

Scotland's Mammals & Highlights of the Highlands

Naturetrek Tour Report

17th – 24th August 2025



Red Squirrel



Pine Marten



Grass of Parnassus



Northern Gannet

Tour report and photos by Steve Gater



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Tour participants Steve Gater (leader) with eight Naturetrek clients

Summary

The wilds of Ardnamurchan are especially spectacular with good weather, which we enjoyed throughout this holiday. Excellent company and amazing fauna and flora made this week one to remember for a very long time. Daily visits of Pine Marten, Red Deer and Red Squirrel were astonishing. We watched River Otter on several days and also found White-tailed Eagle and Golden Eagle. We enjoyed regular sightings of Common Buzzard, Eurasian Oystercatcher, Grey Heron, Eurasian Curlew, Jay, Hooded Crow, Northern Raven and others. Seals were very numerous and amusing; athletic displays by Common Dolphins were so entertaining. Common Guillemots and Northern Gannets remained from the recent breeding season. A good range of plants was seen, with many species new to most and one new to all and opened the imagination to the beauty of other living forms. We enjoyed sole occupancy of our accommodation and had dinner laid on for us. The boat trips around Carna island and further to the Cairns of Coll were brilliant; in fact, the same description applied to other days for other reasons. The week was varied and very successful. Thanks to all who had come to enjoy it.

Day 1

Sunday 17th August

All clients arrived to be picked up in Glasgow but then we hadn't driven far before realising that this afternoon would be a busy time on the roads. So we had a slow crawl over Erskine Bridge and beyond. We eventually reached the Corran Ferry and drove straight on to the Ardnamurchan peninsula, arriving at the Ariundle Centre where Kate was ready to serve our first delicious dinner.

The weather was hot and we had high expectations of more (and of great wildlife too). And such hopes were delivered over the week. Along the drive we had seen a few birds; Cormorant, Herring Gull, Grey Heron.

The drive to Ardnamurchan Bunkhouse was a slow one as the light faded, to give chance of spotting wildlife along the roadside. Perhaps we were a little early, or unlucky, but we did not spot any of our hoped-for species. But there were more drives to come and more hopes that were to be fulfilled. Once at the Centre we quickly settled into our rooms to take advantage of relaxing in the lounge. We put out bait to attract Pine Marten. A Tawny Owl called.

Day 2

Monday 18th August

Our day started on Loch Sunart which was stunning in the bright sunshine, calm and already hot by 7.00am. We were hoping to emulate the start of this trip last year by seeing River Otter before breakfast and we were delighted to succeed! Upon our return to the bunkhouse our pleasure was extended when Red Squirrels visited the feeding station outside the dining area. Their antics provided perfect photographic possibilities.

So we smiled throughout a most enjoyable breakfast before heading off along the loch to look for more Otters - without luck this time. However we enjoyed finding some beautiful wild flowers, including Devil's-bit Scabious, Tormontil and leaves of Butterwort, an interesting parasitic plant. It was warm enough for butterflies to be on the wing; we saw Small Copper, Grayling, Red Admiral and Small White.

Then a short drive took us to the lookout point facing Ben Hiant where we started to see groups of Red Deer on the hillside. After a while a pair of Common Buzzards gave a close aerial display. Yellowhammer, Meadow Pipit, Skylark and other birds flew around. The side of the bay held a flock of Herring Gulls and further out into the loch we spotted several groups of gulls that were very active over the water. Our hopes were fulfilled when we spotted fins below them and eventually agreed that we were observing a Minke Whale. Fantastic! Everyone had great views through the scope and it was difficult to leave..., but we did.

Our next stop was for toilets at Kilchoan Community Centre, with a visit to the café here deferred until Wednesday when it would form part of seeing the regular farmers' market. From here we drove to Ardnamurchan Point, the most westerly part of the British mainland. It was hot and, perhaps, this explained why birds were not in the air in great numbers. It's a great place to visit though and, again, was stunning in such fantastic weather. The café served tasty cakes and drinks. Some enjoyed a visit around the Lighthouse (quite a few times too to reach the top!). One sighting was not really appreciated though – an American Mink swimming between rocks, then hauling itself out of the sea before disappearing.

We drove back to Kilchoan and a short detour to Mingary Castle, a 14th century clan-stronghold that rests on a massive slab of extremely hard dolerite rock overlooking Loch Sunart. It was built to deter unwelcome guests. However, these days it welcomes visitors for lunch in the restaurant amazingly built within its walls. The view from the top is something special and two nearby fields of Graylag Geese was a treat. The 'funny animals' at the adjacent 'funny farm' were, indeed, fun.

Upon return to the bunkhouse, we could not resist stopping for further Otter spotting. We found Otter spraint and droppings of Pine Marten, but had no direct observations. We enjoyed a hearty meal and sat down to a bit of business, our first checklist of the holiday and a good one too. Then the nightly Pine Marten wait began.

Day 3

Tuesday 19th August

What a day! We started with excellent views, from the dining room, of a Red Squirrel eating nuts and ended with equally great views of Pine Marten from the same vantage point. And in between we saw, well we saw some wonderful wildlife, as follows.

Watching the squirrel eat its breakfast, set us up nicely to enjoy our own before setting off for a five minutes' drive to meet Andy, our boat skipper, for a day at sea. The weather was hot and calm again at both ends of the day, but cloudy and cooler in between. Crucially it was dry throughout and with little wind to rock the boat. That meant we could scour the sea for birds. Which we did most successfully. We saw small rafts of Common Guillemot, Manx Shearwater, several Storm Petrel, lots of Great Cormorant, Herring Gull and a few Great Black-backed Gull.

We started the boat trip with high hopes of seeing White-tailed Eagle and within thirty minutes they were fulfilled. We were delighted to see an adult perched in a pine tree and, within a short time, watched a dark juvenile slowly fly towards it. Although we searched, unsuccessfully, for another near a known nest site we were well-satisfied by our initial finds.

Then it was not long before large splashes of water in the loch indicated the presence of cetaceans. And, sure enough, we had come across a pod of Common Dolphin, some dozen in total. They treated us to an animated

display of dolphin acrobatics, some of which was captured on camera. Unfortunately, they were a little wary of the boat so did not come nearer for close-up shots, but they gave us huge satisfaction. We enjoyed several more pods during the day and the occasional Harbour Porpoise that surfaced.

After crossing to the norther coast of Mull, we tracked along in a westerly direction and headed to Coll. We had chosen to visit the northern end of this narrow island, the tip being dissected into multiple rock formations, much like the man-made cairns that line mountain footpaths as way-markers. However, this collection, the Cairns of Coll, stick out of the sea to create a fascinating natural architecture. Numerous jellyfish gently pulsated in the shallow sea here, upon which rested Common and Black-headed Gulls. Cormorants took advantage of the rocks to dry out while Black-legged Kittiwakes flew over.

We thoroughly enjoyed our day at sea which we followed up with a drive to the Ariundle Centre for dinner. By the time we returned to the bunkhouse the light was fading quickly, and time was running out to set the Pine Marten bait. In fact, our first sighting of this beautiful mustalid came some twenty minutes later. Our most welcome visitor gave excellent views for a long time. We were tired, we deserved sleep and we were well-pleased with this brilliant day.

Day 4

Wednesday 20th August

The day started with a distant view of River Otter on Loch Sunart and ended with much better views of the same individual, presumably, in a similar spot. In-between we had a great time further along the loch and at Sanna Bay on the northern coast of the peninsular. The weather was variable, changing from mild to cool and finally warm.

The midges responded accordingly.

The bays along the loch were quiet after breakfast, as was the view towards Ben Hiant, although we saw more than two hundred Manx Shearwater on Loch Sunart and a Red Grouse. We took advantage of coffee at the newly refreshed café in Kilchoan. The market was on in the Community Centre here but it was not overly busy.

We made off to Sanna Bay, seeing lots of Grass of Parnassus in flower, a lovely sight, next to the carpark. The walk to the beach gave interest with wet-loving plants including Butterwort, Carnation Sedge, Bogbean and Sphagnum Moss.

Once at the beach, one brave soul took to the water to swim, one to paddle and everyone else volunteered to watch – a happy time for all. Lunch on the beach gave time for us to spot Ruddy Turnstone, European Oystercatcher, Dunlin and two Golden Plovers. Then we enjoyed a spell of rock-pooling, finding the usual selection of marine fauna. A walk back to the van took us through a wet marsh from where Common Snipe was flushed. We also saw Twite, Linnet, Meadow Pipit and Skylark.

On the return to Kilchoan we stopped by a bog that, surprisingly, was not too wet and a little too cool for Adders to be out. A small Common Juniper bush was sprawled over a large rock, a most attractive sight. Back in Kilchoan, we watched several Rock Pipits flitting on and between the rocks.

We set off for home and stopped to see a good group of Red Deer on the top of a valley. And what an auspicious decision this proved to be. As we climbed out of the van someone shouted 'raptors'. There in the sky, close enough for ready identification, were three Golden Eagles. Wonderful. They slowly drifted off, leaving us highly delighted and impressed.

Some chose to drop off the van just before we reached the bunkhouse to chance their luck at seeing River Otter. They were rewarded for their effort with excellent close views. We enjoyed curry for dinner, after which a puzzle and checklist were completed. That left time for the nightly Pine Marten watch. On this occasion we were left disappointed but were prepared to wait for another day....

Day 5

Thursday 21st August

A Red Squirrel appeared well before breakfast and several more times throughout the day. A walk to search for River Otter was unsuccessful, the disappointment being enhanced when the party returned to the bunkhouse to learn that it had missed a wonderful display by a Pine Marten at the feeding station. So one group was ecstatic, the other not - such is life!

Another short drive to Andy's yard paved the way for a long half day on Loch Sunart. This time we did not go far because we did not need to. Across the loch we spied an adult White-tailed Eagle perched in a Pine tree, then a juvenile and then another young bird. We had great views before a further adult appeared to complete the family group. Fantastic! We watched all for a long time until each bird eventually flew off. We were more than satisfied.

Our next target were cetaceans - Harbour Porpoise and/or dolphins. In no time at all a shout went up, 'fins'! The boat and our heads turned in unison and before long we all had great views of a pod of Common Dolphins jumping out of the water. This dolphin dozen treated us to a fantastic show, so we were ready to return with broad smiles. This was not to be until we had a guided tour of part of the Isle of Carna, Andy explaining the conversation work that he is engaged with there. Ringlet, Speckled Wood and Small White butterflies were flying in the small wood. Fortunately we found a Fox moth caterpillar on the grass before treading on it. Eventually he took us back across the water to show a Slow-worm in his garden. It had been a great morning.

We returned to base for lunch, then headed out to Glen Moidart in the hope of finding more eagles. While we dipped with this species we were delighted to sight another - White-throated Dipper, a first for several in the group. Common Buzzards were seen, as were several dragonflies - Black Darter, Common Darter, Red Darter. The valley and river were delightful in the bright sunshine, so it was difficult to leave, but dinner was beckoning.

After another enjoyable meal, we settled down to playing games and awaiting the eagerly anticipated visit of Pine Marten. We did not have to wait long until a Pine Marten, a new individual, appeared and showed on several occasions giving great entertainment. So, the earlier disappointment of missing this treat evaporated. While we did not witness the disappearance of two eggs left on the windowsill, both had gone by morning and all of the peanut butter too.

Day 6

Friday 22nd August

The regular, pale-tailed, Red Squirrel turned up on time to entertain us before breakfast as we took another Pine Marten watch. It must have been full from feeding last night because our bait did not attract it on this occasion. Breakfast enjoyed, we headed out to explore a different part of the peninsula.

A short stop before Salen gave us the opportunity to look across and along Loch Sunart but without great success. So, we drove on through Salen to the equally small village of Acharachle and the jetty at Loch Shiel. This freshwater loch drains into Loch Moidart, via the River Shiel, our next venue. A few Tufted Ducks were on the loch, House Martins were flying over and feeding.

We enjoyed coffee and cloutie pudding in Café Tiorum before heading off to Casteal Tiorum, a short drive. The tide was receding, leaving the bay looking spectacular in the sunshine, with the castle brooding from its lofty knoll. Taking lunch with us, we steadily walked along the causeway and up the short hill to the side of the castle. It is in some disrepair so cannot be entered, which is a pity because we wanted to! However, finding a White-tailed Eagle's nest in conifers across the water cancelled any disappointment, particularly when a juvenile approached and perched nearby. We searched the mudflats to find Eurasian Curlew, Eurasian Oystercatcher, Bar-tailed Godwit and gulls.

Next stop was Kentra Moss, an extensive bog just north of the village. Birds were scarce, but insectivorous plants were aplenty. We quickly found Bladderwort, then all three species of sundew that grow in the UK – Round-leaved, Oblong-leaved and Greater Sundew. These plants trap insects and other invertebrates to extract minerals that they cannot absorb from the peaty substrain. Different species of Sphagnum moss were common and colourful between clumps of Bell-heather and Ling.

We visited two further areas next to the bog, a beach and a small estuary. We saw Common Buzzard, a flock of Mistle Thrushes, Eurasian Curlew, Hooded Crow and Grey Heron.

It had been a good day, so we returned to the bunkhouse to refresh and relax ahead of our meal. This gave time for us to also refresh the bait for our hopeful crepuscular visitors. We were disappointed on this watch.

Day 7

Saturday 23rd August

Fascadale is a great place to look for White-tailed Eagle and today proved that point. We hadn't reached the carpark before a bird was seen in the air. Quickly scrambling from the van, we all had excellent views of an adult slowly flying up the valley until it disappeared over the brow of a hill. It was fantastic. From the carpark we walked the short distance to the cliff edge and within minutes another adult appeared. This one gave even more thrilling views as it flew over the sea towards us. It suddenly saw a Northern Gannet on the water and stooped down to attack it. The Gannet took off, leaving a fish, that it had caught, for the bigger bird. The eagle must have been delighted, the Gannet relieved. What brilliant wildlife watching.

Next up came the call 'fins' and this time we watched for a Minke Whale as it periodically surfaced. The views were distant but rewarding. Good numbers of Manx Shearwaters were flying in convoy along the loch and a Common Eider was spotted.

The icehouse here is an interesting place to visit and imagine the hardship of fishing for Atlantic Salmon from the scattered crofts at this northern coast of the peninsula. Great views can also be had of the more northerly islands of Muck, Eigg, Rum and, on clearer days, Skye.

We returned to Loch Sunart for some to visit the Ardnamurchan Distillery and enjoy a well-guided tour. The rest took advantage of a rest in the newly reopened Natural History Centre. An hour later we drove east along the loch to park at Ardery and walk through the small wood to the Wildlife hide at Garbh Eilean. We had our picnic lunch here at this excellent Scottish Forestry site.

We scanned the islands opposite the hide to find an eagle's nest and Grey Herons were seen (there is a heronry here). More than a dozen Common Seals, of differing size and colour, were sprawled out on the rocks so it was a great time to confirm how to identify them. The odd one was swimming in the sea, only its head above water. And we were eagerly scanning the sea for a smaller mammal. In time our patience was rewarded by sighting a River Otter swimming in the distance. It slowly edged towards us, giving great views as it swam, dived and resurfaced to eat its catch. We tracked it for a good time until it hauled out onto the rocks and then took back to the sea. It delighted us.

Our final venue of the day, and of the week, was the superb ancient oak woodland next to the Ariundle Centre where we enjoyed a two-hour walk in amazing scenery. This area of open and closed woodland shows off the temperate rainforest landscape of Ardnamurchan to great effect. We had a relaxing stroll through different habitats before returning to the Centre for dinner, then back to the bunkhouse. Andy and Amanda completed the identification of fifteen moth species caught overnight in a trap and bait was put out to attract Pine Martens. Missing food suggested that at least one visited overnight, but not while a watch was being carried out.

Day 8

Sunday 24th August

All good things come to an end and this holiday was no exception. One week on from meeting as a group, we had shared excellent views of wildlife and the rich wildness of Ardnamurchan. We had seen all of the key species that we had hoped for. The weather had been wonderful, the company had been likewise; a tightly knit group had formed. The wildlife had been exceptional and, as ever, unpredictable. The Pine Marten had visited overnight but as we were all recovering in bed from an amazing final full day in the field.

So we said farewell to the bunkhouse that had served our needs most adequately, and set off to drive to Corran Ferry where we saw our final River Otter in the water, and on to Glasgow, where we spotted a bird not seen in Ardnamurchan – Magpie! Our journey ended with strong memories of all the things that had made our week so precious. It had been fabulous.

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Species lists

Mammals

		August 2025							
Scientific name	Common name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
River Otter	<i>Lutra lutra</i>			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Pine Marten	<i>Martes martes</i>				✓	✓	✓	E	
Red Deer	<i>Cervus elaphus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Wild Cat	<i>Felis silvestris</i>								
Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>						✓		
Common Dolphin	<i>Delphinus delphis</i>			✓	✓	✓			
Harbour Porpoise	<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>			✓					
Harbour (Common) Seal	<i>Phoca vitulina</i>			✓	✓	✓		✓	
Grey Seal	<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>			✓	✓				
Bat sp.				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Feral Goat	<i>Capra hircus</i>				✓				
Mink	<i>Neogale vision</i>			✓					
Minke Whale	<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i>				✓			✓	

Birds (H = Heard only)

		August 2025							
Common name	Scientific name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Canada Goose	<i>Branta canadensis</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>						✓		
Common Eider	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>			✓				✓	
Red Grouse	<i>Lagopus lagopus scoticus</i>				H				
European Storm Petrel	<i>Hydrobates pelagicus</i>			✓					

Common name	Scientific name	August 2025							
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Manx Shearwater	<i>Puffinus puffinus</i>			50+	200				
Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>			✓	4	✓	✓	✓	
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Northern Gannet	<i>Morus bassanus</i>		✓	✓				✓	
European Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>		✓	✓					
Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>				✓				
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>			✓			✓		
Hen Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>							✓	
White-tailed Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>			✓		4	✓	✓	
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
European Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>				✓				
Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>				✓				
Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>				✓				
Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>						✓		
Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>			✓		✓			
Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>				✓				
Red Knot	<i>Calidris canutus</i>						✓		
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>				✓				
Black-legged Kittiwake	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>			✓					
Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Gull	<i>Larus canus</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Great Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>			✓		✓		✓	
European Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus graellsii</i>		✓	✓					
Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>			✓					
Arctic Skua	<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>	✓		✓					
Common Guillemot	<i>Uria aalge</i>		✓	✓					
Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia 'feral'</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>		H	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Tawny Owl	<i>Strix aluco</i>	H		✓	H				
Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>							H	
Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>			✓	2				
Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>								✓
Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>		H	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>		✓		✓			✓	
Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>				✓				
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	

		August 2025							
Common name	Scientific name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>				✓				
Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>		H						
Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>		H		✓			✓	
Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Treecreeper	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>		✓					✓	
Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europea</i>	✓							
Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>		✓		✓				
Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>		✓				✓	✓	
European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>		✓	✓	✓				
Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>		✓			✓			
White-throated Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>					✓			
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>		✓		✓		✓		
Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba yarrellii</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Eurasian Rock Pipit	<i>Anthus petrosus</i>			✓	✓				
Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>							✓	
European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>		✓						
Twite	<i>Linaria flavirostris</i>				✓				
Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
Common Redpoll	<i>Acanthis flammea</i>				H			✓	
European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Eurasian Siskin	<i>Spinus spinus</i>		✓		✓				
Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>		✓		✓				
Common Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>		✓						

Reptiles & Amphibians

		August 2025							
Common name	Scientific name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Slowworm	<i>Anguis fragilis</i>					✓			
Common Lizard	<i>Zootoca vivipara</i>		✓			✓			
Common Frog	<i>Rana temporaria</i>				✓	✓		✓	
Common Toad	<i>Bufo bufo</i>		✓		✓	✓		✓	

Others

		August 2025							
Scientific name	Common name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Butterflies									
Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>		✓						

Scientific name	Common name	August 2025							
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Speckled Wood	<i>Parage aegeria</i>					✓		✓	
Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>		✓						
Grayling	<i>Hipparchia semele</i>		✓						
Small White	<i>Artogeia rapae</i>		✓			✓		✓	
Scotch Argus	<i>Erebia aethiops</i>		✓						
Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>					✓			
Peacock	<i>Inachis io</i>					✓		✓	
Moths									
Purple Bar	<i>Cosmorhoe ocellata</i>							2	
Fox Moth	<i>Macrothylacia rubi</i>					✓			
Dark Marbled Carpet	<i>Dysstroma citrata citrata</i>							✓	
Garden Carpet	<i>Xanthorhoe fluctuata</i>							✓	
Spruce Carpet	<i>Thera brittanica</i>							✓	
Canary-shouldered Thorn	<i>Ennomos alniaria</i>							✓	
Autumnal Rustic	<i>Eugnorisma glareosa</i>							✓	
Square-spot Rustic	<i>Xestia xanthographia</i>							✓	
Common Marbled Carpet	<i>Dysstroma truncata truncata</i>							✓	
Lesser Swallow Prominent	<i>Pheosia gnoma</i>							✓	
Dotted Clay	<i>Xestia baja</i>							✓	
Neglected Rustic	<i>Xestia castanea</i>							✓	
Buff Footman	<i>Eilema depressa</i>							✓	
Pale Eggar	<i>Trichiura crataegi</i>							✓	
Smoky Wainscot	<i>Mythimna impura</i>							✓	
Rosy Rustic	<i>Hydraecia micacea</i>							✓	
Dragonflies									
Black Darter	<i>Sympetrum danae</i>					✓			
Red-veined Darter	<i>Sympetrum fonscolombii</i>					✓			
Common Darter	<i>Sympetrum striolatum</i>					✓			
Others									
a Sea Anemone			✓		✓				
Limpet						✓			
Razorshell						✓			
Clam						✓			
Sinistral Spiral Tubeworm	<i>Spirorbis borealis</i>								
Scarab Beetle			✓						

Plants

	Scientific name	Common name	Location, comments
Ferns	<i>Asplenium adiantum-nigrum</i>	Black Spleenwort	Fascadale
	<i>Asplenium ruta-muralis</i>	Wall Rue	Strontian
	<i>Blechnum spicant</i>	Hard-fern	Garbh
	<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Bracken	common
	<i>Dryopteris filix-mas</i>	Male-fern	Garbh Eilean
	<i>Polypodium vulgare</i>	Common Polypody	Garbh Eilean
	<i>Asplenium trichomanes</i>	Maidenhair Spleenwort	Bunkhouse entrance

	Scientific name	Common name	Location, comments
Conifers	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	Scot's Pine	common
	<i>Juniperus communis</i>	Common Juniper	Caldera
ANGIOSPERMS			
Dicotyledons			
Buttercup family	<i>Caltha palustris</i>	Marsh Marigold	Sanna Bay
Beech family			
	<i>Quercus petraea</i>	Sessile Oak	common
Birch family	<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver Birch	common
	<i>Betula pubescens</i>	Downy Birch	common
	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	Alder	common
	<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel	frequent
Maple family	<i>Acer campestre</i>	Field Maple	occasional
	<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Sycamore	occasional
Ivy family	<i>Hedera helix</i>	Ivy	occasional
Glasswort family	<i>Salicornia europaea</i>	Common Glasswort	Ardnamurchan Point
Pinks family	<i>Sinene flos-cuculi</i>	Ragged Robin	Laga
	<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	Common Mouse-ear	common
	<i>Silene dioica</i>	Red Campion	Laga
	<i>Stellaria media</i>	Common Chickweed	common
Thrift family	<i>Armeria maritima</i> ssp. <i>maritima</i>	Sea Thrift	Ardnamurchan Point
Sundew family	<i>Drosera rotundifolia</i>	Round-leaved Sundew	Kentra Moss
	<i>Drosera anglica</i>	Great Sundew	Kentra Moss
	<i>Drosera intermedia</i>	Oblong-leaved Sundew	Kentra Moss
Heather family	<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>	Heather	Kentra Moss
	<i>Erica cinerea</i>	Bell Heather	Kentra Moss
	<i>Rhododendron ponticum</i>	Rhododendron	common
Grass of Parnassus family	<i>Parnassia paulstris</i>	Grass of Parnassus	Sanna Bay
Rose family			
	<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	Herb Robert	Laga
	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn	occasional
	<i>Filipendula ulmaria</i>	Meadow Sweet	frequent
	<i>Potentilla anserina</i>	Silverweed	frequent
	<i>Potentilla erecta</i>	Tormentil	frequent
	<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan	occasional
Pea family	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Bird's-foot trefoil	Ardnamurchan Point
	<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Red Clover	common
	<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White Clover	common
	<i>Ulex europaea</i>	Gorse	Kilchoan
Carrot family	<i>Oenanthe crocata</i>	Hemlock Water-dropwort	Bunkhouse entrance
Bindweed family	<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	Field Bindweed	occasional
Bogbean family	<i>Menyanthes trifoliata</i>	Bogbean	Sanna Bay
Deadnettle family	<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	Selfheal	occasional
	<i>Thymus polytrichus</i>	Wild Thyme	Ardnamurchan Point
Plantain family	<i>Plantago lanecolata</i>	Ribwort Plantain	common
	<i>Plantago major</i>	Greater Plantain	common
	<i>Plantago maritima</i>	Sea Plantain	Ardnamurchan Point
Ash family	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash	occasional
Broomrape family	<i>Pedicularis sylvatica</i>	Lousewort	Sanna Bay
	<i>Rhinanthus minor</i>	Yellow-rattle	Sanna Bay

	Scientific name	Common name	Location, comments
	<i>Euphrasia agg.</i>	Eyebright	Sanna Bay
Bladderwort family	<i>Pinguicula vulgaris</i>	Common Butterwort	Sanna Bay
	<i>Utricularia intermedia</i>	Intermediate Bladderwort	Kentra Moss
Bellflower family	<i>Campanula rotundifolia</i>	Harebell	Sanna Bay
Bedstraw family	<i>Garium verum</i>	Lady's Bedstraw	Acharacle
Honeysuckle family	<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	Elderberry	occasional
Teasel family	<i>Succisa pratensis</i>	Devil's-bit Scabious	frequent
Daisy family	<i>Arctium minus</i>	Lesser Burdock	infrequent
	<i>Bellis perennis</i>	Daisy	occasional
	<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Creeping Thistle	occasional
	<i>Cirsium palustre</i>	Marsh Thistle	Sanna Bay
	<i>Hieracium agg</i>	Hawkweed	occasional
	<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	Cat's-ear	frequent
	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	Oxeye Daisy	road verges
	<i>Matricaria discoides</i>	Pineappleweed	infrequent
	<i>Pilosella officinarum</i>	Mouse-ear Hawkweed	Sanna Bay
	<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>	Ragwort	occasional
	<i>Senecio vulgaris</i>	Groundsel	occasional
	<i>Triplospermum maritimum</i>	Sea Mayweed	Sanna Bay
	<i>Tripolium pannonicum</i>	Sea Aster	Acharacle
Monocotyledons	<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	Yellow Iris	Ivs common
	<i>Narthecium ossifragum</i>	Bog Asphodel	Sanna Bay
Grass family	<i>Ammophila arenaria</i>	Marram Grass	Sanna Bay
	<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	Sweet Vernal Grass	Sanna Bay
	<i>Cynosorus cristatus</i>	Crested Dog's-tail	occasional
	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Cock's-foot	common
	<i>Deschampsia cespitosa</i>	Tufted Hair-grass	Ariundle Wood
	<i>Deschampsia flexuosa</i>	Wavy Hair-grass	Ariundle Wood
Sedges			
	<i>Eriophorum angustifolium</i>	Common Cottongrass	Kentra Moss
	<i>Trichophorum germanicum</i>	Deer Grass	Kentra Moss
LICHENS	<i>Lobaria pulmonaria</i>	Tree Lungwort	Aperitive Point