The Apennines: Italy's Abruzzo National Park

Naturetrek Tour Report

26th May - 2nd June 2022



Lady's Slipper Orchids



Red-backed Shrike



Apennine Chamois



Ciliate Rock-jasmine

Tour report and images by Jessica Turner



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Summary

The Abruzzo National Park in the central Apennines of Italy always offers a wide range of wildlife encounters, and this time was no exception. The Chamois, the alpine flowers and the scenery at the top of the Val di Rose were a delight, as were the wide variety of orchids and butterflies enjoying the warm sunny weather. While we were unfortunate not to see either Bears or Wolves, the latter were heard, and we realised that these are truly wild animals, never fed by humans, so any sighting of them is a bonus. The Beech Marten was an unexpected treat. We enjoyed a wide selection of birds, insects and flowers, amidst the beautiful scenery. The staff at Albergo Paradiso provided a warm welcome and excellent hospitality. An excellent week in a delightful location!

Wednesday 25th May

Due to the cancellation of a Thursday flight by BA, three group members and Jessica flew from Gatwick Airport to Rome Fiumicino today, arriving at 6.50pm. At the luggage reclaim we met with a fourth member, who had flown from Heathrow. Having retrieved our bags, we took a shuttle bus to the Comfort Hotel in Fiumicino City, the local town, where we checked in for the night. Most of the group ventured out in the warm, sweetly scented, evening air to a pizzeria near the river, where we enjoyed a tasty supper. Afterwards, we were very ready for our beds!

Day 1

UK to Rome to Pescasseroli

Thursday 26th May

Those in Fiumicino had time to explore the area and look at the sea, before taking the shuttle back to the airport, where we met with the other four group members who flew from Manchester. Jessica collected the minibus and picked up the group who were waiting in the midday sun (or shade), and we set off round the Rome ringroad. The traffic was busy but moving well, and as we went, we were able to note the Umbrella Pines (*Pinus pinea*) Oleander (*Nerium oleander*), a Black Kite, a Rose-ringed Parakeet, Hooded Crows and Yellow-legged Gulls.

The traffic eased as we drove east, enjoying the little hill-top villages and gorges of the Apennine foothills, and noting Italian Sainfoin (*Sulla coronaria*) and Spanish Broom (*Spartium junceum*) along the road verges and several fields of Common Poppies (*Papaver rhoeas*). We stopped for a break just over the border into Abruzzo province, enjoying the shade of a leafy tree. The motorways branched and we took the A24 towards Pescara. Soon after, we noted the flat plain that used to be Lake Fucino, the third largest in Italy, before it was finally drained in the 1870s. We left the autostrada to drop down to Pescina, stopping for a while just after the pay barrier to listen to a Nightingale. We drove through the village before taking the winding road up into the National Park, enjoying the many Laburnum trees (*Laburnum anagyroides*) flowering along the roadsides, with White Rock-roses (*Helianthemum apenninum*) in the grassy areas.

We stopped for a leg stretch at Gioia Vecchio, looking out over the valley. Quail and Cuckoo were calling below, a very loud Blackcap was overhead, and several Scarce Swallowtails were gliding around, but not settling. Other plants we noted there included the blue anchusa *Cynoglottis barrelieri*, Snow-in-Summer (*Cerastium tomentosum*), the yellow Cinquefoil *Potentilla detommasii* and Salad Burnet (*Sanguisorba minor*). As we drove down towards Pescasseroli,

a Red Fox was walking along a ditch-line and there were some fine Lady Orchids (*Orchis purpurea*) near Passo del Diavolo. A Red-backed Shrike was perched in a tree further down. Having driven through Pescasseroli, we soon arrived at the Albergo Paradiso, our base for the week, where we received a warm welcome from Graziella.

After a short while to settle in, we met again at 4.45pm to wander along the track behind the hotel. In the hotel grounds were several clumps of White Helleborine (Cephalanthera damasonium), with a Wood White butterfly, while Coal Tits, House Martins and Italian Sparrows were overhead. Plants along the stony track included Giant Red Dead-nettle (Lamium garganicum), Solomon's-seal (Polygonatum multiflorum), Rustyback fern (Asplenium ceterach) and St. Lucie's Cherry (Prunus mahaleh) and we noted a pair of metallic-blue Longhorn Beetles Agapanthia violacea, Brimstone Moth, Hummingbird Hawk-moths, Mazarine Blue, Little Blue, Painted Lady, Wall Brown, Clouded Yellow, Berger's Clouded Yellow and a Six-spot Burnet caterpillar among the insects. On a rocky bank we found the endemic Pansy Viola eugeniae in various shades, but predominantly yellow, together with Meadow Saxifrage (Saxifraga granulata) and Stinking Hellebore (Helleborus foetidus).

As we climbed the grassy slope, we added Green-winged Orchids (*Anacamptis morio*), a Fragrant Orchid (*Gymnadenia conopsea*) just coming out, and some fine Toothed Orchids (*Neotinea tridentata*). The pink form of Kidney Vetch (*Anthyllis vulneraria* subsp. *rubriflora*), Bird's-foot Trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*), Plantain-leaved Thrift (*Armeria canescens*), Dark Grape Hyacinth (*Muscari neglectum*) and a Star of Bethlehem (*Ornithogalum divergens*) were among the many other flowers. As well as Orange Tip, we were pleased to see Provence Orange Tip, the 'yellow version', and there were many Small Heaths, plus a Bordered Straw moth. From the hill top we had lovely views in all directions.

After a break, we met on the first-floor sun terrace to do our checklists before enjoying a delicious dinner and retiring after a long travelling day.

Day 2 Friday 27th May

Around Hotel; Camosciara; Gioia Vecchio

This morning dawned fine and sunny, and some of the group ventured out at 7am, to explore the local area. A Black Redstart was singing from the top of a Spruce in the garden, and a Serin was singing nearby. An adult Red Squirrel and a baby were in the trees by the hotel car park and gave good views, enabling us to see their dark colour and white underparts. Along the road a fine male Common Redstart showed briefly, and we had good views of both Italian and Tree Sparrows, Coal Tit and Northern Wheatear, plus a pair of Kestrels. House Martins were all around and a Hoopoe was calling but was not seen. A Wall Brown was sunning itself on a wall. Those who had walked up the track the other way reported hearing a Wolf howling.

After a good breakfast breakfast, with the picnic bought, we gathered in the car park. A six-spotted Burnet moth photographed on a grass stalk was later identified as the Italian endemic *Zygaena oxytropis*, with the spots just merging in places; we may well as seen it elsewhere and failed to recognise it. We headed south-east down the valley of the Sangro, past Opi, to our destination of Camosciara, in the heart of the National Park. Having parked the vehicle, we set off up the valley, diverting from the path to explore among the Juniper (*Juniperus communis*), Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), Blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*) and Wild Pear (*Pyrus communis*) scrub. We quickly found three fine spikes of Early Purple Orchid (*Orchis mascula* subsp. speciosa, with pointed petals and sepals), soon followed by Military Orchid (*Orchis militaris*), Twayblade (*Neottia ovata*) and White Helleborine (*Cephalanthera*

damasonium), all growing with some protection from grazing. We also noted Nice Milkwort (*Polygala nicaeensis*), Common Globularia (*Globularia bisnagarica*) and Horseshoe Vetch (*Hippocrepis comosa*). Butterflies were enjoying the warmth, including Wood White, Clouded Yellow, Small Heath and Duke of Burgundy, and birds calling included Cuckoo, Chiffchaff, Blackcap and Western Bonelli's Warbler, while a Common Buzzard was seen.

The road was lined by trees and shrubs, including Dogwood (Cornus sanguinea), Cornelian Cherry (Cornus mas), Turkey Oak (Quercus cerris), and Goat Willow (Salix caprea). Under these were some fine Lady Orchids, and we also noted Greater Meadow-rue (Thalictrum aquilegifolium). A short diversion onto a sunny bank gave us Mazarine Blue, Common Blue, Little Blue and Dingy Skipper, and there was the constant accompaniment of Field Cricket. A Common Wall Lizard was on a stone pillar, a Hoopoe was calling nearby but remained elusive, and the views of the mountains were stunning. We stopped to admire and photograph a clump of Lady's Slipper Orchids (Cypripedium calceolus) flowering by the stream. Near here we also found the brown Bird's-nest Orchid (Neottia nidusavis), Sword-leaved Helleborine (Cephalanthera longifolia), Columbine (Aquilegia vulgaris), the endemic Trumpet Gentian (Gentiana dinarica), the pink-and-yellow form of Shrubby Milkwort (Polygala chamaebuxus), and the enormous kidney-shaped leaves of Thore's Buttercup (Ranunculus thora). The endemic, large-flowered Camosciara Butterwort (Pinguicula vallis-regiae) was flowering well on the far side of the water, amongst more Gentians. By the road we saw False Vetch (Astragalus monspessulanus), more Shrubby Milkwort, with red- or yellow-and-white flowers, and Apennine Lungwort (Pulmonaria apennina).

We had our picnic near the cafe, enjoying the local cheeses and wine, before climbing to the waterfalls Cascata delle Ninfe and Cascata delle Tre Cannelle (Waterfall of the Nymphs and Waterfall of Three Channels). Bear's Ears (*Primula auricula*) were still in flower on a cliff by the latter, unidentifiable Helleborine leaves were emerging under the Beech trees, and searching produced a couple of spikes of the diminutive Coralroot Orchid (*Corallorhiza trifida*). As we returned to the main path, an upwards scan revealed a large bird circling and then we saw two Golden Eagles, a Peregrine Falcon, a Kestrel and a Raven, all at the same time! Wonderful!

We slowly retraced our steps down the valley, seeing two Dippers on the stream. The strange-looking Stoneflies were noted, Mayflies were around us, and butterflies included Speckled Wood, Small Heath and Pearl-bordered Fritillary. Angela, a little ahead, encountered a large sounder of Wild Boar, about a dozen adults with many ginger-striped piglets in a field by the road, but the rest of us only saw glimpses as they trotted through gaps in the scrub.

We returned to the hotel for an early, delicious dinner, after which we ventured out again, driving north up the valley to Gioia Vecchio. Here we saw Red Deer, a solitary male Wild Boar and then two females with three young piglets. We returned to the hotel after a full and satisfying first day in the field. A Tawny Owl was calling in the hotel garden.

Day 3

Saturday 28th May

Gioia Vecchio; Val Fondillo; Opi

After a thunderstorm in the night, the day dawned bright, and the day was sunny and hot. Those out early near the hotel reported Roe Deer, Fox, Brown Hare, probable Italian Hare and Bullfinch.

Our main destination today was Val Fondillo, which is adjacent to Camosciara but very different in character. With the picnic bought, we set off to drive back down the valley, to just past Opi. We parked under some willows, finding a Hoplia argentea chafer before setting off up the track. A Hound's-tongue, Cynoglossum montanum, was in flower by a wall, with a Scarlet Tiger moth caterpillar on it, and we found Bedstraw Broomrape (Orobanche caryophyllacea) growing on Hedge Bedstraw (Galium mollugo) and/or Crosswort (Cruciata laevipes). Near the old sawmill (now a museum), we found many spikes of Late Spider Orchid (Ophrys fuciflora), plus Toothed Orchid (Neotinea tridentata). Greenfinch was atop a tree and Buzzard flew overhead. On a dry bank we found Pale Flax (Linum bienne), more Late Spider Orchids and a spike of Pyramidal Orchid (Anacamptis pyramidalis), with butterflies including Heath Fritillary Adonis, Mazarine, Common and Little Blues, Eastern Bath White, Red Admiral, Orange Tip and Dingy Skipper, plus a Blue Shieldbug. A little further on was endemic Yellow Milkwort (Polygala flavescens) and some pink-yellow-flowered plants which may well be hybrids with Nice Milkwort. A damp area held Early Marsh Orchids (Dactylorhiza incarnata).

We crossed the valley, finding a Mountain Cicada, a smart red-and-black jumping spider *Philaeus chrysops*, Green Hairstreak, Pearl-bordered Fritillary and Queen of Spain Fritillary butterflies, as well as Clouded Yellow and Berger's Clouded Yellow. On the slopes at the edge of the valley we found the dwarf Spiny Broom (*Chamaecytisus spinescens*), Rock-rose (*Helianthemum nummularium*) and the smaller-flowered Hoary Rock-rose (*Helianthemum canum* subsp. *canum*), while there were more *Gentiana dinarica* under the trees. We enjoyed a Western Green Lizard as well as the Common Wall Lizards. Following a calling Western Bonelli's Warbler to a large Beech tree, we then saw Red-backed Shrike and almost simultaneously heard a Wryneck, which flew, affording brief views.

A large boulder near the bridge bore an endemic Reddish Saxifrage (Saxifraga porophylla) and Rustyback (Asplenium ceterach) while Maidenhair Spleenwort (Asplenium trichomanes) was growing inside the cave formed by its overhang. We crossed the new suspension bridge, the old, fixed bridge having been swept away. Today, though, the water level was quite low. We wandered through the flowery meadows, finding a shady place by the stream for our picnic. Afterwards we had a fine Southern White Admiral basking on a Juniper bush, a beautiful Military Orchid in the open, and clouds of Mazarine, Adonis, Common and Little Blues on the mud of the stream bank. Hearing thunder rumbling around, we slowly retraced our steps down the valley, diverting into a marshy area, where we found Pond Skaters and Mayflies, patrolling Broad-bodied Chaser dragonflies and Stream Water-crowfoot (Ranunculus pencillatus). At the bar near the car park, we refreshed ourselves with cold drinks and ice creams.

Leaving the valley, we chose to visit the hill-top village of Opi, taking the steep road to the village. We parked on the main street and spent some time exploring and admiring the magnificent views in every direction, the traditional houses, and also learnt a little of the sad history of this village. Black Redstart was singing from an aeriel, Quail was heard, and Crag Martins and Swift were overhead. The thunderstorm arrived just after we returned to the hotel, with torrential rain as we were updating our lists, before we enjoyed another delicious meal, and a quiet evening.

Day 4 Sunday 29th May

Gioia Vecchio; La Difesa; Vallone Pesco di Lordo; Passo del Diavolo

Some of the group were out at 6am; the weather was cloudy, giving way to firstly light and then heavy rain. As we were driving north towards Gioia Vecchio, we saw Red Deer and a Fox and we were surprised to see a Chamois near Passo del Diavolo. It was apparently on its own and seemed unsettled; they are not usually seen at such a low altitude in summer or in this area. Gioia Vecchio was rather quiet, although we saw several groups of Red Deer stags, a Wild Boar, a Roe Deer, a bat species, plus Hoopoe and Jay in flight in the valley below us. Nearer at hand

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were Blackcaps, Black and Common Redstart and White Wagtail. As visibility became poor in the rain, we returned, via the supermarket, to the hotel for an excellent breakfast.

After breakfast, the sun came out and we took the vehicles a short distance to the start of the day's walk in La Difesa forest. The path took us into the forest, past moss- and lichen-covered boulders and large, old Beech trees. Here, we found Round-leaved Saxifrage (Saxifraga rotundifolia) abundant on boulders, Herb-Paris (Paris quadrifolia), Reflexed Crane's-bill (Geranium reflexum), Sweet Woodruff (Galium odoratum) and Yellow Archangel (Lamiastrum galeobdolon), plus the remains of Snowdrop (Galanthus nivalis). Blackcap and Chiffchaff were heard. We arrived at a clearing with enormous water troughs, reminding us of the importance of sheep in the past. Here there was an Italian Stream Frog and Toad tadpoles in the stream, with the endemics Solenanthus (Solenanthus apenninus) and the bright-blue speedwell Veronica orsiniana.

We turned off the track into the Vallone Pesco di Lordo, an open valley, admiring an endemic Yellow Alyssum (Alyssum diffusum) and the magenta-flowered Geranium austroapenninum, an endemic form of Ashy Crane's-bill. A Red-underwing Skipper posed beautifully for us. Further on, we found a large clump of the endemic Marsican Iris (Iris marsica) in good flower; it is a species restricted to this area, although resembling the 'ordinary' Garden Iris (Iris germanica). Glanville Fritillary was seen, too, and Cirl Bunting was heard.

The forecast was for the return of rain at lunchtime, so we had arranged to have our picnic back at the hotel — which we did, basking in bright sunshine on the sun terrace! Afterwards we drove north to Passo del Diavolo, seeing the Chamois again. The grassy area near the track was so far ungrazed, and held a magnificent display of orchids, especially Lady and Toothed Orchids. In this area we also added Early Spider Orchid (*Ophrys sphegodes*), Man Orchid (*Orchis anthropophora*), a fine display of Nice Milkwort in all its colour variants, *Vicia onobrychoides* with large blue flowers, and Slender Broomrape (*Orobanche gracilis*). Adonis Blues were on the wing, and we saw a female Field Cricket in the grass (the males call from holes to attract the females). Two Red-backed Shrikes showed well, and two Common Buzzards were distant. Further on we added Adriatic Lizard Orchid (*Himantoglossum adriaticum*), a single, magnificent spike of a lemon-yellow Elder-flowered Orchid (*Dactylorhiza sambucina*), Alpine Stork's-bill (*Erodium alpinum*) and a pair of Stonechats. We also visited a bank carpeted with White and Hoary Rock-roses (*Helianthemum apenninum* and *H. canum* subsp. *canum*) on which were some spikes of *Orchis x hybrida*, a cross between Military Orchid and Lady Orchid.

An evening outing for some of the group, back to Gioia Vecchio, gave the usual Red Deer, Wild Boar and Blackcaps. However, as we were leaving Gioia Vecchio, there was a Beech Marten in the gutter which crossed in from of us and climbed through a fence and up a rock-face, giving us superb views. On the way back, we went to the Bisegna road, hearing Nightjar churring and a Tawny Owl, and glimpsing a hare, probably Brown Hare.

Day 5 Monday 30th May

Val di Rose

This morning, with the promise of fine weather, we decided to do our high walk, up the Val di Rose. We made our own picnics today, before leaving at 8.15am. We drove back down the Sangro valley, and turned at Villetta Barrea to drive up to Civitella Alfadena, our starting point for the walk. A closed road gave a narrow diversion, but we got through and parked above the village, taking path I1, which climbs through a patchwork of forest and glades. In the glades we saw Scarce Swallowtail, Adonis Blue, Wall and Large Wall Brown butterflies and Chimney

Sweeper moth. We heard Chiffchaff, Wood Warbler, Western Bonelli's Warbler, Blackcap, Robin and Song Thrush. Under trees, we noted White Helleborine (*Cephalanthera damasonium*), Bird's-nest Orchid (*Neottia nidus-avis*), Wood Sanicle (*Sanicula europaea*), Coralroot Bitter-cress (*Cardamine bulbifera*) and the mauve-flowered *Cardamine chelidonia*. When we reached the last glade before the tree line, we stopped for a well-deserved rest. From here we could see four Abruzzo Chamois on the slopes above, and four kids; one female had twins with her.

Eventually we reached the tree line, emerging into amazing flower-filled meadows There were clumps of the endemic pansy (*Viola eugeniae*), predominantly in shades of purple, mauve and cream, along with yellow Heart-leaved Leopard's-bane (*Doronicum columnae*). Intense blues were provided by Spring Gentian (*Gentiana verna*) and the endemic Alpine Wood Forget-me-not (*Myosotis graui*). A boulder held some beautiful specimens of the endemic Reddish Saxifrage (*Saxifraga porophylla*) and the much smaller, white-flowered Biennial Saxifrage (*Saxifraga adscendens*). Reinvigorated by such riches, we climbed a short distance further before having our picnic enjoying the fantastic view. There was not much bird activity, but we saw Northern Wheatears. A nearby boulder held Cobweb Houseleek (*Sempervivum arachnoideum*), and Rock Crane's-bill (*Geranium macrorhizum*), the latter in bud.

The stars, however, of this delightful location were the Abruzzo Chamois; it was a privilege to be able to watch them feeding and resting, apparently unconcerned by our presence. We continued to explore the slopes, enjoying these wildlife encounters. After our picnic most of the group opted to walk up to the pass, from where the views were stupendous. As we went, we found Alpine Snowbells (Soldanella alpina), the endemic Apennine Penny-cress (Noccaea stilosum), the endemic Cinquefoil Potentilla rigoana and Apennine Buttercup (Ranunculus apenninus). From the top, we saw Alpine Pasque Flower (Pulsatilla alpina), the endemic Trumpet Gentian (Gentiana dinarica), the delightful little Ciliate Rock-jasmine (Androsace villosa), Mountain Avens (Dryas octopetala), Mountain Kidney Vetch (Anthyllis montana) and Mountain Milkwort (Polygala alpestris). Water Pipits were flying around, Raven and Red-billed Chough were heard and finally a Chough flew over.

Eventually, we started our slow descent, the faster ones heading to the Bar della Lince in the village, where they refreshed themselves with cool drinks. We met up before returning to the hotel, very ready for showers, a delicious meal, time to update lists and a quiet evening. Brian and Penny had been walking through the meadows and old Beech forest behind the hotel, and reported good views of Wood Warbler and lunch with a Green Lizard. It was a strenuous day, but everyone really enjoyed it.

Day 6 Tuesday 31st May

Barrea; Passo Godi

After breakfast we left to drive back to the far end of the lake, to the hillside town of Barrea. We parked overlooking the lake, and we could see where we had walked the previous day. Flocks of Swifts were screaming around us. We took the short path which climbs to Barrea Gorge, noting Thick-leaved Stonecrop (*Sedum dasyphyllum*) flowering on the walls, Salsify (*Tragopogon porrifolius*), Bedstraw Broomrape (*Orobanche caryophyllacea*) and many webs with Orchard Ermine moths, mainly on the bushes of St. Lucie's Cherry (*Prunus mahaleb*). At the gorge, two Red Deer were seen of the far side, while a group of at least three Red-billed Choughs were playing in the breeze and entering the cave opposite. A Golden Eagle was picked up distantly but then flew closer, landing on a rock outcrop in the gorge.

Plants included Thick-leaved Saxifrage (Saxifraga callosa) with dramatic sprays of creamy-white flowers, Burnt Orchid (Neotinea ustulata), flowering Daphne oleoides, Cotoneaster (Cotoneaster integerrimus), the tiny Paronychia (Paronychia kapela) whose bracts resemble tiny finger-nails (hence its name), and Winter Savory (Satureja montana). Many butterflies were on the wing, including Pearl bordered and Glanville Fritillaries, Scarce Swallowtail, Adonis and Mazarine Blues and Brown Argus. We also saw Transparent and Six-spot Burnet moths. We moved to a picnic site by the lake, where we enjoyed our picnic.

Refreshed, we drove north out of Villetta Barrea, climbing towards the Passo Godi. We stopped at a road bend, where we noted Man Orchids (*Orchis anthropophora*), Late Spider Orchids (*Ophrys fuciflora*), an endemic Star-thistle, *Centaurea ceratophylla*, with its spiny buds, the beautiful spikes of St. Bernard's Lily (*Anthericum lilago*), the milkwort *Polygala major*, and Sessile Broom (*Cytisophyllum sessilifolium*). We also recorded Nine-spotted moth, which is black with white spots and a yellow band, and Brian saw a Western Whip Snake (the all-black form *carbonarius*).

Moving on, we passed through the ski resort at Passo Godi and parked beyond, at the start of path Y1, at about 1,550 metres above sea level. Here we walked along the track and explored the slopes on either side. Birds included Corn Bunting, Rock Bunting, Yellowhammer, Skylark, Red-backed Shrike and a Wheatear which may have been Black-eared. Again, clouds of blue butterflies, mainly Mazarine Blues, but also Adonis, Common and Little Blues, plus a couple of Southern Grizzled Skippers were seeking mineral from a muddy patch. The slopes bore both colour forms of Elder-flowered Orchids (*Dactylorhiza sambucina*), Pale Orchid (*Orchis pallens*), and a few Sparse-flowered Orchids, and their hybrids with Early Purple Orchids (*Orchis pauciflora*, O. x colemannii and O. mascula subsp. speciosa), although the latter had completely gone over. There was also flowering Daphne alpina, Alpine Cinquefoil (*Potentilla crantzii*) and more Spring Gentian (*Gentiana verna*), Chamois Ragwort (*Senecio doronicum*) and an endemic Spurge (*Euphorbia gasparrinii* subsp. samnitica). We had to leave in good time, as we were having an early dinner before an evening outing.

This evening, we stopped at the Bisegna road junction, where scanning revealed Red Deer and a Wild Boar. A Roe Deer was barking, and we saw two Foxes, one very close. A pair of Red-backed Shrike were close by, and Tawny Owl was heard. The Park Rangers stopped to check our credentials, telling us that two Bear had been in the meadows there the previous evening, but we didn't see them. It was good to hear they were around, though.

Day 7 Wednesday 1st June

Gioia Vecchio; Pescasseroli; Castel Mancino; Orchid Meadow

We left at 6am to return to the Bisegna road junction. All was rather quiet until workmen with chainsaws and a team of horses and mules started working in the trees behind us, and they asked us to move because of the animals dragging the trunks out onto the road where we were standing. We moved back to land by the garage and were able to watch a Fox hunting an Italian Hare (which easily got away).

Wednesday is market day in Pescasseroli, so we spent some time looking round the town this morning, doing some shopping and exploring the old parts with their narrow streets and alleys. Our main destination was Castel Mancino, so we drove up to the town cemetery, where we parked under the trees. As we climbed through the coniferous woodland, we had good views of Firecrest, and enjoyed the smell of the pines and the scent of Laburnum in the hot air. Near the path we noted Yellow Vetchling (*Lathyrus aphaca*) and Italian Catchfly (*Silene italica*). Adriatic Lizard Orchids (*Himantoglossum adriaticum*) were flowering beautifully on the slopes. We added some

good butterflies and moths, including Scarce Swallowtail and Sooty Copper, fritillaries that were too active to identify, Hummingbird Hawk-moth and Six-spot and Transparent Burnet moths. We enjoyed the views from the top of the hill, and the remains of the mediaeval castle, before returning to the minibus.

We had our final picnic in a shady spot on the other side of the town, before heading back into Pescasseroli for dessert: traditional 'gelati'. We then drove north, to a spot just past the Bisegna road junction. This steep but delightful flower-filled meadow is an excellent area both for orchids and for butterflies, and we spent a very enjoyable afternoon exploring its riches. There were some very fine Adriatic Lizard Orchids (Himantoglossum adriaticum) and Fragrant Orchids (Gymnadenia conopsea), together with carpets of Toothed Orchids (Neotinea tridentata) and Burnt Orchids (Neotinea ustulata) and some fascinating hybrids between them (Neotinea x dietrichiana), with a hybrid swarm showing a range of intermediate characteristics. We also found Man Orchids (Orchis anthopophora) and Lesser Butterfly Orchids (Platanthera bifolia). The Nice Milkwort (Polygala nicaeensis) here grows in a variety of shades of magenta, blue and white, and the Horseshoe Vetch (Hippocrepis comosa) adds yellow. A Wild Boar exploding from a patch of scrub and racing across the meadow set pulses racing. Eventually we had to tear ourselves away from this delightful location, to return to the hotel. As we sat on the sun terrace to update our lists, a Wryneck called distantly.

We enjoyed our final dinner, after which we thanked Daniel, the chef, for the excellent food, especially the vegan and vegetarian options. Some of us went back to the Bisegna road junction, seeing the usual suspects. However, it was even more frustrating, as a car stopped to tell us that they had been watching two Bears less than a kilometre further up the road, round the bend. We dashed up, but they had gone. Oh well, you can't win them all Our consolation was a Roe Deer and churring of Nightjar.

Day 8

Thursday 2nd June

Pescasseroli to Rome and onwards.

This morning we had breakfast at 6am, leaving at 6.45 for the journey back to the airport, thanking Graziella and all and the staff at Albergo Paradiso, who had looked after us so well. We drove back through the park, still watching, just in case... We took the route through Bisegna to Pescina and the autostrada, enjoying the scenery. It was a bank holiday in Italy, and there was slow traffic on the road to the airport, which also leads to the coast. We arrived at the airport in good time, however, saying our goodbyes as we headed to different terminals to check in (although we shared the departure area). We headed home, with many happy memories of the fascinating area that is the Abruzzo National Park.

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Species lists

Plants

Nomenclature contained within this list follows Plants of the World Online (POWO), an internationally accepted database of vascular plant families published by the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

Scientific name	Common name	Location
NB		
* = a species is endemic		
PTERIDOPHYTES	FERNS & ALLIES	
Leptosporangiate Ferns	True Ferns	
Aspleniaceae	Spleenwort Family	
Asplenium ceterach	Rusyback	Near hotel
Asplenium ruta-muraria	Wall Rue	Camosciara
Asplenium trichomanes	Maidenhair Spleenwort	Camosciara
Cystopteridaceae	Bladder-fern Family	
Cystopteris fragilis	Brittle Bladder-fern	Near hotel
Dryopteridaceae	Buckler-fern Family	
Polystichum aculeatum	Hard Shield-fern	Camosciara
GYMNOSPERMS	CONIFERS	
Cupressaceae	Juniper Family	
Juniperus communis	Common Juniper	Near hotel
Juniperus communis var. saxatilis	Dwarf Juniper	Val di Rose
Pinaceae	Pine Family	
Pinus mugo	Dwarf Mountain Pine	Val di Rose
Pinus nigra subsp. italica*	Villetta Barrea Black Pine	Camosciara
Pinus pinea	Umbrella Pine	Near Rome

Scientific name	Common name	Location
ANGIOSPERMS	FLOWERING PLANTS	
Eu-dicots	True Dicotyledons	
Adoxaceae	Moschatel Family	
Sambucus ebulus	Dwarf Elder	Camosciara
Sambucus nigra	Elder	Roadsides
Viburnum lantana	Wayfaring Tree	Val Fondillo
Vibarram faritaria	Waylaring 1100	vai i chaile
Apiaceae	Carrot Family	
Aegopodium podagraria	Ground Elder	Camosciara
Anthriscus sylvestris	Cow Parsley	Near hotel
Daucus carota	Wild Carrot	Near hotel
Eryngium amethystinum	Blue Eryngo	Near hotel
Siler montanum (Laserpitium siler)	A Sermountain	Barrea Gorge
Orlaya grandiflora	Orlaya	Barrea Gorge
Sanicula europaea	Sanicle	Camosciara
Apocynaceae	Periwinkle Family	
Vincetoxicum hirundinaria	Swallow-wort	Near hotel
Aralaceae	Ivy Family	
Hedera helix	lvy	Camosciara
Asteraceae (Compositae)	Daisy Family	
Achillea millefoliata	Yarrow	Vallone Pesco di Lordo
Aster bellidiastrum (Bellidastrum michelii)	False Aster	Camosciara
Bellis perennis	Daisy	Near hotel
Bellis sylvestris	Southern Daisy	Val Fondillo
Carduus chrysacanthus	Apennine Thistle	Barrea Gorge
Carlina acanthifolia	Acanthus-leaved Carline Thistle	Near hotel
Carlina acaulis subsp. caulescens	"Stemmed" Stemless Carline Thistle	Val Fondillo
Carlina vulgaris	Carline Thistle	Near hotel
Centaurea ambigua	-	Passo del Diavolo
Centaurea ceratophylla*	-	Above Villetta Barrea
Centaurea (Cyanus) triumfettii	A Perennial Cornflower	Camosciara
Cirsium oleraceum	Cabbage Thistle	Val Fondillo
Cirsium tenoreanum	a Woolly Thistle	Camosciara
Cota tinctoria subsp. australis	Yellow Chamomile	Barrea Gorge
Doronicum columnae	Heart-leaved Leopard's-bane	Val di Rose
Eupatorium cannabinum	Hemp Agrimony	Camosciara (leaves)
Hypochaeris radicata	Common Cat's-ear	Val Fondillo
Jacobaea alpina subsp. samniticum*	an Alpine Ragwort	Val Fondillo
Leucanthemum vulgare	Ox-eye Daisy	Near hotel
Pilosella officinarum	Mouse-eared Hawkweed	Near hotel
Podospermum canum	a Cut-leaved Viper's-grass	Near hotel
Senecio doronicum	Chamois Ragwort	Passo Godi
Senecio inaequidens	Narrow-leaved Ragwort	Barrea Gorge
Tragopogon porrifolius	Salsify	Barrea Gorge
Betulaceae	Birch Family	
Corylus avellana	Hazel	Camosciara

Scientific name	Common name	Location
Boraginaceae	Forget-me-not Family	
Cynoglossum magellense*	a Hound's-tongue	Val Fondillo
Cynoglossum montanum	Mountain Hound's-tongue	Val Fondillo
Cynoglottis barrelieri	an Anchusa (Blue)	Gioia Vecchio
	a Viper's-bugloss	Near hotel
Echium vulgare subsp. pustulatum Myosotis graui*		Near hotel
	Alpine Wood Forget-me-not	
Myosotis scorpioides	Water Forget-me-not	Val Fondillo
Onosma echioides	A Golden-drops	Roadsides
Pulmonaria cf apennina*	A Lungwort	Camosciara
Solenanthus apenninus*	Solenanthus	La Difesa
Brassicaceae	Cabbage Family	
Alliaria petiolata	Garlic Mustard	Camosciara
Alyssum diffusum*	a Yellow Alyssum	Vallone Pesco di Lordo
Alyssum simplex (minus)	an Alyssum	Near hotel
Arabis caucasica	Alpine Rock-cress	Val Fondillo
Arabis hirsuta	Hairy Rock-cress	Val Fondillo
Arabis turrita	Towercress	Near hotel
Aubrieta columnae subsp. columnae*	Aubrieta	Camosciara
Biscutella laevigata	a Buckler Mustard	Castel Mancino
Capsella bursa-pastoris	Shepherd's Purse	Near hotel
Cardamine bulbifera	Coralroot	Camosciara
Cardamine buibliera Cardamine chelidonia	a Bitter-cress (Purple)	Camosciara
Cardamine enneaphyllos	Drooping Bitter-cress	Camosciara
	Narrow-leaved Bitter-cress	La Difesa
Cardamine impatiens Draba aizoides		1 111
	Yellow Whitlow-grass a Treacle Mustard	Val di Rose Near hotel
Erysimum pseudorhaeticum*		
Nasturtium officinale	Watercress	Val Fondillo
Noccaea stilosa (Thlaspi stilosum)*	Apennine Penny-cress	Val di Rose
Campanulaceae	Bellflower Family	
Campanula rapunculus	Rampion Bellflower	Barrea Gorge
	•	- U
Caprifoliaceae	Honeysuckle Family	
Dipsacus fullonum	Wild Teasel	Near hotel
Lonicera etrusca	Etruscan Honeysuckle	Camosciara
Lonicera xylosteum	Fly Honeysuckle	Camosciara
Valeriana montana	Mountain Valerian	Camosciara
Valeriana officinalis	Common Valerian	Near hotel
Valeriana tuberosa	Tuberous Valerian	Near hotel
Valerianella locusta	Common Cornsalad	Val Fondillo
Comrenhylleesss	Dink Comit.	
Caryophyllaceae	Pink Family	Oinia Vanahia
Cerastium tomentosum	Snow-in-Summer	Gioia Vecchio
Dianthus carthusianorum	Carthusian Pink	Barrea Gorge
Heliosperma (Silene) pusillum	an Alpine Catchfly	Opi
Minuartia verna	Spring Sandwort	Near hotel
Paronychia kapela	a Paronychia	Barrea Gorge
Petrorhagia dubia (velutina)	a Tunic Flower	Camosciara
Silene conica	Sand Catchfly	Near hotel
Silene dioica	Red Campion	Near hotel

Scientific name	Common name	Location
Silene (Lychnis) flos-cuculi	Ragged Robin	Camosciara
Silene italica	Italian Catchfly	Val di Rose
Silene latifolia	White Campion	Camosciara
Celastraceae	Spindle Family	
Euonymus europaeus	Spindle Tree	Near hotel
,		
Cistaceae	Rock-rose Family	
Helianthemum apenninum	White Rock-rose	Roadsides
Helianthemum nummularium	Rock-rose	Camosciara
Helianthemum oelandicum subsp.	Alpine Rock-rose	Val di Rose
alpestre		N 15 89
Helianthemum canum subsp. canum	Hoary Rock-rose	Val Fondillo
0	Dia dece ed Francis	
Convolvulus contobrios	Bindweed Family Pink Bindweed	Doodoidos
Convolvulus cantabrica		Roadsides
Cuscuta epithymum	Common Dodder	Val Fondillo
Cornocco	Dogwood Family	
Corrace	Dogwood Family	Companions
Cornus mas	Cornelian Cherry	Camosciara
Cornus sanguinea	Dogwood	Roadsides
Crassulaceae	Stangaron Family	
Sedum acre	Stonecrop Family Biting Stonecrop	Vallone Pesco di Lordo
Sedum album	White Stonecrop	Barrea Gorge
Sedum dasyphyllum	Fat-leaved Stonecrop	Opi
	· ·	Vallone Pesco di Lordo
Sedum rupestre Sempervivum arachnoideum	Rock Stonecrop Cobweb Houseleek	Validi Rose
Sempervivum riccii*	A Houseleek	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
Sempervivum riccii	A Houseleek	Barrea Gorge
Cucurbitaceae	Gourd Family	
Bryonia dioica	White Bryony	Camosciara (leaves)
Diyonia dioloa	vville Bryony	Camosciara (icaves)
Euphorbiaceae	Spurge Family	
Euphorbia amygdaloides	Wood Spurge	Camosciara
Euphorbia cyparissias	Cypress Spurge	Near hotel
Euphorbia gasparrinii subsp. samnitica*	An endemic Spurge	Passo del Diavolo
Euphorbia helioscopia	Sun Spurge	Camosciara
Euphorbia myrsinites	Glaucous Spurge	Near hotel
Mercurialis perennis	Dog's Mercury	Val di Rose
Worden and poronnie	Dog o Moroary	var ar 1.000
Fabaceae (Leguminosae)	Pea Family	
Anthyllis montana	Mountain Kidney Vetch	Val di Rose
Anthyllis vulneraria agg.	Kidney Vetch	Barrea Gorge
Anthyllis vulneraria subsp. rubriflora	Kidney Vetch (pink)	Near hotel
Astragalus depressus	Sprawling Milk-vetch	Val di Rose
Astragalus monspessulanus	False Vetch	Camosciara
Astragalus sempervirens	Mountain Tragacanth	Val di Rose
Cytisophyllum sessilifolium	Sessile Broom	Roadsides
Chamaecytisus (Cytisus) spinescens	Spiny Broom	Val Fondillo
Hippocrepis comosa	Horseshoe Vetch	Camosciara
Laburnum anagroides	Laburnum	Roadsides
Labamam anayrulues	Labumum	เงอนอเนอง

Scientific name	Common name	Location
Lathyrus aphaca	Yellow Vetchling	Near hotel
Lathyrus nissolia	Grass Vetchling	Passo del Diavolo
Lathyrus setifolius	Red Grass Vetchling	Near hotel
Lathyrus venetus	A Spring Pea	Camosciara
Lathyrus vernus	Spring Pea	Camosciara
Lotus corniculatus	Bird's-foot Trefoil	Near hotel
Medicago lupulina	Black Medick	Near hotel
Medicago minima	Least Medick	Gioia Vecchio
Onobrychis alba	a Sainfoin	Barrea Gorge
Onobrychis viciifolia	Sainfoin	Camosciara
Securigera varia	Crown Vetch	Orchid meadow
Spartium junceum	Spanish Broom	Roadsides
Sulla coronaria (Hedysarum coronarium)	Italian Sainfoin	Roadsides
Trifolium nigrescens	A small white clover	Near hotel
Trifolium ochroleucon	Sulphur Clover	Val di Rose
Trifolium pratense	Red Clover	Near hotel
Trifolium resupinatum	Reversed Clover	Val Fondillo
Trifolium stellatum	Starry Clover	Near hotel
Vicia cracca	Tufted Vetch	Near hotel
Vicia hirsuta	Hairy Tare	Near hotel
Vicia lathyroides	Spring Vetch	Near hotel
Vicia onobrychoides		Passo del Diavolo
Vicia sativa agg	Common Vetch	Near hotel
Vicia sylvatica	Wood Vetch	Val di Rose
Fagaceae	Beech Family	
Fagus sylvatica	Beech	Widespread
Quercus cerris	Turkey Oak	Camosciara
Quercus pubescens	Downy Oak	Camosciara
Gentianaceae	Gentian Family	
Gentiana cruciata	Cross Gentian	Near hotel (leaves)
Gentiana dinarica*	a Trumpet Gentian	Camosciara
Gentiana lutea	Great Yellow Gentian	Passo Godi
Gentiana verna	Spring Gentian	Val di Rose
Geraniaceae	Crane's-bill Family	
Erodium alpinum	Alpine Stork's-bill	Passo del Diavolo
Erodium cicutarium	Common Stork's-bill	Camosciara
Geranium austroapenninum* (subcaulescens)	Ashy Crane's-bill	Vallone Pesco di Lordo
Geranium lucidum	Shining Crane's-bill	Val Fondillo
Geranium macrorrhizum	Rock Crane's-bill	Camosciara
Geranium pyrenaicum	Hedgerow Crane's-bill	Gioia Vecchio
Geranium reflexum	Reflexed Crane's-bill	La Difesa
Geranium robertianum	Herb Robert	Camosciara
Geranium rotundifolium	Round-leaved Crane's-bill	Near hotel
Grossulariaceae	Gooseberry Family	
Ribes uva-crispa	Gooseberry	La Difesa
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Ajuga reptans	Bugle	Camosciara
Clinopodium (Acinos) alpinum	Alpine Basil Thyme	Val Fondillo
Lamiastrum galeobdolon	Yellow Archangel	La Difesa
Lamium album	White Dead-nettle	Camosciara
Lamium garganicum	Large Red Dead-nettle	Near hotel
Melittis melissophyllum	Bastard Balm	Camosciara
Mentha aquatica	Water Mint	Val Fondillo
Mentha longifolia	Horse Mint	Val Fondillo
Salvia verbenaca	Wild Clary	Camosciara
Sideritis italica	A Sideritis	Roadsides
Thymus oenipontanus	Wild Thyme	Camosciara
Lentibulariaceae	Butterwort Family	
Pinguicula vallis-regiae*	Camosciara Butterwort	Camosciara
Filiguicula vallis-regiae	Carriosciara butterwort	Carriosciara
Linaceae	Flax Family	
Linum bienne	Pale Flax	Val Fondillo
Linum tenuifolium	A white Flax	Above Villetta Barrea
Oleaceae	Olive Family	
Fraxinus ornus	Flowering Ash	Camosciara
riaxilius Ollius	Flowering Ash	Carriosciara
Orobanchaceae	Broomrape Family	
Euphrasia agg.	Eyebright	Val Fondillo
Orobanche caryophyllacea	Bedstraw Broomrape	Val Fondillo
Orobanche gracilis	Slender Broomrape	Passo del Diavolo
Parentucellia latifolia	Southern Red Bartsia	Val Fondillo
Rhinanthus minor agg.	Yellow Rattle	Near hotel
Papaveraceae	Poppy Family	
Chelidonium majus	Greater Celandine	Near hotel
Papaver rhoeas	Common Poppy	Roadsides
T apaver modas	сопштотт орру	roddsides
Plantaginaceae	Plantain Family	
Cymbalaria muralis	Ivy-leaved Toadflax	Near hotel
Digitalis ferruginea	Brown Foxglove	Near hotel (leaves)
Globularia bisnagarica	Common Globularia	Camosciara
Globularia meridionalis	a Matted Globularia	Passo del Diavolo
Plantago atrata	Dark Plantain	Val di Rose
Plantago coronopus	Buck's-horn Plantain	Near hotel
Plantago lanceolata	Ribwort Plantain	Near hotel
Plantago major	Greater Plantain	La Difesa
Plantago media	Hoary Plantain	Near hotel
Veronica beccabunga	Brooklime	Val Fondillo
Veronica chamaedrys	Germander Speedwell	Near hotel
Veronica officinalis	Heath Speedwell	Camosciara
Veronica orsiniana	a Speedwell	Vallone Pesco di Lordo
Veronica serpyllifolia	Thyme-leaved Speedwell	La Difesa
Plumbaginaceae	Thrift Family	

Scientific name	Common name	Location
Polygalaceae	Milkwort Family	
Polygala alpestris	Mountain Milkwort	Val di Rose
Polygala chamaebuxus	Shrubby Milkwort	Camosciara
Polygala flavescens*	A Yellow Milkwort	Val Fondillo
Polygala major	A Milkwort	Above Villetta Barrea
Polygala nicaeensis	Nice Milkwort	Camosciara
Polygonaceae	Knotweed Family	
Rumex acetosella	Sheep's Sorrel	Passo del Diavolo
Rumex scutatus	French Sorrel	Near hotel
Primulaceae	Primrose Family	
Androsace villosa	Ciliate Rock-jasmine	Val di Rose
Primula auricula	Bear's-ear	Camosciara
Primula vulgaris	Primrose	Camosciara
Soldanella alpina	Alpine Snowbell	Val di Rose
Ranunculaceae	Buttercup Family	
Actea spicata	Baneberry	La Difesa
Pulsatilla (Anemone) alpina	Alpine Pasque Flower	Val di Rose
Aquilegia vulgaris	Columbine	Camosciara
Helleborus foetidus	Stinking Hellebore	Near hotel
Hepatica nobilis	Hepatica	Camosciara (leaves)
Ranunculus acris	Meadow Buttercup	Near hotel
Ranunculus apenninus	Apennine Buttercup	Val di Rose
Ranunculus bulbosus	Bulbous Buttercup	Camosciara
Ranunculus lanuginosus	A Buttercup	Val Fondillo
Ranunculus monspeliacus	-	Near hotel
Ranunculus pencillatus	Stream Water Crowfoot	Val Fondillo
Ranunculus serpens subsp. nemorosus	Wood Buttercup	La Difesa
Ranunculus thora	Thore's Buttercup	Camosciara
Thalictrum aquilegifolium	Great Meadow-rue	Camosciara
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Rhamnaceae	Buckthorn Family	
Rhamnus alpinus	Alpine Buckthorn	Vallone Pesco di Lordo
Rhamnus saxatilis	Rock Buckthorn	Barrea Gorge
Rosaceae	Rose Family	
Alchemilla glaucescens	a Lady's Mantle	Barrea Gorge
Alchemilla sp.	a Lady's Mantle	Camosciara
Aremonia agrimonoides	Bastard Agrimony	La Difesa
Crataegus laevigata	Midland Hawthorn	La Difesa
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn	Near hotel
Dryas octopetala	Mountain Avens	Val di Rose
Fragaria vesca	Wild Strawberry	Near hotel
Geum urbanum	Wood Avens	Near hotel
Potentilla crantzii	Alpine Cinquefoil	Passo Godi
Potentilla detommasii	A Sulphur Cinquefoil	Gioia Vecchio
Potentilla rigoana*	a Cinquefoil	Val di Rose
Prunus mahaleb	St. Lucie's Cherry	Near hotel
Prunus spinosa	Blackthorn	Near hotel
Pyrus communis	Wild Pear	Camosciara
r yrus continuins	vviiu Feal	Calliosciala

Scientific name	Common name	Location
Rosa agrestis	Smasll-leaved Sweet-briar	Camosciara
Rosa canina agg.	Dog Rose	Roadsides
Rosa pendulina	Alpine Rose	Orchid meadow
Rubus caesius	Dewberry	Near hotel
Rubus fruticosa agg.	Bramble	Near hotel
Rubus idaeus	Raspberry	Val Fondillo
Sanguisorba minor	Salad Burnet	Gioia Vecchio
Rubiaceae	Bedstraw Family	
Cruciata laevipes	Crosswort	Near hotel
Galium aparine	Cleavers	Near hotel
Galium mollugo	Hedge Bedstraw	Val Fondillo
Galium odoratum	Woodruff	La Difesa
Sherardia arvensis	Field Madder	Near hotel
Salicaceae	Willow Family	
Populus nigra agg.	Black Poplar	Val Fondillo
Salix alba	White Willow	Camosciara
Salix caprea	Goat Willow	Val Fondillo
Salix purpurea	Purple Willow	Camosciara
Santalaceae	Sandalwood Family	
Thesium linophyllon	Fine-leaved Bastard Toadflax	Val Fondillo
Viscum album	Mistletoe	Val Fondillo
Sapindaceae	Maple Family	
Acer campestre	Field Maple	Near hotel
Acer monspessulanum	Montpelier Maple	Camosciara
Acer opalus	Italian Maple	Camosciara
Acer pseudoplatanus	Sycamore	Gioia Vecchio
Saxifragaceae	Saxifrage Family	
Saxifraga adscendens	Biennial Saxifrage	Val di Rose
subsp.adscendens	Dulla qua Cavifa a a	Val Fandilla
Saxifraga bulbifera	Bulbous Saxifage	Val Fondillo
Saxifraga callosa	Thick-leaved Saxifrage	Barrea Gorge
Saxifraga granulata	Meadow Saxifrage	Near hotel
Saxifraga porophylla* Saxifraga rotundifolia	Reddish Saxifrage	Val Fondillo
захінада гошпинона	Round-leaved Saxifrage	Camosciara
Soronbulariassas	Figwort Family	
Scrophularia canina subsp. canina	Dog (French) Figwort	Near hotel
Scrophularia scopolii	7 0	
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Italian Figwort	Val Fondillo
Scrophularia vernalis	Yellow Figwort	Near hotel
Verbascum mallophorum	a large branched Mullein	Val di Rose
Verbascum thapsus	Aaron's Rod	Near hotel
Thumalagagaga	Danhna Family	
Thymelaeaceae	Daphne Family	Pagas Cadi
Daphne alpina	Alpine Daphne	Passo Godi
Daphne laureola	Spurge Laurel	Camosciara
Daphne mezereum	Mezereon	Val di Rose
Daphne oleoides	-	Val di Rose

Scientific name	Common name	Location
Urticaceae	Nettle Family	
Parientaria judaica	Pellitory of the Wall	Near hotel
Urtica dioica	Nettle	Near hotel
Ortica dioica	Nettie	Near Hotel
Violaceae	Violet Family	
Viola alba subsp. dehnhardtii	A Violet (mauve)	Camosciara
Viola arvense	Field Pansy	Val Fondillo
Viola eugeniae*	a Pansy	Near hotel
Monocots	Monocotyledons	
Amaryllidaceae	Daffodil Family	
Allium saxatile	Rock Onion	Val di Rose
Galanthus nivalis	Snowdrop	Val Fondillo
Galaritrus riivalis	Snowarop	vai i oridillo
Araceae	Arum Family	
Arum italicum subsp. neglectum	Large Cuckoo Pint	Camosciara
Arum maculatum	Cuckoo Pint	Camosciara
Asparagaceae	Asparagus Family	
Anthericum liliago	St. Bernards Lily	Above Villetta Barrea
Muscari (Leopoldia) comosum	Tassel Hyacinth	Camosciara
Muscari neglectum	Dark Grape Hyacinth	Near hotel
Ornithogalum divergens	Common Star-of-Bethlehem	Near hotel
Polygonatum multiflorum	Solomon's-seal	Near hotel
Asphodelaceae (Xanthorrhoeaceae)	Asphodel Family	
Asphodeline lutea	Yellow Asphodel	Passo del Diavolo
Colchicaceae	Autumn Crocus Family	
Colchicum lusitanum	an Autumn Crocus	Camosciara (leaves)
Iridaceae	Iris Family	
Crocus vernus	Spring Crocus	Val di Rose
Iris germanica	German Iris	Gioia Vecchio
Iris marsica*	Marsican Iris	Vallone Pesco di Lordo
Liliaceae	Lily Family	
Lilium martagon	Martagon Lily	Camosciara (leaves)
Melanthiaceae	Herb-Paris Family	
Paris quadrifolia	Herb-Paris	Camosciara
Veratrum lobelianum	Green False-helleborine	Camosciara
Orchidaceae	Orchid Family	
Anacamptis morio subsp. morio	Green-winged Orchid	Near hotel
Anacamptis pyramidalis	Pyramidal Orchid	Val Fondillo
Cephalanthera damasonium	White Helleborine	Near hotel
Cephalanthera longifolia	Sword-leaved Helleborine	Camosciara
	T = 0.000	•
Corallorhiza trifida	Coralroot Orchid	Camosciara
Corallorhiza trifida Cypripedium calceolus	Coralroot Orchid Lady's Slipper Orchid	Camosciara

Scientific name	Common name	Location
Dactylorhiza incarnata	Early Marsh Orchid	Val Fondillo
Dactylorhiza sambucina	Elder-flowered Orchid	Passo del Diavolo
Epipactis helleborine	Broad-leaved Helleborine	Camosciara (leaves)
Gymnadenia conopsea agg	Fragrant Orchid	Near hotel
Himantoglossum adriaticum	Adriatic Lizard Orchid	Passo del Diavolo
Neotinea (Orchis) tridentata	Toothed Orchid	Near hotel
Neotinea (Orchis) ustulata	Burnt Orchid	Barrea Gorge
Neotinea x dietrichiana (N.tridentata x ustulata)	Hybrid	Orchid meadow
Neottia ovata	Twayblade	Camosciara
Neottia nidus-avis	Bird's Nest Orchid	Camosciara
Ophrys fuciflora subsp. fuciflora (O. dinarica)	A Late Spider Orchid	Val Fondillo
Ophrys sphegodes subsp. sphegodes	Early Spider Orchid	Passo del Diavolo
Orchis anthropophora	Man Orchid	Passo del Diavolo
Orchis mascula	Early Purple Orchid	Orchid meadow
Orchis mascula subsp. speciosa (O. ovalis)	an Early Purple Orchid	Camosciara
Orchis x colemannii (O. mascula x pauciflora)	Hybrid Orchis	Passo Godi
Orchis militaris	Military Orchid	Camosciara
Orchis x hybrida (O. militaris x purpurea)	Hybrid Orchis	Passo del Diavolo
Orchis pallens	Pale-flowered Orchid	Passo Godi
Orchis pauciflora	Sparse Flowered Orchid	Passo Godi
Orchis purpurea	Lady Orchid	Camosciara
Platanthera bifolia	Lesser Butterfly Orchid	Orchid meadow
Poaceae	Grass Family	
Briza media	Quaking Grass	Val Fondillo
Festuca vivipara	Viviparous Fescue	Camosciara
FUNGI		
Lecanoromycetes	Lichens	
Lobaria pulmonaria	Lungwort	Camosciara
Basidiomycetes		
Agaricus arvensis	Horse Mushroom	Orchid Meadow

Birds (H = Heard only)

		May-June 2022							
Common name	Scientific name	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2
Mallard	Anas platyrrhynchos			√				√	
Common Quail	Cortunix cortunix	Н		Н			Н	Н	
European Nightjar	Caprimulgus europaeus				Н			Н	
Common Swift	Apus apus	✓	√	√	√	√	√	√	
Common Cuckoo	Cuculus canorus	Н	√	Н	Н	√	Н	Н	
Rock Dove/Feral Pigeon	Columba livia	✓	√						
Common Wood Pigeon	Columba palumbus	Н			√		✓	√	
Great Crested Grebe	Podiceps cristatus						✓		
Yellow-legged Gull	Larus michahellis	✓							
Grey Heron	Ardea cinerea			√					
Golden Eagle	Aquila chrysaetos		2				1		
Black Kite	Milvus migrans	1							

			May-June 2022						
Common name	Scientific name	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2
Common Buzzard	Buteo buteo		√	√	√	√		√	
Tawny Owl	Strix aluco		Н		Н		Н	Н	
Eurasian Hoopoe	Upupa epops		Н	Н	√	Н	Н	Н	
Eurasian Wryneck	Jynx torquilla			√				Н	
Great Spotted Woodpecker	Dendrocopos major				Н	Н			
European Green	Picus viridis			Н					
Woodpecker									
Common Kestrel	Falco tinnunculus		✓		✓	✓	✓		
Peregrine Falcon	Falco peregrinus		✓						
Red-backed Shrike	Lanius collurio	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Eurasian Jay	Garrulus glandarius			✓	✓	✓			
Eurasian Magpie	Pica pica	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Red-billed Chough	Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax					✓	✓		
Western Jackdaw	Coloeus monedula						✓		
Hooded Crow	Corvus cornix	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Northern Raven	Corvus corax		√	√		Н		Н	
Coal Tit	Periparus ater	✓	√	Н	Н		√	Н	
Eurasian Blue Tit	Cyanistes caeruleus		√	√	√	√	√	√	
Great Tit	Parus major			Н	√	√	√	√	
Eurasian Skylark	Alauda arvensis						√		
Eurasian Crag Martin	Ptyonoprogne rupestris			√		√	√		
Barn Swallow	Hirundo rustica	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
Common House Martin	Delichon urbicum	· √	· ✓	· ✓	· ✓	· ✓	· ✓	· √	
Wood Warbler	Phylloscopus sibilatrix		,	,	•	· ✓	,	,	
Western Bonelli's Warbler	Phylloscopus bonelli		Н	Н	Н	Н	Н		
Common Chiffchaff	Phylloscopus collybita	Н	Н	Н	Н	Н	Н	Н	
Eurasian Blackcap	Sylvia atricapilla	Н	Н	Н	√	√	√	Н	
Garden Warbler	Sylvia borin				•	√			
Common Whitethroat	Curruca communis					Н			
Common Firecrest	Regulus ignicapillus							√	
Eurasian Wren	Troglodytes troglodytes	LO	√					Н	
Eurasian Nuthatch	Sitta europaea		V			Н			
Common Starling	Sturnus vulgaris	/	,	/	/	√	/	/	
Song Thrush	Turdus philomelos	V	√ H	√	√ H	✓ ✓	√ H	√	
Common Blackbird	Turdus priliomeios Turdus merula			,		-		√	
European Robin	Erithacus rubecula	√ H	√	H	√	√	√	√	
Common Nightingale	Luscinia megarhynchos	H	✓	11	✓	✓	√	✓	
European Pied Flycatcher	Ficedula hypoleuca	П				,			
Black Redstart	Phoenicurus ochruros		,	,	,	√	,	,	
			√	√	√	√	√	√	
Common Redstart	Phoenicurus phoenicurus		✓	✓	√	✓	✓	✓	
European Stonechat	Saxicola torquata				✓				
Northern Wheatear	Oenanthe oeneanthe		√			✓	√		
White-throated Dipper	Cinclus cinclus		√						
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	Passer montanus	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Italian Sparrow	Passer italiae	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Grey Wagtail	Montacilla cinerea							✓	
White Wagtail	Montacilla alba				✓	✓	✓	✓	
Water Pipit	Anthus spinoletta					✓			
Common Chaffinch	Fringilla coelebs	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Eurasian Bullfinch	Pyrrhula pyrrhula			✓	✓				
European Greenfinch	Chloris chloris			✓	✓				

Common name European Goldfinch European Serin Corn Bunting Yellowhammer		May-June 2022								
	Scientific name	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	
European Goldfinch	Carduelis carduelis	✓	√	√	✓	✓	√	✓		
European Serin	Serinus serinus		√	√	√	√	√	√		
Corn Bunting	Miliaria calandra		Н	Н			√	√		
Yellowhammer	Emberiza citrinella						√	√		
Rock Bunting	Emberiza cia						√			
Cirl Bunting	Emberiza cirlus				Н					

Invertebrates

		May-June 2022								
Common name	Scientific name	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	
Scarce Swallowtail	Iphiclides podalirius	✓	√			√	√	√		
Black-veined White	Aporia crataegi		✓							
Large White	Pieris brassicae	✓	√	√	√	√	√	√		
Small White	Pieris rapae	√	√	√	√	√	√	√		
Green-veined White	Pieris napi		√							
Eastern Bath White	Pontia edusa			√	√	√	√			
Orange Tip	Anthocharis cardamines	✓	√	√	√	√				
Provence Orange Tip	Anthocharis euphenoides	√								
Clouded Yellow	Colias crocea	√	√	√	√	√	√	√		
Berger's Clouded Yellow	Colias alfacariensis	√	√	√	√	√	√	√		
Brimstone	Gonepteryx rhamni		√					√		
Wood White	Leptidea sinapis	√	√	√	√	√	√	√		
Green Hairstreak	Callophrys rubi			√			√	√		
Sooty Copper	Lycaena tityrus							√		
Little Blue	Cupido minimus	√	√	√	√		√	√		
Brown Argus	Aricia agestis		√	√		?	√	√		
Mazarine Blue	Cyaniris semiargus	√	√	√	√	√	√	?		
Adonis Blue	Polyommatus bellargus			√	√	√	√	√		
Common Blue	Polyommatus icarus		√	√	√	√	√	√		
Duke of Burgundy	Hamearis lucina		√	√			?			
Southern White Admiral	Limenitis reducta			√						
Peacock Butterfly	Aglais (Inachis) io					√				
Red Admiral	Vanessa atalanta		√	√	√	√	√			
Painted Lady	Vanessa cardui	√	√	√	√	√	√	√		
Small Tortoiseshell	Aglais urticae			√		√	√			
Comma Butterfly	Polygonia c-album				√					
Queen of Spain Fritillary	Issoria lathonia		√	√	√	√	√			
Pearl-bordered Fritillary	Boloria euphrosyne		√	√	√	√	√			
Glanville Fritillary	Melitaea cinxia		?	√	√	√	√			
Heath Fritillary	Melitaea athalia			√						
Meadow Brown	Maniola jurtina				√		√	√		
Small Heath	Coenonympha pamphilus	√	√	√	√	√	✓	√		
Speckled Wood	Pararge aegeria	· ·	· ✓	√	· ✓	· √	· √			
Wall Brown	Lasiommata megera	/	√	√	√	√	√	√		
Large Wall Brown	Lasiommata maera		√			· ✓	√			
Southern Grizzled Skipper	Pyrgus malvoides		,	?			√	√		
Red-underwing Skipper	Spialia sertorius				√	√				
Dingy Skipper	Erynnis tages		√	√	√	√		√		

					May-Ju				
Common name	Scientific name	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2
MOTHS:									
Longhorned Moth sp.					✓				
Arched Marble	Olethreutes arcuella				✓				
Orchard Ermine	Yponomeuta padella						С		
Forester	Adscita statices				✓				
Six-spot Burnet	Zygaena filipendulae	С					✓	✓	
Transparent Burnet	Zygaena purpuralis						√	√	
A Six-spot Burnet	Zygaena oxytropis		√						
Eastern Eggar	Eriogaster catax		С						
Fox Moth	Macrothylacia rubi		√						
Small Fan-footed Wave	Idaea biselata			√					
Treble-bar	Aplocera plagiata	√		√					
Chimney Sweeper	Odezia atrata					√	√	√	
Latticed Heath	Chiasmia clathrata clathrata					•	√	•	
Speckled Yellow	Pseudopanthera macularia					√	√		
Brimstone Moth	Opisthograptis luteolata	√	√			V	V		
Hummingbird Hawk-moth	Macroglossum stellatarum	√	✓ ✓	√		√		√	
Chaste Pellicle	Watsonarctia deserta	v		V		V		✓ ✓	
Scarlet Tiger	Callimorpha dominula			С				V	
Nine-spotted	Amata phegea			0		√	√	,	-
Bordered Straw	Heliothis peltuigera					V	√	✓	-
		✓		,	√		,	,	-
Silver Y	Autographa gamma			✓	✓		✓	✓	
OTHER INVERTEBRATES:									
Mayfly	Ephemera sp.			√					
Broad-bodied Chaser	Libellula depressa			√					
Red-veined Darter	Sympetrum fonscolombii						√		
Stonefly	Perlidae sp.			√					
Roesel's Bush-cricket	Metrioptera roeselii						√		
Chabrier's Bush-cricket	Eupholidoptera chabrieri						√		
Field Cricket	Gryllus campestris	Н	Н	Н	√	Н	Н	Н	
Field Grasshopper	cf Chorthippus brunneus			√	_				
Hawthorn Shield Bug	Acanthosoma haemorroidale			•				√	
Lined Shield Bug	Graphosoma lineatum ssp. italicum						√	V	
Blue Shield Bug	Zicrona caerulea			√					
Brassica Shield Bug	Eurydema oleracea			•			√		
Dock Bug	Coreus marginatus						√		
Black-shouldered Shield Bug	Carpocoris purpureipennis			√			V		
Red&black Ground Bug (white spot)	Melanocoryphus albomaculatus	√	√	V					
Assassin Bug	Rhinocoris iracundus							√	
Cicada	Cicadetta montana			√				V	
Red and black Froghopper	Cercopis vulnerata			?	√		√	√	
Ascalaphid	Libelloides coccajus	√		·	V		✓ ✓	✓ ✓	-
Caddis Fly	Trichoptera sp.	· ·		L			V	V	
Greenbottle Fly	Lucilia sericata	,							-
Bee Fly	Bombylius cf. major	√					,	,	
•	•	√		,			√	√	-
Black and white spotted Bee Fly Bee Fly sp	Bombylius atra	√ 		✓			√		
						1		1	1

		May-June 2022									
Common name	Scientific name	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2		
Hornet	Vespa crabro			√			√				
Violet Carpenter Bee	Xylocopa violacea			√			√	√			
Honey Bee	Apis melifera			√			√	√			
White-tailed Bumblebee	Bombus lucorum				√	√	√	√			
Red-tailed Bumblebee	Bombus lapidarius				√	√	√	√			
Common Carder Bee	Bombus pascuorum		√	√	√	√	√	√			
Green Tiger Beetle	Cicindela campestris		√								
Dor Beetle	Geotrupes stercorarius					?					
Cockchafer	Melolontha melolontha						√				
A green chafer	Hoplia argentia			√							
a Violet Click Beetle	cf Limoniscus violaceus	√									
a Click Beetle	cf Selatosomus amplicollis	√									
Red and Black Beetle	Trichodes alvearius				√		√	√			
7-Spot Ladybird	Coccinella 7-punctata	√		√	√	√	√				
A red and black Darkling Beetle	Omophlus lepturoides						√				
a Longhorn Beetle (shiny blue)	Agapanthia violacea	√									
Green Leaf beetle	Cryptocephalus hypochaeric	lis		√							
Daffodil Leaf Beetle	Exosoma lusitanicum						√				
Millipede	cf Tachypodoiulus niger						√				
Ladybird Spider	Eresus niger					√					
Red-bellied Jumping Spider	Philaeus chrysops			√			√				
Nursery Web Spider	Pisaura mirabilis			√							

Others (S = signs incl droppings)

		May-June 2022									
Common name	Scientific name	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2		
MAMMALS:											
Bat sp.							√				
Mole	Talpa sp.					S	S				
Red Fox	Vulpes vulpes	1		1	1		2	2			
Apennine Wolf	Canis lupus italicus		Н			S					
Beech Marten	Martes foina				1						
Red Deer	Cervus elaphus		1	2	√	1	√	√			
Roe Deer	Capreolus capreolus			2	√		1	√			
Apennine or Abruzzo Chamois	Rupicapra pyrenaica ornata				1	√					
Wild Boar	Sus scrofa		√		√	S	1	1			
Italian Hare	Lepus corsicanus			?				1			
Brown Hare	Lepus europaeus			1	1	1		1			
Red Squirrel	Sciurus vulgaris		2								
Snow Vole	Microtus nivalis					S					
REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS:	T = tadpoles								ļ		
Common Toad	Bufo bufo			Т	Т						
Italian Stream Frog	Rana italica				✓						
cf Italian Hybrid Frog	cf Pelophylax kl. hispanica						✓				
Western Green Lizard	Lacerta bilineata			√	√	√					
Common Wall Lizard	Podarcis muralis	√	√	√	√	√	√	√			

		May-June 2022									
Common name	Scientific name	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2		
Slow Worm	Anguis fragilis						?				
Western Whip Snake	Hierophis viridiflavus						√				
Snake sp		√									