

Lake Neusiedl and the White Carpathians
species list and trip report, 6th to 15th June 2012

WILDLIFE TRAVEL



Lake Neusiedl &
White Carpathians
2012

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LIST OF TRAVELLERS

Leader

Philip Precey: Wildlife Travel
Martin Hrouzek

Munich
Czech Republic

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/72157630082519446/>

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#	DATE	LOCATIONS & NOTES
0	6 th June	Eurostar to Paris, and then night train to Munich
1	7 th June	Munich to Vienna. Transfer to Illmitz.
2	8 th June	Around Illmitz, including Lange Lacke
3	9 th June	Fertö-Hansag
4	10 th June	Illmitz, Marchegg and Lopenik
5	11 th June	Rasova quarry, Vrsatec, Luka, Beckovske Skalice, Lopenik
6	12 th June	Certoryje, Zahrady pod Hajem, Lopenik
7	13 th June	Porazky, Lopenik area
8	14 th June	Uh. Hradiste sand quarry, Sobonky woodlands. Depart Vienna for Munich. Night train to Paris
-	15 th June	Paris to London.

(Day Zero: 6th June. London to Paris by Eurostar. Paris to Munich)

Day One: 7th June. Munich to Vienna, transfer to Illmitz.

After a, thankfully, very straight forward, if rather protracted and, for some, not particularly restful train journey, we arrived at Wien Westbahnhof, to be met by Martin, our guide for the next week.

With un-expected good weather, we headed straight to the hotel in Illmitz, deposited our bags, had a quick welcome drink of the local white wine (of which plenty more to come!), and headed out to a nearby area of wetland and grassland. Here we got our first introduction to the wildlife of the area: abundant Marbled White butterflies, feeding on the lovely purple *Astragalus onobrychis*, with both *Astragalus glycyphyllos* (Wild Liquorice) and the dainty *A. austriacus* growing in the same field; Red-crested Pochard and Black-winged Stilts on the area of wetland; Spoonbills and Pygmy Cormorants flying back and forth over head; a Hoopoe calling and both Icterine and Barred Warblers singing.

Back at the hotel, some of us enjoyed the antics of the nesting White Storks visible from their windows, before the first meal at the Hotel Post.

Day Two: 8th June. Around Illmitz.

We hardly travelled more than a few miles from the hotel today. We started with a walk down a neighbouring street, where a pair of Syrian Woodpeckers has a nest at shoulder height in a garden Walnut tree. And sure enough, at least one adult was seen at the nest site.

Into the bus, and out to Lange Lacke, a small (inevitably, dry) lake nearby. Here we explored the flower-rich steppe grassland, with plenty of Meadow Clary and Devil's Bit Scabious, the lovely pale yellow *Scabiosa ochroleuca*, seed heads of tall *Iris spuria*, and the local pink *Dianthus pontenderae*. Sand Lizards scuttled through the grass; a superb female Wartbiter cricket was caught by Martin, showing off her yellow belly; day-flying moths included lots of Transparent Burnet Moths and the black and white Spotted Sulphur, sharing their flowers with huge numbers of Small Heath, Meadow Brown and Marbled White (all three common throughout the day), as well as one or two Silver-studded Blues and a lovely Queen of Spain Fritillary; three interesting longhorn beetles were found, including a pair of black and yellow 'wasp beetles', *Paraplagionotus floralis*.

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Overhead were an amazing number of raptors. Marsh Harriers and Kestrels could be seen most of the time during the day; a pair of massive adult White-tailed Eagles drifted over; the next large raptor was a first year Eastern Imperial Eagle, which was mobbed by a pair of Common Buzzards, a Kestrel and a female Montagu's Harrier; a Honey Buzzard came over next; finally, a second Eastern Imperial Eagle, this one a much darker, sub-adult bird came overhead twice, again being harassed by a Common Buzzard and a Kestrel.

After lunch (Goulash Soup, a local speciality), we visited another small lake, this time with some water! A Spoonbill was busy feeding in the shallows, a couple of Red-crested Pochards showed off, two or three pairs of Little Ringed Plovers had chicks around the shore, and some noisy wagtails included a handful of Blue-headed and a surprise in the form of a pair of Black-headed Wagtails (a bird usually found no closer than Romania and the Balkans).

The grassland by the little chapel was too long for Souslik, but there were amazing numbers of butterflies and burnet moths around the Whorled Sage.

After a much-needed ice cream stop, we headed down another local lane, which turned out to be a very busy cycle path. Much to the bemusement of the passing cyclists, we enjoyed views of a couple of singing Nightingales (one of whom performed amazingly, out in the open for all to see!), a couple of Icterine Warblers, a pair of Penduline Tits at their hanging-ball-of-fluff nest and a singing, but rather shy, Barred Warbler.

Finally, we headed back down almost to the shores of Neusiedl itself, where we round water (at last!) amongst the reedbeds. Several Great White Egrets showed really well, as did plenty of Great Crested Grebes. Otherwise, it was all a bit quiet... a Muskrat briefly nibbled in a reedy ditch, we heard a squealing Water Rail, a Golden Oriole flew overhead, and both Lesser Emperor and Green-eyed Hawker dragonflies were skimming over the water.

Day Three. 9th June 2012. South of Illmitz & into Hungary.

An early start saw us heading south into the flat arable areas up against the Hungarian border, at Waasen. Here a scan from a well-positioned viewing platform revealed first one then two large white dots in the distance: Europe's heaviest flying bird, two male Great Bustards in display, and a significant proportion of Austria's surviving population, with just 12 adult males left here. We moved round to a nearer watch point, and enjoyed really good, if still fairly distant views of the two males, plus at least two smaller female birds hiding in the long grass.

Also seen here, a male Montagu's Harrier put in a fly past, Brown Hare and Roe Deer were both abundant in the fields, and a first year Eastern Imperial Eagle came low overhead, being mobbed by an angry male Marsh Harrier, which was completely dwarfed by the larger bird.

From here we moved to the canal which once formed the Iron Curtain, and crossed the Andau Brücke into Hungary. Turtle Dove, Chiffchaff and Quail all sang, with Marsh Frogs noisy on the riverbank, but quite a sobering place.

Driving in Hungary, we stopped at Fertöd for coffee and a walk round the parkland behind the Esterhazy Palace. Here the lawns contained white-flowered Cut-leaved Selfheal and tall, blue Meadow Clary as well as carpets of thyme. Nuthatch and a family of Great Spotted Woodpeckers made a fair bit of noise, but we had just one, very brief glimpse of a Wryneck.

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From here we moved up to the southern end of Lake Neusiedl, or more properly Fertö-Hanság now that we're in Hungary. The cornfield was full of poppies, as well as two species of Larkspur while the fields were being grazed by two very special local breeds: the crazy long-horned Racka sheep and the massively impressive Hungarian Grey Cattle: they like their long straight horns in Hungary!

The rain finally caught up with us, as we walked out to view the small canal-fed lake, which, at last, held water! The islands were covered in nesting Black-headed and Mediterranean Gulls, with smaller numbers of Common Terns and Caspian Gulls and a handful of Black Terns. Red-crested Pochard were the commonest duck, but we also found a few Ferruginous Ducks, Gadwall and a pair of Shoveler. Black-tailed Godwit, Avocet and Black-winged Stilt waded in the shallow water, a Spotted Redshank flew over and a Purple Heron put in a surprise appearance in the cattle pasture behind us! Walking back along the canal, we finally got good views of the very noisy Great Reed Warbler, as well as a pair of Penduline Tits again at their nest.

To end a very long day back at Illmitz, the keenest of us returned to the lake edge (the Seewinkel), where they enjoyed prolonged views of a young Wryneck, together with Moustached Warbler, singing Savi's Warbler and a very bedraggled White Stork.

Day Four: 10th June. Illmitz to Lopenik.

After a night of heavy rain, we headed back down to the lake edge... and amazingly, the weather held off. Here we were able to compare Reed Warbler and Great Reed Warbler side by side, with Sedge Warbler nearby. A couple of Marsh Harriers made close fly-pasts, several Cuckoos chased around, 3 Pygmy Cormorants posed in a reedbed bush and a couple of Night Herons flew over, but the best were the two family parties of Bearded Tits which flitted, blundered and pinged their way through the reeds.

After quick stops at the National Park visitor centre (with some wonderful Fire-bellied Toads in the sustainable drainage system out the back) and north of Lange Lacke (with a roadside Souslik and a passing Montagu's Harrier), we heading north to the floodplain forests of Marchegg nature reserve, up near the Danube. This area is home to the largest population of tree-nesting White Storks in Central Europe, and we enjoyed their comings and goings over lunch. In the wood itself we spent some time trying (and eventually succeeding) in getting good views of Middle Spotted Woodpecker and of Marsh Warbler, both of which were very noisy but quite hard to pin down!

The wetlands showed plenty of evidence of the local population of Beavers, but alas we couldn't find the animals themselves. A Kingfisher enjoyed one of the Beaver pools. At the larger pond, a Black Kite drifted overhead, and an out-of-place male Mandarin had presumably escaped from the nearby Schloss. One last Austrian coffee, and then it was back on the road, via two international borders, to end up at our hotel, the Monte Lope, in the wooded hills near the village of Lopenik.

Day Five: 11th June. Slovak White Carpathians.

Today we headed over the border and up to the north eastern end of the White Carpathians.

Our first stop was the anthracite quarry at Rasova. Here we found our first orchids, in the form of Fragrant Orchid, Lesser Butterfly Orchid, Western Marsh Orchid, Military Orchid, Marsh Fragrant Orchid (not yet in flower) and Marsh Helleborine, together with carpets of Round-leaved Wintergreen. A Tree Pipit sang.

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Moving to the Dolomitic limestone at Vrsatec, we found a different array of plants, including Livelong Saxifrage, Alpine Aster, Mountain Germander and a lovely swathe of Dark Red Helleborines. With the sun coming out, so too did the butterflies, chief amongst them being the spectacular Apollo. We found about 8 males sunning themselves in the damp grass, although someone had found them before us and marked all but one with red numbers as part of a research project! Chestnut Heath, Small Blue and Grizzled Skipper were also new for us. A male Peregrine flew past, screaming loudly, obviously not happy with our being nearby.

Continuing on, we moved to the village of Luka and the nearby open woodlands. Here we began to hunt butterflies in earnest, aided by local lepidopterist Lubo. The list rapidly grew, with Reverdin's Blue, Marbled Fritillary, Ilex Hairstreak, Pearly Heath and Safflower Skipper amongst the more exciting finds, while a male Large Copper was probably the most colourful beast of the day, closely tied with the male Eastern Green Lizard who posed for us nicely. The locally endemic *Dianthus lumnitzeri* was also nice to see.

Our final stop was at the grassland reserve at Beckovske Skalice. Here, the main quarry was the Mountain Alcon Blue, which lays its eggs on the Cross Gentian. We found both butterfly and food plant, complete with newly-laid eggs without any difficulty. Wandering up the hill we found other specialities of the reserve: Austrian Flax, Bladder Senna and both *Adonis vernalis* and *Adonis aestivalis*, together with Ground Pine in the ploughed field at the top.

A long day, and more was still to come. After a hurried dinner, we were back out, this time to the meadows near the hotel where, with the help of George and his trusty tape recordings, we first enjoyed amazing in-the-hand views of three male Quail, and then the sounds (but alas, no sightings this time) of at least two male Corncrakes. A brilliant end to a very long day.

Day Six: 12th June. Czech White Carpathians.

Today we visited the opposite end of the range, heading south from the hotel and visiting two contrasting areas of meadows and open woodland.

Our first visit was to Certo Ryje: here, butterflies included Marbled, Lesser Marbled and Twin-spot Fritillaries, Mazarine Blue and the beautifully bright Scarce Copper. Interesting plants came in the form of both Grass-leaved and Variegated Irises, Greater Butterfly Orchid in the woodland and Crested Cow-wheat under the oaks at the edge of the meadows: both Bastard Toadflax and Bastard Balm were found around the edge of the meadows. A Black Stork flew over, and a Black Woodpecker was heard over lunch nearby.

A heavy downpour saw us seeking shelter in a village pub for coffee, before heading up onto the meadows of Zahrady pod Hajem. Here an organised orchid hunt finally revealed the White Carpathian endemic *Ophrys holubyana* hiding amongst the lush grasses. Other orchids included both Butterfly Orchids, lots more Fragrant Orchids, a couple of gone-over spikes of Lady Orchid and the deep pink local form of Pyramidal Orchids. Other interesting plants include Yellow Flax and three species of Cow-wheat: Crested, that we had already seen this morning, the taller, more showy Field Cow-wheat and the lovely purple and yellow Wood Cow-wheat.

Our last stop of the day was in the meadows above our village, where we found Globe-headed Orchid just in time, before the rain finally caught up with us.

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Day Seven: 13th June. The day it rained...

So today was our day to get wet. Properly wet... Under dark skies, we headed around to the other side of the mountains to Porazky nature reserve. We braved the weather and walked a Martin-mile up the hill, initially along a very muddy track and then through the flowery (but very wet) meadows where one or two very brave Tree Pipits sang and some damp Roe Deer watched us bemusedly.

Once at the reserve proper, we quickly found the target, the tall creamy yellow spikes of Giant Lousewort *Pedicularis exaltata* at its only site in central Europe: otherwise, this internationally rare species is only found at a single site in north east Poland and a handful in each of Romania, Ukraine and Belarus.

In the afternoon, we saw a LOT of water falling from the sky, and a gorgeous Fire Salamander.

Day Eight: 14th June. Lopenik to Vienna, train to Munich and beyond...

After a very rainy night, we had a leisurely start from Lopenik, headed vaguely in the direction of Vienna.

We stopped near Martin's home town, where an active sand quarry was home to a large breeding colony of Sand Martins and a handful of Bee-eaters... at last! A Marsh Warbler sang from the nearby herbage, and a Little Owl sat on the cliff face, almost escaping as a random grey rock.

Driving on, we had our lunch stop in the sandy woodlands at Sobonky. A noisy but hard to see pair of Collared Flycatchers were in the trees, along with a passing Crested Tit or two. In the grassland we found both Austrian and Purple Mullein, and as the sun came out so did the butterflies along the railway cutting: Large Skipper and Purple-shot Copper were new for the list, and brought our total up to an impressive (especially, considering the less-than-perfect conditions during our stay in the hills) 50. A male Eastern Green Lizard sunned himself in a bush, while over lunch Martin managed to track down a Hoopoe nesting hole, with the young bird seen looking out.

One final picnic lunch, and then all too soon it was time to be back on the bus for the drive back to Vienna. Typically, both the drive and the subsequent train ride back to Munich were all in glorious sunshine...

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LAKE NEUSIEDL & WHITE CARPATHIANS 2012: some highlights



Top row, l to r: Scarce Copper, Marbled Fritillary and Mountain Alcon Blue
Middle row, l to r: Wartbiter and young Eastern Imperial Eagle being mobbed by male Marsh Harrier
Bottom row, l to r: *Pedicularis exaltata*, *Melampyrum nemorosum*, *Melampyrum cristatum* and *Ophrys holubyana*

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Family Podicipedidae (Grebes)											
Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>		X		X						
Family Phalacrocoracidae (Cormorants)											
Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>		X	X							
Pygmy Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax pygmeus</i>	X	X	X	X						
Family Ardeidae (Herons)											
Little Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>			X							
Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>			X	X	X					
Great White Egret	<i>Egretta alba</i>	X	X	X	X						
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X				
Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>			X							
Family Ciconiidae (Storks)											
White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	X	X	X	X	X				X	
Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>				X	X	X				
Family Threskiornithidae (Ibises and Spoonbills)											
Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>	X	X	X							
Family Anatidae (Ducks, Geese and Swans)											
Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>		X								
Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>	X	X	X	X						
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	X	X	X	X	X				X	
Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>			X							
Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>			X							
Red-crested Pochard	<i>Netta rufina</i>	X	X	X							
Ferruginous Duck	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>		X	X							
Family Accipitridae (Hawks, Eagles and Vultures)											
White-tailed Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>		X								
Eastern Imperial Eagle	<i>Aquila heliaca</i>		X	X							
Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>				X						
Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	X	X	X	X		X		X		
Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>	X	X	X	X			X			
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>		X								
Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>	X		X	X						
Family Falconidae (Falcons)											
Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Peregrine	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>						X				
Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>	X									
Family Phasianidae (Pheasants and Partridges)											
Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>	H		H		X					
Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>	H	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Family Rallidae (Rails and Crakes)											
Water Rail	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>		H								
Corncrake	<i>Crex crex</i>					H					
Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>	X	X		X					X	
Family Otidae (Bustards)											
Great Bustard	<i>Otis tarda</i>	2 displaying males and a couple of females in the fields at Waasen, 9th									
Family Recurvirostridae (Stilts and Avocets)											
Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>	X	X	X	X						
Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	X	X	X							

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Family Charadriidae (Plovers)											
Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>		X	X		X					
Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>		X								
Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>		X	X	X	X					
Family Scolopacidae (Sandpipers)											
Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>				X						
Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>		X	X	X	X					
Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>			X	X	X					
Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>		X		X						
Family Laridae (Gulls)											
Black-headed Gull	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	
Mediterranean Gull	<i>Larus melanocephalus</i>				X						
Caspian Gull	<i>Larus cachinnans</i>		X	X	X	X	X				
Family Sternidae (Terns)											
Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>		X		X	X	X				
Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>				X						
Family Columbidae (Pigeons and Doves)											
Rock Dove/Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Woodpigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>		X	X	X		X	X		X	
Family Cuculidae (Cuckoos)											
Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>		X		X	X	X	X			
Family Strigidae (Owls)											
Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>										X
Family Apodidae (Swifts)											
Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Family Upupidae (Hoopoes)											
Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>		H	X							X
Family Alcedinidae (Kingfishers)											
Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>					X					
Family Meropidae (Bee-eaters)											
Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>										X
Family Picidae (Woodpeckers)											
Black Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus martius</i>							H			
Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>				X	X	X		X		
Syrian Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos syriacus</i>			X		X		X	X		
Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>				X	X			H	X	
Middle Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos medius</i>					X					X
Wryneck	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>				X						
Family Alaudidae (Larks)											
Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Family Hirundinidae (Swallows and Martins)											
Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>						X				X
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	
Family Motacillidae (Wagtails and Pipits)											
Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>						X	X	X	X	
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla (alba) alba</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>							X			
Blue-headed Wagtail	<i>Motacilla (flava) flava</i>			X	X	X					
Black-headed Wagtail	<i>Motacilla (flava) feldegg</i>			X							

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Family Oriolidae (Orioles)												
Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>		H	X	X	X	X				X	
Family Passeridae (Sparrows)												
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Family Fringillidae (Finches)												
Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>					X					X	
Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Linnet	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>		X	X	X	X	X				X	
Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>				X	X				X		
Family Emberizidae (Buntings)												
Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>		X	X	X	X	X					
Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>					X	X	X	X	X		
Corn Bunting	<i>Miliaria calandra</i>			X	X	H		X	X	X		

AMPHIBIANS		
Fire Salamander	<i>Salamandra salamandra</i>	One in the rain, 13 th
Fire-bellied Toad	<i>Bombina bombina</i>	At the visitor centre, nr Illmitz
Common Toad	<i>Bufo bufo</i>	Tadpoles in the quarry, 11 th
Marsh Frog	<i>Rana ridibunda</i>	Heard in wetlands around Illmitz.
REPTILES		
Eastern Green Lizard	<i>Lacerta bilineata</i>	11 th , 14 th
Sand Lizard	<i>Lacerta agilis</i>	8 th , 9 th ,
Grass Snake	<i>Natrix natrix</i>	8 th , 9 th , 12 th
MAMMALS		
Eastern Hedgehog	<i>Erinaceus roumanicus</i>	Dead on the road, 11 th , 12 th
Wild Boar	<i>Sus scrofa</i>	Feeding signs 10 th , 11 th , 13 th
Roe Deer	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>	9 th , 11 th , 13 th
Brown Hare	<i>Lepus europaeus</i>	7 th , 8 th , 9 th , 13 th
European Souslik	<i>Spermophilus citellus</i>	One by the roadside, 10 th .
Muskrat	<i>Ondatra zibethicus</i>	One in the reedbed, 8 th
European Beaver	<i>Castor</i>	Lots of feeding signs at Marchegg, 10 th
Red Fox	<i>Canis vulpes</i>	Heard barking, 11 th
Badger	<i>Meles meles</i>	Big sett on the hillside, 11 th

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BUTTERFLIES		
Scarce Swallowtail	<i>Iphiclides podalirius</i>	Eggs on 11 th
Southern Festoon	<i>Zerynthia polyxena</i>	Caterpillars on Birthwort, 10 th
Apollo	<i>Parnassius apollo</i>	8 males on 11 th
Essex Skipper	<i>Thymelicus lineola</i>	7 th , 8 th , 9 th
Small Skipper	<i>Thymelicus sylvestris</i>	11 th , 14 th
Large Skipper	<i>Ochlodes sylvanus</i>	14 th
Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus malvae</i>	Small and dark: 11 th
Safflower Skipper	<i>Pyrgus carthami</i>	Larger: 11 th
White-letter Hairstreak	<i>Satyrium w-album</i>	10 th
Ilex Hairstreak	<i>Satyrium ilicis</i>	Female with orange patches on forewing upperside: 11 th
Black Hairstreak	<i>Satyrium pruni</i>	Around old blackthorn in sun: 11 th
Green Hairstreak	<i>Callophrys rubi</i>	11 th
Small Blue	<i>Cupido minimus</i>	11 th
Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>	8 th , 10 th , 11 th , 12 th , 14 th
Chapman's Blue	<i>Polyommatus thersites</i>	12 th
Silver-studded Blue	<i>Plebeius argus</i>	8 th , 10 th , 11 th , 12 th
Reverdin's Blue	<i>Plebeius argyrognomon</i>	11 th
Green-underside Blue	<i>Glaucopsyche alexis</i>	11 th
Mazarine Blue	<i>Cyaniris semiargus</i>	12 th
Adonis Blue	<i>Lysandra bellargus</i>	11 th
(Slovakian) Chalkhill Blue	<i>Lysandra coridon (=L. slovakia)</i>	Has two broods 11 th
Mountain Alcon Blue	<i>Maculinea rebeli</i>	Feeds on Cross Gentian 11 th
Large Copper	<i>Lycaena dispar</i>	1 male, 11 th
Scarce Copper	<i>Lycaena virgaureae</i>	12 th
Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phleas</i>	12 th
Purple-shot Copper	<i>Lycaena alciphron</i>	14 th
Brimstone	<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>	14 th
Green-veined White	<i>Pieris napi</i>	9 th , 11 th , 12 th
Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>	7 th , 8 th , 9 th , 10 th , 11 th , 14 th
Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>	7 th , 8 th , 9 th , 10 th , 11 th , 12 th , 14 th
Wood White	<i>Leptidea sinapis</i>	7 th , 8 th , 11 th
Berger's Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias alfacariensis</i>	Pale: 11 th
Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias crocea</i>	7 th , 8 th
Marbled Fritillary	<i>Brenthis daphne</i>	11 th , 12 th
Lesser Marbled Fritillary	<i>Brenthis ino</i>	12 th
Twin-spot Fritillary	<i>Brenthis hecate</i>	12 th
Heath Fritillary	<i>Melitaea athalia</i>	11 th , 12 th
Spotted Fritillary	<i>Melitaea didyma</i>	Caterpillar, 11 th
Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary	<i>Clossiana selene</i>	12 th , 14 th
High Brown Fritillary	<i>Argynnis adippe</i>	11 th , 12 th
Queen of Spain	<i>Issoria lathonia</i>	8 th , 11 th , 14 th
Small Tortoiseshell	<i>Aglais urticae</i>	7 th , 11 th , 12 th , 14 th
Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>	7 th , 8 th , 9 th , 10 th , 11 th , 14 th
Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>	8 th , 11 th , 14 th
Large Wall Brown	<i>Lassiomata maera</i>	11 th
Great Banded Grayling	<i>Kanitesia circe</i>	11 th
Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>	8 th , 9 th , 10 th , 12 th , 14 th
Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>	7 th , 8 th , 9 th , 10 th , 11 th , 14 th
Chestnut Heath	<i>Coenonympha glycerion</i>	11 th , 14 th
Pearly Heath	<i>Coenonympha arcania</i>	11 th , 12 th , 14 th
Marbled White	<i>Melanargia galathea</i>	7 th , 8 th , 9 th , 10 th , 11 th , 12 th , 14 th
Ringlet	<i>Aphantopus hyperanthus</i>	12 th

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ODONATA		
White-legged Damselfly	<i>Platycnemis pennipes</i>	10 th ,
Blue-tailed Damselfly	<i>Ischnura elegans</i>	8 th , 9 th , 10 th ,
Azure Damselfly	<i>Coenagrion azurea</i>	10 th ,
Black-tailed Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum cancellatum</i>	7 th , 8 th , 9 th ,
Downy Emerald	<i>Cordulia aenea</i>	Marchegg, 10 th
Lesser Emperor	<i>Anax parthenope</i>	Dark, with pale blue band. 8 th .
Green-eyed (Norfolk) Hawker	<i>Aeshna isosceles</i>	Brown with clear wings, 8 th .

OTHERS		
Mullein Moth	<i>Cucullia verbasci</i>	Caterpillar feeding on mullein, 8 th
Transparent Burnet Moth	<i>Zygaena purpuralis</i>	With big red patches. 8 th
Five-spot Burnet Moth	<i>Zygaena trifolii</i>	8 th
a burnet moth	<i>Zygaena carniolica</i>	With the white-rimmed red spots. 8 th
Green Forester Moth	<i>Adscita statures</i>	Metallic green moth, eg 12 th
Nine-spotted Moth	<i>Amata phegea</i>	Black with white spots and a yellow band on the body. 7 th
Spotted Sulphur	<i>Acontia trabealis</i>	The black and white striped moth feeding on Scabious and Knapweed, 8 th
Black Grass Moth	<i>Pentopthera morio</i>	The small black moth, 12 th
Small Elephant Hawkmoth	<i>Deilephila elpenor</i>	12 th
Hummingbird Hawk Moth	<i>Macroglossum stellatarum</i>	7 th ,
Hornet	<i>Vespa crabro</i>	Feeding on sap run, 10 th
A longhorn beetle	<i>Carinatodorcadion aethiops</i>	The chunky, all black longhorn, 8 th
A longhorn beetle	<i>Paraplagionotus floralis</i>	The black and yellow 'wasp beetle', 8 th
A longhorn beetle	<i>Vadonia unipunctata</i>	The red longhorn with 2 black spots, 8 th
Great Diving Beetle	<i>Dytiscus sp</i>	8 th
Oak Spider	<i>Aculepeira ceropegia</i>	Beautiful orb web spider, 11 th
Wartbiter	<i>Decticus verrucivorus</i>	The giant cricket we saw everywhere
an Ascalaphid	<i>Ascalaphus libelluloides</i>	11 th
Praying Mantis	<i>Mantis religiosa</i>	Small juveniles on grassland, 11 th , 12 th ,
Hawthorn Shieldbug	<i>Acanthosoma haemorrhoidale</i>	Large: red and green. 12 th
Woundwort Shieldbug	<i>Eysacoris fabricii</i>	Small: copper and silver. 12 th
a shieldbug	<i>Graphosoma lineata</i>	Red and black stripes. 12 th

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Selected Plant Species

	SCIENTIFIC NAME	ENGLISH NAME	NOTES
TREES			
	<i>Acer negundo</i>	Box Elder	Elder-like leaves, North American tree
	<i>Celtis balansae</i>	Nettle Tree	Fertod\
	<i>Eleagnus angustifolia</i>	Russian Olive	The silver-leaved willow tree with dark reddish stems
	<i>Fraxinus angustifolia</i>	Narrow-leaved Ash	The fine-leaved Ash, Marchegg
	<i>Fraxinus ornus</i>	Manna Ash	The broad-leaved Ash w/ very narrow keys, Marchegg
	<i>Juglans regia</i>	Walnut	A very common village tree
	<i>Populus alba</i>	White Poplar	White bark, fluttery leaves
	<i>Populus nigra</i>	Black Poplar	Eg the massive trees at Marchegg
	<i>Quercus petraea</i>	Sessile Oak	12 th
	<i>Tilia cordata</i>	Small-leaved Lime	Eg Fertod
	<i>Tilia linden</i>	Silver Lime	A common village tree
DICOTYLEDONS			
Asteraceae			
	<i>Aster alpinus</i>		Purple and yellow daisy on the rock outcrop, 11 th
	<i>Centaurea cyanus</i>	Cornflower	Weed in vineyards. 7 th
	<i>Serratula lycopifolia</i>		Tall pink 'thistle', like Melancholy Thistle. 12 th
Anacardiaceae			
	<i>Cotinus coggygria</i>	Smoke Bush	Low-growing, round-leaved shrub
Apiaceae			
	<i>Astrantia major</i>	Great Masterwort	12 th
	<i>Bupleurum falcatum</i>	Sickle-leaf Hare's-ear	Beneath the cliff face: 11 th
	<i>Eryngium campestre</i>	Field Eryngium	Broad, bluish, spiny leaves, dry grassland. 8 th
Aristolochiaceae			
	<i>Aristolochia clematis</i>	Birthwort	Foodplant of Southern Festoon. 10 th .
	<i>Asarum europaeum</i>	Asarabaca	Woodlands. 11 th
Asclepediaceae			
	<i>Vincetoxicum hirsutum</i>	Swallow-wort	Poisonous. 8 th
Boraginaceae			
	<i>Nonea pulla</i>		Black flowers: arable margins. 11 th
Brassicaceae			
	<i>Erysimum odoratum</i>	Wallflower	On the rocks: 11 th
	<i>Sisymbrium sophia</i>	Flixweed	Very fine leaved, yellow flowers, common field wild
Campanulaceae			
	<i>Campanula glomerata</i>	Clustered Bellflower	Darker purple, flowers bunched: 11 th
	<i>Campanula patula</i>	Spreading Bellflower	Small flowers, spread open: 11 th
	<i>Campanula persicifolia</i>	Peach-leaved Bellflower	Larger flowers: 11 th
	<i>Phyteuma orbiculare</i>	Round-headed Rampion	Blue: 12 th
	<i>Phyteuma spicatum</i>	Spiked Rampion	Tall, white spikes: 12 th
Caryophyllaceae			
	<i>Dianthus carthusianorum</i>	Carthusian Pink	The 'pink' pink on 11 th
	<i>Dianthus lumnitzeri</i>		The white frilly pink in grassland, Slovak endemic. 11 th
	<i>Dianthus pontenderae</i>		Dense headed pink, steppe grassland, 8 th
	<i>Lychnis flos-cuculi</i>	Ragged Robin	11 th
	<i>Silene longiflora</i>		Long, loose flowered, sticky leaves. 8 th
	<i>Silene nutans</i>	Nottingham Catchfly	Sticky, white flowers: 11 th
	<i>Silene otittes</i>	Spanish Catchfly	Very small flowers: 11 th
	<i>Silene vulgaris</i>	Bladder Campion	

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Crassulaceae			
	<i>Jovibarba globifera</i>	Hen and Chickens	11 th
Dipsacaceae			
	<i>Scabiosa ochroleuca</i>	Yellow Scabious	Creamy yellow flowers. 8 th
Fabaceae			
	<i>Amorpha fruticosa</i>	False Indigo	Riverside shrub, introduced from North America
	<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i>	Kidney Vetch	11 th
	<i>Astragalus austriacus</i>		The small-flowered, pinky Astragalus. 7 th
	<i>Astragalus cicer</i>	Wild Lentil	Small pale creamy flowers. 11 th
	<i>Astragalus glycyphyllos</i>	Wild Liquorice	Pale creamy flowers, dense flower head. 7 th
	<i>Astragalus onobrychis</i>		The purple Astragalus. 7 th
	<i>Colutea arborescens</i>	Bladder Senna	11 th
	<i>Dorycnium germanicum</i>		Small white flowers: 11 th
	<i>Lathyrus latifolius</i>	Broad-leaved Everlasting Pea	Pink flowers and broad leaves: 13 th
	<i>Lathyrus niger</i>	Black Pea	12 th
	<i>Lathyrus tuberosus</i>	Tuberous Pea	Dark pink flowers, sweet smelling. 8 th
	<i>Medicago sativa</i>	Lucerne	Purple flowers, roadside weed: 12 th
	<i>Onobrychis viciifolia</i>	Sainfoin	Pinky flower spikes: 11 th
	<i>Ononis spinosa</i>	Spiny Restharrow	Shrubby, pink flowers, spines. 8 th
	<i>Securigera varia</i>	Crown Vetch	Pale pink crown vetch. 7 th
	<i>Tetragonolobus maritimus</i>	Dragon's Tooth	Pale yellow flower. 7 th
	<i>Trifolium incarnatum</i>	Crimson Clover	12 th
	<i>Trifolium montanum</i>	Mountain Clover	Smart white clover: 11 th
Gentianaceae			
	<i>Gentiana cruciata</i>	Cross Gentian	Foodplant of Mountain Alcon Blue: 11 th
Lamiaceae			
	<i>Acinos arvensis</i>	Basil Thyme	11 th
	<i>Ajuga chamaepitys</i>	Ground Pine	Yellow flowers. Mini pine trees. 11 th
	<i>Ajuga reptans</i>	Bugle	
	<i>Betonica officinalis</i>	Betony	8 th
	<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>	Ground Ivy	12 th
	<i>Lamium album</i>	White Deadnettle	12 th
	<i>Lamium garganicum</i>	Large Red Deadnettle	12 th
	<i>Lamium purpureum</i>	Red Deadnettle	12 th
	<i>Leonurus cardiac</i>	Motherwort	Visitor centre, nr Illmitz. 10 th
	<i>Lycopus europeus</i>	Gipsywort	Reedbeds, 9 th
	<i>Melittis melissophyllum</i>	Bastard Balm	12 th
	<i>Origanum vulgare</i>	Marjoram	11 th
	<i>Prunella laciniata</i>	Cut-leaved Self Heal	White flowers, Esterhazy Palace lawns. 9 th
	<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	Selfheal	11 th
	<i>Salvia pratensis</i>	Meadow Clary	Big purple flowers. 8 th
	<i>Salvia verbenaca</i>	Wild Clary	Large-leaved Salvia near the rocks, 11 th
	<i>Salvia verticillata</i>	Whorled Sage	Common roadside Salvia. 8 th
	<i>Scutellaria galericulata</i>	Skullcap	In the wet woodland. 10 th
	<i>Stachys alpina</i>	Limestone Woundwort	The big soft Stachys leaves in the wood, 12 th
	<i>Stachys recta</i>	Yellow Woundwort	On the rocky slopes, 11 th
	<i>Stachys sylvatica</i>	Hedge Woundwort	Magenta flowers, 12 th
	<i>Teucrium chamaedrys</i>	Wall Germander	Pinky flowers. 11 th
	<i>Teucrium montanum</i>	Mountain Germander	Creamy flowers, cushions, on the cliff face, 11 th
Linaceae			
	<i>Linum austriacum</i>	Austrian Flax	Purple-blue flax on the hillside, 11 th
	<i>Linum flavum</i>	Yellow Flax	12 th
	<i>Linum perenne</i>	Perennial Flax	Pale blue flax
	<i>Linum tenuifolium</i>	Narrow-leaved Flax	White flowers: 11 th

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Orobanchaceae			
	<i>Melampyrum arvense</i>	Field Cow-wheat	Pink and yellow, very spikey: 12 th
	<i>Melampyrum cristatum</i>	Crested Cow-wheat	Under oak trees: 12 th
	<i>Melampyrum nemorosum</i>	Wood Cow-wheat	Purple bracts, yellow flowers: 12 th
	<i>Orobanche sp.</i>	Broomrapes	At least 3 species of broomrape during the trip
	<i>Pedicularis exaltata</i>	Giant Lousewort	At its only site in Central Europe: 13 th
Pyrolaceae			
	<i>Pyrola rotundifolia</i>	Round-leaved Wintergreen	In the quarry: 11 th
Ranunculaceae			
	<i>Adonis aestivalis</i>	Summer Pheasant's Eye	Arable field margins: 11 th
	<i>Adonis vernalis</i>	Yellow Pheasant's Eye	On the hillside, over: 11 th
	<i>Aquilegia vulgaris</i>	Wild Columbine	11 th
	<i>Clematis recta</i>	Upright Clematis	12 th
	<i>Clematis vitalba</i>	Wild Clematis	12 th
	<i>Consolida orientalis</i>	Eastern Larkspur	Magenta-purple, in the corn field, 9 th
	<i>Consolida regalis</i>	Common Larkspur	Blue-purple, on the edge of the corn field, 9 th
	<i>Nigella arvensis</i>	Love-in-a-Mist	Arable field margins: 11 th
Rosaceae			
	<i>Arunca sylvestris</i>	Goat's-beard Spiraea	Meadowsweet-like leaves in wet woodland, 10 th
	<i>Filipendula vulgaris</i>	Dropwort	Common in the meadows. 12 th
	<i>Rosa gallica</i>	Provence Rose	12 th
Santalaceae			
	<i>Thesium linophyllum</i>	Bastard Toadflax	12 th
Saxifragaceae			
	<i>Saxifraga paniculata</i>	Livelong Saxifraga	On the rock faces, 11 th
Scrophulariaceae			
	<i>Linaria genistifolia</i>		Tall yellow toadflax. 8 th
	<i>Verbascum blattaria</i>	Moth Mullein	Dark leaves, dark centred flowers. 8 th
	<i>Verbascum thapsus</i>	Great Mullein	The tall verbascum. 8 th
	<i>Verbascum phoeniceum</i>	Purple Mullein	Dark purple spikes, 14 th
	<i>Verbascum austriacum</i>	Austrian Mullein	Skinny yellow verbascum, 14 th
	<i>Veronica austriaca</i>		Tall pale blue spikes. 11 th
Solanaceae			
	<i>Datura stramonium</i>	Thorn Apple	Road verges: 9 th
Urticaceae			
	<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Stinging Nettle	Common
	<i>Urtica galeopsifolia</i>	Stingless Nettle	In wet woodland at Marchegg, 10 th , aka Fen Nettle
Verbenaceae			
	<i>Verbena officinalis</i>	Vervain	8 th

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MONOCOTYLEDONS			
Asparagaceae			
	<i>Asparagus officinalis</i>	Wild Asparagus	7 th
	<i>Convallaria majalis</i>	Lily of the Valley	12 th
	<i>Muscari comosum</i>	Tassel Hyacinth	8 th
	<i>Polygonatum multiflorum</i>	Solomon's Seal	12 th
Colchicaceae			
	<i>Colchicum autumnale</i>	Meadow Saffron	Broad leaves and seed pods; 12 th
Iridaceae			
	<i>Iris graminea</i>	Grass-leaved Iris	Bluey-purple iris, 12 th
	<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	Yellow Flag	Common yellow wetland iris
	<i>Iris pumila</i>	Dwarf Iris	Dwarf iris, leaves only, steppe grassland
	<i>Iris spuria</i>	Blue Iris	Tall iris, gone to seed, steppe grassland
	<i>Iris variegata</i>	Variegated Iris	Yellow iris in the woods, 12 th
Liliaceae			
	<i>Lilium martagon</i>	Martagon Lily	In the woods, not in flower yet, 12 th
Orchidaceae			
	<i>Anacamptis pyramidalis</i>	Pyramidal Orchid	Very deep pink, just coming out: 12 th
	<i>Epipactis atrorubens</i>	Dark Red Helleborine	On lightly-wooded scree slopes, 11 th
	<i>Dactylorhiza majalis</i>	Western Marsh Orchid	In the quarry: 11 th
	<i>Dactylorhiza sambucina</i>	Elder-flowered Orchid	Well over, in the long grass near Globe-headed: 12 th
	<i>Epipactis palustris</i>	Marsh Helleborine	In the damp bits in the quarry, not yet in flower. 11 th
	<i>Gymnadenia conopsea</i>	Common Fragrant Orchid	In the quarry, 11 th
	<i>Gymnadenia densiflora</i>	Marsh Fragrant Orchid	In the quarry: not yet out, sturdy, dense flower heads. 11 th .
	<i>Listera ovata</i>	Twayblade	12 th
	<i>Ophrys holubyana</i>		Endemic to White Carpathians. 12 th
	<i>Orchis militaris</i>	Military Orchid	In the quarry: 11 th
	<i>Orchis purpurea</i>	Lady Orchid	In the grassland, well over: 12 th
	<i>Platanthera bifolia</i>	Lesser Butterfly Orchid	Parallel pollinia: 11 th
	<i>Platanthera chlorata</i>	Greater Butterfly Orchid	Diverging pollinia: 12 th
	<i>Traunsteinera globosa</i>	Globe-headed Orchid	12 th