Islay & Jura in Summer

Naturetrek Tour Report

11th - 18th June 2023



Northern Marsh Orchids



Dark Green Fritillary



Feral Goats on the Oa



Twite

Tour report & Images by Jessica Turner



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Summary

This year we enjoyed hot and sunny weather for all except the last day, when grey skies were almost a relief! The weather was impacting the wildlife in that everywhere was very dry, but we were able to enjoy the land- and seascapes at their very best. It was wonderful to see plenty of Hen Harriers and the White-tailed Eagle, as well as the Cuckoos on Jura, with the numbers of European Hares and both Harbour and Atlantic Grey Seals were also a joy. A particular treat on the mammal front was the Minke Whale on the return boat crossing. We were able to accommodate the varied interests of the group, enjoying each other's company for an excellent and relaxed week on Islay and Jura.

Day 1

Monday 12th June

Glasgow - Kennacraig - Port Askaig - Port Ellen

One group member met Jessica at Gilmour Street Station and another two met us at a hotel by the airport. We then headed north-west, over the Erskine Bridge and up the west side of Loch Lomond, mirror calm with Ben Lomond behind. At Tarbert we turned west, past Loch Long and the over the 'Rest and be thankful' down to Loch Fyne, where the road runs along the water's edge. We stopped in Inveraray, where Swallows and House Martins swooped overhead, Oystercatchers were on the shore, and we saw the differences between Herring Gull and Common Gull. We collected the other two group members from Stonesfield Castle Hotel, north of Tarbert (a different one!), where they reported having seen dolphins in the loch earlier.

We reached Kennacraig at 4.45pm, ready for our 6pm sailing, so had plenty of time to explore and enjoy the hot afternoon sun. A pair of European Rock Pipits had a nest in the boulders edging the pier; they were carrying food and were close to us and quite agitated, so we gave them more space. The tide was low. There were several families of Greylag Geese with goslings of different ages, some being escorted to the sea, and a Grey Heron was fishing. We boarded the 'Isle of Arran' ferry (serving this route while the regular ferry is under repair) and were able to stand at on the front upper deck as we sailed down Loch Tarbert and out to sea. Several Black Guillemots were on the sea loch, as well as a number of male Common Eider. Near the mouth of the loch Harbour Seals were hauled out and we also saw several swimming in the very calm sea. A number of Northern Gannets flew past or were resting, and we also saw European Shag, Common Guillemot and Black-legged Kittiwakes.

We landed at Port Askaig at about 8pm and drove across the island to Bridgend, taking the back road over to Port Ellen. A Roe Deer and several European Hares were seen en route. We arrived at No. 1, Charlotte Street hotel, our base for the week, and settled in to our rooms. Most then enjoyed the lovely evening, exploring the village and the bay, with the sun not setting until after 10pm.

Day 2

Tuesday 13th June

RSPB Loch Gruinart, Killinallan

We woke to a beautiful morning and enjoyed unbroken sunshine all day, with temperatures reaching 28°C – on Islay! After a delicious breakfast, and having bought our picnics, we set out at 9am. We took the back road to Bridgend, seeing several Hares and then a male Hen Harrier, which flew across the road in front of us, near the road to Duich Lots. We were able to pull in and watch it across the hillside. Excellent! We drove round the top end of Loch Indaal, seeing a pair of Common Shelduck on the beach, before taking the road across the island to Loch Gruinart, seeing another male Hen Harrier and a Roe Deer on the flats. We stopped at the visitor centre to use the facilities, then parked at the beginning of the trails.

We took the Woodland Trail, listening to Common Chaffinch, Willow Warbler and Wren amongst the other birds, and noting Eared Willow (Salix aurita) and Hazel (Corylus avellana) amongst the shrubs. The path led down towards a hide and en route we found Dame's Violet (Hesperis matronalis), Cuckooflower (Cardamine pratensis), deep purple Northern Marsh Orchids (Dactylorhiza purpurella) and a spike of Common Spotted Orchid (Dactylorhiza fuchsii). A Red Admiral posed nicely, and we also saw a couple of Blue-tailed Damselflies. From the hide we saw Northern Lapwing, Common Redshank, Common Oystercatcher, Mute Swan and Greylag Geese with goslings, while Common Snipe was heard drumming and seen briefly in flight. Swallows were feeding low over the fields and right up to the hide.

We walked back to the trail, seeing and hearing Common Whitethroat singing on a wire and a Wren on the top of a Gorse bush (*Ulex europaeus*). Under the trees the ferns were lush, mainly Male-fern and Scaly Male-fern, and there was a large patch of Pick-a-back Plant (*Tolmeia menziesii*), native to the north-west USA. A family of Robins and Song Thrush were on the path. From the second hide we could see House Martins collecting mud from the edge of the pool just outside. All the waders rose in flight, giving alarm calls as a young White-tailed Eagle flew past, being mobbed by Oystercatchers and Lapwings. We also saw a Common Buzzard moving from fence post to post, again being mobbed by Lapwings. A Sedge Warbler carrying food sat on a fence next to a family of young House Sparrows before dropping into the rushes nearby.

We walked up to the road, seeing a large patch of Heath Spotted Orchids (*Dactylorhiza maculata* subsp. *ericetorum*) beyond the fence, and Water-cress (*Nasturtium officinale*) and Creeping Forget-me-not (*Myosotis secunda*) in the roadside ditch. Willow Warbler sang from a wire. We then saw two male Hen Harriers fly past, flying parallel to each other – possibly a bit of a stand-off? Eventually they separated and flew in different directions. We returned to the visitor centre where we ate our picnic inside, where it was slightly cooler, and watched the Swallows and House Martins going to their nests.

We then drove along the east side of Loch Gruinart to Killinallan, seeing a Northern Wheatear on the beach, and a Swan family and a Pied Wagtail family in a small river. Several Eider ducks with ducklings were offshore: they often congregate together and form creches of youngsters. We stopped at the end of the public road, taking a

footpath down towards the shore. A male Stonechat was glimpsed by some, and we also noted Heath Spotted Orchids and Common Cotton-grass (*Eriophorum angustifolium*) closer than earlier. The foreshore at the top of the loch was pink with Thrift (*Armeria maritima*), and there was a fair amount on the shore where we walked, along with Common Scurvygrass (*Cochlearia officinalis*). Oystercatchers and a Common Redshank were giving alarm calls and we got to see the Redshank clearly, but we didn't linger but moved on. We were struck by the quantity of small crab shells among the seaweed, showing how this is a rich feeding ground for birds. A flotilla of Red-breasted Mergansers was far out in the loch, hard to see in the heat haze, but Atlantic Grey Seals were closer in, with a line of heads showing above the water. Suddenly one began to 'sing' loudly and we could hear the breathing and other noises as well. The colours of the sea, sand and sky were very beautiful.

We walked north along the top of the shore until we reached a herd of cows with calves on the shore, so we diverted slightly to a small, sandy hillock. On here we found a tiny Pyramidal Orchid (Anacamptis pyramidalis) in bud and a slightly larger specimen in flower. There was also Wild Thyme (Thymus polytrichus subsp. brittanicus), Lady's Bedstraw (Galium verum), Common Milkwort (Polygala vulgaris) and Burnet Rose (Rosa pimpinellifolia), just growing a few inches tall. It was very hot, so we made our way gently back, finding in a marshy area some going-over, salmon-coloured Early Marsh Orchids (Dactylorhiza incarnata) and what was probably a hybrid between Northern Marsh Orchid and Heath-spotted Orchid (Dactylorhiza x formosa), as welk as both parent species. There was also some Marsh Marigold (Caltha palustris) in flower, and Large Heath butterfly (forma scotica) was seen. The Redshank seemed less concerned as we walked back, and the seal sang again. As we started to drive back, another male Hen Harrier (probably one of the birds we had seen earlier) flew along the ridge to our side, before dipping down and being lost to view.

We returned via Bowmore and a lochan filled with White Water-lilies (*Nymphaea alba*). We were feeling the heat rather, so appreciated the couple of hours to rest and revive ourselves. We met at 6.15pm in the hotel garden by the beach, to discuss the day and update our checklists, before walking the short distance to the SeaSalt Bistro for dinner. We walked back via the harbour and the beach, enjoying the evening sun, after an excellent first day in the field.

Day 3

Wednesday 14th June

The Oa; South-east of Islay

We woke to another beautiful morning, with clear blue skies and unbroken sunshine all day, and a few degrees cooler than yesterday: 22°C the high, generally. After another delicious breakfast, we set off to visit the Oa, the rocky headland on the south of the island. We turned off by Port Ellen Maltings and made our way slowly along the narrow roads, with lots of Meadow Pipits on fence posts and a Hare being seen. It was very windy on the Oa, not ideal for birds or butterflies, but very exhilarating. We followed the path towards the American Monument, which commemorates the loss of hundreds of American servicemen when two troop carriers were lost off Islay in 1918. In a sheltered dip, a very fresh Dark Green Fritillary was basking on the path and a Sedge Warbler was doing parachuting display flights out of the Hemlock Water-dropwort and low scrub. The moorland was much drier than

usual, and we found two insectivorous species: Common Butterwort (*Pinguicula vulgaris*), with purple flowers, and Round-leaved Sundew (*Drosera rotundifolia*), in bud, as well as Star Sedge (*Carex echinata*), Bog-asphodel (*Narthecium ossifragum*) with one spike of yellow flowers, and Bog Pondweed (with the lovely scientific name *Potamogeton polygonifolius*). The views from the monument were stunning, and we could see Rathlin Island and the Antrim coast. Good numbers of Gannets were passing, and we could see an area of fishing activity, with their dramatic dives. A couple of Fulmars showed briefly just below, before disappearing round the cliffs – and it was not a day to go too near to the edge to look over! The cliffs were starred with Thrift, pale-pink English Stonecrop (*Sedum anglicum*) and patches of Bird's-foot Trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*). We continued on the loop walk, passing the herd of feral Goats and seeing a Wheatear being blown down the wind.

Back at the car park, we ate our picnic at the tables provided, watching a pair of Twite on the feeders, along with Goldfinches and a very smart male Linnet. We then drove back, stopping at a road verge to look at some spikes of white Lesser Butterfly Orchids (*Platanthera bifolia*), along with a mass of the deep purple Northern Marsh Orchids. A smart male Stonechat was on an overhead line. We returned to the hotel for to use the facilities, grab a coffee and change footwear etc.

This afternoon we explored the south-east of the island, taking the road past Laphroaig, Lagavulin and Ardbeg distilleries. This area is more wooded, with Sycamore, Hazel and Willow predominating, with sheltered little rocky inlets and bays. We stopped at Loch an t-Sailein, where Harbour Seals were hauled out on rocky islets and swimming in the mirror-calm water: a contrast to the Oa! We next visited Kildalton Cross, a very fine 8th-century carved Celtic cross in an old churchyard. Many ferns were growing on the church walls: Maidenhair Spleenwort (Asplenium trichomanes), Black Spleenwort (A. adiantum-nigrum) and Hart's-tongue (A. scolopendrium) and Common Polypody (Polypodium vulgare). A Yellowhammer was singing from the top of a bush.

We continued gently to the roads end at Claggain Bay, where we walked down to the shingle shore by a little stream. A Common Sandpiper was on the shingle bar, flying up the stream out of sight, then reappearing, and later we saw two birds together. There was also a pair of Common Ringed Plovers on the beach, as well as the ubiquitous Oystercatchers. It was a beautiful afternoon, and the bay was, again, very sheltered, so we spent time just sitting on the beach looking across to the Mull of Kintyre with the hills of Arran beyond. Some of the group paddled, finding the shallow water relatively warm (by Scottish standards!). Eventually we had to retrace our steps, seeing a couple of Fallow Deer en route back.

After a break, we met again in the hotel garden to update our lists. This evening we ate at the Balaclava Byre, a new restaurant attached to a farm on the edge of Port Ellen, where the food was excellent.

Day 4

Thursday 15th June

Kilchoman/ Machir Bay; Ardnave; Loch Gorm area

This morning was again warm and sunny, with unbroken blue skies all day. Two of the group were booked on the 10am tour of Kilchoman Distillery, in the north-west of the island, and while they were there, the rest of us drove on to the coast at Machir Bay. Stonechats and Wheatears were flitting around the short grass and on the fence posts and a Buzzard circled over the hill. A stream nearby was white with Ivy-leaved Water-crowfoot (Ranunculus hederaceus) and we heard a plop as presumably a Frog jumped in. We soon located a rather distant pair of Red-billed Chough and they and more birds then flew into the field nearby, giving some lovely views. Later, as we were leaving, we saw a flock of at least 20 of them. The bay was stunningly beautiful, with turquoise sea and white sand, deserted apart from Jonathan who walked down to the water's edge, and Skylarks were singing overhead. We returned to the distillery to pick up the others, who had very much enjoyed their fascinating tour.

We moved on, driving round Loch Gorm to reach the road over the hills that leads to Gruinart, where we turned north to the end of the Ardnave road. A pair and a group of three male Tufted Duck were on Loch Nave, and we saw Amphibious Bistort (*Persicaria amphibia*) flowering in the shallows. We set off along the sandy track to walk to the point. Sand Martins were flying all around, and youngsters were lined up on fence wires demanding food. The area was exceedingly dry, testament to the drought and hot sun that is causing problems for the local farmers with lack of grass for animals, and also affecting the wildlife. We noted Sand Sedge (*Carex arenaria*), and the Lady's Bedstraw was coming into flower. There were very few visible insects, but a couple of Small Heath butterflies flew past, and a Common Blue was glimpsed. A family of Ravens were around, sometimes getting mobbed by Lapwings, and we saw several Rabbits. When we reached the point, we ate our picnic overlooking Nave Island opposite. Greylag Geese were on the far shore, along with Common, Herring and Great Black-backed Gulls, and a few Arctic Terns flew past. Several Atlantic Grey Seals were in the water, and we had seen a large group hauled out on a decreasing sand bank at the mouth of Loch Gruinart, while Gannets were out to sea. Colonsay was visible with Mull showing in the distant haze.

When we returned to the minibus, we made our way back vis another brief stop at the RSPB centre and a stop in Bowmore for the Post Office. We then took the minor road north to re-join the high road, from which we had good views of a female Hen Harrier, near where we had previously seen the male. We were all fairly tired with the heat and were booked in for an earlier dinner at the Lochside Hotel in Bowmore this evening, so we met again at 6pm to drive back there along the low road. The restaurant was busy, but we enjoyed the views across the calm waters of Loch Indaal.

This evening we headed out afterwards, to enjoy the evening in the Loch Gorm area, listening for, but sadly not hearing, Corn Crake. We drove back to Gruinart, seeing several Hares, a Red Deer in a meadow and families of Rabbits with maybe a quarter of the young ones being black. We then carried on over towards Loch Gorm. As we drove along the side of the loch, we had lovely extended views of a female Hen Harrier as she hunted, circled calling, and landed on a hillock. She probably had chicks somewhere nearby. We stopped near the Kilchoman

Distillery, at a Nettle patch where Corn Crake had been recorded in a previous year, but there was no sign tonight. However, a Curlew was calling in the field, later joined by a second bird, Sedge Warbler was seen and heard, and a Grasshopper Warbler could be heard reeling. There was enough breeze to keep most of the midges away. From this point we could see the sun over the sea beyond the loch, so we decided to stay there to watch the sunset. It was very magical, watching the fiery ball descend, with the soundtrack of Curlews, Swallows and other birds, and a Roe Deer barking. Eventually the sun dropped below the sea, but it left a line of fire on the horizon as its rays were refracted the cool air over the water; this lasted for a further 10 - 15 minutes before it faded. It was by now about 10.30pm, so time to head back across the island as the sunset colours deepened and became more intense. As we were on the high road towards Port Ellen, in the fading light, we saw a herd of maybe 30 Red Deer hinds just by the road. We arrived back at about 11.15pm, tired but very satisfied after a lovely evening.

Day 5 Friday 16th June

Jura

Another beautiful morning greeted us, as we headed today for an exploration of Jura. We left at 9am, arriving at Port Askaig in good time for the 10am ferry across the narrow Sound. We drove slowly along the single island road, enjoying especially the magnificent spikes of Foxgloves (*Digitalis purpurea*) along the verges, with occasional white ones standing out. A bird with pointed wings flew across the road and perched on a distant fence, but could easily be identified as a Cuckoo, and it was soon joined by a second bird: a joy to have good views of this species which is increasingly hard to see further south. Common Buzzard circled above.

In Craighouse we stopped to scan the bay, enjoy the village and have morning coffee. It was all very quiet apart from a few Cormorants fishing, the usual gulls and Oystercatchers and some distant Arctic Terns. A sea-plane flew in and landed at the pier: apparently day trips are now run to Jura from Loch Lomond. We moved on north, enjoying the wild scenery. Two fire engines passed us at speed, and we saw them parked at Tarbert. We later learned that there was a wildfire on the west coast but although the fire brigade attended, they couldn't access the area and the men couldn't leave the engines, so local farmers and gamekeepers with Argocats were fighting it. Caused by campers, it was dealt with before it became too extensive. We drove on to Ardlussa, where we had out picnic under the trees by the little river, where the water level was noticeably low. A Sparrowhawk shot along the stream, and later was seen to fly up from there and across a field; probably it had been feeding on its catch. A young Common Sandpiper was calling from a boulder, eventually being joined by an adult. We also had a brief view of a male Hen Harrier; surprisingly, the only one of the day. We then visited the Lussa Gin Distillery, in a barn at the farm. It was interesting to see a tray of used 'botanicals' outside, the Juniper berries and Pine needles being most identifiable. The owner showed us the 15 'botanicals' they use, including Honeysuckle, Rose, Water Mint and Lemon Balm, all grown locally.

We started to retrace our route, stopping at Croig to walk down to the little jetty. Along the path we saw a Dark Green Fritillary and a Cinnabar moth, a family of Stonechats was on the fence, and Greylag Geese and Oystercatchers in the field. Another Common Sandpiper was on a rock and there were kayakers in the bay. Further

on we saw another Cuckoo on an overhead wire, and got clear views of it, and closer to hand, a large Goldenringed Dragonfly flew past the minibus, carrying prey in its powerful jaws. As it was so hot, we were pleased to stop for an ice cream in Craighouse, before making our way back to the ferry. There were too many vehicles for one journey, so we had to wait for the ferry to do a second run, during which time we chatted to the farmer from Ardlussa. We learnt from him that some of the White-tailed Eagles (six pairs on Jura) had lost their chicks to Avian Flu, and that the White-tailed are out-competing Golden Eagles, with young birds not staying.

We got back to the hotel at 5.50pm, meeting in the garden at 6.50 to discuss the day, before walking to the SeaSalt Bistro for dinner. It was apparent this evening that the weather was starting to change, with more cloud in the sky.

Day 6

Saturday 17th June

Islay Woollen Mill; Ballygrant Woods; Finlaggan

It rained overnight and was raining again in the morning, although not too heavily, and it was still mild. After breakfast, we opted for a 10am departure, with our first stop being Islay Woollen Mill on the River Sorn. Here there were Grey Wagtails collecting food on the river, obviously feeding nestlings, but we could not locate any Dippers today. Round the corner were bird feeders which were alive with small birds: Siskins, families of Great Tits, Coal Tits, Goldfinches, Chaffinches and Greenfinch, as well as Dunnock, Robin, House Sparrow and Blackbird. It was lovely to have such good views of the Siskins, especially. Some of the group looked round the mill and made purchases.

We then moved on to Ballygrant Woods, parking in the village and walking down the lane to the entrance track. Here we noted various new plant species, including Enchanter's Nightshade (Circaea lutetiana), Wild Strawberry (Fragaria vesca), Common Dog Violet (Viola riviniana) and Common Twayblade (Neottia ovata). Common Spotted Orchids (Dactylorbiza fuchsii) were abundant along the track edge, and Slender St. John's-wort (Hypericum pulchrum) was in flower. We looked at Hard Fern (Blechnum spicant), with its different fertile fronds, and also Hart's-tongue Fern (Asplenium scolopendrium) with developing sporangia (spore-cases) on the undersides of the fronds. We also appreciated the abundant mosses and lichens carpeting the rocks and trees. A Little Grebe was on the far side of Loch Grant and a Common Sandpiper was closer. It was not really the weather for insects, but we watched Common Carder Bees and a Northern White-tailed Bumblebee continuing to feed on the Foxgloves, appreciating the shelter of the bells. As another shower started, we retraced our steps, heading towards a café in Ballygrant for lunch. Susan spotted a Eurasian Treecreeper, and we were able to watch it climbing several tree trunks in search of food. Along the lane we noted what appeared to be Hybrid Geum (Geum x intermedia, a hybrid between Water Avens Geum rivale and Wood Avens G. urbanum) with smaller yellow-pink flowers compared with pure Water Avens. We also recorded yellow Meadow Vetchling (Lathyrus pratensis) and pale-blue Water Speedwell (Veronica anagallis-aquatica). In the café we enjoyed panini and really excellent cakes.

The rain had stopped when we emerged, so we drove the short distance to Loch Finlaggan, the ancient seat of the Lords of The Isles. The visitor centre was open, and we received a brief historical summary of the site before

walking down to the islands. From the broadwalk we saw abundant Marsh Cinquefoil (Comarum palustre), true Water Avens (Geum rivale), Purple-loosestrife (Lythrum salicaria) and White Water-lily (Nymphaea alba), as well as a female Common Hawker and a Golden-ringed Dragonfly. A Cuckoo was calling from the trees, the first we'd actually heard! On the island are the ruins of the main hall of the Lords, with the second, Council Island actually being an artificial Crannog. Due to the low water levels in the loch, the normally submerged causeway between the islands was partially visible. Two similar coloured birds near the far shore were a Little Grebe and a female Tufted Duck, while a Common Sandpiper sat on a fencepost. As we were returning, we had great views of a male Whinchat, perched on a clump of Heather and then on grass stalks. We also saw another male Hen Harrier from the minibus and watched it hunting over the rush pasture. We took the back road down via Mulindry, seeing a female Hen Harrier and Oystercatchers and Lapwings on eye-level hillocks, and a Curlew on a wall.

After a break we met to update our lists, this time in the hotel lounge. For our last evening, we were back at the Balaclava Byre, where we enjoyed another excellent meal and discussed our favourite parts of the very enjoyable week.

Day 7 Sunday 18th June

Port Ellen – Kennacraig and onward journeys

The 9.45am ferry had been changed from Port Askaig to Port Ellen, so we were able to have a leisurely start, leaving at 9am for the five-minute journey to the harbour. We enjoyed a final delicious breakfast and thanked the staff for looking after us so well. The morning was grey and calm, with a short shower as we set off, but otherwise dry. We were sailing on "The Lord of the Isles", which only has a backwards-facing Observation Deck, but we made the most of it. We could see Harbour Seals hauled out on rocks, a few Black Guillemots in the water and lines of Shags drying their wings. As we moved further out from land, we started to see Manx Shearwaters, passing several enormous rafts totalling maybe a couple of hundred birds resting on the water, as well as seeing scattered ones in flight. We also saw good numbers of Gannets, some very close, plus Kittiwakes, Common Guillemots and a couple of Razorbills. However, the highlight of the crossing was when a Minke Whale breached close to the ferry, and we saw it surface several more times before it was lost to view. As we entered Loch Tarbert, we could see a couple of distant Great Northern Divers, as well as many resting Harbour Seals, Canada and Greylag Geese and the other familiar species.

We docked on time, driving to the Stonefield Castle, where we said our goodbyes to John and Viv, who had left their car there. The rest of us continued to Glasgow, with a brief stop at Arrochar on Loch Long, where a group of Red-breasted Mergansers were close by. Jonathan was dropped in Paisley and the others in Glasgow, where they were staying a few days. We all agreed that we had been exceptionally fortunate with the weather and had enjoyed some of the best of Islay and Jura in summer.



Cows at Killinallan

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Species lists

Birds (H = Heard only)

		June 2023							
Common name	Scientific name	12 13 14			15 16		17	18	
Canada Goose	Branta canadensis	√							
Greylag Goose	Anser anser	√	√	√	✓	√	√	√	
Mute Swan	Cygnus olor	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
Common Shelduck	Tadorna tadorna	√	√	√	✓	√		√	
Mallard	Anas platyrhynchos		√		√	√		√	
Tufted Duck	Aythya fuligula				√		√		
Common Eider	Somateria mollissima	√	√	√	√	√		√	
Red-breasted Merganser	Mergus serrator		√			√		√	
Common Swift	Apus apus		√	√	√	√	√		
Common Cuckoo	Cuculus canorus					√	√		
Rock Dove	Columba livia	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
Rock Dove (feral)	Columba livia (feral)	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
Common Wood Pigeon	Columba palumbus	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
Common Moorhen	Gallinula chloropus		√						
Little Grebe	Tachybaptus ruficollis				√		√		
Eurasian Oystercatcher	Haematopus ostralegus	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
Northern Lapwing	Vanellus vanellus		√		√	√	√		
Common Ringed Plover	Charadrius hiaticula			√	√	1			
Eurasian Curlew	Numenius arquata				√		√		
Dunlin	Calidris alpina				√				
Common Snipe	Gallinago gallinago		Н		√				
Common Sandpiper	Actitis hypoleucos			√		√	√		
Common Redshank	Tringa totanus		√						
Black-legged Kittiwake	Rissa tridactyla	√						√	
Black-headed Gull	Chroicocephalus		√		√	√			
O (M) O !!	ridibundus								
Common (Mew) Gull	Larus canus	✓	√	√	√	✓	√	✓	
Great Black-backed Gull	Larus marinus	√			√	√			
European Herring Gull	Larus argentatus	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Lesser Black-backed Gull	Larus fuscus	√	✓	✓	✓	√	✓	✓	
Arctic Tern	Sterna paradisaea				✓	✓			
Common Guillemot (Murre)	Uria aalge	✓						✓	
Razorbill	Alca torda	√						√	
Black Guillemot	Cepphus grylle	√						√	
Great Northern Diver	Gavia immer					√		√	
Northern Fulmar	Fulmarus glacialis			√					
Manx Shearwater	Puffinus puffinus							√	
Northern Gannet	Morus bassanus	√		√	√	√		√	
European Shag	Gulosus aristotelis	√	√	√	√	√		√	
Great Cormorant	Phalacrocorax carbo	√				√	√	√	
Grey Heron	Ardea cinerea	· √	√	√	√		-	<u> </u>	

		June 2023						
Common name	Scientific name	12	13	14	14 15 16			18
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	Accipiter nisus					✓		
Hen Harrier	Circus cyaneus		✓		✓	✓	✓	
White-tailed Eagle	Haliaeetus albicilla		✓					
Common Buzzard	Buteo buteo	✓	✓			✓	√	
Red-billed Chough	Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax				✓			
Western Jackdaw	Coloeus monedula	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	√	
Rook	Corvus frugilegus		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Carrion Crow	Corvus corone	✓						
Hooded Crow	Corvus cornix	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Northern Raven	Corvus corax			✓	✓	✓		
Coal Tit	Periparus ater						√	
Eurasian Blue Tit	Cyanistes caeruleus						Н	
Great Tit	Parus major						√	
Eurasian Skylark	Alauda arvensis		√	√	√	√	√	
Sand Martin	Riparia riparia		√		√			
Barn Swallow	Hirundo rustica	√	√	√	√	√	√	
Common House Martin	Delichon urbicum	√	√	√	√	√	√	
Willow Warbler	Phylloscopus trochilus		√	Н	Н		√	
Sedge Warbler	Acrocephalus		√	√	√		√	
0	scoenobaenus							
Common Grasshopper Warbler	Locustella naevia				Н			
Eurasian Blackcap	Sylvia atricapilla						Н	
Common Whitethroat	Curruca communis		√		Н			
Goldcrest	Regulus regulus					Н		
Eurasian Wren	Troglodytes troglodytes		√	Н	Н	√	√	
Eurasian Treecreeper	Certhia familiaris						✓	
Common Starling	Sturnus vulgaris	√	√	√	√	√	√	
Song Thrush	Turdus philomelos	√	√	√	√	√	√	
Mistle Thrush	Turdus viscivorus						√	
Common Blackbird	Turdus merula	√	√	√	√	√	√	
Spotted Flycatcher	Muscicapa striata			√			Н	
European Robin	Erithacus rubecula		√	√		√	√	
Whinchat	Saxicola rubetra						√	
European Stonechat	Saxicola rubicola		√	√	√	√	√	
Northern Wheatear	Oenanthe oenanthe		√	√	√			
House Sparrow	Passer domesticus	√	√	√	√	√	√	
Dunnock	Prunella modularis		√			Н	√	
Grey Wagtail	Motacilla cinerea						√	
Pied Wagtail	Motacilla alba yarrellii	√	√	√	√	√	√	
Meadow Pipit	Anthus pratensis		√	√	√	√	√	
European Rock Pipit	Anthus petrosus	√	√					
Common Chaffinch	Fringilla coelebs	Н	√	√	√	√	√	
European Greenfinch	Carduelis chloris	Н	Н				· √	
Twite	Linaria flavirostris			√			-	

		June 2023							
Common name	Scientific name	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
Common Linnet	Linaria cannabina			✓	✓	✓			
European Goldfinch	Carduelis carduelis		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Eurasian Siskin	Spinus spinus						✓		
Yellowhammer	Emberiza citrinella			✓					
Common Reed Bunting	Emberiza schoeniclus				✓				

Mammals

		June 2023							
Common name	Scientific name	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
European Rabbit	Oryctolagus cuniculus				✓		✓		
European Hare	Lepus europaeus	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Field Vole	Myodes agrestis (fiona)				√				
Red Deer	Cervus elaphus				✓	✓	✓		
Fallow Deer	Dama dama			✓					
Roe Deer	Capreolus capreolus	✓	✓		✓				
Feral Goat	Capra aegagrus hircus			✓					
Bat sp.					✓				
Harbour Seal	Phoca vitulina	✓		✓		✓		✓	
Grey Seal	Halichoerus grypus		√		√				
Minke Whale	Balaenoptera acutorostrata							✓	

Butterflies & Moths (D = Dead)

		June 2023						
Common name	Scientific name	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Large White	Pieris brassicae		√					
Green-veined White	Pieris napi		√	√	√	√	√	
Small White	Pieris rapae		√					
Common Blue	Polyommatus icarus				√	√		
Red Admiral	Vanessa atalanta		√	√	√	√		
Dark Green Fritillary	Speyeria aglaja			√		√		
Meadow Brown	Maniola jurtina					√		
Small Heath	Coenonympha pamphilus		√	√		√		
Large Heath	Coenonympha tullia f. scotica		√					
Grass Moth	Crambidae				√			
Cinnabar	Tyria jacobaeae		√	D		√		
Silver-Y	Autographa gamma		√					

Other Invertebrates

Blue-tailed Damselfly Common Hawker Golden-ringed Dragonfly Highland Midge Greenbottle Fly Cleg Fly Ischnura elegans Aeshna juncea Cordulegaster boltomii Culicoides impunctatus Lucilia sp. Haematopota sp. Honey Bee Buff-tailed Bumble-bee N. White-tailed Bumble-bee Common Carder Bee Great Black Slug Apis mellifera
Bombus terrestris
Bombus magnus
Bombus pascuorum
Arion ater

Plants

(Nomenclature follows the New Flora of the British Isles (4th edition) by Clive Stace)

Scientific Name	Common Name	Day	Location
PTERIDOPHYTES	FERNS & ALLIES		
Equisetaceae	Horsetail Family		
Equisetum arvense	Field Horsetail	2	Loch Gruinart
Equisetum fluviatile	Water Horsetail	2	Loch Gruinart
Aspleniaceae	Spleenwort Family		
Asplenium adiantum-nigrum	Black Spleenwort	3	Kildalton Church
Asplenium ceterach	Rustyback		Talidation Ondron
Asplenium marinum	Sea Spleenwort		
Asplenium ruta-muraria	Wall-rue		
Asplenium scolopendrium	Hart's-tongue	3	Kildalton Church
Asplenium trichomanes	Maidenhair Spleenwort	3	Kildalton Church
Blechnaceae	Hard-fern Family		
Blechnum spicant	Hard-fern	7	Ballygrant Woods
-1	-		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
Dennstaedtiaceae	Bracken Family		
Pteridium aquilinum	Bracken	2	Loch Gruinart
Dryopteridaceae	Buckler-fern Family		
Dryopteris affinis	Scaly Male-fern	2	Loch Gruinart
Dryopteris filix-mas	Male-fern	2	Loch Gruinart
Polypodiaceae	Polypody Family		
Polypodium vulgare agg.	Common Polypody	3	Kildalton Church
GYMNOSPERMS	CONIFERS		
Pinaceae	Pine Family		
Picea abies subsp. abies	Norway Spruce	7	Ballygrant Woods
Pinus sylvestris	Scots Pine	5	Jura
0/11000110	333.6		2313
Taxaceae	Yew Family		
Taxus baccata	Yew	7	Ballygrant Woods
ANGIOSPERMS	FLOWERING PLANTS		
Pre-Dicots	Primitive Dicotyledons		
Nymphaeaceae	Water-lily Family		
Nymphaea alba	White Water-lily	2	Near Bowmore

Scientific Name	Common Name	Day	Location
Eu-Dicots	True Dicotyledons		
Apiaceae	Carrot Family		
Aegopodium podragaria	Ground-elder	7	Ballygrant Woods
Angelica sylvestris	Wild Angelica	2	Loch Gruinart (leaves)
Anthriscus sylvestris	Cow Parsley	2	Loch Gruinart
Conopodium majus	Pignut	3	The Oa
Heracleum sphondylium	Hogweed	7	Finlaggan
Oenanthe crocata	Hemlock Water-dropwort	2	Widespread
Sanicula europaea	Sanicle	7	Ballygrant Woods
Araliaceae	Ivy Family		
Hedera helix	Ivy Family	7	Islay Woollen Mill
Asteraceae (Compositae)	Daisy Family		
Bellis perennis	Daisy	2	Loch Gruinart
Centaurea nigra	Common Knapweed	3	The Oa
Cirsium arvense	Creeping Thistle	7	Ballygrant
Cirsium palustre	Marsh Thistle	2	Loch Gruinart
Cirsium vulgare	Spear Thistle	2	Loch Gruinart
Jacobaea vulgaris	Common Ragwort	4	Machir Bay
Leucanthemum vulgare	Ox-eye Daisy	2	Loch Gruinart
Scorzoneroides autumnalis	Autumn Hawkbit	4	Machir Bay
Senecio vulgaris	Groundsel	5	Craighouse, Jura
Taraxacum agg.	Dandelion	2	Loch Gruinart
Tripleurospermum maritimum	Sea Mayweed	3	The Oa
Tussilago farfara	Colt's-foot	7	Ballygrant Woods (lvs
Betulaceae	Birch Family		
Alnus glutinosa	Alder	5	Jura
Betula pubescens	Downy Birch	2	Loch Gruinart
Corylus avellana	Hazel	2	Loch Gruinart
Boraginaceae	Forget-me-not Family		
Myosotis secunda	Creeping Forget-me-not	2	Loch Gruinart
Brassicaceae	Cabbage Family		
Cardamine pratensis	Cuckooflower	2	Loch Gruinart
Cochlearia officinalis	Common Scurvygrass	2	Killinallan
Nasturtium officinale	Water-cress	2	Loch Gruinart
Raphanus raphiastrum ssp. maritimus	Sea Radish	2	Port Ellen
Caprifoliaceae	Honeysuckle Family		
Lonicera periclymenum	Honeysuckle	2	Loch Gruinart
Caryophyllaceae	Pink Family		
Silene dioica	Red Campion	2	Loch Gruinart
Silene flos-cuculi	Ragged Robin	2	Loch Gruinart
Silene uniflora	Sea Campion	3	The Oa
Crassulaceae	Stonecrop Family		
Sedum anglicum	English Stonecrop	3	The Oa

Droseraceae	Constant Familie		
D (!!! !!	Sundew Family		
Drosera rotundifolia	Round-leaved Sundew	3	The Oa
	Heath family		
Calluna vulgaris	Heather	3	The Oa
Erica cinerea	Bell Heather	3	The Oa
Erica tetralix	Cross-leaved Heath	3	The Oa
Rhododendron ponticum	Rhododendron	2	Roadsides
Vaccinium myrtillus	Bilberry	1	Kennacraig
Fabaceae	Dec Femilie		
	Property Camily	1	Doodoidoo
Cytisus scoparius	Broomrape Family	-	Roadsides
Lathyrus pratensis	Meadow Vetchling	7	Ballygrant Woods
Lotus corniculatus	Bird's-foot Trefoil	2	Killinallan
Trifolium pratense	Red Clover	3	The Oa
Trifolium repens	White Clover	2	Loch Gruinart
Ulex europaeus	Gorse	2	Loch Gruinart
Vicia cracca	Tufted Vetch	2	Loch Gruinart
Fagaceae	Oak & Beech Family		
Fagus sylvatica	Beech	7	Ballygrant Woods
Geraniaceae	Geranium Family		
Geranium robertianum	Herb Robert	7	Ballygrant Woods
Coramani robortanam	Tiolo Tobolt		Danygrant Woodo
Gunneraceae	Gunnera Family		
Gunnera tinctoria	Giant-rhubarb	3	Roadsides
Hydrocotylaceae	Marsh Pennywort Family		
Hydrocotyle vulgaris	Marsh Pennywort	3	The Oa
	St. John's-wort Family		
Hypericaeae Hypericum pulchrum	Slender St. John's-wort	5	Jura
пуренсит ристит	Siender St.Johns-wort	3	Jula
Lamiaceae	Dead-nettle Family		
Ajuga reptans	Bugle	7	Ballygrant Woods
Mentha aquatica	Water Mint	2	Loch Gruinart
Origanum vulgare	Oregano	2	Loch Gruinart
Prunella vulgaris	Selfheal	7	Ballygrant Woods
Teucrium scorodonia	Wood Sage	2	Loch Gruinart
Thymus polytrichus subsp. britannicus	Wild Thyme	5	Jura
Lentibulariaceae	Bladderwort Family		
Pinguicula vulgaris	Common Butterwort	3	The Oa
Lythraceae	Purple-loosestrife Family		
Lythrum salicaria	Purple-loosestrife	7	Finlaggan
Myricaceae	Bog-myrtle Family		
Myrica gale	Bog-myrtle	2	Killinallan
Onagraceae	Willowherb Family		

Scientific Name	Common Name	Day	Location
Chamaenerion angustifolium	Rosebay Willowherb	7	Ballygrant Woods
Circea lutetiana	Enchanter's Nightshade	7	Ballygrant Woods
Epilobium parviflorum	Hoary Willowherb	5	Jura
Fuchsia magellanica	Fuchsia	5	Jura
Orobanchaceae	Broomrape Family		
Euphrasia sp.	an Eyebright	2	Loch Gruinart
Odontites verna	Red Bartsia	2	Loch Gruinart
Pedicularis sylvatica	Lousewort	3	The Oa
Rhinanthus minor agg.	Yellow Rattle	2	Loch Gruinart
Oxalidaceae	Wood-sorrel Family		
Oxalis acetosella	Wood-sorrel	2	Loch Gruinart (leaves
Phrymaceae	Monkey-flower Family		
Erythranthe (Mimulus) guttata	Large Yellow Monkey-flower	2	Loch Gruinart
Plantaginaceae	Plantain Family		
Plantago lanceolata	Ribwort Plantain	2	Loch Gruinart
Plantago major	Greater Plantain	7	Ballygrant Woods
Plantago maritima	Sea Plantain	3	The Oa
Plumbaginaceae	Thrift Family		
Armeria maritima	Thrift	2	Killinallan
Polygalaceae	Milkwort Family		
Polygala vulgaris	Common Milkwort	2	Killinallan
Polygonaceae	Knotweed Family		
Persicaria amphibia	Amphibious Bistort	4	Loch Nave
Rumex acetosa	Sorrel	2	Loch Gruinart
Rumex crispus	Curled Dock	5	Jura
Primulaceae	Primrose Family		
Lysimachia nemorum	Yellow Pimpernel	7	Ballygrant Woods
Ranunculaceae	Buttercup Family		
Caltha palustris	Marsh-marigold	2	Killinallan
Ranunculus acris	Meadow Buttercup	2	Loch Gruinart
Ranunculus flammula	Lesser Spearwort	2	Killinallan
Ranunculus hederaceus	Ivy-leaved Crowfoot	4	Machir Bay
Rosaceae	Rose Family		
Alchemilla sp.	a Lady's-mantle	7	Ballygrant Woods
Comarum palustre	Marsh Cinquefoil	7	Finlaggan
Filipendula ulmaria	Meadowsweet	4	Machir Bay
Fragaria vesca	Wild Strawberry	7	Ballygrant Woods
Geum rivale	Water Avens	7	Ballygrant Woods
Geum x intermedium (G. rivale x			
urbanum)	Hybrid Geum	7	Ballygrant Woods
Potentilla anserina	Silverweed	2	Killinallan
Potentilla anserina Potentilla erecta	Tormentil	2	Killinallan

Scientific Name	Common Name	Day	Location
Rosa canina	Dog Rose	2	Loch Gruinart
Rosa pimpinellifolia	Burnet Rose	2	Killinallan
Rubus fruticosus agg.	Bramble	2	Loch Gruinart
Rubus idaeus	Raspberry	2	Loch Gruinart
Sorbus aucuparia	Rowan	3	SE of Islay
·			
Rubiaceae	Bedstraw Family		
Galium aparine	Cleavers	7	Ballygrant Woods
Galium palustre agg.	Marsh Bedstraw	2	Loch Gruinart
Galium saxatile	Heath Bedstraw	3	The Oa
Galium verum	Lady's Bedstraw	2	Killinallan
Salicaceae	Willow & Poplar Family		
Salix aurita	Eared Willow	2	Loch Gruinart
Salix caprea	Goat Willow	7	Finlaggan
Запх саргеа	Goat Willow		i iiiaggaii
Sapindaceae	Maple Family		
Acer pseudoplatanus	Sycamore	3	Kildalton
Saxifragaceae	Saxifrage Family		
Tolmeia menziesii	Pick-a-back Plant	2	Loch Gruinart
Scrophulariaceae	Figwort Family		
		7	Pollygrapt Woods
Scrophularia nodosa	Common Figwort	<i>1</i>	Ballygrant Woods
Ulmaceae	Elm Family		
Ulmus glabra	Wych Elm	7	Ballygrant Woods
	Nettle Family		
Urtica dioica	Common Nettle	2	Loch Gruinart
		_	20011 010111011
Valerianaceae	Valerian Family		
Valeriana officinalis	Common Valerian	2	Loch Gruinart
Veronicaceae	Speedwell Family		
Digitalis purpurea	Foxglove	2	Loch Gruinart
Veronica anagallis-aquatica	Blue Water-speedwell	7	Ballygrant Woods
Veronica beccabunga	Brooklime	3	The Oa
Veronica chamaedrys	Germander Speedwell	2	Loch Gruinart
Veronica officinalis	Common or Heath Speedwell	3	The Oa
\/!\	Viloria E II		
Viburnaceae	Viburnum Family	-	luro
Sambucus nigra	Elder	5	Jura
Viburnum opulus	Guelder-rose	7	Ballygrant Woods
Violaceae	Violet Family		
Viola riviniana	Common Dog Violet	7	Ballygrant Woods (lvs
Monocots	Monocotyledons		
	Asparagus Family		
Asparagaceae	Asparagus Faililly	2	Loch Gruinart

Scientific Name	Common Name	Day	Location
Cyperaceae	Sedge Family		
Blysmus rufus	Saltmarsh Flat-sedge	2	Killinallan
Carex arenaria	Sand Sedge	4	Ardnave
Carex echinata	Star Sedge	3	The Oa
Carex panicea	Carnation Sedge	7	Finlaggan
Eriophorum angustifolium	Common Cottongrass	2	Killinallan
Eriophorum vaginatum	Hare's-tail Cottongrass	3	The Oa
Trichophorum cespitosum	Deergrass	3	The Oa
Iridaceae	Iris Family		
Iris pseudacorus	Yellow Flag	2	Loch Gruinart
Juncaceae	Rush Family		
Juncus conglomeratus	Compact Rush	3	The Oa
Luzula sylvatica	Great Woodrush	7	Ballygrant Woods
Nartheciaceae	Bog-asphodel Family		
Narthecium ossifragum	Bog-asphodel Family	3	The Oa
Orchidaceae	Orchid Family		
Anacamptis pyramidalis	Pyramidal Orchid	2	Killinallan
Dactylorhiza fuchsii	Common Spotted Orchid	2	Loch Gruinart
Dactylorhiza incarnata Dactylorhiza maculata subsp.	Early Marsh Orchid	2	Killinallan
ericetorum	Heath Spotted Orchid	2	Loch Gruinart
Dactylorhiza purpurella	Northern Marsh Orchid	2	Loch Gruinart
Dactylorhiza x formosa	Hybrid Heath Spotted x Northern Marsh	2	Killinallan
Dactylorhiza x venusta	Hybrid C. Spotted x Northern Marsh	7	Finlaggan
Neottia ovata	Common Twayblade	7	Ballygrant Woods
Platanthera bifolia	Lesser Butterfly Orchid	3	The Oa
Poaceae	Grass Family		
Anthoxanthum odoratum	Sweet Vernal Grass	2	Loch Gruinart
Arrhenatherum elatius	False Oat Grass	7	Ballygrant Woods
Dactylis glomerata	Cock's-foot	7	Ballygrant Woods
Festuca rubra agg	Red Fescue	7	Ballygrant Woods
Holcus lanatus	Yorkshire-fog	3	The Oa
Phragmites australis	Common Reed	4	Machir Bay
Potamogetonaceae	Pondweed Family		
Potamogeton polygonifolius	Bog Pondweed	3	The Oa
ALGAE	Seaweeds		
Fucus vesiculosus	Bladderwrack	5	Croig, Jura
Himanthalis elongata	Thongweed	5	Croig, Jura
Saccharina latissima	Sea Belt or Sugar Kelp	5	Croig, Jura



The Paps of Jura from Loch Gruinart