

The Burren

Naturetrek Tour Report

23 - 26 May 2017



Burnet Rose (*Rosa pimpinellifolia*), Lough Gealain



Fly Orchid (*Ophrys insectifera*), Slieve Carran



Turlough Violet (*Viola persicifolia*), Lough Gealain



Client photographing Fly Orchid, Slieve Carran

Report and images compiled by Dawn Nelson



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Tour participants: Dawn Nelson (leader) with 13 Naturetrek clients

Summary

Thirteen clients enjoyed this year's tour, exploring this surreal landscape and its abundance of rare and beautiful flowers. On our first afternoon we found Large-flowered Butterwort (*Pinguicula grandiflora*) and Columbine (*Aquilegia vulgaris*). Throughout the tour there was an abundance of Burnet Rose (*Rosa pimpinellifolia*), Bloody Cranesbill (*Geranium sanguineum*), Mountain Everlasting or Cat's-paw (*Antennaria dioica*) and Wild Thyme (*Thymus polytrichus*) all in flower, their colours emphasised by the pale grey limestone pavements in whose crevices they grow.

We visited a wide variety of habitats enabling us to find many of the rarer plants such as Limestone Bedstraw (*Galium sternerii*), Field Mouse-ear (*Cerastium arvense*) and Irish Sea-lavender (*Limonium recurvum* subsp. *pseudotranswallianum*), as well as Dense-flowered Orchid (*Neotinea maculata*) and many butterflies. Bird highlights included nesting Blue and Great Tits beside the hotel, good views of Cuckoo and Grey Wagtail, and at the spectacular Cliffs of Moher, Razorbill, Fulmar and Puffin.

All this was accompanied by wonderful food, a comfortable hotel and good weather.

Day 1

Tuesday 23rd May

Having travelled by a variety of ways and means, we all met up at Sheedy's Hotel and set off in the minibus via Corkscrew Hill for lunch. After lunch we headed to Newtown Castle for our first exploration of this wonderful limestone world. The weather, being slightly overcast, enabled us to get some good photographs.

Soft Shield-fern (*Polystichum setiferum*) and Sanicle (*Sanicula europaea*) were amongst our first finds as we headed up the lane. A Long-tailed Wood-mouse was seen amongst the Sweet Woodruff (*Galium odoratum*) and Wild Madder (*Rubia perigrina*) in a hedge bottom. As we headed up the track onto Cappanawalla we noted the first of many Burnet Roses (*Rosa pimpinellifolia*), and Bloody Cranesbills (*Geranium sanguineum*), two of The Burren's many specialities. Soon we noted more including blue Moor Grass (*Sesleria caerulea*), Columbine (*Aquilegia vulgaris*) and Sea plantain (*Plantago maritima*) as well as Wood White butterfly which is common here. A trio of delicate ferns caught our attention: Wall Rue (*Asplenium ruta-muraria*), Rustyback (*Asplenium ceterach*) and Maidenhair Spleenwort (*Asplenium trichomanes*), all nestling picturesquely into limestones crevices.

Our target plant here was Large-flowered Butterwort (*Pinguicula grandiflora*) so we all spread out to maximise our chances of finding it, looking for suitable damp flushes. Several orchids and sedges were found along the way including Common Spotted-orchid (*Dactylorhiza fuchsii*), Early Purple Orchid (*Orchis mascula*) and some Flea Sedge (*Carex pulicaris*) found by Bill. Then Gill said she had found some Butterworts and, sure enough, they were what we were after and in quantity. At least 40 were seen and the best examples duly photographed whilst taking care not to damage any tiny rosettes. The last plant of note before heading back to the bus and our hotel was a patch of Mountain Everlasting or Cat's-paw (*Antennaria dioica*).

Day 2

Wednesday 24th May

This morning we took a short drive to Poll Salach where we could see the Arran Islands just off the coast, but as the view was rather hazy, we were happy to be plant hunting. The short turf here, as in most places on The Burren, is very species-rich, however each location we visit has its special plants to find.

Here we hoped to find Pyramidal Bugle (*Ajuga pyramidalis*). We had seen pictures of it at breakfast and were given an indication of the places to search in, however it was easy to be distracted by lots of other goodies including the extremely rare Hoary Rock-rose (*Helianthemum oelandicum* subsp. *piloselloides*), an abundance of Goldenrod (*Solidago virgaurea*) and many Orchids including Heath Spotted-orchid (*Dactylorhiza maculata* subsp. *ericetorum*). As we crossed to the other side of the road we realised we had the place to ourselves, an unusual treat for such a popular tourist stop. Here we found masses of Thrift (*Armeria maritima*), Rock Samphire (*Crithmum maritimum*) and Limestone Bedstraw (*Galium sternerii*).

However Felicity's eagle-eye spied several leaf rosettes of the Pyramidal Bugle (*Ajuga pyramidalis*) so we all gathered to inspect them. Sadly none were in flower, but at least we had found some as this is a notoriously difficult plant to spot. All were duly photographed as we had some of the diagnostic details explained to us.

As we drove along the coast road we had spectacular views of this surreal landscape and noted Gannet, Shag and Cormorant on the sea. After a quick stop at Pinnacle Well where we added Fairy Foxglove (*Erinus alpinus*) and Shining Cranesbill (*Geranium lucidum*) to our list, we carried on to a sandy pit - The Rine, to explore a very different habitat. Wrens were almost deafening and plants of interest included the beautiful Field Mouse-ear (*Cerastium arvense*) and Irish Sea-lavender (*Limonium recurvum* subsp. *pseudotranswallianum*) just beginning to send up its distinctive flower spike. Common Ringed Plover and Oystercatchers were also seen.

After lunch at Monks Bar in Ballyvaughan, a Rock Pipit gave us all a prolonged view as it foraged along the base of the wall on the other side of the road. The sun came out as we drove back along the coast road noting Fuchsia (*Fuchsia magellanica* var. *macrostema*) in the hedgerows. We then turned up the narrow road beside the Caher River and stopped to view a wonderful ecologically-designed garden from the bridge where the road crosses the river. Some of us also explored the riverbank and found Water Horsetail (*Equisetum fluviatile*). Carl Wright, the garden's owner, came out and talked to us; one can only visit by appointment so maybe on future tours this could be included.

At Formoyle we followed the Green Lane searching for more botanical treats and as ever, we were not disappointed. A good sized population of Dense-flowered Orchid (*Neotinea maculata*) was the highlight. However Intermediate Lady's-mantle (*Alchemilla xanthochlora*) and Hard Shield-fern (*Polystichum aculeatum*) were also seen, plus a good view of a Cuckoo as it perched sideways on to us on top of a hedge.

Day 3

Thursday 25th May

Today was hot and sunny all day. Our first short stop was at Kilfenora to see The Burren visitor centre and Cathedral, where we added Navelwort (*Umbilicus rupestris*) to our list. Then we drove on to Lough Gealain, one of the strange disappearing lakes (Turlough) that are a feature of this unique place. A frog was one of the first finds. Due to the very dry spring, the drawdown zone was extensive and the seasonal changes very obvious. The

abundance of Shrubby Cinquefoil (*Potentilla fruticosa*) is famous here, but other specialities such as Health Dog-violet (*Viola canina*), Turlough Violet (*Viola persicifolia*) and their hybrid (*Viola x ritschliana*) were also found, together with Northern Bedstraw (*Galium boreale*), Fen Bedstraw (*Galium uliginosum*) and a Hawkweed (*Hieracium anglicum*) with huge flowers. Crossing the lane to the other side we managed to find Turlough Dandelion (*Taraxacum amarellum*) and Tufted-sedge (*Carex elata*).

Pleased with our morning's finds, we set off for lunch. Today it was enjoyed at Cassidy's where we added a few more species including, a Viola (*Viola x wittrockiana*) and Poached-egg Plant or Meadow-foam (*Limnanthes douglasii*) that had escaped from the pots and window boxes and were thriving in the paving alongside some Whitlow-grass (*Erophila verna*).

Driving to Slieve Carran this afternoon we noted a Raven. Here we took a gentle walk finding Broad-leaved Helleborine (*Epipactis helleborine*) and lots of Fly Orchids (*Ophrys insectifera*), many duly photographed. Brittle bladder-Fern (*Cystopteris fragilis*) and Mossy Saxifrage (*Saxifraga hypnoides*) were added to the list from the damp woodland near the holy well.

Our last stop today was Poul nabrone Portal Dolmen where we managed to find Spring Sandwort (*Minuartia verna*), brought to our attention by Bill. Then another scenic drive back to Sheedy's Hotel for our last evening checklist and meal together.

Day 4

Friday 26th May

Alison went out before breakfast for her birding walk and found Blue Tits and Great Tits nesting in the next door garden, which we all admired a little later as we waited for our transport.

After saying our goodbyes to Martina our hostess, and Bill who was going home by a different route, and loading up the minibus, we set off with Sue, Dave and Dawn following in their own cars. We explored the beach, dunes and maritime grassland at Fanore finding Portland Spurge (*Euphorbia portlandica*) and Sea Spurge (*E. paralias*) and a little later Sea Bindweed (*Calystegia soldanella*), Western Eyebright (*Euphrasia tetraquetra*) with its neat pagoda-like structure and the rare Irish Eyebright (*E. salisburgensis* var. *hibernica*) displaying its sharp shining leaf-teeth.

Then we headed south along the coast road to the Cliffs of Moher. Sadly, as we arrived it started to drizzle, but this was the first rain of the week and we still managed to get reasonably good sightings of Razorbill, Guillemot and Fulmar, some of which were nesting on the ledges of this amazing site. The Puffins were in amongst the Thrift (*Armeria maritima*) and Sea-mayweed (*Tripleurospermum maritimum*), looking very picturesque.

As luck would have it, the rain stopped as we returned to Peadar and the minibus for our final drive back to the airport.

Everyone seemed to agree we had all enjoyed this very special place in excellent company.

Species Lists

Plants (This species list follows the nomenclature in New Flora of the British Isles 3rd edition by Clive Stace.)

Scientific Name	Common Name	Location
PTERIDOPHYTES		
Calamophytes		
Equisetaceae		
<i>Equisetum arvense</i>	Field Horsetail	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Equisetum telmateia</i>	Greater Horsetail	Lisdoonvarna and driving
<i>Equisetum fluviatile</i>	Water Horsetail	Caher River
Leptosporangiate Ferns		
Aspleniaceae		
<i>Asplenium adiatum-nigrum</i>	Black Spleenwort	Slieve Carran
<i>Asplenium ceterach</i>	Rustyback	Frequent
<i>Asplenium ruta-muraria</i>	Wall-rue	Frequent
<i>Asplenium scolopendrium</i>	Hart's-tongue	Frequent
<i>Asplenium trichomanes</i>	Maidenhair Spleenwort	Frequent
Dennstaedtiaceae		
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Bracken	Frequent
Dryopteridaceae		
<i>Dryopteris dilatata</i>	Broad Buckler-fern	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Dryopteris filix-mas</i>	Male-fern	Formoyle & Lisdoonvarna
<i>Polystichum aculeatum</i>	Hard Shield-fern	Formoyle & Lisdoonvarna
<i>Polystichum setiferum</i>	Soft Shield-fern	Cappanawalla & Lisdoonvarna
Polypodiaceae		
<i>Polypodium cambricum</i>	Southern Polypody	Formoyle
<i>Polypodium vulgare</i>	Common Polypody	Cappanawalla & Kilfenora
Pteridaceae		
<i>Adiantum capillus-veneris</i>	Maidenhair Fern	Poll Salach
Woodsiaceae		
<i>Cystopteris fragilis</i>	Brittle Bladder-fern	Slieve Carran
PINACEAE		
Pinaceae		
<i>Picea sitchensis</i>	Sitka Spruce	Driving
Taxaceae		
<i>Taxus baccata</i>	Yew	Slieve Carran
CONIFERS		
Pine Family		
Yew Family		

Scientific Name	Common Name	Location
ANGIOSPERMS		
Eu-dicots		
FLOWERING PLANTS		
True Dicotyledons		
Amaranthaceae	Amaranth Family	
<i>Atriplex prostrata</i>	Spear-leaved Orache	The Rine
<i>Beta vulgaris</i> subsp. <i>maritima</i>	Sea Beet	The Rine
<i>Salicornia europaea</i>	Common Glasswort	The Rine
<i>Suaeda maritima</i>	Annual Sea-blite	The Rine
Apiaceae	Carrot Family	
<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	Cow Parsley	Occasional
<i>Apium nodiflorum</i>	Fool's-water-cress	Caher River
<i>Conopodium majus</i>	Pignut	Frequent
<i>Crithmum maritimum</i>	Rock Samphire	Poll Salach
<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	Hogweed	Occasional
<i>Oenanthe crocata</i>	Hemlock Water-dropwort	Fanore
<i>Sanicula europaea</i>	Sanicle	Cappanawalla, Lisdoonvarna & Slieve Carran
Aquifoliaceae	Holly Family	
<i>Ilex aquifolia</i>	Holly	Occasional
Araliaceae	Ivy Family	
<i>Hedera hibernica</i>	Atlantic Ivy	Frequent
Asteraceae	Daisy Family	
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Yarrow	Occasional
<i>Antennaria dioica</i>	Mountain Everlasting or Cat's-paw	Cappanawalla, Poll Salach & Formolye
<i>Aster tripolium</i>	Sea Aster	The Rine
<i>Bellis perennis</i>	Daisy	Frequent
<i>Carduus tenuiflorus</i>	Slender Thistle	Cappanawalla
<i>Carlina vulgaris</i>	Carlina Thistle	Occasional
<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	Common Knapweed	Occasional
<i>Centaurea scabiosa</i>	Greater Knapweed	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Creeping Thistle	The Rine & Lisdoonvarna
<i>Cirsium dissectum</i>	Meadow Thistle	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Spear Thistle	The Rine
<i>Crepis vesicaria</i>	Beaked Hawk's-beard	Frequent
<i>Eupatorium cannabinum</i>	Hemp-agrimony	Poll Salach
<i>Hieracium agg</i>	Hawkweed group	Frequent
<i>Hypochoeris radicata</i>	Common Cat's-ear	Occasional
<i>Lapsana communis</i>	Nipplewort	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	Ox-eye Daisy	Frequent
<i>Mycelis muralis</i>	Wall Lettuce	Occasional
<i>Pilosella officinarum</i>	Mouse-ear Hawkweed	Occasional
<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>	Ragwort	Occasional
<i>Senecio vulgaris</i>	Groundsel	Occasional
<i>Solidago virgaurea</i>	Goldenrod	Cappanawalla & Poll Salach
<i>Sonchus asper</i>	Prickly Sow-thistle	Occasional
<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	Smooth Sow-thistle	Frequent
<i>Taraxacum agg</i>	Dandelion group	Occasional
<i>Taraxacum amarellum</i>	Turlough Dandelion	Lough Gealain

Scientific Name	Common Name	Location
<i>Tripleurospermum maritimum</i>	Sea Mayweed	Cliffs of Moher
Betulaceae	Birch Family	
<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	Common Alder	Lisdoonvarna & driving
<i>Betula pubescens</i>	Downy Birch	Occasional
<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel	Frequent
Boraginaceae	Borage Family	
<i>Symphytum x uplandicum</i>	Russian Comfrey	Caher Valley
Brassicaceae	Cabbage Family	
<i>Arabis hirsuta</i>	Hairy Rock-cress	Slieve Carran
<i>Barbarea vulgaris</i>	Winter-cress	Driving
<i>Cardamine flexuosa</i>	Wavy Bitter-cress	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Cardamine hirsuta</i>	Hairy Bitter-cress	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Cardamine pratensis</i>	Cuckooflower	Frequent
<i>Cochlearia officinalis</i>	Common Scurvygrass	The Rine
<i>Hesperis matronalis</i>	Dame's-violet	Driving
<i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i> subsp. <i>maritimum</i>	Sea Radish	The Rine & Fanore
Callitrichaceae	Water-starwort Family	
<i>Callitriche stagnalis</i>	Common Water-starwort	Lough Gealain
Caprifoliaceae	Honeysuckle Family	
<i>Lonicera periclymenum</i>	Honeysuckle	Frequent
<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	Elderberry	The Rine
<i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>	Snowberry	Newtown Castle & Formolye
<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	Guelder-rose	Cappanawalla & Lough Gealain
Caryophyllaceae	Pink Family	
<i>Arenaria serpyllifolia</i>	Thyme-leaved Sandwort	The Rine
<i>Cerastium arvense</i>	Field Mouse-ear	The Rine
<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	Common Mouse-ear	Frequent
<i>Honckenya peploides</i>	Sea Sandwort	The Rine
<i>Minuartia verna</i>	Spring Sandwort	Poulnabrone Dolman
<i>Sagina procumbens</i>	Procumbent Pearlwort	Carron
<i>Silene flos-cuculi</i>	Ragged Robin	Frequent
<i>Silene uniflora</i>	Sea Campion	Poll Salach
<i>Spergularia marina</i>	Lesser Sea-spurrey	The Rine
<i>Stellaria media</i>	Common Chickweed	The Rine
Celastraceae	Spindle Family	
<i>Euonymus europaeus</i>	Spindle	Cappanawalla & Poll Salach
Cistaceae	Rock-rose Family	
<i>Helianthemum oelandicum</i> ssp. <i>piloselloides</i>	Hoary Rock-rose	Poll Salach
Convolvulaceae	Bindweed Family	
<i>Calystegia sepium</i>	Hedge Bindweed	Cappanawalla
<i>Calystegia soldanella</i>	Sea Bindweed	Fanore

Scientific Name	Common Name	Location
Crassulaceae	Stonecrop Family	
<i>Sedum acre</i>	Biting Stonecrop	The Rine
<i>Sedum anglicum</i>	English Stonecrop	The Rine
<i>Umbilicus rupestris</i>	Navelwort	Kilfenora
Ericaceae	Heather Family	
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>	Heather	Frequent
<i>Rhododendron ponticum</i>	Rhododendron	Driving
Euphorbiaceae	Spurge Family	
<i>Euphorbia paralias</i>	Sea Spurge	Fanore
<i>Euphorbia portlandica</i>	Portland Spurge	Fanore
Fabaceae	Pea Family	
<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i>	Kidney Vetch	Frequent
<i>Lathyrus linifolius</i>	Bitter Vetch	Cappanawalla & Slieve Carran
<i>Lathyrus pratensis</i>	Meadow Vetchling	Poll Salach & Formolye
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Bird's-foot-trefoil	Frequent
<i>Trifolium dubium</i>	Lesser Trefoil	Frequent
<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Red Clover	Frequent
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White Clover	Frequent
<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	Gorse	Driving
<i>Vicia sepium</i>	Bush Vetch	Frequent
Fagaceae	Oak & Beech Family	
<i>Quercus robur</i>	Pendunculate Oak	Lisdoonvarna
Gentianaceae	Gentian Family	
<i>Blackstonia perfoliata</i>	Yellow-wort	Cappanawalla & Fanore
<i>Gentiana verna</i>	Spring Gentian	Cappanawalla, Poll Salach & Fanore
Geraniaceae	Geranium Family	
<i>Geranium lucidum</i>	Shining Crane's-bill	Occasional
<i>Geranium molle</i>	Dove's-foot Crane's-bill	The Rine
<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	Herb Robert	Frequent
<i>Geranium sanguineum</i>	Bloody Crane's-bill	Frequent
Hippuridaceae	Mare's-tail Family	
<i>Hippuris vulgaris</i>	Mare's-tail	Caherbridge Garden
Hypericaceae	St John's-wort Family	
<i>Hypericum androsaemum</i>	Tutsan	Cappanawalla
<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	Perforate St John's-wort	Occasional
<i>Hypericum pulchrum</i>	Slender St John's-wort	Slieve Carran
Lamiaceae	Dead-nettle Family	
<i>Ajuga pyramidalis</i>	Pyramidal Bugle	Poll Salach
<i>Ajuga reptans</i>	Common Bugle	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Mentha aquatica</i>	Water Mint	Caher Valley & Lough Gealain
<i>Origanum vulgare</i>	Wild Marjoram	Cappanawalla
<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	Self-heal	Cappanawalla
<i>Stachys sylvatica</i>	Hedge Woundwort	Cappanawalla
<i>Teucrium scorodonia</i>	Wood Sage	Frequent

Scientific Name	Common Name	Location
<i>Thymus polytrichus</i>	Wild Thyme	Frequent
Lentibulariaceae	Bladderwort Family	
<i>Pinguicula grandiflora</i>	Large-flowered Butterwort	Cappanawalla
<i>Pinguicula vulgaris</i>	Common Butterwort	Slieve Carran
Menyanthaceae	Bog-bean Family	
<i>Menyanthes trifoliata</i>	Bog-bean	Caherbridge Garden
Oleaceae	Olive Family	
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash	Frequent
Onagraceae	Willowherb Family	
<i>Circaea lutetiana</i>	Enchanter's-nightshade	Occasional
<i>Epilobium hirsutum</i>	Great Willowherb	Cappanawalla
<i>Epilobium montanum</i>	Broad-leaved Willowherb	Frequent
<i>Fuchsia magellanica</i>	Fuchsia (wild)	Driving
<i>Fuchsia magellanica</i> var. <i>macrostema</i>	Fuchsia (of garden origin)	Occasional
Orobanchaceae	Broomrape Family	
<i>Euphrasia salisburgensis</i> var. <i>hibernica</i>	Irish Narrow-leaved Eyebright	Fanore
<i>Euphrasia tetraquetra</i>	Western Eyebright	Fanore
<i>Pedicularis sylvatica</i>	Lousewort	Cappanawalla & Poll Salach
<i>Rhinanthus minor</i>	Yellow-rattle	Formoyle & Fanore
Oxalidaceae	Wood-sorrel Family	
<i>Oxalis acetosella</i>	Wood-sorrel	Cappanawalla & Slieve Carran
Plantaginaceae	Plantain Family	
<i>Plantago coronopus</i>	Buck's-horn Plantain	Poll Salach & Fanore
<i>Plantago lanecolata</i>	Ribwort Plantain	Frequent
<i>Plantago major</i>	Greater Plantain	Frequent
<i>Plantago maritima</i>	Sea Plantain	Cappanawalla & Poll Salach
Plumbaginaceae	Thrift Family	
<i>Armeria maritima</i>	Thrift	Poll Salach
<i>L. recurvum</i> subsp. <i>pseudotranswallianum</i>	Irish Sea-lavender	The Rine
Polygalaceae	Milkwort Family	
<i>Polygala vulgaris</i>	Common Milkwort	Frequent
Polygonaceae	Knotweed Family	
<i>Falopia japonica</i>	Japanese Knotweed	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	Common Sorrel	Formoyle & Slieve Carran
<i>Rumex crispus</i> subsp. <i>littoreus</i>	Curled Dock (coastal subspecies)	Fanore
<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	Broad-leaved Dock	Occasional
Potamogetonaceae	Pondweed Family	
<i>Potamogeton x nitens</i>	Bright-leaved Pondweed	Lough Gealain
Primulaceae	Primrose Family	
<i>Anagalis arvensis</i>	Scarlet Pimpernel	Poll Salach & Fanore

Scientific Name	Common Name	Location
<i>Glaux maritima</i>	Sea-milkwort	Poll Salach & The Rine
<i>Lysimachia nemorum</i>	Yellow Pimpernel	Slieve Carran
<i>Primula veris</i>	Cowslip	Formoyle & Fanore
<i>Primula vulgaris</i>	Primrose	Cappanawalla & Formoyle
<i>Samolus valerandi</i>	Brookweed	Lough Gealain
Ranunculaceae	Buttercup Family	
<i>Aquilegia vulgaris</i>	Columbine	Cappanawalla
<i>Caltha palustris</i>	Marsh Marigold	Caher River
<i>Ficaria verna</i> agg.	Lesser Celandine	Occasional
<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	Meadow Buttercup	Frequent
<i>Ranunculus bulbosa</i>	Bulbous Buttercup	Occasional
<i>Ranunculus flammula</i>	Lesser Spearwort	Lough Gealain
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Creeping Buttercup	Frequent
<i>Thalictrum minus</i>	Lesser Meadow-rue	Lough Gealain
Rhamnaceae	Buckthorn Family	
<i>Frangula alnus</i>	Alder Buckthorn	Poll Salach & Lough Gealain
Rosaceae	Rose Family	
<i>Alchemilla filicaulis</i> subsp. <i>vestita</i>	Hairy Lady's-mantle	Slieve Carran
<i>Alchemilla xanthochlora</i>	Intermediate Lady's-mantle	Formoyle & Slieve Carran
<i>Aphanes arvensis</i>	Parsley-piert	The Rine
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn	Frequent
<i>Dryas octopetala</i>	Mountain Avens	Frequent
<i>Filipendula ulmaria</i>	Meadow Sweet	Caher Valley & Lisdoonvarna
<i>Fragaria vesca</i>	Wild Strawberry	Cappanawalla & Formoyle
<i>Geum rivale</i>	Water Avens	Formoyle
<i>Geum urbanum</i>	Wood Avens	Occasional
<i>Potentilla anserina</i>	Silverweed	Frequent
<i>Potentilla erecta</i>	Tormentil	Frequent
<i>Potentilla fruticosa</i>	Shrubby Cinquefoil	Lough Gealain
<i>Potentilla sterilis</i>	Barren Strawberry	Formoyle & Slieve Carran
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn	Frequent
<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog Rose	Cappanawalla & Slieve Carran
<i>Rosa pimpinellifolia</i>	Burnet Rose	Frequent
<i>Rubus caesius</i>	Dewberry	Driving & Fanore
<i>Rubus saxatilis</i>	Stone Bramble	Lough Gealain
<i>Sorbus aria</i>	Whitebeam	Cappanawalla
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan	Cappanawalla
Rubiaceae	Bedstraw Family	
<i>Galium aparine</i>	Cleavers	Frequent
<i>Galium boreale</i>	Northern Bedstraw	Lough Gealain
<i>Galium odoratum</i>	Sweet Woodruff	Cappanawalla
<i>Galium sternerii</i>	Limestone Bedstraw	Cappanawalla & Poll Salach
<i>Galium verum</i>	Lady's Bedstraw	Poll Salach
<i>Galium uliginosum</i>	Fen Bedstraw	Lough Gealain
<i>Rubia peregrina</i>	Wild Madder	Cappanawalla & Poll Salach
Saliciaceae	Willow & Poplar Family	
<i>Populus tremula</i>	Aspen	Driving
<i>Salix caprea</i>	Goat Willow	Cappanawalla

Scientific Name	Common Name	Location
<i>Salix cinerea</i>	Grey Willow	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Salix repens</i>	Creeping Willow	Poll Salach
Sapindaceae	Maple Family	
<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>	Horse-chestnut	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Sycamore	Frequent
Saxifragaceae	Saxifrage Family	
<i>Chrysosplenium oppositifolium</i>	Opposite-leaved Golden-saxifrage	Lisdoonvarna & Slieve Carran
<i>Saxifraga hypnoides</i>	Mossy Saxifrage	Slieve Carran
<i>Saxifraga tridactylites</i>	Rue-leaved Saxifrage	Cappanawalla & Kilfenora
Scrophulariaceae	Figwort Family	
<i>Scrophularia nodosa</i>	Common Figwort	Cappanawalla
Urticaceae	Nettle Family	
<i>Parietaria judaica</i>	Pellitory-of-the-wall	Kilfenora
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Stinging Nettle	Frequent
Valerianaceae	Valerian Family	
<i>Centranthus ruber</i>	Red Valerian	Occasional
<i>Valeriana officinalis</i>	Common Valerian	Occasional
Veronicaceae	Speedwell family	
<i>Cymbalaria muralis</i>	Ivy-leaved Toadflax	Kilfenora
<i>Erinus alpinus</i>	Fairy Foxglove	Pinnacle Well
<i>Veronica beccabunga</i>	Brooklime	Formoyle
<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>	Germander Speedwell	Frequent
<i>Veronica officinalis</i>	Heath Speedwell	Formoyle
<i>Veronica serpyllifolia</i>	Thyme-leaved Speedwell	Formoyle
Violaceae	Violet Family	
<i>Viola canina</i>	Heath Dog-violet	Lough Gealain
<i>Viola persicifolia</i>	Fen or Turlough Violet	Lough Gealain
<i>Viola x ritschliana (V.canina x persicifolia)</i>	Heath Dog/Fen Violet hybrid	Lough Gealain
<i>Viola riviniana</i>	Common Dog-violet	Occasional
Monocots	Monocotyledons	
Alliaceae	Onion Family	
<i>Allium triquetrum</i>	Three-cornered Leek	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Allium ursinum</i>	Ramsons or Wild Garlic	Slieve Carran
Araceae	Arum Family	
<i>Arum maculatum</i>	Lords-and-Ladies	Cappanawalla & Formoyle
Cyperaceae	Sedge Family	
<i>Eriophorum angustifolium</i>	Common Cottongrass	Driving
<i>Carex arenaria</i>	Sand Sege	Fanore
<i>Carex demissa</i>	Common Yellow-sedge	Formoyle
<i>Carex elata</i>	Tufted Sedge	Lough Gealain
<i>Carex flacca</i>	Glaucous Sedge	Occasional

Scientific Name	Common Name	Location
<i>Carex panicea</i>	Carnation Sedge	Occasional
<i>Carex pendula</i>	Pendulous Sedge	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Carex pulicaris</i>	Flea Sedge	Cappanawalla
<i>Carex rostrata</i>	Bottle Sedge	Caher Valley
<i>Carex sylvatica</i>	Wood Sedge	Lisdoonvarna & Slieve Carran
<i>Schoenus nigricans</i>	Black Bog-rush	Poll Salach & Lough Gealain
Iridaceae		
<i>Crocsmia x crocosmiiflora</i>	Iris Family Monbretia	Frequent
<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	Yellow Iris	Frequent
Juncaceae		
<i>Juncus articulatus</i>	Rush Family Jointed Rush	Caher River
<i>Juncus bufonius</i>	Toad Rush	Slieve Carran
<i>Juncus conglomeratus</i>	Compact Rush	Slieve Carran
<i>Juncus effusus</i>	Soft Rush	Driving
<i>Luzula campestris</i>	Field Wood-rush	Famore
Juncaginaceae		
<i>Triglochin maritima</i>	Arrowgrass Family Sea Arrowgrass	The Rine
Orchidaceae		
<i>Epipactis helleborine</i>	Orchid Family Broad-leaved Helleborine	Slieve Carran
<i>Dactylorhiza fuschii</i>	Common Spotted-orchid	Occasional
<i>Dactylorhiza incarnata</i> subsp. <i>cruenta</i>	(Flecked) Early Marsh-orchid	Lough Gealain
<i>Dactylorhiza incarnata</i> subsp. <i>incarnata</i>	Early Marsh-orchid	Slieve Carran
<i>Dactylorhiza incarnata</i> subsp. <i>pulchella</i>	Early Marsh-orchid	Cappanawalla
<i>Dactylorhiza maculata</i> subsp. <i>ericetorum</i>	Heath Spotted-orchid	Frequent
<i>Dactylorhiza kerryensis</i> var. <i>occidentalis</i>	Irish Marsh-orchid	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Gymnadenia conopsea</i>	Fragrant Orchid	Cappanawalla
<i>Neotinea maculata</i> (<i>Orchis intacta</i>)	Dense-flowered Orchid	Formoyle
<i>Neottia</i> (<i>Listera</i>) <i>ovata</i>	Common Twayblade	Occasional
<i>Ophrys insectifera</i>	Fly Orchid	Slieve Carran
<i>Orchis mascula</i>	Early Purple Orchid	Frequent
Poaceae		
<i>Alepecurus pratensis</i>	Grass Family Meadow Foxtail	Formoyle & Kilfenora
<i>Ammophila arenaria</i>	Marram	Fanore
<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	Sweet Vernal-grass	Frequent
<i>Avenula pubescens</i>	Downy Oat-grass	Formoyle & Slieve Carran
<i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i>	False Brome	Cappanawalla
<i>Briza media</i>	Quaking Grass	Frequent
<i>Cynosurus cristatus</i>	Crested Dog's-tail	Slieve Carran
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Cock's-foot	Frequent
<i>Festuca rubra</i>	Red Fescue	Frequent
<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Yorkshire-fog	Occasional
<i>Lolium perenne</i>	Perennial Rye-grass	Occasional
<i>Poa annua</i>	Annual Meadow-grass	Occasional
<i>Sesleria caerulea</i>	Blue Moor-grass	Frequent

Birds (✓=recorded but not counted; N = nesting)

	Common name	Scientific name	May			
			23	24	25	26
1	Common Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>			✓	✓
2	Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>		✓		
3	Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>		✓		
4	Northern Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>				✓
5	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>		✓		
6	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>			✓	
7	European Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>		✓		
8	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>		✓	✓	
9	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>			✓	
10	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>			✓	
11	Eurasian Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>		✓	✓	
12	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>		✓		
13	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>		✓		
14	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>		✓	✓	
15	Great Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>	✓	✓		
16	European Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>		✓	✓	
17	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>			✓	
18	Razorbill	<i>Alca torda</i>				✓
19	Common Guillemot	<i>Uria aalge</i>		✓		✓
20	Atlantic Puffin	<i>Fratercula arctica</i>				✓
21	Black Guillemot	<i>Cephus grylle</i>				✓
22	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓
23	Common Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓
24	Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓
25	Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>				✓
26	Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>		✓	✓	
27	Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓
28	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>			✓	
29	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>				2 N
30	Coal Tit	<i>Periparus ater</i>			✓	
31	Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		✓	✓	2 N
32	Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>	✓		✓	
33	Common Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>		✓	✓	✓
34	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓
35	Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓
36	Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓
37	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	✓			✓
38	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓
39	Common Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>			✓	
40	Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓
41	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	✓	✓	✓	
42	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓
43	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	✓	✓		✓
44	Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>			✓	✓
45	European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓
46	European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>		✓	✓	✓
47	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>		✓		
48	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>		✓	✓	
49	Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>		✓		

	Common name	Scientific name	May			
			23	24	25	26
50	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>		✓		✓
51	Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba yarrellii</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓
52	Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓
53	Eurasian Rock Pipit	<i>Anthus petrosus</i>		✓		
54	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓
55	European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>		✓	✓	✓
56	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		✓	✓	✓
57	Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>		✓		
58	Common Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>			✓	✓
59	Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>				✓

Mammals

1	Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>				✓
2	Long-tailed Wood-mouse	<i>Apodemus sylvaticus</i>	✓			

Reptiles & Amphibians

1	Common Frog	<i>Rana temporaria</i>			✓	
2	Viviparous Lizard	<i>Lacerta vivipara</i>		✓		

Butterflies

1	Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>		✓	✓	✓
2	Wood White	<i>Leptidea sinapsis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓
3	Orange Tip	<i>Anthocharis cardamines</i>		✓		
4	Brimstone	<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>			✓	
5	Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>				✓
6	Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>		✓		✓
7	Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>		✓	✓	
8	Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>			✓	
9	Dingy Skipper	<i>Erynnis tages</i>		✓	✓	

Moths

1	Brimstone Moth	<i>Opisthograptis luteolata</i>		✓		
2	Grass-veneer	<i>Crambus pascuella</i>	✓			
3	Small Argent & Sable	<i>Epirrhoe tristata</i>	✓			✓
4	Speckled Yellow	<i>Pseudopanthera macularia</i>		✓		

Other Invertebrates

1	Buff-tailed Bumble Bee	<i>Bombus terrestris</i>		✓		
2	Down-looker Snipe Fly	<i>Rhagio scolopacea</i>		✓		
3	Green Dock Beetle	<i>Gastrophysa viridula</i>		✓		
4	Large Red Damselfly	<i>Pyrrhosoma nymphula</i>		✓		

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Spring Gentian (*Gentiana verna*), Poll Sallach



Naturetrek group at Lough Gealain