

Isles of Scilly

Naturetrek Tour Report

9 - 16 May 2018



Grey Seal



St Agnes



Walk on St Agnes



European Shag

Report and images by Andrew Cleave



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Summary

We enjoyed eight full days of wildlife watching on the Isles of Scilly, with spectacular scenery and fine weather most of the time. The sea crossings to and from Penzance gave us the chance to watch seabirds in their natural environment, and we enjoyed several other boat trips during the week, including an exciting RIB trip to the Eastern Isles, and an evening excursion to watch Manx Shearwaters coming to the nesting colony. We managed to visit all of the inhabited islands and had plenty of time to explore St Mary's on foot. On our walks we came across typical coastal birds and also the very confiding Song Thrushes, a notable feature of these islands. The coastal flowers were very colourful and we also enjoyed the mix of native and non-native flora thriving in the mild climate. Butterflies, and many other insects, were seen every day, and because of the low tides we were able to explore the sea shore and find more of the rich wildlife of the islands.

Day 1

Wednesday 9th May

Our trip started in Penzance early in the morning where we boarded the Scillonian III for the crossing to St Mary's. As we waited to depart a fine male Eider Duck came close to the boat, and in the harbour there were a few fishing Shags and Cormorants. Almost as soon as we had left the harbour we started to see Manx Shearwaters streaming past the boat, and amongst them were a few auks, mainly Razorbills, but with a few Guillemots amongst them. We had superb views of the coastline on the way, but eventually left Land's End behind us and headed for the islands. There were only small numbers of seabirds spotted on the open sea, but we did get good views of Gannet and Fulmar before we reached St Mary's at about mid-day. The boat followed the high tide route into the harbour giving us a good view of the other islands on the way in. Once we had disembarked and re-assembled on the quay we made our way to the Santa Maria guest house and checked in, and then arranged to meet again in the afternoon for a walk around the Garrison.

As our walk started we noted the very confiding Song Thrushes which we were to see on all the islands during the week. We checked some of the plants growing on the defensive walls of the garrison, and despite the fact that someone had strimmed large areas, we did find Small-flowered Catchfly *Silene gallica* and Western Clover *Trifolium occidentale*. We had the unusual experience of walking under lofty Elm trees *Ulmus x hollandica* at the start of the walk, and here there were both Robin and Dunnock feeding and a Chiffchaff calling from the leaf canopy. The circular walk around the Garrison gives a good view of all the other islands, and in the clear light, we could see the Bishop Rock lighthouse seven miles to the west. The most common bird to be seen on the sea was the Shag, which breeds in good numbers on Scilly, but on the rocks below were a few Oystercatchers, and we also found Stonechat and several Linnets. The massive walls were a good habitat for plants such as Sea Spleenwort *Asplenium maritimum* and Rock Sea-spurrey *Spergularia rupicola*, and Thrift *Armeria maritima* and Rock Samphire *Critium maritimum* were also spotted.

We visited the Mermaid Inn, with its lovely view of the harbour, for our evening meal where we completed our checklists and discussed the plans for the next few days.

Day 2

Thursday 10th May

We planned to take a trip in Island Sea Safari's RIB this morning to visit the Eastern Isles and get a close view of seals and seabirds. We divided into two groups for this, with the first half of the party setting off at 10.30am. Mark and Susie Groves gave us a good introduction to the geography of the islands from the perspective of the open water and we headed for the uninhabited islands and rocks which are easily reached in a small craft like Firebrand IV. On many of the rocks, gradually uncovering as the tide dropped, there were large flocks of Oystercatchers, a very common sight on Scilly, and on others there were flocks of Shags, sometimes numbering almost 100, another common sight here. It was much harder to find Cormorants as there are low numbers breeding on the islands. We saw all three large gull species, a few Fulmars, and on the more remote rocks there were many Razorbills which allowed us to get very close and take plenty of photographs – all in perfect light with a clear blue sky behind them. Grey Seals also live on these rocks and islets and also allowed close views, some coming very close to the boat at times. We repeated the trip with the second half of our party, and the birds did not disappoint. Just off the beach at St Martin's we watched some fishermen transferring their catch of Lobsters to crates, ready to be shipped to the mainland, and they in turn were watched by a number of inquisitive Great Black-backed Gulls.

The group re-assembled on the Quay and after a lunch break we set off to walk around the shore of St Mary's, heading first for Porth Mellon beach and then Porthloo. We found both Rock Pipit and Meadow Pipit feeding on the strand line, and overhead there were plenty of Swallows, and a few Sand Martins. Porthloo beach had plenty of feeding Oystercatchers, but we also counted seven Whimbrel, looking very well-camouflaged amongst the seaweed. We continued along Porthloo Lane towards the Lower Moors Nature Reserve, pausing to look at the newly-created ponds in one of the meadows. One of them had some quite well-developed tadpoles in it; frogs are not native here, having been introduced to St Mary's a few years ago. We also found a few fine plants of Balm-leaved Figwort *Scrophularia scorodonia* flourishing in the sheltered conditions beneath the elms. On the main reserve we could hear, but not see, a singing Reed Warbler and we also heard Chiffchaff, and had good views of Blackcap. We checked the hides overlooking the pools, and in one of them a pair of Gadwall showed very well, and on another we saw a single Whimbrel feeding on a patch of exposed mud.

After an ice-cream break at Old Town Cafe we continued around Old Town Bay towards the churchyard where Blackbird, Song Thrush, Robin and Dunnock were all quite active. The path then led around Peninnis Head, giving us wonderful views all the way, back towards Old Town and Lower Moors, and then out towards St Agnes and the Bishop Rock. We came across several Wheatears and Stonechats on this section of the walk, and also found Rock Pipits displaying over the low cliff edges. The walk led us back towards Porthcressa with more stunning views and distant sightings of some seabirds between the islands.

Day 3

Friday 11th May

We awoke to a rainy morning, so some of the party opted for a visit to the museum in Hugh Town, which they found to be very interesting, with exhibits of Scilly wildlife and archaeology. We met at 12 noon to catch the bus to the Kaffeehaus at High Lane where we had lunch, by which time the rain had cleared and there was blue sky and sunshine. From here we walked towards Watermill, checking out a bulb-field with Small-flowered Buttercup *Ranunculus parvijlorus* growing in it, and Newford Duckpond on the way and spotting the only patch of Cornish Moneywort *Sibthorpia europea* remaining on the islands. We walked down Watermill Lane and picked up the coast

path which we followed south. Out at sea there was the occasional Gannet flying by and a few auks, presumably Razorbills, were spotted. The clifftop path was colourful with displays of Bluebells *Hyacinthoides non-scripta* and Red Campion *Silene dioica*, and a few non-native bulb-field escapes were seen as well. We eventually arrived at Porthellick, and checked the strand line where there were some Rock Pipits feeding, but these were outnumbered by Linnets, including some males in colourful breeding plumage. The freshwater pool was fairly quiet but there were a few Coots and Moorhens feeding in the shallows, and a number of Mallard and Gadwall were on the water. We saw Sand Martin, House Martin and Swallow feeding over the water, and Reed Warblers could be heard again, but not seen.

After a rest here we continued along the coastal path around the south side of the bay towards the airport, where the maritime heath was very colourful with Tormentil *Potentilla erecta* and Lousewort *Pedicularis sylvatica*, and the occasional clump of Broom *Cytisus scoparius*. We continued to Porth Minick, checking the strand line for Sea Pea *Lathyrus maritimus*, and also noting the sea defences which have been built here to try to combat rising sea levels which would threaten Old Town. To complete our walk back we passed the new Secondary School and returned via Buzza Hill where we enjoyed the superb panoramic views of the islands. The day started with rain but ended with glorious sunshine. Later that evening a Great Northern Diver was spotted heading into Porthcressa on the high tide where it was seen to feed for some time.

Day 4

Saturday 12th May

Along with many others, we decided to visit Tresco today. The low tides meant that we landed at Carn Near, the southern end of the island, which gave us the opportunity for a walk through the dunes before reaching the gardens. On the way there in the boat a few seabirds were spotted, including distant Gannets and Fulmars. We checked out a few hollows in the dunes where a colony Small Adder's-tongue Fern *Ophioglossum azoricum* was spotted. On arrival at the gardens we stopped for a quick coffee break, and were pleased to see Golden Pheasant foraging in the flower beds. Some of the party opted to explore here, whilst others continued the walk to look at the Abbey Pool and Great Pool. A flurry of activity in the shrubs just outside the garden turned out to be a Red Squirrel apparently collecting food to then take and bury in the immaculate lawn. A few Shelduck and a Pochard family were seen on the Great Pool, and on the Abbey Pool we got good views of more waterbirds, including Canada Goose, Mute Swan and Gadwall, and there were good numbers of hirundines feeding over the water. Reed Warblers continued to elude us as they sang from deep in the reed beds, but we did find Blackcap singing again. From the hides we could see a distant Black-tailed Godwit in breeding plumage, but apart from that, the only birds on the margins were a few bathing gulls and some noisy coots.

We completed the circuit of the Great Pool, returning to the garden cafe for lunch and then walked to Pentle Bay and followed the coastal path to Old Grimsby. We spotted several patches of Orange Bird's-foot *Ornithopus pinnatus*, with the more common Bird's-foot *Ornithopus perpusillus* growing close by for comparison. There were more sightings of Meadow Pipit, Stonechat and Wheatear as we followed the coastal path. At Old Grimsby we searched for signs of Stick Insects, but without success. They may have suffered from the unusually cold winter conditions experienced on Scilly this year, which had also had an effect on some of the more tender plants. After a quick organ recital from Andrew in the church, we headed for the quay at New Grimsby where there was just time for ice creams, before heading back to St Mary's. A quick dash to Porthloo Duckpond revealed the rather scruffy, moulting Laughing Gull which had been on St Martin's for some time.

We had an early evening meal at the Bishop and Wolf before joining a packed hall for the evening slide show by local naturalist Will Wagstaff.

Day 5

Sunday 13th May

We awoke to a lovely sunny day, and the plan was to visit St Agnes. As it was low tide when we arrived we were able to cross the sand tombolo and set foot on Gugh, the smallest of the inhabited islands with only two houses on it. We returned to the main path and walked towards the centre of the island and then turned down Barnaby Lane, being scolded by Wrens on the way, towards Wingletang Down – a great expanse of wind-pruned gorse, some of which looked to have suffered during the winter. We had good views of the Cuckoo which we had been hearing on our way down the lane. More of the now-familiar Stonechats and Wheatears were seen on our walk. At Beady Pool a single Whimbrel was seen resting on a rock just offshore, and Shelduck and Oystercatchers were also found here, whilst out at sea there was the occasional gleaming-white Gannet and the usual selection of gulls. There was outstanding scenery all around us with the splendid view over the Western Rocks looking very photogenic. Our route led us past St Warna's Well, where we found some very luxuriant Sea Spleenwort and then along the eroded shore-line of St Warna's Cove towards the Coastguard Cafe and its sunny garden where we enjoyed our lunch break. From here we walked towards Castella Down, pausing to check the wall of one of the houses which had three species of Spleenwort ferns growing on it, including the rare Lanceolate Spleenwort *Asplenium obovatum*. The gorse *Ulex europaeus* was flowering prolifically on the downs and the first Foxgloves *Digitalis purpurea* were showing a few open flowers. Flocks of Starlings fed amongst the cattle and we also spotted Meadow Pipits on the more open areas. We tried out the maze on the slopes near the cliff edge and then made our way to Troy Town farm for ice creams. As we walked around the Great Pool a few Blue-tailed Damselies were noted, and they were very active in the warm sunshine. On the beach at Periglis there were a few Whimbrel feeding quietly along the strand line and more Oystercatchers on the rocks. The bulb fields had a magnificent display of Gladioli *Gladiolus communis byzantinus* and these seemed to be a favourite feeding area for Song Thrushes.

By the time we reached Porth Killier the tide was at its highest point and there was a large mixed flock of gulls feeding on Kelp fly larvae dislodged from the rotting seaweed on the strand line. Swarms of flies could be seen and these had attracted Pipits, Starlings and House Sparrows, all of which seemed to be enjoying the feast. We had time for a few minutes' rest on the quay before our boat came to take us back to St Mary's. We met again in the evening at the Atlantic.

Day 6

Monday 14th May

Due to the vagaries of the tide, our planned trip to Bryher could not begin until the early afternoon, so we had a free morning on St Mary's for visits to Hugh Town and walks around Porthcressa and Lower Moors. We took the boat to Bryher at 2pm, spotting two Common Terns on the way amongst the more usual gulls. We landed at Church Quay, and from there walked around the coast, via Veronica Farm and the Fudge Stall which proved to be very popular. New birds for our list here were four Curlew which we feeding on the seaweed-covered rocks. At Rushy Bay we stopped to look for the minute Dwarf Pansy *Viola kitaibeliana* and managed to find a couple of specimens of this tiny plant at its only UK location. From here we followed the path around to Heathy Hill where there was a large area of Spring Squill *Scilla verna* in flower – the plant which gives the islands their name.

We had time to check out the Great Pool and then make our way back to Church Quay ready for the return to St Mary's.

We were back in time to have an early supper and then get ready for the evening pelagic trip to look for Manx Shearwaters. The boat left at 8pm and headed for Annet, the main seabird colony on the islands. On the way out, in good calm conditions, we managed to see some Great Northern Divers, some in summer plumage, and when we were close to Annet, several Puffins were spotted on the edge of the island, with more flying around the rocks. A few large Grey Seals watched us as we bobbed around just offshore. Some Manx Shearwaters were spotted a little further out to sea, so we headed in that direction and came across a raft of about 60 birds which eventually took off and circled around many times, giving us excellent views. There were Guillemots and Razorbills on the water as well, and then we spotted two Common Terns again which flew in to roost on one of the large navigation buoys, allowing the boat to approach quite close. By now it was getting dark so we headed back to the quay at St Mary's after a very exciting evening on the water.

Day 7

Tuesday 15th May

This was to be our last full day on the islands so we planned to visit St Martin's, the last of the inhabited islands, which we had only seen from a distance. The 10am boat took us to Lower Town, although the promised lovely views of the shore-lines of Tresco, St Helen's and Tean on the way were rather obscured by sea mist, which rolled in and out as we travelled. We could hear the distant fog horn on the Round Island Lighthouse as we neared St Martin's. The mist cleared however, and we arrived in good sunshine and set off to walk the coastal path. A well-preserved Kelp Pit, dating from the 18th Century Kelp industry was found close to the shore and we found several old walls and gateways which were from an earlier farming era. This part of the island was almost free of non-native plants and gave us an idea of what Scilly would have been like before the bulb industry and tourism took hold. There were glimpses of Grey Seals from time to time and distant fishing Gannets, whilst closer in on the shore were more Whimbrel and Oystercatchers. As it was low tide we were able to explore the rocks at the water's edge where we found an interesting variety of seaweeds, several mollusc species and some Sea Anemones in various colours.

We stopped for our picnic at the end of the beach in some low dunes, where Small Copper Butterflies and a single Common Blue were active. From here we climbed up to Middle Town where we inspected the walls, noticing that many plants appeared to have succumbed to the cold winter conditions leaving lots of bare patches. We made a brief visit to Churchtown Farm and looked at the displays about the bulb industry and some of the archaeological remains found during farming activities. We checked the fields where the rare St Martin's Buttercup has been seen, but there was nothing very convincing in flower apart from Small-flowered Buttercup and several species of Fumitory *Fumaria* spp. By now the mist was clearing and we could see the extensive tidal flats stretching almost back to St Mary's. In the church we noticed the beams supporting the gallery which were made from re-cycled ship's timbers, showing the tunnels made by Shipworms *Teredo navalis*. As on the other islands, Song Thrushes were our constant companions, including during our tea break. The return boat journey to St Mary's was in clearer conditions and we were able to see another Great Northern Diver, and amongst the various gulls we saw the occasional Kittiwake, a rather uncommon species now on Scilly.

We met again at the Bishop and Wolf for our evening meal and went through our checklists.

Day 8

Wednesday 16th May

We had to pack up and leave Santa Maria this morning but there was time for a walk before the boat, so we met at 11am and took a minibus ride to Telegraph and then walked down to the little harbour at Pendrathen. It was a very windy morning but there was shelter here and we found Holly Blue and Small Copper butterflies along the leafy lane leading down to the shore. The large umbels of Alexanders *Smyinium olusatrum* seemed to be most attractive to the insects. From here we turned south to visit the ancient settlement and archaeological site at Halangy Down. The rocky habitat here provided good conditions for Wheatears and we also got more good views of Stonechat, Linnets and Rock Pipit. There were clear views of the other islands from the slopes and large numbers of Shags could be seen fishing in the sheltered Crow Sound. The path led us around the bottom slopes of the Golf Course where Lousewort, native Bluebells, Tormentil, Thrift and Sea Campion *Silene uniflora* provided plenty of colour. The lane leading to Juliet's Garden proved to be a good site for the Speckled Wood Butterfly which looks slightly different from the form found on the mainland. After lunch this very scenic spot overlooking St Mary's Harbour we made our way down to Porthloo and back to Lower Moors where once again we could hear Reed Warbler and Blackcap singing. From here there was an easy walk back to Hugh Town and the Quay where we checked in for the return journey.

We were able to find seats on the open lower deck, a good position for sea watching, and had plenty of interesting sightings on the way back as the islands receded into the distance. Sea conditions were good, and it was a sunny afternoon; we could see the distant Wolf Rock lighthouse at the half-way point of the journey and various container ships passed by. There were auks and Fulmars flying by much of the time, and smaller numbers of Gannets, mostly adults but with the occasional juvenile bird. A Great Skua was seen distantly at one point amongst the other seabirds. As we neared Land's End and the Runnel Stone reef there were suddenly large numbers of Manx Shearwaters streaming past, giving us excellent views. Amongst them were auks and smaller numbers of Kittiwakes and some of the larger gulls mingled with them. We arrived at Penzance a few minutes early and as we waited to collect our luggage the same male Eider Duck which we saw at the very start of our trip eight days ago was still paddling around the harbour, making a pleasant end to our week on the Isles of Scilly.

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Species Lists

Plants

Common Name	Scientific name	Notes
Water/Floating Fern	<i>Azolla filiculoides</i>	Lower Moors
Small Adder's-tongue Fern	<i>Ophioglossum azoricum</i>	Tresco
Hart's-tongue Fern	<i>Asplenium scolopendrium</i>	St Mary's
Common Polypody	<i>Polypodium vulgare</i>	widespread
Sea Spleenwort	<i>Asplenium marinum</i>	widespread
Black Spleenwort	<i>Asplenium adiantum-nigrum</i>	widespread
Lanceolate Spleenwort	<i>Asplenium obovatum</i>	St Agnes
Royal Fern	<i>Osmunda regalis</i>	Higher Moors
Bracken	<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	widespread
Lady-fern	<i>Athyrium filix-femina</i>	Higher Moors
Broad Buckler-fern	<i>Dryopteris dilatata</i>	Lower Moors
Meadow Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	widespread
Creeping Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	widespread
Small-flowered Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus parviflorus</i>	field on St Mary's
St Martin's Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus marginatus</i>	Churchtown Farm
Lesser Spearwort	<i>Ranunculus flammula</i>	Higher Moors
Lesser Celandine	<i>Ficaria verna</i> agg.	St Mary's
Common Fumitory	<i>Fumaria officinalis</i>	bulbfields
Red Campion	<i>Silene dioica</i>	widespread
Sea Campion	<i>Silene uniflora</i>	coastal areas
Small-flowered Catchfly	<i>Silene gallica</i>	Garrison Walls
Common Chickweed	<i>Stellaria media</i>	widespread
Common Mouse-ear	<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	grassy areas
Sea Beet	<i>Beta vulgaris</i> ssp <i>maritima</i>	St Mary's
Rock Sea-spurrey	<i>Spergularia rupicola</i>	walls and rocks
Sea Sandwort	<i>Honckenya peploides</i>	Porthellick beach
Common Sorrel	<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	grassy areas
Sheep's Sorrel	<i>Rumex acetosella</i>	St Martin's
Thrift	<i>Armeria maritima</i>	coastal areas
Tree-mallow	<i>Malva (Lavatera) arborea</i>	St Mary's
Common Dog Violet	<i>Viola riviniana</i>	grassy areas
Dwarf Pansy	<i>Viola kitaibeliana</i>	Bryher
Sea Radish	<i>R. raphanistrum</i> ssp <i>maritimus</i>	St Nary's
Cuckoo Flower	<i>Cardamine pratensis</i>	Higher Moors
Common Scurvy-grass	<i>Cochlearia officinalis</i>	widespread
Danish Scurvy-grass	<i>Cochlearia danica</i>	coastal areas
Sea Kale	<i>Crambe maritima</i>	Porth Minick
Bell Heather	<i>Erica cinerea</i>	Giant's Castle
Primrose	<i>Primula vulgaris</i>	Garrison walk
Scarlet Pimpernel	<i>Anagallis arvensis</i>	bulbfields
English Stonecrop	<i>Sedum anglicum</i>	rocks and walls
Wall Pennywort	<i>Umbilicus rupestris</i>	walls
Pastel del Risco	<i>Aeonium arboreum</i>	walls
Bramble	<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> spp	widespread
Silverweed	<i>Potentilla anserina</i>	St Agnes
Tormentil	<i>Potentilla erecta</i>	grassy areas
Bird'sfoot	<i>Ornithopus perpusillus</i>	Tresco
Orange Bird'sfoot	<i>Ornithopus pinnatus</i>	Tresco
Common Vetch	<i>Vicia sativa</i>	widespread
Bird'sfoot Trefoil	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	grassy areas
Black Medick	<i>Medicago lupulina</i>	Tresco
Western Clover	<i>Trifolium occidentale</i>	most islands

Common Name	Scientific name	Notes
Long-headed Clover	<i>T. incarnatum</i> ssp <i>incarnatum</i>	St Martin's
Broom	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i> ssp <i>maritimus</i>	widespread
Gorse	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	widespread
Western Gorse	<i>Ulex gallii</i>	not in flower
Common Milkwort	<i>Polygala vulgaris</i>	St Mary's
Bermuda Buttercup	<i>Oxalis pes-caprae</i>	bulbfields
Fleshy Yellow Sorrel	<i>Oxalis megalorrhiza</i>	walls
Four-leaved Pink Sorrel	<i>Oxalis tetraphylla</i>	bulbfields
Herb Robert	<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	widespread
Madeiran Cranesbill	<i>Geranium maderense</i>	garden escape
Sea Storksbill	<i>Erodium maritimum</i>	Porthellick
Musk Storksbill	<i>Erodium moschatum</i>	Hugh Town
Alexanders	<i>Smyrniium olusatrum</i>	Garrison
Hogweed	<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	Porthellick
Sea Carrot	<i>Daucus carota</i> ssp <i>gummifer</i>	Bryher
Hemlock Water Dropwort	<i>Oenanthe crocata</i>	Porthellick
Rock Samphire	<i>Crithmum maritimum</i>	widespread
Fool's Watercress	<i>Apium nodiflorum</i>	Porthellick
Fennel	<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	St Mary's
Sea-holly	<i>Eryngium maritimum</i>	Bryher
Early Forget-me-not	<i>Myosotis ramosissima</i>	Bryher
Borage	<i>Borago officinalis</i>	scattered sites
Giant Viper's-bugloss	<i>Echium pininana</i>	widespread
Greater Periwinkle	<i>Vinca major</i>	Garrison
Water Mint	<i>Mentha aquatica</i>	Porthellick
Balm-leaved Figwort	<i>Scrophularia scorodonia</i>	Porthloo Duckpond
Ivy-leaved Toadflax	<i>Cymbalaria muralis</i>	walls
Cornish Moneywort	<i>Sibthorpia europea</i>	Newford Duck Pond
Foxglove	<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>	widespread
Germander Speedwell	<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>	widespread
Wall Speedwell	<i>Veronica arvensis</i>	Bryher
Common Broomrape	<i>Orobanche minor</i> ssp <i>maritima</i>	Tresco
Lousewort	<i>Pedicularis sylvatica</i>	St Mary's
Ribwort Plantain	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	widespread
Buckshorn Plantain	<i>Plantago coronopus</i>	widespread
Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera periclymenum</i>	coastal areas
Red Valerian	<i>Centranthus ruber</i>	walls
Daisy	<i>Bellis perennis</i>	widespread
Ox-eye Daisy	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	St Agnes
Dandelion	<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>	grassy areas
Smooth Sow-thistle	<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	St Mary's
Chamomile	<i>Chamaemeleum nobile</i>	St Agnes
Corn Marigold	<i>Glebionis segetum</i>	bulbfields
Hottentot Fig	<i>Carpobrotus edulis</i>	Porthcressa
Sally-my-handsome	<i>Carpobrotus acinaciformis</i>	Porthcressa
Purple Dewplant	<i>Disphyma crassifolium</i>	Old Town, Tolman's
Bluebell	<i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>	widespread
Spanish Bluebell	<i>Hyacinthoides hispanica</i>	widespread
Spring Squill	<i>Scilla verna</i>	Bryher
Rosy Garlic	<i>Allium roseum</i>	St Martin's
Three-cornered Leek	<i>Allium triquetrum</i>	very common
Wild Leek	<i>Allium ampeloprasum</i>	Tresco
Whistling Jacks (Gladiolus)	<i>Gladiolus communis</i> ssp <i>byzantinus</i>	bulbfields, roadsides
Yellow Iris	<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	Porthellick
Stinking Iris	<i>Iris foetidissima</i>	Garrison
Italian Cuckoo Pint	<i>Arum italicum</i>	Garrison
Red Corn-lily	<i>Ixia campanulata</i>	Pelistry

Common Name	Scientific name	Notes
New Zealand Flax	<i>Phormium tenax</i>	Tresco
Cabbage Palm	<i>Cordyline australis</i>	widespread

Trees and Shrubs

White Poplar	<i>Populus albus</i>	Higher Moors
Grey Willow	<i>Salix cinerea</i>	Lower Moors
Elm	<i>Ulmus x hollandica</i>	widespread
Karo	<i>Pittosporum crassifolium</i>	hedges/shelter belts
Tree Bedstraw	<i>Coprosma repens</i>	hedges/shelter belts
Tamarisk	<i>Tamarix gallica</i>	Old Town churchyard
Rhododendron	<i>Rhododendron ponticum</i>	Tresco

Grasses, sedges and rushes

Toad Rush	<i>Juncus bufonius</i>	wet tracks
Soft Rush	<i>Juncus effusus</i>	Lower Moors
Field Woodrush	<i>Luzula campestris</i>	widespread
Common Reed	<i>Phragmites communis</i>	Tresco, St Mary's

Birds (✓=recorded but not counted; I = Introduced; H = heard only)

	Common name	Scientific name	May								
			9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
1	Canada Goose - I	<i>Branta canadensis</i>				✓					
2	Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>				✓					
3	Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓			
4	Common Eider	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	✓								✓
5	Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>		✓	✓	✓			✓		
6	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
7	Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>				✓					
8	Red-legged Partridge - I	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>						2			
9	Common Pheasant - I	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>		✓	✓	✓				✓	
10	Golden Pheasant - I	<i>Chrysolophus pictus</i>				✓					
11	Great Northern Diver	<i>Gavia immer</i>	?		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
12	Northern Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
13	Manx Shearwater	<i>Puffinus puffinus</i>	✓						✓		✓
14	Northern Gannet	<i>Morus bassanus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓
15	European Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
16	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
17	Water Rail	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>		H							
18	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>		✓	✓					✓	
19	Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>			✓						
20	Eurasian Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
21	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>				✓					
22	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
23	Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>							✓		
24	Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>				✓					
25	Black-legged Kittiwake	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>							✓	✓	✓
26	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>				✓					
27	Great Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
28	European Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
29	Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
30	Laughing Gull	<i>Leucophaeus atricilla</i>				✓					

	Common name	Scientific name	May								
			9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
31	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>							2		
32	Great Skua	<i>Stercorarius skua</i>									2
33	Common Guillemot	<i>Uria aalge</i>	✓						✓	✓	✓
34	Razorbill	<i>Alca torda</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
35	Atlantic Puffin	<i>Fratercula arctica</i>							✓		
36	Feral Pigeon - I	<i>Columba livia var. domestica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
37	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
38	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
39	Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>						✓			
40	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>		✓							
41	Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>	✓								
42	Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
43	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>								H	
44	Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>				✓					
45	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		✓						✓	
46	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>		✓	✓	✓			✓		
47	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
48	Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
49	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	✓	✓				✓	✓		
50	Eurasian Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>		H	H	H			✓		
51	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓				
52	Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia curruca</i>							H		
53	Common Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>									
54	Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>							H		
55	Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
56	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
57	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
58	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
59	European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
60	European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
61	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
62	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
63	Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
64	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba alba</i>						poss			
65	Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba yarrellii</i>	✓					✓			
66	Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>		✓		✓					
67	Eurasian Rock Pipit	<i>Anthus petrosus</i>		✓	✓			✓	✓		✓
68	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>				✓					
69	European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>				✓					
70	Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
71	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Mammals

1	European Rabbit - I	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓			✓
2	Bat sp (prob Pipistrelle)	<i>Pipistrellus sp</i>		✓	✓		✓				
3	Brown Rat - I	<i>Rattus norvegicus</i>				✓				✓	
4	Eurasian Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>				✓					
5	Grey Seal	<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		

	Common name	Scientific name	May							
			9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16

Butterflies

1	Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
2	Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>					✓			
3	Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>				✓	✓		✓	
4	Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>							✓	
5	Holly Blue	<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>		✓	✓		✓		✓	
6	Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>			✓					
7	Peacock	<i>Inachis io</i>		✓						
8	Speckled Wood	<i>Parage aegeria ssp insularis</i>								✓

Moths

1	Ruby Tiger (larvae)	<i>Phragmatobia fuliginosa</i>						✓		
2	Fox Moth (larvae)	<i>Macrothylacia rubi</i>			✓			✓		
3	Grass Eggar (larvae)	<i>Lasiocampa trifolii</i>	✓		✓			✓		
4	Tussock Moth (sp) (larvae)	<i>Calliteara sp</i>							✓	

Other invertebrates

1	Blue-tailed Damselfly	<i>Ischnura elegans</i>						✓		
2	Buff-tailed Bumblebee	<i>Bombus terrestris</i>			✓				✓	
3	Green Tiger Beetle	<i>Cicindela campestris</i>					✓			
4	Violet Ground Beetle	<i>Carabus violaceus</i>							✓	

Marine Invertebrates

1	Common Limpet	<i>Patella vulgata</i>			✓				✓	
2	Black-footed Limpet	<i>Patella depressa</i>			✓				✓	
3	Grey Topshell	<i>Gibbula cineraria</i>							✓	
4	Purple Topshell	<i>Gibbula umbilicalis</i>							✓	
5	Flat Periwinkle	<i>Littorina obtusata</i>							✓	
6	Rough Periwinkle	<i>Littorina saxatilis</i>							✓	
7	Netted Dog-whelk	<i>Nassarius reticulatus</i>							✓	
8	Common Cockle	<i>Cerastoderma edule</i>			✓				✓	
9	Common Cuttlefish	<i>Sepia officinalis</i>			✓					
10	Beadlet Anemone	<i>Actinia equina</i>							✓	
11	Common Lobster	<i>Homarus gammarus</i>		✓						
12	Green Shore Crab	<i>Carcinus maenus</i>		✓				✓	✓	
13	Edible Crab	<i>Cancer pagurus</i>						✓		
14	Sea Slater	<i>Ligia oceanica</i>						✓		
15	Kelp Fly	<i>Coelopa frigida</i>				✓				
16	Sand Hopper	<i>Talitrus spp</i>				✓		✓		

Marine Fish

1	Common Sole	<i>Solea solea</i>			✓					
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Seaweeds and marine plants

1	Eel Grass	<i>Zostera marina</i>			✓			✓		
2	Dulse	<i>Dilsea carnosa</i>						✓	✓	
3	Sea Lettuce	<i>Ulva lactuca</i>							✓	
4	Laver	<i>Porphyra umbilicalis</i>							✓	

	Common name	Scientific name	May								
			9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
5	Pepper Dulse	<i>Laurencia pinnatifida</i>								✓	
6	Thongweed	<i>Himanthalia elongata</i>		✓					✓	✓	
7	Furbelows	<i>Saccorhiza polyschides</i>							✓	✓	
8	Spiral Wrack	<i>Fucus spiralis</i>							✓	✓	
9	Serrated Wrack	<i>Fucus vesiculosus</i>								✓	
10	Sugar Kelp	<i>Laminaria saccharina</i>		✓						✓	



Laughing Gull



RIB trip



St Agnes Beach



Razorbill



House Sparrow



Whimbrel