

Butterflies and Birds of North Greece 8-15 June 2019

Led by Jon Dunn & Julian Dowding

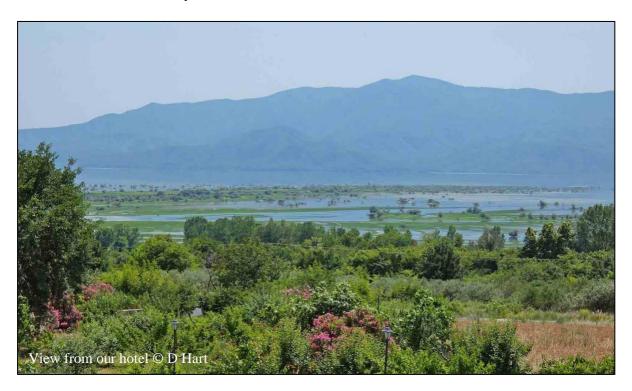


Introduction

This early summer butterfly and bird holiday was based within Lake Kerkini National Park, one of the best areas in Europe for butterflies and birds, lying very close to the Bulgarian border. The Park has protected status under the Ramsar Convention and also is one of the best places in the world to see the globally endangered Dalmatian Pelican and an astonishing variety of other wetland birds. It is also home to around 140 butterfly species and a host of other wildlife. The main reason for this abundance is the richness in diverse habitats which include wetlands, flowery hillsides, alpine pastures and emerald green mountains covered in forests of beech, hornbeam, oak, black pine and oriental plane. It has been widely known for its avifauna since the beginning of the 20th century. To be sitting by the shores of the lake while being serenaded by the songs of Nightingales, Turtle Doves and Golden Orioles is a magical experience.

During our week, 96 butterfly species and 124 bird species were seen (or heard). The weather was rather warmer than is usual for this time of year, with temperatures peaking at 37 degrees Celsius on some days at lower altitudes, and never less than 22.5 degrees at higher altitudes. The week before had seen much lower temperatures and a fair bit of rain, but for our week, the only rain was a light shower on one particular day, and an early evening thunderstorm with hailstones the size of marbles on another.

The 12 guests joining us were Paul, Peter, Kerry, Sue, Hilary, Debbie, Charles, Eileen, Trish, Clive, Sally and Dean.



Day 1. 8 June. The flight from London to Thessaloniki was on time and soon we were en route to our base in the foothills of Mount Belles, with views of the lake. **Stop 1.** After lunch at the hotel, we made an afternoon foray into the lower foothills of Belles near the pretty little town of Porroia. We stopped first at the roadside and explored a dirt track leading through a scrubby area with Christ's Thorn and thistles

and Bramble. The first butterflies to fly past were Lesser-spotted Fritillary, a beautiful orange and brown insect distinguishable by its dark wing borders enclosing little crescents, and its close relative, Spotted Fritillary, which is an even more vivid orange but with a much more broken pattern in the males. Cardinal Fritillary, the largest European fritillary species was also present. Clouded Yellows and Lattice Brown made appearances, as did a few Common and Holly Blues. Our main reason for the stop was because Jon had visited the area a month earlier and found plenty of Little Tiger Blues. It is one of the smallest European butterfly species and it took less than a few minutes to find it again, and in reasonable condition given that it had been on the wing for at least a month. It's foodplant is of course *Paliurus spina* christi, Christ Thorn.

Stop 2. We drove a little further up the road and parked at a spot of dappled light where some roadside puddling was going on. The butterflies here were mainly Nettle -Tree with a few others mixed in. This species thrives in this part of Greece and also over the border in Bulgaria because its foodplant, Nettle Tree is abundant here. A week earlier, there were reports of swarms of many thousands being seen. With large trees either side of the road, we were hopeful of finding Common Glider and indeed spotted something which appeared to have the correct appearance of such, but unfortunately it was flying too far away to be able to make a definite pronouncement. Shortly afterwards, Southern White Admiral was seen.





Stop 3. We drove through the village of Porroia and parked at a point in the river where large stones allowed us to cross over. Lesser-spotted Fritillary was seen again and this time we were also treated to Large Tortoiseshell flying over, and around us, and another Southern White Admiral which perched up in one of the overhanging trees. With running water, it was no surprise to see a number of Beautiful Demoiselles dancing in the light.

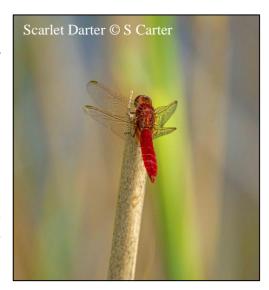
Stop 4. We made a final stop at a wall in the village to see if we could find any Southern Comma. This butterfly is at the edge of its known range here in northern Greece according to the field guides, but sure enough, we found it at exactly the same spot as in 2018, alighting on a stone wall, with its larval hostplant Pellitory of

the Wall growing nearby. It was a good butterfly to record so early into the holiday and would prove to be the only individual of its kind that we would encounter.



Day 2. 9 June. **Stop 1**. Our first full day began at Mandraki harbour to take in views of Lake Kerkini and observe some of the wildlife at water level. Birds included Golden Orioles (seen and heard), many Squacco Herons, an elusive Purple Heron, a Little Bittern 'barking' in the deep reed cover, and, in the distance, Pygmy Cormorant and Dalmatian Pelican. Butterfly wise, both European and Scarce Swallowtail were seen, Small Copper, Nettle Tree butterfly, Clouded Yellow, Mallow Skipper (unsurprisingly buzzing around a mallow plant) and Common and Holly Blues.

Stop 2. We moved up to a large reservoir which provided plenty of interest. Dragonflies abound here, and species such as Emperor, Lesser Emperor, Black-tailed Skimmer, White-legged Damsel, Broad-bodied Chaser, Common Blue Damsel, Scarlet Darter were all seen. Butterfly interest was also good, particularly along the track leading up. Here we were able to watch Lattice and Meadow Browns and a few Large Tortoiseshells which were attracted to the small amount of moisture on the track. Wood White, Cardinals, Silver-washed and Spotted Fritillary were also seen. It turned out to be a bumper week for Cardinal, with the species appearing on most days, and in pretty good numbers.

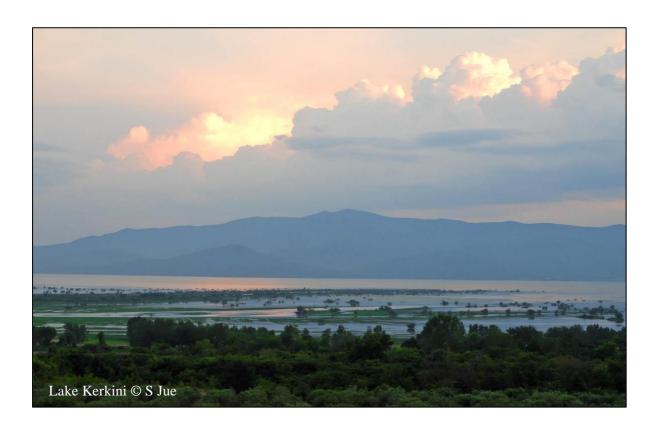


At the reservoir itself, a solitary Mazarine Blue was seen. Bird life was very interesting with Red-rumped and Barn Swallows flying over the water taking insects, a circling Black Stork overhead, and a Woodchat Shrike sitting atop one of the trees in the open. Some of the group explored a small meadow beyond the reservoir where Dean and Sally were shown the sexual dimorphism in Spotted Fritillaries. By now it was getting hot, and some of us had already returned to the vehicles parked in the shade. We ate our packed lunches here, and spent a little time watching a Large Tortoiseshell which alighted on one of the guests. Of added interest, two local people turned up with a basket full of some very colourful mushrooms which they'd collected in the mountains.

Stop 3. After lunch, we drove to the Black Kite hide on the western side of Lake Kerkini. Here we were treated to a two Black Kites and some lolas Blues. We were astounded when we realised that the females of this species had thus far managed to avoid the very large spiders whose webs festooned the lolas' larval hostplant, Bladder Senna. We were fortunate to see the species really, considering that they start emerging in May and were now well past peak flight season at low altitude.



Stop 4. We continued further along the road heading south beside the western shore of the lake and eventually took a track up through some pines which ended in a large parking area and chapel. Woodchat Shrike was seen here, along with Eastern Baton Blue, Little Tiger Blue, Berger's Clouded. Yellow (not often seen here), Large Tortoiseshell, Southern White Admiral, Small Blue, Common Blue and Meadow Brown. Other birds seen included another Black Stork, this time much lower and affording closer views, and Lesser Spotted Eagle. From there, we returned back to the hotel in time to freshen up for dinner and enjoy the wonderful view of the lake.



Day 3. 10 June **Stop 1**. Before setting off after breakfast, we had a good look at the Danewort flowering profusely on the roadside by the hotel where a number of Lesser Fiery Copper butterflies were admired together with Sooty and Small Coppers, and a few White-letter Hairstreaks.



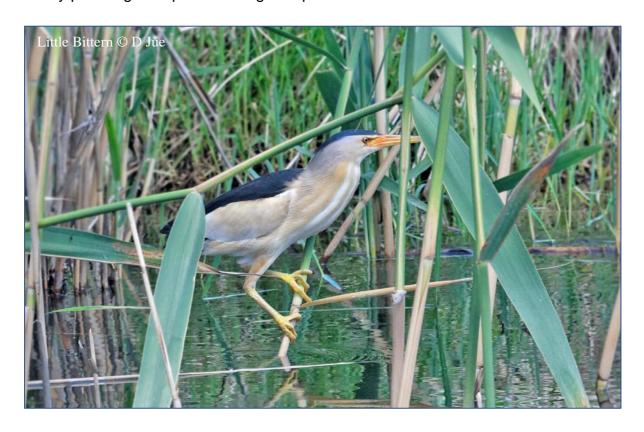
Peter identified a really interesting species of dragonfly, the Blade-tail, found here at the very edge of its global range and thus a rare treat. Clive ventured into a field left fallow and showed us a Wood White, as Sally and Dean homed in on Meadow

Brown, a species which is absent in the US. Birdlife around the hotel was always good and this morning we had a good look at confiding Blackheaded Bunting, Tree Sparrow, Corn Bunting and Red-rumped Swallows.

Stop 2. En route to collect some optics from our friend Nikos in Chrysohorafa, those at the front of the buses had a good view of a Little Owl perched in a tree in the local park.



Stop 3. We arrived at a channel beside Lake Kerkini and were soon watching our first of many Little Bitterns. This is one of the best places for the species in Europe, let alone Kerkini national Park. Views are usually close but quick, because the birds' nature is to fly away or simply skulk in the phragmites reeds. That said, some nice footage and photos were taken, and a few fortunate guests even saw a male bird briefly perching on top of a resting terrapin!



Hepatic morph Cuckoos were seen, along with the more usual grey ones. Their calls were ever present throughout the week. Two very vocal birds posing here were Great Reed Warbler and Reed Warbler. Both were heard singing from prominent positions in the reeds. Bee-eaters, Little Egrets and Grey Herons were seen and we were delighted to watch a small group of White Pelicans fly by in formation.

Stop 4. We drove up onto the Eastern Embankment, to have some coffee and take in a little more of the sights and sounds all around us. A kindly visiting Frenchman, Christoph, directed us towards a Penduline Tit nest. The birds were just beginning to create the entrance tunnel. While watching this rarely observed behaviour, we were treated to Little Bittern and Spoonbill flying close by.

Stop 5. Chaemarrhos. Our next stop was a quarry a few kilometers south of the lake. Eastern Subalpine Warblers were in full song here, and a Woodchat Shrike was seen, but generally this site was rather quiet. Paul, Debbie and Julian walked across the river to a small flowery meadow and found a few butterflies including Southern White Admiral but with afternoon temperatures soaring we decided to take a refreshment break before venturing out again.

Stop 6. At the taverna in Lithotopos we saw a few hirundines, a drake Goosander, and a solitary Common Buzzard. Sue ventured to the harbour and saw a large but harmless Whipsnake. The 'beast' reared up at her!

Stop 7. As we set off for our final location today at Vironia Quarry, we were treated to a rain shower. In truth, it probably did us all the world of good, such had the heat been earlier. It also provided something for the butterflies and we discovered many Lattice Brown on the ground beneath a white mulberry tree extracting minerals and fruit juice from some fallen berries; amongst them was a single Large Tortoiseshell.









In a small glade by the track leading up to the quarry, Silver-washed Fritillary, Great Banded Grayling Ilex Hairstreak and Meadow Browns were flitting around. Further up the track towards the quarry, Clouded Yellows and Nettle Tree butterflies fluttered past. Bath White is always a regular here and was seen egg-laying and on our way back down, we photographed a basking Large Tortoiseshell, which decided to fly around Hilary and briefly alight on her back. Bird life at the quarry included male and female Blue Rock Thrushes, Crag and House Martins, European Honey Buzzard and another singing Eastern Subalpine Warbler. We also found a tortoise shell, split asunder after being dropped from on high by a hungry Golden Eagle.

Day 4. 11 June. Boat trip with Nikos and a search for Tessellated Skipper.

Stop 1. We set off at 8.30 so that we could get to Kerkini Harbour and be out on the lake a little after 9am. Nikos and Dimitris our cheerful captains were waiting for us and we were soon gliding out onto the mirror-calm lake, passing Black-crowned Night and Grey Herons that were perched around the mouth of the harbour. It wasn't long before we began to see Dalmatian Pelicans, the species that this area is renowned for. Some of the group remarked on how large the birds were. Indeed, male Dalmatians are amongst the largest flying birds in the world. White-winged Black Terns and Whiskered Terns were spotted further off and a small raft of around half a dozen Black-necked Grebes were also seen paddling along on the glassy water. Through binoculars, we could see their golden ear tufts.



Stop 2. As we sailed on, thousands of Great Cormorants streamed by heading for the shallows, joined by a handful of Dalmatian Pelicans, all getting ready for a feeding frenzy. We watched for a while, before moving to the river channel where many Black-crowned, Grey and Squacco Herons were seen and, for one of the boats, a feeding Glossy Ibis that promptly vanished, frustratingly; the other boat,

meanwhile, were treated to a Marsh Harrier, so all wasn't lost! All the while, the calls of the water birds and Penduline Tits filled the air.

Stop 3. Into what remains of the drowned willow forest, we were soon observing nests of, amongst others, Cattle Egret, Little Egret, Grey Heron, Spoonbill and Pygmy Cormorant. The odd white butterfly drifted by. In one of the Great Cormorant nests, Spanish Sparrows and Tree Sparrows had also taken up residence.

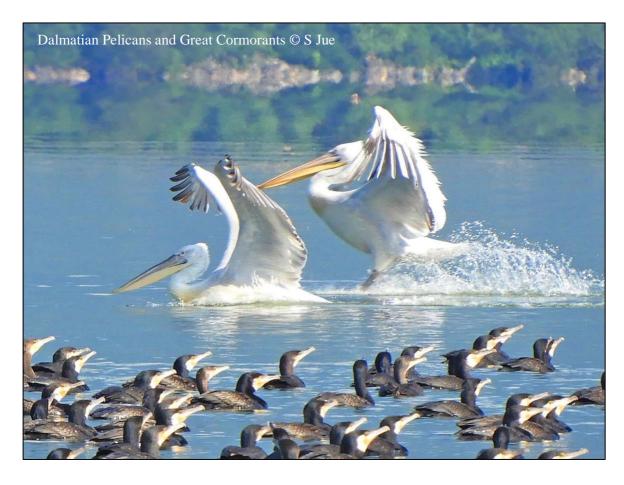


Stop 4. After a couple of hours on the water, having enjoyed the wonderful sights and sounds, we moved towards the pelican breeding platforms. We weren't allowed to approach too closely, but we all were able to appreciate the birds and how the man-made structures had succeeded in attracting them to breed here.

Stop 5. On our way back to Kerkini Harbour we had good views of about 20 Black Terns, and a solitary Whiskered Tern. At the harbour, we stopped for lunch. Both species were seen earlier but not by everyone so it was good to finally be able to have some good views.

After saying goodbye to Nikos and Dimitris, we took the opportunity to eat lunch in the shade, while enjoying the Tree Sparrows and Red-rumped Swallows which nest in the huts, and an obliging Scarce Swallowtail. Just as we set off, a herd of Water Buffalo turned up and were eagerly photographed.





Stop 6. We ventured forth to a sensitive site for an afternoon in search of Tessellated Skipper, a species that is largely restricted to a small area in eastern Europe. The area we visited was a small wooded copse on a hillside, with open areas. In the shade it there was some respite from the heat. Fortunately, Clive soon found several of the skippers and we were able to photograph these. Also present were Balkan Marbled White, Great Banded Grayling, Lattice Brown, Small Skipper,



Common Blue and Small Copper. Birds here included a tantalizingly brief Masked Shrike that Charles captured a photo of, and a flyover Short-toed Eagle. A quick taverna stop for refreshments was followed by a walk to watch Little Owl hiding in a tree hollow. Here, Paul heard and possibly saw, Wryneck.



Day 5. 12 June. Stop 1. Promachonas.

We arrived at a good wood which straddles the Bulgaria/ Greece border, in search of Common Glider. Unfortunately, it wasn't seen but we were soon rewarded with both spring and summer brood Map butterflies in perfect condition. A possible Balkan

Clouded Yellow found by Paul was the source of ongoing debate and research as the week wore on; Silver-washed, Eastern Knapweed, Lesser-spotted and Spotted Fritillaries were also seen along with Great Banded Grayling, Southern White Admiral, Silver-studded Blue (laying eggs on a Lucerne crop), Lattice Brown, Small Skipper, Eastern Bath White, Large White, Small White and Common Blue.

Bird-wise, Masked Shrikes were discovered nesting 20 feet up in a tree, and a drumming Black Woodpecker was heard. A few beautiful 9-spotted Moths were seen here too, with their distinctive orange and black colouration.



Stop 2. Towards Achladochori, our guides put water on the roadside, which soon began to lure down some interesting species of butterflies including, Amanda's, Osiris, Small, Eastern Baton, Chapman's, Common, Adonis, and Anomalous Blues.

Nearby, we photographed several lovely Himantoglossum jankae orchids before moving on to explore some nearby flowery meadows which featured tall cardoon thistles. There were plenty of species on offer here. Lesser Fiery and Sooty Coppers, Cardinals, Lattice Brown (darting in and out of the trees which lined the meadow), Wood White, Yellow-banded Skipper, Clouded Yellow, Large Tortoiseshell, Southern White Admiral, Swallowtail, Scarce Swallowtail, Orbed Red Underwing Skipper, Southern Grayling and a possible Large Grizzled Skipper. Marbled Fritillaries were plentiful both here, and along the brambles at the edge.



The butterflies were still puddling. Lower down the road, where a small bridge crossed over the river, Beautiful and Banded Demoiselles were seen dancing in the dappled light and more Marbled Fritillaries were noted on bramble. The prize of Marbled White was also found while watching the Eastern Festoons which Trish had found. It was here that we discovered Paul had also found Marbled Skipper.

Stop 3. Our final stop of the day was a little further along towards Achladohori, where some roadside vetches produce little other than Sloe Hairstreak and some very interesting Sloe Emperor Moth larvae.

Day 6. 13 June. **Stop 1.** We set off at 8.30 for our furthest-flung destination of the holiday, the ski slope at 1800m elevation in the Vrontous mountains. We explored a small meadow north of the city of Serres for butterflies. The first Large Blue of the trip was seen by Paul, fluttering down the bank and quickly out of sight. Higher up, another was seen which settled on a flower. Silver-studded Blue were also seen in low numbers whereas llex Hairstreak were ubiquitous, as were the helice form of female Clouded Yellow.

Stop 2. Jon called an impromptu roadside stop at a higher elevation, having seen our first 'Cambie' fluttering above a large aggregation of puddling butterflies. These consisted mainly of Large Tortoiseshells, a few Small Tortoiseshells, Peacocks, Comma and Nettle Tree butterflies. It was a sight to behold as we edged closer. The Camberwell Beauty remained a while, seldom settling but occasionally flying right beside the guests, captivating us with its beautiful black wings, cream petticoat and sheer size. Paul later discovered Large Wall Brown amongst the puddlers.





Stop 3. At 1600m amsl, and were soon enjoying coffee and biscuits before delving into the rather large meadow of the ski slope.

The interesting range of wild flowers here included speedwell, wild strawberry, star-of-Bethlehem, bugle and lady's bedstraw. These colourful plants all filled the air with delicious aromas and naturally attracted plenty of butterflies and moths. Clive soon found a male Balkan Copper and the group were able to draw close and observe. Soon a female was also seen laying eggs. Northern Wall Brown, Heath Fritillary, Woodland Ringlet, Large Grizzled Skipper, Orbed Red-underwing Skipper, Southern Grizzled Skipper were found along with Mazarine, Zephyr, Chapman's, Common, Adonis, Silver studded, and Amanda's Blues. We also had another 3 Camberwell Beauty sightings but again



they were vastly outnumbered by the Large Tortoiseshells which seemed almost common. Blue Argus was present, but only one male was seen. In terms of birds, this site delivered our first Tree Pipits and Coal Tits.

Stop 4. We walked a small track after lunch and found Northern Wall Browns in good condition and a single Large Wall but alas no further Blue Arguses were seen. Woodland Ringlet, Pearl-bordered Fritillary, and dozens of Green Hairstreaks were present though, so it was a pleasant butterfly-filled walk. Crossbills were heard and seen at the roadside. A muddy puddle also attracted nest-building Red-rumped Swallows.



Stop 5. We returned to the ski slope and found more Northern Wall Browns, Pearl-bordered Fritillaries, Mazarine Blue, Heath Fritillary, Wall Brown and Pearly Heath. Julian, Peter and Kerry saw Mountain Small White and Geranium Argus, and Clive and Jon discovered a beautiful female Iolas Blue, here, right on the upper end of its known altitude limit.

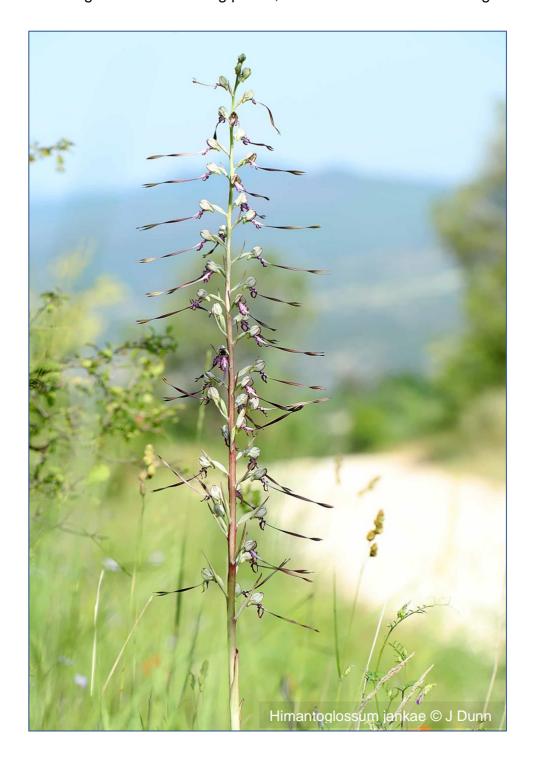
Stop 6. Our final stop was a track and slope below the tree line. Some wonderful patches of *Viccia Dalmatica* attracted many blues including Eastern Baton, Amanda's, Silver-studded and False Eros. A single female Blue Argus was seen. Of note, we found ourselves in the middle of a mass influx of Painted Ladies with easily 3 butterflies passing us every second. After arriving back at Villa Belles, our hotel, Eileen, Trish and Charles visited the nearby, newly built nunnery. Here they enjoyed the welcoming nuns, and a number of good butterflies on the lavender, including a wonderful Scarce Swallowtail and Silver-washed Fritillary. Just as they left, a Lesser Spotted Eagle was seen flying overhead and photographed by Charles.



Today's records brought the total number of butterfly species seen so far to 86.

Day 7. 14 June. Today we would visit the Vrontous again, but our approach would be from the west. Skies were bright blue and soon we were winging our way to the mountains, passing a beautiful Roller, seen by Dean sitting in the front vehicle.

Stop 1. Our first butterflies were unsurprisingly Nettle Tree butterflies. There were still lots flying but the vast swarms had turned into just a trickle now. Painted Lady continued to show evidence of mass migration, with dozens flying by as we ascended the track, all heading north-west. Before we began to climb, however, a brief stop was made to admire another colony of *Himantoglossum jankae* orchids – these numbering some 50 flowering plants, one of which was a metre high!



This stop also delivered Southern White Admiral, and fortunately, another chance for False Eros Blue. Large Tortoiseshells continued to grace show, often flying right beside us. A surprise was to find Marbled White here at only 400 metres elevation. It's close relative, Balkan Marbled White was flying with it. The latter looks much creamier in colour here and the Marbled White much darker. Graylings included Delattin's and Great Banded. Comma, Red Admiral, Eastern Bath Blue and more beautiful Cardinals were also seen, giving Trish happily the chance to photograph the them as they posed on the Cardoon thistles.



Stop 2. A little higher at around 800 metres we stopped again, hoping for Large Blue. We didn't see it there but Idas Blue did appear along with Silver-studded, Chapman's and a few more Large Torts. Queen of Spain was fairly common, and Green Hairstreaks soon turned up. This latter species was an indication that things were still a little behind, seasonally speaking.

We had juice or coffee while enjoying the sights and scents and the sound of singing birds. A Heath Fritillary fluttered around us, probably seeking human nectar (sweat!).

Stop 3. By a woodsman's hut, we parked the buses and walked a few hundred metres, hoping for more species. A fair amount of puddling was taking place, and we were graced with more Camberwell Beauties. The creature is sometimes quite inquisitive and this first individual certainly took a liking to us, flying around, above and back to us. This one had a very definite personality.



Stop 4. We arrived at some nice wet areas and carefully identified the species on offer. These consisted mainly of Nettle Tree butterflies but mixed in were a few Large Torts and Holly Blues. At the next bend in the road, a Large Blue and another Amanda's were seen, along with Brimstone, Wood White, and Green-veined White. Paul found a female Orange Tip. It wasn't the much hoped for Eastern Dappled White, but it was a new species for the holiday, and again an indication of how late the season was, for it is essentially a spring butterfly. Whilst this was going on, Sue got very close to a gorgeous Scarce Swallowtail imbibing thistle nectar.

Eventually we retraced our way back down to the vans and ate lunch. Red-rumped Swallows had constructed a nest on the ceiling of the hut, and this structure clearly displayed the cleverly constructed entrance tunnel.

A shout of Purple-shot Copper went up and had everybody dropping lunch and scrambling for cameras. This was a bright male, as fresh as a daisy. After lunch we ascended to 1,150 metres and enjoyed more puddling before heading off again, a descent interrupted only by a Berger's Clouded Yellow at the trackside.



Stop 4. We arrived on a mountain track only a short distance from the border with Bulgaria. In fact, it's even closer than that for the road actually *is* the border in places, so at times we were half in Bulgaria and half in Greece.

Our first insects were Wood White and Large Tortoiseshell. At the top of the road, we found another couple of male Purple-shot Coppers, more Green Hairstreaks and a fly-by Clouded Apollo. The decision to come here was vindicated, for Purple-shot are truly lovely butterflies. Clive was diligent and rewarded with more Clouded Apollos, Mazarine Blue and High Brown Fritillary. He stayed put while the rest of the group joined him and soon most of us were clicking away with lenses pointing at a pairing of Clouded Apollo.

By 4.30 pm, heavy clouds appeared and began emptying their loads accompanied by the crack of thunder and flashes of lightning. This was the first rain of any consequence for the entire holiday. It was also time to return to our hotel, so we wound back down the mountain in time to freshen up before dinner.

An impressive 95 species of butterflies and 120+ species of birds were seen. This is another very impressive butterfly tally, and possibly could have beaten last year's record, had a few more of the species which were spotted been recorded by more than one person. Of note, were the vast numbers of Large Tortoiseshells, Nettle-Tree Butterflies, Tessellated Skipper and of course the specialties such as Balkan Copper and Clouded Apollo.

Greenwings would like to thank all guests for their good humour and patience throughout the holiday, especially given the somewhat higher than anticipated temperatures.



Species list and photo gallery overleaf

Lepidoptera checklist, North Greece, 8-15 June 2019

Key: (?) were almost certainly seen but ongoing discussions have not been able to substantiate these sightings. They are not included in the final trip tally.

t= target species; n = new for the trip

t— targ	Butterflies		8th	9 _{th}	10th	11th	12th	13th	14th
	Common name	Scientific							
	Hesperiidae - Skippers								
1	Small Skipper	Thymelicus sylvestris	√	√	✓	√	√	√	√
2	Large Skipper	Ochlodes sylvanus	√	√	✓	✓	√		
3	Dingy Skipper	Erynnis tages						✓	√
4	Southern Grizzled Skipper	Pyrgus malvoides						√	√
5	Marbled Skipper (t)	Carcharodus lavatherae					✓		
6	Mallow Skipper	Carcahrodus alceae	✓	✓	✓			√	√
7	Orbed Red Underwing Skipper	Spialia sertorius					✓	✓	✓
8	Olive Skipper	Pyrgus serratulae	?						
9	Yellow Banded Skipper	Pyrgus sidae					√		
10	Large Grizzled Skipper	Pyrgus alveus						✓	√
11	Tessellated Skipper (t)	Pyrgus tessellum				✓			
	Papilionidae - Swallowtails, Festo	ons and Apollos							
12	Clouded Apollo (t)	Parnassius mnemosyne							√
13	Eastern Festoon (t)	Zerynthia cerisy						✓	
14	Swallowtail	Papilio machaon gorganus	√	√	✓	✓	✓	√	
15	Scarce Swallowtail	Iphiclides podalirius	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
	Pieridae - Whites and Yellows	Transcorption and the second							
16	Eastern Wood White	Leptidea duponcheli		√			√		
17	Wood White	Leptidea sinapis	√	√	√		√	√	√
18	Clouded Yellow (+h= Helice female)	Colias crocea	√	√	√ +h	√	√ +h	√	√ +h
19	Pale Clouded Yellow	Colias hyale							√
20	Berger's Clouded Yellow	Colias alfacariensis		√				√	√
21	Balkan Clouded Yellow	Colias caucasica			+		?		
22	Cleopatra	Gonepteryx cleopatra		✓	+				
23	Brimstone	Gonepteryx rhamni		✓	+		✓	✓	✓
24	Orange Tip	Anthocharis cardamines			+				✓
25	Black-veined White	Aporia crataegi	✓	✓	√	✓	√	√	✓
26	Large White	Pieris brassicae	V	V	V		√	√	√
27	Small White	Pieris rapae		✓	/		√	√	√
28	Mountain Small White	Pieris ergane			+			/	
29	Southern Small White	Pieris mannii			1	/			
30	Green-veined White	Pieris napi		V	+				✓
31	Kruper's Small White (t)	Periris krueperi			+				/
32	Eastern Bath White	Pontia edusa	/	V	V		/	/	√
32	Lycaenidae - Hairstreaks	Politiu euusu	-	-	+		•	•	-
33	Green hairstreak	Callophrys rubi			+			√	√
34	Sloe Hairstreak	Satyrium acaciae					/	<i>-</i>	
35		,			/	/	· /	· ·	
36	Ilex Hairstreak	Satyrium ilicis	/	✓	V	· /	· /		✓
30	White-letter Hairstreak		-	ļ •	-	ļ •	•		<u> </u>
37	Lycaenidae - Coppers	Lucasana mbl		✓	J	✓	✓	√	✓
38	Small Copper	Lycaena phlaeas		•	 	•	•	•	V
	Purple Shot Copper (t)	Lycaena alciphron	✓	✓	V	✓	✓	√	∨
39	Sooty Copper	Lycaena tityrus	–	∨	V	✓	V	✓	∨
40	Lesser Fiery Copper (t)	Lycaena thersamon		V	'	–	V	✓	V
41	Balkan Copper (t)	Lycaena candens	-					Y	
10	Lycaenidae - Blues			✓		✓			
42	Lang's Short-tailed Blue	Leptotes pirithous		v		v			

	Common name	Scientific	8th	9 _{th}	10th	11th	12th	13th	14th
43	Little Tiger Blue (t)	Tarucus balkanicus	√	✓		√	√	√	
44	Holly Blue	Celestrina argiolus	√	✓	√	√	√	√	√
45	Eastern Baton Blue	Pseudophilotes vicrama		✓		✓	✓	✓	√
46	Small Blue	Cupido minimus		✓			√	√	
47	Osiris Blue (t)	Cupido osiris					✓	√	✓
48	Silver-studded Blue	Plebejus argus					✓	✓	✓
49	Zephyr Blue (t)	Plebejus sephirus						√	
50	Idas Blue	Plebejus idas							✓
51	Brown Argus	Aricia agestis	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
52	Blue Argus	Aricia anteros						√	
53	Geranium Argus (n)	Aricia eumedon						✓	
54	Mazarine Blue	Cyaniris semiargus		✓				✓	✓
55	Chapman's Blue	Polyommatus thersites			✓		√	√	✓
56	Common Blue	Polyommatus icarus	✓	~	✓	✓	✓	√	✓
57	False Eros Blue (t)	Polyommatus eroides						✓	✓
58	Amanda's Blue (t)	Polyommatus amandus					✓	✓	
59	Anomalous Blue	Polyommatus admetus					√		
60	Adonis Blue	Lysandra bellargus					✓	✓	✓
61	Iolas Blue (t)	Iolana iolas		✓				√	
62	Large Blue (t)	Phengaris arion						✓	√
	Nymphalidae - Aristocrats								
63	Map Butterfly	Araschnia levana					✓		
64	Nettle-tree Butterfly	Libythea celtis	✓	✓	✓	✓	√	✓	✓
65	Southern White Admiral	Limenitis reducta	√	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
66	Red Admiral	Vanessa atalanta		✓	√	√	√	√	√
67	Painted Lady	Vanessa cardui		✓	✓	✓	√	√	√
68	Comma	Polygonia c-album	√	√	√	√	✓	✓	✓
69	Southern Comma (t)	Polygonia l-album	√						
70	Peacock	Inachis io	√	✓	✓	✓	✓	√	√
71	Small Tortoiseshell	Aglais urticae						✓	√
72	Large Tortoiseshell (t)	Nymphalis polychloros	✓	√	✓	✓	✓	✓	√
73	Camberwell Beauty (t)	Nymphalis antiopa						✓	✓
74	Eastern Knapweed Fritillary	Melitaea telona					√	✓	√
75	Lesser Spotted Fritillary	Melitaea trivia	√		√	√	√		
76	Spotted Fritillary	Melitaea didyma		√	√	√	√	√	√
77	Heath Fritillary	Melitaea athalia						✓	V
78	High Brown Fritillary	Argynnis adippe							√
79	Cardinal (t)	Argynnis pandora	√	<u> </u>	√	√	√	√	√
80	Silver-washed Fritillary	Argynnis paphia	<u> </u>	√	V	L.	V	V	V
81	Queen of Spain Fritillary	Issoria lathonia	√		√	√	√	√	√
82	Marbled Fritillary	Brenthis daphne		✓			√	√	✓
83	Pearl-bordered Fritillary	Boloria euphrosyne	1	1				✓	
	Nymphalidae - Browns, Heaths, Rir		ļ.,	,					,
84	Lattice Brown	Kirinia roxelana	√	✓	✓	√	√		✓
85	Speckled Wood	Pararge aegeria				✓	✓	√	
86	Wall Brown	Lasiommata megera	1	<u> </u>				√	
87	Northern Wall Brown (t)	Lasiommata petropolitana						√	
88	Large Wall Brown	Lasiommata maera		,	,			√	
89	Small Heath	Coenonympha pamphilus	√	V	√	_	√	√	,
90	Meadow Brown	Maniola jurtina	√	✓	✓	√	√	√	√
91	Woodland Ringlet	Erebia medusa	1			,	,	✓	,
92	Balkan Marbled White	Melanargia larissa	1			✓	V		√
93	Marbled White	Melanargia galathea	1	1			√	1	√
94	Balkan/Southern Grayling	Hipparchia senthes					√		√

	Common name	Scientific	8th	9 _{th}	10th	11th	12th	13th	14th		
95	Delattin's Grayling								✓		
96	Great Banded Grayling	Brintesia circe			√	√		√	√		
97	Small Heath	Coenonympha pamphilus	√	√	✓		√	✓			
98	Pearly Heath	Coenonyympha arcania						V	✓		
70	Notable Mo		8 _{th}	9 _{th}	10th	11th	12th	13th	14th		
	Common	Scientific	Oth	7tii	100	11111	1201	√	1-441		
1	Forester							V			
2		Adscita sp. Zygaena filipenulae					/	V			
3	6 Spot Burnet Transparent Burnet	Zygaena juipenuide Zygaena purpuralis					•	7	V		
4	Nine-spotted	Amata phegea						•	_		
5	Hummingbird Hawk-moth	Macroglossum stellatarum		/	✓	/	/	V	✓		
6	Spurge Hawk-moth larva	Hyles euphorbiae	V								
7	Wood Tiger	Parasemia plantaginis						V			
8	Sloe Emperor larva	Saturnia spini					V				
9	Latticed Heath	Chiasmia clathrata	V				√	V	✓		
10	Speckled Yellow	Pseudopanthera macularia					✓	√	✓		
11	Black-veined Moth	Siona lineata		<u> </u>			 	√	√		
12	Small Yellow Underwing	Panemeria tenebrata			√						
13	Common Wave	Cabera exanthemata			√						
14	Burnet Companion	Euclidia glyphica		√				√			
15	Bee Hawk sp.	Hemaris tityus/fuciformis					√	√			
16	Mother Shipton	Callistege mi						√			
	Dragonflies	Scientific name	Comments								
1	Emperor	Anax imperator	Lake and reservoir above Platanos								
2	Lesser Emperor	Anax parthenope						1103			
3	Small Pincertail	Onychogomphus forcipatus	Reservoir above Platano Reservoir above Platanos and Lake								
4	Bladetail	Lindenia tetraphylla	Rare-2 separate females photographed								
5	Balkan Goldenring	Cordulegaster heros	1 2 separate females photographed								
6	Sombre Goldenring	Cordulegaster bidentata									
7	Broad-bodied Chaser	Libellula depressa	Lake and reservoir								
8	Scarce Chaser	Libellula fulva			and lak						
9	Black-tailed Skimmer	Orthetrum cancellatum			and lak						
10	White-tailed Skimmer	Orthetrum albistylum			and lak						
11	Keeled Skimmer	Orthetrum coerulescens	Res	ervoir	and lak	æ					
12	Southern Skimmer	Orthetrum brunneum	lake								
13	Ruddy Darter	Sympetrum sanguineum	lake	;							
14	Yellow-winged Darter	Sympetrum flaveolum	field	ds							
15	Red-veined Darter	Sympetrum fonscolombii	Res	ervoir	and lak	æ					
16	Broad Scarlet	Crocothemis erythraea	Res	ervoir	and lak	te					
	Damselflies										
1	Beautiful Demoiselle	Calopteryx virgo									
2	Banded Demoiselle	Calopteryx splendens									
3	White-legged Damsel	Platycnemis pennipes									
4	Common Bluetail	Ischnura elegans									
	Other invertebrates										
1	Thread-winged Lacewing	Nemoptera bipennis									
2	Mantis	Empusa fasciata									
3	Egyptian Locust	Anacridium aegyptium									
	Herpetofauna										
1	Herman's Tortoise	Testudo hermanni									
2	Black Whip Snake	Dolichophis jugularis									
3	Slowworm	Anguilis fragilis									
4	Eastern Green Lizard	Lacerta viridis									
5	Wall Lizard	Podarcis muralis									
6	Stripe-necked Terrapin	Mauremys caspica									

7	European Pond Terrapin	Emys orbicularis
8	Aesculapian Snake	Zamenis longissimus
9	Stream Frog	Rana ridibunda
10	Marsh Frog	Rana graeca

	Birds checklist, north Greece, 8-15 June 2019 Key: s = scarce; d = difficult to see or find. ✓= seen ♪ = heard										
	Common name	Scientific	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	13th	14th		
1	Little Grebe	Tachybaptus ruficollis		√							
2	Great Crested Grebe	Podiceps cristatus		√	√	√					
3	Black-necked Grebe	Podiceps nigricollis (s)				√					
4	Great Cormorant	Phalacrocorax carbo	√	√	✓	√	√				
5	Pygmy Cormorant	Phalacrocorax pygmeus		√	✓	√					
6	White Pelican	Pelecanus onocrotalus		√	✓		√				
7	Dalmatian Pelican	Pelecanus crispus		√	√	√					
8	Little Bittern	Ixobrychus minutus (d)		√1	√						
9	Night Heron	Nycticorax nycticorax		✓	✓	✓					
10	Squacco Heron	Ardeola ralloides		✓	✓	✓					
11	Cattle Egret	Bubulcus ibis (s)		✓		✓					
12	Little Egret	Egretta garzetta	√	√	✓	√					
13	Great Egret	Ardea alba (s)	√	√	✓						
14	Grey Heron	Ardea cinerea	✓	✓	✓	√					
15	Purple Heron	Ardea purpurea (d)		√							
16	Black Stork	Ciconia nigra		√	√	√					
17	White Stork	Ciconia ciconia	✓	✓	✓	√	√	√	√		
18	Glossy Ibis	Plegadis falcinellus				√					
19	Eurasian Spoonbill	Platalea leucorodia	√	√	✓						
20	Mute Swan	Cygnus olor				√					
21	Greylag Goose	Anser anser (s)		√							
22	White-fronted Goose	Anser albifrons				√					
23	Mallard	Anas platyrhynchos		✓							
24	Gadwall	Anas querquedula				√					
25	Common Pochard	Aythya farina (s)				√					
26	Eurasian Wigeon	Mareca penelope				√					
27	Goosander	Mergus merganser (s)			✓						
28	European Honey-buzzard	Pernis apivorus		✓				√	√		
29	Black Kite	Milvus migrans		√	✓						
30	Short-toed Eagle	Circaetus gallicus			√	✓					
31	Eurasian Marsh Harrier	Circus aeruginosus (s)				✓					
32	Common Buzzard	Buteo buteo	√	√	√	√	√	√	√		
33	Lesser Spotted Eagle	Aquila pomarina		√		√		√			
34	Booted Eagle	Aquila pennata	✓						√		
35	Common Kestrel	Falco tinnunculus	✓	√	√	√	√	√			
36	Eurasian Hobby	Falco subbuteo			√						
37	Rock Partridge	Alectoris graeca (d)	1					√			
1	<u> </u>	1 3 1,7			Ĭ	l	Ĭ	<u> </u>	l		

	Common name	Scientific	8th	9 _{th}	10th	11th	12th	13th	14th
38	Common Moorhen	Gallinula chloropus			√				
39	Common Coot	Fulica atra		✓	✓	√			
40	Black-headed Gull	Chroicocephalus ridibundus				✓			
41	Yellow-legged Gull	Larus michahellis	√	✓	✓	✓			
42	Common Tern	Sterna hirundo		V		√			
43	Whiskered Tern	Chlidonias hybrida				√			
44	Black Tern	Chlidonias niger				✓			
45	White-winged Tern	Chlidonias leucopterus				√			
46	Feral Pigeon	Columba livia domestica			√		√		
47	Wood Pigeon	Columba palumbus			√				
48	Eurasian Collared Dove	Streptopelia decaocto	√	✓	✓	√	√	√	√
49	European Turtle Dove	Streptopelia turtur	1	√	√	√	1		√
50	Common Cuckoo	Cuculus canorus		√1	√	√	√1	√	√1
51	Eurasian Scops Owl	Otus scops (d)				1	1	~1	
52	Little Owl	Athene noctua	√		√	√		√	
53	Common Swift	Apus apus			√		√	√	√
54	Pallid Swift	Apus pallidus	✓						
55	European Bee-eater	Merops apiaster		1.	√ 1	√			
56	European Roller	Coracias garrulous (d)					√	√	√
57	Ноорое	Upupa epops	√1	1.	√	√	√	√	1
58	Grey-headed Woodpecker	Picus canus (s)					1		
59	Green Woodpecker	Picus viridis			✓	1	√		
60	Black Woodpecker	Dryocopus martius (d)					1		
61	Great Spotted Woodpecker	Dendrocopos major	√	✓	√	✓			
62	Syrian Woodpecker	Dendrocopos syriacus					1	✓	
63	Crested Lark	Galerida cristata	√	✓	√	✓	√	√	√
64	Skylark	Alauda arvensis			√			√	√
65	Woodlark	Lullula arborea			✓				
66	Sand Martin	Riparia riparia	✓		✓				√
67	Eurasian Crag Martin	Ptyonoprogne rupestris			✓			√	
68	Barn Swallow	Hirundo rustica	✓	✓	✓	✓	√	√	√
69	Red-rumped Swallow	Cecropis daurica	√	✓	√	√	√	√	√
70	House Martin	Delichon urbica	√	V	√	√	√	√	√
71	Tree Pipit	Anthus trivialis (s)						1	1
72	Grey Wagtail	Motacilla cinerea	✓						
73	White Wagtail	Motacilla alba	✓	✓			✓	✓	
74	European Robin	Erithacus rubecula (d)						1	1
75	Common Nightingale	Luscinia megarhynchos	1	✓	√	√ 1	✓	✓	√
76	Black Redstart	Phoenicurus ochruros (s)			√				
77	Black-eared Wheatear	Oenanthe hispanica						√	
78	Blue Rock Thrush	Monticola solitarius (s)			√				
79	Blackbird	Turdus merula		1.	√	√	√		√
80	Song Thrush	Turdus philomelos	1		√		√		
81	Mistle Thrush	Turdus viscivorus (s)	1					~1	

83 I	Cetti's Warbler	Caulmanui							
		Cettia cetti		1					
0.4	Eurasian Reed Warbler	Acrocephalus scirpaceus (s)	1	√	✓	√			
84 (Great Reed Warbler	Acrocephalus arundinaceus		√	✓	√			
85 I	Eastern Olivaceous Warbler	Hippolais pallida		√ 1	√	√	√	√	√
86 I	Icterine Warbler	Hippolais icterina						?	
87 \$	Subalpine Warbler	Sylvia cantillans			√	√	√		√
88 I	Lesser Whitethroat	Sylvia curruca			✓				
89 (Common Whitethroat	Sylvia communis		✓		√	√	√	✓
90 I	Blackcap	Sylvia atricapilla	1	1			√	√1	√
91 (Common Chiffchaff	Phylloscopus collybita						1	✓
92 I	Eastern Bonelli's Warbler	Phylloscopus bonelli					√		
93 I	Firecrest	Regulus ignicapilla (d)						1	
94 I	Long-tailed Tit	Aegithalos caudatus					√	√	
95 I	Blue Tit	Parus caeruleus			√	✓		√	
96 (Great Tit	Parus major			√				√
97 (Coal Tit	Periparus ater						√	
98 (Crested Tit	Lophophanes cristatus							√
99 1	Nuthatch	Sitta europaea							✓
100 I	Rock Nuthatch	Sitta neumayer			nest				
101 5	Short-toed Treecreeper	Certhia brachydactyla (d)						√	
102 I	Eurasian Penduline Tit	Remiz pendulinus		√	√ nest	✓			
103	Golden Oriole	Oriolus oriolus		1	√	1	1	√	1
104 V	Woodchat Shrike	Lanius senator		✓	√		✓	✓	✓
105 I	Masked Shrike	Lanius nubicus				√	√		
106 I	Eurasian Jay	Garrulus glandarius		√	√	√	√	✓	✓
107 I	Black-billed Magpie	Pica pica	√	√	√	√	√	√	✓
108 I	Eurasian Jackdaw	Corvus monedula	√				√		✓
109 I	Hooded Crow	Corvus corone	√	✓	✓	√	√	√	✓
110	Common Raven	Corvus corax			√		√	1	1
111	Common Starling	Sturnus vulgaris	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\
112 I	House Sparrow	Passer domesticus	✓	\	✓	>	✓	✓	>
113	Spanish Sparrow	Passer hispaniolensis	^	\	\	✓	~	✓	
	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	Passer montanus		>	✓	>	\	✓	>
115	Chaffinch	Fringilla coelebs				1	>	\	>
116 I	European Greenfinch	Carduelis chloris			11			✓	\
117 I	European Goldfinch	Carduelis carduelis	√	✓	√		✓	√	
118	Siskin	Spinus spinus						✓	
119 (Common Linnet	Carduelis cannabina						√1	
120	Common Crossbill	Loxia curvirostra						√	✓
121 I	Hawfinch	Coccothaustes coccothraustes (d)			✓		V		✓
122	Cirl Bunting	Emberiza cirlus			1	√1	✓	√	✓
123 I	Black-headed Bunting	Emberiza melanocephala	^1	~ 1	√	√	√	√	✓
124	Corn Bunting	Emberiza calandra	1	1	√	√	√	√	✓

Photo Gallery





































































