

Montes Universales Butterfly Holiday Tour Report

28 July – 4 August 2018
Led by Simon Spencer



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Introduction

This butterfly holiday is new to Greenwings and took in a largely unexplored region of Spain about 200 kilometres east of Madrid. The Montes Universales rise to around 1,900m and are disconnected from other montane regions of Spain. The range of mountains embraces the Sierra de Albarracín and runs from north west to south east. The lower lying areas are composed of arable terrain with arid scrub, poplars, junipers and pine forests at elevation. There are many dry riverbeds which are filled only during stormy periods or from winter snowmelt. The area is dry and hot in summer, with temperatures regularly reaching 35c, but in spite of this, there are plenty of locations where rivers and streams provide lush surroundings, and it is mainly here where large numbers of butterflies can be reliably found. The guests joining us were Peter and Dave W, Barrie, Emma & Aidan, David C & Barbara, Ken, Robert, Allan and Geoff.

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

Day 1, Saturday 28th July: Arrival at Madrid airport, transfer to hotel with a stop at the Embalse de la Toba

Day 2, Sunday 29th July: Javier's Rambla (Rambla de Monterde) and road to Pozondón

Day 3, Monday 30th July: Noguera, Bronchales and Sierra Alta

Day 4, Tuesday 31st July: Moscardón, Nacimiento del Rio Tajo, Bridge over Rio Tajo, Javier's Rambla

Day 5, Wednesday 1st August: Vallecillo

Day 6, Thursday 2nd August: Ojos del Cabriel & Vallecillo

Day 7, Friday 3rd August: Javier's Rambla & Noguera

Day 8, Saturday 4th August: Return to UK.



Day 1, Saturday 28th July

With all guests gathered by midday at Madrid airport, the group embarked on the drive to Albarracín. A stop was made for refreshments near Tarancón, but this ended up lasting longer than expected, so it wasn't until late afternoon when the group made a roadside stop beside the Embalse de la Toba, a large reservoir located some distance from any towns.

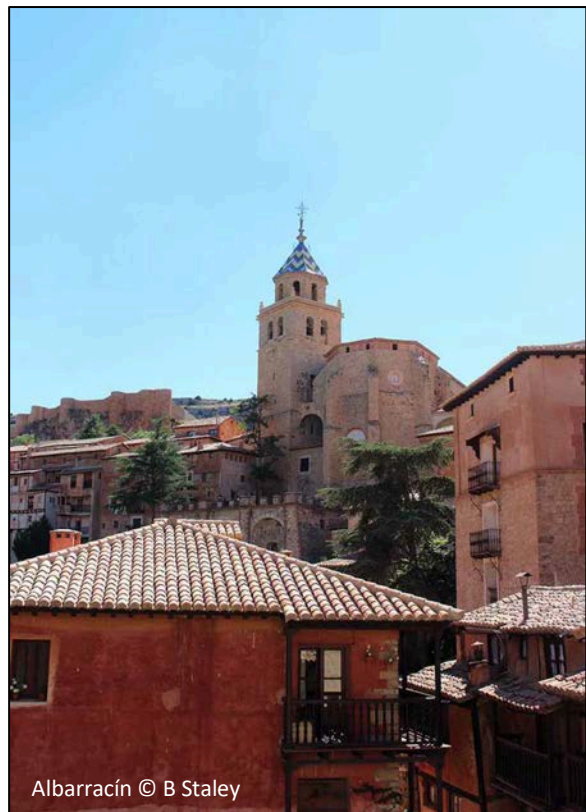
Straight away, the group were able to get a feel for the kinds of butterflies that would be companions for the week, as Rock Grayling and Grayling were immediately seen in large numbers. Sage Skipper was identified as well as Oberthur's Grizzled Skipper, whilst Swallowtail, Cleopatra, Brimstone, Clouded Yellow, Cardinal, Turquoise Blue, Iberian Marbled White, Tree Grayling and Oriental Meadow Brown were all noted. Emma also noticed a Spanish Purple Hairstreak, so everybody was full of enthusiasm for the week ahead given that the stop lasted no more than an hour and wasn't a designated site of particular interest.



Sage Skipper © B Staley



Cleopatra © B Staley



Albarracín © B Staley

The group reached the hotel around 6pm, and all were struck by the beauty of the walled town of Albarracín, which was to be the base for the week. The evening meals were taken in a restaurant affiliated to the hotel some 200m away, but it was no hardship whatsoever to walk down the narrow, cobbled lanes every evening and beyond into the main square.

Day 2, Sunday 29th July

The sites visited today were all less than 5km from Albarracín. The first was Javier's Rambla, a dried river bed which probably only has flowing water in late winter/early spring. The vegetation was rather sparse and generally quite thorny, though the eryngiums with blue flowers were startlingly attractive and an impressive range of butterflies were found in this dry looking location.

The first species to properly show itself was Oberthur's Anomalous Blue, which is endemic to NE Spain. There was no shortage of them even in the first 50m or so of the Rambla. Soon, Sage Skipper was spotted (unsurprising given the number of sage plants growing here) Large Grizzled and Southern Marbled Skipper was seen shortly after. The large and very pale Spanish Chalkhill Blue was about in

reasonable numbers and Cinquefoil Skipper, often a rare beast in Europe, was recorded in the dozens all the way along the Rambla.



Southern Marbled Skipper © R Chubb

As the group made their way further up the rambla, there was considerable excitement as Southern Hermit was identified. In fact, five or six of this rare Iberian species were seen, to the surprise even of the lead guide Simon, who had encountered just one on his previous visit. The other side of the road were Chapman's Blues on fox scat, while a cordulegaster patrolled at the river bank.

It soon became a matter of default acceptance that all three Gatekeepers were around, although Spanish Gatekeeper must have been nearing the end of its flight period as specimens were generally quite worn.



Javier's Rambla © B Staley

Other notable species seen during the visit were Red Underwing, Large & Silver-spotted Skipper, Iberian Scarce Swallowtail (aka Spanish Swallowtail), Western Dappled White, Blue-spot, Ilex & Sloe Hairstreak, Long-tailed & Lang's Short-tailed Blue, Chapman's Blue, Knapweed, Spotted & Provençal Fritillary, Dusky Heath, Great Banded Grayling, Hermit and Dusky Meadow Brown.



Just before midday, the group moved on about 2km up the road towards Pozondón, where there was another site that benefits from early spring meltwater replete with a tunnel under the roadside. In



fact, there was still a damp patch in the lowest point and many butterflies were seen taking fluids from this spot, mainly Graylings but also Silver-spotted Skipper. As the day wore on, butterflies were attracted to feed on our sweat!

Black Satyr was conspicuous as were Hermit and Southern Hermit but one of the guides spotted a large looking satyrid, and it was later declared to be a female Great Sooty Satyr, a species not knowingly recorded in this region.

Following lunch taken in the shade of a steep escarpment, the group continued to revel in the butterfly-rich fields filled with eryngiums and thistles. Many more of the earlier species were seen again, but eyes were now more attuned for the unusual. We finished the day on a rough track beyond the cave paintings near Albarracín. Other interesting species this afternoon included Tree, False and Rock Grayling Escher's Blue, Southern White Admiral, Cardinal, High Brown, Niobe

and Queen of Spain Fritillaries and we were now able to give all of these winged wonders more attention than earlier in the day when things were too intense with all the rarer butterflies.

Day 3, Monday 30th July, Noguera, Bronchales and Sierra Alta

A half hour's drive along largely empty roads meant the group arrived at Noguera prior to 10am, whereupon it was necessary to navigate a few hundred metres up a dirt track to a very promising looking spot nestled between two mountain ridges with a river running through the middle.

Opposite the vans was a gully with thistles growing, which, during the course of the next few hours, provided superb entertainment with all five of the *argynnis* Fritillaries visiting to take nectar. Most welcome of all was Cardinal, an imposing creature, although not easy to fit into a camera's viewfinder! Queen of Spain Fritillary was also here, whilst in the nearby scrub we found Dusky Heath, Oriental & Dusky Meadow Brown, Rock Graylings, Lesser-spotted Fritillary & Iberian Marbled Whites.



Cardinal © P Gravett



Iberian Marbled White © P Gravett

We walked a track, where Wood White was seen for the first time on this trip, but it was the other track which held the principal interest, due mainly to several damp trickles cascading through it from higher up. A puddling Iberian Scarce Swallowtail was a prominent sight, as was the week's only Large Tortoiseshell, which kept flying up and down a short length of track and alighting to take fluids.

It was two *lycaenids* that were the stars though – first, Mother-of-Pearl Blue (an endemic to two regions in Spain) and then Azure Chalkhill Blue (endemic to just this region), which had until recently been deemed a subspecies of Chalkhill Blue. The three species of Gatekeeper were present along this track, and others to mention were Purple Shot Copper, Mallow Skipper, Lang's Short-Tailed Blue, Marbled Fritillary and the week's only Speckled Woods!

Lunch was taken in the shade of the north facing ridge, and soon the group was on the way to the highest altitude location of the tour.



Group at Noguera © B Staley



Azure Chalkhill Blue © P Gravett



Noguera track © B Staley



Turquoise Blues © R Chubb

The first afternoon stop at a rocky outcrop in the pine forests above Bronchales was Zapater's Ringlet country, but we didn't find any in spite of searching. Fritillaries included Niobe and Dark Green. An egg-laying Purple-shot Copper was seen however before we drove off up a dirt track to Sierra Alta which, at 1,854m, provided the best views of the trip. As ever, the high altitude attracted hill-toppers, with both Swallowtail and Iberian Scarce Swallowtail cavorting around the peak. In addition, an Apollo was seen floating around the summit.

There were patches of thyme which were adorned with good numbers of Purple - shot Coppers, and amongst them was a single Mountain Argus which in these parts is the *montensis* form. A thorough comb of the scree slopes saw plenty of other butterflies identified, a female Hermit being the pick.

Day 4, Tuesday 31st July – Moscardón and Nacimiento del Rio Tajo

Another glorious, sunny day and the group was again on its way by 9.15am to what proved to be a glorious first stop. Having passed the village of Moscardón, the vehicles were parked on the vergeside of an abnormally green tract of countryside where there was a series of water troughs for shepherds to allow their sheep to drink from. Indeed, this actually happened within half an hour of arrival, although the flock was gone within 20 minutes or so.

Of course, the damp areas around these troughs were littered with puddling butterflies, with Azure Chalkhill Blue probably being the commonest. However, there were decent numbers of Damon Blues to be seen here as well, and Allan, who had gone off further into the grassland came back to delight the others with a stunning 'Spanish' Chestnut Heath. This is form *iphinoides*, and differs considerably



Spanish Chestnut Heath © P Gravett

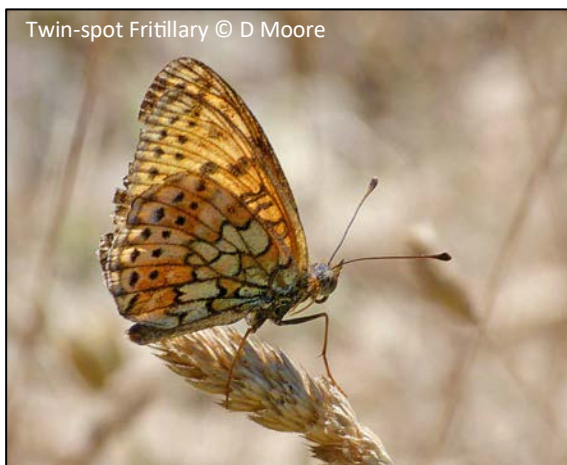


False Grayling © D Wright

from the nominate form, having a bold series of underwing ocelli to the point where it more closely resembles Russian Heath. Another Apollo floated past, but in amongst the maelstrom of Graylings, a new species was recorded that had very likely been present (but un-noticed) prior to today – False Grayling. In fact, once the group had been alerted to its presence quite a few were seen and it proved to be a reliable companion from this point onwards, often helping itself to fluids by way of alighting on the bodies of human beings!

Again, there were Fritillaries galore, with all 5 of the *argynnis* genus seen, with the welcome bonus of Twin Spot Fritillary which, although largely faded, was still going strong at this late time in the season.

Two separate pairs of mating Great Banded Graylings were seen, and Emma latched onto the first Black-veined White of the trip. Safflower Skipper was also present whilst Southern White Admiral was seen in good numbers, much to the delight of the Vanessid aficionados.



Twin-spot Fritillary © D Moore



Southern White Admiral © P Gravett

A stop was also made at the source of the River Tagus, but sadly the stagnant pool was over-run with frogs, meaning that butterflies were largely too wary to spend time there at risk of being literally eaten alive. That said, a walk around the adjacent fields saw Olive Skipper, many Blues, and plenty more Graylings.

Eventually we moved on, with a brief stop on a bridge over the Rio Tajo producing an egg-laying Safflower Skipper as well as the week's first Lesser Marbled Fritillaries which were, as seems to be default behaviour with this species, spending more time dithering in the air than nectaring. Such was the level of activity that we



Lesser Marbled Fritillary © P Gravett

couldn't resist a quick stop at Javier's Rambla on the way back to the hotel and here we found hundreds of puddling butterflies by the riverside. Of note were Chalkhill, Chapman's and Anomalous Blues and plenty of Pyrgus Skippers, rounding off what had been an exceptional day.

Day 5, Wednesday 1st August, Vallecillo and environs

The first stop was beyond Vallecillo. Here we followed a track for several hundred metres before arriving in a clearing which was surrounded by dry grassland with low growing yellow flowers. Spotted Fritillary, Cinquefoil Skipper, Dusky Meadow Brown, Hermit, Oberthur's Anomalous Blue & Olive Skipper were all recorded, but the most welcome event came with the first sighting of Esper's Marbled

White. In truth, there may have been others prior to this but with so many Iberian Marbled Whites flying around, it was difficult to tell. However, Esper's is noticeably larger and more boldly marked and is altogether a very striking insect.



Esper's Marbled White © D. Moore



Cinquefoil Skipper © B. Staley

The fields continued towards a line of beehives, so rather than risk any unnecessary confrontation, it was decided to press on further up the track to the morning's second location.

Upon arrival, this area looked extremely promising. It was a large site with much more verdant pasture. Indeed, a couple of shepherds walked by, and it was left to Spanish-speaker Emma to explain what 14 Brits were doing in a rather nondescript and isolated part of this sparsely populated region.

Some of the group pressed on further down the fields, and it was clear that the ground was becoming boggy and soon a large expanse of thistles was seen and those present made their way down to investigate. What was found there was a highlight of the trip: dozens and dozens of late summer butterflies enjoying this nectar bonanza. The *argynnis* Fritillaries were well represented, whilst Hermit, Great Banded Grayling, Rock Grayling, Southern White Admiral, Comma, Peacock, Spanish Chestnut Heath *iphioides*, and many others were all easily observable.

Suddenly, the guide spotted a black butterfly and realised it was a Zapater's Ringlet. He and Robert gave chase but the butterfly flew up the rock face and could not be photographed. At this point, it was

decided to drive back to where the group had been initially dropped off and, unsurprisingly, everyone jumped in the van as soon as they heard what had just been spotted.

Lunch was taken and the group split up to explore the various tracks which were home to abnormally lush vegetation. Butterfly numbers were quite amazing, and when everybody reassembled at the vans, it transpired that three others had seen another Zapater's Ringlet although again, it did not settle.

Once back at Albarracín for the evening's checklist, it turned out that this one site had seen 65 different species of butterfly recorded, quite some going and a personal record for Simon, the lead guide.

Day 6, Thursday 1st August – Ojos del Cabriel, Vallecillo (repeat visit) and Rio Cabriel

There was a sense of 'unfinished business' in the air so the group made the decision to revisit the Vallecillo site to try and track down more Zapater's Ringlets.



First, however, there was a trip to Ojos del Cabriel, a delightful spot close to Vallecillo with grassy fields and copious water. The drive down the steep gravel track was a little hair-raising, but the scene that greeted the group was an abnormally verdant one, and immediately it was obvious that there were plenty of butterflies active in the grassy field adjacent to the car park, including a beautifully fresh Southern Brown Argus.

The group moved on to the waterfall which was lush with vegetation and there were many butterflies settled on the damp rocks, including Azure Chalkhill, Turquoise, and Long-Tailed Blues and Spanish Purple Hairstreak.



After an hour spent at this lovely location, the party moved on to revisit the previous day's Zapater Ringlet site, and immediately after parking the vans, one was spotted flying close to the thistle patch. It very accommodatingly decided to settle by a stagnant pool next to an overflow pipe. However, it kept getting disturbed by the many bees that were also present at this watering hole and whilst

everybody got to see the insect this time, it was not prepared to stay for very long, so the guide did his best to encourage this beauty to linger a bit. Unfortunately, this state of affairs did not last more than a few seconds, and it suddenly flew onto nearby vegetation provoking a mass reaction to photograph it prior to it flying away. It was in beautiful condition and had obviously recently emerged.

A further couple of hours at the site unfortunately did not see any more Zapater's recorded, although again the trackside flowers provided a rich feast for other species and in extremely good numbers.

On the way back to the hotel, two further stops were made.

A stop by the river not far from the hotel did not yield any White Letter Hairstreaks, in spite of the elms growing there. The butterfly had probably by now finished its flight season, although Southern Marbled Skipper was seen along with Long-tailed Blue and Damon Blues and a few commoner species such as Clouded Yellows and the odd Pierid nectaring on thistles. Peter and Barbara paddled here and soon attracted locals to do the same!



Mother-of-Pearl Blues © A Ferguson



Spanish Chalkhill Blue © E Whitfield

The second stop was by bridge over the by now largely dried up River Cabriel. There were several sunken tracts however where standing water was still present, and the group got a rare audience with a viperine water snake, whilst also reacquainting themselves with the butterfly species most commonly seen puddling, such as Azure Chalkhill Blue, Turquoise Blue, Mother-of-Pearl Blue & Spanish Chalkhill Blue.

There was time for one newcomer to be recorded though – a faded Mazarine Blue male, which was obviously at the end of its flight period.

Day 7, Friday 3rd August, Javier's Rambla & Noguera revisits

The sign of a productive trip is when there is practically nothing new left to search for on the final day! This was the situation on this last full day, so the group agreed to revisit two of the more spectacular sites and by 9.15am everyone was back in Javier's Rambla.

Again, there were plenty of butterflies, but this time the group went further up into the rambla, where Striped & Tree Grayling were seen (they had largely been overlooked earlier in the week) as well as another couple of Southern Hermits.

The second location visited was the riverside track at Noguera, where although windy, the group were treated to good displays, particularly from the *argynnis* Fritillaries (although this time, Niobe wasn't spotted) and the array of puddling Lycaenids.

Several Purple Shot Coppers were observed further up the track, whilst Iberian Scarce Swallowtail and the usual cast of Graylings were also welcome companions.



Footnote

The trip back to Madrid airport was only interspersed by a 40-minute break at a site near Huélamo plus a lunch stop at a motorway service area after Tarancón.

The overwhelming view shared by the guests is that the trip had been extremely successful, capped off nicely with Zapater's Ringlet, although it was a shame there weren't more of them.

The numbers of butterflies belonging to species that are either endemic to Spain or rare in other countries took everyone by surprise. Spanish & Azure Chalkhill Blues were seen in multi-hundreds, along with Oberthur's Anomalous Blue. Southern Hermit was found easily, although as its name suggests, this is not a butterfly that can be found in dense colonies.

Other delights were the significant numbers of Cinquefoil Skipper and the recording of all five *argynnis* Fritillaries at the same site on two separate occasions. Twin Spot and Lesser Marbled Fritillaries were also welcome additions. The sheer quantities of various Grayling species will remain memorable too; it wouldn't be unreasonable to estimate their collective numbers in the tens of thousands over the course of the week.

There have been images taken of species that have yet to be definitively identified too, including a possible Spanish Zephyr Blue taken by Barrie. The total number of species recorded is therefore not official, but it stands roughly at the 100 mark, which is quite something at the end of July and into early August.

The area is not especially well-trodden by tourists which gave the group a good sense of space and freedom, and although the afternoons could become decidedly warm, the weather generally was conducive to searching for butterflies as clear blue skies are almost guaranteed in this part of Spain in late summer and mornings are quite cool to begin with, with temperatures progressively rising as the day wears on.

Acknowledgements. Greenwings would like to thank all their guests on this trip for convivial company throughout the week. The hotel too catered well for the group and travel arrangements for the guests were relatively problem free.



Species list and photo gallery overleaf

Scientific	Common	28	29	30	31	1	2	3
Hesperiidae	Skippers							
<i>Carcharodus alceae</i>	Mallow Skipper			1	1			1
<i>Carcharodus baeticus</i>	Southern Marbled Skipper		1				1	1
<i>Spialia rosae (sertorius)</i>	Red-underwing Skipper		1	1	1	1	1	1
<i>Muschampia proto</i>	Sage Skipper		1	1	1		1	1
<i>Pyrgus carthami</i>	Safflower Skipper				1	1		
<i>Pyrgus cirsii</i>	Cinquefoil Skipper		1		1	1	1	1
<i>Pyrgus serratulae</i>	Olive Skipper				1	1		
<i>Pyrgus armoricanus</i>	Oberthur's Grizzled Skipper	1						
<i>Pyrgus alveus</i>	Large Grizzled Skipper		1					
<i>Thymelicus lineola</i>	Essex Skipper			1	1		1	
<i>Thymelicus sylvestris</i>	Small Skipper			1	1	1	1	
<i>Thymelicus acteon</i>	Lullworth Skipper			1	1	1	1	
<i>Hesperia comma</i>	Silver-spotted Skipper		1	1	1	1	1	1
<i>Ochlodes sylvanus</i>	Large Skipper			1		1	1	1
Papilionidae	Swallowtails & Apollos							
<i>Parnassius apollo</i>	Apollo			1	1			
<i>Iphiclides podalirius feisthamelii</i>	Iberian Scarce Swallowtail		1	1		1	1	1
<i>Papilio machaon</i>	Swallowtail	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Pieridae	Whites & Yellows							
<i>Leptidea sinapis complex</i>	Wood White			1	1	1	1	1
<i>Euchloe crameri</i>	Western Dappled White		1					
<i>Aporia crataegi</i>	Black-veined white				1	1		
<i>Pieris brassicae</i>	Large White			1		1	1	
<i>Pieris rapae</i>	Small White		1	1	1		1	1
<i>Pieris napi</i>	Green-veined White			1	1	1	1	1
<i>Pontia daplidice</i>	Bath White		1				1	
<i>Colias crocea</i>	Clouded Yellow	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
<i>Colias alfacariensis</i>	Berger's Clouded Yellow		1		1	1	1	1
<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>	Brimstone	1		1	1	1	1	
<i>Gonepteryx cleopatra</i>	Cleopatra	1	1	1	1	1		1
Lycaenidae	Blues, Coppers, Hairstreaks							
<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>	Small Copper			1	1	1	1	
<i>Lycaena alciphron</i>	Purple-shot Copper			1	1	1	1	
<i>Laeosopsis roboris</i>	Spanish Purple Hairstreak	1					1	
<i>Satyrium spini</i>	Blue-spot Hairstreak		1			1	1	1
<i>Satyrium ilicis</i>	Ilex Hairstreak		1	1		1		1

Scientific	Common	28	29	30	31	1	2	3
<i>Satyrrium acaciae</i>	Sloe Hairstreak		1	1				1
<i>Lampides boeticus</i>	Long-tailed Blue						1	1
<i>Leptotes pirithous</i>	Lang's Short-tailed Blue		1	1	1		1	1
<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>	Holly Blue		1	1	1			
<i>Kretania hespericus</i>	Spanish Zephyr Blue						1	
<i>Plebejus argus</i>	Silver-studded Blue		1		1	1	1	
<i>Aricia cramera</i>	Southern Brown Argus	1		1	1	1	1	1
<i>Aricia montensis</i>	Mountain Argus			1				
<i>Polyommatus dorylas</i>	Turquoise Blue	1	1		1	1	1	1
<i>Polyommatus nivescens</i>	Mother-of-Pearl Blue			1	1	1	1	1
<i>Polyommatus thersites</i>	Chapman's Blue		1		1			
<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>	Common Blue	1	1	1	1	1	1	
<i>Polyommatus bellargus</i>	Adonis Blue		1		1			1
<i>Lysandra caelestissima</i>	Azure Chalkhill Blue			1	1	1	1	1
<i>Polyommatus albicans</i>	Spanish Chalkhill Blue		1		1	1	1	1
<i>Polyommatus fabressei</i>	Oberthur's Anomalous Blue		1	1	1	1	1	1
<i>Polyommatus damon</i>	Damon Blue				1	1	1	
Nymphalidae	Aristocrats,							
<i>Argynnis paphia</i>	Silver-washed Fritillary	1		1	1	1	1	1
<i>Argynnis pandora</i>	Cardinal	1	1	1	1	1		1
<i>Argynnis aglaja</i>	Dark Green Fritillary			1	1	1	1	1
<i>Argynnis adippe</i>	High Brown Fritillary		1	1	1	1		
<i>Argynnis niobe</i>	Niobe Fritillary		1	1	1			
<i>Issoria lathonia</i>	Queen of Spain Fritillary		1	1	1	1	1	
<i>Brenthis daphne</i>	Marbled Fritillary			1				
<i>Brenthis ino</i>	Lesser Marbled Fritillary				1	1		1
<i>Brenthis hecate</i>	Twin-spot Fritillary		1		1	1		
<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>	Red Admiral		1	1	1	1	1	1
<i>Vanessa cardui</i>	Painted Lady	1	1	1	1	1		1
<i>Aglais io</i>	Peacock			1	1	1	1	1
<i>Aglais urticae</i>	Small Tortoiseshell					1		
<i>Polygonia c-album</i>	Comma			1	1	1		1
<i>Nymphalis polychloros</i>	Large Tortoiseshell			1				
<i>Melitaea phoebe</i>	Knapweed Fritillary		1		1	1	1	
<i>Melitaea trivia</i>	Lesser Spotted Fritillary			1				
<i>Melitaea didyma</i>	Spotted Fritillary			1	1	1		1
<i>Melitaea deione</i>	Provençal Fritillary		1	1	1	1	1	
<i>Melitaea parthenoides</i>	Meadow Fritillary				1			

Scientific	Common	28	29	30	31	1	2	3
<i>Limenitis reducta</i>	Southern White Admiral		1		1	1	1	
Nymphalidae	Browns, Heaths, Graylings & Gatekeepers							
<i>Pararge aegeria</i>	Speckled Wood			1				
<i>Lasiommata megera</i>	Wall Brown		1	1				1
<i>Coenonympha arcania</i>	Pearly Heath			1		1		1
<i>Coenonympha glycerion iphinoides</i>	Spanish form of Chestnut Heath		1	1	1	1	1	
<i>Coenonympha dorus</i>	Dusky Heath		1	1	1	1	1	1
<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>	Small Heath			1	1	1		1
<i>Pyronia tithonus</i>	Gatekeeper		1	1	1	1	1	1
<i>Pyronia cecilia</i>	Southern Gatekeeper		1	1	1	1	1	1
<i>Pyronia bathseba</i>	Spanish Gatekeeper		1	1	1			1
<i>Maniola jurtina</i>	Meadow Brown		1	1	1	1	1	1
<i>Hyponephele lycaon</i>	Dusky Meadow Brown			1	1	1		
<i>Erebia zapateri</i>	Zapater's Ringlet					1	1	
<i>Melanargia russiae</i>	Esper's Marbled White					1	1	
<i>Melanargia lachesis</i>	Iberian Marbled White	1		1	1	1	1	1
<i>Satyrus actaea</i>	Black Satyr		1		1		1	
<i>Hipparchia alcyone</i>	Rock Grayling	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
<i>Hipparchia semele</i>	Grayling		1	1	1	1	1	1
<i>Hipparchia statilinus</i>	Tree Grayling	1	1				1	1
<i>Hipparchia fidia</i>	Striped Grayling		1	1			1	1
<i>Arethusana arethusa</i>	False Grayling				1	1	1	
<i>Brintesia circe</i>	Great Banded Grayling		1	1	1	1	1	
<i>Chazara briseis</i>	The Hermit		1	1		1		1
<i>Chazara priouri</i>	Southern Hermit		1					1
<i>Hyponephele lupina</i>	Oriental Meadow Brown		1	1	1	1		
<i>Polyommatus escheri</i>	Escher's Blue		1	1			1	
<i>Cyaniris semiargus</i>	Mazarine Blue						1	
<i>Satyrus ferula</i>	Great Sooty Satyr		1					
Daily totals		15	54	64	67	65	59	52
Total number for the week								99

Lang's Short-tailed Blue © D Coupe



Spanish Chestnut Heath © D Wright

Great Banded Grayling © D Moore



Black Satyr (f) © B Staley





Iberian Marbled White © A Ferguson



Clouded Yellow © B Staley

Cinquefoil Skipper © P Gravett



Damon Blue © R Chubb



Dark Green Fritillary © B Staley



Meadow Fritillary © B Staley



Spanish Chalkhill Blue pair © R Chubb





Red-underwing Skipper © P Gravett



Silver-spotted Skipper © P Gravett



Spanish Scarce Swallowtail © P Gravett







Butterflies feeding on minerals and moisture © D Moore



Rock Graylings feasting with False Grayling and Spanish Chalkhill Blues © D Moore



Silver-washed Fritillary © D Coupe



Valezina © P Gravett



Spanish Purple Hairstreak © D Wright



Azure Chalkhill Blue © A Ferguson



Tree Grayling © D Wright



Southern White Admiral © D Moore





Provençal Fritillary © E Whitfield



Swallowtail © E Whitfield



Long-tailed Blue © B Staley



Oberthur's Anomalous Blue © R Chubb



Rock Grayling © E Whitfield



Oriental Meadow Brown © D Coupe



Ocellated Lizard © E Whitfield



Cardinal © A Ferguson

Damon Blue © D Wright



Turquoise Blue © D Wright



Mother-of-Pearl Blues © D Coupe



Rock Grayling © P Gravett



Spanish Gatekeeper (Javier's Rambla) © G Woodcock



Southern Gatekeeper (Javier's Rambla) © G Woodcock



High Brown Fritillary (Valecillo) © G Woodcock



High Brown Fritillary © G Woodcock



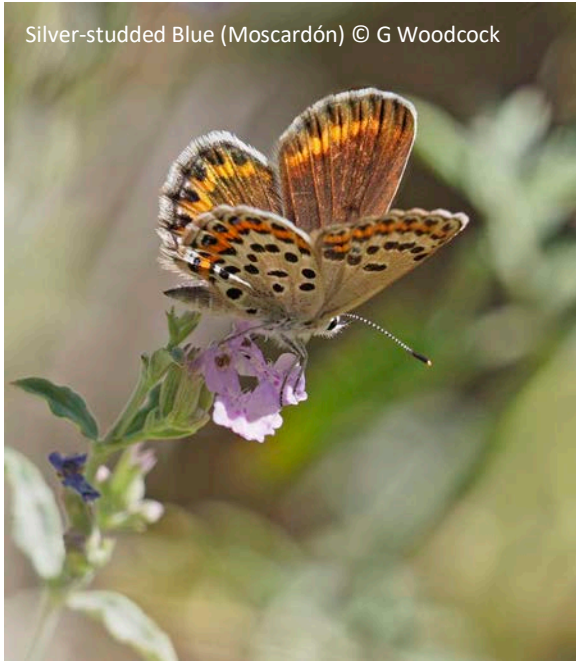
Small Heath © G Woodcock



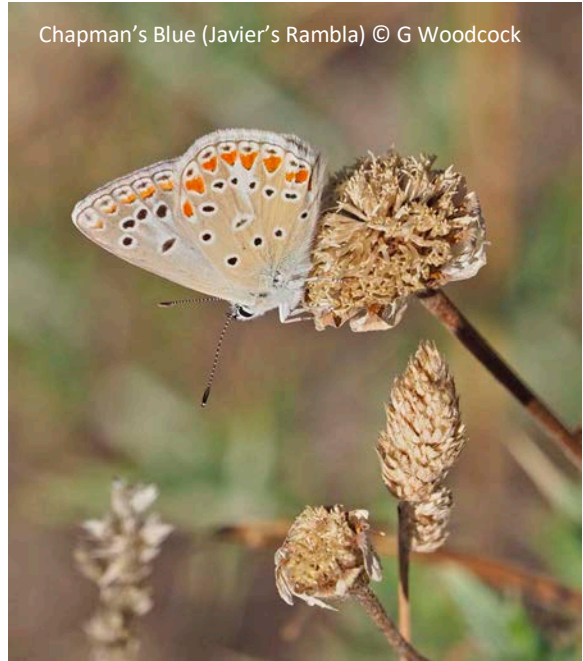
Safflower Skipper © G Woodcock



Silver-studded Blue (Moscardón) © G Woodcock

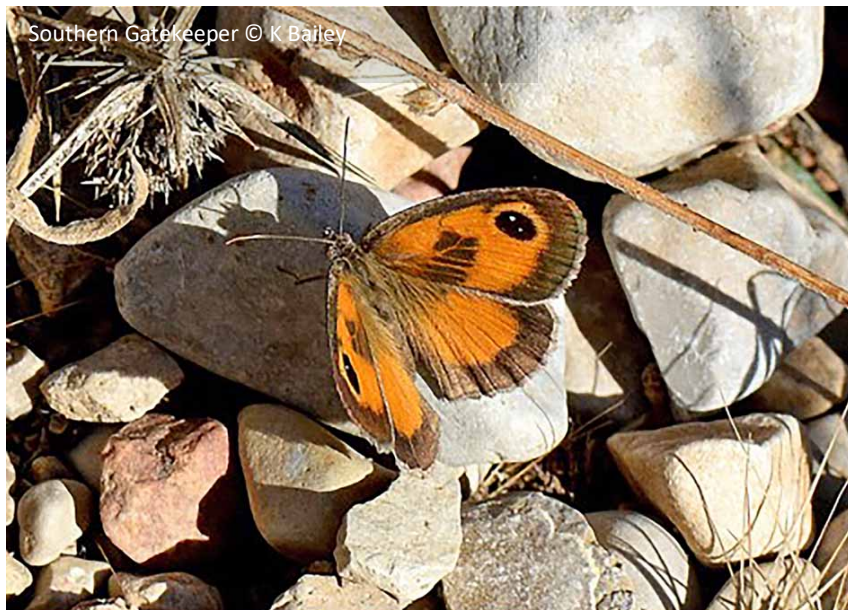


Chapman's Blue (Javier's Rambla) © G Woodcock



Tree Grayling (Javier's Rambla) © G Woodcock











Evening log © B Staley



Refreshments © B Staley