

Mediterranean Macro Safari

10th - 17th June 2023 Led by Matt Doogue & Alice Hunter



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Day 1

We met at Thessaloniki Airport with Tim and Jessica having arrived a day early while Alan, Bernadette and Caroline came through from their early morning flight from Gatwick in good time. Brief introductions made, we headed out to the minibus and got on the road for a journey of around an hour and twenty minutes to our hotel near Lake Kerkini.

On arrival, we took a little time to freshen up before heading over the road for lunch in a local restaurant. We spent a moment or two to get to know one another better and find out what we each wanted from the trip as we waited for our food to arrive, and once we'd eaten we continued this with a brief talk from Matt about the different aspects of macro photography we could expect to cover this week, some of the kit he uses and the techniques he favours.

We then ventured out for our first foray into the field, heading to a spot near the Strimonas River. On the way, we saw White Storks nesting, not only in our village but on a number of telegraph posts in neighbouring villages too. There was a glimpse of a Hoopoe, some Bee-eaters and two Golden Orioles spotted in flight.

We pulled up to find the Water Buffalo were nearby, but there was plenty of space between us and them so we set about looking for photographic subjects. It didn't take long to find some beautiful longhorn beetles in the genus *Agapanthia*, a number of Chafers and a variety of both Crickets and Dragonflies. Tim found a tiny European Tree Frog in a large Milk Thistle and as we photographed it, the farmer arrived on a scrambler bike and ushered the Buffalo across the track in front of us and down the embankment on the other side. We took a moment to look for a few more subjects and then, having established they were heading in the opposite direction, we headed down the embankment ourselves.

Caroline spotted a Common Blue butterfly fluttering around but it was reluctant to settle for photographs. We approached the hedgerow at the bottom and soon found there to be water beneath and damselflies fluttering about. The vast majority were either Blue or White Featherlegs but there were a number of Banded Demoiselles too, albeit mostly in less accessible spots for photography. We were soon finding all sorts of other delights too; a couple more Tree Frogs, an obliging Comma butterfly, one enormous spider plus lots of smaller ones, nearly all *Araneus circe*, and a lot of dragonflies including Broad Scarlet, Black-tailed Skimmer and Scarce Chaser.



It was soon time to head back to the hotel and we tore ourselves away, pausing on the way back to the minibus first to watch a flock of around 60 Bee-eaters circling over the field next door and then to photograph a neon green Weevil with blue legs which Matt found sitting on top of a metal fence post. It didn't make for the prettiest perch but the colouring was fascinating to see and none of us had come across one like it before. A tortoise made an appearance just as we were gathering our things to leave.

We had a short drive back to the hotel but there was an interruption to our journey when we came across a traffic jam seemingly in the middle of nowhere and cars parked all down one side of the road. We made our way forward tentatively but were soon head to head with a tractor on our side of the road which was trying to get around the same problem. It transpired that there was a rural chapel and a wedding was happening, the car behind us had the bride in and we were beckoned to reverse into the chapel entrance so she could be delivered and then the tractor could pass so that we could move on. We spent a happy evening chatting about the drama of it all and debating our favourite finds from the afternoon whilst eating dinner in a restaurant a short walk through the village from our hotel.

Day 2

The next morning, we set out for the day and headed through the village of Vironeia and up the hill towards an old quarry. Having parked up, we wandered along the track taking in the many macro photo opportunities that presented themselves. There were quite a number of butterflies flitting among the Christ's Thorn blossoms, mostly at this stage of the day Meadow Browns but with a few skittish Lattice Browns joining them though proving harder to photograph.



The woods around us reverberated with the song of Nightingales, with perhaps a dozen individuals singing over the course of our walk. A woodpecker sounded an alarm nearby and a Jay flew overhead. Along with the butterflies, the Christ's Thorn was also being visited by a variety of other insects, honey bees provided a background hum while large green Rose Chafers bombed around between blooms.

We came to a bit of a clearing where grazing had left only a selection of unpalatable plants such as Spanish Oysterplant and a Mullein to provide any perches for our potential subjects. Thankfully, the invertebrates were unfussy about this and we were soon scattered among the plants photographing Robberflies, Spiders and all sorts of other interesting invertebrates. Caroline spent some time searching for butterflies and had fleeting glimpses of Ilex Hairstreaks, Clouded Yellows and more elusive Lattice Browns but was soon better rewarded when Alice found a Little Tiger Blue, perched most inaccessibly in a clump of spiky plants but proving most obliging as we took turns to capture images.

adybird Spider © Alan

Moving on up the track, Matt located a lovely pink and white Crab Spider and we noted there were a number of butterflies fluttering around the *Cionura erecta* that scrambled through the trees

like a Clematis. They were all out of reach with a macro lens and very active so we continued on a few yards more to where the landscape opened up to reveal the high rock walls of an old quarry. There were Wall Browns flitting amongst the rust brown rocks and a number of jumping spiders, mostly Red-bellied Jumping Spiders, *Philaeus chrysops* with strikingly marked red and black males. We were on the lookout for another red and black spider though and it wasn't long before Alice spotted one in an uncharacteristic pose up a grass stem; the male Ladybird Spider.

Photographs taken, we watched Hummingbird Hawkmoths zipping between flowers, noted the pale yellow blooms of *Onosma echioides* and had several tantalising glimpses of Large Tortoiseshells as they flew past and on up the steep rock face. Crag Martins



wheeled overhead and a pair of Black-eared Wheatears collected prey items, presumably for a growing brood.

We had lunch in a picnic shelter with a fabulous view over the landscape beyond with the lake in the distance. A Painted Lady was spotted passing by as we packed up to move on and we stopped by a large puddle on the way back down to see if we could find more butterflies collecting moisture and minerals around it. A Silver-washed Fritillary was zipping around at high speed and several Nettle Tree butterflies were found but there weren't as many species as we had hoped. Nevertheless, Matt suggested we look on the edge of the woods here and we found some more attractive species including the hairy green spider, *Heriaeus hirtus* and in turning over some stones in the woods, a large *Scolopendra* centipede along with a couple of Scorpions. Stones carefully replaced, we moved on.

We paused in the village below for ice creams and admired a Stork nesting on the nearby church tower. Matt spotted a Ruby-tailed Wasp and then a damaged Scarce Swallowtail which he was able to show the group as he rescued it from the road.

Our main stop for the afternoon was a short drive away at Mandraki Harbour where we were greeted by a cacophony including Cuckoo, Great Reed Warbler and a plethora of frogs. There were a couple of large Gypsy Moth caterpillars on a nearby tree trunk which we paused to look at before spreading out to see what we could find; some of us heading down towards the water while others investigated the surrounding vegetation.

There were a number of sightings of Water Snakes although pictures seemed to be proving elusive until Tim found a Caspian Whip Snake up a tree! We wandered down a track nearby and Matt pointed out a Green Huntsman spider which was making a nest in the top of a reed by curling it over on itself. A few dragonflies were spotted and back on the pier, we all made the most of the Balkan Green Lizards sunning themselves. A last hurrah before we called it a day came in the form of a pristine Swallowtail looking for a spot to roost near the bus.



Day 3

The previous evening we had agreed we'd like to return for an early morning foray at the harbour and so we set out at 5:30 from the hotel to arrive just after the sun had come up. Turtle Dove, Cetti's Warbler and Cuckoo were calling to greet us and we had a huge flypast of Pelicans overhead as they headed for fishing grounds at the other end of the lake.



Wandering into a patch of meadow with long grasses, Poppies and a few other flowers, we found lots of Robberflies covered in dew, some with prey making for excellent subjects. There were a couple of slightly bedraggled Common Blue butterflies roosting too and when we emerged on to the track again, Matt pointed out some lovely clusters of roosting bees. The most tightly bunched were Longhorn Bees while others nearby with striking green eyes were beginning to warm up for the day and become more active.

We returned to the hotel for breakfast and having eaten set out for a day further afield. We made an

impromptu stop beside the road to admire some Dragon Arums in full bloom, stinking of death but impressive nonetheless. A tight corner and steep climb in a village proved a challenge for the minibus but allowed views of a Hoopoe close at hand. Having negotiated the road, we turned off it onto a well maintained forestry track for the final stretch of the journey. Alice spotted a number of Balkan Lizard Orchids as we drove but we decided to stop for them on the way back.

In fact, just a short way further ahead, that plan changed as we came across a timber lorry being loaded and blocking our route. We managed to explain that we would like to get past and found a spot to park up while they finished their job that allowed the lorry past when it was done. Alice and Tim walked back the short distance to the orchids which were up the bank in a nice group. Meanwhile, Jessica found a stunning longhorn beetle on one of the tree trunks that was lined up waiting to be loaded onto the next lorry. The group took turns in photographing it and in no time were being ushered back into the vehicle to manoeuvre our way past the vehicles up the track.

We continued our way uphill, stopping further up where there was a flowery corner to see what else we could find. Tim was the one to make the star find this time, in the form of a couple of Green Hairstreaks, content to pose for photos while they soaked up the morning sun. Jessica meanwhile had found a beautiful Southern White Admiral. Matt uncovered a large centipede with young, still white and translucent, in the surrounding woodland. Further up, Red Helleborines

flowered beneath the trees and more butterflies were found including a number of Green Hairstreaks, some obliging Nettle Tree Butterflies and a mating pair of Common Blues.

Our final stop on the route was where we'd enjoy lunch by a spring fed water trough in a large meadow and spend a couple of hours pottering around and enjoying it for the afternoon. Settling to eat first, there were a few butterflies fluttering around including Small Tortoiseshell, Peacock and Clouded Yellow. A lovely male Red-backed Shrike was perched on a wire opposite us and Matt was coming up with a plan to try and photograph some of the Pond Skaters on the water trough at low level



Sandwiches devoured, we split up to explore. There were Red Admiral, Speckled Wood, Comma and Purple-shot Coppers among other butterflies noted. The ungrazed edges of the meadow



against the shrubs bore purple masses of *Viola graeca* and delicate Maiden Pinks, and there were all manner of interesting invertebrates from jumping spiders to picture-winged flies, crickets and grasshoppers to shield bugs.

Having spent a happy time delving into their worlds, we heeded the warning of the thunder clouds that had gathered overhead and made our way back down. We paused briefly just above where we'd passed the timber lorries to admire the view across to the lake and its surroundings, made more impressive by the weather unfolding in front

of us. Wary not to wait until it reached us we headed on and emerged onto the road again well below the narrowstreeted village we'd negotiated earlier.

We made one last impromptu stop at a flowery patch beside the road which proved rather smelly owing to a

number of Dragon Arums hidden from initial view beneath the trees, but incredibly fruitful in macro photography terms. We came across roosting Small and Essex skippers, a number of the incredibly beautiful Large Balkan Spoon-winged Lacewings, several sleepy bees and a Spurge Hawkmoth among other things.

Thoroughly buzzing with chatter at all the lovely things we'd found during the day, we headed back to the hotel and out to dinner where the chatter would continue into the evening.



Day 4

We started the day picking up two more people who had been with another group in a nearby



hotel, Gillian would join us for the day while Janet would remain for 3 days. The bus full, we made our way to a spot near the Strimonas River where we made our way down a track along the raised embankment. Bee-eaters flew overhead, settling in the trees and as we dropped down into the field away from the river, we found their nest holes scattered among the rough vegetation. Alice found a Marginated Tortoise and Matt pointed out the huge number of Spurge Hawkmoth caterpillars in varying instars. There were Crested Larks near the track and both Common and Red-rumped Swallows were hawking for insects

and dipping for a drink from the river. Little Egret, Purple Heron and Cormorant made fly-bys along with White Stork and Little Ringed Plover.

There were a few dragonflies around, mostly passing at high speed and not settling for images, and we all enjoyed seeing and photographing a tiny European Tree Frog on a thistle leaf, and

shortly afterwards, a juvenile Green Toad.

For lunch, we headed in to the small town of Irakleia where we found a restaurant offering Gyros and having eaten we headed out for an afternoon in a disused quarry which has since been reclaimed by nature with Wild Thyme, Pink Everlasting and Jasione jankae flowering in the bottom. Crested Larks and Black-headed Buntings sang from the fields around the guarry as we made our way down the entry track. Small Heath, Hungarian Skipper and Meadow Brown butterflies fluttered among the flowers along with the day flying Spotted Clover moth. There were a number of Praying Mantis, including Mantis religiosa, Ameles spallanzania and Empusa fasciata, plus some



fascinating beetles which we later identified as Cerocoma muehlfeldi, the males of which have bizarre antennae that look almost malformed. Additionally, there were a few beautiful robber flies,



Promachus leoninus with strikingly green eyes, several small Paper Wasp nests being attended by adults, nursery webs of the attractive jumping spider Mogrus neglectus, plus a variety of shield bugs and other interesting beetles and Matt uncovered a large Scolopendra centipede.

On the track where we'd parked and in the small damp meadow the other side, we found the large Egyptian Grasshopper with characteristically stripy eyes, Mediterranean Skipper and the distinctive Red-bellied Jumping Spider.

It was soon time to return to the hotel and freshen up before dinner in the restaurant over

the road. Alice and Gillian ate early in order to head to the airport for Gillian's flight home, while the rest of the group enjoyed a more leisurely meal.

Day 5

We set off this morning for one of our more distant sites, heading through the town of Sidirokastro

and up into the mountains. The last section of our journey was along Cream-spot Tiger Moth © Jessica A a rough track but we were confident that the rewards at the end would be worth our mild discomfort and indeed it proved true. We pulled up in a woodland clearing and despite Matt's concern that recent improvements to the area had included mowing off some of the wildflowers, we found it to be full of interest. We explored the immediate area first, Tim and Matt coming across a couple of Tawny Owls in the trees. Tim then found a stunning Cream-spot Tiger Moth, meanwhile Matt and Alice took in an impressive chapel built into a cave in the side of the cliff. Back in the clearing, Bernadette and Caroline had found a couple of different Burnet moths, plus a few butterflies and Bee Chafers to photograph. There was a Small Blue in excellent condition, a rather tattier Dingy Skipper and both Chequered and Adonis Blues along with Nine-spotted moth, Pygmy moth and a variety of beetles.

The group opted to walk back down the track towards our next stop which we had passed on the way up. Alice picked a couple of them



up on the way but the rest preferred to see what they could find on foot. Reaching our stopping point, we parked up and got things ready for lunch which we would eat when the others joined us. There were Red-rumped Swallows zipping past at head height, Crested Larks and Corn Buntings calling from the tops of nearby bushes and a beautiful selection of wildflowers including Haplophyllum balcanicum, Saponaria bellidifolia, Ornithogalum narbonense, Linum tenuifolium and Fumana ericoides among others. Having eaten, we spent some time enjoying the insect life too, spotting a Mountain Small White butterfly and finding some longhorn bees, and taking photos of the impressive landscape while we had the opportunity.

On the way back, we stopped in the village of Achladochori for ice creams, and spent a few moments watching the comings and goings of House Martins from their nests on the nearby buildings while House Sparrows chattered noisily in the trees of the village square.

We made a couple more stops on our return journey, the first of which was by some meadows which bordered the river, though

the water itself wasn't terribly accessible. There were some lovely butterflies including Southern White Admiral, Eastern Knapweed Fritillary, Spotted Fritillary, and Eastern Festoon, although the latter was generally in fast flight along the edge of the trees and not willing to settle. There was a

large puddle on the track and some of the butterflies were coming down to take minerals and drink. The main interest in the puddle itself though were a number of Balkan Frogs which plopped out of sight when anyone came too close but were content enough to pop up again so long as you sat still.

Having checked another possible stop and ascertained that it was not an option, we made an impromptu pause on the side of the road for some mud-puddling butterflies including Wood White, Amanda's Blue, Mazarine Blue, Nettle Tree, Pygmy Skipper, Red Admiral and Brown Argus.



Moving on once more, we stopped at an area where the river we'd been following was more accessible. There were a couple of butterflies here too but mostly Meadow Browns, although



Alice was trying to find an Oriental Meadow Brown, without success. Down by the water, a number of Demoiselles were perched on the vegetation and Alan spotted a Grass Snake. In the meantime, Matt and Alice were astonished by the number of Antlion pits in a small sandy area - perhaps thirty or forty of these small conical depressions, and at the base of each the voracious Antlion larvae waiting for an unsuspecting insect to get trapped.

Our final stop of the day was beside the river once, more but a little further downstream where the water tumbled over rapids between smooth rocks. Spurge Hawkmoth caterpillars, dragonflies, several beetles and bees were the main focus of the stop until Matt found more Spoon-winged Lacewings in one of the meadows. Sadly though, most of the group didn't hear him calling owning to a large lorry trundling down the track which we were parked on and Alice having to move the minibus to let them past. It was soon time to head for the hotel though and enjoy another meal in a local restaurant.

Day 6

Our morning began bright and early today but with good reason. Nikos met us at Mandraki harbour just before 6am for our boat trip on the lake. The sunrise was beautiful and cast a golden glow over the water as we set out. We began by circling a small clump of willows in which Spoonbills and Pygmy Cormorants were nesting before turning into a quiet section between the reeds where a Black-crowned Night Heron fished and Great Crested Grebe nests could be glimpsed between the reed stems. As we emerged on to the open water again, we had good

views of both Great White and Dalmatian Pelicans feeding individually. We set off across the lake now towards the island where the Pelicans were nesting, careful not to pass too closely, we were able to see that the Dalmatians were mostly on a wooden platform to one side while the Great White Pelicans held most of the island itself.

Yellow-legged Gulls and a few stray Pelicans atop wooden posts proved good photographic subjects as we headed towards the flooded forest. As we drew near, the cacophony rose from the huge number of Cormorants nesting in the trees here. We had nice views of Little Egrets too, their fine head plumes indicating their breeding status. We made our way up the mouth of the River Strimonas a short way, noting small groups of Pelicans feeding together, Spoonbills in the shallows and a Penduline Tit nest suspended in a willow overhanging the water. Much of the time, it was hard to know where to look first with birds flying past almost constantly. Squacco Herons proved particularly tricky to photograph but we were all grateful of the ability with digital cameras to take a great number of images and pick through them later to find the best.



On our way back, we stopped to marvel at another tree which held the nests of Great Cormorant, Grey Heron, Cattle Egret and Little Egret at least. On returning to the harbour, we found a Grey Heron waiting for us on the pier. We headed back to the hotel for breakfast and a warm drink.

Having eaten, we took a short drive out to a spot just outside the village where some new species awaited us. We were enthralled on the way there by Great Reed Warblers not seeming to be troubled by the bus as we passed. On pulling up, it was apparent that there were masses of dragonflies to photograph, the challenge would be capturing the images as it was already warm and they were flighty. We split up to see what we could find.



There were lots of Broad Scarlets here, along with White-tailed Skimmers and Black Pennants. There were a few Bee-eaters around, more Great Reed Warblers, Little Bitterns and a Kestrel. Caroline managed to find the only butterfly of the stop, a Common Blue.

Having had Gyros once more in Irakleia for lunch, we moved on to another spot for the afternoon, close to the dam at the southern end of the lake. As we pulled up, Matt commented on how different the area looked to the last time he had visited, the course of the river had changed and with recent high water levels, the area nearest the road was now largely boggy and impassable. Not to be

deterred, we wandered up the track a short way and found plenty to photograph on the way including cryptic looking Grasshoppers, more gorgeous Little Tiger Blue butterflies and a couple of attractive Southern Migrant Emerald Damselflies. A couple of female Black-tailed Skimmers kept settling on the track too but were too flighty for close shots.

Further on, on the edge of a quarry area, Matt found a Bladetail dragonfly, sadly not seen by the rest of the group despite efforts to find others. There was a brief sighting of a Camberwell Beauty that disappeared around a tree never to reappear, and the group found a variety of intriguing invertebrates including Antlions, Velvet Ants, and Beetles. There was a Cirl Bunting calling from

the top of a nearby tree and moving up the adjacent slope, Alice spotted a family of Masked Shrikes although they sadly flew shortly after. A Lobed Orbweaver became the subject of our attention here and while it was being photographed a couple of tiny Green Toads were found hopping about. Matt found an even more impressive spider down a burrow and Alice coaxed it out with a piece of grass for photographs to be taken.

It was soon time to return to the hotel. We spotted a Little Owl on our way back and enjoyed another local meal in the evening.

Day 7

For our final full day in the area, we gave our guests the option to choose which site they would like to return to. We began with an early morning outing to the quarry we'd visited on day four noting several communal clusters of *Codophila varia* shield bug nymphs as we entered. The night had been cool and there was dew covering the flowers, as well as some of the roosting Small Heath butterflies we encountered. There seemed to be a lot more of the green-eyed robber flies than previously, allowing all of us to obtain photos, and Matt found a large and beautiful Jewel Beetle, *Julodis ehrenbergii*.

The overwhelming vote for a site to return to was Mandraki Harbour which we did after returning

to the hotel for breakfast. As previously, there was plenty to see. Along with the usual suspects of Squacco Herons, and Cormorants flying over, Tim and Alan both saw and photographed a Great Crested Grebe wrestling with a snake. Alice meanwhile was getting up close and personal with some of the Balkan Green Lizards on the pier and, later, almost closer still to a juvenile Dice Snake which liked the look of the rock she was sitting on! Matt, on the other hand, had found some Thistle Tortoise Beetles munching on the Giant Burdocks beneath the trees while Blue-tailed Damselflies and Lang's Short-tailed Blue butterfly also proved popular subjects.



Before long it was time to move on. We headed to a restaurant nearby for some lunch before continuing on to our final spot for the afternoon in the quarry we'd visited on day two. Once again we had a fun few hours pottering about and finding all sorts to photograph such as beautiful Worm Snakes uncovered by Matt, plenty of butterflies including Ilex Hairstreaks, Clouded Yellows, Large Tortoiseshell, Common Glider, Silver-washed Fritillary, Wall Brown, Queen of Spain Fritillary and Brown Argus among others. We were once again serenaded by Nightingales but there were also a pair of Ravens overhead. Among the other finds were *Heriaeus hirtus*, the green hairy spider we'd seen on our first visit, a jumping spider in the genus Heliophanus and an Assassin Bug.

We returned to the hotel for our final evening and enjoyed a home cooked meal there with Nikos for our last evening together. The table was laden with salads, vegetables and side dishes to accompany delicious Moussaka made by his wife. It was the perfect way to end our time on the shores of Kerkini.

Day 8

The weather for our journey to the airport the next morning had obviously realised we were leaving and was miserable on our behalf. Thankfully dry while we packed luggage into the bus, the heavens opened as we drove. Our spirits were not to be dampened however as we chatted amicably about all the wonderful species we'd seen and what we hoped to find on our memory cards when we eventually downloaded our images. We said our farewells at the airport in Thessaloniki and headed our separate ways after a wonderful week of camaraderie, good food, and great wildlife.

Systematic Species Checklists

	Butte	erflies	10th June	11th June	12th June	13th June	14th June	15th June	16th June
lmag ☆	o sightings are marked with a	a ✓, caterpillars are marked with a	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
	Family Papilionidae								
1	Scarce Swallowtail	Iphiclides podalirius		✓					√
2	Common Swallowtail	Papilio machaon		1					
3	Eastern Festoon	Zerynthia cerisy					✓		
	Family Pieridae								
4	Clouded Yellow	Colias croceus	✓	✓		✓			1
5	Wood White	Leptidea sinapis					✓		
6	Large White	Pieris brassicae	1	✓	✓				
7	Mountain Small White	Pieris ergane					✓		
8	Green-veined White	Pieris napi					✓		
9	Small White	Pieris rapae	✓	1					
10	Eastern Bath White	Pontia edusa				✓			1
	Family <i>Lycaenidae</i>								
11	Green Hairstreak	Callophrys rubi			✓				
12	Ilex Hairstreak	Satyrium ilicis		✓			✓		1
13	Purple-shot Copper	Lycaena alciphron			✓				
14	Small Copper	Lycaena phlaeas			1				
15	Brown Argus	Aricia agestis		✓			✓		1
16	Holly Blue	Celastrina argiolus		✓					
17	Small Blue	Cupido minimus					✓		
18	Mazarine Blue	Cyaniris semiargus					✓		
19	Lang's Short-tailed Blue	Leptotes pirithous		1					1
20	Amanda's Blue	Polyommatus amandus					✓		
21	Adonis Blue	Polyommatus bellargus					✓		
22	Common Blue	Polyommatus icarus	1		✓		✓	✓	
23	Chequered Blue	Scolitantides orion					✓		
24	Little Tiger Blue	Tarucus balkanicus		1				✓	
	Family Nymphalidae								
25	Nettle Tree Butterfly	Libythea celtis		√	√		√		
26	Peacock	Aglais io			✓				
27	Small Tortoiseshell	Aglais urticae			✓				
28	Southern White Admiral	Limenitis reducta			✓		✓		
29	Common Glider	Neptis sappho							✓

lmag ☆	Butte l o sightings are marked with a	rflies √, caterpillars are marked with a	10th June Day	11th June Day 2	12th June Day 3	13th June Day	14th June Day 5	15th June Day 6	16th June Day 7
29	Camberwell Beauty	Nymphalis antiopa						✓	
30	Large Tortoiseshell	Nymphalis polychloros		√					✓
31	Comma	Polygonia c-album	√		√		✓		
32	Red Admiral	Vanessa atalanta		✓	✓		✓		
33	Painted Lady	Vanessa cardui		✓		✓			
34	Silver-washed Fritillary	Argynnis paphia		✓					✓
35	Queen of Spain Fritillary	Issoria lathonia		✓		✓			✓
36	Spotted Fritillary	Melitaea didyma					✓		
37	Eastern Knapweed Fritillary	Melitaea ornata					✓		
38	Great Banded Grayling	Brintesia circe					✓		
39	Small Heath	Coenonympha pamphilus	✓			✓			✓
40	Lattice Brown	Kirinia roxelana		✓					
41	Large Wall Brown	Lasiommata maera		✓					
42	Wall Brown	Lasiommata megera		✓					✓
43	Meadow Brown	Maniola jurtina	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓
44	Speckled Wood	Pararge aegeria			✓				
	Family Hesperiidae								
45	Mallow Skipper	Carcharodus alceae				✓			
46	Dingy Skipper	Erynnis tages					✓		
47	Pygmy Skipper	Gegenes pumilio				✓	✓		
48	Hungarian Skipper	Spialia orbifer				✓			
49	Essex Skipper	Thymelicus lineola			✓				
50	Small Skipper	Thymelicus sylvestris			✓	✓	✓		





	Mo	ths	10th June	11th June	12th June	13th June	14th June	15th June	16th June
lmag ☆	o sightings are marked with	a ✓, caterpillars are marked with a	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
1	Nine-spotted Moth	Amata phegea					✓		
2	Cream-spot Tiger Moth	Arctia villica					✓		
3	Water Betony	Cucullia scrophulariae	☆						
4	Brown China Mark	Elophila nymphaeata	✓						
5	Spotted Sulphur	Emmelia trabealis			✓				
6	A Tineid	Euplocamus anthracinalis		✓					
7	A Tineid	Euplocamus ophisa			✓				
8	A Geometrid	Grammodes stolida		✓					
9	Spurge Hawkmoth	Hyles euphorbiae	☆		✓	☆	☆		
10	Gypsy Moth	Lymantria dispar		☆					
11	Hummingbird Hawkmoth	Macroglossum stellatarum		✓					
12	Brassy Longhorn	Nemophora metallica			✓				
13	Spotted Clover	Protoschinia scutosa				✓			
14	A Pyralid	Synaphe moldavica			✓				
15	Pygmy Moth	Thyris fenestrella					✓		
16	Slender Scotch Burnet	Zygaena loti					✓		
17	A Burnet	Zygaena punctum					✓		





	Dragonflies & D	amselflies	10th June	11th June	12th June	13th June	14th June	15th June	16th June
			Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
1	Banded Demoiselle	Calopteryx splendens	✓						
2	Beautiful Demoiselle	Calopteryx virgo					✓		
3	Small Red-eyed Damselfly	Erythromma viridulum						✓	
4	Blue-tailed Damselfly	Ischnura elegans			✓				✓
5	Southern Emerald Damselfly	Lestes barbarus						✓	
6	White Featherlegs	Platycnemis latipes	✓						
7	Blue Featherlegs	Platycnemis pennipes	✓						
8	Broad Scarlet	Crocothemis erythraea	✓					✓	✓
9	Scarce Chaser	Libellula fulva	✓						
10	Bladetail	Lindenia tetraphylla						✓	
11	Black-tailed Skimmer	Orthetrum cancellatum	✓						
12	White-tailed Skimmer	Orthetrum albistylum		✓	✓			✓	✓
13	Keeled Skimmer	Orthetrum coerulescens	1						
14	Black Pennant	Selsiothemis nigra						✓	
15	Southern Darter	Sympetrum meridionale							✓

	Reptiles & A	•	10th June	11th June	12th June	13th June	14th June	15th June	16th June
Ende	emic species are noted with a	☆	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
1	Balkan Frog ☆	Pelophylax kurtmuelleri		✓	✓			✓	✓
2	European Tree Frog	Hyla arborea	✓			✓			
3	Worm Snake	Xerotyphlops vermicularis							✓
4	Balkan Green Lizard ☆	Lacerta trilineata			✓				✓
5	Dice Snake	Natrix tessellata			✓		✓		✓
6	Caspian Whip Snake	Dolichophis caspius			✓				
7	European Pond Terrapin	Emys orbicularis		✓			✓		✓
8	Marginated Tortoise	Testudo marginata	✓			✓			

	Other Notable Invertebrates		10th June Day 1	11th June Day 2	12th June Day 3	13th June Day 4	14th June Day 5	15th June Day 6	16th June Day 7
	Arachnida (Spiders and Opilion	nes)							
1	A Jumping Spider	Aelurillus v-insignatus			✓				

	Other Notable In	vertebrates	10th June	11th June	12th June	13th June	14th June	15th June	16th June
			Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
2	Labyrinth Spider	Agelena labyrinthica			✓			✓	
3	A large Orbweaver	Araneus circe	✓						
4	Wasp Spider	Argiope bruennichi		✓					
5	Lobed Orbweaver	Argiope lobata						✓	
6	Ladybird Spider	Eresus walckenaerius		✓					
7	A Burrowing Wolf Spider	Geolycosa sp.						✓	
8	A Jumping Spider	Heliophanus mellinus							✓
9	A Green Hairy Crab Spider	Heriaeus simoni		✓					✓
10	Furrow Orbweaver	Larinoides cornutus			✓				
11	A Jumping Spider	Morgues neglectus				✓			√
12	Yellow Crab Spider	Misumenia vatia					✓		
13	Green Huntsman	Micrommata ligurina		✓					
14	Bordered Orbweaver	Neoscona adianta			✓			✓	
15	A Jumping Spider	Philaeus chrysops		✓		✓			
16	Nursery Web Spider	Pisaura mirabilis		✓	✓			✓	✓
17	Pink Crab Spider	Thomisus onistus		✓				✓	
18	An Opilione	Zachaeus crista			✓		✓		
	Coleoptera (Beetles)								
19	A Longhorn Beetle	Agapanthia sp	✓						
20	A Chafer	Anisoplia agricola		✓	✓				✓
21	Thistle Tortoise Beetle	Cassida rubiginosa							√
22	A Blister Beetle	Cerocoma muehlfeldi				✓			√
23	A Weevil	Chlorophanus excisus	✓						
24	A Wasp Beetle	Clytus rhamni					✓		
25	A Jewel Beetle	Julodis ehrenbergii							✓
26	A Weevil	Larinus turbinatus			✓				
27	Scarlet Malachite Beetle	Malachius aeneus					✓		
28	Common Malachite Beetle	Malachius bipustulatus			✓				✓
29	A Longhorn Beetle	Morimus funereus			✓				
30	A Blister Beetle	Mylabris sp.						✓	
31	Blue Longhorn Beetle	Phytoecia caerulescens					✓		

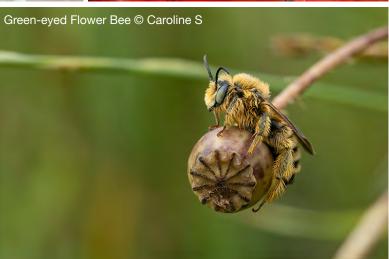
	Other Notable In	nvertebrates	10th June	11th June	12th June	13th June	14th June	15th June	16th June
			Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
32	A Longhorn Beetle	Purpuricenus budensis							✓
33	Common Soldier Beetle	Rhagonycha fulva			✓				
34	Black & Yellow Longhorn Beetle	Rutpela maculata							✓
35	Bee Chafer	Trichius gallicus					✓		
36	A Beehive Beetle	Trichodes sp.							✓
	Diptera (Flies)								
37	A Robberfly	Didysmachus picipes			✓				
38	Goatsbeard Fly	Orellia falcata					✓		
39	A Robberfly	Promachus leoninus				✓			✓
40	A Tephritid	Tephritis matricariae			✓				
	Heteroptera (True Bugs)								
41	Mediterranean Shieldbug	Carpocoris mediterrraneus	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	√	✓
	Black-shouldered Shieldbug	Carpocoris purpureipennis				✓			✓
42	A Shield Bug	Codophila varia				✓			✓
43	Hairy Shieldbug	Dolycoris baccarum				✓			
44	Striped Shieldbug	Graphosoma italica						✓	
45	Mediterranean Spiny Stinkbug	Mustha spinosula							✓
46	Southern Green Shieldbug	Nezara viridula			✓				
47	Assassin Bug	Rhynocoris sp		✓				✓	
	Hymenoptera (Bees and Wasp	os)							
48	Green-eyed Flower Bee	Anthrophora bimaculata			✓	✓			
49	A Ruby-tailed Wasp	Chrysis sp.		✓					
50	Grey Long-horned Bee	Eucera cineraria			✓				
51	A Wasp	Macrophya montana			✓				
52	European Velvet Ant	Mutilla europaea						√	
53	European Paper Wasp	Polistes dominulus				✓			✓
54	Violet Carpenter Bee	Xylocopa violacea		✓					
	Mantodea (Mantids)								
55	European Dwarf Mantis	Ameles spallanzania				✓			
56	A Conehead Mantis	Empusa fasciata			✓	✓	✓		✓
57	European Praying Mantis	Mantis religiosa		√		√		√	✓

	Other Notable In	vertebrates	10th June	11th June	12th June	13th June	14th June	15th June	16th June
			Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
	Neuroptera (Lacewings and Ar	ntlions)							
58	Large Balkan Spoon-winged Lacewing	Nemoptera sinuata			✓		✓		
59	A Small Antlion	Macronemurus appendiculatus						✓	
	Orthoptera (Crickets and Grass	shoppers)							
60	Egyptian Grasshopper	Anacridium aegyptiacum				✓			✓
	A Stone Grasshopper	Glyphanus obtusus						✓	
61	Speckled Bush-cricket	Leptophyes punctatissima			✓				
62	Red-winged Grasshopper	Oedipoda germanica						✓	
63	Bright Bush-cricket	Poecilimon sp.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
64	Greek Predatory Bush-cricket	Saga hellenica				✓			✓
	Other families								
65	Mediteranean Banded Centipede	Scolopendra cingulata		✓	✓	✓			
66	A Wood-Scorpion	Euscorpius sp.		✓	✓				









	Bire	ds	10th June	11th June	12th June	13th June	14th June	15th June	16th June
	sies seen are marked with a \cdot ed with ${\mathbb N}^{\mathbb N}$	/, those heard but not seen are	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
1	Pochard	Aythya ferina						✓	
2	Common Moorhen	Gallinula chloropus		✓					✓
3	Great Crested Grebe	Podiceps cristata		✓	✓			✓	✓
4	Great White Pelican	Pelecanus onocrotalus		✓	✓			✓	
5	Dalmatian Pelican	Pelecanus crispus		✓	✓			√	
6	Cormorant	Phalacrocorax carbo		✓	✓			√	✓
7	Pygmy Cormorant	Phalacrocorax pygmaeus		✓	✓			√	
8	Little Bittern	Ixobrychus minutus						√	
9	Little Egret	Egretta garzetta		✓	✓	✓		√	✓
10	Cattle Egret	Bubulcus ibis						√	
11	Grey Heron	Ardea cinerea		√	√			√	✓
12	Purple Heron	Ardea purpurea				√		√	
13	Squacco Heron	Ardeola ralloides		√	✓			√	✓
14	Black-crowned Night Heron	Nycticorax nycticorax						√	
15	Spoonbill	Platalea leucorodia				√		√	
16	White Stork	Ciconia ciconia	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
17	Little Ringed Plover	Charadrius dubius				√			
18	Kestrel	Falco tinnunculus					✓		
19	Little Owl	Athene noctua			✓				
20	Collared Dove	Streptopelia decaocto	✓	✓	✓	√	✓	√	✓
21	Cuckoo	Cuculus canorus		121	121		121		77.7
22	Common Swift	Apus apus							
23	European Bee-eater	Merops apiaster	√			√	√		
24	Ноорое	Upupa epops	√						
25	Crag Martin	Ptyonoprogne rupestris		√					
26	Swallow	Hirundo rustica	√	√	√	√	√	√	✓
27	Red-rumped Swallow	Cecropis daurica				√	✓		
28	House Martin	Delichon urbicum	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	√	✓
29	Robin	Erithacus rubecula		✓					✓
30	Nightingale	Luscinia megarhynchos	171	171					272
31	Black-eared Wheatear	Oenanthe hispanica		√					

	Bir	ds	10th June	11th June	12th June	13th June	14th June	15th June	16th June
	sies seen are marked with a led with 11°	√, those heard but not seen are	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
32	Song Thrush	Turdus philomelos		✓	✓				
33	Blackbird	Turdus merula		✓					
34	Blackcap	Sylvia atricapilla				✓	✓		
35	Chiffchaff	Phylloscopus collybita	171						
36	Cetti's Warbler	Cettia cetti		121	171			171	171
37	Great Reed Warbler	Acropcephalus arundinaceus		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
38	Goldcrest	Regulus regulus				✓			
39	Wren	Troglodytes troglodytes				✓	✓		
40	Coal Tit	Periparus ater				✓			
41	Red-backed Shrike	Lanius collurio			✓				
42	Masked Shrike	Lanius nubicus						✓	
43	Magpie	Pica pica	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
44	Jay	Garrulus glandarius		✓					
45	Common Starling	Sturnus vulgaris					✓		
46	Hooded Crow	Corvus cornix	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
47	Raven	Corvus corax							✓
48	Crested Lark	Gallerida cristata				✓	✓		
49	Golden Oriole	Oriolus oriolus	✓						
50	Spanish Sparrow	Passer hispaniolensis	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
51	Greenfinch	Chloris chloris		✓					
52	Cirl Bunting	Emberiza cirlus						✓	
53	Corn Bunting	Emberiza calandra					✓		
54	Black-headed Bunting	Emberiza melanocephala				✓			✓

Gree	Notable Diente		10th June Day 1	11th June Day 2	12th June Day 3	13th June Day 4	14th June Day 5	15th June Day 6	16th June Day 7
	Dicotyledons								
	Acanthaceae								
1	Spiny Bear's Breeches	Acanthus spinosus		✓					✓
	Asclepiadaceae								
2	A climbing plant	Cionura erecta		✓					✓

Notable Plants Greek endemic species are noted with a ☆		10th June	11th June	12th June	13th June	14th June	15th June	16th June	
		Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	
	Asteraceae								
3	A Yarrow	Achillea coarctata		1					
4	Chicory	Cichorium intybus		✓	✓		✓		✓
5	Argolian Cotton Thistle	Onopordum tauricum	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
6	Pallenis	Pallenis spinosa		✓					
7	Ivory Thistle	Ptilostemon afer							
8	Spanish Oysterplant	Scolymus hispanicus		✓					✓
9	Crupina	Crupina crupinastrum					✓		
10	Pink Everlasting	Xeranthemum annuum				✓			✓
	Boraginaceae								
11	Houndstongue	Cynoglossum officinale			✓				
12	Pale Viper's Bugloss	Echium italicum		✓					
13	A Golden-Drop	Onosma echioides		✓			✓		
	Campanulaceae								
14	A Sheep's Bit	Jasione jankae				✓			✓
15	A Bellflower	Campanula lingulata				✓			
	Caryophyllaceae								
16	Maiden Pink	Dianthus deltoides		✓	√				✓
17	A Soapwort	Saponaria bellidifolia					✓		
	Dipsacaceae								
18	A Scabious	Knautia integrifolia			✓				
	Euphorbiaceae								
19	Upright Myrtle Spurge	Euphorbia rigida					✓		
	Cistaceae								
20	A Rockrose	Fumana ericoides					✓		
	Lamiaceae								
21	Clary	Salvia sclarea		✓					✓
22	Wild Thyme	Thymus vulgaris				✓			
	Linaceae								
23	Narrow-leaved Flax	Linum tenuifolium					√		
	Papaveraceae								

Notable Plants			10th June	11th June	12th June	13th June	14th June	15th June	16th June
Greek endemic species are noted with a ☆		Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	
24	Common Poppy	Papaver rhoeas		✓	✓		✓		
	Plantaginaceae								
25	Woolly Foxglove	Digitalis lanata			✓				
26	Rusty Foxglove	Digitalis ferruginea			✓				
	Primulaceae								
27	Yellow Loosestrife	Lysimachia vulgaris		✓	✓		✓		✓
	Ranunculaceae								
28	Love-in-a-Mist	Nigella damascena			✓				
	Rhamnaceae								
29	Christ's Thorn	Ziziphus spina-christi		✓					✓
	Rosaceae								
30	Herb Bennet	Geum urbanum					✓		
	Rutaceae								
31	A Rue	Haplophyllum balcanicum					✓		
	Solanaceae								
32	Silverleaf Nightshade	Solanum elaeagnifolium	✓			✓			
	Violaceae								
33	A Violet	Viola graeca			✓				
	Monocotyledons								
	Araceae								
34	Dragon Arum	Dracunculus vulgaris			✓				
	Liliaceae								
35	Narbonne Star of Bethlehem	Ornithogalum narbonense					✓		
	Orchidaceae								
36	Red Helleborine	Cephalanthera rubra			✓				
37	Balkan Lizard Orchid	Himantoglossum jankae			✓				

Photo Gallery





