

France – Butterflies of La Brenne

Naturetrek Tour Report

21st – 26th June 2023



White Admiral



Swallowtail



Marbled Fritillary



Great Banded Grayling

Tour report compiled by Emilie Mitchell, images by Jim Higham



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Tour participants: Emilie Mitchell (leader) with eight Naturetrek clients

Summary

Based at the Au Bosquet Fleuri hotel in Martizay, we spent a mostly sunny week exploring the Parc Naturel Régional (PNR) de la Brenne. Equivalent to an 'Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty', the PNR is home to an extraordinarily diverse range of plants and animals, with a landscape offering a striking contrast between forests, meadows, heaths and the thousand lakes, for which the region is famed.

The tour focussed on the butterflies of La Brenne, although birds, mammals and other interesting wildlife were also enjoyed by all on this holiday. The friendly and dynamic group members made the most of a wealth of wildlife. Our first full day was rainy but for the rest of our stay, we were blessed with glorious sunshine and temperatures in the high twenties with plenty of butterflies, dragonflies and birds to enjoy.

Day 1

Wednesday 21st June

We all met in Saint Pierre des Corps station (near Tours), with the TGV (high-speed train) arriving on time. After loading the minibus, we struck a course south for La Brenne.

Arriving in Martizay, our host Benjamin greeted us warmly to his hotel. After a quick refresh, we drove ten minutes down the road to Étang Purais (part of the Chérine National Nature Reserve). A vast raft of lily pads floated on the lake's surface, providing nesting sites for hundreds of Whiskered Terns and a dozen or so Black-necked Grebes. Ducks were also plentiful, with good numbers of Pochard, Tufted Duck, many Red-crested Pochard and a handful of dapper Garganey.

Day 2

Thursday 22nd June

We spent the morning discovering more of the Chérine National Nature Reserve.

Soon after leaving the hotel, we stopped at a fish farm pond and got close views of Night Heron, Purple Heron and some Little Egrets. Étang Ricot was dry, as it was on "assec" for the whole spring and summer. This traditional management practice takes place every 10 to 12 years for each of the étangs (lakes) in La Brenne. It allows the mud to mineralise and plants to flower, then go to seed, providing future food for ducks and fish, as well as offering an opportunity for the wardens to repair any leaky dykes and eliminate invasive alien species. A few Greylag Geese were grazing in the dried out lake but a sudden heavy shower forced us to retreat rapidly to Maison de la Nature. We enjoyed the fascinating exhibition in the visitor centre, with its many watercolours presenting the rich fauna and flora of La Brenne. A break in the rain allowed us to visit Étang Cistude. Here we were very lucky to observe yet more Garganey, Little Grebe and Black-headed Gulls along with their young ones. A Black Kite perched in a dead tree, drying itself after a drenching. Red-crested Pochard, Kingfisher and Purple Heron were all seen in flight, along with dozens of Whiskered Terns.

Around the corner at Étang de la Sous, a Little Egret was feasting on a crayfish but the highlight was lovely views of both male and female Little Bittern, which landed in reeds just in front of the hide. All the while, a Reed Warbler was seen singing from the top of a reed stem and a Turtle Dove 'purred' from the canopy.

Lunch was enjoyed at Maison du Parc, where a Night Heron was spotted on the pond. The air was full of bird song, with Black Redstart, Hoopoe and Blackcap all singing loudly. The rest of the afternoon was spent at the

Regional Nature Reserve of Foucault-Massé. The highlight was a stunning Large Tortoiseshell butterfly, which landed on the path just as we arrived back at the minibus.

Day 3

Friday 23rd June

The previous evening, Emilie had set up a moth trap in a nearby garden and we set off after breakfast to check what had been attracted by the light. We soon arrived in Véronique's garden, opposite Le Gabriau. She was also very excited to discover the many moth species living in her garden. The most impressive included Oak and Plum Lappets, Buff-tip, Privet Hawk-moth, Elephant Hawk-moth, lots of Great-diving Beetles and many, many more species. Overhead, a Woodlark sang its sweet refrain and both Silver-washed Fritillary and Great Banded Grayling came to pay us a visit.

At La Boudinière, Silver-washed Fritillaries were everywhere, and a bramble thicket was hosting a White-letter Hairstreak and the flashy Marbled Fritillary. In the open grassland, we encountered both male and female Adonis Blues and our first Weaver's Fritillary. Further up the bank, we spotted a Tree Pipit and came across the 'bouncing' Large Chequered Skipper and a fine Woodland Grayling.

Lunch was taken by the river Creuse in Lurais. Small Pincertail, Blue-eye Damselfly and Black-tailed Skimmers were all on the wing and we witnessed a frog feasting on an unfortunate female Emperor Dragonfly. In the grass, Blue Chafer Beetles dazzled us with their ultra-marine iridescence.

Next, we visited Fonterland, the goat farm of Denis and Christèle. To our delight, a good number of Large Blue butterflies were feeding and egg laying on the abundant Marjoram. We also spied, Weaver's Fritillary, Small Copper and Gatekeeper. Meanwhile, a young Praying Mantis crawled over Graham! We left most content, not least as Emilie had picked up some lovely cheeses for the next picnic.

At Rocher de la Dube, we walked a cool, shaded footpath which was lined with trees draped in mosses. At the nearby river, Banded and Beautiful Demoiselles flitted everywhere but the highlight was several Orange Featherleg damselflies. Some of the group also enjoyed a cooling paddle.

A smart Map butterfly briefly showed along the roadside verge, while Southern White Admiral and 'regular' White Admiral were present near the woodland edge. Back in Martizay, we stopped to watch a Lesser Purple Emperor flying in the canopy of a cherry tree by the river – a magic end to another fruitful day.

Day 4

Saturday 24th June

Our day started with a visit to a local Bee-eater colony, where these rainbow-coloured birds showed extremely well. All the while Skylark and Cirl Bunting were singing around us. We also had a visit from a Black Kite, which temporarily alarmed the Bee-eaters!

Moving to Saulnay, we soaked-up the lovely song of a Golden Oriole and spotted another Lesser Purple Emperor in the church car park! Moving to the Ozance marshes, we walked to Étang Vieux. Here we met a Slow Worm and observed a handsome Honey Buzzard soaring overhead. The rides offered us double figures of the beautiful Orange-spotted Emerald dragonfly, where we also encountered many Brimstone, Marbled White and had nice views of dozens of Large Tortoiseshell butterflies perched on the trunks of oak trees.

Broad Scarlet dragonflies were plentiful, and we also enjoyed nice views of a perched Blue Chaser. Near the sluice gate, we found a Small Pincertail and Black-tailed Skimmer. From the steps, Jenny spotted a Bittern and John and Cathy called out as a Marsh Harrier flew above the reedbed in the distance.

Lunch was taken in Vendoeuvres, where a Serin was heard singing, as well as a Black Redstart. All the while dozens and dozens of Swifts zipped past overhead. We spent the afternoon in the Lancôme Forest, where we encountered many Silver-washed and Marbled Fritillaries, along with our first Dark Green and Heath Fritillaries.

A recently emerged Peacock butterfly showed itself well and a Marsh Tit was calling excitedly.

Moving on to La Fosse Noire, we finally caught up with the smart Woodland Brown butterfly, having checked what seemed like hundreds of Ringlets! Bonelli's Warblers were singing away and White-tailed Skimmers hovered everywhere around the lake.

At the Chapel of Saint Sulpice, a group of French children were playing by the spring and refreshing themselves on what was a very hot afternoon. We found ourselves a Painted Lady and enjoyed the most beautiful views of a Swallowtail butterfly nectaring on knapweed and other flowers in the lovely meadow. A wedding party then turned up to take pictures by the chapel. It was a sign for us to head back to the minibus. Arriving at a woodland glade, we enjoyed yet more close encounters with a Large Tortoiseshell and Silver-washed Fritillary.

In Mézières en Brenne, we stopped under the sweet scented Lime trees in the hope of seeing more 'Emperors' but it wasn't to be. However, we found ourselves another Swallowtail and enjoyed the shade of these magnificent trees, which attracted thousands of pollinating bees with their delicious scent.

After dinner we went Nightjar watching. We parked the minibus near two dry lakes where a majestic stag was peacefully grazing. Further on, Neil found a metre-long Grass Snake which had sadly received a fatal injury. Reaching the heathland area, our guide spotted something crossing the path ahead: it was a Cistude, the regions' native terrapin. No doubt a male in search of a female or a new territory.

A Nightingale gave a 'croak', then burst into song. Then, after several minutes we heard our first Nightjar, first singing, then flying over the vegetation. It came back on several occasions and even clapped its wings just in front of us! A second male appeared later on and both offered us a wonderful nocturnal aerial display.

Day 5

Sunday 25th June

We started the day with a walk at Terre de Renard. Many Great Banded Grayling were seen throughout the walk and as we came through the grassland area, we saw Corn Bunting, Stonechat and Red-Backed Shrike. Wall Brown and Small Skippers were abundant and covered the numerous bramble flowers. We also found many Marbled Whites, Marbled Fritillaries and Small and Green-veined Whites.

Arriving at the hide overlooking Étang Luke, John found a Purple Hairstreak in the canopy and took great care in getting everyone to see it. Many White Admirals were also present.

On our journey back to the car park, we had several Blue-Eyed Hawker dragonflies hovering nearby and admired their stunning azure blue colour. A Scarce Swallowtail appeared briefly and zoomed along the hedgerow in front of us.

We moved on to Maison de la Nature for a comfort break where we came across a Wall Lizard. We then dropped into Étang Ricot, where we were rewarded with an excellent view of a beautifully marked Green Lizard.

Lunch was taken at Étang Mouton near Migné. Although the lake was dry, the site still held many birds and we took a gentle stroll around the woods which provided us with some much needed shade. Once again Great Banded Grayling were plentiful. We also connected with a cryptically-marked Red Underwing moth. The little clearing offered lovely views of a Forester moth and several White Admirals were flying up and down the woodland edge, while Golden Orioles were singing and giving their "cat-like" cry, teasing us by being so close, yet so difficult to see.

We then drove on to Les Vigneaux, where we found our first Great White Egret of the trip. In the smaller lakes on the approach road, Night Heron, Little Egret, Grey and Purple Heron were present, as well as Little and Great Crested Grebes.

From here, we continued along a shaded footpath leading to Étang Renard and Taillis de Renard. Black-necked Grebe, Whiskered Tern, many ducks and herons were present. Finally we drove to Étang Piégu where we discovered the presence of twenty or more Black-winged Stilts and their babies. Other interesting species included Little Ringed Plover and a Spoonbill.

At the end the afternoon, we drove back towards Saint Michel en Brenne where we walked part of the Sentier de Beauregard. Woodlark greeted us with a song-flight almost above our heads. Great Banded Grayling were abundant, as were Marbled White and Small Skipper. Other butterflies included Common Blue and Small Copper and we found an enormous Emperor Moth caterpillar which was on a mission (to pupate)!

Back at the hotel, we reconvened just as a Short-toed Eagle flew over the terrace!

Then followed dinner at Le Temps d'Aime restaurant, where the food and company were again wonderful.

Day 6

Monday 26th June

After breakfast, we bid farewell to our host and set off on our return journey to the train station at Saint Pierre des Corps. Following a smooth run, we arrived back in Tours with plenty of time for a coffee, before Emilie bid the group "bon voyage".

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Species lists

Butterflies

Common name	Scientific name	June 2023				
		21	22	23	24	25
Hesperiidae						
Large Chequered Skipper	<i>Heteropterus morpheus</i>			✓	✓	
Small Skipper	<i>Thymelicus sylvestris</i>				✓	✓
Essex Skipper	<i>T. lineola</i>		✓			✓
Large Skipper	<i>Ochlodes venatus</i>		✓	✓	✓	
Papilionidae						
Scarce Swallowtail	<i>Iphiclides podalirius</i>					✓
Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>				✓	
Pieridae						
Wood White	<i>Leptidea sinapis</i>			✓	✓	✓
Black-veined White	<i>Aporia crataegi</i>		✓		✓	
Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>	✓			✓	✓
Small White	<i>P. rapae</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓
Green-veined White	<i>P. napi</i>		✓		✓	✓
Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias crocea</i>					✓
Brimstone	<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Purple Hairstreak	<i>Neozephyrus quercus</i>					✓
White-letter Hairstreak	<i>Satyrium w-album</i>			✓		
Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>			✓	✓	✓
Holly blue	<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>				✓	✓
Short-tailed Blue	<i>Everes argiades</i>	✓	✓			
Large Blue	<i>Maculinea arion</i>			✓		
Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>				✓	✓
Adonis Blue	<i>Lysandra bellargus</i>			✓		
Brown Argus	<i>Aricia agestis</i>			✓	✓	✓
Nymphalidae						
Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓
Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>		✓		✓	✓

Common name	Scientific name	June 2023				
		21	22	23	24	25
Woodland Brown	<i>Lopinga achine</i>				✓	
Pearly Heath	<i>Coenonympha arcania</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓
Small Heath	<i>C. pamphilus</i>	✓	✓			✓
Gatekeeper	<i>Pyronia tithonus</i>			✓		✓
Ringlet	<i>Aphantopus hyperantus</i>				✓	
Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Marbled White	<i>Melanargia galathea</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Great Banded Grayling	<i>Brintesia circe</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓
Woodland Grayling	<i>Hippaarchia fagi</i>			✓		
Lesser Purple Emperor	<i>Apatura ilia</i>			✓	✓	
Silver-washed Fritillary	<i>Argynnis paphia</i>			✓	✓	
Dark green Fritillary	<i>Argynnis aglaja</i>				✓	
Queen of Spain Fritillary	<i>Issoria lathonia</i>	✓	✓			
Marbled Fritillary	<i>Brenthis daphne</i>			✓	✓	✓
Weaver's fritillary	<i>Clossiana dia</i>			✓		
White Admiral	<i>Limenitis camilla</i>			✓	✓	✓
Southern White Admiral	<i>Limenitis educta</i>			✓		
Large Tortoiseshell	<i>Nymphalis polychloros</i>	✓	✓		✓	
Peacock	<i>Inachis io</i>		✓		✓	✓
Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>				✓	✓
Painted Lady	<i>Cynthia cardui</i>				✓	
Comma	<i>Polygonia c-album</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Map Butterfly	<i>Araschnia levana</i>			✓		
Heath Fritillary	<i>Mellicta athalia</i>				✓	

Moths

Common name	Scientific name
Five-Spot Burnet	<i>Zygaena trifolii</i>
Cinnabar	<i>Tyria jacobaeae</i>
Hummingbird Hawkmoth	<i>Macroglossum stellatarum</i>
Forester	<i>Adscita statices</i>
Red Underwing	<i>Catocala nuptal</i>
Buff-tip	<i>Phalera bucephala</i>
Scarce Silver-lines	<i>Bena bicolorana</i>
Plum Lappet	<i>Odonesti pruni</i>
September Thorn	<i>Ennomos erosaria</i>
Privet Hawkmoth	<i>Sphinx ligustri</i>
Elephant Hawkmoth	<i>Deilephila elpenor</i>
Buff Ermine	<i>Spilosoma luteum</i>
Ruby Tiger	<i>Phragmatobia fuliginosa</i>
Lackey Moth	<i>Malacosoma neustria</i>
Brown-tail Moth	<i>Euprotiu chrysorrhoea</i>
Guernsey Underwing	<i>Polyphaenis sericata</i>
Oak Lappet	<i>Gastropacha quercifolia</i>
Heart & Dart	<i>Agrostis exclamationis</i>
Silver Y	<i>Autographa gamma</i>
Dark Arches	<i>Apamea monopglypha</i>
	<i>Catocala fulminea</i>
Pebbled Prominent	<i>Notodonta ziczac</i>

Common name	Scientific name
	<i>Cosmia pyralina</i>
Common Footman	<i>Eilema lurideola</i>
Bright-line Brown-eye	<i>Lacanobia oleracea</i>
Reed Leopard	<i>Phragmatobia castanea</i>
Garden Grass Veiner	<i>Chrysoteuchia culmella</i>
Large Yellow Underwing	<i>Noctua pronubia</i>
Flame Shoulder	<i>Ochropleura plecta</i>
Gypsy Moth	<i>Lymantria dispar</i>
Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing	<i>Noctua janthe</i>
Oak Hook-tip	<i>Drepana binaria</i>
Dusky Sallow	<i>Eremobia ochroleuca</i>
Swallow Prominent	<i>Pheosia tremula</i>
Peach Blossom	<i>Thyatira batis</i>
Blackneck	<i>Lygephila pastinum</i>
Almond Leaf Skeletonizer Moth	<i>Aglaope infausta</i>

Birds (h = Heard only)

Common name	Scientific name	June 2023				
		21	22	23	24	25
Common Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>	✓				
Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Garganey	<i>Spatula querquedula</i>	✓	✓			
Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>		✓			
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	✓	✓			✓
Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>		✓			
Red-crested Pochard	<i>Netta rufina</i>	✓	✓			
Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓
Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>	✓	✓			✓
Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>		✓		✓	✓
Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓
Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	✓				✓
Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>					✓
Little Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>	✓	✓			
Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓
Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>		✓	✓		✓
Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>					✓
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>		✓			✓
Bittern	<i>Botaurus stellaris</i>				✓	
Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>		✓			
European Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>				✓	
Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓
Short-toed Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>					✓
Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	✓	✓		✓	
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>	✓				
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓
Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓
Water Rail	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>		✓			
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	✓	✓			
Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓

Common name	Scientific name	June 2023				
		21	22	23	24	25
Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>		✓			✓
Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>		✓			✓
Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>					✓
Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓
Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>		✓			✓
Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>	✓	✓			
Stock Dove	<i>Columba oenas</i>					✓
Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>		h		✓	
Tawny Owl	<i>Strix aluco</i>		h	✓	✓	
Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>				✓	
European Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i>				✓	
Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>		✓			✓
European Bee-Eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>		h		✓	
Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>			✓		
Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>			✓	✓	
Black Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus martius</i>		✓			
European Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>			✓		✓
Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>	✓			✓	✓
Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>		h		✓	✓
Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>					✓
Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Marsh Tit	<i>Poecile palustris</i>				✓	
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		✓		✓	✓
Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		✓	✓		
Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>			✓		✓
Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>		✓		✓	
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>		✓		✓	✓
Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>		✓			✓
Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Western Bonelli's Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus bonelli</i>				✓	
Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>	✓				
Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>		✓		✓	✓
Eurasian Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>		✓			
Melodious Warbler	<i>Hippolais polyglotta</i>		✓		✓	✓
Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>		✓		✓	✓
Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Whitethroat	<i>Curruca communis</i>		✓	✓		✓
Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>			✓	✓	✓
Short-toed Treecreeper	<i>Certhia brachydactyla</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>		✓	✓		
European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓

Common name	Scientific name	June 2023				
		21	22	23	24	25
Common Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>		h	✓		✓
Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochrurus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓
Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>			✓		
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Yellow (Blue-headed) Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava (flava)</i>		✓			
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>			✓		
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>			✓	✓	✓
Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>		✓		✓	
European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>				✓	
European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	✓				✓
Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>		✓			✓
Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>	✓	✓			✓
Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>		✓		✓	✓

Others

Common name	Scientific name	June 2023				
		21	22	23	24	25
Dragonflies & Damselflies						
Banded Demoiselle	<i>Calopteryx splendens</i>			✓		✓
Beautiful Demoiselle	<i>Calopteryx virgo</i>			✓		
Blue-tailed Damselfly	<i>Ischnura elegans</i>	✓	✓		✓	
Winter Damselfly	<i>Sympecma fusca</i>	✓	✓	✓		
Common Blue Damselfly	<i>Enallagma cyathigerum</i>				✓	
Blue Featherleg	<i>Platycnemis pennipes</i>			✓	✓	✓
Orange Featherleg	<i>Platycnemis acutipennis</i>			✓		
Migrant Spreadwing	<i>Lestes barbarus</i>					
Small Spreadwing	<i>Lestes virens</i>			✓	✓	✓
Emperor Dragonfly	<i>Anax imperator</i>	✓	✓	✓		
Four-spotted Chaser	<i>Libellula quadrimaculata</i>	✓				
Broad-bodied Chaser	<i>Libellula depressa</i>					✓
Blue Chaser	<i>Libellula fulva</i>				✓	
Black-tailed Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum cancellatum</i>			✓	✓	✓
Red-veined Darter	<i>Sympetrum fonscolombii</i>					
Common Darter	<i>Sympetrum striolatum</i>					
Broad Scarlet	<i>Crocothemis erythraea</i>	✓		✓	✓	
Southern Darter	<i>Sympetrum meridionale</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ruddy Darter	<i>Sympetrum sanguineum</i>	✓			✓	
Small Pincertail	<i>Onychogomphus forcipatus</i>			✓	✓	
Orange-spotted Emerald	<i>Oxygastra curtisii</i>				✓	
Blue-eyed Hawker	<i>Aeshna affinis</i>					✓
Mammals						
Roe Deer	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>		✓	✓		
Red Deer	<i>Cervus elaphus</i>				✓	
Coypu	<i>Myocastor coypus</i>					
Musk Rat	<i>Ondatra zibethicus</i>					

Common name	Scientific name	June 2023				
		21	22	23	24	25
Brown Hare	<i>Lepus europaeus</i>			✓	✓	
Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>				✓	
Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>		✓	✓		
Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>			✓		
Miscellaneous invertebrates						
Praying Mantis	<i>Mantis religiosa</i>			✓		
Roesel's Bush-cricket	<i>Roeseliana roeselii</i>				✓	
Rose Chafer	<i>Cetonia aurata</i>	✓		✓	✓	
Blue Chafer	<i>Hoplia coerulea</i>			✓		
Bloody-nose Beetle	<i>Timarcha tenebricosa</i>					✓
A Long-horn Beetle	<i>Leptura aurelenta</i>					✓
Great Diving Beetle	<i>Dysticus marginalis</i>					
A plant hopper	<i>Lassus lanio</i>					
Reptiles & Amphibians						
Grass Snake	<i>Natrix natrix</i>				✓	
Green Lizard	<i>Lacerta viridis</i>					✓
Common Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis muralis</i>			✓		✓
European Pond Terrapin	<i>Emys orbicularis</i>		✓		✓	
Natterjack	<i>Bufo calamita</i>		✓			
Edible Frog	<i>Rana esculenta</i>					
Pool Frog	<i>Rana lessonae</i>					
Common Tree Frog	<i>Hyla arborea</i>		✓			
Slow Worm	<i>Anguis fragilis</i>				✓	

Flora

Lizard Orchid - *Himantoglossum hircinum*