

The Spanish Pyrenees

Naturetrek Tour Report

24 - 31 May 2009



Elder-flowered Orchid - *Dactylorhiza sambucina*

Report compiled by Philip Thompson and Cliff Waller

Image by kind courtesy of John Cranmer



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Day 1

Sunday 24th May

Our flight left Stansted on time to arrive in Zaragoza in the evening. After collecting our minibuses it was necessary to head straight to our hotel at Berdun arriving there after midnight and then straight to bed once our rooms had been allocated. As a result not a lot was seen on our first day apart from Common Toad and Brown Rat crossing the road during the journey.

Day 2

Monday 25th May

Our first morning was spent on an easy walk from the hotel down towards the Veral River for a first introduction to the birds and flora of the region. The first notable bird for those in the group was a Melodious Warbler singing prominently from the scrub at the start of the walk. As we approached the river several Golden Oriole could be heard which were glimpsed by all as they flew between areas of Poplars. By this time both Red and Black Kites had been noted passing over, good numbers of both were to be a daily occurrence.

Plants on the walk down had included *Ononis fruticosa*, *Linum narbonense*, *Sambucus ebulus* and *Phlomis lychnitis*. Although not a rare plant, the highlight was the delicate *Romeria hybrida* or Violet Horned-Poppy. The petals of this flower only last the morning so for those of the group that missed it on the way down unluckily the flowers had all finished by the time we made our way back!

Once at the river a fleeting glimpse of a Wryneck was obtained not to the benefit of the group. The disappointment was eased by more and better views of Golden Orioles moving about and our first Griffon Vultures and a Short-toed eagle. Walking alongside the river on the alluvial gravel beds the flora and butterflies were varied and abundant. We came upon the interesting pink forms of *Helianthemum nummularium* ssp. *pyrenaicum* and *Anthyllis vulneraria* ssp. *pyrenaica* to confuse the preconceptions of the group. Our first orchids took the form of *Ophrys scolopax* and abundant *Platanthera bifolia*.

After retuning to the hotel for lunch we then took a short drive to explore the riverside of the Aragon River. The scrub here contained numerous Blackcap, several Garden Warbler, Melodious Warbler, Corn Bunting and both of the ever elusive Cetti's Warbler and Nightingales. The hoped for climax of the walk proved a little frustrating as the Penduline Tits, which were calling constantly, remained elusive with only brief fleeting views obtained. A squealing Water Rail gave vent to our frustration! Luckily more good plants were seen, including *Ononis natrix*, *Dipcadi serotonim* and *Aphyllanthes monspeliensis*.

Day 3

Tuesday 26th May

Today we headed south to explore the subalpine/Mediterranean flora and birds of Riglos and the surrounding area. On the journey a quick stop was taken to admire a close overhead Booted Eagle.

A strong wind was blowing around the base of the Riglos Pinnacles on our arrival which hampered our efforts in picking up any smaller birds in the surrounding scrub, this did not affect the Griffon Vultures, Egyptian Vultures, Chough and Alpine Swifts flying above our heads. We returned by a different path taking us into the sun and out of the wind. We then took our picnic lunch whilst watching a pair of Blue Rock Thrushes taking food to a nest at the base of the cliffs and also being 'serrenaded' by a Rock Sparrow on the nearby church tower. The plants here included *Allium sphaerocephalon*, *Allium bupleuroprasum*, *Asphodelus fistulosa* and *Coris monspessulanus*.

We next moved on to visit the 11th century Castillo de Loarre set high overlooking the surrounding plains. Unfortunately the earlier wind had by now picked up considerably so that despite the clear sunny conditions it was now decidedly unpleasant to spend time exploring. We just had time to hear several singing Bonelli's Warblers and watch a couple of Crested Tits before abandoning the area for calmer conditions.

We found relative calm on the shores of the large Embalse de la Pena overlooking a small reedbed. A pair of Bee-eaters had posed on the nearby wires and more Rock Sparrows called from the bare scree behind us. The hoped for Great Reed Warblers were sulking in the reeds and did not show. We did however witness an irate Golden Oriole in hot pursuit of a Cuckoo, an unusual piece of interaction. Again the flowers came to the rescue with an abundance of *Dactylorhiza majalis* and probable hybrid offspring with *Dactylorhiza incarnata* showing well on the lake edge.

Day 4

Wednesday 27th May

In view of the lovely clear sunny conditions and dropping wind we headed up into the beautiful Aisa Valley for a long walk in the mountains to enjoy the flowers of this pristine valley.

The abundance of flowers at the start of the walk was quite overwhelming and took a little time to take in all the species present. The Gentians stole the show as they were all open to the sun colouring whole areas. Mixed among them were *Dactylorhiza sambucina*, *Anthyllis vulneraria*, *Vicia pyrenaica*, *Vitalliana primulifolia*, *Astragalus sempervirens*, *Trifolium montanum*, *Primula elatior* and many more. In the wet seepages these plants were replaced by *Primula farinosa*, *Trollius europaeus* and *Caltha palustris*.

As we climbed higher we came upon areas where the snow had only recently cleared which were full of *Narcissus minor* which in turn were replaced higher by *Narcissus requienii*. The season had indeed been kind to us on this trip as the whole length of our walk was overflowing with flowers in some of the best mountain weather one could hope for! As if the flowers weren't enough we also had our first Lammergeyer drifting along the slopes above us as well as a small herd of IZARD and several De Prunner's Ringlets flying over the meadows. Our picnic was taken relaxing in the grass listening to running water a million miles from our day to day worries. Nearby an Egyptian Vulture rested on a cliff face below a colony of nesting House Martins in their ancestral home. A few chose to venture a little higher after lunch to be rewarded with a few new plants, the highlight being a single *Soldanella pyrenaica*, and some wonderful views. Our walk back was enlivened by the presence of several troops of the Spanish army on manoeuvres in the valley bivouacked at a couple of spots.

Day 5

Thursday 28th May

An early morning walk was taken to try and get some better views of the Penduline Tits seen earlier in the week. Again they were calling repeatedly on arrival at their territory and after a short while we all finally got some decent views even through the telescope. An added bonus was a pair of Marsh Harriers nesting nearby which gave good views. On returning to the buses a couple of Little Ringed Plover were spotted on the shingle islands in the river.

The weather was still on our side with a clear sunny day as we set off for the Foz de Binies Gorge. A slight detour down the wrong road resulted in good views of a sleepy Little Owl snoozing in the sun on a ruined barn. A lucky result! After a little juggling of the buses the group set off for a leisurely walk along the road through the gorge. The resident Griffon Vultures on the crags showed well and were joined by a couple of Egyptian Vultures. One of the first plants encountered on the rock face was *Petrocoptis hispanica*, a member of the Pink family and a group generally confined to Northern Spain. Moving slowly on resulted in us finding several new plants, including both *Vincetoxicum nigrum* and *hirundinaria*, *Pisum sativum* (the forebear of the cultivated pea), *Allium moly* and the localized *Allium pyrenaicum*. Shrubs and trees included *Acer monspessulanum*, *Jasminium fruticans* and *Lonicera pyrenaica*. Two botanical highlights for the trip, being both very attractive and specialities of the area, were however *Ramonda myconi* and *Saxifraga longifolia* which were both flowering profusely in places. The birds included several Grey Wagtail and Dipper on the river and a few Raven overhead.

Once we had exited the gorge at the far end we settled down to lunch in the pleasant riverside meadows of some renown for the abundance of butterflies that can be seen here. They did not disappoint with up to 7 species of blue at one time feeding on the salts from a drying puddle! A very brief flyover Hawfinch was seen by only a few whilst a perched Spotted Flycatcher and soaring Sparrowhawk proved more obliging.

We then moved on to walk a short section of the Santiago Trail ending at Arres. The scrubby hillside through which the trail led contained several Subalpine Warblers singing and showing well. At one point we had a Subalpine Warbler, a Stonechat and an Ortolan Bunting all in the same bush! Plants included several clumps of *Melittis mellisophyllum* in several colour forms, *Linum viscosum*, *Trifolium ochroleucon* and *Orchis laxiflora* and *ustulata* being added to the list. Notable along the trail were several Duke of Burgundy Butterflies.

A cooling drink was then taken in the café in Arres before our final walk of the day down to the Aragon River nearby to a spot not previously visited by this tour.

This proved to be an excellent area with an abundance of Bee-eaters, which were nesting nearby, Marsh Harrier and Honey Buzzard all seen. It was the flora that was the main highlight and the orchids in particular. New species added included *Ophrys araneola*, *fusca* and *lutea* as well as *Ophrys scolopax* and *sphegodes* already seen, *Orchis militaris*, *purpurea* and *coriophora*, *Platanthera bifolia* and *Anacamptis pyramidalis*. Quite a haul!

After our evening meal, which was taken a little earlier than the previous norm in a different restaurant near the main road, we set out for an evening jaunt to a nearby site. Our target was a sighting of the resident Eagle Owl setting out for its nocturnal hunting foray from its nearby breeding haunt. We were not to be lucky on this occasion but were compensated with several sightings of displaying and hunting Nightjar and also hearing their strange 'song'. Several Midwife Toads could also be heard to add to the confusion of hearing the similar calling Scops Owl.

Day 6

Friday 29th May

Being blessed with glorious weather once more we headed east and then north towards the French border high among the summits of the Pyrenees at Portelet.

Our first stop was at the small roadside reserve near the ski resort of Formigal to see the orchids there, in particular the Holy Grail of European orchids, *Cypripedium calceolus* The Ladies Slipper. The warm and sunny conditions we had been enjoying in the previous days had done their job of bringing the first flowers to their best for us to admire, whilst around could be seen more yet to come being equally attractive in nodding bud. As there were still a lot of young plants present in the grass which could be easily overlooked the warden was reluctant to take us to visit the other side of the road so we had to rely on binocular views of the *Menyanthes bifolia* in the wet marsh there.

It was then on up to the large car park near the border where we disembarked and set off on our walk into the mountains. The slightly later season this year resulted in a minor panic that the *Fritillaria pyrenaica* were still not out, but upon further searching a splendid slope of blooms was found adorned with this special flower. A added bonus of the season was that the *Narcissus bicolor* were showing beautifully and covering whole slopes. Competing for attention was a couple of large populations of *Scilla pyrenaica*. The abundant white *Ranunculus amplexicaulis* at the start of the walk were replaced by *Ranunculus pyrenaica* in the higher meadows. Once more the flowers made for a fantastic spectacle so that those keen were rapidly separated from the birders in the group as they scrutinised and clambered about the slopes!

A singing Ortolan Bunting showed very well and gave an opportunity to compare the song with that of its close relatives the Yellowhammer and Cirl Bunting All variations on a theme. A pair of Rock Thrush gave the birders the run around and unfortunately was not seen by all. Singing Water Pipits, Black redstarts and Northern Wheatears all competed for our attention and provided a constant presence during our walk.

After climbing for some time, and watching a close herd of IZARD on the way, we stopped to eat and soak in our surroundings. The weather could not have been any better for a mountain walk and the views were 'picture postcard' all around. The relative lack of birds at these high altitudes was more than compensated for by the flowers and wonderful scenery. The walk had also been enlivened by the numerous sightings of Alpine Marmots as they scurried across the meadows and down into their burrows.

We did climb higher after lunch in the hope of finding the elusive Alpine Accentors, but were not successful, the views softening the disappointment. Our walk had taken us over into France and back and then on down to the buses and the nearby cafés for coffee before a scenic drive back to the hotel.

Day 7

Saturday 30th May

We spent another day in the higher mountains but this time mainly within the *Pinus nigra* canopy, which had been noted earlier in the trip to be heavily parasitized at times by *Viscum album* ssp *austriaca*. We travelled up into the Hecho Valley before leaving the main road and taking a very rough track up towards the mountain refuge at Gabardito. Here we disembarked and set off up the slopes under the forest canopy. We soon spotted two examples of the Wintergreen family in the form of *Moneses uniflora* and *Pyrola chlorantha* (which was unfortunately not quite open in flower yet).

Time spent botanising was curtailed as attention shifted to our main goal which was the cliff face where we hoped to see the magical Wallcreeper. Pace was quickened when we met a couple of German birders heading down who confirmed their sighting of this much sought after species! Once at the base of the cliff it was a test of perseverance and dedication as our vigil began. Luckily a few other birds were present in the area which included Egyptian and Griffon Vultures, Crag Martins, Choughs and Alpine Swifts as well as some distant IZARD to while away the time. At last, just when we were about at breaking point and about to head, back a male Wallcreeper flew across the valley and landed on the rock face immediately in front of the group! We then all made the most of the minute or two spent foraging by the bird before it flew out of sight around the cliff. So they really do exist after all! We then retraced our steps back to the vehicles for lunch and a coffee in the Refuge before a few brief views of Citril Finch ended our time here.

For the afternoon we headed down towards the Monastery at St. Juan de la Pena. This journey was stopped in its tracks by a close overhead Lammergeyer which we all piled out of the vehicles to admire as it circled overhead. A brief roadside viewpoint stop was taken just before the monastery where we saw *Tulipa australis* and *Onoropordium acaulis*.

Walking from the car park at St. Juan de la Pena we stopped to admire the small colony of *Orchis champagnouxii* before continuing on to the viewpoint where we rested awhile. Returning we tried tape luring the local Black Woodpeckers with no luck so continued into the car park. Here the group had split with one half suddenly spotting a male Black Woodpecker flying through the trees past them. Upon reforming we continued searching before spotting the bird again perched on a nearby tree. All then got some great views and heard a range of the very loud vocalizations that this species is known for. A great end to the day!

Day 8

Sunday 31st May

Since we had a late flight home we took the opportunity to explore some of the pseudo-steppe areas surrounding Zaragoza on our homeward journey.

We stopped initially at the Embalse de Sotenera for some hoped for wetland birds. Nearly every species seen was new to the trip. Several Little Egrets were joined by at least 4 Cattle Egret and a single Great White Egret feeding among the lake-side marshes. A single distant flyby Purple heron was seen by some.

An unexpected bonus were 3-4 Red-crested Pochards on the lake. Walking around the shore we crossed some redundant arable areas which contained several Short-toed and Calandra Larks.

After moving on we travelled towards Zaragoza and looked out for a suitable picnic spot which proved hard to find in the open tree-less landscape and scorching heat! Finally, after some minor navigational difficulties, we stopped to eat and were pleased to spot a handsome Black-eared Wheatear on a nearby post. Then we moved on to Belchite where it was decided to stop for coffee/cold drinks for an hour or so to let the worst of the afternoon heat dissipate before we began an exploration of the local area.

Once we had reboarded we soon left Belchite town and ventured out into the extraordinary landscape nearby. A small wetland area had a pair of Montagu's Harriers hunting over. Leaving the main road we took to the dry dirt tracks and immediately became aware of the super-abundance of larks in the area. This truly is the land of the lark. Over the next hour or so during our driving and short walks we picked up Short-toed, Lesser Short-toed, Calandra, Crested and the top prize, Dupont's Larks. They were never generally easy due to their flighty nature and time of day but most of the group got reasonable views of most of the species present. We also flushed a Stone Curlew and another Little Owl, and one bus saw a Lesser Grey Shrike.

Finally we needed to head for the airport. We stopped en route to refuel and allow everyone a chance to pack away their equipment etc and eat their packed lunches at the glamorous location of a motorway service station. As luck would have it some then had a sighting of two Great Spotted Cuckoos and a Ring-necked Parakeet to complete the trip!

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Species List

Plants

Scientific name	Common name
<i>Pinaceae</i>	Pine family
<i>Pinus nigra</i>	Austrian Pine
<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	Scots Pine
<i>Cupressaceae</i>	Cypress family
<i>Juniperus communis</i>	Common Juniper
<i>Juniperus oxycedrus</i>	Prickly Juniper
<i>Fagaceae</i>	Oak family
<i>Castanea sativa</i>	Sweet Chestnut
<i>Quercus pyrenaica</i>	Pyrenean Oak
<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	Beech
<i>Santalaceae</i>	Sandalwood family
<i>Osyris alba</i>	Osyris
<i>Moraceae</i>	Mulberry family
<i>Ficus sycomorus</i>	Wild Fig
<i>Loranthaceae</i>	Mistletoe family
<i>Viscum album ssp austriacum</i>	Mistletoe
<i>Polygonaceae</i>	Dock family
<i>Rumex scutatus</i>	French Sorrel
<i>Polygonum viviparum</i>	Alpine Bistort
<i>Carophyllaceae</i>	Pink family
<i>Petrocoptis pyrenaica</i>	
<i>Silene nutans</i>	Nottingham Catchfly
<i>Silene rupestris</i>	Rock Campion
<i>Saponaria ocymoides</i>	Rock Soapwort
<i>Petrorhagia saxifraga</i>	Tunic Flower
<i>Petrorhagia prolifera</i>	Proliferous Pink
<i>Stellaria media</i>	Common Chickweed
<i>Cerastium arvense</i>	Field Mouse-ear
<i>Cerastium tomentosum</i>	Snow in Summer
<i>Minuartia verna</i>	Spring Sandwort
<i>Paronychia capitata</i>	
<i>Ranunculaceae</i>	Buttercup family
<i>Helleborus viridus</i>	Green Hellebore
<i>Helleborus foetidus</i>	Stinking Hellebore
<i>Nigella arvensis</i>	Love-in-a-mist
<i>Thalictrum tuberosum</i>	
<i>Trollius europaeus</i>	Globeflower
<i>Caltha palustris</i>	Marsh Marigold
<i>Anemone narcissifolia</i>	Narcissus-flowered Anemone
<i>Hepatica nobilis</i>	Hepatica
<i>Adonis vernalis</i>	Yellow Pheasant's-eye
<i>Ranunculus gouanii</i>	Gouan's Buttercup

Scientific name	Common name
<i>Ranunculus pyrenaicus</i>	Pyrenean Buttercup
<i>Ranunculus amplexicaulis</i>	Amplexicaule Buttercup
<i>Consolida regalis</i>	Forking Larkspur
<i>Aquilegia vulgaris</i>	Common Columbine
Fumariaceae	Fumitory family
<i>Corydalis solida</i>	Solid-tubered Corydalis
Papaveraceae	Poppy family
<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>	Field Poppy
<i>Roemeria hybrida</i>	
Cruciferae	Cress family
<i>Descurainia sophia</i>	Flixweed
<i>Arabis turrata</i>	Tower Cress
<i>Draba azooides</i>	Yellow Whitlow-grass
Resedaceae	Mignonette family
<i>Reseda lutea</i>	Weld
<i>Reseda luteola</i>	Mignonette
<i>Reseda phyteuma</i>	Corn Mignonette
Crassulaceae	Stonecrop family
<i>Sedum album</i>	White Stonecrop
<i>Sedum dasyphyllum</i>	Thick-leaved Stonecrop
<i>Umbelicus rupestris</i>	Navelwort
Saxifragaceae	Saxifrage family
<i>Saxifraga granulata</i>	Meadow Saxifrage
<i>Saxifraga longifolia</i>	Pyrenean Saxifrage
Rosaceae	Rose family
<i>Filipendula vulgaris</i>	Dropwort
<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg.	Bramble
<i>Geum pyrenaicum</i>	Pyrenean Avens
<i>Potentilla rupestris</i>	Rock Cinquefoil
<i>Potentilla crantzii</i>	Alpine Cinquefoil
<i>Alchemilla alpina</i>	Alpine Lady's Mantle
<i>Amelanchier ovalis</i>	Amelanchier
Leguminosae	Pea family
<i>Echinospartum horridum</i>	Echinospartum
<i>Astragalus monspessulanus</i>	False Vetch
<i>Dorycnium pentaphyllum</i>	
<i>Vicia pyrenaica</i>	Pyrenean Vetch
<i>Lathyrus latifolius</i>	Broad-leaved Everlasting Pea
<i>Ononis fruticosa</i>	Shrubby Restharrow
<i>Ononis natrix</i>	Large Yellow Restharrow
<i>Pisum sativum</i>	Wild Pea
<i>Psoralea bituminosa</i>	Pitch Trefoil
<i>Medicago sativa</i>	Lucerne
<i>Trifolium montanum</i>	Mountain Clover
<i>Trifolium ochroleucon</i>	Sulphur Clover
<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i> ssp <i>pyrenaica</i>	Pink Kidney Vetch

Scientific name <i>Coronilla emerus</i> <i>Tetragonolobus maritimus</i>	Common name Scorpion Vetch Dragon's Teeth
Geraniaceae <i>Geranium pyrenaicum</i>	Geranium family Hedge Cranesbill
Euphorbiaceae <i>Euphorbia serrata</i>	Spurge family
Linaceae <i>Linum bienne</i> <i>Linum viscosum</i> <i>Linum narbonense</i> <i>Linum suffruticosum ssp. salsaloides</i>	Flax family Pale Flax Sticky Flax Beautiful Flax White Flax
Aceraceae <i>Acer monspessulanum</i>	Maple family Montpelier Maple
Anacardiaceae <i>Pistacia lentiscus</i>	Pistacio Family Mastic Tree
Buxaceae <i>Buxus sempervirens</i>	Box family Box
Vitaceae <i>Vitis vinifera</i>	Vine family Wild Grape Vine
Rhamnaceae <i>Rhamnus pumilis</i>	Buckthorn family Dwarf Buckthorn
Thymelaceae <i>Daphne cneorum</i> <i>Daphne laureola</i>	Daphne family Garland Flower Spurge Laurel
Violaceae <i>Viola rupestris</i>	Violet family Teesdale Violet
Cistaceae <i>Helianthemum nummularium</i> <i>Helianthemum n. ssp. pyrenaicum</i> <i>Helianthemum apenninum</i> <i>Helianthemum canum</i> <i>Fumana ericoides</i>	Rockrose family Common Rockrose Pink Rockrose White Rockrose Hoary Rockrose
Cornaceae <i>Cornus sanguinea</i>	Dogwood family Common Dogwood
Araliaceae <i>Hedera helix</i>	Ivy family Ivy
Umbelliferae <i>Eryngium bourgatii</i> <i>Eryngium campestre</i> <i>Bupleurum falcatum</i>	Carrot family Pyrenean Eryngo Field Eryngo Sickle Hare's-ear

Scientific name	Common name
Pyrolaceae	Wintergreen family
<i>Moneses uniflora</i>	One-flowered Wintergreen
<i>Pyrola chlorantha</i>	
Ericaceae	Heath family
<i>Rhododendron ferrugineum</i>	Alpenrose
Primulaceae	Primrose family
<i>Primula elatior</i>	Oxlip
<i>Primula farinosa</i>	Birdseye Primrose
<i>Primula hirsuta</i>	
<i>Androsace chamaejasme</i>	Ciliate Rock-jasmine
<i>Vitaliana primuliflora</i>	Vitaliana
<i>Soldanella alpina</i>	Alpine Snowbell
<i>Soldanella villosa</i>	
<i>Coris monspeliensis</i>	Coris
Plumbaginaceae	Thrift family
<i>Armeria maritima ssp alpina</i>	Mountain Thrift
Oleaceae	Olive family
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash
<i>Jasminium fruticans</i>	Wild Jasmine
Convolvulaceae	Bindweed family
<i>Convolvulus cantabrica</i>	Pink Bindweed
Gentianaceae	Gentian family
<i>Gentiana acaulis</i>	Trumpet Gentian
<i>Gentiana occidentalis</i>	Pyrenean Trumpet Gentian
<i>Gentiana verna</i>	Spring Gentian
<i>Blackstonia perfoliata</i>	Yellow-wort
Asclepidaceae	Milkweed family
<i>Vincetoxicum hirundinarium</i>	Swallow-wort
<i>Vincetoxicum nigrum</i>	Black Swallow-wort
Boraginaceae	Borage family
<i>Lithodora diffusa</i>	Scrambling Gromwell
<i>Myosotis alpestris</i>	Alpine Forget-me-not
<i>Cynoglossum creticum</i>	Blue Hound's-tongue
Labiatae	Mint family
<i>Ajuga chamaepitys</i>	Ground Pine
<i>Sideritis hirsuta</i>	
<i>Salvia verbenaca</i>	Clary
<i>Stachys recta</i>	Yellow Woundwort
<i>Melittis melissophyllum</i>	Bastard Balm
<i>Acinos alpina</i>	Alpine Calamint
<i>Acinos arvensis</i>	Basil-thyme
<i>Lavandula angustifolia</i>	Lavender
<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>	Rosemary
<i>Horminum pyrenaicum</i>	Dragonmouth

Scientific name	Common name
<i>Phlomis lychnitis</i>	
<i>Phlomis herba-venti</i>	
<i>Marrubium vulgare</i>	White Whorehound
Scrophulariaceae	Figwort family
<i>Chaenorbinum oreganifolium</i>	
<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	Snapdragon
<i>Linaria supina</i>	Pyrenean Toadflax
<i>Linaria alpina</i>	Alpine Toadflax
<i>Erinus alpinus</i>	Fairy Foxglove
<i>Verbascum nigrum</i>	Dark Mullein
<i>Verbascum pulverulentum</i>	Hoary Mullein
<i>Pedicularis pyrenaica</i>	Pyrenean Lousewort
<i>Rhinanthus minor</i>	Yellow Rattle
Gesneriaceae	Gloxinia family
<i>Ramonda myconi</i>	Ramonda
Solanaceae	Nightshade family
<i>Atropa belladonna</i>	Deadly Nightshade
<i>Hyoscyamus niger</i>	Henbane
Globulariaceae	Globularia family
<i>Globularia repens</i>	
<i>Globularia nudicaulis</i>	Leafless-stemmed Globularia
<i>Globularia punctata</i>	Common Globularia
Lentibulariaceae	Butterwort family
<i>Pinguicula grandiflora</i>	
<i>Pinguicula vulgaris</i>	Common Butterwort
Plantaginaceae	Plantain family
<i>Plantago media</i>	Hoary plantain
<i>Plantago arenaria</i>	Branched plantain
Orobanchaceae	Broomrape family
<i>Orobranche hederiae</i>	Ivy Broomrape
Caprifoliaceae	Honeysuckle family
<i>Lonicera pyrenaica</i>	Pyrenean honeysuckle
<i>Sambucus ebulus</i>	Dwarf elder
Valerianaceae	Valerian family
<i>Centranthus ruber</i>	Red Valerian
<i>Valeriana globularifolia</i>	Globularia-leaved Valerian
<i>Valeriana montana</i>	
Campanulaceae	Bellflower family
<i>Campanula persicifolia</i>	Peach-leaved Bellflower
Dipsacaceae	Teasel family
<i>Knautia dipsacifolia</i>	Wood Scabious
Compositae	Daisy family

Scientific name	Common name
<i>Pallenis spinosa</i>	
<i>Onopordium acanthium</i>	Cotton Thistle
<i>Onopordium acanlon</i>	Stemless Cotton Thistle
<i>Carduus nutans</i>	Musk Thistle
<i>Silybum marianum</i>	Milk Thistle
<i>Leuzia conifera</i>	Leuzia
<i>Centaurea montana</i>	
<i>Centaurea solstitialis</i>	Yellow Star-thistle
<i>Lactuca perennis</i>	Blue Lettuce
<i>Tragopogon pratensis</i>	Goatsbeard
<i>Tragopogon crocifolius</i>	
<i>Catananche caerulea</i>	Cupid's Dart
<i>Helichrysum stoechas</i>	Curry Plant
<i>Santolina chamaecyparissus</i>	Lavender Cotton
<i>Cinchorium intybus</i>	Chicory
Order Monocotyledons	

Liliaceae	Lily family
<i>Aphyllanthes monspeliensis</i>	Blue Aphyllanthes
<i>Anthericum liliago</i>	St. Bernard's Lily
<i>Paridisea liliastrum</i>	St. Bruno's Lily
<i>Allium sphaerocephalon</i>	Round-headed Leek
<i>Allium ampeloprasum</i>	Wild Leek
<i>Allium moly</i>	Yellow Onion
<i>Allium pyrenaicum</i>	
<i>Asphodelus albus</i>	White Asphodel
<i>Asphodelus fistulosus</i>	Hollow-leaved Asphodel
<i>Fritillaria pyrenaica</i>	Pyrenean Snakeshead
<i>Tulipa australis</i>	Wild Tulip
<i>Lilium martagon</i>	Martagon Lily
<i>Scilla verna</i>	Spring Squill
<i>Dipcadi serotonin</i>	Dipcadi/Brown Bluebell
<i>Ornithogalum narbonense</i>	
<i>Brimeura amethystinus</i>	Pyrenean Hyacinth
<i>Scilla liliohyacinthus</i>	
<i>Muscari neglectum</i>	Grape Hyacinth
<i>Muscari comosum</i>	Tassel Hyacinth
<i>Ruscus aculeatus</i>	Butcher's Broom
<i>Asparagus officinalis</i>	Asparagus

Amaryllidaceae	Daffodil family
<i>Narcissus requienii</i>	
<i>Narcissus bicolor</i>	
<i>Narcissus pallidiflorus</i>	Pale Lent Lily

Iridaceae	Iris family
<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	Flag Iris
<i>Iris graminea</i>	Grassy-leaved Iris
<i>Gladiolus italicus</i>	Field Gladiolus
<i>Crocus albiflorus</i>	

Orchidaceae	Orchid family
<i>Cypripedium calceolus</i>	Lady's Slipper Orchid
<i>Ophrys araneola</i>	Small Spider Orchid

Scientific name	Common name
<i>Ophrys fusca</i>	Dull Ophrys
<i>Ophrys lutea</i>	Yellow Ophrys
<i>Ophrys sphegodes</i>	Early Spider Orchid
<i>Ophrys scolopax</i>	Woodcock Orchid
<i>Orchis coriophora</i>	Bug Orchid
<i>Orchis laxiflora</i>	Lax-flowered Orchid
<i>Orchis mascula</i>	Early Purple Orchid
<i>Orchis militaris</i>	Military Orchid
<i>Orchis purpurea</i>	Lady Orchid
<i>Orchis ustulata</i>	Burnt Tip Orchid
<i>Orchis champagnouxii</i>	Champagne Orchid
<i>Coeloglossum viride</i>	Frog Orchid
<i>Dactylorhiza sambucina</i>	Elder-flowered Orchid
<i>Dactylorhiza elata</i>	Robust Marsh Orchid
<i>Dactylorhiza majalis</i>	Broad-leaved Marsh Orchid
<i>Anacamptis pyramidalis</i>	Pyramidal Orchid
<i>Gymnadenia conopsea</i>	Fragrant Orchid
<i>Cephalanthera longifolia</i>	Sword-leaved Helleborine
<i>Cephalanthera damasonium</i>	White Helleborine
<i>Plantanthera chlorantha</i>	Greater Butterfly Orchid
<i>Plantanthera bifolia</i>	Lesser Butterfly Orchid
<i>Listera ovata</i>	Twayblade

Birds (H = heard only)

	Common name	Scientific name	May							
			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
1	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>								6
2	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>								10
3	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>								4
4	Great White Egret	<i>Egretta alba</i>								1
5	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>								1
6	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓			2
7	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>								✓
8	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>								8
9	Red-crested Pochard	<i>Netta rufina</i>								4
10	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
11	Red Kite	<i>Milvus milvus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
12	Short-toed Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>		1	2		2	1		
13	Egyptian Vulture	<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>			4	2	3	1	2	
14	Lammergeier	<i>Gypaetus barbatus</i>				3			1	
15	Griffon Vulture	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>		20	✓	8	✓	2	✓	✓
16	Eurasian Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>					2	2		2
17	Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>								4
18	Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>						2		
19	Northern Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>					1			
20	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>		2		1	1	3	3	2
21	Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>				1	1			
22	Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraetus pennatus</i>			2	1	1			
23	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>			1					
24	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>			2	3	1	1	1	1
25	Red-legged Partridge	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>				1				
26	Common Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>		H			H			

	Common name	Scientific name	May							
			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
27	Water Rail	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>		H						
28	Little Bustard	<i>Tetrax tetrax</i>								1
29	Stone Curlew	<i>Burhinus oedicnemus</i>								1
30	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>		2			3			2
31	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>					1			
32	Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>								2
33	Yellow-legged Herring Gull	<i>Larus cachinnans</i>		✓	✓		✓			4
34	Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>			✓					
35	Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>		✓	✓		✓			✓
36	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
37	Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>		3	1	1	1		1	
38	Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>		H	2		H	H		
39	Great Spotted Cuckoo	<i>Clamator glandarius</i>								2
40	Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>								2
41	Scops Owl	<i>Otus scops</i>					H			
42	Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>			1					
43	Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i>					4			
44	Alpine Swift	<i>Apus melba</i>			3		4		5	
45	Pallid Swift	<i>Apus pallidus</i>						2		
46	European Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
47	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>		H						
48	Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>				1				1
49	European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>			2		28			4
50	Rose-ringed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>								1
51	Black Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus martius</i>							1	
52	Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>		H			H	H	1	
53	Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>		1		1	2		H	
54	Wryneck	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>		1						
55	Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>					2			
56	Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>								1
57	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>			2	1	8	2	✓	✓
58	Short-toed Lark	<i>Calandrella brachydactyla</i>								30
59	Lesser Short-toed Lark	<i>Calandrella rufescens</i>								4
60	Calandra Lark	<i>Melanocorypha calandra</i>								20
61	Dupont's Lark	<i>Chersophilus duponti</i>								1
62	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>		2			5			
63	Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>		2	✓		20	10	10	
64	House Martin	<i>Delichon urbica</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
65	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
66	Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Hirundo daurica</i>		1						
67	Water Pipit	<i>Anthus spinoletta</i>						6		
68	Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>								2
69	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>		✓	2	✓	✓		2	2
70	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>				2	6			
71	Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>		✓	1	1	✓		H	
72	Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>				6	H			
73	Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>				1			2	
74	Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>			3	3	6	1		1
75	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>		2	10	5	✓	12	2	
76	Common Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>		2		8	✓	10		

	Common name	Scientific name	May							
			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
77	Black-eared Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe hispanica</i>		2						2
78	Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola saxatilis</i>						2		
79	Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>			2		1			
80	Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
81	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>		1						
82	Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>							3	
83	Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>								H
84	Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>		H	H		H			
85	Fan-tailed Warbler	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>								H
86	Melodious Warbler	<i>Hippolais polyglotta</i>		✓			✓	2		
87	Garden warbler	<i>Sylvia borin</i>		2			2			
88	Common Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>				H		1	1	
89	Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>		2		H	H		H	
90	Sardinian Warbler	<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>			5		1			
91	Subalpine Warbler	<i>Sylvia cantillans</i>					6	1		
92	Bonelli's Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus bonelli</i>			2	H	H		H	
93	Wood Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>							1	
94	Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>				H	1		1	
95	Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapillus</i>			5		1			
96	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>					2			
97	Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>		H			3			
98	Penduline Tit	<i>Remiz pedulinus</i>		2			2			
99	Crested Tit	<i>Lophophanes cristatus</i>			3					
100	Coal Tit	<i>Periparus ater</i>							4	
101	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
102	Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		✓	✓	H	✓		✓	
103	Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>					1		H	
104	Wallcreeper	<i>Tichodroma muralis</i>							1	
105	Short-toed Treecreeper	<i>Certhia brachydactyla</i>		H					H	
106	Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>		1			1			
107	Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>					2			
108	Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>			1	2	1			
109	Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>		3	3		2			
110	Lesser Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius minor</i>								1
111	Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
112	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>		✓					3	
113	Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax Pyrrhocorax</i>			30	30	2	16	6	
114	Alpine Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax graculus</i>				3		6		
115	Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
116	Jackdaw	<i>Corvus monedula</i>								1
117	Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>		4	1	6	2	3	3	
118	Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>		6	2		4			
119	Spotless Starling	<i>Sturnus unicolor</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
120	Rock Sparrow	<i>Petronia petronia</i>		1	8	4	5	1	1	4
121	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
122	Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		H	✓	H	1	✓	✓	
123	Citril Finch	<i>Serinus citrinella</i>							3	
124	Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>		4	✓	✓		✓	✓	2
125	Linnet	<i>Acanthis cannabina</i>		2	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
126	Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

	Common name	Scientific name	May							
			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
127	Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>		✓	✓	✓	1	✓		
128	Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>				1				
129	Corn Bunting	<i>Miliaria calandra</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
130	Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>				2			1	
131	Rock Bunting	<i>Emberiza cia</i>				2				
132	Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirius</i>		2	4	1	7			
133	Oortolan Bunting	<i>Emberiza hortulana</i>					1	3		

Butterflies

	Common name	Scientific name
		Family Papilionidae
		Subfamily Papilioninae
1	Scarce(Spanish) Swallowtail	<i>Iphiclides podalirius</i>
		Family Pieridae
		Subfamily Pierinae
2	Black-veined White	<i>Aporia crataegi</i>
3	Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>
4	Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>
5	Orange Tip	<i>Anthocharis cardamines</i>
		Subfamily Coliadinae
6	Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias crocea</i>
7	Berger's Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias australis</i>
8	Brimstone	<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>
9	Cleopatra	<i>Gonepteryx Cleopatra</i>
		Subfamily Dismorphiinae
10	Wood White	<i>Leptidea sinapis</i>
		Family Lycaenidae
		Subfamily Polyommatainae
11	Osiris Blue	<i>Cupido osiris</i>
12	Little Blue	<i>Cupido minimus</i>
13	Green-underside Blue	<i>Glaucopsyche alexis</i>
14	Baton Blue	<i>Pseudophilotes baton</i>
15	Spanish Chalkhill Blue	<i>Lysandra albicans</i>
16	Mazarine Blue	<i>Cyaniris semiargus</i>
17	Adonis Blue	<i>Lysandra bellargus</i>
		Subfamily Riodininae
18	Duke of Burgundy	<i>Hamearis lucina</i>
		Family Nymphalidae
		Subfamily Limenitinae
19	South White Admiral	<i>Limentitis reducta</i>
		Subfamily Nymphalinae
20	Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>
21	Small Tortoiseshell	<i>Aglais urticae</i>
22	Heath Fritillary	<i>Mellicta athalia</i>
		Subfamily Heliconiinae
23	Pearl-bordered Fritillary	<i>Boloria euphrosyne</i>
24	Weaver's Fritillary	<i>Boloria dia</i>
		Subfamily Satyrinae
25	De Prunner's Ringlet	<i>Erebia triaria</i>
26	Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>
27	Pearly Heath	<i>Coenonympha arcania</i>
28	Chestnut (Spanish) Heath	<i>Coenonympha glyceron</i>

29	Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>
30	Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>
31	Large Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata maera</i>
		Family HesperIIDae
		Subfamily Pryginae
32	Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus malvae</i>
33	Red-underwing Skipper	<i>Spialia sertorius</i>
34	Mallow Skipper	<i>Carcharodus alceae</i>
35	Marbled Skipper	<i>Carcharodus lavatherae</i>
36	Dingy Skipper	<i>Erynnis tages</i>

Mammals

Fox	Stoat	Red Squirrel	Marmot
Roe Deer	lizard		

Reptiles and Amphibians

Common Frog	Iberian Pool frog	Common Toad	Palmate Newt
Wall Lizard	Viviparous Lizard	Grass Snake	Aescalupian Snake
Ladder Snake			