

# Ardnamurchan – Wild Scotland in Spring

Naturetrek Tour Report

25th May – 1st June 2023

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Tour report by Steve Gater

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Tour participants: Steve Gater (Leader) with eight Naturetrek clients

## Day 1

Thursday 25th May

After a short airline-related delay, we made a picturesque drive through stunning Scottish scenery in full sunshine and under blue skies. Loch Lomond was admired, and after a comfort stop and quick shop at the Green Welly in Tyndrum, the light picked out the blue water and verdant bogs of Rannock Moor. Flower heads of 'white grass' (that is, Cottongrass) bobbed about in the gentle breeze. We took advantage of the bright day to stop in Glencoe to wonder at the mighty mountain sides on this glorious afternoon. Yellow flowers of Tormentil, white umbels of Pignut, Field Rush and Sweet Vernal Grass were conspicuous. But we were short of time and had to push on.

Our journey was lengthened considerably by the Corran ferry being closed. The extended drive took us through Fort William and a detour along a 35-mile stretch of single-track road. Courteous driving was essential, with frequent use of stopping places. One bonus, however, was a brilliant head-on view of Ben Nevis, still with snow on top. Grey Heron, Mistle Thrush, Mute Swan, Canada Geese, White Wagtail and Northern Raven were seen as we passed along. We arrived in Strontian and our dining spot at the Ariundle Centre rather late, and there we met a final (very patient) client before sitting down to eat. Unexpectedly, and with great pleasure, our meal was accompanied by live harp, flute and song, thanks to a local performer booked for the evening.

Dinner enjoyed, we set off towards Glenborrodale to find our accommodation, the Ardnamurchan Bunkhouse. This was still some way off. The very late daylight merged into blackness as we clung to the single-track roads, on what became our first night-drive. Moths fluttered in the headlights, a bat flew across and we disturbed three different Red Deer on the verges. Eventually we arrived, quickly found our rooms and headed for a well-deserved sleep. The suggestion of an early morning walk was sensibly declined, but a midnight snack for any ravenous animals was left on the elaborate feeding station outside the lounge. The night ended with Tawny Owl calling from nearby trees!

## Day 2

Friday 26th May

A bright start saw us checking the feeding station where only crumbs remained, but they attracted a female Great Spotted Woodpecker. She was joined by Dunnock, European Robin and a quarrelling pair of Song Thrush. Two Red Deer appeared from the trees and walked casually across the cut grass. The wildlife continued to entertain all as breakfast was taken, followed by a session outlining what the week could look like and expectations of what might be encountered. Weather forecasts seemed favourable, so we set off for our first exploration.

This was at the nearby Aperitif Point where we hoped to find European Otter. None were seen today, but later reports from others were positive, so our hopes were not dimmed. We did see nine Harbour Porpoise on the loch in three separate groups. Eurasian Oystercatcher, Common Tern, Herring Gull, Northern Gannet, Hooded Crow, Canada and Greylag Geese were flying over.

Pink Thrift was on the rocks with fleshy Biting Stonecrop just coming into flower. Plenty of Gunnera plants were attractive escapes, but plenty of Hard Fern were natural. Common Cow-wheat was a new plant to many, their splendid yellow flowers catching the eye, as did those of Bird's-foot Trefoil and Tormentil. Same colour, different shapes.

Coffee was taken at the very welcoming Ardnamurchan History Centre, where a Common Buzzard gave a fine show. Then a short drive took us to a viewpoint overlooking Ben Hiant mountain. And what a terrific vista this was, especially when a magnificent White-tailed Eagle flew overhead, one way then the other. We were delighted

with such a close sighting, amazed by being in the right place at the right time. But the total surprise was then watching the bird carry large prey along the hillside and beyond. What a privilege. Northern Raven, Common Buzzard and an unexpected Sparrowhawk flew around. Common Sandpiper, Common Ringed Plover, White Wagtail and Linnet were also seen.

A marshy area below the viewpoint was searched for plants; parasitic Butterwort and Round-leaved Sundew, and hemi-parasitic Lousewort were enjoyed in flower. The diminutive flowers of Marsh Arrowgrass contrasted with the more showy Early Marsh Orchid inflorescences.

The final visit of the day was to the RSBP Glenborrodale Reserve, where a path took us steeply up into ancient Oak woodland, carpeted with Hard Fern, Common Cow-wheat, Tormentil and Bracken. Willow Warbler was in full song; Chaffinch, Long-tailed Tit and European Robin were also heard. Smooth Newt were seen in a small pond.

It was not long after dinner and checklist that we saw, from the lounge window, our first Pine Marten, visiting the table stocked with peanut butter (and more) sandwiches. Its guile and gracefulness made for compulsive viewing, which doubled when its mate appeared. The two mustelids had different coat colours, behaved differently and took what they needed. They left fantastic memories and camera images, and served as a perfect finale to a wonderful day. A Tawny Owl topped it off.

## Day 3

## Saturday 27th May

A great day started in a great way with a pair of European Otter found on a rock in Sunart Loch from Aperitif Point. The 6.30am walk was immediately rewarded: one otter giving extended views as it dived into the water, swam for food and hauled out elsewhere. Following breakfast the drive took thirty minutes to reach Fingary Pier outside Kilchoan, to board the small boat for our trip to Staffa and the Treshnish Isles. Grey Heron and Common Buzzard were spotted en route.

Sea watching from a speeding boat was not easy for all, but was rewarding when Common Cormorant, Black Guillemot, Great Northern Diver, Manx Shearwater and plenty of gulls were seen. Our first stop was Staffa Island with its amazing basalt blocks and the stunning Fingal's Cave. The geology and natural architecture were fascinating. An hour on this small rocky outcrop zipped by, but not before lots of Bird's-foot Trefoil, Sea Thrift, Roseroot, Sea Campion and several sedges were identified. Several male Mountain Everlasting plants growing in amongst Heather were in flower, with their curled leaves showing white undersides. A Great Skua looked huge as it spied on all from top of a grassy slope; not a bird to be messed with.

The next stop was Lunga, a bigger island with a huge population of Atlantic Puffin. There is little wonder that this small, dumpy yet beautifully attractive seabird is so popular with visitors, particularly as it lines up beside its nesting burrows to be admired. And no wonder why a long line of photographers assembled along the first stretch of burrows - birding paparazzi with many willing subjects.

What was theoretically a walk of about twenty minutes to a large stack took twice that long, given the many wildlife distractions along the way. Birds dominated the air, the land and the sea. European Shag offered very close inspection of their plumage, with greenish sheen and hint of purple, and giving helpful size comparison with Common Cormorant. Two birds that had chosen to nest between rocks on the very edge of the path remained calm, no doubt unimpressed by their passers-by. The star attraction was the seabird city of hundreds of Common Guillemot and Razorbill on the near vertical sea stack. Not a place you could miss – a crowded cliff face, constant activity, raucous noise, and a strong smell of... Sites like this are absorbing and unforgettable.

As we were taking in this experience and sorting our packed lunches, three Bottle-nosed Dolphin appeared in the sea well below us. They performed by bubbling under water, breaching the surface and launching over the waves,

one entirely out of the sea (so identification was easily confirmed). Sandwiches took second place to this thrilling entertainment for some time. Eventually the dolphins disappeared, allowing for hunger to be dealt with. Later a Harbour Seal, nose up in the water, and several Atlantic Grey Seal hauled up on rocks added to the growing mammals list.

The trip back was uneventful and after enjoying a cuppa again in the Ardnamurchan History Centre we headed back to the bunkhouse. Half the group chose to revisit Aperitif Point and walk back, about fifteen minutes of extra exercise. Another excellent meal was served, the checklist was completed, and then began our long wait for Pine Marten. Amazingly, a Goshawk landed briefly on a telegraph post outside the lounge, and Great Spotted Woodpecker kept appearing. Finally one, then the second, Pine Marten arrived, again to take food. So ended a long and a great day.

## Day 4

## Sunday 28th May

Today started with three Red Squirrels chasing each other among the trees and one later running across the road and grass. In between times, our pre-breakfast look from the viewpoint at Aperitif Point recorded many midgies, but the discomfort was outweighed by a European Otter swimming down the loch. When it disappeared behind the near headland we followed a hunch, took to the bus again for a short drive along and duly found it sitting on a small rock. It stayed long enough for all to enjoy great views through the scope. A wonderful way to start the day.

After breakfast we drove east towards Salen, stopping at a small carpark on the edge of the loch where we searched the sky and had a distant view of a Golden Eagle. Although it disappeared into cloud before we could scope it, everyone had sufficient time to see it. The short hop to the nearby pier at Salen gave views of a Cormorant through the scope and a chance to compare with the many Shag seen yesterday. Shady Horsetail and Hemlock Water-dropwort were growing in a ditch and Lady Fern seen again rocks. We took advantage of the café for coffee and top up of supplies.

A further short drive found us in the car park at Garbh Eillean. Here the Scottish Forestry Commission has installed a wide boardwalk leading to a large bird hide that overlooks the loch and two islands. One holds a heronry, so Grey Heron was quickly found. Atlantic Grey Seal were hauled out on rocks, while below European Oystercatcher, Common Ringed Plover and Greenshank were searching for food. Mallard, Goosander, Northern Gannet were on the water while Common Tern, European Herring Gull and Common Gull were in the air.

A steady walk through the small wood took us to a further carpark, on the way seeing Bilberry (Blaeberry), Downy Birch, Rowan and lots of ferns. Two nationally rare (but less so locally) species of lepidoptera were discovered. The first was a very attractive black and white Argent and Sable Moth, which was most unexpected. The second was a target elsewhere on the trip, but not really here, so were delighted to find a Chequered Skipper which kindly settled on Bluebell flowers to please the photographers. A Large Red Damselfly was in a ditch and many Common Carder Bumblebees were inspecting flowers.

A trestle table under the trees was a suitable spot for lunch with an adjacent saltmarsh offering a new habitat to explore. Alder was growing on the wet edge, and Sea Milkwort, Sea Arrowgrass, Ragged Robin were further in. The area supported a good mix of sedges including Carnation, Black, and Yellow species. Rock Pipits were flitting across the marsh, Common Spotted Flycatcher was in the trees and another Greenshank was on the loch shoreline. A comfort break was due and found after a short drive in Acharacle, with tea and coffee at the first café that we came to. This was near a pier on Loch Shiel, a designated site for Black-necked Diver, but we saw none on this visit. However, we did enjoy good views of Red-breasted Merganser, Tufted Duck, Barn Swallow and Sand Martin. We searched the verges for orchids, finding leaves and flower buds. Back in the village Early Purple and Common

Spotted Orchids were a little further advanced, but still in bud. We hoped that they might be out later in the week. To our surprise, a neglected area nearby held lots of Common Butterwort with blue flowers dangling on a long, delicate stalk. And a further unexpected find was a flush holding a patch of Flea Sedge.

Another filling and tasty dinner was followed by a talk given by Niall, who runs the bunkhouse with his wife Fay: they both do a fantastic job. We were privileged to a two hour 'tour de force' explanation of the history, culture, economy, land management and conservation of the Highlands, the Western Isles and Ardnamurchan in particular. The experience was compelling and absorbing, only to be curtailed by the arrival of two Pine Martens to feed. This time everyone had a chance to admire the pair, concentrating on their behaviour without cameras as sufficient pictures had already been captured. Three Red Deer fed on the grass. Another great day!

## Day 5

## Monday 29th May

At 6.00am three Red Squirrels were exercising vigorously on trees outside the lounge, Great Spotted Woodpecker repeatedly visited the feeder, and bacon and egg and vegetarian alternatives were being cooked. All enjoyed breakfast with a replenished supply of local pecan and maple crisp granola, a firmly established favourite cereal, or the more traditional porridge.

The target destinations today were coastal. Having seen dolphins and seals, we were fired up by recent local reports of Orca, Basking Sharks and Minke Whale. Perhaps we were overambitious, but if you don't try you will never see a thing. So we set off with high expectations and great enthusiasm.

Our first stop was our raptor viewing point overlooking Ben Hiant, but we were disappointed this time. Then we moved on to the most westerly part of the Scottish mainland, the Point of Ardnamurchan, stopping en route to look at orchids: Early Marsh Orchid just in flower and looking great in various colours on the grassy bank. A Common Buzzard flew over. Once at the lighthouse the top priority was coffee and calendars. For the next two hours we had chance to watch for cetaceans, (unsuccessfully) and birds – Northern Gannet was popular. Cat's-ear, Thrift, Rosemary, Scurvy Grass, Roseroot, Crowberry and more plants were below our vantage point. We enjoyed the sparkling sea, rocky promontory and blue sky, and eleven Red Deer on a hill top as we munched our packed lunch.

The afternoon was taken up by a visit to Sanna Bay. Walking along a marshy area and stream towards the sea we came across more orchids, Butterwort, and Large-bracketed Yellow Sedge. Large Red Damselfly and Garden Chafer Beetle were on Yellow Flag leaves, Stickleback were in the stream and Waterboatmen spun on the surface. The cry 'watch the snake' certainly worked as we admired a male Adder coiled up in the grass before it slowly slid away. Sand Martin were feeding young in a sandy bank and Skylark were singing from above. Brilliant.

The beach was pristine and almost empty and the temptation to have a paddle was too much, so we relaxed and sauntered along the sand and sea, enjoying every minute. Our route back to the bus was via wet grassland, packed with flowering Bogbean, Bottle Sedge, Early Marsh and Northern Marsh Orchid. Rock Pipit and Twite were flitting about, and a female Hen Harrier showed for some time. On the drive back the undulating landscape and vivid blue Loch Sunart set in bright sunlight were stunning.

Dinner was consumed, the checklist was compiled, sandwiches were made for the Pine Marten (which arrived before they were put out) and more friendly chatter ended another most rewarding and enjoyable day.

## Day 6

## Tuesday 30th May

On an early morning walk we checked the sea for European Otter and brief sightings were had. It was a sunny but a midgie-plagued start, so we did not linger. Glenborrodale RSPB Reserve was revisited and several birds were heard with brief glimpses of some: Willow Warbler, Chiffchaff, Wren, Siskin, Goldcrest. A simple breakfast was enjoyed.

Today we wandered eastwards, back to Salen and on to Garbh Eillean bird hide. Many Atlantic Grey Seal were hauled out on the rocks. Several European Oystercatcher were also on the rocks, including one with three chicks. Then we moved further east to Strontian where we took coffee in the warm sun and searched successfully for Spotted Flycatcher, the best views being of one close to the bus. This time everyone saw the bird. Barn Swallow and were hawking low over the freshly cut grass and House Martin visited their nests on the buildings. A short hop took us along the track by the Ariundle Centre to Ariundle Woods.

We had just parked when we saw the first of many delightful Chequered Skippers on Bluebells on the grassy verge. These small and distinctive butterflies tended to stay in one patch, so it was relatively easy to watch and photograph them. A brightly marked Golden-ringed Dragonfly was spotted at the same time and later in the day Keeled Skimmer Dragonfly extended the list. There were numerous Large Red Damselfly which we had seen previously, but then we had a new find in a Beautiful Demoiselle, which lived up to its name. Although it tended to roost high up in trees and was thus difficult to photograph, we had repeated views to become familiar with it.

Willow Warbler, Chaffinch and Wren were common in the trees but Siskin, European Treecreeper and Long-tailed Tit less so. Meadow Pipit repeatedly 'jumped' over the wet grass, while Common Cuckoo sang and was no doubt ready to lay in other birds' nests. Skylark sang, Common Sandpiper was on the river edge and Common Buzzard was in the air. A small collection of Globeflower was a good find. So too was Hare's-tail Cotton Grass with its single flower.

Time flew. The sun continued to shine in a blue sky and it was a shame to leave, but a comfort stop at the Ariundle Centre beckoned. A scenic drive over the top took us to the shore of Loch Dolian and revealed a different landscape, if not different fauna or flora. Common Sandpiper was on the edge of the water and two Common Buzzard tussled high in the air.

Dinner was enjoyed at the Ariundle Centre (fish and chips for most) before we drove back to the bunkhouse. It was late and we only just had time to put out sandwiches before the Pine Marten showed to take them and give great views once again.

## Day 7

## Wednesday 31st May

Early morning bus-hopping before breakfast avoided midgies but did not secure viewings of Otter, so we took breakfast and completed a checklist held over from the late finish the day before. Then we headed east to Salen and north, first to have coffee in Archaracle. Early Marsh Orchids had progressed and were flowering well, but we were disappointed that the Lesser Butterfly Orchid were still in bud. Maybe they would flower next week? Red-breasted Merganser were on Loch Shiel, along with Mallard, Common Teal and Tufted Duck. A prominent Common Greenfinch was very colourful as it called in the sunshine, but a Common Reed Bunting was more elusive. As lunch was due soon we set off to find a suitable spot to enjoy it.

A winding one-track road took us to a wide bay overlooked by the ruins of the formidable Casteal Tioram. In the days of clan warfare this must have been a daunting place. Today, with the sun shining strongly in a clear blue sky, it was simply magical. And the magic extended to an unforgettable experience of a White-tailed Eagle soaring in wide circles, getting closer and closer to us and giving perfect views. It was being gingerly mobbed by gulls, but

really took little notice. Its 'barn door' wings, bright white tail, white head and wing patches were very clear. Its nest was found in the scope, containing what seemed to be at least one chick. This was another addition to the very many wonderful memories of this great trip.

It was difficult to leave, but we retraced our drive back to Archaracle, then on to Kentra Moss blanket bog and pools. The acidic conditions support a limited range of wild plants, some of which have special adaptations to grow in the nutrient-deficient soil. Round-leaved Sundew is a good example, an insectivorous plant that was just going into flower bud. And alongside, giving fantastic opportunity to compare and contrast, was Great Sundew. We took our time being certain with our identification of this less common species. Bogbean was in flower, but Bog Myrtle was not.

Dragonflies and damselflies were flying over the bog. The former were represented by Four-spotted Chaser and Black Darter, the latter by Large Red and Common Blue. A Kestrel was spotted carrying prey, Skylark was singing from above, Common Buzzard flew in the distance and Meadow Pipit was close by. A single Green Hairstreak was seen.

It was still pleasantly warm when we arrived at our last stop with mud flats and river to explore. Greenshank was spotted on the mud and Redshank flew in from the hilltop. But there was less birdlife than we had hoped. Field Bindweed was strangling Stinging Nettle that was also being eaten by Red Admiral caterpillars. Perhaps there is little sympathy for this plant though?

Anyway, our day was over so we returned to the bunkhouse for our final dinner provided by Kate and team. She had been so kind and accommodating over the week and was suitably thanked. And this was our final night of Pine Marten watching. We enjoyed another close view, one we had become familiar with, before retiring to our beds.

## Day 8

## Thursday 1st June

How time was flying: a new month started and a week since we had arrived in Ardnamurchan. The weather was wonderful yet again. How lucky we had been, both with the weather and in seeing such an amazing array of wildlife. An early breakfast was needed to give time for a longer drive than normal to reach Glasgow in time for onward connections. One member of the group was driving separately, so we said our fond farewells after breakfast. We took our leave of this very special part of Scotland with wonderful memories of all the things that had made our time so precious. It had been a fabulous week.

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## Species lists

Birds (H = Heard only)

Common name	Scientific name	25 May - 1 June 2023							
		25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1
Canada Goose	<i>Branta canadensis</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	
Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	
Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>		X						
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	X	X		X	X		X	
Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>							X	
Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>							X	
Common Eider	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>			X					
Goosander	<i>Mergus merganser</i>				X				
Red-breasted Merganser	<i>Mergus serrator</i>				X		X	X	
Common Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>			H			H		
Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>		X						
Black-throated Diver	<i>Gavia arctica</i>							X	
Great Northern Diver	<i>Gavia immer</i>			X					
Northern Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>			X					
Manx Shearwater	<i>Puffinus puffinus</i>			X					
Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>			X					
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Northern Gannet	<i>Morus bassanus</i>	X	X	X	X	X		X	
European Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>	X		X		X			
Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>				X				
Hen Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>			X		X			
White-tailed Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>		X					X	
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>		X						
Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>			X					
Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>							X	
Eurasian Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>		X	X	X	X		X	
Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>	X						H	
Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>							X	



		25 May - 1 June 2023							
Common name	Scientific name	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1
Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>				X			X	
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>		X			X	X	X	
Black-legged Kittiwake	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>			X					
Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>			X					
Common Gull	<i>Larus canus</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	
Great Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>			X		X			
European Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	
Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>			X					
Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	
Arctic Tern	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>			X					
Great Skua	<i>Stercorarius skua</i>			X					
Arctic Skua	<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>			X					
Common Guillemot	<i>Uria aalge</i>			X					
Razorbill	<i>Alca torda</i>			X					
Black Guillemot	<i>Cepphus grylle</i>			X					
Atlantic Puffin	<i>Fratercula arctica</i>			X					
Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>			X					
Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia 'feral'</i>							X	
Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>		H	H	H	X	H	H	
Tawny Owl	<i>Strix aluco</i>	H							
Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>							X	
Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	X	X					X	
Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>							X	
Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>	X	X		X	X		X	
Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	X	X			H	H	H	
Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>				X	X		X	
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	
Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	
Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>		H			X	X		
Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>		H	H	H	X	H	H	
Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>		H					H	
Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>						X		
Garden Warbler	<i>Sylvia borin</i>						X		
Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>		X				H		
Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>		X	X	H	X	X	X	
Eurasian Treecreeper	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>		X	X			X		
Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>		X			X	X	X	
Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

		25 May - 1 June 2023							
Common name	Scientific name	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1
Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>		X		X	X	X	X	X
Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>	X		X	X			X	
Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>				X			X	
European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>		X	X					
Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>			X		X			
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>		X	X		X	X	X	X
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>		X		X				
White (Pied) Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba yarrellii</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	
Eurasian Rock Pipit	<i>Anthus petrosus</i>				X	X			
Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Eurasian Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>					X	X		
European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>				X		X	X	
Twite	<i>Linaria flavirostris</i>					X			
Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>		X						
European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Eurasian Siskin	<i>Spinus spinus</i>						X	X	
Common Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>							X	

## Other

		25 May - 1 June 2023							
Common name	Scientific name	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1
Pipistrelle sp.	<i>Pipistrellus sp.</i>	X							
River Otter	<i>Lutra lutra</i>		X		X	X			
Pine Marten	<i>Martes martes</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	
European Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>			D		X			
Fallow Deer	<i>Dama dama</i>								
Red Deer	<i>Cervus elaphus</i>					X			
Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>			X	X	X			
Feral Goat	<i>Capra aegagrus hircus</i>		X						
Bottle-nosed Dolphin	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>			X					
Harbour Porpoise	<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>		X						
Harbour (Common) Seal	<i>Phoca vitulina</i>		X	X					
Grey Seal	<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>						X	X	
<b>REPTILES &amp; AMPHIBIANS</b>									
Adder	<i>Vipera berus</i>						X		
Slow-worm	<i>Anguis fragilis</i>				D				
Common Lizard	<i>Zootoca vivipara</i>								
Smooth / Palmate Newt	<i>Lissotriton sp.</i>		X						
Common Frog	<i>Rana temporaria</i>						X		
Common Toad	<i>Bufo bufo</i>					X		X	

		25 May - 1 June 2023							
Common name	Scientific name	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1
<b>FISH</b>									
Three-spined Stickleback	<i>Gasterosteus aculeatus</i>						X		
<b>INVERTEBRATES</b>									
Argent & Sable Moth	<i>Rheumaptera hastata</i>				X		X		
Clouded Buff Moth	<i>Diacrisia sannio</i>						X		
Silver carpet Moth	<i>Xanthorhoe montanata</i>							X	
Brown Silver-line Moth	<i>Petrophora chlorostata</i>						X		
Common Whirligig Beetle	<i>Gyrinus substratus</i>					X	X		
Tiger Beetle	<i>Cicindela campestris</i>						X		
Garden Chaser	<i>Phyllophera horticola</i>					X			
Giant Wood Wasp	<i>Urocerus gigas</i>						X		
a Hoverfly	<i>Sericomyia silentis</i>						X		
Golden-ringed Dragonfly	<i>Cordulegaster boltonii</i>						X	X	
Common Hawker	<i>Aeshna juncea</i>						X		
Keeled Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum coerulescens</i>						X		
Black Darter	<i>Sympetrum danae</i>							X	
Common Blue Damselfly	<i>Enallagma cyathigerum</i>							X	
Four-spotted Chaser	<i>Libellula quadrimaculata</i>							X	
Large Red Damselfly	<i>Pyrrhosoma nymphula</i>					X	X	X	
Beautiful Demoiselle	<i>Calopteryx virgo</i>						X		
a Jellyfish								X	
a Sea Anemone							X		

## Butterflies

Common Name	Scientific Name	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	01
Chequered Skipper	<i>Carterocephalus palaemon</i>		X		X		X		
Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Green-veined White	<i>Pieris napi</i>				X		X	X	
Orange-tip	<i>Anthocharis cardamines</i>				X		X	X	
Pearl-bordered Fritillary	<i>Boloria euphrosyne</i>						X		
Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary	<i>Boloria selene</i>						X		
Peacock Butterfly	<i>Aglais io</i>		X		X				
Small Tortoiseshell	<i>Aglais urticae</i>		X				X		
Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>		X			X		X	
Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>		X				X		
Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>						X		
Green Hairstreak	<i>Callophrys rubi</i>						X	X	