

Fair Isle: Spring on the Magical Isle

Naturetrek Tour Report

25th May – 3rd June 2026



Marsh Warbler



Icterine Warbler



Fair Isle



Red-backed Shrike

Tour report by Chris Wilkinson



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Tour participants: Chris Wilkinson (leader) with seven Naturetrek clients

Day 1

Monday 25th May

The group assembled in the Northlink Ferry terminal at Aberdeen in the late afternoon, and after introductions, we boarded the overnight ferry to Lerwick on the Shetland Islands. A few hours on deck in the evening provided our first seabirds, with good numbers of Fulmars, Kittiwakes, Gannets, Guillemots, Razorbills and terns in evidence. A couple of Manx Shearwaters skimmed through, a single Arctic Skua and the first Great Skua (Bonxie) harried the terns, while, on the water, the first Puffin of the trip was sighted. After dinner in the restaurant and a drink in the bar, the group retired to their quarters in anticipation of a great week ahead on the Magical Isle. We were aware that there was a very rare bird indeed waiting for us, and fingers were crossed that it would still be there the next day.

Day 2

Tuesday 26th May

Some of the group were up early for pre-breakfast birding, as the vessel came within sight of Sumburgh Head on Mainland Shetland. Great Skuas were sighted in the wake among a similar mix of seabirds from the previous evening as the ferry slowed down to enter Lerwick Harbour. An immaculate summer-plumaged Great Northern Diver was spotted at close quarters, along with a couple of equally stunning Red-throated Divers. Common Eiders were plentiful, and the Black Guillemots looked very smart in their breeding plumage, their red legs visible in the clear waters.

While we waited to dock, the exciting news reached us that the uber-rare vagrant we were all excited about was still present on Fair Isle. There was great delight all round! We disembarked and gathered a few provisions at the local supermarket, before taking a taxi to Grutness in the south of mainland Shetland, from where we would catch our ferry to Fair Isle. We noted flocks of Golden Plovers and Lapwings as we journeyed south and, fairly soon, we were at our destination. The Good Shepherd was undergoing an inspection and our sailing was delayed, which gave us time to ditch our bags and have a short walk around the Sumburgh area. We enjoyed the Arctic Terns, a Great Northern Diver and the waders that were in Grutness Bay, before we took a short walk to one of the nearby quarries. The endemic Shetland Wren showed nicely on a drystone wall, while Wheatears and Pipits occupied the open ground. Fulmars looked down on us from their quarry nesting sites before we returned to the quay to board our sailing to Fair Isle.

Sea conditions were a little lumpy (but bearable) as we crossed the infamous 'roost' south of mainland Shetland. The crossing was relatively uneventful, with Kittiwakes, Gannets and Fulmars in attendance, and after a couple of hours we were pulling into the North Haven on Fair Isle. Seabirds were everywhere, with seemingly every ledge and clifftop burrow occupied by Puffins, Guillemots and Fulmars, which made for an excellent welcome to this wonderful island.

The staff from the Bird Observatory were waiting on the quayside with the minibus to whisk us up the road to see the Northern Parula, which was inhabiting the bushes around the island shop. The bird was located within a few minutes, and the group enjoyed prolonged views of this stunning transatlantic vagrant as it flitted along the hedge in glorious sunshine. This was the first British spring record of this rare American wood warbler, and a textbook example of the kind of quality birding that Fair Isle is famous for. Everybody had great views, after which we

retired to the Observatory to settle in and enjoy an excellent communal meal with the other guests and Observatory staff. In the evening, we attended our first log call over liquid refreshments, and then retired to bed.

Day 3

Wednesday 27th May

We were up early to join the regular morning ringing round, which involves visiting the Heligoland traps close to the observatory and ringing any birds that are caught. A Short-eared Owl was flushed from the moor close to the plantation trap, and Whooper Swans were observed in a nearby flash. A female Crossbill feeding in the heather seemed a little out of place, but appeared happy enough among the Recumbent Juniper dotted around the moor. A small warbler was in the plantation trap, and it wasn't long before the warden had it in a bag. It proved to be a Marsh Warbler, a scarce migrant from eastern Europe, which was an excellent find and an educational bird to see in the hand. Once everybody had viewed the bird, it was released into the adjacent observatory plantation, and we all retired to the refectory for the first of many excellent Fair Isle breakfasts.

The plan today was to explore the Croftlands in the south of the island, to seek out any migrants which might have made landfall. We walked slowly, scanning often, and stopped regularly to inspect interesting plants along the way. A few tiny Early Marsh Orchids were just coming into flower and beautiful blue Spring Quill was very much in evidence. There were birds very much in evidence as well, with Wheatears being particularly numerous, and the resident Twites regularly alighting for all to see. The Northern Parula had disappeared overnight: we had been extremely lucky that it had held on just long enough for us to see it on our arrival. The first Sedge Warbler was encountered performing its song flight, and a Spotted Flycatcher was in a willow patch.

We had our picnic lunch overlooking the South Haven, which was flat calm and extremely picturesque in the sunny conditions. A drake Goosander fished in the shallows with a few Eiders, while a few Arctic Terns wheeled overhead. It was a wonderful scene, and a difficult spot to leave to continue our day's exploration. We wandered back north towards the observatory on the east side of the island, inspecting gardens and iris beds as we went. Willow Warblers, Chiffchaffs and Common Whitethroats were recorded, while Skylarks sang overhead and hirundines dashed by as the afternoon wore on.

We arrived back at the observatory in the late afternoon, satisfied with an excellent first full day on the island. It was a fun evening at the Obs: a travelling band of folk musicians had arrived on a sailing vessel, and entertained the staff and guests with some excellent music. A few Fair Isle residents brought along their own instruments too, and they played on until the late hours with a mix of folk, country and other classics. It was a fantastic end to a great day.

Day 4

Thursday 28th May

We were in the boot room at 6.55am for the daily trap round, and once assembled, we made our way to the gully trap. As the warden entered the gully, the unmistakeable shape of a Nightjar rose from the heather and flew into the Heligoland trap. The warden disappeared round the back of the trap and quickly came back with a beaming smile and a Nightjar in the bag! The Plantation trap held another Marsh Warbler, and we were soon back in the ringing room enjoying close views of these two excellent birds. The Nightjar's cryptic plumage and defensive posture were fascinating, but in fairly quick time, both birds were ringed and released to continue their respective journeys.

After breakfast, we headed north, this time to explore the area around the North Light. Along the way, Arctic Skuas were loitering on the short turf and time was taken to admire these handsome birds. The cliffs were heaving with seabirds, and another pair of Crossbills was found on the moors before we arrived at the lighthouse, at the northern tip of the island. The elusive, endemic, Fair Isle Wren gave itself up in a deep depression, while Ringed Plovers and Oystercatchers kept us in close attendance, as we were adjacent to breeding territories. The views were spectacular along the coast, towards the huge Gannet colony on Outer Stack. We lingered for a while, taking in the sights and sounds, before retracing our steps back to the observatory for lunch. Along the way, we came across a Cuckoo, which looked incongruous flying along the clifftops in the company of Fulmars, Puffins and other seabirds, while Snipe hunkered down in the heather.

After lunch, we took a short walk to the area around the airport and chalet, where an extremely elusive Icterine Warbler sang from deep in a patch of roses. We spent time trying to get a glimpse, and a few did succeed, but eventually we gave in and moved on. Other new birds today included Black-tailed Godwit, Stock Dove, Lesser Whitethroat and Blackcap. After another excellent meal in great company, we attended the evening log call over a beer, before retiring to bed.

Day 5

Friday 29th May

The trap round was quiet this morning, with a highlight being a flyover Peregrine, so after breakfast, we set off southwards to investigate migrant arrivals around the Croftlands. We had a scheduled visit to the Fair Isle museum today, so the plan was to amble our way slowly in that direction, investigating any birds that we could find. There were certainly migrants about, with a noticeable increase in Chiffchaffs and Willow Warblers, and it was no surprise when news broke mid-morning of a full summer-plumaged Rustic Bunting at Haa, in the south of the island. Again, this was classic Fair Isle, where anything can turn up at any time. We were still a little way Haa, but we set off in that direction, and in around half an hour we arrived. The bird was feeding on the ground on a track, and it wasn't long before we had great views of this gorgeous bunting. A few of the group elected to stay and watch the bird, while others went to visit the excellent museum.

Housed in the Auld Skul (school), this is a fascinating exhibition and collection detailing Fair Isle's social history, fishing and crofting culture, natural history and archaeology. Fairly soon it was lunchtime and we hitched a lift back to the Observatory with the ever-willing staff. A lunchtime bonus came in the form of an Icterine Warbler in the ringing room, along with a Chiffchaff, so once again, the group took advantage of close-up views of a lovely and scarce eastern migrant.

After lunch, we hitched a lift back to the south, with the intention of slowly walking back to the observatory during the afternoon. A Common Rosefinch had been singing in the Ha Garden, and a few of the group were lucky enough to have good views as it fed on the ground and intermittently sang from the garden hedge. More prolonged views of the Rustic Bunting were enjoyed before we wound our way back to the observatory. A stop at Da Water gave great views of a summer-plumaged Golden Plover, and the Icterine Warbler was again singing from the rose thicket. Back at the Obs, we indulged in the now familiar routine of dinner, log-call and drinks in the bar, before we took our weary heads to bed.

Day 6

Saturday 30th May

The highlight of this morning's trap round was a cracking Spotted Flycatcher in the hand, but better still was the pristine male Red-backed Shrike which had appeared around the observatory overnight. We watched it as it fed around the plantation and moors, alighting on fenceposts and bushes, and even had views from the refectory window as we ate breakfast. It was simply superb.



Spotted Flycatcher



Oysterplant



The Good Shepherd



Nightjar

Our morning walk this morning was out over the eastern moorlands of Vaassetter, to view the imposing Sheep Rock and the huge seabird colonies it hosted. Great Skuas are present on Fair Isle in good numbers, and there were many on Vaassetter. We walked gingerly around them, eager not to invade their space too much and thus provoke the inevitable dive-bombing attacks. Luckily, this early in the season, birds were not yet on eggs, so we got away fairly lightly, but not without one or two fast and close approaches! After a while, we reached the cliff edge and took in the imposing rock before us. Gannets were breeding on the south face, while Guillemots, Razorbills and Fulmars occupied the many ledges. Shags were low down near the water, and Puffins were watched coming and going through the throng. A dashing Hobby was unexpected along the cliffs.

We left the rock and walked south along the cliff edge, when news reached us of a Red-necked Phalarope on Da Water. We weren't too far away, and Da Water was on our intended route, so we headed straight for it. We found a spot overlooking the wetland in a field inhabited by a couple of immaculate Arctic Skuas, which seemed remarkably unperturbed by our presence. Unfortunately, we were too late on this occasion, and the phalarope was

gone. Never mind: you never see everything. We walked on southwards, on a track we hadn't yet explored, and in one of the first gardens we came upon we found an immaculate Icterine Warbler flycatching from a gate. It was beautifully lit, and its lemon-yellow tones shone in the morning light.

We had lunch in the field, before continuing our ramble all the way to South Light. Sea Campion, along with both Dwarf and Creeping Willows were noted, and a few stunning Shetland Bees were sighted along the road margins. The Rustic Bunting was still there, as was the Common Rosefinch, and more good views were obtained of these eastern vagrants. At South Light, beautiful displays of Pink Thrift were noted on coastal grass, and on the beach, we inspected the rare and attractive Oysterplant. It was getting quite late in the afternoon, so we took advantage of the Obs minibus and took a lift back, just in time to see the Red-backed Shrike being processed in the ringing room. It was a truly beautiful bird, and it was a real privilege to see it at such close quarters.

Day 7

Sunday 31st May

Heavy rain was forecast today, so the plan was to visit nearby Bunness in the morning, meaning we would be fairly close to the Obs as and when the heavens opened. We spent a pleasant morning exploring the hundreds of Puffin burrows. Arctic Skuas made a few close passes, and Ringed Plovers scurried around on the close-cropped turf. Before long, a couple of waders were spotted, both of which turned out to be Dunlin. What was interesting was that they appeared to be of different subspecies, with one bird being the native breeding *schinzii*, while the second bird was a more rufous-toned *alpina*. To add wader interest, a summer-plumaged Purple Sandpiper was located among the rocks, which was a real treat for southern birders who rarely get to see this species in its summer finery!

Eventually, the weather inevitably closed in, and we abandoned Bunness for tea and biscuits in the dry back at the Obs. The afternoon was spent at leisure today, so the group did their own thing for the afternoon once the rain abated. One of the group had yet to see the Fair Isle Wren, so an effort was made at the nearby Gully Geo to locate the bird, and eventually he was successful. The highlight of the day was in the early evening, when a pod of Orca was spotted off Bunness. The younger, more energetic staff grabbed their optics and sprinted over there, while others scanned from the Observatory. Luckily, they were easily visible from the Obs, and a pod of five of these superb animals, including at least one calf and a large bull, were watched for a while: they appeared to be hunting fish offshore. This wasn't one of the familiar Shetland pods, and it is assumed that it was a visiting pod from further north.

Day 8

Monday 1st June

Today was our last full day, and we started with the now familiar ringing round. A Blackcap was caught which was bearing an Israeli ring, demonstrating the incredible distances that our migrant songbirds can travel. We also saw a Robin in the hand, which was amazingly the first for the week. We had yet to explore the western cliffs, so today's plan was to follow the path from the airfield out on to Hoini, and then walk south down the coast. We made a stop at a bank on the airfield to view some excellent plants, with both Moonwort and Small Adder's Tongue present.

We then headed down the runway and up the hill, noting Mountain Everlasting on the moorland and a family of Ravens along a drystone wall. The view from the western side of the island was breath-taking. High precipitous cliffs tumbled down to the deep blue Atlantic, while thousands of seabirds filled the ledges and the air. This is a

wild, rugged place with dramatic geos cut deep into the cliffs, providing shelter for patches of flora such as Thrift and Sea Campion. We took our time walking the clifftop, making the most of the spectacle before us. The seabird colonies were endless, and numbers were truly impressive. We noted a passage of Painted Lady butterflies on the southerly breeze, along with a single Red Admiral, and a few Wheatears occupied the grassy tops. Eventually, we turned inland along a geo, noting a Song Thrush (which was new), before catching our lift back up to the Obs for lunch.



A Fair Isle geo



Common Rosefinch

A Garden Warbler was viewed in the ringing room before we took a lift back to the Croftlands for our last afternoon. A female Scaup with a Tufted Duck was new on Da Water, and a fly-over Common Swift was also fresh in. Offshore, a pod of Risso's Dolphins was observed moving south along the east cliffs, later rounding the South Light. On the plant front, we recorded very small specimens of Northern Marsh and Heath Spotted Orchid, and we found more Shetland Bees. The afternoon passed quickly, and soon we were back at the Observatory for tea and biscuits, where our last treat in the ringing room was a Common Rosefinch which had wandered into a mist net. Close up views were had and many photographs were taken before it was released into the Obs garden. After a pleasant dinner and the log call, we enjoyed a final drink at the Obs bar and retired to bed.

Day 9

Tuesday 2nd June

We were up early this morning to check out of our rooms and assemble on the quayside for the Good Shepherd crossing back to Shetland. It was a calm and misty morning, which meant the crossing would be relatively flat, but not great for seeing seabirds. It was a pleasant enough crossing though, with Fulmars, Kittiwakes, auks and Gannets making close passes. After a couple of hours, we were pulling into Grutness on mainland Shetland. Our taxi was waiting for us, so we climbed aboard and headed into Shetland's capital, Lerwick, where we would spend the day at leisure before catching our overnight ferry to Aberdeen. A few of the group elected to have an easy morning taking in the museum and cafés, while others headed to the south end of Lerwick to see if they could find the female King (Queen?) Eider which had been spotted in the area over the previous few days. A stonking summer-plumaged Great Northern Diver was close in, and in fairly quick time the 'Queen' Eider was located, consorting with two Common Eiders. Views were distant, so we relocated to a suburban street on the edge of town for better views of this subtle female duck: she was a real bonus bird for the tour.

Once satisfied, we walked around the adjacent bay to join the museum-goers for lunch in a pleasant café overlooking the water on the edge of Lerwick. It was a very pleasant lunch, and time was spent reminiscing about the excellent week we had shared on Fair Isle. The tour wasn't over yet though, as after lunch we crossed the road to view the Loch of Clickimin and its ancient broch. A disturbance in the water right in front of us drew our

attention, and amazingly, up popped an Otter at close range, hunting in the shallows. It was a real treat to see this iconic mammal so well! Messages were sent to the leaders of the Naturetrek 40th Anniversary Cruise, who had just docked in Lerwick: they joined us with several other Naturetrek clients to enjoy the scene. Great views and pictures of the Otter were obtained as it fed in and out of the water, making a fitting end to this superb tour. The resident Mute Swans may have been a quite mundane sighting but they were significant as the hundredth bird species seen (plus Linnet, which was heard only!) during our superb trip. We took a slow walk back to the ferry terminal to catch our overnight ferry back to Aberdeen.

Day 10

Wednesday 3rd June

We arrived safely in Aberdeen in the morning, and the group went their separate ways home. It was an absolute pleasure to lead a wonderful group in such a stunning and iconic destination. Fair Isle certainly surpassed all expectations, and is absolutely deserving of its monicker: 'The Magical Isle'.

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Species lists

Birds (H=heard only)

		May - June 2026										
Common name	Scientific name	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	
Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>									✓		
Whooper Swan	<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>		✓	✓								
Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>		✓	✓	✓							
Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓		✓			
Common Eider	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
King Eider	<i>Somateria spectabilis</i>									✓		
Goosander	<i>Mergus merganser</i>			✓			✓					
Red-breasted Merganser	<i>Mergus serrator</i>									✓		
Greater Scaup	<i>Aythya marila</i>								✓			
Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>							✓	✓	✓		
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>			✓	✓	✓				✓		
Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>			✓		✓	✓		✓	✓		
Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Stock Dove	<i>Columba oenas</i>				✓							
Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>				✓							
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</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>			✓	✓	✓			✓			
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>		✓			✓						
Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			
Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>			✓	✓							
Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>		✓									
Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>		✓									
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			
Purple Sandpiper	<i>Calidris maritima</i>							✓				
Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>						✓		✓			
Arctic Skua	<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Great Skua	<i>Stercorarius skua</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Atlantic Puffin	<i>Fratercula arctica</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Black Guillemot	<i>Cephus grylle</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Razorbill	<i>Alca torda</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Common Guillemot	<i>Uria aalge</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Sandwich Tern	<i>Sterna sandvicensis</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>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		

Common name	Scientific name	May - June 2026									
		25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3
Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</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>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
European Shag	<i>Gulosus aristotelis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	✓								✓	
European Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i>				✓						
Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>								✓		
Short-eared Owl	<i>Asio flammeus</i>			✓							
Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>						✓	✓			
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>					✓					
Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>						✓	✓			
Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>	✓	✓	✓							
Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		
Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		
Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus corone cornix</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
European Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>						✓		✓		
Icterine Warbler	<i>Hippolais icterina</i>				✓	✓	✓				
Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>		✓	✓	✓	H	✓		✓		
Marsh Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus palustris</i>			✓	✓		✓	✓			
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Western House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Garden Warbler	<i>Sylvia borealis</i>								✓		
Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>				✓	✓			✓		
Common Whitethroat	<i>Curruca communis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓					
Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Curruca curruca</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>		✓		✓	✓		✓	✓		
Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>								✓		
Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>		✓	✓						✓	
Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>			✓			✓	✓	✓		
European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>								✓		
Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba yarrellii</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>						✓				
Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
European Rock Pipit	<i>Anthus petrosus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Common Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus erythrinus</i>					✓	✓		✓	H	
Twite	<i>Linaria flavirostris</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>						H				
Redpoll	<i>Acanthis flammea</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓				
Common Crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		

		May - June 2026										
Common name	Scientific name	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	
European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		✓									
Eurasian Siskin	<i>Spinus spinus</i>			H	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		
Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>					✓			✓			
Rustic Bunting	<i>Emberiza rustica</i>					✓	✓					
Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>			✓								
Northern Parula	<i>Parula americana</i>		✓									

Mammals

		May - June 2026										
Common name	Scientific name	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	
European Rabbit - I	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Brown Rat	<i>Rattus norvegicus</i>									✓		
Killer Whale	<i>Orcinus orca</i>							✓				
Risso's Dolphin	<i>Grampus griseus</i>								✓			
Common Bottlenose Dolphin	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>										✓	
Domestic Sheep - I	<i>Ovis aries</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Grey Seal	<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>			✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		
Harbour Seal	<i>Phoca vitulina</i>	✓	✓									
European Otter	<i>Lutra lutra</i>									✓		

Amphibians

Common name	Scientific name
Common Frog	<i>Rana temporaria</i>

Butterflies

Common name	Scientific name
Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>
Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>

Other insects

Common name	Scientific name
Shetland Bee	<i>Bombus muscorum agricolae</i>

Notable plants

Common name	Scientific name
Moonwort	<i>Botrychium lunaria</i>
Small Adder's Tongue	<i>Ophioglossum azoricum</i>
Prostrate Juniper	<i>Juniperus communis</i> subsp. <i>nana</i>
Spring Squill	<i>Scilla verna</i>
Yellow Iris	<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>
Early Marsh Orchid	<i>Dactylorhiza incarnata</i>
Heath Spotted Orchid	<i>Dactylorhiza maculata</i>
Northern Marsh Orchid	<i>Dactylorhiza purpurella</i>
Marram Grass	<i>Ammophila arenaria</i>

Common name	Scientific name
Sheep's Fescue	<i>Festuca ovina</i>
Dwarf Willow	<i>Salix herbacea</i>
Creeping Willow	<i>Salix repens</i>
Marsh Marigold	<i>Caltha palustris</i>
Ivy-leaved Crowfoot	<i>Ranunculus hederaceus</i>
Common Rockrose	<i>Helianthemum nummularium</i>
Cuckooflower	<i>Cardamine pratensis</i>
Scurvy Grass	<i>Cochlearia officinalis</i>
Butterwort	<i>Pinguicula vulgaris</i>
Heath Milkwort	<i>Polygala serpyllifolia</i>
Common Milkwort	<i>Polygala vulgaris</i>
Common Dog Violet	<i>Viola riviniana</i>
Marsh Violet	<i>Viola palustris</i>
Heath Violet	<i>Viola canina</i>
Sea Campion	<i>Silene uniflora</i>
Red Campion	<i>Silene dioica</i>
Thrift	<i>Armeria maritima</i>
Bog Pimpernel	<i>Anagallis tenella</i>
Water Mint	<i>Mentha aquatica</i>
Arctic Thyme	<i>Thymus praecox</i> subsp. <i>arcticus</i>
Arctic Eyebright	<i>Euphrasia arctica</i>
Tormentil	<i>Potentilla erecta</i>
Silverweed	<i>Argentina anserina</i>
Bird's-foot Trefoil	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>
Mountain Everlasting	<i>Antennaria dioica</i>