The French Pyrenees

Naturetrek Tour Report

6 - 13 June 2018





Androsace villosa

Cirque de Gavarnie





Daphne cneorum

Narcissus bicolor

Report and images by David Tattersfield



Naturetrek Mingledown Barn

Wolf's Lane

Chawton

Alton

Hampshire

GU34 3HJ

UK

T: +44 (0)1962 733051

E: info@naturetrek.co.uk

W: www.naturetrek.co.uk

Tour Report The French Pyrenees

Tour participants: David Tattersfield and Tom Ambrose (tour leaders) with 10 Naturetrek clients

Day 1

Wednesday 6th June

Arriving in Lourdes, in the late afternoon, we loaded our minibuses and set off towards the High Pyrenees. Just beyond Luz-Saint-Sauveur, we made a short stop at the Pont Napoleon, the impressive bridge spanning the narrow gorge of the Gave de Pau. It was built at the request of Napoleon III, after he and the Empress Eugenie stayed at the Spa, in 1859. An interesting range of plants, growing on the cliffs, included the endemic Ramonda myconi, Pyrenean Saxifrage Saxifraga longifolia and the delicate Smooth Spleenwort Asplenium fontanum. We had excellent views of our first Crag Martins, as they flew just below the bridge. Continuing up the valley, we were soon at our hotel, in the quiet village of Gedre, and looking forward to the week ahead.

Day 2

Thursday 7th June

We awoke to a clear morning, with high cloud over the summits. Even before leaving the hotel, we had excellent views of raptors, circling the crags across the valley. These included Griffon Vultures, a Golden Eagle and no less than five Bearded Vultures. We watched these for over an hour, before heading off up the Heas Valley. Roadside stops enabled us to familiarise ourselves with the local flora. Deep-blue Common Columbine Aquilegia vulgaris was prominent and a range of orchids included Early-purple Orchid Orchis mascula, Sword-leaved Helleborine Cephalanthera longifolia and both colour forms of Elder-flowered Orchid Dactylorhiza sambucina. Walking up the road towards the Barrage des Gloriettes, we found the white flowers of Alpine Pasqueflower Pulsatilla alpina subsp. alpina, the multi-flowered Narcissus-flowered Anemone Anemone narcissiflora and the paleblue globes of Leafless-stemmed Globulaia Globularia nudicaulis.

We took a break for lunch, near the dam, before setting off to walk around it. Shrubs of Snowy Mespilus Amelanchier ovalis and Wild Cotoneaster Cotoneaster integerrimus were in flower, along the rocky shore and the bold spires of White Asphodel Asphodelus albus were scattered across the damp hillsides. Here and there we saw the pendant bells of Pyrenean Snakeshead Fritillaria pyrenaica, attractively chequered on their inside, including one or two with, unusual, pure yellow flowers. Up to this point, the underlying geology consisted of the ice-smoothed, acidic and impermeable basement rocks of the region; hence the dam. Above us were high limestone cliffs and a jumble of fallen boulders at their feet hosted a very different flora, with exquisite little rock gardens, studded with silver rosettes of Pyrenean Saxifrage, exquisite cushions of Androsace villosa and dwarf rock-hugging shrubs, such as Creeping Globularia Globularia repens and Dwarf Buckthorn Rhamnus pumilus. Wet flushes provided intense splashes of colour from Marsh Marigold Caltha palustris, Bird's-eye Primrose Primula farinosa and Large-flowered Butterwort Pinguicula grandiflora and where snow had only recently receded there were eye-catching clumps of the trumpet daffodil Narcissus bicolor. A pair of Dippers patrolled the river and we glimpsed a distant Pyrenean Chamois, our only sighting of the trip. We completed a circular walk to the car park and were soon back at the hotel and looking forward to barbequed sheep for dinner, a long-established family tradition.

Day 3

Friday 8th June

The day looked promising and in perfect weather we set off on our longest walk of the week into the Cirque de Gavarnie, famous for some of the most impressive scenery in the Pyrenees. The meadows were buzzing with insects and enlivened by colourful flowers such as Yellow Rattle Rhinanthus minor, Geranium phaeum and the pale-

blue, endemic, Horned Pansy Viola cornuta. We paused, a while, to enjoy the amazing vista ahead of us and had good views of Yellowhammer and Citril Finch. A gentle walk through the forest revealed another range of plants, including Irish Spurge Euphorbia hyberna, Pyrenean Squill Scilla lilio-hyacinthus and the nodding flowers of One-flowered Wintergreen Moneses uniflora. We had a steep climb through the pine forest, where we were managed to glimpse a few Crested Tit, and eventually reached the entrance to the Cirque.

We found a convenient place to enjoy our picnic, in the company of Alpine Chough which were very happy to finish our leftovers and give us great photo opportunities, in the process. We adjourned to the hotel for refreshments, before the second half of the day's adventure. We followed an airy path, high above the valley, which threaded its way below the cliffs. The pale blue Spring Squill Scilla verna was common and we found lovely flowering specimens of Liverleaf Hepatica nobilis, a sure indication that the snow had not long melted. Long-leaved Butterwort Pinguicula longifolia was another highlight, its long sticky fly-paper leaves of pale green contrasting with deep-purple flowers. In the screes were the trailing shoots of Pyrenean Yam Dioscorea pyrenaica, one of the more unusual endemic plants of the region and nearby the diminutive Aquilegia pyrenaica. This year's walk proved to be a little more challenging than usual, as we had to negotiate a way around a couple of old avalanches, that barred our route. The path emerged in a lovely green forest clearing at the Auberge de Pailla, our highest point, at 1800 metres. The clouds had been descending during the afternoon and we had light rain for our remaining walk, down the zigzag path into the valley and back to Gedre.

Day 4

Saturday 9th June

Cloud hung over the high peaks and we had a morning of occasional showers. Below Gedre we made several stops to examine the road-side flowers, finding the somewhat uncommon Round-leaved Restharrow Ononis rotundifolia, a bank of St Bernard's Lily Anthericum liliago, Bloody Crane's-bill Geranium sanguineum and the pale-lemon shrubby Rock Snapdragon Antirrhinum sempervirens, another endemic of these mountains. While we did the shopping, we took the opportunity of a morning coffee break in Luz, before continuing down into the lower valley, beside the river. Much of habitat, down here, has been converted to farmland but we did find a substantial colony of the very variable Woodcock Orchid Ophrys scolopax, and fine specimens of Pyramidal Orchid Anacamptis pyramidalis, in a patch of unimproved grassland, where insects included Great Green Bush-cricket, Bee Beetle and Robin's Pincushion, the familiar rose gall, caused by a tiny red and black gall wasp. A picnic area, beside the broad Gave de Pau, provided benches and a convenient spot for lunch.

By now, the weather looked a little more promising and we took the road, up through Cauterets, to the car park at Pont d'Espagne, passing a series of spectacular waterfalls. The upper part of the valley was still shrouded in cloud, so we contented ourselves with a gentle walk around the Marcadeau Valley. The area is composed of granite and was heavily glaciated, giving rise to a very dramatic landscape. Dense forests of Scots Pine and Silver Fir dominate the landscape and the steep valley sides are scarred by avalanche-chutes and boulder screes, left behind by the melting ice. The valley bottom is littered with ice-smoothed roche moutonees and crossed by braided streams, ideal habitat for Dippers. In addition, we saw Ring Ouzel, Great Spotted Woodpecker, Firecrest and Coal Tit but the undoubted highlight, for us, was watching the feeding flocks of Citril Finch. The pink-flowered Radish-leaved Bittercress Cardamine raphanifolia, endemic to the region, formed large, luxuriant patches, alongside bubbling springs in the valley floor, along with the sticky glandular leaves of Round-leaved Sundew Drosera rotundifolia. On our return journey we stopped to see the interesting old railway station in Cauterets and the 12th century romanesque church of Saint Andre, in Soulom.

Day 5

Sunday 10th June

Ominously, the local weather forecast had issued a yellow warning of heavy rain, so we opted for a walk around the upper village, Gedre Dessus. The south-facing slopes provide a favoured habitat for a range of species, not found commonly at such an altitude, in the region, and we had a rewarding morning, despite the rain, making lots of interesting new discoveries. Notable plants included Large Mediterranean Spurge *Euphorbia characias*, far from its usual home, flowering plants of Pyrenean Germander *Teucrium pyernaicum*, the curious pale-brown hyacinth-relative *Dipcadi serotinum* and Tassel Hyacinth *Leopoldia comosa*. Large flocks of Crag Martin flew low overhead. A spell of heavy rain and rumbles of thunder drove us back to the hotel to dry off and rethink the rest of the day.

We set off again, around 12.30pm, and drove into the delightful Ossoue Valley. Heavy rain prevented us from leaving the vehicles until around 2.00pm, when a dry window allowed us a stop to enjoy our surroundings and have a bite to eat. We were in an open treeless part of the valley with a broad meandering stream bordered by wet pastures. Yellow lines of Marsh Marigold lit up the scene but, owing to the late season, the vast numbers of Broad-leaved Marsh-orchid *Dactylorhiza majalis* were still in bud. Upland birds included Red-backed Shrike, Linnet, Stonechat, plenty of Northern Wheatear and our first Water Pipit and Rock Bunting, whilst, overhead, we were treated to good views of a couple of Bearded Vultures and the odd Griffon. We continued up the valley, as far as the Barrage d'Ossoue, stopping to see the tiny Rush-leaved Daffodil *Narcissus assoanus*. The dam provides water storage for hydro-electric power generation but because of the considerable amount of melting snow, there was a spectacular flow over the dam wall. We made a short walk from here, to take in the solitude of the upper valley, much of it hidden under a veil of cloud, but when rain returned, we decided to call it a day.

Day 6 Monday 11th June

The day started dry, with sunny spells and we enjoyed watching the raptor display from the hotel, today seeing Griffon Vulture, Bearded Vulture, Common Buzzard, Peregrine and two Short-toed Snake Eagles. Our objective was to visit the Cirque de Troumouse but we were already aware that the road was still impassable. We drove, as far as The Auberge du Maillet, at 1837 metres, where a morning coffee break was very welcome. The high snow-streaked limestone cliffs, above us, make an impressive backdrop to a patrolling Bearded Vulture and, surprisingly, a Red Kite. We were able to drive as far as the first snowdrifts, before continuing to the Cirque, on foot. Early flowers included the familiar Daphne laureola and Daphne mezereum, the white-eyed pink flowers of Hairy Primrose Primula hirsuta and the pendant frilled bells of Soldanella alpina. When we reached the Cirque, cloud hung low over the cliffs and denied us the best views, but we could appreciate its enormous size, nevertheless. There were still huge drifts of snow but where they had melted there were myriads of white Pyrenean Buttercup Ranunculus pyrenaeus. Our target bird up here was Alpine Accentor, but we managed only the briefest of glimpses. It rained, off and on, for most of the morning, but we were able to enjoy a drier interlude for lunch, amongst a flock of the local sheep.

Back in the valley, we made a visit to the little hamlet of Heas, with its quaint packhorse bridge and historic church, a timeless place that has changed little in centuries. The unimproved meadows had Globeflower *Trollius europaeus*, *Viola cornuta*, the pale-blue Pyrenean Hyacinth *Brimeura amethystina* and superb specimens of Lesser Butterfly-orchid *Platanthera bifolia*, nearby. For the rest of the afternoon, we visited the Plateau de Sauge, above

Gedre, and wandered through the colourful meadows, ignoring the mist and rain. We mused that flowers often look better in the rain!

Day 7

Tuesday 12th June

We had more intermittent rain for much of the day, but, determined that this would not entirely spoil our explorations, we took the road past the ski resort, above Gavarnie, to the Col des Tentes. There was still a lot of lying snow, but the easy trail towards the Spanish border was largely clear. On the screes, there were lots of the silver-leaved Pyrenean Thistle Cardinis carlinoides, patches of Pygmy Hawk's-beard Crepis pygmaea, beautiful flowering plants of Alpine Toadflax Linaria alpina and the vivid yellow Primula-relative Vitaliana primuliflora subsp. canescens. Few birds were braving the elements, but we had better views of Alpine Accentor and an all too brief glimpse of White-winged Snowfinch. We turned back, just short of the Col, where the trail was blocked by snow and retraced our steps to the comfort of the vehicles.

After a coffee break in Gavarnie, we returned to the lower half of the Ossoue Valley, where we had lunch below its huge limestone cliffs. We spent the rest of the mostly dry afternoon, walking through the meadows and into St Savin's Wood, on the far bank of the river and were back in Gedre for 5.00pm.

Day 8

Wednesday 13th June

Our return flight from Lourdes was not until late afternoon but with continuing bad weather and doubts over the road conditions, we left Gedre, mid-morning, after thanking Odile and Phillipe for their wonderful hospitality. We stopped for a break, in Luz-Saint-Sauveur, for coffee, souvenirs and refuelling. Crowds were gathering on the bridge to watch the considerable amount of floodwater that had already washed away a retaining wall and was threatening, nearby houses. We still had plenty of time, in hand, as we neared the airport, so we made a short diversion at Ade and enjoyed a gentle walk in some very nice mature oak woodland.

Sadly, our week in the Pyrenees was over. In spite of the late spring and the fairly miserable conditions in the latter half of the week, we had enjoyed a lovely cross-section of its wildlife and scenery.

Receive our e-newsletter

Join the Naturetrek e-mailing list and be the first to hear about new tours, additional departures and new dates, tour reports and special offers. Visit www.naturetrek.co.uk to sign up.

Social Media

We're social! Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram and be the first to hear about the launch of new tours, offers and exciting sightings and photos from our recently returned holidays.



Species Lists

Plants (• = endemic to the Pyrenees; ‡ = cultivated or naturalised)

Latin name Common name Notes

PTERIDOPHYTES

FERNS AND FERN ALLIES

Aspleniaceae

Asplenium ceterach Asplenium fontanum Asplenium ruta-muraria Asplenium septentrionale Asplenium trichomanes

Asplenium viride

Blechnaceae

Blechnum spicant

Dennstaedtiaceae

Pteridium aquilinum

Dryopteridaceae

Dryopteris affinis
Dryopteris dilatata
Dryopteris expansa
Dryopteris filix-mas
Dryopteris oreades
Dryopteris submontana
Polystichum aculeatum
Polystichum lonchitis

Equisetaceae

Equisetum arvense Equisetum palustre

Lycopodiaceae

Huperzia selago

Polypodiaceae

Polypodium cambricum Polypodium vulgare

Pteridaceae

Cryptogramma crispa

Selaginellaceae

Selaginella selaginoides

Thelypteridaceae

Gymnocarpium dryopteris Phegopteris connectilis

Woodsiaceae

Athyrium distentifolium

Spleenwort Family

Rustyback Occasional on rocks
Smooth Spleenwort Pont Napoleon
Wall-rue Rocks and walls
Forked Spleenwort Boulders and scree
Maidenhair Spleenwort Rocks and walls

Green Spleenwort Shaded mountain rocks

Hard-fern Family

Hard-fern Acidic soils

Bracken Family

Bracken Widespread

Buckler-fern Family

Scaly Male-fern Woods

Broad Buckler-fern Forest. Pont d'Espagne

Northern Buckler-fern Acidic scree

Male-fern Forest and shady places

Mountain Male-fern Acidic scree
Rigid Buckler-fern Limestone fissures
Hard Shield-fern Common. Woods
Holly-fern Limestone rocks

Horsetail Family

Field Horsetail Common

Marsh Horsetail Wet acidic pasture

Clubmoss Family

Fir Clubmoss Acidic mountain pasture

Polypody Family

Southern Polypody Rocks. Pont Napoleon Common Polypody Occasional. Rocks

Maidenhair Fern Family

Parsley Fern Acidic boulder scree

Lesser Clubmoss Family

Lesser Clubmoss Damp turf. Troumouse

Marsh Fern Family

Oak Fern Common in shade Beech Fern Frequent in shade

Lady-fern Family

Alpine Lady-fern Mountain rocks

Common name Latin name **Notes**

Common Athyrium felix-femina Lady-fern Brittle Bladder-fern Rocks and walls Cystopteris fragilis Cystopteris montana Mountain Bladder-fern Pont d'Espagne

GYMNOSPERMS CONIFERS

Cupressaceae **Cypress Family**

Juniperus communis subsp. alpina Common Juniper Mountains

Pine Family Pinaceae

Abies alba European Silver-fir Mountain forests Pinus sylvestris Scots Pine Montane forests Mountain Pine Pinus uncinata Subalpine slopes

Taxaceae Yew Family

Taxus baccata Yew St. Savin's Wood

ANGIOSPERMS FLOWERING PLANTS

DICOTYLEDONS

Adoxaceae **Moschatel Family**

Sambucus ebulus Sambucus nigra Common Elder Woods Sambucus racemosa Alpine Elder Mountains

Viburnum lantana Wayfaring-tree Woods, Occasional Viburnum opulus Guelder-rose Woods. Occasional

Dwarf Elder

Streamsides. Lowland

Amaranthaceae **Goosefoot Family**

Chenopodium bonus-henricus Good-King-Henry Disturbed places

Apiaceae Carrot Family

Aegopodium podagraria Ground Elder Occasional Angelica razulii • Pyrenean Angelica Rocky places

Angelica sylvestris Wild Angelica Occasional. Wet places

Anthriscus sylvestris Cow Parsley Common Astrantia major Astrantia Frequent Astrantia minor Lesser Astrantia Acidic rocks

Bupleurum angulosum • Angular Hare's-ear Occasional. Limestone rocks

Chaerophyllum aureum Golden Chervil Occasional Conopodium pyrenaicum • Pyrenean Pignut Meadows Daucus carota Wild Carrot Roadsides Eryngium bourgatii Pyrenean Eryngo Common Heracleum sphondylium subsp. pyrenaicum •

Pyrenean Hogweed Frequent Laserpitium gallicum French Sermountain Screes Laserpitium latifolium **Broad-leaved Sermountain** Screes

Laserpitium siler Narrow-leaved Sermountain Screes and meadows

Pimpinella major Meadows Greater Burnet-saxifrage Pimpinella saxifraga Burnet-saxifrage Meadows Rocky banks Seseli libanotis Moon Carrot

Apocynaceae Dogbane Family

Vincetoxicum hirundinaria Swallow-wort Rocky pasture

Latin name Common name **Notes** Aquifoliaceae **Holly Family** Occasional in forest llex aquifolium Holly **Araliaceae** Ivy Family Hedera helix Common lvy Asteraceae **Daisy Family** Achillea millefolium Yarrow Common in meadows Occasional. Damp places Adenostyles alliariae Adenostyles Antennaria dioica Mountain Everlasting Mountain turf Bellis perennis Daisy Widespread Carduus carlinoides • Pyrenean Thistle Mountains and screes Carduus defloratus Alpine Thistle Pasture and screes Carduus nutans **Nodding Thistle** Waste places Carlina acaulis Stemless Carline Thistle Mountain turf Carlina acanthifolia subsp. cynara Acanthus-leaved Thistle Pasture Carlina vulgaris Common Carline Thistle Mountain turf Centaurea montana Mountain Cornflower Occasional in meadows Centaurea nigra Knapweed Meadows and roadsides Chicory Roadsides. Val de Jeret Cichorium intybus Cirsium eriophorum Woolly Thistle Grazed turf and waste places Cirsium heterophyllum Melancholy Thistle Damp meadows Cirsium palustre Marsh Thistle Wet streamsides Cirsium rivulare **Brook Thistle** Damp acidic pasture Cirsium vulgare Spear Thistle Wet pasture Crepis albida A Hawk's-beard Dry, sunny places Marsh Hawk's-beard Crepis paludosa Wet pasture Crepis pygmaea Pygmy Hawk's-beard Mountain rocks and screes Pyrenean Hawk's-beard Damp places Crepis pyrenaica Hieracium pilosella Mouse-ear Hawkweed Rocks and screes Jacobaea vulgaris Ragwort Occasional. Roadsides Blue Lettuce Gedre Lactuca perennis Lapsana communis Nipplewort Weedy places Leontodon pyrenaicus Pyrenean Hawkbit Acidic pasture Leucanthemum vulgare Ox-eye Daisy Meadows Leucanthemopsis alpina Alpine Moon-daisy Mountain rocks Mycelis muralis Wall Lettuce Walls and waste places Alpine Butterbur Petasites paradoxus Streamsides Picris hieracioides Hawkweed Oxtongue Waste places Woods and forests Prenanthes purpurea Purple Lettuce Solidago virgaurea Goldenrod Pont d'Espagne Sonchus asper Prickly Sow-thistle Waste places Perennial Sow-thistle Waste places Sonchus arvensis Scentless Feverfew Roadside banks above Luz-St-Sauveur Tanacetum corymbosum Taraxacum alpinum Alpine Dandelion Mountains Taraxacum dissectum **Cut-leaved Dandelion** Mountains Taraxacum officinale Dandelion Common Tragopogon pratensis Goat's-beard Meadows and roadsides Tussilago farfara Colt's-foot Streamsides

© Naturetrek February 19 7

Rocky hillsides

Barberry Family

Common Barberry

Berberidaceae

Berberis vulgaris

Common name Latin name **Notes Betulaceae Birch Family** Riversides Alnus glutinosa Common Alder Silver Birch Forests Betula pendula Betula pubescens Downy Birch Mountains Boraginaceae **Borage Family** Echium vulgare Viper's Bugloss Roadsides Myosotis alpestris Alpine Forget-me-not Mountain meadows Myosotis arvensis Field Forget-me-not Waste places Myosotis laxa Tufted Forget-me-not Damp places Grassland and woods Myosotis sylvatica Wood Forget-me-not Pulmonaria affinis A Lungwort Common in woods Brassicaceaae **Cabbage Family** Arabidopsis thaliana **Thale Cress** Common Arabis alpina Alpine Rock-cress Damp alpine rocks Arabis hirsuta Hairy Rock-cress Dry rocky places **Buckler Mustard** Mountain rocks Biscutella laevigata Shepherd's-purse Capsella bursa-pastoris Waste places Wet flushes. Val de Jeret Cardamine amara Large Bitter-cress Cardamine flexuosa Wood Bitter-cress Woods Cardamine hirsuta Hairy Bitter-cress Waste places Cardamine impatiens Narrow-leaved Bitter-cress Damp shady places Cardamine pratensis Lady's Smock Damp places Cardamine raphanifolia • Streamsides Radish-leaved Bitter-cress Cardamine resedifolia Reseda-leaved Bitter-cress Mountain turf and rocks Clypeola Gedre Dessus Clypeola jonthlaspi Descurainia sophia Flixweed Ruderal Yellow Whitlowgrass Mountain rocks Draba aizoides Draba dubia Austrian Whitlowgrass Occasional. Mountain rocks Draba muralis Wall Whitlowgrass Frequent Common Whilowgrass Common Erophila verna Decumbent Treacle-Erysimum decumbens Rocks. Barrage des Gloriettes mustard Hornungia alpina Chamois Cress Alpine rocks and scree Hugueninia tanacetifolia Tansy-leaved Rocket Occasional. Acidic rocks Iberis spathulata • Spoon-leaved Candytuft Occasional. Rocks and gravels Kernera saxatilis Rock Kernera Limestone rocks Pseudoturritis turrita **Tower Cress** Rocky places Rhynchosinapsis cheiranthos Wallflower Cabbage Lac des Gloriettes Sisymbrium austriacum Pyrenean Rocket Waste places Perfoliate Penny-cress Thlaspi perfoliatum Waste places **Box Family Buxaceae** Buxus sempervirens Box Locally common at lower altitudes **Bellflower Family** Campanulaceae Campanula scheuchzeri Scheuchzer's Bellflower Mountain rocks and turf Campanula trachelium Nettle-leaved Bellflower Shady banks Jasione laevis A Sheep's-bit Acidic screes Phyteuma pyrenaicum • Pyrenean Rampion Meadows Caprifoliaceae Honeysuckle Family Centranthus ruber ‡ Red Valerian Walls

Common name Latin name **Notes** Wood Scabious Knautia dipsacifolia Shady places Lonicera periclymenum Common Honeysuckle Frequent Rocky habitats Lonicera pyrenaica Pyrenean Honeysuckle Lonicera xylosteum Fly Honeysuckle Woods Scabiosa columbaria **Small Scabious** Frequent Devil's-bit Scabious Damp pasture Succisa pratensis Globularia-leaved Valerian Rocks and screes Valeriana globulariifolia • Common Valerian Valeriana officinalis Meadows Valeriana pyrenaica • Pyrenean Valerian Damp woodland Valeriana tripteris Three-leaved Valerian Common. Woods and scrub **Pink Family** Caryophyllaceae Cerastium cerastoides Starwort Mouse-ear Rocky pasture Cerastium fontanum Common Mouse-ear Common Roasides in lowlands Dianthus armeria **Deptford Pink** Dianthus barbatus ‡ Sweet William Garden escape Dianthus deltoides Maiden Pink Occasional. Dry places Gypsophila repens Alpine Gypsophila Screes and rocky turf Vernal Sandwort Minuartia verna Rocky places Paronychia kapela subsp. serpyllifolia A Paronychia Mountain rocks and turf Saponaria caespitosa • **Tufted Soapwort** Rare. Limestone rocks Saponaria officinalis Soapwort Occasional. Roadsides Scleranthus perennis Knawel Frequent. Dry rocky places Silene acaulis Moss Campion Alpine turf Silene alba White Campion Roadsides Silene dioica **Red Campion** Common Silene nutans Nottingham Catchfly Locally common. Open woods and dry places Silene vulgaris **Bladder Campion** Meadows Stellaria alsine Bog Stitchwort Streamsides on acid soils Stellaria graminea Lesser Stitchwort Shady places Stellaria holostea **Greater Stitchwort** Woods and ditches Stellaria media Common Chickweed Common Celastraceae Spindle Family Parnassia palustris Grass-of-Parnassus Frequent. Wet rocks and turf Cistaceae **Rockrose Family** Helianthemum canum Hoary Rockrose Screes Helianthemum nummularium subsp. Common Rockrose Common. Rocky places grandiflorum Helianthemum nummularium subsp. Occasional. Rocky places Pyrenean Rockrose pyrenaicum • Convolvulaceae **Bindweed Family** Common Dodder Common Cuscuta epithymum Cornaceae **Dogwood Family** Lowland woodland Cornus sanguinea Common Dogwood Corylaceae **Hazel Family** Woodland Corylus avellana Hazel Crassulaceae **Stonecrop Family** Sedum acre Rocks and walls Biting Stonecrop

Common name Latin name **Notes** White Stonecrop Sedum album Silicious rocks and walls Sedum anglicum **English Stonecrop** Silicious rocks Sedum annuum Acid gravels. Troumouse **Annual Stonecrop** Sedum dasyphyllum Thick-leaved Stonecrop Rocks and walls Sedum hirsutum Hairy Stonecrop Siicious rocks Sedum reflexum Reflexed Stonecrop Rocky places Sedum sediforme Dry rocky places. Lowland Pale Stonecrop Sempervivum montanum Mountain Houseleek Limestone rocks Common Houseleek Occasional. Rocks Sempervivum tectorum Rocks and walls Umbilicus rupestris Navelwort Dioscoreaceae Yam Family Screes. Gavarnie Dioscorea pyrenaica • Pyrenean Yam **Droseraceae Sundew Family** Drosera rotundifolia Round-leaved Sundew Bogs. Val de Jeret **Ericaceae Heather Family** Arctostaphyllos uva-ursi Bearberry Locally common Acidic turf Calluna vulgaris Ling Empetrum nigrum subsp. hermaphroditum Hermaphrodite Crowberry Acidic turf Erica arborea Tree Heath Common. Low altitudes Erica tetralix Cross-leaved Heath Bogs. Val de Jeret Moneses uniflora One-flowered Wintergreen Local. Forest Orthilia secunda Serrated Wintegreen Local. Forest Pyrola minor Lesser Wintergreen Local. Forest Rhododendron ferrugineum Alpenrose Acidic pasture Vaccinium myrtillus Bilberry Woods and mountains Vaccinium uliginosum Bog Whortleberry Acidic pasture Euphorbiaceae **Spurge Family** Euphorbia amygdaloides Wood Spurge Forest Large Mediterranean Euphorbia characias Gedre Dessus Spurge Euphorbia cyparissias Cypress Spurge Occasional. Rocky places Euphorbia helioscopia Sun Spurge Gedre Dessus Euphorbia hyberna Irish Spurge Woodland Mercurialis perennis Dog's Mercury Woodland **Fabaceae Pea Family** Anthyllis montana Mountain Kidney Vetch Limestone rocks Anthyllis vulneraria subsp. pyrenaica • Pyrenean Kidney Vetch Rocky places Astragalus depressus Sprawling Milk-vetch Stony pasture Astragalus monspessulanus Montpellier Milk-vetch Stony pasture Cytisus scoparius Common Broom Below Gedre Hippocrepis comosa Horseshoe Vetch Common Rocky banks below Gedre Hippocrepis emerus Scorpion Senna Lathyrus aphaca Yellow Vetchling Grassy places. Low altitudes Lathyrus laevigatus subsp. occidentalis Yellow Pea Heas Valley Bitter Vetch Acidic soils Lathyrus montanus Lathyrus pratensis Meadow Vetchling Meadows

10 © Naturetrek February 19

Grassy places

Damp pasture

Bird's-foot Trefoil

Trefoil

Greater Bird's-foot

Lotus corniculatus

Lotus uliginosus

Common name Latin name **Notes Black Medick** Medicago lupulina Weedy places Medicago sativa Lucerne Gedre Dessus Medicago suffruticosa • Sprawling Medick Rocky pasture Melilotus albus White Melilot Road verges. Lowland Ribbed Melilot Melilotus officinalis Road verges. Lowland Onobrychis viciifolia Sainfoin Road verges. Lowland Ononis aragonensis • Spanish Restharrow Damp pasture. Gavarnie Ononis fruticosa Shrubby Restharrow Occasional Ononis natrix Large Yellow Restharrow Occasional Round-leaved Restharrow Rare. Below Gedre Ononis rotundifolia Yellow Restharrow Ononis striata Occasional Oxytropis campestris Yellow Milk-vetch Stony pasture Trifolium alpinum Alpine Clover Mountain pasture Trifolium campestre Hop Trefoil Gedre Dessus Trifolium incarnatum ‡ Crimson Clover Occasional Trifolium montanum Mountain Clover Mountain pasture Trifolium pratense Red Clover Meadows Trifolium repens White Clover Meadows Trifolium thalii Thal's Clover Mountain pasture Vicia cracca **Tufted Vetch** Common Vicia hirsuta Hairy Tare Roadsides Vicia orobus Wood Bitter-vetch Occasional Vicia pyrenaica • Pyrenean Vetch Common Vicia sepium Bush Vetch Frequent Vicia sylvatica Wood Vetch Shady places **Fagaceae Beech Family** Fagus sylvatica Beech Woodland Sessile Oak Quercus petraea Mountain woodland Quercus pyrenaica Pyrenean Oak Common in valleys Quercus robur Common Oak Frequent in valleys **Fumariaceae Fumitory Family** Corydalis solida Solid-tubered Corydalis Mountain pasture Fumaria officinalis Common Fumitory Widespread Gentianaceae **Gentian Family** Gentiana acaulis **Trumpet Gentian** Mountain turf Gentiana alpina Alpine Gentian Acidic mountain turf Cross Gentian Gentiana cruciata Mountain turf Gentiana lutea Large Yellow Gentian Gavarnie Gentiana verna Spring Gentian Mountain turf Geraniaceae Crane's-bill Family Erodium cicutarium Common Stork's-bill Dry rocky places Geranium cinereum • Ashy Crane's-bill Rocky places. Mountains Geranium columbinum Long-stalked Crane's-bill Occasional Geranium lucidum Shining Crane's-bill Occasional. Lowland Geranium molle Dove's-foot Crane's-bill Occasional

© Naturetrek February 19 11

Dusky Crane's-bill

Herb Robert

Pyrenean Crane's-bill

Round-leaved Crane's-bill

Shady places

Rocky places

Occasional

Common

Geranium phaeum

Geranium pyrenaicum

Geranium robertianum

Geranium rotundifolium

Latin name	Common name	Notes
Geranium sanguineum	Bloody Crane's-bill	Rocks and scree. Heas valley
Geranium sylvaticum	Wood Crane's-bill	Meadows
Gesneriaceae	Gloxinia Family	Chady different bayldone
Ramonda myconi •	Ramonda	Shady cliffs and boulders
Grossulariaceae	Gooseberry Family	
Ribes alpinum	Mountain Currant	Limestone rocks
Hypericaceae	St John's-wort Family	
Hypericum maculatum	Imperforate St John's-wort	Damp meadows
Hypericum montanum	Pale St John's-wort	Occasional
Hypericum perforatum	Perforate St John's-wort	Occasional
Juglandaceae	Walnut Family	
Juglans regia ‡	Walnut	Cultivated
Lauriana	Dood wattle Familie	
Lamiaceae	Dead-nettle Family	May natain masty ma
Ajuga pyramidalis	Pyramidal Bugle	Mountain pasture
Ajuga reptans	Common Bugle	Widespread Occasional. Meadows
Betonica officinalis	Betony	Rocks and screes
Clinopodium alpinum	Alpine Basil Thyme	Occasional
Clinopodium arvensis	Basil Thyme Wild Basil	
Clinopodium vulgare		Frequent Occasional Domp turf
Horminum pyrenaicum Lamiastrum galeobdolon	Dragon-mouth Yellow Archangel	Occasional. Damp turf Woods
Lamium album	White Dead-nettle	Occasional
Lamium maculatum	Spotted Dead-nettle	Roadsides
Lamium purpureum	Red Dead-nettle	Occasional
Mentha aquatica	Water Mint	Wet places
Mentha aqualica Mentha longifolia	Horse Mint	Damp places
Origanum vulgare	Marjoram	Occasional. Rocky turf
Prunella vulgaris	Self-heal	Common
Salvia verbenaca	Wild Clary	Frequent
Satureja montana	Winter Savory	Dry banks and scree
Stachys alopecurus	Yellow Betony	Meadows. Occasional
Stachys recta	Yellow Woundwort	Roadsides
Teucrium chamaedrys	Wall Germander	Occasional
Teucrium pyrenaicum •	Pyrenean Germander	Rocks and scree
Teucrium scorodonia	Wood Sage	Woods
Thymus polytrichus	Wild Thyme	Dry places
Thymus pulegiodes	Large Thyme	Occasional. Sunny, dry places
1	B. #	
Lentibulariacae	Butterwort Family	
Pinguicula alpina	Alpine Butterwort	Damp mountain rocks
Pinguicula grandiflora	Large-flowered Butterwort	Wet flushes on limestone
Pinguicula longifolia subsp. longifolia	Long-leaved Butterwort	Wet limestone cliffs. Gavarnie
Linaceae	Flax Family	
Linum catharticum	Fairy Flax	Frequent
Loranthaceae	Mistletoe Family	
Viccum album	Mictiotoo	Common

© Naturetrek February 19

Common

Mistletoe

Viscum album

Latin name Common name **Notes**

Malvaceae **Mallow Family**

Malva sylvestris Common Mallow Waste places

Oleaceae **Ash Family**

Fraxinus excelsior Ash Woods

Onagraceae Willowherb Family

Occasional Chamerion angustifolium Rosebay Willowherb **Broad-leaved Willowherb** Epilobium montanum Widespread

Orobanchaceae **Broomrape Family**

Bartsia alpina Alpine Bartsia Meadows and pasture

Melampyrum pratense Common Cow-wheat Acidic turf Melampyrum sylvaticum Small Cow-wheat Mountain woods Orobanche alba Thyme Broomrape Dry pasture

Orobanche minor Common Broomrape Parasitic on Clovers

Pedicularis sylvatica Common Lousewort Wet flushes

Oxalidaceae **Wood-sorrel Family**

Oxalis acetosella Wood-sorrel Woods and shaded rocks

Poppy Family Papaveraceae

Chelidonium majus **Greater Celandine** Frequent near habitation Welsh Poppy Occasional. Gavarnie Papaver cambricum

Papaver rhoeas Common Poppy Lowland

Plantaginaceae Plantain and Speedwell Family

Antirrhinum majus Gedre Dessus Snapdragon

Antirrhinum sempervirens • Rock Snapdragon Rocks

Callitriche stagnalis Common Water-starwort Occasional in pools. Troumouse

Chaenorhinum origanifolium • Screes Creeping Snapdragon

Cymbalaria muralis Ivy-leaved Toadflax Rocks and walls

Roadside banks below Gedre Digitalis lutea Small Yellow Foxglove

Digitalis purpurea Purple Foxglove Frequent. Acidic soils

Erinus alpinus Fairy Foxglove Common. Rocks and screes

Globularia cordifolia Matted Globularia Barrage d'Ossoue Leafless-stemmed

Globularia nudicaulis Frequent Globularia

Globularia repens Creeping Globularia Limestone fissures Alpine Toadflax Linaria alpina Alpine rocks

Linaria supina • **Dwarf Toadflax** Rocks and screes

Linaria vulgaris Common Toadflax Waste places. Lowland

Plantago alpina Alpine Plantain Mountain turf Plantago lanceolata Ribwort Plantain Widespread Plantago major Greater Plantain Ruderal Plantago media Hoary Plantain Widespread

Veronica beccabunga **Brooklime** Streams

Veronica bellidioides Violet Speedwell Frequent in pasture Veronica chamaedrys Germander Speedwell Meadows

Veronica fruticans Rock Speedwell Mountain rocks

Veronica officinalis Heath Speedwell Occasional. Dry places Spiked Pyrenean Veronica ponae • Woods and shady places Speedwell

Latin name Common name **Notes** Veronica prostrata Prostrate Speedwell Dry rocky places Veronica serpyllifolia Thyme-leaved Speedwell Woods and pasture Veronica urticifolia Nettle-leaved Speedwell Woods and shady places **Platanaceae** Plane Family Platanus x hispanica ‡ London Plane Cultivated Plumbaginaceae **Thrift Family** Mountain Thrift Gedre and Lac de Gaube Armeria alpina Polygalaceae Milkwort Family Polygala alpestris Mountain Milkwort Mountain pasture Polygala serpyllifolia Thyme-leaved Milkwort Acidic pasture Polygala vulgaris Common Milkwort Acidic pasture Polygonaceae **Dock Family** Persicaria vivipara Alpine Bistort Common. Mountain turf Common Sorrel Common Rumex acetosa Rumex acetosella Sheep's Sorrel Common French Sorrel Rocks and screes Rumex scutatus Primulaceae **Primrose Family** Androsace laggeri Pink Rock-jasmine Mountain turf. Cirque de Troumouse Androsace villosa Shaggy Rock-jasmine Limestone rocks and turf Primula elatior Oxlip Alpine pasture Primula farinosa Bird's-eye Primrose Wet mountain turf Primula hirsuta Hairy Primrose Damp acidic cliffs Primula integrifolia Entire-leaved Primrose Wet acidic turf Occasional. Meadows Primula veris Cowslip Soldanella alpina Alpine Snowbell Alpine turf Vitaliana primuliflora subsp. canescens Vitaliana Mountain rocks and turf Ranunculaceae **Buttercup Family** Aconitum anthora Yellow Monk's-hood Rocky limestone pasture Aconitum napellus Common Monk's-hood Common. Mountain pasture Actaea spicata Baneberry Woods Anemone nemorosa Wood Anemone Woods Narcissus-flowered Anemone narcissiflora Heas Valley Anemone Aquilegia pyrenaica • Pyrenean Columbine Screes. Gavarnie Aquilegia vulgaris Common Columbine Common Caltha palustris Marsh Marigold Bogs and streamsides Clematis vitalba Old Man's Beard Woods on limestone Ficaria verna Lesser Celandine Occasional Helleborus foetidus Stinking Hellebore Woods Helleborus viridis Green Hellebore Woods and pasture Hepatica nobilis Liverleaf Woods and alpine turf Pulsatilla alpina subsp. alpina Alpine Pasqueflower Local. Mountain pasture Ranunculus acris Meadow Buttercup Meadows Ranunculus flammula Wet flushes and streamsides Lesser Spearwort Ranunculus gouanii • Gouan's Buttercup Mountain meadows Ranunculus montanus Mountain turf. Frequent Mountain Buttercup Ranunculus pyrenaeus • Pyrenean Buttercup Damp mountain turf

14 © Naturetrek February 19

Widespread

Creeping Buttercup

Ranunculus repens

Common name Latin name **Notes** Limestone scree. Gavarnie Ranunculus thora Thore's Buttercup Thalictrum aquilegiifolium Great Meadow-rue Damp mountain turf Thalictrum minus Lesser Meadow-rue Occasional Trollius europaeus Globeflower Damp meadows Resedaceae **Mignonette Family** Reseda luteola Weld Waste areas Rhamnaceae **Buckthorn Family** Rhamnus alpinus Alpine Buckthorn Rocky places. Ossoue Rhamnus pumilus **Dwarf Buckthorn** Frequent. Limestone rocks Rosaceae **Rose Family** Alchemilla alpina Alpine Lady's-mantle Acidic rocks and turf. Widespread Amelanchier ovalis Snowy Mespilus Local. Lac des Gloriettes Cotoneaster integerrimus Wild Cotoneaster Rocky places Crategus monogyna Hawthorn Woods Mountain Avens Dryas octopetala Local. Mountains Wild Strawberry Fragaria vesca Common Geum montanum Alpine Avens Mountain pasture Geum pyrenaicum • Pyrenean Avens Mountain pasture Geum rivale Water Avens Occasional. Wet places Malus sylvestris Crab Apple Occasional Limestone cliffs Potentilla alchemilloides Alchemilla-leaved Cinquefoil Potentilla aurea Mountain turf Golden Cinquefoil Potentilla erecta Tormentil Common Potentilla crantzii Alpine Cinquefoil Mountain pasture Potentilla fruticosa Shrubby Cinquefoil Rare. Gavarnie Potentilla montana Mountain Cinquefoil Frequent. Rocky places Potentilla rupestris Rock Cinquefoil Local. Rocky places Potentilla sterilis Barren Strawberry Common Salad Burnet Common Poterium sanguisorba Prunus avium Wild Cherry Frequent in woods Prunus mahaleb St Lucie Cherry Gedre Dessus Prunus spinosa Blackthorn Occasional. Scrub Rubus idaeus Raspberry Common Rubus saxatilis Stone Bramble Frequent Rubus ulmifolius A Bramble Common in lowlands Rosa arvensis Field Rose Widespread Rosa canina Dog-rose Widespread Rosa glauca Blue-leaved Rose Mountain scrub Rosa pendulina Alpine Rose Mountain scrub **Sweet Briar** Widespread Rosa rubiginosa Occasional, Streamsides Sanguisorba officinalis **Great Burnet** Sorbus aria Whitebeam Open woods Rowan Sorbus aucuparia Mountains Occasional. Rocky slopes Sorbus chamaemespilus False-medlar Sorbus mougeotii Mougeot's Whitebeam Frequent. Ossoue Valley Rubiacae **Bedstraw Family** Cruciata laevipes Crosswort Pastures and roadsides

© Naturetrek February 19 15

Scrub and waste places

Mountain rocks

Cleavers

A Bedstraw

Galium aparine

Galium caespitosum •

Common name Latin name **Notes** Scrub and meadows Galium mollugo Hedge Bedstraw Woods Galium odoratum Woodruff Pyrenean Bedstraw Alpine rocks Galium pyrenaicum • Galium saxatile Heath Bedstraw Mountain turf Galium verum Lady's Bedstraw Meadows Rubia peregrina Wild Madder Frequent in woods Salicaceae Willow Family Populus alba White Poplar Frequent Black Poplar Populus nigra Occasional in valleys Aspen Occasional in forests Populus tremula Salix aurita **Eared Sallow** Widespread **Goat Willow** Salix caprea Occasional Salix eleagnos Hoary Willow Streamsides Salix pyrenaica • Pyrenean Willow Mountain rocks Sapindaceae **Maple Family** Acer campestre Field Maple Common Norway Maple Frequent Acer platanoides Common Acer pseudoplatanus Sycamore Santalaceae **Bastard-toadflax Family** Thesium alpinum Alpine Bastard-toadflax Frequent Pyrenean Bastard-Thesium pyrenaicum Frequent toadflax Saxifrage Family Saxifragaceae Yellow Mountain Wet flushes Saxifraga aizoides Saxifrage Saxifraga aretioides • Yellow Saxifrage Rare. Limestone rocks Acidic rocks. Heas Valley Saxifraga cotyledon Pyramidal Saxifrage Saxifraga exarata subsp. moschata Musky Saxifrage Limestone rocks Saxifraga granulata Meadow Saxifrage Common Saxifraga hirsuta subsp. hirsuta Kidney Saxifrage Shady streamsides Saxifraga intricata • Scented-leaved Saxifrage Acidic rocks. Col des Tentes Saxifraga longifolia subsp. longifolia Pyrenean Saxifrage Cliffs and boulders Alpine rocks Saxifraga oppositifolia Purple Saxifrage Saxifraga paniculata Livelong Saxifrage Common on rocks Woods Saxifraga umbrosa • Wood Saxifrage Scrophulariaceae **Figwort Family** Buddleja davidii ‡ **Butterfly-bush Family** Waste places at lower altitudes Scrophularia alpestris Alpine Figwort Wet places Verbascum nigrum Dark Mullein Occasional. Verbascum pulverulentum Hoary Mullein Rocky places Verbascum thapsus Common Mullein Roadsides Solanaceae **Nightshade Family** Atropa belladonna Deadly Nightshade Local, Gedre **Thymelaeaceae Mezereon Family** Garland Flower Local. Mountain turf Daphne cneorum

16 © Naturetrek February 19

Spurge Laurel

Mezereon

Daphne laureola

Daphne mezereum

Frequent. Woods and rocks

Forest and open pasture

Latin name Common name Notes

Thymelaea dioica Dioecious Thymelaea Rocks and screes. Ossoue Valley

Tiliaceae Lime Family

Tilia cordata Small-leaved Lime Common

Ulmaceae Elm Family

Ulmus glabra Wych Elm Gedre and Gavarnie

Urticaceae Nettle Family

Parietaria judaica Pellitory-of-the-wall Walls

Urtica dioica Common Nettle Disturbed areas

Verbenaceae Vervain Family

Verbena officinalis Vervain Tracksides. Ossoue valley

Violaceae Violet Family

Viola biflora Yellow Wood-violet Frequent. Shady places

Viola cornuta •Horned PansyMeadowsViola palustrisMarsh VioletBogsViola reichenbachianaWood Dog-violetOccasional

Viola riviniana Common Dog-violet Frequent. Grassy places

Viola tricolor Wild Pansy Occasional

MONOCOTYLEDONS

Amaryllidaceae Daffodil Family

Allium senescens Mountain Onion Rocky places around Gedre

Allium sphaerocephalonRound-headed LeekFrequentAllium ursinumRamsonsGedre

Allium victorialisAlpine LeekPont d'EspagneAllium vinealeCrow GarlicOccasional

Narcissus assoanus Rush-leaved Daffodil Locally common in pasture. Ossoue valley

Narcissus bicolor • A Daffodil Locally common in pasture.

Asparagaceae Asparagus Family

Anthericum liliagoSt Bernard's LilyFrequent on rocky banksBrimeura amethystina •Pyrenean HyacinthMeadows and rocks

Dipcadi serotinum Dipcadi Gedre Dessus

Leopoldia comosaTassel HyacinthLocal. Gavarnie, GedrePolygonatum verticillatumWhorled Solomon's-sealOccasional in woods

Scilla liliohyacinthus • Pyrenean Squill Woods

Scilla verna Spring Squill Locally common. Mountain pasture

Colchicaceae Meadow Saffron Family

Colchicum montanum • Merendera Mountain pasture (in fruit)

Cyperaceae Sedge Family

Carex caryophylleaSpring SedgeDry turf. MountainsCarex canescensWhite SedgeWet acidic soils

Carex curvula An alpine Sedge Exposed acidic soils. Troumouse

Carex davallianaBath SedgeWet basic soilsCarex demissaCommon Yellow SedgeDamp turfCarex dioicaDioecious SedgeBogs and flushes

Common name Latin name **Notes** Carex echinata Star Sedge Damp turf Limestone turf. Ossoue Carex ferruginea Rusty Sedge Glaucous Sedge Carex flacca Meadows Carex nigra Common Sedge Acidic mountain turf Damp soils on limestone Carex panicea Carnation Sedge Carex sylvatica Wood Sedge Woods Eriophorum angustifolium Common Cottongrass Acid bogs Iridaceae Iris Family Iris latifolia • Pyrenean Iris Common Iris pseudacorus Yellow Iris Streamsides. Lowland Juncaceae **Rush Family** Juncus conglomeratus Compact Rush Common Juncus effusus Soft Rush Common Juncus trifdus Three-leaved Rush Acidic alpine turf Luzula lutea Yellow Wood-rush Acidic mountain turf Luzula luzuloides White Wood-rush Acidic soils Luzula pilosa Hairy Wood-rush Woods and meadows Spiked Wood-rush Mountain turf Luzula spicata Luzula sylvatica Great Wood-rush Woods and meadows Liliacae **Lily Family** Fritillaria pyrenaica • Pyrenean Snakeshead Damp mountain pasture Woodland and meadows Lilium martagon Martagon Lily Lilium pyrenaicum • Pyrenean Lily Local. Mountain woods Melanthiaceae **Herb-Paris Family** Herb-Paris Paris quadrifolia Woods. Local Veratrum album White False-helleborine Occasional. Mountains Orchidaceae **Orchid Family** Anacamptis pyramidalis Pyramidal Orchid Local Sword-leaved Cephalanthera longifolia Frequent Helleborine Dactylorhiza maculata Heath Spotted-orchid Acid bogs and heath Broad-leaved Marsh-orchid Dactylorhiza majalis Wet meadows and streamsides Dactylorhiza sambucina Elder-flowered Orchid Locally common. Heas Valley Epipactis atrorubens Dark-red Helleborine Frequent. Woods Goodyera repens Creeping Lady's-tresses Rare. Heas Valley Fragrant-orchid Common. Meadows and banks Gymnadenia conopsea Neotinea ustulata **Burnt Orchid** Local. Meadows Neottia ovata Twayblade Meadows Ophrys scolopax Woodcock Orchid Grassland. Lower valleys Orchis mascula Early-purple Orchid Common. Meadows and banks Platanthera bifolia Lesser Butterfly-orchid Woods and banks Poaceae **Grass Family** Anthoxanthum odoratum Sweet Vernal-grass Meadows Common. Low altitudes Arrhenatherum elatius False Oat-rass Briza media Quaking-grass Meadows

18 © Naturetrek February 19

Woods

Meadows

Heath False-brome

Meadow Brome

Brachypodium pinnatum

Bromus commutatus

Latin name Common name Notes

Bromus sterilisBarren BromeDry grasslandCynosurus cristatusCrested Dog's-tailCommonDactylis glomerataCock's-footCommonDeschampsia cespitosaTufted Hair-grassWet grasslandDeschampsia flexuosaWavy Hair-grassAcidic mountain turf

Festuca eskia • Gispet Dominant. Acidic high-mountain turf

Festuca gautieri • Spiky Fescue Basic mountain turf

Festuca paniculataPanicled FescueCommonFestuca rubraRed FescueCommonMelica nutansMountain MelickWoodsMelica unifloraWood MelickWoods

Molinia caeruleaPurple Moor-grassDamp acidic pastureNardus strictaMat-grassAcidic pasturePhleum pratenseTimothyMeadowsPoa alpinaAlpine Meadow-grassAlpine pasture

Phileum pratenseTimothyMeadowsPoa alpinaAlpine Meadow-grassAlpine pasturePoa annuaAnnual Meadow-grassTrackwaysPoa nemoralisWood Meadow-grassWoodsPoa trivialisRough Meadow-grassPastureSchedonorus pratensisMeadow FescueMeadows

Sesleria albicans Blue Moor-grass Limestone rocks

Tofieldiaceae Scottish Asphodel Family

Tofieldia calyculata Tofield's Asphodel Wet places in mountains

Xanthorrhoeaceae Asphodel Family

Asphodelus albus White Asphodel Mountain pasture

Birds (✓=recorded but not counted; H = heard only)

			June							
	Common name	Latin name	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1	Mallard	Anas platyrhynchos	✓			✓				
2	Grey Heron	Ardea cinerea	✓			✓				
3	Bearded Vulture	Gypaetus barbatus		5			2	3		
4	Griffon Vulture	Gyps fulvus		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
5	Short-toed Snake Eagle	Circaetus gallicus						✓		
6	Golden Eagle	Aquila chrysaetos		✓	✓	✓				
7	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	Accipiter nisus				✓			✓	
8	Red Kite	Milvus milvus	✓	✓	✓			✓		
9	Black Kite	Milvus migrans	✓			✓				
10	Common Buzzard	Buteo buteo	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
11	Rock Dove	Columba livia	✓			✓				
12	Eurasian Collared Dove	Streptopelia decaocto	✓			✓				
13	Alpine Swift	Tachymarptis melba	✓							
14	Common Swift	Apus apus				✓				
15	Middle Spotted Woodpecker	Dendrocopos media				✓				
16	Great Spotted Woodpecker	Dendrocopos major			Н	✓				
17	European Green Woodpecker	Picus viridis					Н	Н		
18	Common Kestrel	Falco tinnunculus		✓				✓	✓	
19	Peregrine Falcon	Falco peregrinus	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		
20	Red-backed Shrike	Lanius collurio					✓		✓	
21	Eurasian Jay	Garrulus glandarius	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
22	Eurasian Magpie	Pica pica	✓			✓				

			June								
	Common name	Latin name	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
23	Red-billed Chough	Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax		✓	✓	✓					
24	Alpine Chough	Pyrrhocorax graculus		✓	✓			✓	✓		
25	Carrion Crow	Corvus corone	✓			✓	✓				
26	Northern Raven	Corvus corax		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
27	Coal Tit	Periparus ater			✓	✓					
28	European Crested Tit	Lophophanes cristatus			✓	Н					
29	Eurasian Blue Tit	Cyanistes caeruleus			✓			✓			
30	Great Tit	Parus major	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
31	Woodlark	Lullula arborea				Н					
32	Eurasian Skylark	Alauda arvensis						Н			
33	Eurasian Crag Martin	Ptyonoprogne rupestris	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
34	Common House Martin	Delichon urbicum		✓	✓	✓		✓	√		
35	Long-tailed Tit	Aegithalos caudatus					✓				
36	Common Chiffchaff	Phylloscopus collybita		Н	✓	Н					
37	Eurasian Blackcap	Sylvia atricapilla	✓	✓	✓	✓	Н	√	√		
38	Garden Warbler	Sylvia borin		Н	✓						
39	Common Firecrest	Regulus ignicapillus			✓	✓	√	✓	Н		
40	Goldcrest	Regulus regulus			✓						
41	Eurasian Wren	Troglodytes troglodytes			Н	1	✓	√			
42	Eurasian Treecreeper	Certhia familiaris				√					
43	Common Starling	Sturnus vulgaris	/			✓					
44	Ring Ouzel	Turdus torquatus	<u> </u>	Н		√					
45	Common Blackbird	Turdus merula	/	✓ · · ·	/	✓	✓	✓	√	√	
46	Song Thrush	Turdus philomelos	Н		Н				Н		
47	Mistle Thrush	Turdus viscivorus	- ' '					✓	√		
48	Spotted Flycatcher	Muscicapa striata				✓			,		
49	European Robin	Erithacus rubecula	Н		✓	√	Н	✓	Н		
50	European Pied Flycatcher	Ficedula hypoleuca	11			· ·	11		11		
51	Black Redstart	Phoenicurus ochruros	/	/	✓	· ·	✓	✓	✓	✓	
52	European Stonechat	Saxicola rubicola	,	,	,	,	· ·	_	•	•	
	Northern Wheatear						V	✓	√		
53	White-throated Dipper	Oenanthe oenanthe		✓	/	/	V ✓	∨	V		
54	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	Cinclus cinclus	✓	✓	√	V	V ✓	∨	✓	✓	
55	House Sparrow	Passer domesticus	\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \			V	V		✓	_	
56	White-winged Snowfinch	Montifringilla nivalis						✓	∨		
57	Alpine Accentor	Prunella collaris		✓					V		
58	Dunnock	Prunella modularis			√	√	√	√	✓		
59	Grey Wagtail	Motacilla cinerea		✓	√	✓	✓	✓	∨		
60	White Wagtail	Motacilla alba			· ·				V		
61	Tree Pipit	Anthus trivialis		✓		Н	√	√			
62	Water Pipit	Anthus spinoletta					√	√	√		
63	Common Chaffinch	Fringilla coelebs	✓	✓	✓	√	✓	✓	✓	✓	
64	European Greenfinch	Chloris chloris				✓					
65	Common Linnet	Linaria cannabina		✓			✓	✓	✓		
66	European Goldfinch	Carduelis carduelis				✓					
67	Citril Finch	Carduelis citrinella			✓	✓			✓		
68	European Serin	Serinus serinus	Н	Н	✓	✓	✓	Н	Н		
69	Yellowhammer	Emberiza citrinella			✓		✓	✓			
70	Rock Bunting	Emberiza cia					✓	✓	✓		

		Latin name	June								
	Common name		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
Ma	ammals (E = Evidence of)										
1	European Mole	Talpa europaea				Е			Е		
2	Alpine Marmot	Marmota marmota		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		
3	Pyrenean Chamois •	Rupicapra pyrenaica		✓							
Re	ptiles										
1	Common Wall Lizard	Podarcis muralis			✓	✓					
2	Asp Viper	Vipera aspis			✓						
An 1	nphibians (T = tadpoles) Common Frog	Rana temporaria		Т		Т	✓	✓	✓		
1	Small White	Pieris rapae		✓							
	tterflies										
2	Orange Tip	Anthocharis cardamines		√	√						
3	Clouded Yellow	Colias crocea			✓	✓	✓				
4	Green Hairstreak	Callophrys rubi		√							
5	Little Blue	Cupido minimus			✓	✓					
6	Green-underside Blue	Glaucopsyche alexis		√							
7	Eros Blue	Polyommatus eros							✓		
8	Meadow Brown	Maniola jurtina				✓	✓				
9	Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary	Boloria selene		✓							
10	Small Tortoiseshell	Aglais urticae			✓	✓					
11	Peacock	Inachis io				✓					
12	Red Admiral	Vanessa atalanta		✓							
13	Painted Lady	Vanessa cardui						✓			
14	Dingy Skipper	Erynnis tages			✓						
15	Grizzled Skipper	Pyrgus malvae		✓							
Mc	oths (L = Larvae)										
1	,	Zvacene filinendules				✓					
1	Six-Spot Burnet	Zygaena filipendulae		1		v	1		1		

Other Insects

Silver Y

Lackey Moth

3

4

Hummingbird Hawk-moth

1	Great Green Bush-cricket	Tettigonia viridissima			✓			
2	Field Cricket	Gryllus campestris			✓			
3	Bee-fly	Bombylius major			✓			
4	Bee Beetle	Trichius fasciatus			✓			
5	Robin's Pincushion	Diplolepis rosae			✓			
6	Wood Ant	Formica rufa	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

✓

L

Macroglossum stellatarum

Autographa gamma

Malacosoma neustria