

Ardnamurchan – Wild Scotland in Spring

Naturetrek Tour Report

24th – 31st May 2025



Pine Marten



Map-winged Swift



Black Guillemots



Puffin

Tour report and photos by Glyn Evans



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Ardnamurchan is, in the words of a respected Scottish friend of mine, “proper remote”. Although it boasts the point furthest west on the UK mainland, it does have a rather *island* feel about it, especially as, to everyone’s relief, the delightful Corran Ferry is now back in operation, cutting an hour off the journey as it deposits passengers at Ardgor for the run into Ardnamurchan proper, into Strontian where single track roads with well-placed passing places are the order of the day and where the locals will always acknowledge good etiquette with a parky wave of a digit.

Most of the time, our fun is had between spells of inclement weather.

This trip, following the previous week and four previous weeks of relative drought, was refreshingly familiar – and not before time. Five weeks of warm dry weather had its effect on some of the staples of this trip, most notably cetaceans – dolphins and porpoises. Usually they can be found in Loch Sunart, but the warm water therein was clearly unsuitable. Some of the migratory bird species on passage had gone through early and some, like Northern Wheatear, had significantly fewer sightings, perhaps either because they had kept moving further north or were now well into breeding...

Day 1

Saturday 24th May

Efforts to rally clients for an early getaway were hampered by incorrectly formatted mobile numbers, so Chris drew the short straw and left the airport some 25 minutes behind those travelling by train.

A brief stop for the lead party at Loch Lomond earned the bonus of a distant Osprey, hovering at the back of the Loch, but viewable through the telescope.

We then waited at the Green Welly stop at Tyndrum for the rest to catch up and then drove together to Bridge of Orchy, where my secret site was our only planned stop before Strontian...

It was cloudy on arrival (as was the forecast) but not too blustery: perfect conditions for hearing bird sounds. I immediately started scanning across the loch for waders. The first candidate was a male Dunlin, which sat on a small rock and sang frequently. Common Sandpipers were around the perimeter, but it took a while before eventually, a likely candidate showed on a weedy patch at the rear of the shallows. It was a Wood Sandpiper; one of Britain’s rarest breeding birds. After everyone had had a turn at watching the bird through the scope – and as we were thinking of packing up – all of a sudden, a male Wood Sandpiper started its song flight; a wonderful sound which echoed beautifully across the valley!

Teal, Greenshank, Redshank, Lapwing and Oystercatcher were added to the list, with Sand Martins hawking over the water.

We managed to get the clients onto the male Whinchat on a powerline before pressing on through heavily dappled skies to Strontian, which we reached 20 minutes before dinner time, despite a brief scare when the Corran Ferry was sidelined for a few minutes but with no apparent detriment, we crossed with no alarms.

Day 2

Sunday 25th May

Today was going to be a “welcome to Ardnamurchan” kind of day, taking in some of the sites on the west of the peninsula.

But first, the pre-breakfast walk...

Whilst the tide seemed ideal for otters, it was a quiet start. Quiet, that is, until we started to hear some irritated Herring Gulls sounding off from the middle of the loch. The cause of their concern loomed high overhead; a magnificent adult White-tailed Eagle, which then flew past at low altitude for brilliant views, followed by two other sub-adult birds, with a fourth choosing instead to cruise over the back of the loch at distance.

What. A. Start.

The Red Squirrels we saw on the way down the track entertained Trevor back at the bunkhouse; compensation for missing out on the Eagles.

Marion and George stayed behind for a quiet day as the effects of jetlag weighed heavily, so the rest of us decided to come back for lunch to give them the opportunity to join us for the afternoon if they so wished.

A blustery stop at Bay of the Pledges revealed nothing of note, so we cut it short and headed for Kilchoan. A brief moment of excitement came when the leading van – or at least, myself and Darren in the front seats – watched a very large raptor flap across the moor which eventually revealed itself to be a first year Golden Eagle, with clear white wing patches and a broad white base to the tail. It disappeared before anyone else could mobilise, so we drove on to Kilchoan to find that the shop was shut.

Doh! Well, it was a Sunday!

No matter. We went to the pier and enjoyed seeing a family of Ravens doing aerobatic tutorials, but then a squall set us off toward the lighthouse.

As we arrived at the car park, a couple with binoculars were looking skyward – at the impressive shape of an adult White-tailed Eagle. We manoeuvred to a position where we could see it in more direct light and it duly obliged us by flying by at close range! Wow!

We headed for the foghorn. There, we found a more sheltered viewing spot just below and around the corner from the foghorn, from where we saw a number of seabirds flying past: Guillemot, Razorbill, a single Puffin, Manx Shearwaters, Gannets a-plunging, Shags and Kittiwakes. There had been some skua passage that morning on the Hebrides, but the westerly breeze did not benefit us in that respect.

No matter. Six eagles in the morning was a great success!

George and Marion extended their sabbatical until dinner time, so the rest of us headed back out to Kilchoan Bay, where two Red-throated Divers showed just before a sharp shower forced a retreat to the vans. When we re-

emerged, the divers had gone. Ewe stayed on another 15 minutes but when another squall threatened, we made off for Fasdale, where at last, we saw a few Lapwings and a splendid male Wheatear – a stunning male silverback which frustratingly flew before we could relocate it for scoped views. We walked out to the sheltered viewing spot by the cottage, where we watched more seabirds against the backdrop of Rum and Eigg. As we returned to the vans ahead of another squall, we spotted three Redpolls on a wire fence next to a male Stonechat.

Time was pressing on, so there was barely time for the drive to Ockle with a 15-minute stretch before returning to Glenborrodale, where a second helping of sweet treats paid dividends when the Pine Marten showed both before dinner and after the checklist session!

Day 3

Monday 26th May

Today was to be the boat trip – or so we thought.

The early morning jaunt was in blustery conditions, with rain threatening. The tide was high and the water was choppy, so perhaps a little elevation might help... We walked to Aperitif Point where, at our own risk, we trespassed to the lovely little platform with lichen-covered furniture, all of us generously coated with midge repellants.

It was quiet. Other than the Oystercatchers and the odd burst of Willow Warbler, there were few sounds over and above that of the breeze – a Westerly which was blowing right down the loch.

At last, we found a soaring White-tailed Eagle against a distant hillside, later unravelling its circuit and moving away toward the sea, with Herring Gull and Hooded Crow as consorts.

The forecast was for more of the same, so the briefing was to bring plenty of layers of clothing beneath waterproofs...

We left promptly at 9am and reached Kilchoan Pier with time for a toilet stop. 09.45 came and went and we were still the only ones waiting the boat... With blustery conditions yesterday, suggesting a bit of a swell today – Bank Holiday Monday in England – I began to wonder if we had missed the cancellation memo...

The first of the contact numbers on the Staffa Tours website didn't answer, but the second confirmed that the trip was cancelled. We agreed to assess the forecast for the next few days before rescheduling.

So what do we do on a day which promises 80% chance of rain for most of the morning?

Head for the Garbh Eilean Hide, that's what.

We stopped briefly at the crater at the Bay of Pledges (hereinafter, the watchpoint) and watched a pair of Ravens riding the ridge performing aerobatics as they went. A Buzzard hovered loosely at the opposite end of the crater, but no Eagles showed. The wind was in the wrong direction for the Golden Eagles to show and when rain threatened, we retreated back to the vans and drove as far as Salen Jetty stores where supplementary food items

and hot drinks were enjoyed. Chris found a Spotted Flycatcher across the road but couldn't relocate it for the group.

When we arrived at the hide, it wasn't raining, so we made straight for it and settled down for a vigil. The tide was low and there were many Harbour (Common) Seals loafing.

A drake Red-breasted Merganser swam in front of the island, with the heronry now bursting with well-grown young Grey Herons. At the back of the island was a small colony of Arctic Terns.

We tried mighty hard to find an otter in the choppy water, but to no avail. As though just to prove I was looking hard, I managed to find a pale brown shape in a distant conifer plantation that I insisted was a White-tailed Eagle. Snorts of incredulity were halted when the scope confirmed I was right.

But that was it. Another pair of Red-breasted Mergansers showed briefly but today was looking like a tough one – the kind of day visitors to Scotland are warned about.

The day was rescued when we arrived back at the Bunkhouse, where first, we were entertained by a pair of Red Squirrels jousting on the boom which held the feeders and then, after dinner, by a Pine Marten which devoured two sandwiches and the residue of proffered jam and peanut butter which had survived the rain showers.

Before it could make off, however, the Pine Marten was confronted by the resident cat. It shinned up one of the pines, twitching and swearing at the cat. Eventually, the mustelid worked out an escape route down the blindside of the trees and away into the wods while the cat, for all we know, was still squinting into the canopy...

Day 4

Tuesday 27th May

Mercifully, the forecast gave us hope of warm sunshine, if only later in the day. A warning the previous night of road closures would require careful planning around the itinerary, which featured a trip to Tioram Castle and Ariundle Forest walk. Fortunately, Colin had photographed the notice of road closures, so we knew we had a window from 13.30 to 14.00 in which to make it past the Garbh Eilean Hide on our way to Ariundle. Not being quite so sure whether the 9am closure would affect us, we spurned the early morning walk and instead made an 08.25 start on the road, heading out for Acharacle, where we drove down the track to the shallow end of Loch Shiel, to add Tufted Duck to the trip list straight away. There were also some Teal and Red-breasted Mergansers present and Sand Martins, while Redpolls jangled around and awkwardly stayed in backlit areas. We sheltered from a couple of showers to eat up some time in the hope that a more prolonged spell of sun would make a trip to Kentra Moss worthwhile, but no dragonflies were likely in the cool, breezy conditions; so we stopped briefly at the shop and toilets before driving to Tioram Castle.

We arrived just as the sun hid behind a grey cloud, which deposited a fair amount of its contents while we sheltered in the car park. We emerged just as I set up the scope to view across a couple of kilometres to a plantation on the top of the hill opposite, which had in it a White-tailed Eagle's nest, occupied by a parent and well-grown chick.

The observations from beside the castle was slightly closer; during which time we saw at least one Arctic Tern with four Common Terns. Three female-type Goosanders flew below us behind the castle. We waited for a while – until some got either cold or bored (or both) – but the hunting White-tailed Eagle did not return with the spoils.

It was only noon and the road was not due to open until 13.30, so we headed back to Loch Shiel for another try at finding the Black-throated Diver, advertised to be there. Lunch was taken by those who hadn't already been tempted, while scanning around the loch. Greenfinches showed nicely but the Redpolls were steadfastly awkward. No sign of any divers, which looked less likely when the gents paddled their kayaks away toward the middle of the loch; so, whilst the whiff of weed disappeared when they left, paddling under influence led to the inevitable chat whilst they paddled.

We left early and made for the road block, which we now knew was right by the Garbh Eilean Hide, where we arrived just after 1pm. Worth a 20 minute stint, surely...?

Not really. Plenty of loafing Common Seals scratched and waved in the sunlight for scoping onlookers, but little else. We got into the vans at 13.35, expecting the road block to be opened, but had to wait until past 13.50 before it was our turn to leave the car park and drive the remaining distance to Strontian.

Tea and biscuits revived us before we took the vans just a few hundred yards down the track to the car park where we began the forest walk. The sun came out and we felt some warmth on our backs, whereupon, the butterflies presented themselves: Green-veined White, Orange Tip, Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary...

As the group began to string out, Chequered Skipper and Chimney Sweep moth were also found by some; but only some. Then, the second group missed the turn-off to the first bridge and we decide that we would keep the formation, with George and Marion having retired after a short walk, there were groups of four and five taking separate routes, with the younger, more energetic young Canadians having time for almost two laps!

A couple of short, light squalls did not dampen the enthusiasm for one of the most picturesque walks you could possibly enjoy. The group across the river enjoyed views of a late Emperor Moth and then, whilst checking out a Buzzard high above the ridge, another bird was seen above that...

Yep; Golden Eagle! I tried to call Chris at least a couple of times before I connected, by which time the eagle had gained significant height and drifted into the clouds! Chris's group had seen a Wood Warbler, but failed to connect with the Goldie. The groups met with Chris's crowd having just crossed the bridge, so we retraced our steps on the far side of the river. A flock of Crossbills flew above the skyline, chip-chipping, before disappearing into an unseen pine with cones a-plenty.

Chris then picked out a bright looking moth flying around the grass which he called as Clouded Buff. He was right! Trying to get close for a photo was a test of both stealth and patience but eventually, recognisable images were gleaned.

As the group again strung out toward the end of the walk, Chris's diligence again paid off when his slowcoach party scored the returning Golden Eagle, which appeared again right by the centre, being harried by two Ravens while I was phoning home!

We ate a lovely meal at the centre and were back at the Bunkhouse by 20.30, with sweet treats ready for the Pine Marten but, as I write now in fading light, it has failed to appear. Maybe it has something to do with that cat...

Day 5

Wednesday 28th May

The Boat Trip

At last, it seemed, the luck was on our side, as the early morning was clear and calm.

Ideal conditions, of course, for midges. We were eaten alive on the morning walk and in the end kept moving just to keep ahead of them. Nothing worth mentioning was found, but we counted our blessings at least, for a forecast which promised better weather as the day went on, meaning that we would see some sunshine at some point while we were close to seabirds...

And so it came to pass that as we left for Kilchoan, the heavens opened and we saw a deluge, although not before a brief pause just after the Bay of Pledges when Chris's group could not locate the Whinchat we flagged on the radio, but they did see three White-tailed Eagles feeding on a distant ridge! Fortunately, the downpour lasted only ten minutes after we parked, giving us 15 minutes to use the toilet and board the boat.

What followed was the usual fare of seabirds in their thousands – in flight and at the nest, in dispute and in courtship and in the case of the Arctic Skuas, in pursuit! While Chris and I looked for Corncrakes just by the old village, we also heard a calling Water Rail. Bizarre! The Corncrake threw its voice hither and thither, but could not be found.

We managed to get all the clients to the clifftop to enjoy the birds at close quarters and there was even time to find some orchids close to the ascending path.

Some pink but happy faces enjoyed dinner and an early night, with the Pine Marten paying an early visit just as dinner was being served!

Day 6

Thursday 29th May

The forecast for the early part of the day was so dire that I announced that there would be no pre-breakfast walk. The rain was still falling steadily as the leaders rose at 06.40.

The Bunkhouse sits in a sheltered spot surrounded by tall trees, so it is misleading that it always appears so calm in the mornings, with midges apparently in the know. The wet forecast (to be succeeded on the last full day by a much nicer prediction) forced a decision to have another vigil at the Garbh Eilean hide, for two main reasons: 1. It would keep us reasonably dry; 2. It was probably our best chance of seeing Otter (despite previous blanks).

Two couples stayed behind, unable to summon the bravery required to stay in a hide open to a keen Southwesterly breeze and spraying drizzle, but the rest of us packed into the vans ready for a two-hour session.

There was only a damp feel as we arrived in the car park, but the rain came in waves throughout the session. We got to the hide before it rained properly, but the wind was keen, blowing into the hide through the generous snoots, spraying them with every squall so that we stood back to keep optics dry.

Flora had forgotten her binoculars and was here with a final bid to see her first Otter...

No pressure then!

We immediately found seals around the hide and as the tide dropped, they hauled up on islets before the tide fully exposed them, so as to effect a soft landing.

Red-breasted Mergansers popped up in several places, many of which were sub-optimal young drakes, but there were a couple of very smart ones also. The choppy conditions would make finding Otters very tricky, but...

Otter! At last!

Although some distance out, it was feeding constantly - probably on fish as it was moving steadily across the island with the heronry - we got everyone onto it and viewed through the scope, including Flora! Hurrah!

We added an Atlantic Grey Seal - a large female - to the list with opportunities to compare its long snout with the cute, "snubby" Harbour (Common) Seals. With several Rock Pipits and a few tern flypasts, there was enough going on during this session for us to feel we had rescued the morning from what could have been disastrous.

We stopped at Salen Jetty stores for warming refreshments, where Chris again found the Spotted Flycatcher, which was well photographed by Simon. We returned to the Bunkhouse for lunch and left again for Ockle with the sun out!

On the way, just past Bay of the Pledges, we saw an adult White-tailed Eagle over a distant ridge to keep the 100% record going for seeing them on this tour.

We reached Ockle with the usual calm conditions in the hollow. We were going to walk down to the beach. This yielded plenty of birds: Siskins, Redpolls, Bullfinch, Linnets and Meadow Pipit, Stonechat and Raven, Hooded Crows and Buzzards, all in decent sunshine. Among the plants found, we had Butterwort and Ragged Robin and we saw Green-veined White, Small Heath and Common Blue butterflies.

A sea watch from the cove scored Kittiwake, Manx Shearwater, a pair of Great Skuas, Gannets and Great Black-backed Gulls.

Whinchat was heard on the way back but not seen. However, Simon later produced a photo of the female we stopped for the previous day, when Chris's group found the White-tailed Eagles instead!

Back at the bridge, we disturbed a female Grey Wagtail, which flew indignantly around us before retreating upstream.

We had much better luck this day, summed up perfectly when, suggesting we might see the Pine Marten as we were about to finish the checklist, we were saved from entering “TBA” when it was spotted feeding voraciously on the feeder which had been dislodged earlier by a Jay from the feeding station!

Tomorrow’s forecast – for our last day – looked better still...

Day 7

Thursday 29th May

And so it proved – or at least, after breakfast it did!

The early morning walk was calm and overcast; perfect for midges, which were such a distraction that we barely registered anything of note except three male Goosanders in the bay below the Bunkhouse. A small, dull brown wader with deep wingbeats flew around for a little while looked a prime candidate for Temminck’s Stint but we never saw it land.

But after breakfast, we headed out for Glenborrodale RSPB with the sun shining brightly, albeit with a cool breeze. The ascent to the ridge was very quiet, but once we hit the top, by which time the group was quite strung out, the rearguard scored a couple of Chequered Skipper whilst the front runners were treated to several Small Pearl-bordered Fritillaries. A pair of Bullfinches fed quietly at the base of the bracken field unseen, just 20m away from the group.

A Tree Pipit sang at the far end of the ridge and briefly appeared on an overhead wires. Marion gamely walked all the way without stopping, but needed a 10-minute rest before descending down to the road via the delightful boardwalks. Willow Warblers and Whitethroats were heard as the sun gently warmed the atmosphere, but not quite as warm as it might ideally have been, with only one Speckled Wood noted. As we reached the point overlooking loch Sunart, an adult White-tailed Eagle was seen soaring over a distant ridge.

The road back yielded a Speckled Yellow moth for Chris’s laggards and a splendid male Bullfinch which performed at close range for the vanguards.

Marion’s terrific effort required one of us to pick up the van and collect her and George from the road, which meant that the morning’s activity was concluded at shortly after 11.15! I raced back to the Bunkhouse and put the kettle on. The plan was now to take lunch with us to Sanna, with a stop on the way at Bay of the Pledges.

The Bay was bathed in sunshine and the ground had dried out sufficiently for some to sit whilst eating their lunch, during which we observed adult White-tailed Eagle three times (perhaps the same one)...

Sanna was bathed in sunshine when we arrived. We allowed 2½ hours for an amble around the dunes, which first involved a pass by the lovely wet area with a freshwater channel in which we saw Sticklebacks, Frogs, Toads, Whirlygig beetles studding the surface of the water. Large Red Damselfly, Blue-tailed Damselfly, Beautiful Demoiselle and Keeled Skimmer graced the waterside vegetation and Small Heath butterflies flitted around in the sheltered spots. Opportune Sand Martins mined the soft seams of sand and shared the airspace with House Martins, Meadow Pipits and Skylarks.

On the sea was a pair of Red-throated Divers in hazy silhouette, while a hazy pale head and yellow bill protruded above a distant island, betraying the presence of another adult White-tailed Eagle, which later gave us a farewell flypast.

Ringed Plovers and a single Dunlin sang as they flew around the beach below.

Finally, just as we were about to round up to leave, a huge raft of Manx Shearwaters started to disperse, increasing the estimated number to more than 2,000 birds. It had been an excellent finish to a challenging week, with no better place by which to remember a holiday on Ardnamurchan.

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Species lists

Birds (H = Heard only)

I=Introduced		May 2025					
Common name	Scientific name	24	25	26	27	28	29
Canada Goose - I	<i>Branta canadensis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>	✓					
Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>		✓				
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>	✓			✓		
Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>				✓		
Common Eider	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓
Goosander	<i>Mergus merganser</i>				3		3
Red-breasted Merganser	<i>Mergus serrator</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	✓				h	hh
Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓
Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia domestica</i>						✓
Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	✓	✓				
Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>						✓
Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>		✓		✓		
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>	✓					✓
Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	h					✓
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>	✓					
Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	✓			H		
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>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓
Arctic Tern	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	
Great Skua	<i>Stercorarius skua</i>					✓	✓
Arctic Skua	<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>					✓	
Common Guillemot	<i>Uria aalge</i>		✓			✓	✓
Razorbill	<i>Alca torda</i>		✓			✓	
Black Guillemot	<i>Cephus grylle</i>	✓	✓			✓	
Atlantic Puffin	<i>Fratercula arctica</i>		✓			✓	
Red-throated Diver	<i>Gavia stellata</i>		✓		H		2
Black-throated Diver	<i>Gavia arctica</i>						
Great Northern Diver	<i>Gavia immer</i>			✓		✓	✓
Northern Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>					✓	
Manx Shearwater	<i>Puffinus puffinus</i>		✓				2000
Northern Gannet	<i>Morus bassanus</i>		✓			✓	✓

I=Introduced		May 2025					
Common name	Scientific name	24	25	26	27	28	29
Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>				✓		
European Shag	<i>Gulosus aristotelis</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>		✓		✓		
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>				✓		
White-tailed Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>		5	✓	✓	✓	5
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓
Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
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>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>				✓		
Wood Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>				✓		
Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>				h	✓	
Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>		✓	H		✓	✓
Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>			✓	h	h	h
Garden Warbler	<i>Sylvia borin</i>				h		
Common Whitethroat	<i>Curruca communis</i>			✓		h	✓
Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓
Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓
Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>						✓
European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>	✓				✓	✓
European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>		✓			✓	✓
Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>		✓			✓	✓
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>				✓		✓
Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>				✓		
European Rock Pipit	<i>Anthus petrosus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>				✓		

I=Introduced		May 2025					
Common name	Scientific name	24	25	26	27	28	29
Twite	<i>Linaria flavirostris</i>					✓	
Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓
Lesser Redpoll	<i>Acanthis cabaret</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓
Red Crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>				✓		
European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Siskin	<i>Spinus spinus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>						h
Common Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>		✓				✓
Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa Glareola</i>	✓					
Corncrake	<i>Crex crex</i>					h	
Water Rail	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>					h	

Mammals

I = Introduced		May 2025					
Common name	Scientific name	24	25	26	27	28	29
Grey Seal	<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>		✓				✓
Common Seal	<i>Phoca vitulina</i>			✓	✓		✓
Eurasian Otter	<i>Lutra lutra</i>						✓
European Pine Marten	<i>Martes martes</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓
European Roe Deer	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>						h
Red Deer	<i>Cervus elaphus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
European Rabbit - I	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>				✓		
Eurasian Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓
Field Vole	<i>Microtus agrestis</i>				✓		
Common Frog	<i>Rana temporaria</i>				✓		✓
Common Toad	<i>Bufo bufo</i>						✓

Butterflies

		May 2025					
Common name	Scientific name	24	25	26	27	28	29
Chequered Skipper	<i>Carterocephalus palaemon</i>				✓		
Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>						
Green-veined White	<i>Pieris napi</i>				✓	✓	✓
Orange-tip	<i>Anthocharis cardamines</i>				✓		
Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>						
Little Blue	<i>Cupido minimus</i>						
Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>					✓	✓
Dark Green Fritillary	<i>Speyeria aglaja</i>						
Pearl-bordered Fritillary	<i>Boloria euphrosyne</i>				✓		
Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary	<i>Boloria selene</i>				✓		
Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>					✓	✓
Peacock Butterfly	<i>Aglais io</i>						
Small Tortoiseshell	<i>Aglais urticae</i>						
Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>						✓

		May 2025					
Common name	Scientific name	24	25	26	27	28	29
Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>						
Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>						

Other invertebrates recorded

Forest Bug
Lion's Mane Jellyfish
Chimney Sweeper moth
Clouded Buff moth
Silver Ground Carpet
Emperor Moth
Peacock moth
Silver Y moth
Common Blue Damselfly
Beautiful Demoiselle
Golden Ringed Dragonfly
Large Red Damselfly
Blue-tailed Damselfly
Four-spotted Chaser
Keeled Skimmer
Two-banded Longhorn Beetle
Red-breasted Carrion Beetle
Garden Chafer
Whirligig Beetle
Hide Beetle
Spring Dorbeetle
3-spined Stickleback