

# Isles of Scilly

## Naturetrek Tour Report

9th – 16th May 2022



Eurasian Red Squirrel on Tresco



'Scilly' Speckled Wood on Bryher



Ferry escort – Manx Shearwater from Scillonian III



Small Adder's-tongue on Tresco



Best of the teeny tinies – Dwarf Pansy on Bryher



One of three Eurasian Golden Plovers that we encountered

Tour report & images by Mike Crew and Tim Melling



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Tour participants: Mike Crewe & Tim Melling (Leaders) with 14 Naturetrek clients.

## Summary

When one of the highlights of the tour is simply 'being there', you know you're in a special place. The Isles of Scilly never fail to deliver a wonderful experience simply by providing some of the UK's most spectacular scenery. Wildlife watching is always weather-dependent on any trip and, though a series of wonderfully balmy, set fair, days is enjoyable, it does impact on bird migration. Most of the group set sail from Penzance in fine weather (with others flying in the same day) and enjoyed plenty of seabirds, as well as a surprise pod of Risso's Dolphins and, once set up in our accommodations, we began a series of wonderful days in the field. Explorations of St. Mary's covered a good 75% of the island, as well as a fair chunk of the cafes and tea rooms! We walked elm-lined trails and roads, past bulb fields alive with colour from Corn Marigolds, Rosy Garlic and Red Corn-lilies. Coastal paths revealed stunning views across the water to the 'off islands', while inland wetlands hosted many chuntering Reed Warblers and great swathes of lush vegetation to study.

We took boat trips to Bryher, St. Agnes and Tresco, as well as an evening trip out to Annet to enjoy Puffins and Manx Shearwaters. All of these trips provided new scenery, new experiences and – often – new pasties to try! Bryher gave us the most amazing, teeny, tiny, Dwarf Pansy – one of the UK's rarest plants, as well as wonderful examples of waved heath while St. Agnes offered us Orange Bird's-foot, Purple Sandpipers, perfect ice-cream and a chance to walk across to Gugh. Tresco never fails to impress, with Garganey and Greater Scaup on the Great Pool, the unparalleled exuberance of the Abbey Gardens and another chance to get down on the ground for one of our smallest ferns – Small Adder's-tongue. Though migrants were thin on the ground during our week on the islands, we nevertheless enjoyed a fine Ring Ouzel, several Turtle Doves and a good run of 'Greenland' Wheatears – and we'll never forget those great experiences with all of those remarkably tame Song Thrushes!

## Day 1

## Wednesday 4th May

For most of us, our tour began in Penzance, where we boarded *Scillonian III* for the crossing to Hugh Town, St Mary's. Even before we left the quay, there were Rock Pipits in song-flight to enjoy and tufts of Rock Sea-spurrey decorating the granite block walls. The first part of our trip took us past the dramatic, granite coastline of the Land's End peninsula and interesting landmarks included Mousehole, Lamorna Cove, the Minack Theatre and Gwennap Head, but light mist was shrouding Land's End and the Longships Lighthouse. Local bird movements kept us busy during this first stage, with Guillemots and Razorbills busying themselves back and forth and a scattering of Gannets, Kittiwakes and Shags moving by. As we approached the tip of the mainland, Manx Shearwaters began to appear and small numbers accompanied us on both sides for a time as we headed out to sea. Mist and fog banks came and went for a time, but in a clearer spot, we were joined by a feeding party of Risso's Dolphins.

The crossing was kind to us and we were soon rounding Peninnis Head and coming into dock. Disembarkation was straightforward and we made our way to our various accommodations. Once settled in, we met up and took our first walk to sample the delights of the main island of St Mary's. It's pretty much impossible not to notice the great show of garden plants that has spilled over many a garden wall and found its way into the wider countryside and, as we headed by the bottom of Buzza Hill, gaudy globes of Giant Herb-Robert and curtains of Pale Dewplant lined our route. Small fields were lined with hedges of Karo, African Boxwood and the

wonderfully-named Ake-Ake and Three-cornered Leek seemed to be everywhere. Our route took us into more natural habitats as we continued along the footpath and we soon encountered Western Clover, Thrift, Sea Campion and Bird's-foot Trefoil in flower. Rock Pipits, Stonechats and Linnets soon popped up and we admired the cyclopean majesty of the rock formations at the headland, as well as the fabulous views across The Roads to the other islands.

Our route brought us to Old Town Churchyard, resting place of former Prime Minister, Harold Wilson, among others, as well as being a great spot to see the variety of colour forms in the many *Cineraria* plants that grow here. Whistling Jacks were along the wall too, as were the first of those very trying ramping-fumitories! After checking in on a nice colony of Portland Spurge, we took the road back up and into Hugh Town, finding a female Northern Wheatear along the way, then enjoyed our first dinner at the Mermaid.

## Day 2

## Thursday 5th May

Our first full day saw us heading out on one of the small boats that ferry between the islands and making the short crossing to Bryher. Though small, this island has some surprisingly steep gradients, but we intended heading for the gently undulating southern end first. Through the lanes, we passed great banks of yellow-flowered *Aeoniums* of various species, though the identification of some plants is often tricky due to the presence of a number of garden hybrids. Certainly, we found plenty of *Aeonium cuneatum* along the banks, with its stiffly upright flower spikes, along with a few *Ae. x holospathulatum*, the purple form of *Ae. arborescens* and a single plant of *Ae. haworthii*. Giant Herb-Robert caught our eye and we investigated the amazing, glandular hairs that cover its stems, while showy clumps of Woad-leaved Ragwort were also much in evidence. We soon encountered our first Scilly Song Thrush, behaving as they do here – completely ignoring us and allowing very close approach. Indeed, this one even entered a house when builders left the door open! Out on the flatlands of the southern end of the island, Bird's-foot, Western, Subterranean and Suffocated Clovers were all present, as well as the peculiar *townsendii* form of White Clover with its red flowers. A Northern Wheatear vied for our attention and we began the onerous task of looking for one of the country's smallest flowers – Dwarf Pansy. Though it had been a dry spring and many plants had clearly already set seed and gone passed their best, we persevered and soon we were enjoying a small patch of plants that were still in flower – what a treat, and the start of a love affair with the ground for us all!

Lunch was taken at a local tearoom and dutifully shared with the outrageously friendly, local Song Thrush and House Sparrow troupe. For the afternoon, we took the high road, striking out along local paths with carpets of Wild Chamomile and flighty Speckled Woods and heading up onto the heathy ground that leads towards Hell Bay and Shipman Head. Birds were thin on the ground, but the effects of the local weather on the vegetation had produced a fine example of waved heath, with lines of Common Heather all oriented the same way and seemingly 'walking' across the landscape. Eventually we overlooked Tresco, facing across to Cromwell's Castle and the King Charles's Castle. Passing Fraggles Rock (which surely deserves a mention!), we cut back down to the beach and headed back by boat from the 'Annequay', picking out Oystercatchers and a Whimbrel along the way.

## Day 3

## Friday 6th May

We made our first major excursion into the varied habitats of St Mary's today, striking out towards Old Town and admiring the likes of Shrubby and Deltoid-leaved Dewplants and the far less common Lesser Sea-fig along

the way. The views from Buzza Hill are always impressive, though the invasive Wireplant continues to smother the rocks here, as it has for many years. Through Old Town, we circled back to Salakee Farm, where some resting bulb fields provided us with a fine splash of colour from Rosy Garlic, Crimson Clover, Wild Radish and others. Greenfinches and Goldfinches fed in the fields and we picked out our first Western Ramping-fumitory. Through the wonderful archway of wind-battered elms, we took in Chilean Hard Fern and an array of interesting members of the carrot family, before we arrived on Porth Hellick and paid homage to the unfortunate Sir Cloudesley Shovell, who survived a shipwreck only to be beaten to a pulp for his jewellery. Great stands of Puñeñe and carpets of Hottentot-fig line the back of the beach here, but the beach itself is more pristine and was home to Turnstone, Ringed Plover, Oystercatcher and Whimbrel.

Moorhen and Teal were the highlights on Porth Hellick Pool and both Reed and Sedge Warblers chortled from the reeds. The habitat soon changed from open marsh as we entered the 'fairy glen' world of Holy Vale, where a fern-lined, raised path took us through a labyrinth of elm roots. A singing Goldcrest finally gave itself up here and showed well, if briefly, before we doubled back from Maypole and headed to Longstone's Café for lunch. Once fed and watered, we had a brief look in the Carreg Dhu garden for a very elusive Golden Oriole (which remained that way!) then took the back lanes down to Lower Moors, the other main wetland on St Mary's. Again, things were a little quiet, but a Grey Heron and a well-camouflaged Common Snipe were eventually found from one of the hides and Swallows swooped overhead. With a little time on our hands, we circled round via the 'dump clump' to Porthmellon Beach, where a handy tearoom was just what the doctor ordered to round off the afternoon.

We had an early dinner planned for tonight, back at the Mermaid, then set off from the quay for a boat trip out to the uninhabited island of Annet – the last island before the jagged outcrops that mark the way towards the Bishop Rock Lighthouse. Our evening trip was perfectly timed for the switch over from the day shift to the night shift around Annet, but first we passed by several Great Northern Divers, with most coming into their breeding finery now. Soon we were close to the north end of Annet and we picked out quite a few Puffins on the water. These were birds preparing to head out into open water for the night, while others could be seen at their nest sites on the island. A Peregrine was found on a rocky outcrop and many Shags, Guillemots and Razorbills ferried to and fro as the local gulls looked on. In contrast to the Puffins, Manx Shearwaters were preparing to come ashore for the night and we found several rafts of these smart birds on the water and drifting around in scuttling groups, low over the sea. The light was fading as we headed back to St Mary's after what had been a wonderful boat trip.

## Day 4

## Saturday 7th May

Another 'off-island' day today, as we headed across the deeper channel from St Mary's to the outlier island of St Agnes. From the jetty, there's a very pleasant and scenic walk along the narrow lanes and our route was lined with the usual 'garden escapes' that brighten the landscape at this time of the year. We soon turned down the shady track known as Barnaby Lane and headed out onto the natural, heathland habitats of the wonderfully-named Wingletang Down, where Stonechats and Linnets were much in evidence. At the southerly tip of the island, a sandy beach held good colonies of Sea Spurge and the glaucous rosettes of Yellow Horned-poppy. A scan of the rocks at Horse Point tuned up a feeding Grey Seal and, eventually, a couple of Purple Sandpipers in their breeding finery. The rocks here seemed particularly well-endowed with wigs and hats of a wealth of lichens.

Circling around the west side of Wingletang, we came across a trio of Golden Plovers, all in breeding plumage with extensively black underparts and thus likely to be birds destined for high Arctic breeding grounds. Back on Wingletang, some deep searching in the memory vaults finally turned up the spot we were looking for and it was time once again to prostrate ourselves at the feet of yet another rare, but impossibly minuscule, plant, for here we finally located Orange Bird's-foot – just a single flower on a wiry stem... We completed our first pass of St Agnes in perfect time for lunch at the Turk's Head.

After filling up with good food and drink, we headed out to the west to cover the northern part of the island that we hadn't yet seen. The coastal path took us out to the grassy areas around Big Pool, where large yellow patches of Hairy Buttercup brightened the scene and bathing Great and Lesser Black-backed Gulls allowed for a good opportunity to study their differences. By pure chance (surely!), our route eventually found us at the Troytown ice-cream farm, which proved as impossible to pass by as the local chapel had done a short time earlier. We arrived back near the jetty in good time for a stroll across the sandy tombolo that links St. Agnes with The Gugh, a small island that gets cut off at high tide. The short turf here held a great selection of plants typical of such habitat, including all those little clovers, medicks, crane's-bills and the like. It was time to return to the quay before threats of going for a swim could come to fruition...

## Day 5

## Sunday 8th May

For the plant-oriented folks, today was to be a real highlight as we headed across to Tresco with our sights on the famous Tresco Abbey Gardens. Beforehand, though, there was plenty of time to take the path that leads around the Great Pool. From the first hide, a pair of Greater Scaup provided us with a surprise species for the list, while there was also plenty of Gadwall and a few Coots, Mute Swans and some Canada Geese present. Further on, we found a tiny Common Bluetail – our first damselfly of the trip and Swallows were gliding gracefully over the fields. At the second hide, a male Garganey was our star find. Around the top of the pool, we passed the Abbey Pool, as well as some obliging Chiffchaffs, then passed the heliport before arriving at the gardens. An early lunch at the tearooms would give us an uninterrupted visit to the garden, so we settled down to enjoy the process of sharing lunch with the local House Sparrows – oh, and the local Robin, Chaffinch, Dunnock, Starlings, Blackbirds, Song Thrushes...!

Tresco Abbey Gardens truly is a magical place, whether plants are your 'thing' or not and the thrill starts with great views of some of the recently established population of Eurasian Red Squirrels that now live here. Beyond the arresting squirrels lies a veritable smorgasbord of plant delights, particularly of species from the Southern Hemisphere, as well as some remarkably well-planned vistas. But of course, we took particularly perverse delight in finding a remarkably large colony of Orange Bird's-foot that stretched for some distance along one of the sunny paths. There were also some nice clusters of Hairy Bird's-foot Trefoil, another south-western speciality to add to our lists. The shady lawns and borders of the lower sections of the gardens give way to ever more sunny and warm borders, culminating in some great shows from proteas and yet more Aeoniums. And for some, yet another highlight came in some up-close-and-personal encounters with Golden Pheasants!

Leaving enough time to head down to Carn Near for the return boat to St. Mary's, we wandered through the dunes for a while – yes, it was hands and knees time again! After swiftly brushing aside the wonderful, spiky colonies of Cardoncillo, all hands turned to the task of locating one of Britain's smallest ferns and eventually we found it in the shape of a sizeable colony of Small Adder's-tongue. Cameras and phones clicked away with great

reverence. Some suitably tiny Common Centaureas were here, too. A quick glance at the Furcraeas revealed that flowers were not going to be on show, so we wandered along the final section of beach in time to meet our boat home.

## Day 6

Monday 9th May

Time for some further exploration of St. Mary's today for most of us, while some took an extra boat trip on and headed to St. Martin's for the day. On St. Mary's, we started with a slow stroll around the Garrison, facilitated at first by the crazy steepness of the entrance road! Still, this pace was a good way to spot and add the second record of Mossy Stonecrop for the Scillies to our list (we had thought that we'd found the first record earlier in the week, but then discovered that someone else had beaten us to it last year, at the same location!). We took the route around the outer batteries, which gave us ample opportunity to enjoy plants at eye level as they grew on top of the walls, removing the need to get down and dirty. Fine colonies of Small-flowered Catchfly were found (hopefully some will escape the obsessive lawnmowing that was going on!) and we chanced across Smith's Pepperwort, a plant which, on the Scillies, is found only at this location. Passing Northern Gannets, European Shags and Oystercatchers went about their business as we investigated the various batteries and learned of their history.

It was lunch time by the time we got back to town, so pies and sandwiches were bought and eaten by the beach. This was followed by a coast walk to Porth Hellick by way of the back of the airport, which gave us a chance to take in a nice colony of Rough-fruited Buttercup and for some to enjoy the delights of runway activity! A few Northern Wheatears were still to be found, typically, for this relatively late date, being of the 'Greenland' race. We took a sharp left into Salakee Lane on a quest for a Ring Ouzel that had been reported in one of the fields and we soon had it in our sights, feeding on a recently cultivated field with a good gathering of Blackbirds, Song Thrushes and Starlings. We continued on for a second walk up through Holy Vale, then further to the horse stables, where Northern Wheatear and Yellow Wagtail were feeding around the horse offerings. We cut through Green Lane to the delightful Watermill Lane, passing under shady elms and checking out a stand of Hedge Ragwort trees, with that ghostly white underside to their leaves.

We began our journey back and – as luck would have it – Longstone's Café just happened to be right on our route! A few more teas and sandwiches later, we cut through Carreg Dhu Garden and some took the opportunity for an earlier finish, while others looped back up to Sunnyside for some nice views of four Turtle Doves that were feeding with Wood Pigeons and Stock Doves. One more sighting of interest came our way later, as our walk back from dinner ended with a Common Swift repeatedly attempting to land on the town's incinerator chimney.

## Day 7

Tuesday 10th May

There was a keenness today to explore some as yet unseen corners of St. Mary's. So, we set off up the west side, stopping first at the remains of a small defence structure called Harry's Walls, built in the time of Henry VIII. The views from here are fabulous and take in the busy quayside of Hugh Town and fine views across to Samson, Bryher and Treco. A large showing of Red Corn-lilies behind the historical site was an added bonus. As there



had been some light rain over night and the ground was wet in places, we stuck to the roads rather than striking out around the coast path. Passing along Porth Loo Lane, we continued up the Telegraph Road to McFarland's Down and visited the ancient village of Halangy and the nearby Bant's Carn, pondering on what life must have been like back in those days. A male Stonechat performed energetic song flights and Small Coppers were nice to find in the short turf. Further on, we soon reached the most northerly part of St. Mary's – Bar Point, with its wonderful sandy beach and perfect views of St. Martin's. We were also well-placed to watch *Scillonian III* making her way in amongst the islands. Orange Angel's Trumpets, shrubby Fuchsias and more Red Corn-lilies brightened the way – as well as more Small Coppers – and we followed this with a nice, mixed batch of ramping-fumitories, which allowed us to compare the subtle differences in their flowers. A walk under the arching elms along Content Lane was much appreciated and the area provided us with a small colony of Common Broomrape and upright stands of Bicoloured Cobra-lily. The café we had ear-marked for lunch seemed to be no more (presumably a victim of covid), so we struck out a little further for the Carn Vean Tea Room, which did us proud. House Sparrows nesting in the Atlantic Ivy that was climbing up a nearby Monterey Pine entertained us as we ate.

Doubling back up to Pungies Lane, we found a nice colony of Small-flowered Buttercup on a field corner, then a rummage in suitable habitat found us the only known colony of Cornish Moneywort on the Scillies – good to know it's still hanging on here. Newford Duckpond held a motley assortment of ducks with their dog masks on and we ambled back via the Ring Ouzel at Salakee, which was much appreciated by those who had not seen it yesterday.

## Day 8

## Wednesday 11th May

Today would be our final opportunity for our morning meet-up near the quay, though conditions were less favourable today as a keen wind was whipping up the waves and it had been raining since the early hours. Unperturbed, we took a chance on a visit to the local museum and found it to be more entertaining than we had imagined. As well as enjoying the histories of the early settlements on the islands and the long history of ship wrecks here, we seemed particularly taken by the sad but interesting presence of a stuffed Eskimo Curlew that had been shot on the Scillies in 1887. One of very few of its kind still in existence, it was rather incongruously placed right next to Harrold Wilson's Gannex raincoat!

The weather had greatly improved as we set off from town and we felt that the weather might finally have dropped some migrants in to the wetland areas, so we swung by way of the Ring Ouzel again and headed down Salakee Lane to Higher Moors. News broke of a male Garganey on the main pool, but it managed to elude us and we settled for a nice range of wetland plants on the loop trail, against a backdrop of singing Reed Warblers. Time was running against us and we headed for Old Town, via the Bordeaux Pottery for a final pasty or sandwich at the Old Town Café, shared – of course – by the local birdlife. We returned to our accommodations for final departure arrangements and met up at the quay in good time to check in and board for the return ferry trip to Penzance. The water had a decidedly lumpy look to it, but those who suffer from such things survived admirably and for much of the trip we were able to watch Manx Shearwaters to our hearts content, including that moment when we passed through a loafing group of several hundred birds. Kittiwakes, Gannets, Guillemots and Razorbills also came our way, before we made an evening docking at Penzance and the time finally came for us all to say our goodbyes.



Some of you may be (vaguely!) interested to hear that Tim and Mike had a final meal in Penzance before heading for home the next day, rounding things off nicely by meeting the pub dog called Cloudesley (yes, really!) and winning the pub quiz. But the story of Ephesus will have to be told another day...

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## Species lists

Birds (h = Heard only, I = introduced)

	Common name	Scientific name	May 2022							
			4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1	Canada Goose	<i>Branta canadensis</i>					4			
2	Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>					2			
3	Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>				4	2			
4	Garganey	<i>Spatula querquedula</i>					1			
5	Northern Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>					1			
6	Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>			1		✓			
7	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
8	Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>			2		1			
9	Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>					3			
10	Greater Scaup	<i>Aythya marila</i>					2			
11	Golden Pheasant - I	<i>Chrysolophus pictus</i>					2			
12	Common Pheasant - I	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>			1		✓	✓	✓	
13	Red-legged Partridge - I	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>					h			
14	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>						1		
15	Feral Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓		✓				✓	✓

	Common name	Scientific name	May 2022							
			4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
16	Stock Dove	<i>Columba oenas</i>						1	3	
17	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
18	European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>						4	2	
19	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
20	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>			2		✓		1	✓
21	Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>				1	✓			
22	Eurasian Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>	3	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
23	European Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>				3				
24	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>			1		2			
25	Eurasian Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	3	✓	✓	✓	✓			
26	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
27	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>		1			1			
28	Purple Sandpiper	<i>Calidris maritima</i>				2				
27	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>			1					
28	Black-legged Kittiwake	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	✓					h		✓
29	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>				1				
30	Great Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
31	European Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
32	Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
33	Common Guillemot	<i>Uria aalge</i>	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
34	Razorbill	<i>Alca torda</i>	✓			✓				✓
35	Atlantic Puffin	<i>Fratercula arctica</i>			30					
36	Great Northern Diver	<i>Gavia immer</i>			9+	2				
37	Northern Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>	4+		3					✓
38	Manx Shearwater	<i>Puffinus puffinus</i>	✓		✓	✓				✓
39	Northern Gannet	<i>Morus bassanus</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
40	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
41	European Shag	<i>Gulosus aristotelis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
42	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>			3				1	
43	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>			1					
44	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	1			2				
45	Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>	✓		1	10		2	1	
46	European Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>					2	1		
47	Great Tit	<i>Parus major aphrodite</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
48	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>					1			
49	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
50	Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>					1	2	2	4
51	Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>						h		
52	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
53	Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>			h					
54	Eurasian Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>			✓		✓			✓
55	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	1		3	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
56	Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>			2					
57	Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
58	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
59	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
60	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

	Common name	Scientific name	May 2022							
			4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
61	Ring Ouzel	<i>Turdus torquatus</i>						1	1	1
62	European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
63	European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
64	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>	1		2+	✓		2	1	
65	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
66	Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
67	Western Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>							2	
68	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba alba</i>							2	
69	Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
70	European Rock Pipit	<i>Anthus petrosus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
71	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	✓		✓		✓			
72	European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
73	Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
74	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

## Mammals

	Common name	Scientific name	May 2022							
			4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1	European Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
2	Brown Rat	<i>Rattus norvegicus</i>			✓				✓	
3	Eurasian Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>					✓			
4	Grey Seal	<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	
5	Risso's Dolphin	<i>Grampus griseus</i>	✓							

## Butterflies

	Common name	Scientific name	May 2022							
			4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1	Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	
2	Small White	<i>Artogeia rapae</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓
3	Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>						✓	✓	
4	Holly Blue	<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
5	Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>	✓					✓	✓	
6	Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
7	Small Tortoiseshell	<i>Aglais urticae</i>			✓					
8	Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

## Other invertebrates

	Common name	Scientific name	May 2022							
			4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1	Common Bluetail	<i>Ischnura elegans</i>					✓			✓
2	Garden Tiger (larva)	<i>Arctia caja</i>					✓			
3	Grass Eggar (larva)	<i>Lasiocampa trifolii</i>			✓					
3	Oak Eggar (larva)	<i>Lasiocampa quercus</i>			✓	✓	✓			✓
4	Black Oil Beetle	<i>Meloe proscarabaeus</i>	✓							

## Flora

Taxonomy, order and nomenclature contained within this list follows the work of the Angiosperm Phylogeny Group and similar co-operative groups, together with more recent taxonomic amendments, based on DNA analysis, made by the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew and the Missouri Botanic Garden. The total number of species recorded came to 380 – a very respectable list! Rather than a bewildering list of all species, here you will find a list of the species that were of particular interest, Scillies specialities or species that are scarce or absent in much of the UK.

Common name	Scientific name	location
<b>Lesser Clubmosses</b>	<b>Selaginellaceae</b>	
Krauss's Clubmoss	<i>Selaginella kraussiana</i>	Tresco
<b>Adder's-tongues</b>	<b>Ophioglossaceae</b>	
Small Adder's-tongue	<i>Ophioglossum azoricum</i>	Tresco
<b>Spleenworts</b>	<b>Aspleniaceae</b>	
Sea Spleenwort	<i>Asplenium marinum</i>	Walls
Lanceolate Spleenwort	<i>Asplenium obovatum ssp lanceolatum</i>	St. Mary's - walls
Common Hart's-tongue	<i>Asplenium scolopendrium</i>	St. Mary's
<b>Hard-ferns</b>	<b>Blechnaceae</b>	
Chilean Hard Fern	<i>Blechnum cordatum</i>	St. Mary's - Salakee
<b>Pine Family</b>	<b>Pinaceae</b>	
Monterey Pine	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	St Mary's
<b>Monkey-puzzle Family</b>	<b>Araucariaceae</b>	
Norfolk Island Pine	<i>Araucaria heterophylla</i>	(In gardens but of interest)
<b>Arum Family</b>	<b>Araceae</b>	
Italian Lords-and-ladies	<i>Arum italicum</i>	
<b>Iris Family</b>	<b>Iridaceae</b>	
Blue Corn-lily	<i>Aristea ecklonii</i>	Tresco
Greater Chilean-iris	<i>Libertia chilensis</i>	St Mary's – coastal paths
Whistling Jacks	<i>Gladiolus x byzantinus</i>	
Red Corn-lily	<i>Ixia campanulata</i>	St. Mary's – walls and fields
Bicoloured Cobra-lily	<i>Chasmanthe bicolor</i>	St. Mary's – Content Lane
<b>Amaryllis Family</b>	<b>Amaryllidaceae</b>	
Three-cornered Garlic	<i>Allium triquetrum</i>	Everywhere!
<b>Bromeliads</b>	<b>Bromeliaceae</b>	
Puñeñe	<i>Fascicularia bicolor</i>	Widespread
Cardoncillo	<i>Ochagavia carnea</i>	Tresco - dunes
<b>Sedge Family</b>	<b>Cyperaceae</b>	
Greater Tussock Sedge	<i>Carex paniculata</i>	St Mary's – Higher Moors
<b>Grasses</b>	<b>Poaceae</b>	
Hare's-tail grass	<i>Lagurus ovatus</i>	
Greater Quaking-grass	<i>Briza major</i>	St Mary's – Buzza Hill
Lesser Quaking-grass	<i>Briza minor</i>	Tresco
Squirrel-tail Fescue	<i>Festuca bromoides</i>	
Rough Dog's-tail	<i>Cynosurus echinatus</i>	
Sea Fern-grass	<i>Catapodium marinum</i>	
Great Brome	<i>Bromus diandrus</i>	
Common Reed	<i>Phragmites australis</i>	
<b>Poppy Family</b>	<b>Papaveraceae</b>	
Yellow Horned-poppy	<i>Glaucium flavum</i>	St Agnes - beaches
Western Ramping-fumitory	<i>Fumaria occidentalis</i>	St Mary's - Salakee

Common name	Scientific name	location
White Ramping-fumitory	<i>Fumaria capreolata</i>	St Mary's – Hugh Town
Tall Ramping-fumitory	<i>Fumaria bastardii</i>	St Mary's
Common Ramping-fumitory	<i>Fumaria muralis</i>	St Mary's
<b>Buttercup Family</b>	<b>Ranunculaceae</b>	
Rough-fruited Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus muricatus</i>	St Mary's – disturbed ground
Small-flowered Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus parviflorus</i>	St Mary's – disturbed ground
<b>Stonecrop Family</b>	<b>Crassulaceae</b>	
Decumbent Pygmyweed	<i>Crassula decumbens</i>	St. Mary's – paths and ruins
Fairy Crassula	<i>Crassula multicava</i>	St Mary's - hedgebank
Mossy Stonecrop	<i>Crassula tillaea</i>	St. Mary's - pathways
Common Navelwort	<i>Umbilicus rupestris</i>	Walls
Tree Aeonium	<i>Aeonium arborescens</i>	Walls
Cuneate Aeonium	<i>Aeonium cuneatum</i>	Walls
Haworth's Aeonium	<i>Aeonium haworthii</i>	Bryher – by the quay
Hybrid Aeonium	<i>Aeonium x holospathulatum</i>	St. Mary's – Porth Loo Lane
<b>Pea Family</b>	<b>Fabaceae</b>	
Hairy Bird's-foot-trefoil	<i>Lotus subbiflorus</i>	Grassy places, esp. Tresco
Orange Bird's-foot	<i>Ornithopus pinnatus</i>	Grassy places, St Agnes & Tresco
Bird's-foot Clover	<i>Trifolium ornithopodioides</i>	Short grass
White Clover	<i>Trifolium repens</i> var. <i>townsendii</i>	Bryher – short grass
Western Clover	<i>Trifolium occidentale</i>	Short, coastal grass
Suffocated Clover	<i>Trifolium suffocatum</i>	Short, coastal grass
Crimson Clover	<i>Trifolium incarnatum</i>	St Mary's - Salakee
Subterranean Clover	<i>Trifolium subterraneum</i>	Short, coastal grass and tracks
<b>Elm Family</b>	<b>Ulmaceae</b>	
Smooth-leaved Elm	<i>Ulmus minor</i>	
<b>Wood-sorrels</b>	<b>Oxalidaceae</b>	
Cape Sorrel (Bermuda Buttercup)	<i>Oxalis pes-caprae</i>	
Fleshy Yellow-sorrel	<i>Oxalis megalorrhiza</i>	St Mary's - walls
<b>Violet Family</b>	<b>Violaceae</b>	
Dwarf Pansy	<i>Viola kitaibeliana</i>	Bryher – coastal dunes
<b>Spurge Family</b>	<b>Euphorbiaceae</b>	
Portland Spurge	<i>Euphorbia portlandica</i>	Beaches and dunes
Sea Spurge	<i>Euphorbia paralias</i>	St Agnes - beach
<b>Cranesbills</b>	<b>Geraniaceae</b>	
Giant Herb-Robert	<i>Geranium maderense</i>	
<b>Myrtle Family</b>	<b>Myrtaceae</b>	
Chilean Myrtle	<i>Luma apiculata</i>	
<b>Mallow Family</b>	<b>Malvaceae</b>	
Tree Mallow	<i>Malva arborea</i>	
<b>Cabbage Family</b>	<b>Brassicaceae</b>	
Sea Rocket	<i>Cakile maritima</i>	Beaches
Common Sea Kale	<i>Crambe maritima</i>	Beaches
Smith's Pepperwort	<i>Lepidium heterophyllum</i>	St Mary's – Garrison
<b>Knotgrass Family</b>	<b>Polygonaceae</b>	
Wireplant	<i>Muehlenbeckia complexa</i>	St Mary's
<b>Pinks</b>	<b>Caryophyllaceae</b>	
Small-flowered Catchfly	<i>Silene gallica</i>	Disturbed ground
<b>Iceplants</b>	<b>Aizoaceae</b>	

Common name	Scientific name	location
Sally-my-handsome	<i>Carpobrotus acinaciformis</i>	St Mary's – Old Town
Hottentot-fig	<i>Carpobrotus edulis</i>	Beaches
Purple Dewplant	<i>Disphyma crassifolium</i>	Tresco – New Grimsby
Pale Dewplant	<i>Drosanthemum floribundum</i>	St Mary's – Morning Point
Lesser Sea-fig	<i>Erepsia heteropetala</i>	St Mary's – Buzza Hill
Rosy Dewplant	<i>Lampranthus multiradiatus</i>	Tresco – Abbey Gardens
Sickle-leaved Dewplant	<i>Lampranthus falciformis</i>	Walls
Heart-leaved Iceplant	<i>Mesembryanthemum cordifolium</i>	Walls
Deltoid-leaved Dewplant	<i>Oscularia deltoides</i>	Walls
Shrubby Dewplant	<i>Ruschia caroli</i>	Walls
<b>Primrose Family</b>	<b>Primulaceae</b>	
African Boxwood	<i>Myrsine africana</i>	
Bog Pimpernel	<i>Lysimachia tenella</i>	St Mary's – Higher Moors
<b>Bedstraw Family</b>	<b>Rubiaceae</b>	
Tree Bedstraw	<i>Coprosma repens</i>	
Field Madder	<i>Sherardia arvensis</i>	Disturbed ground and dunes
<b>Borage Family</b>	<b>Boraginaceae</b>	
Giant Viper's-bugloss	<i>Echium pininana</i>	
Webb's Viper's-bugloss	<i>Echium webbii</i>	(gardens)
Pride of Madeira	<i>Echium candicans</i>	
Changing Forget-me-not	<i>Myosotis discolor</i>	St Mary's - Garrison
<b>Plantain Family</b>	<b>Plantaginaceae</b>	
Cornish Moneywort	<i>Sibthorpia europaea</i>	St. Mary's
<b>Figwort Family</b>	<b>Scrophulariaceae</b>	
Balm-leaved Figwort	<i>Scrophularia scorodonia</i>	
<b>Broomrape Family</b>	<b>Orobanchaceae</b>	
Common Broomrape	<i>Orobanche minor</i>	St Mary's - Content
Common Lousewort	<i>Pedicularis sylvatica</i>	
<b>Daisy Family</b>	<b>Asteraceae</b>	
Treasureflower	<i>Gazania rigens</i>	Walls
Hedge Ragwort	<i>Brachyglottis repanda</i>	St Mary's - hedges
German-ivy	<i>Delairea odorata</i>	St Agnes – coastal dune
Woad-leaved Ragwort	<i>Senecio glastifolius</i>	
Cineraria	<i>Pericallis x hybrida</i>	St Mary's – Old Town
Cape Daisy	<i>Dimorphotheca jucunda</i>	
Ake-Ake	<i>Olearia traversiorum</i>	Hedges
Mexican Fleabane	<i>Erigeron karvinskianus</i>	
Annual Buttonweed	<i>Cotula australis</i>	St Mary's - Garrison
Common Chamomile	<i>Chamaemelum nobile</i>	Grassy places
Corn Marigold	<i>Glebionis segetum</i>	Bulb fields
<b>Escallonia Family</b>	<b>Escalloniaceae</b>	
Red Escallonia	<i>Escallonia rubra</i>	Hedges
<b>Pittosporums</b>	<b>Pittosporaceae</b>	
Karo	<i>Pittosporum crassifolium</i>	Hedges
<b>Aralia Family</b>	<b>Araliaceae</b>	
Atlantic Ivy	<i>Hedera hibernica</i>	
Marsh Pennywort	<i>Hydrocotyle vulgaris</i>	Wetlands
<b>Umbellifers</b>	<b>Apiaceae</b>	
Sea-holly	<i>Eryngium maritimum</i>	St Agnes - beaches

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Common name	Scientific name	location
Hemlock Water-dropwort	<i>Oenanthe crocata</i>	Wetlands
Rock Samphire	<i>Crithmum maritimum</i>	Beaches and rocks