

France - La Brenne

Naturetrek Tour Report

22 - 29 May 2019



European Pond Terrapin



Purple Heron



European Turtle Dove



White-tailed Skimmer

Report by Jason Mitchell
Images courtesy of Robert Moore



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Summary

Based at the charming Boeuf Couronné hotel, we spent a mostly sunny week exploring the Parc Naturel Régional (PNR) de la Brenne. Equivalent to an 'Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty', the PNR de la Brenne is home to an extraordinarily diverse range of plants and animals, with a landscape offering a striking contrast between forests, meadows, heaths and the 1,000 lakes for which the region is famed.

The tour focussed on the general wildlife of La Brenne and, being a relatively compact area, we never wasted much time travelling. By the end of the tour we had compiled an impressive species list of almost 100 birds, over 20 butterflies and a similar number of orchids.

The weather was sunny and very settled for the most part, with just one shower of note. At its hottest the mercury hit 26°C, but most days were pleasantly warm with temperatures around the low to mid-twenties.

Day 1,

Wednesday 22nd May

Six of the group were met in Poitiers, with their TGV high-speed train arriving on time. With the minibus loaded, we struck a course east for La Brenne.

Arriving at the hotel, we were greeted by France and Bernard, our hosts for the week and soon met up with the other members of the group; three couples who had made their own way to the hotel. Our first meal was excellent and set the standard for the rest of the tour. Fed and watered, we retired to our rooms ahead of what promised to be an exciting first day exploring La Brenne.

Day 2,

Thursday 23rd May

Following breakfast, we made a bee-line for the Cherine National Nature Reserve where the *Grand Observatoire* had been reserved for the group. On entering the hide, we were immediately struck by the loud guttural cacophony emanating from the heron colony. Night Herons and Cattle Egrets were particularly numerous, with lesser numbers of Little Egret and several elegant Purple Herons also present. Both Black Kite and Marsh Harrier made fly-bys and each time their presence was noted by the alarm calls of the nesting Whiskered Terns. On the water, some fluffy Little Grebe chicks were hitching a lift on their parents' backs; however, a near cousin – the Black-necked Grebe – stole their thunder as they glided gracefully past in their summer finery.

Retracing our steps, we stopped on a boardwalk to watch the busy comings and goings of the plentiful damselflies and dragonflies. A Broad-bodied Chaser was hunting from the top of a broken reed; every few seconds flying off to intercept its prey before returning, Spotted Flycatcher-like, to the same perch. A Downy Emerald dragonfly was patrolling the shaded sections of the pond and several Red-eyed Damselflies were protecting their chosen lily pads. Not to be outdone, several birds were also making their presence known, with Turtle Dove, Nightingale and Blackcap all heard singing from nearby scrub.

After stopping in the visitor centre, we walked to the opposite side of Étang Cistude where the *Petit Observatoire* was now rather full of people. However, any disappointment quickly subsided when a Purple Heron stepped into view from adjacent reeds, allowing us to observe its serpent-like form as it stalked its fishy prey. Leaving the hide, we walked back to the minibus along a narrow path flanked by bramble and small trees abounding in butterflies.

Back at the car park a fresh Brown Argus caught our attention, but this was soon trumped by a large bird flying overhead in the company of two Black Kites; seconds later a cry of “White Stork” rang out and we immediately focussed our attentions on this smart migrant.

Moving on, our first picnic was enjoyed on the outskirts of Rosnay where a small lake was home to our first White-tailed Skimmer; a non-UK species but one rather similar to our own Black-tailed Skimmer. Down the road, a field used for the village fair is known to be excellent for wildflowers and butterflies. And it was here we found a trio of fritillaries: Glanville, familiar to some, along with Knapweed and Spotted; the latter two not being found in the UK, created a stir. An interesting orchid first thought to be a Southern Marsh Orchid, later proved to be a hybrid between two species, the Lax-flowered and Green-winged – an equally interesting and exciting find!

A little further south, Rosnay Common provided a spectacular floral display with Tongue Orchids stretching as far as the eye could see, with thousands of plants all in flower, so numerous that it was almost impossible not to tread on any! Other good finds included a patch of attractive Lax-flowered Orchids and a few Lesser Butterfly Orchids with their ‘parallel pollinia’. Some excellent birds were on offer too; a fine male Red-backed Shrike showed well, even breaking into song, a Garden Warbler delivered its attractive, if eclectic verses and the ‘not-very-melodious’ Melodious Warbler also competed for air-time. Butterflies were not so numerous, but a Marsh Fritillary was a good find and two rather pretty day-flying moths, Yellow Belle and Yellow Shell, made the list.

Returning to the hotel we were in for just one more exciting wildlife moment, with a ‘*Cistude*’ or European Pond Terrapin seen crossing the road. A fine end to a wonderful first day exploring Brenne.

Day 3,

Friday 24th May

Following breakfast, a short drive took us to the *Maison de la Nature*; however, we were slightly waylaid en route by a showy Hoopoe which was parading on someone’s drive!

Returning to Étang Cistude, this morning we made our way directly to the small hide where one of La Brenne’s iconic species, the Whiskered Tern, graced the lake, with several birds nesting in a fenced area designed to protect water-lilies from the chomping teeth of Coypu, a large, introduced rodent from South America. The terns make their fragile nests on the floating lilies far from the reach of land predators, but the vegetarian Coypu has a liking for the lily pad stems; a habit which has seen a dramatic reduction in this attractive plant and in turn the loss of safe nesting for the terns.

Although the smaller hide is further from the heronry, it affords great views of birds flying to and from their nests and we noted the bright breeding colours on the bills and heads of the various heron species. After prolonged scanning, we also turned up a Squacco Heron perched amongst a group of Cattle Egrets, but no

sooner was it found, than it took off - but at least it had the good manners to fly our way before disappearing from view over the hide. Other wildlife included a Reed Warbler singing close to the hide and several carp spawning in the shallows.

Moving on, we headed for Étang Foucault, but not before stopping at Étang de la Gabrière which had been drained allowing us to understand the mechanics of the characteristic Brenne sluice and we were also rewarded with views of a Little Ringed Plover feeding at the edge of the remaining water.

Arriving at Foucault, we walked to the hide noting Green Hairstreak, Speckled Wood and a roosting Black-veined White along the way, while a Melodious Warbler sang from a huge bramble thicket. From the hide, a variety of ducks were seen scattered across the lake and other interest came in the form of some Coypu which were close to the hide, and despite this species' destructive nature, it remains a pleasure to watch their antics. Returning to the vehicles, we stopped in search of the well-named Zitting Cisticola and almost immediately a bird started its plaintive "zit-zit-zit" song. Although rather common further south, this species was absent from the area for around 10 years following a series of very cold winters; it returned to La Brenne in 2017 and it is pleasing to see how numbers have continued to recover.

After lunch in the grounds of the *Maison du Parc*, we made our way to Ciron, stopping to admire a couple of unusual historical structures en route: the Lanterne des Morts and a monument erected in the memory of three hot-air-balloon pioneers whose misfortune saw them crash in the village after having reached a world record 8600 metres in 1875! Next we walked down to the river, enjoying a wonderful encounter with a singing Firecrest before making a search for perhaps La Brenne's most exotic bird, the Bee-eater. Arriving at the water, we spent a relaxed hour watching several of these breathtakingly colourful birds gracing the air close to their colony on the banks of the river Creuse. A Golden Oriole gave its whistled song from the grounds of a grand chateau and a few of the group made a successful search for this elusive songster, spying up to three birds in the dappled shade of the canopy. In sunny conditions insects were also on the wing, with Banded Demoiselles and White-legged Damselflies both numerous, but the rather cryptic Winter Damselfly attracted the most attention; this is the only species in Europe to over-winter as an adult!

The final stop of the day was at the Riau Lakes, where a fine Southern White Admiral was upstaged by a rather tatty Camberwell Beauty. On the first lake four Shelduck and around 20 Red-crested Pochards were joined by a pair of displaying Great Crested Grebe and the second lake provided four splendid Purple Herons and an immature Night Heron.

Day 4,

Saturday 25th May

After a couple of roadside stops to view some memorials relating to WWII and the local Resistance, we made our way to an area known to hold breeding Stone-curlew. After a short search, we spied two of these curious birds creeping low over a field and were able to observe them for 20 or so minutes before they eventually disappeared over a brow in the field. In an adjacent hedge, a Cirl Bunting belted out its rattled phrases and a pair of Stonechats were busy finding food for their chicks.

After a coffee stop in Douadic, we travelled west where the pedology takes on a chalky nature. La Boudinière, a south-facing calcareous valley along the river Suin gave us an opportunity to enjoy a new suite of species

associated with a different soil type. First, we passed along a narrow path before emerging onto the valley slope where both Pyramidal Orchids and Sword-leaved Helleborines were common. Our first butterfly was a handsome male Adonis Blue – in fact dozens, all of which were in mint condition having probably emerged just a day or so earlier. Careful searching turned up the odd Brown Argus amongst the similar brown-coloured female blues, along with a few Pearly Heaths and although the latter were less of an identification challenge, they were equally enjoyed. The briefest view of a male Golden Oriole was both exciting and interesting, as it joined a crow in mobbing a Common Buzzard! And nearby, a Tree Pipit gave its sweet song as it parachuted back to earth. Returning to the vehicles, an Oberthür's Grizzled Skipper settled on the track allowing for some close-up photos, much to our delight. Driving to our lunch spot, four young Red Deer stags paused next to the road before bouncing off through the crop and moments later a pair of Red-legged Partridges came into view and a distant Stone-curlew was another excellent find.

Lunch was taken on the banks of the river Creuse, where we were treated to a fine display of dragonflies as they skimmed jewel-like over the river. The Blue-eye, a species of damselfly closely related to the Red-eyed Damselfly, was common and a newly emerged Yellow Clubtail posed nicely for the cameras.

Our next stop was Étang de la Touche, where a walk through woodland gave us access to a private hide. From here we admired the aerial prowess of a pair of Marsh Harriers and several species of duck were on show, but a Whiskered Tern, which made several close fly-bys, was the highlight. Retracing our steps, we stopped in a second smaller hide where a Four-spotted Chaser perched just outside the viewing slots and an equally close Reed Warbler fidgeted in water-side vegetation.

Day 5,

Sunday 26th May

After breakfast, we headed for Saulnay a short drive to the east. Our target species was an orchid but a brief detour to see a newly reported Bee-eater colony was popular as were a couple of boxing Brown Hares in an adjacent field.

Back on track, we were soon admiring some fine specimens of Brenne Orchid, a species that boasts perhaps the most limited distribution of any orchid species in the world, with it occurring only in La Brenne! A short walk later and we were ambling along a cool, leafy woodland ride where Variable Damselflies were numerous, a Garden Warbler uttered its attractive notes and a Chequered Skipper was basking in the first rays of sun. Reaching Étang Vieux, we found ourselves surrounded by what seemed like hundreds of dragonflies, with Scarce Chaser, Hairy Hawker and Common Blue Damselfly all making it onto the species list. We had been informed that a nesting pair of Bitterns had been showing well at the lake, but the elusive nature of this charismatic species meant our chances were slim and, despite several 'scares' as a Purple Heron lifted from the reeds, we were denied views of this increasingly rare Brenne resident.

Moving to Étang de Bellebouche for our picnic, we spent some time birding as the low water levels had attracted a Greenshank and several Little Ringed Plovers. Other notable wildlife included a Hoopoe and thousands of Tongue Orchids.

With orchids proving particularly popular with the group, we decided on a visit to a site in the very north of the PNR to look for yet more members of this fascinating plant family. And after arriving at an old chalk pit, a very

brief search came up trumps, with us finding a few spikes of the rare Military Orchid. Further searching saw us add another five species: Fly, Early Spider, Fragrant, Pyramidal, and Monkey. But for most, a displaying Honey Buzzard would perhaps rank as one of the sightings of the week.

Following a brief roadside stop to check out a huge orchid which proved to be a fine specimen of a hybrid between Lady and Monkey Orchids, we made a second visit to the Bee-eater colony from the morning – this time the direction of the sun favouring some photography. Feeling most content, we headed back towards Mézières-en-Brenne with a final stop at a small Marsh Fritillary colony, finding a single specimen roosting on a grass stem.

Following dinner, we headed out on a crepuscular quest in search of Nightjars and after a brief wait, one of these fascinating birds was seen flying low over the heath just metres away. Returning to the bus the ‘songs’ of bush-crickets rang out all around, piercing the cool night air.

Day 6,

Monday 27th May

With some of the group opting for a pre-breakfast birding session, we drove the short distance to Foucault, where we were greeted by a fine-looking Grey Plover in summer plumage – not an everyday occurrence in La Brenne. There was also a Little Ringed Plover present and at one point, the two birds stood alongside each other allowing for a good size comparison. Purple, Grey and Night Heron were noted flying from their roosts and a Black Kite sat quietly in a dead tree waiting for the thermals to develop. Leaving the hide, we stopped to watch a confiding Turtle Dove perched in a tree with us all marvelling at the beauty of this declining species – fortunately they remain common in La Brenne. A brief look at a second lake was rewarded with over 150 Mute Swans drifting serenely over the water and a Garden Warbler was in full song. Bellies grumbling, we returned to the hotel and enjoyed breakfast with the rest of the group.

Charged with coffee and croissants, we arrived at Étang Piégu where a Marsh Harrier caused a ripple of concern amongst the ducks and gulls; one of the latter was tucking into a rather large dead carp and was in danger of losing it to a Black Kite. From nearby trees, both Short-toed Treecreeper and Melodious Warbler were in song, but we were more entertained by a newly fledged family group of Long-tailed Tits, with the young sporting black bandit masks. Around the corner at Vigneaux, a stop at one of the largest lakes in the area didn’t turn up the hoped-for White-tailed Eagle but some playful Common Wall Lizards on the sluice were some compensation. Moving on, a short walk led us to the hide at Étang Massé where the local *Cistudes* were topping up their tans and a Common Buzzard was showing them some interest from its willow tree perch.

Lunch was taken at *Maison du Parc* where some large and impressive specimens of Lizard Orchids were in flower giving the opportunity to ‘savour’ their billy-goat-like scent. Lunch and coffee were followed by a walk at Étang de la Mer Rouge where dozens of Whiskered Terns were actively dip-feeding over the lake. Across the road a Red-backed Shrike gave excellent views, while a Stonechat perched unusually high in an oak tree.

Our next stop was at Étang Purais, where a particularly impressive hide sits at the edge of a large lake boasting La Brenne’s largest colony of Whiskered Terns. The site is also important for Black-necked Grebe, several of which were in the process of building their nests close to the hide giving a wonderful close-up of this exciting species. However, our attention was drawn to the far side of the lake where a Marsh Harrier was flying just

metres above a fox which was pacing the shoreline. With us watching from afar, it became clear it was after a tasty egg supper. Surrounded by angry ducks, he swam out to a nest, quickly devouring its contents, after which a Lapwing joined the aerial assault. Following a very full day we made our way back to Mézières.

Day 7,

Tuesday 28th May

The day started in the Cherine National Nature Reserve, with a walk to the hide at Étang des Essarts. Along the track we enjoyed the abundant birdsong with Corn Bunting, Nightingale, Blackcap, Melodious and Garden Warblers all adding to the cacophony. Our first Migrant Spreadwing (damselfly) was found roosting on a grass stem, waiting for the first rays of sun to warm the air. From the hide the raucous antics of the Black-headed Gulls almost made us overlook the dozen or so Black-necked Grebes busily building their nests – some just inches from those of the gulls! Suddenly a huge kerfuffle broke out as a Black Kite swooped in and grabbed a gull chick; as the kite gained height a chasing flock of 20 birds harried it so much that ‘Fluffy’ was jettisoned back to earth – or was it water. The relief in the hide was enormous - imagine how Fluffy and his family felt!

With news of a White-tailed Eagle at Étang Puraïs, we made haste, arriving minutes later to be told it had just flown! So we did the same and headed for a private lake, Étang Fougères – the latest purchase by the Ligue pour la Protection des Oiseaux (LPO), where a Mediterranean Gull had been seen nest-building the previous day, but again our luck was out. Was it going to be one of ‘those’ days, we thought? However, it was still nice to see the gull colony, along with a buck Roe Deer standing in the reeds and an impressive Mullein Moth caterpillar feeding on said food plant. From here we drove to the Château de Romefort, where we had lunch by the river Creuse which was covered in more than a hundred jewel-winged Banded Demoiselles.

After lunch, we spent the rest of the afternoon searching for orchids. Adjacent to an active limestone quarry, we amassed an impressive list of eight species in just an hour; these included Violet Limodore, Fly, Lady, Bee and Monkey Orchids. Further east at Rives, we found a fabulous show of Maiden Pinks, more Lady Orchids and even more Violet Limodores, along with a Broad-leaved Helleborine rosette. And just as we were set to head back to the hotel, a lovely group of Man Orchids was spotted on a roadside verge.

Back at the hotel we convened for the last time to record the species of the day and chatted about some of the tour highlights. We agreed that the group members, stunning wildlife and prime location had all combined to make a truly memorable holiday experience.

Day 8,

Wednesday 29th May

After breakfast, we bid farewell to our hosts and following a smooth journey we arrived back in Poitiers in plenty of time for a coffee before our return journey to the UK.

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Species Lists

Birds (✓=recorded but not counted)

| | Common name | Scientific name | May | | | | | |
|----|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 1 | Red-legged Partridge | <i>Alectoris rufa</i> | | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| 2 | Pheasant | <i>Phasianus colchicus</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 3 | Mute Swan | <i>Cygnus olor</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 4 | Gadwall | <i>Mareca strepera</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 5 | Mallard | <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 6 | Eurasian Teal | <i>Anas crecca</i> | ✓ | | | | ✓ | |
| 7 | Red-crested Pochard | <i>Netta rufina</i> | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 8 | Common Pochard | <i>Aythya ferina</i> | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 9 | Tufted Duck | <i>Aythya fuligula</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ |
| 10 | European Nightjar | <i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i> | | | | ✓ | | |
| 11 | Common Swift | <i>Apus apus</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 12 | Common Cuckoo | <i>Cuculus canorus</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 13 | Rock Dove / Feral Pigeon | <i>Columba livia</i> | | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| 14 | Stock Dove | <i>Columba oenas</i> | | | ✓ | | | |
| 15 | Common Wood Pigeon | <i>Columba palumbus</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 16 | European Turtle Dove | <i>Streptopelia turtur</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 17 | Eurasian Collared Dove | <i>Streptopelia decaocto</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 18 | Common Moorhen | <i>Gallinula chloropus</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | | | |
| 19 | Eurasian Coot | <i>Fulica atra</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 20 | Little Grebe | <i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ |
| 21 | Great Crested Grebe | <i>Podiceps cristatus</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ |
| 22 | Black-necked Grebe | <i>Podiceps nigricollis</i> | ✓ | | | | ✓ | ✓ |
| 23 | Eurasian Stone-curlew | <i>Burhinus oediconemus</i> | | | ✓ | | | |
| 24 | Northern Lapwing | <i>Vanellus vanellus</i> | | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ |
| 25 | Grey Plover | <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> | | | | | ✓ | |
| 26 | Little Ringed Plover | <i>Charadrius dubius</i> | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 27 | Common Greenshank | <i>Tringa nebularia</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 28 | Black-headed Gull | <i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 29 | Yellow-legged Gull | <i>Larus michahellis</i> | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 30 | Whiskered Tern | <i>Chlidonias hybrida</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 31 | White Stork | <i>Ciconia ciconia</i> | ✓ | | | | | |
| 32 | Great Cormorant | <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i> | | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ |
| 33 | Black-crowned Night Heron | <i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i> | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | |
| 34 | Western Cattle Egret | <i>Bubulcus ibis</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 35 | Grey Heron | <i>Ardea cinerea</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 36 | Purple Heron | <i>Ardea purpurea</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 37 | Great Egret | <i>Egretta alba</i> | ✓ | | | | ✓ | |
| 38 | Little Egret | <i>Egretta garzetta</i> | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| 39 | European Honey Buzzard | <i>Pernis apivorus</i> | | | | ✓ | | |
| 40 | Western Marsh Harrier | <i>Circus aeruginosus</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ |
| 41 | Red Kite | <i>Milvus milvus</i> | | | | | | ✓ |
| 42 | Black Kite | <i>Milvus migrans</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 43 | Common Buzzard | <i>Buteo buteo</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 44 | Eurasian Hoopoe | <i>Upupa epops</i> | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 45 | European Bee-eater | <i>Merops apiaster</i> | | ✓ | | ✓ | | |
| 46 | Great Spotted Woodpecker | <i>Dendrocopos major</i> | | | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ |
| 47 | European Green Woodpecker | <i>Picus viridis</i> | | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ |

| | Common name | Scientific name | May | | | | | |
|----|---------------------------|--------------------------------|-----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 48 | Common Kestrel | <i>Falco tinnunculus</i> | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 49 | Eurasian Hobby | <i>Falco subbuteo</i> | | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| 50 | Red-backed Shrike | <i>Lanius collurio</i> | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 51 | Eurasian Golden Oriole | <i>Oriolus oriolus</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 52 | Eurasian Jay | <i>Garrulus glandarius</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 53 | Eurasian Magpie | <i>Pica pica</i> | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 54 | Western Jackdaw | <i>Corvus monedula</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 55 | Rook | <i>Corvus frugilegus</i> | ✓ | | | | | |
| 56 | Carrion Crow | <i>Corvus corone</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 57 | Eurasian Blue Tit | <i>Parus caeruleus</i> | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 58 | Great Tit | <i>Parus major</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 59 | Woodlark | <i>Lullula arborea</i> | ✓ | | | | ✓ | |
| 60 | Eurasian Skylark | <i>Alauda arvensis</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 61 | Barn Swallow | <i>Hirundo rustica</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 62 | Common House Martin | <i>Delichon urbica</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 63 | Cetti's Warbler | <i>Cettia cetti</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 64 | Long-tailed Tit | <i>Aegithalos caudatus</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 65 | Western Bonelli's Warbler | <i>Phylloscopus bonelli</i> | | | | ✓ | | |
| 66 | Common Chiffchaff | <i>Phylloscopus collybita</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 67 | Eurasian Reed Warbler | <i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 68 | Melodious Warbler | <i>Hippolais polyglotta</i> | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 69 | Fan-tailed Warbler | <i>Cisticola juncidis</i> | | ✓ | | | ✓ | |
| 70 | Eurasian Blackcap | <i>Sylvia atricapilla</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 71 | Garden Warbler | <i>Sylvia borin</i> | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 72 | Common Whitethroat | <i>Sylvia communis</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 73 | Common Firecrest | <i>Regulus ignicapillus</i> | | ✓ | | ✓ | | |
| 74 | Eurasian Wren | <i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i> | | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | |
| 75 | Eurasian Nuthatch | <i>Sitta europaea</i> | | ✓ | | ✓ | | |
| 76 | Short-toed Treecreeper | <i>Certhia brachydactyla</i> | ✓ | | | | ✓ | ✓ |
| 77 | Common Starling | <i>Sturnus vulgaris</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 78 | Common Blackbird | <i>Turdus merula</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 79 | Mistle Thrush | <i>Turdus viscivorus</i> | | | | ✓ | | ✓ |
| 80 | European Robin | <i>Erithacus rubecula</i> | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 81 | Common Nightingale | <i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 82 | Black Redstart | <i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i> | | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ |
| 83 | European Stonechat | <i>Saxicola rubicola</i> | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 84 | House Sparrow | <i>Passer domesticus</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 85 | Dunnock | <i>Prunella modularis</i> | | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | |
| 86 | Grey Wagtail | <i>Motacilla cinerea</i> | | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| 87 | White Wagtail | <i>Motacilla alba</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 88 | Tree Pipit | <i>Anthus trivialis</i> | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 89 | Common Chaffinch | <i>Fringilla coelebs</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 90 | European Greenfinch | <i>Chloris chloris</i> | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 91 | Common Linnet | <i>Linaria cannabina</i> | | | | | ✓ | |
| 92 | European Goldfinch | <i>Carduelis carduelis</i> | | | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ |
| 93 | European Serin | <i>Serinus serinus</i> | | ✓ | | ✓ | | |
| 94 | Corn Bunting | <i>Emberiza calandra</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| 95 | Yellowhammer | <i>Emberiza citrinella</i> | | | | ✓ | | |
| 96 | Cirl Bunting | <i>Emberiza cirlus</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |

Mammals

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Roe Deer, <i>Capreolus capreolus</i> | Coypu, <i>Myocastor coypus</i> | Brown Hare, <i>Lepus europaeus</i> |
| Rabbit, <i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i> | Fox, <i>Vulpes vulpes</i> | Red Deer, <i>Cervus elaphus</i> |

Amphibians & Reptiles

| | |
|---|---|
| Green Lizard, <i>Lacerta viridis</i> | Common Wall Lizard, <i>Podarcis muralis</i> |
| European Pond Terrapin, <i>Emys orbicularis</i> | Edible Frog, <i>Rana esculenta</i> |
| Pool Frog, <i>Rana lessonae</i> | Common Tree Frog, <i>Hyla arborea</i> |

Dragonflies

| | |
|---|--|
| Banded Demoiselle, <i>Calopteryx splendens</i> | Winter Damselfly, <i>Sympecma fusca</i> |
| Blue-tailed Damselfly, <i>Ischnura elegans</i> | Common Blue Damselfly, <i>Enallagma cyathigerum</i> |
| White-legged Damselfly, <i>Platycnemis pennipes</i> | Migrant Spreadwing, <i>Lestes barbarus</i> |
| Red-eyed Damselfly, <i>Erythromma najas</i> | Blue-eye, <i>Erythromma lindenii</i> |
| Variable damselfly, <i>Coenagrion pulchellum</i> | Emperor Dragonfly, <i>Anax imperator</i> |
| Hairy Hawker, <i>Brachytron pratense</i> | Yellow Clubtail, <i>Gomphus simillimus</i> |
| Downy Emerald, <i>Cordulia aenea</i> | Four-spotted Chaser, <i>Libellula quadrimaculata</i> |
| Broad-bodied Chaser, <i>Libellula depressa</i> | Scarce Chaser / Blue Chaser, <i>Libellula fulva</i> |
| Black-tailed Skimmer, <i>Orthetrum cancellatum</i> | White-tailed Skimmer, <i>Orthetrum albistylum</i> |

Butterflies & Moths

| | |
|--|--|
| Swallowtail, <i>Papilio machaon</i> | Scarce Swallowtail, <i>Iphiclides podalirius</i> |
| Black-veined White, <i>Aporia crataegi</i> | Berger's Clouded Yellow, <i>Colias alfajariensis</i> |
| Brimstone, <i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i> | Wood White, <i>Leptidea sinapis</i> |
| Green Hairstreak, <i>Callophrys rubi</i> | Small Copper, <i>Lycaena phlaeas</i> |
| Sooty Copper, <i>Lycaena tityrus</i> | Adonis Blue, <i>Polyommatus bellargus</i> |
| Common Blue, <i>Polyommatus icarus</i> | Southern White Admiral, <i>Limenitis reducta</i> |
| Camberwell Beauty, <i>Nymphalis antiopa</i> | Red Admiral, <i>Vanessa atalanta</i> |
| Glanville Fritillary, <i>Melitaea cinxia</i> | Knapweed Fritillary, <i>Melitaea phoebe</i> |
| Spotted Fritillary, <i>Melitaea didyma</i> | Marsh Fritillary, <i>Eurodryas aurinia</i> |
| Small Heath, <i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i> | Pearly Heath, <i>Coenonympha arcania</i> |
| Speckled Wood, <i>Pararge aegeria</i> | Wall Brown, <i>Lasiommata megera</i> |
| Oberthur's Grizzled Skipper, <i>Pyrgus armoricanus</i> | |

Orchids

| | |
|---|--|
| <i>Anacamptis pyramidalis</i> , Pyramidal Orchid | <i>Anacamptis laxiflora</i> , Lax-flowered Orchid |
| <i>Anacamptis morio</i> , Green-winged Orchid | <i>Cephalanthera longifolia</i> , Sword-leaved Helleborine |
| <i>D. elata</i> subsp. <i>sesquipetalis</i> , Brenne Orchid | (<i>Dactylorhiza brennensis</i>), |
| <i>Dactylorhiza fuchsii</i> , Spotted Orchid | <i>Epipactis helleborine</i> , Broad-leaved Helleborine |
| <i>Gymnadenia conopsea</i> , Fragrant Orchid | <i>Himantoglossum hircinum</i> , Lizard Orchid |
| <i>Limodorum abortivum</i> , Violet Limodore | <i>Neotinea ustulata</i> , Burnt Orchid |
| <i>Neottia nidus-avis</i> , Bird's Nest Orchid | <i>Ophrys apifera</i> , Bee Orchid |
| <i>Ophrys insectifera</i> , Fly Orchid | <i>Ophrys sphegodes</i> , Early Spider Orchid |
| <i>Orchis anthropophora</i> , Man Orchid | <i>Orchis militaris</i> , Military Orchid |
| <i>Orchis purpurea</i> , Lady Orchid | <i>Orchis simia</i> , Monkey Orchid |
| <i>Platanthera chlorantha</i> , Greater Butterfly Orchid | <i>Platanthera bifolia</i> , Lesser Butterfly Orchid |
| <i>Serapias lingua</i> , Tongue Orchid | |

Hybrid orchids

Lady x Monkey

Green-winged x Lax-flowered

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