The French Pyrenees

Naturetrek Tour Report

7 - 14 June 2019





Cirque de Gavarnie

Gentiana alpina







Narcissus biclor

Report & Images by David Tattersfield



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Tour Report The French Pyrenees

Tour participants: David Tattersfield and Neil McMahon (leaders) with 13 Naturetrek clients.

Day 1 Friday 7th June

We arrived in Lourdes, in the late afternoon, and set off towards the High Pyrenees. Just beyond Luz-Saint-Sauveur, we made a brief stop at the Pont Napoleon, the impressive bridge spanning the narrow gorge of the Gave de Pau. It was built at the request of Napoleon III, after he and the Empress Eugenie stayed at the Spa, in 1859. We had excellent views of our first Crag Martins, as they flew just below the bridge. A range of plants, growing on the cliffs, included the endemic Ramonda myconi, large silver rosettes of Pyrenean Saxifrage Saxifraga longifolia, the delicate Smooth Spleenwort Asplenium fontanum and Southern Polypody Polypodium cambricum. We arrived at our hotel around 8.00pm and were soon enjoying our dinner and looking forward to the week ahead.

Day 2 Saturday 8th June

We awoke to a cool but sunny morning, with only patchy cloud. After breakfast, we were excited to see raptor activity over the crags, across the valley. As we watched, over 20 Griffon Vultures were joined by a pair of Lammergeiers, three Golden Eagles, and eventually, a couple of Eurasian Sparrowhawks, a Short-toed Snake Eagle and a Peregrine Falcon. We couldn't have hoped for a better start to our week and it was 10.00am before we dragged ourselves away and set off up the Héas Valley.

Roadside stops enabled us to familiarise ourselves with the local flora. Deep-blue Common Columbine Aquilegia vulgaris was plentiful along the roadside verge, and a range of orchids included Early-purple Orchid Orchis mascula, Fragrant Orchid Gymnadenia conopsea, Sword-leaved Helleborine Cephalanthera longifolia, both colour forms of Elder-flowered Orchid Dactylorhiza sambucina and Twayblade Neottia ovata. On mossy rocks we admired some fine flowering plants of Pyramidal Saxifrage Saxifraga cotyledon and colourful patches of Fairy Foxglove Erinus alpinus. Walking up the road towards the Barrage des Gloriettes, we compared the single white flowers of Alpine Pasqueflower Pulsatilla alpina subsp. alpina, with the many-flowered Narcissus-flowered Anemone Anemone narcissiflora. Other common flowers, on the damp cliffs, included the pale-blue globes of Leafless-stemmed Globularia nudicaulis, and Large-flowered Butterwort Pinguicula grandiflora.

We took a break for lunch, near the dam, before setting off to walk around it. Like other dams of the region, the Barrage des Gloriettes stores water for hydro-electric power generation, in this case at the power station in Gèdre, and the water level was very low. Shrubs of Snowy Mespilus *Amelanchier ovalis* and Wild Cotoneaster *Cotoneaster integerrimus* were in flower around the rocky shore, and the bold spires of White Asphodel *Asphodelus albus* were scattered across the damp hillsides. On the rocks, more saxifrages were in flower; the white Scented-leaved Saxifrage *Saxifraga intricata* and the more sombre Musky Saxifrage *Saxifraga exarata* subsp. *moschata*. Here and there, in the damp turf, were numbers of Pyrenean Snakeshead *Fritillaria pyrenaica*, their pendant flowers attractively chequered, on their inside.

Up to this point, the underlying geology consisted of the acidic and impermeable crystalline basement rocks of the Palaeozoic era. Above us were high cliffs of Cretaceous limestones and a jumble of fallen boulders at their feet hosted a very different flora. We found exquisite little rock gardens, studded with silver rosettes of Pyrenean Saxifrage, cushions of Shaggy Rock-jasmine *Androsace villosa* and dwarf rock-hugging shrubs, such as Mountain Kidney-vetch *Anthyllis montana*, Creeping Globularia *Globularia repens* and Dwarf Buckthorn *Rhamnus pumilus*. Wet

flushes were decorated with the bright yellow Marsh Marigold *Caltha palustris* and, along the riverbank, pink Bird's-eye Primrose *Primula farinosa* mingled with deep-blue Trumpet Gentian *Gentiana acaulis* and Spring Gentian *Gentiana verna*. The day proved to be very good for butterflies, the best of the week, as it turned out, and we recorded around 27 species with notable sightings of Swallowtail, Marbled White, Chequered Skipper, Camberwell Beauty, Apollo and Clouded Apollo. We crossed a bridge over the river, to complete our circular walk, and and were soon back at the hotel, well satisfied with our introductory day.

Day 3 Sunday 9th June

After an early shower, the day remained mainly cloud, with sunny periods and just a few spots of rain in late afternoon. After our raptor watch, when we saw the usual Griffon Vultures and a pair of Short-toed Snake Eagles, we returned to the Héas Valley and climbed steeply up to the Auberge du Maillet. Over a coffee break, we watched Alpine Chough and a patrolling Lammergeier, before driving higher to the car park in the Cirque de Troumouse. We were greeted by a vast panorama of grasslands, backed by the snow-covered cliffs of its headwall and, suitably attired, we set off to explore, along a broad and easy track. A brief search of one of the cold streams, that drain the cirque, revealed a mature male Pyrenean Brook Salamander, with a bright-orange throat and belly.

Everywhere the short turf was speckled with the white flowers of Pyrenean Buttercup Ranunculus pyrenaeus, especially around the edges of melting snow patches. Around boulders, we found the flowers of Spurge Laurel Daphne laureola, Mezereon Daphne mezereum and Early Yellow Star-of-Bethlehem Gagea fistulosa. Towards the back of the cirque, we explored a complex terrain of glacial moraines, rocky knolls and limestone boulders, still with large drifts of snow and it was the early spring flowers that were the most obvious. On limestone rocks, there were showy clumps of Yellow Whitlowgrass Draba aizoides and vivid mats of Purple Saxifrage Saxifraga oppositifolia, while on areas of broken shale, we found patches of Pink Rock-jasmine Androsace laggeri and Chamois Cress Hornungia alpina. We had hoped to see Alpine Accentor, which regularly breed here, and were not disappointed. Our patience was eventually rewarded and we all had excellent views of four of these charming and confiding birds. We descended onto easy ground and were soon back, at the car park, where we enjoyed a rather late lunch. Around us, in the slightly drier turf, there were many deep-blue, tubby flowers of Alpine Gentian Gentiana alpina and the dark-pink Garland Flower Daphne cneorum.

We retraced our route back to the relative warmth of the valley and spent the remainder of the afternoon around the little hamlet of Héas, where a few traditional houses cluster round the historic church. Pastoralism continues here, in the time-honoured fashion, and we admired the narrow packhorse bridge and the abundance of flowers in its unimproved meadows. Here were Globeflower *Trollius europaeus*, Wood Crane's-bill *Geranium sylvaticum*, Dusky Crane's-bill *Geranium phaeum*, the pale-blue Pyrenean Hyacinth *Brimeura amethystina* and swathes of Horned Pansy *Viola cornuta*, mixed with the white umbels of Pyrenean Pignut *Conopodium pyrenaicum*. We couldn't resist the opportunity to linger for a drink at the Auberge de la Munia, before we returned to our hotel.

Day 4 Monday 10th June

Cloud hung low over the mountains, all day, but it stayed dry. We set off down the valley, for a change, and made roadside stops to see such plants as St Bernard's Lily *Anthericum liliago* and Bloody Crane's-bill *Geranium sanguineum*. After a coffee stop and shopping in Luz-Saint-Sauveur, we continued beyond Soulom, where we

found a substantial colony of Woodcock Orchid *Ophrys scolopax*, and fine specimens of Pyramidal Orchid *Anacamptis pyramidalis*, in a patch of unimproved grassland. Birdlife was more varied, here, than in the mountains and we recorded Great Spotted Woodpecker, Green Woodpecker, Red and Black Kite, Common Buzzard, and singles of Booted Eagle and Egyptian Vulture, as well as a variety of smaller birds. A picnic area, beside the broad Gave de Pau, provided benches and a convenient spot for lunch, with the unexpected bonus of a pair of Middle Spotted Woodpeckers, in the trees above our heads.

The cloud showed no sign of lifting, so we returned to Luz and made a decision to visit the Col du Tourmalet, in the hope of finding White-winged Snowfinch. Before we even reached the ski resorts, we found ourselves in dense cloud and began to wonder at the wisdom of our decision. Fortunately, when we reached the col, visibility had improved a little and we set off for a short walk. It was not long before we found several of these hardy birds, first on the pylons and then busily feeding on the ground.

Day 5

Tuesday 11th June

There was no sign of an improvement in the weather. It remained cold, with low cloud and light rain for most of the day and periods of sleet, in the afternoon. Beyond Gavarnie, we stopped in the lower part of the Ossoue Valley, where we made a short circular walk, along an old trail. A steep roadside bank was rich in flowers with many Fragrant Orchids and a few Burnt Orchids Neotinea ustulata. A number of dwarf shrubs included Large Thyme Thymus pulegioides, Winter Savory Satureja montana, Large Yellow Restharrow Ononis natrix, Montpellier Milk-vetch Astragalus monspessulanus and Dioecious Thymelaea Thymelaea dioica, a member of the daphne family. On rock faces, there were fine specimens of Pyrenean Saxifrage and Ramonda. Keeping a close eye on the high limestone cliffs, above us, we moved a little further up the valley. Eventually raptors started taking to the air and over next hour, or so, we saw Griffon Vulture, Lammergeir and Short-toed Snake Eagle, with large flocks of Chough, on the skyline. After walking as far as the beech woodland across the valley, the weather showed no sign of improving, so we retreated to the shelter of a café in Gavarnie. Outside, we were fortunate to see a flock of around 20 Citril Finches and we spent a while watching them, to ensure everyone had good views.

Feeling rather damp, we returned to the hotel to dry off and then ate our lunch, indoors. By 3.00pm, a break in the weather tempted us back out and we drove up to the Plateau de Saugé, across the valley. The hay meadows and steep banks were at their most colourful with a wide range of plants and large quantities of Yellow-rattle Rhinanthus minor. We stopped to see a plant of the uncommon Deadly Nightshade Atropa bella-donna and a large colony of Pyramidal Orchid, just coming into flower, among drifts of the pink Pyrenean Kidney Vetch Anthyllis vulneraria subsp. pyrenaica. Higher up, there was a mosaic of meadows and wetter habitats, with Broad-leaved Marsh-orchid Dactylorhiza majalis, Common Lousewort Pedicularis sylvatica, Whorled Lousewort Pedicularis verticillata and the dark-pink Radish-leaved Bittercress Cardamine raphanifolia. We did well for birds too, seeing Whinchat, Yellowhammer, Eurasian Skylark and Tree Pipit. We all enjoyed close views of several Red-backed Shrikes and a pair of Golden Eagles drifted by. A sleet shower dashed any thoughts of walking further and we were back at the hotel at 5.30pm.

Day 6

Wednesday 12th June

At last, good weather returned and we awoke to a light frost and clear skies. It was just the day we needed for our longest walk of the week, into the spectacular scenery of the Cirque de Gavarnie. We parked in the village

and set off along the river, where the colourful meadows were buzzing with insects. We paused, a while, to enjoy the amazing vista ahead of us and had good views of Yellowhammer and small flocks of Citril Finch. A gentle walk through the forest revealed another range of plants, including Irish Spurge *Euphorbia hyberna*, Pyrenean Squill *Scilla liliohyacinthus*, Whorled Solomon's-seal *Polygonatum verticillatum* and the nodding flowers of One-flowered Wintergreen *Moneses uniflora*. A short, steep climb through the pine forest, where we managed glimpses of Crested Tit, led us to join the main track, just below the entrance to the Cirque.

We found a suitable place for our picnic and soon attracted attention from Alpine Choughs, which were happy to finish our leftovers and give us great photo opportunities, in the process. We adjourned to the hotel for refreshments, before taking a high path above the valley. The pale blue Spring Squill *Scilla verna* was common and we found flowering specimens of Liverleaf *Hepatica nobilis*, not far from the edge of melting snow. Once we had carefully crossed the remnants of an avalanche, we followed a narrow, but easy route, taking a natural line below the cliffs. An overhanging section of wet cliff had large numbers of Long-leaved Butterwort *Pinguicula longifolia*, their long, sticky, fly-paper leaves of pale green contrasting with deep-purple flowers. In the screes, beyond, were the trailing shoots of Pyrenean Yam *Dioscorea pyrenaica*, one of the more unusual endemic plants of the region. Some of us were fortunate to have brief views of a Wallcreeper, feeding on the cliffs above us and a couple of Red Crossbills, in the pine trees. After a densely forested section, with some venerable specimens of European Silver Fir *Abies alba*, the path emerged in a lovely green forest clearing at the Auberge de Pailla, our highest point, at 1800m. We rested here, for a short while, before beginning our descent to the valley. It had been a long but glorious day and we arrived back at the hotel around 7.00pm.

Day 7

Thursday 13th June

We left the hotel at 9.20am and drove up past the ski resort above Gavarnie, stopping to overlook the cliffs in the Ossoue Valley. As we climbed higher, we were in open pasture, here and there speckled with Pyrenean Buttercup and where Water Pipit, Linnet and Northern Wheatear were the common birds. We parked at the Col de Tentes, the end of the motorable road. The wind was very strong and, although we estimated the temperature to be around 7°C, it felt much colder. Plenty of snow remained on the mountains and the summits were hidden in cloud, but the trail to the Port de Boucharo, on the border with Spain, was clear. Spring was clearly late, here, but there were some early flowers. Clumps of Hairy Primrose *Primula hirsuta* and Alpine Toadflax *Linaria alpina* clung to the cliffs and at our feet were vivid yellow patches of the primrose relative *Vitaliana primuliflora* subsp. *canescens* and the silver-leaved rosettes of the endemic Pyrenean Thistle *Carduus carlinoides*. It was quite a battle, walking into the gusty wind, and Doug's hat went sailing into the valley, never to return. The wind velocity increased, markedly, as we rounded the final corner and crossed into Spain, so we did not linger for long. We made a hasty retreat, but not before seeing at least eight Alpine Accentor,s feeding close-by, clearly unperturbed by the elements.

After our adventure, we were grateful for a hot drink, back in Gavarnie. It was much warmer, down here, and the sun was out, so we returned to the Ossoue Valley, to where we had left, on Tuesday. We had lunch below the cliffs and spent some time admiring the kaleidoscope of colourful plants along the roadside screes. The rockroses were most prominent and included Large-flowered Common Rockrose Helianthemum nummularium subsp. grandiflorum, White Rockrose Helianthemum appeninum and the small-flowered Alpine Rockrose Helianthemum oelandicum subsp. alpestre. Other delights were large patches of red Mountain Kidney Vetch, lots of Pyrenean Hyacinth, Alpine Basil Thyme Clinopodium alpinum and deep-blue Prostrate Speedwell Veronica prostrata.

Further up the valley, the road became a rough track, which we followed to the Barrage d'Ossoue. In the rocky terrain, Alpine Marmots were everywhere, and we had especially good views of Northern Wheatear, Water Pipit and a few Common Rock Thrushes. We did very well for the larger raptors, during the afternoon, seeing regular Griffon Vultures, five Lammergeiers and three Golden Eagles. Around the dam, and appearing to be confined to a particular band of light-grey limestone, we found the bright yellow flowers of the tiny Rush-leaved Daffodil Narcissus assoanus and further along, in the boulder-strewn valley floor, there were attractive clumps of its larger relative, Narcissus bicolor. Scattered through the alluvial gravels, between the braided river channels, were bright blue patches of Trumpet Gentian, Spring Gentian and conspicuous hummocks of the yellow-flowered Snow Thymelaea Thymelaea tinctoria.

Returning down the valley, we made a final stop, where the limestone cliffs meet the road. Above us were the massive silver rosettes of Pyrenean Saxifrage, some of which had astonishing, dense plumes of white flowers and they provided an unforgettable highlight and a fitting end to a long day, in stunning scenery. We had worked up a good appetite and back at the hotel we enjoyed the family tradition of barbequed sheep, expertly prepared by Philippe on the open fire.

Day 8 Friday 14th June

Our return flight from Lourdes was not until late afternoon, so we had time for one last excursion. We returned to the Plateau de Saugé, this time in good weather, and set off on a gentle walk. Common Quail called from the wet meadows, where there were large drifts of Broad-leaved Marsh-orchid. We passed several traditional haybarns with their characteristic crow-step gables and enjoyed distant views of the Cirque de Gavarnie and its surrounding peaks. Among the many colourful flowers that we encountered, there were large numbers of Elderflowered Orchid, in perfect condition. Growing in a stream, our final botanical highlight was a huge patch of Water Saxifrage Saxifraga aquatica, an uncommon endemic of the High Pyrenees, here at the very western limit of its range.

Sadly, our week in the Pyrenees was nearly over. We had crammed a lot in and seen a wonderful cross-section of its wildlife and scenery. We returned to the hotel for a spot of lunch and after thanking Odile and Phillipe for their wonderful hospitality, we drove back to Lourdes for our return flight.

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Species Lists

Plants (• = endemic to the Pyrenees and adjacent regions; ‡ = cultivated or naturalised)

Latin name	Common name	Notes
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PTERIDOPHYTES

FERNS AND FERN ALLIES

Aspleniaceae

Asplenium ceterach
Asplenium fontanum
Asplenium ruta-muraria
Asplenium septentrionale
Asplenium trichomanes
Asplenium viride

Athyriaceae

Athyrium distentifolium Athyrium felix-femina

Blechnaceae

Blechnum spicant

Cystopteridaceae

Cystopteris fragilis Gymnocarpium dryopteris Gymnocarpium robertianum

Dennstaedtiaceae

Pteridium aquilinum

Dryopteridaceae

Dryopteris affinis
Dryopteris expansa
Dryopteris filix-mas
Dryopteris oreades
Dryopteris submontana
Polystichum aculeatum
Polystichum lonchitis
Polystichum setiferum

Equisetaceae

Equisetum arvense Equisetum hyemale Equisetum palustre

Lycopodiaceae

Huperzia selago

Polypodiaceae

Polypodium cambricum
Polypodium vulgare

Pteridaceae

Cryptogramma crispa

Spleenwort Family

Rustyback Occasional on rocks
Smooth Spleenwort Pont Napoleon
Wall-rue Rocks and walls
Forked Spleenwort Boulders and scree
Maidenhair Spleenwort Rocks and walls
Green Spleenwort Shaded mountain rocks

Lady-fern Family

Alpine Lady-fern Mountain rocks
Lady-fern Common

Hard-fern Family

Hard-fern Acidic soils

Bladder-fern Family

Brittle Bladder-fern Rocks and walls
Oak Fern Common in shade
Limestone Fern Limestone scree

Bracken Family

Bracken Widespread

Buckler-fern Family

Scaly Male-fern Woods
Northern Buckler-fern Acidic scree
Male-fern Forest and shady places
Mountain Male-fern Acidic scree

Rigid Buckler-fern Limestone fissures
Hard Shield-fern Common. Woods
Holly-fern Limestone rocks
Soft Shield-fern Occasional. Woods

Horsetail Family

Field Horsetail Common

Rough Horsetail Occasional. Wet places
Marsh Horsetail Wet acidic pasture

Clubmoss Family

Fir Clubmoss Acidic mountain pasture

Polypody Family

Southern Polypody Rocks. Pont Napoleon Common Polypody Occasional. Rocks

Maidenhair Fern Family

Parsley Fern Acidic boulder scree

Latin name Common name Notes

Selaginellaceae Lesser Clubmoss Family

Selaginella selaginoides Lesser Clubmoss Damp turf. Troumouse

Thelypteridaceae Marsh Fern Family

Phegopteris connectilis Beech Fern Frequent in shade

GYMNOSPERMS CONIFERS

Cupressaceae Cypress Family

Juniperus communis var. saxatilisCommon JuniperMountainsJuniperus communis var. communisCommon JuniperMountains

Pinaceae Pine Family

Abies albaEuropean Silver-firMountain forestsPicea abies ‡Norway SpruceCultivatedPinus sylvestrisScots PineMontane forestsPinus uncinataMountain PineSubalpine slopes

ANGIOSPERMS FLOWERING PLANTS

DICOTYLEDONS

Amaranthaceae Goosefoot Family

Blitum bonus-henricus Good-King-Henry Disturbed places

Apiaceae Carrot Family

Aegopodium podagraria Ground Elder Occasional

Angelica sylvestris Wild Angelica Occasional. Wet places

Anthriscus sylvestris Cow Parsley Common Astrantia major Astrantia Frequent Astrantia minor Lesser Astrantia Acidic rocks Bupleurum falcatum Sickle Hare's-ear Dry rocky places Bupleurum ranunculoides Buttercup-leaved Hare's-ear Rocky places Chaerophyllum hirsutum Hairy Chervil Damp places Meadows Conopodium majus Pignut Conopodium pyrenaicum • Pyrenean Pignut Meadows Wild Carrot Daucus carota Roadsides

Dethawia splendens • Dethawia Rocks and screes

Eryngium bourgatii
Pyrenean Eryngo
Common
Eryngium campestre
Field Eryngo
Stony places
Heracleum sphondylium subsp. pyrenaicum
Pyrenean Hogweed
Frequent
Laserpitium gallicum
French Sermountain
Screes
Laserpitium latifolium
Broad-leaved Sermountain
Screes

Laserpitium siler Narrow-leaved Sermountain Screes and meadows

Occasional Ligusticum lucidum • Pyrenean Lovage Myrrhis odorata Sweet Cicely Common Peucedanum ostruthium Masterwort Streamsides Pimpinella major Greater Burnet-saxifrage Meadows Pimpinella saxifraga Burnet-saxifrage Meadows Seseli libanotis Moon Carrot Rocky banks

Seseli nanum • Pyrenean Moon Carrot Rock crevices and screes

Latin name Common name Notes

Apocynaceae Dogbane Family

Vinca minor ‡Lesser PeriwinkleShaded banksVincetoxicum hirundinariaSwallow-wortRocky pasture

Aquifoliaceae Holly Family

Ilex aquifolium Holly Occasional in forest

Araliaceae Ivy Family

Hedera helix Ivy Common

Asteraceae Daisy Family

Achillea millefoliumYarrowCommon in meadowsAdenostyles alliariaeAdenostylesOccasional. Damp places

Antennaria dioicaMountain EverlastingMountain turfArctium minusLesser BurdockRoadsides

Arnica montanaArnicaAcidic turf. FrequentAster alpinusAlpine AsterOccasional. Screes

Bellis perennis Daisy Widespread

Carduus carlinoides •Pyrenean ThistleMountains and screesCarduus defloratusAlpine ThistlePasture and screesCarduus nutansNodding ThistleWaste places

Carlina acaulisStemless Carline ThistleMountain turfCarlina acanthifolia subsp. cynaraAcanthus-leaved ThistlePastureCarlina vulgarisCommon Carline ThistleMountain turf

Centaurea montanaMountain CornflowerOccasional in meadowsCentaurea nigraKnapweedMeadows and roadsides

Centaurea scabiosa Greater Knapweed Occasional

Cirsium eriophorum Woolly Thistle Grazed turf and waste places

Cirsium heterophyllumMelancholy ThistleDamp meadowsCirsium palustreMarsh ThistleWet streamsidesCirsium rivulareBrook ThistleDamp acidic pasture

Cirsium vulgareSpear ThistleWet pastureCrepis albidaA Hawk's-beardDry, sunny placesCrepis paludosaMarsh Hawk's-beardWet pasture

Crepis pygmaea Pygmy Hawk's-beard Mountain rocks and screes

Crepis pyrenaicaPyrenean Hawk's-beardDamp placesEupatorium cannabinumHemp AgrimonyRoadsides

Hieracium lactucella A Hawkweed Acidic rocks and mountain turf

Hieracium pilosellaMouse-ear HawkweedRocks and screesHomogyne alpinaAlpine Colt's-footMountain turf

Jacobaea vulgaris Ragwort Occasional. Roadsides

Lactuca perennis Blue Lettuce Gèdre

Lapsana communisNipplewortWeedy placesLeontodon pyrenaicusPyrenean HawkbitAcidic pastureLeucanthemum vulgareOx-eye DaisyMeadowsLeucanthemopsis alpinaAlpine Moon-daisyMountain rocks

Mycelis muralis Wall Lettuce Walls and waste places

Omalotheca supinumDwarf CudweedMountain turfPetasites paradoxusAlpine ButterburStreamsidesPicris hieracioidesHawkweed OxtongueWaste placesPrenanthes purpureaPurple LettuceWoods and forests

Saussurea alpina Alpine Saw-wort Mountain turf. Barrage d'Ossoue

Scorzonera aristata Bearded Viper's-grass Occasional. Meadows

Common name Latin name **Notes** Senecio viscosus Sticky Groundsel Occasional. Waste places Common Groundsel Occasional. Waste places Senecio vulgaris Solidago virgaurea Goldenrod Barrage d'Ossoue Sonchus asper Prickly Sow-thistle Waste places Perennial Sow-thistle Sonchus arvensis Waste places Tanacetum corymbosum Scentless Feverfew Roadside banks above Luz-Saint-Sauveur Alpine Dandelion Mountains Taraxacum alpinum Taraxacum dissectum **Cut-leaved Dandelion** Mountains Taraxacum officinale Dandelion Common Tragopogon dubius A Goat's-beard Occasional Tragopogon pratensis Goat's-beard Meadows and roadsides Tussilago farfara Colt's-foot Streamsides Berberidaceae **Barberry Family** Berberis vulgaris Common Barberry Rocky hillsides. Lac des Gloriettes Betulaceae **Birch Family** Alnus glutinosa Common Alder Riversides Betula pendula Silver Birch Forests Betula pubescens Downy Birch Mountains Boraginaceae **Borage Family** Roadsides Echium vulgare Viper's Bugloss Lithospermum officinale Common Gromwell Occasional Alpine Forget-me-not Mountain meadows Myosotis alpestris Myosotis arvensis Field Forget-me-not Waste places Damp places Myosotis laxa Tufted Forget-me-not Myosotis sylvatica Wood Forget-me-not Grassland and woods Pulmonaria affinis Common in woods A Lungwort Brassicaceaae **Cabbage Family** Arabidopsis thaliana Thale Cress Common Arabis alpina Alpine Rock-cress Damp alpine rocks Arabis hirsuta Hairy Rock-cress Dry rocky places Barbarea intermedia Damp roadsides Medium-flowered Winter-cress Brassica repanda • Alpine Cabbage River gravels. Troumouse Capsella bursa-pastoris Shepherd's-purse Waste places Cardamine flexuosa Woods Wood Bitter-cress Cardamine hirsuta Hairy Bitter-cress Waste places Cardamine impatiens Narrow-leaved Bitter-cress Damp shady places Cardamine pratensis Lady's Smock Damp places Cardamine raphanifolia • Radish-leaved Bitter-cress Streamsides Cardamine resedifolia Reseda-leaved Bitter-cress Mountain turf and rocks Flixweed Ruderal Descurainia sophia Yellow Whitlowgrass Mountain rocks Draba aizoides Draba muralis Wall Whitlowgrass Frequent Erophila verna Common Whilowgrass Common Erysimum decumbens **Decumbent Treacle-mustard** Rocks. Barrage des Gloriettes Pyrenean Treacle-mustard Rocks. Héas Valley and above Gavarnie Erysimum duriaeai subsp. pyrenaicum • Hornungia alpina Chamois Cress Alpine rocks and scree

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Ossoue valley

Limestone rocks

Occasional. Rocks and gravels

Wild Candytuft

Rock Kernera

Spoon-leaved Candytuft

Iberis amara

Iberis spathulata •

Kernera saxatilis

Common name Latin name **Notes** Pseudoturritis turrita **Tower Cress** Rocky places and walls Wallflower Cabbage Lac des Gloriettes Rhynchosinapsis cheiranthos Sisymbrium austriacum Pyrenean Rocket Waste places Buxaceae **Box Family** Buxus sempervirens Box Locally common at lower altitudes Callitrichaceae **Water-starwort Family** Callitriche stagnalis Common Water-starwort Shallow pools. Troumouse Campanulaceae **Bellflower Family** Campanula cochleariifolia Fairy's-thimble Mountain rocks Campanula rotundifolia Harebell Mountain rocks Campanula scheuchzeri Scheuchzer's Bellflower Mountain rocks and turf Campanula trachelium Nettle-leaved Bellflower Shady banks Jasione laevis A Sheep's-bit Acidic screes Phyteuma globularifolium Rosette-leaved Rampion Acidic rocks. Troumouse Phyteuma hemisphericum Globe-headed Rampion Acidic meadows Phyteuma orbiculare Round-headed Rampion Meadows and rocks Meadows Phyteuma pyrenaicum • Pyrenean Rampion Caprifoliaceae Honeysuckle Family Frequent Lonicera periclymenum Common Honeysuckle Lonicera pyrenaica Pyrenean Honeysuckle Rocky habitats Woods Lonicera xylosteum Fly Honeysuckle Caryophyllaceae Pink Family Pink Sandwort Arenaria purpurascens • River gravels. Troumouse Arenaria tetraquetra • Imbricate Sandwort Mountain rocks Cerastium alpinum Alpine Mouse-ear Exposed rocks Cerastium cerastoides Starwort Mouse-ear Rocky pasture Cerastium fontanum Common Mouse-ear Common Cherleria sedoides Mossy Cyphel Alpine rocks Deptford Pink Roasides in lowlands Dianthus armeria Cathusian Pink Dianthus carthusianorum Occasional. Dry places Dianthus deltoides Maiden Pink Occasional. Dry places Dianthus monspessulanus Fringed Pink Rocks. Héas Valley Dianthus superbus Superb Pink Local. Damp places Gypsophila repens Alpine Gypsophila Screes and rocky turf Minuartia recurva Sickle-leaved Sandwort Screes. Col de Tentes Moehringia trinervia Three-nerved Sandwort Shady places Paronychia kapela subsp. serpyllifolia Thyme-leaved Nailwort Mountain rocks and turf Paronychia polygonifolia Polygonum-leaved Nailwort Silicious boulders and scree Sabulina verna Vernal Sandwort Rocky places Alpine Pearlwort Sagina saginoides Mountain rocks and turf Saponaria caespitosa • **Tufted Soapwort** Rare. Limestone rocks Saponaria officinalis Soapwort Occasional. Roadsides Scleranthus perennis Knawel Frequent. Dry rocky places Silene acaulis Moss Campion Alpine turf Silene alba White Campion Roadsides

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Common

Acidic rocks and screes

Locally common. Open woods and dry places

Red Campion

Rock Campion

Nottingham Catchfly

Silene dioica

Silene nutans

Silene rupestris

Common name Latin name **Notes** Meadows Silene vulgaris **Bladder Campion** Streamsides on acid soils Stellaria alsine Bog Stitchwort Stellaria graminea Lesser Stitchwort Shady places Stellaria holostea Greater Stitchwort Woods and ditches Stellaria media Common Chickweed Common Cistaceae **Rockrose Family** Helianthemum appeninum White Rockrose Limestone scree. Ossoue Valley Helianthemum canum Hoary Rockrose Screes and rocks Helianthemum nummularium subsp. Large-flowerd Common Common. Rocky places grandiflorum Rockrose Helianthemum oelandicum subsp. alpestre Alpine Rockrose Limestone rocks Convolvulaceae **Bindweed Family** Calystegia sepium Hedge Bindweed Occasional. Lowland Field Bindweed Waste places and roadsides Convolvulus arvensis Cuscuta epithymum Common Dodder Common Cornaceae **Dogwood Family** Lowland woodland Cornus sanguinea Common Dogwood Corylaceae **Hazel Family** Corylus avellana Hazel Woodland Crassulaceae **Stonecrop Family** Petrosedum rupestre Reflexed Stonecrop Rocky places Sedum acre Biting Stonecrop Rocks and walls Silicious rocks and walls Sedum album White Stonecrop Sedum alpestre Alpine Stonecrop Acid snowbeds Sedum anglicum **English Stonecrop** Silicious rocks Sedum atratum Dark Stonecrop Limestone rocks Sedum brevifolium Short-leaved Stonecrop Silicious rocks Sedum dasyphyllum Thick-leaved Stonecrop Rocks and walls Sedum hirsutum Hairy Stonecrop Siicious rocks Cobweb Houseleek Sempervivum arachnoideum Occasional. Rocks Sempervivum montanum Mountain Houseleek Limestone rocks Sempervivum tectorum Common Houseleek Occasional. Rocks Umbilicus rupestris Navelwort Rocks and walls Yam Family Dioscoreaceae Dioscorea pyrenaica • Pyrenean Yam Screes, Gavarnie Tamus communis Black Bryony Occasional. Lowland Dipsacaceae **Teasel Family** Knautia arvensis Field Scabious Frequent Knautia dipsacifolia Wood Scabious Shady places Scabiosa cinerea Pyrenean Scabious Meadows Scabiosa columbaria **Small Scabious** Frequent Devil's-bit Scabious Succisa pratensis Damp pasture **Heather Family Ericaceae**

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Locally common Acidic turf

Bearberry

Ling

Arctostaphylos uva-ursi

Calluna vulgaris

Common name **Notes** Latin name Acidic turf Empetrum nigrum subsp. hermaphroditum Hermaphrodite Crowberry Erica arborea Tree Heath Common. Low altitudes Erica cinerea Bell Heather Widespread Moneses uniflora One-flowered Wintergreen Local. Forest Orthilia secunda Serrated Wintegreen Local, Forest Pyrola minor Lesser Wintergreen Local. Forest Pyrola rotundifolia Round-leaved Wintergreen Local, Forest Rhododendron ferrugineum Alpenrose Acidic pasture Vaccinium myrtillus Bilberry Woods and mountains Vaccinium uliginosum Bog Whortleberry Acidic pasture Euphorbiaceae **Spurge Family** Forest Euphorbia amygdaloides Wood Spurge Occasional. Rocky places Euphorbia cyparissias Cypress Spurge Woodland Euphorbia hyberna Irish Spurge Mercurialis perennis Dog's Mercury Woodland Fabaceae **Pea Family** Mountain Kidney Vetch Anthyllis montana Limestone rocks Anthyllis vulneraria subsp. pyrenaica • Pyrenean Kidney Vetch Rocky places Astragalus glycyphyllos Wild Liquorice Héas valley Astragalus monspessulanus Montpellier Milk-vetch Stony pasture Cytisus scoparius Common Broom Below Gèdre Ervilia hirsuta Roadsides Hairy Tare Ervilia sylvatica Wood Vetch Shady places Roadsides. Below Col du Tourmalet Genista tinctoria Dyer's Greenweed Hippocrepis comosa Horseshoe Vetch Common Rocky banks below Gèdre Hippocrepis emerus Scorpion Senna Acidic soils Lathyrus montanus Bitter Vetch Lathyrus pratensis Meadow Vetchling Meadows Lathyrus sylvestris Narrow-leaved Everlasting-pea Héas Valley Lathyrus vernus Spring Vetch Woods Alpine Bird's-foot Trefoil Lotus alpinus Mountain pasture Lotus corniculatus Bird's-foot Trefoil Grassy places Greater Bird's-foot Trefoil Lotus uliginosus Damp pasture Medicago lupulina Black Medick Weedy places Medicago suffruticosa • Sprawling Medick Rocky pasture Melilotus albus White Melilot Road verges. Lowland Ononis aragonensis • Spanish Restharrow Damp pasture. Gavarnie Large Yellow Restharrow Ononis natrix Occasional Oxytropis campestris Yellow Milk-vetch Stony pasture Pyrenean Milk-vetch Occasional. Stony pasture Oxytropis pyrenaica • Alpine Clover Mountain pasture Trifolium alpinum Trifolium campestre Hop Trefoil Gèdre Dessus Trifolium montanum Mountain Clover Mountain pasture Trifolium pratense Red Clover Meadows Trifolium repens White Clover Meadows Trifolium thalii Thal's Clover Mountain pasture Vicia cracca **Tufted Vetch** Common

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Wood Bitter-vetch

Pyrenean Vetch

Bush Vetch

Vicia orobus

Vicia sepium

Vicia pyrenaica •

Occasional. Héas

Common

Frequent

Common name Latin name **Notes** Fagaceae **Beech Family** Woodland Fagus sylvatica Beech Sessile Oak Mountain woodland Quercus petraea Quercus pyrenaica Pyrenean Oak Common in valleys Quercus robur Common Oak Frequent in valleys Fumariaceae **Fumitory Family** Corydalis solida Solid-tubered Corydalis Mountain pasture Fumaria officinalis Common Fumitory Widespread Fumaria vaillantii Pale Fumitory Occasional Gentianaceae **Gentian Family Trumpet Gentian** Mountain turf Gentiana acaulis Gentiana alpina Alpine Gentian Acidic mountain turf Gentiana cruciata Cross Gentian Mountain turf Gentiana lutea Large Yellow Gentian Gavarnie Gentiana verna Spring Gentian Mountain turf Gentianella campestris Field Gentian Mountain turf Geraniaceae Crane's-bill Family Erodium cicutarium Common Stork's-bill Dry rocky places Geranium cinereum • Ashy Crane's-bill Rocky places. Mountains Geranium columbinum Long-stalked Crane's-bill Occasional Geranium lucidum Shining Crane's-bill Occasional. Lowland Geranium molle Dove's-foot Crane's-bill Occasional Geranium phaeum Dusky Crane's-bill Shady places Geranium pyrenaicum Pyrenean Crane's-bill Common Geranium robertianum Herb Robert Rocky places Geranium rotundifolium Round-leaved Crane's-bill Occasional Geranium sanguineum Bloody Crane's-bill Rocks and scree. Héas valley Wood Crane's-bill Geranium sylvaticum Meadows Gesneriaceae **Gloxinia Family** Ramonda myconi • Shady cliffs and boulders Ramonda Globulariaceae **Globularia Family** Leafless-stemmed Globularia nudicaulis Frequent Globularia Globularia repens Creeping Globularia Limestone fissures Grossulariaceae **Gooseberry Family** Ribes petraeum Rock Redcurrant Acidic rocks Hypericaceae St John's-wort Family Hypericum maculatum Imperforate St John's-wort Damp meadows Hypericum nummularium Western St John's-wort Damp rocks Perforate St John's-wort Occasional Hypericum perforatum Juglandaceae **Walnut Family** Cultivated Juglans regia ‡ Walnut Lamiaceae **Dead-nettle Family** Ajuga pyramidalis Pyramidal Bugle Mountain pasture

Latin name Common name **Notes** Ajuga reptans Common Bugle Widespread Black Horehound Ballota nigra Occasional Betonica officinalis Betony Occasional. Meadows Clinopodium alpinum Alpine Basil Thyme Rocks and screes **Basil Thyme** Occasional Clinopodium arvensis Clinopodium vulgare Wild Basil Frequent Galeosis angustifolia Red Hemp-nettle Occasional Pyrenean Hemp-nettle Mountain screes Galeopsis pyrenaica • Galeopsis tetrahit Common Hemp-nettle Waste places Glechoma hederacea Ground Ivy Woods Dragon-mouth Occasional. Damp turf Horminum pyrenaicum Lamiastrum galeobdolon Yellow Archangel Woods White Dead-nettle Occasional Lamium album Lamium maculatum Spotted Dead-nettle Roadsides Lamium purpureum Red Dead-nettle Occasional Mentha aquatica Water Mint Wet places Mentha longifolia Horse Mint Damp places Origanum vulgare Marjoram Occasional. Rocky turf Prunella vulgaris Self-heal Common Salvia verbenaca Wild Clary Frequent Satureja montana Winter Savory Dry banks and scree Scutellaria alpina Alpine Skullcap Rocky mountain turf Sideritis hyssopifolia Sideritis Scree. Ossoue Valley Stachys alopecurus Yellow Betony Meadows. Occasional Stachys alpina Alpine Woundwort Occasional Stachys recta Yellow Woundwort Roadsides Hedge Woundwort Shady places Stachys sylvatica Teucrium chamaedrys Wall Germander Occasional Teucrium pyrenaicum • Pyrenean Germander Rocks and scree Teucrium scorodonia Wood Sage Woods Thymus praecox subsp. polytrichus Wild Thyme Dry places Thymus pulegioides Large Thyme Occasional. Sunny, dry places and cliffs Lentibulariacae **Butterwort Family** Pinguicula alpina Alpine Butterwort Damp mountain rocks Pinguicula grandiflora Large-flowered Butterwort Wet flushes on limestone Pinguicula longifolia subsp. longifolia Long-leaved Butterwort Wet limestone cliffs. Gavarnie Linaceae Flax Family Linum catharticum Frequent Fairy Flax Malvaceae **Mallow Family** Malva arborea Tree Mallow Occasional. Waste places in lowland Malva neglecta **Dwarf Mallow** Waste places Malva sylvestris Common Mallow Waste places Oleaceae **Ash Family** Fraxinus excelsior Ash Woods Willowherb Family Onagraceae Chickweed Willowherb Wet mountain turf Epilobium alsinifolium Epilobium anagallidifolium Alpine Willowherb Wet mountain flushes Occasional Epilobium angustifolium Rosebay Willowherb

Common name Latin name **Notes** Streamsides. Val de Jeret Epilobium hirsutum Greater Willowherb Broad-leaved Willowherb Widespread Epilobium montanum Orobanchaceae **Broomrape Family** Bartsia alpina Alpine Bartsia Meadows and pasture Melampyrum pratense Common Cow-wheat Acidic turf Melampyrum sylvaticum Small Cow-wheat Mountain woods Pedicularis sylvatica Common Lousewort Wet flushes Pedicularis verticillata Whorled Lousewort Damp pasture Rhinanthus angustifolius Narrow-leaved Yellow-rattle Meadows Rhinanthus minor Yellow-rattle Meadows Oxalidaceae **Wood-sorrel Family** Oxalis acetosella Wood-sorrel Woods and shaded rocks Papaveraceae **Poppy Family** Chelidonium majus **Greater Celandine** Frequent near habitation Ruderal Papaver argemone Prickly Poppy Papaver cambricum Welsh Poppy Occasional. Gavarnie Lowland Papaver rhoeas Common Poppy **Grass-of-Parnassus** Parnassiaceae **Family** Parnassia palustris Grass-of-Parnassus Frequent. Wet rocks and turf **Plantain Family** Plantaginaceae Plantago alpina Alpine Plantain Mountain turf Ribwort Plantain Widespread Plantago lanceolata Plantago major Greater Plantain Ruderal Plantago media Hoary Plantain Widespread Platanaceae **Plane Family** Platanus x hispanica ‡ London Plane Cultivated Polygalaceae Milkwort Family Polygala alpestris Mountain Milkwort Mountain pasture Polygala serpyllifolia Thyme-leaved Milkwort Acidic pasture Common Milkwort Polygala vulgaris Acidic pasture **Dock Family** Polygonaceae Bistorta officinalis Common Bistort Occasional, Meadows Bistorta vivipara Alpine Bistort Common. Mountain turf Damp mountain rocks Oxyria digyna Mountain Sorrel Rumex acetosa Common Sorrel Common Rumex acetosella Sheep's Sorrel Common Rumex scutatus French Sorrel Rocks and screes Primulaceae **Primrose Family** Androsace laggeri Pink Rock-jasmine Mountain turf. Cirque de Troumouse Androsace villosa Shaggy Rock-jasmine Limestone rocks and turf Yellow Pimpernel Lysimachia nemorum Occasional

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Alpine pasture

Wet mountain turf

Oxlip

Bird's-eye Primrose

Primula elatior

Primula farinosa

Common name Latin name **Notes** Damp acidic cliffs Primula hirsuta Hairy Primrose Primula integrifolia Entire-leaved Primrose Wet acidic turf Primula veris Cowslip Occasional. Meadows Soldanella alpina Alpine Snowbell Alpine turf Vitaliana primuliflora subsp. canescens Mountain rocks and turf Vitaliana **Buttercup Family** Ranunculaceae Aconitum anthora Yellow Monk's-hood Rocky limestone pasture Common Monk's-hood Common. Mountain pasture Aconitum napellus Actaea spicata Baneberry Woods Anemone narcissiflora Narcissus-flowered Anemone Héas valley Anemone ranunculoides Yellow Anemone Woods. Occasional Screes. Gavarnie Aquilegia pyrenaica • Pyrenean Columbine Aquilegia vulgaris Common Columbine Common Caltha palustris Marsh Marigold Bogs and streamsides Clematis vitalba Old Man's Beard Woods on limestone Ficaria verna Lesser Celandine Occasional Helleborus foetidus Stinking Hellebore Woods Helleborus viridis Green Hellebore Woods and pasture Hepatica nobilis Liverleaf Woods and alpine turf Pulsatilla alpina subsp. alpina Alpine Pasqueflower Local. Mountain pasture Woods and turf. Pont d'Espagne Ranunculus aconitifolius Aconite-leaved Buttercup Ranunculus acris Meadow Buttercup Meadows Occasional. Limestone pasture Ranunculus amplexicaulis Amplexicaule Buttercup Ranunculus bulbosus **Bulbous Buttercup** Occasional Ranunculus flammula Lesser Spearwort Wet flushes and streamsides Ranunculus gouanii • Gouan's Buttercup Mountain meadows Ranunculus montanus Mountain Buttercup Mountain turf. Frequent Ranunculus pyrenaeus • Pyrenean Buttercup Damp mountain turf Ranunculus repens Creeping Buttercup Widespread Ranunculus thora Thore's Buttercup Limestone scree. Gavarnie Alpine Meadow-rue Alpine turf. Cirque de Troumouse Thalictrum alpinum Thalictrum aquilegiifolium Great Meadow-rue Damp mountain turf Thalictrum minus Lesser Meadow-rue Occasional Globeflower Trollius europaeus Damp meadows Resedaceae **Mignonette Family** Reseda glauca • Pyrenean Mignonette Screes, Ossoue Sesamoides pygmaea Sesamoides Occasional on screes Rhamnaceae **Buckthorn Family** Rhamnus alpinus Alpine Buckthorn Rocky places. Ossoue **Dwarf Buckthorn** Rhamnus pumilus Frequent. Limestone rocks Rosaceae **Rose Family** Alchemilla alpina Alpine Lady's-mantle Acidic rocks and turf. Widespread Alchemilla glabra A Lady's-mantle Wet streamsides Amelanchier ovalis Snowy Mespilus Local. Lac des Gloriettes Cotoneaster integerrimus Wild Cotoneaster Rocky places Crategus monogyna Hawthorn Woods Dasiphora fruticosa Shrubby Cinquefoil Rare, Gavarnie Dryas octopetala Mountain Avens Local. Mountains

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Wet places. Lowland

Meadwsweet

Filipendula ulmaria

Latin name

Common name

Notes

Frequent

Fragaria vesca Wild Strawberry Common Geum montanum Alpine Avens Mountain pasture Mountain pasture Geum pyrenaicum • Pyrenean Avens Geum rivale Water Avens Occasional. Wet places Geum urbanum Herb Bennet Shady places Potentilla alchemilloides Alchemilla-leaved Cinquefoil Limestone cliffs Potentilla aurea Golden Cinquefoil Mountain turf Potentilla erecta Tormentil Common Potentilla crantzii Alpine Cinquefoil Mountain pasture Potentilla montana Mountain Cinquefoil Frequent. Rocky places Potentilla reptans Creeping Cinquefoil Waste places Potentilla rupestris Rock Cinquefoil Local. Rocky places

Potentilla sterilis Barren Strawberry Common Poterium sanguisorba Salad Burnet Common

Prunus avium Wild Cherry Frequent in woods Prunus spinosa Blackthorn Occasional. Scrub Rubus caesius Dewberry Frequent Rubus idaeus Raspberry Common

Rubus ulmifolius A Bramble Common in lowlands

Stone Bramble

Rosa arvensis Field Rose Widespread Rosa canina Dog-rose Widespread Rosa glauca Blue-leaved Rose Mountain scrub Rosa pendulina Alpine Rose Mountain scrub Rosa rubiginosa **Sweet Briar** Widespread Sibbaldia procumbens Sibbaldia Acidic snowbeds Sorbus aria Whitebeam Open woods Sorbus aucuparia Rowan Mountains

Sorbus chamaemespilus False-medlar Occasional. Rocky slopes Sorbus mougeotii Mougeot's Whitebeam Frequent. Ossoue Valley

Rubiacae

Rubus saxatilis

Bedstraw Family Asperula cynanchica Squinancywort Rocks and dry pasture

Pyrenean Woodruff Asperula pyrenaica • Rocky places Crosswort Cruciata laevipes Pastures and roadsides Galium aparine Cleavers Scrub and waste places

Galium caespitosum • A Bedstraw Mountain rocks Hedge Bedstraw Scrub and meadows Galium mollugo

Galium odoratum Woodruff Woods Pyrenean Bedstraw Alpine rocks Galium pyrenaicum • Galium saxatile Heath Bedstraw Mountain turf Galium verum Lady's Bedstraw Meadows

Frequent in woods Wild Madder Rubia peregrina

Salicaceae

Populus alba White Poplar Frequent Populus nigra Black Poplar Occasional in valleys Populus tremula Aspen Occasional in forests

Willow Family

Salix aurita **Eared Sallow** Widespread Goat Willow Salix caprea Occasional Salix eleagnos Hoary Willow Streamsides

Salix herbacea Least Willow Alpine turf. Cirque de Troumouse

Salix pyrenaica • Pyrenean Willow Mountain rocks

Common name Latin name **Notes** Salix retusa Retuse-leaved Willow Alpine rocks and turf Salix viminalis Common Osier Widespread in lowlands Sapindaceae **Maple Family** Acer campestre Field Maple Common Acer platanoides Norway Maple Frequent Common Acer pseudoplatanus Sycamore Santalaceae **Bastard-toadflax Family** Thesium alpinum Alpine Bastard-toadflax Frequent Thesium pyrenaicum Pyrenean Bastard-toadflax Frequent Viscum album Mistletoe Common Saxifragaceae Saxifrage Family Opposite-leaved Golden Chrysosplenium oppositifolium Wet acidic flushes Saxifrage Micranthes stellaris subsp. robusta Starry Saxifrage Wet acidic flushes Yellow Mountain Saxifrage Saxifraga aizoides Wet flushes Saxifraga aquatica • Water Saxifrage Plateau de Saugé Saxifraga aretioides • Yellow Saxifrage Rare. Limestone rocks Saxifraga cotyledon Pyramidal Saxifrage Acidic rocks. Héas Valley Saxifraga exarata subsp. moschata Musky Saxifrage Limestone rocks Saxifraga granulata Meadow Saxifrage Common Saxifraga intricata • Scented-leaved Saxifrage Acidic rocks. Col de Tentes Cliffs and boulders Saxifraga longifolia subsp. longifolia Pyrenean Saxifrage Saxifraga oppositifolia Purple Saxifrage Alpine rocks Livelong Saxifrage Common on rocks Saxifraga paniculata Occasional. Rocks Saxifraga tridactylites Rue-leaved Saxifrage Saxifraga umbrosa • Wood Saxifrage Woods Scrophulariaceae **Figwort Family** Buddleja davidii ‡ **Butterfly-bush Family** Waste places at lower altitudes Scrophularia canina subsp. hoppii French Figwort Frequent Scrophularia nodosa Common Figwort Damp habitats Dark Mullein Occasional. Verbascum nigrum Verbascum phlomoides Orange Mullein Roadsides Verbascum thapsus Common Mullein Roadsides Solanaceae **Nightshade Family** Local. Gèdre Atropa belladonna **Deadly Nightshade** Solanum nigrum Black Nightshade Waste places Thymelaeaceae **Mezereon Family** Daphne cneorum Garland Flower Local. Mountain turf Daphne laureola Spurge Laurel Frequent. Woods and rocks Daphne mezereum Mezereon Forest and open pasture Thymelaea dioica Dioecious Thymelaea Rocks and screes. Ossoue Valley Snow Thymelaea Thymelaea tinctoria • Rocky alluvium. Upper Ossoue Valley **Tiliaceae Lime Family** Tilia cordata Small-leaved Lime Common

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Widely planted

Large-leaved Lime

Tilia platyphyllos ‡

Latin name Common name **Notes** Ulmaceae Elm Family Gèdre and Gavarnie Ulmus glabra Wych Elm Ulmus minor Smooth Elm Occasional Ulmus procera English Elm Widespread Urticaceae **Nettle Family** Walls Parietaria judaica Pellitory-of-the-wall Urtica dioica Common Nettle Disturbed areas Valerianaceae Valerian Family Centranthus ruber ‡ Red Valerian Walls Valeriana globulariifolia • Globularia-leaved Valerian Rocks and screes Common Valerian Meadows Valeriana officinalis Valeriana pyrenaica • Pyrenean Valerian Damp woodland Common. Woods and scrub Valeriana tripteris Three-leaved Valerian Verbenaceae **Vervain Family** Verbena officinalis Vervain Tracksides. Ossoue valley Veronicaceae **Speedwell Family** Antirrhinum sempervirens • Rock Snapdragon Rocks Chaenorhinum minus Small Toadflax Occasional.Waste plases Chaenorhinum origanifolium Malling Toadflax Screes Cymbalaria muralis Ivy-leaved Toadflax Rocks and walls Digitalis purpurea Purple Foxglove Frequent. Acidic soils Erinus alpinus Fairy Foxglove Common. Rocks and screes Linaria alpina Alpine Toadflax Alpine rocks Linaria supina • **Dwarf Toadflax** Rocks and screes Common Toadflax Linaria vulgaris Waste places. Lowland Veronica beccabunga **Brooklime** Streams Veronica bellidioides Violet Speedwell Frequent in pasture Veronica chamaedrys Germander Speedwell Meadows Veronica fruticans Rock Speedwell Mountain rocks Veronica officinalis Heath Speedwell Occasional. Dry places Veronica ponae • Spiked Pyrenean Speedwell Woods and shady places Veronica prostrata Prostrate Speedwell Dry rocky places Veronica serpyllifolia Thyme-leaved Speedwell Woods and pasture Veronica urticifolia Nettle-leaved Speedwell Woods and shady places Viburnaceae **Viburnum Family** Sambucus ebulus **Dwarf Elder** Streamsides, Lowland Woods Sambucus nigra Common Elder Sambucus racemosa Alpine Elder Mountains Woods, Occasional Viburnum lantana Wayfaring-tree Guelder-rose Woods, Occasional Viburnum opulus Violaceae **Violet Family** Viola biflora Yellow Wood-violet Frequent. Shady places Viola canina Heath Dog-violet Acidic soils Viola cornuta • Horned Pansy Meadows Viola palustris Marsh Violet Bogs

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Occasional

Frequent. Grassy places

Wood Dog-violet

Common Dog-violet

Viola reichenbachiana

Viola riviniana

Latin name Common name Notes

Viola tricolor Wild Pansy Occasional

MONOCOTYLEDONS

Amaryllidaceae Daffodil Family

Allium senescensMountain OnionRocky placesAllium sphaerocephalonRound-headed LeekFrequent

Allium victorialis Alpine Leek Barrage des Gloriettes

Allium vineale Crow Garlic Occasional

Narcissus assoanus Rush-leaved Daffodil Locally common in pasture. Ossoue valley

Narcissus bicolor • A Daffodil Locally common in pasture.

Asparagaceae Asparagus Family

Anthericum liliagoSt Bernard's LilyFrequent on rocky banksBrimeura amethystina •Pyrenean HyacinthMeadows and rocksPolygonatum verticillatumWhorled Solomon's-sealOccasional in woods

Scilla liliohyacinthus • Pyrenean Squill Woods

Scilla verna Spring Squill Locally common. Mountain pasture

Asphodelaceae Asphodel Family

Asphodelus albus White Asphodel Mountain pasture

Colchicaceae Meadow Saffron Family

Colchicum montanum • Merendera Mountain pasture

Cyperaceae Sedge Family

Carex caryophylleaSpring SedgeDry turf. MountainsCarex canescensWhite SedgeWet acidic soils

Carex curvula An alpine Sedge Exposed acidic soils. Troumouse

Carex demissaCommon Yellow SedgeDamp turfCarex dioicaDioecious SedgeBogs and flushesCarex echinataStar SedgeDamp turf

Carex ferruginea Rusty Sedge Limestone turf. Ossoue

Carex flacca Glaucous Sedge Meadows

Carex nigraCommon SedgeAcidic mountain turfCarex paniceaCarnation SedgeDamp soils on limestone

Carex sempervirens Evergreen Sedge Mountain rocks

Carex sylvaticaWood SedgeWoodsEriophorum angustifoliumCommon CottongrassAcid bogsSchoenus nigricansBlack Bog-rushWet bogs

Iridaceae Iris Family

Crocus nudiflorus • Leafless Crocus Locally common Iris latifolia • Pyrenean Iris Common

Iris pseudacorus Yellow Iris Streamsides. Lowland

Juncaceae Rush Family

Juncus conglomeratusCompact RushCommonJuncus effususSoft RushCommon

Juncus filiformis Thread Rush Bogs and wet pasture

Juncus inflexus Hard Rush Common

Luzula luteaYellow Wood-rushAcidic mountain turfLuzula pilosaHairy Wood-rushWoods and meadows

Latin name Common name **Notes** Mountain turf Luzula spicata Spiked Wood-rush Great Wood-rush Woods and meadows Luzula sylvatica Liliacae **Lily Family** Fritillaria pyrenaica • Pyrenean Snakeshead Damp mountain pasture Early Yellow Star-of-Gagea fistulosa Damp pasture Bethlehem Lilium martagon Martagon Lily Woodland and meadows Pyrenean Lily Local. Mountain woods Lilium pyrenaicum • Melanthiaceae **Herb-Paris Family** Paris quadrifolia Herb-Paris Woods, Local Veratrum album White False-helleborine Occasional. Mountains Orchidaceae **Orchid Family** Anacamptis pyramidalis Pyramidal Orchid Local Cephalanthera longifolia Sword-leaved Helleborine Frequent Dactylorhiza maculata subsp. fuchsii Common Spotted-orchid Damp grassland Dactylorhiza majalis Broad-leaved Marsh-orchid Wet meadows and streamsides Dactylorhiza viridis Frog Orchid Occasional. Meadows Epipactis atrorubens Dark-red Helleborine Frequent. Woods Epipactis helleborine Broad-leaved Helleborine Frequent. Woods Austrian Vanilla Orchid Gymnadenia austriaca Local. Mountain pasture Gymnadenia conopsea Fragrant-orchid Common. Meadows and banks **Burnt Orchid** Neotinea ustulata Local. Meadows Neottia ovata Twayblade Meadows Ophrys scolopax subsp. scolopax Woodcock Orchid Grassland. Lower valleys Common. Meadows and banks Orchis mascula Early-purple Orchid Platanthera bifolia Lesser Butterfly-orchid Woods and banks Poaceae **Grass Family** Anthoxanthum odoratum Meadows Sweet Vernal-grass Arrhenatherum elatius False Oat-rass Common. Low altitudes Avena fatua Wild-oat Roadsides Avenella flexuosa Acidic mountain turf Wavy Hair-grass Briza media Quaking-grass Meadows Brachypodium pinnatum Heath False-brome Woods Bromus commutatus Meadow Brome Meadows Bromus sterilis Barren Brome Dry grassland Cynosurus cristatus Crested Dog's-tail Common Dactylis glomerata Cock's-foot Common Deschampsia cespitosa **Tufted Hair-grass** Wet grassland Festuca eskia • Dominant. Acidic high-mountain turf Gispet Festuca gautieri • Spiky Fescue Basic mountain turf Festuca glacialis • Glacier Fescue Rocks and snowbeds Festuca paniculata Panicled Fescue Common Red Fescue Common Festuca rubra

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Meadows

Meadows Woods

Waste places

Acidic pasture

Damp acidic pasture

Yorkshire-fog

Perennial Rye-grass

Mountain Melick

Purple Moor-grass

Wall Barley

Mat-grass

Holcus lanatus

Lolium perenne

Molinia caerulea

Melica nutans

Nardus stricta

Hordeum murinum

Notes

Phleum pratense Timothy Meadows Poa alpina Alpine Meadow-grass Alpine pasture Poa annua Annual Meadow-grass Trackways Poa nemoralis Woods Wood Meadow-grass Poa trivialis Rough Meadow-grass Pasture Schedonorus pratensis Meadow Fescue Meadows Sesleria albicans Blue Moor-grass Limestone rocks

Tofieldiaceae Scottish Asphodel Family

Tofieldia calyculata Tofield's Asphodel Wet places in mountains

Common name

Typhaceae Reedmace Family

Latin name

Sparganium angustifolium Floating Bur-reed Acidic pools. Cirque de Troumouse

Birds (✓=recorded but not counted; H = heard only; • = endemic to the Pyrenees and adjacent regions)

						Ju	ne			
	Common name	Latin name	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1	Mallard	Anas platyrhynchos				✓				✓
2	Common Quail	Coturnix coturnix								Н
3	Common Pheasant	Phasianus colchicus								✓
4	Black Stork	Ciconia nigra								✓
5	Grey Heron	Ardea cinerea	✓			✓				✓
6	Little Egret	Egretta garzetta	✓			✓				
7	Bearded Vulture	Gypaetus barbatus		2	1	1	2		5	
8	Egyptian Vulture	Neophron percnopterus				1				
9	Griffon Vulture	Gyps fulvus		20+	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
10	Short-toed Snake Eagle	Circaetus gallicus		1	2	1	1			
11	Booted Eagle	Hieraaetus pennatus				1				
12	Golden Eagle	Aquila chrysaetos		3			2	1	3	
13	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	Accipiter nisus	1	2						
14	Red Kite	Milvus milvus	4			✓				✓
15	Black Kite	Milvus migrans	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓
16	Western Marsh Harrier	Circus aeruginosus		✓						
17	Common Buzzard	Buteo buteo	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
18	Yellow-legged Gull	Larus michahellis				✓				
19	Rock Dove	Columba livia				✓		✓		
20	Common Wood Pigeon	Columba palumbus		✓		✓	✓	✓		
21	Eurasian Collared Dove	Streptopelia decaocto	✓			✓	✓	✓		✓
22	Common Cuckoo	Cuculus canorus		Н		Н	✓	Н	Н	Н
23	Long-eared Owl	Asio otus					✓			
24	Alpine Swift	Tachymarptis melba						✓		
25	Common Swift	Apus apus		✓		✓	✓		✓	✓
26	Eurasian Hoopoe	Upupa epops	3							
27	Eurasian Wryneck	Jynx torquilla		Н						
28	Middle Spotted Woodpecker	Dendrocoptes media				2				
29	Great Spotted Woodpecker	Dendrocopos major	✓	✓		✓	Н	✓		Н
30	Black Woodpecker	Dryocopus martius		Н				Н		
31	European Green Woodpecker	Picus viridis				✓	Н			
32	Common Kestrel	Falco tinnunculus	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		√
33	Peregrine Falcon	Falco peregrinus		1		1	1			
34	Red-backed Shrike	Lanius collurio		· ✓		<u> </u>	3	✓	√	√

			June								
	Common name	Latin name	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
35	Eurasian Jay	Garrulus glandarius	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
36	Eurasian Magpie	Pica pica	✓			✓	✓			✓	
37	Red-billed Chough	Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax		✓				✓	✓	✓	
38	Alpine Chough	Pyrrhocorax graculus		✓	✓	Н	✓	✓	✓	✓	
39	Carrion Crow	Corvus corone	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
40	Northern Raven	Corvus corax		✓	✓		✓	Н	✓		
41	Coal Tit	Periparus ater	Н	Н	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
42	European Crested Tit	Lophophanes cristatus						✓			
43	Eurasian Blue Tit	Cyanistes caeruleus	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
44	Great Tit	Parus major	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
45	Marsh Tit	Poecile plaustris				Н					
46	Eurasian Skylark	Alauda arvensis					✓			✓	
47	Barn Swallow	Hirundo rustica	✓			✓			✓	✓	
48	Eurasian Crag Martin	Ptyonoprogne rupestris	✓	√	✓	√	√	√	√	1	
49	Common House Martin	Delichon urbicum	/	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	√	1	
50	Long-tailed Tit	Aegithalos caudatus		Н	Н	✓	✓				
51	Common Chiffchaff	Phylloscopus collybita		✓	Н	Н		✓		Н	
52	Eurasian Blackcap	Sylvia atricapilla	Н	Н	✓ ·	Н	✓	✓	Н	H	
53	Garden Warbler	Sylvia borin	11		✓	√ ·	Н	✓	H	Н	
54	Common Firecrest	Regulus ignicapillus	Н	•	•	Н	Н	✓	- 11	H	
55	Goldcrest	Regulus regulus	П	Н		П	Н	✓		П	
			Н	Н	Н	Н	Π ✓	Н			
56	Eurasian Wren	Troglodytes troglodytes	П		✓	✓	∨				
57	Eurasian Nuthatch	Sitta europaea			•	V	V	H ✓		Н	
58	Wallcreeper	Tichodroma muraria				✓		∨ ✓			
59	Eurasian Treecreeper	Certhia familiaris	✓			∨ ✓		V			
60	Common Starling	Sturnus vulgaris	✓	✓	✓	∨	✓	✓	✓	✓	
61	Common Blackbird	Turdus merula									
62	Song Thrush	Turdus philomelos	Н	H	Н	√	Н	√	√	√	
63	Mistle Thrush	Turdus viscivorus		H		✓	✓	√	√	✓	
64	European Robin	Erithacus rubecula	Н	Н	Н	√	Н	✓	Н	Н	
65	European Pied Flycatcher	Ficedula hypoleuca					Н				
66	Black Redstart	Phoenicurus ochruros	✓	✓	✓	√	√	√	√	✓	
67	Common Redstart	Phoenicurus phoenicurus		Н							
68	Common Rock Thrush	Monticola saxatilis		2					5		
69	Whinchat	Saxicola rubetra					✓		Н	✓	
70	Northern Wheatear	Oenanthe oenanthe		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	
71	White-throated Dipper	Cinclus cinclus	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
72	House Sparrow	Passer domesticus	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
73	White-winged Snowfinch	Montifringilla nivalis				2			Н		
74	Alpine Accentor	Prunella collaris			4				8		
75	Dunnock	Prunella modularis		✓	✓		✓	Н	Н		
76	Grey Wagtail	Motacilla cinerea	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
77	White Wagtail	Motacilla alba	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
78	Meadow Pipit	Anthus pratensis			✓						
79	Tree Pipit	Anthus trivialis		Н	Н		✓	✓		✓	
80	Water Pipit	Anthus spinoletta		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
81	Common Chaffinch	Fringilla coelebs	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
82	Eurasian Bullfinch	Pyrrhula pyrrhula		✓	✓	✓		Н			
83	European Greenfinch	Chloris chloris	Н	Н		✓				Н	
84	Common Linnet	Linaria cannabina		✓	✓	√	✓	✓	√	✓	
85	Red Crossbill	Loxia curvirostra						2			

			June							
	Common name	Latin name	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
86	European Goldfinch	Carduelis carduelis			Н	✓				Н
87	Citril Finch	Carduelis citrinella					20	20	✓	2
88	European Serin	Serinus serinus		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
89	Yellowhammer	Emberiza citrinella			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Mammals (E = evidence of)

1	European Mole	Talpa europaea				Е		Е	
2	European Snow Vole	Chionomys nivalis		Е					
3	Alpine Marmot	Marmota marmota	✓	✓	Н	✓	✓	✓	✓
4	Red Fox	Vulpes vulpes					Е		
5	Pine Marten	Martes martes			✓	Е	Е		
6	European Roe Deer	Capreolus capreolus	✓						
7	Pyrenean Chamois •	Rupicapra pyrenaica	5	4					
8	Brown Hare	Lepus capensis				2			

Reptiles

1	Common Wall Lizard	Podarcis muralis		✓		✓	✓	
2	Common Lizard	Zootoca vivipara	✓			✓	✓	✓
3	Western Whip Snake	Hierophis viridiflavus					✓	

Amphibians

1	Common Frog	Rana temporaria	✓				
2	Pyrenean Brook Salamander •	Calotriton asper		✓			l

Butterflies

1	Swallowtail	Papilio machaon		✓			✓	✓	
2	Apollo	Parnassius apollo		✓	✓			✓	✓
3	Clouded Apollo	Parnassius mnemosyne		✓	✓				✓
4	Wood White	Leptidea sinapis				✓			
5	Large White	Pieris brassicae		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
6	Small White	Pieris rapae		✓			✓	✓	
7	Green-veined White	Pieris napi		✓			✓		
8	Orange Tip	Anthocharis cardamines		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
9	Clouded Yellow	Colias crocea		✓			✓	✓	
10	Brimstone	Gonepteryx rhamni					✓	✓	
11	Cleopatra	Gonepteryx cleopatra						✓	
12	Green Hairstreak	Callophrys rubi		✓				✓	
13	Holly Blue	Celastrina argiolus		✓					
14	Provençal Short-tailed Blue	Everes alcetas		✓					
15	Small Blue	Cupido minimus		✓	✓		✓		✓
16	Common Blue	Polyommatus icarus		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
17	Adonis Blue	Lysandra bellargus					✓		
18	Speckled Wood	Pararge aegeria		✓					
19	Large Wall Brown	Lasiommata maera		✓			✓		
20	Mountain Ringlet	Erebia epiphron		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
21	Marbled White	Melanargia galathea	✓	✓					
22	Pearl-bordered Fritillary	Boloria euphrosyne		✓			✓		
23	Camberwell Beauty	Nymphalis antiopa		✓					
24	Large Tortoiseshell	Nymphalis polychloros		✓					

						Ju	ne			
	Common name	Latin name	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
25	Small Tortoiseshell	Aglais urticae		✓				✓	✓	
26	Red Admiral	Vanessa atalanta		✓						
27	Glanville Fritillary	Melitaea cinxia		✓	✓			✓		
28	False Heath Fritillary	Melitaea diamina		✓						
29	Dingy Skipper	Erynnis tages		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
30	Grizzled Skipper	Pyrgus malvae		✓				✓	✓	
31	Chequered Skipper	Carterocephalus palaemon		✓	✓			✓	✓	

Moths

1	Six-Spot Burnet	Zygaena filipendulae				✓			
2	Chimney Sweeper	Odezia atrata							✓
3	Hummingbird Hawkmoth	Macroglossum stellatarum	✓	✓			✓	✓	
4	Lackey Moth	Malacosoma neustria		✓				✓	
5	Box Tree Moth	Cydalima perspectalis	Е		Е				Е

Other Insects

1	Italian Shield Bug	Graphosoma italicum		✓					
2	Fire Bug	Pyrrhocoris apterus	✓						
3	Sulphur Owlfly	Libelloides coccajus						✓	
4	Wood Ant	Formica rufa	✓				✓		
5	Broad-bodied Chaser	Libellula depressa	✓						
6	Scarlet Lily Beetle	Lilioceris lilii		✓					
7	Green Tiger Beetle	Cicindela campestris			✓				
8	7-spot Ladybird	Coccinella 7-punctata			✓				
9	French Paper Wasp	Polistes gallicus				✓			✓

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