The Burren

Naturetrek Tour Report

24th - 28th May 2023











Poulnabrone burial chamber

Moon Gate

Tour report and images by Bruce Middleton



Naturetrek Mingledown Barn Wolf's Lane

Chawton

Alton

Hampshire

GU34 3HJ

UK

T: +44 (0)1962 733051

E: info@naturetrek.co.uk

W: www.naturetrek.co.uk

Tour participants: Bruce Middleton (leader) and 11 Naturetrek clients

Summary

We had nice weather with lots of sunshine to enjoy the beautiful scenery to be found in the Burren. There were plenty of plants to see and enjoy. Highlights of our forays included a wide variety of Early Marsh Orchids as well as, Irish Marsh, Early Purple, Fly, Bee, Frog, Fragrant, Twayblade Orchids. Other flowers included Spring Gentian, Bloody-crane's-bill, Large-flowered Butterwort, Mossy Saxifrage. Then bird wise - Cuckoo, Great Northern Diver, Guillemot, Black Guillemot, Puffin and Dipper. Then with all the sunny days - out came the butterfly species including Wood White, Small Blue and Pearl-bordered Fritillary. Other highlights included a guided tour of the amazing Caher Bridge Gardens led by its creator, a visit to Mullach Mor and to the Cliffs of Moher. We also sampled some truly delicious Irish food and drink.

Day 1

Wednesday 24th May

Weather: Dry and sunny

Bruce Middleton welcomed eleven Naturetrekkers at the Sheedy's Hotel, Lisdoonvarna. Then after everyone had checked in to the hotel and made their dinner menu requests, we set off in the bus to Newtown Castle, Ballyvaughn. Beside the sixteenth-century cylindrical fortified tower house there is an art college with a small café where we had lunch.

After we had eaten, we first looked around the tower and found Fairy Foxglove Erinus alpinus, Hairy Rock-cress Arabis hirsuta and Rustyback Fern Asplenium ceterach growing out of the mortar in the walls. Then we set off on a walk down a lane and then up onto Cappanavalla Hill. We entered an area of woodland and scrub and here we spotted our first butterflies of the tour and they included – Peacock Inachis io, Orange Tip Anthocharis cardamines, Dingy Skipper Erynnis tages and Wood White Leptidea sinapsis. As we started our ascent, we heard Chiffchaff Phylloscopus collybita and Cuckoo Cuculus canorus. We saw a good variety of plants that included Mountain Everlasting Antennaria dioica, Wild Thyme Thymus polytrichus, Common Milkwort Polygala vulgaris, Rue-leaved Saxifrage Saxifraga tridactylites, Early Marsh Orchid Dactyloriza incarnata subsp. incarnata and Early Purple Orchid Orchis mascula. Then there was the breath-taking metallic blue propeller-shaped Spring Gentians Gentiana verna and to top it all - lots of the beautiful Large-flowered Butterwort Pingucula grandiflora could be found as well. We then wandered back to the bus which returned us back to the hotel to freshen up before having the first of our delicious evening tour meals.

Day 2

Thursday 25th May

Weather: Dry and sunny

The day was started by us all going down into the village and buying our own packed lunch at the local Spar shop. Then Brian our bus driver came to the shop to pick us up and take us on to the Caher Bridge Garden. Here we parked the bus and met Carl Wright and his father. Carl right from the start enthused us about his passion for his garden that he has created and is still creating. As we wandered through his magical garden, he told us about how it all started by him buying a derelict house and how he rebuilt it and how he built a paradise around it on top of the limestone pavement that supports little or no soil. He told us how he cleared small areas of hazel bit by bit, built walls from scratch and how he sieved all the imported soil for his garden plants to survive on. He told us that

he is an ecologist that has picked up his horticultural skills over the years. Carl is obviously skilful at whatever he puts his mind to and was truly an inspiration to us all. When we were beside the bridge, we had a very close up view of two White-throated Dipper *Cinclus cinclus* bobbing up and down on rocks in the river. Whilst we were being shown around, there were Blackcaps *Sylvia atricapilla* and Cuckoos *Cuculus canorus* constantly singing. We also saw Large Red Damselflies *Pyrrhosoma nymphula* and a Beautiful Demoiselle *Calopteryx virgo*. In the river beside the garden pond there we saw a number of clumps of the very rare Pondweed *Potamogeton x lanceolatus*. After the wonderful garden tour, we sat down in the garden and had our lunch in the glorious sunshine.

Then we drove off to the start of a track known in the Burren as the Green Road. Here we walked up a green lane to look across the landscape and we could see the Arran Isles and Galway in the distance across the sea and the vast expanse of lime stone pavement all around us. We heard and saw three Cuckoos *Cuculus canorus* flying together and we also saw Raven *Corus corvax* and Northern Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe*. As we climbed up this wonderful path flanked on both sides with limestone drywalls within a barren rocky landscape, we discovered Dense-flowered Orchids *Neotinea maculata*, Spring Gentian *Gentiana verna*, Mountain Avens *Dryas octopetala*, Spring Sandwort *Minuartia verna*, Lousewort *Pedicularis sylvatica*, Hoary Rock-rose *Helianthemum oelandicum*, Heath Spotted Orchid *Dactylorhiza maculata*, Early Purple *Orchis mascula* and a Frog Orchid *Coeloglossum viride*. We also saw some butterflies including Small Blue *Cupido minimus*, Dingy Skipper *Erynnis tages* and Small Heath *Ceononympha pamphilus*.

We then returned back to the hotel and the majority of the group then went out to explore an interesting meadow in Lisdoonvarna. Here we discovered Smooth-stalked Sedge Carex laevitata, Oval Sedge Carex leporina, Meadow Thistle Cirsium dissectum, more Heath Spotted Orchid Dactylorhiza maculata, then there were Early Marsh Orchids Dactyloriza incarnata subsp. cruenta, Dactyloriza incarnata subsp. pulchclla as well as some Irish Marsh Orchids Dactylorhiza kerryensis var occidentalis and just to add to the mix there were a number of hybrids between these four species. Then it was back to the hotel to freshen up before having another delicious evening meal chosen from our menu.

Day 3 Friday 26th May

Weather: Dry, sunny and very hot at times

After a large breakfast for some of us - we set off to Poll Sallach on the coast road. We started by looking in the crevices in the limestone pavement on the coastal side and were rewarded by finding both Sea Spleenwort Asplenium marinum and Maidenhair ferns Adiantum capillus-veneris. We also found lots of pink-coloured Thrift Armeria maritima and the white flowered Sea Campion Silene maritima. Then by crossing the road and going inland we found the beautiful yellow flowered Hoary Rockrose Helianthemum oelandicum and Heath-spotted Orchids Dactylorhiza maculata galore. We also found some Early Marsh Orchid Dactylorhiza incarnata subsp. pulchella. There were also a number of trees we found that were much smaller than they would normally be but had adapted to growing in the limestone crevices like Spindle Euronymus europaeus and Holly Ilex aquifolium. One of the interesting insects to see was the very showy metallic green Green Rose Chafer beetle Cetonia aurata we found on the plentiful Burnet Rose Rosa spinosissima.

We then continued along the coast road a little way further and stopped to look and see if we could find any sea birds and we were rewarded by seeing a number of Black Guillemot *Cepphus grille* basking on the large rocks below us. Then it was on down to Black Head and there we disembarked to look and see around the lighthouse. The sea was a bit choppy and so it was not perfect, but we did spot a lone Great Northern Diver *Gavia immer*. Time was running short because we had booked a table at the Monks Bar in Ballyvaugh - so we made our way there to be

on time. Here they specialize in sea food, and it was not long before we were tucking into food that melts in the mouth.

After lunch we drove back on ourselves and stopped briefly to look at more Fairy Foxgloves Erinus alpinus growing on an old stone building above a well site. Then from here we drove a little way back and set off down a path towards the sea to look at a coastal spit known as the Rine. The path had numerous Wood White Leptidea sinapsis butterflies and a few Dingy Skipper Erynnis tages fluttering along it in the sunshine. We could hear Cuckoos Cuculus canorus calling from the moment we left the bus, and it was not long before we saw two flying a head of us. On the beach we came across some nice flowers that included Greater Sea Spurrey Spergularia media, Lesser Sea Spurrey Spergularia marina, lots of Field Mouse-ear Cerastium arvense, some Sea Mouse-ear Cerastium diffusum and Sea Milkwort Glaux maritima. The sun was becoming hotter and then all of a sudden, there was a very loud roar beside us and as we looked up - a large swarm of Honey Bees Apis mellifera flew over our heads. We noticed a herd of goats that looked like they had gone feral and as we came a little closer to them, we noticed a number of Early Purple Orchid Orchis mascula. Sea well a nice stand of Columbine Aquilega vulgaris. We also came across an area of saltmarsh that had the plants of both Lax-flowered Sea Lavender Limonium humile and Irish Sea Lavender Limonium recurvum subsp. pseudotranswallianum. However, it was too early to see them in flower.

We then set off away from the coast and went up to ringed hill fort known as Cahermort Fort. Here we had lovely views across the landscape as well as finding a nice stand of more beautiful Mossy Saxifrage Saxifraga hypnoides. Then we continued up the road to the prehistoric Poulnabrone Dolmen. There we looked at it lying atop the limestone pavement surrounded by wild flowers. One of the more unusual ones was a Stinking Hellebore Helleborus foetidus in a crevice. However, Beside the Dolmen there was a wet ditch which had lots of Brooklime Veronica beccabunga, Lesser Spearwort Ranunculus flammula and some Marsh Arrowgrass Triglochin palustris growing in it. There was also a small fenced off pond that had Common Spike-rush Eleocharis palustris, Common Sedge Carex nigra and Bog Pondweed Potomogeton polygonifolius in it.

Then we returned to Sheedy's for another great evening meal.

.

Day 4 Saturday 27th May

Weather: Dry, sunny and hot at times

After breakfast we set off towards Mullach Mor and on route we stopped off shortly to photograph Leminagh Castle. Here Brian told us an entertaining tale about the local lady that had lived there and allegedly murdered her two husbands making sure she left no evidence of her involvement in their deaths but ensuring she was still the owner of the castle when they passed away. Afterwards we set off to Mullach Mor and investigated a meadow area where we found numerous insects flying around including Six-spotted Burnet Moth Zygaena filipendulae and Common Blue butterflies Polyommatus icarus. We also discovered our first Fragrant Orchids Gymnadenia conopsea and Bee Orchids Ophrys apifera. Then we went on to the partly dried up Loch Gealain which is a Turlough (winter-fed lake). Here we were immediately greeted by the Shrubby Cinquefoil Potentilla fruticosa which is plentiful here. We noticed lots of Brimstone Gonepteryx rhamni butterflies which as caterpillars would have fed on the Alder Buckthorn Frangula alnus that is stunted and hugs the limestone pavement here. We also saw Blue-tailed Damselflies Ischnura elegans flying by as well as a Stonechat Saxicola rubecola that flew over our heads. There were Marsh Marigolds Caltha palustris, Black Bog Rushes Schoenus nigricans and we found Northern Bedstraw Galium boreale as well as the hybrid Viola x ritschliana violet Heath Violet Viola canina with a Fen Violet Viola persicifolia and then we found both the parents. Whilst at this place we discovered a Puss Moth Cerura vinula who looked to be laying eggs and almost

simultaneously there was a loud sound coming from two Cuckoos *Cuculus canorus* flying overhead with a Meadow Pipit *Anthus pratensis* trying to catch them up. Then we came across a spring bubbling up within the limestone pavement. There was a small pool and within it we found Curled Pondweed *Potamogeton crispus*, Soft Hornwort *Ceratophyllum submersum*, baby Common Froglets *Rana temporaria*, Pond-skaters *Gerris lacustris* and a leech. There was also on a further inspection of the area some Turlough Dandelion *Taraxacum amarellum*, Carnation Sedge *Carex panicea*, Common Sedge *Carex nigra* and Great Fen Sedge *Cladium mariscus* found. Bird wise we saw Little Egret *Egretta garzetta* and Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*. We then drove on to Keosh's Restaurant in Kinvarna for lunch.

Then it was off to Slieve Carran National Nature Reserve and on arriving we followed the path that leads up to the 'Eagles Rock' and here we discovered a few Fly Orchids *Ophrys insectifera* and Dense-flowered Orchids *Neotinea maculata*. There were hundreds of plants of the eight-petaled Mountain Avens *Dryas octopetala* going over and there were a few with double flowers too. The path led us to the seventh century hermitage and holy well dedicated to St Colman Mac Duagh which was hidden in a hazel *Corylus avellana* copse. This copse had a woodland floor covered in Wild Garlic *Allium ursinum*, Yellow Pimpernel *Lysimachia nemorum* and Bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*. Below the well we also discovered the hybrid between Wood Avens *Geum urbanum* and Water Avens *Geum rivale* known as *Geum x intermedium*. As we looked at the holy well with Brittle Bladder Ferns *Cystopteris fragilis* growing out of the walls. Then we walked back towards the bus via a wet bog area with Common Cotton-grass *Eriophorum angustifolium*. Here we also found Common Butterwort *Pinguicula vulgaris*, Bog Pimpernel *Anagallis tenella* and Round-leaved Sundew *Drosera rotundifolia*.

We then returned to the hotel to freshen up and had another wonderful meal.

Day 5 Sunday 28th May

Weather: Dry and sunny

After our last hearty breakfast at Sheedy's and farewells to our excellent host Martina - we set off to the Cliffs of Moher. However, it was decided we would drive just that little bit further on to the ancient healing well of Saint Bridget and the more recent O'Brian's Monument. We had a little talk by Brian our coach driver about how thousands of people come every year to this site in the hope of being healed by the magical healing properties of the well. Then we drove on to the Cliffs of Moher, we had to use our binoculars but were rewarded by seeing numerous Fulmar Fulmarus glacialis, Guillemot Uria aalge, some Kittiwakes Rissa tridactyla and Puffins Fratercula arctica.

We then drove to Fanore where we had a very quick look at the dunes and found Marram Grass *Ammophila arenaria*, Sand Sedge *Carex arenaria*, Dodder *Cuscuta epithymum* smothering the short grassland amongst Irish Eyebright *Euphrasia salisburgensis*. Then we headed to the Kilfenora Burren Centre. Here we visited the ruins of Kilfenora Cathedral to see the ancient limestone Celtic crosses and here we observed Navelwort *Umbilicus rupestris* growing on the walls then had lunch. At this point many of us parted our ways and said our goodbyes. Then the ones that needed to catch the plane went back on the bus to Shannon Airport. Here we said our goodbye to our wonderfully informative bus driver Brian - so ended another lovely Naturetrek tour of the Burren.

Receive our e-newsletter

Join the Naturetrek e-mailing list and be the first to hear about new tours, additional departures and new dates, tour reports and special offers. Visit www.naturetrek.co.uk to sign up.

Social Media

We're social! Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram and be the first to hear about the launch of new tours, offers and exciting sightings and photos from our recently returned holidays.



www.facebook.com/naturetrekwildlifeholidays

www.twitter.com/naturetrektours

www.instagram.com/naturetrek wildlife holidays

Species lists

Plants

Nomenclature contained within this list follows the taxonomic amendments, based on DNA analysis, made by the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew and the Missouri Botanic Garden, and following The Plant List, an internationally accepted list of vascular plant families, published and maintained by these two Institutions.

Scientific Name	Common Name	First Location seen
PTERIDOPHYTES Calamophytes	FERNS & ALLIES Horsetails	
Equisetaceae	Horsetail Family	
Equisetum arvense	Field Horsetail	Lisdoonvarna
Equisetum telmateia	Greater Horsetail	Lisdoonvarna
Equisetum palustre	Marsh Horsetail	Mullach Mor
Leptosporangiate Ferns	True Ferns	
Aspleniaceae	Spleenwort Family	
Asplenium ceterach	Rustyback	Newtown Castle
Asplenium marinum	Sea Spleenwort	Poll Sallach
Asplenium ruta-muraria	Wall-rue	Cappanavalla
Asplenium scolopendrium	Hart's-tongue	Slieve
Asplenium trichomanes	Maidenhair Spleenwort	Cappanavalla
Dennstaeditiaceae	Bracken Family	
Pteridium aquilinum	Bracken	Slieve
Dryopteridaceae	Buckler-fern Family	
Dryopteris filix-mas	Male-fern	Lisdoonvarna

Scientific Name Common Name First Location seen

Polystichum setiferum Soft Shield-fern Cappanavalla

Polypodiaceae Polypody Family

Polypodium cambricumSouthern PolypodyKilfenoraPolypodium interjectumWestern PolypodyCappanavallaPolypodium vulgareCommon PolypodyCappanavalla

Pteridaceae Ribbon Fern Family

Adiantum capillus veneris Maidenhair Fern Poll Sallach

Woodsiaceae Lady-fern Family

Athyrium filix-feminaLady-fernSlieveCystopteris fragilisBrittle Bladder-fernSlieve

PINACEAE CONIFERS

Pinaceae Pine Family

Picea abiesNorway SpruceLisdoonvarnaPicea sitchensisSitka SpruceLisdoonvarna

Taxaceae Yew Family

Taxus baccata Yew Rine

ANGIOSPERMS FLOWERING PLANTS

Eu-dicots True Dicotyledons

Amaranthaceae Amaranth Family

Atriplex prostrataSpear-leaved OracheRineBeta vulgaris subsp. maritimaSea BeetRineChenopodium albumFathenRine

Apiaceae Carrot Family

Angelica sylvestrisAngelicaLisdoonvarnaAnthriscus sylvestrisCow ParsleyMullach MorConopodium majusPignutMullach MorCrithmum maritimumRock SamphireRine

Daucus carota subsp. carota Wild Carrot Green Road

Daucus carota subsp. gummifer Sea Carrot Rine

Heracleum sphondyliumHogweedLisdoonvarnaOenanthe crocataHemlock Water-dropwortNewtown Castle

Sanicula europaea Sanicle Slieve

Aquifoliaceae Holly Family

Ilex aquifolia Holly Slieve

Araliaceae Ivy Family

Hedera helixIvyCappanavallaHedera hibernicaAtlantic IvySlieve

Asteraceae Daisy Family

Achillea millefoliumYarrowLisdoonvarnaAntennaria dioicaMountain Everlasting or Cat's-pawCappanavallaBellis perennisDaisyLisdoonvarna

Common Name Scientific Name First Location seen Carlina vulgaris Carline Thistle Cappanavalla Centaurea nigra Common Knapweed Cappanavalla Cirsium arvense Creeping Thistle Lisdoonvarna Cirsium dissectum Meadow Thistle Mullach Mor Marsh Thistle Caher Valley Cirsium palustre Cirsium vulgare Spear Thistle Lisdoonvarna Smooth Hawk's-beard Crepis capillaris Lisdoonvarna Crepis vesicaria Beaked Hawk's-beard Rine Poll Sallach Eupatorium cannabinum Hemp-agrimony Lisdoonvarna Hieracium agg Hawkweed group Mullach Mor Hypochoeris radicata Common Cat's-ear Lapsana communis **Nipplewort** Slieve Cappanavalla Leucanthemum vulgare Ox-eye Daisy Matricaria discoidea Pineapple Weed Rine Mycelis muralis Wall Lettuce Cappanavalla Pilosella officinarum Mouse-ear Hawkweed Slieve Senecio jacobaea Common Ragwort Cappanavalla Senecio vulgaris Groundsel Cappanavalla Solidago virgaurea Goldenrod Cappanavalla Prickly Sow-thistle Sonchus asper Cappanavalla Sonchus arvensis Perennial Sow-thistle Poll Sallach Smooth Sow-thistle Sonchus oleraceus Lisdoonvarna Taraxacum agg Dandelion group Cappanavalla Rine Tripleurospermum maritimum Sea Mayweed Tussilago farfara Colt's-foot Cappanavalla Roadsides Petasites fragrans Winter Heliotrope Betulaceae **Birch Family** Rine

Common Alder Alnus glutinosa

Betula pendula Silver Birch Lisdoonvarna Betula pubescens Downy Birch Caher Bridge Corylus avellana Hazel Cappanavalla

Brassicaceae

Cabbage Family Newtown Castle Arabis hirsuta Hairy Rock-cress Barbarea vulgaris Winter-cress Cappanavalla Capsella bursa-pastoris Shepherd's-purse Cappanavalla Cardamine flexuosa Wavy Bitter-cress Cappanavalla Cardamine pratensis Cuckooflower Cappanavalla Cochlearia officinalis Common Scurvygrass Poll Sallach

Coronopus didymus Lesser Swine-cress Rine

Draba verna Common Whitlow-grass Lisdoonvarna Hesperis matrionalis Dame's-violet Roadsides Nasturtium officinale Water-cress Caher Valley

Sundew Family

Raphanus raphanistrum subsp. maritimum Sea Radish Rine Sisymbrium officinale Hedge Mustard Rine

Droseraceae

Drosera rotundifolia Round-leaved Sundew Slieve

Caprifoliacae

Lonicera nitida Shining Honeysuckle Cappanavalla Lonicera periclymenum Honeysuckle Cappanavalla Lonicera xylosteum Fly Honeysuckle Lisdoonvarna

Honeysuckle Family

Scientific NameCommon NameFirst Location seenSambucus nigraElderberryCappanavallaSymphoricarpos albusSnowberryCappanavallaViburnum opulusGuelder-roseCappanavalla

Caryophyllaceae Pink Family

Cerastium arvenseField Mouse-earRineCerastium diffusumSea Mouse-earRine

Cerastium fontanumCommon Mouse-earLisdoonvarnaCerastium glomeratumSticky Mouse-earLisdoonvarnaHonckenva peploidesSea SandwortRine

Honckenya peploidesSea SandwortRineMinuartia vernaSpring SandwortGreen Road

Sagina procumbensProcumbent PearlwortCappanavallaSilene dioicaRed CampionCappanavallaSilene flos-cuculiRagged RobinLisdoonvarna

Silene unifloraSea CampionRineSpergularia marinaLesser Sea-spurreyRineSpergularia mediaGreater Sea-spurreyRineStellaria mediaCommon ChickweedRine

Celastraceae Spindle Family

Euonymus europaeus Spindle Cappanavalla

Ceratophyllacae Hornwort Family

Ceratophyllum submersum Soft Hornwort Mullach Mor

Green Road

CistaceaeRock-rose FamilyHelianthemum oelandicum ssp.Hoary Rock-rose

piloselloides

•

ConvolvulaceaeBindweed FamilyCalystegia sylvaticaLarge BindweedPoll SallachCuscuta epithymumDodderFanore

Crassulaceae Stonecrop Family

Sedum acreBiting StonecropRineUmbilicus rupestrisNavelwortKilfenora

Dipsacaceae Teasel Family

Jasione montanaSheep's-bit ScabiousCliffs of MoherSuccia pratensisDevil's-bit Scabious (leaves only)Cappanavalla

Ericaceae Heather Family

Calluna vulgarisHeatherSlieveErica tetralixCross-leaved HeathSlieveRhododendron ponticumRhododendronRoad sides

Euphorbiaceae Spurge Family

Euphorbia peplus Petty Spurge Lisdoonvarna

Fabaceae Pea Family

Anthyllis vulnerariaKidney VetchPoll SallachLathyrus linifoliusBitter VetchCappanavallaLathyrus pratensisMeadow VetchlingCappanavallaLotus corniculatusBird's-foot-trefoilCappanavalla

Common Name Scientific Name First Location seen Medicago lupulina Black Medick Cappanavalla Trifolium dubium Lesser Trefoil Cappanavalla Trifolium pratense **Red Clover** Cappanavalla Trifolium repens White Clover Cappanavalla Gorse Ulex europaeus Cappanavalla Vicia cracca **Tufted Vetch** Cappanavalla **Bush Vetch** Vicia sepium Cappanavalla Oak & Beech Family Fagaceae Quercus robur Pendunculate Oak Caher Bridge Gentianaceae **Gentian Family** Blackstonia perfoliata Yellow-wort Cappanavalla Centaurium erythraea Common Centaury Cappanavalla Gentiana verna Spring Gentian Cappanavalla Geraniaceae **Geranium Family** Geranium lucidum Shining Crane's-bill Cappanavalla Geranium robertianum Herb Robert Cappanavalla Geranium sanguineum Bloody Crane's-bill Cappanavalla Hippuridaceae Mare's-tail Family Hippuris vulgaris Mare's-tail Caher Bridge Hypericaceae St John's-wort Family Hairy St John's-wort Lisdoonvarna Hypericum hirsutum Hypericum perforatum Perforate St John's-wort Cappanavalla Hypericum tetrapterum Square-stalked St John's-wort Poulna brone Lamiaceae **Dead-nettle Family** Slieve Ajuga reptans Common Bugle Mentha aquatica Water Mint Cappanavalla Prunella vulgaris Self-heal Poll Sallach Hedge Woundwort Stachys sylvatica Cappanavalla Wood Sage Teucrium scorodonia Cappanavalla Thymus polytrichus Wild Thyme Cappanavalla Lentibulariaceae **Bladderwort Family** Large-flowered Butterwort Pinguicula grandiflora Cappanavalla Common Butterwort Slieve Pinguicula vulgaris Malvaceae **Mallow Family** Lavatera arborea Tree Mallow Cliffs of Moher Menyanthaceae **Bog-bean Family** Menyanthes trifoliata Caher Bridge Bog-bean Myrtle Family Myricaceae Myrica gale Bog Myrtle Slieve Oleaceae **Olive Family** Fraxinus excelsior Ash Cappanavalla

© Naturetrek October 23 9

Willow-herb Family

Onagraceae

Scientific NameCommon NameFirst Location seenChamaenerion angustifoliumRosebay Willow-herbLisdoonvarnaCircaea lutetianaEnchanter's-nightshadeSlieveEpilobium hirsutumGreat Willow-herbCappanavallaEpilobium montanumBroad-leaved Willow-herbCappanavalla

Epilobium palustreMarsh Willow-herbMullach MorEpilobium parviflorumHoary Willow-herbLisdoonvarnaFuchsia magellanicaFuchsia (wild)RoadsidesFuchsia magellanica var. macrostemaFuchsia (of garden origin)Roadsides

Orobanchaceae Broomrape Family

Plantago maritima

pseudotranswallianum

Euphrasia salisburgensis var. hibernicaIrish Narrow-leaved EyebrightFanoreEuphrasia tetraquetraWestern EyebrightSlieveOrobanche albaThyme BroomrapePoll SallachPedicularis sylvaticaLousewortSlieveRhinanthus minorYellow-rattlePoll Sallach

 Oxalidaceae
 Wood-sorrel Family

 Oxalis acetosella
 Wood-sorrel

Rine

PlantaginaceaePlantain FamilyPlantago coronopusBuck's-horn PlantainPoll SallachPlantago lanecolataRibwort PlantainRinePlantago majorGreater PlantainRine

PlumbaginaceaeThrift FamilyArmeria maritimaThriftPoll Sallach

Sea Plantain

Rine

Limonium humileLax-flowered Sea-lavender (leaves only)RineL. recurvum subsp.Irish Sea-lavender (leaves only)Rine

PolygalaceaeMilkwort FamilyPolygala vulgarisCommon MilkwortCappanavalla

PolygonaceaeKnotweed FamilyFalopia japonicaJapanese KnotweedCappanavallaPolygonum aviculareCommon KnotgrassRine

Rumex acetosaCommon SorrelCappanavallaRumex crispusCurled DockCappanavalla

Rumex crispus subsp. littoreus Curled Dock (coastal subspecies) Rine

Rumex obtusifolius Broad-leaved Dock Lisdoonvarna

Rumex sanguineus Wood Dock Sieve

PotamogetonaceaePondweed FamilyPotamogeton crispusCurled PondweedMullach MorPotamogeton x lanceolatusA PondweedCaher BridgePotamogeton polygonifoliusBog PondweedPoulna brone

Potamogeton polygonifoliusBog PondweedPoulna bronePrimulaceaePrimrose FamilyAnagallis arvensisScarlet PimpernelRine

Anagallis tennellaBog PimpernelSlieveGlaux maritimaSea-milkwortRineLysimachia nemorumYellow PimpernelSlieveLysimachia punctatumDotted LoosestrifeRoadsides

Scientific Name Common Name First Location seen

Primula verisCowslipGreen RoadPrimula vulgarisPrimroseGreen Road

Ranunculaceae Buttercup Family

Aquilegia vulgarisColumbineCappanavallaCaltha palustrisMarsh MarigoldCappanavalla

Ficaria verna agg. Lesser Celandine Rine

Ranunculus acris Meadow Buttercup Cappanavalla

Ranunculus bulbosa Bulbous Buttercup Rine

Ranunculus flammulaLesser SpearwortPoulna broneRanunculus repensCreeping ButtercupCappanavallaThalictrum minusLesser Meadow-rueMullach Mor

Rhamnaceae Buckthorn Family

Frangula alnus Alder Buckthorn Mullach Mor
Rhamnus catharticus Buckthorn Mullach Mor

Rosaceae Rose Family

Alchemilla glabraSmooth Lady's-mantleCappanavallaAlchemilla filicaulis subsp. vestitaHairy Lady's-mantlePoulna broneAlchemilla xanthochloraIntermediate Lady's-mantleMullach MorCrataegus monogynaHawthornCappanavalla

Crataegus monogynaHawthornCappanavallaDryas octopetalaMountain AvensPoulna broneFilipendula ulmariaMeadow SweetCappanavalla

Filipendula vulgaris Dropwort Slieve

Fragaria vesca Wild Strawberry Cappanavalla

Geum rivaleWater AvensSlieveGeum urbanumWood AvensSlieveGeum xHybrid AvensSlieve

Potentilla anserina
Silverweed
Cappanavalla
Potentilla erecta
Tormentil
Cappanavalla
Potentilla frutionea

Potentilla fruticosaShrubby CinquefoilMullach MorPotentilla sterilisBarren StrawberryCahermort Fort

Poterium sanguisorba (S. minor) Salad Burnet Slieve

Prunus spinosaBlackthornCappanavallaRosa caninaDog RoseCappanavallaRosa spinosissimaBurnet RoseMullach MorRubus fruticoscus aggBrambleCappanavalla

Rubus idaeas Raspberry Slieve

Sorbus aria Whitebeam Cappanavalla Sorbus aucuparia Rowan Cappanavalla

Rubiaceae Bedstraw Family

Galium aparine
Cleavers
Cappanavalla
Galium odoratum
Sweet Woodruff
Cappanavalla
Galium palustre
Marsh Bedstraw
Mullach Mor
Galium saxatile
Heath Bedstraw
Slieve
Galium sterneri
Limestone Bedstraw
Mullach Mor

Galium verumLady's BedstrawGreen LaneRubia peregrinaWild MadderCappanavalla

Saliciaceae Willow & Poplar Family

Salix capreaGoat WillowCappanavallaSalix cinereaGrey WillowCappanavalla

Scientific Name Common Name First Location seen Poll Sallach Salix repens Creeping Willow Sapindaceae Maple Family Aesculus hippocastanum Horse-chestnut Roadsides Acer pseudoplatanus Sycamore Cappanavalla Saxifragaceae Saxifrage Family Saxifraga hypnoides Mossy Saxifrage Cahermort Fort Rue-leaved Saxifrage Cappanavalla Saxifraga tridactylites Scrophulariaceae **Figwort Family** Scrophularia nodosa Common Figwort Cappanavalla Solanaceae **Nightshade Family** Lisdoonvarna Solanum dulcamera Woody Nightshade Urticaceae **Nettle Family** Parietaria judaica Pellitory-of-the-wall **Newtown Castle** Urtica dioica Stinging Nettle Cappanavalla Valerianaceae Valerian Family Centranthus ruber Red Valerian Road sides Valeriana officinalis Common Valerian Cappanavalla Veronicaceae Speedwell family Erinus alpinus **Newtown Castle** Fairy Foxglove Veronica arvensis Wall Speedwell Cappanavalla Veronica beccabunga Brooklime Poulna brone Germander Speedwell Veronica chamaedrys Cappanavalla Veronica montana Wood Speedwell Slieve Veronica officinalis Heath Speedwell Mullach Mor Veronica serpyllifolia Thyme-leaved Speedwell Rine Violaceae **Violet Family** Mullach Mor Viola canina Heath Dog-violet Viola persicifolia Fen Violet Mullach Mor Viola x ritschliana Hybrid Violet Mullach Mor Viola riviniana Common Dog-violet Cappanavalla Monocotyledons Monocots **Alliaceae Onion Family** Allium ursinum Wild Garlic Slieve Araceae **Arum Family** Lords and Ladies Arum maculatum Cappanavalla **Asparagus Family** Asparagaceae Hyachinthoides non-scripta Bluebell Cappanavalla Cyperaceae **Sedge Family**

© Naturetrek October 23 12

Common Cotton-grass

Lesser Pond Sedge

Sand Sedge

Slieve

Fanore

Caher Bridge

Eriophorum angustifolium

Carex acutiformis

Carex arenaria

Scientific Name Common Name First Location seen Common Yellow Sedge Carex dimissa Poulna brone Carex echinata Star Sedge Poulna brone Carex flacca Glaucous Sedge Cappanavalla Carex hostiana Tawny Sedge Mullach Mor Poulna brone Carex nigra Common Sedge Carex panicea Carnation Sedge Cappanavalla Carex pendula Pendulous Sedge Cappanavalla Carex pulicaris Flea Sedge Cappanavalla Carex sylvatica Slieve Wood Sedge Great Fen Sedge Mullach Mor Cladium mariscus Rine Schoenus nigricans Black Bog-rush Iris Family

Iridaceae

Ophrys insecta Orchis mascula

Poaceae

Crocosmia x crocosmiflora Montbretia Road sides Yellow Iris Iris pseudacorus Cappanavalla

Juncaceae **Rush Family**

Juncus bufonis Toad Rush Cappanavalla Juncus bulbosus **Bulbous Rush** Mullach Mor Rine Juncus effusus Soft Rush Saltmarsh Rush Rine Juncus gerardii

Field Woodrush Cappanavalla Luzula campestris Luzula multiflora Heath Woodrush Slieve Luzula multiflora ssp, congresta Heath Woodrush Slieve

Luzula sylvatica Great Wood-rush Lisdoonvarna

Arrowgrass Family Juncaginaceae

Triglochin palustris Marsh Arrowgrass Poulna brone

Orchidaceae **Orchid Family**

Dactylorhiza fuschii Common Spotted-orchid (leaves only) Caher Bridge Early Marsh Orchid Mullach Mor Dactylorhiza incarnata subsp.cruenta Dactylorhiza incarnata subsp.incarnata Early Marsh Orchid Cappanavalla Dactylorhiza incarnata subsp.pulchella Early Marsh Orchid Poulna brone Dactylorhiza maculata subsp.ericetorum Heath Spotted-orchid Poulna brone Dactylorhiza kerryensis var, occidentalis Irish Marsh Orchid Lisdoonvarna Coeloglossum viride Frog Orchid Green Lane Epipactis helleborine Broad-leaved Helleborine (leaves only) Caher Bridge Fragrant Orchid Mullach Mor Gymnadenia conopsea Neotinea maculata Dense-flowered Orchid Green Road Neottia ovata Twayblade Caher Bridge Mullach Mor Ophrys apifera Bee Orchid

Cappanavalla **Grass Family**

Early Purple Orchid

Fly Orchid

Slieve

Marsh Foxtail Caher Bridge Alopecurus geniculatus Meadow Foxtail Lisdoonvarna Alopecurus pratensis Ammophila arenaria Marram Fanore

Anthoxanthum odoratum Sweet Vernal-grass Cappanavalla Arrhenatherum elatius False Oat-grass Cappanavalla Avenula pubescens **Downy Oat-grass** Cappanavalla Brachypodium sylvaticum False Brome Cappanavalla

Scientific Name Common Name First Location seen Briza media **Quaking Grass** Cappanavalla Bromopsis erecta **Upright Brome** Cappanavalla Catapodium maritimum Poll Sallach Sea Fern-grass Cynosurus cristatus Crested Dog's-tail Green Road Dactylis glomerata Cock's-foot Cappanavalla Red Fescue Festuca rubra Cappanavalla Holcus lanatus Yorkshire Fog Cappanavalla Lolium perenne Perennial Rye-grass Lisdoonvarna Phalaria arundinacea Reed Canary-grass Mullach Mor Phragmites australis Common Reed Mullach Mor Poa annua Annual Meadow-grass Cappanavalla Sesleria caerulea Blue Moor-grass Cappanavalla Vulpia bromoides Squirrel tail Fescue Lisdoonvarna

Xanthorrhoeaceae

Phormium tenax New Zealand Flax Hotel

Asphodel Family

Birds (H = Heard only)

	Scientific name	May 2023					
Common name		23	24	25	26	27	
Mallard	Anas platyrhynchos				✓		
Common Shelduck	Tadorna tadorna			✓			
Common Pheasant	Phasianus colchicus			✓			
Great Northern Diver	Gavia immer			✓			
Northern Fulmar	Fularus glacialis					✓	
Grey Heron	Ardea cinerea	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Little Egret	Egretta garzetta				√		
Eurasian Shag	Phalacrocorax aristotelis		✓	✓		✓	
Common Buzzard	Buteo buteo		✓	✓	✓	✓	
Common Kestrel	Falco tinnunculus		✓		✓		
Peregrine Falcon	Falco peregrinus				Н		
Common Moorhen	Gallinula chloropus			✓			
Dipper	Cinclus cinclus		✓		✓		
Black-legged Kittiwake	Rissa tridactyla					✓	
Black-headed Gull	Chroicocephalus ridibundus				✓		
Great Black-backed Gull	Larus marinus			✓		✓	
European Herring Gull	Larus argentatus	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Lesser Black-backed Gull	Larus fuscus			✓		✓	
Common Guillemot	Uria aalge					✓	
Razorbill	Alca torda					✓	
Black Guillemot	Cepphus grylle			✓		✓	
Atlantic Puffin	Fratercula arctica					✓	
Rock Dove/ Feral Pigeon	Columba livia					✓	
Common Wood Pigeon	Columba palumbus	✓	✓	✓	√	✓	
Eurasian Collared Dove	Streptopelia decaocto		✓		√	✓	
Common Cuckoo	Cuculus canorus	Н	3	2	2	Н	
Common Swift	Apus apus				✓		

Common name	Scientific name	May 2023				
		23	24	25	26	27
Eurasian Magpie	Pica pica	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Western Jackdaw	Coloeus monedula	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Rook	Corvus frugilegus	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Carrion Crow	Corvus corone			✓	✓	✓
Northern Raven	Corvus corax		✓			✓
Eurasian Blue Tit	Cyanistes caeruleus		✓	✓	✓	
Great Tit	Parus major		✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Skylark	Alauda arvensis			✓	✓	✓
Barn Swallow	Hirundo rustica	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common House Martin	Delichon urbicum	✓		✓	✓	✓
Willow Warbler	Phylloscopus trochilus			Н		
Common Chiffchaff	Phylloscopus collybita	Н	✓	✓	✓	
Garden Warbler	Sylvia borin				✓	
Common Whitethroat	Curruca communis				✓	
Eurasian Blackcap	Sylvia atricapilla		✓	✓	✓	
Eurasian Wren	Troglodytes troglodytes	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Common Starling	Sturnus vulgaris	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Blackbird	Turdus merula	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Song Thrush	Turdus philomelos	✓	✓	✓	✓	
European Robin	Erithacus rubecula	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
European Stonechat	Saxicola rubicola			✓	✓	
Northern Wheatear	Oenanthe oenanthe		✓	✓	✓	
House Sparrow	Passer domesticus	✓			✓	✓
Dunnock	Prunella modularis		Н	✓	✓	✓
Grey Wagtail	Motacilla cinerea			✓	✓	
Pied Wagtail	Motacilla alba	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Meadow Pipit	Anthus pratensis			✓		
Rock Pipit	Anthus petrosus			✓	✓	✓
Common Chaffinch	Fringilla coelebs	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Linnet	Linaria cannabina	✓			✓	
European Goldfinch	Carduelis carduelis			✓	✓	
Eurasian Bullfinch	Pyrrhula pyrrhula			✓		
Yellowhammer	Emberiza citrinella				✓	

Others

	Scientific name	May 2023					
Common name		23	24	25	26	27	
Mammals							
Irish Hare	Lepus timidus hibernicus		✓		✓		
European Rabbit	Oryctolagus cuniculus		✓	✓			
Amphibians							
Common Frog	Rana temporaria (tadpoles)		✓	✓			
Butterflies							
Wood White	Leptidea sinapsis	✓	✓	✓			
Orange Tip	Anthocharis cardamines	✓			✓	✓	
Brimstone	Gomepterys rhamni					✓	
Small White	Pieris napi	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Small Copper	Lycaena phlaeas		✓				
Common Blue	Polyommatus icarus			✓	✓		
Small Tortoiseshell	Aglais urticae				✓		
Peacock	Inacjis io	✓					
Pearl-bordered Fritillary	Boloria euphrosyne	✓		✓			
Small Heath	Coenonnympha pamphilus		✓	✓			
Speckled Wood	Pararge aegeria	✓		✓	✓		
Wall Brown	Lasiommata megera			✓		✓	
Dingy Skipper	Erynnis tages	✓	✓	✓	✓		

Other Invertebrates

Blue-tailed Damselfly, *Ischnura elegans*Honey Bee, *Apis mellifera*Carder Bee, *Bombus pascucrun*Speckled Yellow Moth, *Pseudopanthera macularia*Cinnabar Moth, *Tyria jacobaeae*Lacewing sp, *Chrysoperia sp*

Large Red Damselfly, *Pyrrhsma nymphala* White-tailed Bumble Bee, *Bombus lucorum* Red-tailed Bumble Bee, *Bombus lapidorius* Six Spotted Burnet, *Zygaena filipendulae* Drinker Moth, *Euthrix potatoria* Pond Skater, *Gerris sp.*