

France - Carcassonne & Cathar Country

Naturetrek Tour Report

27th April – 4th May 2025



Bonelli's Eagle



Glanville Fritillary



Iberian Scarce Swallowtail



Large-flowered Ophrys (orchid)

Tour report by Martin Batt



Naturetrek

Mingledown Barn

Wolf's Lane

Chawton

Alton

Hampshire

GU34 3HJ

UK

T: +44 (0)1962 733051

E: info@naturetrek.co.uk

W: www.naturetrek.co.uk

Tour participants: Jason Mitchell & Martin Batt (leaders) with 14 Naturetrek clients

Summary

This very successful tour was once again based at a very comfortable family-run hotel in Vinassan, a few kilometres outside Narbonne, in the heart of Languedoc-Roussillon wine country. The area offers a superb range of habitats and species, with spectacular birds, butterflies and plants, particularly orchids, all in their prime at this time of year. Most of the sites we visited are in the *Parc Naturel Régional (PNR) de la Narbonnaise en Méditerranée*. The PNRs in France are the equivalent of our National Landscapes in England and Wales, albeit with a greater and welcome emphasis on habitats and wildlife. In the Narbonnaise PNR, there is a huge diversity of habitats from mountains and rocky limestone “garrigue”, to extensive coastal brackish lagoons and sandy beaches, farmland (including extensive vineyards) and low-lying freshwater marshes. This combined wildlife and history tour enabled us to see some of the superb castles, ancient towns and villages of the area, including Queribus, Gruissan, Villeroque, Termenes, Minerve and Carcassonne. We were blessed with sunny, warm days with light winds, untroubled by the strong northerly Tramontane winds which are sometimes a feature of this area of southern France.

Day 1

Sunday 27th April

Fly Carcassonne; transfer Vinassan

The main group of clients arrived from Stansted with Martin, one of our leaders, and we met Jason on arrival at Carcassonne airport. After a short delay while we waited for two more of our group to arrive from Manchester, we set off along the autoroute to Narbonne in two minibuses. We soon spotted the ubiquitous Black Kites floating above us, and within an hour we had arrived. As the hotel did not offer Sunday dinner, we took a short drive to a restaurant in a neighbouring village to enjoy a very tasty meal, and to sample some of the local wines.

Day 2

Monday 28th April

La Clape; Etang de Vendée; Pech Blanc

After breakfast of coffee, croissants and delicious cakes, we set off for a short drive to the foot of La Clape, the rocky limestone massif adjacent to the village. Martin led the group up a footpath through woodland, while Jason went off to source the ingredients for our picnic lunches for the week.

This year has seen a very wet spring in France, and the vegetation was relatively dense, with beautiful floral displays of the very common Rock Rose *Cistus albidus* alongside the path. Very soon we heard the wonderful song of several Nightingales, as well as the rasping calls of Sardinian Warbler. Speckled Woods were much in evidence while we climbed, but regrettably, another insect, the mosquito, was attacking us relentlessly; we later heard that this season has been the worst for some time. Our travails were relieved at the sight of a magnificent Violet Bird's Nest Orchid *Limodorum abortivum*, about a metre tall, in the dappled shade. As we emerged onto the plateau of La Clape, one of the group found a small stick insect. All around us were colourful displays of pink Cistus, French Lavender *Lavandula stoechas*, and Jersey Toadflax *Linaria pelisseriana*. The urgent flight pattern of Clouded Yellow butterflies defied our photographers, but it's always wonderful to see them for the first time each year. A derelict, scrubby vineyard provided cover for a Dartford Warbler, while a Black Kite soared above us. Migrating Bee-eaters were

heard high above, and a wide range of their insect prey showed themselves below, including Painted Lady, Cream Spot Tiger, Rose Chafer and Scarce Swallowtail. After an hour or so, we met Jason back at the foot of the hill and set off in search of coffee.

Fleury d'Aude is one of a number of charming small villages encircling La Clape, and is the home of a colony of Lesser Kestrels, which nest amongst the old pan-tiled rooftops. The only coffee we could find on a Monday was produced by a small supermarket machine, which rather took its time over the cafés-au-lait. This did give us the opportunity to enjoy the rapid wheeling flights of Common Swifts, House Martins and the kestrels overhead. Bubbling calls indicated more Bee-eaters passing over; we later had our picnic in a small park, and Jason identified the call of a Common Redstart.



Black-winged Stilt



Woodcock Orchid

We headed south to the Etang de Vendres, a large lagoon close to the mouth of the River Aude. As soon as we left the vehicles, we were aware of large numbers of inquisitive Vagrant Emperor dragonflies, part of a species irruption this year. From a view point, we were able to spot Purple Heron, Little Egret and Glossy Ibis. We had excellent views of Zitting Cisticola, which can often be hard to spot. Butterflies seen included Common Swallowtail, Brimstone, Cleopatra, and Glanville Fritillary.

At our next stop nearby, Pech Blanc, at the foot of some low cliffs marking the former coastline, we found Black-veined White, and Black-eyed Blue butterflies, as well as Yellow Bee Orchid *Ophrys lutea*, Common Bee Orchid *Ophrys apifera*, Pyramidal Orchid *Anacamptis pyramidalis* and an immature Lizard Orchid *Himantoglossum hircinum*. Above us, a Black Kite and a large pale-coloured eagle wheeled in the warm air currents. After consultation, Jason identified the latter as an immature Bonelli's Eagle, a very exciting find, as the species has become increasingly rare in its southern European range. As a bonus, it stayed soaring above us for some time, and was joined by four migrating Booted Eagles. A memorable birding afternoon! On the way back to our vehicles, we spotted a Corn Bunting, and a distant Marsh Harrier.

Day 3

Tuesday 29th April

Feuilla; Queribus

Another sunny day with light winds saw us heading south down the autoroute to Feuilla, in the foothills of the Pyrenees. Above the village, we stopped at a rock-strewn plateau surrounded by mountains, and soon heard a Cirl Bunting, and briefly saw a Woodchat Shrike. The main interest was, however, closer to the ground, with a great variety of typical garrigue flowers, such as Rock Geranium *Geranium macrorrhizum*, St Bernard's Lily *Anthericum*

liliago, and Lizard Orchid. A Bedstraw Broomrape *Orobanche caryophyllacea* was spotted, and, very inconspicuous amongst the rocky habitat, a Woodcock Orchid *Ophrys scolopax*. One of the group heard and then saw a Western Orphean Warbler.

Our main target for the day was the Cathar castle of Queribus, and after a winding drive further into the mountains, we passed first Aguilar castle on its high ridge, and then had our first glimpse of Queribus, impregnable on an steep, even higher rocky ridge. After disembarking, the group searched the area for wildflowers and butterflies, while Jason and Martin laid out the lunch on a picnic table. We enjoyed spectacular views of the castle and the mountains southwards towards the snow-capped peak of Canigou, at nearly 3000m the highest point in the eastern French Pyrenees. A Nightingale serenaded us throughout the delicious lunch, and we found both Scarce and Common Swallowtails, and a Cleopatra.

With Crag Martins whizzing around us, we ascended the steep path up to the castle, taking in the spectacular views, and absorbing the troubled and bloody history of this last bastion of the Cathars in their thirteenth-century struggle against the Bishop of Narbonne. The effort to build and supply this isolated castle defies imagination. Away on a distant ridge we saw a third Cathar fortress, Peyrepetuse. We drove on to the Gorge de Galamus for well-earned refreshments, with further sightings of Common Kestrel, Alpine Swift, Raven and close by in a tree, our first Western Subalpine Warbler. It wasn't long before Jason found a Blue Rock Thrush perching high above us, and as a bonus, a pair of Cleopatras fluttered close by.

We headed back towards the coast, and on the way, stopped at a local nature reserve to look for orchids. There was a colourful profusion of *Cistus* which made the orchids hard to find, but we did spot more Woodcock Orchids.

Day 4

Wednesday 30th April

Gruissan; Roc de Conilhac; Grand Castelou

It was now time to explore the shallow saltwater coastal lagoons, or étangs, which line the coast. One of the closest to our hotel was around Gruissan, a thriving historic village with a ruined castle on a rock above a vast yachting marina. We skirted the town and headed towards the derelict fisherman's village out on the salines, or salt pans. A Little Tern flew over us, and soon we spotted a pair of Kentish Plovers, with good views in the scopes. A small flock of Greater Flamingoes flew by in the distance. On one of the ruined buildings, a Moorish Gecko clung to the vertical wall in the sunshine.

On the way back towards Gruissan, we stopped to walk out on to the old salt pans, which now provide ideal habitat for wading birds. A telescope is essential for good viewing here, as there is no cover, but we were able to see Black-winged Stilt, Avocet, Common Tern, Sandwich Tern, and Slender-billed Gull. Back on the shore another group had found a good butterfly habitat, which was home to a huge number of Western Marbled Whites and Spanish Gatekeepers.

Our coffee stop was at the Salin de Gruissan, where a beautifully presented shop sells the local product, huge piles of which adjoined the café looking out on to the pink coloured salt pans. The pink colour of the salt is accounted for by micro-algae which are fed on by small crustaceans, the food of Greater Flamingoes, giving them their distinctive rose colouration in turn.

We took a local road northwards to the Roc de Conilhac, managed by the *Ligue pour la Protection des Oiseaux* (LPO) as a site to watch bird migration. From the rock, we saw Greater Flamingo, Mediterranean Gulls, a Marsh Harrier, and Scarce Swallowtail butterflies, but little sign of migration, probably due to the light winds. We drove on to a shady picnic spot on the adjacent Ile St Martin, and afterwards, we headed further north into the floodplain to the Reserve de Grand Castelou, recently re-opened after major investment by the city of Narbonne.

Almost as soon as we arrived, we saw two Short-toed Snake Eagles above the car park. They skirmished, and we had great views of these impressive raptors. The reserve is very well managed, and we took one of the marked trails towards a heronry and small White Stork colony. Numbers of Glossy Ibis flew over, and a Mediterranean Tree Frog was spotted alongside the path. We had a close view of a Marsh Harrier on the way back to the visitor centre before making our way back to Vinassan.

The evening was warm and still, so after dinner we set off into the heart of La Clape to a cliff-lined valley in search of the Eurasian Eagle Owl. As dusk fell, Nightingales sang around us, and we listened intently, but to no avail. We did hear a distant Tawny Owl, and a single Nightjar, but there was no sign of the big owl. On the way back to the hotel we stopped to listen out for Scops Owl, but again we were unlucky.

Day 5

Thursday 1st May

Villerouge Termenes; Sentier des Orchidees

The day dawned sunny and even warmer, and it was once again time to explore some of the Cathar history of the area, and to seek out some of the many species of orchids that it holds. Our first stop was at the village of Villerouge Termenes, in the Pyrenees foothills south west of Narbonne. Passing the historic abbey of Fontfroide, we climbed steadily and arrived in the village car park while a number of Griffon Vultures wheeled high above us. Walking past the churchyard into the centre, we heard a Firecrest, which eventually came into the open for a good view. The village seems to take pride in the orchids that grow in the surrounding meadows, and we saw good displays of Lady Orchid *Orchis purpurea* and Tongue Orchid *Serapias lingua* near the castle. Further up the path out of the village we found Burnt Tip Orchid *Neotinea ustulata*, and on the way back, more Lady Orchids and a Man Orchid *Orchis anthropophora*. In the shrubs alongside the path, we had both Sardinian Warbler and Western Subalpine Warbler, as well as a female Cleopatra. After lunch there was time to visit the well restored fourteenth-century castle, the administrative centre for Termenes, part of the bishopric of Narbonne, and thus enemy territory for the Cathars. The gruesome torture and execution of one of their last leaders, Belibaste, took place here. A beautiful Iberian Scarce Swallowtail allowed us some great views outside the castle.

After our picnic lunch in the shade of the village's al fresco dining area, we drove back north to a vineyard which is also home to the Sentier des Orchidées, a well-interpreted regional nature site. We found some superb examples of the Long-lipped Tongue Orchid *Serapias vomeracea* and large numbers of Yellow Bee Orchids. Further up the sloping site was a protected area featuring specimens of the spectacular Large Flowered Ophrys Orchid *Ophrys bertolonii* subsp. *magniflora*. We also found Woodcock Orchid, Man Orchid and Pyramidal Orchid on this superb site, before the journey back to the hotel.

Day 6

Friday 2nd May

Cap Leucate; La Franqui; Peyriac-sur-Mer

A visit to Cap Leucate, one of the best migration viewpoints in this part of France, was the first aim of today's excursion. We didn't hold out high hopes, as ideally a steady north-west wind is needed to drive the migrating birds into the gap between the Pyrenees and La Clape. As we arrived, we saw a number of the local Pallid Swifts and a Common Kestrel, but there was little sign of any large bird movements. We were made very welcome by a local observer group of young men and women, who showed us their spectacular records of birds on passage over the Cap over recent years.

We decided to move on to the adjacent plateau to find some interesting botanical specimens on the shattered rocky terrain. Amongst the Juniper bushes *Juniperus commonalis*, Mastic trees and Holly Oak, we found Pyramidal Orchids and Felty Bindweed. It was time to find some coffee in Leucate and then explore a new site recommended by the Cap birders earlier, near the town's rural station. We found numerous Goldfinches, a Crested Lark, a Corn Bunting and Turtle Doves there, before moving to a picnic area outside La Franqui for lunch.

The afternoon would first see us scanning the lagoon and sea in the village of La Franqui, and it wasn't long before Jason found us very distant Northern Gannet, Pomarine Skua, and Yelkouan and Scopoli's Shearwaters through his scope. We moved on northwards to Salin de la Palme, where a light shower briefly interrupted our birdwatching. We soon spotted Black-winged Stilt, Dunlin and a single Curlew Sandpiper close by, as well as Little Stint, Avocet and a Yellow Wagtail.

For our final observations of the day, we drove further north towards Peyriac-sur-Mer and Bages, and found a large flock of Greater Flamingoes, mostly pale-coloured juveniles, but including a number of much more colourful mature birds. We also saw several pairs of Common Shelduck, more Black-winged Stilts, a Common Sandpiper and a pair of Kentish Plovers. The sunshine reappeared as we drove the short distance back to our hotel.

Day 7

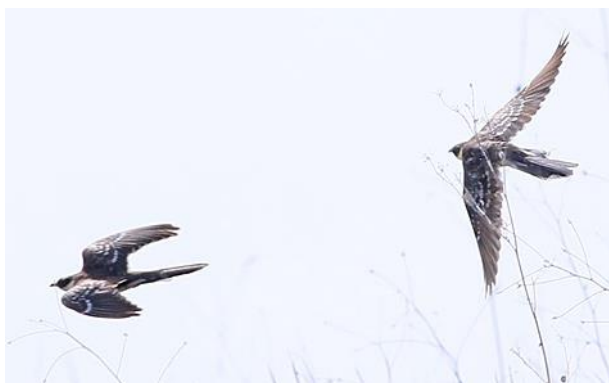
Saturday 3rd May

Etang de Pissevaches; Minerve; Ouveillan

A cloudy start to our last full day saw us driving south-east to the Etang de Pissevaches for a final look at the coastal wetlands, and the chance of finding more birds. Having parked up near a water treatment plant, we quickly spotted a group of about fifty Greater Flamingoes, which took to the air for a spectacular flypast, Common Shelduck, Gadwall, Common Sandpiper, and through scopes, a Yellow Wagtail. A pair of Red-crested Pochards took to the air, before we headed to Fleury d'Aude for coffee in the square. A Spotless Starling was seen on a TV aerial before we moved north to a site near Ouveillan to seek out some special grassland birds. We scanned the likely sites nearby to no avail, and decided to move on to our main target for the day, the beautiful historic village of Minerve.

We stopped en route to take in the view of the village on its rocky bluff above twin gorges, and we had Red-rumped Swallow above us. Parking at picnic site in the Gorge de Cesse a few kilometres further on, we saw Cirl

Bunting and Woodchat Shrike in the surrounding trees, and Clouded Yellow, Brown Argus, Common Blue, Southern Grizzled Skipper and Painted Lady in the lower vegetation.



Great Spotted Cuckoos



Lesser Kestrel

Having parked above the village of Minerve, some of us walked down into the northern gorge, and a Scarce Swallowtail was on the Red Valerian beside the path. We had a good view of a male Black Redstart, and then heard and searched out a Golden Oriole calling and showing well in the riverside poplars. A large Egyptian Grasshopper was sunning itself on the cliff beside the path. Crag Martins whizzed about above our heads while we climbed up stairs into the village, where we took time to explore the medieval streets on a quiet afternoon. After an hour or so we assembled at the minibuses for our drive back to Vinassan. On the way, we stopped off again at the hill above Ouveillan to seek out our earlier target. We were rewarded when one of our group spotted the elusive male Little Bustard showing well several hundred metres away down the slope. Lesser Kestrels hovered and stooped above the grassy scrubland, and suddenly, two Great Spotted Cuckoos shot out of a bush, while a third briefly remained.

The final very exciting find of the day was a superb Roller; it perched on a roadside wire, then flew into a small vineyard where we were able to obtain good views through the scope.

Day 8

Sunday 4th May

Carcassonne

Rain was in the forecast for our final day, and it duly arrived as we drove to Carcassonne for our tour of the historic capital city of the Cathars. We were able to enjoy the castle, cathedral and medieval ramparts (much restored and “improved” by the famous nineteenth-century Notre Dame architect, Viollet le Duc) without too many crowds, and some of the group sampled the famous local cassoulet for lunch. Jason picked up the call of a Rock Sparrow.

It was soon time to check in at the nearby airport, but we found that local weather conditions were preventing our Stansted flight from arriving on time. After a three-hour delay watching thunderstorms, we eventually took off after a very productive and enjoyable tour.



Greater Flamingoes

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Species lists

Birds (H = Heard only)

I=Introduced		May-June 2025						
Common name	Scientific name	27	28	29	30	1	2	3
Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>				✓		✓	✓
Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓
Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>							✓
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>		✓		✓		✓	✓
Red-crested Pochard	<i>Netta rufina</i>							✓
Red-legged Partridge	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>							H
European Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i>				H			
Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>			✓				✓
Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Pallid Swift	<i>Apus pallidus</i>						✓	
Little Bustard	<i>Tetrax tetrax</i>							✓
Great Spotted Cuckoo	<i>Clamator glandarius</i>							✓
Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>		✓					
Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>		H				✓	
Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>		✓					
Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>							✓
Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>		✓					
Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>			✓	✓		✓	✓
Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>				✓		✓	
Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>				✓		✓	
Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>						✓	
Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>							✓
Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>							✓
Kentish Plover	<i>Anarhynchus alexandrinus</i>				✓		✓	
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>						✓	✓
Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>			✓				
Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>							H
Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>				H			
Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>						✓	
Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>				✓			
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>				✓		✓	
Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>						✓	
Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>				✓		✓	
Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>				✓		✓	
Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>				✓		✓	
Slender-billed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus genei</i>				✓			
Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>						✓	✓
Mediterranean Gull	<i>Ichthyæetus melanocephalus</i>				✓		✓	✓
Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Pomarine Skua	<i>Stercorarius pomarinus</i>						✓	
Scopoli's Shearwater	<i>Calonectris diomedea</i>						✓	
Yelkouan Shearwater	<i>Puffinus yelkouan</i>						✓	
White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>				✓			
Northern Gannet	<i>Morus bassanus</i>					✓		

I=Introduced		May-June 2025						
Common name	Scientific name	27	28	29	30	1	2	3
Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>		✓		✓		✓	✓
Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>		✓		✓	✓		✓
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>							✓
Western Cattle Egret	<i>Ardea ibis</i>		✓	✓		✓		✓
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>			✓		✓		✓
Griffon Vulture	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>		✓		✓			
Short-toed Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>		✓					
Bonelli's Eagle	<i>Aquila fasciata</i>		✓					
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>		✓					
Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>							✓
Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>		✓		✓			
Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	✓		✓				✓
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	✓	✓	✓				✓
Tawny Owl	<i>Strix aluco</i>				H			
Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>		✓	✓			✓	
European Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>							✓
European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>		✓		✓			✓
Eurasian Wryneck	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>					H		
Lesser Kestrel	<i>Falco naumanni</i>		✓					✓
Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>			✓		✓	✓	
Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>		H			✓		✓
Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>			✓				✓
Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Red-billed Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>			✓				
Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>		✓					
Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>			✓				✓
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		✓	✓		✓		✓
Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>					H		
Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>		H					
Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>			✓				✓
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Western House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
European Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Cecropis rufula</i>							✓
Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>		H		H	H		
Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>						✓	
Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>				H			H
Moustached warbler	<i>Acrocephalus melanopogon</i>				✓			
Common Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>		H					
Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>			H		✓		✓
Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Curruca curruca</i>					H		
Western Orphean Warbler	<i>Curruca hortensis</i>			✓		H		✓
Sardinian Warbler	<i>Curruca melanocephala</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Western Subalpine Warbler	<i>Curruca iberiae</i>			✓		✓		✓

I=Introduced		May-June 2025						
Common name	Scientific name	27	28	29	30	1	2	3
Common Whitethroat	<i>Curruca communis</i>			H				
Dartford Warbler	<i>Curruca undata</i>		✓					
Common Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapilla</i>					✓		✓
Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>					✓		
Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Spotless Starling	<i>Sturnus unicolor</i>							✓
Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>							✓
Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>			H	✓	✓		✓
Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>					H		
Common Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>		H	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
European Pied Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>		✓					
Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>		✓	✓		✓		✓
Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>		✓			H		✓
Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>			✓				
Rock Sparrow	<i>Petronia petronia</i>							✓
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>					✓	✓	
Western Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>				✓		✓	✓
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>				✓			✓
Eurasian Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>			✓	✓	✓		
European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>				✓			
European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>			H				✓
Common Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>				✓			

Reptiles and amphibians

		May-June 2025						
Common name	Scientific name	27	28	29	30	1	2	3
Moorish Gecko	<i>Tarentola mauritanica</i>				✓			
Common Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis muralis</i>							✓
Mediterranean Green Tree Frog	<i>Hyla meridionalis</i>				✓	✓		
Common Parsley Frog	<i>Pelodytes punctatus</i>		✓					

Damselflies and dragonflies

		May-June 2025						
Common name	Scientific name	27	28	29	30	1	2	3
Large Red Damselfly	<i>Pyrrhosoma nymphula</i>					✓		
Vagrant Emperor	<i>Anax ephippiger</i>		✓					
Lesser Emperor	<i>Anax parthenope</i>							
Black-tailed Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum cancellatum</i>			✓	✓			
Broad Scarlet	<i>Crocothemis erythraea</i>				✓			

Butterflies and moths

Common name	Scientific name	May-June 2025						
		27	28	29	30	1	2	3
Scarce Swallowtail	<i>Iphiclides podalirius</i>		✓	✓		✓		✓
Iberian Scarce Swallowtail	<i>Iphiclides feisthamelii</i>					✓		
Common Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>		✓	✓	✓			
Southern Festoon	<i>Zerynthia polyxena</i>			✓				
Lulworth Skipper	<i>Thymelicus acteon</i>				✓			
Mallow Skipper	<i>Carcharodus alceae</i>					✓	✓	
Marbled Skipper	<i>Carcharodus lavatherae</i>							
Southern Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus malvoides</i>							
Wood White	<i>Leptidea sinapis</i>							
Common Brimstone	<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>		✓	✓				✓
Cleopatra	<i>Gonepteryx cleopatra</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Berger's Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias alfacariensis</i>							
Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias croceus</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	
Black-veined White	<i>Aporia crataegi</i>		✓		✓			✓
Western Bath White	<i>Pontia daplidice</i>		✓	✓				
Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	
Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>							
Green-veined White	<i>Pieris napi</i>							
Western Dappled White	<i>Euchloe crameri</i>		✓				✓	
Common Orange-tip	<i>Anthocharis cardamines</i>			✓		✓		
Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>							
Green Hairstreak	<i>Callophrys rubi</i>							
Blue-spot Hairstreak	<i>Satyrium spini</i>							
Holly Blue	<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>							
Baton Blue	<i>Pseudophilotes baton</i>					✓		
Black-eyed Blue	<i>Glaucopsyche melanops</i>		✓					
Little Blue	<i>Cupido minimus</i>							
Brown Argus	<i>Aricia agestis</i>						✓	✓
Provence Chalkhill Blue	<i>Lysandra hispana</i>							
Adonis Blue	<i>Polyommatus bellargus</i>		✓					
Escher's Blue	<i>Polyommatus escheri</i>							
Chapman's Blue	<i>Polyommatus thersites</i>							
Black-eyed Blue	<i>Glaucopsyche melanops</i>							
Green Underwing Blue	<i>Glaucopsyche alexis</i>							
Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>				✓		✓	✓
Southern White Admiral	<i>Limenitis reducta</i>							
Queen of Spain Fritillary	<i>Issoria lathonia</i>							
Pearl-bordered Fritillary	<i>Boloria euphrosyne</i>							
Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>		✓			✓		
Spotted Fritillary	<i>Melitaea didyma</i>							
Glanville Fritillary	<i>Melitaea cinxia</i>		✓					✓
Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>		✓		✓	✓		✓
Large Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata maera</i>			✓	✓			
Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>		✓			✓		
Common Marbled White	<i>Melanargia galathea</i>							
Western Marbled White	<i>Melanargia occitanica</i>		✓		✓			✓
Spanish Gatekeeper	<i>Pyronia bathseba</i>				✓			

		May-June 2025						
Common name	Scientific name	27	28	29	30	1	2	3
Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>							
Cream-spot Tiger	<i>Arctia villica</i>		✓					
Hummingbird Hawk-moth	<i>Macroglossum stellatarum</i>							✓

Other invertebrates

		May-June 2025						
Common name	Scientific name	27	28	29	30	1	2	3
Greater Bee-fly	<i>Bombylius major</i>		✓					
Rose Chafer	<i>Cetonia aurata</i>		✓			✓		
Stick insect sp.	<i>Phasmatodea sp.</i>							
Egyptian Locust	<i>Anacridium aegyptium</i>			✓	✓	✓		✓