

Butterflies and Birds of North Greece

Holiday Report

5 - 12 June 2013



Greenwings Wildlife Holidays

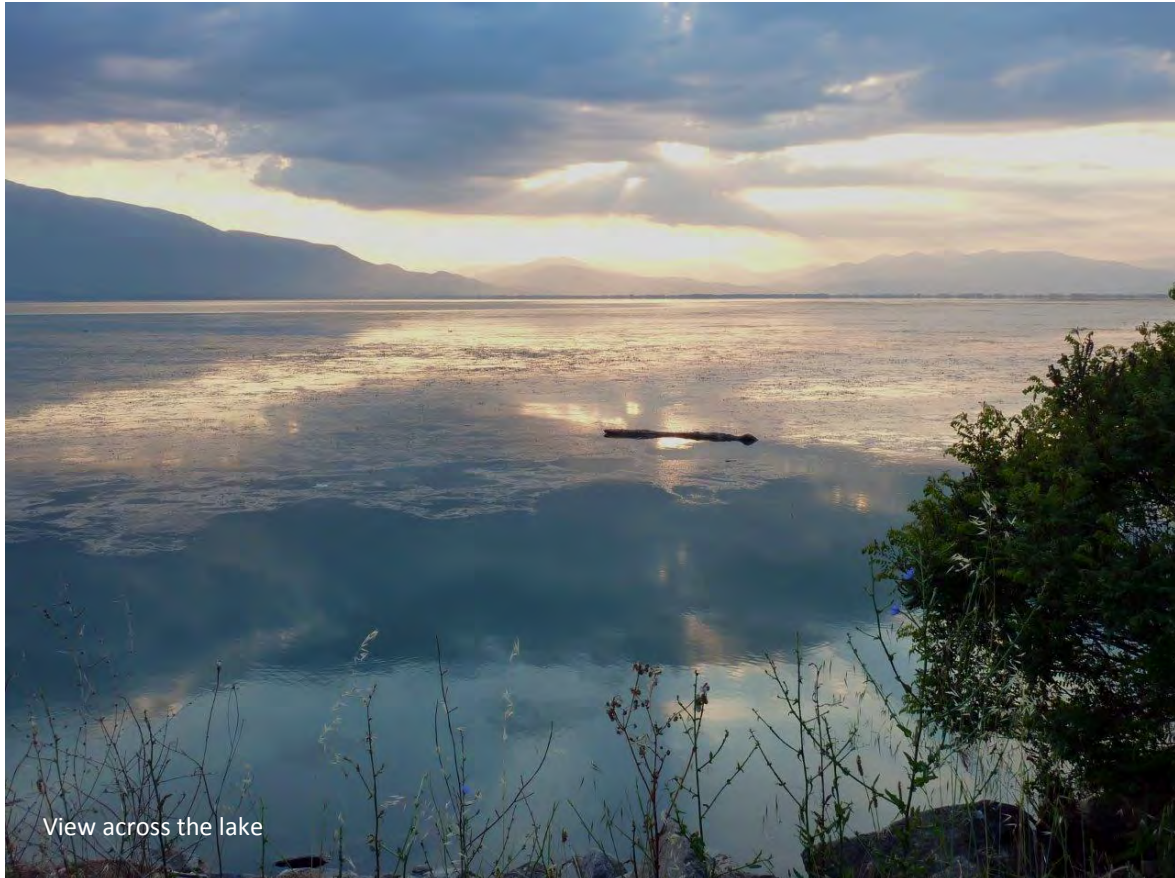
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Introduction

The base for our holiday was the village of Chrysohorafa, lying within the area of Lake Kerkini National Park, north Greece. The lake basin is virtually surrounded by forested mountains, snow capped in winter and deep green in spring and summer. This beautiful setting provides a wonderful environment for the naturalist. It is a very peaceful place too, particularly up in the mountains or by the shores of Lake Kerkini where even with the noise of the wetland birds instils a kind of serenity which is better experienced than described. Naturally it's a heavenly place for bird watching with over 300 species recorded there and a place which has been widely known for its



View across the lake

avifauna since the beginning of the 20th century. Of course such a wilderness provides home to a host of other wildlife including myriad butterflies, dragonflies, amphibians and reptiles. Our aim therefore was to spend a relaxing week exploring the meadows, mountains, lakes and forests of the area for butterflies, birds and other wildlife, in the hope of seeing around 80-100 butterfly species and a similar number of birds. The 7 guests joining Greenwings were Phil, Sue, Ian, Jacquie, Ali, Tony, and Helen. Steve Mills and Hilary Koll from the charity BirdWING, whose conservation efforts in north Greece Greenwings are supporting, led the birding aspects of the holiday, while Julian Dowding guided the butterfly watching. We stayed at Hotel Limneo, and our young English speaking host Nikos happily attended to us with calm professionalism and kindness. Nothing was too much trouble for him. His rooms were all well equipped, clean and modern and the buffet breakfast prepared with many home or local produced savours like quince jam, fresh bread and omelettes made from their own fresh eggs were excellent.

Day 1: Wednesday 5th June: Arrival in Thessaloniki

The majority of our group arrived at Thessaloniki Airport late in the afternoon for our 90 minute journey to Kerkini. As we neared our village in the fading light, from our vehicle we saw a number of White Storks slowly returning to their nests. After settling in to the hotel, we set out for a



White Stork

sumptuous Greek dinner at one of the local tavernas. The range of food at Savvaz' was excellent and included a selection of shared mezedes style meals with plates of local speciality meats including lamb chops, kebabs and buffalo sausages, together with delicious Greek salads, washed down with iced water, local wine and beer. After dining we retired to the hotel, the dark shape of Mount Belles (Mt. Kerkini) in the distance providing an impressive backdrop. From our

rooms, Agile and Marsh Frogs were calling from the many irrigation canals and drainage ditches which criss-cross the landscape and Nightingales joined the evening chorus with their beautiful song.

Day 2: Thursday 6th June, Sites around Lake Kerkini

After a wonderful breakfast at Limneo, we headed out to Mandraki Harbour at the northern end of the Lake. Upon arrival we were greeted by the very noisy song of a Great Reed Warbler, rattling out his notes from the reeds, pronouncing to all that this was his home, whilst all around, we were surrounded by the calls and songs of other wetland species of birds and amphibians, like Penduline Tits and Pool Frogs. Steve and Hilary gave us an overview of the current and historical significance of the lake to the area and also a flavour of the



Great Reed Warbler



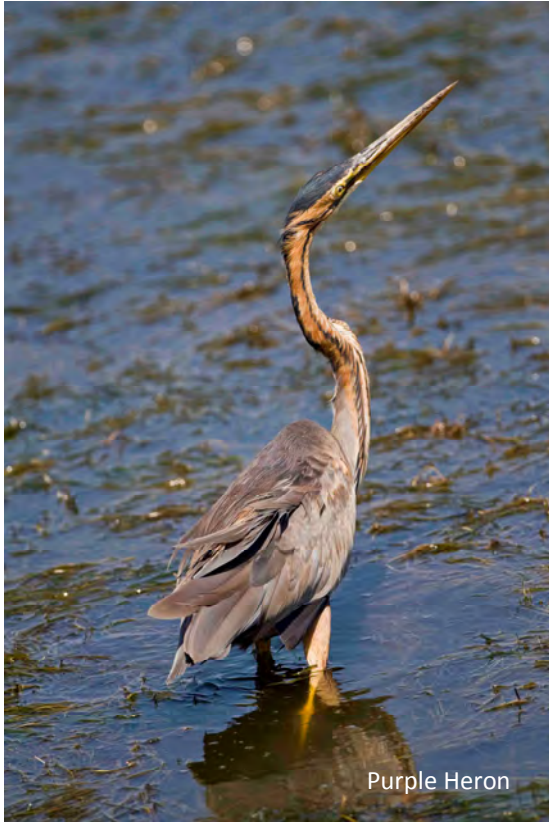
Dalmatian Pelican

bird life of this RAMSAR wetland and Natura 2000 site, which would be our home for the next 7 days. It was a useful introduction to the area that we would be exploring, since it is principally the lake which lies at the heart of everything, providing not only an important source of income for farmers and fishermen but more recently a significant development in ecotourism due to the sheer diversity of wildlife reliant upon the

lake and its wider environs. Steve and Hilary explained that unfortunately there are still some

considerable conservation concerns, particularly the problems caused by extreme changes in water level, e.g., water abstraction for irrigation and the use of the lake as a sump for mountain melt water, leading to unfavourable changes to the habitat for certain birds. Luckily, some of these problems are being addressed by the Greek conservation authorities together with BirdWING.

One species of bird which seems to be doing ok at Kerkini is the Squacco Heron, a number of which



we saw fishing from a pool created by a large swathe of reeds. These beautifully coloured birds provided great photo opportunities as they flew back and forth to the same spot. In the Poplars and Willows, Golden Orioles sang their magical fluting melody and a flight of Black-crowned Night Herons and Grey Herons raised our eyes skywards. A normally shy Purple Heron perched on a branch among the reeds in the near distance gave us a tantalising glimpse of a bird normally quite difficult to observe. Beyond, Steve and Hilary brought our attention to the Common Terns nesting on the rafts that BirdWING, their charity, had installed not two hundred metres or so from the jetty. Further in the distance, Great Cormorants and Pygmy Cormorants were busy going about their parental duties and our guides pointed out the differences between these species, the latter having much more rapid wing beat and looking a bit smaller and stockier.

One of the most important and iconic bird species here is of course the Dalmatian Pelican. This, along with the Great White Pelican, could be seen flying over in groups, moving off to feed upon Carp fry in the shallows, along with the Cormorants which do all the hard work corralling the fish, which the Pelicans then pick off.

Way off in the distance we were able to see the breeding platforms that the local Greek conservation bodies had installed with great success for the Dalmatians. Nearer to the jetty, Jackie was rather taken by a Great Crested Grebe with a somewhat large striped youngster on its back, almost too big for its parent. Behind us, tucked away in some Sallow, Turtle Doves purred their gentle soporific notes. Such



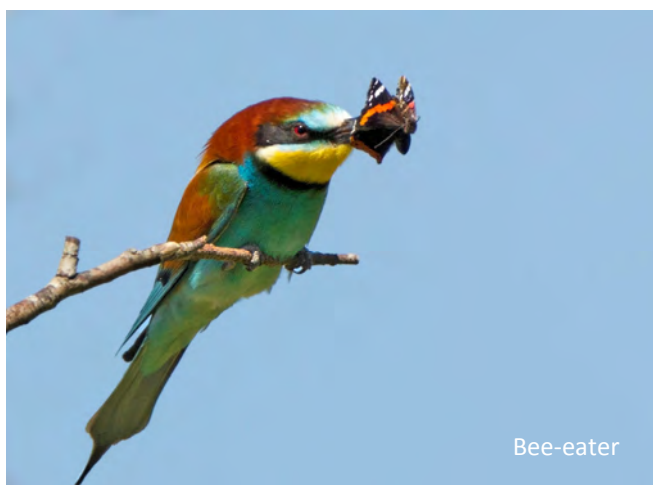
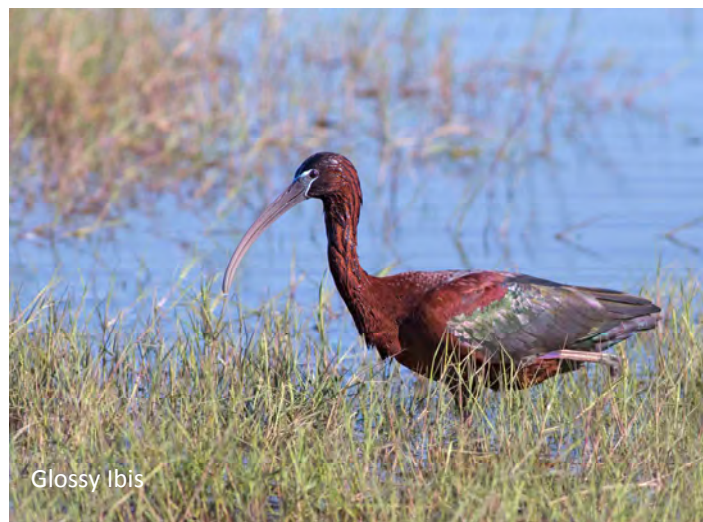
sounds are impossible to describe with mere words, but Tony, with his wonderful bird mimicry, was able to communicate with a Cuckoo just a few feet away to show what could be done. He also gave

a rendition of Golden Oriole which was singing in the Willows by the lake. Earlier, he'd shared with us his delight in the fruit of Mulberry Trees, many of which grow in the area and while we munched away at handfuls of these deliciously sweet, juicy and rather sticky fruits from a small Black Mulberry growing at the harbour, Alison and Jacquie homed in on a beautiful Eastern Green Lizard that had obviously developed a similar predilection.



Some of the group moved up the lane to look for butterflies and other species. Here we found the empty pupal case of a Nettle Tree Butterfly and nearby, our first Queen of Spain adult. This, along with a couple of Black veined Whites and Brimstones nectaring on Marsh Thistle, Large Skipper and Green-veined white were recorded. Ian also identified a brilliant Broad Scarlet Darter dragonfly. As we began to head back to the vehicles, we paused briefly, 'bins' in hand, to watch a Hobby flying overhead, clutching a dragonfly in its talons.

We continued our journey to a private track by the Strymonas River which feeds mountain water into the lake. This proved to be a superb spot for many of the birds which we were hoping to see. As we drove slowly along, we passed by a sandy bank which gave home to a nesting colony of Bee-eaters and then parked just a hundred metres away. The bubbling sound of these exotic looking birds somehow resonated with their appearance and movement. The adults were flying to and fro from leafy vantage points, filling the



air with their music and picking off the occasional hapless bee. Across the river, we had good views of Glossy Ibis, Little Egret, Purple Heron and Spoonbill and a bit further along, a considerable flock of White Pelicans flew down to the water. In a clump of Willow and Bramble, Sue and Phil discerned what turned out to be a couple of Nightingales making unusual calls, along with the more familiar notes of Woodpigeon and Collared Dove. Close by, there were a number of interesting

butterflies to identify. Our first task was to differentiate Eastern Bath White from Eastern Dappled White; species which appear similar in size and colour when in flight, but a little different when

they are resting. Small Whites were also on the wing here, along with Clouded Yellows and Green-veined Whites plus a good number of Holly Blues, many of these nectaring on the abundant Bramble blossom.

Just after setting off for the next location, we passed some Bramble blossoming by a little stream partially shaded by trees. There on the ground, we found a number of mud-puddling blues, including Lang's Short-tailed Blue, along with Common Blue and Holly Blue. We'd also noticed



some interesting large orange butterflies in the Bramble and went to investigate. They turned out to be Silver-washed Fritillaries accompanied by Marbled Fritillaries, the latter ovi-positing on the Bramble. Meanwhile, back at the mud we were able to add a female Short-tailed Blue to our records and another species of Odonata, the Common Blue-tailed Damselfly.

We proceeded to Vironia Quarry which lies a little way north-east of the lake, parking our vehicles in shade just off the main road to see Spotted Flycatcher in the woodland by a small stream which fords the road. As we walked up a track past thickets of Christ's Thorn (the larval food plant of Little Tiger Blue butterfly and some of the Brimstone tribe) numbers of Ilex and Sloe Hairstreaks, alternately sitting patiently on the bushes along with one or two Nettle Tree butterflies, then flitting a metre or two onto another leaf were quite engaging. On the way up to the picnic area by the quarry, Ian and Julian stopped to watch Wall Browns on the steep banks whilst others listened to a singing Whitethroat and watched a Red-backed Shrike. The bird life here was very rich and we were rewarded with Black-headed Bunting, Cirl Bunting (sounding a bit like a Lesser Whitethroat or a 'cheese-less' Yellowhammer), Corn Bunting, Black-eared Wheatear, Crag Martins which nest on the quarry face, Sand Martins and Red-rumped Swallows, with their beautiful needle-like tails. Below us by an old army look-out post, we watched a pair of Woodchat Shrikes engaged in mutual feeding, the male passing the gift of a juicy lizard to his mate in jubilation, wagging his tail and jumping up and down on his perch. From this high vantage point, we were able to look across to the lake in the distance, and appreciate its considerable size from the footprint it leaves upon the landscape. While this was going on, Ali filmed an interesting Dung Beetle fight, the winner taking its prized lump of dung away in triumph. Everywhere, *Clematis flammula* flowers were bejewelled with



emerald green Rose Chafer Beetles, identified by their isosceles shaped scutella. The area paid dividends for many other butterflies. An odd gynandromorph Clouded Yellow flew past along with plenty of 'normal' ones and Alison spotted our first *helice* form of the butterfly. A patch of Bramble was too good a nectar source to miss and as we investigated, we found Ilex and Sloe Hairstreaks, Holly Blues, Small Copper and Brown Argus.



Little Tiger Blue

After lunch, we returned back down the track and Sue, with her

keen eyes, soon spotted a Little Tiger Blue butterfly taking salts or moisture from the bare ground. We also had good views of Southern White Admiral

which does well in this area on the plentiful Etruscan Honeysuckle. When we arrived at the cars, and just as it began to rain, Steve yelled, "Golden Eagle" and we all dashed forward to watch a pair of these magnificent birds flying over. With such good views, Steve and Hilary were able to give us all a brief lesson on the species' differentiation from other large raptors by wing shape alone.

The rain passed by quickly and we moved to an Embankment by the lake to watch from a distance a pair of nesting Buzzards and their 3 young. Golden Orioles were again glimpsed and heard, often in chorus with Bee Eaters and Hoopoes. Some Spanish Sparrows had taken up residence in the nest of the Buzzards, much as they do with White Storks, oblivious to the peril they would face if caught by these much larger birds but probably clever enough to evade capture. With all the riverside willows, we were fortunate enough to record more Penduline Tits, and finally House Sparrow and Eurasian Jay. Butterflies seen included Mallow Skipper, Large Skipper, Eastern Festoon Larva feeding on the massed ranks of Birthwort (*Aristolochia clematitis*), Large White, Clouded Yellow, European Swallowtail, Meadow Brown, and Laing's Short-tailed Blue. Returning back up the track, we encountered a beautiful Hoopoe alighting on the ground with a beetle in its bill and upon arrival at Limneo, we were treated to the bill clapping display of the resident White Storks which had large young in their nest.



Clouded Yellow *helice*



Southern White Admiral

Day 3: Friday 7th June, Clockwise around Lake

Members of the group had expressed an urge to see Little Bitterns and so Steve and Hilary took us to an undisclosed spot where a cut in the river is lined with Common Reeds. There were plenty of these birds to be found, both males and females with their conspicuously different plumage, the females far better resembling a small version of Common Bittern, while the males are much more brightly marked with blacks, whites, and sandy tones. We were fortunate to see two other heron species here, namely Little Egrets and Black-crowned Night Herons, one of these sitting on a fence whilst others wheeled around. Great Reed Warblers were constantly filling the air with song, punctuated by the calls of Nightingales, Cuckoos and Hoopoes. In the water itself, the group had good views of Balkan Terrapins and Marsh Frogs. Tony again demonstrated his Cuckoo impressions and lured a bird out of cover. Butterflies were abundant here too, with more Marbled Fritillaries and some stunning Queen of Spain Fritillaries posing for the camera. At a little chapel, we saw mating Large Wall Browns, as well as Mallow Skipper, Clouded Yellow, and Chapman's Blue.



Little Bittern



Marbled Fritillary



Queen of Spain Fritillary



Cirl Bunting

We moved towards our next stop at a hillside but en-route stopped the vehicles to watch a Short-toed Eagle (Snake Eagle) and Black Kites soaring overhead. A Syrian Woodpecker flew into a large tree, and we were treated to another Masked Shrike, a singing Cirl Bunting and Crested Larks. We arrived at our hillside hoping to see some of the raptors and butterflies that frequent the area. The paths were still lined with some flowering Salvias which provided a magnet for butterflies and other insects. A

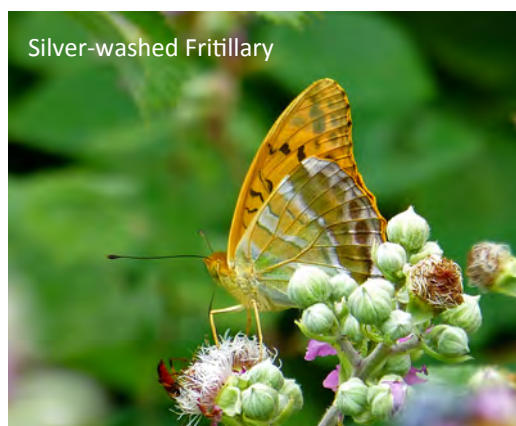
number of Eastern Zephyr Blues found the nectar particularly to their liking as did a Common Blue 'icarinus', an unusual form of the butterfly lacking the underside forewing cell-spot of the nominate form. The group watched as Ali filmed a female Black-veined White carefully laying a



Great Peacock Moth larva

batch of its yellow, bottled-shaped eggs on Wild Pear, whilst underneath on a leafy twig of the same tree, we suddenly became aware of a two thirds grown larva of the Great Peacock Moth, *Saturnia (Pavonia) pyri*. It happens to be the largest moth in Europe with a wingspan of around 150mm and its colourful caterpillar was both beautiful and fascinating. Tony informed the group of its impressive defensive

capabilities of long sharp hairs and a poisonous acid delivery system, so we were careful not to touch it. A number of Scarce Swallowtails were present, and we eventually located a larva on Pear again. We watched an Eastern Bath White egg-laying on a species of crucifer and although temperatures were rising all the time, the butterflies and birds still appeared. Clouded Yellows, Large Tortoiseshells, Silver-washed Fritillaries, Cleopatra and Nettle Tree butterflies were also added to the butterfly list and in



Silver-washed Fritillary

terms of birds we recorded Crested Lark, Black Headed Bunting, Lesser-spotted Eagle, Black Stork, Black Kite, Woodchat Shrike, White Stork, Nightjar (calling) and Golden Oriole. On our way back down, Tony managed to spy a Horn-nosed Viper, entering a small hole in the trackside bank.



Spoonbills

At a small picnic area by the lake which provided a little shade from the brilliant sunshine we ate lunch. Steve pointed out an Olivaceous Warbler in one of the willows, singing its chattering and scratchy song, whilst over the water, Lesser Emperor Dragonflies and Black-tailed Skimmers were busy hunting as Sand martins sped by. After lunch, we moved along the western shore searching for Great White Egret on a marsh and were not disappointed. Also present were Spoonbills. Out on the lake, plenty of Great Crested Grebes paddled about and a few Mute Swans were observed sailing along. A field of Alfalfa was investigated beside the lake and found to be full of Black-veined Whites (which were also nectaring on the shore on wild Carnation and trying to mate), Clouded Yellows, Southern Small Whites, Ilex Hairstreaks and Small Whites.

Moving on to Kerkini village for a coffee, we parked by an

old garden and watched Mallow and Large Skippers on the flowers. Here, White Storks performed their bill clapping greeting displays, as one brought food and nesting material into the huge nest



on top of a pole. Spanish and Tree Sparrows were using these nests as a base for their own constructions and all species carried on in seeming harmony. As we sat drinking our coffee, good numbers of Barn Swallows and a few Red-rumped Swallows darted up and down the street or dived into buildings. On the road itself, a pair of Goldfinches came to a small puddle to drink.

Suitably refreshed ourselves, we set off for our last stop of the day, which was a small meadow just over a bridge by the lake. Common Blue, Small Copper (summer brood), Silver-studded Blue, Large Tortoiseshell, Southern White Admiral, Spotted Fritillary, Mazarine Blue and Black-veined White - including some of their old larval webs - were found. We also recorded the Southern Emperor Moth *Saturnia pavoniella*,

much smaller than *S. pyri* but still an impressive creature. The birdlife here was also pretty good with Hawfinches, Masked Shrikes, Red-backed Shrike, Great Tit and Tree Sparrows recorded.

Day 4: Saturday 8th June, Kapnofyto, Mt Vrodou / Mt. Orvilos

Having said goodbye to Steve and Hilary, our focus on Saturday was an area in the foothills of the mountains Orvilos, Vrodou and Angistro, on the E6 European hiking trail. En-route we stopped by a gushing river shaded by Oriental Planes and made our way up a dusty track beside a rock face. Ilex Hairstreaks were abundant here, utilising their larval food plant - Kermes Oaks - which line the track, and lower down on the flowers we watched Sloe Hairstreaks. As we walked further along the path, we found a number of Osiris Blues with their larval food plant Sainfoin and also Common Blues. Our first Southern Commas of the holiday appeared low down on the sun-baked rock faces as we followed a little track up beside a small, almost dry stream. A number of Graylings flew past, their appearance and location giving the impression of either Delattin's Grayling or Grayling but correct differentiation between the two needs investigation of genitalia and we were not about to do this. The group also had a chance to see Knapweed Fritillary here in this beautiful hotspot. Clouded Yellows were frequently observed; both the nominate form and the whiter *helice* females. As we wandered higher, we found more butterfly species including Essex Skippers, Balkan Marbled White and Marbled White nectaring on the flowers, particularly the beautiful and large nectar-rich Spear



Thistles and Lesser-spotted Fritillary, differentiated from Spotted Fritillary by its more triangular black spots near the margins of the underside hindwing and the presence of a disco-cellular vein. More challenging to differentiate were the Idas and Silver-studded Blue, but with the identification clues we were confident that we saw *Plebejus idas magnagraeca*.



Silver-studded Blue



Knapweed Fritillary

Having had a great time along the track, we continued to a little roadside Shangri-La for butterflies. The aptly named Great Banded Grayling was plentiful here; indeed we had seen quite a few of these large, virtually black and white butterflies flapping and gliding along the road whilst we were driving but now that they were close enough to appreciate their large size and striking markings. A patch of Salvias with bright violet and blue flowers hosted a number of Lycaenid butterflies,



Great Banded Grayling

including Amanda's Blue, Chapman's Blue and Osiris Blue. Tony spotted a Large Blue flying through the flowers as the rest of the group walked up to a patch of Thistles to see Cardinals, Black-veined Whites and Silver-washed Fritillaries and lower down on all the roadside Brambles, beautifully marked Marbled Fritillaries were intent on mating or egg-laying. A superb pair of these provided a good opportunity for those keen to take photographs. We moved on in search of new species and a couple of Brimstones were seen. As we walked down to a bridge, we found Nettle Tree

Butterflies on the damp ground seeking salts or moisture, and others resting and flitting amongst the yellow flowers of Christ's Thorn. In the shade, we were to see both Mountain Small White and Southern Small White. Along another track heading south, Lattice Browns were proving tricky to

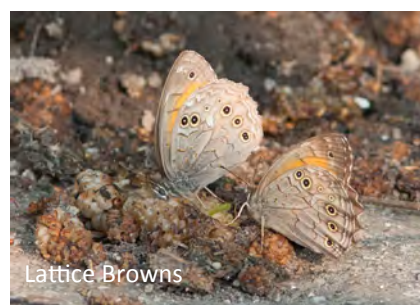
photograph as they kept darting into the cover of the trees. Here too, Red Admiral and Painted Lady were seen and Phil picked out a Purple Hairstreak among the Oaks and Tony on one of his forays discovered a field full of Cardoons with nectaring Cardinals and Silver-washed Fritillaries.

Returning to the vehicle, we stopped for our picnic lunch, watching mud/poo-puddling blues including Eastern Zephyr, Holly and Chapman's. We discovered a baby Spur-thighed Tortoise, not



much more than 2 inches in length and happy enough to allow its photograph to be taken. Up on the higher track we'd visited earlier, a number of Spotted Fritillaries were seen together with Small Skipper, Mallow Skipper, Grizzled Skipper, Small Copper and Meadow Brown and was alerted to an Anomalous Blue. Before we headed off to the E6 hiking track at Kapnofyto we spent a while watching for a Hawfinch that Phil had spotted.

At Kapnofyto some of the group wandered through the little settlement to search for 'village' butterflies. A group of Lattice Browns, Southern Commas and Large Tortoiseshells feasting on fallen White Mulberries were seen. The Large Tortoiseshells were with us pretty much all the way often seen flying in and out of the Elms or basking on the ground as we headed up the mountain track.



Arriving at a redundant orchard, Helen discovered a fluttering of Lattice Browns, this time alighting on exposed, weathered trunks and branches in full sun and then resting with wings closed. Fortunately for us, these individuals provided much better opportunities for photography than the shade lovers. A



comparatively large Hermann's Tortoise was found here along with Eastern Baton Blue, Blue Argus and Chequered Blue. Higher up the track, along with some Peacock butterflies,



Alison found another Large Blue which everyone had a chance to see. As we continued up the track we found Amanda's Blue, Pearly Heath and a single Woodland Ringlet. The latter was missing some of the ocelli on the upper forewings, thus looking a bit like a Blind Ringlet. Other species recorded were a calling Cuckoo, Corn Bunting and a Glow-Worm which Helen proudly displayed to the group.

Day 5: Sunday 9th June, Ano Poroia and Kerkini Mountain (Mt. Belles)

We decided upon a more sedate start to the day and upon arrival at Ano Poroia, stopped for a drink at Grandmother's Café. Unsurprisingly, three generations of women were in attendance. They brought us iced frappé coffee and tea, together with a selection of free pastries and nibbles, all of which went down very well. Other than a coach load of tourists, it seemed that many of the other villagers had either disappeared for Sunday Worship or were working their gardens. A constant background sound of crystal clear mountain water gushing down through the village in a network of stone troughs for gardening and drinking created an impressive atmosphere in this leafy place.

We'd already seen Eastern Wood White at the shaded car park, along with a number of Silver-washed Fritillaries and Brimstones and so after refreshments and with senses sharpened, we ventured into the mountain. At the start of a track a patch of flowering Italian Bugloss and Thistles was attracting probably a dozen Humming-bird Hawk-moths which were making use of these sublime nectar plants. Here we paused for a while for photographs just as Tony homed in on a rare Olive Bee Hawk-moth which had gone almost unseen amongst the Hummers. The moth resembled a Broad-bordered Bee Hawk-moth but because it never loses the scales on its wings on its maiden flight it retained the fabulous plum and olive colours. As we made our way further up the track we passed beside flowery hillsides of Thymes, Salvias, Spurges and Vetches interspersed with Elms, Pear and Blackthorn, and the area became alive with life. The flowers drew in many butterflies of course with Spotted Fritillary - including a beautiful 'meridionalis' form which Ian photographed - Small Copper, Green Hairstreak, Great Banded Grayling, Common Blue, Laing's Short-tailed Blue,



Balkan Marbled White, Small Skipper, Comma and Large Tortoiseshell. One insect which drew our attention was the impressive Threaded Lacewing (Thread-winged Antlion), an insect measuring nearly 3 inches in length with long corkscrew tails. They appeared at every turn in the track, often nectaring on Strawflower.

We continued up into the mountain, stopping constantly to check out the birds and insects. When we ultimately arrived at a point in the track which had been washed away by the previous week's heavy rain suggesting that we might not be able to drive any further, we decided to have our

packed lunch and do a spot of butterfly watching before considering our options. An area of moisture on the track had attracted clouds of migrating Nettle-tree butterflies which had come down to drink. We'd seen them earlier on our way up but not in these huge numbers. Wood Whites fluttered up and down the flowery track, making use of the dappled shade and nectar and on the edge of a small cliff, a patch of Thymes and Spurges were in full flower and were attracting lots of butterflies. These



Wood White

included some stunning Purple-shot Coppers, Sooty Coppers, Small Coppers - including a 3rd generation dark form - Green Hairstreak, Small Heaths, Brown Argus, Silver-studded Blues, Common Blues, Clouded Yellows and Lesser Spotted Fritillary.



Nettle-tree Butterfly

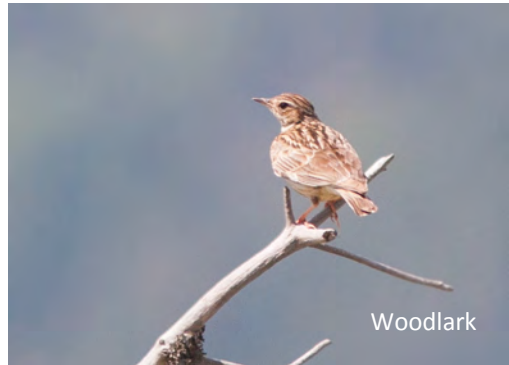
After our picnic we ventured further up the track to the meadow at about a 1,100 metres altitude, just a mile from the Bulgarian border. On the way, we stopped off at a cattle trough and watched some Marsh Frogs and Crested Newts making use of this man-made mini habitat. We arrived at the area where we were to spend the remainder of the afternoon, where Red-backed Shrikes were nesting in some of the bushes. In the distance we could hear a male Cirl Bunting singing from a small shrubby tree. The meadow was well grazed by cattle and in places quite marshy due to the streams which constantly flow, even in summer. With its surrounding mountain forest, flowers and sunshine, it had all the elements needed for good butterfly and bird-watching and it wasn't long before we saw more Purple-shot Coppers nectaring on Clovers. These were all in pristine condition and had probably only just emerged from their pupae. Violets which were flowering throughout the sward provided the larval food plant for Pearl-bordered fritillaries, the adults of which seemed intent on nectaring on Bramble flowers or looking for mates. We also saw good numbers of Dingy Skipper, Grizzled Skipper, Clouded Yellow, Idas Blue, Silver-studded Blue, Wood White, Large Tortoiseshell, Comma, Mazarine Blue, Greek Mazarine Blue, Holly Blue, Heath Fritillary, and Marbled Fritillary as well as a probable Dark Green Fritillary flying past. An Orache Moth, looking just like a piece of lichen was found and photographed. Along with the amphibians, the group also saw Spur-thighed Tortoise and Pond Terrapin here.



Purple-shot Copper

Day 6: Monday 10th June, Lailias , Mt. Vrodou

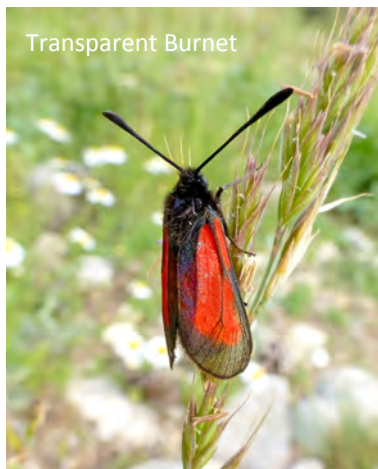
After breakfast we journeyed east in the direction of Serres Plain before turning north into the Vrontous mountains and our destination for the day, Lailias and its ski slopes. As we neared Lailias, climbing slowly upwards through the Beech and Pine forest, we had a tantalising glimpse from the vehicle of an interesting dark form of Red Squirrel hopping across the woodland floor and then scurrying up a tree. Soon after disembarking at the ski centre, a Camberwell Beauty, our first of the day and of the trip dashed past. Woodlarks singing from the Pines lining the flower rich slope added to the atmosphere along with a number of other birds, including Cirl Bunting and drumming Great-spotted Woodpeckers. There were butterflies and moths almost everywhere we looked and so we split up to maximise our chances of finding different species. While some searched the lower ground, Sue and Ian made their way carefully up the slope. Some interesting moth species were discovered such as Forester Moth, Transparent Burnet, Wood Tiger Moth and Cream-spot Tiger Moth. A Narrow-bordered Bee Hawk-moth in very good condition was another pleasing find only metres from the car park. Heath Fritillaries were flying in good numbers all over the slope along with Grizzled Skippers which moved low over the sward, never far from their larval food plants, Cinquefoil and Wild Strawberry. The ski centre huts seemed to be a funnel for incoming butterflies and some of the group lingered there in the hope of getting close to the Camberwells Beauties. A second one flying up the road and onto the slope landed by a brash pile and we managed to take a record shot. There were plenty of Violets growing here providing the host plant for Pearl-bordered Fritillaries which we



Woodlark



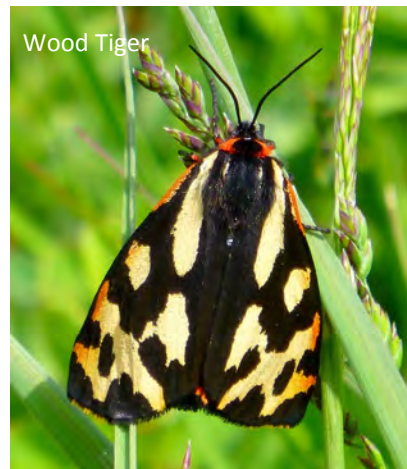
Forester Moth



Transparent Burnet



Cream-spot Tiger



Wood Tiger

saw in reasonable numbers. Helen, Phil and Jacquie found Eastern Large Heaths flying on the lower slope adjacent to the resort huts and in the same area nectaring on Bramble flowers, good

numbers of Queen of Spain Fritillaries, Peacocks and Small Tortoiseshells (the latter unexpectedly being the first recorded on the trip) were seen. We also recorded Powdered Brimstone here, flying with Brimstone and subsequently Cleopatra, giving us a hat-trick of Brimstones. We also recorded several Woodland Ringlets fluttering through the sward along with Black-veined Whites, Clouded Yellows, Large Wall Browns and our first Northern Wall Browns.



Blue Argus

As we moved about, distant Mountain Small Whites and their larger relatives, Large Whites, were scrutinised in the hope of finding a Clouded Apollo. Higher up, Sue and Ian spotted a Blue Argus to add to those seen earlier in the week. A small group intent on finding Clouded Apollo joined them and moved up the slope towards the summit which stands at 1,847 metres above sea level. Alas, the butterfly was not found but the walk



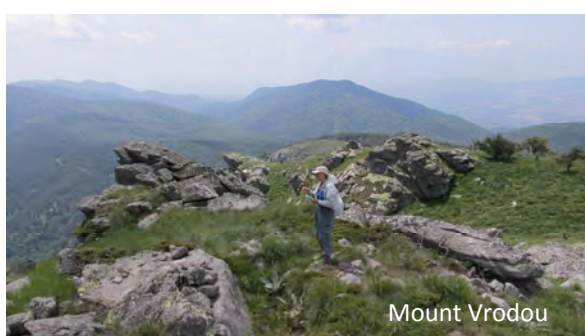
Green Hairstreak



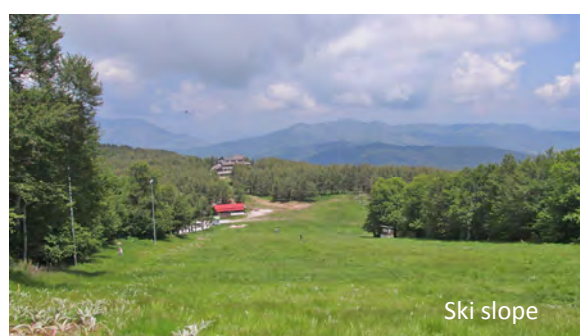
Balkan Copper

uphill was rewarding. About half way up, Ali and Jacquie found Green Hairstreak among the rocks and Sue discovered Balkan Copper. Near the top, a party of Red-rumped Swallows were busily singing from some wires, and a pair of Kestrels seen flying out from and returning to a sheer cliff face on the other side of the mountain added more bird species for the day. At the peak, views of hill-topping Fritillaries, Peacocks and Small Tortoiseshells added to the impressive views in all directions, including the peak of Orvilos straddling the border between Bulgaria and Greece. After the hike down the slope, we met for our

picnic at the huts and sat and watched a coy Roe deer, poking its head out from the forest. Phil also recorded Black Redstart, Chaffinch, Linnet, Great Tit and Jay and Tony saw a Black Woodpecker.



Mount Vrodou



Ski slope

With our picnic lunch eaten, we headed down the mountain to a spot beside some Pines festooned with Pine Processionary Moth tents and a landscape with much more open hillside that Tony had suggested might be worth exploring. The patches of Salvias and other flowers presented good nectar sources for the butterflies including Mazarine Blue, Amanda's Blue, Hermit, Queen of Spain and Holly Blue. We also saw Common Buzzard and Booted Eagle soaring over the forest. Other birds included Corn Bunting, Red-backed Shrike and Raven. On our return to the vehicle, an Eastern

Green Lizard offered us a tempting photo opportunity as it kept coming back to the same spot on a rock. A Balkan Wall Lizard was also glimpsed nearby. With the light fading, we set off for one final stop on our way down the mountain to watch Black-eared Wheatears perching on small hummocks. Crested Larks and a small party of Linnets and Greenfinches entered the frame just before we called it a day and made the journey back to the hotel, passing by some Little Owls which every evening seemed to be sitting on the same overhead wires.



Booted Eagle

Day 7: Tuesday 11th June, Orvilos and Reservoir

After a hearty breakfast prepared by Nikos we set off to a reservoir and dam in the foothills of Orvilos, for possible Black Storks, a Bee-eater colony, and a range of different butterflies. The village is situated in the prefecture of Drama and is just 3 miles from the Bulgarian border, nestled at about 1000 metres into the lower slopes of Mt. Orvilos. It also sits on the E4 and E6 European hiking routes. To reach our destination we had to pass along winding mountain roads in a north easterly direction giving us the opportunity to stop off en-route for a rest break and a spot of butterfly and bird-watching. By a drinking fountain, we explored two lush meadows either side of the road surrounded by forest; the one on the northern side sloping gently uphill, the other much flatter. It was a good spot for Butterflies, with water spilling onto the bare earth attracting mud-puddling Chapman's, Silver Studded, Adonis and Idas Blues. A number of Nettle Tree Butterflies were also taking moisture and salts from the same puddle. Tony explored the rise to the north of



Adonis Blues

the road and soon found Silver-washed Fritillaries and myriad Coppers in abundance on flowers amongst Bracken, whilst lower down we recorded male and female Purple-shot Coppers. At the puddle, Red Admirals had moved in, and darting and gliding over the sward and bracken by some Oaks we recorded Pearl-bordered, Queen of Spain and Marbled Fritillaries. Black-veined Whites were plentiful too along with Large, Southern Small and Eastern Bath Whites, nectaring on Thistles and Dianthus. Along with a good number of Heath Fritillaries, Jackie spotted our first Camberwell Beauty of the day. Around the Oaks we found Purple and Ilex Hairstreaks, some of these dropping down to nectar on the abundant flowers along with Sloe Hairstreaks. Satyridae were present in good numbers too, with Meadow Brown, Small Heath and Large Wall Brown all being seen. Clouded Yellows were here together with Mazarine Blue, Small Skipper and Grizzled Skipper. Before heading off, Scarce and European Swallowtails were spotted and noted.

As we continued our journey towards Orvilos, we stopped off at a sandy farm track by a bend in the road with lush Bracken and Blackthorn covered slopes leading to a stream below. With the now familiar sound of purring Turtle Doves in the trees, we soon found both colour forms of Spotted Fritillary including a fiery orange/red male, and a female with dark suffusions. We also watched Small Heath, Great Banded Grayling, Grayling, Black-veined White and Red Admiral. There were more Marbled Fritillaries and Heath Fritillaries here and also our first Scarce Copper of the trip; a stunning male in its bright tangerine livery.



Scarce Copper

Arriving at the reservoir we took in views of two Black Storks flying into the surrounding forest where presumably they had their nest, and then stopped for lunch. A sharp shower made us dash back to the vehicle, wondering if the skies would clear, which they soon did. The change in weather was actually a bit of a relief and served to freshen things up. Even the butterflies seemed to enjoy it, with all the Knapweed and Scabious inflorescences soon attracting some kind of butterfly or other. Heath, Marbled and Silver-washed Fritillaries were abundant along with Marbled Whites, Peacocks and Brimstones. Scarce Copper was again spotted along with Woodland Ringlets and Meadow Browns. Black-veined Whites and Brimstones found the Salvias to their liking, one bush being literally covered with them. The birds had quietened down in the heat of the sun but the rain shower reinvigorated them and brought a number into song, including Blackcap, Woodlark, Cirl Bunting, Corn Bunting, Black-headed Bunting and Nightingale. Some place high over the mountains, we heard the deep soft calls of Ravens.

On the track leading northwards up into Orvilos we didn't need to travel too far before we found a good number of firsts for the trip: these included Orange Tip, near to the river, and Small Blue. Ian



Hungarian Skipper

also found a beautiful Yellow-banded Skipper by the road where we'd parked the vehicle. Another first was Glanville Fritillary. Moving up the track leading higher into the mountain Adonis Blues were plentiful on the slopes, their bright sky blue and chequered wing fringes unmistakable. We found two types of Mazarine Blue, including the Greek form *helena* that Ali photographed with its orange sub-marginal spots on the underside hindwing. Swallowtail, Knapweed Fritillary and Grizzled Skippers provided further interest, while Common Blues and Chapman's provided a useful exercise in identification, looking for the lack of cell-spot on the underside and the 'furry' androconial patch on the upperside forewings of Chapman's. Indeed Lycaenids were abundant here with Osiris,

Amanda's, and Idas Blues and Sooty Coppers recorded. As we turned a sharp bend in the track late in the afternoon, we were pleasantly surprised with good numbers of Silver-studded Blues roosting head down in the grasses. Upwards we continued and found a pair of mating Mountain Small Whites low in the grasses, another Grayling and more Ilex and Sloe Hairstreaks. At the highest point we reached before returning back to the vehicles, Hungarian Skipper was added to our records. Lower down the slope we saw Wild Boar.

Day 8: Wednesday 12th June, Boat trip and departure

A late afternoon flight from Thessaloniki Airport enabled us to utilise the last morning exploring the lake for more birdlife. We embarked on the boat from Mandraki at about 10 in the morning local time and glided slowly out onto the lake towards the Dalmatian Pelican breeding platforms. We'd seen these on our first day from a distance but this time we were able to get reasonably close and spend a good while watching the birds. There were literally hundreds of adult and juvenile birds on or near to the two platforms and it all made quite a spectacle. What is more remarkable is that this has all been achieved due to the insight and efforts of concerned conservation bodies.



Pelican Platform

After the Pelicans we moved off in the direction of the riparian forest, where willows had been flooded due to the damming of the lake. These trees provided superb nesting opportunities for large colonies of Great Cormorants, Pygmy Cormorants, and smaller numbers of Spoonbills, Glossy Ibis, Tree Sparrows, Black-crowned Night Herons, Grey Herons and Little Egrets. Birds were continually coming and going with food for their young, and the noise emanating from the colonies was incredible. After several passes of the forest, we headed back in the direction of the Pelican Platforms for one last look. We also recorded White-winged Black Terns and Yellow-legged Gulls before returning to the harbour and our hotel in preparation for the flight home .



Part of the flooded forest



Group outside our hotel. **From left:** Steve, Hilary, Phil, Helen, Ali, Jacquie, Tony, Ian, Sue and Julian.

Photo credits:

Steve Mills: page 2 View across the lake; page 3 White Stork; page 4 Purple Heron and Turtle Dove; page 5 Glossy Ibis and Bee Eater; page 6 Black-headed Bunting; page 8 Little Bittern and Cirl Bunting; page 17 Booted Eagle.

Ian Collins: page 11 Knapweed Fritillary; page 12 Eastern Zephyr Blue and Eastern Baton Blue; Page 13 Spotted Fritillary; page 14 Purple-shot Copper; page 16 Blue Argus and Green Hairstreak; page 17 Adonis Blues; page 18 Scarce Copper and Hungarian Skipper.

Alison Lewis: page 7 Clouded Yellow *helice* and Southern White Admiral; page 8 Queen of Spain Fritillary; page 13 Humming-bird Hawk-moth; page 14 Wood White; page 15 Forester moth; page 16 Balkan Copper.

Helen Saunders: page 10 White Storks; page 16 Mount Vrodou and Ski slope;

Tony Pittaway: page 8 Marbled Fritillary; page 9 Silver-washed Fritillary; page 11 Silver-studded Blue and Great Banded Grayling; page 14 Nettle-tree Butterfly; page 15 Transparent Burnet, Cream-spot Tiger and Wood Tiger.

Julian Dowding: page 3 Great Reed Warbler and Dalmatian Pelican; page 5 Eastern Green Lizard; page 6 Lang's Short-tailed Blue; page 7 Little Tiger Blue; page 9 Great Peacock Moth and Spoonbills; page 10 Southern Comma; page 12 Lattice Browns; page 15 Woodlark; page 19 Pelican Platform and the flooded forest

Image Gallery



Clockwise from top left: Purple-shot Copper by Julian Dowding; Mazarine Blue by Ian Collins; Large Wall Browns by Alison Lewis; Black-veined Whites by Julian Dowding; Chapman's Blues by Alison Lewis.





Above: Bee Eater by Steve Mills

Below: Dalmatian Pelican by Julian Dowding





Top left: Squacco Heron; **top right:** juvenile Black-crowned Night Heron; **below:** Black-crowned Night Heron by Julian Dowding.

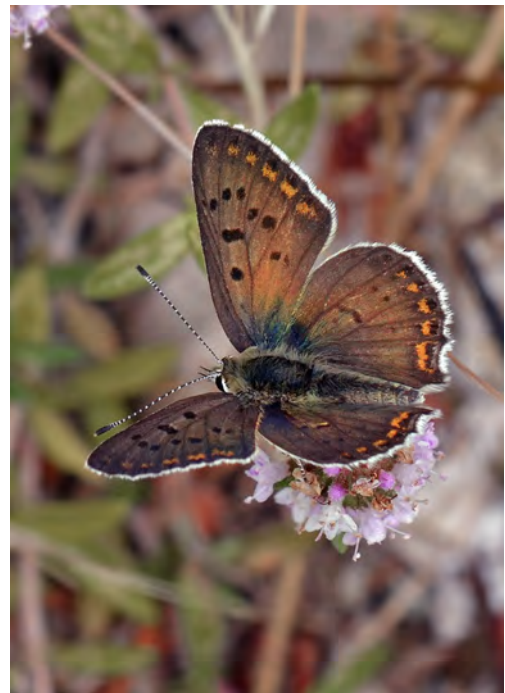


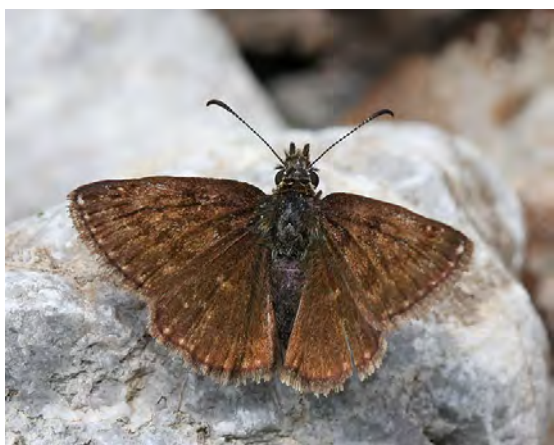
Clockwise from top left: Marbled Fritillary by Julian Dowding; Ilex Hairstreak by Alison Lewis; Heath Fritillary by Ian Collins; Large Wall Brown and Clouded Yellow by Julian Dowding.





Clockwise from top left: Purple-shot Copper, Small Copper '*caeruleopunctata*', Sooty Copper and Scarce Copper by Ian Collins; Silver-washed Fritillary and Scarce Swallowtail by Alison Lewis.





Clockwise from top left: Purple-shot Copper by Ian Collins; Brown Argus by Julian Dowding; Amanda's Blue and Large Tortoiseshell by Tony Pittaway; Dingy Skipper and Heath Fritillary by Julian Dowding.



Clockwise from top left: Green Hairstreak and Cardinal by Ian Collins; Amanda's Blue by Tony Pittaway; Mallow Skipper and Marbled Fritillaries by Ian Collins.

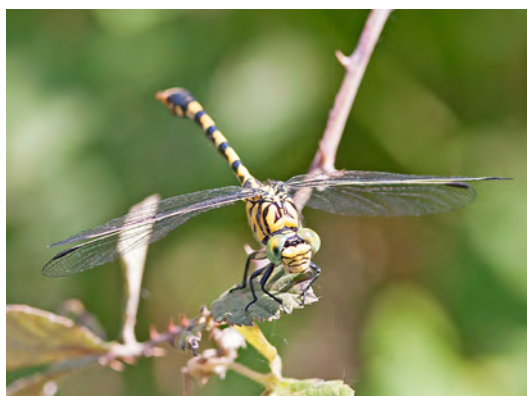


Clockwise from top left: Osiris Blue by Ian Collins; Heath Fritillary by Tony Pittaway; Blue Argus by Julian Dowding; Black-veined Whites and Pearl-bordered Fritillary by Alison Lewis.





Clockwise from top left: Lesser Emperor and Black-tailed Skimmer by J. Dowding; Banded Demoiselle by H. Saunders; White-tailed Skimmer (teneral) by I. Collins; White-tailed Skimmer by P. Howes; Small Pincertail by J. Dowding; Scarce Chaser by I. Collins; Green-eyed Hawker by I. Collins.

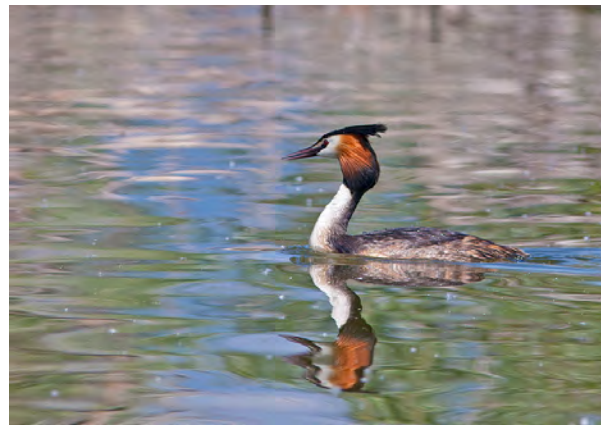




Clockwise from top left: Baby Spur-thighed Tortoise by Julian Dowding; Marsh Frog by Alison Lewis; Balkan Terrapin by Alison Lewis; Wall Lizard AND Eastern Green Lizard by Julian Dowding.



Clockwise from top left: Rose Chafer by Julian Dowding; Thistle with White-spotted Rose Beetle, Scarce Swallowtail larva, Nine-Spotted Moth and Glow-Worm by Helen Saunders; Spurge Hawk-moth larva by Alison Lewis.



Clockwise from top left: Night Heron by Philip Howes; Red-rumped Swallow's nest by Helen Saunders; Great Crested Grebe by Julian Dowding; Cormorant colony by Helen Saunders; Night Heron in flight by Julian Dowding.





Top and above: old building and hillside near Kapnofyto by Helen Saunders.

Left: the group by Julian Dowding



Above and below: views across Lake Kerkini by Steve Mills.





Above and below: views across Lake Kerkini by Steve Mills.



Species Lists

Butterflies

	Scientific name	Common name
1	<i>Papilio machaon</i>	Swallowtail
2	<i>Iphiclides podalirius</i>	Scarce Swallowtail
3	<i>Zerynthia cerisy</i>	Eastern Festoon
4	<i>Aporia crataegi</i>	Black-veined White
5	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>	Large White
6	<i>Pieris rapae</i>	Small White
7	<i>Pieris manii</i>	Southern Small White
8	<i>Pieris ergane</i>	Mountain Small White
9	<i>Anthocares cardamines</i>	Orange Tip
10	<i>Pieris napi</i>	Green-veined White
11	<i>Pontia edusa</i>	Eastern Bath White
12	<i>Euchloe ausonia</i>	Eastern Dappled White
13	<i>Leptidea duponcheli</i>	Eastern Wood White
14	<i>Leptidea duponcheli</i>	Eastern Wood White
15	<i>Colias crocea</i>	Clouded Yellow
16	<i>Colias crocea var helice</i>	Clouded Yellow
18	<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>	Brimstone
19	<i>Gonepteryx farinosa</i>	Powdered Brimstone
20	<i>Gonepteryx cleopatra</i>	Cleopatra
21	<i>Favonius quercus</i>	Purple Hairstreak
22	<i>Satyrium acaciae</i>	Sloe Hairstreak
23	<i>Satyrium ilicis</i>	Ilex Hairstreak
24	<i>Calophrys rubi</i>	Green Hairstreak
25	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>	Small Copper
26	<i>Lycaena tityrus</i>	Sooty Copper
27	<i>Lycaena alciphron</i>	Purple-shot Copper
28	<i>Lycaena virgureae</i>	Scarce Copper
29	<i>Lycaena ottomana</i>	Grecian Copper
30	<i>Lycaena candens</i>	Balkan Copper
31	<i>Lampides boeticus</i>	Long-tailed Blue
32	<i>Everes argiades</i>	Short-tailed Blue
33	<i>Leptotes pirithous</i>	Lang's Short-tailed Blue
34	<i>Tarucus balkanicus</i>	Little Tiger Blue
35	<i>Cupido minimus</i>	Small Blue
36	<i>Cupido osiris</i>	Osiris Blue
37	<i>Scolitandes orion</i>	Chequered Blue
38	<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>	Holly Blue
39	<i>Phengaris arion</i>	Large Blue
40	<i>Pseudophilotes vicrama</i>	Eastern Baton Blue
41	<i>Plebejus pylaon</i>	Eastern Zephyr Blue
42	<i>Plebejus argus</i>	Silver-studded Blue
43	<i>Plebejus idas</i>	Idas Blue
44	<i>Arícia agestis</i>	Brown Argus
45	<i>Arícia anteros</i>	Blue Argus
46	<i>Cyaniris semiargus</i>	Mazarine Blue
47	<i>Cyaniris semiargus helena</i>	(Greek) Mazarine Blue
48	<i>Polyommatus admetus</i>	Anomalous Blue
49	<i>Polyommatus thersites</i>	Chapman's Blue

50	<i>Polyommatus amandus</i>	Amanda's Blue
51	<i>Polyommatus bellargus</i>	Adonis Blue
52	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>	Common Blue
53	<i>Libythea celtis</i>	Nettle Tree Butterfly
54	<i>Limentis reducta</i>	Southern White Admiral
55	<i>Nymphalis antiopa</i>	Camberwell Beauty
56	<i>Nymphalis polychloros</i>	Large Tortoiseshell
57	<i>Aglaïs io</i>	Peacock
58	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>	Red Admiral
59	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>	Painted Lady
60	<i>Aglaïs urticae</i>	Small Tortoiseshell
61	<i>Polygonia c-album</i>	Comma
62	<i>Polygonia egea</i>	Southern Comma
63	<i>Argynnis pandora</i>	Cardinal
64	<i>Argynnis paphia</i>	Silver-washed Fritillary
65	<i>Argynnis aglaja</i>	Dark Green Fritillary
66	<i>Issoria lathonia</i>	Queen of Spain Fritillary
67	<i>Brenthis daphne</i>	Marbled Fritillary
68	<i>Boloria euphrosyne</i>	Pearl-bordered Fritillary
69	<i>Melitaea cinxia</i>	Glanville Fritillary
70	<i>Melitaea didyma</i>	Spotted Fritillary
71	<i>Melitaea trivia</i>	Lesser Spotted Fritillary
72	<i>Melitaea phoebe</i>	Knapweed Fritillary
73	<i>Melitaea athalia</i>	Heath Fritillary
74	<i>Melanargia galathea</i>	Marbled White
75	<i>Melanargia larissa</i>	Balkan Marbled White
76	<i>Hipparchia semele</i>	Grayling
77	<i>Brintesia circe</i>	Great Banded Grayling
78	<i>Erebia medusa</i>	Woodland Ringlet
79	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>	Meadow Brown
80	<i>Coenonympha arcania</i>	Pearly Heath
81	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>	Small Heath
82	<i>Coenonympha rhodopensis</i>	Eastern Large Heath
83	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>	Wall Brown
84	<i>Lasiommata petropolitana</i>	Northern Wall Brown
85	<i>Lasiommata maera</i>	Large Wall Brown
86	<i>Chazara brizeis</i>	Hermit
87	<i>Kirinia roxelana</i>	Lattice Brown
88	<i>Pyrgus sidae</i>	Yellow Banded Skipper
89	<i>Pyrgus malvae</i>	Grizzled Skipper
90	<i>Spialia orbifer</i>	Hungarian Skipper
91	<i>Carcharodus alceae</i>	Mallow Skipper
92	<i>Erynnis tages</i>	Dingy Skipper
93	<i>Thymelicus lineola</i>	Essex Skipper
94	<i>Thymelicus sylvestris</i>	Small Skipper
95	<i>Ochlodes sylvanus</i>	Large Skipper

Birds

	Scientific	Common
1	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	Great Crested Grebe
2	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	Little Grebe
3	<i>Pelecanus crispus</i>	Dalmatian Pelican
4	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>	White Pelican
5	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis</i>	Cormorant
6	<i>Phalacrocorax pygmaeus</i>	Pygmy Cormorant
7	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>	Little Bittern
8	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	Little Egret
9	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>	Squacco heron
10	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	Grey Heron
11	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	Black-crowned Night Heron
12	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	Glossy Ibis
13	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	White Stork
14	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>	Black Stork
15	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>	Spoonbill
16	<i>Cygnus olor</i>	Mute Swan
17	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	Mallard
18	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	Golden Eagle
19	<i>Aquila pomarina</i>	Lesser Spotted Eagle
20	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>	Booted Eagle
21	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>	Short-toed Eagle
22	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	Buzzard
23	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	Black Kite
24	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	Marsh Harrier
25	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>	Hobby
26	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	Kestrel
27	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	Moorhen
28	<i>Fulica atra</i>	Coot
29	<i>Larus cachinnans</i>	Yellow-legged Gull
30	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>	Black headed Gull
31	<i>Chlidonias hybridus</i>	Whiskered Tern
32	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>	White-winged Black Tern
33	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	Common Tern
34	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	Turtle Dove
35	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	Collared Dove
36	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	Woodpigeon
37	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	Cuckoo
38	<i>Apus apus</i>	Swift
39	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	Kingfisher
40	<i>Merops apiaster</i>	European Bee-eater
41	<i>Upupa epops</i>	Hoopoe
42	<i>Galerida cristata</i>	Crested Lark
43	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	Sand Martin
44	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>	Crag Martin
45	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Swallow
46	<i>Hirundo daurica</i>	Red-rumped Swallow
47	<i>Delichon urbica</i>	House Martin

48	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	White Wagtail
49	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	Grey wagtail
50	<i>Lanius collurio</i>	Red-backed Shrike
51	<i>Lanius senator</i>	Woodchat Shrike
52	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>	Golden Oriole
53	<i>Hippolais pallida</i>	Olivaceous Warbler
54	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>	Great Reed Warbler
55	<i>Cettia cetti</i>	Cetti's Warbler
56	<i>Sylvia communis</i>	Whitethroat
57	<i>Oenanthe hispanica</i>	Black eared Wheatear
58	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>	Stonechat
59	<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>	Spanish Sparrow
60	<i>Passer montanus</i>	Tree Sparrow
61	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	House Sparrow
62	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	Goldfinch
63	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>	Greenfinch
64	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>	Hawfinch
65	<i>Emberiza cirrus</i>	Cirl Bunting
66	<i>Miliaria calandra</i>	Corn Bunting
67	<i>Emberiza melanocephala</i>	Black-headed Bunting
68	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>	Linnet
69	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	Chaffinch
70	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	Starling
71	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	Jay
72	<i>Pica pica</i>	Magpie
73	<i>Corvus corone</i>	Hooded Crow
74	<i>Corvus corax</i>	Raven
75	<i>Athene noctua</i>	Little Owl
76	<i>Dryocopus martius</i>	Black Woodpecker
77	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	Black Redstart
78	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>	Nightingale
79	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>	Mistle Thrush
80	<i>Parus major</i>	Great Tit
81	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>	Penduline Tit

Moths

	Scientific	Common
1	<i>Lasiocampa trifolii</i>	Grass Eggar Moth
2	<i>Adscita statices</i>	Forester Moth
3	<i>Parasemia plantaginis</i>	Wood Tiger Moth
4	<i>Arctia villica</i>	Cream-spot Tiger Moth
5	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>	Yellow Underwing Moth
6	<i>Zygaena trifolii</i>	Five-Spot Burnet
7	<i>Amata phegea</i>	Nine-spotted Moth
8	<i>Zygaena filipendulae</i>	Six-spot Burnet
9	<i>Yponomeuta sp.</i>	Ermine Moth
10	<i>Cerura vinula</i>	Puss Moth
11	<i>Siona lineata</i>	Black-Veined White Moth

12	<i>Saturnia pyri</i>	Great Peacock Moth
13	<i>Saturnia pavioniella</i>	Small Emperor Moth
14	<i>Saturnia pavonia</i>	Emperor Moth
15	<i>Lymantria dispar dispar</i>	Gypsy Moth Caterpillar
16	<i>Chiasmia clathrata</i>	Latticed Heath Moth
17	<i>Hyles euphorbiae</i>	Spurge Hawk-Moth
18	<i>Macroglossum stellatarum</i>	Hummingbird Hawk-moth
19	<i>Hemaris croatica</i>	Olive Bee Hawk
20	<i>Hemaris tityus</i>	Narrow-bordered Bee Hawk
21	<i>Hyles euphorbiae</i>	Spurge Hawk-moth
22	<i>Trachea atriplicis</i>	Orache Moth
23	<i>Pseudopanthera macularia</i>	Speckled Yellow Moth
24	<i>Zygaena purpuralis</i>	Transparent Burnet Moth

Dragonflies & Damselflies

	Scientific	Common
1	<i>Anax parthenope</i>	Lesser Emperor
2	<i>Libellula depressa</i>	Broad-bodied Chaser
3	<i>Libellula fulva</i>	Scarce Chaser
4	<i>Crocothemis erythraea</i>	Broad Scarlet
5	<i>Ishnura pumilio</i>	Small Blue-tailed Damselfly
6	<i>Calopteryx splendens</i>	Banded Agrion
7	<i>Ishnura elegans</i>	Common Blue-tailed Damselfly
8	<i>Coenagrion pulchellum</i>	Variable Damselfly
9	<i>Aeshna isosceles</i>	Norfolk Hawker (Green-eyed Hawker)
10	<i>Orthetrum albistylum</i>	White-tailed Skimmer
11	<i>Orthetrum cancellatum</i>	Black-tailed Skimmer

Reptiles & Amphibians

	Scientific	Common
1	<i>Testudo graeca</i>	Spur-thighed Tortoise
2	<i>Testudo hermanni</i>	Herman's Tortoise
3	<i>Emys orbicularis</i>	Pond Terrapin
4	<i>Mauremys rivulata</i>	Balkan Terrapin
5	<i>Lacerta viridis</i>	Eastern Green Lizard
6	<i>Podarcis tauricus</i>	Balkan Wall Lizard
7	<i>Rana dalmatina</i>	Agile Frog
8	<i>Pelophylax lessonae</i>	Pool Frog
9	<i>Pelophylax ridibundus</i>	Marsh Frog
10	<i>Triturus cristatus</i>	Great Crested Newt

Other notable fauna

	Scientific	Common
1	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>	Red Squirrel
2	<i>Sus scrofa</i>	Wild Boar
3	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>	Roe Deer
4	<i>Nemoptera sinuata</i>	Threaded Lacewing
5	<i>Cetonia aurata</i>	Rose Chafer
6	<i>Lampyrus noctiluca</i>	Glow-worm
7	<i>Oxythyrea funesta</i>	Pollen Beetle
8	<i>Graphosoma lineatum</i>	Minstrel Bug
9	<i>Nezara viridula</i>	Southern Green Stink Bug
10	Saga pedo	Saga Bush Cricket