

Mercantour & Queyras Butterfly Tour
6 - 13 July 2019
Led by David Moore



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Holiday Report 6 – 13 July

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Introduction

This butterfly holiday was based in two locations; the Tinée valley in the heart of the Mercantour National Park and the area around Vars, on the edge of the Queyras region. The holiday was led by David Moore. We stayed at hotels in the village of Rimplas for the first part of the week before moving on to Vars for the rest of the trip. The guests joining us were Kirsty & Jonathan, Neil & Janet, Ralph & Claudette and Robert.

What follows is a daily diary for the week, followed by gallery and species lists.

Day 1, Saturday 6 July: Arrival at Nice airport, transfer to hotel followed by short walk on the forest track in Rimplas.

Day 2, Sunday 7 July: Around Rimplas & Madone de Fenestre

Day 3, Monday 8 July: Col de la Lombarde

Day 4, Tuesday 9 July: St Dalmas le Selvage and on to Vars

Day 5, Wednesday 10 July: Col de Vars & Col de Larche

Day 6, Thursday 11 July: Col d'Agnel

Day 7, Friday 12 July: Col d'Izoard, Fontgillarde & return to Col Agnel

Day 8, Saturday 13 July: Return to UK.



Day 1, Saturday 6 July

All flight arrivals were relatively prompt, meaning the guests were able to get away in good time from Nice airport. After just over an hour, the group had reached the turn off to Rimplas, but seeing that conditions were warm and sunny, the guide decided to stop on a hairpin bend where there is a steep, wooded gully and a large buddleia bush that attracts good numbers of butterflies.

Sure enough, there were plenty flying around, with Silver Washed Fritillaries being the most noticeable. Then, when looking over the other side of the gully, Kirsty immediately spotted a Purple Hairstreak, and the group spent a short while in the unusual position of looking down on this species rather than having to look upwards into the tree canopy!

A Holly Blue was also seen, along with Black Veined White, Cleopatra and Woodland Grayling, amongst others. Stephane, the hotel owner, slowed his car down to wave to us as he passed and the group moved on and were at the Hostellerie du Randonneur in good time to assemble half an hour later for a walk down the fabled forest track behind the hotel.

As ever is the case, there was an impressive range of species along this track, including Red Underwing Skipper, Lulworth Skipper, Escher's Blue, Berger's Clouded Yellow, Bath White, Pearly Heath, Baton Blue, Sloe, Ilex, False Ilex & Blue Spot Hairstreak, Weaver's & Spotted Fritillary, Large Wall & Great Sooty Satyr.

Perhaps the most notable were Southern Comma, Meleager's Blue and Large Tortoiseshell, whilst on the lavender bushes in a garden at the top of the track, Southern Small Whites were very helpfully nectaring beside Small Whites, giving a useful tutorial to all observers as to the differences between the two species.

A welcome first evening meal of the trip was served later on, and the species count was already standing at an impressive 50.

Blue Spot Hairstreak © Ralph & Claudette Moore



Day 2, Sunday 7 July – Rimplas & Madone de Fenestre

The first aim of the day was to ascend to the fort at the top of the village where early rising butterflies take advantage of the east facing slopes. By 9.30am, there was already plenty of activity, with Marbled Whites, Great

Banded Graylings and Wall Browns being particularly noticeable. More Hairstreaks were seen nectaring from the shrubs at the halfway point, whilst nearer the top was an array of valerian-feeding butterflies, including both Swallowtail and Scarce Swallowtail, along with Clouded Yellows, Great Sooty Satyrs and Cleopatras.

Great Sooty Satyr © Robert Chubb



There was renovation work going on at the fort itself, and the guide was concerned that this may have led to the disappearance of the reliable colony of

Dusky Heaths normally found at this location. However, in spite of the disruption to the environment, these delightful butterflies were not to be chased away, and several were seen cavorting around the newly laid wooden tables opposite the fort. On the descent, there were again many butterfly species nectaring from the ornamental lavender bushes, including a Foulquier's Grizzled Skipper, which is not at all common.

By late morning, the group assembled at the minibuses for the hour long drive to Madone de Fenestre, which had been left off this tour's itinerary for the past couple of years due to the state of the road surface leading into it. However, at 1,900m, it is a good site for the more montane species and is also a reliable spot for the rare Balkan Fritillary.

Thankfully, the timing this year for Balkan Fritillary was spot on, and about a dozen were seen flying on a steep bank above the bridge where the vehicles were parked. More interesting species were observed, with Large Blue turning up, along with Tufted Marbled Skipper, Geranium Argus, Mountain Argus, Idas Blue, Titania's & Lesser Marbled Fritillary & Orange Tip.

Titania's Fritillary © Robert Chubb



For many, the first Apollos of the week were the stand-out memory, although Mountain Ringlet was a perhaps more unexpected find, as was Northern Wall Brown.

Upon returning to Rimplas, there was still time for another walk down the forest track, and unsurprisingly given the range of altitudes visited, by the end of Day 2, a fabulous total of 86 species had already been seen.

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Day 3, Monday 8 July – Towards Col de la Lombarde

The weather this morning was ideal for a trek up to the 2,350m Col de la Lombarde on the border with Italy, and after an hour's travelling the group had duly arrived in benign conditions.

Bizarrely, in spite of the sunshine and warmth at this rarefied altitude, butterflies were conspicuous by their absence. There was no sign of Cynthia's Fritillary nor Grison's Fritillary, and the only species seen here were Large Grizzled Skipper, Mazarine Blue, Small Blue, Mountain Clouded Yellow, Common Brassy Ringlet and a few Painted Ladies and Whites.

The only option was to go slightly lower, so a stop was made about 200m down from the col where a far greater number of butterflies were seen. These included the first Darwin's Heaths of the trip, along with a couple of Large Blues and a much sought after Grison's Fritillary.

Descending to a flowery site below the ski-ing village of Isola 2000 proved productive, with increasing numbers of species seen. Scarce Copper was observed for the first time during the trip, along with Green Hairstreak, False Heath Fritillary, Mountain Green Veined White, Large Ringlet and even a rare Clouded Apollo.

Plenty more Apollos were seen flying at this altitude, though few stopped to have their image taken. Mating Almond-Eyed Fritillaries were observed, along with more Scarce Coppers and good numbers of Silver Studded Blues.

Another opportunity to spend late afternoon time on the forest track at the hotel was duly taken, with the pick of the species being White

Scarce Copper © Ralph & Claudette Moore



Letter Hairstreak, which although recorded in the wider Rimplas area, had never been 'ticked off' on the this track before on this trip.

With the first leg of the trip now completed, the tally had reached a nice, even 100 prior to transit day and a spell in the Queyras to come.

Day 4, Tuesday 9 July – St Dalmas le Selvage & transfer to Vars

This proved to be a frustrating day, albeit one that started promisingly. Bright, sunny skies heralded the departure of the group from Rimplas, and an hour later the group arrived at the delightful village of St Dalmas le Selvage with high hopes of notching up several new species in the series of damp, grassy meadows flourishing beside the river in this location.

Sadly, the group had less than an hour to enjoy this spectacle, prior to cloud and light rain moving in. There was excitement right beside the car park as the guide initially believed the lycaenids on the riverbank were Reverdin's Blues, however it was later discovered that these were, in fact, the *calliopsis* form of Idas Blue, which is often encountered lower down in the valleys.

A handful of Apollos, Swallowtails & Chestnut Heaths were recorded before the increasing cloud became light rain, and by the time the group got back to the vans, this rain became torrential, putting paid to any prospect of extending the site visit. With that in mind, it was decided to travel to the next hotel, which itself was made more hazardous by the conditions, although by the time the group were approaching the ski-ing village of Vars, on the border of the Queyras region, a little blue sky had begun to appear, which allowed the group time to explore the grasslands near the ski stations.

These meadows were surprisingly productive, with Idas Blue, Alpine Heath and Silvery Argus all recorded. This meant that in spite of the generally atrocious conditions for much of the day, a further four species had been added to the trip's total, which now stood at 104 with three full days still to come.



Alpine Heath © David Moore

Day 5, Wednesday 10 July, Col de Vars & Col de Larche

The group were, thankfully, greeted by blue skies this morning, and by just gone 9am were on the road for the short drive towards Col de Vars. A quick roadside stop was made to search for Blind Ringlet, but although none were found, there were plenty of Titania's Fritillaries as well as both Almond Eyed and Large Ringlets.

The group duly moved on towards the col, although there was a cross-country race taking place which rather put a dampener on having a quiet morning.



© David Moore

Thankfully, the runners did not interfere with the damp slope leading down towards the lake, and it was here that some interesting butterflies were seen, and in good numbers.

Grison's Fritillary was very common here, often to be found puddling alongside Idas Blue. Damon, Turquoise and Eros Blues were all recorded, and there were plenty of Mountain Clouded Yellows settling on the thistles too. Perhaps the most welcome addition though was Glandon Blue, and good numbers of males were seen all round this damp area although the much sought after Alpine Blue was absent.

The grassy col was rather harder to navigate, being the epicentre of the running event, although Mountain Ringlet was recorded again, along with Scarce Copper, Large Blue, Dark Green Fritillary and Silver Spotted Skipper.



Blind Ringlet © David Moore

Whilst the group were in this area, the guide returned to the morning's first stop and managed to capture a Blind Ringlet, which was duly shown to the guests. This is not a common species in this area and is difficult to separate from the far commoner Almond Eyed Ringlet when in flight, as these species almost always are.

Lunch was taken by the car park on the col, and following a further half hour's searching on the other side of the car park after having eaten, the group moved on to the afternoon destination – Col de Larche.

The journey to Col de Larche was rather unusual in the sense that it didn't involve navigating large

numbers of hairpin bends. So, the group arrived at a car park just below the col in good time to do some exploring.

Again, butterfly numbers weren't spectacular at this altitude site, but Dusky Grizzled Skipper was recorded, whilst the guide, with Robert's help, managed to track down the first Small Apollo of the week, flying in a steep gully next to a fast flowing river. The butterfly was eventually seen by the entire group and was probably the highlight of the day.

The relatively rapid and benign trip back to Vars was most welcome and during the evening count it transpired that 115 species had now been recorded on the trip.

Day 6, Thursday 11 July, Col d'Agnel

This proved to be a rather frustrating day, with a veil of light cloud persisting for most of the morning, taking the edge off the strength of the sun's rays and suppressing temperatures slightly.

At 2,700m, Col d'Agnel is one of the highest in the area, and therefore a location where conditions need to be either ideal or near ideal. The area explored was a couple of hundred metres lower down, near to the refuge, a damp, grassy expanse full of rocky gullies which attracts several desirable montane species.

Dusky grizzled Skippers were about in reasonable numbers, along with the week's first Dewy Ringlets, a real altitude specialist. Accompanying these were both Shepherd's and Mountain



Dewy Ringlet © David Moore

Fritillaries, two closely related species with a penchant for wide open, grassy areas above 2,000m. Another denizen of higher ground seen was Mountain Dappled White, and the coolish conditions meant that this butterfly was not as hyperactive as it normally is, meaning everyone could get a look at it when settled.



Even more surprising was the sighting of a settled Peak White. This species is normally almost permanently airborne but this male visited several flowers whilst the group gathered around to take photographs.

The target species however, Cynthia's Fritillary, was conspicuous by its near absence, with only Neil getting sight of one, and after a couple of hours searching, and the sky becoming more cloudy, it was deemed sensible to drive down to lower altitudes.

A stop at about 2,200m saw Green Hairstreaks and even Marsh Fritillaries flying, proof positive that this was a late season. Large Blue was found in a gully by the roadside, whilst the occasional Apollo drifted by.

A further stop near Fontgillarde saw Damon Blues posing nicely, along with a female Oak Eggar moth, but the cloud would not relent, so the group headed back to Vars, stopping on the way at a spectacular viewpoint commanding wonderful views of the snow-capped Alpine mountains to the north.

The fields below this spot were replete with Tufted Vetch, and given that Amanda's Blue, which uses this plant to lay its eggs on, had not yet been observed on the trip, the group descended and before very long a couple of adults turned up rather satisfyingly.

It had been a difficult day battling with the overcast conditions, but even so four new species had been added for the week.

Day 7, Friday 12 July, Col d'Izoard, Fontgillarde & return to Col d'Agnel

The blue skies this morning were extremely welcome, and by just gone 10am the group had arrived at Col d'Izoard, which is a striking, if rather desolate place, surrounded on all sides by steep, scree slopes.

However, what butterflies there are in this location are of great interest, and it wasn't long before they began to turn up.

The most noticeable species was Peak White, with several using the rocky summit to engage in hilltopping activities. Occasionally, they would alight allowing rare photo opportunities.





False Mnestrá Ringlet
© Ralph & Claudette Moore

Everyone was keeping a close eye out for *erebia* species, and before long the scarce False Mnestrá Ringlet was identified, although there were others that didn't settle long enough for positive identification to be achieved.

Common Brassy Ringlets were flying here, but there was no sign of the elusive Alpine Grayling. However, there was some compensation in the form of a beautiful Alpine Grizzled Skipper, which all of the group were able to observe and photograph.

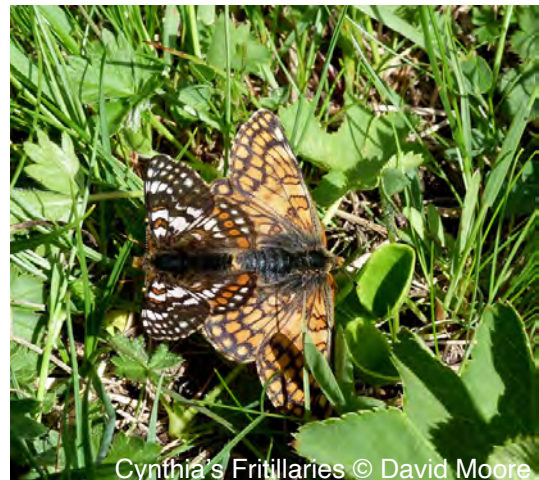
After leaving the col, there were various options for the group, but there was a consensus that there was unfinished business with regard to Cynthia's Fritillary, so it was decided to return towards Col d'Agnel in the hope that some could be found.

On the way, lunch was taken at Fontgillarde, giving everyone the opportunity to see the Small Apollos flying around the river, as well as the many species puddling along the damp edges, most conspicuous of which were Glandon Blue, Grison's Fritillary and Large Ringlet.

Another stop was made en route to the col, and this damp, grassy location eventually yielded Alpine Blue, a highly desirable altitude lycaenid which is never seen in numbers.

Conditions around the refuge at the Cynthia's site were far superior to the previous day's, with the sun no longer obscured by cloud. However, despite splitting up to cover a wider area, there were no Cynthia's Fritillaries found for quite some while until Jonathan spotted one settled amongst the long grasses. Finally, the entire group were able to get a glimpse of this beautiful butterfly, and even better was to follow when Ralph & Claudette managed to locate a mating pair some distance away from the track.

The group spent a good deal of time with this pair as they remained in cop amongst the grass. Normally, this species is reasonably numerous in this location but this year, for some reason, they were extremely thin on the ground.



Cynthia's Fritillaries © David Moore

It was a satisfying end to the trip, and a tribute to the hard work put in by all members of the group.

Day 8, Saturday 13 July, return to Nice Airport

To break up the long journey back to Nice Airport, the group stopped at a damp, grassy site some 5km from Col de la Bonette on the north side. It took little more than an hour to reach it, and there were already plenty of butterflies on the wing even at 10.15am. However, there were no new species that hadn't hitherto been recorded, although after some challenging weather conditions during the earlier part of the week, it was somewhat frustrating to spend an hour in near perfect sunny conditions on departure day!

With business duly done, it was off to the airport, where all guests were safely deposited to

catch their flights after a very satisfying week.

Footnote and acknowledgements

The total number of butterfly species seen was 126, which is highly creditable given the less than ideal weather endured during the week. Practically a full day was lost on the Tuesday, although with this being transit day no major damage was done. Another day was cloudy virtually throughout, and it remains a matter of speculation how many other possible sightings could have been made had conditions been more optimal.

Overall though, most targets were achieved, and with this being a smaller group, communication was better and Greenwings must thank guests for their convivial company. Everybody played a role in maximising returns with regard to species numbers, with some butterflies requiring considerable work to track down!

Once again, both hotels provided excellent bases and good service and very few issues were encountered. Butterfly numbers were still a little lower than one would expect in an average year, but the species range was good, with plenty of the rare and desirable ones located and observed. This region is undoubtedly one of the most productive in Europe and Greenwings remains delighted to give enthusiasts the opportunity to see for themselves the stunning scenery, flora and fauna of this wonderful region.



© David Moore



© David Moore



© Ralph & Claudette Moore



© Ralph & Claudette Moore

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Butterflies			day 1	day 2	day 3	day 4	day 5	day 6	day 7
	Apollos & Swallowtails	Family Papilionidae							
1	Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>	✓	✓	✓				
2	Scarce Swallowtail	<i>Iphiclides podalirius</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓		
3	Apollo	<i>Parnassius apollo</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
4	Small Apollo	<i>Parnassius phoebus</i>					✓		✓
5	Clouded Apollo	<i>Parnassius mnemosyne</i>			✓				
	Whites & Yellows	Family Pieridae							
6	Black-veined White	<i>Aporia crataegi</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
7	Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>			✓		✓	✓	
8	Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
9	Southern small white	<i>Pieris mannii</i>	✓	✓					
10	Mountain Green-veined White	<i>Pieris byroniae</i>			✓			✓	✓
11	Green-veined White	<i>Pieris napi</i>	✓	✓	✓				
12	Bath White	<i>Pontia daplidice</i>	✓	✓	✓				
13	Peak White	<i>Pontia callidice</i>						✓	✓
14	Mountain Dappled White	<i>Euchloe simplonia</i>						✓	✓
15	Orange Tip	<i>Anthocharis cardamines</i>		✓	✓				
16	Mountain Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias phicomone</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓
17	Berger's Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias alfacariensis</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓		
18	Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias crocea</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓		
19	Brimstone	<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>		✓	✓		✓		
20	Cleopatra	<i>Gonepteryx cleopatra</i>	✓	✓	✓				
21	Wood White	<i>Leptidea sinapis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			
	Blues, Coppers & Hairstreaks	Family Lycaenidae							
22	Purple Hairstreak	<i>Quercusia quercus</i>	✓						
23	Sloe Hairstreak	<i>Satyrium acaciae</i>	✓						
24	Ilex Hairstreak	<i>Satyrium ilicis</i>	✓						
25	False Ilex hairstreak	<i>Satyrium esculi</i>	✓	✓					

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26	Blue-spot Hairstreak	<i>Satyrium spini</i>	✓	✓	✓				
27	White-letter Hairstreak	<i>Satyrium w-album</i>			✓				
28	Green Hairstreak	<i>Callophrys rubi</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓
29	Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>		✓	✓				
30	Scarce Copper	<i>Lycaena virgaureae</i>			✓		✓	✓	
31	Sooty Copper	<i>Lycaena tityrus</i>		✓	✓		✓		
32	Purple-shot Copper	<i>Lycaena alciphron</i>	✓	✓	✓				
33	Purple-edged Copper	<i>Lycaena hippothoe</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	
34	Lang's Short-tailed Blue	<i>Leptotes pirithous</i>		✓	✓				
35	Holly Blue	<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>	✓	✓					
36	Small Blue	<i>Cupido minimus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
37	Large Blue	<i>Maculinea arion</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
38	Baton Blue	<i>Pseudophilotes baton</i>	✓						
39	Silver-studded Blue	<i>Plebejus argus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
40	Idas Blue	<i>Plebejus idas</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
41	Geranium Argus	<i>Aricia eumedon</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
42	Brown Argus	<i>Aricia agestis</i>	✓						
43	Mountain Argus	<i>Aricia artaxerxes</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
44	Silvery Argus	<i>Pseudaricia nicias</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓
45	Alpine Blue	<i>Albulina orbitulus</i>							✓
46	Glandon Blue	<i>Agriades glandon</i>					✓	✓	✓
47	Damon Blue	<i>Polyommatus Damon</i>					✓	✓	✓
48	Mazarine Blue	<i>Cyaniris semiargus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
49	Escher's Blue	<i>Polyommatus escheri</i>	✓	✓	✓				
50	Amanda's Blue	<i>Polyommatus amandus</i>						✓	
51	Chapman's Blue	<i>Polyommatus thersites</i>					✓		
52	Turquoise Blue	<i>Polyommatus dorylas</i>		✓	✓		✓		
53	Meleager's Blue	<i>Polyommatus daphnis</i>	✓	✓					
54	Chalk-hill Blue	<i>Polyommatus coridon</i>					✓		
55	Adonis Blue	<i>Polyommatus bellargus</i>	✓	✓	✓				

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56	Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
57	Eros Blue	<i>Polyommatus eros</i>					✓	✓	✓
	Aristocrats and Browns	Family Nymphalidae							
58	Southern White Admiral	<i>Limenitis reducta</i>		✓	✓				
59	Small Tortoiseshell	<i>Aglais urticae</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	
60	Large Tortoiseshell	<i>Nymphalis polychloros</i>	✓		✓				
61	Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>		✓					
62	Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
63	Queen of Spain Fritillary	<i>Issoria lathonia</i>		✓	✓				
64	Comma	<i>Polygonia c-album</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓		
65	Southern Comma	<i>Polygonia egea</i>	✓	✓					
66	Silver-washed Fritillary	<i>Argynnis paphia</i>	✓	✓					
67	Dark Green Fritillary	<i>Argynnis aglaja</i>					✓		
68	High Brown Fritillary	<i>Argynnis adippe</i>		✓					
69	Marbled Fritillary	<i>Brenthis daphne</i>	✓		✓				
70	Lesser Marbled Fritillary	<i>Brenthis ino</i>		✓		✓	✓		
71	Shepherd's Fritillary	<i>Boloria pales</i>						✓	✓
72	Mountain Fritillary	<i>Boloria napaea</i>						✓	✓
73	Balkan Fritillary	<i>Boloria graeca</i>		✓					
74	Titania's Fritillary	<i>Boloria titania</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	
75	Pearl-bordered Fritillary	<i>Boloria euphrosyne</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	
76	Weaver's Fritillary	<i>Boloria dia</i>	✓		✓				
77	Glanville Fritillary	<i>Melitaea cinxia</i>		✓	✓		✓		✓
78	Knapweed Fritillary	<i>Melitaea phoebe</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
79	False Heath Fritillary	<i>Melitaea diamina</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
80	Spotted Fritillary	<i>Melitaea didyma</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
81	Heath Fritillary	<i>Melitaea athalia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
82	Grisons Fritillary	<i>Melitaea varia</i>			✓		✓		✓
83	Meadow Fritillary	<i>Melitaea parthenoides</i>		✓					
84	Cynthia's Fritillary	<i>Euphydryas cynthia</i>						✓	✓

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85	Marsh Fritillary	<i>Euphydryas aurinia</i>							✓
86	Marbled White	<i>Melanargia galathea</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
87	Woodland Grayling	<i>Hipparchia fagi</i>	✓		✓				
88	Great Sooty Satyr	<i>Satyrus ferula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			
89	Great Banded Grayling	<i>Brintesia circe</i>	✓	✓	✓				
90	Arran Brown	<i>Erebia ligea</i>					✓		
91	Large Ringlet	<i>Erebia euryale</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓
92	Mountain Ringlet	<i>Erebia epiphron</i>		✓			✓		
93	Blind Ringlet	<i>Erebia pharte</i>					✓		
94	Almond-eyed Ringlet	<i>Erebia alberganus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
95	False Mnestra Ringlet	<i>Erebia aethiopella</i>							✓
96	Common Brassy Ringlet	<i>Erebia cassioides</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓
97	Dewy Ringlet	<i>Erebia pandrose</i>						✓	✓
98	Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>	✓	✓					
99	Ringlet	<i>Aphantopus hyperantus</i>		✓					
100	Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓		
101	Dusky Heath	<i>Coenonympha dorus</i>		✓					
102	Pearly Heath	<i>Coenonympha arcania</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			
103	Darwin's Heath	<i>Coenonympha darwiniana</i>			✓				
104	Alpine Heath	<i>Coenonympha gardetta</i>				✓		✓	✓
105	Chestnut Heath	<i>Coenonympha glycerion</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓
106	Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>		✓	✓				
107	Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓
108	Northern Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata petropolitana</i>		✓	✓				
109	Large Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata maera</i>	✓			✓	✓		
	Skippers	Family Hesperiidae							
110	Southern Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus malvoides</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓

Mercantour & Queyras 2019 species checklist			Sat 6th July	Sun 7th July	Mon 8th July	Tue 9th July	Wed 10th July	Thu 11th July	Fri 12th July
Butterflies			day 1	day 2	day 3	day 4	day 5	day 6	day 7
111	Large Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus alveus</i>			✓		✓		✓
112	Oberthür's grizzled skipper	<i>Pyrgus armoricanus</i>					✓		
113	Foulquier's Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus foulquieri</i>		✓					
114	Olive Skipper	<i>Pyrgus serratulae</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
115	Safflower Skipper	<i>Pyrgus carthami</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
116	Alpine Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus andromedae</i>							✓
117	Dusky Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus cacaliae</i>					✓	✓	✓
118	Red-underwing Skipper	<i>Spialia sertorius</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			
119	Marbled Skipper	<i>Carcharodus lavatherae</i>	✓	✓	✓				
120	Tufted Marbled Skipper	<i>Carcharodus flocciferus</i>		✓			✓		
121	Dingy Skipper	<i>Erynnis tages</i>	✓		✓		✓		
122	Lulworth Skipper	<i>Thymelicus acteon</i>	✓						
123	Essex Skipper	<i>Thymelicus lineola</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
124	Small Skipper	<i>Thymelicus sylvestris</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
125	Silver-spotted Skipper	<i>Hesperia comma</i>					✓	✓	
126	Large Skipper	<i>Ochlodes sylvanus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	





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Alpine Grizzled Skipper © David Moore



Male Cynthia's Fritillary
© Ralph & Claudette Moore



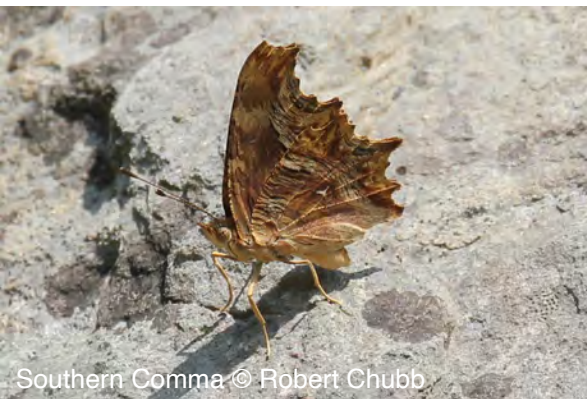
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Weaver's Fritillary © Robert Chubb



Southern Comma © Robert Chubb



Damon Blue © Ralph & Claudette Moore



Female Great Sooty Satyr
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Water Pipit © Robert Chubb



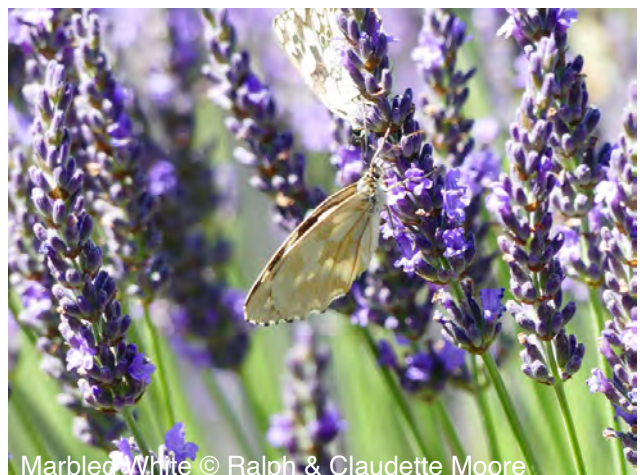
Large Ringlets © Ralph & Claudette Moore



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Small Tortoiseshell © Ralph & Claudette Moore



Marbled White © Ralph & Claudette Moore