Our final leg of the journey saw us returning to Dilijan, for an overnight stop at the rustic Haghartsin Hotel located just south of the town and set amongst hilly land clothed in Beech Forest. Redstart and Black Redstart were singing in the hotel grounds when we arrived. An excellent dinner was taken in the hotel restaurant, after which several of the group wandered around the grounds looking for moths, with Pekka and Ivan finding some interesting species with the aid of head torches. These included Pale Tussock, Clouded Magpie, Coronet, Small Magpie, *Diachrysia generosa*, Shaded Broad-bar, Indistinct Marbled Brown, *Therapis flavicaria*, the pyralid *Synaphe antennalis*, and a *Triphosa* sp.

Day 4

Tuesday 23rd June

Jajur Mountain Pass and Gyumri

After breakfast we drove west through beautiful mountain scenery for 90 kilometres, passing several Russian villages along the way before arriving at the Jajur mountain pass by mid-morning. Before lunch, we explored an area of open Pine Woodland near to the road. This proved to be a really excellent area for butterflies with the list of highlights including Gavarnie Blue, the Marsh Fritillary *Euphydryas provincialis*, Glanville Fritillary, large numbers of Caucasian Heath, a Chestnut Heath, Caucasian Fritillary, Caucasian Spotted Fritillary, Heath Fritillary, Scarce Swallowtail, Woodland Ringlet, Purple-shot Copper, Chapman's Blue, Amanda's Blue and Green-underside Blue. Several Orange-tip and a Pearl-bordered Fritillary were seen, highlighting the lateness of the season. Day-flying moths were numerous, especially the Black-veined Moth, but also including the striking *Drasteria cailino*. Mountain Chiffchaffs were singing and showing well in this small woodland area, whilst Golden Eagle was seen soaring overhead.

Lunch was taken at a picnic area by the road, where large numbers of Gavarnie Blue butterflies were mud-puddling at the monument. After lunch we headed along a track up a mountain valley. Glanville Fritillary, Gavarnie Blue, Woodland Ringlet and Caucasian Heath were common here, whilst Persian Skipper, Orbed Red-underwing Skipper, Osiris Blue and Idas Blue were quality additions. We also saw our first Small Tortoiseshell and only Peacock of the holiday. There was considerable bird interest with Cuckoo, Red-billed Chough, Whinchat, Woodlark, Red-backed Shrike, Ring Ouzel, Scarlet Rosefinch, Tree Pipit, Crag Martin, Rock Thrush, Quail, and best of all two Crimson-winged Finches.

In an effort to do a circular walk and sample a different habitat, we descended the mountain side to the scrub-fringed dried up stream bed. Walking back through this sheltered area proved highly productive with numerous Sovinsky's Green Hairstreak and *provincialis* Marsh Fritillary, together with Adonis Blue, Balkan Copper, Wall Brown, Yellow-banded Skipper and Caucasian Fritillary. Several Ring Ouzels were present in the ravine too.

After a superb day in the field, we headed south-west a short distance to Gyumri, the second largest city in Armenia, arriving early evening at our hotel; the lavishly ornate and opulent Hotel Alexandropol. Due to our early evening arrival, there was time for the group to explore the surrounding square and bustling market. Dinner was taken at a highly regarded fish restaurant, Cherkezi Dzor on the outskirts of Gyumri. This was not the easiest restaurant to find, but was worth the somewhat convoluted drive. The restaurant has a wonderful setting and its own fish ponds from where the fish are harvested. Following various salads, soup and Trout caviar for starters, the main course consisted of beautifully cooked char-grilled Sturgeon steaks.

Day 5

Wednesday 24th June

Mount Aragats

After breakfast, we were on our way to another part of Armenia; this time to Mount Aragats, the highest mountain in Armenia standing at nearly 13,500 feet and located some 100 kilometres south-east of Gyumri. Our intention was to search for butterflies in the different habitats demarcated by altitude that characterise this picturesque yet remote mountainous region. Aside from stunning scenery, the drive produced Armenian Gull, Long-legged Buzzard, Common Buzzard, Hoopoe, Crag Martin, Lesser Grey Shrike, Red-backed Shrike and large numbers of Skylarks.

Above Byurakan, we made our first stop in the Juniper zone, where once again the weather was suitable for butterflies, being gloriously sunny, though a little cooler than of late given the higher altitude. Butterflies recorded here included our first Twin-spot Fritillaries of the trip together with numerous Clouded Apollo (which we missed the previous year), Spotted Fritillary, Glanville Fritillary, Berger's Clouded Yellow, Black-veined White, Hermit, Pontic Blue and Silver-studded Blue. On the moth front, a Striped Hawk-moth was seen briefly. This is a known good birding area and today did not disappoint, with White-throated Robin, Tawny Pipit, Ortolan Bunting, Ring Ouzel, Red-backed Shrike and singing Woodlark all located.

A picnic lunch was taken further up the mountain in an area of Juniper scrub interspersed with open grassland and scree. A damp pasture in front of our picnic area yielded large numbers of Geranium Argus and Blue Argus. We had stopped here as this is another good birding spot, and a search by some of the group over lunchtime produced the hoped for Radde's Accentor, together with Crimson-winged Finch, Twite, Bluethroat, Ortolan Bunting and Tree Pipit. An Inky Skipper was a bonus, found whilst searching for the Accentor.

After lunch we visited a narrow, steep valley near the 7th century Amberd Castle. The track was damp and attractive to mud-puddling butterflies, with Olive Skipper and Black-veined White being particularly common, along with smaller numbers of Marbled Skipper, Yellow-banded Skipper and a variety of blues in close proximity, amongst them Pontic Blue, Zephyr Blue, Amanda's Blue, Common Blue, Eastern Mazarine Blue and Loew's Blue. Beyond the camp, the valley opened out into scrubby, rocky and boggy ground and a narrow stream. This was a good area for damp-loving butterflies, with Caucasian Fritillary, the Marsh Fritillary *Euphydryas provincialis* and Balkan Copper being among the highlights. Birds in the valley included Rock Thrush, Dipper and Ring Ouzel.

For our main stop of the afternoon we climbed further still, to one of the highest drivable points in Armenia; an area of flowery alpine grassland just below Kari Lake at an altitude of just over 3,000 metres. The weather conditions were suitable for butterfly activity and almost immediately we picked up our target species, the high altitude *Pieris* Bowden's White. Small Tortoiseshell and Berger's Clouded Yellow were also seen and there were some quality birds including Shore (Horned) Lark, Water Pipit, Alpine Accentor and Northern Wheatear. From here, we started the 60 kilometre drive back to the Hotel Aviatrans in Yerevan, stopping briefly at a grassland site where Hoopoe, Tawny Pipit, Skylark and Crested Lark were seen, along with a Hermit and several Balkan Marbled Whites.

We arrived in Yerevan in good time to check in at the Hotel Ani Plaza, then went on to dinner at a nearby restaurant serving tasty traditional Armenian cuisine.

Day 6

Thursday 25th June

Khosrov

Today we visited the countryside around Khosrov Reserve, a distance of 70 kilometres south-east of Yerevan. The drive produced White Stork and Purple Heron. Before lunch we visited a valley north-east of Urtsadzor where the diverse and pretty landscape comprises a mosaic of low intensity arable farmland, orchards, Juniper groves, steppe, scrublands and river valleys with a mountainous backdrop. This area proved attractive to butterflies and other insects with Marbled Skipper, Oberthur's Grizzled Skipper, Persian Skipper, Clouded Yellow, Hermit, Blue-spot Hairstreak, Sooty Copper, Eastern Brown Argus, Olive Skipper and *Pseudochazara telephassa* encountered.

The whole area was rich in animal life, with a wide range of dragonflies, moths, amphibians and freshwater crabs. Dragonfly highlights included Odalisque, Broad-bodied Chaser, Southern Skimmer, Small Pincertail, Blue-Eyed Goldenring and Banded Agrion

After lunch we headed a short distance further east to a scrubby valley surrounded by mixed farmland near Lanjanist. This was a fabulous area for butterflies with sightings including Scarce Swallowtail, Olive Skipper, Oriental Meadow Brown, Amasian Satyr, Blue-spot Hairstreak, *Satyrium abdominalis* and White-letter hairstreak. In the valley bottom along the narrow stream, there were several species of blues mud-puddling, including Eastern Baton Blue, Odd-spot Blue, Silver-studded Blue, Loew's Blue, Amanda's Blue, Eastern Brown Argus and three rare Anomalous Blues restricted to Turkey and Armenia: *Agrodiaetus huberti*, *Agrodiaetus erivanensis* and *Agrodiaetus surakovi*. Also mud-puddling were Eastern Wood White, Olive Skipper, Cardinal and Queen of Spain Fritillary. Moths present included Sussex Emerald, which is very rare in the UK.

In the surrounding willow bushes we had great views of a pair of Penduline Tits making regular visits to their dome shaped nest to feed young. Overall, this had been a good day for birds. Lesser Grey Shrike and Rosy Starling were common in this area; Isabelline Wheatear, Golden Oriole, Syrian Woodpecker, Eastern Black-eared Wheatear and Roller were seen in the valleys, whilst Long-legged Buzzard was seen overhead.

After another cracking day in the field it was time to drive further east through the Arenia wine growing region to the homely Hotel Arpa in Yeghegnadzor, a small town in southern Armenia, 125 kilometres from Yerevan. In the evening we drove to the outskirts of the town to have dinner at an intimate family-run restaurant, the owners of which made their own wine. We were treated to a superb meal of several courses, each with a different local wine fitting the food. After dinner, up to three Scop's Owls could be heard calling from woodland behind the hotel.

Day 7

Friday 26th June

Gnishik and Noravankk Gorge

With more lovely sunny weather in the morning, we drove due south from Yeghednazour, climbing steep winding roads through mountainous terrain to reach a series of stunning meadows near Gnishik, close to the Azerbaijan border. The meadows were full of pretty wildflowers, and of course butterflies. Highlights here included Olive Skipper, Yellow-banded Skipper, Eastern Orange-tip, Clouded Apollo, Twin-spot Fritillary, Glanville Fritillary, Knapweed Fritillary, Sovinsky's Green hairstreak, Lesser lattice Brown, Woodland Ringlet,

Oriental Meadow Brown, Marbled White, Idas Blue and hundreds of Silver-studded Blues. Moth highlights included two species of burnet: *Zygaena lonicerae* ssp. *abbastumana* and *Zygaena cambysea* ssp. *Rosacea*, plus a Forester sp.

We then retraced our way back towards Arenia to take lunch in the Noravank Gorge, famed for its towering sheer, brick-red cliffs. Butterflies once again proved a distraction at our lunch stop, where an interesting variety of woodland and grassland species were found; amongst them Great-banded Grayling, Hungarian Glider and large numbers of Meadow Browns hiding in dense shade from the baking heat. After lunch we visited a track further up the valley near the Noravank Monastery, which was waterlogged in places. This proved another superb spot for mud-puddling butterflies, with the gathering including Dark Green Fritillary, Cardinal, Mountain Small White, large numbers of Olive Skippers, Small Skipper, Holly Blue, Silver-studded Blue and *Agrodiaetus huberti*. Nearby a final butterfly highlight was excellent views of the skipper *Eogenes alcides*.

Afterwards we visited the 13th century monastery, above which two Wild Goats were seen foraging high up in the canyon. We then returned to Yerevan, stopping along the road to take photographs of snow-capped Mount Ararat, just over the border in Turkey, and a White Stork nest. For our final night in Yerevan, we transferred back to the Hotel Aviatrans and had another superb meal in a nearby restaurant, where we were entertained by a local band playing traditional folk music.

Day 8

Saturday 27th June

Yerevan Botanical Gardens

Our final morning was spent in Yerevan Botanical Gardens, located in the north-east part of the city. In spite of the urban setting, butterflies were plentiful at this 80 hectare site. The undoubted highlight was an impressive total of more than a hundred Blue-spot Hairstreaks, together with Dingy Skipper, Queen of Spain Fritillary, Scarce Swallowtail, Lesser Fiery Copper, Silver-washed Fritillary, Hungarian Glider and Mallow Skipper. On the moth front, both Humming-bird Hawk-moth and Broad-bordered Bee Hawk-moth were seen, whilst birds recorded included Hobby, Syrian Woodpecker, Hoopoe and Nightingale.

By 11.30am we were on our way to the airport, where we said our goodbyes to our driver and bird guide Hasmik Ter-Voskanyan who had looked after us fabulously well. A little before 3pm we were on the flight back to London, via Moscow. The return journey went smoothly and we were back in Heathrow on time at 8pm, thus ending a thoroughly enjoyable and highly successful butterfly tour to this enchanting country.

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

Butterflies (✓ = recorded but not counted; Poss. = possibly)

Common name	Scientific name	June						
		21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Hesperiidae		2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Eogenes (Hesperia)								
	<i>E. alcides</i>						1	
Thymelicus								
Southern Small Skipper	<i>T.sylvestris syriacus</i>	15	20			3	50	
Essex Skipper	<i>T.lineola</i>	1	1					
Lulworth Skipper	<i>T. acteon</i>							1
Ochlodes								
Large Skipper	<i>O.sylvanus</i>		4	50	5	2	1	1
Erynnis								
Dingy Skipper	<i>E. tages unicolor</i>			50	20	3	5	
Inky Skipper	<i>E. marloyi</i>				1			
Carcharodus								
Mallow Skipper	<i>C.alceae alceae</i>	3	1	1		1		1
Marbled Skipper	<i>C. lavatherae tauricus</i>					2	2	
Orbed Red-underwing Skipper	<i>Spialia orbifer</i>			3		1		
Persian Skipper	<i>Spialia phlomidis</i>			1	15			
Pyrgus								
Yellow-banded Skipper	<i>P. sidae</i>	3		2		1	2	
Sandy Grizzled Skipper	<i>P. cinarae</i>		1			1		
Olive Skipper	<i>P. serratae major</i>	✓			60	6	15	
Obethür's Grizzled Skipper	<i>P. armoricanus persicus</i>					1		
Papilionidae								
Iphiclides								
Scarce Swallowtail	<i>I. podalirius persica</i>			1	1	1		1
Papilio								
Common Swallowtail	<i>P. machaon syriacus</i>	4			1	1		
Pieridae								
Leptidea								
Eastern Wood White	<i>L. duponcheli lorcovici</i>					1	1	
Wood White	<i>L. sinapis</i>		10		2			
Anthocharis								
Orange-tip	<i>A. cardamines</i>		1	6	3		1	
Eastern Orange-tip	<i>A. damone eunomia</i>						2	
Aporia								
Black-veined White	<i>A. crataegi iranica</i>	50			100	1	5	1
Pontia								
Bath White	<i>P. daplidice</i>	50	1		5	15	20	10
Artogeia (Pieris)								
Southern Small White	<i>A. mannii</i>			10				
Bowdens White	<i>A. bowdeni</i>				6			
Mountain Small White	<i>A. ergane detersa</i>	1			1		20	
Pieris								
Large White	<i>P. brassica</i>	10	5	5	2	1	1	
Small White	<i>P. rapae</i>	30	100	20		6	5	5
Colias								
Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias croceus</i>	100	50	10	30	10	5	5

Common name	Scientific name	June						
		21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Dawn Clouded Yellow	<i>C. aurorina</i>	2						
Eastern Pale Clouded Yellow	<i>C. erate</i>							
Berger's Clouded Yellow	<i>C. alfacariensis fontainei</i>	10	10	5	10	5	10	1
Gonepteryx								
Powdered Brimstone	<i>G. farinosa turcirana</i>	1						
Common Brimstone	<i>G. rhamni meridionalis</i>	1	35	1	2	1	2	1
Lycaenidae								
Lycaena								
Small Copper	<i>L. phlaeas</i>	15	3	3	3	2	1	2
Thersamonolycaena								
Purple-shot Copper	<i>T. alciphron melibaeus</i>			4	2			
Thersamonia (Lycaena)								
Lesser Fiery Copper	<i>T. thersamon</i>	1						1
Turkish Fiery Copper	<i>T. ochimus</i>	1						
Anatolian Fiery Copper	<i>T. asabinus satraps</i>				1			
Heodes								
Sooty Copper	<i>H. tityrus</i>	10	2	5	2		1	1
Balkan Copper	<i>H. candens</i>				3			
Callophrys								
Sovinsky's Green Hairstreak	<i>C. chalybeitincta</i>			15			2	
Nordmannia								
Blue-spot Hairstreak	<i>N. spini melantho</i>	10				3	5	115
	<i>N. abdominalis</i>					3		
White-letter Hairstreak	<i>N. w-album majuscula</i>	1				1		
Cupido								
Small Blue	<i>C. minimus</i>		1	120	5	1	15	
Osiris Blue	<i>C. osiris</i>	1		20	2		2	
Celastrina								
Holly Blue	<i>C. argiolus</i>	1	3			1	2	1
Pseudophilotes								
Eastern Baton Blue	<i>P. vicrama schiffermuelleri</i>	2				1	1	
Glaucopsyche								
Green-underside Blue	<i>G. alexis aeruginosa</i>	5		15				
Turanana								
Odd-spot Blue	<i>T. endymion</i>	5				1	3	
Plebejus								
Idas Blue	<i>P. idas altarmenus</i>			1	1		2	
Silver-studded Blue	<i>P. argus bellus</i>	50			10	20	100	
Zephyr Blue	<i>P. pylaon</i>				10		2	
Plebejidea								
Loew's Blue	<i>P. loewii</i>	3				3		
Kretania (Plebejus)								
Eastern Brown Argus	<i>K. eurypilus</i>	20				5	3	
Aricia								
Brown Argus	<i>A. agestis sheljuzhkoii</i>	10	500	10	5	30	50	15
Ultraaricia (Aricia/Lycaena)								
Blue Argus	<i>U. anteros</i>				5			
Eumedonia								
Geranium Argus	<i>E. eumedon kagizmanensis</i>				30			
Cyaniris								
Eastern Mazarine Blue	<i>C. bellis antiochena</i>	10	1	10	5	5	10	

Common name	Scientific name	June						
		21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Agriades								
Gavarnie(Balkan) Blue	<i>Agriades pyrenaicus araraticus</i>			150				
Neolysandra (Polyommatus)								
Pontic Blue	<i>N. alticola</i>				2	1	1	
Lysandra								
Adonis Blue	<i>L. bellargus</i>	1	1		5	1		
Polyommatus								
Common Blue	<i>P. icarus</i>	30	30	70	30	50	100	50
Chapman's Blue	<i>P. thersites ketshevana</i>			1	1			
Amanda's Blue	<i>P. amandus gina</i>	30		5	5		6	
Agrodiaetus								
	<i>A. eriwanensis</i>					✓		
	<i>A. belovi</i>	1						
	<i>A. surakovi</i>					✓		
	<i>A. huberti</i>					✓		
	<i>A. yerevanensis</i>	1						
Libytheidae								
Libythea								
Nettle-tree Butterfly	<i>L. celtis</i>	1	400				1	
Esperarge								
Lesser Lattice Brown	<i>E. climene valentinae</i>						2	
Pararge								
Speckled Wood	<i>P. aegeria tircis</i>		6				2	
Lasiommata								
Wall Brown	<i>L. megera</i>	1			2	3		
Large Wall Brown	<i>L. maera</i>	1						
Coenonympha								
Small Heath	<i>C. pamphylus</i>	20	5	5	5	10	10	1
Caucasian Heath	<i>C. symphita</i>			150				
Chestnut Heath	<i>C. glycerion tiphonides</i>			1	2			
Pearly Heath	<i>C. arcania caucasica</i>		30		1		100	
Maniola								
Meadow Brown	<i>M. jurtina strandiana</i>	100	100	5	1	30	40	30
Hyponephele								
Oriental Meadow Brown	<i>H. lupina transcaucasica</i>	✓				✓	✓	
Dusky Meadow Brown	<i>H. lycaon</i>	✓				✓	✓	
Erebia								
Woodland Ringlet	<i>E. medusa</i>			100	30		3	
Scotch Argus	<i>E. aethiops melusina</i>		6	2				
Melanargia								
Marbled White	<i>M. galathea satnia</i>	2	1			5	20	
Esper's Marbled White	<i>M. russiae caucasica</i>						1	
Balkan Marbled White	<i>M. larissa astanda</i>	80			1	10	10	
Satyrus								
Amasian satyr	<i>S. amasinus</i>					6		
Hipparchia								
Cyprus Grayling	<i>H. pellucida</i>		1					
Syrian Rock Grayling	<i>H. syriaca</i>		10					
Brinthesia								
Great-banded Grayling	<i>B. circe venusta</i>						1	

Common name	Scientific name	June						
		21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Chasara								
Hermit	<i>C. briseis meridionalis</i>	15			10	20	15	
Dark Rockbrown/Great Steppe Grayling	<i>C. persephone transiens</i>	15				5	1	
Pseudochasara								
Klug's Tawny Rockbrown	<i>P. pelopea persica</i>	20			2	3	6	
Turanian Rockbrown	<i>P. telephassa</i>	5						
Nymphalidae								
Limenitis								
Southern White Admiral	<i>L. reducta mirzajani</i>	1	10				2	
White Admiral	<i>L. camilla</i>		2					
Neptis								
Hungarian Glider	<i>N. rivularis ludmilla</i>	5	75		1	1	3	2
Vanessa								
Red Admiral	<i>V. atalanta</i>	1	2					
Painted Lady	<i>V. cardui</i>	3			4			
Inachis								
European Peacock	<i>I. io</i>			1				
Aglais								
Small Tortoiseshell	<i>A. urticae turcica</i>			1	6	2		
Polygonia								
Comma	<i>P. c-album</i>	1	10					
Nymphalis								
Large Tortoiseshell	<i>N. polychloros</i>	Poss.						
Melitaea								
Spotted Fritillary	<i>M. didima transcaucasica</i>	10	2	3	8	2	2	
Glanville Fritillary	<i>M. cinxia</i>	1	1	150	30		10	
Knapweed Fritillary	<i>M. phoebe</i>		3		2		2	
Freyer's Fritillary	<i>M. arduinna kocaki</i>	1					1	
	<i>M. vedica (turkmanika)</i>							
Melicta								
Heath Fritillary	<i>M. athalia</i>		5	15			10	
Caucasian Fritillary	<i>M. caucasogenita (Boloria)</i>		3	12	30			
Caucasian Spotted Fritillary	<i>M. ainterrupta</i>			1			1	
Argynnis								
Silver-washed Fritillary	<i>A. paphia</i>	4	70	2	2	2	3	
Cardinal	<i>A. pandora</i>	10	10	1		3	3	
Dark Green Fritillary	<i>A. aglaja ottomana</i>			2	1	1	2	
Niobe Fritillary	<i>A. niobe gigantea</i>	30				1	1	
Issoria								
Queen of Spain Fritillary	<i>I. lathonia</i>	20	50	30	2	1	5	3
Brenthis								
Twin Spot Fritillary	<i>B. hecate transcaucasica</i>				5		8	
Clossiana								
Weaver's Fritillary	<i>C. dia calida</i>		5					
Pearl-bordered Fritillary	<i>C. euphrosyne</i>		1	1				
Euphydryas								
a marsh fritillary	<i>E. provincialis</i>	1		50	30			

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

	Common name	Scientific name	June						
			21	22	23	24	25	26	27
1	Common Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>			✓	✓		✓	
2	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>					10	30	
3	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>						✓	
4	Purple Heron	<i>Ardeola purpurea</i>					1		
5	Short-toed Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>	1	2					
6	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>		2	1	✓	✓	✓	
7	Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>		2	1	✓	✓	✓	
8	Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>			1				
9	Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>		1					
10	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	2			✓		✓	
11	Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>							✓
12	Armenian Gull	<i>Larus armenicus</i>		20	1	✓		✓	✓
13	Common Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>			1				
14	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>			1	✓	✓	✓	
15	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>				✓			
16	Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>			1				
17	Eurasian Scops Owl	<i>Otus scops</i>					3H		
18	Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>	✓						
19	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
20	European Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓	
21	European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>	✓				✓		
22	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>	✓			5	1	2	1
23	Syrian Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos syriacus</i>	✓	✓			4	3	✓
24	European Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>		✓					
25	Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>		1	✓	10	✓		
26	Lesser Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius minor</i>	1		✓	✓	10		
27	Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>		1			✓		
28	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	✓	✓	✓				
29	Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
30	Red-billed Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>	2		2			✓	
31	Alpine Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax graculus</i>						8	
32	Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>			✓	✓		20	✓
33	Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>				✓		✓	
34	Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
35	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>			✓				
36	Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>			✓				
37	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		✓			✓	✓	✓
38	Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		✓	✓				
39	Eurasian Penduline Tit	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>					✓		
40	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>	✓			✓	✓		
41	Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>				✓			
42	Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>			✓	✓		✓	
43	Horned Lark	<i>Eremophila alpestris</i>				10			
44	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>			✓				
45	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
46	Eurasian Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	6	✓	
47	Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
48	Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓	
49	Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>			✓				

	Common name	Scientific name	June						
			21	22	23	24	25	26	27
50	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>		✓					
51	Mountain Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus sindianus</i>			✓				
52	Green Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus nitidus</i>		✓	✓				
53	Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>					✓		
54	Eurasian Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>					✓		
55	Upcher's Warbler	<i>Hippolais languida</i>	✓						
56	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>		✓		✓			
57	Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia curruca</i>		✓			✓	✓	✓
58	Common Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
59	Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>		✓					
60	Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>			✓				
61	Western Rock Nuthatch	<i>Sitta neumayer</i>	✓						
62	Eastern Rock Nuthatch	<i>Sitta tephronota</i>	✓				✓	✓	
63	Rosy Starling	<i>Pastor roseus</i>	300+				20	60	
64	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	1		1	✓	✓		
65	Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>				✓			
66	Ring Ouzel	<i>Turdus torquatus</i>			4	5			
67	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
68	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>		✓					
69	European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>		✓	✓				
70	Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin	<i>Cercotrichas galactotes</i>		1					
71	Bluethroat	<i>Luscinia svecica</i>				✓			
72	White-throated Robin	<i>Irania gutturalis</i>				4			
73	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>		✓	✓	✓			
74	Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>		✓	✓				
75	Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>					✓	20	
76	European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>					✓	20	
77	Isabelline Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe isabellina</i>	✓			✓			
78	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>			✓	✓		✓	
79	Black-eared Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe hispanica</i>	✓				1		
80	Finsch's Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe finschii</i>	✓						
81	Rufous-tailed Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola saxatilis</i>			2	6			
82	Red-breasted Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula parva</i>		1					
83	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
84	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓	
85	Pale Rockfinch	<i>Carpodacus brachydactyla</i>	10						
86	Rock Sparrow	<i>Petronia petronia</i>	✓			✓			
87	White-winged Snowfinch	<i>Montifringilla nivalis</i>				✓			
88	Alpine Accentor	<i>Prunella collaris</i>				6			
89	Radde's Accentor	<i>Prunella ocularis</i>				2			
90	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			
91	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
92	Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>				6			
93	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>			✓	✓			
94	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		✓	✓	✓			
95	European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>		✓					
96	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	
97	Twite	<i>Carduelis flavirostris</i>				5			
98	Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
99	Eurasian Crimson-winged Finch	<i>Rhodopechys sanguineus</i>			2	2			
100	Common Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus erythrinus</i>			✓	✓			

	Common name	Scientific name	June						
			21	22	23	24	25	26	27
101	Red Crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>		2					
102	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>				✓		✓	
103	Rock Bunting	<i>Emberiza cia</i>			✓	✓		✓	
104	Ortolan Bunting	<i>Emberiza hortulana</i>				7		✓	
105	Black-headed Bunting	<i>Emberiza melanocephala</i>	10			✓	30+	20+	

Receive our e-newsletter

Join the Naturetrek e-mailing list and be the first to hear about new tours, additional departures and new dates, tour reports and special offers. Visit www.naturetrek.co.uk to sign up.



Gavarnie Blues Jajur Pas