

# The Burren

## Naturetrek Tour Report

19th – 23rd May 2025



Large-flowered Butterwort



Marsh Fritillary



Wood Whites on Common Milkwort



Poul nabrone Dolmen

Tour report by Bruce Middleton



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Tour participants: Bruce Middleton (leader) with 12 Naturetrek clients

## Summary

We had two days with light rain, but the majority of the time we had in The Burren was warm and sunny. However, whatever the weather was doing there was plenty to enjoy, including the beautiful scenery to be found in the Burren and the wide variety of plants to see and enjoy. This year was unusual, because there had been a drought for nearly a month beforehand, so many plants were past their best. We still found many of the expected plants, as well as a few insect species not usually seen. Highlights of our forays included a wide variety of orchids such as Early Marsh, Irish Marsh, Early Purple, Lesser Butterfly and Common Spotted, and Twayblade. Other notable flowers included Spring Gentian, Bloody-crane's-bill, Large-flowered Butterwort, Mossy Saxifrage.

On the bird front, we saw Cuckoo, Common and Black Guillemots, Puffin, Razorbill, Oystercatcher, Sandwich Tern and Great Northern Diver while the mammal of the tour had to be two Common Bottlenose Dolphins. On the sunny days, out came the butterflies, including Wood White, Little (Small) Blue, and Marsh and Pearl-bordered Fritillaries, as well as both Six-spot and Transparent Burnets moths. Other highlights included a guided tour of the amazing Caher Bridge Gardens, led by its creator, and a visit to Mullach Mor and to the Cliffs of Moher. We also sampled some truly delicious Irish food and drink.

## Day 1

Monday 19th May

Warm and sunny, ending in a thunderstorm

Bruce welcomed the twelve clients at Sheedy's Hotel, Lisdoonvarna. After everyone had checked in 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* and Rustyback Fern *Asplenium ceterach* growing out of the mortar in the walls. Then we set off on a walk down a lane and up onto Cappanavalla Hill. We entered an area of woodland and scrub and we spotted our first butterflies of the tour, including Speckled Wood, Dingy Skipper, Pearl-bordered Fritillary and Wood White. As we started our ascent, we heard Pheasant and Cuckoo. We saw a good variety of plants, such as Mountain Everlasting *Antennaria dioica*, Wild Thyme *Thymus polytrichus*, Common Milkwort *Polygala vulgaris*, Twayblade *Neottia ovata* and Early Purple Orchid *Orchis mascula*. We also found the metallic blue propeller-shaped Spring Gentians *Gentiana verna*, and to top it all lots of the beautiful Large-flowered Butterwort *Pinguicula grandiflora* as well. We then wandered back to the bus and went back to the hotel to freshen up, before having the first of our delicious evening meals.

## Day 2

Tuesday 20th May

Light rain on and off all day

The day was started by us all going down into the village and buying our packed lunches at the local Spar shop. Then our coach driver picked us up and took us on to the Caher Bridge Garden. Here we met Carl Wright, the creator of the garden. Right from the start he enthused us about his passion for his creation. As we wandered

through his magical garden, he told us about how it all started by him buying a derelict house, how he rebuilt it, and how he built a paradise around it on top of the limestone pavement which 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 who has picked up horticultural skills over the years. Carl is obviously skilful at whatever he puts his mind to, and was truly an inspiration to us all.

While we were being shown around, there were Blackcaps and Cuckoos constantly singing. In the river beside the garden pond, which was very dried up, 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. We also saw hundreds of feral goats on the hillside from his land; Carl told us that he had to maintain his outer fence all the time to keep them out.

Then we drove off to the start of a track known as the Green Road. Here we walked up a lane to look across the landscape; we could see the Arran Isles and Galway in the distance across the sea, and the vast expanse of limestone pavement all around us. We heard Cuckoos, and saw Raven, Wheatear and Stonechat. As we climbed up this wonderful path, flanked on both sides by limestone walls within a barren, rocky landscape, we found Spring Gentian *Gentiana verna*, Mountain Avens *Dryas octopetala*, Hoary Rock-rose *Helianthemum oelandicum*, Heath Spotted Orchid *Dactylorhiza maculata* and Early Purple Orchid *Orchis mascula*. We also saw Small Heath butterflies.

We then returned to the hotel and went out to explore an interesting meadow in Lisdoonvarna. Here we discovered Heath Spotted Orchid *Dactylorhiza maculata*, as well as some Irish Marsh Orchids *Dactylorhiza kerryensis* var. *occidentalis*, Early Marsh Orchid *Dactylorhiza incarnata* var. *cruenta* and Early Marsh Orchid *Dactylorhiza incarnata* var. *pulchella*, and just to add to the mix there were a number of hybrids between the species.

## Day 3

Wednesday 21st May

Dry, sunny and very hot at times

After breakfast, we set off to Poll Sallach on the coast road. We started by looking on the limestone pavement on the coastal side, where we were rewarded with Sea Spleenwort *Asplenium marinum*, lots of pink Thrift *Armeria maritima*, and the white-flowered Sea Campion *Silene maritima*. Then, going inland from the coastal road, 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 that were much smaller than they would normally be, and 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 we found on the plentiful Burnet Rose *Rosa spinosissima*.

We then continued along the coast road to see what could be seen, and when we disembarked, we found Little (Small) Blue, Marsh Fritillary and both Six-spot Burnet and Transparent Burnet moths. Then it was on down to Black Head Lighthouse, where we saw Black Guillemot, Common Guillemot, Shag, Great Northern Diver and Sandwich Tern. However, the most wonderful sighting had to be of two Bottlenose Dolphins. We then drove to Newtown Castle College again for our lunch.

After lunch, we retraced our route, and set off down a path towards the sea, to look at a coastal spit known as the Rine. The path had numerous Wood Whites and Dingy Skippers fluttering along in the sunshine. We could hear Cuckoos calling. On the beach we came across some nice flowers, which included Sea Sandwort *Honckenya peploides*, Greater Sea Spurrey *Spergularia media*, Lesser Sea Spurrey *Spergularia marina*, lots of Field Mouse-ear *Cerastium arvense*, and Sea Milkwort *Glaux maritima*. We also came across an area of saltmarsh which had 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 to the prehistoric Poul nabrone Dolmen, atop the limestone pavement and surrounded by wild flowers. 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 with Common Spike-rush *Eleocharis palustris*, Common Sedge *Carex nigra* and Bog Pondweed *Potamogeton polygonifolius*. We saw a few Palmate Newts and Common Frogs, as well as Four-spotted Chasers and Blue-tailed Damselflies. We then descended to a hill fort known as Cahermort Fort. Here we had lovely views across the landscape, as well as finding a nice stand of the beautiful Mossy Saxifrage *Saxifraga hypnoides*.

Then we returned to Sheedy's for another great evening meal. Some of the group were interested in listening to the local Irish Folk music, so not long after dinner we visited the Roadside Tavern and sampled the local stout, which was delicious, and the music, which was delightful.

## Day 4

## Thursday 22nd May

Hot and sunny

After breakfast we set off towards Mullach Mor, and en route we stopped off shortly to look at Leminagh Castle. There is a tale about a local lady, Maire Rua O'Brien, who had lived there and allegedly murdered at least two husbands, making sure that she left no evidence of her involvement in their deaths, but ensuring she was still the owner of the castle when they passed away. We then went a little further and looked at the house filmed in the comedy Father Ted. At Mullach Mor we investigated a meadow area to see what we could see. The drought had burnt a lot of species off, or they had already passed with no trace, and we missed some of the usual suspects here, but we did see a few Marsh Fritillaries and Wood White. Then we went on to the partly dried up Loch Gealain, which is a turlough (a groundwater-fed lake). Here we were immediately greeted by the Shrubby Cinquefoil *Potentilla fruticosa*, which is plentiful here. We noticed lots of Alder Buckthorn *Frangula alnus*, which was stunted and hugged the limestone pavement. We also saw Black Bog Rush *Schoenus nigricans*, as well as the hybrid *Viola × ritschliana*, a cross between Heath Violet *Viola canina* and Fen Violet *Viola persicifolia*, and Bog bean *Menyanthes trifoliata*. A further inspection of the area produced Carnation Sedge *Carex panicea*, Common Sedge *Carex nigra* and Great Fen Sedge *Cladium mariscus*. Birdwise, we saw Little Egret and Grey Heron. We then drove on to Keogh's in Kinvara for lunch.

After a pleasant lunch, it was off to Slieve Carran National Nature Reserve; we followed the path leading up to 'the Eagles Rock'. It was hot, but luckily there was a cool breeze; we discovered hundreds of plants of the eight-petaled Mountain Avens *Dryas octopetala* going over. There were a few with double flowers, too. The path led us to the seventh-century hermitage and holy well dedicated to St Colman MacDuagh, which was hidden in a hazel *Corylus avellana* copse. The woodland floor was covered in Wild Garlic *Allium ursinum*, Yellow Pimpernel *Lysimachia*

*nemorum* and Bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*. Below the well, we also discovered Water Aven *Geum rivale*, and Brittle Bladder Ferns *Cystopteris fragilis* were growing out of the walls. Then we walked back towards the bus via a wet bog area with Common Cotton-grass *Eriophorum angustifolium*, where we also found Common Butterwort *Pinguicula vulgaris* and Round-leaved Sundew *Drosera rotundifolia*.

## Day 5

Friday 23rd May

Rain

After our last hearty breakfast at Sheedy's and farewells to our excellent host Martina, we set off to the Cliffs of Moher. We first stopped at the ancient healing well of Saint Bridget. Thousands of people come to this site every year in the hope of being healed by the magical healing properties of the well. At the Cliffs of Moher, we had to use our binoculars, but were rewarded by numerous Fulmars, Guillemot, Kittiwakes, Razorbills and Puffins.

We then drove to Fanore, where we had a very quick look at the dunes and found Marram Grass *Ammophila arenaria* and Sand Sedge *Carex arenaria*. On the shorter grassland beside the dunes, we found smothering Dodder *Cuscuta epithymum* and Irish Eyebright *Euphrasia salisburgensis*. Then we headed back to the hotel, where we parted ways and said our goodbyes; some clients were off independently. Those who remained with the bus went next to the Kilfenora Burren Centre. Here we had lunch, looked around the centre and bought souvenirs; then we visited the ruins of Kilfenora Cathedral to see the ancient limestone Celtic crosses. Here we observed Navelwort *Umbilicus rupestris* growing on the walls. Those who needed to catch a plane went back on the bus to Shannon Airport, and so ended another lovely Naturetrek tour of The Burren.

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## Species lists

Birds (H = Heard only)

Common name	Scientific name	May 2025				
		19	20	21	22	23
Canada Goose	<i>Branta canadensis</i>				✓	
Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>	✓				
Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>				✓	
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>			✓		
Common Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>		H		✓	
Rock Dove/ Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>			✓		
Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>					✓
Eurasian Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>			✓		
Eurasian Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>			✓		
Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>			✓		
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>			✓		
Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>			✓		
Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>			✓		
European Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>			✓	✓	
Great Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>			✓		
Great Northern Diver	<i>Gavia immer</i>			✓		
Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>			✓	✓	
European Shag	<i>Gulosus aristotelis</i>			✓		
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>			✓	✓	
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>			✓	✓	
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>		✓	✓		
Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>				✓	
Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>				✓	✓
Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>		✓		✓	
Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓
Marsh Tit	<i>Poecile palustris</i>		✓			
Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>					✓
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>				✓	
Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>			✓	✓	
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>				✓	
Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>					✓
Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>		H			H
Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>					H
Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>			H	H	
Common Whitethroat	<i>Curruca communis</i>			H	✓	
Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>					✓
Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>		✓			
Eurasian Treecreeper	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>		✓			H
Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>			✓	✓	
Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>		✓		✓	
Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>		✓		✓	✓
European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>				✓	✓
European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>		✓		✓	
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>		✓	✓	✓	
Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>				✓	
Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>			✓		
European Rock Pipit	<i>Anthus petrosus</i>				✓	
Eurasian Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		✓		✓	
European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>		H			

Common name	Scientific name	May 2025				
		19	20	21	22	23
Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>				✓	
European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		✓		✓	

## Mammals

Common name	Scientific name	May 2025				
		19	20	21	22	23
Common Bottlenose Dolphin	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>				✓	
European Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>			✓	✓	
Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>			✓		
Feral Goat	<i>Capra hircus</i>			✓		
Stoat	<i>Mustela erminea</i>					✓

## Amphibians

Common name	Scientific name	May 2025				
		19	20	21	22	23
Common Frog (tadpoles)	<i>Rana temporaria</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Palmate Newt	<i>Lissotriton helveticus</i>				✓	

## Butterflies

Common name	Scientific name	May 2025				
		19	20	21	22	23
Dingy Skipper	<i>Erynnis tages</i>			✓	✓	
Wood White	<i>Leptidea sinapis</i>	✓		✓	✓	
Common Brimstone	<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>			✓		
Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>	✓		✓	✓	
Green-veined White	<i>Pieris napi</i>			✓		
Common Orange-tip	<i>Anthocharis cardamines</i>			✓		
Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>			✓	✓	
Little (Small) Blue	<i>Cupido minimus</i>	✓		✓	✓	
Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>			✓	✓	
Pearl-bordered Fritillary	<i>Boloria euphrosyne</i>	✓		✓	✓	
Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>				✓	
Small Tortoiseshell	<i>Aglais urticae</i>			✓		
Marsh Fritillary	<i>Euphydryas aurinia</i>			✓	✓	
Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>		✓	✓	✓	
Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>		✓	✓	✓	
Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>			✓	✓	

## Moths

Common name	Scientific name
Transparent Burnet	<i>Zygaena purpuralis</i>
Six-spot Burnet	<i>Zygaena filipendulae</i>
Drinker Moth	<i>Euthrix potatoria</i>
Speckled Yellow	<i>Pseudopanthera macularia</i>
Garden Tiger	<i>Arctia caja</i>
Cinnabar	<i>Tyria jacobaeae</i>
Burnet Companion	<i>Euclidia glyphica</i>

## Damselflies & dragonflies

Common name	Scientific name
Blue-tailed Damselfly	<i>Ischnura elegans</i>
Large Red Damselfly	<i>Pyrrhysma nymphala</i>
Four-spotted Chaser	<i>Libellula quadrimaculata</i>

## Other insects

Common name	Scientific name
<b>Bees</b>	
Honey Bee	<i>Apis mellifera</i>
Carder Bee	<i>Bombus pascuorum</i>
White-tailed Bumble Bee	<i>Bombus lucorum</i>
Red-tailed Bumble Bee	<i>Bombus lapidarius</i>
<b>Beetles</b>	
Rose Chafer	<i>Cetonia aurata</i>
Garden Chafer	<i>Phyllopertha horticola</i>
<b>Grasshoppers</b>	
Common Grasshopper	<i>Omocestus viridulus</i>
<b>Others</b>	
Lacewing sp	<i>Chrysoperia</i> sp.
Pond Skater	<i>Gerris</i> sp.

## Plants

Scientific Name	Common Name	First Location
<b>PTERIDOPHYTES</b>	<b>FERNS &amp; ALLIES</b>	
<b>Calamophytes</b>	<b>Horsetails</b>	
<b>Equisetaceae</b>	<b>Horsetail Family</b>	
<i>Equisetum arvense</i>	Field Horsetail	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Equisetum telmateia</i>	Greater Horsetail	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Equisetum palustre</i>	Marsh Horsetail	Mullach Mor
<b>Leptosporangiate Ferns</b>	<b>True Ferns</b>	
<b>Aspleniaceae</b>	<b>Spleenwort Family</b>	
<i>Asplenium adnigrum</i>	Black Spleenwort	Cappanavalla
<i>Asplenium ceterach</i>	Rustyback	Newtown Castle
<i>Asplenium marinum</i>	Sea Spleenwort	Poll Sallach
<i>Asplenium ruta-muraria</i>	Wall-rue	Cappanavalla
<i>Asplenium scolopendrium</i>	Hart's-tongue	Slieve
<i>Asplenium trichomanes</i>	Maidenhair Spleenwort	Cappanavalla
<b>Dennstaedtiaceae</b>	<b>Bracken Family</b>	
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Bracken	Slieve
<b>Dryopteridaceae</b>	<b>Buckler-fern Family</b>	
<i>Dryopteris filix-mas</i>	Male-fern	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Polystichum setiferum</i>	Soft Shield-fern	Cappanavalla
<i>Polystichum aculeatum</i>	Hard Shield-fern	Mullach Mor
<b>Polypodiaceae</b>	<b>Polypody Family</b>	
<i>Polypodium cambricum</i>	Southern Polypody	Kilfenora
<i>Polypodium interjectum</i>	Western Polypody	Cappanavalla
<i>Polypodium vulgare</i>	Common Polypody	Cappanavalla
<b>Woodsiaceae</b>	<b>Lady-fern Family</b>	
<i>Athyrium filix-femina</i>	Lady-fern	Slieve
<i>Cystopteris fragilis</i>	Brittle Bladder-fern	Slieve



Scientific Name	Common Name	First Location
<b>PINACEAE</b>	<b>CONIFERS</b>	
<b>Pinaceae</b>	<b>Pine Family</b>	
<i>Picea abies</i>	Norway Spruce	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Picea sitchensis</i>	Sitka Spruce	Lisdoonvarna
<b>ANGIOSPERMS</b>	<b>FLOWERING PLANTS</b>	
<b>Eu-dicots</b>	<b>True Dicotyledons</b>	
<b>Amaranthaceae</b>	<b>Amaranth Family</b>	
<i>Atriplex prostrata</i>	Spear-leaved Orache	Rine
<i>Beta vulgaris</i> subsp. <i>maritima</i>	Sea Beet	Rine
<b>Apiaceae</b>	<b>Carrot Family</b>	
<i>Angelica sylvestris</i>	Angelica	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	Cow Parsley	Mullach Mor
<i>Conopodium majus</i>	Pignut	Mullach Mor
<i>Crithmum maritimum</i>	Rock Samphire	Rine
<i>Daucus carota</i> subsp. <i>carota</i>	Wild Carrot	Green Road
<i>Daucus carota</i> subsp. <i>gummifer</i>	Sea Carrot	Rine
<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	Hogweed	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Oenanthe crocata</i>	Hemlock Water-dropwort	Newtown Castle
<i>Sanicula europaea</i>	Sanicle	Green Road
<b>Aquifoliaceae</b>	<b>Holly Family</b>	
<i>Ilex aquifolia</i>	Holly	Slieve
<b>Araliaceae</b>	<b>Ivy Family</b>	
<i>Hedera hibernica</i>	Atlantic Ivy	Slieve
<b>Asteraceae</b>	<b>Daisy Family</b>	
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Yarrow	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Antennaria dioica</i>	Mountain Everlasting or Cat's-paw	Cappanavalla
<i>Bellis perennis</i>	Daisy	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Carlina vulgaris</i>	Carlina Thistle	Cappanavalla
<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	Common Knapweed	Cappanavalla
<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Creeping Thistle	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Cirsium dissectum</i>	Meadow Thistle	Mullach Mor
<i>Cirsium palustre</i>	Marsh Thistle	Caher Valley
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Spear Thistle	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Crepis capillaris</i>	Smooth Hawk's-beard	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Crepis vesicaria</i>	Beaked Hawk's-beard	Rine
<i>Eupatorium cannabinum</i>	Hemp-agrimony	Poll Sallach
<i>Hieracium</i> agg	Hawkweed group	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Hypochoeris radicata</i>	Common Cat's-ear	Mullach Mor
<i>Lapsana communis</i>	Nipplewort	Slieve
<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	Ox-eye Daisy	Cappanavalla
<i>Matricaria discoidea</i>	Pineapple Weed	Rine
<i>Mycelis muralis</i>	Wall Lettuce	Cappanavalla
<i>Pilosella officinarum</i>	Mouse-ear Hawkweed	Slieve
<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>	Common Ragwort	Cappanavalla
<i>Senecio vulgaris</i>	Groundsel	Cappanavalla
<i>Solidago virgaurea</i>	Goldenrod	Poll Sallach
<i>Sonchus asper</i>	Prickly Sow-thistle	Cappanavalla
<i>Sonchus arvensis</i>	Perennial Sow-thistle	Poll Sallach
<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	Smooth Sow-thistle	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Taraxacum</i> agg	Dandelion group	Cappanavalla
<i>Tripleurospermum maritimum</i>	Sea Mayweed	Rine
<i>Tussilago farfara</i>	Colt's-foot	Cappanavalla
<i>Petasites fragrans</i>	Winter Heliotrope	Roadsides
<b>Betulaceae</b>	<b>Birch Family</b>	
<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	Common Alder	Rine

Scientific Name	Common Name	First Location
<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver Birch	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Betula pubescens</i>	Downy Birch	Caher Bridge
<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel	Cappanavalla
<b>Brassicaceae</b>	<b>Cabbage Family</b>	
<i>Barbarea vulgaris</i>	Winter-cress	Roadsides
<i>Brasica nigra</i>	Black Mustard	Fanore
<i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i>	Shepherd's-purse	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Cardamine flexuosa</i>	Wavy Bitter-cress	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Cardamine pratensis</i>	Cuckooflower	Cappanavalla
<i>Cochlearia officinalis</i>	Common Scurvygrass	Poll Sallach
<i>Coronopus didymus</i>	Lesser Swine-cress	Nr Burren Centre
<i>Draba verna</i>	Common Whitlow-grass	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Hesperis matronalis</i>	Dame's-violet	Roadsides
<i>Nasturtium officinale</i>	Water-cress	Caher Valley
<i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i> subsp. <i>maritimum</i>	Sea Radish	Rine
<i>Sisymbrium officinale</i>	Hedge Mustard	Rine
<b>Droseraceae</b>	<b>Sundew Family</b>	
<i>Drosera rotundifolia</i>	Round-leaved Sundew	Slieve
<b>Caprifoliaceae</b>	<b>Honeysuckle Family</b>	
<i>Lonicera nitida</i>	Shining Honeysuckle	Cappanavalla
<i>Lonicera periclymenum</i>	Honeysuckle	Cappanavalla
<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	Elderberry	Rine
<i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>	Snowberry	Cappanavalla
<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	Guelder-rose	Mullach Mor
<b>Caryophyllaceae</b>	<b>Pink Family</b>	
<i>Arenaria serpyllifolia</i>	Thyme-leaved Sandwort	Newtown Castle
<i>Cerastium arvense</i>	Field Mouse-ear	Rine
<i>Cerastium diffusum</i>	Sea Mouse-ear	Rine
<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	Common Mouse-ear	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Cerastium glomeratum</i>	Sticky Mouse-ear	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Honckenya peploides</i>	Sea Sandwort	Rine
<i>Sagina procumbens</i>	Procumbent Pearlwort	Cappanavalla
<i>Silene dioica</i>	Red Campion	Cappanavalla
<i>Silene flos-cuculi</i>	Ragged Robin	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Silene uniflora</i>	Sea Campion	Rine
<i>Spergularia marina</i>	Lesser Sea-spurrey	Rine
<i>Spergularia media</i>	Greater Sea-spurrey	Rine
<i>media</i>	Common Chickweed	Rine <i>Stellaria</i>
<b>Celastraceae</b>	<b>Spindle Family</b>	
<i>Euonymus europaeus</i>	Spindle	Cappanavalla
<b>Cistaceae</b>	<b>Rock-rose Family</b>	
<i>Helianthemum oelandicum</i> subsp. <i>piloselloides</i>	Hoary Rock-rose	Green Road
<b>Convolvulaceae</b>	<b>Bindweed Family</b>	
<i>Calystegia sylvatica</i>	Large Bindweed	Poll Sallach
<i>Cuscuta epithymum</i>	Dodder	Fanore
<b>Crassulaceae</b>	<b>Stonecrop Family</b>	
<i>Sedum acre</i>	Biting Stonecrop	Rine
<i>Umbilicus rupestris</i>	Navelwort	Kilfenora
<b>Dipsacaceae</b>	<b>Teasel Family</b>	
<i>Jasione montana</i>	Sheep's-bit Scabious	Cliffs of Moher
<i>Knautia arvensis</i>	Field Scabious	Cappanavalla
<i>Succia pratensis</i>	Devil's-bit Scabious (leaves only)	Cappanavalla
<b>Ericaceae</b>	<b>Heather Family</b>	
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>	Heather	Slieve

Scientific Name	Common Name	First Location
<i>Erica tetralix</i>	Cross-leaved Heath	Slieve
<i>Rhododendron ponticum</i>	Rhododendron	Road sides
<b>Euphorbiaceae</b>	<b>Spurge Family</b>	
<i>Euphorbia portlandica</i>	Portland Spurge	Fanore
<i>Euphorbia peplus</i>	Petty Spurge	Lisdoonvarna
<b>Fabaceae</b>	<b>Pea Family</b>	
<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i>	Kidney Vetch	Poll Sallach
<i>Lathyrus linifolius</i>	Bitter Vetch	Poll Sallach
<i>Lathyrus pratensis</i>	Meadow Vetchling	Cappanavalla
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Bird's-foot-trefoil	Cappanavalla
<i>Medicago lupulina</i>	Black Medick	Cappanavalla
<i>Trifolium dubium</i>	Lesser Trefoil	Cappanavalla
<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Red Clover	Cappanavalla
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White Clover	Cappanavalla
<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	Gorse	Cappanavalla
<i>Vicia cracca</i>	Tufted Vetch	Cappanavalla
<i>Vicia sepium</i>	Bush Vetch	Cappanavalla
<i>Vicia sativa</i>	Common Vetch	Lisdoonvarna
<b>Fagaceae</b>	<b>Oak &amp; Beech Family</b>	
<i>Quercus robur</i>	Pendunculate Oak	Caher Bridge
<b>Gentianaceae</b>	<b>Gentian Family</b>	
<i>Blackstonia perfoliata</i>	Yellow-wort	Cappanavalla
<i>Gentiana verna</i>	Spring Gentian	Cappanavalla
<b>Geraniaceae</b>	<b>Geranium Family</b>	
<i>Geranium dissectum</i>	Cut-leaved Crane's-bill	Green Road
<i>Geranium lucidum</i>	Shining Crane's-bill	Cappanavalla
<i>Geranium molle</i>	Dove's-foot Crane's-bill	Rine
<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	Herb Robert	Cappanavalla
<i>Geranium sanguineum</i>	Bloody Crane's-bill	Cappanavalla
<b>Hippuridaceae</b>	<b>Mare's-tail Family</b>	
<i>Hippuris vulgaris</i>	Mare's-tail	Caher Bridge
<b>Hypericaceae</b>	<b>St John's-wort Family</b>	
<i>Hypericum androsaemum</i>	Tutsan	Cappanavalla
<i>Hypericum hirsutum</i>	Hairy St John's-wort	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	Perforate St John's-wort	Cappanavalla
<i>Hypericum tetrapterum</i>	Square-stalked St John's-wort	Poulina brone
<b>Lamiaceae</b>	<b>Dead-nettle Family</b>	
<i>Ajuga reptans</i>	Common Bugle	Slieve
<i>Mentha aquatica</i>	Water Mint	Cappanavalla
<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	Self-heal	Poll Sallach
<i>Stachys sylvatica</i>	Hedge Woundwort	Cappanavalla
<i>Teucrium scorodonia</i>	Wood Sage	Cappanavalla
<i>Thymus polytrichus</i>	Wild Thyme	Cappanavalla
<b>Lentibulariaceae</b>	<b>Bladderwort Family</b>	
<i>Pinguicula grandiflora</i>	Large-flowered Butterwort	Cappanavalla
<i>Pinguicula vulgaris</i>	Common Butterwort	Slieve
<b>Linaceae</b>	<b>Flax Family</b>	
<i>Linum catharticum</i>	Fairy Flax	Newtown Castle
<b>Malvaceae</b>	<b>Mallow Family</b>	
<i>Lavatera arborea</i>	Tree Mallow	Cliffs of Moher
<b>Menyanthaceae</b>	<b>Bog-bean Family</b>	
<i>Menyanthes trifoliata</i>	Bog-bean	Mullach Mor
<b>Myricaceae</b>	<b>Myrtle Family</b>	
<i>Myrica gale</i>	Bog Myrtle	Slieve

Scientific Name	Common Name	First Location
<b>Oleaceae</b>	<b>Olive Family</b>	
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash	Cappanavalla
<b>Onagraceae</b>	<b>Willow-herb Family</b>	
<i>Chamaenerion angustifolium</i>	Rosebay Willow-herb	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Circaea lutetiana</i>	Enchanter's-nightshade	Slieve
<i>Epilobium hirsutum</i>	Great Willow-herb	Cappanavalla
<i>Epilobium montanum</i>	Broad-leaved Willow-herb	Cappanavalla
<i>Epilobium palustre</i>	Marsh Willow-herb	Mullach Mor
<i>Epilobium parviflorum</i>	Hoary Willow-herb	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Fuchsia magellanica</i>	Fuchsia (wild)	Roadsides
<i>Fuchsia magellanica</i> var. <i>macrostema</i>	Fuchsia (of garden origin)	Roadsides
<b>Orobanchaceae</b>	<b>Broomrape Family</b>	
<i>Euphrasia tetraquetra</i>	Western Eyebright	Fanore
<i>Pedicularis sylvatica</i>	Lousewort	Slieve
<i>Rhinanthus minor</i>	Yellow-rattle	Poll Sallach
<b>Oxalidaceae</b>	<b>Wood-sorrel Family</b>	
<i>Oxalis acetosella</i>	Wood-sorrel	Rine
<b>Plantaginaceae</b>	<b>Plantain Family</b>	
<i>Plantago coronopus</i>	Buck's-horn Plantain	Poll Sallach
<i>Plantago lanecolata</i>	Ribwort Plantain	Rine
<i>Plantago major</i>	Greater Plantain	Rine
<i>Plantago maritima</i>	Sea Plantain	Rine
<b>Plumbaginaceae</b>	<b>Thrift Family</b>	
<i>Armeria maritima</i>	Thrift	Poll Sallach
<i>Limonium humile</i>	Lax-flowered Sea-lavender (leaves only)	Rine
<i>L. recurvum</i> subsp. <i>pseudotranswallianum</i>	Irish Sea-lavender (leaves only)	Rine
<b>Polygalaceae</b>	<b>Milkwort Family</b>	
<i>Polygala vulgaris</i>	Common Milkwort	Cappanavalla
<b>Polygonaceae</b>	<b>Knotweed Family</b>	
<i>Falopia japonica</i>	Japanese Knotweed	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Polygonum aviculare</i>	Common Knotgrass	Rine
<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	Common Sorrel	Cappanavalla
<i>Rumex crispus</i>	Curled Dock	Cappanavalla
<i>Rumex crispus</i> subsp. <i>littoreus</i>	Curled Dock (coastal subspecies)	Rine
<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	Broad-leaved Dock	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Rumex sanguineus</i>	Wood Dock	Sieve
<b>Potamogetonaceae</b>	<b>Pondweed Family</b>	
<i>Potamogeton x lanceolatus</i>	A Pondweed	Caher Bridge
<i>Potamogeton polygonifolius</i>	Bog Pondweed	Poulina brone
<b>Primulaceae</b>	<b>Primrose Family</b>	
<i>Anagallis arvensis</i>	Scarlet Pimpernel	Rine
<i>Glaux maritima</i>	Sea-milkwort	Rine
<i>Lysimachia nemorum</i>	Yellow Pimpernel	Slieve
<i>Lysimachia punctatum</i>	Dotted Loosestrife	Roadsides
<i>Primula veris</i>	Cowslip	Green Road
<i>Primula vulgaris</i>	Primrose	Green Road
<i>Samolus valerandi</i>	Brookweed	Cappanavalla
<b>Ranunculaceae</b>	<b>Buttercup Family</b>	
<i>Ficaria verna</i> agg.	Lesser Celandine	Rine
<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	Meadow Buttercup	Cappanavalla
<i>Ranunculus bulbosa</i>	Bulbous Buttercup	Rine
<i>Ranunculus flammula</i>	Lesser Spearwort	Poulina brone
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Creeping Buttercup	Cappanavalla
<i>Thalictrum minus</i>	Lesser Meadow-rue	Mullach Mor

Scientific Name	Common Name	First Location
<b>Rhamnaceae</b>	<b>Buckthorn Family</b>	
<i>Frangula alnus</i>	Alder Buckthorn	Mullach Mor
<i>Rhamnus catharticus</i>	Buckthorn	Mullach Mor
<b>Rosaceae</b>	<b>Rose Family</b>	
<i>Alchemilla glabra</i>	Smooth Lady's-mantle	Green Road
<i>Aphanes arvensis</i>	Parsley Piert	Green Road
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn	Cappanavalla
<i>Dryas octopetala</i>	Mountain Avens	Poulina brone
<i>Filipendula ulmaria</i>	Meadow Sweet	Cappanavalla
<i>Filipendula vulgaris</i>	Dropwort	Slieve
<i>Fragaria vesca</i>	Wild Strawberry	Cappanavalla
<i>Geum rivale</i>	Water Avens	Slieve
<i>Geum urbanum</i>	Wood Avens	Slieve
<i>Potentilla anserina</i>	Silverweed	Cappanavalla
<i>Potentilla erecta</i>	Tormentil	Cappanavalla
<i>Potentilla fruticosa</i>	Shrubby Cinquefoil	Mullach Mor
<i>Potentilla sterilis</i>	Barren Strawberry	Cahermort Fort
<i>Poterium sanguisorba</i>	Salad Burnet	Slieve
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn	Cappanavalla
<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog Rose	Cappanavalla
<i>Rosa spinosissima</i>	Burnet Rose	Mullach Mor
<i>Rubus fruticosus agg</i>	Bramble	Cappanavalla
<i>Rubus idaeus</i>	Raspberry	Slieve
<i>Sorbus aria</i>	Whitebeam	Cappanavalla
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan	Cappanavalla
<b>Rubiaceae</b>	<b>Bedstraw Family</b>	
<i>Asperula cynanchica</i>	Squinancywort	Green Road
<i>Galium aparine</i>	Cleavers	Cappanavalla
<i>Galium odoratum</i>	Sweet Woodruff	Cappanavalla
<i>Galium palustre</i>	Marsh Bedstraw	Mullach Mor
<i>Galium saxatile</i>	Heath Bedstraw	Slieve
<i>Galium sternerii</i>	Limestone Bedstraw	Green Road
<i>Galium verum</i>	Lady's Bedstraw	Green Lane
<i>Rubia perigrina</i>	Wild Madder	Cappanavalla
<b>Saliciaceae</b>	<b>Willow &amp; Poplar Family</b>	
<i>Salix caprea</i>	Goat Willow	Cappanavalla
<i>Salix cinerea</i>	Grey Willow	Cappanavalla
<i>Salix repens</i>	Creeping Willow	Poll Sallach
<b>Sapindaceae</b>	<b>Maple Family</b>	
<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>	Horse-chestnut	Roadsides
<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Sycamore	Cappanavalla
<b>Saxifragaceae</b>	<b>Saxifrage Family</b>	
<i>Saxifraga hypnoides</i>	Mossy Saxifrage	Cahermort Fort
<b>Scrophulariaceae</b>	<b>Figwort Family</b>	
<i>Scrophularia nodosa</i>	Common Figwort	Cappanavalla
<b>Solanaceae</b>	<b>Nightshade Family</b>	
<i>Solanum dulcamara</i>	Woody Nightshade	Lisdoonvarna
<b>Urticaceae</b>	<b>Nettle Family</b>	
<i>Parietaria judaica</i>	Pellitory-of-the-wall	Newtown Castle
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Stinging Nettle	Cappanavalla
<b>Valerianaceae</b>	<b>Valerian Family</b>	
<i>Centranthus ruber</i>	Red Valerian	Road sides
<i>Valeriana officinalis</i>	Common Valerian	Cappanavalla
<b>Veronicaceae</b>	<b>Speedwell family</b>	
<i>Erinus alpinus</i>	Fairy Foxglove	Newtown Castle

Scientific Name	Common Name	First Location
<i>Veronica arvensis</i>	Wall Speedwell	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Veronica beccabunga</i>	Brooklime	Poulina brone
<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>	Germander Speedwell	Cappanavalla
<i>Veronica montana</i>	Wood Speedwell	Slieve
<i>Veronica officinalis</i>	Heath Speedwell	Mullach Mor
<i>Veronica serpyllifolia</i>	Thyme-leaved Speedwell	Rine
<b>Violaceae</b>	<b>Violet Family</b>	
<i>Viola canina</i>	Heath Dog-violet	Mullach Mor
<i>Viola x ritschliana</i>	Hybrid Violet	Mullach Mor
<i>Viola riviniana</i>	Common Dog-violet	Cappanavalla
<b>Monocots</b>	<b>Monocotyledons</b>	
<b>Alliaceae</b>	<b>Onion Family</b>	
<i>Allium ursinum</i>	Wild Garlic	Slieve
<b>Araceae</b>	<b>Arum Family</b>	
<i>Arum maculatum</i>	Lords and Ladies	Cappanavalla
<b>Asparagaceae</b>	<b>Asparagus Family</b>	
<i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>	Bluebell	Cappanavalla
<b>Cyperaceae</b>	<b>Sedge Family</b>	
<i>Eriophorum angustifolium</i>	Common Cotton-grass	Slieve
<i>Carex acutiformis</i>	Lesser Pond Sedge	Caher Bridge
<i>Carex arenaria</i>	Sand Sedge	Fanore
<i>Carex dimissa</i>	Common Yellow Sedge	Poulina brone
<i>Carex echinata</i>	Star Sedge	Poulina brone
<i>Carex flacca</i>	Glaucous Sedge	Cappanavalla
<i>Carex hostiana</i>	Tawny Sedge	Mullach Mor
<i>Carex nigra</i>	Common Sedge	Poulina brone
<i>Carex panicea</i>	Carnation Sedge	Cappanavalla
<i>Carex pendula</i>	Pendulous Sedge	Cappanavalla
<i>Carex pulicaris</i>	Flea Sedge	Cappanavalla
<i>Carex sylvatica</i>	Wood Sedge	Slieve
<i>Cladium mariscus</i>	Great Fen Sedge	Mullach Mor
<i>Schoenus nigricans</i>	Black Bog-rush	Rine
<b>Iridaceae</b>	<b>Iris Family</b>	
<i>Crocus x crocosmiflora</i>	Montbretia	Road sides
<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	Yellow Iris	Cappanavalla
<b>Juncaceae</b>	<b>Rush Family</b>	
<i>Juncus bufonis</i>	Toad Rush	Green Road
<i>Juncus bulbosus</i>	Bulbous Rush	Mullach Mor
<i>Juncus effusus</i>	Soft Rush	Rine
<i>Juncus gerardii</i>	Saltmarsh Rush	Rine
<i>Luzula campestris</i>	Field Woodrush	Cappanavalla
<i>Luzula multiflora</i>	Heath Woodrush	Slieve
<i>Luzula multiflora</i> subsp. <i>congregata</i>	Heath Woodrush	Slieve
<i>Luzula sylvatica</i>	Great Wood-rush	Lisdoonvarna
<b>Juncaginaceae</b>	<b>Arrowgrass Family</b>	
<i>Triglochin palustris</i>	Marsh Arrowgrass	Poulina brone
<b>Orchidaceae</b>	<b>Orchid Family</b>	
<i>Dactylorhiza fuschii</i>	Common Spotted-orchid	Mullach Mor
<i>Dactylorhiza incarnata</i> subsp. <i>incarnata</i>	Early Marsh Orchid	Cappanavalla
<i>Dactylorhiza incarnata</i> subsp. <i>pulchella</i>	Early Marsh Orchid	Poulina brone
<i>Dactylorhiza maculata</i> subsp. <i>ericetorum</i>	Heath Spotted-orchid	Poulina brone
<i>Dactylorhiza kerryensis</i> var. <i>occidentalis</i>	Irish Marsh Orchid	Lisdoonvarna



Scientific Name	Common Name	First Location
<i>Epipactis helleborine</i>	Broad-leaved Helleborine (leaves only)	Caher Bridge
<i>Gymnadenia conopsea</i>	Fragrant Orchid	Cappanavalla
<i>Neottia ovata</i>	Twayblade	Caher Bridge
<i>Orchis mascula</i>	Early Purple Orchid	Cappanavalla
<b>Poaceae</b>	<b>Grass Family</b>	
<i>Alopecurus geniculatus</i>	Marsh Foxtail	Caher Bridge
<i>Alopecurus pratensis</i>	Meadow Foxtail	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Ammophila arenaria</i>	Marram	Fanore
<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	Sweet Vernal-grass	Cappanavalla
<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>	False Oat-grass	Cappanavalla
<i>Avenula pubescens</i>	Downy Oat-grass	Cappanavalla
<i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i>	False Brome	Cappanavalla
<i>Briza media</i>	Quaking Grass	Cappanavalla
<i>Bromopsis erecta</i>	Upright Brome	Cappanavalla
<i>Catapodium maritimum</i>	Sea Fern-grass	Fanore
<i>Cynosurus cristatus</i>	Crested Dog's-tail	Green Road
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Cock's-foot	Cappanavalla
<i>Festuca rubra</i>	Red Fescue	Cappanavalla
<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Yorkshire Fog	Cappanavalla
<i>Lolium perenne</i>	Perennial Rye-grass	Lisdoonvarna
<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>	Reed Canary-grass	Mullach Mor
<i>Phragmites australis</i>	Common Reed	Mullach Mor
<i>Poa annua</i>	Annual Meadow-grass	Cappanavalla
<i>Sesleria caerulea</i>	Blue Moor-grass	Cappanavalla