

Butterflies of The French Alps
24th June - 1st July 2022



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Holiday Report 24 June to 1 July 2022

Introduction

This butterfly holiday was based in two locations – the Tinée valley in the heart of the Mercantour National Park followed by the area around Vars, on the edge of the Queyras region. The group stayed at hotels in the village of Rimplas for the first part of the week before moving on to the alpine resort of Vars for the rest of the trip. The guests joining us were Colin, Andrew C, Jane & Andrew J, and Clive & Fiona.

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

Itinerary

Day 1, Friday 24 June: Arrival at Nice airport, transfer to hotel followed by short walk on the forest track in Rimplas.

Day 2, Saturday 25 June: Rimplas fort, La Colmiane

Day 3, Sunday 26 June: Towards Col de la Lombarde

Day 4, Monday 27 June: St Dalmas le Selvage, Col de la Bonette

Day 5, Tuesday 28 June: Les Launes, Lac d'Estenc

Day 6, Wednesday 29 June: Towards Col Agnel

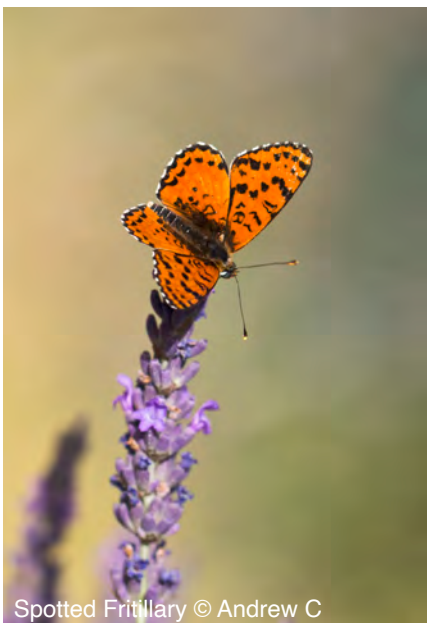
Day 7, Thursday 30 June: Col d'Izoard, Ceillac

Day 8, Friday 1 July: Return to Nice airport

Day 1, Friday 24 June

Andrew C was the only guest arriving today; the others were already in situ, so a relatively prompt departure was made from Nice airport and the group arrived at the hotel for the first leg of the trip in good time from a punctuality perspective, but an awful one from that of weather conditions, as within minutes of checking in a nasty storm whipped up gale force winds and lashed this 1,000m location with torrential rain.

As is often the case at this time of year, the storm ended within 20 minutes and cleared the atmosphere for the rest of the afternoon, which was spent exploring the magnificent forest track immediately behind the hotel.



Spotted Fritillary © Andrew C

On the way to the track, it is impossible to resist checking out several ornamental lavenders belonging to local residents. Even though it had only just brightened up, there were Scarce Swallowtails, *Iphiclides podalirius*, Great Sooty Satyrs, *Satyrus ferula* and Cleopatras, *Gonepteryx cleopatra*, busily nectaring away. It was also nice to see both Small White, *Pieris rapae*, and Southern Small White, *Pieris mannii*, feeding side by side, giving everyone the opportunity to see what distinguishes them from one another.

The track itself was laden with multi dozens of Marbled Whites, *Melanargia galathea*, with Heath Fritillary, *Melitaea athalia*, and Spotted Fritillary, *Melitaea didyma*, also prominent.

With so many butterflies on the wing, it's easy to miss the smaller, less bright ones, so it was good when everyone noticed Marbled Skipper, *Carcharodus lavatherae*, Pearly Heath, *Coenonympha arcania*, and Baton Blue, *Pseudophilotes baton*.

Moving down the track, new species presented themselves, with

Marbled Fritillary, *Brenthis daphne*, flying along the rides, and Chequered Blue, *Scolitantides orion*, holding a territory on one of the hairpins. Red Underwing Skipper, *Spialia Sertorius*, and Lulworth Skipper, *Thymelicus actaeon*, were seen on the lavender at the edges of the track, whilst Escher's Blue, *Polyommatus escheri* was found on one particularly large clump, along with False Ilex Hairstreak, *Satyrium esculi*.

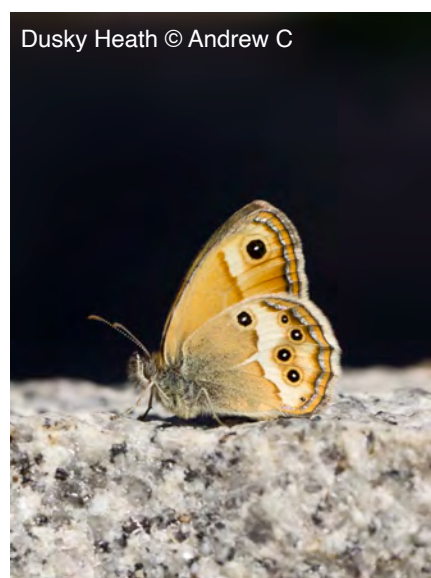
On the way back up the track, Southern White Admiral, *Limentis reducta*, was a welcome addition, and Large Wall Brown, *Lasiommata maera*, was recorded flying around the steep rock face. A further check of the ornamental lavenders added Blue Spot Hairstreak, *Satyrium spini*, and Woodland Grayling, *Hipparchia fagi*, to the list, which stood at an admirable 52 species after barely two hours in the field.



Chequered Blue © Andrew C

Day 2, Saturday 25 June

It's fair to say that this first full day got off to a frustrating start. A twenty minute walk up to the local fort saw fine weather and plenty of butterflies, but also a depressing realisation that there had been severe habitat loss, with needless over-trimming of the steep banks along the way and the conversion of most of the level area near the fort into concrete and a children's play area.



Dusky Heath © Andrew C

Thankfully, this destruction had not wiped out the colony of Dusky Heaths, *Coenonympha dorus*, which have traditionally been found at this location. A few were seen flying around the grassy area opposite the playground, much to the relief of the guide. Mallow Skipper, *Carcharodus alceae*, was also present further towards the helipad, and on the way down the rocky track back to Rimplas, there were plenty of Wall Browns, *Lasiommata megera*, and a couple of Knapweed Fritillaries, *Melitaea phoebe*.

With the morning's plan disrupted, it was decided to travel to the afternoon's site before midday. However, the road to Madone de Fenestre was blocked due to landslides, meaning that an alternative plan had to be adopted.

David, the guide, deemed that for convenience's sake it was worth stopping at the ski centre in Colmiane, as it was relatively close and at a good altitude of around 1,400 – 1,500m. This site had never been visited on this tour, but within minutes it was clear that there were encouraging numbers of butterflies.

Almond-Eyed Ringlet, *Erebia alberganus*, was one of the first spotted, followed shortly by Queen of Spain Fritillary, *Issoria lathonia*. It was impossible to resist heading over to the mainly rutted, bare earth on the main slope, as there were scores of butterflies nectaring on the flowers growing here. Swallowtails, *Papilio machaon*, and Scarce Swallowtails were enjoying the feast, alongside Cleopatras and Brimstones, *Gonepteryx rhamni*, providing a riot of yellow dancing across the landscape.

Turquoise Blue, *Polyommatus dorylas*, Chapman's Blue, *P. thersites*, and Geranium Argus, *Aricia eumedon*, were found on the grassy bank to the side of this slope, whilst Titania's Fritillary, *Boloria titania*, was seen nectaring on thistles. Best of all though, was the completely unexpected discovery of the rare Mountain Alcon Blue, *Phengaris alcon rebeli*, in a particularly grassy section at the bottom and to the right of this main slope. Many ova laid by this species were immediately found on the gentians growing here, and the bulk of the individuals seen were in fine condition.

Just opposite, in a flatter area, a female Scarce Copper, *Lycaena virgaureae*, was found, and a walk across this area turned up both Safflower, *Pyrgus carthami*, and Large Grizzled Skipper, *P. alveus*, before the group were distracted by a Small Tortoiseshell, *Aglais urticae*, a species seldom seen under 1,500m in this region.



Purple-shot Copper © Andrew C

Nearby, there was a lake with a circuitous path which was replete with dragonflies and damselflies. Purple Shot Copper, *Lycaena alciphron*, and Amanda's Blue, *Polyommatus amandus*, were picked up on this track, and when arriving at the far side of the lake there were several Damon Blues, *Polyommatus damon*, both puddling and feeding from the vetches. Chestnut Heath, *Coenonympha glycerion*, was another pleasant surprise, flying near where the Mountain Alcon Blues had been first seen on the way back.

Arriving back in Rimplas in mid-afternoon, the group then went up to the old terraced meadows behind the village. Sadly, they had been hugely overgrazed, and few butterflies were on the wing on the long walk to the elm copse. Thankfully, the White Letter Hairstreak, *Satyrrium w-album*, colony here was still a healthy one, with several individuals seen in the trees, although, perhaps understandably, none were at ground level feeding on what was left of the flowers.

Another tour around the village lavenders proved irresistible, and the very scarce Southern Comma, *Polygonia egea*, was seen by some of the group.

An at times frustrating day had nonetheless been very successful from a butterfly hunting perspective – 69 different species had been recorded and the total for the trip stood at an impressive 80 at the end of the first full day.

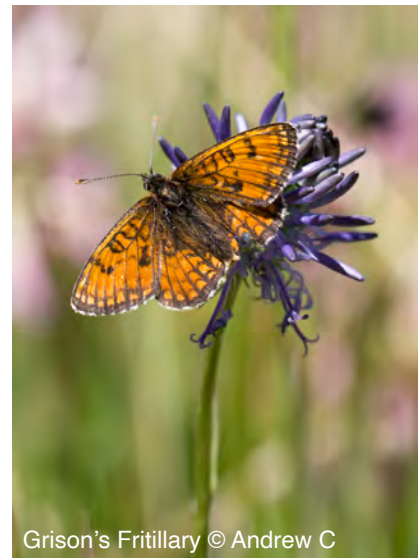
Day 3, Sunday 26 June

The weather was sufficiently promising to take a trip up to the 2,350m Col de la Lombarde this morning. Ascending to such an altitude early in the morning is not without its risks, but with clouds generally accumulating in the afternoons, it is the safest way to ensure sunshine is present when searching for the rarities found above 2,000m.

The first of these altitude denizens seen was Mountain Clouded Yellow, *Colias phicomone*, whilst the guide managed to find an Alpine Grizzled Skipper, *Pyrgus andromedae*, to show those who had walked up to the high point beneath the cable car wires. A handful of Grison's Fritillaries, *Melitaea varia*, were pursued with zeal, and there was even a very late Marsh Fritillary, *Euphydryas aurinia*, still active towards the bottom of the slope.

A solitary Mountain Dappled White, *Euchloe simplonia*, was seen on the Italian side of the col, and an unfamiliar Fritillary was captured in a pot which had the group puzzled. Later on, Jane and David realised that it was a Balkan Fritillary, *Boloria graeca*, a species never previously found at this location on this tour.

Moving slightly down the col to a series of grassy hillsides at about 2,200m, more Balkan Fritillaries were found, with three or four Alpine Grizzled Skippers. Purple Edged Copper, *Lycaena hippothoe*, made its bow and there were several Apollos, *Parnassius apollo*, seen flying around the steep slope near to where the vehicle had been parked.



Grison's Fritillary © Andrew C

Cloud had built by this point, but it allowed the group to get close to a Mountain Ringlet, *Erebia epiphron*, that had been located. Other new species for the tour here were Green Hairstreak, *Callophrys rubi*, Pearl Bordered Fritillary, *Boloria euphrosyne*, and Alpine Heath, *Coenonympha gardetta*.

Lunch was taken at this site before the group made their way down to a roadside location at around 1,550m. This is traditionally a popular place for Apollos, and there were plenty of them swirling around the steep rock faces, helped on their way by the accompanying thermals. There were more Sooty, *Lycaena tityrus*, and Purple Edged Coppers, and False Heath Fritillary, *Melitaea diamina*, was picked up here too.

Perhaps the most notable sighting was of a couple of female Large Blues, *Phengaris arion*, which were seen nectaring from the sainfoin growing in the grassland at the side of the road.

Conditions were getting more overcast so it was decided to head back to Rimplas, which is at the southern edge of the montane massif and thus is more reliable from a weather perspective. As ever, the lavenders in the village were rigorously checked, with Meleager's Blue, *Polyommatus daphne*, being a highly desirable new addition.



Poplar Admiral © Andrew C

However, one event that trumped all others on this trip was the sighting of a Poplar Admiral, *Limentis populi*, at the base of a lavender bush by a stone stairway leading to a row of houses. The guide came over and could not believe what he was seeing. This was a beautiful female in excellent condition but in a completely unexpected place and behaving oddly in the sense that she was incredibly docile and not prone to flight. Unfortunately, it is believed that this insect had perhaps suffered a spider bite as the following day she was found lifeless at the base of the lavender.

An incredible 81 different species had been recorded in a single day, proving what value there is to searching sites at various altitudes. Of these 19 had not hitherto been seen, meaning that the week's count had now reached 100.

Day 4, Monday 27 June

With fine weather forecast, the group headed out to the charming village of St Dalmas le Selvage in the morning, situated close to the route that leads to the Col de la Bonette, at 2,802m the highest road pass in Europe.

This tranquil spot provides a range of habitat, with a large river feeding damp meadows nearby and a series of drier ones further up.

Within minutes of arrival, Idas Blues, *Plebejus idas*, were found with Silver Studded Blues, *Plebejus argus*, on the grassy bank opposite the car park. Further up by the bridge there was a damp spot with powdered concrete mix. This proved attractive to quite a few butterflies, amongst them being Eros Blue, *Polyommatus eros*, which was new for the week.

The meadows nearby were drier and contained long grass and many flowers, so it was no surprise to see them full of butterflies. There were more Mountain Alcon Blues, but the abiding memory will be the huge numbers of Dark Green Fritillaries, *Speyeria aglaja*, flying around the thistles and knapweeds. After some close inspection, it was noticed that Niobe Fritillary, *Fabriciana niobe*, was flying here too, and a detailed look at the smaller members of this family showed that Meadow Fritillary, *Melitaea parthenoides*, was also present. There was even a Ringlet, *Aphantopus hyperantus*, which, although common in much of Britain, is a rare find in this part of the French Alps.

The damper meadows nearer the river were just as replete with insect life, with Lesser Marbled Fritillary, *Brenthis ino*, and Large Ringlet, *Erebia Euryale*, the most notable finds.

Lunch was taken on the car park, as there were good facilities and plenty of shade to be had, and in the early afternoon an ascent was made to the highest point of the col, although the group were lucky to avoid a road accident when a BMW overtook another vehicle on a blind, oncoming bend not far from the top. Luckily, a collision was miraculously averted and 10 minutes later the group arrived at the col, with everybody ascending to the trig point to enjoy the spectacular views and pleasant temperatures.



Col de la Bonette © Clive

It was here that the week's only Red Admirals, *Vanessa atlanta*, were seen, and there was a Peak White, *Pontia callidice*, also flying around this hilltop, but as ever its behaviour was frustrating as it barely settled and when it did, it was impossible to approach on the steep slope.

The main target at this high altitude location was Sooty Ringlet, *Erebia pluto*, and several were duly seen, although the constant sunshine meant they remained airborne and photographing them was virtually impossible.

On the descent, a stop was made at around 2,600m in a promising looking area near to a small tarn. There weren't huge numbers of butterflies here, but Glandon Blues, *Plebejus glandon*, were in residence, along with Southern Grizzled Skipper, *Pyrgus malvoides* and Common Brassy Ringlet, *Erebia cassioides*. Pleasingly, there were also several marmots at this location – always a delightful sight.

Once back at Rimplas, there was still time to add further new species, as both Foulquier's Grizzled Skipper, *Pyrgus foulquieri*, and Purple Hairstreak, *Favonia quercusia*, were recorded, meaning 13 new species had been seen today bringing the total now to 113.

Day 5, Tuesday 28 June

This was transit day, which involved a long drive from the Tinée Valley to the Var Valley and over Col de la Cayolle. There was a scheduled stop near Les Launes to break the journey up, and thankfully the light rain which had appeared just prior to this destination had stopped when the group arrived to explore the grassy meadow, although clouds were continually threatening to blot out the welcome sunshine that was on offer.



Scarce Copper © Andrew C

Colin and David found the week's first Dingy Skipper, *Erynnis tages*, and several Mountain Alcon Blues were also seen amongst the many Coppers, Fritillaries and Blues. This site is one of the few in the area where Clouded Apollo, *Parnassius Mnemosyne*, can be reliably found, and sure enough a solitary specimen was seen flying in the long grasses near the woodland edge, allowing everyone to get images and study this butterfly closely.

Cloud increased after getting through the ski resort of Valberg, although a lunch stop at St Martin d'Entraunes did provide several Scarce Coppers nectaring on thistles and umbellifers at the roadside.

Another stop was made at the Lac d'Estenc on the road up to Col de la Cayolle, but skies were darkening now and nothing was flying, although a Darwin's Heath, *Coenonympha darwiniana*, was found roosting on some grasses by the lake.

There was no point stopping at the col itself, as light rain was falling, and the gloomy conditions continued all the way down to Barcelonnette and beyond, before an astonishing moment when a

flashing roadside sign warned of severe hailstorms on the ascent to Col de Vars.

The group proceeded cautiously, but luckily did not have to drive through any intense hail. However, it was clear that a short while before, others had not been so lucky, as the hillsides and much of the road were blanketed in frozen hail with the van's temperature gauge reading just 8 degrees!!

Checking in at the hotel in Vars was therefore not a straightforward affair, with heavy rain wetting everybody as they headed inside with their suitcases. Thankfully, this eased off soon after, and the evening actually became sunny once everybody had settled in.

In spite of the inclement conditions, three new species had been added to the week's tally, which now stood at 116.

Day 6, Wednesday 29 June

Pleasingly, the unseasonal weather conditions of the previous day were gone, although evidence still remained in the form of white dusting on some of the higher hillsides this morning.

The intention was to drive to a high altitude site first thing, just short of Col Agnel. However, a major, unexpected obstacle presented itself in the form of a closed road near Fontgillarde, causing the guide to hold his head in his hands in frustration. Thankfully, Jane came to the rescue with her mobile SatNav, which sourced an alternative route through a single track mountain road involving a half hour detour.

Arriving at the car park opposite the wooden 'refuge', things looked perfect for an excellent couple of hours butterfly spotting, and so it proved, with Cynthia's Fritillary, *Euphydryas cynthia*, around in decent numbers, along with Dusky Grizzled Skipper, *Pyrgus cacaliae*, Dewy Ringlet, *Erebia pandrose*, and Small Apollo, *Parnassius phoebus*, all encountered in the grassy combs astride the many mountain streams that cut their way downhill towards the river.

Both Mountain Fritillary, *Boloria napaea*, and Shepherd's Fritillary, *Boloria pales*, were seen visiting the many yellow flowers on the hillside, whilst Glandon Blue, Grison's Fritillary, and Mountain Ringlet were further evidence that we were in the company of high alpine specialists.

The fresh mountain air and the stunning views perfectly complemented the butterflies on offer, and it was hard to prise oneself away having enjoyed such a spectacle. However, eventually the group moved down to a roadside pull-in at around 2,400m, where an ideally located picnic table was commandeered for lunch.

This roadside site is full of alpine flowers and has a sheltered bank which leads down to a river. There is also an array of vetches which are attractive to lycaenids, with Idas Blue being especially ubiquitous. Other notables were Silvery Argus, *Plebejus nicias*, and a couple of Alpine Blues, *Plebejus orbitulus*, although both the latter were rather worn. Another tatty newcomer was a Mountain Green Veined White, *Pieris bryoniae*.

At one point Jane potted a *Pyrgus* skipper. Its small size and lack of heavy markings pointed to Warren's Skipper, *Pyrgus warrensis*, which would have been a first for this tour. However, scrutiny after the trip proved that it was a slightly aberrant Olive Skipper, *Pyrgus serratulae*, as although the uppersides looked more like *warrensis*, the undersides were perfect for *serratulae* and not like *warrensis* at all.

One final stop in the heat of the afternoon was at a car park opposite the delightful Chez Meme's cabin, an area where one can purchase a much needed cold beer or ice cream, which most in the group did.

There were plenty of butterflies puddling near the water's edge, including the trip's first Carline Skipper, *Pyrgus carlinae*.

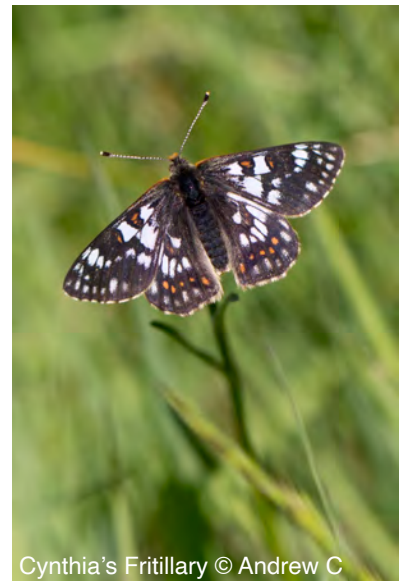
This had been a pleasurable but exhausting day, with 11 new species recorded, bringing the total to 127.

Day 7, Thursday 30th June



Large Ringlet & Arran Brown © Andrew C

This final full day began with a short drive up towards Col de Vars to a steep meadow where Blind Ringlet, *Erebia pharte*, has historically been present. It didn't take long to locate a few, with several individuals being of the form *phartina*, with much reduced orange markings. There were serious numbers of Large Ringlets, although Andrew C managed to get a tremendous image of an Arran Brown, *Erebia ligea*, on a leaf next to a Large Ringlet, which clearly highlighted the difference between the two species. Before leaving, there was a further



Cynthia's Fritillary © Andrew C

surprise when a Northern Wall Brown, *Lasiommata petropolitana*, was sighted.

The group then moved on to Col d'Izoard, a rather barren, rocky summit at around 2,360m, where it was hoped that Alpine Grayling, *Oeneis glacialis*, and False Mnestra Ringlet, *Erebia aethiopella*, would be found. Sadly, conditions were not conducive to butterfly watching, as cloud quickly obscured the sun and the temperature dropped so that few species were prepared to take to the wing.

Rather than waste valuable time, it was decided to move on to Ceillac, a medium altitude series of meadows beside a stream. It remained mainly cloudy during lunch, but there were good sunny intervals afterwards, with the highlight being healthy numbers of Apollos, as well as plenty of other species, including a nice Turquoise Blue which posed nicely for those who were nearby.

Three new species for the trip brought the final total to 130, which is better than average for this tour, and had the weather at altitude been a little kinder there could easily have been several more.

Day 8, Friday 1st July

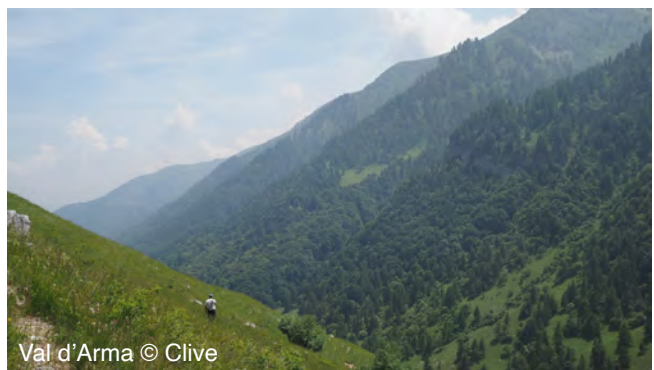
To break up the long journey back to Nice Airport, the group stopped at a damp, grassy site some 5km from Col de la Bonette on the north side. It took little more than an hour to reach it, and there were already plenty of butterflies on the wing even at 10.30am. However, there were no new species that hadn't hitherto been recorded, although after some challenging weather conditions during the earlier part of the week, it was somewhat frustrating to spend an hour in near perfect sunny conditions on departure day!

With business duly done, it was off to the airport, where all guests were safely deposited to catch their flights after a very satisfying week.

Footnote and acknowledgements

The total number of butterfly species seen was 130, which is highly creditable given the less than ideal weather endured at times during the week, with transit day providing some extraordinarily cold conditions, and the final day being somewhat overcast and windy.

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



Systematic Species Checklists

Butterflies			24th June	25th June	26th June	27th June	28th June	29th June	30th 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 Papilionidae									
1	Scarce Swallowtail	<i>Iphiclides podalirius</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
2	Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>		✓	✓	✓			✓
3	Apollo	<i>Parnassius apollo</i>			✓	✓		✓	✓
4	Clouded Apollo	<i>Parnassius mnemosyne</i>					✓		
5	Small Apollo	<i>Parnassius phoebus</i>						✓	
Family Pieridae									
6	Orange-tip	<i>Anthocharis cardamines</i>			✓	✓			
7	Black-veined White	<i>Aporia crataegi</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
8	Berger's Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias alfacariensis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
9	Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias crocea</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
10	Mountain Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias phicomone</i>			✓			✓	✓
11	Mountain Dappled White	<i>Euchloe simplona</i>			✓				
12	Cleopatra	<i>Gonepteryx cleopatra</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
13	Brimstone	<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>		✓	✓	✓			
14	Wood White	<i>Leptidea sinapis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
15	Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>	✓					✓	✓
16	Mountain Green-veined White	<i>Pieris bryoniae</i>						✓	✓
17	Southern Small White	<i>Pieris mani</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
18	Green-veined White	<i>Pieris napi</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
19	Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
20	Peak White	<i>Pontia callidice</i>				✓			
21	Bath White	<i>Pontia daplidice</i>	✓		✓				
Family Lycaenidae									
22	Green Hairstreak	<i>Callophrys rubi</i>			✓			✓	
23	Purple Hairstreak	<i>Neozephyrus quercus</i>				✓			
24	White Letter Hairstreak	<i>Satyrium w-album</i>		✓					
25	Sloe Hairstreak	<i>Satyrium acaciae</i>	✓			✓			
26	False Ilex Hairstreak	<i>Satyrium esculi</i>	✓	✓					
27	Ilex Hairstreak	<i>Satyrium ilicis</i>	✓		✓				
28	Blue-spot Hairstreak	<i>Satyrium spini</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			
29	Purple-shot Copper	<i>Lycaena alciphron</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
30	Purple-edged Copper	<i>Lycaena hippothoe</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Butterflies			24th June	25th June	26th June	27th June	28th June	29th June	30th June
			day 1	day 2	day 3	day 4	day 5	day 6	day 7
Imago sightings are marked with a ✓, caterpillars are marked with a ☆									
31	Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>	✓	✓	✓				
32	Sooty Copper	<i>Lycaena tityrus</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	
33	Scarce Copper	<i>Lycaena virgaureae</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
34	Brown Argus	<i>Aricia agestis</i>	✓		✓	✓			
35	Mountain Argus	<i>Aricia artaxerxes</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
36	Geranium Argus	<i>Aricia eumedon</i>		✓			✓	✓	✓
37	Silvery Argus	<i>Aricia nicias</i>						✓	✓
38	Holly Blue	<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
39	Small Blue	<i>Cupido minimus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
40	Mazarine Blue	<i>Cyaniris semiargus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
41	Meleager's Blue	<i>Meleageria daphnis</i>			✓	✓			
42	Mountain Alcon Blue	<i>Phengaris alcon rebeli</i>		✓		✓	✓		✓
43	Large Blue	<i>Phengaris arion</i>			✓				
44	Silver-studded Blue	<i>Plebejus argus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
45	Glandon Blue	<i>Plebejus glandon</i>				✓		✓	✓
46	Idas Blue	<i>Plebejus idas</i>				✓		✓	✓
47	Alpine Blue	<i>Plebejus orbitulus</i>						✓	
48	Amanda's Blue	<i>Polyommatus amandus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
49	Adonis Blue	<i>Polyommatus bellargus</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓		
50	Chalk-hill Blue	<i>Polyommatus coridon</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
51	Damon Blue	<i>Polyommatus damon</i>		✓			✓	✓	
52	Turquoise Blue	<i>Polyommatus dorylas</i>		✓			✓		✓
53	Eros Blue	<i>Polyommatus eros</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓
54	Escher's Blue	<i>Polyommatus escheri</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
55	Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
56	Chapman's Blue	<i>Polyommatus thersites</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
57	Baton Blue	<i>Pseudophilotes baton</i>	✓						
58	Chequered Blue	<i>Scolitantides orion</i>	✓		✓	✓			
	Family Nymphalidae								
59	Small Tortoiseshell	<i>Aglais urticae</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	
60	Southern White Admiral	<i>Limenitis reducta</i>	✓			✓	✓		
61	Poplar Admiral	<i>Limenitis populi</i>			✓				
62	Large Tortoiseshell	<i>Nymphalis polychloros</i>	✓	✓					
63	Comma	<i>Polygonia c-album</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓
64	Southern Comma	<i>Polygonia egea</i>		✓	✓				

Butterflies			24th June	25th June	26th June	27th June	28th June	29th June	30th June
			day 1	day 2	day 3	day 4	day 5	day 6	day 7
Imago sightings are marked with a ✓, caterpillars are marked with a ☆						✓			
65	Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>				✓			
66	Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
67	Dark Green Fritillary	<i>Argynnis aglaja</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
68	High Brown Fritillary	<i>Argynnis adippe</i>			✓		✓		✓
69	Niobe Fritillary	<i>Argynnis niobe</i>				✓	✓		
70	Silver-washed Fritillary	<i>Argynnis paphia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			
71	Weaver's Fritillary	<i>Boloria dia</i>	✓	✓	✓				✓
72	Pearl-bordered Fritillary	<i>Boloria euphrosyne</i>			✓	✓			✓
73	Balkan Fritillary	<i>Boloria graeca</i>			✓				
74	Mountain Fritillary	<i>Boloria napaea</i>						✓	✓
75	Shepherd's Fritillary	<i>Boloria pales</i>						✓	✓
76	Titania's Fritillary	<i>Boloria titania</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
77	Marbled Fritillary	<i>Brenthis daphne</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
78	Lesser Marbled Fritillary	<i>Brenthis ino</i>		✓		✓	✓		✓
79	Marsh Fritillary	<i>Euphedryas aurinia</i>			✓			✓	✓
80	Cynthia's Fritillary	<i>Euphedryas cynthia</i>						✓	
81	Queen of Spain Fritillary	<i>Issoria lathonia</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
82	Heath Fritillary	<i>Melitaea athalia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
83	Glanville Fritillary	<i>Melitaea cinxia</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
84	False Heath Fritillary	<i>Melitaea diamina</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
85	Spotted Fritillary	<i>Melitaea didyma</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
86	Provençal Fritillary	<i>Melitaea deione</i>	✓	✓			✓	✓	
87	Meadow Fritillary	<i>Melitaea parthenoides</i>				✓	✓		
88	Knapweed Fritillary	<i>Melitaea phoebe</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
89	Grison's Fritillary	<i>Melitaea varia</i>			✓			✓	
90	Ringlet	<i>Aphantopus hyperantus</i>				✓			
91	Great Banded Grayling	<i>Brintesia circe</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
92	Pearly Heath	<i>Coenonympha arcania</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
93	Darwin's Heath	<i>Coenonympha darwiniana</i>					✓		
94	Dusky Heath	<i>Coenonympha dorus</i>		✓	✓	✓			
95	Alpine Heath	<i>Coenonympha gardetta</i>			✓			✓	✓
96	Chestnut Heath	<i>Coenonympha glycerion</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
97	Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
98	Almond-eyed Ringlet	<i>Erebia albertanus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Butterflies			24th June	25th June	26th June	27th June	28th June	29th June	30th June
			day 1	day 2	day 3	day 4	day 5	day 6	day 7
Imago sightings are marked with a ✓, caterpillars are marked with a ☆									
99	Common Brassy Ringlet	<i>Erebia cassioides</i>			✓	✓		✓	
100	Mountain Ringlet	<i>Erebia epiphron</i>			✓			✓	
101	Large Ringlet	<i>Erebia euryale</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓
102	Arran Brown	<i>Erebia ligea</i>							✓
103	Dewy Ringlet	<i>Erebia pandrose</i>						✓	
104	Blind Ringlet	<i>Erebia phrase</i>							✓
105	Sooty Ringlet	<i>Erebia pluto</i>				✓			
106	Woodland Grayling	<i>Hipparchia fagi</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
107	Large Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata maera</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
108	Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>		✓		✓			
109	Northern Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata petropolitana</i>							✓
110	Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
111	Marbled White	<i>Melanargia galathea</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
112	Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>			✓				
113	Great Sooty Satyr	<i>Satyrus ferula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
	Family Hesperidae								
114	Mallow Skipper	<i>Carcharodus alceae</i>		✓	✓				
115	Tufted Marbled Skipper	<i>Carcharodus flocciferus</i>	✓						✓
116	Marbled Skipper	<i>Carcharodus lavatherae</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			
117	Dingy Skipper	<i>Erynnis tages</i>					✓		✓
118	Large Skipper	<i>Ochlodes sylvanus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
119	Large Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus alveus</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
120	Alpine Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus andromedae</i>			✓				
121	Dusky Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus cacaliae</i>						✓	
122	Carline Skipper	<i>Pyrgus carlinae</i>						✓	
123	Safflower Skipper	<i>Pyrgus cathami</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
124	Foulqier's Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus foulqieri</i>				✓			
125	Southern Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus malvoides</i>				✓		✓	
126	Olive Skipper	<i>Pyrgus serratulae</i>						✓	
127	Red Underwing Skipper	<i>Spialia sertorius</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
128	Lulworth Skipper	<i>Thymelicus acteon</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
129	Essex Skipper	<i>Thymelicus lineola</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
130	Small Skipper	<i>Thymelicus sylvestris</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Moths

(With thanks to Jane J for compiling this list)

Plume sp.
Forrester sp.

White-spotted Sable

Latticed Heath

Box Moth
Wood Carpet
Burnet Companion
Broad-bordered Bee Hawkmoth
Golden-yellow Wave
Frosted Yellow
Hummingbird Hawkmoth
Fox Moth
Rush Veneer
Chimney Sweeper
Wood Tiger

Argent & Sable
Narrow Rose-bordered Wave
Lewes Wave

Nine-spotted
Silver-ground Carpet
Mountain/Scotch Burnet
Six-spot Burnet
Transparent Burnet
Five-spot Burnet

Actinotia radiosa
Anania funebris
Camptogramma scripturata
Catastia marginata
Charissa onustaria
Chiasmia clathrata
Crocota tinctoria
Cydalima perspectalis
Epirrhoe rivata
Euclidia glyphica
Hemaris fuciformis
Idaea aureolaria
Isturgia limbaria
Macroglossum stellatarum
Macrothylacia rubi
Nomophila noctuella
Odezia atrata
Parasemia plantaginis
Pyrausta aurealis
Rheumaptera hastata
Rhodostrophia calabra
Scopula immorata
Setina aurita
Syntomis phegea
Xanthorhoe montanata
Zygaena exulans
Zygaena filipendulae
Zygaena purpuralis
Zygaena trifolii

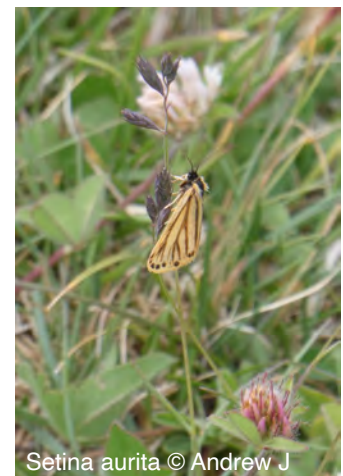


Photo Gallery



Black-veined White © Andrew C



Scarce Swallowtail © David Moore



Spotted Fritillary © Andrew C



Broad-bordered Bee Hawkmoth © Clive



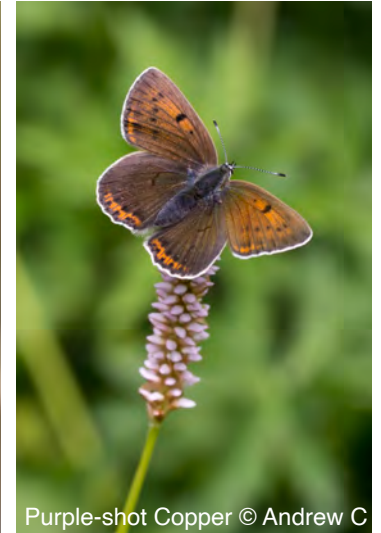
Small Apollo © Andrew C



Mallow Skipper © Andrew C



Damon Blue © David Moore



Purple-shot Copper © Andrew C



Clouded Yellow © Andrew C



Common Hawker © Clive



Catastia marginea © Clive



Small Apollo © Andrew C



Purple-edged Copper © Andrew C



Knapweed Fritillary © Andrew C



False Ilex Hairstreak © Andrew C



Forester Moth © Jane J



Southern White Admiral © Andrew C