

# Dragonflies of La Brenne & Vienne

Naturetrek Tour Report

5th – 12th June 2023



Yellow-spotted Whiteface



Small Pincertail



Migrant Spreadwing



Honey Buzzard

Tour report by Jason Michell, images by Andrew Holloway



Naturetrek

Mingledown Barn

Wolf's Lane

Chawton

Alton

Hampshire

GU34 3HJ

UK

T: +44 (0)1962 733051

E: [info@naturetrek.co.uk](mailto:info@naturetrek.co.uk)

W: [www.naturetrek.co.uk](http://www.naturetrek.co.uk)

Tour participants: Jason Mitchell (leader) with seven Naturetrek clients

## Summary

This two-centre holiday in the heart of France, gave an excellent insight into the dragonflies, but also the abundant butterflies, birds and other wildlife of the region. The first half of the tour was spent in the southern Vienne before moving to Martizay, where we spent three days exploring La Brenne - 'the land of a thousand lakes'. On our transfer day, we visited the fascinating landscape of the Pinail National Nature Reserve, which has been shaped by the millstone industry over hundreds of years, leaving a legacy of thousands of small ponds. The week's weather was hot and sunny, ideal for finding and photographing *Odonata*. Most days were well into the high twenties, topping out at 31°C on two occasions. The tour was a great success, built on the camaraderie and good humour of an enthusiastic group of keen-eyed naturalists. By the end of the week, we had recorded an impressive tally of 43 species of dragonfly, along with 101 bird and 39 butterfly species, together with a wide range of other insects and plants. Tour highlights were many, but the sight of several handsome Yellow-spotted Whiteface at the wonderful Pinail nature reserve, three late records of the sought-after Common Clubtail and five species of emerald (*Lestes*) damselfly, were the pick of the bunch. A busy Bee-eater colony was also noteworthy, as was a tally of six fritillary butterfly species, including the striking Spotted Fritillary. All were enjoyed in the delightful, unspoilt countryside of Vienne and La Brenne, with a gentle acoustic backdrop of Cuckoo, Turtle Dove and Nightingale a daily highlight.

## Day 1

## Monday 5th June

The tour started at St. Pancras International with a Eurostar journey to France, followed by a high-speed (TGV) train transfer, which arrived on time into Poitiers. With the minibus loaded, we made it to Montmorillon in time for a delicious evening meal, served in the hotel's excellent restaurant. We discussed our programme for the coming week, after which an early night was taken following a busy day of travel.

## Day 2

## Tuesday 6th June

After a delicious buffet breakfast, we headed off to an étang in the commune of Persac, stopping briefly to view a fine male Red-backed Shrike perched high in a thorn bush and a fly-over Red Kite. Etangs are shallow, man-made lakes which vary greatly in size, and are fished either commercially, for sport, or both; the target species is often carp but pike, tench and various 'silver fish' are also present. This particularly interesting site combines three habitat types: an étang, a freshwater stream and a chalk stream.

As we approached the village, an impromptu stop on a small bridge produced the first *odonates* of the day, both Beautiful and Banded Demoiselles. A southern-form of Speckled Wood butterfly surprised with its orange, rather than cream-coloured spots but this was quickly upstaged by a stunning, newly emerged Marbled Fritillary. Moving on, we soon arrived at the target site, albeit a little further along the same stream already visited. Watching from a small footbridge, a large dragonfly cruised back and forth; proving to be the first of many Blue Emperor dragonflies seen during the week.

At the étang, we soon picked up many still and flowing water dragonfly species: our first damselfly was a Blue-eye; belonging to the genus *Erythromma*, this species is technically a type of 'red-eyed' damselfly. Our first *Gomphus* of

the week was a Western Clubtail and it proved to be a particularly popular find, perhaps because only one species of this sought-after family occurs in the UK, while France hosts a total of five species! Both Black-tailed and White-tailed Skimmers were found around the water's edge. The latter species doesn't occur in the UK and both sexes can be tricky to differentiate from its close cousin the Black-tailed Skimmer, especially in flight. Butterflies were quite numerous too; Meadow Browns were common, but it was the less familiar Black-veined Whites which created the most interest.

Before lunch, we explored the chalk stream, which was absolutely buzzing with dragonflies. A female Golden-ringed Dragonfly was seen egg-laying 'pogo fashion' amongst dense vegetation. A stunning male Broad Scarlet dazzled but the star was an Orange-spotted Emerald which was captured on camera by Andrew in flight!

Following our picnic lunch, we stopped for refreshments at a charming village café where a Serin sang from its tree-top vantage point. We then moved on to another promising wetland site nearby.

A former gravel pit is situated beside the river Vienne and this provided a quite different suite of habitats, with a lake and pond surrounded by scrub and rough grassland. The first of several Spotted Fritillaries delighted an appreciative audience. On the water, dozens of Blue-eyes sat on floating algal mats, accompanied by several Azure Bluets. Just as we returned to the minibus, a Fiery Clearwing was an interesting find. Returning towards the hotel, we stopped at a bridge crossing the Vienne, where several Small Pincertails zig-zagged distantly over the river below. Reluctant to return to base, we made another visit to Persac for a second brief stroll along the chalk stream and we were rewarded with further views of Orange-spotted Emerald, several Blue Chasers and added the delightful Orange Featherleg to the daily total, before returning to the hotel. The latter species is much localised in the Vienne and very difficult to find in La Brenne, so capped off an excellent first day in the field.

## Day 3

## Wednesday 7th June

Leaving the hotel, we headed south and soon arrived at Bois de l'Hospice. A short walk led to a quiet étang surrounded by broad-leaved woodland. It was already warming up nicely and butterflies were on the wing, including both species of white admiral. All the while a Firecrest and Short-toed Treecreeper sang from the dense canopy overhead and the metronomic call of the Cuckoo echoed through the forest. On the lake, a Blue Emperor was joined by both White and Black-tailed Skimmers and as the temperatures climbed further, Four-spotted Chasers joined them in impressive numbers. However, the highlight for many, were several Downy Emeralds which battled over territories along the shore just metres away. In nearby long grass, the wings of a newly emerged (teneral) Common Darter glistened in the dappled sunlight.

Next, we made a stop at an attractive small étang east of Moulismes, where the air was filled with the fluty notes of a Golden Oriole. A family of Coypu paraded on the shore of a small island, where a Spotted Flycatcher gave its simple refrain from its high song post. The lake was patrolled by several Broad-bodied Chasers (BBCs), along with similar numbers of stunning, fluorescent-red male Broad Scarlets.

For lunch we visited a stretch of the river Gartempe, where we had excellent views of several Small Pincertails whilst we enjoyed a coffee.

Replete, we headed for L'Asse, a tributary of the river Benaize at Brigueil-le-Chantre. Arriving at the pretty river

crossing, groups of ovipositing Blue Featherlegs covered the surface and both species of demoiselle darted out to intercept intruders. A Common Club-tail was a real surprise and as we followed it in flight, it suddenly started on a 'dog fight' with a blue-eyed Large Pincertail, which had been basking on some tree roots. In a nearby meadow, several fritillary butterflies were joined by a 'mature' female Sooty Copper.

From here we travelled north, to explore a stretch of the river Benaize. On our arrival a Lesser Spotted Woodpecker gave its falcon-like call from the canopy and a pair of Kingfishers flashed over the calm shallows. Other than a couple of 'BBCs', damselflies were most numerous, particularly Blue Featherlegs and the odd Blue-eye. We then walked a kilometre stretch of the river, adding Wood White and a pair of Bee-eaters which perched peacefully in a distant dead oak.

## Day 4

Thursday 8th June

Today was the transitional day and we planned a visit to the very special Le Pinail National Nature Reserve near Poitiers, before making our way to our new hotel in La Brenne. The site is famed for its huge number of ponds which have been created by the extraction of millstones, the origin of which can be dated before the year one thousand. Pinail was one of the main quarries in France until the middle of the 19th century, supplying millstones across Europe until the exhaustion of the resource and the appearance of roller mills. The cut stones were sent to the banks of the Vienne, where they were loaded on barges and transported to the banks of the Loire, the Atlantic coast and even across the Atlantic.

Entering the reserve, Pearly Heath butterflies were abundant, and we connected with the first Large Chequered Skipper of the tour, as it 'bounced' along the path in front of us as if leading the way. The site is excellent for the sun-loving 'whitefaces' and in perfect conditions, it wasn't long before we found a stunning male Yellow-spotted Whiteface holding territory on one of the many small ponds, then quickly another and another. Before long, half a dozen of these exquisite insect were seen and at one point, two males shared the same perch! Typically, the *leucorrhinia* defend their territories from a prominent look-out and that's exactly what they did, allowing great views and some stunning photographs to be taken. In the same area, we found a fresh male Robust Spreadwing, along with a Small Red Damsel and a teneral Common Darter. Suddenly our attention shifted, as a stunning pair of Honey Buzzards soared over the reserve, giving amazing views of this exciting raptor. With Blue Emperors buzzing all around, we decided to brave the hot sun and complete the full circuit.

This proved to be a good decision, as moments later a male Dartford Warbler sang from the top of a bush, while the Honey Buzzards displayed overhead. A little further on, a very confiding Downy Emerald fluttered where a Grass Snake swam across a pond. Returning to the vehicles, an Orange-spotted Emerald briefly perched on some gorse and in the small woodland where we picnicked, several Bonelli's Warblers gave their simple, attractive songs.

After lunch, we embarked on a cross-country drive east, taking in the unspoilt countryside of the Vienne and entering the subtly different landscape of La Brenne. On the way, we stopped at Vicq-sur-Gartempe in the hope of seeing a Blue Chaser and after a little searching, four of these beauties came out to play. On the river, an unimaginable number of Banded Demoiselles glittered in the dappled sun and were joined by several squabbling Small Pincertails.

The final leg of the journey, saw us arrive at our new hotel in Martizay in good time, ahead of an excellent dinner.

## Day 5

Friday 9th June

In sunny but thundery conditions, we took a morning walk at Terre de Renard. This lovely site offers a range of habitats: heath, woodland and lakes. Such diversity always produces good dragonflies, butterflies and birds. Minutes into the visit, a Migrant Spreadwing was found roosting on some gorse, giving the opportunity to see the diagnostic bi-coloured wing spots and moments later, this was followed by a Small Spreadwing. Further on a Melodious Warbler gave excellent views as it sang out in the open. We mused over its common name, deciding 'melodious' was an overstatement but agreed it was a rather attractive 'songster' nonetheless. Passing through an area of tree heather, a number of Common Darters perched, warming themselves in the early morning sun and a Blue Emperor was flexing its flight muscles before dashing off in search of prey. On a bush in an open field, a beautiful male Red-backed Shrike posed briefly and in the woods, a Spotted Flycatcher did the same in a spreading oak close to the hide. On the lake, Whiskered Terns dashed over its calm surface and along the reedy edge, a Purple Heron skulked, and a Marsh Harrier floated on angled wings overhead. Returning to the car park, a Purple Hairstreak put in the briefest of appearances and a Glow-worm larva was lifted from the path and put safely in some tall grass.

Lunch was taken at the Maison du Parc, where we enjoyed a helping of 'carpe frites', a local speciality that was much relished. After a quick look around the parc HQ, we headed to a woodland ride at Massé which led to a hide overlooking a lake dotted with lily pads. Here, Small Red-eyes quarrelled and a juvenile Night Heron broke cover and flew over the lake's still surface. Returning to the minibus, a White Admiral nectared on some brambles.

A brief stop in Mezières-en-Brenne didn't produce the hoped-for Lesser Purple Emperor but a near perfect, albeit dead, specimen of a Great Peacock Moth was an interesting find. In very hot conditions, it seemed the dragonflies were taking a siesta but a Scarce Chaser and Common Clubtail were good finds.

The next stop was in search of birds and produced some Black-winged Stilts, Little Ringed Plover and a fishing Osprey, plus the briefest view of a huge Wood Wasp. Nearby at Etang Taillis Renard, a pair of summer-plumaged Black-necked Grebes wowed the group. Overhead, several Black Kites were circling with their typically floppy flight action and a Marsh Harrier quartered the reeds. However, the highlight was a Dainty Bluet which ensured the day ended on a high.

## Day 6

Saturday 10th June

Waking to another glorious day, we decided on a visit to a breeding colony of very special Brenne birds – the European Bee-eater. Having carefully approached to within a hundred metres, we disembarked and used the vehicles as a screen, as not to cause any disturbance. They seemed unconcerned and we looked on in awe, as dozens of these exotic-looking birds hawked for insects. While some frequently returned to their burrows with food for their young, others perched on the sandy cliff face near the nest holes, warming themselves in the morning sun. In the fields all around, Skylarks gave their cheery songs and a distant Marsh Harrier floated over a golden crop.

Next, we made our way to Etang Vieux, first stopping along a quiet road known for its population of Brenne Orchids - an endemic species only found in La Brenne! However, as we exited the vehicle two Mercury Bluets were found resting right next to the minibus! Rubbing our eyes in disbelief, we looked on as they perched in full view, allowing the moment to be immortalised on camera. It was the first time in several years that the species had made it on to the tour list and furthermore, it is a rare species across Brenne – what a find! Then to our delight, we

located a good example of a Brenne Orchid, even if it was a little past its best.

Continuing our walk towards the lake, we soon connected with the hoped for Variable Bluet, with a number of these tricky-to-identify insects seen along a sunny forest track. Toward the end of the ride, a Yellow-spotted Emerald was a class find, as it drifted to and fro defending its linear territory above our heads but ignoring the abundant Broad Scarlets below. At the étang, the hoped for Lesser Emperors appeared in tandem, a habit that distinguishes the species from its larger cousin, in which the female deposits her eggs alone. The extensive reedbed here is perhaps the best place in La Brenne for breeding Bittern and ten minutes was spent watching for a feeding flight, only for our hearts to skip a beat more than once as a Purple Heron lifted from cover.

After lunch and a coffee in Vendoeuvres, we explored Chateau Robert which lies in the extensive Lancosme forest, where a search for the Eurasian Baskettail was in vain. However, as well as producing a great insect list, it was a joy to spend time in the cool shade of the forest, which was surely a lot more comfortable than being in the open on such a hot and muggy afternoon. As the thunder cracked overhead, a Woodland Brown searched for cover ahead of a heavy shower but not before this impressive and rare butterfly was captured on camera.

As we approached the Maison de la Nature, the rain stopped and a glimmer of sun saw us sail past its carpark in favour of a visit to a new boardwalk around the corner. Here we were delighted to find a male Yellow-spotted Whiteface, along with loads of Broad Scarlets and the first Southern Darter of the week. Birds were in evidence too, with several Whiskered Terns skimming the lake's surface and both Purple and Night Herons flying overhead.

## Day 7

## Sunday 11th June

Our last full day in the field kicked off with a walk near Etang Montmelier, where a highly visible Great Spotted Woodpecker's nest had the shutters clicking. Several Night Herons were disturbed from their roost deep in a willow thicket, meanwhile a Marsh Harrier and several Black Kites soared overhead.

A brief visit to the Maison de la Nature, was followed by a short drive to the River Creuse near Lurais, yet another excellent dragonfly site. The river was swarming with Blue-eyes, Blue Featherlegs and good numbers of Azure Bluets. But the best was yet to come, as on the sandy shore several Small Pincertails sunned themselves allowing excellent views of this fascinating dragonfly. Over the river, a Blue Emperor glided effortlessly over drifts of brilliant white Water-crowfoot.

As had become customary, a café stop was our next port of call. The village of Angles-sur-l'Anglin is a popular tourist destination and with good reason. The remains of a fine chateau and cobbled streets make for an interesting historic visit but nature was never far away. Follow a short break, we explored an area of wildflowers which was alive with insects included several species of Bee-fly, numerous butterflies and a fine Green Tiger-beetle. Then followed a river walk, where a Lesser Purple Emperor put in a brief but exciting appearance.

Driving east, the hoped-for Lilypad Whitface dragonflies were a "no-show", but an attractive pond near Oulches offered several, now-familiar, dragonflies but an adjacent hedgerow was host to a solitary Black Hairstreak, another of Andrew's notable finds.

Returning north, the sighting of a couple hawk dragonflies patrolling a woodland edge, resulted in an unplanned

stop which saw two high-speed Blue-eyed Hawkers added to the dragonfly list and to-boot our only *aeshnids* of the tour.

Our last full day was rounded off by a visit to Terre-de-Picadon where a large, lily-pad-cover pond often hosts the scarce Lily-pad Whiteface, but it was not to be, instead we enjoyed the plentiful Black-tailed and White-tailed Skimmers along with a fine Downy Emerald. Returning to the bus, Kevin and Andrew photographed the week's only Common Spreadwing and a Dainty Damselfly was found a few metres further along the track.

## Day 8

Monday 12th June

Today we said our goodbyes to La Brenne and headed towards Poitiers. Passing through Angles-sur-l'Anglin, by popular demand we returned to the wonderful flower garden, where we added the one and only Small Tortoiseshell of the week. Next, we passed a pleasant half-an-hour in Saint-Pierre-de-Maillé, where some enjoyed a coffee, while others walked down to the River Gartempe. From here, we made the final leg of our journey, arriving in Poitiers in good time ahead of the group's return to the UK via Paris. All agreed that the week had been a great success; a friendly group, with plenty of laughs but ultimately, the star of the show was the diverse and exciting wildlife of La Brenne and Vienne.

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## Species lists

### Dragonflies

Common name	Scientific name	June 2023						
		6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Beautiful Demoiselle	<i>Calopteryx virgo</i>		✓	✓				
Banded Demoiselle	<i>Calopteryx splendens</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Western Willow Spreadwing (Willow Emerald Damselfly)	<i>Lestes viridis</i>		✓					
Migrant Spreadwing (Southern Emerald Damselfly)	<i>Lestes barbarus</i>					✓	✓	✓
Small Spreadwing	<i>Lestes virens</i>					✓	✓	✓
Common Spreadwing (Emerald Damselfly)	<i>Lestes sponsa</i>							1
Robust Spreadwing (Scarce Emerald Damselfly)	<i>Lestes dryas</i>				1			
Blue Featherleg (White-legged Damselfly)	<i>Platycnemis pennipes</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Orange Featherleg	<i>Platycnemis acutipennis</i>		✓					
Large Red Damselfly	<i>Pyrrhosoma nymphula</i>		✓	✓				
Small Red Damselfly	<i>Ceragrion tenellum</i>		✓		✓			
Blue-eye (Goblet-marked Damselfly)	<i>Erythromma lindenii</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Large Red-eye (Red-eyed Damselfly)	<i>Erythromma najas</i>						✓	
Small Red-eye (Small Red-eyed Damselfly)	<i>Erythromma viridulum</i>		✓			✓		
Mercury Bluet (Southern Damselfly)	<i>Coenagrion mercuriale</i>						2	
Azure Bluet (Azure Damselfly)	<i>Coenagrion puella</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	
Variable Bluet (Variable Damselfly)	<i>Coenagrion pulchellum</i>						✓	
Dainty Bluet (Dainty Damselfly)	<i>Coenagrion scitulum</i>					1		1
Common Bluet (Common Blue Damselfly)	<i>Enallagma cyathigerum</i>						✓	
Common Blue-tail (Blue-tailed Damselfly)	<i>Ischnura elegans</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Blue-eyed Hawker (Southern Migrant Hawker)	<i>Aeshna affinis</i>							2
Blue Emperor (Emperor Dragonfly)	<i>Anax imperator</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Lesser Emperor	<i>Anax parthenope</i>						2	
Hairy Hawker (Hairy Dragonfly)	<i>Brachytron pratense</i>						3	
Common Club-tail (Club-tailed Dragonfly)	<i>Gomphus vulgatissimus</i>			2		1		
Western Club-tail	<i>Gomphus pulchellus</i>		6	4				
Small Pincertail	<i>Onychogomphus forcipatus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Large Pincertail	<i>Onychogomphus uncatus</i>			1				
Common Goldenring	<i>Cordulegaster boltonii</i>		1				1	
Downy Emerald	<i>Cordulia aenea</i>			6	✓		✓	
Brilliant Emerald	<i>Somatochlora metallica</i>			1	1			
Yellow-spotted Emerald	<i>Somatochlora flavomaculata</i>						1	
Orange-spotted Emerald	<i>Oxygastra curtisii</i>		2		1			
Four-spotted Chaser	<i>Libellula quadrimaculata</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Blue Chaser (Scarce Chaser)	<i>Libellula fulva</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Broad-bodied Chaser	<i>Libellula depressa</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Black-tailed Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum cancellatum</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
White-tailed Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum albistylum</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Yellow-spotted (Large) Whiteface	<i>Leucorrhinia pectoralis</i>				6		1	
Broad Scarlet (Scarlet Darter)	<i>Crocethemis erythraea</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Common Darter	<i>Sympetrum striolatum</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	
Southern Darter	<i>Sympetrum meridionale</i>						✓	✓
Ruddy Darter	<i>Sympetrum sanguineum</i>					✓		



## Lepidoptera

Common name	Scientific name
Black-veined White	<i>Aporia crataegi</i>
Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>
Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>
Green-veined White	<i>Pieris napi</i>
Brimstone	<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>
Wood White	<i>Leptidea sinapis</i>
Purple Hairstreak	<i>Quercusia quercus</i>
Ilex Hairstreak	<i>Satyrrium ilicis</i>
Black Hairstreak	<i>Strymonidia pruni</i>
Green Hairstreak	<i>Callophrys rubi</i>
Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>
Sooty Copper	<i>Lycaena tityrus</i>
Holly Blue	<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>
Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>
Lesser Purple Emperor	<i>Apatura ilia</i>
Southern White Admiral	<i>Limenitis reducta</i>
White Admiral	<i>Limenitis camilla</i>
Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>
Large Tortoiseshell	<i>Nymphalis polychloros</i>
Comma Butterfly	<i>Polygonia c-album</i>
Marbled Fritillary	<i>Brenthis daphne</i>
Glanville Fritillary	<i>Melitaea cinxia</i>
Knapweed Fritillary	<i>Melitaea phoebe</i>
Spotted Fritillary	<i>Melitaea didyma</i>
Heath Fritillary	<i>Mellicta athalia</i>
Marbled White	<i>Melanargia galathea</i>
Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>
Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>
Pearly Heath	<i>Coenonympha arcania</i>
Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>
Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>
Woodland Brown	<i>Lopinga achine</i>
Oberthur's Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus armoricanus</i>
Large Chequered Skipper	<i>Heteropterus morpheus</i>
Essex Skipper	<i>Thymelicus lineola</i>
Small Skipper	<i>Thymelicus sylvestris</i>
Large Skipper	<i>Ochlodes venata</i>
Marsh Fritillary	<i>Euphydryas aurinia</i>
Small Tortoiseshell	<i>Aglais urticae</i>
5-spot Burnet	<i>Zygaena trifolii</i>
6-spot Burnet	<i>Zygaena filipendulae</i>
Burnet Companion	<i>Euclidia glyphica</i>
Cinnabar	<i>Tyria jacobaea</i>
Common Heath	<i>Ematurga atomaria</i>
Humming-bird Hawk-moth	<i>Macroglossum stellarum</i>
Fiery Clearwing	<i>Pyropteron chrtsidiformis</i>
	<i>Coscinia striata</i>
Cream-spot Tiger	<i>Arctia villica</i>
Vapourer (cat)	<i>Orgyia antiqua</i>

Common name	Scientific name
Ringed China-mark Moth	<i>Parapoynx stratiotata</i>
Speckled Yellow	<i>Pseudopanthera macularia</i>
Giant Peacock Moth	<i>Saturnia pyri</i>
Hummingbird Hawk-moth	<i>Macroglossum stellatarum</i>

## Birds (h = Heard only)

Common name	Scientific name	June 2023						
		6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Common Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>				✓			
Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓
Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>					✓	✓	
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>					✓		
Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>					✓	✓	✓
Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>					✓	✓	✓
Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>					✓	✓	✓
Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</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>					✓	✓	
Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>					✓	✓	
Western Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>					✓		
European Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>				2			
Red Kite	<i>Milvus milvus</i>		✓					
Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>					✓	✓	✓
Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>			✓				
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>						✓	
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>			✓				
Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓
Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>					✓		
Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>					✓		
Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>					✓		
Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>					✓	✓	✓
Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>					✓		
Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</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>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>		h	✓				
European Bee-Eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>			✓			✓	
Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos minor</i>			✓		✓		

Common name	Scientific name	June 2023						
		6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Middle Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos medius</i>			✓			✓	✓
Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>		h	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
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>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>						✓	
Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Marsh Tit	<i>Poecile palustris</i>		h	✓				
European Crested Tit	<i>Lophophanes cristatus</i>				h			
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		h	✓			✓	✓
Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		✓	✓				✓
Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>		✓	✓		✓		
Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>		h	✓		✓	✓	✓
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>		h			✓	✓	✓
Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>		h	✓		✓	✓	
Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>		h	✓		✓	✓	✓
Western Bonelli's Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus bonelli</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>		h	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Garden Warbler	<i>Sylvia borin</i>				✓		✓	
Common Whitethroat	<i>Curruca communis</i>					✓	✓	✓
Dartford Warbler	<i>Sylvia undata</i>				✓			
Common Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapilla</i>		h	✓			✓	
Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>					✓		
Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>		h	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Short-toed Treecreeper	<i>Certhia brachydactyla</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	
Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>		h	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>					✓		✓
Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>				✓			
European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>		h	✓		✓	✓	✓
Common Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>		h	✓	h	✓	✓	✓
Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>			✓				
European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>			✓		✓		
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>					✓		
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>		✓	✓				✓
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>							✓

Common name	Scientific name	June 2023						
		6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>		h	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Siskin	<i>Carduelis spinus</i>							✓
European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		✓					✓
Common Linnet	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>			✓	✓			✓
Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>						✓	
Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>			✓			✓	✓
Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓
Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>		h	✓	h		✓	

## Others

Common name	Scientific name
<b>Mammals</b>	<b>E = evidence, H = heard</b>
Brown Hare	<i>Lepus europaeus</i>
Coypu	<i>Myocastor coypus</i>
Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>
Hedgehog - E	<i>Erinaceus europaeus</i>
Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>
Roe Deer	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>
Wild Boar – E	<i>Sus scrofa</i>
Otter - E	<i>Lutra lutra</i>
<b>Amphibians</b>	
Agile Frog	<i>Rana dalmatina</i>
Common Tree Frog - H	<i>Hyla arborea</i>
Edible Frog	<i>Rana esculenta</i>
Natterjack Toad	<i>Bufo calamita</i>
<b>Reptiles</b>	
European Pond Terrapin	<i>Emys orbicularis</i>
Green Lizard	<i>Lacerta viridis</i>
Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis muralis</i>
Grass Snake	<i>Natrix natrix</i>
<b>Other Insects</b>	
Mayfly sp.	<i>Ephemera</i> sp.
Stonefly sp.	<i>Plecoptera</i> sp.
Speckled Bush-cricket	<i>Leptophyes punctatissima</i>
Great Green Bush-cricket	<i>Tettigonia viridissima</i>
AC Milan Beetle	<i>Graphosoma italicum</i>
Dock Bug	<i>Coreus marginatus</i>
Fire Bug	<i>Pyrrhocoris apterus</i>
Common Pond Skater	<i>Gerris lacustris</i>
Frog hopper sp.	<i>Cercopis vulnerata</i>
Scorpion Fly sp.	<i>Panorpa meridionalis</i>
Marmalade Hoverfly	<i>Episyrphus balteatus</i>
Eristalis hoverfly sp.	<i>Eristalis</i> sp.
Long Hoverfly	<i>Sphaerophoria scripta</i>
Syrphus hoverfly sp.	<i>Syrphus</i> sp.

Common name	Scientific name
Ichneumon wasp sp.	<i>Ophion sp.</i>
Hornet	<i>Vespa crabro</i>
Asian Hornet	<i>Vespa velutina</i>
Violet Carpenter Bee	<i>Xylocopa violacea</i>
Western Honey Bee	<i>Apis mellifera</i>
White/Buff-tailed Bumblebee	<i>Bombus lucorum/terrestris</i>
Carder Bee sp.	<i>Bombus sp.</i>
Red-tailed Bumblebee	<i>Bombus lapidarius</i>
Potter Wasp sp.	
Stag Beetle	<i>Lucanus cervus</i>
Summer Chafer	<i>Amphimallon solstitialis</i>
Blue chafer beetle sp.	<i>Hoplia caerulea</i>
False Oil Beetle	<i>Oedemera nobilis</i>
Wasp Beetle	<i>Clytus arietis</i>
Yellow & Black Longhorn	<i>Strangalia cf maculata</i>
Red and Black Bee Beetle	<i>Trichodes apiarus</i>
Glow-worm larva	
Bee Wolf	
Green Tiger Beetle	
Roman Snail	
<b>Orchids</b>	
Heath Spotted Orchid	<i>Dactylorhiza maculata</i>
Common Spotted Orchid	<i>Dactylorhiza fuchsii</i>
Bee Orchid	<i>Ophrys apifera</i>
Brenne Orchid	<i>Dactylorhiza brennensis</i>
Lizard Orchid	<i>Himantoglossum hircinum</i>
Tongue Orchid	<i>Serapias lingua</i>