

# Shetland's Wildlife

Naturetrek Tour Report

20th – 28th June 2025

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Atlantic Puffin



Edmondston's Chickweed



Northern Gannet



Shetland Wren brood

Tour report by Oliver Smart



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Tour participants: Oliver Smart (leader) with seven Naturetrek clients

## Summary

Situated 180km from the north of mainland Scotland and 225km to the west of Norway, the archipelago of the Shetland Islands is one of the remotest groups of islands in the British Isles. It is also a stunning wildlife hotspot, both during the breeding season and during autumn migration. There are few trees on the islands, yet small copses, a vast coastline, moorland, cliffs, lochs and scrub all provide brilliant habitat for great numbers of interesting species. We made a nine-day tour starting from Aberdeen, staying at Sumburgh Head and Baltasound. We visited six islands, including Mainland, Yell, Unst, Bressay and St Ninian's Isle. We captured some wonderful wildlife sightings, including five Otters, nine Red-necked Phalaropes, Mountain Hare, local bumblebees and many rare plants, notably Edmonston's Chickweed, Norwegian Sandwort and Lesser Twayblade. We also visited huge colonies of Gannets, Guillemots and Puffins, and marvelled at the first species diving in to take fish right alongside our boat.

## Day 1

**Friday 20th June**

### Sailing from Aberdeen to Lerwick, Shetland

Our tour started in Aberdeen at the ferry terminal. Coming from all parts of the UK, the group was looking forward to an exciting wildlife adventure in the remote Shetland Islands. The group met in the waiting area and then promptly boarded the MV Hrossey at 5.00pm. We found our pods or cabins where we would be spending the night, and then met for a briefing about the tour.

After dinner, we quickly headed outside as we set sail a quarter before seven, and were quickly into wildlife-spotting mode. We soon noted Herring, Common and Lesser Black-backed Gulls, Oystercatcher, Grey Heron, Eider and a large flock of 31 Red-breasted Mergansers. As we exited the harbour beyond the lighthouse, we caught sight of a pod of approximately thirty Common Bottlenose Dolphins leaping, breaching and having a whale of a time (pun intended).

On the open sea, we started seeing plenty of seabirds, including Kittiwake, Guillemot, Razorbill, Gannet, and best of all several Manx Shearwaters. What a great start to the trip! We'd be seeing plenty more over the coming days, but it's always nice to start well.

## Day 2

**Saturday 21st June**

### Loch Spiggie, Sumburgh Head & Grutness

Our overnight sailing was calm, and we arrived on time, collected our hire vehicle and headed straight to Loch Spiggie via the local supermarket, for lunch. The skies were cloudy, but sun was expected later. The moderate wind was cool, taking off any warmth in the air.

We parked up near the RSPB hide and almost as soon as we got out, our leader spotted a wader flying along the edge of the loch. As soon as it got alongside us it turned out to be a Red-necked Phalarope! We watched it disappear

and tried to relocate it, but it had gone into cover. We enjoyed watching several Red-throated Divers, Ravens and Great Skuas before we took a walk to the nearby beach. Despite the grey overhead, the beach was still a bright sandy colour, and we scanned and picked out auks, Ringed Plover, Shag and both Common and Grey Seals. Plant-wise, we noted Sea Rocket, Wild Angelica, Tufted Vetch and, along the roadside, lots of Monkeyflower.

Near Setter Marsh, we were hoping to see a rare bird which had been present for some days, but we could not locate the Black-winged Pratincole today; maybe we'd get another chance. We did see a family party of Whooper Swans, Redshank, Lapwing and Tufted Duck. Skylarks and Meadow Pipits sang and displayed all around us.

We drove on to the hotel to drop our luggage off, stopping by the airfield and enjoying a pale- and a dark-phase Arctic Skua harassing a flock of Common Gull every time one caught a fish. After checking in, we proceeded to Sumburgh Head for lunch, and to enjoy the vast number of seabirds. Puffins are always a delight, and today was no different. Fulmars, Guillemots, Razorbills, Great Black-backed Gulls, Great Skuas and Shags were plentiful. After enjoying the birds and a cup of tea in the lighthouse café, we spent time checking out the cliff plants, finding Thrift, Sea Plantain, Scots Lovage, Sea Campion and Sea Mayweed.

Our final stop was in Grutness, where a couple of Sanderling were foraging; we saw Pied Wagtail, and Arctic and Common Terns too, while Meadow Cranesbill and a Northern White-tailed Bumblebee were our final species of the day. Checklists and dinner followed in the evening and concluded a fabulous first day.

## Day 3

**Sunday 22nd June**

### Grutness, Bressay & St Ninian's Isle

With a complete reversal of the weather fortunes, we were presented at 6.00am for our pre-breakfast walk with low cloud and light rain. A few in the group braved the weather and headed over to Grutness, and in much calmer conditions than yesterday afternoon enjoyed watching the Arctic Tern and Common Gull colony among the boulder-strewn landscape. Along the shoreline towards the beach, with the airport terminal building as the backdrop, we picked out a bird we'd seen briefly the day before. It was a female Long-tailed Duck and eventually showed down to about fifteen metres! We also enjoyed looking at Spear-leaved Orache, Sea Sandwort and Shepherd's Purse along the sandy shoreline.

After breakfast, we all boarded the minibus and headed north to Lerwick to catch the ferry over to Bressay. We collected a picnic lunch and dropped in to the famous Clickimin Broch during another rain shower. A Red Admiral was bold enough still to be flying. Over on Bressay, we headed east to a viewpoint overlooking the island of Noss. Our afternoon boat trip had been postponed due to the high swell, so instead we enjoyed the views for now. We spotted lots of Heath Spotted Orchids, a variety of heathers, and Common Butterwort, a carnivorous plant.

A nearby loch held a lovely pair of Red-throated Divers, and Dunlins were calling nearby too. We explored a few tracks, spotting lots of Curlews, Arctic Skuas and further Dunlins, before dropping down to Setter to have lunch. On arrival, our leader spotted an Otter, and using a wall as cover, we had fantastic views of it hunting close to shore. A pair of Twites dropped in behind us at the same time, so we had plenty going on.

Following a relaxed lunch in reasonable shelter, we walked along the track for a few hundred metres and enjoyed lots of other wildlife, including the endemic subspecies of Moss Carder Bee known as Shetland Bumblebee, along with a Silver Y moth, a Common Frog and a Painted Lady butterfly.

After returning on the 4.00pm ferry and finding another Otter in the harbour, we headed south towards the hotel, dropping in to St Ninian's Isle for a final walk in the late afternoon. As the rain came in again, we finally called it a day.

## Day 4

**Monday 23rd June**

### Dale of Walls, boat trip to Noss

For our last full day on Mainland, we were presented with an awful forecast. Rain, rain and more rain was expected, yet, with the curtains drawn, it did not look quite as bad. We headed out after breakfast to Dale of Walls, an area to the west of Lerwick, and made our way through some wonderful open moorland, lochs and coastal strips. The first of the highlights came from a group of three Red Grouse, skulking across the road and then into the heather. A male with its striking red combs was in front, with two females following behind. Alongside them were two adult Curlews, both making a bit of a racket, and on double-checking we found that they had three young. We quickly moved on so as not to disturb them.

We moved on to Dale of Walls; the rain started to fall, but we proceeded along a track to the nearby beach. We spotted Sheep's-bit and Spring Squill, and our leader managed to catch a Shetland Bumblebee in his little pot. The Jaffa Cake coloured orange pelt on the back of the thorax was gorgeous, and with a quick few pictures taken, we let it return to the nearby flowers. The beach was alive with waders, and a few auks were out at sea; the highlight was a Ringed Plover with three young, which were climbing up inside the belly feathers to get out of the rain, which had just started to become heavier.

We made it back to the van and went back to Lerwick for lunch. We then met Phil from Shetland Seabird Tours, and set off for the island of Noss. We travelled quickly to maximise our time at the cliffs. The tallest cliff here is the second highest in Shetland, at 181m. We enjoyed the Gannet colony, along with several Bonxies (the local Shetland name for the Great Skua), Guillemots and a few Razorbills. Phil put out some fish for the Gannets, and they dived into the water alongside the boat in their hundreds: quite the experience! We also allowed them to tail the boat too, which gave us a great sight looking off the stern at a squadron of birds in pursuit.

Back in harbour, we headed straight back to the hotel during another rain shower. Dinner followed by checklists ended a pleasantly decent day, considering what we had potentially been up against. Tomorrow would give us time to explore locally, before making our way to the fabulous northern island of Unst.

## Day 5

**Tuesday 24th June**

### Loch Spiggie, Wadbister & Stromfirth

Starting slightly later, we nipped out to Pool of Virkie for a wander, connecting first with Shelducks and lots of Eiders with chicks. Then a message came through that that rare bird had been seen again at Loch Spiggie. With

everyone onboard to see it, and it only being ten minutes' drive away, we whizzed over and within thirty seconds were looking through scopes at a Black-winged Pratincole. It was not what you'd call a breathtaking view, but nonetheless it was a lifer for everyone in the group.

After returning to the hotel to meet the rest of the group, who were just a wee bit jealous, we went to visit Jarlshof, the extraordinary community of different settlements of different ages, dating back almost 4000 years. It was a fascinating visit, and we could easily have spent longer there; we also enjoyed the delightful little family of Shetland Wrens hopping around within a few metres of us.

We checked out at 11.00am, and for those who'd missed the pratincole, we revisited the site, and everyone had much better views, so it was worth the minor detour. We added Moorhen and a Temminck's Stint to our lists too. Driving on to Lerwick, we collected lunch and then made our way to Wadbister. Here, we quickly scored a fantastic summer-plumaged Red-necked Grebe, and several more Red-throated Divers. A lone Northern Marsh Orchid stuck out like a sore bright purple thumb in the coastal grass.

Our final stop of the morning was near Stromfirth, where we found a pair of Whimbrels, Curlews, two amazing drumming Snipes, and a couple of micro moths, *Celypha lacunana* and *Scoparia ambigualis*. A Shetland Bumblebee and a Red Admiral were two colourful additions over lunch, before we enjoyed Round-leaved Sundew, Heath Speedwell and Eyebright in the roadside ditch.

We traversed the northern part of the island to Toft ferry terminal and made quick progress across to Yell, and then took the back road to Gutcher. We had a Merlin whizzing over the moorland, but unfortunately the view was restricted and brief. We arrived in good time on Unst and at our hotel in Baltasound.

After checklists and dinner, we took ourselves off for a walk along the shoreline. It was a lovely way to spend an hour in perfectly calm conditions. We found quite a few new plants, including Annual Sea-blite, Greater Sea-spurrey, Sea Arrowgrass and Meadow Vetchling.

## Day 6

Wednesday 25th June

### Hermaness, Norwick & Keen of Hamar

For a few in the group, we had a super short walk to the edge of Balta Sound, in very calm conditions. It was lovely to really hear the birds singing and, in some cases, displaying. Red-throated Diver was the highlight, along with a Ringed Plover along the road, which was showing extraordinary behaviour including false-brooding and the famous "broken wing" feint. Clearly knowing these were evasive actions, we made a quick pass so as not to threaten or disturb the bird.

After breakfast, we stopped at the Final Checkout en route to Hermaness National Nature Reserve; here we located a fabulously fresh Frog Orchid. At the reserve, we walked the left-hand trail to the cliffs and up to the Gannet colony. The trail was excellent, with a very well laid boardwalk for the majority of the hike. We encountered some lovely species, including Lesser Twayblade, Common Butterwort, Round-leaved Sundew, Heath Milkwort and Heath Rush. The birds were very good too, with lots of Great Skuas (despite recent depletions due to bird flu),

Lapwings, Snipes, Skylarks and a distant calling Golden Plover (which we later managed to spot). The highlight, though, was a couple of Dunlins, displaying, singing and feeding very close to the track.

Once at the top, we stood in awe of the view and the scale of the Gannet colony. The evenly- and densely-packed Gannets were busy incubating or feeding young. Fulmars cruised over too, heading for their high-rise nesting ledges.

Returning to the vehicle, we relocated to Victoria's Vintage Tea Rooms for a spot of lunch, and to enjoy the view over Harold's Wick, and then it was on to our final stop at the Keen of Hamar. This extraordinary landscape, like something from outer space, was below our feet as we wandered the desert-like serpentine grassland. We were here to see some of the remarkable plants that somehow can survive in this barren and inhospitable place. We were in luck, with a light breeze and overcast conditions, making observation a little easier.

We started off with Fairy Flax, Sea Plantain, Slender St John's-wort, Spring Squill and Lesser Clubmoss, which were all lovely; however, we were looking for a much rarer species. We were soon immersed in the stony ground as we hunted for the smallest little plants one could find. Soon we had some: Northern Rock-cress, Moss Campion, Mountain Everlasting and the amazing Moonwort. We continued searching, with some help from others on site and a few noticeboards, positioned alongside their respective plants. Early Purple and Frog Orchids were on these plaques, as well as the very rare Edmonston's Chickweed (or Shetland Mouse-ear). Our leader succeeded in finding the last species.

## Day 7

Thursday 26th June

### Fetlar & Unst

A new day dawned with overcast conditions and a forecast of showers. We had one chance to visit Fetlar, so we made our way to Belmont harbour to catch the ferry. As we had a few minutes spare, we stepped out and scanned the water and surrounding rocks. Amazingly, an adult Otter was relaxing, rolling around and generally enjoying life on the little pier. What a super start to the morning!

We crossed over to the island in blustery conditions, and headed straight up towards the airfield. We enjoyed views of Arctic Skua, Golden Plover and the head of a Whimbrel! Continuing to Loch of Funzie, we walked to the hide overlooking the pools and, although we could not see much water, we were able to enjoy several drumming Snipes, Dunlins and the brief but distinctive sound of a Water Rail. We also spotted new plants in Marsh Cinquefoil and Marsh Lousewort, as well as some Marmalade Hoverflies in the shelter of a stand of willows.

We then spent time scanning various pools and shorelines, and soon had two Red-necked Phalaropes. This amazing migrant has a sexual role-reversal, with the male undertaking the main parental responsibilities. One was feeding along the shoreline in the surf, and given that it was just twenty metres from the minibus, we had an excellent opportunity to see it in detail.

After lunch at the Fetlar Community Café, we took a final short walk at Tresta in the rain, before heading back to Unst. When we arrived, we were delighted that the light had improved, that the clouds had disappeared, and that we had gloriously sunny conditions. We headed towards Lunda Wick and spent the next couple of hours enjoying

an array of super birds in the moorland and along the shoreline, including three Great Northern Divers (one in full adult plumage).

## Day 8

Friday 27th June

### Norwick, Mavis Grind, Dury Voe & Kergord Woods

The morning started early, with a few deciding to head for Norwick for an hour before breakfast. There were a lot of birds along the shore: Common, Black-headed, Great Black-backed, Lesser Black-backed and Herring Gulls, along with three Red-throated Divers and a Great Northern in the bay too. Further inland a Swallow, Teal and an assortment of waders were also spotted, and a pair of Twites flew overhead.

After checking out of the Baltasound Hotel, we headed to Muness Castle to enjoy a little history before arriving at the ferry terminal in Belmont. Here, almost immediately, we had two more Otters resting and later feeding along the shoreline. They were a mother with her kit, and they were showing really well: another super highlight.

We drove on to Mavis Grind via Voe to collect lunch, we enjoyed the views of the North Sea and Atlantic Ocean on either side of a narrow strip of land. A Painted Lady, Northern White-tailed Bumblebee and some Sheep's-bit were the best wildlife sightings on offer here.

Our penultimate stop was along Dury Voe, where we scanned the moorland leading away from the coast, and were soon rewarded with a lone Mountain Hare working its way along the roadside. We had such a good view of it, with its white feet and tall ears.

Finishing off at Kergord Woods, we added a few further species to the trip list, including Goldcrest, Chiffchaff, Robin and Siskin, the latter including a male feeding a fledged youngster. We also enjoyed smelling the sweet fragrance of Pineappleweed.

Arriving in plenty of time at the ferry terminal in Lerwick, we boarded and enjoyed completing our checklists one final time, while having a farewell drink. A brief check from deck added Puffin, Razorbill, Fulmar and Kittiwake to a fabulous final day on Shetland.

## Day 9

Saturday 28th June

### Sailing from Lerwick to Aberdeen, return home

We had an early start and said our final goodbyes at the ferry terminal in Aberdeen, before we all headed our separate ways. For a few, we aimed for the airport, spotting Goldfinch, Magpie and Carrion Crow on the way, all new for the trip. We had enjoyed a great little adventure in these remote islands, and we went home with some super memories.

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## Species lists

Birds (H = Heard only)

E=Endemic, I=Introduced		June 2025									
Common name	Scientific name	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		
Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		
Whooper Swan	<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		
Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>					✓					
Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Mareca penelope</i>					✓					
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>		✓	✓		✓			✓		
Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>								✓		
Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>		✓		✓	✓					
Common Eider	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Long-tailed Duck	<i>Clangula hyemalis</i>		✓	✓							
Red-breasted Merganser	<i>Mergus serrator</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓					
Red Grouse - E	<i>Lagopus scotica</i>				✓						
Common Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>		✓	✓							
Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>						✓				
Feral Rock Dove - I	<i>Columba livia 'domestica'</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		
Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>			✓			✓		✓		
Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓				✓					
Water Rail	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>							H			
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>					✓		H			
Red-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps grisegena</i>					✓					
Eurasian Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
European Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>						✓	✓			
Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Eurasian Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>					✓		✓			
Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Red-necked Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>		✓					✓			
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>				✓						
Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Temminck's Stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>					✓					
Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>		✓				✓				
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>		✓	✓			✓	✓			
Black-winged Pratincole	<i>Glareola nordmanni</i>					✓					
Arctic Tern	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	✓	✓								
Black-legged Kittiwake	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		
Common Gull	<i>Larus canus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
European Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Great Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		
Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓		
Arctic Skua	<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			
Great Skua	<i>Stercorarius skua</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		

E=Endemic, I=Introduced		June 2025									
Common name	Scientific name	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
Atlantic Puffin	<i>Fratercula arctica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		
Black Guillemot	<i>Cepphus grylle</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Razorbill	<i>Alca torda</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Common Guillemot	<i>Uria aalge</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓			
Red-throated Diver	<i>Gavia stellata</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Great Northern Diver	<i>Gavia immer</i>							✓	✓		
Northern Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Manx Shearwater	<i>Puffinus puffinus</i>	✓									
Northern Gannet	<i>Morus bassanus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>			✓				✓			
European Shag	<i>Gulosus aristotelis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	✓	✓						✓		
Merlin	<i>Falco columbarius</i>					✓					
Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>									✓	
Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>				✓						
Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>									✓	
Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>		✓	✓		✓	H		✓		
Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>					✓					
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>		✓	✓		✓			✓		
Western House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>		✓								
Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>								✓		
Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>								✓		
Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>			✓	H	✓		H	✓		
Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		
Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>								H		
Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba yarrellii</i>		✓	✓				✓	✓		
Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
European Rock Pipit	<i>Anthus petrosus</i>		✓	✓			✓	✓			
Twite	<i>Linaria flavirostris</i>			✓				✓	✓		
European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>									✓	
Eurasian Siskin	<i>Spinus spinus</i>								✓		

## Mammals

D=dead		June 2025								
Common name	Scientific name	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
European Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Mountain Hare	<i>Lepus timidus</i>								✓	
Common Bottlenose Dolphin	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	✓								
Grey Seal	<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		
Harbour (Common) Seal	<i>Phoca vitulina</i>		✓	✓			✓			
Eurasian Otter	<i>Lutra lutra</i>			✓				✓	✓	
European Hedgehog	<i>Erinaceus europaeus</i>			D		D				

## Amphibians

		June 2025									
Common name	Scientific name	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
Common Frog	<i>Rana temporaria</i>			✓							

## Butterflies

		June 2025									
Common name	Scientific name	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>		✓								
Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		
Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>			✓					✓		

## Moths

		June 2025									
Common name	Scientific name	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
Bird-cherry Ermine	<i>Yponomeuta evonymella</i>					✓					
London Dowd (Large Pale Masoner)	<i>Blastobasis lacticolella</i>		✓								
Red-fringed Conch (Rusty-tipped Straw)	<i>Falseuncaria ruficiliana</i>					✓					
Common Marble	<i>Celypha lacunana</i>					✓					
Hoary Bell	<i>Eucosma cana</i>					✓					
Common Grey	<i>Scoparia ambigualis</i>					✓					
Grass Rivulet	<i>Perizoma albulata</i>		✓	✓							
Silver Y	<i>Autographa gamma</i>			✓		✓	✓				

## Other invertebrates

		June 2025									
Common name	Scientific name	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
True bugs											
a plant bug	<i>Leptopterna ferrugata</i>			✓							
Mayflies											
a mayfly	<i>Baetis</i> sp.						✓				
Flies											
a cranefly	<i>Tipula</i> sp.						✓				
Hoverflies											
Marmalade Hoverfly	<i>Episyrphus balteatus</i>							✓	✓		
Bees											
Northern White-tailed Bumblebee	<i>Bombus magnus</i>		✓						✓		
Shetland Bumblebee	<i>Bombus muscorum agricolae</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Molluscs											
Dusky Slug	<i>Arion subfuscus</i>			✓							
Arachnids											
a snout mite	<i>Odontoscirus</i> sp.			✓							

## Plants

		June 2025									
Scientific name	Common name	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
<i>Equisetum palustre</i>	Marsh Horsetail			✓				✓			
<i>Blechnum spicant</i>	Hard Fern					✓	✓				
<i>Botrychium lunaria</i>	Moonwort						✓				
<i>Polypodium vulgare</i>	Common Polypody			✓							
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Bracken						✓		✓		
<i>Acer pseudoplatanaus</i>	Sycamore			✓	✓	✓			✓		
<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>	Horse-chestnut								✓		
<i>Betula pubescens</i>	Downy Birch								✓		
<i>Carpinus betulus</i>	Hornbeam								✓		
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly								✓		
<i>Laurus nobilis</i>	Laurel								✓		
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan								✓		
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Yarrow		✓								
<i>Alchemilla</i> sp.	Lady's-mantle		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		
<i>Angelica sylvestris</i>	Wild Angelica		✓	✓		✓	✓				
<i>Antennaria dioica</i>	Mountain Everlasting						✓				
<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	Cow Parsley								✓		
<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i>	Kidney Vetch		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		
<i>Arctium lappa</i>	Greater Burdock		✓								
<i>Arenaria norvegica norvegica</i>	Norweigan Sandwort						✓	✓			
<i>Armeria maritima</i>	Thrift (Sea Pink)		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
<i>Asplenium adiantum-nigrum</i>	Black Spleenwort			✓							
<i>Atriplex prostrata</i>	Spear-leaved Orache			✓		✓					
<i>Bellis perennis</i>	Daisy		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
<i>Cakile maritima</i>	Sea Rocket		✓	✓							
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>	Heather			✓	✓		✓		✓		
<i>Caltha palustris</i>	Marsh-marigold			✓		✓					
<i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i>	Shepherd's Purse			✓							
<i>Cardamine pratensis</i>	Cuckooflower		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
<i>Cerastium nigrescens</i> var. <i>nigrescens</i>	Arctic (Edmonston's) Mouse-ear						✓	✓			
<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Creeping Thistle		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
<i>Cirsium palustre</i>	Marsh Thistle			✓							
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Spear Thistle		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓		
<i>Claytonia sibirica</i>	Pink Purslane								✓		
<i>Comarum palustre</i>	Marsh Cinquefoil							✓			
<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>	Foxglove								✓		
<i>Drosera rotundifolia</i>	Round-leaved Sundew					✓	✓				
<i>Erica cinerea</i>	Bell Heather			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		
<i>Erica tetralix</i>	Cross-leaved Heath			✓			✓	✓			
<i>Eriophorum angustifolium</i>	Common Cottongrass		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
<i>Erythranthe guttata</i>	Monkeyflower		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		
<i>Euphrasia</i> sp.	Eyebright					✓	✓				
<i>Galium saxatile</i>	Heath Bedstraw			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		
<i>Galium verum</i>	Lady's Bedstraw		✓	✓							
<i>Geranium pratense</i>	Meadow Cranesbill		✓	✓							
<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	Hogweed		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		

		June 2025									
Scientific name	Common name	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
<i>Hesperis matronalis</i>	Dame's Violet		✓	✓			✓				
<i>Honckenya peploides</i>	Sea Sandwort			✓							
<i>Hypericum pulchrum</i>	Slender St John's-wort						✓	✓			
<i>Jasione montana</i>	Sheep's-bit				✓				✓		
<i>Lamium confertum</i>	Northern Dead-nettle			✓							
<i>Lathyrus pratensis</i>	Meadow Vetchling					✓	✓				
<i>Ligusticum scoticum</i>	Scots Lovage		✓								
<i>Linum catharticum</i>	Fairy Flax						✓				
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Common Bird's-foot-trefoil		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
<i>Matricaria discoidea</i>	Pineappleweed								✓		
<i>Myosotis discolor</i>	Changing Forget-me-Not		✓								
<i>Myosotis secunda</i>	Creeping Forget-me-Not			✓							
<i>Oxalis acetosella</i>	Wood-sorrel								✓		
<i>Pedicularis palustris</i>	Marsh Lousewort							✓			
<i>Pedicularis sylvatica</i>	Lousewort			✓	✓	✓					
<i>Pilosella aurantiaca</i>	Orange Hawkweed		✓	✓	✓						
<i>Pinguicula vulgaris</i>	Common Butterwort			✓			✓				
<i>Plantago coronopus</i>	Buck's-horn Plantain					✓					
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort Plantain		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			
<i>Plantago major</i>	Greater Plantain			✓							
<i>Plantago maritima</i>	Sea Plantain		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			
<i>Polygala serpyllifolia</i>	Heath Milkwort						✓				
<i>Potamogeton polygonifolius</i>	Bog Pondweed			✓			✓				
<i>Potentilla anserina</i>	Silverweed		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
<i>Potentilla erecta</i>	Tormentil		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	Self-heal			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	Meadow Buttercup		✓	✓				✓			
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Creeping Buttercup		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		
<i>Reynoutria japonica</i>	Japanese Knotweed								✓		
<i>Rhinanthus minor</i>	Yellow-rattle		✓	✓			✓	✓			
<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	Common Sorrel		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		
<i>Rumex crispus</i>	Curled Dock					✓		✓			
<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	Broad-leaved Dock			✓							
<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>	Common Ragwort			✓	✓						
<i>Senecio vulgaris</i>	Common Groundsel								✓		
<i>Silene acaulis</i>	Moss Campion						✓	✓			
<i>Silene dioica</i>	Red Campion		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
<i>Silene flos-cuculi</i>	Ragged-Robin			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
<i>Silene uniflora</i>	Sea Campion		✓	✓			✓		✓		
<i>Stellaria media</i>	Common Chickweed		✓	✓	✓	✓					
<i>Suaeda maritima</i>	Annual Sea-blite					✓					
<i>Taraxacum officinale</i> agg.	Dandelion					✓			✓		
<i>Thymus drucei</i>	Wild Thyme		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Red Clover		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White Clover		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
<i>Tripleurospermum maritimum</i>	Sea Mayweed		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
<i>Tussilago farfara</i>	Colt's-foot			✓							
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Common Nettle		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		

		June 2025									
Scientific name	Common name	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
<i>Veronica officinalis</i>	Heath Speedwell					✓					
<i>Vicia cracca</i>	Tufted Vetch		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
<i>Viola riviniana</i>	Common Dog-violet							✓			
<i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>	Bluebell								✓		
<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	Yellow Iris		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
<i>Scilla verna</i>	Spring Squill				✓		✓				
<i>Triglochin maritima</i>	Seaside Arrowgrass					✓					
<i>Dactylorhiza maculata</i>	Heath Spotted Orchid			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		
<i>Dactylorhiza purpurella</i>	Northern Marsh Orchid		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
<i>Dactylorhiza viridis</i>	Frog Orchid						✓				
<i>Listera cordata</i>	Lesser Twayblade						✓				
<i>Orchis mascula</i>	Early Purple Orchid						✓				
<i>Juncus squarrosus</i>	Heath Rush						✓				
<i>Juncus effusus</i>	Soft Rush								✓		
<i>Alopecurus pratensis</i>	Meadow Foxtail						✓				
<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	Sweet Vernal Grass					✓					
<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>	False Oat-grass					✓					
<i>Cynosurus cristatus</i>	Crested Dog's-tail					✓		✓			
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Cocksfoot					✓					
<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Yorkshire Fog			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
<i>Carex flacca</i>	Glaucous Sedge						✓				
<i>Carex oederi</i>	Small-fruited Yellow Sedge						✓				



Mountain Hare