



## Butterflies of Slovenia

10th - 17th June 2023

Led by Martin Warren & Terry Goble



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**Led by Martin Warren & Terry Goble with local guides Barbara Zaksek & Andrej Peternel**

Slovenia is a beautiful country, including dramatic snow dusted mountains in the north, sheer karst cliffs in the south and a hot coastal plain. What knits these areas together are the fabulous wildflower meadows that host a plethora of butterflies and other creatures. Traditional farming and the cutting regime of hay meadows ensures that diverse and gorgeous flower meadows survive. Add to this the crystal clear rivers and lakes often surrounded by extensive woodland, and you can get a feel of this small country's wealth of wildlife and beauty.

Our tour aimed to sample the different regions and some of the contrasting habitats. We decided on a two centre tour to accommodate this and help see as wide a variety of species as possible. To do this we set out to visit some higher altitude places as well as the lowland woodland and meadows.

The cool, wet spring had resulted in the late emergence of many species and in lower numbers. This meant we missed a few species that would usually have been on the wing, but it also meant we got to see some pristine specimens of the butterflies that were flying, and we were able to see some species that might have otherwise been already over.

As always with these trips it's the contribution of the participants that can make the trip that much more enjoyable. The group were patient, considerate, extremely knowledgeable and, above all, fun. A special thanks goes to our local guide, Barbara, whose local knowledge and charm were very welcome and to Andej for taking time away from his expectant wife to assist us. Thanks too to the unflappable Martin, whose stories entertained and educated in equal measure.

## **Day One: Arrival in Ljubljana & transfer to Rakov Skocjan**

The majority of the group met at Heathrow prior to flying out to join the others and Martin. After a flight of a little over two hours we touched down in Ljubljana more or less on time. We passed smoothly through passport control, collected our bags and met up with the rest of the party.

Martin had collected his minibus and Terry set off to get the second bus whilst the group were chatting. Once all the formalities were complete we headed off down the motorway towards Rakov Skocjan, our base for the next few days. On arrival, Martin made sure everyone had a drink whilst the rooms were negotiated and allocated.

Everyone gathered for lunch, which took a rather long time to order and then be delivered. It looked very much like they were short staffed so it wasn't really surprising but we decided we needed a better lunch strategy for the next few days! During lunch the skies rumbled ominously and sure enough as we were about to leave the heavens opened and we had fairly heavy rain for a while.

We drove to the lake visitor centre where Barbara gave a brief talk on the geology and ecology of the area. We realised that the rain had stopped and hastily decided make the most of the opportunity and explore the lakeside meadows. The cool damp weather meant that butterfly sightings were at a premium and we had only a handful of Small Heath and Meadow Brown to add to the Brimstone and Small White seen earlier. There were however lots of moths and other invertebrates to look for and examine as well as the odd amphibian; Marsh Frog and Common Toad were seen. There were also a few birds around and a fly over from a Honey Buzzard was perhaps the highlight. Even in the cool damp conditions the meadows were a delight. A field of Wild Gladioli was a very lovely sight to add to the diversity of plants and flowers. There was lots of

Scabious, Meadow Clary, Clovers and Betony with a variety of rushes, sedges and grasses among others. We were looking forward to enjoying these meadows in better weather.

We added Small Emerald Spreadwing, Blue-tailed Damselfly to our list of sightings along with Cardinal Beetles, Cockchafers, hoverflies and sawflies. Observing and photographing as we progressed along the meadow trails we then decided that as the weather was holding we would visit another site at Zerovnica.

Here we walked beside the stream and were soon into some interesting meadows. Luckily we had a brief period of sunshine which encouraged a few butterflies on to the wing and gave a glimpse into how rich these meadows can be. In quick succession we saw rather worn Knapweed and very fresh looking Glanville Fritillaries. We also had quite a few Small Heath, Meadow Brown and Small White. A larger white butterfly batting through was a Black-veined White.



Knapweed Fritillary © Paul L

The sunny spell was all too brief and the cool evening returned to being overcast. We decided to end the day at the near-by pizzeria and enjoy an evening drink. The effects of a long day for some were beginning to take effect and after a lovely relaxed meal we headed back to our hotel to get some much needed rest.

## Day Two

The hotel is set in a lovely forest clearing and the bright, fresh morning was full of bird song as we rose. Some of the group were up for a woodpecker-y morning with Green, Great Spotted and Black Woodpeckers all seen. There was a large supporting cast of birds too, including a lovely male Black Redstart and a Cuckoo heard in the distance.

We met for breakfast at the hotel at 7:30am. The early start was due to a fairly long drive on a Sunday, heading towards the coast on a route which may have been slow due to traffic. With the weather looking fair, we were keen to get out into the fields and after we had eaten we prepared to leave as soon as possible.

Out in the car park a black form of Red Squirrel was seen and as we were loading up the buses a party of Willow Tits including fledglings still being fed moved through. We were soon on our way, negotiating the back streets to the motorway. The journey was enlivened by the sight of a Black Stork drifting over the motorway ahead of the minibuses. We arrived at our destination below the steep Karst cliffs and the village of Hrastovlje. The landscape was quite dramatic and enhanced by the rich bird song serenading us as we alighted from the buses. We could hear the liquid song of the Nightingale, the gentle purr of the Turtle Dove and the familiar onomatopoeic sound of the Cuckoo. All birds that have become sadly scarce in the UK.

Reverdin's Blue © Ian C

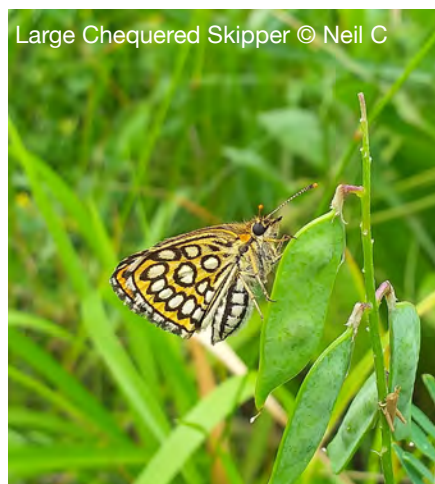


We were soon into the meadows and the weather was warm, a little humid and with light clouds, perfect for watching butterflies! We enjoyed a variety of blues including some smart Reverdin's Blues, Amanda's Blues and Mazarine Blues among others. We also saw numerous fritillary species and added Twin-spot to our list of sightings with many Heath



Fritillaries. We marvelled at how rich these meadows were in species variety and volume. It was great to see so much life in a diverse floral habitat. Special mention must also go to the number of Pyramidal Orchids and Bug Orchids...just delightful.

We followed a sandy track around the lower hills with the intention of completing a circuit, however the richness of the meadows ensured that we perhaps walked less than a kilometre of the circuit! All the meadows contain a rich variety of insects and we quickly added to our butterfly list. Perhaps the highlight of the day came whilst walking between meadows when we got our first glimpse of the jaunty Large Chequered Skipper. This stunning little butterfly appears to be like a marionette as it jerkily skips around. We found a few more in the meadows and eventually had great views of them at rest.



Large Chequered Skipper © Neil C

The butterflies came thick and fast as we added High Brown and Silver-washed Fritillary, Eastern Short-tailed Blue, Woodland Grayling among many others. Other insects included Burnet moths, Roesel's and Great Green Bush-crickets. It was a thoroughly enjoyable morning spent in beautiful wildflower meadows. The sights still kept coming but this time we were seeing Western Green Lizards and the delightful and slightly comical Yellow-bellied Toads. It was a nice way to end the morning before we drove to the town for our lunch, which was a welcome break. We all chatted in a relaxed and happy atmosphere and reflected on a great start to the tour.

After lunch some went to view an ancient church in a walled enclosure, which also for a lucky few included a sighting of a Large Tortoiseshell. Others contented themselves photographing attractive Nine-spot Moths. We gathered again by the minibuses and set off to another location near the Istria coast.

We arrived at a set of meadows just outside the town of Pojan. The day was getting hotter and the butterflies were very active. We saw numerous species which we had seen before. We also added a few new species and perhaps the highlight for many was seen as we were heading back by a Service Tree (*Sorbus domestica*). We were admiring an unusually clear view of a Purple Hairstreak as it was obtaining moisture from the fruits. Whilst watching them a few large butterflies had been noted but were too fast to identify. Eventually one landed and we were delighted to see it was a beautiful Large Tortoiseshell. It soon took off and a few people had to be content with views of it flying around. Still a cracking butterfly to find.



Adriatic Lizard Orchid © Neil T

Although we didn't see the False Ringlet we had hoped for, we did very much enjoy the mini wildlife spectacle. There were fabulous Adriatic Lizard Orchids and bright yellow Owlflies which were mesmerising as they drifted around. Dragonflies, included an Emperor carrying a large butterfly off to feed. Moths were well represented and a Cream-spot Tiger Moth was a lovely addition to our sightings. It had been an excellent day and now it was time to head back to the hotel for dinner.

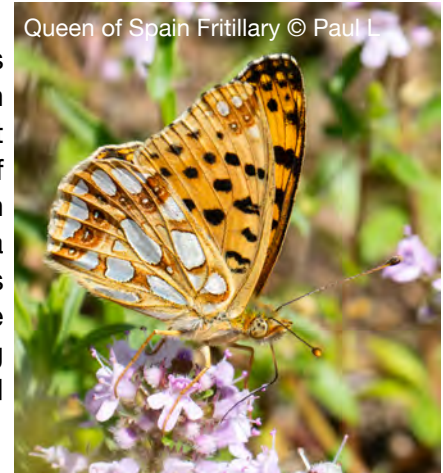
Back at the hotel we pre-ordered our evening meal and then went to our rooms to get ready after a hot day in the field. We met again at 8pm and chatted happily whilst compiling an extensive list of sightings. After our meal we had one last activity planned as Barbara had very kindly set up a couple of moth lights and we eagerly awaited what might arrive. There was eventually quite a varied collection including the impressive Pine Tree Lappet, exquisite Scarce Merveille-du-jour and Orange Moth. There were many other fascinating moths and it was a nice way to end the day. A fly over

from a Tawny Owl rang down the final curtain as we packed up and went back to the hotel to get some rest.

### Day Three

We had a later start for most today, but for the keen there was a bird walk at 7am. About six of us met. It was quiet for sightings, but the lingering dawn chorus of Song Thrush, Blackbird, Chaffinch, Robin and the occasional Cuckoo solo was lovely to hear. Sightings consisted of a lovely male Redstart, a brief glimpse of a Grey-headed Woodpecker along with another woodpecker that were weren't able to identify with certainty and a couple of thrushes.

We arrived back just in time for the 8am breakfast, which was enjoyed in the usual relaxed and chatty way. We were soon underway to our first destination after loading up the all important packed lunches. Our first stop was just below the village of Hrastovlje, where the volume of butterflies was lower than expected, although we did find a nice selection. We added a Small Blue and Queen of Spain to our sightings as well as enjoying many other species. Black-veined Whites seemed to be quite abundant and the photographers were enjoying seeing them settle. Twin-spot Fritillaries were also regular as we strolled around the meadows.



Queen of Spain Fritillary © Paul L

We also stopped to listen to the Quail repeating their 'wet-my-lips' call and watch the farmers turning the hay. Barbara pointed out that this was good for the caterpillars allowing them to descend into the turf and survive. Just before setting off in the buses once more, a Black Hairstreak was found and a few people managed to get reasonable views.



Adonis Blue © Terry Goble

We then headed towards our next destination at the quaint village of Silencio. Here we relaxed and enjoyed our picnic lunch and watched the odd butterfly that came around. We added a Woodland Ringlet which was new for the tour and a few Adonis Blues and Meadow Browns. It was a lovely relaxed site, the base of a short walk up to a spectacular view across the lowland expanse below and mountains rising to the north. We took in the views and inadvertently began enjoying the butterfly fauna as Barbara found Lesser Spotted Fritillary and Chequered Blue in quick succession.

We then enjoyed steady sightings as we walked through the meadow.

Eventually we made our way through the village to another meadow and again the butterflies came steadily. The highlight was perhaps our first sighting of Clouded Apollo, which is still on the wing at higher altitudes. Once we felt we had garnered enough from the meadow we decided to have one last quick stop at Palsko Jezero where there are wet meadows.

On arrival we had an excellent start as a Common Glider gracefully flitted between the shrubs and eventually moved out of sight. Equally as impressive was the volume of Black Hairstreaks around a relatively small patch of Blackthorn. There were also other invertebrates to check out as we saw several Azure Damselflies and a Scarce Chaser Dragonfly.

We then walked a little down the track to the wet meadows and perhaps the butterflies' limelight was stolen here by the fluting calls of Golden Orioles. It was delightful to hear them but, as so often with these birds, they remained out of sight. A Tufted Marbled Skipper was a lovely addition to our



sightings and almost immediately roosted with its wing pushed forward in an unusual stance and stayed obligingly still for photographers.

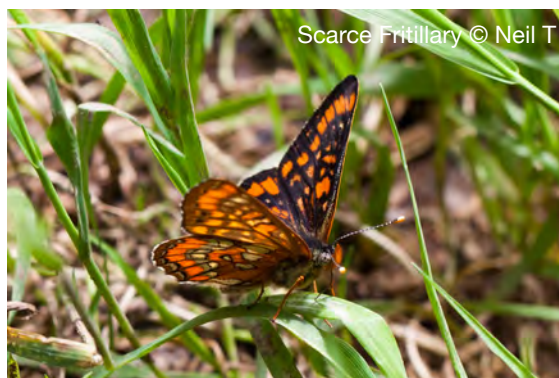
It was now time to head back to the hotel, which unfortunately didn't go smoothly as one of the vehicles was involved in a collision resulting in a lengthy delay whilst the situation was sorted. Thankfully no one was hurt and we were able to ferry everyone back to the hotel and have a replacement bus ordered for the next day.

We gathered at 8pm for our meal and enjoyed a fun and relaxed dinner, followed by Martin's species list. Soon after, everyone drifted off to their rooms.

## Day Four

A number of our group met at 7am for a spot of bird watching at the nearby Zerovnica village. The hoped for Wryneck unfortunately didn't appear, but it was nice to see some summer plumaged Fieldfares and a smattering of other species including a Treecreeper, Serin and a Great Spotted Woodpecker. We then returned to our hotel for a breakfast that went on for much longer than anticipated as everyone was happily chatting. As a result we pushed the departure time back to 10am as the location for the day was only a few kilometres away.

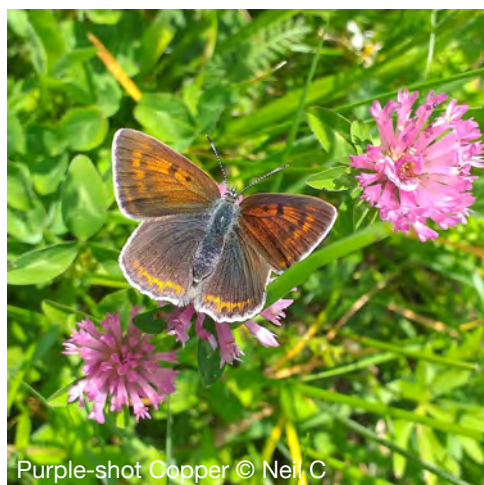
Some walked and some drove to the first venue of the day, a nearby river valley. The plan was to walk along to view the spectacular geological feature of the natural tunnel of eroded limestone. The morning could not have started better with a hoped for Scarce Fritillary found in the entrance to the first meadow. A pristine Broad-bordered Bee Hawkmoth was another excellent find. We walked along the river path gradually accumulating species and taking in all the wildlife and scenery.



Scarce Fritillary © Neil T

The river was so clear that we were able to watch plump Tench and a large Pike swimming around. We stopped at the natural tunnel that had been formed by thousands of years of erosion by the river and had a last look for species. A Chequered Skipper was seen briefly and happily a much more obliging Scarce Fritillary was found, which looked like it had only just emerged.

After photographing the fritillary for a while it was time to head back and we walked up the steps back to the main road. We explored the meadows around the road and some walked slowly back to the hotel. The rest of us drove back for some welcome drinks and a buffet lunch.



Purple-shot Copper © Neil C

After a relaxing lunch we decided to visit some upland meadow at Kozljek. This was a gorgeous site and thankfully enjoyed a variety of butterflies, many that were new to the trip. We finally connected with several butterflies that we may have been missing due to late emergence, perhaps the highlight of these was the Purple-shot Copper in pristine condition, but there were many other contenders and some excellent supporting cast of Downy Emerald and Narrow-bordered Bee Hawkmoth.

Near the car park we had several species and a few new to the trip, including a pristine Pearl-bordered Fritillary and an exquisite Turquoise Blue. A nearby pool was teeming with wildlife and we spent a little time watching newts, frogs and dragonflies. There were at least three species including Emperor, Downy Emerald and Broad-bodied Chaser. Eventually we tore ourselves away and headed to the hills to search for more butterflies.

We spent a few hours exploring more delightful meadows. The sun shone intermittently, which encouraged the butterflies on to the wing and enabled us to enjoy a festival of blues, fritillaries and the odd copper and skipper. This was a great way to end the day as we slowly made our way back to the minibus and back to the hotel.

Back at the hotel we got ready for dinner and to say a fond farewell to Barbara, our local guide. She had been a mine of information about a variety of wildlife and her local knowledge of butterfly sites was invaluable. We bade her 'goodbye' and thanked her for bringing her expertise and charm to our trip.

We then enjoyed our last evening meal at the Rakov Skocjan hotel and it was enjoyed with the usual good humour and friendly banter. After our meal it was time to sort our rooms and begin to pack in preparation for our departure in the morning. That is, all except for a few who requested a trip to have a shot at seeing a Scops Owl, a notoriously elusive owl, but one with a distinctive and repetitive call. Whilst most of the group went to their rooms a small group set off to Zerovnica. The trip started well as a pair of cute Fox cubs were seen by the side of the forest road and we did eventually produce a stunning view of the Scops Owl after a little endeavour and tracking down the diminutive bird. We watched as it called from just a few metres away in a tree. Elated by this we carefully made our way back to the hotel avoiding squashing the multitude of toads on the road. The route back turned into an excellent night 'safari'. A European Hedgehog was seen alongside the road on the way back and on the forest road we had sightings of Red and Roe Deer, more Foxes and a couple of sightings of the Beech Marten. Not a bad tally for a few minutes searching. Very pleased with our sightings we finally trooped off to bed to get some sleep for the travelling ahead.

## **Day Five: Transfer to new hotel Jerezo and hotel Center Bohinjsko**

We had a relaxing morning and a late-ish start. After our usual buffet breakfast we finished packing and loading the vehicles and set off on a two hour drive to the foothills of the Alps. Our destination was the First World War open air museum at Kolovrat. On route we stopped to pick up some lunches and drinks but were soon on the road again. We began winding up the long mountainous roads admiring the scenery and the mighty River Soca, believed to be one of the most beautiful in Europe.

We arrived at the museum a little after our hoped for time at 11:15pm and met up with our local guide, Andrej. We went for a walk over the meadows and hills in which the museum is set, offering both natural and historical interest. The museum is on the site of a bloody battle where the Italians defended the hills from the advancing German army and has a series of trenches, which have been restored. It also has beautiful meadows and shrubby hills that host an excellent array of butterflies.

Today the chilly wind and overcast conditions meant that butterfly sightings were at a premium. Reasonable numbers of Woodland Ringlet and a few other species were seen, but it was slow going. We all met back for lunch and after a few minutes of exploring the trenches we decided to head about a kilometre down the road to search for Apollo. The sun emerged just at the right time and we were hopeful. However, the Apollo is just at the beginning of its flight season and is itself scarce in Slovenia. We were out of luck, but did manage to see some very nice species including a second ringlet species in Bright-eyed Ringlet with its distinguishing all black antenna tips. There were also some lovely Chequered Blues and Large Wall Browns along the route and we saw a Honey Buzzard overhead in glorious light detailing all the identification features.



Chequered Blue © Ian C



Purple-edged Copper © Neil T

After a while spent searching we headed back to a nearby meadow and found a pristine Purple-edged Copper, Green Hairstreak and good numbers of Clouded Apollo. With the sun still out we decided to have another look back at the museum. Here we still struggled to find a great variety of butterflies, but did see many pristine Small Tortoiseshells looking resplendent in their bright orange, black and blue dotted livery.

We did add False Heath Fritillary to our new species and Andrej found a Chequered Skipper for all to see. It was now time to head on to the hotel, which was another hour and three quarters away. Just before we left one of the group lifted up a piece of corrugated iron to find a four foot long Montpellier Snake coiled underneath. The impressive beast eventually slid out of sight beneath some rocks.

We began our drive onward through some stunning scenery and expansive forest. We arrived a little before 7pm, sorted the rooms and agreed to meet at 8pm for a buffet dinner. We chatted and ate until it was time to find a venue for the species

list. Martin found a conservatory which served the purpose well. We collectively added the species seen and, after a long day, set out the plans for the next day before retiring to our rooms.

## Day Six

The forecast today was to start dull and overcast and become brighter in the afternoon. With this in mind we decided to have a free morning and travel up to the higher altitudes after 10am. Some people went to investigate the historical church and others for a walk beside the lake.

We collected our lunches and then all met up with the group and Andrej around 10:30am to set off up to the ski slopes at Soriska Plannia. The day was indeed cool and overcast and finding any butterflies seemed tricky. There was the occasional beacon of sunlight and we did see a few butterflies on the wing as we made our way up the grassy slope. The butterflies included a few Small Tortoiseshells, Dingy and Grizzled Skippers and a few Small Whites.

We then made our way through a steep wooded path and then finally out onto a grassy field and a few metres later we reached the ridge. We waited patiently for the weather to change, but alas other than a few very brief bursts of sunshine we remained in the cloud and even had some light drizzle. We added a new species in the form of a Northern Wall Brown and saw a couple of others including Woodland Ringlet and Large Wall Brown. The weather and late spring combined meant that high altitude butterflies were going to be tricky, so we made the decision to head back down.



Large Wall Brown © Paul L

On route we added Mountain Green-veined White, which was a relief to finally see the more higher altitude species. We also had a gorgeous Purple-edged Copper. Both were reluctant to open their wings in the chilly air. Blowing on them did not seem to help. For those that remained at the butterfly vigil they were eventually rewarded by both species opening their wings.

Back at the car park an open bar was too great a pull and most of the group went for a coffee and a strudel, whilst others relaxed in the warming day. Once we all gathered again we wended our



way back to the hotel and divided into two groups for those who wanted a lake swim and/or walk and those who wanted to explore another site just a couple of kilometres away.

On the 'Very Nice' valley walk, despite the improved temperature, butterfly numbers remained low. A Queen of Spain and Pearl-bordered Fritillaries were seen and a few whites and blues were encountered. A small group enjoyed and videoed the mating behaviour of Wood Whites. Martin went on to explain how this behaviour differs between species and how males sometimes, to varying degrees, display to females already mated. The next curious sighting was of woodland Duke of Burgundy butterflies. At home associated mainly with downland but in Europe thriving along woodland paths. These were feeding on Alder Buckthorn flowers.

We passed a deep gorge complete with "the devil's bridge", which was quite spectacular and arrived back at the car park. We drove back to the hotel to get ready for the evening meal.

After our meal we went on a night drive and saw a lovely buck Roe deer and an unidentified animal running across the car park. We also heard bats and Tawny Owls hooting and the unearthly screech of a fledgling Grey Heron.

## Day Seven

Today was the start of our last full day and we were hoping for some early sunshine. After meeting for a buffet breakfast at 8am we had a bit of time to get ready and do a little bird watching in the woods beside the hotel. We soon found the cause of the screeching from the previous night as we discovered a Heron's nest high in the pines. Other birds of note were Common Redstart, Spotted Flycatcher, Great Spotted Woodpecker and Tree Sparrow. Some lucky people had seen a Kingfisher from the lake bridge.

We gathered by the bus once again, meeting up with Andrej and then setting off up the Voje (very nice) Valley. We joined the toll road at Stara Fuzina and drove up, parking by a small restaurant along the road. We then walked in glorious sunshine through shaded woodland paths and into wildflower meadows, each one seemingly getting better and better as we progressed. The scenery was stunning as we were walking through a valley up into steep limestone cliffs and mountain tops dusted with snow....glorious.

The good weather and lower altitudes was also instrumental in bringing many butterflies onto the wing and we enjoyed many that we had seen previously, but some in better numbers. Andrej took us to a wet meadow with a stream coursing through. Here were a slightly different suite of butterflies. The Purple-edged Coppers to date had only been seen singularly, but here there were quite a few and happily a few males. Sooty Copper was around too. We added a new species with some sightings of pristine Lesser Marbled Fritillaries and then another as an equally smart European Swallowtail drifted by giving flight views only. Once we had thoroughly explored the meadow we gathered to return to the vehicles, the two members of the group that had soldiered on to see the 'slap' at the end of the path had returned so we descended all together. As we began our descent the heavens opened and we had steady rain.



Sooty Copper © Paul L

Back at the vehicles we ate our lunch and agreed to return to the hotel so people could change if necessary. Once on our way again we headed for Koca Pri Savici at the western end of the lake. We parked up and explored the meadows and woodland around the edge of the lake. A couple of people even joined the fish for a swim! On dry land we added another species for the trip as a

Hungarian Glider flitted through the trees before being lost as quickly as it was seen. A European Swallowtail was also great to see but unfortunately few people saw it. A Downy Emperor dragonfly wasn't new but still lovely to see both by the lake side and in the flower meadows.

A couple of people had requested a trip to Bled to see the famous lake. As there were only two Martin took them in his car, whilst everybody else relaxed around the hotel, meeting for dinner and to complete the sightings list.

We had a last night safari, exploring some of the quiet roads opposite the hotel. Our first sighting was of a Tawny Owl. A little later a medium sized mammal ran from the side of the track, but remained unidentified. After this we saw a Fox, a Roe Deer and a Tau Emperor moth. This was punctuated (all puns intended) by an unfortunate incident when we had a flat tyre. After a testing hour or more it was eventually replaced and we were able to get back to the hotel.

## Day Eight: Return to London

We managed perhaps for the first time this trip to just about leave on time and headed toward the airport. Thankfully it was a trouble free journey and we also passed Lake Bled. For those that missed it we had drive-by sightings of this beautiful area, with its Castle Island. Wildlife-wise a Brown Hare was added to the mammal list, but little else. At the airport we said goodbye to those lucky enough to be staying on or having a more adventurous route home.

Those on the return flight departed after a slight delay and had a very smooth journey into Heathrow where we said our final goodbyes and the tour came to an end.

## Systematic Species Checklists

Butterflies			10th June	11th June	12th June	13th June	14th June	15th June	16th June
Imago sightings are marked with a ✓, caterpillars are marked with a ☆			Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
Family <b>Papilionidae</b>									
1	Scarce Swallowtail	<i>Iphiclides podalirius</i>		✓	✓			✓	
2	Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>							✓
3	Clouded Apollo	<i>Parnassius mnemosyne</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Family <b>Pieridae</b>									
4	Orange Tip	<i>Anthocharis cardamines</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
5	Black-veined White	<i>Aporia crataegi</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
6	Berger's Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias alfacariensis</i>		?			✓		
7	Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias croceus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
8	Brimstone	<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
9	Wood White/Cryptic Wood White	<i>Leptidea sinapis/juvernica</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
10	Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
11	Mountain Green-veined White	<i>Pieris bryoniae</i>						✓	

Butterflies			10th June	11th June	12th June	13th June	14th June	15th June	16th June
Imago sightings are marked with a ✓, caterpillars are marked with a ☆			Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
12	Southern Small White	<i>Pieris mannii</i>		✓					
13	Green-veined White	<i>Pieris napi</i>		✓		✓			✓
14	Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Family <b>Lycaenidae</b>									
15	Green Hairstreak	<i>Callophrys rubi</i>					✓	✓	✓
16	Purple Hairstreak	<i>Neozephyrus quercus</i>		✓	✓				
17	Sloe Hairstreak	<i>Satyrrium acaciae</i>		✓					
18	Ilex Hairstreak	<i>Satyrrium ilicis</i>		✓					
19	Black Hairstreak	<i>Satyrrium pruni</i>			✓				
20	Purple-shot Copper	<i>Lycaena alciphron</i>				✓			
21	Purple-edged Copper	<i>Lycaena hippothoe</i>					✓	✓	✓
22	Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>		✓			✓		
23	Sooty Copper	<i>Lycaena tityrus</i>				✓		✓	✓
24	Brown Argus	<i>Aricia agestis</i>				✓			✓
25	Northern Brown Argus	<i>Aricia artaxerxes</i>				✓			
26	Holly Blue	<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>		✓	✓	✓			
27	Small Blue	<i>Cupido minimus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
28	Eastern Short-tailed Blue	<i>Cupido decoloratus</i>		✓					
29	Mazarine Blue	<i>Cyaniris semiargus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
30	Silver-studded Blue/Idas Blue	<i>Plebejus argus/idas</i>		✓	?			✓	✓
31	Reverdin's Blue	<i>Plebejus argyrognomon</i>		✓					✓
32	Amanda's Blue	<i>Polyommatus amandus</i>		✓	✓	✓			
33	Adonis Blue	<i>Polyommatus bellargus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
34	Turquoise Blue	<i>Polyommatus dorylas</i>				✓			
35	Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
36	Chequered Blue	<i>Scolitantides orion</i>			✓		✓		✓
Family <b>Riodinidae</b>									
37	Duke of Burgundy	<i>Hamearis lucina</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Family <b>Nymphalidae</b>									
38	Small Tortoiseshell	<i>Aglais urticae</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
39	Southern White Admiral	<i>Limenitis reducta</i>		✓					



Butterflies			10th June	11th June	12th June	13th June	14th June	15th June	16th June
Imago sightings are marked with a ✓, caterpillars are marked with a ☆			Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
40	Hungarian Glider	<i>Neptis rivularis</i>							✓
41	Common Glider	<i>Neptis sappho</i>		✓					
42	Large Tortoiseshell	<i>Nymphalis polychloros</i>		✓					
43	Comma	<i>Polygonia c-album</i>		✓	✓		✓		✓
44	Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
45	Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
46	Silver-washed Fritillary	<i>Argynnis paphia</i>		✓					
47	Pearl-bordered Fritillary	<i>Boloria euphrosyne</i>				✓		✓	✓
48	Twin-spot Fritillary	<i>Brenthis hecate</i>	✓	✓	✓				
49	Lesser Marbled Fritillary	<i>Brenthis ino</i>							✓
50	Marsh Fritillary	<i>Euphedryas aurinia</i>			✓				
51	Scarce Fritillary	<i>Euphedryas maturna</i>			✓				
52	Niobe Fritillary	<i>Fabriciana niobe</i>		✓					
53	High Brown Fritillary	<i>Fabriciana adippe</i>		✓					
54	Queen of Spain Fritillary	<i>Issoria lathonia</i>		✓				✓	
55	Heath Fritillary	<i>Melitaea athalia</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
56	Assmann's Fritillary	<i>Melitaea britomartis</i>				✓			
57	Glanville Fritillary	<i>Melitaea cinxia</i>	✓		✓	✓			
58	False Heath Fritillary	<i>Melitaea diamina</i>				✓		✓	
59	Spotted Fritillary	<i>Melitaea didyma</i>		✓		✓			✓
60	Knapweed Fritillary	<i>Melitaea phoebe</i>	✓	✓	✓				
61	Lesser Spotted Fritillary	<i>Melitaea trivia</i>		✓					
62	False Grayling	<i>Arethusana arethusa</i>		✓					
63	Pearly Heath	<i>Coenonympha arcania</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
64	Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
65	Bright-eyed Ringlet	<i>Erebia oeme</i>					✓		
66	Woodland Ringlet	<i>Erebia medusa</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
67	Woodland Grayling	<i>Hipparchia fagi</i>		✓					
68	Large Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata maera</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	
69	Northern Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata petropolitana</i>						✓	

Butterflies			10th June	11th June	12th June	13th June	14th June	15th June	16th June
Imago sightings are marked with a ✓, caterpillars are marked with a ☆			Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
70	Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>		✓	✓	✓			✓
71	Marbled White	<i>Melanargia galathea</i>		✓	✓				
72	Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>		✓			✓	✓	✓
	Family <b>Hesperiidae</b>								
73	Tufted Marbled Skipper	<i>Carcharodus floccifera</i>		✓		✓			
74	Mallow Skipper	<i>Carcharodus lavatherae</i>		✓					
75	Chequered Skipper	<i>Carterocephalus palaemon</i>				✓	✓		✓
76	Dingy Skipper	<i>Erynnis tages</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
77	Large Chequered Skipper	<i>Heteropterus morpheus</i>		✓					
78	Large Skipper	<i>Ochlodes sylvanus</i>		✓	✓		✓		✓
79	Oberthur's Skipper	<i>Pyrgus armoricanus</i>		✓	✓				
80	Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus malvae</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
81	Essex Skipper	<i>Thymelicus lineola</i>		✓					
82	Small Skipper	<i>Thymelicus sylvestris</i>		✓					

Moths			10th June	11th June	12th June	13th June	14th June	15th June	16th June
Imago 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	Forester sp	<i>Adscita sp.</i>		✓			✓		
2	Tau Emperor	<i>Aglaia tau</i>				✓			
3	Nine-spotted Moth	<i>Amata phegea</i>		✓		✓			✓
4	Orange Moth	<i>Angerona prunaria</i>			✓				
5	Cream Spot Tiger	<i>Arctia villica</i>	✓						
6	Silver Y	<i>Autographa gamma</i>		✓		✓	✓		✓
7	Mother Shipton	<i>Callistege mi</i>		✓	✓		✓		
8	Yellow Shell	<i>Camptogramma bilineata</i>	✓					✓	
9	Latticed Heath	<i>Chiasmia clathrata</i>		✓		✓		✓	
10	Small Elephant Hawk-moth	<i>Deilephila porcellus</i>							✓
11	Pine Tree Lappet	<i>Dendrolimus pini</i>			✓				
12	Clouded Buff	<i>Diacrisia sannio</i>			✓				
13	Burnished Brass	<i>Diachrysia chrysitis</i>				✓			

Moths			10th June	11th June	12th June	13th June	14th June	15th June	16th June
Imago sightings are marked with a ✓, caterpillars are marked with a ☆			Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
14	Orange Footman	<i>Eilema sororcula</i>			✓				
15	Common Heath	<i>Ematurga atomaria</i>		✓				✓	
16	Spotted Sulphur	<i>Emmelia trebealis</i>	✓		✓				
17	Burnet Companion	<i>Euclidia glyphica</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓
18	Broad-bordered Bee Hawkmoth	<i>Hemaris fuciformis</i>			✓	✓	?		✓
19	Scorched Carpet	<i>Ligdia adustata</i>				✓			
20	Blackneck	<i>Lygephila pastinum</i>	✓						
21	Gypsy Moth larva	<i>Lymantria dispar</i>	✓						
22	Humming-bird Hawk-moth	<i>Macroglossum stellatarum</i>			✓		✓		✓
23	Beautiful Carpet	<i>Mesoleuca albicillata</i>				✓			
24	Scarce Merville-du-Jour	<i>Moma alpium</i>			✓				
25	Longhorn Moth	<i>Nemophora/Adela sp.</i>					✓	✓	✓
26	Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing	<i>Noctua janthe</i>		✓					
27	Speckled Yellow	<i>Pseudopanthera macularia</i>		✓		✓		✓	✓
28	(micro with 4 orange spots)	<i>Psodos quadrifaria</i>						✓	
29	Bagworm larva in case	<i>Psychidae sp</i>			☆				
30	White Plume Moth	<i>Pterophorous pentadactyla</i>	✓						
31	Narrow Rose-banded Wave	<i>Rhodostrophia calabra</i>	✓						
32	Straw Dot	<i>Rivula sericealis</i>	✓						
33	Emperor Moth	<i>Saturnia pavonia</i>	☆						
34	Small Blood-vein	<i>Scopula imitaria</i>		✓					
35	Lewes Wave	<i>Scopula immorata</i>	✓						
36	Black-veined Moth	<i>Siona lineata</i>			✓		✓		
37	Feathered Footman	<i>Spiris striata</i>		✓					
38	Pygmy Moth	<i>Thyris fenestrella</i>	✓						
39	Crepuscular Burnet	<i>Zygaena carniolica</i>		✓					
40	6-spot Burnet	<i>Zygaena filipendula</i>		✓					
41	Narrow-bordered 5-spot Burnet	<i>Zygaena Ionicerae</i>				☆			
42	Transparent Burnet	<i>Zygaena purpuralis</i>							?
43	5-spot Burnet	<i>Zygaena trifolii</i>		✓					



## Birds

All seen except those marked 🎵 which were heard only

Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>
European Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>	Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>
Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>
Short-toed Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>	Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>
Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>	Fieldfare	<i>Turdus pilaris</i>
Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	Grasshopper Warbler 🎵	<i>Locustella naevia</i>
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>
Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>
Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>
Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	Willow Tit	<i>Poecile montanus</i>
European Turtle Dove 🎵	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	Marsh Tit	<i>Poecile palustris</i>
Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>
Common Cuckoo 🎵	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	Tree Creeper	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>
Tawny Owl	<i>Strix aluco</i>	Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>
Scops Owl	<i>Otus scops</i>	Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>
Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>
Alpine Swift	<i>Apus melba</i>	Jackdaw	<i>Corvus monedula</i>
Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>	Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>
Black Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus martius</i>	Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>
Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>	Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>
Grey-headed Woodpecker	<i>Picus canus</i>	Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>
Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>	Golden Oriole 🎵	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>
Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>
House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>
Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>	Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>
Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>	Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>

## Other Taxa

Mammals	
Roe Deer	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>
Red Deer	<i>Cervus elaphus</i>
European Hedgehog	<i>Erinaceus europaeus</i>
Brown Hare	<i>Lepus europaeus</i>
Beech Marten	<i>Martes foina</i>
Daubenton's Bat	<i>Myotis daubentonii</i>
Noctule Bat	<i>Nyctalus noctula</i>
Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>
Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>

Orchids	
Bug Orchid	<i>Anacamptis coriophora</i>
Pyramidal Orchid	<i>Anacamptis pyramidalis</i>
Sword-leaved Helleborine	<i>Cephalanthera longifolia</i>
Common Spotted Orchid	<i>Dactylorhiza fuchsii</i>
Southern Marsh Orchid	<i>Dactylorhiza praetermissa</i>
Fragrant Orchid	<i>Gymnadenia conopsea</i>
Adriatic Lizard Orchid	<i>Himantoglossum adriaticum</i>
Bird's Nest Orchid	<i>Neottia nidus-avis</i>
Common Twayblade	<i>Neottia ovata</i>
Burnt Tip Orchid	<i>Neotinea ustulata</i>
Greater Butterfly Orchid	<i>Platanthera chlorantha</i>

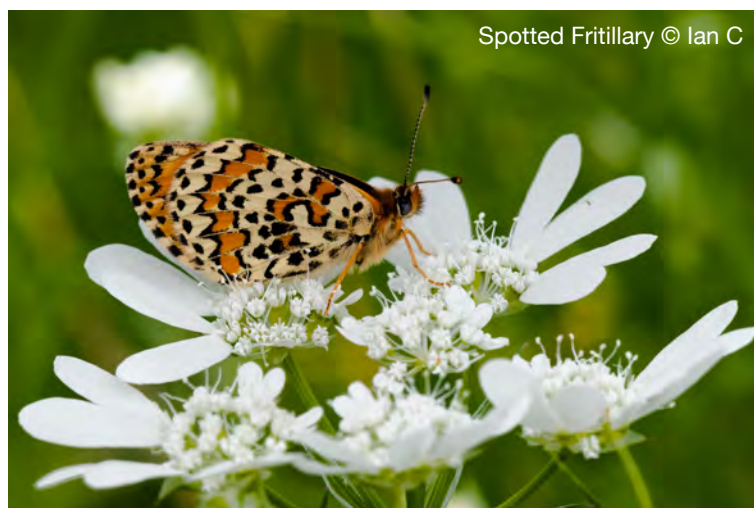
Other Invertebrates	
Striped Shieldbug	<i>Graphosoma italicum</i>
Field Cricket	<i>Gryllus campestris</i>
White Spotted Rose Chafer	<i>Oxythyrea funesta</i>
Black and Yellow Longhorn	<i>Rutpela maculata</i>
Large Black Longhorn Beetle	<i>Stictoleptura scutellata</i>
Pink Crab Spider	<i>Thomisus onustus</i>
Violet Carpenter Bee	<i>Xylocopa violacea</i>

Odonata	
Banded Demoiselle	<i>Calopteryx splendens</i>
Beautiful Demoiselle	<i>Calopteryx virgo</i>
Azure Damselfly	<i>Coenagrion puella</i>
Small Emerald Spreadwing	<i>Lestes virens</i>
White-legged Damselfly	<i>Platycnemis pennipes</i>
Emperor Dragonfly	<i>Anax imperator</i>
Goldenring	<i>Cordulegaster boltonii</i>
Downy Emerald	<i>Cordulia aenea</i>
Common Clubtail	<i>Gomphus vulgatissimus</i>
Broad-bodied Chaser	<i>Libellula depressa</i>
Scarce Chaser	<i>Libellula fulva</i>
Black-tailed Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum cancellatum</i>

Fish	
Pike	<i>Esox lucius</i>
Marbled Trout	<i>Salmo marmoratus</i>
Brown Trout	<i>Salmo trutta</i>
Rudd	<i>Scardinius erythrophthalmus</i>
Tench	<i>Tinca Tinca</i>

Reptiles and Amphibians	
Newt sp	
Yellow-bellied Toad	<i>Bombina variegata</i>
Common Toad	<i>Bufo bufo</i>
Western Green Lizard	<i>Lacerta bilineata</i>
Montpellier Snake	<i>Malpolon monspessulanus</i>
Grass Snake	<i>Natrix natrix</i>
Dice Snake	<i>Natrix tessellata</i>
Marsh Frog	<i>Pelophylax ridibundus</i>
Dalmatian Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis melisellensis</i>
Common Frog	<i>Rana temporaria</i>

## Photo Gallery



Spotted Fritillary © Ian C



Turquoise Blue © Neil C



Small Blood-vein © Ian C



Southern White Admiral © Paul L



Scarce Swallowtail © Neil C



Mazarine Blue © Paul L



Reverdin's Blue © Neil C



Purple-edged Copper © Ian C



Small Elephant Hawkmoth © Terry Goble



Reverdin's Blue © Terry Goble



Narrow-bordered 5-spot Burnet caterpillar & parasites © Paul L



Sloe Hairstreak © Paul L



Assman's Fritillary © Paul L



Scarce Chaser © Paul L



Pink Crab Spider © Terry Goble



Lesser Spotted Fritillary © Neil T



Mountain Green-veined White © Neil T



Mazarine Blue © Ian C



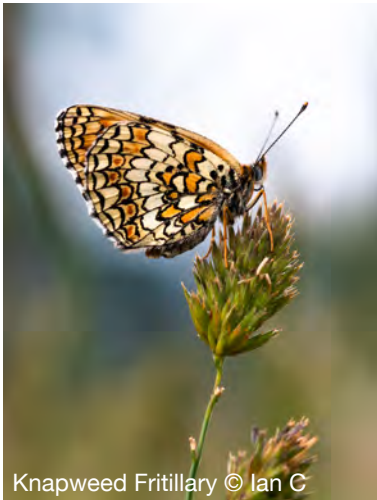




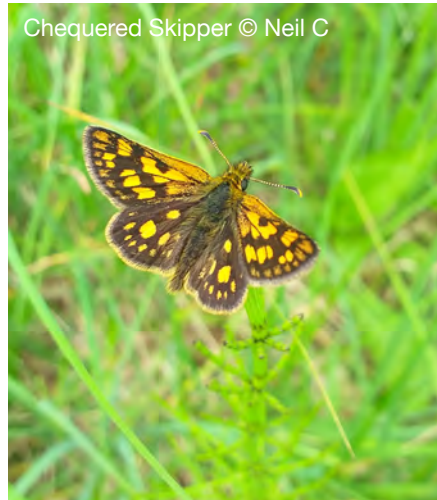
Crepuscular Burnet © Paul L



Scarce Swallowtail © Paul L



Knapweed Fritillary © Ian C



Chequered Skipper © Neil C



Black-veined White © Neil C



Mountain Green-veined White © Ian C



Scarce Fritillary © Ian C



False Grayling © Paul L



Adonis Blue © Neil T



Purple-edged Copper © Neil C



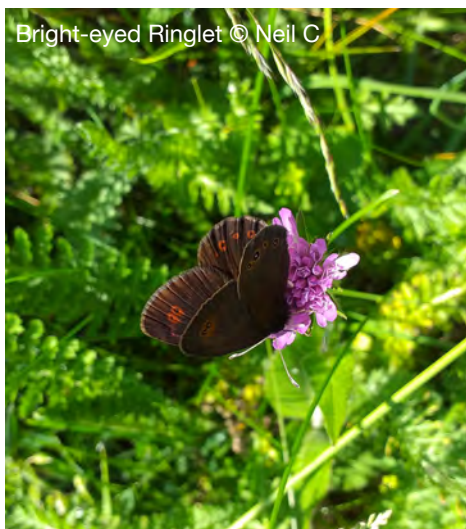
© Neil T



Clouded Yellow © Neil C



Amanda's Blues © Ian C



Bright-eyed Ringlet © Neil C



Chequered Blue © Neil T

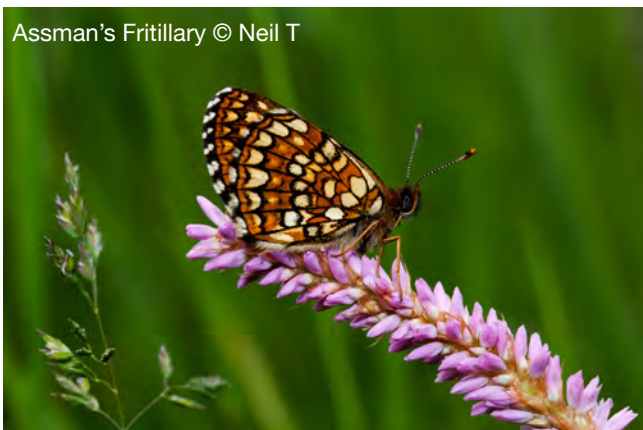
Black-veined White © Paul L



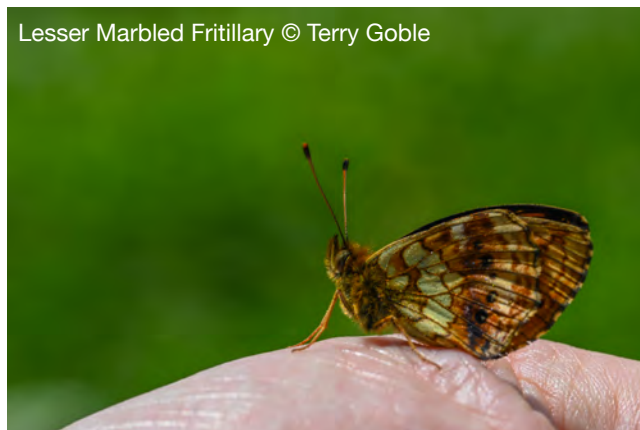
Mountain Green-veined White © Paul L



Assman's Fritillary © Neil T



Lesser Marbled Fritillary © Terry Goble







Assman's Fritillary © Ian C



Mazarine Blue © Neil C



False Heath Fritillary © Neil T



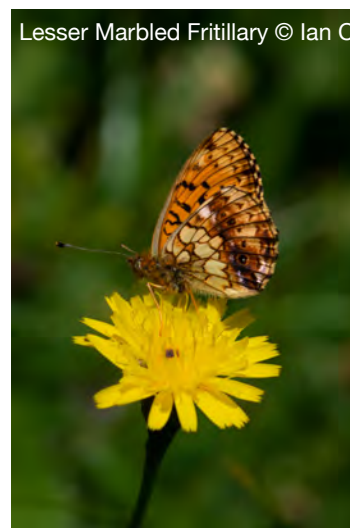
Black-veined White © Paul L



Eastern Short-tailed Blue © Neil C



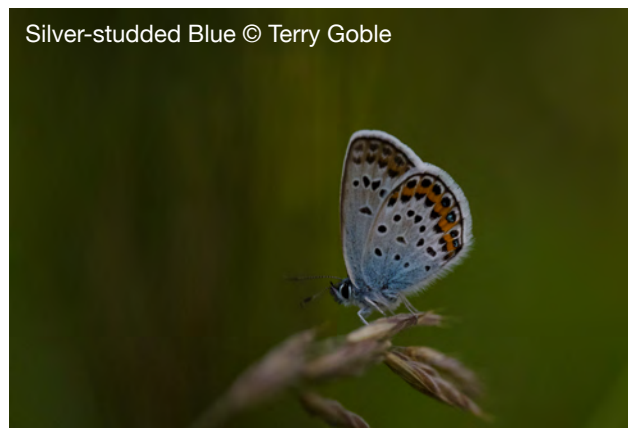
Large Wall Brown © Neil C



Lesser Marbled Fritillary © Ian C



Broad-bordered Bee Hawkmoth © Terry Goble



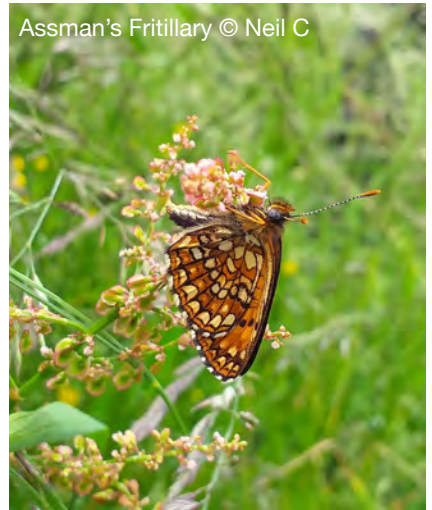
Silver-studded Blue © Terry Goble



Lesser Marbled Fritillary © Neil T



Large Chequered Skipper © Paul L



Assman's Fritillary © Neil C