

Bulgaria - Flowers of the Balkans

Naturetrek Tour Report

23 - 30 June 2007

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Day 1

Saturday 23 June

Hotel Moreni, Vitosha Mt. National Park

Arrived in Sofia in the afternoon to be welcomed by Nikolay Dilchev, our local tour manager and Dimitar Dimitrov our Bulgarian botanist. They took us a short, steep drive to our hotel in the Vitosha Mountains. It was a relief to get onto the cool pine-clad slopes. At the hotel we met Dora Dilchev who provided us with delicious picnics throughout our trip. After settling in, we went out into the National Park through mixed forests with *Doronicum austriacum*, Austrian Leopardsbane and *D. columnae*, Heart-shaped Leopardsbane, and bright red patches of *Geum coccineum* and masses of *Geranium macrorhizum*, Rock Cranesbill and *G. sylvaticum*, Wood Cranesbill.

Walking above the treeline we explored a marsh with *Dactylorhiza cordigera*, Heart-Shaped Marsh Orchid and *Leucorchis albida*, Small White Orchid, growing amongst *Eriophorum latifolium*, Broad-leaved Cotton Grass.

Day 2

Sunday 24 June

Hotel Studenta, Vitosha Mt N.P.

Spent the morning in the National Park, first exploring the colourful bank of flowers outside our hotel, with lovely patches of the beautiful purple and yellow *Viola dacica* and red spikes of *Polygala major*. Walking up above the skilift area we saw the tiny *Soldanella hungarica*, Hungarian Snowbell, and a mass of the beautiful yellow lily, *Lilium jankae*, Martagon Lilies just coming into flower and the tall blue flowers of *Cicerbita alpina*, Alpine Sow Thistle. We boarded our minibus after our walk to drive to a delightful meadow beside a stream for a picnic lunch. *Cotinus coggygria*, the Smoke Tree, was in full flower. *Digitalis lanata* and a patch of *Saponaria officinalis*, Soapwort, were on the river bank.

Our next stop was a limestone hill which we climbed slowly as it was a hot afternoon. We were rewarded by seeing some interesting plants. *Nonea atra* with black flowers, *Ajuga laxmannii*, *Teucrium polium*, Felty Germander, and *Helleborus odorus*, among others.

We then drove to Hotel Studenta, a hunting lodge surrounded by beautiful meadows and views of the surrounding Mountains. We had dinner outside on the veranda.

Day 3

Monday 25 June

Pirin Mts N.P.

A long drive to the Pirin Mts National Park. On the way we stopped to see the Rila Monastery set in the forests of the Rila Mountains

Then a short drive onwards took us to a restaurant where we sat outside to have lunch.

Afterwards we walked up a rough track through the forest where we saw some interesting plants, including *Aconitum variegatum*, several campanulas: *C. cervicaria*, *C. sparsa* and *C. trichocalycina*, a scattering of Birds Nest Orchids, *Neotinia nitis-avis*, *Pyrola rotundifolia*, Round-leaved Wintergreen, and *Orthilla secunda*, Nodding Wintergreen.

We drove on to our hotel, in a lovely position surrounded by forests of spruce and pine with a backdrop of mountains. We again had dinner outside in the cool evening

Day 4

Tuesday 26 June

Pirin Mountains N.P.

A very short drive to the start of our walk to the Vikhren Mountain Chalet, following the road through rocky meadows and high mountains, walking rather slowly because there was so much to see. Our first plant of interest was the endemic *Verbascum davidoffi*. Further up on rocks, pink patches of *Onobrychis montana* subsp. *scardicus*, a Balkan endemic. Dark red spikes of *Lychnis vesicaria*, Sticky Catchfly and the taller dark red *Dianthus cruentis*. Also large yellow flowers of *Linum capitatum*. In rock crevices, *Saxifraga exerata* and *Daphne oleoides*. We stopped to admire a huge Macedonian Pine, *Pinus peuce*, 1,350 years old as a board alongside announced. For lunch we stopped below a steep rocky scree where a short climb brought us to clumps of *Iris reichenbachii*. Also growing in the scree, the beautiful yellow endemic *Aquilegia aurea*.

After lunch on the way up to the mountain hut we saw *Pinguicula balcanica*, the Balkan Butterwort. After drinks in the hut, the bus took us down most of the way leaving us a short walk to our starting point, and then back to the hotel.

Day 5

Wednesday 27 June

Pirin Mountains N.P.

We drove to the Vikhren Mountain Chalet to explore the alpine zone of the Pirin Mountains. Starting from the chalet (2200m) we had an exciting morning, scrambling over rocks and seeing some spectacular alpine plants growing in the short turf: *Dianthus microlepis*, an endemic forming pink cushions; two *Cerastium*s, *C. alpinum* and *C. lanatum*, which has distinctive woolly leaves; *Gentiana pyrenaica* another blue alpine, the endemic *Jassione bulgarica*, and masses of both Common and Hoary Rockroses and, growing on rocks, the lime-encrusted *Saxifraga sempervivum*. After the rocks we followed a stream which eventually we had to cross, some of us bootless. *Primula farinosa*, Birds Eye Primrose was growing on

the damp banks. After a short climb, we reached the 'eye' lake (totally round and looking volcanic); from there we returned to the chalet by a different path through mountain pines. Along the way we saw *Pedicularis orthantha*, a reddish-purple lousewort. Also, growing on rocks, *Gentiana punctata*, Spotted Gentian. Because of a high wind, we enjoyed our late picnic lunch inside the chalet.

We spent the afternoon exploring the forest and meadows close to our hotel. We first came across the beautiful red helleborine, *Caphelanthera rubra*. On the forest edge, *Centaurea mannagettae*, a distinctive yellow endemic. Wandering through meadows and trees we saw *Consolida regalis*, Branched Larkspur, *Clematis recta*, *Anchusa officinalis*, a patch of *Geranium sanguineum*, Bloody Cranesbill, *Lavendula angustifolia* and *Nepeta pannonica* a tall Catmint.

Back in our hotel we enjoyed another dinner in the open air.

Day 6

Thursday 28 June

Hotel Dobrash, Rhodopi Mts

We headed for the Rhodopi Mountains. It was a day for exploring beautiful meadows and the first one we stopped in was studded with *Acer tartaricum*, Tartar Maple, with bright red fruit (maple 'keys'). Among the other numerous finds were the large showy yellow flowers of *Hypericum olympicum*, red spikes of pink dianthus and patches of Crown Vetch. We also came across *Onosma heterophylla* with its pale yellow tubular flowers. The sun also brought out many varieties of butterflies over the meadows. We had lunch at the next meadow, with quails calling all round us. Some of the flowers included: spectacularly tall red spikes of *Dianthus giganteus*; a beautiful pink, thrift, *Armeria rumelica*, masses of red *Gladiolus illyricus*, spikes of Bath Asparagus *Ornithogallum pyrenaicum*, Peach-leaved Bellflower, *Campanula persicifolia*, and a beautiful umbellifer, *Orlaya grandiflora*, amongst many others. The next meadow we visited had many of the same flowers and a beautiful wet flush running down the side with of *Dactylorhiza saccifera*, Wedge-lipped Orchid; *Epipactis helleborine*, Marsh Helleborine, growing amongst broad-leaved Cotton Grass. We arrived at our hotel which was surrounded by flowery meadows and overlooked by mountains.

Day 7

Friday 29 June

Hotel Dobrash

An hour's drive took us to the Trigrad Gorge in the Rhodopi Mountains. We first walked up a valley beside a rushing stream. *Inula helenium* with shaggy yellow flowers was growing along the banks and also *Symphytum ottomanum*, Turkish Comfrey. On the rocks, *Seseli rhodopaeum*, a rather delicate-looking Balkan endemic, *Arenaria rhodopaea*, an endemic sandwort and *Moebria pendula*, another sandwort, also the pale yellow flowered *Scabiosa rhodopensis*, another endemic. In addition, we discovered *Micromeria dalmatica*, a tiny Balkan endemic. Along the way, the road was bordered by the Hop Hornbeam, *Ostrya carpenifolia*, with its beautiful white hanging flower bracts.

We then drove up the Trigrad Gorge surrounded by steep high cliffs towering above us to a mountain refuge where we had lunch on the veranda overlooking the stream.

After lunch we wandered down the gorge and saw the botanical highlight of the holiday, the endemic *Haberlea rhodopensis*, a relative of the African Violet, growing in profusion on damp rocks. Local honey was being sold by the roadside, flavoured with herbs(including the endemic *Sideritis scardica*) and pine resins,.. Back at our hotel we started to explore the surrounding meadows which were colourful with pink and white Betony, *Stachys officinalis* and a beautiful spike of *Limadrum abortivum*, Violet Limadore, growing under spruce.

The first rain shower of the holiday drove us back to our hotel.

Day 8

Saturday 30 June

In flight

We had an early start for the long drive to the airport, stopping on the way to stretch our legs and admire a large oak, *Quercus polycarpa*.. Then a warm good bye to our guides and Bulgaria before our journey home.

Species Lists

Plants

Aceraceae

<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Sycamore	common
<i>A. tataricum</i>	Tartar Maple	meadows

Anacardiaceae

<i>Cotinus coggygria</i>	Smoke Tree	waysides
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Apiaceae

<i>Angelica sylvestris</i>	Wild Angelica	common
<i>Astrantia major</i>	Great Masterwort	Day 1
<i>Bupleurum sibthorpiianum</i>	yellow flowers	Day 4
<i>Carum carvi</i>		Day 4
<i>C. graecum</i>		Day 4
<i>Eryngium campestre</i>	Field Eryngo	meadows
<i>Heracleum sibiricum</i>		Day 4
<i>Ligusticum mutellina</i>	Alpine Lovage, pink	Day 5
<i>Orlaya grandiflora</i>		meadows
<i>Pastinaca hirsuta</i>	Hairy Parsnip	Day 7
<i>Seseli rhodopaeum</i>	(Balkan endemic)	Day 7
<i>S. rigidum</i>		Day 7

Asclepiadaceae

<i>Vincetoxicum hirundinaria</i>	Swallow wort	Day 7 - gorge
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Asteraceae

<i>Achillea ageratifolia</i>		Day 4 - rocks
<i>A. clypeolata</i>	yellow flowers, grey leaves	Day 2 – limestone rocks
<i>A. depressa</i>		Day 5
<i>A. grandiflora</i>		Day 3
<i>A. multifida</i>		Day 5
<i>A. millefolium</i>	Yarrow	common
<i>Antennaria dioica</i>	Catsfoot	Day 5 – alpine
<i>Anthemis tinctoria</i>	Yellow Camomile	Day 6
<i>Artemisia alba</i>		Day 2 – limestone
<i>Aster alpinus</i>	Alpine Aster	Day 4
<i>Carduus adpressus</i>	(endemic)	Day 6
<i>C. kernerii subsp. scardicus</i>	(Balkan endemic)	Day 4
<i>C. nutans</i>	Musk Thistle	common
<i>Centaurea mannagettae</i>	yellow flowers (endemic)	Day 5 - woods
<i>C. nevosa</i>		Day 1
<i>C. phrygia</i>	Wig Knapweed	Day 6
<i>C. rutifolia</i>	fine leaves	Day 5
<i>C. salonitana</i>	yellow flowers	Day 5
<i>C. solstitialis</i>	Yellow Star Thistle	meadows
<i>C. triumfetti</i>		Day 4
<i>Cicerbita alpina</i>	Alpine Sowthistle	Days 2 & 8
<i>Chondrilla urumoffii</i>	(endemic)	Day 5
<i>Cicorium intybus</i>	Chicory	roadsides

<i>Cirsium appendiculatum</i>	(Balkan endemic)	Day 1
<i>C. candelabrum</i>	Candelabra Thistle – yellow	meadow
<i>C. heterotrichum</i>	(Balkan endemic)	meadows
<i>Crupina vulgaris</i>	False Saw-Wort	Day 1
<i>Doronicum austriacum</i>	Austrian Leopardsbane	Days 1 & 2
<i>D. columne</i>	Heart-leaved Leopardsbane	Days 1 & 2
<i>Ecinops ritro</i>		Day 1
<i>Erigeron atticus</i>	purple flowers	mountains, meadows
<i>Eupatorium cannabinum</i>	Hemp Agrimony	Day 7
<i>Hieracium scardicum</i>	white woolly leaves	rocks:day 4
<i>Hypochoeris maculata</i>	Spotted Cats-ear	Day 6
<i>Inula belenum</i>	Elecampane	streamsides
<i>Jurinea consanguinea</i>		Day 7
<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	Ox-eye Daisy	common
<i>Leontodon hispidus</i>	Rough Hawkbit	common
<i>Leontodon croceus subsp. rilaensis</i>	(Balkan endemic)	Day 5
<i>Mycelis muralis</i>	Wall Lettuce	Day 4
<i>Onopordum acanthium</i>	Cotton Thistle	meadows
<i>Petasites alba</i>	large leaves	common
<i>Picnomon acarna</i>	Picnomon, yellow flowers	Day 4
<i>Pilosella officinarum</i>	Mouse-ear Hawkweed	meadows
<i>Scorzonera cana</i>		Day 7
<i>S. hispanica</i>	branched stems	meadows
<i>S. purpurea subsp. rosea</i>		Day 4
<i>Scolymus hispanicus</i>	yellow thistle	Day 2
<i>Senecio nemorensis</i>	Wood Ragwort	woods
<i>Solidago virgaurea</i>	Goldenrod	Day 7
<i>Tragopogon dubius</i>		Day 6

Betulaceae

<i>Alnus incana</i>	Grey Alder	common
<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver Birch	common

Boraginaceae

<i>Anchusa officinalis</i>		common – meadows
<i>Cerintbe minor</i>		meadows
<i>Cynoglossum hungaricum</i>	red flowers	Day 4 - meadow
<i>Echium vulgare</i>	Vipers Bugloss	v. common
<i>Lithospermum arvensis</i>	Corn Gromwell	roadsides
<i>Nonea atra</i>	black flowers	Day 2 – limestone
<i>Onosma heterophylla</i>	pale yellow	Day 6 – meadow
<i>Pulmonaria rubra</i>	red flowers	Day 2
<i>Symphytum ottomanum</i>	Turkish Comfrey	Day 7

Brassicaceae

<i>Alyssum murale</i>		Day 2 – limestone
<i>A. rostratum</i>		Day 7 – Gorge
<i>Berteroa incana</i>	white spikes	Days 1 & 2
<i>Cardamine barbaraeoides</i>		Day 3 – Forest
<i>C. bulbifera</i>		Day 3 – forest
<i>C. glauca</i>		Day 4 – rocks
<i>C. pectinata</i>		Day 3 – forest

<i>Erysimum cuspidatum</i>	yellow spikes	Day 4
<i>E. drenowskyi</i>	(endemic)	Day 4
Campanulaceae		
<i>Campanula alpina</i>		Day 5 – alpine
<i>C. cervicaria</i>	yellow buds, blue flowers	Day 3
<i>C. lingulata</i>	terminal heads, violet flowers	Day 4
<i>C. patula</i>	Spreading Bellflower	common - meadows
<i>C. persicifolia</i>	Peach-leaved Bellflower	Day 6
<i>C. rapunculus</i>	Rampion Bellflower	common - meadows
<i>C. sparsa</i>	branched annual	Day 3 – forest
<i>C. trichocalycina</i>	corolla divided to base	Day 3 – forest
<i>C. velebatica</i>	like Harebell, violet fls (Balkan endemic)	Day 4 rocks
<i>Jassione bulgarica</i>	(endemic)	Day 5 - Alpine
<i>Trachelium rumelianum</i>		Day 5 - rocks in meadow
Caprifoliaceae		
<i>Sambucus ebulus</i>	Dwarf Elder	waysides
<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	Guelder Rose	common
Caryophyllaceae		
<i>Arenaria biflora</i>	Two-flowered Sandwort	Day 5 - Alpine
<i>A. rhodopaea</i>	(endemic)	Day 7 - gorge
<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>		Day 1
<i>Cerastium alpinum</i>		Day 5 – alpine
<i>C. lanatum</i>	lanate leaves	Day 5 – alpine
<i>Dianthus armeria</i>	Deptford Pink	Day 6 – meadow
<i>D. cruentus</i>	tall, dark calyx, purple fls.	Day 4 – meadow
<i>D. deltooides</i>		Day 6 – meadows
<i>D. pinifolia</i>	fine leaves, purple fls.	Day 6 - meadows
<i>D. giganteus</i>	Tall Pink	Day 6 – meadows
<i>D. microlepis</i>	(endemic) forming cushions, pink	Day 5 – alpine
<i>D. petraeus</i>	white flowers, fine leaves	Day 4 – rocks
<i>Lychnis coronaria</i>	Rose Campion	meadows
<i>L. flos-cuculi</i>	Ragged Robin	Day 6 – wet meadows
<i>L. vesicaria</i>	Sticky Catchfly	Day 4
<i>Minuartia verna</i>	Vernal Sandwort	Day 4
<i>Moebria pendula</i>		Days 4 & 7 rocks
<i>Moenchia mantica</i>	small branched, white flowers	Day 6 – meadows
<i>Petrobagia illyrica</i>	white flowers	meadows
<i>Saponaria bellidifolia</i>	yellow flowers	Day 5
<i>S. officinalis</i>	Soapwort	Day 2
<i>Scleranthus neglectus</i>	low cushions	Day 5 – alpine
<i>Silene armeria</i>	Sweet William Catchfly	Days 3 & 6
<i>S. roemeri</i>	tall, white term. fls (endemic)	Day 1
<i>S. vulgaris</i>	Bladder Campion	common
<i>S. waldsteinii</i>	(endemic)	Day 7
<i>Stellaria graminea</i>	Lesser Stitchwort	Day 1
Cistaceae		
<i>Helianthemum canum</i>	Hoary Rockrose	common
<i>H. nummularium</i>	Common Rockrose	common

Convolvulaceae

<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	Field Bindweed	waysides
<i>C. cantabrica</i>	Pink Convolvulus	Day 2 – limestone

Corylaceae

<i>Carpinus orientalis</i>	Eastern Hornbeam	Day 6 – meadows
<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel	Day 7
<i>Ostrya carpinifolia</i>	Hop Hornbeam	Days 6 & 7

Crassulaceae

<i>Sedum acre</i>	Biting Stonecrop	common
<i>S. album</i>	White Stonecrop	Day 7 – Gorge
<i>S. annuum</i>	Annual Stonecrop	Day 5
<i>S. dasyphyllum</i>	Thick-leaved Stonecrop	Day 5
<i>S. hispanicum</i>	six white petals	Day 1
<i>S. ochroleucum</i>		rocks – Day 4
<i>Rhodiola rosea</i>	Roseroot	Day 4

Dipsacaceae

<i>Dipsacus laciniatus</i>	Small Teasel	Day 2
<i>Knautia arvensis</i>	tall, pink flowers	Day 6
<i>K. drymeia</i>	purple/pink flowerheads	Day 1
<i>K. midzorensis</i>	(endemic)	Day 5 – alpine
<i>Morina persica</i>	Prickly Whorlflower	Day 7
<i>Scabiosa rhodopensis</i>	pale yellow (endemic)	Day 7 – gorge
<i>S. triniifolia</i>	pale yellow	Day 1

Euphorbiaceae

<i>Euphorbia amygdaloides</i>	Wood Spurge	forests
<i>E. cyparissias</i>	Cypress Spurge	common
<i>E. niciciana</i>	tall, spreading spurge	Day 2
<i>E. serrulata</i>	Upright Spurge	Day 7

Fabaceae

<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i>	Kidney Vetch	common
<i>Astragalus depressus</i>	bluish/purp.	Day 4
<i>A. glycyphyllos</i>	Wild Liquorice	Day 1
<i>A. hamosus</i>	yellow flowers, curved pod	Day 1
<i>A. onobrychis</i>	purple fls. forming patches	Day 1
<i>Chamaecytisus hirsutus</i>	Hairy Broom	Day 1
<i>C. absinthoides</i>	(endemic)	Days 3-4
<i>Chamaespartinum sagittale</i>	Winged Greenweed	Days 1 - 2
<i>Coronilla varia</i>	Crown Vetch	common
<i>Dorycnium pentaphyllum</i> subsp. <i>herbaceum</i>	white flowers	Day 2
<i>Genista carinalis</i>	(Balkan endemic)	Day 6
<i>G. depressa</i>		Day 1
<i>G. subcapitata</i>	(Balkan endemic)	Day 5
<i>Hippocrepis comosa</i>	Horseshoe Vetch	meadows
<i>Medicago minima</i>	Black Medick	meadows
<i>Lathyrus alpestris</i>	red/purple flowers	Day 1
<i>L. tuberosus</i>	bright crimson	Day 1

<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Birds Foot Trefoil	common
<i>Onobrychis arenaria</i>	Small Sanfoin	meadows
<i>O. alba</i>	white flowers	Day 2 – limestone
<i>O. montana susp. scardicus</i>	(Balkan endemic) pink	Day 4 – rocks
<i>Ononis pusilla</i>	yellow flowers	Day 1
<i>O. spinosa</i>	Restharrow	Day 2
<i>Trifolium alpestre</i>	Mountain Zig-zag Clover	Day 4
<i>T. arvense</i>	Haresfoot Clover	meadows
<i>T. aureum</i>	Large Hop Trefoil	common
<i>T. dubium</i>	Lesser Yellow Trefoil	common
<i>T. incarnatum</i>	Crimson Clover	Day 6
<i>T. hirtum</i>	pale purple fls., densely hairy	Day 6
<i>T. medium</i>	Zig-zag Clover	Day 6
<i>T. montanum</i>	Mountain Clover	Day 6
<i>T. ochroleucum</i>	Sulphur Clover	Day 6
<i>T. pannonium</i>	Hungarian Trefoil	Day 6
<i>T. strictum</i>	Upright Clover	Day 6
<i>Vicia grandiflora</i>	yellow flowers	Day 3
<i>V. sepium</i>	Bush Vetch	Day 3
<i>V. villosa</i>	Fodder Vetch	Day 3

Fagaceae

<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	Beech	mixed forests
<i>Quercus cerris</i>	Turkey Oak	mixed forests
<i>Q. polycarpa</i>		Day 8

Gentianaceae

<i>Centaureum erythraea</i>	Common Centaury	Day 6
<i>Gentiana asclepiadea</i>	Willow-leaved Gentian	forest edges
<i>G. cruciata</i>	Cross Gentian	Day 5 - meadows
<i>G. punctata</i>	Spotted Gentian	Day 4
<i>G. pyrenaica</i>	Pyrenean Gentian	Day 5 – alpine
<i>G. verna</i>	Spring Gentian	Day 1

Geraniaceae

<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	Common Storksbill	waysides
<i>Geranium coeruleatum</i>	bright blue flowers (Balkan endemic)	Day 4
<i>Geranium macrorrhizum</i>	Rock Cranesbill	common
<i>G. phaeum</i>	Dusky Cranesbill	Day 3
<i>G. pyrenaicum</i>	Pyrenean Cranesbill	Day 1
<i>G. sanguineum</i>	Bloody Cranesbill	Day 5 – meadows
<i>G. sylvaticum</i>	Wood Cranesbill	common

Gesneraceae

<i>Haberlea rhodopensis</i>	(endemic)	Day 7 - gorge
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Hypericaceae

<i>Hypericum hirsutum</i>	Hairy St John's Wort	Day 7
<i>H. olympicum</i>	large showy yellow flowers	Day 6
<i>H. perforatum</i>	Common St John's Wort	common
<i>H. rumeliacum</i>		limestone – Day 2
<i>H. tetraptrum</i>	Square-stemmed St John's Wort	wet meadows

<i>H. umbellatum</i>		Day 7
Lamiaceae		
<i>Acinos alpinus</i>	Alpine Catmint	Day 7
<i>A. sauveolens</i>		Day 2 –limestone
<i>Ajuga chamaepytis</i>	Ground Pine	Day 2 – limestone
<i>A. genevensis</i>	Blue Bugle	common
<i>A. laxmannii</i>	blue and cream flowers	Day 2 - limestone
<i>Galeopsis speciosa</i>	Large-flowered Hemp Nettle	Day 6
<i>Lamium garganicum</i>	Large Red Deadnettle	common
<i>Lavandula angustifolia</i>	Lavender	Day 5 – meadows
<i>Mentha longifolia</i>	Horse Mint	Day 2
<i>Micromeria cristata</i>		Day 5 – rocks in meadow
<i>M. dalmatica</i>	(Balkan endemic)	Day 7 – gorge
<i>Nepeta pannonica</i>	Catmint	meadows
<i>Prunella grandiflora</i>	Large Self-heal	Day 3
<i>P. lacineata</i>	white flowers	meadows
<i>Salvia glutinosa</i>	Sticky Clary, yellow flowers	Day 6
<i>S. nemorosa</i>	Wild Sage	Day 7
<i>S. verticillata</i>	Whorled Salvia	Day 2 – limestone
<i>S. virgata</i>	purple spikes	common
<i>Satureja montana</i>	Winter Savory	Day 2 – limestone
<i>Scutellaria alpina</i>	Alpine Skullcap	Day 4
<i>S. altissima</i>		Day 6
<i>Sideritis montana</i>	yellow flowers	Day 2 – limestone
<i>Stachys germanica</i>	Downy Woundwort	Day 7
<i>S. officinalis</i>	Betony	Days 6 – 7
<i>S. recta</i>	Yellow Woundwort	Day 5
<i>Teucrium chamaedrys</i>	Wall Germander	common
<i>T. montanum</i>	Mountain Germander	meadows
<i>T. polium</i>	Felty Germander	Day 2 – limestone
<i>Thymus striatus</i>	Thyme	common in mountains
<i>T. pulegioides</i>	Larger Wild Thyme	common
Lentibulariaceae		
<i>Pinguicula balcanica</i>	Balkan Butterwort	Day 4
<i>P. vulgaris</i>	Alpine Butterwort	Day 5
Linaceae		
<i>Linum austriacum</i>	blue flowers	Day 2 – limestone
<i>L. bienne</i>	Pale Flax	Day 6
<i>L. capitatum</i>	large yellow flowers	Day 4
<i>L. catharticum</i>	Purging Flax	Day 6
Orobanchaceae		
<i>Orobanche alba</i>	Thyme Broomrape	Day 1
Plantaginaceae		
<i>Plantago carinata</i>		Day 5 - alpine
<i>P. gentianoides</i>		Day 5 - alpine

Plumbaginaceae*Armeria rumelica*

Thrift – pale pink flowers Days 6 & 7 – meadows

Primulaceae*Lysimachia nummularia*

Creeping Jenny Day 6

L. vulgaris

Yellow Loosestrife Day 6

Primula elatior

Oxlip Day 4

P. farinosa

Bird's Eye Primrose Day 5 - alpine

Soldanella hungarica

Hungarian Snowbell Days 1 & 3

Polygalaceae*Polygala major*

large spikes of red/purp. fls.common

P. vulgaris

Common Milkwort Day 4

Polygonaceae*Oxyria digyna*

Mountain Sorrel Day 4

Persicaria alpinum

Alpine Knotweed Day 4

P. bistorta

Bistort Day 1

Rumex alpinus

Monks Rhubarb common – mountains

Pyrolaceae*Moneses uniflora*

One-flowered Wintergreen Day 4 - forests

Orthilla secunda

Nodding Wintergreen Days 3 & 4 – forests

Pyrola rotundifolia

Round-leaved Wintergreen Days 3 & 4- forests

Ranunculaceae*Aconitum variegatum*

Variegated Monkshood Day 3

Anemone sylvestris

Snowdrop Windflower Day 5 - woods

Aquilegia aurea

(endemic) yellow flowers Day 4

Clematis recta

white flowers Day 5 – meadows

Consolida regalis

Branched Larkspur Day 5 – meadows

Helleborus odoratus

Day 2 – limestone Ranunculus

*aquaticus**Common Water Crowfoot* Day 5 - 'eye' Lake*Ranunculus platamifolius*

white flowers Day 5 – woods

R. sardous

Day 5 – meadows

R. serbicus

Day 2 – riverside

Thalictrum aquilegifolium

Great Meadow Rue Day 1

T. minus

Lesser Meadow Rue Day 4

Troillius europaeus

Globe Flower Day 1

Rosaceae*Alchemilla glaucescens*

Day 5 – alpine

Aremonia agrimonoides

Bastard Agrimony Day 1

Crataegus orientalis

Eastern Hawthorn Day 5 – meadows

Filipendula vulgaris

Dropwort meadows

Geum coccineum

bright red flowers Days 1 & 5

G. montanum

Mountain Avens Day 1

Potentilla argenticolor

grey leaves Day 1

P. aurea subsp. ternata

Golden Cinquefoil Day 4

P. erecta

Tormentil common

P. neglecta

grey leaves, large flowers Day 4

P. recta

Sulphur Cinquefoil Day 4

<i>Rosa pendulina</i>	Alpine Rose	common
<i>R. pimpinellifolia</i>	Burnet Rose	Day 4
<i>Rubus thyranthus</i>	spikes of white flowers	Day 7 – meadow
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan	Day 3
<i>S. austriaca</i>	shallowly-lobed leaves	Day 7
<i>S. graeca</i>	almost round leaves	Day 5

Rubiaceae

<i>Cruciata glabra</i>		meadows
<i>C. laevipes</i>	Crosswort	meadows
<i>Galium album</i>	Tall Bedstraw	meadows
<i>G. odoratum</i>	Sweet Woodruff	forests
<i>G. palustre</i>	Marsh Bedstraw	damp meadows

Salicaceae

<i>Salix alba</i>	White Willow	along rivers
<i>S. capraea</i>	Goat Willow	common
<i>S. lapponum</i>	Lapland Willow	Day 1

Saxifragaceae

<i>Saxifraga exarata</i>	Musky Saxifrage	Day 4
<i>S. paniculata</i>	Paniculate Saxifrage	Day 4
<i>S. rotundifolia</i>	Roundleaved Saxifrage	Day 4 - forests
<i>S. sempervivum</i>		Days 5 & 7
<i>S. stellaris</i>	Starry Saxifrage	Day 4 - forest
<i>Bartsia alpina</i>	Alpine Bartsia	Day 4
<i>Digitalis lanata</i>		meadows
<i>D. viridiflora</i>	Green Flowered Foxglove	Days 3 & 4
<i>Linaria genistifolia</i>	yellow flowers	Day 6
<i>Melanpyrum sylvaticum</i>	Wood Cow Wheat	Day 1
<i>Pedicularis orthantha</i>	reddish-purple fls.	Day 5 – alpine
<i>Rhinanthus rumelicus</i>	Hay Rattle	Day 3
<i>Scrophularia canina</i>	Alpine Figwort	Day 1
<i>S. heterophylla</i> subsp. <i>laciniata</i>		Day 7 - gorge
<i>Verbascum davidoffi</i>	(endemic)	Day 4
<i>V. longifolium</i>	long grey leaves	common
<i>V. nigrum</i>		Day 7 – gorge
<i>Veronica alpina</i>	Alpine Speedwell	Day 1
<i>V. belledioides</i>	Violet Speedwell	Day 5 – alpine
<i>V. chamaedrys</i>	Germander Speedwell	common
<i>V. officinalis</i>	Heath Speedwell	Day 3
<i>V. urticifolia</i>	Nettle-leaved Speedwell	Day 3

Thymelaceae

<i>Daphne mezereum</i>	Mezereon	Day 4
<i>D. oleoides</i>	white, very scented flowers	Day 4

Valerianaceae

<i>Valeriana montana</i>	Mountain Valerian	Day 7
<i>V. tripteris</i>	Three-leaved Valerian	forests

Violaceae

<i>Viola biflora</i>	Yellow Wood Violet	Day 4
<i>V. dacica</i>	large flowers, violet or yellow	mountains
<i>V. tricolor</i>	Heartsease	

MONOCOTYLEDONS**Iridaceae**

<i>Iris reichenbachii</i>	greenish-yellow	Day 4 – rocks
<i>Gladiolus illyricus</i>		common – meadows

Liliaceae

<i>Allium rotundum</i>		meadows
<i>A. victorialis</i>	Alpine Leek	Day 5 – alpine
<i>Asphodeline taurica</i>	white spike, narrow leaves	rocks
<i>Lilium jankae</i>	yellow flowers	Day 2
<i>L. martagon</i>	Martagon Lily	Day 2
<i>Muscari comosum</i>	Tassel Hyacinth	Day 5 – meadows
<i>Ornithogalum pyrenaicum</i>	Bath Asparagus	Day 6
<i>O. umbellatum</i>	Star of Bethlehem	common
<i>Polygonatum odoratum</i>	Scented Solomon's Seal	Day 7 – gorge
<i>Polygonatum verticillatum</i>	Whorled Solomon's Seal	Day 1
<i>Veratrum album</i>	White False Helleborine	common

Orchidaceae

<i>Cephalanthera rubra</i>	Red Helleborine	Days 4 & 5
<i>Corallorhiza trifida</i>	Coralroot Orchid	Day 3
<i>Dactylorhiza cordigera</i>	Heart-shaped Marsh Orchid	Day 1
<i>D. maculata</i>	Heath Spotted Orchid	common
<i>D. saccifera</i>	Wedge-lipped Orchid	wet meadows
<i>Epipactis helleborine</i>	Broad-leafed Helleborine	Day 5
<i>E. palustris</i>	Marsh Helleborine	Day 6 – wet meadow
<i>Gymnadenia conopsea</i>	Fragrant Orchid	Day 6
<i>Leucorchis albida</i>	Small White Orchid	Days 1, 4 & 6
<i>Limadorum abortivum</i>	Violet Limadora	Day 7 – under conifers
<i>Listera ovata</i>	Twayblade	Day 6
<i>Neotinea nidus-avis</i>	Bird's Nest Orchid	Day 3
<i>Orchis coriophora</i>	Bug Orchid	Day 6
<i>O. ustulata</i>	Burnt Tip Orchid	Day 6
<i>Platanthera bifolia</i>	Lesser Butterfly Orchid	Day 6

CONIFERS

<i>Abies alba</i>	Silver Fir
<i>Larix europaea</i>	Larch
<i>Picea abies</i>	Norway Spruce
<i>Pinus nigra</i>	Black Pine
<i>P. sylvestris</i>	Scots Pine
<i>P. mugo</i>	Mountain Pine
<i>P. leucodermis</i>	Bosnian Pine
<i>P. peuce</i>	Macedonian Pine
<i>Juniperis communis</i>	Juniper

FERNS

<i>Asplenium ruta-muraria</i>	Wall Rue	
<i>A. septentrionale</i>	Forked Spleenwort	
<i>A. trichomanes</i>	Maidenhair Spleenwort	
<i>Athyrium felix-femina</i>	Lady Fern	
<i>Botrychium lunaria</i>	Moonwort	
<i>Ceterach officinarum</i>	Rusty-back Fern	
<i>Cystopteris alpina</i>	Alpine Brittle Bladder Fern	
<i>C. fragilis</i>	Brittle Bladder Fern	
<i>Dryopteris affinis</i>	Scaly Male Fern	
<i>D. felix-mas</i>	Male Fern	
<i>Gymnocarpium dryopteris</i>	Oak Fern	
<i>G. robertianum</i>	Limestone Fern	
<i>Phegopteris connectilis</i>	Beech Fern	
<i>Polypodium vulgare</i>	Common Polypody	
<i>Polystichum lonchitis</i>	Holly Fern	
<i>P. aculeatum</i>	Hard Shield Fern	
<i>P. setiferum</i>	Soft Shield Fern	
<i>D. austriaca</i>	Broad Buckler Fern	
<i>D. expansa</i>	Northern Buckler Fern	
<i>Selaginella helvetica</i>	Swiss Clubmoss	Day 7 – gorge
<i>Isoetes lacustris</i>	Quillwort	Day 5 - lake edges

Books used:

Flowers of Greece and the Balkans (*Oleg Polunin*)

Alpine Flowers of Britain & Europe (*Christopher Grey-Wilson and Marjorie Blamey*)

Conspectus of the Bulgarian Vascular Flora (*Dimitar Dimitrov*)

BIRDS (Recorded by Peter and Margaret Riley – with thanks for their contribution)

	Common name	Scientific name
1	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>
2	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>
3	Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>
4	Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>
5	Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>
6	Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>
7	Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>
8	Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>
9	Yellow-legged Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>
10	Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livis</i>
11	Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>
12	Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i>
13	Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>
14	Pallid Swift	<i>Apus pallidus</i>
15	Bee Eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>
16	Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>
17	Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>
18	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>
19	Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>
20	Crag Martin	<i>Hirundo rupestris</i>
21	Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Hirundo daurica</i>
22	House Martin	<i>Delicon urbica</i>
23	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>
24	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>
25	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>
26	Lesser Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius minor</i>
27	Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>
28	Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>
29	Alpine Accentor	<i>Prunelia colaris</i>
30	Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>
31	Barred Warbler	<i>Sylvia nisoria</i>
32	Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>
33	Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>
34	Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>
35	Isabelline Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe isabellina</i>
36	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>
37	Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>
38	Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>
39	Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>
40	Ring Ouzel	<i>Turdus torquatus</i>
41	Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>
42	Sombre Tit	<i>Parus lugubris</i>
43	Wallcreeper	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>
44	Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>
45	Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>
46	Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>
47	Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>
48	Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>

	Common name	Scientific name
49	Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>
50	Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>
51	Crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>
52	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>
53	Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>
54	Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>
55	Nutcracker	<i>Nucifraga caryocatactes</i>
56	Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>
57	Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus corone corvix</i>

BUTTERFLIES (Recorded by Peter and Margaret Riley – with thanks for their contribution)

Common name	Scientific name
1 Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>
2 Scarce Swallowtail	<i>Iphiclides podalirius</i>
3 Apollo	<i>Parnassius Apollo</i>
4 Clouded Apollo	<i>Parnassius mnemosyne</i>
5 Wood White	<i>Leptidea sinapsis</i>
6 Eastern Wood White	<i>Leptidea duponcheli</i>
7 Fenton's Wood White	<i>Leptidea morsei</i>
8 Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias croceus</i>
9 Balkan Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias balcanica</i>
10 Pale Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias hyale</i>
11 Orange-tip	<i>Antocharis cardamines</i>
12 Black-veined White	<i>Aporia crataegi</i>
13 Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>
14 Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>
15 Green-veined White	<i>Pieris napi</i>
16 Eastern Bath White	<i>Pontia edusa</i>
17 Duke of Burgundy	<i>Hamearis lucina</i>
18 Ilex Hairstreak	<i>Satyrium ilicis</i>
19 Sloe Hairstreak	<i>Satyrium acaciae</i>
20 White-letter Hairstreak	<i>Satyrium w-album</i>
21 Blue-spot Hairstreak	<i>Satyrium spini</i>
22 Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>
23 Large Copper	<i>Lycaena dispar</i>
24 Balkan Copper	<i>Lycaena candens</i>
25 Scarce Copper	<i>Lycaena virgaureae</i>
26 Lesser Fiery Copper	<i>Lycaena thersamon</i>
27 Purple-edged Copper	<i>Paleochrysophanus hippothoe</i>
28 Eastern Short-tailed Blue	<i>Cupido decoloratus</i>
29 Little Blue	<i>Cupido minimus</i>
30 Osiris Blue	<i>Cupido osiris</i>
31 Holly Blue	<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>
32 Large Bue	<i>Maculinea arion</i>
33 Zephyr Blue	<i>Plebeius pylaon</i>
34 Silver-studded Blue	<i>Plebeius argus</i>
35 Brown Argus	<i>Plebeius agestis</i>
36 Mazarine Blue	<i>Polyommatus semiargus</i>
37 Anomalous Blue	<i>Polyommatus admetus</i>
38 Amanda's Blue	<i>Polyommatus amanda</i>
39 Turquoise Blue	<i>Plebicula dorylas</i>
40 Chalkhill Blue	<i>Lysandra coridon</i>
41 Adonis Blue	<i>Lysandra bellargus</i>
42 Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>
43 Nettle Tree Butterfly	<i>Libythea celtis</i>
44 White Admiral	<i>Limenitis camilla</i>
45 Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>
46 Peacock	<i>Inachis io</i>

47 Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>
48 Small Tortoiseshell	<i>Aglais urticae</i>
49 Comma	<i>Polygonia c-album</i>
50 Dark-green Fritillary	<i>Argynnis aglaja</i>
51 High Brown Fritillary	<i>Argynnis addipe</i>
52 Queen of Spain Fritillary	<i>Issoria lathonia</i>
53 Lesser Marbled Fritillary	<i>Brenthis ino</i>
54 Bog Fritillary	<i>Boloria eunomia</i>
55 Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary	<i>Boloria selene</i>
56 Pearl-bordered Fritillary	<i>Boloria euphrosyne</i>
57 Glanville Fritillary	<i>Melitaea cinxia</i>
58 Knapweed Fritillary	<i>Melitaea phoebe</i>
59 Spotted Fritillary	<i>Melitaea didyma</i>
60 Lesser Spotted Fritillary	<i>Melitaea trivia</i>
61 Heath Fritillary	<i>Melitaea athalia</i>
62 Nickerl's Fritillary	<i>Melitaea aurelia</i>
63 Assman's Fritillary	<i>Melitaea britomartis</i>
64 Marsh Fritillary	<i>Euphidryas maturna</i>
65 Marbled White	<i>Melanargia galathea</i>
66 Balkan Marbled White	<i>Melanargia larissa</i>
67 Great Banded Grayling	<i>Brintesia circe</i>
68 False Grayling	<i>Arethusana arethusa</i>
69 Arran Brown	<i>Erebia ligea</i>
70 Large Ringlet	<i>Erebia euryale</i>
71 Bulgarian Mountain Ringlet	<i>Erebia epiphron orientalis</i>
72 Woodland Ringlet	<i>Erebia medusa</i>
73 Bright-eyed Ringlet	<i>Erebia oeme</i>
74 Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>
75 Oriental Meadow Brown	<i>Hyponephele lupina</i>
76 Ringlet	<i>Aphantopus hyperantus</i>
77 Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>
78 Eastern Large Heath	<i>Coenonympha rhodopensis</i>
79 Pearly Heath	<i>Coenonympha arcania</i>
80 Chestnut Heath	<i>Coenonympha glycerion</i>
81 Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>
82 Large Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata maera</i>
83 Northern Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata petropolitana</i>
84 Sandy Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus cinarae</i>
85 Mallow Skipper	<i>Carcharodus alcea</i>
86 Chequered Skipper	<i>Carterocephalus palaemon</i>
87 Essex Skipper	<i>Thymelicus lineola</i>
88 Small Skipper	<i>Thymelicus sylvestris</i>
89 Large Skipper	<i>Ochlodes sylvanus</i>