

France - Butterflies of the Pyrenees

Naturetrek Tour Report

2nd – 9th July 2025



Marbled White



Spurge Hawkmoth



Southern Heath Fritillary



Rock Grayling

Tour report by John Davis. Images courtesy of Pauline Jones and John Davis



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Summary

Unexpectedly the tour ran with a compact group, yet we had a very enjoyable week in the valleys, just catching the transition in flight periods for many species in what was an unusually advanced season. The hay cutting was progressing 15 or more days earlier than normal according to surprised locals, the spring heatwaves having already had a great impact in the lower parts of the Pyrenees.

As keen wildlife photographers and seasoned birders, the group were very good at finding interest everywhere. The 70 butterfly and 25-or so moth species listed feels to under-represent the experience - our days were filled with discoveries and the delights of the spectacular mountain scenery. Highlights to savour included close encounters with birds they were keenly hoping to see: Snow Finch, Alpine Accentor and Alpine Chough. In equal measure the butterflies did not disappoint with Apollos, Glandon Blue, Lefèvre's Ringlet and Mountain Clouded Yellow topping the bill. Our close views of the Pyrenean Rock Lizard and Brook Salamander, both notable endemics, were very satisfying.

As ever the friendly welcome and comforts of our hotel, each evening providing another fine feast to enjoy, completed the whole pleasurable experience.

Day 1

Wednesday 2nd July

Lourdes-Tarbes airport and hotel in Gèdre-Gavarnie

Our flight's departure was delayed but all went smoothly from then and with hire car retrieval completed in reasonable time and empty roads we reached the hotel in time to settle in and start dinner just after 8pm. The overcast weather with low cloud blocked our views of the mountains on the drive in but we still spotted Red & Black Kites along the way.

Day 2

Thursday 3rd July

Héas valley and Lac des Gloriettes

The daybreak cloud cover gave us cool but dry conditions as we set off up the nearby Héas valley but brightening conditions soon brought out the butterflies. Our first two stops of the morning soon fulfilled our expectations, with a rapidly growing range of exciting species including Apollo, Black-veined White, Wood White and a worn Bath White together with a selection of Blues most notably Large and Amanda's. Fritillaries were also on show with lots of fresh Southern Heaths meeting up and pairing. Other fritillary species were fewer in number but presented a satisfying range with False Heath, Pearl-bordered, Silver-washed and Dark Green all keenly photographed. Moths of interest were also on show with Lewes Wave and Transparent Burnets of particular note.

Unexpectedly we had amazing close views of two young Stoats in a grassy track verge. Perhaps newly out in the wide world they seemed to be trying to fathom out what we were and weren't particularly bothered by our quiet presence.

After our picnic lunch we drove up to the very scenic and popular Lac des Gloriettes perched up above the Héas valley. There we set off over the dam with its whirling House and Crag Martins and took the trail around the 12ha reservoir, with some apprehension as to what the weather would allow us to do.

The intense heat in nearby parts of Spain and France was creating conditions for regular thunderstorms in these high valleys. But suitably kitted up we endured a few light showers with rolling thunder and enjoyed an exciting trek in this spectacular setting.

Butterflies were scarce in the circumstances, but Pearly Heaths and Large Walls put on a determined show. The sightings of a White-throated Dipper, Black Redstart and Northern Wheatear were very satisfying, especially together with Red-billed Choughs and a possible Booted Eagle overhead. Some of the showy Alpenrose that carpets the slopes was still in flower and other characteristic alpine shrubs such as Bearberry, Dwarf Buckthorn and Pyrenean Honeysuckle completed the setting.

Day 3

Friday 4th July

Valley d'Ossoue

With some cloud from the overnight rain lingering we parked up just outside Gavarnie to begin our walk into the Ossoue valley over the Pont de Couley, an ancient pack-horse bridge over a narrow ravine through which the Gave d'Ossoue thunders.

But first we checked the steep road-side bank that the morning sun was warming up and it rewarded us with a range of the species that were to be regulars through the day but still in sluggish mode - Silver-washed Fritillary, Dark Green Fritillary, Pearly Heath, Southern Heath Fritillary and False Heath Fritillary.

We didn't progress very far up along the valley in the ever-warming conditions, such were the distractions every few steps. The ever-present Marbled Whites were still charming us along with the occasional Ringlet, Small Heath and Meadow Brown. There were also fast travelling Clouded Yellows to sort out - with the treat of Berger's and Mountain well as the familiar *crocea*.

Our first Swallowtail of the tour made an appearance, and we started to acquaint ourselves with the challenge of the blues with Chalkhill, Escher's, Turquoise and Silver-studded being spotted.

Chimney Sweeper, a common resident moth of the locality was just coming to the end of its flight period, likewise the Pearl-bordered Fritillaries and a well-worn Weaver's Fritillary. A couple of Rock Grayling were a nice addition, whilst the ever-restless *Erebia* Ringlets seemed to be mainly Piedmont & Bright-eyed. A well chased Brassy Ringlet had to be presumed the Common/Western in absence of a view of its underwing.

We encountered quite a few freshly emerged Spotted Fritillaries including females of the dark *meridionalis* form.

Crossing the Ossoue Gave via the Pont St Savin where Pauline found a crisp new Southern White Admiral, we trekked up to the Refuge de Holle for a late picnic lunch and then spent a short while exploring the adjoining meadow and marshy ground.

Yellow-winged and Red-veined Darters proved a good quarry for photos along with other pond life. We gladly regained the hotel a bit earlier after this full walking day.

Day 4

Saturday 5th July

Col du Tourmalet and Pont D'Espagne

Starting overcast with a forecast of rain we headed down the valley, stopping at Sia before the rain started on the off-chance of some early brightness. A resting Broad-bordered Bee Hawk-moth and the mesmerising medicinal leeches in the pond were memorable encounters along with a huge green-eyed Horsefly.

Stopping briefly to marvel at the Napoleon Bridge, its precipitous canyon and fearsome Via Ferrata cable route, all presided over by sweeping Crag Martins, we pressed on through Luz. Heavy rain and low cloud accompanied our drive up the Baresges valley to the famous Col de Tourmalet. We could only sympathise at the cyclists slogging their way up in those conditions, then sense their collective elation in the busy cafe at the top where they recover.

We didn't have to shelter there long beyond our welcome coffee for the weather to suddenly ease and outside we encountered a family of White-winged Snow Finches busy feeding their youngsters around the bike racks. We really hadn't expected such a close view of these notable birds - a delightful 'first' and keen hope for the group! That was then almost matched by the close view of an Alpine Accentor as we wandered along the trackway to the Pic du Midi.

By the time we had descended to the main valley beyond Luz and were enjoying our picnic lunch by the river at Soulom the sun was fully out and the 13⁰C of the Tourmalet pass at 2000m had become a steamy 30⁰C. Pressing on to Cauterets and the Pont D'Espagne, we spent the rest of the afternoon in the shady cool of the fir forest around the awesome cascades and strangely patterned granite boulders - ideal conditions for trying to get close to *Erebia* ringlets and enjoying the sightings of Crested Tits. Osiris Blue, Mazarine Blue and Small Copper were new listings and hasty photos of Ringlets on the return track to the carpark subsequently revealed one Gavarnie Ringlet along with its Piedmont cousins.

Day 5

Sunday 6th July

Port de Bouchero, Col des Tentes and Valley D'Ossoue

Another overcast sky presided over our breakfast but encouraged by the improving conditions we headed up to Col des Tentes scanning for birds and marmots (as ever a source of delight) on the way. Understandably it was still fairly cool at 2200m from where we took the track to Port de Bouchero but Pyrenean Rock Lizards - local endemics - were already to be seen eking out solar warmth. Alpine and Red-billed Choughs were a constant distraction as we walked out along the abandoned roadway, enjoying the frequent trilling calls of Water Pipits. *Erebia* ringlets were occasionally encountered and elusively out of reach up the tumbling scree. A batch of Small Tortoiseshell caterpillars draped over a little clump of nettles was worth close inspection given that it was at over 2200m altitude.

The local Marmots did amuse us as did a large bunch of American teenagers returning from seven days trekking over in Spain. They crossed over the col and border full of bravado and song.

Dusky Cranesbill, Rampion and Spring Gentian were noted amongst the swathes of Fringed Pinks and many other characteristic alpine plants for which this locality is well known and appreciated.

On our way down to the Holle Refuge for lunch we noticed a group of Griffon vultures circling over what turned out to be a dead cow. Several were already waddling and hopping around it. Social hierarchy seemed to be in order rather than a feeding frenzy.

We spent the afternoon in the upper end of the Ossoue valley - the lane and track having been re-opened after the main bridge had been replaced. Reaching the far end below the reservoir we found the water trough full of Pyrenean Brook salamanders, including young, and lost count of the Silver-studded Blues and Marbled Whites. The swathes of Fringed and Maiden Pinks together with Ladies Bedstraw and stands of Pyrenean Iris were very striking, and on some of the abundant little Cypress Spurge an astoundingly colourful large Spurge Hawkmoth caterpillar was a pleasing find.

Day 6

Monday 7th July

Le Cirque de Gavarnie

We headed for the Cirque de Gavarnie today as the lane to Troumouse was still awaiting its replacement bridge following last September's flood.

The weather was perfect for this fairly long walk; sunny but not hot. The flowery grasslands of the valley were full of singing field crickets and dancing butterflies. An even stronger show by the Marbled Whites didn't dull our pleasure in seeing them and another home-familiar the sole Speckled Wood of the tour (here in its southern form), was first to catch our attention. It was promptly followed by the only Comma we saw, the bright *hutchinsonii* generation form. Southern Heath Fritillaries continued to be a frequent presence, and it was a showy Lunar Thorn and Argent & Sable that next got the camera action.

New additions to our tally followed with a Niobe Fritillary, Marbled Skipper and Lesser Marbled Fritillary. Then a very obliging Swallowtail settled for good shots just after we'd located some Edelweiss still in flower.

We couldn't resist a coffee break at the busy restaurant before moving further on through the many visitors to grab a picnic lunch spot with an even better vantage point for viewing the cirque. Two of us then managed to negotiate the rather challenging path over the stream and through the remaining banks of snow to follow the popular trail of people trekking up towards the base of the Grande Cascade. Managing to resist getting properly soaked by the spray off one of Europe's tallest waterfalls, we were delighted to also find a fine Lefèvre's Ringlet on the scree en route.

It clouded over and cooled with some light showers for our return late afternoon, so fewer butterflies were on the wing, but the abundance of roosting Small and Large Skippers was nice to see.

Day 7

Tuesday 8th July

Le Cirque de Troumouse

A fully cloudless day presented for our foray up to the Cirque de Troumouse. However, our progress up the valley was first delayed by the unexpected spectacle of a giant low-loader lorry expertly negotiating the hairpin bends of the narrow road. An impressive sight indeed. Pressing on up the valley under the brightest and clearest skies of the tour we arrived at the Auberge de Maillet in time to catch the 10:00 Petit Train up to the Cirque de Troumouse. There we wandered for several hours marvelling at the splendour and extraordinary silence of this vast glacial Cirque. The heat and shortage of rain over the previous month was very evident from the dry pools and reduced extent of the natural lakes from which the Gave arises.

We saw more Mountain Ringlets here than at other sites and seeking puddling butterflies in damp spots found mostly skippers including Oberthur's Grizzled Skipper and Marbled Skipper.

An Italian Locust and Wart-biter Bush-cricket were new discoveries before we headed back down the switchback road for another splendid picnic lunch back in the carpark, which is actually a magnificent setting with choughs and raptors overhead. We were soon keen to explore the wide gravel beds of the melt-water stream courses, their damp margins attracting many species, and at last we found some Little Blue and amongst them an Osiris Blue. The locality proved its worth with a range of other blues including Eros, Esher's and Chalkhill.

This hot and full day warranted an afternoon stop at the café in Héas - 'Chez Soaz', for some of their delicious homemade ice creams! We followed that well-earned rest with a bit of exploration of the hamlet and along the old packhorse trail with its charming little bridge. Down in some roadside grassland that had escaped the flood damage and the hay-cutting we picked up a Queen of Spain Fritillary, Wood White, Black-veined White and the second Orange Tip of the trip. To see us off there was finally an obliging Apollo settling just across from our parked car.

Day 8

Wednesday 9th July

Le Plateau de Saugué and return home

After our last breakfast and stowing our bags in the hotel ready for the run back to Lourdes-Tarbes airport, we took the winding lane up from Gèdre to the Plateau de Saugué. Stopping first at a road-side flash which draws many species in from the slopes and valley, we found *Thymelicus* skippers now dominated the puddling spots where a few weeks previously it had been *Pyrgus* and *Carcharodus* skippers. Much of the surrounding hay crop had been mown, weeks earlier than usual we were told, confirming the advanced season.

Pressing on to park by the viewpoint it was a relief to see that the mowing hadn't yet reached that area and we were soon enjoying an idyllic wander along the paths and tracks through the swaying tall grasses to a calls of Quails, Yellowhammers and Linnets.

Southern Heath Fritillary, Purple-edged Copper and Lesser Marbled Fritillaries presented a splendid picture when perched on the bright blue Pyrenean Eryngos, whilst a velvety-dark Yellow-spotted Ringlet tucked in the tall grass

almost passed as a normal Ringlet until closer inspection. A Mountain Clouded Yellow and Queen of Spain Fritillary rounded off a splendid walk with a spectacular view down into the Gavarnie cirque.

Reluctantly we regained the car and headed back down, allowing ourselves a final brief stop by the bridge. This was very fortuitous as it produced a couple of Glandon Blues attracted to the wet mud of some very unpromising-looking tractor tyre ruts! Agreeing that we could easily spend a few days just on this sun-bathed mountainside, we returned to the hotel for a brief picnic lunch in the garden. Here lay our last treat, though difficult to spot once it had flown up onto the large walnut tree, - a Lesser Purple Emperor that had been attracted to the composting kitchen waste pile.

After a comfortable return drive to the airport the flight home provided some consolation with fine clear views of the whole Atlantic coastline of France up to the Baie de Mont St Michel.

The portable UV moth trap had been set up over three nights at the back of our hotel when the weather suited. The nighttime temperatures were still dropping into single figures even when skies were only partly clear and catches were rather modest and species also known in the UK.

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Species lists

Butterflies & Moths

Common name	Latin name	July 2025						
		2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Butterflies								
Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>		✓		✓	✓		
Apollo	<i>Parnassius apollo</i>	✓			✓		✓	
Clouded Apollo	<i>Parnassius mnemosyne</i>					✓		
Wood White	<i>Leptidea sinapis / realii</i>	✓	✓				✓	✓
Black-veined White	<i>Aporia crataegi</i>	✓	✓			✓	✓	
Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Bath White	<i>Pontia daplidice</i>	✓	✓				✓	
Orange Tip	<i>Anthocharis cardamines</i>		✓				✓	
Mountain Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias phicomone</i>		✓				✓	✓
Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias crocea</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Berger's Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias alfacariensis</i>		✓				✓	
Brimstone	<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>		✓	✓			✓	
Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>			✓				
Purple-edged Copper	<i>Lycaena hippothoe</i>						✓	✓
Long-tailed Blue	<i>Lampides boeticus</i>	✓						
Little Blue	<i>Cupido minimus</i>						✓	✓
Osiris Blue	<i>Cupido osiris</i>			✓			✓	
Mazarine Blue	<i>Cyaniris semiargus</i>			✓				✓
Turquoise Blue	<i>Polyommatus dorylas</i>		✓					
Amanda's Blue	<i>Polyommatus amandus</i>	✓	✓					✓
Escher's Blue	<i>Polyommatus escheri</i>		✓				✓	
Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>		✓	✓			✓	
Eros Blue	<i>Polyommatus eros</i>		✓				✓	
Chalk-hill Blue	<i>Lysandra coridon</i>						✓	✓
Glandon Blue	<i>Agriades glandon</i>							✓
Brown Argus	<i>Aricia agestis</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Silver-studded Blue	<i>Plebejus argus</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>					✓		
Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Large Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata maera</i>		✓	✓		✓		✓
Pearly Heath	<i>Coenonympha arcania</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>		✓			✓	✓	✓
Gatekeeper	<i>Pyrionia tithonus</i>	✓		✓				
Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Yellow-spotted Ringlet	<i>Erebia manto</i>							✓
Mountain Ringlet	<i>Erebia epiphron</i>					✓	✓	
De Prunner's Ringlet	<i>Erebia triaria</i>		✓					
Western Brassy Ringlet	<i>Erebia cassioides arvenensis</i>						✓	
Lefebvre's Ringlet	<i>Erebia lefebvrei</i>					✓	✓	
Bright-eyed Ringlet	<i>Erebia oeme</i>		✓	✓	✓			
Piedmont Ringlet	<i>Erebia meolans</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Marbled White	<i>Melanargia galathea</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓
Rock Grayling	<i>Hipparchia alcyone</i>		✓					
Lesser Purple Emperor	<i>Apatura ilia</i>							✓
Silver-washed Fritillary	<i>Argynnis paphia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dark Green Fritillary	<i>Argynnis aglaja</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Common name	Latin name	July 2025						
		2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Niobe Fritillary	<i>Argynnis niobe</i>					✓		
Queen of Spain Fritillary	<i>Issoria lathonia</i>						✓	✓
Marbled Fritillary	<i>Brenthis daphne</i>							✓
Lesser Marbled Fritillary	<i>Brenthis ino</i>					✓		✓
Pearl-bordered Fritillary	<i>Boloria euphrosyne</i>	✓	✓			✓	✓	
Weaver's Fritillary	<i>Boloria dia</i>		✓					
Southern White Admiral	<i>Limenitus reducta</i>		✓					
Small Tortoiseshell	<i>Aglaia urticae</i>				✓		✓	
Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Comma	<i>Polygonia c-album</i>					✓		
False Heath Fritillary	<i>Melitaea diamina</i>	✓	✓			✓		
Spotted Fritillary	<i>Melitaea didyma</i>	✓						
Heath Fritillary	<i>Melicta athalia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Marbled Skipper	<i>Carcharodus lavatherae</i>					✓	✓	✓
Southern Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus malvoides</i>						✓	✓
Large Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus alveus</i>		✓				✓	
Oberthur's Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus armoricanus</i>		✓				✓	
Safflower Skipper	<i>Pyrgus carthami</i>						✓	
Lulworth Skipper	<i>Thymelicus acteon</i>	✓						
Essex Skipper	<i>Thymelicus lineolus</i>	✓				✓	✓	
Small Skipper	<i>Thymelicus sylvestris</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Large Skipper	<i>Ochlodes sylvanus</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Moths								
Chimney Sweeper	<i>Odezia atrata</i>		✓					✓
Hummingbird Hawkmoth	<i>Macroglossum stellatarum</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Narrow-bordered Bee Hawkmoth	<i>Hemaris tityus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Narrow-bordered five-spot Burnet	<i>Zygaena lonicerae</i>			✓		✓		
Transparent Burnet	<i>Zygaena purpuralis</i>	✓	✓					
Cistus Forester	<i>Adscita geryon</i>	✓	✓					
Common Heath	<i>Ematurga atomaria</i>	✓						
Mullein Moth	<i>Cucullia verbasci</i>	L						
Lewes Wave	<i>Scopula immorata</i>	✓	✓					
Burnished Brass	<i>Diachrysia chrysitis</i>		✓					
Silver Y	<i>Autographa gamma</i>			✓				
A Pyrausta	<i>Pyrausta aerealis</i>				✓			
Spurge Hawkmoth	<i>Hyles euphorbiae</i>				L			
Trap at hotel:								
Riband Wave	<i>Idaea aversata</i>							
Clouded Border	<i>Lomaspilis marginata</i>							
Dark Swordgrass	<i>Agrotis ipsilon</i>							
Green Carpet	<i>Colostygia pectinataria</i>							
Lunar Thorn	<i>Selenia lunularia</i>							
Buff Footman	<i>Eilema depressa</i>							
Dingy Footman	<i>Eilema griseola</i>							
The Lychnis	<i>Hadena bicruris</i>							
Box Tree moth	<i>Cydalima perspectalis</i>							
Argent & Sable	<i>Rheumaptera hastata</i>							
Vines Rustic	<i>Hoplodrina ambigua</i>							
Small Bloodvein	<i>Scopula imitaria</i>							

Other invertebrates

Dragonflies	
Broad-bodied Chaser	<i>Libellula depressa</i>
Four-spotted Chaser	<i>Libellula quadrimaculata</i>
Keeled Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum coerulescens</i>
Yellow-winged Darter	<i>Sympetrum flaveolum</i>
Red-veined Darter	<i>Sympetrum fonscolombii</i>
Other Insects - Trip	
Italian Shield Bug	<i>Graphosoma italicum</i>
Fire Bug	<i>Pyrrhocorus apteris</i>
Sulphur Owlfly	<i>Libelloides coccajus</i>
Red-winged Grasshopper	<i>Oedipoda germanica</i>
Great Green Bush-cricket	<i>Tettigonia viridissima</i>
Ephipigger	<i>Ephipigger ephipigger</i>
Wart-biter Bush-cricket	<i>Decticus verrucivorus</i>
Field Cricket	<i>Gryllus campestris</i>
Italian Locust	<i>Calliptamus italicus</i>
Wood Ant	<i>Formica rufa</i>
Green Tiger-beetle	<i>Cicindela campestris</i>
Small Beefly	<i>Bombylius minor</i>
Bloody-nosed beetle	<i>Timarcha tenebricosa</i>
Bumblebee Robber-fly	<i>Laphria flava</i>
Green Head Horsefly	<i>Hybomitra tarandina</i>
Black slug	<i>Arion ater</i>

Birds (H = Heard only)

Common name	Latin name	July 2025							
		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Common Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>			H					H
Bearded Vulture	<i>Gypaetus barbatus</i>			✓					
Griffon Vulture	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>				✓				
Red Kite	<i>Milvus milvus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	✓							
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>				✓		✓		
Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>						✓		
Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>		✓		✓	✓			
Iberian Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus sharpei</i>				✓	H	H		
Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓
Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Red-billed Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Alpine Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax graculus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓		
Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>						✓		✓
Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>				H				
European Crested Tit	<i>Lophophanes cristatus</i>				✓				
Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>			H			✓		
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>				✓				
Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>					✓			

		July 2025							
Common name	Latin name	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Eurasian Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>				H				
Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>		✓	H	H	H	H		
Garden Warbler	<i>Sylvia borin</i>		✓	H	H		H		
Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>		H	H			✓		
Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>							✓	
Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓		✓
Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>		H				✓		
Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>							✓	
European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>		H	✓	✓		✓		
Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>					✓			
European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>			✓		✓			
Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>		✓			✓			
White-throated Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>		✓						
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓	
White-winged Snowfinch	<i>Montifringilla nivalis</i>				✓				
Alpine Accentor	<i>Prunella collaris</i>				✓				
Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>							H	
Western Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava flavissima</i>				✓				
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>		✓					✓	
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Water Pipit	<i>Anthus spinoletta</i>				✓	✓		✓	
Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>				✓	✓		✓	✓
European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>				✓		✓		
Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>		H			H			✓

Other vertebrates (E = Evidence)

N=Near-endemic		July 2025							
Common name	Latin name	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Mammals									
European Mole	<i>Talpa europaea</i>					E			
European Snow Vole	<i>Chionomys nivalis</i>							✓	
Alpine Marmot	<i>Marmota marmota</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Stoat	<i>Mustela erminea</i>		✓						
Reptiles									
Common Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis muralis</i>		✓				✓		✓
Viviparous Lizard	<i>Zootoca vivipara</i>		✓				✓	✓	
Slow Worm	<i>Anguis fragilis</i>			✓					
Pyrenean Rock Lizard	<i>Iberolacerta bonnali</i>					✓			
Amphibians									
Pyrenean Stream Frog N	<i>Rana pyrenaica</i>							✓	
Common Frog	<i>Rana temporaria</i>			✓					
Pyrenean Brook Salamander N	<i>Calotriton asper</i>					✓			

Plants

Latin Name	Common Name	Location/Status
• = endemic to the Pyrenees, ‡ = cultivated or naturalised		
PTERIDOPHYTES	FERNS AND FERN ALLIES	
Aspleniaceae	Spleenwort Family	
<i>Asplenium adiantum-nigrum</i>	Black Spleenwort	Holle
<i>Asplenium ceterach</i>	Rustyback	Lac des Gloriettes
<i>Asplenium ruta-muraria</i>	Wall-rue	Common
<i>Asplenium scolopendrium</i>	Hart's-tongue	Common
<i>Asplenium septentrionale</i>	Forked Spleenwort	Héas & common
<i>Asplenium trichomanes</i>	Maidenhair Spleenwort	Héas & common
<i>Asplenium viride</i>	Green Spleenwort	Lac des Gloriettes
Blechnaceae	Hard-fern Family	
<i>Blechnum spicant</i>	Hard-fern	Héas & common
Dennstaedtiaceae	Bracken Family	
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Bracken	Sia
Dryopteridaceae	Buckler-fern Family	
<i>Dryopteris dilatata</i>	Broad Buckler-fern	Sia
<i>Dryopteris filix-mas</i>	Male-fern	Common
Polypodiaceae	Polypody Family	
<i>Polypodium vulgare</i>	Common Polypody	Gavarnie
GYMNOSPERMS	CONIFERS	
Cupressaceae	Cypress Family	
<i>Juniperus communis</i> subsp. <i>alpina</i>	Common Juniper	Ossoue
<i>Juniperus communis</i> subsp. <i>communis</i>	Common Juniper	Lac des Gloriettes
Pinaceae	Pine Family	
<i>Abies alba</i>	European Silver-fir	Gavarnie & Pont D'Espagne &c
<i>Picea abies</i> ‡	Norway Spruce	Gavarnie & Pont D'Espagne &c
<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	Scots Pine	Gavarnie & Pont D'Espagne &c
<i>Pinus uncinata</i>	Mountain Pine	Ossoue & common
<i>Larix decidua</i>	European Larch	Gavarnie & Pont D'Espagne &c
Taxaceae	Yew Family	
<i>Taxus baccata</i>	Yew	Héas & common
ANGIOSPERMS	FLOWERING PLANTS	

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DICOTYLEDONS		
Adoxaceae	Moschatel Family	
<i>Sambucus ebulus</i>	Dwarf Elder	Sia
<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	Common Elder	Héas & common
<i>Viburnum lantana</i>	Wayfaring-tree	Héas & common
<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	Guelder-rose	Sia
Amaranthaceae	Goosefoot Family	
<i>Chenopodium bonus-henricus</i>	Good-King-Henry	Common - roadsides
Apiaceae	Carrot Family	
<i>Aegopodium podagraria</i>	Ground Elder	Sia
<i>Angelica razulii</i> •	Pyrenean Angelica	Pont D'Espagne
<i>Angelica sylvestris</i>	Wild Angelica	Pont D'Espagne
<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	Cow Parsley	Sia
<i>Astrantia major</i>	Astrantia	Héas & common
<i>Conopodium majus</i>	Pignut	Ossoue & Holle
<i>Daucus carota</i>	Wild Carrot	Héas & common
<i>Eryngium bourgatii</i>	Pyrenean Eryngo	Plateau de Saugué
<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i> subsp. <i>pyrenaicum</i> •	Pyrenean Hogweed	Sia, Héas
<i>Laserpitium latifolium</i>	Broad-leaved Sermountain	Héas
<i>Pastinaca sativa</i>	Wild Parsnip	Ossoue
<i>Pimpinella saxifraga</i>	Burnet-saxifrage	Heas & Ossoue
Aquifoliaceae	Holly Family	
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly	Common
Araliaceae	Ivy Family	
<i>Hedera helix</i>	Ivy	Common
Asclepiadaceae	Milkweed Family	
<i>Vincetoxicum hirundinaria</i>	Swallow-wort	Common
Asteraceae	Daisy Family	
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Yarrow	Common
<i>Aster alpinus</i>	Alpine Aster	Ossoue
<i>Bellis perennis</i>	Daisy	Common
<i>Carduus carlinoides</i> •	Pyrenean Thistle	Col des Tentés & Troumouse &c
<i>Carduus nutans</i>	Nodding Thistle	Auberge du Maillet
<i>Crepis pygmaea</i>	Pygmy Hawk's-beard	Bouchero
<i>Leontopodium alpinum</i>	Edelweiss	Gavarnie
<i>Tussilago farfara</i>	Colt's-foot	Troumouse

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Betulaceae	Birch Family	
<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	Common Alder	Common
<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver Birch	Common
<i>Betula pubescens</i>	Downy Birch	Common
Boraginaceae	Borage Family	
<i>Pulmonaria affinis</i>	A Lungwort	Ossoue
Campanulaceae	Bellflower Family	
<i>Campanula rotundifolia</i>	Harebell	Ossoue
<i>Phyteuma globularifolium</i>	Rosette-leaved Rampion	Port de Boucharo
<i>Phyteuma orbiculare</i>	Round-headed Rampion	Heas, Ossoue, Sia
<i>Phyteuma pyrenaicum</i> •	Pyrenean Rampion	Héas
Caprifoliaceae	Honeysuckle Family	
<i>Knautia arvensis</i>	Field Scabious	Heas, Ossoue, Sia
<i>Lonicera pyrenaica</i>	Pyrenean Honeysuckle	Ossoue & Lac des Gloriettes &c
<i>Lonicera xylosteum</i>	Fly Honeysuckle	Ossoue & Lac des Gloriettes &c
<i>Scabiosa columbaria</i>	Small Scabious	common
Caryophyllaceae	Pink Family	
<i>Dianthus deltoides</i>	Maiden Pink	Ossoue & c
<i>Dianthus monspessulanus</i>	Fringed Pink	Ossoue & c
<i>Silene nutans</i>	Nottingham Catchfly	Héas & Ossoue &c
Cistaceae	Rockrose Family	
<i>Helianthemum nummularium</i> subsp. <i>grandiflorum</i>	Common Rockrose	Ossoue & Lac des Gloriettes &c
<i>Helianthemum nummularium</i> subsp. <i>pyrenaicum</i> •	Pyrenean Rockrose	Ossoue & Lac des Gloriettes &c
Convolvulaceae	Bindweed Family	
<i>Calystegia sepium</i>	Hedge Bindweed	common
Corylaceae	Hazel Family	
<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel	Sia & c
Crassulaceae	Stonecrop Family	
<i>Sedum acre</i>	Biting Stonecrop	Héas & Lac des Gloriettes &c
<i>Sedum album</i>	White Stonecrop	Héas & Lac des Gloriettes &c
<i>Sempervivum tectorum</i>	Common Houseleek	Héas & Lac des Gloriettes &c
<i>Umbilicus rupestris</i>	Navelwort	Gavarnie
Dioscoreaceae	Yam Family	
<i>Tamus communis</i>	Black Bryony	Héas

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Ericaceae	Heather Family	
<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i>	Bearberry	Lac des Gloriettes
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>	Ling	Héas & Lac des Gloriettes &c
<i>Erica cinerea</i>	Bell Heather	Troumouse
<i>Rhododendron ferrugineum</i>	Alpenrose	Lac des Gloriettes
<i>Vaccinium myrtillus</i>	Bilberry	Lac des Gloriettes
<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i> subsp. <i>pyrenaica</i> •	Pyrenean Kidney Vetch	Ossoue
<i>Astragalus monspessulanus</i>	Montpellier Milk-vetch	Ossoue &c
<i>Hippocrepis comosa</i>	Horseshoe Vetch	Ossoue & Saugué
<i>Lathyrus pratensis</i>	Meadow Vetchling	Ossoue & c
<i>Lotus alpinus</i>	Alpine Bird's-foot Trefoil	Ossoue & c
<i>Trifolium alpinum</i>	Alpine Clover	Ossoue & Troumouse
<i>Trifolium incarnatum</i> ‡	Crimson Clover	Sia
<i>Trifolium ochroleucon</i>	Sulphur Clover	Ossoue & c
<i>Vicia pyrenaica</i> •	Pyrenean Vetch	Ossoue & c
<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	Beech	Sia, Ossoue, Bareges &c
<i>Quercus petraea</i>	Sessile Oak	Héas & Sia
<i>Quercus robur</i>	Common Oak	Sia
<i>Gentiana verna</i>	Spring Gentian	Port de Boucharo, Ossoue
<i>Gentianella campestris</i>	Field Gentian	Holle & Maillet
Geraniaceae	Crane's-bill Family	
<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	Common Stork's-bill	Common
<i>Geranium cinereum</i> •	Ashy Crane's-bill	Port de Boucharo
<i>Geranium molle</i>	Dove's-foot Crane's-bill	Common
<i>Geranium pyrenaicum</i>	Pyrenean Crane's-bill	Common
Gesneriaceae	Gloxinia Family	
<i>Ramonda myconi</i> •	Ramonda	Ossoue & Lac de Gloriette &c
Grossulariaceae	Gooseberry Family	
<i>Ribes petraeum</i>	Rock Redcurrant	Gavarnie
Lamiaceae	Dead-nettle Family	
<i>Ajuga reptans</i>	Common Bugle	Ossoue & c
<i>Clinopodium alpinum</i>	Alpine Basil Thyme	Ossoue, Gloriette, Troumouse &c
<i>Origanum vulgare</i>	Marjoram	Ossoue & common
<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	Self-heal	common
<i>Teucrium pyrenaicum</i> •	Pyrenean Germander	Ossoue
<i>Pinguicula grandiflora</i>	Large-flowered Butterwort	Lac des Gloriettes & Holle
<i>Pinguicula vulgaris</i>	Common Butterwort	Saugué
Linaceae	Flax Family	
<i>Linum catharticum</i>	Fairy Flax	Ossoue

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Malvaceae	Mallow Family	
<i>Malva moschata</i>	Musk Mallow	Holle
<i>Malva sylvestris</i>	Common Mallow	Héas & Ossoue
Oleaceae	Ash Family	
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash	Common
Orobanchaceae	Broomrape Family	
<i>Melampyrum sylvaticum</i>	Small Cow-wheat	Gavarnie
<i>Rhinanthus minor</i>	Yellow-rattle	Ossoue & common
Plantaginaceae	Plantain and Speedwell Family	
<i>Cymbalaria muralis</i>	Ivy-leaved Toadflax	widespread
<i>Erinus alpinus</i>	Fairy Foxglove	Oussoue & Port de Boucharo
<i>Globularia nudicaulis</i>	Leafless-stemmed Globularia	Col des Tentés
<i>Linaria alpina</i>	Alpine Toadflax	Heas, Ossoue, Maillet
<i>Plantago alpina</i>	Alpine Plantain	Port de Boucharo
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort Plantain	common
<i>Plantago major</i>	Greater Plantain	common
Platanaceae	Plane Family	
<i>Platanus x hispanica</i> ‡	London Plane	Gedre, Gavarnie &c
Plumbaginaceae	Thrift Family	
<i>Armeria alpina</i>	Mountain Thrift	Lac de Gloriette & Boucharo
Polygalaceae	Milkwort Family	
<i>Polygala alpestris</i>	Mountain Milkwort	Ossoue
Polygonaceae	Dock Family	
<i>Rumex acetosella</i>	Sheep's Sorrel	common
<i>Rumex alpinus</i>	Monk's-rhubarb	Héas & Pont D'Espagne
<i>Rumex scutatus</i>	French Sorrel	Héas & common
<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	Common Sorrel	common
Ranunculaceae	Buttercup Family	
<i>Aconitum anthora</i>	Yellow Monk's-hood	Gavarnie
<i>Aconitum napellus</i>	Common Monk's-hood	Maillet
<i>Aconitum lycoctonum</i> subsp. <i>vulparia</i>	Wolf's-bane	Gavarnie
<i>Aquilegia pyrenaica</i> •	Pyrenean Columbine	common
<i>Helleborus foetidus</i>	Stinking Hellebore	Ossoue
<i>Helleborus viridis</i>	Green Hellebore	Ossoue
<i>Hepatica nobilis</i>	Liverleaf	Ossoue
<i>Thalictrum aquilegifolium</i>	Great Meadow-rue	Ossoue

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Rhamnaceae	Buckthorn Family	
<i>Rhamnus pumilus</i>	Dwarf Buckthorn	Lac des Gloriettes
Rosaceae	Rose Family	
<i>Alchemilla alpina</i>	Alpine Lady's-mantle	Ossoue
<i>Cotoneaster integerrimus</i>	Wild Cotoneaster	Lac des Gloriettes
<i>Potentilla alchemilloides</i>	Alchemilla-leaved Cinquefoil	Port de Boucharo
<i>Rosa pendulina</i>	Alpine Rose	Gavarnie & Ossoue
<i>Rosa pimpinellifolia</i>	Burnet Rose	common
Rubiaceae	Bedstraw Family	
<i>Cruciata laevipes</i>	Crosswort	Gavarnie & Ossoue
<i>Galium verum</i>	Lady's Bedstraw	Ossoue
<i>Rubia peregrina</i>	Wild Madder	Gavarnie
Salicaceae	Willow Family	
<i>Salix pyrenaica</i> •	Pyrenean Willow	Gavarnie, Ossoue
Saxifragaceae	Saxifrage Family	
<i>Saxifraga aizoides</i>	Yellow Mountain Saxifrage	Gavarnie & Ossoue
<i>Saxifraga longifolia</i> subsp. <i>longifolia</i>	Pyrenean Saxifrage	Lac des Gloriettes & Héas
<i>Saxifraga paniculata</i>	Livelong Saxifrage	Héas & c
Scrophulariaceae	Figwort Family	
<i>Scrophularia canina</i> subsp. <i>hoppii</i>	French Figwort	Holle
<i>Verbascum nigrum</i>	Dark Mullein	Héas
Thymelaeaceae	Mezereon Family	
<i>Daphne laureola</i>	Spurge Laurel	Maillet
<i>Daphne mezereum</i>	Mezereon	Ossoue
Ulmaceae	Elm Family	
<i>Ulmus glabra</i>	Wych Elm	Sia
<i>Ulmus minor</i>	Smooth Elm	Gavarnie
Urticaceae	Nettle Family	
<i>Parietaria judaica</i>	Pellitory-of-the-wall	common
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Common Nettle	common
Violaceae	Violet Family	
<i>Viola cornuta</i> •	Horned Pansy	Héas & Gavarnie & Saugué

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<i>Viola lutea</i>	Mountain Pansy	Ossoue
MONOCOTYLEDONS		
Iridaceae	Iris Family	
<i>Iris latifolia</i> •	Pyrenean Iris	Ossoue & Holle &c
<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	Yellow Iris	Sia
Liliaceae	Lily Family	
<i>Lilium martagon</i>	Martagon Lily	Heas, Holle & Ossoue
<i>Lilium pyrenaicum</i> •	Pyrenean Lily	Gavarnie
Melanthiaceae	Herb-Paris Family	
<i>Veratrum album</i>	White False-helleborine	Lac des Gloriettes
Orchidaceae	Orchid Family	
<i>Anacamptis pyramidalis</i>	Pyramidal Orchid	Saugué
<i>Dactylorhiza maculata</i>	Heath Spotted-orchid	Gavarnie
<i>Dactylorhiza majalis</i>	Broad-leaved Marsh-orchid	Holle & Pont D'Espagne
<i>Platanthera chlorantha</i>	Greater Butterfly-orchid	Ossoue
Xanthorrhoeaceae	Asphodel Family	
<i>Asphodelus albus</i>	White Asphodel	Ossoue & Holle