

Armenia - Butterflies of the Caucasus

Naturetrek Tour Report

24 June – 2 July 2017



Saadi's Heath by Ilija Vukomanovic



Baltic White by Emily Neighbour



Antlion by Emily Neighbour



Hubert's Blue by Ilija Vukomanovic

Report compiled by Tom Brereton
Images courtesy of by Emily Neighbour & Ilija Vukomanovic



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(leader) & Hasmik Ter Voskanyan(local guide with six Naturetrek clients)

Day 1

Saturday 24th June

Outbound from UK

We met at Heathrow airport for an Aeroflot morning flight from London to Moscow, which departed and arrived on time. We then took an evening flight to the Armenian capital, Yerevan, arriving in the early hours of Sunday. The luggage took a while to arrive and unfortunately Richard's was not with it, though it arrived safely the next day. In the arrival hall we met our driver and ornithologist guide for the trip Hasmik, then took a short drive to the comfy Hotel Barsam Suites, centrally located in this lively city.

Day 2

Sunday 25th June

Hatsavan, Gaghadir and Gharni

After a good buffet breakfast we headed south-east, driving for just under an hour to steppe and semi-desert habitat west of Garni. The weather was superb – hot and sunny, with the temperature around 30°C. We parked at a turn-off towards Lanjazat and whilst waiting to transfer from our air-conditioned minibus to jeeps for the bumpy road ahead, had opportunity to see our first butterflies of the holiday. Along the sandy roadside, which was full of wildflowers, there was plenty of butterfly activity including Cardinal, Balkan Marbled White and Sandy Grizzled Skipper. The subsequent jeep ride was noteworthy for sightings of Booted Eagle, Roller, Bee-eater and Isabelline Wheatear.

Our main morning stop for butterflies was a beautiful semi-desert area several kilometres down this dusty road. Over the morning we walked along a sandy track, then back through a dried up river bed. Butterflies seen during the morning included Common Yellow Swallowtail, Mallow Skipper, Brown Argus, Oriental Meadow Brown, Dusky Meadow Brown, Great Steppe Grayling, Hermit, Klug's Tawny Rockbrown and Orange-banded Hairstreak. The latter species was particularly exciting for the leader Tom, who set up this tour and has lead it annually since in 2013, as it was the first time he had seen the species in Armenia. Other insect life included Conehead Mantis and many beautiful Thread-winged Antlions. This proved to be an excellent area for birds with stunning views of Black-headed Bunting, plus Woodchat Shrike, Hoopoe, Western Rock Nuthatch and Upcher's Warbler.

For lunch we drove to Garni gorge and had a picnic under the spectacular basalt columns known as the *Symphony of the Stones*, carved out by the Goght River. Overhead there were numerous Alpine Swifts and Crag Martins, whilst a Dipper was seen along the river and a Blue Rock Thrush amongst the rocks. The surrounding puddles were good for butterflies with Cardinal, Hungarian Glider, White Admiral and Orange Tip seen.

After lunch we crossed the river and headed uphill through steep rocky scrub, then along a grassy plateau. The scrubby slopes were excellent for butterflies, with numerous Gerhard's Black Hairstreaks, along with Black-veined White, Eastern Baton Blue, Blue Spot Hairstreak and Berger's Clouded Yellow. In Garni, we transferred vehicles once more, then drove back in the direction of Yerevan.

The final stop of the day was a narrow valley near Gaghadir. In a generally arid environment, several damp areas within the valley proved attractive to mud-puddling butterflies, especially blues and fritillaries. There was a superb variety of species present including Loew's Blue, Zephyr Blue, Amanda's Blue, Osiris Blue, Eastern Mazarine Blue, Eastern Brown Argus, Freyer's Fritillary, Niobe Fritillary, Glanville Fritillary, the Marsh Fritillary *Euphydryas provincialis*, Sandy Grizzled Skipper, Yellow-banded Skipper and Great Banded Grayling. Birds here included a colony of Rock Sparrows nesting on a sandy cliff face at the valley entrance, Hoopoe and Rock Bunting.

In the evening, over a cold drink, we completed what was to be a daily pattern for the holiday – a daily log of sightings we had seen over the day. After this we ambled to a nearby restaurant to sample delicious Armenian cuisine.

Day 3

Monday 26th June

Acharkut Beech Forest and Dilijan

Today we left Yerevan by 8am as we had a 160-kilometre drive to reach our destination for the day, the Acharkut Beech Forest. We wanted to be there by mid-morning in time for peak butterfly activity. Leaving Yerevan, we travelled in a northerly direction. After an hour or so we stopped at Lake Sevan to get close views of Armenian Gulls. Out on the lake we saw Cormorant and two Great Crested Grebes.

At Archaukayt we transferred into jeeps to enable passage on the rough road through the forest reserve. We were dropped off at the western end of the forest with a view to spending a full day looking for butterflies along the forest trails as we walked back. In hot and sunny weather, species present along the tracks and surrounding scrubby meadows included Sovinsky's Green Hairstreak, Nettle-tree Butterfly, Persian Fritillary, Hungarian Glider, Southern White Admiral, White Admiral, Dryad, Wood White, Mountain Small White, False Small White, Sooty Copper, Brimstone, Speckled Wood, Cardinal, Glanville Fritillary, Cyprus Grayling, Syrian Rock Grayling and Great Banded Grayling.

Lunch was taken in a satisfyingly cool and shady spot about three kilometres down the trail, marking the western limit of our walk, where a Large Tortoiseshell paid a brief visit whilst we were eating our hearty picnic. One of the drivers handed out some delicious bread made by his wife that morning. After lunch, we headed back towards the reserve entrance, following a narrow and somewhat overgrown pathway through secondary woodland interspersed with steep grassy glades. This area produced several Pearly Heaths, Scotch Argus and many Nine-spotted Moths.

In the morning Emily had spotted an Eastern Short-tailed Blue in a grassland patch and we stopped here on the way back on the off chance. Amazingly, the fresh male was in exactly the same place and we got great views of this pretty butterfly. Nearby we also had stunning views of a perched Weavers Fritillary.

We were a bit out of season for woodland birds, but none the less had some quality sightings with numerous Green Warblers, great views of a stunning male Red-breasted Flycatcher, Black Stork and Egyptian Vulture overhead, plus Golden Oriole, Dipper, Red-backed Shrike and a Black Woodpecker seen briefly by Tom in front of one of the jeeps as we were driving.

Our final leg of the day's journey saw us returning to Dilijan, for an overnight stop at the rustic Haghartsin Hotel located just south of this spa town and set amongst hilly land clothed in Beech Forest. Here, an Eastern Common Redstart was singing and seen in the hotel grounds when we arrived. For dinner, we drove to a guest house in Dilijan and had a lovely meal in an intimate dining room. On our return to the hotel, Tom and Mark wandered around the grounds looking for moths, picking up a number of species with the aid of torches.

Day 4

Tuesday 27th June

Jajur Mountain Pass and Gyumri

Before breakfast most of the group took a walk from the hotel through Beech woodland, with the highlight being several singing Green Warblers and Common Rosefinch, plus roosting Dark-veined White, Mazarine Blue and Scotch Argus butterflies. Back at the hotel, great views were obtained of a family party of Eastern Common Redstarts.

After breakfast we drove west through beautiful mountain scenery for about 90 kilometres, passing several pretty Russian villages, one of which we stopped at to take photographs. We also stopped briefly to watch a hunting Long-legged Buzzard which gave excellent views as it hunted over flowery grassland.

We arrived at the Jajur mountain pass by mid-morning. Before lunch we explored an area of Pine woodland and grassy rides near to the road. This is a superb place for butterflies and our visit did not disappoint. The long list of species seen included large numbers of Gavarnie Blues and Caucasian Heaths, the Marsh Fritillary *Euphydryas provincialis*, Glanville Fritillary, Nickerl's Fritillary, Chestnut Heath, Clouded Apollo, Dark Green Fritillary, Woodland Ringlet, Chapman's Blue, Amanda's Blue, Pontic Blue, Idas Blue, and a dozen or so individuals of our top target, Mountain Alcon Blue. Day-flying moths were numerous as well, especially Latticed Heath. Mountain Chiffchaffs were singing and showing well in this small woodland area, whilst Lesser Spotted Eagle was seen soaring overhead.

We had lunch by a monument near the road where many Gavarnie Blue butterflies were mud-puddling, together with Olive Skipper, Yellow-banded Skipper, Small Blue, Pontic Blue and Woodland Ringlet. After lunch we headed along a track up a mountain valley. Glanville Fritillary, Gavarnie Blue and Caucasian Heath were common here, whilst Turquoise Blue and Purple Shot Copper were quality additions. There was considerable bird interest with Red-backed Shrike, Ring Ouzel, Tree Pipit, Rock Bunting, Rock Thrush and best of all Crimson-winged Finch, the latter found by John. In the sky we all had great view of a pair of Golden Eagles.

After climbing a fair way up the track, we descended the mountainside to a scrub-fringed dried up stream bed. Walking back through this sheltered area proved highly productive with good numbers of Sovinsky's Green Hairstreak and *provincialis* Marsh Fritillary, together with Adonis Blue and Balkan Copper.

After a wonderful day in the field we drove south-west a short distance to Gyumri, the second largest city in Armenia and the ornate Hotel Alexandropol. Arriving late afternoon, there was time for the group to explore the surrounding square and bustling market. Mark and Esther bumped into the leader Tom not far from the hotel and they decided to check out a small patch of flowery grassland just across the road, where amazingly three White-letter Hairstreaks were seen!

In the evening a short drive was made across the city to a highly-regarded fish restaurant, Cherkezi Dzor. The restaurant has a wonderful setting and its own fish ponds from where the fish are harvested. Following various salads, cheeses, soup and cold fish dishes, the main course consisted of beautifully cooked char-grilled Sturgeon steaks. Afterwards we visited the open plan kitchen where we watched traditional bread being made by the restaurants' baker.

Day 5

Wednesday 28th June

Mount Aragats

After breakfast we left Gyumri and drove for about 100 kilometres south-east to another part of Armenia - Mount Aragats, the highest mountain in Armenia standing at nearly 13,500 feet. Several noteworthy birds were seen on the journey from Gyumri, among them Roller, Calandra Lark, Booted Eagle, Hoopoe and Bee-eater. Our aim for the day was to search for butterflies in the different habitats demarcated by altitude that characterise this picturesque and remote mountainous region.

Above Byurakan, we made our first stop in the Juniper zone, comprised of rocky scrub and flower-rich grassland. The weather was once again superb for wildlife watching. Butterflies recorded here included several Clouded Apollos, Clouded Yellow, Dingy Skipper, Spotted Fritillary, Twin-spot Fritillary, Knapweed Fritillary, Glanville Fritillary, Berger's Clouded Yellow, Black-veined White, Pontic Blue, Silver-studded Blue and a fine Tessellated Skipper egg-laying on Jerusalem Sage. This is a known good birding area and today did not disappoint with sightings including Long-legged Buzzard, juvenile White-throated Robin, Tawny Pipit, Ortolan Bunting, Ring Ouzel, Red-backed Shrike, Woodlark and Barred Warbler. A probable Red-fronted Serin was heard by Tom.

A picnic lunch was taken further up the mountain in another 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. This was another good birding spot and delivered the hoped for Radde's Accentor, together with Ortolan Bunting and Tree Pipit, whilst John also had stunning views of White-throated Robin.

After lunch we visited a narrow, steep valley near the 7th century Amberd Castle. In wet conditions, the track proved attractive to mud-puddling butterflies with Black-veined White being particularly common, along with Olive Skipper, Marbled Skipper, Yellow-banded Skipper and a variety of blues including Pontic Blue, Amanda's Blue and Eastern Mazarine Blue. Beyond the camp the valley opened out into scrubby, rocky and boggy ground with a narrow stream. This was a good area for moisture-seeking butterflies with many mud-puddling butterflies. Birds in the valley included Rock Thrush, Cetti's Warbler, Dipper and Rock Bunting.

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 which supports the high altitude *Pieris* Bowden's White. On our way here we located three species of Vulture: Cinereous (Black), Griffon and Bearded (Lammergeier). At our final stop, the weather conditions were suitable for butterfly activity and we soon spotted Bowden's White, which gave excellent views, especially when nectaring on Forget-me-nots. Birding was productive in the area, with sightings including Shorelark (Horned Lark), Alpine Accentor and Black Redstart. Tom heard a flock of Alpine Chough, though these were not seen.

From here we took the 60-kilometre drive back to the Hotel Barsam Suites in Yerevan. It was a lovely evening and we walked a short distance to a restaurant off Republic Square, where we enjoyed an excellent evening meal of traditional Armenian cuisine. We had timed our short walk back to the hotel perfectly, because at the fountains of Republic Square there was a fantastic light, music and water show, with rather fittingly for us Elgar's *Land of Hope and Glory* as the soundtrack!

Day 6

Thursday 29th June

Vedi and Lanjanist

Today we drove south for an hour or so from Yerevan along the flat Aras valley, stopping briefly to take a picture of Mount Ararat. Several White Storks were seen en route. Our destination was a beautiful area of semi-desert north of Vedi, with open dry pasture and a near dried up stream bordered by low hills and associated ridges. It was hot and sunny conditions and there was little shade, but our 'mad dog' efforts were rewarded with some superb butterflies and birds. On the butterfly side, highlights included good numbers of Christoph's Blue and the gorgeous-looking Saadi's Heath, plus several specialist browns including Gross's Meadow Brown, Klug's Tawny Rockbrown, Persian Tawny Rockbrown and Great Steppe Grayling. Birding was outstanding with the long list of quality including Egyptian Vulture, Long-legged Buzzard, Lesser Grey Shrike, Roller, Short-toed Lark, Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin, both Eastern and Western Rock Nuthatches, Chukar Partridge, Upcher's Warbler, Finch's, Isabelline and Black-eared Wheatears, Rock Sparrow, Grey-necked Bunting, Desert Finch, Trumpeter Finch and incredible views of a pale Short-toed Eagle.

After a picnic lunch beside a stream near the entrance of Khosrov Reserve, we headed a short distance further east to a scrubby valley surrounded by mixed farmland near Lanjanist. This was another productive stop for butterflies, with sightings including Lulworth Skipper, Dark Green Fritillary, Oriental Meadow Brown, Large Wall Brown, Dusky Meadow Brown and Amasian Satyr. Along a narrow stream in the valley bottom there was a diverse ensemble of mud-puddling butterflies including Osiris Blue, Zephyr Blue, Eastern Brown Argus, Eastern Mazarine Blue, Pontic Blue, two rare Anomalous Blues restricted to Turkey and Armenia *Agrodiaetus erivanensis* and *Agrodiaetus surakovi*, Amanda's Blue, Real's Wood White, Hungarian Glider and Nettle-tree Butterfly.

After another excellent day it was time to drive further east through the Arenia wine growing region. By early evening we had arrived at the homely Hotel Arpa in Yeghegnadzor, a small town in southern Armenia 125 kilometres from Yerevan. Tom took a walk to a nearby supermarket, where Red-backed Shrike was nesting in one of two bushes outside!

In the evening we drove along several dusty streets to a family-run restaurant and boutique winery, located somewhat anonymously in a residential area. Here we had a fantastic three-course meal, with each course paired with a different local wine and finished off with several varieties of home produced flavoured vodka! After the meal we were treated to traditional dancing performed by the owners endearing daughter, which was lovely. After returning to the hotel, we walked into the adjacent park listening for Scop's Owls, but alas did not hear any.

Day 7

Friday 30th June

Gnishik and Noravank Gorge

Given a number of the group were very keen birders, we hatched a plan to go birding before breakfast. We took a northerly route, up a dusty winding track which soon opened out to give a fantastic view of the surrounding valleys and mountains north and west of Yeghednazour. In the rocky terrain we picked up a splendid variety of birds amongst them Blue Rock Thrush, Black-eared Wheatear, Rock Sparrow, Tree Sparrow, several Bee-eaters and Red-backed Shrikes and a noisy and showy Eastern Rock Nuthatch.

With more lovely sunny weather in the morning, we drove due south from Yeghednazour, climbing steep winding roads through mountainous terrain. Our destination was a series of gorgeous meadows near Gnishik. With beautiful still and sunny weather and outstanding scenery, it really was an idyllic setting to search for butterflies in optimal conditions. The meadows were full of pretty wildflowers and of course butterflies. We spent a full morning here, picking up a great variety of butterflies that included Yellow-banded Skipper, Scarce Swallowtail, Twin-spot Fritillary, Spotted Fritillary, Glanville Fritillary, Knapweed Fritillary, Lesser Fiery Copper, Meleager's Blue, Idas Blue, Osiris Blue, Small Blue, Hubert's Blue, Russian Heath, three species of Marbled White (with our first Esper's/Russian of the holiday) and large numbers of Nickerl's Fritillary, Lesser Lattice Brown and Silver-studded Blues. Emily did a great job with the net, helping to confirm the identification of Russian Heath amongst others. Birds seen included Whinchat and Ring Ouzel, whilst several Quail were calling.

We retraced our way back towards Arenia, then drove into the Noravank Gorge, famed for its towering sheer, brick-red cliff. We took lunch in the shade of some trees in the gorge, then visited a track further up the valley near the Noravank Monastery, which was waterlogged in places. This turned out to be a superb place for mud-puddling butterflies, with the gathering including Nettle-tree Butterfly, Mountain Small White, Dark Green Fritillary, Spotted Fritillary, Niobe Fritillary, Eastern Brown Argus, Zephyr's Blue, Holly Blue, Loew's Blue, Silver-studded Blue, Pontic Blue, Eastern Mazarine Blue and Firdussi's Blue. High up in the gorge a Wild Goat was seen by some of the group.

After spending time here, most of the group took the short drive up to see the 13th century monastery. We then returned to Yerevan, stopping along the way to photograph White Storks nests. For our final night in Yerevan, we transferred back to the Hotel Hotel Barsam Suites and had another superb meal in a nearby restaurant.

Day 8

Saturday 1st July

Yerevan Botanical Gardens and Yerevan

We arrived at the airport on Saturday morning relaxed and ready to check-in, but were rather shocked to find out that our flight (and all others that day) to Moscow had been cancelled, due to extreme weather in the Russian capital. It was a little chaotic at the Aeroflot office, but being early to the airport we were near the front of the queue and soon had tickets for the next available flight in the early hours of Sunday morning. To be fair, Aeroflot looked after us rather well, upgrading our flights to business class, providing afternoon/evening accommodation in the 4-star Hilton Hotel in Yerevan, arranging airport transfers, plus three-course lunches and dinner at the hotel. By 10.30am we were at the Hilton Hotel and had made plans with our ground agent Armine, to visit the botanical gardens. This was gratifying in a way, because due to flight changes this would have been

the first year of this tour we would have missed visiting the gardens. Armine kindly arranged return travel to the gardens.

The Yerevan Botanical Gardens are located in the north-east part of the city. In spite of the urban setting, butterflies are plentiful at this 80-hectare site. On our visit the undoubted highlight was seeing an impressive total of around 135 Blue-spot Hairstreaks, together with a number of other noteworthy species that included Scarce Swallowtail, Queen of Spain Fritillary and Southern White Admiral. Birds recorded included Syrian Woodpecker, Hoopoe and our only Greenfinch of the holiday. In the afternoon there was free time to relax, sleep and/or visit the city and its green spaces. Tom visited the nearby wooded Hrazdan river valley picking up Bluethroat, Levant's Sparrowhawk and Laughing Dove.

Day 9

Sunday 2nd July

Return to UK

At 1am we left the hotel, checked in at the airport and headed through to the club lounge of Yerevan Airport, taking advantage of the complimentary food and drink on offer. We had two pleasant flights and were back into Heathrow by 8 o'clock the next morning, thus ending a superb butterfly holiday with a great group.

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Bowden's White by Ilija Vukomanovic



Silver-studded Blues by Emily Neighbour

Species Lists

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

	Common name	Scientific name	June/July						
			25	26	27	28	29	30	1
	Hesperiidae								
	Thymelicus								
	Essex Skipper	<i>T.lineola</i>	5	3		1	5	20	3
	Lulworth Skipper	<i>T. acteon</i>					1		
	Southern Small Skipper	<i>T.sylvestris syriacus</i>	15	10	1	2	15	80	10
	Ochlodes								
	Large Skipper	<i>O.sylvanus</i>		5	30	10	1	12	2
	Erynnis								
	Dingy Skipper	<i>E. tages unicolor</i>			10	15	1	2	
	Carcharodus								
	Mallow Skipper	<i>C.alceae alceae</i>	3				1	1	
	Marbled Skipper	<i>C. lavatherae tauricus</i>	1			1			
	Oriental Skipper	<i>C. orientalis orientalis</i>						1	
	False Marbled Skipper	<i>C. stauderi ambiguus</i>					1		
	Muschampia								
	Tessellated Skipper	<i>M. tessellum</i>				1			
	Pyrgus								
	Yellow-banded Skipper	<i>P . sidae</i>	3		1			4	
	Sandy Grizzled Skipper	<i>P . cinarae</i>	1				✓		
	Olive Skipper	<i>P . serratae major</i>	2		1	30	4		
	Obethür's Grizzled Skipper	<i>P . armoricanus persicus</i>						1	
	Papilionidae								
	Parnassius								
	Clouded Apollo	<i>P. mnemosyne caucasia</i>			1	10			
	Iphiclides								
	Scarce Swallowtail	<i>I. podalirius persica</i>						3	1
	Papilio								
	Southern Swallowtail	<i>P. alexanor orientalis</i>			1				
	Common Yellow Swallowtail	<i>P. machaon syriacus</i>	1	1		2		1	
	Pieridae								
	Leptidea								
	Wood White	<i>L. sinapis</i>		5					
	Real's Wood White	<i>L. reali</i> Reissinger, 1890					3		
	Anthocharis								
	Orange Tip	<i>A. cardamines</i>	1		3	2			
	Artogeia (Pieris)								
	False Small White	<i>A. pseudorapae suffusa</i>		10					
	Dark-veined White	<i>A. bryonia turcica</i>			1				
	Bowdens White	<i>A. bowdeni</i>				10			
	Mountain Small White	<i>A. ergane detersa</i>		10				6	
	Pieris								
	Large White	<i>P. brassica</i>	1	4	2	10		1	
	Small White	<i>P. rapae</i>	6	10	10	30	50	10	10
	Colias								
		<i>C. crocea</i>	5	1	2	3	2	10	2
	Berger's Clouded Yellow	<i>C. alfacariensis fontainei</i>	6	1	1	2	3	10	1
	Gonepteryx								

	Common name	Scientific name	June/July						
			25	26	27	28	29	30	1
	Common Brimstone	<i>G. rhamni meridionalis</i>		20	1	2	1	1	5
	Lycaenidae								
	Lycaena								
	Small Copper	<i>L. phlaeas</i>	4	1	2	5	1	2	3
	Thersamonolycaena								
	Purple-shot Copper	<i>T. alciphron melibaeus</i>			5				
	Thersamonia (Lycaena)								
	Lesser Fiery Copper	<i>T. thersamon</i>	2					2	
	Turkish Fiery Copper	<i>T. ochimus</i>	3						
	Heodes								
	Sooty Copper	<i>H. tityrus</i>		10	1			2	
	Callophrys								
	Sovinsky's Green Hairstreak	<i>C. chalybeitincta</i>		3	12				
	Nordmannia								
	Blue Spot Hairstreak	<i>N. spini melantho</i>	2					7	
	Gerhard's Black Hairstreak	<i>N. abdominalis</i>	10				1		135
	White-letter Hairstreak	<i>N. w-album majuscula</i>			3				
	Armenia								
	Orange Banded Hairstreak	<i>A. ledereri</i>	3						
	Cupido								
	Small Blue	<i>C. minimus</i>	1		3	2	2	2	
	Osiris Blue	<i>C. osiris</i>			1	1	6	10	
	Everes								
	Short-tailed Blue	<i>E. argiades</i>		2					
	Celastrina								
	Holly Blue	<i>C. argiolus</i>	1	6				2	2
	Pseudophilotes								
	Eastern Baton Blue	<i>P. vicrama schiffermuelleri</i>	1						
	Maculinea								
	Mountain Alcon Blue	<i>M. alcon monticola</i>			15				
	Turanana								
	Odd-spot Blue	<i>T. endymion</i>	3					1	
	Plebejides								
	Zephyr Blue	<i>P. zephyrinus ordubadi</i>	1					1	
	Plebejus								
	Idas Blue	<i>P. idas altarmenus</i>			5				
	Christoph's Blue	<i>P. christophi transcaucasicus</i>					30		
	Silver-studded Blue	<i>P. argus bellus</i>	12			10	5	300	
	Plebejidea								
	Loew's Blue	<i>P. loewii</i>	4					2	
	Kretania (Plebejus)								
	Eastern Brown Argus	<i>K. eurypilus</i>	10				2	2	
	Aricia								
	Brown Argus	<i>A. agestis sheljuzhkoi</i>	25	20	5	6	10	15	
	Ultraaricia (Aricia/Lycaena)								
	Blue Argus	<i>U. anteros</i>				50			
	Eumedonia								
	Geranium Argus	<i>E. eumedon kagizmanensis</i>				20			
	Cyaniris								
	Eastern Mazarine Blue	<i>C. bellis antiohena</i>	10		20	15	3	2	
	Agriades								

	Common name	Scientific name	June/July						
			25	26	27	28	29	30	1
	Gavarnie (Balkan) Blue	<i>Agriades pyrenaicus araraticus</i>			200				
	Neolysandra (Polyommatus)								
	Pontic Blue	<i>N. alticola</i>	2			10	1		
	Lysandra								
	Adonis Blue	<i>L. bellargus</i>	2		1	5	1	5	
	Meleageria								
	Meleager's Blue	<i>M. daphnis versicolor</i>						3	
	Polyommatus								
	Common Blue	<i>P. icarus</i>	20	15	25	10	10	20	30
	Chapman's Blue	<i>P. thersites ketshevana</i>	2	10				5	
	Amanda's Blue	<i>P. amandus gina</i>	10		20	20	2	10	
	Turquoise Blue	<i>P. dorylas armenus</i>			1				
	Agrodiaetus								
	Persian Anomalous Blue	<i>A. demavendi</i>					1	✓	
	Forster's Anomalous Blue	<i>A. eriwanensis</i>	1				10		
	Firdussi's Blue	<i>A. firdussii pseudactis</i>					30	✓	
	Surakov's Blue	<i>A. surakovi</i>					✓	✓	
	Hubert's Blue	<i>A. huberti</i>						✓	
	Turkish Blue	<i>A. turcicus</i>			✓				
	Cyaneus Blue	<i>A. cyaneus</i>						✓	
	Libytheidae								
	Libythea								
	Nettle-tree Butterfly	<i>L. celtis</i>	1	15		1		1	
	Esperarge								
	Lesser Lattice Brown	<i>E. climene valentinae</i>						60	
	Pararge								
	Speckled Wood	<i>P. aegeria tircis</i>			1				
	Lasiommata								
	Large Wall Brown	<i>L. maera orientalis</i>					1		
	Wall Brown	<i>L. megera</i>				1	2	2	
	Coenonympha								
	Small Heath	<i>C. pamphylus</i>	3	3	15	20	2	4	
	Caucasian Heath	<i>C. symphita</i>			70				
	Chestnut Heath	<i>C. glycerion tiphonides</i>			3				
	Pearly Heath	<i>C. arcania caucasica</i>		10		3		10	
	Russian Heath	<i>C. (leander) obscura</i>						3	
	Saadi's Heath	<i>C. saadi</i>					10		
	Maniola								
	Meadow Brown	<i>M. jurtina strandiana</i>	5	50			5	10	10
	Hyponephele								
	Oriental Meadow Brown	<i>H. lupina transcaucasica</i>	5				4		
	Dusky Meadow Brown	<i>H. lycaon</i>	2				4	3	1
	Gross's Meadow Brown	<i>H. naricoides</i>					1		
	Erebia								
	Woodland Ringlet	<i>E. medusa</i>			50	5			
	Scotch Argus	<i>E. aethiops melusina</i>		5	10				
	Melanargia								
	Marbled White	<i>M. galathea satnia</i>		2			6	50	
	Esper's Marbled White	<i>M. russiae caucasica</i>						8	
	Balkan Marbled White	<i>M. larissa astanda</i>	75	1		1	10	20	

	Common name	Scientific name	June/July						
			25	26	27	28	29	30	1
	Satyrus								
	Amasian Satyr	<i>S. amasinus</i>					10	1	
	Minois								
	Dryad	<i>M. dryas</i>		2					
	Hipparchia								
	Cyprus Grayling	<i>H. pellucida</i>		15					
	Syrian Rock Grayling	<i>H. syriaca</i>		1					
	Brinthesia								
	Great Banded Grayling	<i>B. circe venusta</i>	1	4		1			
	Chasara								
	Hermit	<i>C. briseis meridionalis</i>	20			1	10	30	
	Dark Rockbrown/Great Steppe Grayling	<i>C. persephone transiens</i>	1				15	10	
	Pseudochasara								
	Klug's Tawny Rockbrown	<i>P. pelopea persica</i>	3				5		
	Persian Tawny Rockbrown	<i>P. schachrudensis</i>					2	1	
	Nymphalidae								
	Limenitis								
	Southern White Admiral	<i>L. reducta mirzajani</i>		10				1	1
	White Admiral	<i>L. camilla</i>		6					
	Neptis								
	Hungarian Glider	<i>N. rivularis ludmilla</i>	3	20		1	1	2	1
	Vanessa								
	Red Admiral	<i>V. atalanta</i>		2					
	Painted Lady	<i>V. cardui</i>			1	1			
	Inachis								
	European Peacock	<i>I. io</i>		1					
	Aglais								
	Small Tortoiseshell	<i>A. urticae turcica</i>			2	10		3	
	Polygonia								
	Southern Comma	<i>P. egea</i>	1					1	
	Nymphalis								
	Large Tortoiseshell	<i>N. polychloros</i>		1				1	
	Melitaea								
	Spotted Fritillary	<i>M. didima transcaucasica</i>	3			1		2	
	Persian Fritillary	<i>M. perseus caucasica</i>		1					
	Glanville Fritillary	<i>M. cinxia</i>			40	20		20	
	Caucasian Spotted Fritillary	<i>M. interrupta</i>			1				
	Knapweed Fritillary	<i>M. phoebe</i>				7		5	
	Freyer's Fritillary	<i>M. arduinna kocaki</i>	5					4	
	Melicta								
	Heath Fritillary	<i>M. athalia</i>				1			
	Caucasian Fritillary	<i>M. caucasogenita (Boloria)</i>		10	6	5			
	Nickerl's Fritillary	<i>M. aurelia ciscaucasica</i>			3			70	
	Argynnis								
	Silver-washed Fritillary	<i>A. paphia</i>		70	10			1	
	Cardinal	<i>A. pandora</i>	10	15	5	10	2	5	2
	Dark Green Fritillary	<i>A. aglaja ottomana</i>			8		1	1	
	Niobe Fritillary	<i>A. niobe gigantea</i>	3					5	
	Issoria								
	Queen of Spain Fritillary	<i>I. lathonia</i>	10	10	6	2	1	3	6

	Common name	Scientific name	June/July						
			25	26	27	28	29	30	1
	Brenthis								
	Twin Spot Fritillary	<i>B. hecate transcaucasica</i>				20			
	Clossiana								
	Weaver's Fritillary	<i>C. dia calida</i>		5					
	Euphydryas								
	a Marsh Fritillary	<i>E. provincialis</i>	1		30	30			

Birds

1	Chukar Partridge	<i>Alectoris chukar</i>					7		
2	Common Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>						8	
3	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>		2					
4	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>		1					
5	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>				2	15	50	
6	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>		1					
7	Bearded Vulture	<i>Gypaetus barbatus</i>				1		1	
8	Egyptian Vulture	<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>		1			2		
9	Griffon Vulture	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>				2			
10	Cinereous Vulture	<i>Aegypius monachus</i>				2			
11	Short-toed Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>					1		
12	Levant Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter brevipes</i>	1						1
13	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	1	2	1	5		1	
14	Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>			1	5	2		
15	Lesser Spotted Eagle	<i>Aquila pomarina</i>			1				
16	Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>			2				
17	Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>	2		1	1			
18	Lesser Kestrel	<i>Falco naumanni</i>	2			1		1	
19	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>		1					
20	Armenian Gull	<i>Larus armenicus</i>	1	70				1	
21	Rock Dove / Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
22	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓		
23	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>				✓			
24	Laughing Dove	<i>Spilopelia senegalensis</i>	2					✓	2
25	Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>					1	✓	
26	Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>	✓				✓		
27	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
28	European Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>	1			6	4		
29	European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>	✓			6	20	10	
30	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>	2			1	3	5	1
31	Syrian Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos syriacus</i>					3	3	1
32	Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>		1					
33	Black Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus martius</i>		1					
34	European Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>		1					
35	Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>		2	8	12	2	5	
36	Lesser Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius minor</i>	✓				2	2	
37	Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>	1						
38	Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>		1			1	✓	
39	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>		1	2	✓			
40	Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
41	Red-billed Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>						✓	
42	Alpine Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax graculus</i>			H				
43	Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>		1	2	✓		✓	✓

	Common name	Scientific name	June/July						
			25	26	27	28	29	30	1
44	Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
45	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>		2			5		
46	Marsh Tit	<i>Poecile palustris</i>		✓					
47	Coal Tit	<i>Pariparus ater</i>		✓	✓				
48	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		✓	✓				
49	Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		✓					
50	Calandra Lark	<i>Melanocorypha calandra</i>				1			
51	Greater Short-toed Lark	<i>Calandrella brachydactyla</i>					3		
52	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>	✓				✓		
53	Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>	✓	✓		✓			
54	Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>			✓	✓		✓	
55	Horned Lark	<i>Eremophila alpestris</i>				3			
56	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>		✓	✓			✓	
57	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
58	Eurasian Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>	✓		1		2	10	✓
59	Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
60	Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>	✓			2	1	6	1
61	Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>		✓					
62	Mountain Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus sindianus</i>		✓	2				
63	Green Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus nitidus</i>		10	15				
64	Eurasian Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>					1		
65	Eastern Olivaceous Warbler	<i>Iduna pallida</i>					✓		1
66	Upcher's Warbler	<i>Hippolais languida</i>	3				✓		
67	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>		✓	✓				1
68	Barred Warbler	<i>Sylvia nisoria</i>				✓			
69	Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia curruca</i>					✓		
70	Eastern Orphean Warbler	<i>Sylvia crassirostris</i>				✓			
71	Common Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
72	Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>					✓		
73	Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>		✓					
74	Western Rock Nuthatch	<i>Sitta neumayer</i>	1				✓	✓	
75	Eastern Rock Nuthatch	<i>Sitta tephronota</i>					✓	✓	
76	Eurasian Treecreeper	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>		✓					
77	Rosy Starling	<i>Pastor roseus</i>	✓			3	20		
78	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>				3	✓		
79	Ring Ouzel	<i>Turdus torquatus</i>			1	3		1	
80	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
81	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>			✓				
82	European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>		✓	✓				
83	Common Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>	✓						1
84	White-throated Robin	<i>Irania gutturalis</i>				4			
85	Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin	<i>Erythropygia galactotes</i>	✓				2		
86	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	✓	✓		✓			1
87	Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>		✓	2				
88	Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>						2	
89	European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>		✓	✓			6	
90	Isabelline Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe isabellina</i>	✓						
91	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>			1	20		2	
92	Black-eared Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe hispanica</i>	✓				11	2	
93	Finsch's Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe finschii</i>						6	
94	Common Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola saxatilis</i>					6	1	

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			25	26	27	28	29	30	1
95	Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>							1
96	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>		✓					
97	Red-breasted Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula parva</i>		✓					
98	White-throated Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>	1	✓					
99	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
100	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>					✓	5	
101	Pale Rockfinch	<i>Carpospiza brachydactyla</i>					1		
102	Rock Sparrow	<i>Petronia petronia</i>	5			1	✓	6	
103	Alpine Accentor	<i>Prunella collaris</i>				6			
104	Radde's Accentor	<i>Prunella ocularis</i>				3			
105	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	✓	✓					
106	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	✓	5	✓		2	3	
107	Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>	5		✓	3	1	1	
108	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>		✓	✓	✓			
109	Water Pipit	<i>Anthus spinoletta</i>				5			
110	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		✓	✓				
111	Red-fronted Serin	<i>Serinus pusillus</i>				P			
112	European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>							1
113	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		✓		✓		✓	
114	Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>	✓		✓	✓		✓	
115	Eurasian Crimson-winged Finch	<i>Rhodopechys sanguineus</i>			2		1		
116	Desert Finch	<i>Rhodospiza obsoleta</i>					1		
117	Trumpeter Finch	<i>Bucanetes githagineus</i>					5		
118	Common Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus erythrinus</i>		5	5	12			
119	Eurasian Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>		✓			✓		
120	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>	✓		10	✓		✓	
121	Rock Bunting	<i>Emberiza cia</i>	✓		✓	✓			
122	Grey-necked Bunting	<i>Emberiza buchanani</i>					3		
123	Ortolan Bunting	<i>Emberiza hortulana</i>				3			
124	Black-headed Bunting	<i>Emberiza melanocephala</i>	✓		1	10	20	10	



Caucasian Fritillary by Ilija Vukomanovic



Sooty Copper by Emily Neighbour