

Butterflies of Greece 2018

Holiday Report 23rd - 30th June
Led by Richard Lewington, Julian Dowding & Alice Hunter



Lesser Fiery Copper © James W

Introduction

This dual-centre butterfly focused holiday was based around the Mount Parnassus area of southern Greece and Mount Chelmos in the Peloponnese. Richard Lewington, the celebrated wildlife illustrator, was the main guide for this trip. Richard has published many natural history field guides, especially on invertebrates, thus, he would be the perfect leader for this trip. Of the books he has illustrated, the much acclaimed Butterflies Guide, is a field guide which would be indispensable on this particular holiday.

Our first base in the hillside town of Delphi had excellent views of the Amfissa valley, the Gulf of Corinth and the mountains of the Peloponnese. It lies at an altitude of 1000m and allowed us a chance to find many interesting species such as Europe's smallest butterfly, Grass Jewel, and also to visit the ancient archaeological site of Delphi. We would later move to a hotel in the small town of Kalavryta on Mount Chelmos on the other side of the Gulf of Corinth, to seek out a number of endemic butterflies such as Pontic, Chelmos and Zephyr Blues, the rare Odd-spot Blue and a host of other interesting species. The hotels in both locations were clean, comfortable and well serviced and situated within easy reach of some lovely local restaurants for dinner each evening.

We hoped therefore for good weather, good food and a week spent watching lots of butterflies in these lovely areas. The 12 guests joining Richard and our other guides, Alice and Julian, were Kathy, Keith, James G, James W, Alison, David, Helen, Tim, Annette, Sue, Judith and Mark.



Day 1, Sat 23 June

The group arrived at Athens airport around lunch time and were met by Richard whilst the vehicles were collected. The first part of the journey is along less scenic motorways skirting the city but once we left these we were in a nicer environment and able to spot a few species on our way. Of particular note were White Stork and Swallowtail. We also enjoyed an abundance of Clematis scrambling over the low shrubs on the dry hillsides and commented on the purple profusion of flowering *Vitex agnus-castus*, known by some as the Chaste tree, and which has flowers superficially similar to those of Buddleia.

We arrived in the pretty town of Delphi in the early evening and having found our hotel, we settled in with our hosts Alexandra and Illias, before heading out to a local restaurant for dinner.

Day 2, Sunday 24th June

The day dawned a little cloudy but after a pleasant breakfast, we set off up the slopes of Mount Parnassus above Arachova in the hope that the sun would prevail.

Stop 1. Our first stop was beyond the village of Kalivias Arachova where we found a damp meadow beside the road. As we climbed out of the buses, a pair of Red-Backed Shrikes flew into a small tree beside us. The very first butterfly was seen less than a yard from the minibus too, an Essex Skipper nectaring on Yarrow. To the casual observer the meadow itself didn't appear particularly floristic at first glance but as soon as we were out exploring there were plenty of nectar-rich flowers in bloom including pale pink Spiny Restharrow, golden Lady's Bedstraw, Birdsfoot Trefoil and Ground Pine, white Cut-leaved Selfheal, and dark purple Round-headed Leek. The hum of bees was intense despite no sign of any hives while a Hoopoe called nearby.

More butterflies were soon found with the first few being Common Blue, Brown Argus, Clouded Yellow



and Meadow Brown. Two blue butterflies caused some discussion and with Richard's help were identified as Escher's Blue and Eastern Zephyr Blue. There were quite a number of Mediterranean Shieldbugs adorning the spiky Cardoon plants as well as a rather colourful cricket. We paused a while to watch a Woodlark sing from the top of a fir tree before following a call from over the road where a Large Wall Brown was seen resting in the shelter of a boulder and demonstrating beautifully its camou-

flage. A Wall Brown flew past and settled a short distance away and several more Essex Skippers and Common Blues were noted.



Continuing our exploration, we came across a large group of Foxglove plants which had rather smoother leaves than those at home and a very hairy lip. Alice confirmed them as *Digitalis lanata*. A Corn Bunting sang loudly from a treetop up the hill and on a nearby Juniper bush, a beauti-

ful Idas Blue (of the unusual form *magnagraeca*) was discovered allowing the whole group to get photographs. We paused to admire a rather splendid, if tiny, Forester moth (*Jordanita budensis*) with a bright turquoise head on the way back to the vehicles.



Idas Blue *magnagraeca* © Helen B

Moving on up the mountain towards the ski centre, we realised cloud was too covering the top and so we dropped back down to a sunnier spot where a wonderful flowery glade opened up in the coniferous woodland either side of the road.

Stop 2. The first species spotted in this delightful spot was a Clouded Apollo, which had flown over the road as we rounded the bend. Hungarian Skipper and Heath Fritillary were quickly added to the list along with Painted Lady, Southern Small White and Clouded Yellow. Brown Argus and Essex Skipper were next to be spotted and a Dark Green Fritillary sailed into the sunshine to join us. A transparent Burnet moth caught our eye and a Blue Argus caused quite a stir posing beautifully for photographs. They were all sure to find plenty of nectar around us as there were thymes, clovers, knapweeds, geraniums and stonecrops flowering beneath our feet. Among the rocks at the end of the glade, Tim found a lizard basking in the sun which was most likely Erhard's Wall Lizard, and a large shiny green Rose Chafer caught our eye atop an umbellifer.



Clouded Apollo © James W

Exploring a slightly shadier and damper hollow on the other side of the road, we discovered a few spikes of Red Helleborine in flower as well as some lovely *Campanula sparsa* and Everlasting pea, *Lathyrus grandiflorus*, around which a Wood White was fluttering.



Wood White © Greenwings

Stop 3. Having hoped to enjoy our lunch in a meadow further down the mountain, we were surprised to find it completely shrouded in thick mist. We opted instead to visit track nearer our previous spot where a rocky patch allowed us plenty of "seats" to eat our packed lunches provided by the hotel. We enjoyed the sunshine and

watched Clouded Yellows flit past, Swifts wheel overhead and lizards scuttling around us while we ate.

A little wander brought a few more butterflies too including Queen of Spain Fritillary and another Hungarian Skipper. A Hummingbird Hawkmoth was spotted zipping from flower to flower and a couple of Transparent Burnets fed more lazily on sage blooms. A single Pyramidal Orchid stood proudly on the far side of the track overlooking a steep scree slope that dropped away into a thickly wooded valley below.

Stop 4. Returning to the meadow we'd hoped to have lunch in, it was still enveloped in cloud and so we continued down the hill a short way to another meadow beside the road where the sun was shining. It was full of flowers including bellflowers, pinks and clovers, and positively brimming with butterflies. No sooner had we ventured into the long grass than there were exclamations of new and exciting things to see. Clouded Yellows were fairly numerous and there was a pale *Helice* female form fluttering around along with a slightly elusive Greek Clouded Yellow. Other common species here were Essex and Small Skippers, Eastern Bath White, Marbled White and Brown Argus. An Olive Skipper was found and identified

by Richard, just as Alice came across an Oberthur's Grizzled Skipper. There were a good number of blues here too; Holly Blue, Silver-studded Blue and Amanda's Blue, joined by female Idas Blue, male Eastern Zephyr Blue and a lovely female Adonis Blue. Heath Fritillary and Niobe Fritillary were spotted and a Southern White Admiral flew over at high speed. Helen found a beautifully posed mating pair of Black-Veined Whites and, whilst others were photographing them, Richard and Alice discovered a stunning female Field Cricket, a species rarely seen in the UK.

We spent a happy time wandering through the flowers and photographing the many butterflies here then turned back towards the vehicles, pausing on our way to admire a good number of Red Helleborine flowering beneath the fir trees on the opposite bank. There was an enormous specimen of Broad Leaved Helleborine in bud too, not far off waist high. Moving on, we paused briefly beside the road where a large patch of Narrow Leaved Red Valerian flowered, to watch a Hummingbird Hawkmoth and Narrow Bordered Bee Hawkmoth zooming round the flowers.



Black-veined White © Judith W



Meadow © Kathy F

Stop 5. We stopped below Ancient Delphi to look for Grass Jewel, Europe's smallest butterfly. Keith spotted Short-Toed Eagle and over the road Balkan Marbled White demonstrated incredible camouflage sitting on a leaf of Jerusalem Sage. Long-Legged Bush Crickets clambered around the undergrowth and a large grey-brown Egyptian Grasshopper flew with a noisy whirl of wings when spooked. A bank of *Corridothymus capitatus* bore a bustling mass of White Spotted Rose Beetles (*Oxythyrea funesta*) all busily feeding on the nectar. There were some enormous Robberflies here too, perched on the hot stonework of a water channel beside the road and taking off to dart after smaller insects on which they prey. A few spikes of the Annual Asphodel (*Asphodelus fistulosus*) and Spiny Acanthus flowered alongside the elegant round, prickly heads of *Echinops sphaerocephalus*. Small Heath was seen but without Grass Jewel, we decided to look elsewhere.



Heliotrope © Greenwings

Stop 6. Our final stop was above the village of Chryso. Walking along a dusty track below a steep rock face, we had nice views of a Lesser Kestrel above and listened to the loud calls of a Rock Nuthatch which eventually made itself visible, tussling with a second bird. A wonderful large Antlion was found by Sue along with a Marbled Skipper.

The stop paid off, and, having found their food plant, Heliotrope, Alice was pleased to locate "her" Grass Jewels, a group of seven or eight



Grass Jewel © Kathy F

fluttering low over the gravel and providing wonderful photographic opportunities for the whole group. Nearby, a fairly rare endemic plant, the sweet-scented *Daphne jasminea* was found growing on the rock face. We retired to the hotel a happy group, and after a quick catch up to note all our finds on the checklist, we ended the day with another lovely meal in a local restaurant.

Day 3, Monday 25th June

Stop 1. We began the day with a little more sunshine and made a prompt start after breakfast to visit the ruins of Ancient Delphi. The first butterfly of the day was a Freyer's Grayling settled on a tree trunk beside the entrance. Somewhere nearby a Woodlark called and as we gathered in the shade to discuss the layout of the site, a Spotted Flycatcher darted from the branches of the trees around us to catch insects in flight. As we wandered uphill at a leisurely pace towards the reconstructed Treasuries, a pair of Rock Nuthatches made their presence known with a flurry of riotous calls and flew over our heads to land on the roof of the building. Their antics were watched with amusement while a busy pair of Sparrows brought nesting material to a hole in the wall just beneath them.



A short row of Chinese Privet opposite the main facade of the Treasury was flowering. There were lots of lovely emerald green Rose Chafers and a variety of other insects feeding on the blossoms as well as a single Southern White Admiral which flitted from flower to flower for a few moments before disappearing. A few yards further on a litter of small kittens caught the attention of a few members of the group as they gamboled among the ruins. Beyond them, some lovely specimens of an endemic subspecies of bellflower grew from the cracks and crevices in the ancient walls, *Campanula topaliana* ssp. *Delphica*. Having had a brief glimpse of Mallow Skipper by the Temple of Athena, we found a Southern Comma just around the corner which was being particularly elusive as it fluttered in and out of sight.



As we approached the spectacular amphitheatre set into the side of the hill, Tim spotted a small Kotschy's Gecko on a wall. It was remarkably well camouflaged and taking shade behind some brambles which made it even trickier to see! A moment later, a Woodchat Shrike obliged us by sitting on



the very top of a nearby Cypress tree but its beautiful markings were difficult to pick out against the bright sky. Having marvelled at the scale of the ancient theatre and taken in the ever more impressive view, we continued on uphill.

Barely a stone's throw away we stopped once more to admire a very large female Greek Predatory Bush Cricket, *Saga hellenica*. It was wonderfully patterned in shades of brown and we agreed that, although it was beautifully visible amongst the leaves of the small Oleander bush in which it was sitting, its colouring would have been perfect camouflage in the dry grasses behind. On up the hill and around the corner we debated the identity of some rather large spiders which we eventually decided were our Garden Spider, *Araneus diadematus*, just 3 times the size - they obviously have a good diet here! They were mostly quite high up with their webs strung between the branches of trees or from one tree to the next. One such tree was a particularly large Italian Cypress which a prehistoric plant known as Joint Pine was using as a support to grow through giving the tree a rather unkempt, straggly appearance.

We paused to look for puddling butterflies at a small spring. The only species was Small White but turning around we were rewarded with good views of Swallows, Crag Martins and Red-rumped Swallows hawking for insects at eye level in front of us. Around the next corner, another stand of Chinese Privet proved interesting with Thread-Winged Lacewing nectaring on the flowers. Nearby, to the amusement of the group, a Squirting Cucumber plant allowed Alice to demonstrate the behaviour that earns them their name.



View from the top © Greenwings

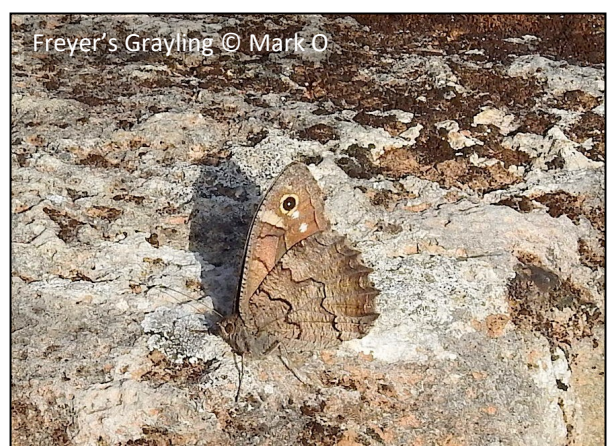
It was only a few yards now to the top of the site and the impressive stadium. A couple of large moths were found sheltering in the shade of the thick walls and another Thread-Winged Lacewing was spotted on a grass stem at the far end of the stadium. Goldfinches and Greenfinches were seen among the pine trees beside the path here too while high above the rock face, a Peregrine was spotted.

Having made it to the top, we began the descent. The views were enjoyed all the way down and we soon reached the Temple to Athena again where some more butterflies awaited us. Joining the Mallow Skipper were Long-tailed Blue, Wall, Tufted Marbled Skipper and Grass Jewel all flitting around the Mallow and Pitch Trefoil flowers. Holly Blue, Large Wall and Eastern Bath White were also reported from elsewhere on the site.

The Rock Nuthatches put in another excellent performance on our way back past the Treasury and reaching the Agora, we found a pair of Grass Jewels performing their courtship with the male desperately wing-



Eastern Bath White © Alice H



Freyer's Grayling © Mark O

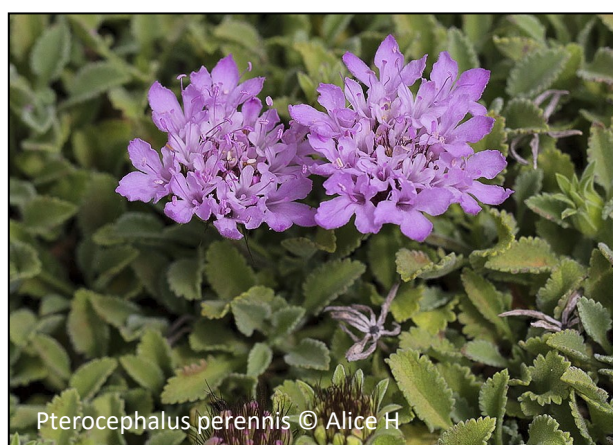
waving to the female who didn't seem in the slightest bit interested! Once we had gathered again we walked a short distance down the road to our picnic site beneath a plane tree by an old spring. We enjoyed our packed lunch and some orange cake in the shade while a probable Freyer's Grayling eluded identification by flying from tree to tree whenever anyone got near.

A brief pause at the hotel after lunch yielded two more new butterfly species outside the door; Geranium Bronze, aptly on the Geraniums in plant pots either side of the entrance and a Scarce Swallowtail overhead. A few minutes later the latter was seen ovipositing in fruit trees just up the road.

Stop 2. We made a short stop, a hundred yards down the road from our first stop the day before but saw little more than a Meadow Brown, a different species of Burnet Moth and Pyramidal Orchid. The wind got up and so the decision was made to retreat to some sunshine.

Stop 3. Taking an exploratory route uphill through Kalivias Arachova towards the outskirts where the sun was shining on the grassy hillside, we found ourselves on a rather bumpy track up towards a new housing development. The front bus saw Great Banded Grayling while the back bus enjoyed good views of three Hoopoes. A couple of whites fluttered around the thistles in what appeared to be a dry stream bed and all signs were encouraging that we might find more of interest here.

We pulled up beside a dry meadow with a mud puddle just beyond. There were a few flowers here among the long grass and so we began our exploration. A Balkan Marbled White sat nicely for photographs while a Grayling species challenged Richard by flying at the slightest movement. It was eventually confirmed as a *Hipparchia* species, most likely the Southern Grayling but indistinguishable from Delattin's Grayling in the field. There were Common Blues, Painted Lady, another Great Banded Grayling and a Hungarian Skipper here, as well as a new species for the trip, Ilex Hairstreak.



Stop 4. We explored another area for butterflies with interesting plants on the rock face at the top of the pass which Alice spotted when driving. One plant was an unusual cushion-forming Scabious, *Pteroccephalus perennis*, with lovely big pink flowers on short stalks.

It proved a productive stop in many ways as there were some lovely plants and butterflies to be found. There was quite a lot of Thyme here too as well as a plant with grey leaves and tiny green flowers called *Herniaria cinerea* and a blue-flowered plant, *Asyneuma limonifolium*, which at first glance looks more like a bulb than the bellflowers to which it is more closely related.

Kermes Oak, the larval food plant of Ilex Hairstreak was found, and unsurprisingly the butterfly turned up here alongside Blue-spot Hairstreak. In terms of other Lycaenids, we had found a good spot with Zephyr, Ripart's Anomalous and Meleager's Blue, including a stunning blue form female.

Meadow Brown, Marbled White, Balkan Marbled White and Clouded Yellow were seen along with several rather flighty Great Banded Graylings, a good number of Painted Ladies and Great Sooty Satyr. We also encountered several Antlions, a variety of beetles and a vast number of Grasshoppers which jumped in front of each of us like a small hopping and chirping bow wave with each step we took.

Having wandered around the hillside here for some time listening to the call of a Hoopoe, watching Red-rumped Swallows fly low overhead and making friends with the local sheep, it was time to return home, passing a flock of Linnets on the way.

The day ended with another lovely traditional Greek meal in a local restaurant with fabulous views over the valley below. The walk back to the hotel was a leisurely one with a few pauses for postcards, maps and souvenirs to be bought before we packed to move to our next base the following day.

Day 4, Tuesday 26th June

We woke to a rather miserable morning weather-wise but were not too disheartened as we were transferring to our second base for the week and would look for a sunny spot on our way. We packed up the vans after breakfast and set out, making a brief fuel stop on the edge of Itea, then headed south.

Stop 1. The rain did not relent at first and so we stopped for a coffee in a small cafe on the harbour front in the small town of Galaxidi. As we finished our drinks the sun magically appeared, we were able to have a wander around the harbour and up the wooded hill on the far side to a little historic cave dwelling.

A Marginated Tortoise was spotted here, appearing rather surprised to be suddenly confronted with people! Tim spotted another Freyer's Grayling resting on a tree trunk and as the sun continued to shine we saw many more, most people sporting them as fetching accessories at one point or another in our time here. There were also a couple of Small Whites and Wall Brown fluttering around. A few large Lobed Orb-Weaver Spiders, *Argiope lobata*, caught people's attention among the spines of a Prickly Pear, and Rosemary Leaf Beetles shone beautifully in the sunshine in the Rosemary beside the path, showing off their me-



Meleager's Blue (blue fem) © James W



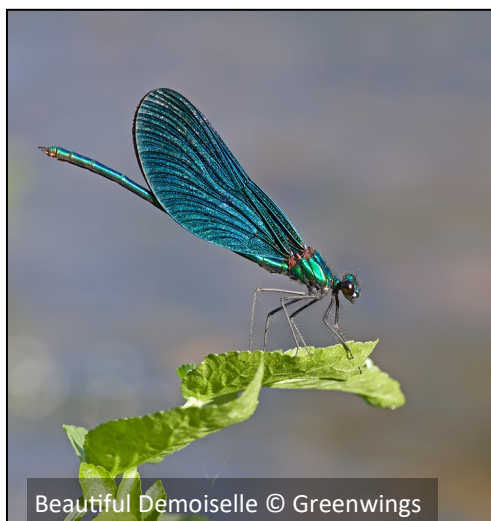
Balkan Marbled White © Helen B

tallic red and green stripes. Back in the harbour, there was plenty to look at in the water too with crabs feeding on the surface where a patch of seagrass held them aloft and lots of small fish, sea anemones and sea urchins just beyond the harbour wall.

We were soon eating lunch at a delightful restaurant on the waterfront which offered us a selection of delicious local dishes to enjoy before travelled on. Our journey took us along the coast road to Antirrio. Unfortunately, the rain set in while we were on the road and the views of the other side of the Gulf of Corinth were masked by low cloud but the sea still looked an amazing blue-green. We crossed the spectacular Rio-Antirrio suspension bridge over the Gulf and turned back towards Athens taking a turn off the new motorway at Diakopto. By now, the sun had begun to shine again and we were determined to make an impromptu stop to make the most of it.

Stop 2. We'd not long turned onto the Kalavryta road when we saw a suitable spot beside a river where some orchards came down to the road. Here we found Holly Blue, Speckled Wood and Southern White Admiral butterflies as well as Beautiful Demoiselle and White-legged Damselflies (ssp. *nitidula*). There were some impressively large Weevils as well and David spotted a Short-Toed Eagle take off from a nearby tree and soar overhead. Our legs suitably stretched, we decided to move on up the mountain to another good butterfly spot while the weather allowed.

Stop 3. Our next stop was a small meadow surrounded by woodland with a small spring running through it to the river below. As we pulled in a large butterfly soared effortlessly over the vans at high speed and quite a height. Julian leapt from the vehicle with a shout of "Cambì" but the Camberwell Beauty was almost out of sight. It made a few brief appearances at great height overhead but didn't come so close again. Nonetheless, we soon had plenty more to look at including Brown Argus, Common and Chapman's Blues, Small Skipper and Balkan Marbled White.



Beautiful Demoiselle © Greenwings



White-legged Demoiselle © Greenwings

Helen found the beautiful brown form female Meleager's Blue which Mark almost ran to capture a photograph of. Unfortunately, it flew off before he could manage it but there were still more lovely butterflies to be found here including Lattice Brown, Wood White, Hungarian Skipper, Painted Lady, Ilex Hairstreak, a beautiful male Grecian Copper, Large Wall and Freyer's Grayling. Tim also found a lovely Silver Washed Fritillary and Judith came across a Greek Stream Frog.

Eventually it was time to get back in the vehicles for the last leg of the trip which was punctuated only by a brief stop at a roadside kiosk to buy some delicious locally grown cherries. We arrived in Kalavryta in the

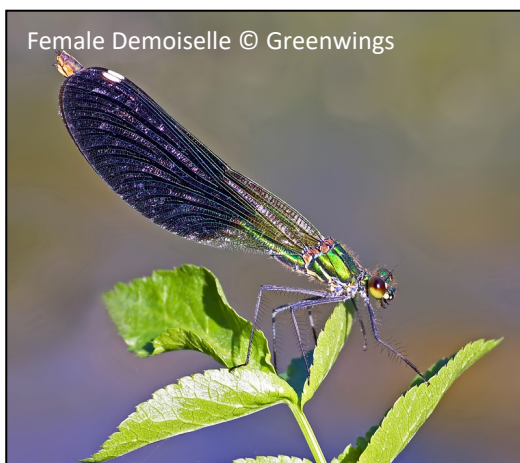
early evening and had time to settle in before taking a walk around the town and heading to dinner in a Pizzeria near the town square.

Day 5, Wednesday 27th June

Stop 1. Another morning of unseasonably wet weather greeted us and we decided to head back towards the coast in the hope of getting out of it. We took a circuitous route via the small village of Plataniotissa where a huge and ancient hollow Plane tree has become the local church. There was little wildlife to see in the downpour but the magnificent church in a tree was definitely worth the detour.

Stop 2. Reaching the coast, we visited the bottom of the Vouraikos Gorge and set up a bait in the hope of attracting Two-Tailed Pashas. The rain did not let up though and while we saw a few Banded Demoiselle and Judith spotted a freshwater crab, we soon headed into Diakopto in search of a coffee shop to warm up and wait out the worst of the storm.

Suitably refreshed, a few members of the group decided that they would like to take the famous and rather wonderful rack and pinion train back up the gorge to Kalavryta. Having checked the timetable, we gave them their packed lunches and sent them on their way, promising to wave as they passed us as we were heading back to the gorge.



Female Demoiselle © Greenwings



Giant Peacock Moth larva © Alice H

The remainder of our group returned to the impressive gorge just as the rain abated, so we ate our lunches, supplemented with some lovely local sunflower seed breadsticks from a bakery in town. A number of Lattice Browns were spotted flying around the trees and a wander yielded Eastern Bath White and Southern Small White. It was a good start! Banded Demoiselles were still there in numbers and a couple of White-legged Damselflies were found too while a Common Kestrel's calls echoed through the valley from above us. Probably the most intriguing find was the utterly enormous green caterpillar of the Giant Peacock Moth, Europe's largest moth. It was not difficult to appreciate how large the moth would be when it emerged as its larva here was easily 4-5 inches long, feeding happily in a Blackthorn bush. We all got good photos and were able to admire the bright blue spots from which sprouted coarse looking black hairs.

Stop 3. Heading back up the mountain we stopped once more at the spring in the woods that we had visited the day before. The rain had stopped and although the sun wasn't quite out there were butterflies about as well as Cetti's Warbler loudly declaring its presence from the trees nearby. Alice saw a frog jump into the undergrowth and was looking for it when she became a model of a new species, a Woodland Grayling which had landed on her arm and sat nicely for people to photograph there. A Silver-washed Fritillary was found in the higher section of meadow along with a Long-tailed Blue while Brown Argus, Holly

Blue and Wood White were seen lower down. There was soon a call from the roadside that a new species had been found in a clearing a few yards further on and so we carefully walked down the road to find it. On the way we found a lovely male Meleager's Blue and in the clearing, we were greeted by a lovely Grecian Anomalous Blue perched atop a plant and quite happy to be photographed by one and all.



Stop 4. We found a sunny spot just off the Cave of the Lakes road and pulled in to explore some local meadows, passing the WW2 memorial en route. A nightingale sang here and just outside the buses a patch of mint was covered in Common and Chapman's Blues and Brown Argus. It was a really good site. On the other side of the track, a Great Banded Grayling basked on a rock and a Lattice Brown rested on a Mullein leaf, allowing good views of its lovely eye-spot patterning. *Acanthus spinosus* was in good flower here as were a number of slender Larkspur stems, so we had colourful interesting plants and butterflies. Small Skipper, Meadow Brown and Clouded Yellow fluttered around the flowers in the meadow and a lone Hermit was found soaking up the sun on a small stone at the top of a steep bank. Other butterflies found in the meadow were Balkan Marbled White as well as Small Heath and both Anomalous and Ripart's Anomalous Blues.

Suitably content that we had found butterflies despite the soggy start to the day we made our way back down the mountain and enjoyed a lovely dinner at a traditional restaurant around the corner from our comfortable hotel.

Day 6, Thursday 28th June Stop 1.

With the weather looking clearer today, we set off for the Chelmos ski centre. Upon arrival the cloud was back but we made the decision to venture out for a few minutes to see whether any butterflies could be found settled in the long grass before dropping down into the small town of Kleitoria for a coffee.

Stop 2. It wasn't long before the sun broke through and suitably refuelled from our coffee stop, we set out uphill once more. We had barely left the small town when we made our first stop beside the road at a scrubby meadow. Immediately beside the buses was a patch of brambles which bore both Small White and Southern Small White plus a couple of slightly worn Common Blues. There was fennel growing in the verge too and closer inspection of the plants yielded several Swallowtail caterpillars at different stages of development. Alison also came across a Sage Skipper nectaring on the flower of a Spanish Oysterplant.

Climbing the bank there were plenty more butterflies to be found including Great Banded Grayling, Brown Argus, Small Copper, Wall Brown and Southern White Admiral. A Large White fluttered past along with an Eastern Bath White and several Clouded Yellows followed suit. Overhead a Kestrel was making rather a commotion and looking up we found it to be mobbing a juvenile Golden Eagle directly above us.

Tim found a Weasel hunting around a stone pile in one corner of the meadow and popping up, “whack-a-mole” style every few moments to keep an eye on him. Further up the bank, an Anomalous Blue was found along with Spotted Fritillary, a slightly worn Grecian Copper and several Long-Tailed Blues. A gorgeous Scarce Swallowtail also flew through, pausing to feed on a lovely blue Eryngo and allowing most of the group a good look albeit from a reasonable distance. In a meadow below the road at least two more were spotted egg-laying on Blackthorn bushes. Sue was particularly pleased to find a Spotted Sulphur Moth, now considered



Long-tailed Blue © Kathy F

extinct in the UK but previously limited to the Brecks. Judith meanwhile had found a Four-spotted Moth which was equally striking in its marking



Swallowtail larva © James W

On the way back to the vehicles it was established that the lovely Sage Skipper was still there but sadly had been caught by a yellow Crab Spider which was busily devouring it - such is nature! Julian and Keith went to a lower meadow and were able to add Berger's Clouded Yellow to our growing list. The butterfly never stopped, as is often the case with all forms of Clouded yellow, but the custard yellow colour, very different to the helice form of the Clouded Yellow, gave it away.



Chapman's Blue © Helen B

Stop 3. We moved on to another roadside meadow the other side of Kleitoria for our lunch stop. Here there were a good number of enormous Cardoon thistles and before we had even parked there were cries of “Swallowtail!” as both Common and Scarce Swallowtails were feeding on the huge purple flower heads. A Hummingbird Hawkmoth was also zipping from one to the next while most bore beetles of one sort or another including Rose Chafer, White Spotted Rose Beetle and some more fine weevils.

A Cetti's Warbler called loudly from somewhere below us, enjoying the summer once more, and among the flowers up the bank behind us were Common and Chapman's Blues, Great Banded Grayling and a lovely male Meleager's Blue. One particular Balkan Marbled White was particularly obliging for photographs and another Sage Skipper was found. A few yards up the road Kathy came across a pristine pair of Brown Argus mating, while Sooty Copper, followed swiftly by a Grecian Copper were spotted next to the vehicles.



Stop 4. Having enjoyed our lunch in the sunshine we turned back towards the town and stopped by the river on the outskirts. We walked a short way down a side road following the course of the river and were rewarded with a variety of lovely things. An unusual form of Cleopatra was spotted flying into a bush overhanging the river but by the time we had caught up from our dawdling (enjoying the sun and the birdsong and looking at the plants) it had disappeared into the ether. Not to be disappointed, we carried on and were soon fascinated by a particularly large wasp, *Scolia flavifrons* which was gorging itself on another Cardoon flower. The flower head next to it held a spectacular Violet Carpenter Bee and there were lots of other, smaller insects humming around too. The place was literally buzzing with life and we were soon seeing butterflies with a stunning Silver-washed Fritillary, one of the first to be spotted. There were Odonata here too with both Beautiful and Banded Demoiselles as well as White-legged Damselflies.

A Blackcap sang from the trees over the water and a small flock of Serins flew over. Dropping into a small roadside meadow we came across Sooty Copper, Common Blue, Brown Argus and Spotted Fritillary. A Southern Skimmer Dragonfly hung from a bramble leaf and there was a mass of Dodder, the interesting orangey-yellow parasitic plant that winds itself around other plants. Making our way back towards the vehicles we found Eastern Bath White, a Hummingbird Hawk-moth and Sage Skipper. A large red and black beetle was also found face down in a Cardoon flower. Richard identified it as *Trichodes apiarius*, the Bee-eating Beetle, so named for the larval stage of their lifecycle where they parasitise solitary bees, eating their larvae.

Tim, always on the lookout for things unusual, came across a very



uncommon lizard behind the small spring, the Greek *Alygyroides* which is endemic to the Peloponnese and a few outlying islands. Up a dry track nearby there was another Sage Skipper as well as both Meadow and Oriental Meadow Browns. A new Dragonfly was also found, a lovely yellow Small Pincertail.



Stop 5. Moving on once more we headed to Ladonas Springs for our last stop of the day, where we hoped to find the endemic Greek Goldenring Dragonfly. Indeed, we were barely out of the vehicles when the first specimen was spotted. There were several patrolling the waters here and Kathy even photographed one ovipositing in the calmer water at the edge of the main torrent. This was a species both Richard and Tim were really pleased to see, and with the lovely bold bright yellow and black colouration that the species displays, it was easy to see why.

Several exuviae were found and collected from the smaller Spectre dragonflies which were present. Lots of Beautiful Demoiselles were also seen, taking a liking to those wearing hats as a novel perch. Alison and David even sported a matching pair for a moment! The dragonflies were not the only interest here as there were good butterflies with Sooty Copper and Mallow Skipper, as well as wonderfully shiny metallic green Mint Leaf Beetles and some lovely Long-horn Beetles. Thus, well and truly satisfied with a good day's entomology, botany and ornithology we set out back to our hotel in Delphi in time to get ready for another pleasant evening at a local restaurant.



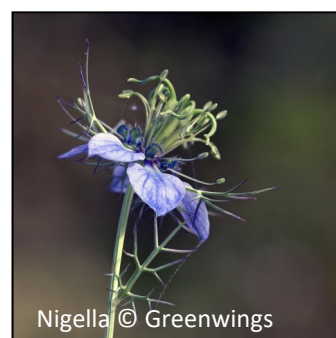
Day 7, Friday 29th June

The day dawned sunny with just the odd cloud in the sky. Setting off after breakfast we found that once again the mountain top was in cloud but as there was so much blue sky elsewhere we were confident that with a little time it would burn off.

Stop 1. We continued down towards the Cave of the Lakes to the roadside meadows we had stopped in on Wednesday evening. Once again, the patch of mint next to the buses was covered in butterflies. Brown Argus were most numerous with a couple of Common Blues joining them. A Cirl Bunting sang from a telegraph wire overhead while a Hoopoe called nearby. Great Banded Grayling and Lattice Brown flew overhead and Meadow Browns fluttered through the long grasses around us.

This morning, rather than scramble up the bank to the meadow above us we chose to walk on down the track to see what lay in wait in the fields beyond. We rounded the first corner and found the day's first new butterfly of the trip sitting on a rusty fence wire, a Purple Hairstreak. Ripart's Anomalous Blue was next to be found and in a small, stony field Clouded Yellows flitted about while an Eastern Bath White and Balkan Marbled White fed on Cardoon flowers.

There were other lovely flowers here. Among them were Corncockle and Larkspur, Common Poppies and Love-in-a-Mist. With abundant nectar, the area was a magnet for butterflies. Small Skippers were plentiful here and in another meadow, as were Mallow Skippers and Hermits, the latter seeming to prefer the Cardoons. An Anomalous Blue was found and Southern Grayling along with Chapman's Blue, Small Heath and Zephyr Blue. The Hoopoe called throughout but didn't make an appearance though a Sardinian Warbler did and so too did a large mixed flock of goats and sheep which were being moved through the meadows.



Turning to make our way back to the vehicles a few of the group had a lovely clear view of a Southern White Admiral basking in the lower branches of a Spiny Pear tree. Just beyond, we came across a huge and beautifully marked adult Antlion. As we were climbing into the vehicles another new species to the trip, a Sloe Hairstreak, was found on that notorious patch of mint by our parking spot.

Stop 2. Retracing our steps, we headed uphill once more towards the Chelmos ski centre. It was still not quite as bright as it could be and so we continued on into the Valley of the Styx and found a lovely spot where a track led along the mountainside through meadows and rough scrub. The butterflies here were numerous and there were plenty of other things to see too. We began with a Large Skipper, another new species for the trip, and followed soon after with a rather unhappy Black-Veined White which Alice moved off the path and onto a flower with the hope it might recover. There was soon a call from that Chequered Blue had been spotted in the meadow over the rise and so we quickened our pace. Unfortunately it had gone by the time we got there but there were Spotted Fritillaries and Clouded Yellows bombing all over the place in the heat of the morning and along with them, Common and Chapman's Blues, Brown Argus, Balkan Marbled White and Large White. There was lots of wild Oregano in flower here which the butterflies were particularly enjoying as a nectar source.

A little further along a newly emerge Cicada was found, still green and soft with its exuvium beneath it on the grass stem it had chosen. This colour quickly changes to brown. Nearby a pair of mating Great Banded Graylings were found while a Southern White Admiral flew overhead. There were at least two species of Burnet moth visiting the Oregano flowers here too.

On the track, a male Turquoise Blue posed nicely for the group to get photographs and a short way further on a Meleager's Blue was spotted which would be the first of many with a mating pair found later too. There were several Ripart's Anomalous Blues nectaring on the fluffy white *Teucrium polium* growing down the middle of the track and a Grecian Anomalous Blue was spotted too. There was also a Greek Goldenring Dragonfly which seemed rather bizarre with no sign of any water nearby. Reaching the end of the track we had lovely views of a female Silver-washed Fritillary and on the way back to the vehicles, we found a male of the species as well.



Ripart's Anomalous Blue © Judith W



Turquoise Blue © Greenwings

We had lunch by the vehicles before moving back up the mountain. On the way, a snake crossed the road in front of us, so we stopped for a closer look but it slithered beneath a bush so we were unable to identify it.

Stop 3. Our next stop was the first of 3 at consecutively higher altitudes to look for Chelmos and Odd-spot Blues. We stopped beside the road and walked up a rough track to a gully where a lovely clump of Narrow Leaved Valerian grew among scree. Ripart's Anomalous Blue was found nearby while higher up a Mountain Small White fluttered past and landed long enough to be identified. Ravens croned and tumbled overhead and a small-flowered Wild Rose was admired beside the track while a Woodland Grayling did its best to blend in with the rock upon which it sat.

Stop 4. A little further up the mountain we stopped in a damp gully and found a number of Corn Buntings singing from the tops of the shrubby trees there. The butterflies we were hoping for were not to be found but we did see Silver-studded Blue and Oriental Meadow Brown and Dark Green Fritillary, which was seen by some but not all. There was a nice wild cornflower there too, *Centaurea pichleri*. Climbing back into the vans for the next stop, David opted to walk and set off before we did as it wasn't far.

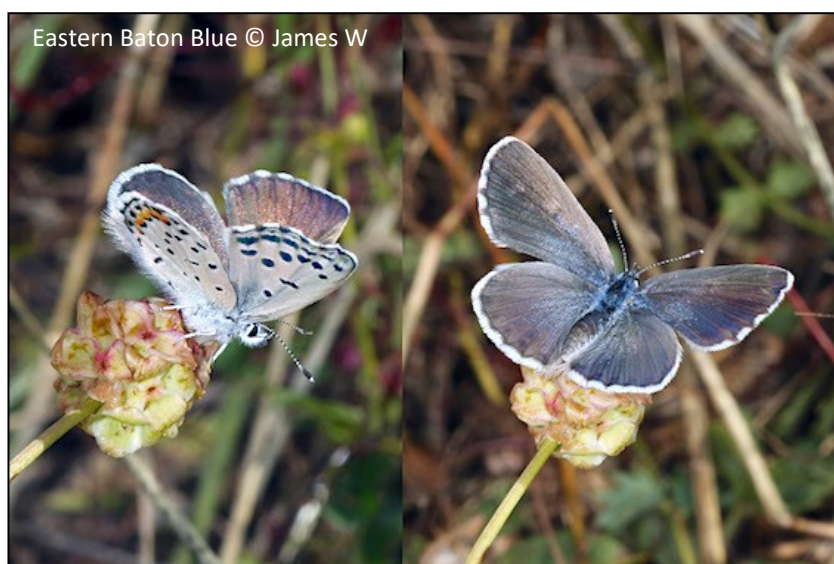
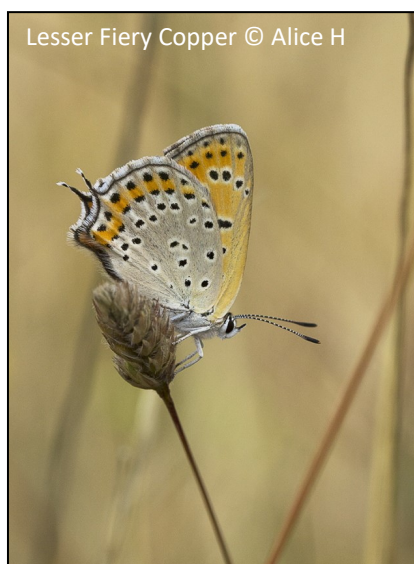
Stop 5. He rejoined us soon after at this rather windy and exposed location but we felt that it was worth exploring as the sun was better here than it had been all week.

We hadn't gone terribly far when another Silver-studded Blue was found. This was the first of 4, and the only butterfly species we found here. There were some lovely large beetles bumbling around though and the flora was very interesting. There were cushions of Thyme, the lovely Scabious, *Ptercephalus perennis* and pink flowered Spiny Thrift, *Ancatholimon echinus* (the food plant of the Odd Spot Blue) studded with sedums sporting both pale pink and yellow clusters of starry flowers. The lower slopes were tufted with endemic low growing, grey leaved Hawthorns, *Crataegus pycnoloba* and there were some lovely pale-yellow endemic Toadflaxes here too, *Linaria peloponneasiaca*.

Stop 6. We began to make our way back down towards Kalavryta and made an impromptu stop in a promising looking glade where *Lathyrus grandiflorus* and *Ornithogalum narbonense* were flowering. There were Meadow Browns and a couple of Blues flying about but it wasn't quite what we were looking for and so we moved on.

Stop 7. Our next area was another roadside meadow with a track through it where we had superb views of another male Red-backed Shrike on top of a low growing shrub. Butterflies seen here included Balkan Marbled White, Clouded Yellow and Common Blue. Having photographed a Cicada which sat nicely for everyone on the wooden post, we continued our journey.

Stop 8. Our final stop of the day was only a short distance from the last. Here we scrambled down a steep bank to get to a good meadow. Those who stayed at the top didn't miss out though and saw a number of species including an Eastern Baton Blue, found by David. In the meadow below there were several lovely bright green lizards though none stuck around long enough to be examined for identification purposes. There were lots of butterflies including Brown Argus, Painted Lady and Hermit. One Small Heath defied its name a little by being rather larger than normal and Kathy excelled by finding a stunning female Lesser Fiery Copper.



It was soon time to wend our way back down the mountain but our wildlife viewing was not quite over yet as a pair of Short Toed Eagles was spotted circling overhead as we drove down the last stretch towards Kalavryta and a very small Herman's Tortoise crossed the road by the path to the memorial. We spent our last evening at a lovely restaurant watching the sun set over the gorge below us and eating delicious home cooked food. It was a lovely way to spend the evening before our homeward journey the next day.

Day 8, Saturday 30th June

Stop 1. After saying our goodbyes to Keith who was staying on for a bit we headed back down to the bottom of the gorge at Diakopto and laid out our bait once more. Within moments there were Two-tailed Pashas dropping in to feast on the fermenting fruit.

In addition to the Pashas we also saw Berger's Clouded Yellow, Holly Blue, Pygmy Skipper (our only one of the trip) and both Freyer's and Woodland Graylings. There were quite a few dragonflies and damselflies around today too, plus numerous frogs on the edge of the river and several fine male Peloponnese Wall Lizards showing off their vibrant orange throats. We were also able to show the Giant Peacock Moth caterpillar to those who had taken the train up the mountain earlier in the week. We discovered that there were in fact two in the same bush. How we had missed the second which was a similar size to the first, we will never know! After a wonderful time pottering around in the sunshine, we set off towards Athens for the last leg of our journey and flight home to the UK.

Stop 2. We ate lunch at the Corinth Canal and took in the staggering engineering which had been dug by hand. Here we watched a pair of Lesser Kestrel flying back and forth over the dry meadow at the top of the deep channel before leaving for the final leg of our journey to the airport.

Footnote: A total of 79 butterfly species were seen during a very enjoyable week, albeit under very unseasonable weather conditions in this part of Greece.

Greenwings would like to thank all their guests on this trip for their good humour and for their enthusiasm throughout, as well as their help in compiling species lists and the use of their photos in the report. Special thanks also must go to Richard, for his incomparable identification skills, good humour and professionalism throughout, and to Alice, for her guiding and encouragement also.



Pasha © Mark O



Peloponnese Wall Lizard © James W

Species lists and photo gallery overleaf

	S. Greece species checklist 23 - 30 June 2018		23 Jun	24 Jun	25 Jun	26 Jun	27 Jun	28 Jun	29 Jun	30 Jun
	Butterflies		day 1	day 2	day 3	day 4	day 5	day 6	day 7	day 8
	Common name	Scientific								
	Apollos, Swallowtails	Family Papilionidae								
1	Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>	✓					✓		✓
2	Scarce Swallowtail	<i>Iphiclidides podalirius</i>			✓			✓	✓	✓
3	Clouded Apollo	<i>Parnassius mnemosyne</i>		✓						
	Whites and Yellows	Family Pieridae								
4	Black-veined White	<i>Aporia crataegi</i>		✓					✓	
5	Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>		✓	✓			✓	✓	
6	Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>			✓	✓		✓		
7	Southern Small White	<i>Pieris mannii</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
8	Mountain Small White	<i>Pieris ergane</i>							✓	
9	Eastern Bath White	<i>Pontia edusa</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
10	Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias crocea</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
11	Greek Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias aurorinia</i>		✓						
12	Berger's Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias alfacariensis</i>						✓		✓
13	Wood White	<i>Leptidea sinapis</i>		✓		✓	✓		✓	
	Blues, Coppers, Hairstreaks	Family Lycaenidae								
14	Purple Hairstreak	<i>Neozephyrus quercus</i>							✓	
15	Ilex Hairstreak	<i>Satyrrium ilicis</i>			✓	✓		✓	✓	
16	Sloe Hairstreak	<i>Satyrrium acaciae</i>							✓	
17	Blue Spot Hairstreak	<i>Satyrrium spini</i>			✓					
18	Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>						✓		✓
19	Grecian Copper	<i>Lycaena ottomana</i>				✓		✓	✓	
20	Sooty Copper	<i>Lycaena tityrus</i>						✓		
21	Lesser Fiery Copper	<i>Lycaena thersamon</i>							✓	
22	Long-tailed Blue	<i>Lampides boeticus</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓	
23	Holly Blue	<i>Celastina argiolus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
24	Eastern Baton Blue	<i>Pseudophilotes vicrama</i>							✓	
25	Grass Jewel	<i>Chilades trochilus</i>		✓	✓					
26	Eastern Zephyr Blue	<i>Plebejus sepphirus</i>		✓	✓					
27	Silver Studded Blue	<i>Plebejus argus</i>		✓					✓	
28	Idas Blue	<i>Plebejus idas</i>		✓						
29	Brown Argus	<i>Aricia agestis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
30	Blue Argus	<i>Ultraaricia anteros</i>		✓						
31	Ripart's Anomalous Blue	<i>Polyommatus ripartii</i>			✓		✓		✓	
32	Grecian Anomalous Blue	<i>Polyommatus aroaniensis</i>					✓		✓	
33	Anomalous Blue	<i>Polyommatus admetus</i>					✓	✓	✓	
34	Escher's Blue	<i>P. escheri ssp. dalmatica</i>		✓						
35	Chapman's Blue	<i>Polyommatus thersites</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	
36	Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
37	Amanda's Blue	<i>Polyommatus amandus</i>		✓						
38	Turquoise Blue	<i>Polyommatus dorylas</i>							✓	
39	Adonis Blue	<i>Polyommatus bellargus</i>		✓						
40	Meleager's Blue	<i>Polyommatus daphnis</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
41	Geranium Bronze	<i>Cecyreuus marshalli</i>			✓					

	<i>Butterflies cont'd</i>		Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8
	Aristocrats and Browns	Family Nymphalidae								
42	Two-tailed Pasha	<i>Charaxes jasius</i>								✓
43	Southern White Admiral	<i>Limenitis reducta</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
44	Camberwell Beauty	<i>Nymphalis antiopa</i>				✓				
45	Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
46	Southern Comma	<i>Polygonia egea</i>			✓					
47	Silver-washed Fritillary	<i>Argynnis paphia</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	
48	Dark Green Fritillary	<i>Argynnis aglaja</i>		✓					✓	
49	Niobe Fritillary	<i>Argynnis niobe</i>		✓						
50	Queen of Spain Fritillary	<i>Issoria lathonia</i>		✓						
51	Spotted Fritillary	<i>Melitaea didyma</i>						✓	✓	
52	Heath Fritillary	<i>Melitaea athalia</i>		✓						
53	Marbled White	<i>Melanargia galathea</i>		✓	✓					
54	Balkan Marbled White	<i>Melanargia larissa</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
55	Freyer's Grayling	<i>Neohipparchia fatua</i>			✓	✓				✓
56	Woodland Grayling	<i>Hipparchia fagi</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓
57	Grayling species	<i>Hipparchia sp.</i>			✓				✓	
58	Great Sooty Satyr	<i>Satyrus ferula</i>			✓					
59	Great Banded Grayling	<i>Brintesia circe</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓	
60	Hermit	<i>Chazara bruis</i>					✓		✓	
61	Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
62	Dusky Meadow Brown	<i>Hyponephele lycaon</i>							✓	
63	Oriental Meadow Brown	<i>Hyponephele lupina</i>					✓			
64	Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>				✓		✓		
65	Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
66	Large Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata maera</i>		✓	✓	✓				
67	Lattice Brown	<i>Kirinia roxelana</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	
68	Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
	Skippers	Family Hesperiidae								
69	Hungarian Skipper	<i>Spialia orbifer</i>		✓		✓			✓	
70	Sage Skipper	<i>Muschampia proto</i>						✓	✓	
71	Olive Skipper	<i>Pyrgus serratulae</i>		✓						
72	Mallow Skipper	<i>Carcharodus alcaea</i>			✓			✓	✓	
73	Marbled Skipper	<i>Carcharodus lavatherae</i>		✓						
74	Oriental Marbled Skipper	<i>Carcharodus orientalis</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓	
75	Oberthur's Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus armoricus</i>		✓						
76	Essex Skipper	<i>Thymelicus lineola</i>		✓						
77	Small Skipper	<i>Thymelicus sylvestris</i>		✓		✓	✓		✓	
78	Large Skipper	<i>Ochlodes sylvanus</i>							✓	
79	Pigmy Skipper	<i>Genes pumilio</i>								✓

Burnets & notable moths										
	Common name	Scientific								
1	Transparent Burnet	<i>Zygaena purpuralis</i>		✓						
2	Burnet species	<i>Zygaena sp.</i>							✓	
3	A Forester	<i>Jordanita budensis</i>		✓						
4	Hummingbird Hawk-moth	<i>Macroglossum stellatarum</i>		✓				✓	✓	
5	Narrow Bordered Bee Hawk-moth	<i>Hemaris tityus</i>		✓						
6	Jersey Tiger	<i>Euplagia quadripunctaria</i>					✓			
7	Spotted Sulphur	<i>Acontia trabealis</i>						✓		
8	Four Spotted Moth	<i>Tyta luctuosa</i>						✓		
9	A Burnet Moth	<i>Zygaena ephialtes</i>							✓	
10	Giant Peacock Moth (caterpillar)	<i>Saturnia pyri</i>					✓			✓

Dragonflies			day 1	day 2	day 3	day 4	day 5	day 6	day 7	day 8
1	Greek Goldenring	<i>Cordulegaster helladica</i>						✓	✓	
2	Beautiful Demoiselle	<i>Calopteryx virgo</i>				✓		✓		
3	Southern Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum brenneum</i>						✓		
4	White-legged Damselfly	<i>Platynemesis pennipes</i>				✓	✓	✓		
5	Banded Demoiselle	<i>Calopteryx splendens</i>					✓	✓		
6	Eastern Spectre	<i>Calieschna microstigma</i>						✓		
7	Emperor	<i>Anax imperator</i>						✓		
8	Small Pincertail	<i>Onychogomphus forcipatus</i>						✓		
9	Southern Darter	<i>Sympetrum meridionale</i>							✓	

Other notable insects & arachnids			day 1	day 2	day 3	day 4	day 5	day 6	day 7	day 8
1	Thread-winged Lacewing	<i>Nemoptera sinuata</i>			✓					
2	Rose Chafer	<i>Cetonia aurata</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
3	Praying mantis	<i>Mantis religiosa</i>					✓			✓
4	Antlion species			✓	✓		✓		✓	
5	Robberfly species			✓	✓					
6	Egyptian Grasshopper	<i>Anacridium aegyptium</i>		✓						
7	White-spotted Rose Chafer	<i>Oxythyrea funesta</i>		✓	✓					
8	Mammoth Wasp	<i>Megascolia flavifrons</i>						✓		
9	Bee-eating Beetle	<i>Trichodes apiarius</i>						✓		
10	Greek Predatory Bush Cricket	<i>Saga hellenica</i>			✓					
11	Mediterranean Shieldbug	<i>Carpocoris mediterraneus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
12	Violet Carpenter Bee	<i>Xyloscopa violacea</i>			✓			✓	✓	
13	Large Weevil species	<i>Lixus sp.</i>				✓		✓		
14	Field Cricket	<i>Gryllus campestris</i>		✓						
15	Lobed Orb-Weaver	<i>Argiope lobata</i>				✓				
16	Jumping Spider	<i>Pellenes moreana</i>		✓						
17	Jumping Spider	<i>Heliophanus melinus</i>		✓						
18	Jumping Spider	<i>Phlegra fasciata</i>		✓	✓					
19	Jumping Spider	<i>Habrocestum graecum</i>					✓			
20	Jumping Spider	<i>Philaeus chrysops</i>		✓					✓	
21	Camel Spider						✓			

Amphibians & Reptiles			day 1	day 2	day 3	day 4	day 5	day 6	day 7	day 8
1	Peloponnese Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis peloponnesiaca</i>								✓
2	Erhard's Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis erhardii</i>		✓						
3	Greek Algyroides	<i>Algyroides moreoticus</i>						✓		
4	Kotschy's Gecko	<i>Mediodactylus kotschy</i>			✓					
5	Greek Stream Frog	<i>Rana graecum</i>				✓	✓			
6	Marginated Tortoise	<i>Testudo marginata</i>				✓				
7	Hermann's Tortoise	<i>Testudo hermanni</i>							✓	

Birds seen or heard throughout the week			Birds cont'd.		
1	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	11	Rock Nuthatch	<i>Sitta neumayer</i>
2	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	12	Sardinian Warbler	<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>
3	Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Cecropis daurica</i>	13	Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>
4	House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	14	Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>
5	Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>	15	Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>
6	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>	16	Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>
7	Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>	17	Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>
8	Black-eared Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe hispanica</i>	18	Linnet	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>
9	Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius colluria</i>	19	Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>
10	Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>	20	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>

<i>Birds cont'd</i>			<i>Birds cont'd</i>		
21	Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirius</i>	30	Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>
22	Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	31	Black Redstart	<i>Upupa epops</i>
23	European Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	32	Woodlark	<i>Buteo buteo</i>
24	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	33	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>
25	Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>	34	Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Circetus gallicus</i>
26	Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	35	Nightingale	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>
27	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	36	Raven	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>
28	Short-Toed Eagle	<i>Circetus gallicus</i>	37	Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>
29	White Stork	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>			

Notable flowers & plants seen			<i>Notable flowers & plants cont'd</i>		
1	Grecian Fir	<i>Abies cephalonica</i>	34	Golden Drops	<i>Onosma erecta</i>
2	Italian Cypress	<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>	35	Pale Bugloss	<i>Echium italicum</i>
3	Joint Pine	<i>Ephedra sp.</i>	36	Chaste Tree	<i>Vitex agnus-castus</i>
4	Kermes Oak	<i>Quercus coccifera</i>	37	Vervain	<i>Verbena officinalis</i>
5	Downy Oak	<i>Quercus pubescens</i>	38	Ground Pine	<i>Ajuga chamaepitys</i>
6	Pellitory of the Wall	<i>Parietaria judaica</i>	39	Felty Germander	<i>Teucrium polium</i>
7	Herniaria	<i>Herniaria cinerea</i>	40	Jerusalem Sage	<i>Phlomis fruticosa</i>
8	Carthusian Pink	<i>Dianthus carthusianorum</i>	41	Cut-leaved Self-Heal	<i>Prunella laciniata</i>
9	Traveller's Joy	<i>Clematis vitalba</i>	42	Marjoram	<i>Origanum vulgare</i>
10	Love-in-a-Mist	<i>Nigella damascena</i>	43	Rosemary	<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>
11	Violet Larkspur	<i>Delphinium peregrinum</i>	44	Wild Clary	<i>Salvia Verbenaca</i>
12	Caper	<i>Capparis spinosa</i>	45	Mullein species	<i>Verbascum sp.</i>
13	Stonecrop species	<i>Sedum sp.</i>	46	Peloponnese Toadflax	<i>Linaria peloponnesiacum</i>
14	Oriental Plane	<i>Platanus orientalis</i>	47	A Foxglove	<i>Digitalis lanata</i>
15	Spiny Pear	<i>Pyrus amygdaliformis</i>	48	Spiny Bear's Breech	<i>Acanthus spinosus</i>
16	A Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus pycnoloba</i>	49	Narrow-leaved Valerian	<i>Centranthus angustifolius</i>
17	Spanish Broom	<i>Spartium junceum</i>	50	Cushion Scabious	<i>Pterocephalus perennis</i>
18	Pitch Trefoil	<i>Psoralea bituminosa</i>	51	A Bellflower	<i>Campanula sparsa</i>
19	Two-flowered Everlasting Pea	<i>Lathyrus grandiflorus</i>	52	A Bellflower	<i>Campanula topaliana ssp. delphica</i>
20	Spiny Restharrow	<i>Ononis campestris</i>	53	A Bellflower	<i>Asyneuma limonifolium</i>
21	Broad-leaved Glaucous Spurge	<i>Euphorbia myrsinites</i>	54	Southern Daisy	<i>Bellis sylvestris</i>
22	A Mallow	<i>Althaea pallida</i>	55	Phagnalon	<i>Phagnalon graecum</i>
23	A Daphne	<i>Daphne jasminea</i>	56	Globe Thistle	<i>Echinops sphaerocephalus</i>
24	Squirting Cucumber	<i>Echballium elaterium</i>	57	Spanish Oysterplant	<i>Scolymus hispanicus</i>
25	Prickly Pear	<i>Opuntia ficus-indica</i>	58	A Cornflower	<i>Centaruea pichleri</i>
26	Pomegranate	<i>Punica granatum</i>	59	Hollow-leaved Asphodel	<i>Asphodelus fistulosus</i>
27	Small-Headed Blue Eryngo	<i>Eryngium creticum</i>	60	A Star of Bethlehem	<i>Ornithogalum narbonense</i>
28	Field Eryngo	<i>Eryngium campestre</i>	61	Round-headed Leek	<i>Allium sphaerocephalon</i>
29	Spiny Thrift	<i>Acantholimon echinus</i>	62	Broad-leaved Helleborine	<i>Epipactis helleborine</i>
30	Oleander	<i>Nerium oleander</i>	63	Red Helleborine	<i>Cephalanthera rubra</i>
31	Lady's Bedstraw	<i>Galium verum</i>	64	Pyramidal Orchid	<i>Anacamptis pyramidalis</i>
32	Dodder	<i>Cuscuta palaestina</i>	65	Maidenhair Fern	<i>Adiantum capillus-veneris</i>
33	Heliotrope	<i>Heliotropium europaeum</i>	66	Ceterach	<i>Ceterach officinarum</i>

Oriental Meadow Brown © Mark O



Silver-studded Blue © Kathy F







Mallow Skipper © Helen B



Oriental Marbled Skipper © Helen B





Heath Fritillary © Kathy F



Olive Skipper © Kathy F



Sage Skipper © Helen B



Turquoise Blue © Greenwings

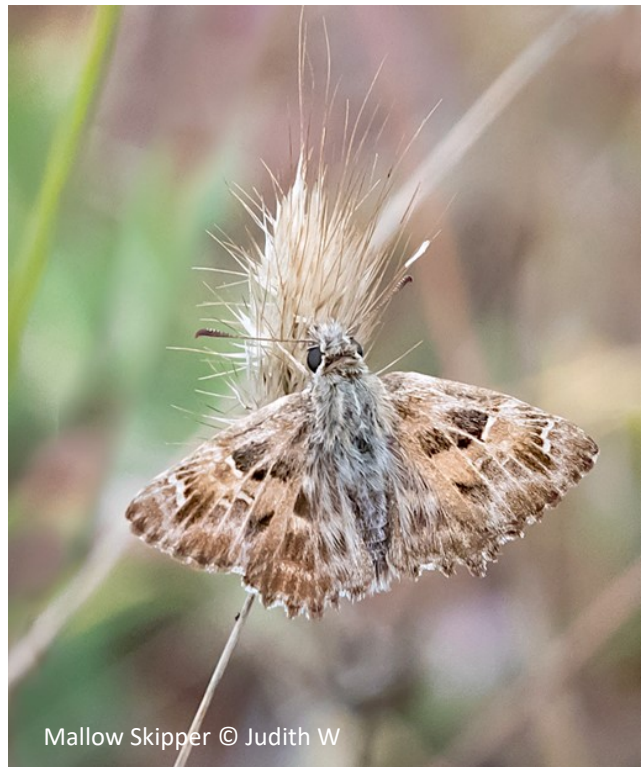


Geranium Bronze © James W





Meleager's Blues © Mark O



Mallow Skipper © Judith W



Grass Jewel © James W



Grass Jewel © Judith W



Owlfly © Helen B

