

Romania - The Wildlife of Transylvania

Naturetrek Tour Report

10 - 17 June 2017



Bear Cubs by Amy Norris



Large Copper (male) by Jennifer Horn



Little Bittern by Amy Norris



Penduline Tit by Peter Seddon

Report compiled by Terry Goble
Images courtesy of Amy Norris, Jennifer Horn & Peter Seddon



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Summary

This tour incorporates some of the finest areas for wildlife watching in Transylvania, set against the dramatic backdrop of the imposing limestone peaks of the Carpathian Mountains.

Group members had an eclectic mix of interests, but luckily this trip has a wide range of wildlife to accommodate such diverse interests and this was born out with the fascination that greeted a sighting of a Horsehair Worm and the awe of watching European Brown Bears in close proximity. Add to this a wealth of beautiful and scarce upland plants including a variety of orchids and alpine plants; stunning butterflies with Large Copper, Lesser Purple Emperor and Purple-edged Copper competing for the 'butterfly of the week'; gorgeous birds such as views of the handsome Hawfinch, Eurasian Hoopoe and Golden Oriole; and whilst mammal watching, catching sight of Alpine Chamois, Red Deer, Roe Deer and a cheeky Red Fox stealing from under the bears' noses. We also found time to study some of the invertebrates that held much interest for some of the group with the large, strange male Stag Beetle taking centre stage.

It was a pleasure to work with such a relaxed group that worked together in a fun and inclusive manner. A special thanks to Dan for his knowledge of history, culture and generally bring the Carpathians to 'life' with his stories and snippets of information.

Day 1

Saturday 10th June

Flight to Bucharest and drive to Magura

The tour started for most with a flight from Stanstead Airport to Bucharest. After an initial delay we made up time en route and landed at the slightly later time of 2.50pm. The flight was largely uneventful and the mostly clear skies meant that we had fine views of the snow-capped peaks below as we flew over the Alps.

After clearing customs, we all met up at the baggage carousel and then went to arrivals, where we met the irrepressible Simona, who co-ordinates the logistics and brings a delicious lunch to our rest stop each day. We also met with the rest of the group and were soon underway, heading into the Carpathians.

The initial drive is through flat arable land that, whilst important economically, only yielded a few common birds including a Kestrel. The group seemed to be chatting amicably and we were soon at our rest stop. Here we had coffee and tea and a few snacks before setting off again. The landscape was becoming hilly and in the distance we could make out the outline of the PC Ridge, which forms the National Park. At the service station there were a few white butterflies including Large White and Green-veined White, whilst the bird life consisted mainly of House Martins, corvids and White Wagtails among some of the common species.

As we continued, the landscape became increasingly spectacular with large pine forests adorning the mountains around us. We then descended down to Brasov plateau before arriving at Zarnesti. Here we said goodbye to Simona and continued on our way to the guesthouse via the National Park of Piatra Craiului (roughly translated as The King's Rock). After entering the park, we turned left and followed a long winding road to the village of Magura where our guesthouse was located. We arrived a little before 7pm and settled in before meeting for

dinner at 7.30pm. In the meanwhile, some had spotted a Red Fox, Roe Deer and a Chamois so start off the mammal sightings.

There was a lot of excited chatter at the dinner table and people were clearly enjoying their first impressions. We already had a few wildlife sightings with Red Fox, Roe Deer and Chamois all seen. The birds were not very evident, but there were a few Black Redstarts and lots of hirundines were zooming around. Dinner was a lovely home-cooked three-course affair and everyone tucked in heartily. After outlining the activities for the next day we retired to get some much needed sleep.

Day 2

Sunday 11th June

Local village walk in Magura, Basra Valley and a Zarnesti Wooded Valley

The day started with the group meeting at 6.30am. It was a lovely clear and sunny morning with stunning views of the distant mountains and nearby cliff face. We scanned for bears and Chamois without any luck, but did see a Roe Deer browsing in the garden. We then had a look at the moth haul before setting off. A Small Elephant Hawk-moth was the highlight, with a Marbled Coronet and a few micros as supporting cast.

On the walk we turned right and walked to a small apple orchard in the village. En route we spotted a few birds including a smart Common Redstart (male) and a Yellowhammer. We had four thrushes with Fieldfare and Mistle and Song Thrushes seen well and Blackbird calling everywhere. We also heard Common Cuckoo calling throughout the valley, but not seen. A gorgeous male Red-backed Shrike was appreciated by all. Now breakfast was calling so we turned and headed back. Back at the guesthouse we enjoyed watching a family of Black Redstarts with fledglings clambering to be fed. There were also a few Jays and several House Martins around. Some of the people who stayed back had seen Alpine Swift over the house.

We all gathered for a buffet breakfast and chatted in the dining room. At a little after 8.30am Dan arrived to introduce himself to the group. We then set off in the coach to the P.C National Park just below the guesthouse. We walked along the stream looking for our target bird, the White-throated Dipper. En route we found a variety of invertebrates including a rather worn Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary, Woodland Ringlet, Roesel's and Great Bush Crickets and some metallic Rose Chafers, amongst others. We did eventually see a few Dippers and had some good views when one popped up onto a rock in the stream. We also saw several White and Grey Wagtails, and in a small puddle found our first of many Yellow-bellied Toads. When we met up with the bus we also saw both House and Tree Sparrows. We then boarded the bus and drove to our next destination at Barsa valley.

When we arrived we set off for a couple of hours' walk with the intention of meeting up with Simona and Elena for our lunch. The valley was set in the shadow of towering limestone cliffs, with wooded slopes making for a spectacular sight. As we walked along we began to pick up new species of butterfly with Hungarian Glider being popular. We also saw our first Bug Orchid with many more after that. As we made our way along we stopped at a small bridge. Here we found a probable Sand Lizard and juvenile Grass Snake, which were our first reptiles, whilst in the stream we watch the gory sight of a dragonfly larva eating a tadpole. More aesthetic were the Broad-bodied Chaser and damselfly species in the stream. Walking on, we began to hear Blackcap and Garden Warbler sing, joining in with the Chaffinch, Blackbird and Cuckoo we heard all the way along the walk. A little while later the welcome sight of Simone and Elena appeared as they drove passed us to set up our picnic in the shade. We

sat down to enjoy our lunch under some Beech trees and added a few butterflies and moths to our species list, including Mother Shipton, Brimstone and Grizzled Skipper.

After a delicious lunch with fresh strawberries and cherries, we drove off to a wooded valley the other side of Zarnesti. This valley was a different habitat and included typical mixed forest with Beech and Hornbeam and some conifer species (Norway Spruce and pines). Unfortunately, there was also the European Motocross Championships taking place. Whilst quite spectacular to watch, it didn't make for peaceful and relaxing wildlife viewing. Dan did his best to explain the forest management system above the noise of the engines and also explain the differences in tracks made by different animals. We noted Wildcat and Roe Deer tracks. Not surprisingly, wildlife was elusive apart from hearing a few woodpeckers and seeing a few butterflies. However, the wildflowers were excellent on this walk and included some lovely Helleborine species such as both Broad-leaved, Narrow-leaved and Red Helleborines.

We walked on and eventually walked away from the noise and bustle of the motocross. We then enjoyed a much more relaxing walk, listening to the Ravens 'gronking' overhead and also heard a Syrian Woodpecker, but we were unable to locate it. We left the woodland trail and walked out into a more open meadow with a large flock of sheep grazing below. We sat for a while, watching the antics of several Ravens and also spotted a couple of Red-backed Shrikes. Dan heard some Crossbills chipping, but we could not see them in the pines. We then made our way slowly down through the valley adding Sand Lizard and Dice Snake to our reptile list. Dan met a shepherd family and interpreted a discussion about their daily lives looking after the sheep, cows and goats in the valley. After a fascinating talk with the family, we headed off back to the coach to drive back to the guesthouse, dropping Dan off in Zarnesti en route.

Back at the guesthouse we scanned again for bears and Chamois. Again we didn't see bears but did see several Chamois browsing on the steep cliff face opposite. We then spent the afternoon relaxing until dinner time at 7pm. After a lovely home-cooked dinner, we went up to the lounge area and completed the checklist for the last two days and discussed the plans for the next day. We then retired for the evening to get some sleep.

Day 3

Monday 12th June

Nouă Șinca & Strombie Valley Bear Hide.

Some of the group met at 6.30am to look through the moth haul and scan the cliffs. There were some interesting moths with the highlight being the Green Silver Lines. On the cliff face several Chamois were seen browsing.

We then set off on a bird walk down the valley opposite the guesthouse. We saw the usual species and had a brief sighting of a woodpecker (probably Great Spotted), but too brief and obscured to identify it confidently. On the return walk, as we were approaching the guesthouse, a flock of Long-tailed Tits flew into some nearby Silver Birch. These were of the eastern race, which differ from those in the UK as they have white heads. We watched these delightful little birds for a few minutes before it was time to head back for breakfast.

After the buffet breakfast we met with Costi and drove down to Zarnesti to collect Dan from the town. We then drove for about 45 minutes to Nouă Șinca. Here we waited under a Walnut Tree in the shade for our horses and carts to arrive. They arrived promptly at 10am and we all boarded for a 20-minute drive up to the Strombie Valley. En route we spotted Tree Sparrow and Fieldfare on fences around the farming strips. We then stopped

for a magnificent Lesser Spotted Eagle soaring in the distance. We then arrived at the beginning of the valley and alighted from the carts.

We began our first walk of the day up the floor of the valley in glorious sunshine. Almost immediately we heard the lovely fluting of Golden Orioles, but they remained out of sight. Very soon we saw a number of blue butterflies, which were mainly Common Blues, but there were also some Mazarine Blues which were once found in the UK. Another butterfly that was lost to the UK and is now the subject of a reintroduction program is the Large Copper. The male is a stunning bright orange colour and was greatly appreciated by the group. A little further on we saw a pair of Red-backed Shrikes and had a couple more sightings of Lesser Spotted Eagles. Dan pointed out the important floral highlights in beautiful flower-filled hay-meadows, which was testament to the traditional farming practices. Often the meadows are still cut by scythe and dried and turned, allowing the meadows to reseed. Some of the meadows were a riot of colour with Ox-eye Daises, orchid varieties and Carthusian Pink to name a few.

We then met with Simona and Elena in the shade of some trees for our lunch stop. It was by now very warm and the shade was very welcome, as was the delicious home-cooked lunch and refreshing Elderflower cordial. After lunch we explored some fields for orchids and several scarce species. We found some nice fritillaries including Heath, Small Pearl-bordered and Lesser Marbled Fritillaries. The heat meant that the birdlife was a little quiet with just common species calling.

After a while we returned to the minibus and drove a little further on to start a walk into the woodland, looking for signs and tracks of wildlife. Dan quickly found lots of tracks of a variety of mammals in the soft mud and along the path. Dan discussed the differences between the wolf prints and dog prints (wolf being more oval with the outer toes setback). Dan also found some bear scat and described the evolution of the bears' dietary change to an omnivore. We also found tracks for Wildcat and Red Deer and signs where Wild Boar had been rooting in the grass. In the woodland we also found a different suite of butterflies with Silver-washed Fritillary, Common Glider and Large Wall Brown seen amongst others, and a Marsh Tit was both seen and heard.

We then returned to the minibus to return to Nouă Șinca for our dinner in a local guesthouse. On the way we stopped at an old wooden church and Dan explained its heritage and significance in the village. The graveyard of the village had become a beautiful flower meadow and many butterflies were enjoyed. Just prior to the walk to the church we also saw Serin and Willow Tit in the Willows by a stream.

We drove on to the guesthouse and had a warm welcome from our hosts. They had a delicious dinner prepared for us, complete with homemade wines and brandy. After the lunch they showed us their garden allotment and orchard where many of the ingredients came from.

It was now time to drive to a bear hide in the forested area of the Strombie Valley. Soon after we had settled in, the bears arrived and we saw at least eight different Bears. Whilst a mother and cub and some younger bears approached, they settled down to feed. We then witnessed a large male approach the hide area and suddenly charge at a young cub. The cub fled up a tree but was caught by the large male leaping up the tree. The cub was swiftly killed and eaten by the large male, despite the mother bear attacking the larger male bear. This was a very rare sight and despite the brutal nature of the kill, was fascinating behaviour. The large male then proceeded to drive other bears away from the hide area, tolerating only a few bears briefly feeding and a Red Fox furtively

coming in to feed. After it had had its fill it wandered off and less dominant bears returned to feed. At this point we left the hide and made our way back to the minibus. On the minibus we discussed the behaviour of the large male bear with Dan and the ranger. It appears that this particular male had begun attacking cubs and they had previously witnessed a cub have a narrow escape. This was the first time Dan had ever witnessed a cub being killed in seventeen years of watching bears. The ranger discussed the possibility that this bear had now learnt to hunt cubs and that different options would need to be considered to protect the local population. We then set off to return to the guesthouse.

On our return, George our host told us he had seen a Lynx nearby, but it was unfortunately too dark to have a realistic hope of re-finding the cat. So we discussed the possibility of looking at dawn and dusk in the area George had seen it as there was a possibility that it may return to hunt the local sheep.

Day 4

Tuesday 13th June

Zarnesti Gorge

We began the day with a look at the moth haul. There were a number of excellent moths including Lesser Swallow Prominent, Pebble Prominent and a few Small Elephant Hawk-moths. After this we watched a small group of Chamois climbing along the cliff face before setting off on a bird walk. This morning we were unable to add any new birds but had some nice views of thrushes and a Red-backed Shrike. We then returned for a buffet breakfast before we met up with Dan at the guesthouse.

Today we set off through the glorious village wildflower meadows, down towards the Zarnesti Gorge. We saw some delightful plants including Nottingham Catchfly, Lesser Butterfly Orchid, Round-headed Orchid, Fox and Cubs and a host of other floristic delights. We also managed to add a new bird in the form of a Middle Spotted Woodpecker, and a Red Squirrel. For the butterfly enthusiasts we added Small Blue and Dingy Skipper.

Down on the valley floor we were soon picking up new species to add to our growing lists. We saw our first Orange Tips looking pristine and a Duke of Burgundy. Dan found a Greater Butterfly Orchid and many plants typical of this alpine habitat. An Eastern Hedgehog was a surprise addition to the mammals. Walking on, we were soon overtaken by the welcome sight of Simona and Elena with refreshments. We caught up with them a little further on and enjoyed another delicious picnic in the shade. A fast flying insect caught our eye and we were able to identify it as a spectacular Tau Emperor Moth whilst enjoying our lunch...wildlife never stops!

After lunch we set off again. The clouds had gathered and a cool breeze made the walking much more comfortable and we were able to reach our destination a little more quickly. We settled down and waited awhile for our intended target: the beautiful Wallcreeper. En route we saw some more butterflies of this region including Mountain Green-veined White and the delicate Wood White. Dan pointed out the flora as we went along, and we also spotted another Chamois browsing high up the spectacular gorge.

We finally reached our Wallcreeper site and waited patiently for it to arrive. After about thirty minutes we decided to move on and return a little later. Dan even attempted a 'Wallcreeper dance' to entice the bird out but to no avail. Just as we made the decision to walk on, the Wallcreeper arrived and hopped and flickered around giving great views of this stunning little bird before it was lost to sight on the cliff face. After this it was time to return to the minibus for a lift back to the guesthouse. We walked back down rather quicker than we had gone

up and arrived at the rendezvous site a little early and relaxed in the shade until Costi arrived to collect us and drive us back up the hill to relax for a while.

Some met at 5.45pm to have a walk up the village to the area where George had earlier seen the Lynx, however there was no sign of it. We returned for dinner and sat and enjoyed stuffed cabbage leaves with polenta. After dinner we retired to the lounge to check off the species we had seen today. After the listing we had another brief try for the Lynx, again without success, but enjoyed the scenery and the peaceful village atmosphere before returning to get some sleep.

Day 5

Wednesday 14th June

Barsa Valley and walk to Coltul Chililor and the Sacred Cave.

We met at 6.30am for a wildlife walk around Magura and to check on the moth trap. There were some excellent moths this morning, courtesy of an overcast night. There were three hawk-moths with Small Elephant, Poplar and Pine Hawk-moths present. The delightful Merveille du Jour, Pale Tussock, Pebble Hooktip and Iron Prominent were amongst many noctuids and micros.

The only new bird seen on the walk was a Goldfinch, but it was a lovely cool morning just to walk through the village admiring the rich flower meadows and the alpine scenery. There were also a few Chamois adorning the cliff face opposite. After our buffet breakfast we walked down to meet Costi and boarded the minibus to meet up with Dan in Zarnesti. After picking up Dan, we drove down to the Barsa Valley and began our walk traversing the pine forest beneath the limestone massifs.

We started on a path up through the agricultural belt and Dan talked about farming practices and pointed out some of the floral highlights of the area. We watched the Tree Pipits doing their 'parachute display' and enjoyed a Hungarian Glider as it flitted about. As we climbed up into the forest, plants were our main focus as the birds were generally quiet and only commonly seen butterflies were around, although it was good to see Little Blue and Brown Argus. There were several orchid species seen and a number of alpine specialties. Among the highlights were Heart-shaped, Wedge-lipped and Burnt-tip Orchids among many orchid species. Thyme-leaved Flax, Gentian species, Astrantia and Alpine Bistort were a few of the plants enjoyed by the botanists in the group. We also saw plenty of mammal tracks with large areas rooted by Wild Boar, Marten scat, and Bear and Roe Deer prints. Dan talked about the relationship between the Wild Boar feeding areas and the proliferation of orchid species.

We soon made our way to the rendezvous site where we happily met up with Simona and Elena, who were preparing our lunch. We relaxed in the shade listening to the sound of distant thunder and hoped we were not about to be drenched! In the event the storm passed over the other side of the valley and the weather remained warm and dry. We sat and enjoyed yet another delicious home-cooked lunch; without doubt among the best lunches on our trips! Whilst at the lunch site we managed to add to our reptile list with sightings of Slow Worm, Viviparous Lizard and a male and female Sand Lizard.

We thanked Simona and Elena for our lunch and then set off again up a steeper walk to the monastery. En route we saw our first new butterfly in the shape of a Clouded Apollo and a new bird species as a Hawfinch flew over softly 'chipping'. We then explored the monastery and enjoyed a cup of tea before walking through some old

mixed woodland up to the Sacred Cave. Whilst walking along the path a Ural Owl was flushed and flew off deep into the woods. Unfortunately, only a few people got a view of this striking owl before it disappeared. We made our way on to the cave, noting Marsh Tit and Nuthatch en route. After we had explored the cave and Dan talked about its significance, it was time to walk back down to the minibus.

We took a steeper but quicker route down and began to get some interesting birds as we finally caught up with Nutcrackers that we had heard calling as two were found in nearby pines. A Hobby was seen weaving through the pines and a cracking male Black Woodpecker was seen on a bare tree giving excellent telescope views. It was an excellent finale of a beautiful walk through the Carpathian uplands.

On the way down to the minibus Dan told the group about the lives and responsibilities of the local shepherds who have to guard their sheep from the many dangers in the predator-rich Carpathians. We also saw the large sheep-guarding dogs with their protective spikey collars to help them survive a wolf/bear attack. We reached the minibus on schedule and boarded the bus for the short drive back to the guesthouse via Zarnesti to drop Dan off. We thanked him for his fascinating and entertaining talks on the culture and history of the region and continued on to the guesthouse.

We arrived back a little before 5pm and relaxed until meeting up again for dinner at 7pm. The group were in a lively mood and there was a relaxed and jolly atmosphere as we ate our home cooked dinner. We then retired up to the lounge and went through the day's sightings in an increasingly humorous manner as the banter flowed! We then said goodnight on what had been an excellent day in a superb location and drifted off to our rooms.

Day 6

Thursday 15th June

Dumbrovita Fish Ponds; Rotbav Lake and Brasov

We met at 6.15am to look through the moth haul, which was a little low due to the drop in temperature. However, Amy had diligently been working on identifying and potting the moths and we had two or three new species, including Cabbage Moth and Silver-ground Carpet. We then set out on our usual walk through the village to the small orchard and a little beyond. We noted the usual species of birds and also enjoyed another sighting of the flock of 'eastern' Long-tailed Tits and a Marsh Tit. On our return, a Nutcracker was a surprise and welcome find in the guesthouse garden.

We then went for our buffet breakfast before meeting up at 8.30am to head towards Zarnesti to collect Dan. Today we were heading for Dumbrovita Fish Ponds, which were former Communist managed lakes. Dan explained how the fish were kept for the elite as 'ordinary' Romanians were not allowed in to the fish lake complex. Today they are a magnet for waterfowl, warblers, herons and a host of other species and taxa. We were focusing on the abundant bird life and probably double our bird tally in the few hours we spent at the fish ponds and at Ratbav. At Dumbrovita the focus was mainly on the herons as we watch the lovely Purple Heron with Great and Little Egrets, and Grey, Night and Squacco Herons also in good numbers. The wind did make watching the warblers a little tricky, but we eventually saw Marsh, Sedge and Great Reed Warblers and we heard the 'reeling' Savi's Warbler, but it stayed out of sight.

We then met up with Simona and Elena for our lunch stop at the ponds. As usual it was a delicious home-made spread which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. We then moved on to Brasov, catching a brief view of a Turtle

Dove as we were leaving. At Brasov we visited the historic Black Church and enjoyed a talk and walk with Dan around the old town. Dan talked about the cultural history and diversity of the region. The group then had a little time to explore the town centre before we were on our way again.

We were now on our way to Ratnav and had a superb couple of hours birding around the fishing lakes. We saw a total of six Little Bitterns, some out in the open which is unusual for this normally secretive little bird. We also found some of the peculiar, weaver-like nests of the Penduline Tit and spent some time with the male as it was nest building for the female to come and assess! We added a new mammal to the list in the form Muskrat, which has been introduced and/or escaped into the region. Some of the group also managed good sightings of Savi's Warbler that had earlier been elusive.

It was now approaching dinner-time and we reluctantly left the lakes and made our way back to Magura. It had been an excellent end to the day, but now we were looking forward to our meal back at the guesthouse. We all met again at 7pm and enjoyed our meal in a relaxed atmosphere before retiring to the lounge to complete our checklist. This always seemed to provoke banter from the group with the leader the focus of much of it! The checklist was duly completed with the help of Libby and Amy's input for plants and moths.

Day 7

Friday 16th June

Narcissus Forest

A group met at 6.30am to set off on a wildlife walk. The moths were a little disappointing as the cooler temperatures meant that only six moths were in the trap, and all but one was a repeat. We then set off on our usual route down past the little orchard and along to the edge of the mixed forest. En route we saw the usual species. At an open bank we watched as a variety of tit species came down to clay, presumably for the minerals. On the return we added a Green Woodpecker, which was new for the trip. Although a little chilly, the walk was in glorious sunshine which lit up the magnificent scenery around us, making for an enjoyable walk.

We then met the rest of the group for breakfast and also added a Roe Deer to our mammals list for the day. After a lovely buffet breakfast we assembled at the minibus to set off on our trip to The Narcissus Forest, picking up Dan en route. The journey took about an hour and we saw several Common Buzzards on the way. We arrived at our destination and walked on to the forest area through some open fields and agricultural pastures. We had not been walking long when we heard the lovely fluting of Golden Oriole. A few seconds later we watched as at first a female Oriole flew over, followed closely by a Common Cuckoo being chased by the bright golden yellow male. A great start to the day!

We walked on in the very warm sunshine towards the start of the forest trail and saw a stunning *chytis* form of the Lesser Purple Emperor. Meanwhile over the forest a Black Stock was wheeling around catching a thermal to rise high above the forest. We then walked on through the forest trail which had a host of lovely butterflies including Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary and a gorgeous Purple-edged Copper. There were also some endemic and beautiful flowering plants including Spiked Rampion, Fragrant Orchid and Crested Cow Wheat. There were plenty of birds around and several Nuthatches were seen along with a number of woodpeckers that appeared to be mostly Great Spotted, but were difficult to identify with only brief views.

We then met up with Simona for a special lunch to celebrate two of the group's birthdays. Elena had baked two cakes and Helen and Sandi were given cards depicting Romanian bears. We sat in the shade of the trees and finished our lunch before it was time to set off again.

We set off on a circular walk, this time mainly through the forest. On the walk we enjoyed a variety of wildlife with birds such as Hoopoe, Spotted Flycatcher, Syrian Woodpecker and Lesser Spotted Woodpecker all enjoyed. There was also a flock of European Bee-eaters overhead, but as we were inside the forest they remained unseen. The invertebrates were also interesting with Lesser Purple Emperor being seen at rest, and a large male Stag Beetle was fascinating in flight. We completed the walk on time to meet Simona at 4pm.

Some of the group returned to relax at the guesthouse (seeing a Red Fox on the way) whilst others elected to do a further optional bear watch from a Brasov hide. On the drive to the hide we were fortunate to see a young adult male Bear cross the path in front of us. We stopped to admire him before he melted back into the woods. We didn't have to wait for the bears at the hide either as they were already there as we approached. Simona explained that the younger bears and mothers with cubs come out sooner to avoid the larger bears. The mother was cautious and regularly smelt the air for approaching bears or any signs of danger. She and both her cubs looked healthy and well fed, and fed well before moving on. A younger male had already left at this point. They were then replaced by another female and later another young male. In total we enjoyed seven individual bears.

It was then time to return to Magura and we left the feeding bears and returned to the cars. As we were about to get in, Simona's husband accidentally dropped the pepper spray can (carried for bear protection), which then activated, spraying a cloud of pepper around. We managed to avoid the worst of the spray by leaping out the way, although Jennifer, Helen and Amy did seem to be affected and coughed and spluttered. Luckily everyone saw the funny side of the incident and we got to witness how effective the spray would be!

We then returned to the guesthouse and celebrated the birthdays and toasted our last evening as a group. We acknowledged what a fun and interesting week it had been and the clients expressed their thanks to all who had helped make the holiday run smoothly. We then enjoyed a relaxed and fun evening before getting some sleep for the early start.

Day 8

Saturday 17th June

Bran and flight to Heathrow

After our final breakfast together we boarded the minibus for our drive to Henri Coandă Airport. A little out of Zarnesti on our way to our first stop at Bran, we saw a Little Owl by the roadside and almost immediately a Golden Oriole flew past the minibus. We made good time and were at Bran and queueing outside the castle by 8.45am. We were the first in and had an informative walk around with Simona, who told us about the history of the castle and its strategic importance, as well as its link to 'Vlad the Impaler', said to be the inspiration behind Dracula!

After the tour we pressed on but were delayed by a diversion. We still had enough time for a brief lunch and comfort stop before arriving at the airport on time, two hours prior to the flight. The boarding went smoothly and we were soon underway and bound to Stansted.

Species Lists

Birds (✓=recorded but not counted; H = heard only; L/O = leader only)

	Common name	Scientific name	June							
			10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
1	Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>						✓		
2	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	✓		✓	✓		✓		
3	Common Pochard	<i>Aythya farina</i>						✓		
4	Ferruginous Duck	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>						✓		
5	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>						✓		
6	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>						✓		
7	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>							1	
8	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>			✓			✓	✓	✓
9	Little Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>						6		
10	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>						✓	✓	✓
11	Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>						✓		
12	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>						✓		
13	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>						✓		
14	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>						✓		
15	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>						✓		
16	Pygmy Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo pygmeus</i>						✓		
17	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>						✓		
18	Lesser Spotted Eagle	<i>Clanga pomarina</i>			6			1	1	
19	Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>						✓	✓	
20	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
21	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>		✓						
22	Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>						✓		
23	Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>							L/O	
24	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>						✓		
25	Caspian Gull	<i>Larus cachinnans</i>						✓		✓
26	Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrid</i>						✓		
27	Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>						✓		
28	Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
29	Stock Dove	<i>Columba oenas</i>						✓		
30	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	✓					✓	✓	✓
31	European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>						1		
32	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
33	Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	✓	✓	H	H	H	✓	✓	
34	Tawny Owl	<i>Strix aluco</i>						L/O		
35	Ural Owl	<i>Strix uralensis</i>					1			
36	Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>								1
37	Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>		✓	✓	✓				
38	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
39	European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>							H	
40	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>							✓	
41	Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dryobates minor</i>							1	
42	Middle Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocoptes medius</i>				1				
43	Syrian Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos syriacus</i>							✓	
44	Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>		H	✓	✓			✓	
45	Black Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus martius</i>					1			
46	European Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>		H					1	

	Common name	Scientific name	June							
			10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
47	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓
48	Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>					1			
49	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrines</i>				1				
50	Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
51	Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>		H					✓	✓
52	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
53	Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
54	Spotted Nutcracker	<i>Nucifraga caryocatactes</i>					3	1		
55	Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
56	Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
57	Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
58	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
59	Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>		✓			✓			
60	Marsh Tit	<i>Poecile palustris</i>			✓		✓	✓		
61	Willow Tit	<i>Poecile montanus</i>			✓					
62	Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		H	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
63	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
64	Eurasian Penduline Tit	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>						1		
65	Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>						✓	✓	
66	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>						✓		
67	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
68	Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
69	Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>			✓			✓	✓	
70	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>		✓	✓	H	H	✓	✓	
71	Wood Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>				H				
72	Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>							✓	
73	Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>							✓	
74	Eurasian Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>							✓	
75	Marsh Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus palustris</i>							✓	
76	Savi's Warbler	<i>Locustella luscinioides</i>							✓	
77	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>		H	H	H	H	H		
78	Garden Warbler	<i>Sylvia borin</i>		H						
79	Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia curruca</i>					H			
80	Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>		H			H			
81	Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>			✓	✓	✓		✓	
82	Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>		H	H	1				
83	Eurasian Treecreeper	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>							1	
84	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
85	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
86	Fieldfare	<i>Turdus pilaris</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
87	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
88	Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
89	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>							1	
90	European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	H		H	
91	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
92	Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>		✓	✓	✓				
93	Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>						✓		
94	White-throated Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>		✓				✓		
95	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

	Common name	Scientific name	June							
			10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
96	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
97	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
98	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
99	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
100	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
101	Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>					1		✓	
102	Eurasian Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>					H			
103	European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>					✓		✓	
104	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>					✓	✓	✓	
105	European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>			✓					
106	Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citronella</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

Mammals

1	Eastern Hedgehog	<i>Erinaceus concolor</i>				✓				
2	Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>				✓				
3	Muskrat	<i>Ondatra zibethicus</i>						✓		
4	Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	
5	Brown Bear	<i>Ursus arctos</i>				8			7	
6	Red Deer	<i>Cervus elephas</i>				✓				
7	Roe Deer	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
8	Chamois	<i>Rupicapra rupicapra</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓

Reptiles

1	Viviparous Lizard	<i>Zootoca vivipara</i>				✓			✓	
2	Sand Lizard	<i>Lacerta agilis</i>		✓		✓			✓	
3	Slow Worm	<i>Anguis fragilis</i>				✓			✓	
4	Grass Snake	<i>Natrix natrix</i>		✓						
5	Dice Snake	<i>Natrix tessellate</i>		✓						

Amphibians

1	Yellow-bellied Toad	<i>Bombina variegata</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
2	Agile Frog	<i>Rana dalmatina</i>			✓				✓	
3	Marsh Frog	<i>Rana ridibunda</i>					✓			

Butterflies

1	Clouded Apollo	<i>Parnassius Mnemosyne</i>					✓			
2	Orange Tip	<i>Anthocharis cardamines</i>				✓	✓			
3	Green-veined White	<i>Pieris napi</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	
4	Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓			
5	Brimstone	<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>		✓	✓				✓	
6	Wood White sp.	<i>Leptidea sp.</i>			✓	✓				
7	Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
8	Mountain Green-veined White	<i>Pieris bryoniae</i>				✓				
9	Brown Argus	<i>Aricia agestis</i>		✓			✓			
10	Green Hairstreak	<i>Callophrys rubi</i>				✓			✓	
11	Little Blue	<i>Cupido minimus</i>				✓	✓			
12	Large Copper	<i>Lycaena dispar rutilus</i>			✓					
13	Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>		✓						

	Common name	Scientific name	June							
			10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
14	Amanda's Blue	<i>Polyommatus Amanda</i>		✓						
15	Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
16	Mazarine Blue	<i>Polyommatus semiargus</i>			✓					
17	Duke of Burgundy	<i>Hamearis lucina</i>				✓				
18	Small Tortoiseshell	<i>Aglais urticae</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
19	Lesser Purple Emperor	<i>Apatura ilia</i>							✓	
20	Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary	<i>Boloria selene</i>		✓	✓				✓	
21	Heath Fritillary	<i>Mellicta athalia</i>			✓				✓	
22	Hungarian Glider	<i>Neptis rivularis</i>		✓			✓			
23	Comma	<i>Polygonia c-album</i>								
24	Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>			✓	✓				
25	Ringlet	<i>Aphantopus hyperantus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
26	Pearly Heath	<i>Coenonympha arcania</i>							✓	
27	Chestnut Heath	<i>Coenonympha glycerion</i>			✓				✓	
28	Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓		
29	Woodland Ringlet	<i>Erebia medusa</i>		✓		✓				
30	Large Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata maera</i>			✓					
31	Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>				✓				
32	Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>							✓	
33	Marbled White	<i>Melanargia galathea</i>							✓	
34	Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>				✓	✓		✓	
35	Chequered Skipper	<i>Carterocephalus palaemon</i>		✓						
36	Dingy Skipper	<i>Erynnis tages</i>				✓				
37	Large Skipper	<i>Ochlodes sylvanus</i>					✓			
38	Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus malvae</i>		✓						
39	Small Skipper	<i>Thymelicus sylvestris</i>							✓	
40	Mountain Small White	<i>Pieris ergane</i>				✓				
41	Green-underside Blue	<i>Glaucopsyche alexis</i>							✓	
42	Nickerl's Fritillary	<i>Melitaea Aurelia</i>							✓	
43	Iolas Blue	<i>Iolana iolas</i>		✓						
44	Common Glider	<i>Neptis Sappho</i>			✓					
45	Lesser Marbled Fritillary	<i>Brenthis ino</i>			✓					
46	Pearl Bordered Fritillary	<i>Boloria euphrosyne</i>				✓				
47	Purple-edged Copper	<i>Lycaena hippothoe</i>							✓	

Dragonflies & Damselflies

1	Banded Demoiselle	<i>Calopteryx splendens</i>		✓	✓				✓	
2	Beautiful Demoiselle	<i>Calopteryx virgo</i>		✓	✓				✓	
3	Common Blue Damselfly	<i>Enallagma cyathigerum</i>		✓						
4	Broad-bodied Chaser	<i>Libellula depressa</i>		✓	✓					
5	White-tailed Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum albistylum</i>							✓	
6	White-legged Damselfly	<i>Platycnemis pennipes</i>							✓	
7	Large Red Damselfly	<i>Pyrrhosoma nymphula</i>		✓						

Macro Moths

Forester Moth sp , *Adscita sp*
 Tau Emperor Moth, *Agila tau*
 Peach Blossom, *Thyatira batis*

Fox Moth, *Macrothylacia rubi*
 Pebble Hook-tip , *Drepana falcataria falcataria*
 Small Grass Emerald, *Comibaena bajularia*

Cream Wave, *Scopula floslactata*
 Common Carpet, *Epirrhoe alternate obscurata*
 Argent and Sable, *Rheumaptera hastate hastate*
 Foxglove Pug, *Eupithecia pulchellata pulchellata*
 Tawny-speckled Pug, *Eupithecia icterata subfulvata*
 Treble Bar, *Aplocera plagiata plagiata*
 Clouded Border, *Lomaspilis marginata*
 Lattice Heath, *Chiasmia clathrata clathrata*
 Speckled Yellow, *Pseudopanthera macularia*
 Peppered Moth, *Biston betularia*
 Common White Wave, *Cabera pusaria*
 Black-veined Moth *Siona lineate*
 Pine Hawk-moth, *Hyloicus pinastri*
 Small Elephant Hawk-moth, *Deilephila porcellus*
 Pebble Prominent, *Notodonta ziczic*
 Pale Tussock, *Calliteara pudibunda (fascelina concolor)*
 Red-necked Footman, *Atolmis rubricollis*
 White Ermine, *Spilosoma lubricipeda*
 Heart and Dart, *Agrotis exclamationis*
 Setaceous Hebrew Character, *Xestia c-nigrum*
 Shears, *Hada plebeja*
 Pale-shouldered Brocade, *Lacanobia thalassina*
 Shark, *Cucullia umbratica*
 Marbled minor, *Oligia versicolor*
 Green Silver-lines, *Pseudopis prasinana Britannica*
 Mother Shipton, *Callistege mi*
 Straw Dot, *Rivula sericealis*

Micro Moths

Agonopterix arenella
Nematopogon schwarziellus
 Mother of Pearl, *Pleuroptya ruralis*
Celpha rivulana
 Coleophora sp, *Coleophora sp*
 Cnephasia sp (poss communana), *Cnephasia sp (poss communana)*

Silver-ground Carpet, *Xanthorhoe montanata montanata*
 Broken-barred Carpet, *Electrophaes corylata*
 Grass Rivulet, *Perizoma albulata albulata*
 Common Pug, *Eupithecia vulgate clarensis*
 Ochraceous Pug, *Eupithecia indigata*
 Small White Wave, *Asthena albulata*
 Tawny-barred Angle, *Macaria liturata*
 Scorched Wings, *Plagodis dolabraria*
 Lunar Thorn, *Selenia tetralunaria*
 Common Heath, *Ematurga atomaria atomaria*
 Common Wave, *Cabera exanthemata*
 Straw Belle, *Aspitates gilvaria gilvaria*
 Poplar Hawk-moth, *Laotboe populi*
 Iron Prominent, *Furcula furcular*
 Lesser Swallow Prominent, *Pheosia gnoma*
 Rosy Footman, *Miltochrista minata*
 Orange Footman, *Eilema sorocula*
 Buff Ermine, *Spilosoma luteum*
 Flame Shoulder, *Ochropleura plecta*
 Gothic, *Naenia typica*
 Cabbage Moth, *Mamestra brassicae*
 Marbled Coronet, *Hadena confusa*
 Scarce Merveille du Jour, *Moma alpium*
 Treble Lines, *Charanyca trigammica*
 Silver Y, *Autographa gamma*
 Burnet Companion, *Euclidia glyphica*

Acanthopsyche atra
 Small Magpie, *Anania hortulata*
Celeophora lixelia
Crambus latyboniellus
 Marbled Orchard Tortrix, *Hedya nubiferana*

Other Invertebrates:

Fire Bug, *Pyrrohocoris apterus*
 Robber Fly sp, *Asilidae sp*
 Frog hopper, *Cercopis vulnerata*
 Common Carder Bee, *Bombus pascuorum*
 Buff-tailed Bumblebee, *Bombus terrestris*
 Green Bush Cricket sp, *Tettigoniidae sp*
 Field Cricket, *Gryllus campestris*
 2-spot Ladybird, *Adalia bipunctata*
Graphosoma italicum
 Millipede sp, *Diplopoda sp*
 Dor Beetle, *Geotrupes stercorarius*
 Sexton Beetle, *Nicrophorus vespilloides*

Scorpion Fly, *Panorpidae sp*
 Click Beetle sp, *Ampedus sp*
 Wood Ant, *Formica rufa*
 White-tailed Bumblebee, *Bombus lucorum*
 Honey Bee, *Apis mellifera*
 Roesels' Cricket, *Metrioptera roeselii*
 7-spot Ladybird, *Coccinella 7-punctata*
 Tortoise Bug, *Podops inuncta*
 Horsehair Worm, *Nematomorpha sp*
 Rose Chafer, *Cetonia aurata*
 Violet Ground Beetle, *Carabus violaceus*
 Soldier Beetle sp, *Cantharidae sp*

Long-horn Beetle sp , <i>Cerambycidae</i> sp	Stag beetle, <i>Lucanus cervus</i>
Devil's Coach-horse Beetle, <i>Ocypus olens</i>	Caddis Fly sp, <i>Trichoptera</i> sp
<i>Oxythera Funesta</i>	Leech sp, <i>Hirudinea</i> sp
Ichenumon wasp, <i>Netelia testacea</i>	Sawfly sp, <i>Symphyla</i> sp
Crab Spider, <i>Misumena</i> sp	Orb Weaver Spider, <i>Araneidae</i> sp

Plants

Scientific Name	Common Name
Aristolochiaceae	
<i>Asarum europium</i>	Asarabacca or Wild Ginger
Asclepiadaceae	
<i>Vincitoxicum hirundinaria</i>	Swallow-wort
Boraginaceae	
<i>Cynoglossum officinale</i>	Hound's tongue
<i>Echium vulgare</i>	Viper's Bugloss
<i>Symphytum cordatum</i>	Comfrey (endemic species)
<i>S. tuberosum</i>	Tuberous Comfrey
Campanulaceae	
<i>Campanula glomerata</i>	Clustered Bellflower
<i>C. latifolia</i>	Giant Bellflower
<i>C. patula</i>	Spreading Bellflower
<i>C. persicifolia</i>	Peach-leaved Bellflower
<i>Phyteuma spicatum tetramerum</i>	Spiked Rampion (endemic)
Caprifoliaceae	
<i>Lonicera xylosteum</i>	Fly honeysuckle
Caryophyllaceae	
<i>Dianthus callizonus</i>	Piatra Craiului Carnation
<i>D. carthusianorum</i>	Carthusian Pink
<i>D. spiculifolius</i>	
<i>Lychnis flos-cuculi</i>	Ragged robin
<i>L. viscaria</i>	Sticky catchfly
<i>Moebringia muscosa</i>	Mossy sandwort
<i>Silene vulgaris</i>	Bladder Campion
<i>S. nutans</i>	Nottingham Catchfly
Cistaceae	
<i>Helianthemum nummularium</i>	Common Rockrose
Compositaeae	
<i>Arnica montana</i>	Arnica
<i>Centaurea cyanus</i>	Cornflower
<i>C. pseudophrygia</i>	Wig Knapweed
<i>Cirsium erisithales</i>	Yellow Melancholy Thistle
<i>Doronicum columnae</i>	Heart-shaped Leopard's Bane
<i>Elecampane annuus</i>	Fleabane
<i>Leontopodium alpinum</i>	Edelweiss
<i>Scorzonera rosea</i>	Bearded Vipergrass
<i>Telekia speciosa</i>	

Scientific Name	Common Name
Crucifereae	
<i>Biscutella laevigata</i>	Buckler Mustard
<i>Erysimum odoratum</i>	Scented Treacle Mustard
Dipsacaceae	
<i>Scabiosa ochroleuca</i>	Cream Scabious
Dryopteridaceae	
<i>Matteuccia struthiopteris</i>	Ostrich Feather Fern
Gentianaceae	
<i>Gentiana asclepiadae</i>	Willow-leaved Gentian
<i>G. utriculosa</i>	Bladder Gentian
<i>Gentianella lutescens</i> (same as <i>G. germanica</i>)	
Geraniaceae	
<i>Geranium macrorrhizum</i>	Rock Cranesbill
<i>G. molle</i>	Dove's-foot Cranesbill
<i>G. phaeum</i>	Dusky Cranesbill
<i>G. sanguineum</i>	Bloody Cranesbill
Iridaceae	
<i>Iris ruthenica</i>	Alpine Iris
<i>Sisyrinchium montanum</i>	Blue-eyed grass
Labiataeae	
<i>Melittis melissophyllum</i>	Bastard Balm
<i>Mentha longifolia</i>	Horse Mint
<i>Salvia glutinosa</i>	Sticky Sage
<i>S. pratensis</i>	Meadow Clary
<i>S. verticillata</i>	Whorled Clary
Leguminaceae	
<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i>	Common Kidney vetch
<i>Chamaecytisus hirsutus</i>	Hairy Broom
<i>Genista tinctoria</i>	Dyer's Greenwood
<i>Hedysarum hedysaroides</i>	Alpine Sainfoin
<i>Onobrychis vicifolia</i>	Sainfoin
<i>Trifolium arvense</i>	Hare's-foot Clover
<i>T. aureum</i>	Clover
<i>T. montanum</i>	Mountain Clover
Liliaceae	
<i>Gladiolus imbricatus</i>	Gladiolus
<i>Lilium martagon</i>	Martagon Lily
<i>Polygonatum verticillatum</i>	Whorled Solomon's Seal
<i>Veratrum album</i>	False White Helleborine
Linaceae	
<i>Linum catharticum</i>	Fairy Flax
<i>L. perenne</i>	Perennial Flax
Loranthaceae	
<i>Loranthus</i> sp	Mistletoe sp

Scientific Name	Common Name
Malvaceae	
<i>Malva sylvestris</i>	Mallow
Orchidaceae	
<i>Cephalanthera damasonium</i>	White Helleborine
<i>C. rubra</i>	Red Helleborine
<i>Dactylorhiza cordigera</i>	Heart-flowered Marsh Orchid
<i>D. fuchsii</i>	Common Spotted Orchid
<i>D. maculata</i>	Heath Spotted Orchid – possibly Transylvanian hybrid
<i>D. majalis</i>	Broad-leaved Marsh Orchid
<i>Gymnaderia conopsea</i>	Fragrant Orchid
<i>Listera ovata</i>	Common Twayblade
<i>Neottia nidus-avis</i>	Bird's-nest Orchid
<i>Orchis coriophora</i>	Bug Orchid
<i>O. laxiflora</i>	Loose-flowered Orchid
<i>O. militaris</i>	Military Orchid
<i>O. morio</i>	Green-winged Orchid
<i>O. ustulata</i>	Burnt Orchid
<i>Plantanthera bifolia</i>	Lesser Butterfly Orchid
<i>P. chlorantha</i>	Greater Butterfly Orchid
<i>Traunsteinera globosa</i>	Round-headed Orchid
Polygalaceae	
<i>Polygala</i>	
Polygonaceae	
<i>Persicaria amphibibia</i>	White Knotweed
<i>P. viviparum</i>	Alpine Bistort
Primulaceae	
<i>Cortusa matthioli</i>	Alpine Bells
Ranunculaceae	
<i>Aconitum tauricum</i>	Wolfsbane
<i>Aquilegia transylvanica</i>	Aquilegia
<i>Clematis alpina</i>	
<i>Delphinium elatum</i>	
<i>Trollius europaeus</i>	Globe Flower
Roseaceae	
<i>Agrimonia eupatoria</i>	Agrimony
<i>Geum rivale</i>	Water Avens
<i>Rosa pendulina</i>	Alpine Rose
Saxifragaceae	
<i>Saxifraga cuneifolia</i>	Spoon-leaved Saxifrage
<i>S. mutata (subspecies demissa)</i>	Orange Saxifrage
<i>S. paniculata</i>	Paniculate Saxifrage
Scrophulariaceae	
<i>Digitalis grandiflora</i>	Large Yellow Foxglove
<i>Linaria vulgaris</i>	Common Toadflax
<i>Melampyrum bibariense</i>	Cow Wheat
<i>M. cristatum</i>	Crested Cow Wheat
<i>Pedicularis comosa</i>	Crested Lousewort
<i>Rhinanthus minor</i>	Yellow Rattle

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>R. rumelicus</i>	A Yellow Rattle
<i>Verbascum blattarium</i>	Moth Mullein
<i>V. thapsus</i>	Common Mullein
<i>Veronica teucrium</i>	Speedwell
<i>V. urticifolia</i>	Nettle-leaved Speedwell
Thymelaeaceae	
<i>Daphne mezereum</i>	Mezereon
Umbellifereae	
<i>Astrantia major</i>	Great Masterwort
<i>Bupleureum faicatum</i>	Sickle Hare's Ear
<i>Carum carvi</i>	Caraway
<i>Chaerophyllum hirsutum</i>	
Valerianaceae	
<i>Valeriana montana</i>	Mountain Valerian
Violaceae	
<i>Viola declinata</i>	Violet
<i>V. tricolor</i>	Heartsease

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Magura panorama by Peter Seddon