

WILDLIFE TRAVEL



Aragon 2012

Aragonese Pyrenees species lists and trip report, 27th May to 3rd June 2012

#	DATE	LOCATIONS & NOTES
1	27 th May	Arrive Bilbao Transfer to Hotel Uson, Echo Valley
2	28 th May	Upper Echo Valley: Selva de Oza: Boca de lo Inferno
3	29 th May	Alastuey
4	30 th May	Gabardito
5	31 st May	Val d'Espetal and Siresa
6	1 st June	San Juan de la Peña
7	2 nd June	Upper Echo Valley
8	3 rd June	Back to Bilbao...

LIST OF TRAVELLERS

Leader

Philip Precey

Charlie Rugeroni

A gallery of some of Philip's photos from the holiday can be seen on Wildlife Travel's Flickr site, at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/wildlifetravel/sets/72157629957090894/>

A useful website is the Flora de Aragon: not complete, and with one or two errors, but still a very good collection of photos and useful in putting names to some of the plants we found.

<http://flora-aragon.blogspot.com.es/>

Report written by Philip, with help with the plant list from Charlie: any omissions or mistakes are entirely mine.

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Day One: 27th May. Arrival and transfer to Echo Valley

After a very straightforward flight from Stansted, we arrived safely at Bilbao where we met up with Lynne and Jane, and with Javier, our driver for the next few days. The drive took us across the south of the Pyrenees, with our first (of many!) Griffon Vultures and both Black and Red Kites seen from the bus, before arriving at the hotel, to be greeted by the sound of singing Serin, some spectacular scenery and our hosts for the week, Lucia and Imanol.

Day Two: 28th May. Upper Echo Valley

For our first day in the mountains, we headed up to the head of the road to explore the meadows just above the treeline.

Everywhere we looked, there seemed to be new and interesting wild flowers: masses of orchids included both Early Purple and Lang's Orchids growing confusingly side by side, one or two dainty Burnt-tip Orchids, a hillside of the lovely creamy yellow Elder-flowered Orchid, with plenty of the lovely orangey-pink coloured variety, and sturdy spikes of the deep red-purple *Dactylorhiza majalis* in the damper areas. Gentians included the smaller Spring Gentian and the larger, slightly less vivid blue Pyrenean Trumpet Gentian. Wet flushes in the meadow, and on the rocky cliffs were home to Large-flowered Butterwort, together with Pyrenean Lousewort in the marshy areas.

Around the puddles on the road, we watched both Common and Spanish (formerly Scarce) Swallowtails 'puddling' (feeding on the salts in the wet mud), along with lots of Grizzled and Dingy Skippers, Small Tortoiseshells and a single lovely Camberwell Beauty.

Overhead a pair of Ravens played, Griffon Vultures drifted over the mountain tops and a small group of Red-billed Chough played around the meadows higher up. A male Red-backed Shrike was on bushes towards the higher carpark, while on the stream both Grey and White Wagtails bobbed and a Dipper wizzed past.

After our lunch, we rejoined the bus and headed down to the woodland at Selva de Oza, where a short walk through the wood took us to the Neolithic stone circle of Corona de los Muertos. The stones themselves may have been a little underwhelming, but a Red Squirrel was a welcome sight for some, as was the spectacular Fire Salamander found under a log, of the brightly striped local subspecies *fastuosa*. A second adult was found down in the stream, with interesting plants nearby including Wood Saxifrage and Purple Toothwort.

We finished the day with a walk along the gorge, towards (and, for some, through) the Boca del Infierno. There continued to be interesting plants to see virtually at every step of the way, including two species of Globularia (*Globularia nudicaulis* with tall, leafless stems and the smaller, creeping *G.repens*); numerous impressive plants of the locally endemic Pyrenean Saxifrage, with one or two almost out in flower (something to look forward to later in the week); a lovely creamy yellow and deep orange pea *Lathyrus occidentalis*; and the beautiful pale-pink local subspecies *pyrenaicum* of Common Rockrose.

Day Three: 29th May. Alastuey and Echo

Today we headed down both to lower elevations and lower latitudes, to the hilltop village of Alastuey from where we walked down the quiet lane back to the main road in the Aragon Valley.

The wildlife started even before we got off the bus, with a young Ladder Snake crossing the road in front of us.

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After a quick exploration of the sleepy little village, with House Sparrows nesting under the eaves and an impressive variety of thistles, we slowly made our way back down the road...

The habitat today was completely different to yesterday, passing through very Mediterranean, at times almost arid scrub vegetation, into warm oak woodland lower down. The plants were obviously very different, with plenty of new things for us to pour over: three very impressive flaxes in the form of the white *Linum suffruticosum*, the bright yellow *Linum campanulatum* and the taller, deep blue *Linum narbonense*; a nice plant of the local birthwort *Aristolochia pistolochia*, the foodplant of the Spanish Festoon; *Kohlrashcia velutina*, the mini-pink; hillsides of the pink Shrubby Restharrow *Ononis fruticosa*; and several puzzling oak trees which eventually worked out to include all three local oaks: the very holly-leaved *Quercus coccifera*, the taller *Quercus ilex* with leathery leaves, and the more 'typical' oak tree *Q. cerrioides*, a Spanish endemic and an endangered plant!

For the birders, the highlight of the day was probably the adult Lammergeier who appeared overhead, giving us all the chance to see this local speciality, and to appreciate the difference in shape and colour from the more common Griffons. His appearance heralded the start of a great stream of Griffon Vultures overhead, at least a hundred who gathered together in two towering thermals further down the valley, and drawing in two Egyptian Vultures in the process. Other raptors during the day included several Black and Red Kites and a nice pale phase Booted Eagle.

Smaller fare came in the form of a few Bee-eaters, singing Western Bonelli's Warbler and Melodious Warblers, and a couple of glimpses of what were probably Western Subalpine Warblers, but alas they never showed themselves properly.

Butterflies today included plenty of blues: mainly Adonis, Small and Common Blue, with a couple each of the smart Green-underside Blue and the large, pale Spanish Chalkhill Blue, here at the very northern edge of its range, and the very start of their flight season. One or two smart Black-veined Whites were around, and fritillaries included fly-past Cardinal, a very skittish Marsh Fritillary and both Glanville and Provencal Fritillaries near where we got down to the river. Dingy and Grizzled Skipper were again common around the wet areas, with a single smart Oberthur's Grizzled Skipper posing nicely for us after the rain. And today's 'big boys' were several Spanish Swallowtails and a perfectly-timed Spanish Festoon.

Finally back at the bus, we headed back up the valley to the village of Echo, where a welcome ice cream stop preceded an exploration of the village, with its characteristic local chimneys. As we got back on the bus to return to the hotel, three Egyptian Vultures appeared overhead, putting on a nice display.

Day Four: 30th May. Gabardito

Today's excursion took us up the windy road to the Gabardito Refugio, on the opposite side of the valley to the hotel, passing Roe Deer and Red Squirrel on the way.

Our first target was Citril Finch, and after a little searching we found a pair feeding unobtrusively on dandelions on the road verge near the larger car park. A Green Woodpecker and a little party of Linnet were also in the area.

Walking through the woods, past Green-flowered and One-flowered Wintergreens, we came to the famous cliff: "go round the corner, and then watch around the obvious crack" sounded like

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such simple instructions last night! Who knew there would be quite so many 'obvious' cracks?? Rock Jasmine and gentians distracted some of us, while others began to scan the rock for movement. Plenty of movement was to be had, in the form of Crag Martins, Black Redstart, a singing Rock Bunting and a brief Alpine Swift. And then, just as necks were beginning to weary and the the troops were getting restless, a small dark bird flopped in from the right and began to shuffle across the vertical rocks, characteristically flicking his black and red wings open all the time: a lovely male Wallcreeper. Success!

Lunch was had back out on the grassy meadow at the Refugio. We then took the bus for the first few kilometres of the road back down the hill, before walking the rest, through the woods. Sword-leaved Helleborine were compared with the nearby larger, creamier-flowered White Helleborine; some splendid Lady Orchids grew on the verges; a lovely two-toned purple vetch was identified as Bitter Vetch; a family part of Firecrests flitted restlessly about the top of the pines; a brief Lammergeier flew overhead. And a lot else besides!

Day Five: 31st May. Val d'Espetal

Another sunny day, another walk through the beautiful Aragonese countryside. Today we headed a little way south to the Val d'Espetal, walking up towards the head of the valley before heading back down the west side and ending up in the little village of Siresa, home to the oldest church in Aragon.

Western Bonelli's and Garden Warblers sang, with a male Western Subalpine Warbler singing in the short scrub towards the end of the walk, near the 'drop off'. Red Kite, Black Kite and at least 3 Egyptian Vultures flew overhead, while large numbers of House Martins collected mud to build their nests on the nearby church.

Butterflies included some very confiding Spanish Swallowtails, loads of Wood White, a flypast male Cleopatra, several Wall Browns and both Queen of Spain and Duke of Burgundy.

For the botanists, both Woodcock and Fly Orchids were new, as well as Pyrenean Germander near our lunch stop, Spiked Rampion in the local blue form, a wet ditch full of Water Cress, Brooklime, Blue Water Speedwell and Water Figwort.

Day Six: 1st June. San Juan de la Peña

Today we left the Echo valley and drove eastwards towards the isolated massif of San Juan de la Peña. Here we explored the two monasteries, the older dating back to the 9th century and providing a suitable habitat for *Petrocoptis hispanica* and not-yet-in-flower *Valeriana longiflora* while the younger was home to nesting Black Redstarts and Crag Martins.

In the pine trees near the car park some of us enjoyed a little party of Crossbills as well as a confiding Red Squirrel, but alas no sign of any Black Woodpeckers.

From the viewpoints, the views out over the Depression, with the High Pyrenees spread out in front of us were pretty spectacular. From here we also enjoyed good views of both Griffon and Egyptian Vultures, as well as a nice Goshawk passing by and a couple of Crested Tits in the pines.

The plant highlight of the day was Ramonda, a beautiful purple relative of African Violets, of which we eventually got excellent views, if a bit precariously. Other good plants included *Saxifraga longifolia* in full flower, Grass-leaved Buttercup, Wild Tulips of the *australis* subspecies in an area disturbed by Wild Boar, and a patch of the bizarre "Brownbell" *Dipcadi serotinum*.

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Day Seven: 2nd June. Upper Echo Valley

After a walk through the impressive Boca del Infierno for those who missed it at the start of the week, we headed back up to the head of the valley, to spend the day heading as high as we could along the gentle track.

New orchids came in the form of a single spike of Dense-flowered Orchid early on, and plenty of Frog Orchids for those who went the furthest up the valley.

The roadside ditch stream was full of amphibians: large numbers of tadpoles, plenty of young Fire Salamanders and lots and lots of courting Palmate Newts. How long the water will stay in the current warm weather is anyone's guess...

As we got higher, high altitude butterflies began to appear: in particular, the very dark Piedmont Ringlet, several large white Clouded Apollos and a couple of flypasts by the Apollo, with his red eye spots. Large numbers of Small Blue and Grizzled Skippers collected around the puddles.

At least four Alpine Marmots were great to see, as they watched us warily from outside their burrows, occasionally whistling their alarm call.

At our lunch stop, in the shade by a stream, we enjoyed a Camberwell Beauty, a couple of spikes of the lovely Dragon's Mouth, and a young Golden Eagle who put on a real show, soaring overhead, landing on the top of the ridge and then being chased ever higher by an angry pack of Red-billed Chough.

And all afternoon, so it seemed, Lammergeier's were in sight. Maybe only two or three birds, but we had at least eight sightings, including two birds together heading up the valley, and later one heading down at head height, giving some very memorable views!

Back at the bus, a thunder storm skimmed around us, with lightning flashing over the mountains while a Lammergeier circled in the distance. Brilliant.

ARAGON 2012: some highlights



Top: Spanish Swallowtail

First row, l to r: *Gentiana occidentalis* and Western Green Lizard

second row, l to r: Lady Orchid, *Horminum pyrenaicum*, *Tulipa sylvestris ssp australis* and Fire Salamander

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ENGLISH NAME	LATIN NAME	27 th	28 th	29 th	30 th	31 st	1 st	2 nd	3 rd
Family Ardeidae (Heron)									
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	X		X			X		X
Family Accipitridae (Hawks, Eagles and Vultures)									
Griffon Vulture	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Egyptian Vulture	<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>		X	X		X	X	X	
Lammergeier	<i>Gypaetus barbatus</i>			X	X			X	
Short-toed Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>		X					X	
Booted Eagle	<i>Aquila fasciata</i>			X			X		
Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>							X	
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	X	X			X		X	X
Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	X		X		X	X	X	X
Red Kite	<i>Milvus milvus</i>	X		X		X	X		X
Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>				X			X	
Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>						X		
Family Falconidae (Falcons)									
Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	X	X	X	X			X	X
Peregrine	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>		X						
Family Columbidae (Pigeons and Doves)									
Rock Dove/Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Woodpigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>			X		X	X		X
Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	X	X	X					X
Family Cuculidae (Cuckoos)									
Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>			H		H			
Family Apodidae (Swifts)									
Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Alpine Swift	<i>Apus melba</i>				X				
Family Meropidae (Bee-eaters)									
Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>			X					
Family Picidae (Woodpeckers)									
Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>				X			H	
Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>		X				H		
Family Alaudidae (Larks)									
Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>	X							X
Family Hirundinidae (Swallows and Martins)									
Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
House Martin	<i>Delichon urbica</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Family Motacillidae (Wagtails and Pipits)									
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla (alba) alba</i>		X	X	X		X	X	X
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>		X			X		X	
Family Turdidae (Thrushes and Chats)									
Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>			H		H			
Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>				X	H	X	X	
Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	
Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>			X					
Common Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>			X					
Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>		X	X	X	X	X		
Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>		X		X		X	X	
Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Family Sylviidae (Warblers)									
Garden Warbler	<i>Sylvia borin</i>		X		H	X	X		
Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>			X	H	H	X	X	

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ENGLISH NAME	LATIN NAME	27 th	28 th	29 th	30 th	31 st	1 st	2 nd	3 rd
Western Subalpine Warbler	<i>Sylvia cantillans</i>					X			
Melodious Warbler	<i>Hippolais polyglotta</i>			X					
Western Bonelli's Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus bonelli</i>			X	X	X	H		
Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>				X	H	H		
Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapillus</i>		X		X	H	H		
Family Troglodytidae (Wrens)									
Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>		X	X	X	H	H		
Family Prunellidae (Accentors)									
Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>		X		X		X	X	
Family Paridae (Tits)									
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	
Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	
Coal Tit	<i>Pariparus ater</i>		X		X	X	X	X	
Crested Tit	<i>Lophophanes cristatus</i>		X			X	X		
Family Aegithalidae (Long-tailed Tits)									
Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>		X	X	X	X	X		
Family Certhiidae (Trecreeper)									
Trecreeper	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>		X				X		
Family Tichodromidae (Wallcreeper)									
Wallcreeper	<i>Tichodroma muraria</i>								One male showed well, eventually, on the cliff face at Gabardito
Family Sittidae (Nuthatches)									
Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europea</i>				X		X		
Family Laniidae (Shrikes)									
Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>		X	X				X	
Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>			X					
Family Corvidae (Crows)									
Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>		X		X	X	X	X	
Jackdaw	<i>Corvus monedula</i>			X	X	X	X		
Red-billed Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>		X		X			X	
Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>		X		X	X	X	X	
Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>	X				X	X		X
Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>		X				X	X	X
Family Sturnidae (Starlings)									
Spotless Starling	<i>Sturnus unicolor</i>			X			X		X
Family Passeridae (Sparrows)									
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Family Fringillidae (Finches)									
Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Linnet	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>		X		X			X	
Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		X	X	X	X	X		
Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>								X
Citrel Finch	<i>Carduelis citrinella</i>				X				
Serín	<i>Serinus serinus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>	X	X	X			X		
Crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>						X		
Family Emberizidae (Buntings)									
Rock Bunting	<i>Emberiza cia</i>				X				
Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>		X					X	
76 spp	Corn Bunting			X			X		X

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AMPHIBIANS		
Fire Salamander	<i>Salamandra salamandra ssp fastuosa</i>	2 adults 2 juveniles, Selva de Oza, 28 th Lots of juveniles in ditch, 2 nd
Palmate Newt	<i>Lissotriton helveticus</i>	Common in the ditch, 2 nd
Common Toad	<i>Bufo bufo</i>	Several in the stream, upper Echo Valley, 28 th
Iberian Water Frog	<i>Pelophylax perezi</i>	The noisy frogs in Alastuey valley, 29 th .
Common Frog	<i>Rana temporaria</i>	Upper Echo Valley, 28 th
REPTILES		
Western Green Lizard	<i>Lacerta bilineata</i>	Common, the large lizard
Common Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis muralis</i>	Common, eg upper Echo Valley
Southern Smooth Snake	<i>Coronella girondica</i>	One very brief sighting, going into a hole, 2 nd
Ladder Snake	<i>Rhinechis scalaris</i>	A juv across the road, Alastuey
MAMMALS		
Wild Boar	<i>Sus scrofa</i>	Plenty of feeding signs everywhere.
Roe Deer	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>	Gabardito, 30 th ; Upper Echo Valley, 2 nd
Brown Hare	<i>Lepus europaeus</i>	One ran up the hotel drive, 27 th
Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>	Selva de Oza, 28 th ; Gabardito, 30 th ; San Juan, 1 st
Alpine Marmot	<i>Marmota marmota</i>	4+, upper Echo Valley, 2 nd
Weasel	<i>Mustela nivalis</i>	One near the hotel, 31 st

BUTTERFLIES			
Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machon</i>	28 th , 31 st , 2 nd	
Spanish Swallowtail	<i>Iphiclides feisthamelii</i>	28 th , 29 th , 30 th , 31 st , 1 st , 2 nd	
Spanish Festoon	<i>Zerynthia rumina</i>	29 th	
Apollo	<i>Parnassius apollo</i>	2 or 3 in the high valley, 2 nd	
Clouded Apollo	<i>Parnassius Mnemosyne</i>	10+, without the red spots, 2 nd	
Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus malvae</i>	28 th , 29 th , 30 th , 31 st , 2 nd	
Oberthur's Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus armoricanus</i>	larger & paler than Grizzled. 29 th ,	
Dingy Skipper	<i>Erynnis tages</i>	28 th , 29 th , 30 th , 31 st , 2 nd	
Green Hairstreak	<i>Callophrys rubi</i>	29 th	
Small Blue	<i>Cupido minimus</i>	28 th , 29 th , 30 th , 31 st , 2 nd	
Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus Icarus</i>	29 th , 30 th , 31 st , 2 nd	
Adonis Blue	<i>Lysandra bellargus</i>	29 th	
Spanish Chalkhill Blue	<i>Lysandra albicans</i>	Very pale above. 29 th	
Green-underside Blue	<i>Glaucopsyche alexis</i>	29 th	
Duke of Burgundy	<i>Hamaeris lucina</i>	30 th , 31 st , 1 st , 2 nd	
Black-veined White	<i>Aporia crataegi</i>	29 th , 1 st	
Green-veined White	<i>Pieri napi</i>	30 th , 31 st , 2 nd	
Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>	29 th , 30 th , 31 st , 1 st , 2 nd	
Wood White	<i>Leptidea sinapis</i>	28 th , 29 th , 30 th , 31 st , 1 st ,	
Brimstone	<i>Gonopteryx rhamni</i>	28 th , 29 th , 30 th , 31 st , 2 nd	
Cleopatra	<i>Gonopteryx Cleopatra</i>	1 male, 31 st	
Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias crocea</i>	28 th , 29 th , 30 th , 31 st , 1 st , 2 nd	
Orange-tip	<i>Anthocharis cardamines</i>	28 th , 29 th , 30 th , 31 st , 1 st , 2 nd	
Pearl-bordered Fritillary	<i>Boloria euphrosyne</i>	28 th , 30 th , 31 st	
Provencal Fritillary	<i>Mellicta dejone</i>	28 th , 29 th	
Glanville Fritillary	<i>Melitaea cinxia</i>	29 th	
Marsh Fritillary	<i>Euphydryas aurinia</i>	29 th	
Cardinal	<i>Argynnis pandora</i>	29 th , 30 th	
Queen of Spain	<i>Issoria lathonia</i>	Always in the sun. 28 th , 31 st , 2 nd	
Camberwell Beauty	<i>Nymphalis antiopa</i>	28 th , 29 th , 2 nd	
Small Tortoiseshell	<i>Aglais urticae</i>	28 th , 29 th , 30 th , 31 st , 1 st , 2 nd	
Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>	28 th , 29 th , 30 th , 31 st , 2 nd	
Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>	30 th	
Wall Brown	<i>Lassiomata megera</i>	28 th , 29 th , 31 st , 1 st , 2 nd	
Piedmont Ringlet	<i>Erebia meolans</i>	The very dark butterfly. 2 nd	
36 spp	Southern Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria aegeria</i>	30 th , 31 st , 1 st , 2 nd

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OTHERS		
Hummingbird Hawk Moth	<i>Macroglossum stellatarum</i>	28 th , 29 th , 2 nd
Silver Y	<i>Autographa gamma</i>	31 st
an Oil Beetle	<i>Meloe sp</i>	One big male, Alastuey, 29th.
Green Tiger Beetle	<i>Cicindela campestris</i>	31 st
a Stick Insect	<i>Leptynia hispanica</i>	One small individual, 29 th .
Violet Carpenter Bee	<i>Xylocopa violacea</i>	the flying black olive
Broad-bodied Chaser	<i>Libellula depressa</i>	Several on the pond, San Juan, 1 st
Red-veined Darter	<i>Sympetrum fonscomblei</i>	2 males on the pond, San Juan, 1 st
Emperor	<i>Anax imperator</i>	1 male on the pond, San Juan, 1 st
an Ascalaphid	<i>Libelloides sp</i>	Several around San Juan, 1 st

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Selected Plant Species (not intended to be a comprehensive list)

	SCIENTIFIC NAME	ENGLISH NAME	Notes	First seen
FERNS				
	<i>Adiantum capillus-veneris</i>	Maidenhair Fern		20 th
	<i>Asplenium trichomanes</i>	Maidenhair Spleenwort		28 th
	<i>Asplenium ruta-muraria</i>	Wall Rue		2 nd
	<i>Ceterach officinarum</i>	Rusty-back Fern		29 th
	<i>Dryopteris affinis</i>	Scaly Male Fern		28 th
	<i>Dryopteris erythrosora</i>	Hard Buckler Fern		28 th
	<i>Polystichum setiferum</i>	Soft Shield Fern		28 th
CONIFERS				
Cupressaceae				
	<i>Juniperus communis</i>	Juniper		28 th
Pinaceae				
	<i>Abies alba</i>	European Silver Fir		28 th
	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	Scots Pine		28 th
DICOTYLEDONS				
Apiaceae				
	<i>Conopodium majus</i>	Pignut		28 th
	<i>Conopodium pyrenaicum</i>			30 th
	<i>Sanicula europea</i>	Sanicle	In the woods	30 th
Aristolochiaceae				
	<i>Aristolochia pistolochia</i>		Foodplant of Spanish Festoon	29 th
Asclepiadiaceae				
	<i>Vincetoxicum hircundaria</i>	Swallow-wort	Poisonous	29 th
Asteraceae				
	<i>Antennaria dioica</i>	Mountain Everlasting	= Cat's-foot	2 nd
	<i>Carduncellus monspelliensis</i>		The dwarf blue thistle	31 st
	<i>Chamaemelum nobile</i>			29 th
	<i>Helichrysum stoechas</i>			29 th
	<i>Lactuca muralis</i>	Wall Lettuce		30 th
	<i>Lactuca perennis</i>	Blue Lettuce	The blue composite along the roadside	30 th
	<i>Onopordum acanthium</i>	Scotch Thistle	Alastuey village	29 th
	<i>Santolina chamaecyparissus</i>	Cotton Lavender		29 th
	<i>Silybum marianum</i>	Milk Thistle	With variegated/white-veined leaves	29 th
	<i>Tragopogon pratensis</i>	Goat's Beard		31 st
Boraginaceae				
	<i>Cynoglossum creticum</i>	Blue Hound's Tongue	Alastuey village	29 th
	<i>Lithodora diffusa</i>		Deep blue flowers	29 th
	<i>Lithospermum officinale</i>	Common Gromwell		28 th
	<i>Pulmonaria officinalis</i>	Common Lungwort	Spotted leaves	28 th
Brassicaceae				
	<i>Cardamine impatiens</i>	Narrow-leaved Bittercress		28 th
	<i>Cardamine raphanifolia</i>	Radish-leaved Bittercress	Purple flowers, along streamsides	2 nd
	<i>Iberis amara</i>	Wild Candytuft		31 st
	<i>Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum</i>	Water Cress	In the wet ditch below Siresa	31 st
Buxaceae				
	<i>Buxus sempervirens</i>	Box		28 th
Campanulaceae				
	<i>Phyteuma spicatum</i>	Spiked Rampion	blue colour form	31 st
Capryfoliaceae				
	<i>Lonicera etrusca</i>	Etruscan Honeysuckle	The 'normal' honeysuckle	28 th
	<i>Lonicera pyrenaica</i>	Pyrenean Honeysuckle	The white-flowered bush in the Boca	28 th
	<i>Lonicera xylosteum</i>	Fly Honeysuckle	Shrubby honeysuckle with twin flowers	28 th
	<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	Common Elder		28 th

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	<i>Sambucus ebulus</i>	Dwarf Elder		29 th
	<i>Sambucus racemosa</i>	Alpine Elder	Flowers in racemes, not umbels	30 th
Caryophyllaceae				
	<i>Dianthus deltoides</i>	Maiden Pink	The pink in the grassland, San Juan	1 st
	<i>Dianthus monspessulanus</i>	Fringed Pink		28 th
	<i>Kohlruschia velutina</i>		The tiny pink	29 th
	<i>Petrocoptis hispanica</i>	Rock Petrocoptis	Growing on the old monastery, San Juan	1 st
	<i>Saponaria ocymoides</i>	Rock Soapwort		28 th
Celastraceae				
	<i>Euonymus europaeus</i>	Spindle		31 st
Cistaceae				
	<i>Helianthemum apenninum</i>	White Rock-rose		29 th
	<i>Helianthemum nummularium</i>	Common Rock-rose	Both yellow and pink flowered forms	28 th
Cornaceae				
	<i>Cornus sanguineus</i>	Dogwood		29 th
Crassulaceae				
	<i>Sedum acre</i>	Biting Stonecrop		31 st
	<i>Sedum sediforme</i>		Common on walls	29 th
Ericaceae				
	<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i>	Bearberry	Creeping over rocks, Alastuey walk	29 th
	<i>Vaccinium myrtillus</i>	Bilberry		28 th
Fabaceae				
	<i>Anthyllis montana</i>	Mountain Kidney Vetch	Pink flowers	28 th
	<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i>	Common Kidney Vetch	Yellow flowers	28 th
	<i>Astragalus monspessulanus</i>	False Vetch	Pink flowers	28 th
	<i>Dorycnium pentaphyllum</i>		The white-flowered bush along roadsides	29 th
	<i>Echinopartum horridum</i>	Yellow Hedgehog Broom	The spiny dome bushes, San Juan	1 st
	<i>Emerus major</i>	False Senna	=Coronilla emerus	28 th
	<i>Lathyrus cicero</i>		The small, red pea	29 th
	<i>Lathyrus linifolius</i>	Bitter Vetch	Two-toned purple, in the woods	30 th
	<i>Lathyrus occidentalis</i>		pale yellow, with some orange flowers	28 th
	<i>Lathyrus sphaericus</i>		The tiny, dark red pea	28 th
	<i>Medicago suffruticosa</i>	Sprawling Medick		28 th
	<i>Onobrychis viciifolia</i>	Sainfoin		31 st
	<i>Ononis fruticosa</i>	Shrubby Restharrow	The pink pea bush, Alastuey hillsides	29 th
	<i>Trifolium montanum</i>	Mountain Clover	Like very smart White Clover	28 th
	<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White Clover		28 th
	<i>Vicia cracca</i>	Tufted Vetch		28 th
	<i>Vicia hirsuta</i>	Hairy Tare	Tiny flowers	1 st
	<i>Vicia pyrenaica</i>	Pyrenean Vetch	Single deep pink flowers	28 th
	<i>Vicia sepium</i>	Bush Vetch		28 th
	<i>Vicia sylvatica</i>	Wood Vetch		28 th
Fagaceae				
	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	Beech		28 th
	<i>Quercus coccifera</i>	Kermes Oak	Shrubby oak, holly leaves	28 th
	<i>Quercus ilex</i>	Holly Oak	Leathery leaves, holly-like when young	29 th
Gentianaceae				
	<i>Blackstonia perfoliata</i>	Yellow-wort		29 th
	<i>Gentiana acaulis</i>	Trumpet Gentian	below the Wallcreeper cliff	30 th
	<i>Gentiana lutea</i>	Great Yellow Gentian	Big broad leaves, not in flower yet	2 nd
	<i>Gentiana occidentalis</i>	Pyrenean Trumpet Gentian	The big gentian	28 th
	<i>Gentiana verna</i>	Spring Gentian	The small gentian	28 th

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Geraniaceae				
	<i>Geranium purpureum</i>	Little Robin		29 th
	<i>Geranium pyrenaicum</i>	Pyrenean Cranesbill		28 th
	<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	Herb Robert		30 th
	<i>Geranium rotundifolium</i>	Round-leaved Cranesbill	Below the Wallcreeper cliff	30 th
	<i>Geranium sanguineum</i>	Bloody Cranesbill		28 th
Gesneriaceae				
	<i>Ramonda myconi</i>	Ramonda	San Juan de la Pena	1st
Globulariaceae				
	<i>Globularia nana</i>	Small Globularia	White flowers, mat-forming, high up	2 nd
	<i>Globularia nudicaulis</i>	Leafless-stemmed Globularia		28 th
	<i>Globularia repens</i>	Creeping Globularia	Low, creeping, on rocky cliffs	28 th
	<i>Globularia vulgaris</i>	Common Globularia	Alastuey valley	29 th
Lamiaceae				
	<i>Acinos alpinus</i>	Alpine Calamint	Upper Echo Valley	28 th
	<i>Acinos arvensis</i>	Basil Thyme	lower areas	31 st
	<i>Ajuga pyramidalis</i>	Pyramidal Bugle		28 th
	<i>Horminum pyrenaicum</i>	Dragon's Mouth	Very dark purple/blue flowers, high up	2nd
	<i>Lamiastrum galeobdolon</i>	Yellow Archangel		28 th
	<i>Lamium amplexicaule</i>	Henbit Deadnettle	Eg Echo village	29 th
	<i>Lamium garganicum</i>	Large Red Deadnettle	Selva de Oza	28 th
	<i>Marrubium vulgare</i>	White Horehound	Alastuey village	29 th
	<i>Salvia verbenaca</i>		The little roadside Salvia	29 th
	<i>Sideritis hirsuta</i>		Pale yellow and white flowers	29 th
	<i>Stachys recta</i>		Creamy white flowers	30 th
	<i>Thymus praecox ssp polytrichus</i>	Hairy Thyme		28 th
Lentibulariaceae				
	<i>Pinguicula grandiflora</i>	Large-flowered Butterwort	wet flushes and wet rocks	28 th
Linaceae				
	<i>Linum campanulatum</i>		The bright yellow flax, Alastuey	29 th
	<i>Linum narbonense</i>		The deep blue flax, Alastuey	29 th
	<i>Linum suffruticosum</i>		The large white flax, Alastuey	29 th
	<i>Linum tenuifolium ssp milletii</i>	Narrow-leaved Flax	The mystery white flower, Echo Valley	28 th
Loranthaceae				
	<i>Viscum album</i>	Mistletoe	Common in pine trees	28 th
Orobanchaceae				
	<i>Lathraea clandestina</i>	Purple Toothwort	Purple, parasitic, Selva de Oza	28 th
Papaveraceae				
	<i>Meconopsis cambrica</i>	Welsh Poppy	The lovely yellow poppy	2nd
Plantaginaceae				
	<i>Plantago afra</i>	Branched Plantain		29 th
	<i>Plantago alpina</i>	Alpine Plantain	The little plantain with yellow anthers	2 nd
	<i>Plantago media</i>	Hoary Plantain		31 st
Plumbaginaceae				
	<i>Armeria alliaea</i>	Plantain Thrift	Tall white Thrift	28 th
Polygonaceae				
	<i>Rumex scutatus</i>	French Sorrel	Also known as Rubble Dock	28 th
Primulaceae				
	<i>Androsace chamaejasme</i>		Rock Jasmine, near the Wallcreeper cliff	30 th
	<i>Coris monspeliensis</i>			29 th
	<i>Primula farinosa</i>	Bird's-eye Primrose	In damp areas higher up	28 th
Pyrolaceae				
	<i>Moneses uniflora</i>	One-flowered Wintergreen		30 th
	<i>Pyrola chlorantha</i>	Green-flowered Wintergreen		30 th
	<i>Pyrola rotundifolia</i>	Round-leaved Wintergreen	Dried seed heads	30 th

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Ranunculaceae				
	<i>Aquilegia vulgaris</i>	Common Columbine	Common along the roadsides	28 th
	<i>Hepatica nobilis</i>	Hepatica	Tri-lobed leaves, purple flowers	28 th
	<i>Ranunculus gramineus</i>	Grass-leaved Buttercup	San Juan	1 st
	<i>Thalictrum tuberosum</i>		The tall white 'mystery' buttercup	29 th
Resedaceae				
	<i>Reseda lutea</i>	Wild Mignonette		31 st
	<i>Reseda phyteuma</i>		The small, ruderal Reseda	29 th
Rhamnaceae				
	<i>Rhamnus alaternus</i>	Mediterranean Buckthorn		29 th
Rosaceae				
	<i>Alchemilla alpina</i>	Alpine Lady's Mantle	Fingers	28 th
	<i>Alchemilla glaucescens</i>	Small Lady's Mantle		30 th
	<i>Amelanchier ovalis</i>	Snowy Mespilus	White-flowered shrub in the gorge	28 th
	<i>Filipendula vulgaris</i>	Dropwort		30 th
	<i>Sanguisorba muricata</i>	Fodder Burnet	Like a large Salad Burnet	29 th
Santalaceae				
	<i>Thesium pyrenaicum</i>	Pyrenean Bastard Toadflax	5 petals	29 th
Sapindaceae				
	<i>Acer campestre</i>	Field Maple		28 th
	<i>Acer monspessulanum</i>	Montpellier Maple	Three-lobed leaves, small tree	29 th
	<i>Acer opalus</i>	Italian Maple	More rounded lobes than campestre	28 th
Saxifragaceae				
	<i>Saxifraga granulata</i>	Meadow Saxifrage		28 th
	<i>Saxifraga longifolia</i>	Pyrenean Saxifrage	Long flower spikes, turbans of leaves	28 th
	<i>Saxifraga umbrosa</i>	Wood Saxifrage	2 yellow and 4 pink dots on the petals!	28 th
Scrophulariaceae				
	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	Common Snapdragon		28 th
	<i>Chaenorhinum crassifolium</i>		Small, pale purple mini-snapdragon	28 th
	<i>Erinus alpinus</i>	Fairy Foxglove		28 th
	<i>Linaria alpina</i>	Alpine Toadflax	Small purple toadflax, sprawling	28 th
	<i>Linaria supina</i>	Pyrenean Toadflax	The upright yellow toadflax	30 th
	<i>Pedicularis pyrenaica</i>	Pyrenean Lousewort	Wet flushes, upper Echo Valley	28 th
	<i>Scrophularia aquatica</i>	Water Figwort	Wet ditch below Siresa	31 st
	<i>Scrophularia canina</i>	French Figwort	Very cut leaves, roadside	29 th
	<i>Scrophularia scopoli</i>	Italian Figwort	Very broad leaves	30 th
	<i>Veronica orsiniana</i>		Pretending to be <i>V. spicata</i> !	28 th
Tiliaceae				
	<i>Tilia platyphyllos</i>	Large-leaved Lime		28 th
Thymelaceae				
	<i>Daphne laureola</i>	Spurge Laurel	Selva de Oza	28 th
Valerianaceae				
	<i>Centranthus ruber</i>	Red Valerian		27 th
	<i>Valeriana longiflora</i>	Long-flowered Valerian	Leaves only, like scurvy grass, San Juan	1st
	<i>Valeriana pyrenaica</i>	Pyrenean Valerian		28 th
	<i>Valerianella locusta</i>	Corn Salad		31 st
MONOCOTYLEDONS				
Asparagaceae				
	<i>Anthericum liliago</i>	St Bernard's Lily	The showy white 'asphodel'	30 th
	<i>Aphyllanthes monspeliensis</i>	Rush Lily	Blue flowers	29 th
	<i>Brimeura amethystina</i>	Pyrenean Hyacinth	"blue bell", Gabardito & Echo valley	30 th
	<i>Dipcadi serotinum</i>		The 'brown bell', San Juan	1 st
	<i>Muscari comosum</i>	Tassel Hyacinth		30 th
	<i>Muscari neglectum</i>	Grape Hyacinth	Gone over	30 th
	<i>Scilla verna</i>	Spring Squill		28 th

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Iridaceae				
	<i>Gladiolus ilyricus</i>	Wild Gladiolus		29 th
Liliaceae				
	<i>Tulipa sylvestris ssp australis</i>	Wild Tulip	Orangey flowers, not open, San Juan	1 st
Xanthoroeaceae				
	<i>Asphodelus albus</i>	White Asphodel	Chunky asphodel in the woods	1 st
	<i>Asphodelus fistulosus</i>			28 th
Orchidaceae				
	<i>Anacamptis champagneuxii</i>	Champagne Orchid	San Juan de la Pena, and field by hotel	1 st
	<i>Anacamptis pyramidalis</i>	Pyramidal Orchid	Just coming into flower	29 th
	<i>Cephalanthera damasonium</i>	White Helleborine	Gabardito, creamy colour	30 th
	<i>Cephalanthera longifolia</i>	Sword-leaved Helleborine	Echo Valley, in flower	28 th
	<i>Coeloglossum viride</i>	Frog Orchid	Near the big rock, beyond the carpark	2 nd
	<i>Dactylorhiza fuchsii</i>	Common Spotted Orchid	Just coming into flower	28 th
	<i>Dactylorhiza majalis</i>	Western Marsh Orchid	Sturdy, dark red/purple marsh orchid	28 th
	<i>Dactylorhiza sambucina</i>	Elder-flowered Orchid	yellow and orangey-pink forms	28 th
	<i>Epipactis helleborine</i>	Broad-leaved Helleborine	Selva de Oza, not out yet	28 th
	<i>Gymnadenia conopsea</i>	Fragrant Orchid	Coming down from Alastuey	29 th
	<i>Limodorum abortivum</i>	Violet Limodore	Shoots, not yet in flower	30 th
	<i>Neottia nidus-avis</i>	Birds-nest Orchid	Not yet in flower	30 th
	<i>Ophrys apifera</i>	Bee Orchid	Roadside, down from Alastuey	29 th
	<i>Orchis anthropophora</i>	Man Orchid	Before the bridge	30 th
	<i>Ophrys insectifera</i>	Fly Orchid	Coming down from Val d'Espetal	31 st
	<i>Ophrys scolopax</i>	Woodcock Orchid	Val d'Espetal	31 st
	<i>Ophrys sphegodes</i>	Early Spider Orchid	Alastuey walk & San Juan de la Pena	29 th
	<i>Orchis intacta</i>	Dense-flowered Orchid	One spike	2 nd
	<i>Orchis langei</i>	Lang's Orchid	The 'looser' purple orchid	28 th
	<i>Orchis mascula</i>	Early Purple Orchid	The sturdy orchid, higher up	28 th
	<i>Orchis purpurea</i>	Lady Orchid	Gone over at Alastuey, out at Gabardito	29 th
	<i>Orchis ustulata</i>	Burnt-tip Orchid	Eg Upper Echo Valley	28 th
	<i>Platanthera bifolia</i>	Lesser Butterfly Orchid	Parallel pollinia	29 th
	<i>Platanthera chlorata</i>	Greater Butterfly Orchid	Diverging pollinia	28 th
25	<i>Serapias lingua</i>	Tongue Orchid	On the verges around Bilbao airport!	27 th
Poaceae				
	<i>Aegilops geniculata</i>		John's Grass	29 th