

# Isles of Scilly

Naturetrek Tour Report

14 - 21 September 2019



Porthcressa and the Garrison



Red Squirrel



Grey Seals



Birdwatching on Peninnis Head

Report & Images by Andrew Cleave



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## Summary

Our early-autumn week on the Isles of Scilly was timed to coincide with the bird migration which is easily observed on the islands. Our crossings to and from Scilly on Scillonian III enabled us to see seabirds in their natural habitat, and the many boat trips we took during the week gave us close views of plenty of the resident and migrant birds which were feeding and sheltering closer to shore. We had long walks on all of the inhabited islands and as well as birds, managed to see some marine mammals, many rare plants and some interesting intertidal marine life. Informative evening lectures by resident experts were well received and we also sampled lovely food in many of the pubs and cafés on the islands. Our waterfront accommodation in Schooners Hotel was very comfortable and ideally placed for access to the harbour and Hugh Town.

## Day 1

## Saturday 14th September

We began our trip in Penzance harbour where we boarded Scillonian III for the crossing to Scilly. Conditions were fine for the crossing and those of us up on deck had good views of seabirds, including Gannets, Fulmars and winter-plumage auks as we followed the Cornish coast and then headed out into the Atlantic. It took just under three hours to complete the journey and on arrival we made our way to Schooners to check in and get lunch.

In the afternoon we walked around the Garrison, getting excellent views of the islands, and the departing Scillonian 111, as we walked around the impressive battlements. Birds seen on the walk included several Stonechats, Wheatears and Rock Pipits, plus the very confiding resident Song Thrushes and Blackbirds. On top of the walls we found a few late-flowering Autumn Lady's-tresses orchids (*Spiranthes spiralis*), and in many places there were large clumps of Rock Samphire (*Crithmum maritimum*) still in flower.

Back at Schooners after our walk, we looked on the Town Beach where there were several very photogenic Turnstones feeding within a few metres of the hotel wall. After an early dinner we went to the fascinating slide show about the wildlife of the islands given by local naturalist Will Wagstaff.

## Day 2

## Sunday 15th September

For our first full day on the islands, we stayed on St Mary's and started our walk at Porthcressa Beach where there were a few White Wagtails feeding on the strand line. We took the coastal path out on to Peninnis Head, passing the allotments protected by the neat Pittosporum hedges. Common birds here were House Sparrows, sometimes in large noisy flocks, and more very tame Song Thrushes. Further out on the headland we spotted Stonechat and Wheatear again and on the rocks below us we had both Meadow and Rock Pipits. From a high vantage point near the lighthouse we could see two or three Harbour Porpoises in the tide race offshore, and further out again were many Gannets passing by. The coastal path wound its way down to Old Town Bay which was much more sheltered and here we explored the churchyard with its many lichen-covered headstones, among them being the memorial to former Prime Minister Harold Wilson. The churchyard has many lofty Elm trees sheltering it and the usual Scillonian mix of Cordyline palms and succulent Aeoniums thriving in the mild conditions.

After a lunch break at Old Town Café we followed the nature trail through the Lower Moors wetland area, but with high water levels and dense reed beds, it was difficult to see many birds apart from the occasional Moorhen and Mallard. The trail continued towards Rocky Hill where we had the chance to see typical Scillonian bulb fields in cultivation. Our next stop was Carreg Dhu gardens which was the result of a community effort to create a garden in an old quarry. It is a very sheltered spot filled with exotic shrubs and flowers and we spent some time here watching the island form of the Speckled Wood butterfly visiting various flowers. The resident Blackbirds and Song Thrushes were clearly expecting us to have a picnic here, as they spent some time waiting for us to offer them food.

The Longstones café close by was a stopping-off place for some, but we continued our walk towards the Golf Course and then down to Porthloo Beach where we spent some time looking at various waders on the beach, including a small flock of Sanderling, and a few Ringed Plover, Dunlin Curlew and Whimbrel. As always, the most common wader on the beaches and rocks was the Oystercatcher, which is an abundant resident on the islands. From here it was a short walk back into town.

We met up again for our evening meal in the Mermaid Pub and enjoyed the sea views from the upstairs dining room.

## Day 3

**Monday 16th September**

We had arranged to have boat trips to the Eastern Isles and various rocks and reefs with Island Sea Safaris today, so there was some free time for exploration before our early-afternoon excursion.

We travelled in Firebrand IV, a high-speed RIB, and had an enjoyable time getting close to the many Grey Seals basking on the rocks. There was considerable variation in the markings and colours of the seals, and several of them showed scars which may have resulted from entanglements with fishing gear. The distinction between the large bull seals and the smaller females was also quite clear at this close range. At one spot we saw a Curlew foraging on seaweed-covered rocks and were able to get photographs of it; close-up views revealed that its prey was the Furrowed Crab. A feeding frenzy of Gannets attracted our attention and getting closer enabled us to see that there were some extremely large Blue-fin Tuna attacking a shoal of Anchovies; this was causing great excitement amongst the seabirds. When the Tuna departed all that was left was an oily film on the water and thousands of silvery fish scales slowly sinking. Amongst the various gulls between the islands we found some Mediterranean Gulls which gave close views, and other birds spotted included Grey Heron and Little Egret.

In the evening we dined at the Scillonian Club and then went to another illustrated lecture, this time about the history and archaeology of the islands.

## Day 4

**Tuesday 17th September**

We visited Tresco today and caught the morning boat, along with large numbers of other visitors, but once we had landed at New Grimsby, the crowds seemed to disperse. We headed towards the famous Abbey Gardens, but on the way there had time to look at the Great Pool and the shaded woodland walk. There were distant views of some of the waders and ducks feeding on the pool, but we decided to wait until later to check them out from the hides on the other side.

At the gardens there was time for a coffee break before most of the party went in to look around. The lush sub-tropical trees and shrubs are the main attraction here, and the introduced Red Squirrels and Golden Pheasants seemed to fit in very well. More local birds included the by now very familiar and confiding Song Thrushes and large numbers of House Sparrows.

We all met up again after lunch and walked around the Great Pool, checking the two bird-watching hides on the way. From one of the hides we managed to get views of the Lesser Yellowlegs feeding on the muddy margins; close by were a small number of Redshank and Greenshank and the distinctions between the three species were very clear when seen like this. A Water Rail put in an appearance as well giving everyone good views. Other water birds included Mute Swans with almost full-grown cygnets and several Gadwall. A variety of small birds also came close to the hide including some very acrobatic Linnets who were able to perch on the reed stems to drink. It was now time to head back for the boat and on the return journey we saw eight Little Egrets roosting on a small rock outcrop.

## Day 5

## Wednesday 18th September

We caught the boat to St Agnes this morning and the low tide meant that we were able to cross the sand bar to get to the Gugh, Scilly's smallest occasionally inhabited island. In the beautiful sunny weather, it all looked very appealing, with the white sand beach contrasting with the clear blue water and the hint of autumn colours in the bracken. In the garden of one of the only two houses on Gugh there were several birds feeding and one caught our attention; this turned out to be a Pied Flycatcher and it made many fly-catching forays out in to the open as we watched. We returned to the main island and followed quiet lanes and tracks out on to Wingletang Down where we searched for the very tiny Least Adder's-tongue Fern (*Ophioglossum lusitanicum*) growing at its only UK location. Quite a few fronds were found, and a very fine clump of Autumn Lady's Tresses orchids was spotted close by. As on previous days, there were large numbers of Swallows overhead, and as we progressed around the island we spotted more Wheatears, Stonechats and both Pied and White Wagtails. A few cattle were grazing in a field and we managed to spot some Yellow Wagtails catching insects around their feet.

During our lunch stop at the Coastguard Café we saw quite a few butterflies visiting the sunny garden and had the usual very close views of the resident Song Thrushes. Our walk around the coastline took us past the Nag's Head rock and then the stone maze, thought to date back to the 17th Century. A welcome feature of St Agnes is the absence of rats, and in a few places there were some bait stations to remind us of this. The island now supports nesting Manx Shearwaters and there were some informative notices about this.

The Troy Town ice cream was very welcome and afterwards, we walked to Periglis Bay to check out the waders on the beach. As well as the usual Oystercatchers there were a few Bar-tailed Godwits, some Sanderling and Ringed Plover, and a big flock of roosting gulls, almost all of which were Herring Gulls. The cultivated bulb fields had mixed flocks of House Sparrows, Pipits and Wagtails feeding in them and Porth Killier beach, with its drift line of rotting seaweed also had large numbers of birds feeding on it, including a big flock of Starlings. A highlight of the boat trip back to St Mary's was a brief view of an Ocean Sunfish very close to the surface.

Later that evening we enjoyed a superb meal in the Dibble and Grub restaurant overlooking Porthcressa Beach.

## Day 6

### Thursday 19th September

Another sunny day meant that we could go to St Martin's; this involved a slightly longer boat trip, which gave lovely views of the coastline of St Mary's and the many rocks and reefs between the islands. We landed at Lower Town and followed the coast path around the eastern end of the island towards the famous Day Mark, the conical red and white tower visible from a great distance. At this spot it was possible to see the distant coastline of Land's End, 28 miles to the east, and we could just pick out the Seven Stones Lightship on the horizon. We searched for the Red-barbed Ant, but without success, but conditions were very dry so this may have been the reason. An elegant sailing ship made its way around the coast and dropped anchor in Bread and Cheese Cove where we had good views as we settled down for our picnic. The slopes down to the cove were covered in Golden Rod (*Solidago virgaurea*) which was just going past its best, but it was still attracting some butterflies despite the breezy conditions. A Raven overhead gave very good views and called loudly as it dived down to the cove.

We continued along the coastal path heading for Middle Town where we visited the church and the flower farm before a tea break at Polreath Café which had a beautiful sheltered garden filled with exotic shrubs. The return boat was due to arrive at Lower Town because of the state of the tide, so we followed the leafy lanes along the west side of St Martin's which were quite a contrast to the exposed headlands we had been on earlier. The commonest butterfly here was the Speckled Wood, and some of the sheltered bulb fields had lots of insect activity in them.

When we arrived at the quay at Lower Town the water was so clear that we could see small Sand Gobies darting around on the white sand. Further out on the exposed sand flats there were a number of waders feeding, including Redshank and Greenshank, and as we travelled back in the boat to St Mary's we had close views of a large flock of Shags, a common sight on Scilly.

## Day 7

### Friday 20th September

For our final full day on the islands, we visited Bryher and were pleased that it was still very sunny, despite a stiff breeze at times. We landed at Church Quay and had time for a quick exploration of the sheltered churchyard where there were many exotic succulent plants growing on the walls. As with all the islands we had visited, there were signs of bird migration, with good numbers of Swallows moving overhead and a few Wheatears and Stonechats seen on the more rocky areas. On the beaches and exposed rocks there were a few waders spotted with small numbers of Sanderling and Dunlin picked out. We found both Whimbrel and Curlew feeding but they were very well camouflaged against the low-tide seaweeds. On Rushy Bay we had a look along the strand line for shells and found a good selection of interesting species.

We had our picnic overlooking the lovely sandy beach at Great Par where there were Rock and Meadow Pipits feeding and several White Wagtails. A grey seal "bottling" offshore seemed very relaxed in the sheltered conditions. Around the margins of the Great Pool were a number of small waders which turned out to be Dunlin, some of them in quite distinctive summer plumage. On Popplestone Bay there were large numbers of loafing gulls and a single Whimbrel was picked out. As we approached Shipman Head Down, we found ourselves in a very windy area, but the outstanding views made the walk worthwhile.

Hell Bay is aptly named, and today, in sunshine and with a stiff breeze it was quite bracing. There was very sparse vegetation here with most of the headland covered with stunted Ling, Bell Heather and Tormentil. Reaching the more sheltered side of the island, we headed down to Kitchen Porth, the lovely sheltered bay overlooking Hangman's Island and Cromwell's Castle. The tide was low so we had the chance to look at some of the seaweeds and shells exposed on the rocks. Some lobster pots had been dropped on the beach by a fisherman and we found that they had large clusters of Squid eggs on them. Realising that these would not survive here, we rescued as many as we could and returned them to the water. There was time for a tea break in the nearby Fraggie Rock café before heading to Anneka's Quay for the return boat to St Mary's.

## Day 8

## Saturday 21st September

Today was our last day on Scilly so we had to get our bags ready for collection and vacate the Schooners Hotel. We took a taxi ride to the Sage House Kaffeehaus in the middle of the island and enjoyed the famous Strudel and coffee. From here it was an easy walk to the Halangy Down ancient village where the well-preserved stone houses and burial chambers could still be seen. A large Parasol Mushroom was spotted growing amongst the ruins and we found more Wheatears and Stonechats here.

We took the coastal path back towards Hugh Town, but recent winter storms have eroded it badly and it had been diverted inland around some bulb fields. At one narrow point on the path we saw a Kelp Pit, a relic of the kelp-burning industry of the 18th Century which provided Scillonians with a meagre income. From this path we had views of the islands we had visited during the week and we could see how busy this stretch of water was with many boats heading in different directions. We stopped for a late lunch at Juliet's Garden restaurant where there was a lovely views of the harbour at St Mary's with Scillonian III already tied up at the quay. A quick dash to Porthcressa to look for a Wryneck was unsuccessful, but we did see the small flock of Sandwich Terns which were feeding in the harbour.

Most of the party sat up on deck on the boat for the return journey and we were rewarded with sightings of many seabirds on the way back. The calm conditions made sea-watching easy and we saw plenty of Gannets, including several immature birds, with smaller numbers of Fulmars, Manx Shearwaters, winter-plumage auks and Kittiwakes, and at one point a Great Skua flew in to harass the Kittiwakes. We arrived back in Penzance as it was getting dark, and once we had collected all our belongings from the quay, we said our farewells before departing.

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## Species Lists

Birds (✓=recorded but not counted; m = male)

	I = Introduced		September							
	Common name	Scientific name	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
1	Red-legged Partridge - I	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>				✓				
2	Common Pheasant - I	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>				✓				
3	Golden Pheasant - I	<i>Chrysolophus pictus</i>				✓				
4	Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>				✓	✓	✓		
5	Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>				✓				
6	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
7	Feral Pigeon - I	<i>Columba livia var. domestica</i>	✓	✓					✓	✓
8	Stock Dove	<i>Columba oenas</i>				✓				
9	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
10	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
11	Water Rail	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>		✓		✓				
12	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>		2		✓				
13	Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>				✓				
14	Eurasian Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
15	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>		6	1		✓	✓	✓	
16	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>		1	1			1		✓
17	Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>		1	10	✓	1	✓		
18	Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>					2			
19	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	23	✓	✓
20	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>		10	✓		✓		✓	
21	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>		✓	✓		✓		✓	
22	Lesser Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa flavipes</i>				1				
23	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>				4		1		
24	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>				2		2	2	
25	Black-legged Kittiwake	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	✓		✓				✓	✓
26	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
27	Mediterranean Gull	<i>Ichthyaetus melanocephalus</i>		✓					✓	✓
28	Common (Mew) Gull	<i>Larus canus</i>							☞	
29	Great Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
30	European Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
31	Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>	✓						✓	✓
32	Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
33	Great Skua	<i>Stercorarius skua</i>								✓
34	Common Guillemot	<i>Uria aalge</i>	✓							✓
35	Razorbill	<i>Alca torda</i>	✓					?		✓
36	Northern Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>	✓		✓					✓
37	Sooty Shearwater	<i>Ardenna grisea</i>								
38	Manx Shearwater	<i>Puffinus puffinus</i>	✓		✓					✓
39	Northern Gannet	<i>Morus bassanus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
40	European Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
41	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
42	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>		2	✓	1	1	3	1	✓
43	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>			1	8			1	1
44	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>					1			
45	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>		1						
46	Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	30+	✓
47	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>						1		1

	I = Introduced		September							
	Common name	Scientific name	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
48	Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		✓		✓			✓	
49	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>								✓
50	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>				?				
51	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
52	Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>		✓						
53	Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>					1			
54	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>		1		1				
55	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>						1m		
56	Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
57	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
58	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
59	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
60	European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
61	European Pied Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>					1			
62	Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>		1		1				
63	European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>	✓	✓	1	1	✓	✓	✓	✓
64	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	
65	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
66	Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
67	Western Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>					2			
68	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>			✓					
69	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba alba</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
70	Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba yarrellii</i>		✓						✓
71	Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>								
72	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
73	Eurasian Rock Pipit	<i>Anthus petrosus</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
74	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>				✓				✓
75	European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>		✓					✓	
76	Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
77	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	✓	✓					✓	

## Mammals (S = scat)

1	European Rabbit - I	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		
2	Western European Hedgehog	<i>Erinaceus europaeus</i>		S						
3	Common Pipistrelle Bat	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>			✓					
4	Brown Rat - I	<i>Rattus norvegicus</i>				1				
5	Eurasian Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>				✓				
6	Grey Seal	<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>			✓			✓	✓	✓
7	Harbour Porpoise	<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>		2	✓					

## Butterflies

1	Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2	Green-veined White	<i>Pieris napi</i>					✓	✓	✓	
3	Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>		✓			✓		✓	
4	Common Blue	<i>Polyommata icarus</i>							✓	
5	Holly Blue	<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>	✓			✓				✓
6	Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
7	Peacock	<i>Inachis io</i>		✓		✓	✓			
8	Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria f. Insularis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓



	Common name	Scientific name	September						
			14	15	16	17	18	19	20

I = Introduced

## Other invertebrates

1	Migrant Hawker Dragonfly	<i>Aeshna mixta</i>			✓	✓				
2	Yellow Meadow-ant	<i>Lasius flavus</i>							✓	
3	Great Green Bush-cricket	<i>Tettigonia viridissima</i>		✓						

## Marine Life

1	Ocean Sunfish	<i>Mola mola</i>					1			
2	Atlantic Bluefin Tuna	<i>Thunnus thynnus</i>			✓					
3	Sand Goby	<i>Pomatoschistus minutus</i>						✓		
4	Black-lined Periwinkle	<i>Littorina nigrolineata</i>						✓		
5	Flat Periwinkle	<i>Littorina obtusata</i>						✓		
6	Toothed Topshell	<i>Monodonta lineata</i>						✓		
7	Purple Topshell	<i>Gibbula umbilicalis</i>						✓		
8	Grey Topshell	<i>Gibbula cineraria</i>						✓		
9	Common Limpet	<i>Patella vulgata</i>						✓		
10	China Limpet	<i>Patella ulyssiponensis</i>						✓		
11	Dog Whelk	<i>Nucella lapillus</i>						✓		
12	Netted Dog Whelk	<i>Tritia reticulata</i>						✓		
13	Common Squid (eggs)	<i>Loligo vulgaris</i>						✓		

## Other Marine life recorded

Green Shore Crab, *Carcinus maenas*Edible Crab, *Cancer pagurus*Channelled Wrack, *Pelvetia canaliculata*Serrated Wrack, *Fucus serratus*Sugar Kelp, *Laminaria saccharina*Thongweed, *Himantalia elongata*Furrowed Crab, *Xantho incisus*Eelgrass, *Zostera marina*Bladder Wrack, *Fucus vesiculosus*Egg Wrack, *Ascophyllum nodosum*Dulse, *Dilsea carnosus*

## Plants

English name	Scientific name	Notes
<b>Ferns</b>		
Sea Spleenwort	<i>Asplenium marinum</i>	Peninnis Head
Maidenhair Spleenwort	<i>Asplenium adiantum-nigrum</i>	Widespread on walls
Lanceolate Spleenwort	<i>Asplenium obovatum</i>	St Agnes and St Mary's
Hart's-tongue Fern	<i>Asplenium (Phyllitis) scolopendrium</i>	Widespread, walls and banks
Royal Fern	<i>Osmunda regalis</i>	Higher Moors
Bracken	<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Common
Male Fern	<i>Dryopteris filix-mas</i>	Higher Moors
Broad Buckler-fern	<i>Dryopteris dilatata</i>	Higher Moors
Lady Fern	<i>Athyrium filix-femina</i>	Lower Moors, Garrison Walk
Least Adder's-tongue Fern	<i>Ophioglossum lusitanicum</i>	St Agnes
<b>Native flowering plants</b>		
Sea Kale	<i>Crambe maritima</i>	Porth Minick, Popplestone Bay
Wild Radish	<i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i>	Common
Sea Rocket	<i>Cakile maritima</i>	Sandy beaches, Gugh, Bryher
Watercress	<i>Nasturtium officinale</i>	Higher Moors
Sea Campion	<i>Silene uniflora</i>	Peninnis Head
Red Campion	<i>Silene dioica</i>	St Mary's

English name	Scientific name	Notes
Rock Sea Spurrey	<i>Spergularia rupicola</i>	Peninnis Head
Sea Sandwort	<i>Honckenya peploides</i>	Porth Hellick, Bryher
Wall Pennywort	<i>Umbilicus rupestris</i>	Widespread on walls and rocks
Allseed	<i>Radiola linoides</i>	St Martin's
Four-leaved Allseed	<i>Polycarpon tetraphyllum</i>	Hugh Town, pavements
Thrift	<i>Armeria maritima</i>	Peninnis Head
Purple Loosestrife	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	Lower Moors, Higher Moors
Bird's-foot Trefoil	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Common
Common Bird'sfoot	<i>Ornithopus perpusillus</i>	St Agnes, Bryher
Tufted Vetch	<i>Vicia cracca</i>	St Mary's
Western Gorse	<i>Ulex gallii</i>	Porth Hellick Down
Gorse	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	Common
Bell Heather	<i>Erica cinerea</i>	Porth Hellick Down
Ling	<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>	St Martin's
Tamarisk	<i>Tamarix gallica</i>	St Mary's, Old Town Church
Rock Samphire	<i>Crithmum maritimum</i>	widespread, rocks and walls
Fennel	<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	Porth Minick
Alexanders	<i>Smyrniolum olusatrum</i>	Garrison
Sea Holly	<i>Eryngium maritimum</i>	Bryher
Hogweed	<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	Garrison
Marsh Pennywort	<i>Hydrocotyle vulgaris</i>	Higher Moors
Fool's Watercress	<i>Apium nodiflorum</i>	Higher Moors
Gypsywort	<i>Lycopus europaeus</i>	Tresco
Wood Sage	<i>Teucrium scorodonia</i>	Widespread
White Poplar	<i>Populus albus</i>	Higher Moors and Tresco
Grey Willow	<i>Salix cinerea</i>	Widespread
(Cornish) Elm	<i>Ulmus sp</i>	widespread, mostly St Mary's
Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera periclymenum</i>	Common
Madder	<i>Rubia peregrina</i>	Porth Hellick Down
Lady's Bedstraw	<i>Galium verum</i>	Bryher
Woody Nightshade	<i>Solanum dulcamara</i>	Lower Moors
Buck's-horn Plantain	<i>Plantago coronopus</i>	Widespread
Chamomile	<i>Chamamelum nobile</i>	Bryher, St Martin's
Sea Mayweed	<i>Tripleurospermum maritimum</i>	Porth Hellick
Corn Marigold	<i>Glebionis segetum</i>	Fields and gardens, mostly St Mary's
Daisy	<i>Bellis perennis</i>	Common
Sea Carrot	<i>Daucus carota gummifer</i>	Bryher
Autumnal Hawkbit	<i>Leontodon autumnalis</i>	widespread
Chicory	<i>Cichorium intybus</i>	Fields and gardens
Goldenrod	<i>Solidago virgaurea</i>	Porth Hellick Down, St Martin's nr Daymark
Prickly Oxtongue	<i>Helmonthotheca echioides</i>	St Mary's
Canadian Goldenrod	<i>Solidago (canadensis)</i>	widespread, invasive
Sheep's-bit	<i>Jasione montana</i>	Peninnis Head
Eyebright	<i>Euphrasia sp</i>	St Martin's
Common Broomrape	<i>Orobanche minor ssp maritima</i>	Tresco, going over
Autumn Lady's Tresses (Orchid)	<i>Spiranthes spiralis</i>	Garrison ramparts, St Agnes
Atlantic Ivy	<i>Hedera hibernica</i>	widespread
Stinking Iris	<i>Iris foetidissima</i>	Garrison walk, seed pods
Marram Grass	<i>Ammophila arenaria</i>	Bryher, Gugh
Greater Tussock Sedge	<i>Carex paniculata</i>	Higher Moors
<b>Non-natives and exotics</b>		
Mind-your-own-business	<i>Soleirolia soleirolii</i>	widespread, walls
Deltoid-leaved Dewplant	<i>Drosanthemum floribundum</i>	Walls on St Mary's

English name	Scientific name	Notes
NZ Wire-plant	<i>Muehlenbeckia complexa</i>	St Mary's, highly invasive
Karo	<i>Pittosporum crassifolium</i>	Widespread hedging plant
Red Angel's Trumpet	<i>Brugmansia sanguinea</i>	St Mary's, St Agnes
Giant Viper's Bugloss	<i>Echium plantagineum</i>	Widespread
Ake-ake (Daisy Bush)	<i>Olearia avicennifolia</i>	Widespread, not flowering
Hottentot Fig	<i>Carpobrotus edulis</i>	Widespread
German Ivy	<i>Delairia odorata</i>	St Mary's, not flowering
Chilean Myrtle	<i>Luma apiculata</i>	Tresco
Tree Bedstraw	<i>Coprosma repens</i>	Widespread, with small orange fruits
Pastel del Risco	<i>Aeonium (arboreum)</i>	Widespread
Chilean Hardy Bromeliad	<i>Fascicularia bicolour</i>	St Mary's, just coming in to flower
Date Palm	<i>Phoenix canariensis</i>	Tresco
Cabbage Palm	<i>Cordyline australis</i>	widespread
Dwarf Fan Palm	<i>Chamaerops humilis</i>	Tresco, St Mary's
New Zealand Flax	<i>Phormium tenax</i>	Tresco
African Lily	<i>Agapanthus praecox</i>	gardens, widespread
Three-cornered Leek	<i>Allium triquetrum</i>	Widespread, mostly leaves
<b>Lichens and Fungi</b>		
Sea Ivory	<i>Ramalina siliquosa</i>	St Mary's, rocks near Golf Course
Orange Sea Lichen	<i>Caloplaca marina</i>	widespread
a Bracket fungus	<i>Ganoderma sp</i>	On Elms in Churchyard
Parasol Mushroom	<i>Lepiota procera</i>	Halangy Down ancient village



Least Adder's-tongue Fern



Common Linnet



Autumn Lady's Tresses



Tresco and Cromwell's Castle seen from Kitchen Porth, Bryher



Porth Conger, St Agnes