

The Pyrenees

Alpine Wildlife

A Greentours Trip Report

11th - 24th June 2009

Led by Paul Cardy & Amanda da Rocha

Daily report written by Amanda da Rocha. Systematic lists by Paul Cardy.

This tour report doesn't match the 2010 itinerary exactly though the bulk of the report contains relevant detail. The 2010 tour, run specifically for the Alpine Garden Society, will focus more completely on the flora, particularly alpinines, and as such we'll be adding in new sites on the 2010 itinerary to achieve a greater diversity of flowers, and these are not found within this tour report. Nonetheless we are sure you'll find the tour report useful.

Day 1 Thursday 11th June Toulouse – Alins

We all met up with Paul who had driven from Italy, and Peter who had arrived a day early, in the terminal at Toulouse Airport. Due to the early start it meant that we did not have to rush to Alins, and the long journey could be broken up with several stops to observe the array of wildlife we would be experiencing for the next couple of weeks. The first of which was at a pleasant lunch stop, off one of the service stations. Nightingale and Blackcap tunefully sang from the surrounding trees, Fan-tailed Warblers zipped merrily from the surrounding meadows, while a Meadow Fritillary and Great Sooty Satyr got people chasing around the grassy area, much to the amusement of the other picnic on-lookers.

We turned off the motorway and headed towards the Spanish side of the Pyrenees pausing at the top of the mountain pass Port de la Bonaigua, to admire the spectacular mountainous snow-capped views. These will be a major backdrop feature for the following days of the trip. We stretched our legs over the alpine meadow, and small patches of snow, to where Paul had picked out a wonderful spread of the beautiful *Erythronium dens-canis* in flower.

The grey weather of France had changed to glorious sunshine on the Spanish side. Butterflies began to whet everyone's appetite for the next few days. Scarce Swallowtail, Black-veined White, and Apollo's flew around us, while a pair of False Heath Fritillary and a Baton Blue, were the subject of the many cameras that appeared. Field Crickets chirped from the meadowy banks, and Carpenter Bees settled on the various flower heads, giving that lovely summer feel

to an enjoyable day. From here we headed for Llavorsi and to the small and tranquil village of Alins. We were welcomed by our madame, Pepia and Jo-anne. Once we had settled into our rooms, there was time for a quick beer before tonight's interesting evening meal.

An assortment of birds were recorded along the journey, including Black and Red Kites, Little and Cattle Egrets, a Night Heron flew over the car on the French side, while Swallows, House Martins and Black Redstart greeted us cheerfully as we emerged out of the vehicles in Alins. The only mammal we saw was a dead Pine Marten.

Day 2 Thursday 12th June Tor

The sky was blue when the curtains were drawn back and in the morning Nightingales were already in full flow, and the Black Redstarts were chasing around finding food to feed their ever hungry young. The hotel had provided us with picnics, so once breakfast had finished, the picnics were stowed away, and everyone was eager to see what the alpine meadows along the Tor road had to offer.

What an amazing day, I am not sure where to begin or what to say, but today was what alpine adventures were all about. The spectacular scenery of towering grey slate mountains contrasting to the starling white of the snow, which lay upon and between the cervices, against the lush green meadows decorated in yellow, pink and blue, while the orchestral choir of crickets and grasshoppers played within. To complete the alpine ambiance, gushing mountain streams echoed around, and the woodlands were filled with bird calls.

Our first stop was next to the bridge and a lovely rocky outcrop to admire a few spikes of *Anthericum liliago*, *Silene saxifraga*, *Saxifraga paniculata*, as well as *Paradisea liliastrum* in fine flower and the lovely pink Rock Soapwort. The rest of the morning was spent frog hopping from one flowery meadow to another. The lush green stood proud within the meadows and with the increased temperature of the day, butterflies started to become prolific. Black-veined Whites, Sooty Coppers, Glanville, and Provençal Fritillary were landing on the various plants. However, it was the Apollos that got everyone excited and chasing for that perfect photograph, while Clouded Yellows, Scarce Swallowtail, and Swallowtail were tempting people away from the Apollos.

Plants were just as exciting, but then you didn't have to chase them for that picture. Cobweb Houseleeks, were found at different stages among the rocks, and the Brown Bluebell was an interesting find. Carthusian Pink, *Vicia onobrychoides* Burnt-tip and Bug Orchids, *Anarrhinum bellidifolium*, *Acinos arvensis*, *Armeria maritima* ssp *alpina*, *Armeria alliacea*, *Lepidium campestre*, *Saxifraga granulate*, *Achillea chamaemelifolia*, and *Asarina procumbens* to highlight a few that made up the amazing collection of species being discovered within the alpine meadows. Another amazing find was that of a Field Cricket, which was scrambling over the rocks, allowing people to actually get a good view of what this noisy insect looks like, as usually it is only heard. All this before lunch, what will the afternoon bring.

Lunch was under the cooling lichen encrusted trees of Silver Birch. The serene view of alpine meadows, chipping Roeseli's Bush-cricket and the bustling stream added to the charm and tranquil calmness of the area. The small stream provided a puddling opportunity for a variety

of small butterflies, Wood Whites, Mazarine Blue, Olive and Red-underwing Skippers to name a few.

The afternoon saw us following the road to the higher meadows above the tiny hamlet of Tor. Unfortunately, Amanda's car had low clearance and couldn't make it, so she walked up the road to the meadows, while everyone cramped into the mini-bus. The walk up to the mini-bus did produce a Dipper and Camberwell Beauty, which unfortunately was not there on the way back for the group, and the only sighting for the trip. However, the group were revelling in the joys of other species such as *Gentiana verna*, *Polygala alpestris*, *Dactylorhiza majalis alpestris*, and *Pedicularis verticillata*.

This area was also a good spot for Bog Fritillary. A rapid fly-by of one confirmed that the species were still in the area. Yellowhammer, Citril Finch and Cirl Bunting were either heard or seen around the shrubby areas in the meadows. Otherwise, it was quite quiet for birds.

From the valley we moved back down towards Alins and a short wooded walk above the village to see if we could espy any more new species for the day. Although it was an interesting walk, the only new species was a brief showing of Montpellier Snake, which Amanda disturbed while joining the rest of the group.

How to end a lovely day other than a cool beer in the shade watching the swallows and martins attend to their business, while discussing the finds of the day. A Tree Sparrow briefly joined the jamboree of birds among the roof tops, while a Hummingbird Hawkmoth and Rosy Cockchafer fed on the nectar from the hotel's flower pots. Although the chafer had other ideas, and disappeared into the black hole of Effie's bag, who upon searching hard, couldn't find it.

Day 3 Thursday 13th June Col de Perbes – Pont de Suert – Montanana

Another glorious morning of a blue cloudless sky, and the mothers were out again this morning closely scrutinizing the moths on the local barn wall. The temperature was already rising as we started our journey to lower altitudes towards Col de Perbes and the wonderful budejal or box scrub that littered the area, supporting a wealth of species.

There was a bit of car park botanising going on as we emerged from the vehicles with all the exciting new species of both flora and fauna, so it took a while for people to venture further to the rocky outcrops in the upper lying meadows. Butterflies were on the wing with Olive and Safflower Skippers giving people identification challenges. Blues were out and about with Osiris, Common, Little, and Idas feeding off the various low-lying plants. There was a superb Southern White Admiral with a Mother Shipton Moth feeding on a bushy clump of thyme, while the Clouded Yellows, High Brown, and Niobe Fritillary got everyone chasing for that stunning picture. Another insect that caught everyone's attention were the Alpine Bush-crickets, *Anonconotus alpinus*, they were everywhere, so you had to be very careful where you stood. They were more obliging in allowing their photograph taken than the butterflies. There was more excitement when a Small Elephant Hawkmoth was found, and while Amanda was trying to find some fine specimen Adder's-tongue Fern, she disturbed a basking Aesculapian Snake, but it never returned for more views.

Birds were just as exciting with a Red-back Shrike calling from the bushes, 50+ Griffon Vultures circling above our heads, with a fly-by of an Egyptian Vulture and Black Kite. Stonechats and Dartford Warblers called from within the scrub, and proved to be very sulky and hard to find, while Ortolan Bunting's sung from the top of the shrubs. Notable plants included a selection of rockroses, *Helianthemum apenninum*, *Helianthemum piloselloides*, and *Helianthemum pyrenaicum*, as well as *Echinopartum horridum*, *Onobrychis cristata*, *Linum salsoloides*, *Bupleurum baldense*, and *Tragopogon dubius*.

From here we headed south stopping briefly along the road for a fine specimen of Pyrenean Bellflower, the only site for this species of the trip. Before we knew it, it was time for lunch, and Paul found another lovely flowery spot where we could eat, and admire the scenery. It was also during the lunch stop we found out what happened to the Rosy Cockchafer that disappeared into Effie's bag. She thought her shoe felt a bit funny this morning, and found the reason why. A pair of Bonelli's Eagles flew along the cliff top above our heads, and a Great Grey Shrike perched among the trees.

Pont de Suert is a lovely wooded area, where Bonelli's Warbler were singing within the wood, and where we were hoping to see *Monotropa hypopitys*, but after much searching by Paul it was not to be. However, a bit of a bonus and new for the tour was a beautiful spike of Violet Bird's-nest Orchid *Limodorum abortivum*. Our next stop was for the gorgeous endemic *Saxifraga longifolia*, which was suspended from the cliff faces. It was here that Soft Snapdragon was found, and the very unusual cone shaped *Leuzea conifera* Red-billed Chough, Crag Martin and Blue Rock Thrush called around the cliffs.

The rest of the afternoon was spent along Montanana road, noting various species along the way, *Petrorhagia prolifera*, *Coronilla emerus*, *Lomelosia stellata*, *Bupleurum falcatum*, and the lovely *Centaurium erythraea* and *Centaurium pulchellum*, before ending with a meadow stop. This was a lovely limestone crag area looking down on the valley below. The meadow was predominantly *Stipa pennata*, and its beautiful flowing flowering heads, and the meadow echoed with the hum of insects. Iberian Marbled White, *Ilex*, and Green Hairstreak, Burnet Moths of the Six-spotted species flew around, while a lovely female Escher's Blue perched nicely on a grass head allowing identification tips to be pointed out. Subalpine Warblers called and fed their young in the surrounding scrub, while a Booted Eagle, wings folded back, glided down on to some unsuspecting prey.

The day had been hot and several members of the group were looking forward to their afternoon beer, and a chat about today's finds and tomorrow's weather, via the iphone, before going to dinner. An evening walk was undertaken by one or two of the group around the village to discover if there were any nocturnal activities from owls or mammals. The only activity found was seven glow-worms strutting their stuff in the long grass near the old church.

Day 4 Thursday 14th June Port de la Bonaigua – Vielha Tunnel

The barn wall was proving a very attractive option for the moth-ers, with a splendid Swallow Prominent one of a few moth species recorded this morning. Today it was back to the high altitudes and the pass at Port de la Bonaigua, before venturing on to the outstanding meadows beyond Vielha Tunnel. According to yahoo weather last night (via Effie's iphone), it was going

to start slightly cool, before brightening up for the afternoon, which would be ideal. Although, the sun did come out for the afternoon so did a breeze, all of which had a consequential effect on the butterflies, and the lack of numbers and species were noticeable, compared to the previous days encounters.

We headed towards the slopes, where on Day 1, there were some fine examples of *Erythronium dens canis* in flower, now most had gone over, and only one plant was found in flower. Further investigation of the slopes found a wealth of alpine plants to identify and photograph, from the lovely clumps of fragrant *Daphne cneorum* or the colourful displays of *Silene alpina*, *Androsace carnea* ssp. *laggeri*, *Viola pyrenaica*, *Caltha palustris alpina*, interwoven with *Linaria alpina*, to a solitary *Soldanella alpina*. The delightful *Ranunculus pyrenaicus* and *Ranunculus amplexicaule* provided a white-wash carpet over the slopes, while on the tops *Gentiana alpina* and *Gentiana acaulis* were being scrutinized over what the differences were between the species, or the best angle or light for that alpine shot. Other species that attracted our attention included *Gagea fistulosa*, *Bartsia alpina*, *Trifolium alpinum*, and Elder-flowered Orchid. Meanwhile, Paul had ventured further down the slope to see if he could find the elusive and endangered False Dewy Ringlet, but unfortunately none was found.

We best not to forget the other fauna that were around, such as the horses! Water Pipits and Wheatears could be heard singing or calling as we wandered along, as well as the odd dragonfly or moth flying around, such as the Small Black Mountain Moth species or Green Tortrix.

Eventually, we had to leave this attractive site and venture further north through the verdant Val d'Aran to Vielha and the tunnel, on emergence we stopped a little way from the tunnel mouth, next to a lively mountain stream surrounded by a floristic boulder strewn meadow. This was also our lunch site, but that was quickly consumed as people were eager to explore the site.

The rock outcrops supported *Lamium galeobdolon*, *Phyteuma pyrenaicum*, and evidence of wild boar rooting could be found near the boulders. Moonwort projected above the turf along with a variety of other species, *Polygala alpestris*, *Polygala comosa*, *Erica tetralix*, *Platanthera chlorantha*, and *Coeloglossum viride*. There was also a decorative collection of plants near the roaring stream, the colours of which enhanced the blue white of the water, Bird's-eye Primroses, *Ajuga pyramidalis*, *Saxifraga granulata*, *Anthyllis pyrenaica*, Leafy Lousewort and the startling Black Vanilla Orchids, while the yellow of *Ranunculus aconitifolius*, and *Meconopsis cambrica* against the stark grey boulders were crying out to be photographed.

Although the weather had brighten up from the cool overcast clouds of this morning, the number of butterfly species were quite low with de Prunner's and Piedmont Ringlets giving people a run-around to see which species was which. Clouded Yellows, Little, and Common Blues, and Painted Ladies were also about. Barry also found a very nice yellow crab spider on one of the spikes of Fragrant Orchid.

We moved on to the other side of the river, where the alpine landscape was quite outstanding, flowering *Asphodel* spread across the fields below the mountains like a white ruff, interspersed with splashes of yellow from *Rhinanthus* and *Ranunculus* species. Further investigation we found lovely scattered clumps of *Viola cornuta*, *Arnica montana*, *Reseda glauca*,

Pseudorchis albida and some interesting *Carlina acanthifolia* seed heads from the previous year. The short walk followed the winding river, where Cotton grass, *Luzula nivea* and *Salix breviserrata* flourished, and the wet flushes produced *Bartsia alpina* and a mixture of *Pedicularis* species. There was also a splendid tuft of *Drosera rotundifolia*.

In the drier parts of the meadow *Rosa pendulina*, *Thesium pyrenaicum*, *Melampyrum sylvaticum*, *Meum athamanticum* and St. Bruno's Lilies were noted, while the gorgeous Leopard's Bane was in flower. The very large *Gentiana lutea* were in bud. An unusual find was that of a pretty hybrid orchid, possibly a Spotted X Vanilla orchid cross as they were next to the plant. The walk back was still as impressive as the afternoon light created a different atmosphere on the colourful scenery and more shots were taken before heading for the long journey home.

On the way back it was a chance to see Amanda's iris, which she had espied from the car on the roadside bank on the way up, which caused a bit of excitement from Paul. Unfortunately, what she thought was an Iris was in fact Columbine, same colour I suppose, but it gave us all a laugh.

Day 5 Thursday 15th June Aigues Tortes National Park

Today was a visit to the outstanding Aigues Tortes National Park. Although the weather forecast was for the same as yesterday, sunshine interspersed with rain, we decided we would chance it. Perhaps the cooler weather would be better for walking in, as this was a full on day without the vehicles and the rain may stay off.

The day's excitement started with David and Peter finding an Iberian Puss-moth on the barn wall before breakfast. We put it in the fridge to settle it down so people could see this spectacular moth and get some photos before releasing it. Barry had also been watching a Dipper early this morning next to the bridge near the camp site.

Once the moth was released we were on our way to Espot, where landrovers were booked to take us up along the mountainous track to the second lake. The first part of the journey was on tarmac, a wooded road of moss lined banks. As we entered the park and paid our dues a male Fallow Deer was seen grazing in the car park. The tarmac surfaced ended at Estany de Saint Maurici with the twin pinnacles of the Enchanted Mountains towering above. A large block of granite is where Franco officially opened the dam many years ago. This is the point where we had to hold on, as the tarmac changed into a mass of packed protruding boulders. At one point we had to pull over to let another vehicle pass, a feat in itself as the road is just wide enough for one vehicle. It didn't take the drivers long to reach the lake, and we were soon out exploring the area and stretching our muscles.

The dark threatening sky emphasised the varying shades of green against the stark granite mountains, whose ridges, distorted from the weathering of time, provided a magnificent backdrop assisted with a splash of white from the remnants of winter. The photographers were out and contemplating the best angles for the various shots of the mountains and the crystal clear mountainous lake, which was adorned by the delicate pink of *Primula integrifolia* along the waterside edge. Crested Tits and Dunnocks greeted other members of the group.

We started exploring the short alpine turf around the lake, *Primula integrifolia* and *Ranunculus pyrenaicus* were plentiful. There were splendid displays of the beautiful *Pulsatilla alpina* ssp. *alpina*, of both the white subspecies and the yellow subspecies ssp. *apiifolia*, which were just wonderful. However, the greatest excitement came from a small flowering patch of *Pulsatilla vernalis*. The group potted around here for a while before splitting, with some walking towards the Mirador and some remaining near the lake, as this is where we would be having lunch.

Rain beckoned and a few drops were felt before the group reached the Mirador. The few who remained behind found shelter under a conifer, and much to their joy three Fallow Deer walked passed them. The Mirador provided an imposing view of the Enchanted Mountains and reservoir. There was also an impressive array of flora, flowering Bearberry, Holly and Oak Fern, *Valeriana montana*, *Valeriana tripteris*, *Globularia nudicaulis* and the endemic *Sesamoides clusii*. Before returning to the lake, a Clouded Yellow hung suspended from a leaf, giving an excellent opportunity to photography this beautiful butterfly.

Lunch was among the rocks, admiring the mountainous reflection on the lake, but eaten rather hastily in anticipation of the weather. Our transport wasn't arriving until 5pm, so there was plenty of time for a gently stroll along the road, noting more species for the trip. The rain was staying off, but behind us the sky was dark, providing a dramatic backdrop for the stunning mountainous scenery, which Barry and Liz took advantage off. The striking pink of *Rhododendron ferrugineum* and the yellow of *Spartium junceum* brightened the grey rocks, as we stopped and paused at various points to marvel the architectural design of the spectacular *Molopospermum peloponnesiacum*; wet flushes were home to *Erysimum pyrenaicum*, *Cardamine resedifolia*, *Cardamine raphanifolia*, *Coincya recurvata* and *Saxifraga aquatica*. There was a slight detour to the old ruins of a monastery, where *Medicago suffruticosa* and *Veronica prostrata* were found spreading along the ground.

There was a poor show for butterflies to talk about today, with odd Clouded Yellows, Small Tortoiseshells, and Pearl-bordered Fritillaries venturing out between the outbursts of showers. Bird species on the other hand were quite exciting with Griffon Vultures frequenting the mountain tops, scope views of two Lammergeiers sitting on the distance rocks, but the highlight must of the been the family group of Crested Tits, which enthralled the watching group. These lovely little birds, were flittering around the conifers and birches in plain view of everyone.

Everyone made it back to our pick up point, with some members reaching it quite early, just before the heavens opened. The day turned out to be a stunning affair, we all agreed that it was perfect weather to undertake the walk, even if it did rain. The short journey back saw a Booted Eagle fly over the car, as we reached Alins.

Day 6 Thursday 16th June Santa Engracia – Boixols

Another beautiful start to the morning with Serin tinkling from the wires, and House Sparrows and Black Redstarts chatted and scratched from the church that dominated the small village. The moths today included *Tortrix viridana*, Treble-bar and Bordered White, before heading out south towards the mixed Mediterranean and alpine influences around the Santa Engracia area.

Our first stop was next to a large clump of *Sambucus ebulus*, but unfortunately there was little to observe on this usually very productive bush. However, Nightingales and Corn Buntings sung from the hedgerows, and Spotless Starlings flew over as we walked along the road examining the assorted vegetation. A delightful Banana Weevil impressed everyone that saw it, while Iberian Marbled Whites, Spanish Gatekeepers, and a lovely Ilex Hairstreak were keeping everyone interested, while they fed on *Pallenis spinosa*, *Celtis australis* or Scabious species.

Our next spot was a lepidopterist's haven, with a variety of species flying around. Our only sightings of the lovely Spanish Purple Hairstreak were found in this area, near some *Linaria supina*, and *Linum viscosum*. Sloe and Ilex Hairstreaks were also recorded. Lulworth, Small and Red-underwing Skippers were settling on the various plants. Blues included a nice Amanda's, Chalk-hill, Holly, and Common, while Browns included Woodland Ringlet, Common Grayling, Wall Brown and a very well camouflaged Large Great Banded Grayling on a branch, to name a few.

Interesting plants included *Coronilla minima*, *Polygonum equisetiforme*, *Lathyrus angulatus*, *Carthamus lanatus*, *Inula salicina*, *Verbascum blattaria*, a couple of spikes of Woodcock Orchid were found along the road edge, while some lovely clumps of Marsh and Red Helleborines were discovered by the marshy area. A Short-toed Eagle was spotted flying overhead, and a Bee-eater was seen as we made our way back to the main road. Singing Cirl Bunting and Wood Lark were heard, while Blue-spot and False Ilex Hairstreaks allowed close inspection as they perched on the heads of *Santolina rosmarinifolia*. *Coris monspeliensis*, *Teucrium chamaedrys* and *Thymus pulegioides* were found scattered around the area.

Lunch was next to a lovely mixed grassy meadow dominated by *Vulpia ciliata*, and full of very vocal orthoptera species from Bush-crickets, grasshoppers to Praying Mantis. Otherwise, butterflies were quiet here with only Grayling, Bumble-bee Hawkmoth, and Peacock recorded. After lunch we headed towards the Baixol area, stopping for *Carduncellus monspeliensis*, *Filago pyramidata*, *Phlomis herba-venti*, *Teucrium aureum*, *Leuzea conifera* in flower and *Onosma bubanii*, an endemic to central Spanish Pyrenees. This little stop also provided some interesting insects a very large Sickle-bearing Bush-cricket and a very large scream from Amanda who had found a very exciting Praying Mantis – *Empusa pennata*.

Reflecting over a beer, the day had been quite spectacular in both plants and butterflies, and of course the warm weather, let's hope it continues for the next few days.

Day 7 Thursday 17th June Collegats gorge – Sant Llorenç de Montgai

The blue skies were still showing for this morning's journey to the south. The moth-ers were also out checking the barn wall, on a dodgy looking ladder. They had found a super little Green Gem, Essex Emerald and Thistle Ermine. Once photos had been taken of the moths, they were released and we made our way south.

Our first stop was along the old road that runs beside the Collegats Gorge tunnel. We were heading for 'Gaudi's Inspiration', an unusual rock formation within the cliff face, where Antonio Gaudi the modern Art Nouveau artist was thought to be inspired by the natural

formations, which he tried to recreate in his now infamous and unique style of architecture. However, there was no need for inspiration today, as Crag Martins flew low, Alpine Swifts raced above our heads to answer the deafening calls of their young in the cliff face. Griffon Vultures, Raven, Red-billed Chough and Egyptian Vultures took to the thermals above our heads as the day started to warm up.

The cliff walls were decorated with a variety of plants in particular the impressive *Saxifraga longifolia*, as well as *Laserpitium flabellatum*, *Laserpitium gallicum*, *Digitalis lutea*, *Campanula scheuchzeri*, *Campanula catalonica*, *Linum bienne*, and some lovely specimens of *Sarcocapnos enneaphylla* actually on the inspiration itself. Walking back a charming clump of *Stachelina dubia* was attracting a flurry of butterflies particular whites, and other insects. The temperature was bringing out the butterflies, Clouded Yellows and Cleopatras flew by, as well as Marbled Fritillary, Painted Ladies, Little Blue and a delightful male Long-tailed Blue. Walking back, two Nettle-tree Butterflies were recorded. It was very hard this morning to tear ourselves away from such an exciting stop, especially as the temperature was soaring and more butterfly species were flying around.

A brief stop was made at the bottom of Santa Engracia road for the elusive, but beautiful European Bee-eaters, which last year were sitting on the dead trees next to where we parked. Today, the only evidence of them was a brief call somewhere over-head, and a fly-by by one over the car as we continued our journey south. Nevertheless, the stop was an excellent site for butterflies. Peter drew everyone's attention to a Golden Oriole and Woodchat Shrike sitting on top of the trees.

Lunch again was sited next to something spectacular, the stupendous landscape of the surrounding valley that we had just driven through. The scorched red sandstone against the blue sky, a flowing white crested mountain stream, while in the foreground a gorgeous flowering Pomegranate tree, having the effect of a picture postcard. Lunch was eaten under the shade of the trees, while the Goldfinches tinkled merrily above our heads.

From here it was a short journey to the Sant Llorenç de Montgai area, stopping briefly at the lake. Great Reed Warbler was calling as we stepped out of the vehicles. Exploring the area, more flowering Pomegranate bushes were found, as well as *Clematis flammula*, Red-horned Poppy, Ivy Broomrape, Black Swallow-wort and the *Pistachia terebinthus* tree. It was while looking at this tree that Geoff and Mary got a surprise when they found some very interesting gall balls, they exploded all over them. Returning to the vehicles two Purple Herons took to flight as we started to move off.

The temperature was becoming quite unbearable as we emerged for our last stop. However, that did not stop people from watching a family of Subalpine Warblers feeding, or spot new species of butterflies such as, Mediterranean and Southern Marbled Skippers, or Hummingbird Hawkmoth, Swallowtails, Cleopatra, various browns, and Clouded Yellows flying around. The insects were feeding off a variety of plants, *Centaurea calcitrapa*, Wild Clary, *Anthemis cotula*, *Torilis japonica*, *Dittrichia viscosa*, *Echinops sphaerocephalus*, *Scabiosa atropurpurea* or *Rhamnus alaternus*. A Gold-ringed Dragonfly was also being admired, before Margaret saw a spot on top of the cliff, which turned out to be a Blue Rock Thrush.

The journey back home was mainly through stunning landscapes, and relatively quiet although a Peregrine was seen on the last stretch to Alins. Most people were welcoming the late afternoon beer at the hotel, and chatting over the days activities, while Effie gave an update on the weather in France; overcast in Arreau, but bright sunshine in Gavarnie.

After dinner most people went to pack. Barry and Liz went out for a late evening walk and were rewarded with views of a Pine Marten scaling the church and 10 glow-worms next to the old church in the village, nice.

Day 8 Thursday 18th June Alins – Arreau via Bonaigua & Col du Portillon

At breakfast we formally thanked our hosts who had looked after us so well during our week's visit. We examined the morning's moths (Figure of Eight and Bordered Straw) before leaving this charming little Pyrenean village, and headed once again for the Bonaigua pass. The air was clear and all views crystal making the scenic journey magical.

The old road was our first port of call, to investigate if there were any new species, *Sisymbrium austriacum*, *Malva moschata*, *Campanula glomerata*, and *Campanula patula*, before joining the stop-and-go queues along the road, where the workforce were widening or filling in the holes. We stopped briefly at the pass, before continuing to Vielha and then turning in the direction of Col du Portillon, twisting and turning along the road towards the French border.

At the border we paused for a short walk to investigate the summit's vegetation, which had become more lush and moist due to the nature of the conifer and deciduous woodland, before moving on to a babbling brook for *Saxifraga hirsuta*, *Valeriana pyrenaica*, and some lovely clumps of *Meconopsis cambrica*. Lunch was at a quiet picnic site with wooden tables under the spreading boughs of a Sweet Chestnut. A few flowering spikes of Martagon Lilies were found and admired.

Moving on to the higher open slopes at Garin, a mixture of plants and butterflies were recorded, including *Ranunculus gouanii*, Pyrenean Squill, Piedmont, and Bright-eyed Ringlet. We arrived at the quaint but fashionable Hotel Angletterre in the centre of Arreau for about 6pm.

Day 9 Thursday 19th June Valle de Rioumajou – Spain via Bielsa Tunnel

What a dismal start to the day, the clouds laid low over the mountains, a big contrast to the last week of sunshine in Spain. However, the swifts and swallows still screeched around the roof tops, giving the belief that the weather could only get better. Breakfast was a pleasant affair with a wide choice, and yoghurt. David also enthralled us about the exploits of a few Green Tortrix moths that had decided to visit his moth trap on the window ledge that night. Margaret and he had been struggling for the early part of the morning to catch and release them, hundreds of them.

Due to the weather we changed our plan slightly and headed for Valle de Rioumajou and south through the Bielsa tunnel back into Spain, rather than head for the spectacular landscape of Néouvielle, hoping that tomorrow will be a better day for that. Rioumajou itself is a spectacular valley gorge, and the low cloud produced a mystical enchanted effect to the edge of the wood. At present the rain was holding off and we walked along the road that was nestled between the lush damp wood and the rapid ice blue stream refreshing the soul from the raging noise and mist. The huge boulders were home to the wonderful Ramonda, much to the delight to several members of the group who were eager to see this species, and they weren't disappointed. This area also produced *Saxifraga paniculata*, and *Saxifraga umbrosa*, amongst the rocks, as well as an assortment of mosses and ferns such as Black and Green Spleenworts, while a couple of wonderful spikes of Birdsnest Orchid were hiding under a hazel. There were some splendid shows of Greater Butterwort, Spiked Pyrenean Speedwell, *Sanicula europaea*, *Arenaria grandiflora*, Dusky Crane's-bill, and a single *Polygala minor* was found along the woodside edge. Fairy Foxglove, Common Valerian, and *Dactylorhiza fuchsii* created a very splendid pink affair to the ice blue of the rushing river.

We headed further along the road to try and find the delightful *Moneses uniflora*, which was the only spot Paul had found for this species last year. However our path was blocked by road works and we had to turn back, stopping briefly to investigate a small wooded area for this species but to no avail, although we did find some splendid *Lathyrus ochraceus* and *Ononis rotundifolia* along the roadside.

From here we headed towards the Spanish side of the Pyrenees and 3km down through the Bielsa Tunnel, to emerge the other side in sunshine, what a difference. We were looking for a fruitful lunch stop, which appeared in the style of a disused building with a veranda. However, the short journey had some dramatic rock faces, some of which were adorned with splendid displays of *Saxifraga longifolia*, and Margaret spotted a Dipper from the bus in the more subtle slow moving water of the new valley.

Paul, Amanda, and Geoff prepared the picnic while the rest of the group had a wander around to see what was about. The bramble bush was a particular interest as it had some wonderful and very photographic Great Green Bush-cricket, although not yet fully developed as adults, you could tell the difference between the males and females. Griffon Vultures circled above our heads, and over the cliffs, and a Lammergeier was spotted joining them. During lunch Paul found a couple of particularly nice specimens of *Monotropa hypopitys*, as well as the lovely *Asperula aristata* and *Teucrium pyrenaicum*.

Once everyone was back in the vehicles we headed back towards France, first stopping off for a special find, *Iris latifolia*. The sun was now beating down on us, the blue sky was all around, and the noise and movement of the grassland spot was incredible. It was alive with a mixture of orthoptera and we found it very hard to walk through the grass and follow the burst of butterflies that were now bouncing around, without bursts of movement with every step from the grasshoppers. Butterflies included the usual browns, but Liz had a lovely Scarce Copper.

Unfortunately we had to leave this hive of activity and make our way back to France. Would the weather have lifted? No. When we emerged it was a stark blank canvas, a dramatic contrast to the colourful painting we had just left behind in Spain. Nonetheless, we stopped just outside of the tunnel to scale the misty grassy slopes in search of more species. Disappearing into the

mist we found a new species for the trip, the colourful Pyrenean Vetch. The vetch was scattered throughout the short turf of the slopes with Pyrenean Hawksbit, Cardamine resedifolia and Pyrenean Mountain Thistle. A solitary boulder provided a mixture of plants including the fascinating Forked Spleenwort, Saxifraga exarata, and Saxifraga stellaris.

Some of the group split and as they walked further up the slope the hanging mist gave them a gray shadow silhouette before they disappeared and re-emerged with exciting news of briefly seeing a Pyrenean Desman. The strange semi-aquatic mammal that frequents mountain streams.

Tree Pipits could be heard calling all around us, but the mist wasn't lifting, and nothing else could be seen so we made the slow journey back to the hotel.

Dinner was an interesting affair, very much French cuisine, but on the menu was a dessert Liz had been waiting for all week . . . chocolate.

Day 10 Thursday 20th June Reserve Naturelle de Neouvielle – Piau Engaly

The granite massif of Néouvielle is remarkable for the number of its lakes, its beautiful landscapes, and forests. Much of the massif lies within the 'réserve naturelle du Néouvielle', which was created in 1935. A bit of pub trivia, the name Néouvielle ('old snow') derives from nèu vielha in the [Occitan language](#) – nèu meaning 'snow' and vielha meaning 'old'. It is thought to refer to the many [glaciers](#) that used to belong to the region. It is a paradise for botanists, walkers, and photographers, due to the dramatic landscape created from towering mountains, framed by torrent waterfalls and raging streams, decorated by the colourful flora of the area, one can understand why it is a photographer's paradise. We had left this site until last in hope that the clouds would lift.

Unfortunately, a heavy mist was residing, which followed us for most of the morning as we made our way slowly, following the river to the Reserve Naturelle de Neouvielle. However, it did not stop us from exploring a damp roadside meadow, which proved very productive. Among the assortment of species were a couple of very damp Clouded Apollos, the impressive *Molopospermum peloponnesiacum*, *Acinos alpinus*, *Carex hirta*, *Athyrium filix-femina*, *Brimeura amethystina*, and a nice sward of orchids, as well as a Beech Marten that scampered across the road.

Moving further on we stopped briefly for some excellent views of Citril Finches, Daphne mezereum, Snowbell and an interesting Veronica, before reaching the lake. The over hanging mist gave the towering mountains a curtain veil, which opened now and again allowing us to glimpse the stupendous landscape of the area. Among the plants were Chamois Cress, Moss Champion, and a grand mixture of Sedums, *Sedum alpestre*, *Sedum annuum* and *Sedum atratum*, as well as *Galium pyrenaicum*, *Saxifraga exarata* and *Sibbaldia procumbens*, most of these plants were referred to as connoisseur plants!

Lunch was at a lake lower down in the valley, while Paul, Geoff, and Amanda were preparing the food they were distracted by a male Ring Ouzel feeding in the wet area and a dazzling clump of Spring Gentian. The rest of the group went to admire the vista of the peaks which

were showing very well now that the clouds had lifted. The weather had brightened up and we started to move back down the road, stopping again at the first meadow. What a difference now that the sun was out. Several Clouded Apollos were on the wing along with Adonis Blues, Orange-tips, Heath Fritillary, Brown Argus, Burnet Champion, Libelloides coccajus, and Griffon Vultures flew over head. Unfortunately, we didn't have much time at his spot as it was spoilt by some French campers wanting to camp where we were standing.

The day ended with a brief stop at the ski station, Piau-Engaly, for Chamois. We were not to be disappointed as nine animals were seen along the hill side and with the telescopes out, everyone had some lovely views of this wonderful animal. Meanwhile, two cheeky Alpine Marmots were also attracting our attention, by chasing each other below us. Making our way back we stopped off at one of the flowery meadows to examine the Lesser Butterfly Orchids. There were some interesting butterflies, Bright-eyed Ringlets, a pair of lovely Purple-edged Coppers, Black-veined White Butterfly and Black-veined White Moth, as well as a striking iridescent blue Forester species of moth. It was a lovely end to an interesting and varied day.

Day 11 Thursday 21st June Col de Aspin – Col de Tourmalet – Gavarnie

Today we were moving on towards the spectacular area of Gavarnie. At least the cloud had lifted somewhat to show the beautiful surroundings of this valley, before we set off on the winding route towards Col de Aspin. We briefly looked back down to Arreau as we reached the top, before the clouds started to roll in and the views became obscured. The dramatic rolling dark grey columns punctuated the sky, adding shape and character to the disappearing landscape, while the clanking bells of the cows deadened the descending silence.

Continuing our journey north we stopped to admire a splendid patch of *Eryngium bourgatii*, and after further investigation we found, *Trifolium ochroleuca*, *Prunella grandiflora*, *Dianthus monspessulanum* scattered among the rocks. A superb clump of *Cardus nutans* attracted everyone's attention as well as various *Bombus* spp. feeding on the flower heads. However, time flies and we had to move on, pausing for a convenient spot at the very touristy ski resort of Tourmalet, passing the Llama's on the roadside before reaching the pass and our next stop. The cloud had been following us and we watched it roll up the valley behind us. This had an added advantage as it meant that the Griffon Vultures were soaring low underneath it. At one point three were soaring just above our heads, giving us a chance to see how large these birds really are.

Red-billed Choughs could be heard calling in the mist, while the jolly Snow Finches were to be found loitering near the car park. We parked the vehicles and walked up to investigate the slopes, not really finding anything different, apart from *Potentilla brauneana* and *Laserpitium latifolium*. The weather all changed on the other side of the pass, it was brighter and no sign of cloud. The landscape opened out onto a mountainous valley, where the views were breathtaking, and paragliders could be seen using the thermals to manoeuvre around the mountain areas, while we were using the road to wind around the mountain.

Our next stop was the Botanical Gardens, which gave people a chance to refresh their memory of the alpine species they had just been seeing, and some new species that we would hopefully find on the French side. A couple of interesting finds were *Fritillaria pyrenaica*, and *Gentiana pumila delphinensis*, which were growing in the wild part of the garden, most unexpected.

Lunch was slightly further down next to a fast flowing mountainous stream. While lunch was being prepared people were enjoying the spectacular coloured scenery of their surroundings, or stalking the various butterflies or day-flying moths that were fluttering about teasing people as they flew off just as the autofocus had focused. The fields were full of yellow rattle giving the hillside slopes a lime tint to the green, with the usual suspects of butterflies, as well as Purple-edged Copper, Large Wall Brown, Hummingbird Hawkmoth, Frosted Yellow, Burnet Companion and a beautiful blue form of Forester spp. Interesting plant finds included Tansy-leaved Rocket, *Myrrhis odorata*, *Senecio adonidifolius*, *Listera ovata*, Common Butterwort, and purple pink orchid swards of *Dactylorhiza fuchsii*, *Dactylorhiza maculata*, and *Gymnadenia conopsea* within the marshy flushes and along the roadside slopes. This turned out to be another delightful stop and scrumptious picnic. We eventually tore ourselves away from this lovely little spot to continue our journey stopping for beautiful clumps of *Lilium pyrenaicum* and *Ramonda myconii*.

Hotel Le Marbore is an old fashioned Inn, with some interesting characters be they stuffed, such as the foxes and badgers that greet you in the lobby, or madam herself. It is located just outside the main hub of the town, but 'one' can still see the incredible views of the horseshoe cirque.

Rooms were sorted and everyone reconvened for an early dinner, after which much to David's pleasure, he eventually got to put his moth trap out. Fingers-crossed we should get some interesting moths in the morning.

Day 12 Thursday 22nd June Col de Tentes – Valle de Ossoue

The morning was clear blue and the Cirque de Gavarnie stood proudly as the morning light lit up its crown a beautiful orange. Meanwhile the moth-ers had been up since 6am examining the trap, and were ascertaining the identification of the various moths, such as the beautiful Peppered Moth, Shears, Dusky Brocade and Bordered Gothic. By 8.30 everyone had had breakfast and were ready to meet the challenges of the day.

We were heading for altitude this morning with a visit to Col de Tentes, a different part of the Cirque. This use to be another entry into Spain, but is now closed off by a line of large boulders. Driving up the valley we stopped now and again to watch the Alpine Marmots chase each other over the short turf, and to allow the sheep to pass.

At the car park, photographic shots were made of the immense mountainous valley, before walking on to examine the flora. The acid flora was exceptionally weak with only a few *Ranunculus pyrenaicus* and gentians punctuating the thick grass sward, but on further exploration of the boulder outcrops, there were a few superb flowering rosettes of *Primula hirsuta* holding on in the crevices, while *Silene acaulis* over hung the edges. An Alpine Accentor

sang from the top of the boulder, before being joined by another and fluttering off around the rocks.

The road ribboned around the mountain as we descended down into the valley, pausing at one of the rippling mountain streams, where the rocky outcrops produced some fine examples of *Potentilla alchemilloides*, *Potentilla montana*, *Androsace villosa*, *Draba aizoides*, *Viola rupestris*, *Acinos alpinus* and Chamois Cress. However, it was the stream that got everyone's attention as this is where Paul pulled out of the bag, with his first catch, a lovely male Pyrenean Brook Salamander, an endemic to this area.

We stopped short of the bridge to see if we could find a Camberwell Beauty that Paul had seen in the area last year. Unfortunately not, but there were a beautiful variety of butterflies such as Swallowtails, Green Hairstreak, Large Wall Brown, or Brown and Mountain Argus flouncing around feeding off the various plants. The wind had abated so photography and plant hunting was a bit more relaxed, as people potted around and scrutinized the different plants, *Lonicera pyrenaica*, a lovely example of *Sorbus mougeotii*, and Large Yellow Restharrow.

Lunch time was rapidly approaching as we turned into the Valle de Ossoue, and we headed to the end where the valley opened up to alpine meadows. Paul, Geoff, and Amanda set to at once to sort out lunch, while the group potted around the area or strode across the meadows to get that photographic shot of kaleidoscopic colour.

Once lunch was finished we turned the vehicles round and spent the rest of the afternoon exploring along the valley, marvelling at nature's creation of colour and formation. The rocks were littered with a variety of plants from *Chaenorrhimum organifolium*, *Kernera saxatilis*, *Helianthemum apenninum*, *Linaria supina*, *Androsace villosa*, *Geum pyrenaicum*, a variety of rampions including *Phyteuma charmelii*. There were also some fine examples of *Brimeura amethystina*, a splendid example of *Saxifraga longifolia*, and next to it was an interesting soapwort *Saponaria caespitosa*.

Day 13 Thursday 23rd June Cirque de Troumouse – Cirque Gavarnie

It was yet another wonderful blue day in which to enjoy the day's activities. The moth trap this morning had produced quite a selection of goodies, including Reddish Light Arches, Clouded Buff, Dew Moth, Alder Moth, Purple Bar, and *Obsibotys fuscalis*. After breakfast the morning saw us climb up the picturesque minor road towards the Cirque de Troumouse. Scattered rosy clumps of Alpine Rockrose brightened up the encircling grey mountain slopes, which were broken by thin vibrant wallfalls that slithered down the mountain side. Our first stop was below the Auberge du Maillet restaurant among the resting cows that watched us carefully, as we roamed around the area.

We explored the gravel river bed and short wet turf of the braided river valley, which produced some lovely examples of *Iberis sempervirens spathulata*, *Pinguicula grandiflora*, *Androsace chamaejasme*, *Viola biflora* and the very delicate translucent paper like *Paronychia polygonifolia*. Red-billed and Alpine Chough could be seen wheeling round and feeding together on the grassy slopes. A Lammergeier flew tight to the mountain side, providing a

challenge in giving directions of its whereabouts. From here we searched among the larger boulders finding interesting species, such as *Phyteuma hemisphaericum*, and *Leontodon pyrenaicum*.

The road was a steeper climb up to the Cirque de Troumouse, via a series of hairpin bends, ending in a large car park, with the impressive vista of the Cirque around us. A short walk across the turf and we were finding *Gentiana alpina*, *Gentiana acaulis*, *Primula integrifolia*, *Primula farinosa*, *Viola palustris*, and *Gentiana brachyphylla*, scattered around the top of the short turf and along the stream gully running through the valley. We walked towards the top to see if we could see any Chamois on the other side, but none was spotted.

Walking back more shots of the attractive trumpet gentians were taken before we headed back down, twisting around the bends before stopping for lunch. Even though our last picnic was not next to a riotous colourful meadow or babbling brook, we were engulfed between the strength and power of the surrounding mountains, giving serenity to the spot. Everyone sat listening or eating to the mountain silence and taking in the overpowering wilderness of the scenery. The scattered boulders where we sat, were encrusted with lichens, and decorated with *Ramonda myconii*, *Saxifraga paniculata* and *Sempervivum montanum*. This gave the group plenty of scope for that prize winning shot, the modest colours were accentuated against the grey of the rock and blue of the sky. Griffons soared, Ravens honked, and a male Wheatear displayed momentarily before dropping down the side of the slope, and Alpine Marmots scurried about the grassy slopes, alerting us to their whereabouts by the odd loud whistle.

Paul had sorted out the rest of this morning's moth trap findings and then got those who were interested to seat on the wall in a line, before passing the pots so all could have a look. This was reminiscence of 'pass-the-parcel'; they were all very excited about it all as well, particularly over Varied Coronet, Small Argent and Sable, and Mottled Pug. Afterwards we started to make our way back to Gavarnie, by which time the temperature had risen and the lovely vivid flowery verges were alive with butterflies, particularly with Apollos.

After a short stop back at the hotel, those of the group who wanted to, departed for the Cirque de Gavarnie. It was while waiting for the group to re-group, Amanda found a dead juvenile Asp Viper at the hotel, which the madam was not too keen about, but as luck would have it Paul found a live one on our walk towards the Cirque. Once everyone had assembled we made the short trip down to the start of the walk and joined the hordes of other tourist who wanted to view the spectacular landscapes of the Cirque. The picturesque circular walk took the group alongside the ice-blue mountain river, where a Spotted Flycatcher was feeding from the fence line and the meadows were alive with chirping crickets and the buzz of busy insects feeding off the flower heads that created a colourful pattern within the lush alpine fields.

People turned back when they had enough and everyone reconvened for our final meal and to recollect the wonderful memories of the holiday, and in true British style how wonderful the weather had been.

Day 14 Thursday 24th June Gavarnie – Toulouse

It was a very early start this morning, but everyone was packed and the vehicles loaded before 6.30am. We even had time for tea and coffee, which the madam had left out for us to help ourselves.

The journey was uneventful, we reached Toulouse airport on schedule, said our farewells, and reflected on a very productive trip, where the weather stayed favourable, and the species bountiful. Everyone had enjoyed themselves and had seen plenty of species in the process.

Systematic List Number 1 Plants

The taxonomy is based on various works, but mainly Flora Europaea; the published volumes of Flora Iberica; and 'La Grande Flore Illustrée des Pyrénées' by Marcel Saule, 2002. This list has continued to grow and be added to over the last fifteen years or so of our Pyrenees tours. Botanical notes in square brackets are retained from Owen Mountford's earlier list. Several species were added to the list in 2009 and are thus annotated. A few species recorded in 2008 but not this year are annotated 2008.

Itinerary

- Day 1.** Thursday 11th June:- Arrival, Toulouse to Alins
Day 2. Friday 12th June:- Tor valley
Day 3. Saturday 13th June:- Col de Perbes, Pont de Suert, Montanana to Tresp road
Day 4. Sunday 14th June:- Port de la Bonaigua, Vielha Tunnel
Day 5. Monday 15th June:- Aigues Tortes National Park
Day 6. Tuesday 16th June:- Salas, Santa Engracia road, Baixols, Collado del Canto
Day 7. Wednesday 17th June:- Collegats - Gaudi's Inspiration, Santa Engracia, St.Llorenc
Day 8. Thursday 18th June:- Transfer from Alins, via Col du Portillon and Col de Peyresourde, to Arreau
Day 9. Friday 19th June:- Rioumajou, Spain, Bielsa
Day 10. Saturday 20th June:- Neouvielle, Piau-Engaly
Day 11. Sunday 21st June:- Arreau, via Col d'Aspin and Col du Tourmalet to Gavarnie
Day 12. Monday 22nd June:- Col de Tentes and Ossoue valley
Day 13. Tuesday 23rd June:- Troumouse valley and Cirque, towards Cirque de Gavarnie
Day 14. Wednesday 24th June:- to Toulouse and departure

Equisetaceae

- Equisetum arvense* - Common Horsetail - Scattered records
[Regular whorls of branches and sheaths with 6-12 teeth]
Equisetum pratense - Shade Horstail - Salas
Equisetum telmateia - Giant Horsetail - Santa Engracia etc.
[Robust whitish stems, regular whorls and sheaths with 20-30 teeth]
Equisetum fluviatile - Water Horsetail - France
Equisetum palustre - Marsh Horsetail - Scattered records, e.g. Salas

Ophioglossaceae

- Botrychium lunaria* - Moonwort - Vielha tunnel, and Ossoue Valley (2008)
[Forked frond: sterile 1-pinnate (moon-shaped segments and fertile like grapes)]
Ophioglossum vulgatum - Adder's tongue Fern - Perbes 2009, very small examples

Cryptogrammaceae

- Cryptogramma crispa* - Parsley Fern – not recorded 2009
[Low dimorphic 3-pinnate fern, resembling parsley]

Adiantaceae

- Adiantum capillus-veneris* - Maidenhair Fern - on rocks near 'Gaudi's Inspiration'

Blechnaceae

- Blechnum spicant* - Hard Fern - Gavarnie area 2009

Polypodiaceae

Polypodium vulgare - Common Polypody - widespread
[Small-medium singly pinnate, outline lanceolate]

Hypolepidaceae

Pteridium aquilinum - Bracken - woodland edges and upland edges
[Familiar tall branched fern]

Aspleniaceae

Asplenium adiantum-nigrum - Black Spleenwort - Sheltered rocks, e.g. Tor road and Vielha
[Small 2-3 pinnate leathery fern]

Asplenium ruta-muraria - Wall-rue - France, on basic rock
[Small dark green 2-pinnate tufted fern, diamond-shaped segments]

Asplenium septentrionale - Forked Spleenwort - scattered records on acid rocks, e.g. Bielsa and Neouvielle
[Small fern: irregularly 1-3 forked]

Asplenium trichomanes - Maidenhair Spleenwort - widespread, rock crevices, e.g. Tor, Collegats, Rioumajou
[Small 1-pinnate tufted fern, dark rhachis]

Asplenium viride - Green Spleenwort - rocks, Rioumajou

Asplenium forisiense - Rock Spleenwort - rocks low on the Tor road

Ceterach officinarum - Rusty back Fern - walls and rocks, e.g. Alins

Woodsiaceae

Athyrium filix-femina - Lady Fern – woods, France
[Graceful, large 2-3 pinnate fern, sickle-shaped indusia]

Athyrium distentifolium - Alpine Lady Fern - Vielha and Aigues Tortes

Cystopteris fragilis - Brittle Bladder-fern - Humid crevices, Tor, Peyresourde, Rioumajou
[Delicate, 2-3 pinnate, tufted]

Gymnocarpium dryopteris - Oak Fern - Shaded rocks, France and Aigues Tortes
[Triangular 3-pinnate, creeping]

Dryopteridaceae

Dryopteris filix-mas - Male Fern – Woodland, France
[Familiar large 2-pinnate fern, pinnule with acute teeth]

Dryopteris borreri - Tor and Rioumajou

Polystichum aculeatum - Hard Shield-fern – woodland, e.g. Rioumajou
[Like Male Fern, but leathery, bristle-like teeth]

Polystichum lonchitis - Holly Fern - montane rock, e.g. Aigues Tortes, Bielsa
[1-pinnate, leathery, pinnae with auricle at base]

CONIFERS

Pinaceae

Abies alba - Silver Fir - forest dominant locally
[Big tree needle-leaves borne singly on twigs but not on peg projection]

Picea abies - Norway Spruce - forest
[From last by leaves borne on persistent pegs]

Pinus halepensis - Aleppo Pine - near St.Llorenç

Pinus nigra - Austrian Pine - widespread
[Like Scots Pine, but needles 6-18cm & 1-2mm wide. Ssp. *salzmannii*]

Pinus sylvestris - Scots Pine - very widespread
[2 needle pine, leaves <7cm long, cones pendent. Mainly “var. *pyrenaica*”]

Pinus uncinata - a mountain pine - locally dominant, e.g. Tor and Aigues Tortes
[From last by upright cone, bright green not glaucous]

Larix decidua - Larch - forest
[deciduous conifer]

Cupressaceae

Cupressus sempervirens - Italian Cypress - planted on verges etc. in south, sub-Mediterranean zone
[Conifer tree with tiny paired scale-like leaves - columnar form, var. *pyramidalis*]

Juniperus communis - Common Juniper - ssp. *alpina* and ssp. *communis*
[Aromatic shrub, needle-leaves (whorls of 3), black berry-like cone]

Juniperus o. oxycedrus - Prickly Juniper - Baixols area
[From last by red-purple berry-like cone and 2 (not 1) glaucous bands]

Juniperus phoenicea - Phoenicean Juniper - sub-Mediterranean zone

Ephedraceae

Ephedra distachya - a Joint Pine - Baixols area, St.Llorenç

FLOWERING PLANTS

DICOTYLEDONS

Salicaceae

Populus alba - White Poplar - scattered
[Familiar suckering tree whose maple-like leaves are white downy below]

Populus nigra - Black Poplar - scattered
[Tall tree, fluttering leaves shaped like ace of spades]

Populus tremula - Aspen - widespread
[From last by rounded, sinuate-toothed leaves]

Salix alba - White Willow - scattered
[Tall tree whose linear-lanceolate leaves are appressed white silky]

Salix breviserrata - Finely-toothed Willow - Vielha tunnel

Salix caprea - Sallow - scattered
[Big shrub, ovate leaves grey-hairy beneath]

Salix cinerea - Grey Willow - scattered

Salix phylicifolia - possibly this species at Tor

Salix elaeagnos - Olive Willow - scattered, e.g. near Pont de Suert
[Waterside shrub with narrow leaves, white-woolly beneath]

Salix purpurea - Purple Willow - by rivers
[Oblanceolate, glaucous, sub-opposite leaves]

Salix x sepulchralis - Weeping Willow - planted
[Large-tree, narrow yellowish leaves, pendant branches]

Juglandaceae

Juglans regia - Walnut
[Tree with alternate pinnate leaves, 7-9 ovate leaflets - chambered pith]

Betulaceae

Alnus glutinosa - Common Alder - by water
[Familiar tree with blunt roundish leaves and fruits like small cones]

Betula pendula - Silver Birch - frequent at moderate altitudes on forest edges
[Familiar slender tree with whitish bark and small heart-shaped leaves]

Corylaceae

Corylus avellana - Hazel - woodland at lower levels
[Familiar shrub with roundish leaves]

Fagaceae

- Castanea sativa* - Sweet Chestnut - in France en route to Arreau
Fagus sylvatica - Beech - locally dominant, submontane forest
[Majestic forest tree: grey bark & oval leaves]
Quercus coccifera - Kermes Oak - sub-Mediterranean scrub
[Shrub or tree with evergreen, holly-like leaves]
Quercus faginea - an oak - Santa Engracia area etc.
[Semi-evergreen tree with toothed wavy-edged leaves and hairy beneath]
Quercus ilex - Holm Oak - Santa Engracia area etc.
[Evergreen tree with lanceolate leaves paler (downy) beneath]
Quercus petraea - Sessile Oak - recorded
Quercus pyrenaica - Pyrenean Oak - scattered records
[Deciduous tree, pinnatifid leaves]
Quercus pubescens - Downy Oak - widespread

Ulmaceae

- Celtis australis* - Nettle Tree - Sub-Mediterranean scrub, e.g. Salas
[Deciduous tree, alternate leaves, 1-serrate, asymmetric base]
Ulmus minor - Small-leaved Elm - scattered
[Similar, but leaves doubly serrate, rounder; tree freely suckering]
Ulmus glabra - Wych Elm - Gavarnie, Tor

Moraceae

- Ficus carica* - Fig - sub-Mediterranean scrub
[Familiar tree with large palmately-lobed leaves and large dark fruit]
Morus alba - White Mulberry - lower altitudes

Cannabaceae

- Humulus lupulus* - Hop
[Climber, rough, opposite 3-5 lobed leaves]

Urticaceae

- Parietaria judaica* - Pellitory-of-the-wall - widespread in Spain
Urtica dioica - Stinging Nettle - common everywhere
[Familiar coarse stinging weed]

Loranthaceae

- Viscum album* - Mistletoe - lower altitudes in France

Santalaceae

- Thesium alpinum* - Alpine Bastard Toadflax - Tor and Aigues Tortes
Thesium divaricatum - Branched Bastard Toadflax - Spain, e.g. Baixols
Thesium pyrenaicum - Pyrenean Bastard Toadflax - Vielha
Osyris alba - sub-Mediterranean scrub

Aristolochiaceae

- Aristolochia pistolochia* - a birthwort - Santa Engracia and Baixols area, 2008

Polygonaceae

- Reynoutria sachalinensis* - Giant Knotweed
Fallopia convolvulus - Black-bindweed - Salas
Polygonum bistorta - Bistort - meadows
[Pink spikes, leaves lanceolate with winged stalk]
Polygonum viviparum - Alpine Bistort - Vielha tunnel
[White spikes, giving way below to reddish bulbils, linear-lanceolate leaves]

Polygonum aviculare - Common Knotgrass - scattered
 [Familiar weed]
Polygonum equisetiforme - Salas 2009
Polygonum persicaria - Redshank
Rumex acetosa - Common Sorrel - meadows
 [Like a dock with arrow-shaped leaf, and no warts on fruit]
Rumex acetosella - Sheep's Sorrel - open stony sites
 [More slender, spreading leaf-lobes; ssp. *pyrenaicus*]
Rumex obtusifolius - Broad-leaved Dock
 [Familiar coarse weed with broad leaves]
Rumex alpinus - Monk's Rhubarb - local by cattle enriched areas
 [Typical dock, but leaves almost round and no warts on fruit]
Rumex scutatus - French Sorrel - scree
 [Grey "mitre"-leaves, spreading basal lobes]
Rumex crispus - Curled Dock

Chenopodiaceae

Chenopodium album - Fat Hen
 [Mealy annual, irregular-toothed lanceolate leaves, grey-green flowers]
Chenopodium bonus-henricus - Good King Henry - montane paths
 [More spicate head, leaves broad arrow-shaped]
Chenopodium vulvaria - Stinking Goosefoot - near Isona 2008, aptly named

Caryophyllaceae

Arenaria serpyllifolia - Thyme-leaved Sandwort - widespread
 [Erect annual: opposite oval leaves and small white flowers with star-like sepals]
Arenaria hispidula - a Sandwort - Santa Engracia area
Arenaria aggregata - a Sandwort - Perbes
Arenaria grandiflora - Large-flowered Sandwort - Rioumajou 2009
Minuartia mutabilis - recorded in France
Stellaria graminea - Lesser Stitchwort - widespread
 [From next by flowers only 5-12mm]
Stellaria holostea - Greater Stitchwort - widespread, shade
 [Long narrow leaves & white flowers 15-30mm]
Stellaria nemorum - Wood Stitchwort - Rioumajou
Stellaria media - Chickweed
Stellaria alsine - Bog Stitchwort - en route to France, 2009
Cerastium arvense - Field Mouse-ear - widespread and common
 [Perennial, mat-forming, white flowers ca 2cm, 5 styles]
Cerastium cerastoides - Starwort Mouse-ear
 [Similar, but almost hairless, flowers 9-15mm with 3 styles only]
Cerastium glomeratum - Sticky Mouse-ear - scattered
Cerastium fontanum - Common Mouse-ear - e.g. Vielha
Cerastium alpinum - Alpine Mouse-ear - Aigues Tortes, Bielsa, and Gavarnie area
Sagina procumbens - Mossy Pearlwort - Aigues Tortes
 [Mossy mat-forming perennial, 4 green sepals, no petals]
Sagina saginoides - Alpine Pearlwort - Peyresourde
Scleranthus perennis ssp. *polycnemoides* - Perennial Knawel - scattered, e.g. Aigues Tortes, Tor, Perbes
Scleranthus annuus - Annual Knawel - e.g. Vielha
Paronychia kapela - Perbes, Baixols, Gaudi's Inspiration
 [Low mat-forming perennial with very prominent silvery stipules and sepals]
Paronychia polygonifolia - widespread in France, also Vielha and Aigues Tortes
Herniaria glabra - Glabrous Rupturewort - e.g. Aigues Tortes
Herniaria hirsuta - Hairy Rupturewort - St.Llorenç 2009
Spergularia rubra - Sand Spurrey - Aigues Tortes, Vielha, etc.
Agrostemma githago - Corncockle - 1 at Santa Engracia 2008
Lychnis alpina - Alpine Catchfly - Bonaigua
 [Low, tufted perennial: compact head of dark pink flowers, deeply notched petals]

Lychnis coronaria - Rose Campion - naturalised in France
 [Like dark pink campion, but plant densely white hairy]

Lychnis flos-cuculi - Ragged Robin - moist areas
 [Familiar perennial with 4-lobed dark pink petals]

Silene acaulis - Moss Campion – a few in Gavarnie area, and Neouvielle
 [Moss-like cushions, linear leaves, pink flowers and very short stems [ssp. bryoides] - (9)]

Silene alba - White Campion - France, roadsides, and Gaudi's Inspiration

Silene dioica - Red Campion - e.g. roadsides below Bonaigua
 [Familiar large hairy red campion]

Silene nutans - Nottingham Catchfly - scattered, e.g. Rioumajou
 [Sticky perennial, spatulate leaves, nodding white flowers, petals rolled back and capsule 8-12mm]

Silene rupestris - Rock Campion - widespread on rocks, e.g. Tor and Vielhga
 [Low grey hairless perennial, clusters of 1cm white flowers]

Silene saxifraga - Tufted Catchfly - lower Tor valley
 [Tufted perennial, sticky with slender stems and white flowers bigger than last]

Silene viridiflora - a campion - a species very similar to this at Tor etc., but this species is out of range
 [Like *S. nutans* but greenish-white and capsule 12-14mm]

Silene vulgaris - Bladder Campion - widespread and common
 [Grey hairless perennial: white flowers, inflated calyces]

Silene gallica - Small-flowered Catchfly - near Baixols 2008

Saponaria caespitosa - a soapwort - Ossoue, a very good addition to the list 2009

Saponaria ocymoides - Rock Soapwort - widespread and very common
 [Low sprawling perennial, branched clusters of dark pink flowers 6-10mm, narrow oval leaves]

Saponaria officinalis - Common Soapwort - verges
 [Like hairless patch-forming pale pink campion]

Gypsophila repens - Alpine Gypsophila - Gavarnie

Petrorhagia prolifera - Proliferous Pink - Montanana road
 [Slender annual pink, flower cluster with brown papery bracts]

Petrorhagia nanteuillii - presumably this species at Perbes, 2009

Dianthus armeria - Deptford Pink - Perbes 2009

Dianthus carthusianorum - Carthusian Pink - Tor, and locally common Gavarnie area
 [From last by deep pink clusters, not flat-topped]

Dianthus seguieri - Seguier's Pink - Gavarnie area

Dianthus monspessulanum - a fringed pink - between Arreau and Tourmalet 2009

Ranunculaceae

Helleborus foetidus - Stinking Hellebore - widespread, scrub and rocks
 [Typical hellebore with digitate leaves (all on stem) and pale green flowers, edged purple]

Helleborus viridis ssp. occidentalis - Green Hellebore - widespread, shade
 [Has basal leaves, pure green flowers]

Trollius europaeus - Globe-flower - scattered records, e.g. Tor
 [Like large palmate-leaved buttercup with almost spherical yellow flowers 3-5cm]

Caltha palustris - Marsh-marigold - widespread in wet sites, e.g. Tor
 [Heart-shaped leaves and head of beaked pods (follicles)]

Aconitum napellus - Monk's-hood - Gavarnie

Aconitum anthora - Yellow Monk's-hood - noted in leaf at Tor

Anemone nemorosa - Wood Anemone - noted in leaf
 [Familiar delicate white flower]

Hepatica nobilis - Hepatica - in leaf at several sites, including Tor and Aigues Tortes, many still in flower in 2008
 [Basal leaves 3-lobed, purple beneath]

Pulsatilla alpina ssp. alpina - Alpine Pasque-flower - alpine turf, Aigues Tortes, white flowers

Pulsatilla alpina ssp. apiifolia - Alpine Pasque-flower - alpine turf, Aigues Tortes, pale yellow flowers

Pulsatilla vernalis - Spring Pasque-flower - a few in flower at Bonaigua, by recent snow-patches, and several fine flowers at Aigues Tortes [Stem-leaves unstalked, 1-pinnate, "petals" flushed pink]

Clematis flammula - Fragrant Clematis - St.Llorenç
 [Typical *Clematis* with 2-pinnate leaves]

Clematis vitalba - Traveller's Joy - scattered
 [Similar but more robust and 1-pinnate]

Adonis aestivalis - Pheasant's-eye - near Salas 2008
Ranunculus aconitifolius - Aconite-leaved Buttercup - Vielha tunnel
 [Leaves 5-7 lobed, leafy with numerous white flowers]
Ranunculus platanifolius - Vielha tunnel and Aigues Tortes
Ranunculus acris - Meadow Buttercup - meadows
 [Familiar perennial, palmate leaves and yellow flowers]
Ranunculus amplexicaulis - Amplexicaule Buttercup - Vielha tunnel, Bonaigua, and Aigues Tortes
 [White-flowered; lanceolate leaves clasp stem]
Ranunculus bulbosus - Bulbous Buttercup - scattered
 [Bulbous, reflexed sepals, 3-lobed leaves]
Ranunculus sardous - Hairy Buttercup - Tor
Ranunculus auricomus - Goldilocks buttercup - Tor
Ranunculus pyrenaicus - Pyrenean Buttercup - alpine turf, especially where snow lay late, e.g. Bonaigua and Aigues Tortes [White flowered; leaves blue-green, linear to lanceolate, not clasping stem]
Ranunculus repens - Creeping Buttercup - widespread
 [Familiar creeping herb, three distinct leaflets, sepals not reflexed]
Ranunculus gouanii - Gouan's Buttercup - widespread at higher altitudes
Ranunculus arvensis - Corn Buttercup - arable weed at Salas 2008
Aquilegia vulgaris - Columbine - widespread in woods and meadows
 [Familiar blue-purple flower with hooked spurs, not sticky – staminodes blunt]
Thalictrum aquilegifolium - Great Meadow-rue - Tor, Vielha, and widespread in France
 [2-3 pinnate, oval leaflets, branched flowerheads with prominent stamens]
Thalictrum tuberosum - a fine meadow-rue common at Plata Verde, also near Baixols, 2008
Thalictrum minus - Lesser Meadow-rue - Gavarnie and Ossoue

Papaveraceae

Chelidonium majus - Greater Celandine - Alins
 [Familiar plant: orange sap, yellow flower]
Glaucium corniculatum - Red-horned Poppy - near St.Llorenc 2009
Meconopsis cambrica - Welsh Poppy - Vielha tunnel and widespread in France
 [Perennial yellow poppy, yellow latex and ribbed ovoid-oblong pod]
Papaver dubium - Long-headed Poppy - scattered
 [Long-fruited poppy whose pods have no bristles]
Papaver rhoeas - Corn Poppy - widespread and common
 [Typical red poppy, often with black blotches, globular pods]

Fumariaceae

Fumaria officinalis - Common Fumitory - Santa Engracia area etc.
Fumaria vaillantii - a Fumitory - Tor
Sarcocapnos enneaphylla - Sarcocapnos - Several at 'Gaudi's Inspiration'
 [2-3 divided leaves, white corydalis-type flowers, short spurs]

Brassicaceae

Sisymbrium austriacum - Austrian Mustard - Vielha tunnel, below Bonaigua, and France
 [From next by pods more spreading, and slightly twisted]
Sisymbrium officinale - Hedge Mustard - recorded
 [Erect yellow cress, pinnately-lobed leaves, pods appressed to stem]
Sisymbrium irio - London Rocket - Alins
Murbeckiella pinnatifida - Murbeckiella - alpine turf, Aigues Tortes
 [White notched petals, narrow pods and pinnatifid leaves]
Hugueninia tanacetifolia ssp. *suffruticosa* - Tansy-leaved Rocket - lunch site day 11
 [Like Hedge Mustard, but perennial with 2-pinnately cut leaves and pods not appressed]
Alliaria petiolata - Garlic Mustard - shade
 [Familiar white mustard with heart-shaped leaves]
Erysimum duriaei ssp. *pyrenaicum* - a treacle-mustard - alpine rocks, Tor and Aigues Tortes
 [Tufted yellow perennial, lanceolate leaves; narrow pods, square in section, stigma 2-lobed.]
Erysimum sp. - a treacle mustard - Ossoue
Hesperis matronalis - Dame's Violet - scrub edges, white flowers
 [From familiar stock-like garden plant]

Barbarea vulgaris - Common Wintercress - scattered
Rorippa pyrenaica - Tor
Cardamine impatiens - Narrow-leaved Bittercress - scattered, shade, e.g. Neouvielle
 [Pinnate biennial, 5mm white flowers, long pods]
Cardamine pentaphyllos - Col du Portillon 2008
Cardamine heptaphylla - Seven-leaflet Bittercress - Rioumajou
Cardamine resedifolia - Mignonette-leaved Bittercress - Aigues Tortes and Bielsa
Cardamine pratensis - Lady's smock - Tor
Cardamine raphanifolia - Radish-leaved Bittercress - widespread by water, e.g. Tor, Aigues Tortes, Rioumajou
 [Reddish-violet perennial, pinnate (leaflets 3-11 and roundish) – narrow flattened pods]
Cardamine hirsuta - Hairy Bittercress - France
Arabis glabra - Tower Cress - Tor
 [Tall cream cress: hairless grey leaves clasping stem]
Arabis hirsuta - Hairy Rockcress - scattered records
 [Slender bristly unbranched white cress, pods pressed to stem]
Arabis turrita - Tower Rockcress - occasional in seed, e.g. Tor and Collegats
 [Tall softly hairy cress, long curved pods]
Arabis alpina - Alpine Rockcress - Gavarnie
Arabidopsis thaliana - Thale Cress - Tor
Lunaria rediviva - Perennial Honesty - noted on Day 8 at the lunch site
Clypeola jonthlaspi - scattered records in Spain, e.g. Tor
Draba aizoides - Yellow Whitlow-grass - rocks near Gavarnie
 [All leaves basal, narrow; yellow flowers, oval pods]
Erophila verna - Spring Whitlow-grass - in very late flower at Tor 2008
Kernera saxatilis - Gavarnie
Capsella bursa-pastoris - Shepherd's-purse - occasional in waste places
 [Familiar white cress with triangular fruit]
Pritzelago alpina - Chamois Cress - Bonaigua and Gavarnie
Thlaspi arvense - Field Pennycress
 [Familiar weed with round, broadly winged pods, deeply notched]
Thlaspi perfoliatum - Perfoliate Pennycress - Tor
 [Small hairless white annual with grey leaves clasping stem, petals <3mm]
Iberis s. spathulata - Spoon-leaved Candytuft - in flower and fruit on river gravels, Troumouse
 [Flat-topped fruiting head, flowers white or purplish]
Iberis sempervirens - Evergreen Candytuft - noted in Spain, Baixols area
Iberis amara - Pineta area, from the vehicle
Erucastrum nasturtiifolium - Neouvielle and Rioumajou
Biscutella laevigata - a buckler-mustard - scattered
Cardaria draba - Hoary Cress - roadsides in Spain
Lepidium campestre - Field Pepperwort - Tor 2009
Brassica repanda - Alpine Cabbage - Troumouse 2008
Coincya monensis ssp. recurvata - Wallflower Cabbage - Tor, Vielha, and Aigues Tortes
 [Like pinnate-lobed yellow hairy cabbage, long (3-9cm) beaked pods]

Resedaceae

Reseda glauca - Pyrenean Mignonette - Vielha, and locally common in France
 [Typical mignonette but with whitish flowers and linear leaves]
Reseda lutea - Wild Mignonette - dry grassy and rocky verges, scattered records
 [Differs in pinnatifid leaves and pale yellow flowers]
Reseda phyteuma - Corn Mignonette - lower altitudes in Spain
Sesamoides clusii - Sesamoides - turf and rocks, Bonaigua, Aigues Tortes and Peyresourde
 [Like tiny tufted mignonette, but arching linear leaved, dwarf perennial]

Droseraceae

Drosera rotundifolia - Round-leaved Sundew - a few at Vielha, second site, 2009

Crassulaceae

Sedum acre - Wallpepper - dry stony sites, widespread, e.g. Alins
 [Typical yellow thick-leaved perennial stonecrop, peppery taste]

Sedum album - White Stonecrop - similar habitats, e.g. Tor
 [Typical white perennial stonecrop, alternate glabrous leaves]
Sedum alpestre - a stonecrop - Neouvielle 2009
Sedum anglicum - English Stonecrop - Tor, Gavarnie
Sedum annuum - Annual Stonecrop - acid gravel, Bielsa and Neouvielle
 [Annual, often reddish, yellow flowers and oblong leaves]
Sedum atratum - Dark Stonecrop - Neouvielle
Sedum dasyphyllum - Thick-leaved Stonecrop - acid rocks, widespread
 [From *S. album* by opposite ovoid leaves]
Sedum hirsutum - a stonecrop - Gavarnie 2009
Sedum rupestre - Rock Stonecrop - widespread, e.g. Tor, Santa Engracia
 [Perennial like next, but bright yellow and leaves linear-terete]
Sedum sediforme - a stonecrop – scattered records
 [More robust, pale yellowish flowers and oblong flat-topped leaves]
Sedum telephium - Orpine - in leaf at Rioumajou
 [Perennial: flat toothed leaves and purplish flowers. Ssp. *fabaria*]
Sempervivum arachnoideum ssp. tomentosum - Cobweb Houseleek - acid rocks, e.g. Tor
 [Like *S. tectorum* but red-pink & dense cover of cobweb hairs.]
Sempervivum m. montanum - Mountain Houseleek - acid rocks, local but widespread, e.g. Tor and Troumouse
 [From last by wine-red flowers and short hairs]
Sempervivum tectorum - Common Houseleek - local
 [Familiar succulent hairless rosettes of overlapping acute leaves; branched head of pinkish flowers]
Umbilicus rupestris - Navelwort - rock/walls, daily in Spain
 [Typical navelwort with palish green pendant flowers]

Saxifragaceae

Chrysosplenium oppositifolium - Opposite-leaved Golden Saxifrage - Rioumajou valley
Saxifraga aizoides - Yellow Mountain Saxifrage - wet stony places, mostly in leaf but in flower at Vielha
 [Yellow saxifrage, (petals often red-dotted) fleshy oblong leaves]
Saxifraga aquatica - Water Saxifrage - stream edges, Aigues Tortes
 [Stout, erect leafy saxifrage, leaves 3-lobed and shiny; flowers white and 15-20mm]
Saxifraga clusii - French Saxifrage - damp acid rocks, French side of Bielsa tunnel 2008
 [Hairy, oval leaves (10-20 toothed) in rosette, 3 long & 2 short white petals]
Saxifraga exarata ssp. moschata - White Musky Saxifrage - rocks, widespread in France
 [Hairy cushion saxifrage, 3-5 lobed leaves (not grooved), white oblong petals.]
Saxifraga granulata - Meadow Saxifrage - grassland, widespread, e.g. Tor and Vielha
 [Kidney-shaped toothed leaves, bulbils at base and white flowers]
Saxifraga hirsuta - Kidney Saxifrage - moist shady ledges, French side of Col du Portillon
 [Rosettes of long-stalked round hairy leaves; white flowers with red spots - numerous]
Saxifraga longifolia - Pyrenean Saxifrage - limestone cliffs, in superb flower this year at many sites on both sides of the border, locally very common
 [From next by single big rosette, linear strap-like leaves and large white “fox-brush spire” inflorescence]

Saxifraga paniculata - Paniculate Saxifrage - rocks/screes, widespread and locally common, as along Tor road
 [Lime encrusted rosettes, many white flowers, erect]
Saxifraga praetermissa - river gravels at Troumouse 2008
Saxifraga stellaris - Starry Saxifrage - damp rocks, e.g. Vielha tunnel, Aigues Tortes, Bielsa, and Ossoue valley
 [Like *S. clusii* but leaves 6-10 toothed, petals usually equal]
Saxifraga umbrosa - Wood Saxifrage - Vielha, Rioumajou, and Neouvielle
Saxifraga intricata - 1 plant in bud in Aigues Tortes 2009

Parnassiaceae

Parnassia palustris - Grass-of-Parnassus - wet turf
 [Rosette of hairless long-stalked heart-shaped leaves]

Hydrangeaceae

Philadelphus coronarius - Mock Orange
 [naturalised popular sweetly scented white-flowered garden shrub]

Grossulariaceae

Ribes petraeum - Rock Redcurrant - Aigues Tortes and Neouvielle

[Typical currant, racemes horizontal or drooping]

Ribes alpinum - Aigues Tortes and Troumousse

[Typical currant, racemes erect]

Platanaceae

Platanus x hispanica - London Plane - planted on roadsides

[Tree with alternate palmate leaves, scaling bark]

Rosaceae

Agrimonia eupatoria - Agrimony - dry grassland

[Long spike of yellow flowers, bur fruit, leaves pinnate with alternating large and small leaflets]

Alchemilla basaltica - a lady's-mantle - acid rocks

[Palmate leaves of 5-7 separate leaflets, silver beneath; clusters of small greenish flowers (each of 4 sepals)]

Alchemilla fallax - Deceptive Lady's-mantle - rocky grassland

[Flowers as last; leaves 7-9 lobed (cut <1/2 way), hairless above and slightly hairy underneath]

Alchemilla plicatula - a lady's-mantle

[As *A. basaltica*, but all 7 leaflets except middle one joined near their base]

Alchemilla vulgaris s.l. - Common Lady's-mantle - grassland, widespread

[As *A. fallax* but spreading hairs on stems and on underside of leaves - *A. xanthochlora*?]

Amelanchier ovalis - Amelanchier - base-rich rocks, widespread

[Shrub with toothed oval leaves and white flowers (petals pointed and narrow)]

Aruncus dioicus - Goat's-beard Spiraea - wood edge, Valle d'Aure

[Tall herb with 2-pinnate leaves, pyramidal head of white spikes]

Cotoneaster integerrimus - Wild Cotoneaster - Col de Perbes

Cotoneaster nebrodensis - Neouvielle

Crataegus monogyna - Hawthorn - scrub, widespread

[Familiar shrub]

Dryas octopetala - Mountain avens - noted in France

[creeping with white 8-petalled flowers and fluffy seed heads]

Filipendula ulmaria - Meadowsweet - meadows etc.

[Tall herb with =5 pairs of large elm-like leaflets alternating with tiny leaflets; many creamy fragrant flowers]

Filipendula vulgaris - Dropwort - scattered records, e.g. Santa Engracia

[Like slender meadowsweet, but 8-25 pairs of the larger leaflets; white petals often purplish beneath]

Fragaria moschata - Hautbois Strawberry - Rioumajou

[Like next but flower stalks longer than leaves]

Fragaria vesca - Wild Strawberry - widespread

[Familiar wild strawberry – short flower-stalks]

Geum montanum - Alpine Avens - alpine turf, Neouvielle

[Like *G. urbanum*, but flowers 25-40mm and fruit with many unhooked styles]

Geum rivale - Water Avens - Tor

[From other avens by its nodding cream or pale pink flowers]

Geum pyrenaicum - Pyrenean Avens – Neouvielle (fruit) and Ossoue valley

Geum urbanum - Herb Bennet - shade, scattered records

[Yellow flower <15mm, pinnate (big terminal leaflet), fruit barbed style]

Potentilla alchimilloides - Alchemilla-leaved Cinquefoil - Gavarnie area, Ossoue Valley

[Leaves like those of *Alchemilla basaltica*, but only toothed at tip; white flowers ca 2cm]

Potentilla montana – Gavarnie area

Potentilla anserina - Silverweed

[deeply dived very silvery foliage]

Potentilla argentea - Hoary Cinquefoil - Tor and in France

[Yellow cinquefoil: leaves white beneath, dark green above]

Potentilla aurea - Golden Cinquefoil - acid montane turf, Aigues Tortes and Bielsa

[Like *P. reptans* but mat-forming, flowers with gold centres in clusters]

Potentilla brauneana - Dwarf Cinquefoil - Tourmalet 2009

Potentilla erecta - Tormentil - acid grassland, widespread

[Ascending herb with yellow 4-petalled flowers]

Potentilla micrantha - Pink Barren Strawberry -Aigues Tortes

Potentilla reptans - Creeping Cinquefoil - Perbes, Collegats
[Familiar prostrate herb, solitary yellow flowers]

Potentilla rupestris - Rock Cinquefoil - rocks, local but widespread, Tor Ossoue, below Bonaigua
[Pinnate leaves, white flowers]

Potentilla pyrenaica - Pyrenean Cinquefoil - Neouvielle

Potentilla recta - Alins

Potentilla tabernaemontani - Tor

Prunus avium - Gean
[Tall wild cherry tree, white flowers in sessile umbels]

Prunus mahaleb - St Lucie's Cherry - noted on day 6
[Shrub with short corymbs of black fruit, each 8-10mm]

Prunus padus - Bird Cherry - scattered records
[Tree or bush, racemes of black fruit, each 6-8mm]

Prunus spinosa - Sloe, Blackthorn - widespread

Rosa agrestis - Alins

Rosa canina s.l. - Dog Rose - widespread
[Deciduous briar with hooked prickles, some sepals divided]

Rosa glauca - Blue-leaved Rose - Arreau and Gavarnie areas
[From last by blue-green or purplish leaves, sepals not cut or lobed]

Rosa pendulina - Alpine Rose - open scrub, Vielha tunnel and Tor
[Pink-purple flowers and stems without prickles]

Rosa sempervirens - a rose
[Evergreen briar, few curved prickles, white flowers, style column]

Rosa pimpinellifolia - Burnet Rose - noted on day 6

Rosa villosa - possibly this species at Vielha

Rubus idaeus - Raspberry - widespread
[Familiar woody plant: pinnate leaves whitish beneath]

Rubus fruticosus s.l. - Bramble - ubiquitous on verges, forest edges and rocks
[Variable but typical bramble]

Rubus saxatilis - Rock Bramble - Gavarnie

Sanguisorba minor ssp. muricata - Salad Burnet - base-rich grassland, widespread
[Familiar herb, pinnate cucumber-tasting leaves and round greenish heads]

Sanguisorba officinalis - Great Burnet - meadows
[From last by oblong dull crimson heads]

Sibbaldia procumbens - Sibbaldia - Neouvielle, Lac du Cap du Long

Sorbus aria s.s. - Whitebeam - limestone, scattered records
[Tree with obovate leaves, white beneath]

Sorbus chamaemespilus - False Medlar - Aigues Tortes and Piau-Engaly

Sorbus mougeotii - in fine flower in Ossoue valley

Sorbus aucuparia - Rowan - acid scrub/rock, widespread
[Familiar pinnate-leaved small tree]

Fabaceae

Anthyllis montana - Mountain Kidney-vetch - scattered records, limestone turf, e.g. Ossoue and Perbes
[From next by red/purple heads, uninflated calyx]

Anthyllis vulneraria ssp. forondae - Kidney Vetch = *sampaioana*
[yellow, calyx 11-13mm]

Anthyllis vulneraria ssp. vulnerarioides - Kidney Vetch
[as last but calyx 7-9mm]

Anthyllis vulneraria ssp. pyrenaica - Kidney Vetch = *alpestris*
[Typical kidney vetch with calyx inflated when flowering, pink flowers]

Argyrolobium zanonii - Argyrolobium - Boixols and Ossoue
[Low sub-shrub, silver hairy, heads of 1-3 yellow flowers]

Astragalus echinatus - Boixols 2008

Astragalus glycyphyllos - Wild Liquorice - in leaf near Pont de Suert
[Procumbent herb with pinnate leaves and heads of creamy flowers]

Astragalus monspessulanus - False Vetch - scattered records, e.g. Perbes and Ossoue

Astragalus penduliflorus - Troumouse Valley

Astragalus purpureus - Purple Vetch - Perbes and canto

Chamaespartium sagittale - Winged Greenweed - local, e.g. Tor
[Leafless winged stems, heads of yellow flowers]

Colutea arborescens - Bladder Senna - near Pont de Suert
[Pinnate yellow spineless bush, heads of 3-8 and inflated pod.]

Coronilla scorpioides - Annual Scorpion-vetch - scattered in Spain
[Blue-green annual: simple (or trefoil) elliptical leaves, small yellow flowers and curved pods]

Coronilla emerus - Scorpion Senna - Montanana road

Coronilla minima - a scorpion-vetch - Salas

Coronilla varia - Crown Vetch - Toulouse roadsides

Cytisus purgans - Pyrenean Broom - abundant in Spain = *Cytisus oromediterraneus*
[As next but <1m, standard 10-12 not 16-18mm]

Cytisus scoparius - Broom - France, e.g. Portillon
[Familiar tall spineless shrub]

Cytisus sessilifolius - a broom – Perbes road
[Trefoil leaves (no or short stalk), flowers in leafless racemes]

Dorycnium hirsutum - Dorycnium - Santa Engracia area
[Shaggy hairy herb, 5-foliolate leaves, 1-2cm pink/white flowers]

Dorycnium pentaphyllum - a dorycnium - lower altitudes in Spain

Echinopartum horridum - Echinopartum - abundant at Perbes, also Boixols
[Like dwarf gorse, opposite branches and trefoil leaves, oblong leaflets]

Genista hispanica - Spanish Gorse - Salas
[Similar to a dwarf gorse]

Genista tinctoria - Dyer's Greenweed
[Resembles dwarf broom, simple leaves]

Genista scorpius - Santa Engracia

Genista pilosa - Tor and Aigues Tortes

Hippocrepis comosa - Horseshoe Vetch - widespread
[Pinnate perennial, heads of 5-12 yellow flowers and pods like string of horseshoes]

Lathyrus angulatus - Salas 2009

Lathyrus ochraceus - Yellow Pea – Rioumajou and Troumousse, synonyms *Orobus luteus* , *Lathyrus occidentalis*

Lathyrus latifolius - Broad-leaved Everlasting-pea - Santa Engracia area etc.
[Large clambering, 1 pair of leaflets, tendrils, broad winged stem and 2-3cm pink flowers]

Lathyrus montanus - Bitter Vetch - scattered, e.g. Vielha tunnel, Tor, Aigues Tortes and Neouvielle = *Lathyrus linifolius* [crimson flowers fading blue- green]

Lathyrus pratensis - Meadow Pea - scattered records. e.g. Tor
[Familiar yellow vetch with tendrils and only one pair of leaflets]

Lathyrus setifolius - Tor road

Lathyrus vernus - Spring Pea - scattered records

Lotus alpinus - Alpine Bird's-foot Trefoil - alpine turf
[Similar to next, but heads of 1-3 flowers and leaflets 2-6mm]

Lotus corniculatus - Common Bird's-foot trefoil - widespread
[Familiar herb: 5 "leaflets" (each 5-15mm) & heads of 3-6 yellow flowers]

Medicago lupulina - Black Medick
[Familiar medick with black fruit & many flowered heads]

Medicago s. sativa - Lucerne - near Pont de Suert
[Purple-headed, fruit spineless and curved]

Medicago orbicularis - Large Disc Medick - Boixols area

Medicago minima - Bur Medick - Perbes

Medicago arabica - Spotted Medick

Medicago suffruticosa - a medick - Aigues Tortes and Gaudi'Inspiration 2009

Melilotus alba - White Melilot - verges
[Typical tall melilot but white-flowered]

Melilotus officinalis - Common Melilot - verges
[From last by yellow flowers each 4-7mm]

Onobrychis supina - a sainfoin - Perbes

Onobrychis viciifolia - Common Sainfoin - verges by autoroutes

Ononis aragonensis - near Pont de Suert

Ononis cristata - Mt.Cenis Restharrow - Perbes 2009

Ononis n. natrix - Large Yellow Restharrow - Perbes
[From *O. aragonensis* by petals reddish-veined; sticky hairy]

Ononis rotundifolia - Round-leaved Restharrow - Rioumajou
Ononis spinosa - Spiny Restharrow - lower levels in Spain
 [Spiny, often erect pink-flowered restharrow]
Psoralea bituminosa - Pitch Trefoil - sub-Mediterranean habitat in Spain
 [Dull green trefoil, smelling of bitumen & violet-blue heads]
Robinia pseudacacia - False Acacia
 [Spiny tree with pinnate leaves, pendent white racemes]
Spartium junceum - Spanish Broom
 [Bush: rush-like branches; large yellow flowers]
Tetragonolobus maritimus - Dragon's-teeth - scattered records, e.g. Perbes road
 [Hairy trefoil herb, pale yellow flowers, big winged pods]
Trifolium alpinum - Alpine Clover - alpine turf, Bonaigua, Aigues Tortes
 [A typical clover: linear lanceolate leaflets, heads of 3-12 flowers, each 18-25mm]
Trifolium arvense - Hare's-foot Clover - Tor
 [Hairy annual, pale pink hare's-foot heads]
Trifolium badium - Brown Clover - Tor, Vielha
 [Resembles next i.e. large golden yellow trefoil, but turns chestnut]
Trifolium campestre - Hop Trefoil- Tor
 [Annual yellow trefoil, heads of 20-30 flowers]
Trifolium m. medium - Zigzag Clover - recorded
Trifolium montanum - Mountain Clover - widespread in meadows
 [Erect white/sulphur perennial with lanceolate leaflets; individual flowers 7-9mm]
Trifolium ochroleucon - Sulphur Clover - Noted in France
Trifolium pratense - Red Clover
 [Erect red clover, usually with pale crescents on leaflets]
Trifolium r. repens - White Clover
 [Familiar: white, creeping (rooting at nodes), papery fruit]
Trifolium rubens - Red Trefoil
 [Erect perennial clover, with oblong (not oval/round) heads]
Trifolium striatum - Knotted Clover
Trifolium thalii - Tor, Neouvielle
Vicia cracca - Tufted Vetch - widespread
 [Familiar purple vetch, silvery leaves]
Vicia hirsuta - Hairy Tare - Tor
 [Typical tare with tiny lilac flowers and hairy fruit]
Vicia onobrychiodes - scattered, e.g. Perbes and Tor
Vicia orobus - Vielha 2009
Vicia peregrina - Boixols
Vicia pyrenaica - Pyrenean Vetch - locally common in France, e.g. Neouvielle
 [3-6 pairs of roundish leaflets and solitary bright violet flowers 16-25mm]
Vicia sativa - Common Vetch - scattered
 [Familiar pink leafy vetch; 1-2 flowers together]
Vicia sepium - Bush Vetch - widespread, mainly France
 [Typical vetch with ovate leaflets, heads of 2-6 dull bluish- purple flowers, each 12-15mm]
Vicia tenuifolia - Fine-leaved Vetch - Perbes and Tor
 [Like *V. cracca* but flowers 12-18 not 8-12mm]

Oxalidaceae

Oxalis acetosella - Wood Sorrel - Neouvielle, where 1 in flower, leaves elsewhere
 [Trefoil leaves (acid-tasting), nodding white 5-petalled flowers]

Geraniaceae

Erodium cicutarium - Common Stork's-bill - a few records in Spain, e.g. Tor
 [Typical stork's-bill with fern-like leaves, pink flowers and beaked fruit]
Erodium petraeum - Rock Stork's-bill - Santa Engracia, Plata Verde, 2008
Geranium columbinum - Long-stalked Crane's-bill - Tor, Perbes road, Gaudi's Inspiration
 [Narrow-lobed palmate leaves; 12-18mm flowers with pink un-notched petals]
Geranium dissectum - Cut-leaved Crane's-bill - scattered records, e.g. Salas
 [Like latter, but with smaller flowers, notched petals]

Geranium molle - Dove's-foot Crane's-bill - noted on 2 days in Spain, e.g. Bielsa
 [From *G. dissectum* by its wedge-lobed leaves, more purplish- pink flowers (7-15mm)]

Geranium phaeum - Dusky Crane's-bill - Woods in France
 [Perennial: pairs of blackish-purple to brownish-purple flowers, each 15-20mm]

Geranium pyrenaicum - Mountain Crane's-bill - widespread and common
 [Rough grass. Close to *G. molle*, but flowers 15->20mm]

Geranium robertianum - Herb Robert - widespread in shade
 [Aromatic, fern-like leaves, un-notched pink petals, orange pollen]

Geranium rotundifolium - Round-leaved Crane's-bill - scattered records, e.g. near Pont de Suert, lunch day 9
 [Like *G. molle*, but shallowly-lobed, unnotched petals]

Geranium sanguineum - Bloody Crane's-bill - rocks/turf, below Bonaigua
 [Cut leaves, 3-4cm crimson flowers]

Geranium pratense - Meadow Crane's-bill - Tor
 [Perennial with well-cut leaves and bright violet-blue 25-30mm flowers]

Geranium sylvaticum - Wood Crane's-bill - widespread and locally common
 [Shade/meadows: from *G. pratense* by its red-purple flowers 12-25mm]

Linaceae

Linum bienne - Pale Flax - Gaudi's Inspiration 2009

Linum catharticum - Fairy Flax - local but widespread, e.g. Vielha
 [Tiny opposite-leaved white flax, typical round capsule]

Linum narbonense - Beautiful Flax - common at Perbes
 [Tall blue flax 5-6cm flowers]

Linum perenne - Blue Flax - noted on one day 2008

Linum suffruticosum ssp. salsoloides - Pyrenean Flax - lower altitudes in Spain, e.g. Perbes
 [Sprawling perennial, linear leaves, 2-3cm white flowers]

Linum trigynum - a flax - Santa Engracia junction 2009

Linum viscosum - Sticky Flax - Salas
 [Sticky perennial, ovate-lanceolate leaves, pink flowers 25-35mm]

Rutaceae

Ruta angustifolia - a rue - lower altitudes in Spain

Euphorbiaceae

Euphorbia amygdaloides - Wood Spurge - woods, France
 [Tall hairy perennial, reddish stems, capsule hairless and raylet leaves joined forming a cup]

Euphorbia characias - Large Mediterranean Spurge - several sites in Spain
 [Like Wood Spurge but more robust and with hairy capsule]

Euphorbia cyparissias - Cypress Spurge - widespread and common
 [Patch forming perennial with linear leaves and yellowish bracts]

Euphorbia flaviana - a spurge - Peyresourde 2009

Euphorbia helioscopia - Sun Spurge - Santa Engracia
 [Familiar weedy spurge, toothed leaves]

Euphorbia hyberna - Irish Spurge - Gavarnie
 [Perennial, leaves hairy beneath, fruit warty, ray-leaves not joined]

Euphorbia peplus - Petty Spurge - noted in France

Euphorbia exigua - Dwarf Spurge - Boixols

Euphorbia serrata - a spurge - common in Spain

Mercurialis perennis - Dog's Mercury - woods, France
 [Like perennial nettle, with erect spikes and dull leaves]

Simaroubaceae

Ailanthus altissima - Tree of Heaven - locally naturalised, e.g. Salas
 [Suckering tree, alternate pinnate leaves (teeth have gland beneath)]

Polygalaceae

Polygala alpestris - Mountain Milkwort - alpine turf, Tor and Vielha
 [Typical blue milkwort, leaves increasing in size upward]

Polygala comosa - Tufted Milkwort - scattered records
[Leaves more even, and flowers lilac-pink 4-6mm long]
Polygala nicaeensis ssp.caesalpinii - Nice Milkwort - Perbes
[Perennial usually pink milkwort, bracts longer than flower stalks, flowers 9-11mm]
Polygala vulgaris - Common Milkwort - scattered
Polygala calcarea - Chalk Milkwort - recorded

Hippocastanaceae

Aesculus hippocastanum - Horse Chestnut
[Popular 'conker' tree with large compound palmate leaves]

Coriariaceae

Coriaria myrtifolia - Mediterranean Coriaria - scrub and plantation edge, lower altitudes in Spain
[Bush, opposite ovate leaves, small green flowers, fruit of 5 black achenes and fleshy red petals]

Anacardiaceae

Cotinus coggygria - Smoke Tree - planted
[Shrub with ovate untoothed leaves, feathery fruit-stalks]
Pistacia lentiscus - Mastic Tree - sub-Mediterranean areas
[Evergreen shrub: pinnate leaves normally have no terminal leaflet]
Pistachia terebinthus - Terebinth – St.Llorenç

Aceraceae

Acer campestre - Field Maple - Tor etc.
[Maple with blunt lobed leaves (latex in stalk), and erect flower-head]
Acer monspessulanum - Montpellier Maple - Tor etc.
[From other *Acer* by 3-lobed leaves, leathery, lobes untoothed]
Acer opalus - Italian Maple
[As Field Maple but latex absent in petiole]
Acer platanoides - Norway Maple - France
[Resembles sycamore, leaves 5-7 lobed and long-pointed lobes]
Acer pseudoplatanus - Sycamore - France

Aquifoliaceae

Ilex aquifolium - Holly - Rioumajou
[Familiar evergreen tree]

Buxaceae

Buxus sempervirens - Box - locally dominant as at Col de Perbes
[Evergreen bush: opposite untoothed leaves; 3-horned fruit]

Rhamnaceae

Frangula alnus - Alder Buckthorn
[Deciduous: shrub obovate shiny alternate untoothed leaves; 3mm green flowers; red berries turning black]
Rhamnus alaternus - Mediterranean Buckthorn - Santa Engracia area and St.Llorenç
[Evergreen shrub with glossy thick leaves and reddish berries]
Rhamnus alpinus - Alpine Buckthorn - noted on three days in France, e.g. Ossoue
Rhamnus saxatilis - Rock Buckthorn - Gavarnie and Ossoue

Vitaceae

Vitis vinifera - Common Vine
[Familiar climber]

Tiliaceae

Tilia cordata - Small-leaved Lime
[Typical linden: heart-shaped pointed leaves, erect cymes & smooth fruit]

Tilia platyphyllos - Large-leaved Lime
[From latter by ribbed fruit on pendant cymes]

Malvaceae

Althaea hirsuta - Rough Marsh Mallow - in seed at Santa Engracia
Malva moschata - Musk Mallow - dry grass, roadsides, e.g. Val d'Aran
[3-6cm pale pink flowers solitary in axil of divided leaves]
Malva neglecta - Dwarf Mallow - lunch site day 11
Malva sylvestris - Common Mallow - rough grass, widespread
[Familiar pink-purple biennial/perennial: roundish 3- 7 lobed/angled leaves]

Thymelaeaceae

Daphne cneorum - Garland-flower - alpine turf, Bonaigua and Aigues Tortes
[Evergreen prostrate bush, spoon-shaped leaves, pink fragrant flowers, var. *pygmaea*]
Daphne laureola - Spurge-laurel - in leaf in France, Rioumajou
[Low evergreen rhododendron-like bush with berry fruit. Ssp. *philippi*]
Daphne mezereum - Mezereon - scattered, 1 in flower in Neouvielle
[Deciduous bush: red short-stalked berries below]
Thymelaea sanamunda - discovered at several Mediterranean influenced sites in Spain, 2008

Hypericaceae

Hypericum androsaemum - Tutsan - woods, France
[Low bush: opposite aromatic leaves; yellow flowers, many stamens and berry-like fruit]
Hypericum maculatum - Imperforate St. John's-wort - moist sites, in leaf
[Erect herbaceous St John's-wort, no translucent dots]
Hypericum perforatum - Perforate St John's-wort - widespread
[Similar to latter, but with translucent dots in leaves]
Hypericum richeri ssp. burseri - Alpine St John's-wort - Aigues Tortes in leaf, in flower below Tourmalet
[From last 2 spp by having petals evenly covered in black dots.]
Hypericum nummularium - Western St John's-wort - in leaf in Ossoue valley

Violaceae

Viola arvensis - Field Pansy - disturbed ground, e.g. Santa Engracia
[Typical mainly white pansy, flowers 1-1.5cm across]
Viola cornuta - Horned Pansy - meadows, locally common as at Vielha tunnel
[Lilac or violet pansy: flower 20-35mm, spur 10-15mm]
Viola riviniana - Common Dog Violet - Piau-Engaly
Viola rupestris - Teesdale Violet - Col de Tentes 2009
Viola palustris - Marsh Violet - boggy turf, Troumouse valley, and Aigues Tortes
[Stemless violet, leaves kidney-shaped; pale lilac unscented flowers, 3-angled capsule]
Viola pyrenaica - Pyrenean Violet - alpine turf, widespread, e.g. Bonaigua and Aigues Tortes
[No runners; shiny leaves]
Viola biflora - Yellow Wood Violet - in flower in Troumouse valley
Viola tricolor ssp. subalpina - Heartsease - scattered records
[Familiar bi- or tri-coloured pansy.]

Cistaceae

Cistus salvifolius - Sage-leaved Cistus - near Santa Engracia 2008
[Low shrub, with sage-like leaves and white flowers 3-5cm wide]
Cistus laurifolius - below Coll. Del Canto
Fumana ericoides - Perbes
Helianthemum apenninum - White Rockrose - Col de Perbes and Ossoue valley
[Low undershrub, opposite leaves woolly beneath and white flowers]
Helianthemum canum ssp. piloselloides - Hoary Rockrose - Perbes and Santa Engracia
[As last but yellow flowers 8-15mm, lower leaves 0 stipules.]
Helianthemum nummularium ssp. glabrum - Common Rockrose - dry turf, widespread, yellow flowers, e.g. Tor
Helianthemum nummularium ssp. pyrenaicum - pink flowers, e.g. Santa Engracia and Perbes
[Oblong leaves white beneath with flowers 12-20mm]

Helianthemum oelandicum - noted in Spain

Cucurbitaceae

Bryonia cretica - White Bryony - scattered records

[Climber with mottled maple-like leaves opposite tendrils and greenish- white flowers]

Cactaceae

Opuntia sp. - St.Llorenc.

Lythraceae

Lythrum salicaria - Purple Loosestrife - France, roadsides

Onagraceae

Epilobium angustifolium - Rosebay Willowherb - verges and margins

[Familiar herb: all leaves alternate, spike of pink flowers slightly asymmetric 2-3cm]

Epilobium anagallidifolium - Alpine Willowherb - wet gravel

[Creeping, most leaves opposite, regular flowers 6-9mm]

Epilobium alsinifolium - Chickweed Willowherb - wet flushes, Ossoue and Troumouse valleys

Epilobium hirsutum - Great Hairy Willowherb - en route to Toulouse, in leaf near Pont de Suert

[Tall, spreading hairy, flowers 2-3cm but regular, lower leaves opposite]

Epilobium montanum - Broad-leaved Willowherb - scattered records, mostly in France

[As last, but flower 12-20mm and most hairs appressed]

Oenothera biennis - Common Evening-primrose - roadsides

[Typical evening primrose, large 4-petalled yellow flowers]

Punicaceae

Punica granatum - Pomegranate - lower altitudes in Spain

Cornaceae

Cornus sanguinea - Dogwood - scrub at lower altitudes

[Shrub: opposite untoothed leaves, crimson twigs]

Araliaceae

Hedera helix - Ivy - widespread

[Familiar evergreen climber with lobed leaves]

Hedera hibernica

Apiaceae

Angelica razulii - Tor and Vielha

Angelica sylvestris - Wild Angelica - recorded in France

Anthriscus sylvestris - Cow Parsley - Gavarnie

Astrantia major - Great Masterwort - Vielha

[Five-lobed leaves; dense pinkish umbels surrounded by long bracts]

Bupleurum baldense - a hare's-ear - Perbes 2009, very small plants

Bupleurum falcatum - Sickle Hare's-ear - lower altitudes in Spain, e.g. Montanana road

Carum carvi - Caraway - Tor 2009

Chaerophyllum temulem - Rough Chervil - common in France, also noted in Spain

Chaerophyllum aureum - Vielha tunnel and France

Chaerophyllum hirsutum - Hairy Chervil - common in France, also Vielha tunnel

Conopodium majus - Pignut - Tor

[2-3 pinnate hairless tuberous perennial, leaflets linear and lower part of stem leafless; delicate white umbels]

Conopodium pyrenaicum - Conopodium - rocky grassland, widespread

[As latter but leafy to stem base and leaflets ovate]

Daucus carota - Wild Carrot - Santa Engracia and near Pont de Suert

[Familiar coarse herb, divided bracts, bur fruit]

Eryngium bourgatii - Pyrenean Eryngo - in flower in Spain near Ordesa, and between Arreau and Tourmalet
[As next, but heads 15-25mm, bluish with 10-15 bracts]

Eryngium campestre - Field Eryngo - scattered records
[Greenish spiny perennial, heads 10-15mm (5-7 bracts), basal leaves 3-lobed]

Foeniculum vulgare - Fennel - lower altitudes
[Feathery foliage, yellow umbels, aniseed aroma]

Heracleum sphondylium ssp. montanum - Hogweed - common and widespread
[Coarse bristly perennial, large dirty white umbels, outer petals longer, medium altitudes]

Heracleum sphondylium ssp. pyrenaicum - high altitudes

Laserpitium latifolium - Broad-leaved Sermountain - local, in flower below Col du Tourmalet, and Tor

Laserpitium siler - Vielha tunnel, Val d'Aran

Laserpitium nestleri ssp. flabellatum - Baixols and Gaudi's Inspiration

Laserpitium gallicum - Gaudi's Inspiration

Meum athamanticum - Baldmoney - alpine turf, e.g. Aigues Tortes, Bonaigua, and Vielha
[Aromatic, white umbels, 3-4 capillary pinnate]

Molopospermum peloponnesiacum - this fine umbellifer was in flower at Neouvielle, Tor, and Aigues Tortes

Myrrhis odorata - Sweet Cicely - picnic site below Col de Tourmalet

Orlaya grandiflora - Orlaya - locally common at lower altitudes in Spain
[Annual with 2-3 pinnate leaves and white umbels with outer petals 8 times longer than others]

Pimpinella major - Greater Burnet-saxifrage - Gavarnie, pink flowers
[Tall 1-pinnate perennial (3-9 ovate segments), angled hollow stem; white umbels, bracts/bracteoles]

Pimpinella saxifraga - Burnet Saxifrage - Gavarnie
[Similar but solid stems and 7-15 leaf segments]

Sanicula europaea - Sanicle - woods, Rioumajou valley
[Palmate-lobed glossy leaves & dense sub-umbels]

Scandix pecten-veneris - Shepherd's-needle - Salas 2008

Seseli libanotis - Moon Carrot - noted in Spain
[From *Daucus* by pure white umbels, bracts undivided; stock covered in fibres]

Seseli montanum - Col de Perbes

Torilis arvensis - Spreading Hedge-parsley - near Pont de Suert

Torilis japonica - Upright Hedge Parsley - St.Llorenç 2009

Pyrolaceae

Moneses uniflora - One-flowered Wintergreen - several in Rioumajou valley 2008, road closed 2009 so not seen

Pyrola minor - Lesser Wintergreen - local in France, e.g. Col du Portillon
[Typical *Pyrola*: rosette of elliptical leaves; unranked raceme of white to pink globose 5-7mm flowers]

Monotropaceae

Monotropa hypopitys - Yellow Bird's-nest - 2009:- 2 at the lunch site in Spain on day 9. Not seen at our traditional site near Pont de Suert for many years now

Ericaceae

Arbutus unedo - Strawberry Tree - St.Llorenç 2009

Arctostaphylos uva-ursi - Bearberry - scattered records at higher altitudes, e.g. Aigues Tortes, in flower
[Prostrate evergreen mat-forming shrub: untoothed leaves; red berries]

Calluna vulgaris - Ling - moors & open woods, e.g. lower Tor road
[Familiar heather, differing from an *Erica* by its overlapping scale-like leaves]

Erica tetralix - Cross-leaved Heath - bogs, Vielha tunnel
[Grey undershrub, needle leaves in 4s, drooping bells]

Rhododendron ferrugineum - Alpenrose - alpine slopes, much in leaf but also many in flower
[Evergreen shrub to 1m, elliptic shiny leaves (rusty beneath); deep pink bell-like flowers to 15mm]

Vaccinium myrtillus - Bilberry - moors and open woods, France, in leaf at Vielha
[Deciduous shrub, oval toothed leaves (mid-green); blue-black berries]

Primulaceae

Anagallis arvensis - Scarlet Pimpernel - open ground, lower altitudes in Spain, Toulouse Airport etc.
[Familiar red-flowered weed, although mostly blue flowered form seen]

Androsace carnea ssp. laggeri - Pink Rock-jasmine - alpine turf, Bonaigua, and several sites in France
 [Low tufted perennial, dense rosettes of linear leaves; leafless stem with umbel of 2-8 pink flowers]

Androsace pyrenaica - Aigues Tortes 2008

Androsace chamaejasme - Ciliate Rock-jasmine - several in the Ossoue valley

Androsace ciliata - a rock-jasmine - Col de Tourmalet 2008

Androsace villosa - a rock-jasmine - Ossoue Valley and Troumouse

Coris monspeliensis - Coris - matorral, Santa Engracia, Baixols
 [Linear revolute leaved perennial, woody at base; dense spike of irregular blue or pink flowers]

Lysimachia nemorum - Yellow Pimpernel - Neouvielle and Rioumajou
 [Creeping perennial, opposite lanceolate leaves, saucer-like yellow flowers 6-8.5mm]

Primula elatior - Oxlip - Tor road
 [Leaves abruptly narrowed to stalk, pale yellow flowers in 1-sided cluster]

Primula farinosa - Bird's-eye Primrose - damp turf, Vielha tunnel and in France
 [Leaves white-mealy beneath; lilac-pink umbel (8-16mm)]

Primula hirsuta - Red Alpine Primrose - rocks, a few superb flowering rosettes below Col de Tentes
 [As last but sticky hairy, not mealy; leaves toothed; 1-15 pink-purple flowers 2-3cm]

Primula latifolia - Viscid Primrose - gone over near Gavarnie

Primula integrifolia - Entire-leaved Primrose - wet turf, numerous in Aigues Tortes, and a few in France
 [From last by untoothed leaves, 1-3 rosy flowers 15-25mm]

Primula veris - Cowslip - Perbes, over
 [From Oxlip by fragrant deeper yellow flowers. Ssp. *columnae* has leaves white beneath]

Soldanella alpina - Alpine Snowbell - many in flower in Aigues Tortes and Bonaigua, and in France
 [All leaves basal, heart-shaped; flowers deeply-fringed, violet]

Vitaliana primuliflora ssp. canescens - Vitaliana - stony ground, Port de la Bonaigua
 [Mat-forming or tufted, all leaves basal and linear; 12-18mm yellow flowers.]

Plumbaginaceae

Armeria maritima ssp. alpina - Mountain Thrift - rocks and stony turf, e.g. Tor
 [Typical thrift: hairless linear leaves. Head 18-30mm.]

Armeria alliacea - scattered records, Tor and Vielha

Oleaceae

Fraxinus excelsior - Ash - woods, widespread
 [Familiar tree with opposite pinnate leaves and black buds]

Jasminum fruticans - Wild Jasmine - in fruit at St.Llorenc

Ligustrum vulgare - Privet - base-rich scrub, scattered records
 [Familiar semi-evergreen shrub]

Olea europaea - Olive - lower sites in Spain

Gentianaceae

Blackstonia perfoliata - Yellowwort - Salas, Baixols, St.Llorenc 2009

Centaureum erythraea - Common Centaury - Montanana road and Santa Engracia, 2009

Centaureum pulchellum - Lesser Centaury - Montanana road 2009

Gentiana lutea - Greater Yellow Gentian - occasional in leaf and bud, meadows, e.g. Vielha
 [Tall perennial: oval, blue-green ribbed leaves; starry yellow flowers in whorls]

Gentiana acaulis - Trumpet Gentian - scattered records, e.g. Bonaigua and Aigues Tortes
 [Low tufted perennial: grey-green elliptical leaves; blue stalked trumpet flowers 4-7cm (green spotted inside)]

Gentiana alpina - Southern Gentian - acid alpine turf, a few at Bonaigua, many at Troumouse, and Neouvielle
 [As last but round-oval leaves, flowers 4cm and hardly stalked]

Gentiana verna - Spring Gentian - scattered records, montane turf, numerous above Tor, also Vielha and Bonaigua
 [Bright blue, deeply 5-lobed flowers; bright green lanceolate leaves]

Gentiana brachyphylla - several at Troumouse, 2009

Gentiana pumila delphinensis - growing wild in the Tourmalet botanic garden, 2009

Gentianella campestris - Field Gentian - in leaf at Vielha, 2009

Asclepiadaceae

Vincetoxicum hirsutum ssp. *intermedium* - Swallow-wort - widespread
[Opposite heart-shaped leaves, latex, yellow flower clusters]
Vincetoxicum nigrum - Black Swallow-wort - Collegats Gorge and St.Llorenç

Rubiaceae

Sherardia arvensis - Field Madder - France
Galium album - Hedge Bedstraw
[Scrambler, whorls of 6-8 leaves, smooth stem]
Galium aparine - Cleavers - Santa Engracia area
Galium pyrenaicum - Neouvielle
Galium odoratum - Sweet Woodruff - woods in France
[Erect, whorls of 6-9 leaves, forming ruff round white flowers]
Galium v. verum - Lady's Bedstraw - scattered
[Whorls of 8-12 dark green linear leaves, terminal yellow inflorescence]
Galium caespitosum - Gavarnie 2009
Galium spp. - others not identified
Cruciata glabra - a crosswort - Tor
[Like next but no bracts on peduncle]
Cruciata laevipes - Crosswort - Vielha and in France
[Leaves in whorls of 4, with yellow flowers at base and 2 bracts on peduncle]
Rubia peregrina - Wild Madder - a few records in Spain, e.g. woods near Pont de Suert
[Like coarse evergreen cleavers with berries]
Asperula aristata scabra - a woodruff - lunch site on day 9 in Spain, 2009
Asperula hirta - a woodruff - Gavarnie 2009

Convolvulaceae

Cuscuta epithymum - Common Dodder - Perbes
Cuscuta europaea - Greater Dodder - probably this species parasitic on *Urtica* at Aigues Tortes
Calystegia sepium - Hedge Bindweed
[Typical large white bindweed]
Convolvulus arvensis - Field Bindweed - scattered
[Familiar pink perennial; arrow-shaped leaves]
Convolvulus cantabrica - Pink Bindweed - lower altitudes in Spain, e.g. Montanana road and Santa Engracia
[Typical pink bindweed flower but erect, with linear/elliptic leaves]

Boraginaceae

Buglossoides arvensis - Corn Gromwell - 2008
Lithospermum officinale - Common Gromwell - near Pont de Suert, lunch in Spain day 9
[Tall rough hairy perennial: many lanceolate leaves, whitish 4-6mm flowers, shining white very hard nutlets]
Lithodora fruticosa - Montanana road
Onosma bubanii - a Golden-drop - Baixols road, endemic to central Spanish Pyrenees
Echium vulgare - Viper's Bugloss - widespread and common
[Bristly bright blue biennial]
Pulmonaria affinis - a lungwort - in leaf in Aigues Tortes and France
[Typical lungwort: rough, white-spotted leaves ca 2-6x long as broad]
Pulmonaria longifolia - Long-leaved Lungwort - Neouvielle, in leaf
[from last by narrower leaves ca 6-9 times as long as broad]
Pulmonaria montana - Vielha tunnel
Anchusa italica - Italian Bugloss - 1 plant, arable weed in Spanish lowlands 2008
Myosotis alpestris - Alpine Forget-me-not - locally common in alpine turf, e.g. Tor, Bonaigua, Vielha, and Aigues Tortes [Perennial blue forget-me-not, 9mm flowers]
Myosotis arvensis - Common Forget-me-not - widespread
[Low 3mm blue-flowered biennial forget-me-not.]
Myosotis decumbens - a forget-me-not - noted on day 1
Myosotis scorpioides - Water Forget-me-not - Aigues Tortes
Myosotis sylvatica - Wood Forget-me-not - scattered records

Cynoglossum creticum - Blue Hound's-tongue - Santa Engracia

[dark-veined pale blue flowers]

Cynoglossum officinale - Common Hound's-tongue - scattered records, e.g. Tor, Aigues Tortes and France

[Grey soft-hairy leaves, smells of mice; maroon flowers]

Verbenaceae

Verbena officinalis - Vervain - Santa Engracia and Tor etc.

[Stiff erect perennial with opposite pinnately-lobed leaves and spikes of pink-lilac flowers]

Lamiaceae

Ajuga chamaepitys - Ground Pine - near Salas 2008

Ajuga pyramidalis - Pyramidal Bugle - montane turf, Bonaigua and Vielha

[Creeping perennial: dense spike of pale violet 1-lipped flowers]

Ajuga reptans - Bugle - France

Teucrium chamaedrys - Wall Germander - Santa Engracia

[Low woody-based, with shiny toothed leaves; purple 1-lipped flowers 9-16mm]

Teucrium polium - Felty Germander - in leaf, Montanana road and Perbes

[Densely felted subshrub: 1-lipped white flowers; leaves wrinkly.]

Teucrium aureum - Baixols

Teucrium pyrenaicum - Pyrenean Germander - Perbes, France, lunch site day 9

[Round-oval (not oblong) leaves; 1-lipped white flowers]

Teucrium montanum - Mountain Germander - Montanana road

Teucrium scorodonia - Wood-sage - in leaf in France

[Sage-like leaves, 9mm pale greenish-yellow 1-lipped flowers]

Marrubium vulgare - White Horehound - Santa Engracia

[White-downy thyme-scented herb with roundish leaves and white flowers]

Sideritis hirsuta - Santa Engracia area, Perbes

[Low scented perennial; yellow flowers 8-10mm, oblong leaves]

Phlomis herba-venti - a Jerusalem-sage - Baixols 2009

Phlomis lychnitis - a Jerusalem-sage - Montanana road

[Evergreen linear-leaved white felted bush with yellow flowers]

Galeopsis tetrahit - Common Hemp-nettle - noted in leaf

Lamium maculatum - Spotted Dead-nettle - scattered records

[Perennial pink dead-nettle: curved corolla tube and white blotch on leaves]

Lamium galeobdolon - Yellow Archangel - Vielha

Ballota nigra - Black Horehound - lower altitudes in Spain

[Foetid; coarse-toothed leaves, small purple flowers. ssp. *foetida*]

Stachys officinalis - Betony - Between Arreau and Tourmalet

[From last by red-purple flowers 12-1-8mm]

Stachys alopecuroides - Ossoue 2009

Stachys recta - Perennial Yellow Woundwort - dry rocky places, e.g. Santa Engracia area, Tor, near Pont de Suert

[Differs from *S. annua* by perennial habit, oblong-oval leaves; pale yellow 15-20mm flowers, purple streaked]

Stachys sylvatica - Hedge Woundwort - France and below Bonaigua

[Pungent smelling perennial: no rosette, cordate leaves; red-purple flowers 13-18mm]

Glechoma hederacea - Ground Ivy

[Low creeping perennial smelling of blackcurrants, round bluntly toothed leaves and pale violet flowers 15-22mm]

Prunella grandiflora ssp. *grandiflora* - Large Self-heal - on limey soil, France

Prunella grandiflora ssp. *pyrenaica* - Large Self-heal - on acid soil, France

[Typical scentless self-heal with deep violet flowers 25-30mm]

Prunella laciniata - Cut-leaved Self-heal - Baixols and Santa Engracia area

[Typical self-heal with pinnately-lobed leaves and cream flowers]

Prunella vulgaris - Self Heal - France

Satureja montana - Winter Savory

[Wide-branched aromatic under-shrub with pink flowers]

Acinos alpinus - Alpine Calamint - Aigues Tortes etc.

[Decumbent perennial: 10-14mm violet flowers marked white.]

Acinos arvensis - Basil Thyme - scattered records, e.g. Tor

Clinopodium vulgare - Wild Basil - Gavarnie

Origanum vulgare - Marjoram - scattered records
 [Aromatic widely branched herb: oval untoothed leaves with purple bracts]
Thymus pulegioides - Large Wild-thyme - locally numerous
 [Typical low creeping aromatic thyme; flowers 6mm]
Thymus serpyllum - Wild Thyme - widespread
 [Similar but flowers 3-6mm]
Mentha arvensis - Corn Mint - in leaf
Mentha aquatica - Water Mint - noted in leaf, Salas
 [Typical mint with globular terminal flowerhead]
Mentha longifolia - Horse Mint - in leaf
 [Differs from latter in its elongate terminal spike and less pleasant aroma]
Rosmarinus officinalis - Rosemary - Santa Engracia and Baixols
 [Familiar aromatic shrub; linear revolute leaves]
Lavandula angustifolia - Common Lavender - sub-Mediterranean sites in Spain
 [Typical aromatic narrow-leaved lavender]
Salvia verbenaca - Wild Clary - St.Llorenç 2009
Salvia pratensis - Meadow Clary - widespread and common
 [From *S. verbenaca* by unlobed leaves and flowers 20-30mm]
Salvia sclarea - Clary - Santa Engracia 2008
 [From last by big lilac/white bracts and lilac flowers]

Solanaceae

Hyoscyamus niger - Black Henbane - disturbed land near Alins
 [Irregularly lobed leaves, pale yellow flowers (purple veins)]
Solanum dulcamara - Bittersweet - Perbes
 [Scrambler, often lobed leaves, purple flowers, column of anthers]
Solanum nigrum - Black Nightshade

Buddlejaceae

Buddleja davidii - Buddleia
 [Familiar shrub: opposite lanceolate leaves, long lilac flower-panicles]

Scrophulariaceae

Verbascum lychnitis - White Mullein - verges, mostly yellow flowered form, some with white flowers in France
 [Mealy-white mullein: angled stem and flower-stalks 6-11mm; mostly yellow-flowered, white form seen]
Verbascum pulverulentum - Hoary Mullein - verges, autoroutes
 [As White Mullein (woolly with yellow candelabra inflorescence) but flower-stalks 2-5mm]
Verbascum thapsus - Aaron's Rod - widespread
 [Familiar woolly mullein with spike-like inflorescence, winged stem and yellow flowers]
Verbascum nigrum - Dark Mullein - scattered records
Verbascum blattaria - Moth Mullein - 1 at Salas 2009
Verbascum boerhavia - a mullein - Rioumajou
Scrophularia canina - French Figwort - Tor and Baixols
 [Typical figwort flowers, but narrow-pinnate lobed leaves]
Scrophularia nodosa - Common Figwort - France
 [Typical brown figwort: 4-angled stem, 2-serrate, cordate hairless leaves]
Scrophularia alpestris - a Figwort - Tor and France
Scrophularia pyrenaica - a figwort - Rioumajou 2009
Anarrhinum bellidifolium - Tor
Antirrhinum latifolium - a Snapdragon - a few Spain
 [Yellow flowers]
Antirrhinum majus - Common Snapdragon - local in Spain, e.g. near Pont de Suert
 [Typical pink snapdragon: flowers 33-45mm]
Antirrhinum molle - Soft Snapdragon - near Pont de Suert
 [Dwarf, shrubby, softly downy, with white flowers 25-35mm]
Antirrhinum sempervirens - Rock Snapdragon - Neouvielle
 [Differs in all leaves opposite, leathery; flowers white 20-25mm]
Chaenorhinum minus - Small Toadflax - Tor
 [Low annual, oblong leaves; lilac toadflax flowers 6-9mm]

Chaenorhinum origanifolium - locally common in Ossoue Valley and Rioumajou

Misopates orontium - Weasel's Snout - near Pont de Suert 2009

Asarina procumbens - Creeping Snapdragon - Tor road

Linaria alpina - Alpine Toadflax - local but widespread
[Low glaucous toadflax, linear-oblong leaves and 13-22mm violet flowers, yellow palate, also pure blue form]

Linaria repens - Pale Toadflax - Tor and Aigues Tortes
[Erect greyish toadflax: lower leaves whorled, white or pale lilac flowers]

Linaria supina - Pyrenean Toadflax - Tor road, Santa Engracia, and France
[Decumbent linear-leaved toadflax, yellow flowers with long spur]

Linaria sp. - a tall yellow flowered species in the La Seu d'Urgell area, 2008

Cymbalaria muralis - Ivy-leaved Toadflax

Digitalis lutea - Small Yellow Foxglove - a few at Gaudi's Inspiration
[Nearly hairless yellow foxglove; dense spikes of pale tubular flowers]

Digitalis purpurea - Common Foxglove - France and a few below Bonaigua
[Familiar downy purple foxglove]

Erinus alpinus - Fairy Foxglove - locally abundant in France
[Low perennial: leaves obovate and toothed, purple flowers (5 notched lobes)]

Veronica anagallis-aquatica - Blue Water Speedwell
[Fleshy, opposite long-lanceolate leaves (clasping); opposite stalked spikes of blue flowers]

Veronica austriaca - Large Speedwell - scattered records
[Hairy, leaves ovate-oblong.]

Veronica prostrata - Gavarnie area, Perbes, Aigues Tortes

Veronica beccabunga - Brooklime - Tor
[Hairless & fleshy with thick oblong leaves]

Veronica bellidioides ssp. lilacina - Violet Speedwell - acid turf, e.g. Bielsa
[Erect, tufted, basal rosette; lilac terminal flower-cluster]

Veronica chamaedrys - Bird's-eye Speedwell - widespread
[Like Large Speedwell, but smaller with lines of hairs on the stem]

Veronica cymbalaria - White Speedwell

Veronica fruticans - Rock Speedwell - Peyresourde and Aigues Tortes
[Woody-based, blue flowers with red eye]

Veronica officinalis - Heath Speedwell - dry grass, e.g. Tor
[Hairy, creeping; spikes of lilac-blue flowers]

Veronica ponae - Spiked Pyrenean Speedwell - France, in shade, also Vielha
[Like elegant Bird's-eye, but single loose terminal spike]

Veronica serpyllifolia ssp. humifusa - Thyme-leaved Speedwell - moist alpine turf
[creeps, rooting at nodes, often hairless & blue flowers]

Veronica serpyllifolia ssp. serpyllifolia - Thyme-leaved Speedwell
[white flowers veined blue - grew where soil disturbed]

Veronica arvensis - Wall Speedwell - scattered records

Veronica persica - Common Field-speedwell - scattered records

Melampyrum sylvaticum - Wood Cow-wheat - Vielha 2009

Melampyrum pratense - Common Cow-wheat - woods and peaty ground, France
[Annual: leaves untoothed; 1-sided spike, tubular yellow flowers]

Euphrasia hirtella - an eyebright - recorded
[Typical eyebright, white with violet lines]

Euphrasia rostkoviana - an eyebright - scattered records

Bartsia alpina - Alpine Bartsia - Bonaigua and Vielha tunnel
[Opposite-leaved perennial: downy, dark-purple 2-lipped flowers (15-20mm)]

Pedicularis foliosa - Leafy Lousewort - Vielha tunnel
[Very hairy flower heads. Differs in having leaf-like bracts, 25mm yellow flowers with upper lip rounded]

Pedicularis mixta - a lousewort - several at Vielha tunnel
[Pink lousewort, flowers =18mm (crimson beak and calyx woolly)]

Pedicularis pyrenaica - Pyrenean Lousewort - with latter
[Very like dull pinkish-purple P. mixta, but glabrous calyx]

Pedicularis verticillata - Whorled Lousewort - above Tor, damp pastures
[From other pink louseworts by leaves in whorls of 3-4 and upper lip rounded (not beaked/toothed)]

Pedicularis sylvatica - Common Lousewort - Vielha tunnel

Rhinanthus angustifolius - a Yellow Rattle

Rhinanthus minor - Yellow Rattle - e.g. Tor
[Typical yellow rattle: yellow with violet tip, inflated fruit]
Rhinanthus mediterraneus - a Yellow Rattle = *Rhinanthus pumilus*

Globulariaceae

Globularia cordifolia - Matted Globularia - scattered records, e.g. Perbes
[Mat-forming, creeping under-shrub, leaves basal, spatulate and notched; heads globular 1-2cm and lilac- or grey-blue]
Globularia nudicaulis - Leafless-stemmed Globularia - Aigues Tortes
[Herb: leaves all basal, oblanceolate, blunt; blue heads 15-30mm]
Globularia repens - a globularia - scattered records, e.g. Troumouse
[From *G. cordifolia* by pointed leaves]
Globularia vulgaris - Common Globularia - Tor and Perbes

Gesneriaceae

Ramonda myconi - Ramonda - rock crevices, locally common in Spain and especially in France, in fine flower
[Flat rosettes of toothed oval corrugated leaves, rusty-hairy beneath; blue-violet 2-3cm 5-lobed flowers]

Orobanchaceae

Orobanche amethystea - on *Eryngium campestre*, Montanana road, gone over
Orobanche artemisiae-campestris - a broomrape - 2+ on *Santolina chamaecyparissus* at Baixols 2009
Orobanche gracilis - Slender Broomrape - on legumes, *Iris latifolia* meadow in Spain, and Gavarnie
[Yellow/red broomrape, flowers shining dark red inside and 15-25mm]
Orobanche caryophyllacea - Bedstraw Broomrape - on day 9 in Spain, 2009
Orobanche minor - Common Broomrape - probably this species at Gaudi's Inspiration 2009
Orobanche haenseleri - parasitic on *Helleborus* near Pineta section of Ordesa, a few in fine flower 2008
Orobanche hederæ - Ivy Broomrape - 2009:- many parasitic on *Hedera helix* at St.Llorenç, but not recorded for Llerida province in Flora Iberica. Also Santa Engracia in 2008.
Orobanche rapum-genistae - Greater Broomrape - on *Cytisus purgans* below Coll. Del Canto, gone over

Lentibulariaceae

Pinguicula grandiflora - Large-flowered Butterwort - wet rocks, e.g. Peyresourde and Neouvielle
[Rosette like (edges inrolled); stem with 2-lipped violet flowers 25-35mm (10-12mm spur)]
Pinguicula vulgaris - Common Butterwort - wet rocks/bogs, widespread but local, e.g. Tor, Vielha, Bielsa
[As last but flowers 15-22mm with 6-8mm spur]

Plantaginaceae

Plantago lanceolata - Ribwort Plantain
[Familiar lanceolate plantain; anthers yellowish]
Plantago major - Rat's-tail Plantain
[Cosmopolitan broad-leaved weed, long spikes]
Plantago maritima ssp.serpentina - Sea Plantain - meadow & scree
Plantago alpina - Alpine Plantain - Bonaigua
Plantago media - Hoary Plantain - meadows
[Downy grey oval leaves; anthers lilac]
Plantago sempervirens - Montanana road, Perbes, Santa Engracia
Plantago afra - lower altitudes in Spain, e.g. Baixols

Caprifoliaceae

Lonicera etrusca - Etruscan Honeysuckle - Santa Engracia
[Climbing deciduous honeysuckle with leaf-pairs fused below stalked flower-heads]
Lonicera periclymenum - Common Honeysuckle - Perbes road
[Familiar deciduous climber, leaves not fused in pairs]
Lonicera pyrenaica - Pyrenean Honeysuckle - below Perbes, and common in Ossoue valley
[Hairless bush, blue-green leaves quite leathery; pairs of regular white flowers and red berries]
Lonicera xylosteum - Fly Honeysuckle - scattered records
[Shrub to 3m, opposite hairy leaves, white 2-lipped tubular flowers]

Sambucus ebulus - Dwarf Elder - scattered, e.g. Salas, mostly in bud this year, several in flower near Alins
[Erect herb, opposite pinnate leaves; white flowers, purple anthers]
Sambucus nigra - Elder - widespread, e.g. Alins
[Familiar shrub; yellowish-white anthers and black fruit]
Sambucus racemosa - Red-berried Elder - e.g. Aigues Tortes
[From last by pyramidal clusters of yellowish-white flowers; berries shiny red]
Viburnum lantana - Wayfaring Tree - scattered records, e.g. Ossoue
[Like opposite-leaved white beam, heads of black berries (red at first)]
Viburnum tinus - Laurustinus - St.Llorenç 2009

Valerianaceae

Centranthus lecoqii - a red valerian - lower altitudes in Spain
[Similar to next but leaves only 4-6mm wide; stem unbranched]
Centranthus ruber - Red Valerian - scattered records in Spain
[Familiar garden plant, with undivided leaves (1-5cm wide) spurred red flowers]
Valeriana montana - a valerian - Aigues Tortes and montane woods in France
[As other *Valeriana* spp. but all leaves undivided]
Valeriana officinalis - Common Valerian - verges, shade and meadows
[Opposite pinnate leaves and dense heads of pale pink flowers.]
Valeriana pyrenaica - Pyrenean Valerian - damp meadows/shade, local in France
[From last by basal leaves oval and heart-shaped]
Valeriana tripteris - Three-leaved Valerian - scattered records, e.g. Tor and Aigues Tortes
[Short valerian, basal leaves undivided; trefoil on stem]
Valeriana tuberosa - a valerian - gone over at Perbes, 2009
Valerianella rimosa - Broad-fruited Corn-salad - Tor = *Valerianella dentata*
[Regular-forking lilac-pink annual, narrow leaves, globose heads; fruit ovoid]

Dipsacaceae

Dipsacus fullonum - Common Teasel - verges
[Familiar tall biennial: spiny lilac heads and opposite leaves prickly on the lower midrib]
Knautia arvensis - Field Scabious - widespread
[Typical scabious: 4-lobed flowers; upper leaves pinnate-lobed]
Knautia nevadensis - a wood scabious - Tor and Vielha
Lomelosia stellata - a scabious - Montanana road, inflated papery fruits
Scabiosa columbaria - Small Scabious - Pineta and Gavarnie areas
Scabiosa atropurpurea - Mournful Widow - St-Llorenç 2009

Campanulaceae

Campanula glomerata - Clustered Bellflower - e.g. below Bonaigua
[Lance-leaved perennial with tight heads of violet bells, each 15-25mm]
Campanula hispanica ssp. *catalanica* - Spanish Bellflower - Gaudi's Inspiration
[Graceful perennial, lance-leaved (crowded below), blue bells 10-14mm in loose clusters.]
Campanula patula - Spreading Bellflower - meadows & wood edges, locally common in France
[Wide-branched slender perennial; violet-blue 20-25mm flowers in spreading open clusters]
Campanula persicifolia - Peach-leaved Bellflower - meadows/scrub, e.g. Perbes
[As last but peach-like unstalked leaves; half-nodding flowers 3-4cm]
Campanula rapunculoides - Creeping Bellflower - Santa Engracia area
[Creeping perennial: cordate leaves; long spikes of deep purple 2-3cm drooping flowers]
Campanula scheuchzeri - a bellflower - e.g. Gaudi's Inspiration
[Like Harebell but all leaves linear-lanceolate at flowering; 1 or few blue bells]
Campanula speciosa - Pyrenean Bellflower - below Perbes
[Perennial with erect bells 28-32mm in pyramidal cluster; linear leaves]
Campanula trachelium - Nettle-leaved Bellflower - woods and roadsides
[Large bristly perennial with jagged heart-shaped leaves and 3-4cm violet bell flowers]
Campanula erinus - Boixols area 2008
Jasione laevis - a sheep's-bit - dry meadows, Santa Engracia and Baixols
[Like tiny blue scabious but all flowers regular (also not curved in bud); leaves not wavy]
Jasione montana - Sheep's-bit - Peyresourde and Aigues Tortes
[Differs from last by wavy leaves; annual]

Phyteuma hemisphaericum - Globe-headed Rampion - acid rocks Troumouse, in fine flower
[Like scabious but regular flowers curved in bud; globular-headed and basal leaves with short or no stalk]
Phyteuma charmelii - a rampion - Ossoue 2009
Phyteuma orbiculare - Round-headed Rampion - base-rich turf, a few in Gavarnie area, and *Iris latifolia* site in Spain [Similar to last but basal leaves long-stalked]
Phyteuma ovatum - Dark Rampion - montane meadows
[Differs from last two rampions by ovoid/cylindrical spikes of blackish-violet flowers]
Phyteuma pyrenaicum - Pyrenean Rampion - Vielha
[Very similar to last but bluish flowers]
Phyteuma spicatum - Spiked Rampion - wood edges, e.g. Tor and Gavarnie
[Like last two rampions, but spikes whitish]

Asteraceae

Achillea chamaemelifolia - Andorran Sneezewort - rocks along the Tor road
[Heads white, 7-9mm; leaves 1-pinnate, linear lobes]
Achillea millefolium - Yarrow - dry grass, scattered
[Familiar, aromatic: 2-3 pinnate feathery leaves; white or pink heads 4-6mm in large flat-topped clusters]
Adenostyles alliariae - Adenostyles - damp rocky scrub, e.g. Piau-Engaly
[Big basal leaves (triangular/heart shaped); leafy stem bears dense clusters of red-purple rayless heads]
Antennaria dioica - Mountain Everlasting - acid turf, Bonaigua, Vielha
[Mat-forming, leaves spoon-shaped, white beneath and white or pink rayless heads on low stem]
Anthemis arvensis - Corn Chamomile - Spain
Anthemis cotula - Stinking Chamomile - St.Llorenc 2009
Arctium lappa - Greater Burdock - Neouvielle etc.
Arctium minus - Lesser Burdock - Salas
[Typical burdock: large cordate leaves; branched stems and bur heads]
Arnica montana - Mountain Arnica - meadows, in flower at Vielha tunnel
[Single 4.5-8cm yellow daisy-like heads; elliptical basal leaves and stem-leaves opposite and bract-like]
Artemisia vulgaris - Mugwort
[Familiar faintly scented perennial]
Artemisia absinthium - Wormwood - scattered Spanish records
Aster alpinus - Alpine Aster - stony turf and rocks, Gavarnie area
[Low perennial: elliptical leaves, single daisy-like heads 35-45mm, with violet-blue rays]
Bellis perennis - Daisy - lunch day 8, in France
Carduncellus monspeliensis - several at Baixols
Carduus carlinifolius - Carline-leaved Thistle - Tor and scattered in France
[Heads 2-3cm, spines to 1cm; thick leaves]
Carduus carlinoides - Pyrenean Thistle - Bonaigua, not in flower this year, Bielsa, in flower
[White-downy *Carduus*: winged stems, very spiny; rose-red heads 18-25mm in tight clusters]
Carduus nutans - Musk Thistle - Baixols
Carlina acanthifolia - Acanthus-leaved Carline Thistle - previous year's seed heads, Vielha
Carlina acaulis - Stemless Carline Thistle - Tor etc.
Carlina vulgaris - Carline Thistle - old seed heads Perbes
Catananche caerulea - Cupidone - Mediterranean influenced sites in Spain
[Rather like graceful perennial blue cornflower; involucre bracts papery and silvery]
Carthamus lanatus - Salas 2009
Centaurea alpestris - Knapweed - noted in Spain
[From *C. scabiosa* by bigger heads and brown pappus]
Centaurea calcitrapa - Red Star-thistle - scattered records, e.g. near Pont de Suert, Salas, St.Llorenc
[Softly-leafy below (pinnately cut) but purple knapweed heads with straw-coloured 10-18mm spines]
Centaurea cyanus - Cornflower - arable weed in France, 2008
Centaurea montana - Mountain Cornflower - Gavarnie
Centaurea jacea - Brown Knapweed - lower altitudes in Spain
Centaurea aspera - Spain
Centaurea scabiosa - Greater Knapweed
[Perennial: leaves 1(-2) pinnatisect; big (\pm rayed) purple heads, black fringed involucre]
Centaurea nigra - Common Knapweed - France
Cicerbita alpina - Alpine Sow-thistle - in France on day 1, 2009
Cichorium intybus - Chicory - rough verges
[Like branched *Cicerbita*, but bright blue 2-4cm heads]

Cirsium arvense - Creeping Thistle
[Familiar creeping *Cirsium* with lilac-purple heads and glossy crisped very prickly leaves]

Cirsium palustre - Marsh Thistle - damp grass, scattered records, France
[Tall slender *Cirsium*, spiny leaves purple edged; winged stems; crowded narrow purple heads]

Cirsium rivulare - Brook Thistle - damp acid sites, e.g. Vielha
[Like Melancholy Thistle ± spineless & unwinged stems, but pinnate leaves green beneath and heads 25-30mm]

Cirsium vulgare - Spear Thistle - France

Crepis paludosa - Marsh Hawk's-beard - France

Crepis albida - Ossoue valley, Perbes

Cynara cardunculus - Cardoon - roadside Tremp to Balaguer 2009

Dittrichia viscosa - a stink aster - St.Llorenç 2009

Doronicum pardalianches - Leopard's Bane - in flower at Vielha tunnel

Echinops sphaerocephalus - a globe thistle - 1 at St.Llorenç 2009

Erigeron alpinus - Alpine Fleabane - Neouvielle

Erigeron annuus - French roadsides

Eupatorium cannabinum - Hemp-agrimony - damp sites
[Tall perennial: opposite 3-5 lobed leaves, numerous small pinkish-purple heads in broad corymbs]

Filago pyramidata - Broad-leaved Cudweed - Baixols 2009

Galactites tomentosa - Galactites - autoroute verges
[Thistle-like, white veined leaves, purple-lilac rayed heads]

Helichrysum stoechas - an everlasting - scattered at lower altitudes in Spain
[Tufted, woody-based; whitish stems, linear leaves, clustered small golden globular heads]

Hieracium pilosella - Mouse-ear Hawkweed - Tor road and in France

Hieracium spp. - Hawkweeds
[Very variable group of perennials: yellow dandelion-like heads, may be leafy or black hairy. Sections *Alpina* and *Subalpina* at Aigües Tortes]

Homogyne alpina - Alpine Colt's-foot - damp alpine turf/woods, in flower at Bonaigua and Aigües Tortes
[Short creeping perennial, shiny kidney-shaped leaves; single rayless purple heads 10-15mm]

Hypochoeris radicata - Cat's-ear - Santa Engracia area etc.

Inula montana - a fleabane - Salas

Inula salicina - Irish Fleabane - Salas 2009

Lactuca perennis - Blue Lettuce - local but widespread, e.g. Tor
[Like hairless pinnately-lobed *Cicerbita*, but achenes beaked]

Lactuca serriola - Prickly Lettuce

Lapsana communis - Nipplewort
[branched with ovate leaves; many 15-20mm yellow dandelion-type heads but no pappus]

Leontodon pyrenaicum - Pyrenean Hawkbit - Vielha tunnel, Bielsa, and Piau-Engaly

Leucanthemopsis alpina - Alpine Moon Daisy - Aigües Tortes 2008
[Tufted perennial: single white-rayed daisies 2-4cm (often turning pink) and oval to pinnatisect, mostly basal, leaves]

Leucanthemum atratum - recorded

Leucanthemum vulgare - Moon Daisy - dry grass, common and widespread
[As Alpine Moon Daisy but leafier, upper stem leaves clasping stem; heads 25-50mm]

Leuzea conifera - Leuzea - Montanana road, Baixols, near Pont de Suert, Collegats, Santa Engracia, St.Llorenç
[Like low knapweed but involucre bracts papery forming shiny cone-like structure]

Matricaria discoidea - Pineapple Weed

Mycelis muralis - Wall Lettuce
[Widely branched slender yellow lettuce: pinnately lobed leaves (large hastate terminal lobe)]

Onopordum acanthium - Scotch Thistle - lower altitudes in Spain, e.g. Santa Engracia
[Stout branched cobwebby biennial thistle: winged stems and purplish heads 35-50mm]

Pallenis spinosa - Pallenis - lower altitudes in Spain

Picris echioides - Bristly Oxtongue - Gaudi's Inspiration 2009

Petasites hybridus - Butterbur

Prenanthes purpurea - Purple Lettuce - shade
[From *Cicerbita* etc. by drooping purplish heads of 3-6 florets; hairless; oblong leaves]

Santolina chamaecyparissus - Lavender-cotton - locally very common at lower altitudes in Spain
[As next but teeth/lobes crowded]

Santolina rosmarinifolia - a lavender cotton - Santa Engracia area
[Aromatic whitish subshrub, linear remote-toothed leaves, flowers yellow rayless buttons]

Scorzonera hirsuta - a viper's-grass - lower altitudes in Spain, e.g. Santa Engracia
 [Linear cobwebby leaves, pure yellow dandelion heads and densely hairy fruit]

Senecio adonidifolius - Vielha, Arreau to Gavarnie 2009

Senecio jacobaea - Common Ragwort - autoroute verges
 [Many yellow daisy-like heads and pinnate-lobed leaves (segments oblong)]

Senecio vulgaris - Common Groundsel
 [Familiar weed]

Senecio sylvaticus - Wood Groundsel - France

Silybum marianum - Milk Thistle - Santa Engracia area
 [Robust weakly spiny thistle with white veins, and long-spined involucre]

Sonchus arvensis - Perennial Sow-thistle

Sonchus asper - Spiny Sow-thistle
 [Thistle-like annual: milky sap, and many yellow dandelion-like heads]

Sonchus oleraceus - Smooth Sow-thistle
 [Similar to latter, but almost without prickles]

Stachelina dubia - Stachelina - matorral, Baixols area, Gaudi's Inspiration
 [Subshrub: stem & narrow toothed leaves felted; narrow purple thistle-like heads]

Tanacetum corymbosum - a tansy - near Arreau 2009

Taraxacum officinale s.l. - Dandelion - grassland, widespread
 [Typical dandelion: hollow stalk, milky sap]

Taraxacum sp. - Aigues Tortes, small with finely divided leaves

Tragopogon crocifolius - a salsify
 [Like next, but yellow centre to violet head]

Tragopogon dubius - a salsify - Perbes 2009

Tragopogon pratensis - Goat's-beard - scattered records
 [Like a leek with yellow dandelion-like heads (ca 8 long bracts)]

Tussilago farfara - Colt's-foot - damp rocky sites, still in flower in Neouvielle
 [In June usually just large cordate leaves, cobwebby beneath]

Uropsermum dalechampii - 1 at Santa Engracia 2009

Volutaria lippii - Perbes, Santa Engracia, and St.Llorenc

Xanthium spinosum - Spiny Cocklebur - Alins

Xeranthemum inapterum - Baixols 2009

MONOCOTYLEDONS

Liliaceae

Allium ampeloprasum - Wild Leek - Salas

[Tall stout leek with dense terminal pink head; leaves 5-40mm wide, flat/V-shaped in section]

Allium schoenoprasum - Chives, 2008

[Tufted: all leaves basal & tubular; dense heads of purple or violet-pink flowers; stem <50cm]

Allium sphaerocephalon - Round-headed Leek - Montanana road, Perbes, Santa Engracia, St. Llorenç

[Like Wild Leek, but leaves semi-cylindrical; globose dense head of dark purple-red flowers]

Allium moly - many fine examples at Plata Verde, Santa Engracia, 2009

Allium ursinum - Ramsons - France, in fruit, day 8

Allium vineale - Crow Garlic - in bud at Gavarnie 2009

Anthericum liliago - St Bernard's Lily - Tor

[Starry white flowers (loose raceme); basal leaves]

Aphyllanthes monspeliensis - Blue Aphyllanthes - locally very common at lower altitudes in Spain

[Like tough rush tuft with starry blue flowers]

Asparagus acutifolius - St.Llorenç

Asphodelus albus - Asphodel - widespread and common

[Stout dense spike of white starry flowers; strap-leaves]

Brimeura amethystina - Pyrenean Hyacinth - 1 at Perbes, Ossoue valley, and a few at Neouvielle

Dipcadi serotinum - Dipcadi - scattered in Spain, e.g. above Alins

[Resembles a bluebell but with 1-sided raceme of brownish flowers]

Erythronium dens-canis - Dog's-tooth Violet - alpine turf, abundant at Port de la Bonaigua, with a few still in fine flower [leaves elliptical and dark-mottled]

Fritillaria pyrenaica - several wild in the Tourmalet botanic garden, 2009

Gagea fistulosa - 4+ in flower at Aigues Tortes 2008. 2009 several in flower by one snow patch.

Lilium martagon - Martagon Lily - scattered records in leaf and bud. In flower lunch day 8, France.

[Whorls of elliptical leaves; dark-spotted pinkish nodding Turk's-caps]

Lilium pyrenaicum - Pyrenean Lily- a few in the Gavarnie area

[Numerous alternate lanceolate leaves; yellow nodding Turk's-caps (brown-spotted)]

Merendera pyrenaica - in seed at Perbes and Boixols

Muscari comosum - Tassel Hyacinth - Perbes

Muscari neglectum - Common Grape Hyacinth - common at Plata Verde, also Perbes, 2008

Nartheccium ossifragum - Bog Asphodel - in bud at Vielha tunnel

Ornithogalum collinum - a Star of Bethlehem - Perbes

Ornithogalum pyrenaicum - Bath Asparagus - a few in Santa Engracia area, and Boixols, 2008

Paradisea liliastrum - St Bruno's Lily - a few in France, 1 at Tor

[Loose 1-sided racemes of fragrant white 4-5cm trumpet-like flowers]

Paris quadrifolia - Herb Paris - noted in France on day 8

[Whorl of 4(-5) oval leaves; single green starry flower & black berry]

Polygonatum multiflorum - Common Solomon's-seal - seen on day 8

[Arching stem: ovate leaves, scentless flowers 2-6 on a stalk]

Polygonatum odoratum - Angular Solomon's-seal - noted on day 6

[As latter but scented flowers 1-2 on a stalk; angled stem]

Polygonatum verticillatum - Whorled Solomon's-seal - 2008

[Erect: whorls of 3-6 lanceolate leaves; 1-2 unscented flowers on stalk]

Ruscus aculeatus - Butcher's Broom - Santa Engracia, St.Llorenç

Scilla lilio-hyacinthus - Pyrenean Squill - in fruit at Gavarnie, in leaf at Vielha

[15-30cm strap-like leaves; 5-15 capsules]

Scilla verna - Spring Squill - several at Peyresourde

Tofieldia calyculata - Tofield's Asphodel - damp places, Vielha tunnel and Rioumajou

[From *Nartheccium* by spike of 5-7mm yellowish-green flowers]

Veratrum album - White False Helleborine - locally common in leaf, e.g. Vielha

[Robust, hairy, leafy: pleated ovate leaves; branched spike of white & green flowers]

Amaryllidaceae

Narcissus poeticus - Poet's Narcissus - locally common, as at Vielha tunnel

[Short yellow corona, surrounded by long white segments - various forms seen]

Narcissus requienii - Rush-leaved Narcissus - a few in flower in Ossoue valley was a great find, 2008
Narcissus pseudonarcissus pallidiflorus - Aigues Tortes 2008. 2009 Ossoue Valley, by snow patch.

Dioscoreaceae

Tamus communis - Black Bryony - scattered records, e.g. Bielsa area
[Unarmed climber: glossy cordate leaves; green spikes, red berries]

Iridaceae

Crocus vernus ssp. albiflorus - White Crocus - still in flower in Aigues Tortes where snow had recently lain.
In fruit at Bonaigua [typical crocus, leaves with wide white midrib]

Gladiolus illyricus - Wild Gladiolus - several sites in Spain
[Typical slender pink-purple gladiolus]

Iris latifolia - Pyrenean Iris - many in leaf, and with last years fruiting heads, in France. 1 superb plant in flower in Spain, near Pineta, Ordesa.

Juncaceae

Luzula nivea - Snowy Wood-rush - Tor
[From all other *Luzula* spp. by whitish clustered flowers]

Luzula multiflora - Heath Wood-rush - Tor

Luzula nutans - Bonaigua and Aigues Tortes

Luzula pilosa - Hairy Wood-rush - scattered records

Luzula alpinopilosa - Alpine Wood-rush - scattered records

Luzula spicata - Bielsa Tunnel

Luzula sudetica - Bonaigua

Luzula sylvatica - Great Wood-rush - scattered records

Juncus acutiflorus - Sharp-flowered Rush - Portillon

Juncus effusus - Soft Rush - Portillon

Juncus inflexus - Hard Rush - Perbes

Juncus tenuis - Slender Rush - lunch day 8, France

Poaceae

Aegilops geniculata - locally common, Montanana road etc.

Agrostis stolonifera - Creeping Bent

Agrostis sp. - acid rocks, Troumousse

Alopecurus pratensis - Meadow Foxtail

Anthoxanthum odoratum - Sweet Vernal Grass - e.g. Tor

Arrhenatherum elatius - False Oat-grass - e.g. Tor

Arundo donax - Giant Reed - roadsides at lower altitudes in Spain

Avena fatua - Wild-oat

[Typical wild oat, spikelet 18-25mm, with long geniculate awn]

Brachypodium pinnatum - Tor-grass

[Broad leaves, yellow-green beneath, glaucous above: "pinnate" head of stalkless long spikelets]

Brachypodium sylvaticum - False Brome

Briza media - Common Quaking-grass - meadows

[Hairless perennial: grey green; open panicle of round unawned spikelets]

Bromus rigidus - Stiff Brome

Bromus squarrosus - Rough Brome - e.g. Santa Engracia

[Annual with oval spikelets with widely spreading awns]

Bromus hordeaceus - Soft Brome

Bromus sterilis - Barren Brome

Bromus tectorum - Drooping Brome

Calamagrostis spp. - at least 2 species, roadsides, France

Cynodon dactylon - Bermuda Grass - St.Llorenc

Cynosurus cristatus - Crested Dog's-tail - e.g. Vielha

[Perennial: dense 1-sided toothbrush-like spike; zigzag rhachis visible]

Cynosurus echinatus - Rough Dog's-tail - e.g. Gaudi's Inspiration

Dactylis glomerata ssp. hispanica - Cock's-foot

[Branched 1-sided flower-head of oval spikelets, flat shoots]

Deschampsia flexuosa - Wavy Hair-grass - acid swards
 [Tufted perennial: leaves setaceous; branched panicle with wavy stalks]
Dezmazenia rigida - Fern Grass - Gaudi's Inspiration
Elymus caninus - Bearded Couch
Elymus repens - Common Couch
Festuca ovina - Sheep's Fescue
 [Densely tufted perennial: hairless thread-like leaves; awns <1mm]
Festuca rubra - Red Fescue
 [Thread-leaved perennial: hairy sheaths; awns ca 2mm+]
Festuca paniculata - some fine examples at Vielha tunnel
Festuca gautieri - locally dominant on calcareous soils
Festuca eskia - La Fetuque Gispet - dominant on acid soils
Festuca spp. - other species not identified
Hordeum murinum - Wall Barley - Alins etc.
Holcus lanatus - Yorkshire Fog
 [Softly hairy, tufted perennial, lower sheaths striped in purple]
Lolium perenne - Perennial Rye-grass
 [Familiar grass with shiny leaves and spike-like flower-head]
Melica uniflora - Wood Melick - woods
 [Delicate perennial: branched head of 1-flowered spikelets each 4-7mm]
Melica ciliata - Ciliate Melick - e.g. Tor and Perbes
Milium effusum - Wood Millet - France
 [Big perennial: broad leaves; many small pale awnless spikelets]
Molinia caerulea - Purple Moor-grass - boggy meadows
 [Tufted perennial: ligule a ring of hairs; branched panicle of purplish spikelets]
Nardus stricta - Mat-grass - acid turf, e.g. Vielha, Aigues Tortes
 [Densely tufted perennial: 1-sided comb-like spike]
Phleum pratense - Timothy
 [Grey-green hairless perennial: long sausage-like spike]
Phleum phleoides - Purple-stem Cat's-tail - e.g. Tor
Phragmites australis - Common Reed
 [Familiar tall broad-leaved grass with persistent canes]
Poa alpina - Alpine Meadow-grass - rocky alpine turf, e.g. Aigues Tortes
 [*Poa* spp. have branched panicles of unawned 2-10 flowered spikelets and keeled leaves: *P. alpina* often viviparous]
Poa annua - Annual Meadow-grass
 [As other *Poa* spp but annual, crinkly leaves]
Poa bulbosa - Bulbous Meadow-grass
 [Viviparous grass]
Poa nemoralis - Wood Meadow-grass
 [Typical perennial *Poa*: spikelets <4mm, and 1.5-2mm wide leaves]
Poa pratensis - Smooth Meadow-grass
Poa trivialis - Rough Meadow-grass
 [Perennial *Poa*: ligule 4-10mm, rough stems; leaves 2-4.5mm wide]
Sesleria albicans - Blue Moor Grass - Gavarnie area
Setaria viridis - Green Bristle-grass
Stipa pennata - Needle-grass - Santa Engracia and Montanana areas
Trisetum flavescens - Yellow Oat-grass
Vulpia ciliata - Bearded Fescue - Santa Engracia

Cyperaceae

Scirpoides holoschoenus - Round-headed Club-rush - Salas, Montanana road, St.Llorenç
Eleocharis quinqueflora - Few-flowered Spike-rush - Vielha tunnel and France
Eleocharis palustris - Common Spike-rush - Perbes
Trichophorum caespitosum - Deer Grass - Aigues Tortes, Ratera
Eriophorum angustifolium - Common Cotton-grass - bog pools, Vielha tunnel
 [Creeping perennial: stained wine-red: 3-7 drooping spikelets becoming white-cottony in fruit]
Schoenus nigricans - Black Bog Rush - Salas
Carex diandra - Lesser Tussock Sedge - above Tor
Carex vulpina - Fox Sedge

Carex spicata - Spiked Sedge - Tor
Carex leporina - Oval Sedge - Vielha etc.
Carex echinata - Star Sedge - Tor, Vielha, France
Carex davalliana - Vielha tunnel and Gavarnie
Carex curvula - Troumousse
Carex hirta - Hairy Sedge - Neouvielle
Carex sylvatica - Wood Sedge - picnic site below Coll. du Portillon
Carex remota - Remote Sedge - lunch day 8, France
Carex flava - Large Yellow Sedge
Carex lepidocarpa - Long-stalked Yellow Sedge
Carex demissa - Common Yellow Sedge - Vielha etc.
Carex viridula
Carex pallescens - Pale Sedge - Tor etc.
Carex hallerana - Perbes, Vielha, Aigues Tortes
Carex digitata - Fingered Sedge - Neouvielle, Rioumajou
Carex ornithopoda - Bird's-foot Sedge - Rioumajou
Carex sempervirens - Bonaigua
Carex caryophyllea - Spring Sedge - Bonaigua
Carex panicea - Carnation Sedge - Vielha
Carex flacca - Glaucous Sedge - scattered records
Carex pilulifera - Pill Sedge - Vielha etc.
Carex liparocarpos - Glossy-fruited Sedge
Carex nigra - Common Sedge - widespread

Orchidaceae

Anacamptis pyramidalis - Pyramidal Orchid - scarce, a few at Gavarnie
 [Dense pink pyramidal spike, long curved spurs (foxy smelling); narrow leaves 7-20mm wide]
Cephalanthera damasonium - White Helleborine - over near Pont de Suert
 [As next but 3-12 flowers and lower leaves ovate]
Cephalanthera longifolia - Sword-leaved Helleborine - numerous on verges near Vielha in 2008, these cut in 2009.
 A few in Neouvielle [Several lance-like leaves and 8-20 pure white egg-shaped flowers]
Cephalanthera rubra - Red Helleborine - 10+ near Salas
 [From last by 3-10 pink-purple flowers]
Coeloglossum viride - Frog Orchid - Vielha tunnel, Bonaigua, and wild in Tourmalet botanic garden
 [Short; oblong blue-green leaves; spike of 5-15 yellow-green flowers, tinged red-brown]
Dactylorhiza majalis alpestris - a marsh orchid - locally numerous as at Ossoue. Tor, Vielha, Aigues Tortes (lvs).
 [Dactylorhiza spp. look like slim hyacinths, differing from *Orchis* spp. in have some bracts in the spike leaflike.
 This has hollow stems to 25cm, ovate leaves and purple flowers with lip hardly lobed]
Dactylorhiza caramulensis - a spotted orchid - scattered records, e.g. Vielha and Aigues Tortes
 [As last but solid stems, spotted leaves; lip of pale lilac flowers not 3-lobed, spur base >2mm wide]
Dactylorhiza elata - a marsh orchid - a few near Salas, 1 at Gaudi's Inspiration
 [As *D. alpestris* but 30-110cm tall; lance-leaved]
Dactylorhiza fuchsii - Common Spotted-orchid - scattered, common in France, also near Pont de Suert
 [From other spotted-orchids by clearly 3-lobed lip]
Dactylorhiza maculata - Heath Spotted-orchid - scattered records, e.g. Tor, Peyresourde
 [Very like *D. caramulensis* but spur-base narrower; usually shorter and less robust]
Dactylorhiza sambucina - Elder-flowered Orchid - Bonaigua and Vielha tunnel, a few, mostly over
 [Pale lemon yellow, or purple, spikes, leafy bracts and descending spur]
Epipactis helleborine - Broad-leaved Helleborine - widespread in bud
Epipactis palustris - Marsh Helleborine - several near Salas
Epipactis tremolsii - a helleborine
 [From *E. helleborine* by erect stiff leaves wrapped into a cone at this time (before flowering)]
Epipactis microphylla - near Salas, 2008
Gymnadenia conopsea - Fragrant Orchid - widespread, numerous in France
 [Similar to Pyramidal Orchid, but spikes cylindrical, fragrant.]
Limodorum abortivum - Violet Limodore - 1 in seed near Pont de Suert 2009
Listera ovata - Common Twayblade - near Pont de Suert, and singles at Vielha and near Piau-Engaly
 [Opposite pair of oval ribbed leaves; green flower spike, lip forked]
Neottia nidus-avis - Bird's-nest Orchid - 3 in good flower in Rioumajou Valley

Nigritella austriaca - a vanilla orchid - numerous at Vielha tunnel and Rioumajou
 [Short: dense rounded head of deep red-brown, vanilla-scented flowers (all perianth segments spreading) lip 7-10mm]

Ophrys apifera - Bee Orchid - a few near Salas 2008
 [A familiar orchid: few large spurless flowers with 3 spreading pink 10-15mm sepals & brown furry lip]

Ophrys scolopax - Woodcock Orchid - a few at Salas
 [Similar to *O. apifera* but sepals 8-10mm and lip usually more ovate-lanceolate]

Orchis coriophora - Bug Orchid - many at one site near Tor
 [Unlike *Dactylorhiza*, *Orchis* spp. have membranous bracts. Bug Orchid is small: dense brownish red spike (foetid smell)]

Orchis mascula - Early Purple Orchid - scattered, mainly in France

Orchis ustulata - Burnt-tip Orchid - Tor, Perbes, Canto, Gavarnie
 [Purple-brown helmet and white to pale pink manikin lip]

Platanthera bifolia - Lesser Butterfly-orchid - 2008 reasonably common, not seen 2009?
 [Two elliptic shiny basal leaves; loose spikes of greenish-white flowers with long spurs and anther-lobes parallel]

Platanthera chlorantha - Greater Butterfly-orchid - widespread and reasonably common
 [Very similar but usually bigger, with anther-lobes diverging]

Pseudorchis albida - Small White Orchid - several in flower at Vielha tunnel
 [Short - dense spike of 2-3mm greenish-white flowers]

Systematic List Number 2 Butterflies

The taxonomy and systematic order have been taken from Tolman and Lewington's 'Butterflies of Britain and Europe' published by Harper Collins (1997). An indication of abundance is given by the number of days on which each species was seen. Butterfly numbers had recovered to much more usual levels this year, after a very poor year in 2008, and many more species were seen. A very few species were recorded in 2008 but not this year, and are retained in square brackets.

Papilionidae

Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>	Widespread in small numbers, whereas only on 2 days in 2008. 6/14
Scarce Swallowtail	<i>Iphiclides podalirius</i>	Scattered Spanish records. 4/14
Apollo	<i>Parnassius apollo</i>	Local but widespread. Incredibly not seen until the last full day, Troumouse, in 2008! 5/14
Clouded Apollo	<i>Parnassius mnemosyne</i>	3 colonies in France, Neouvielle, Tourmalet botanic garden, and Gavarnie. 3/14

Pieridae

Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>	Widespread and common. 14/14
Black-veined White	<i>Aporia crataegi</i>	Widespread and reasonably common. 8/14
Small White	<i>Artogeia rapae</i>	Widespread in small numbers. 8/14
Green-veined White	<i>Artogeia napi</i>	Scattered records. 3/14
[Bath White	<i>Pontia daplidice</i>	Single near Ordesa, 2008. 1/14]
Mountain Dappled White	<i>Euchloe simplonia</i>	3 near Tor, 1 dead Gavarnie. 1/14
Orange-Tip	<i>Anthocharis cardamines</i>	Widespread in small numbers. 10/14
Moroccan Orange-Tip	<i>Anthocharis belia</i>	Scattered Spanish records. 4/14
Mountain Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias phicomone</i>	1 at Peyresourde. 1/14
Pale Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias hyale</i>	Definitely on 2 days, this or <i>Colias alfacariensis</i> on 2 other days. 2/14
Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias crocea</i>	Widespread and common. 14/14
Brimstone	<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>	Widespread. 5/14
Cleopatra	<i>Gonepteryx cleopatra</i>	Scattered Spanish records. 3/14
Wood White	<i>Leptidea sinapis</i>	Widespread in small numbers. 10/14

Lycaenidae

Spanish Purple Hairstreak	<i>Laeosopis roboris</i>	3 in Santa Engracia area. 2/14
Sloe Hairstreak	<i>Satyrium acaciae</i>	Several in the Santa Engracia area. 1/14
Ilex Hairstreak	<i>Satyrium ilicis</i>	Common at lower altitudes in Spain. 3/14
False Ilex Hairstreak	<i>Satyrium esculi</i>	Several in Santa Engracia area. 2/14
Blue-spot Hairstreak	<i>Satyrium spini</i>	Several in Santa Engracia area. 2/14
Green Hairstreak	<i>Callophrys rubi</i>	Scattered records in both countries. 5/14
Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>	Scattered singletons. 5/14
Scarce Copper	<i>Lycaena virgaureae</i>	Noted on day 9 (BH and LH). 1/14
Sooty Copper	<i>Lycaena tityrus</i>	Tor, Perbes, and Day 8. 3/14
Purple-edged Copper	<i>Lycaena hippothoe</i>	Piau-Engaly and Gavarnie. 2/14
Long-tailed Blue	<i>Lampides boeticus</i>	1 at Collegats, 1 near <i>Iris latifolia</i> meadow in Spain. 2/14
Little Blue	<i>Cupido minimus</i>	Widespread and locally very common. 10/14
Osiris Blue	<i>Cupido osiris</i>	Scattered records. 4/14
Holly Blue	<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>	1 at Salas. 1/14
Large Blue	<i>Maculinea arion</i>	1 at lunch site below Tourmalet (PC). 1/14
Baton Blue	<i>Pseudophilotes baton</i>	1 below Bonaigua on the arrival day. 1 along Tor road. 2/14
Silver-studded Blue	<i>Plebejus argus</i>	Widespread and reasonably common. 5/14
Idas Blue	<i>Plebejus idas</i>	Scattered Spanish records. 3/14
Geranium Argus	<i>Eumedonia eumedon</i>	1 at Vielha. 1/14
Brown Argus	<i>Aricia agestis</i>	Neouvielle and Gavarnie. 2/14

Mountain Argus	<i>Aricia artaxerxes</i>	Gavarnie area. 2/14
Mazarine Blue	<i>Cyaniris semiargus</i>	Widespread and reasonably common. 7/14
[Chapman's Blue	<i>Agrodiaetus thersites</i>	1 near Perbes, 2008. 1/14]
Escher's Blue	<i>Agrodiaetus escheri</i>	Lower altitudes in Spain. 2/14
Amanda's Blue	<i>Agrodiaetus amanda</i>	1 at Salas. 1/14
Turquoise Blue	<i>Plebicula dorylas</i>	Tor and Gavarnie. 3/14
Chalk-hill Blue	<i>Lysandra coridon</i>	Scattered Spanish records. 3/14
Adonis Blue	<i>Lysandra bellargus</i>	Scattered records in both countries. 4/14
Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>	Widespread and reasonably common. 10/14
Riodinidae		
[Duke of Burgundy	<i>Hamaeris lucina</i>	1 at Gavarnie, 2008. 1/14]
Fritillary		
Libytheidae		
Nettle-tree Butterfly	<i>Libythea celtis</i>	1 at Gaudi's Inspiration. 1/14
Nymphalidae		
Southern White Admiral	<i>Limenitis reducta</i>	A total of 5 in Spain. 3/14
[Large Tortoiseshell	<i>Nymphalis polychloros</i>	2 in Spain, 2008. 2/14]
Camberwell Beauty	<i>Nymphalis antiopa</i>	Tor road. 1/14
Peacock	<i>Inachis io</i>	A few in Spain. 3/14
Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>	Widespread in small numbers. 6/14
Painted Lady	<i>Cynthia cardui</i>	Widespread and very common, whereas only 1 seen in 2008! 14/14
Small Tortoiseshell	<i>Aglais urticae</i>	Widespread and common at altitude. 9/14
Comma	<i>Polygonia c-album</i>	Widespread in small numbers. 9/14
Dark Green Fritillary	<i>Argynnis aglaja</i>	A few along Tor road. 1/14
High Brown Fritillary	<i>Argynnis adippe</i>	Perbes. 1/14
Niobe Fritillary	<i>Argynnis niobe</i>	Perbes. 1/14
N.B. The larger fritillaries	were very scarce this year.	
Queen of Spain Fritillary	<i>Issoria lathonia</i>	2+ at Tor. 1/14
[Twin-spot Fritillary	<i>Brenthis hecate</i>	1 along Montanana road, at a new site for the species, 2008. 1/14]
Marbled Fritillary	<i>Brenthis daphne</i>	Below Perbes, and Collegats, 2/14
[Lesser Marbled Fritillary	<i>Brenthis ino</i>	1 at Santa Engracia, 2008. 1/14]
Bog Fritillary	<i>Proclissiana eunomia</i>	1 above Tor (PC). 1/14
Pearl-bordered Fritillary	<i>Clossiana euphrosyne</i>	Tor, Aigues Tortes, and Gavarnie. 3/14
Glanville Fritillary	<i>Melitaea cinxia</i>	Scarce, Spain. 2/14
Knapweed Fritillary	<i>Melitaea phoebe</i>	Scattered Spanish records. 3/14
Spotted Fritillary	<i>Melitaea didyma</i>	Tor and Santa Engracia area. 2/14
[Lesser Spotted Fritillary	<i>Melitaea trivialis</i>	1 on day 3, 2008. 1/14]
False Heath Fritillary	<i>Melitaea diamina</i>	On the first day below Bonaigua, and Gavarnie. 2/14
Heath Fritillary	<i>Mellicta athalia</i>	Widespread in small numbers. 6/14
Provençal Fritillary	<i>Mellicta deione</i>	Rather common in Spain. 5/14
Meadow Fritillary	<i>Mellicta parthenoides</i>	A few Spanish records. 4/14
[Marsh Fritillary	<i>Euphydryas aurinia</i>	1 at Santa Engracia. 1/14]
[Spanish Fritillary	<i>Euphydryas desfontainii</i>	1 along Montanana road, 2 at Santa Engracia, 2008. 2/14]
Satyridae		
Marbled White	<i>Melanargia galathea</i>	Noted in France. 1/14
Iberian Marbled White	<i>Melanargia lachesis</i>	Scattered Spanish records. 4/14
Woodland Ringlet	<i>Hipparchia fagi</i>	1 at Salas. 1/14
Common Grayling	<i>Hipparchia semele</i>	2 in Santa Engracia area. 2/14
Great Banded Grayling	<i>Kanetisa circe</i>	Santa Engracia area. 2/14
Mountain Ringlet	<i>Erebia epiphron</i>	Gavarnie area. 2/14
de Prunner's Ringlet	<i>Erebia triaria</i>	Bonaigua and Vielha. 2/14
Lefebvre's Ringlet	<i>Erebia lefebvrei</i>	Ossoue valley. 1/14

Bright-eyed Ringlet	<i>Erebia oeme</i>	Rather common in France. 3/14
Piedmont Ringlet	<i>Erebia meolans</i>	Widespread in small numbers. 5/14
Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>	Scattered records. 4/14
Spanish Gatekeeper	<i>Pyronia bathseba</i>	Santa Engracia area, and St.Llorenc. 2/14
Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>	Scattered records. 5/14
Dusky Heath	<i>Coenonympha dorus</i>	Lower altitudes in Spain. 2/14
Pearly Heath	<i>Coenonympha arcania</i>	Widespread in small numbers. 8/14
Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>	Scattered records, e.g. Santa Engracia area. 4/14
Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>	On 2 days in Spain. 2/14
Large Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata maera</i>	Scattered records, mostly France. 4/14

Hesperidae

Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus malvae</i>	On 1 day in Spain. 1/14
Large Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus alveus</i>	Scattered records. 3/14
Oberthur's Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus armoricanus</i>	Tor. 1/14
Olive Skipper	<i>Pyrgus serratulae</i>	Tor and Perbes. 2/14
Safflower Skipper	<i>Pyrgus carthami</i>	Perbes. 1/14
Red-underwing Skipper	<i>Spialia sertorius</i>	Tor and Santa Engracia area. 2/14
Mallow Skipper	<i>Carcharodus alceae</i>	Santa Engracia area. 1/14
Marbled Skipper	<i>Carcharodus lavatherae</i>	A few records. 4/14
Southern Marbled Skipper	<i>Carcharodus boeticus</i>	1 at St.Llorenc. 1/14
Dingy Skipper	<i>Erynnis tages</i>	Widespread in small numbers. 6/14
Lulworth Skipper	<i>Thymelicus lineola</i>	Santa Engracia area. 1/14
Essex Skipper	<i>Thymelicus lineola</i>	In Spain on day 9. 1/14
Small Skipper	<i>Thymelicus sylvestris</i>	Scattered records. 5/14
Large Skipper	<i>Ochlodes venatus</i>	Scattered records. 3/14
Mediterranean Skipper	<i>Gegenes nostradamus</i>	Collegats and St.Llorenc. 1/14

Systematic List Number 3 Moths

This is a list of moths mostly observed casually during the tour, although a moth trap was operated on a couple of nights in France.

Zygaenidae

Six-spot Burnet

Zygaena filipendulae
Zygaena fausta junceae
Zygaena sarpedon carmencita

Forester spp.

Tortricidae

Green Oak Tortrix

Tortrix viridana
Epiblemma cynosbatella
Cydia pomonella

Codling Moth

Pyralidae

Rush Veneer

Chrysocrambus craterellus
Chrysoteuchia culmella
Nomophila noctuella

Thyrididae

Thyris fenestrella

Lasiocampidae

Fox Moth

Macrothylacia rubi

Thyatiridae

Poplar Lutestring

Tethea or

Geometridae

Orange Underwing

Archiearis parthenias
Pseudoterpna coronillaria

Essex Emerald
 Blood-vein

Thetidia smaragdaria
Timandra griseata
Idaea aureolaria

Lewes Wave
 Lace Border

Scopula immorata
Scopula ornata
Rhodostrophia calabra
Lythria cruentaria

Silver-ground Carpet
 Small Argent and Sable
 Grass Rivulet

Xanthorhoe montanata
Epirrhoe tristata
Perizoma albulata
Perizoma hydrata

Green Pug
 Mottled Pug
 White-spotted Pug
 Common Pug
 Chimney Sweeper

Chloroclystis rectangulata
Eupithecia exiguata
Eupithecia tripunctaria
Eupithecia vulgata
Odezia atrata

Drab Looper
 Barred Umber
 Brimstone Moth
 Clouded Border
 Latticed Heath
 Frosted Yellow
 Speckled Yellow

Minoa murinata
Plagodis pulveraria
Opisthograptis luteolata
Lomasipilis marginata
Semiothisa clathrata
Isturgia limbaria
Pseudopanthera macularia

Early Thorn	<i>Selenia dentaria</i>
Scalloped Hazel	<i>Odontoptera bidentata</i>
Peppered Moth	<i>Biston betularia</i>
Bordered White	<i>Bupalus piniaria</i>
Common Heath	<i>Ematurga atomaria</i>
black mountain moth spp.	<i>Glacies</i> spp.
Black-veined Moth	<i>Siona lineata</i>

Sphingidae

Small Elephant Hawk	<i>Deilephila porcellus</i>
Humming-bird Hawk-moth	<i>Macroglossum stellatarum</i>

Notodontidae

Iberian Puss Moth	<i>Cerura iberica</i>
Swallow Prominent	<i>Pheosia tremula</i>
Lesser Swallow Prominent	<i>Pheosia gnoma</i>

Arctiidae

Feathered Footman	<i>Setina irrorella</i>
	<i>Spiris striata</i>
	<i>Rhyparia purpurata</i>
Clouded Buff	<i>Diacrisio sannio</i>
Cream-spot Tiger	<i>Arctia villica</i>
Ruby Tiger	<i>Phragmatobia fuliginosa</i>

Noctuidae

Large Yellow Underwing	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>
Grey Arches	<i>Polia nebulosa</i>
Shears	<i>Plebeja nana</i>
Light Brocade	<i>Lacanobia w-latinum</i>
Beautiful Brocade	<i>Lacanobia contigua</i>
Varied Coronet	<i>Hadena compta</i>
	<i>Hadena filograna</i>
Shoulder-striped Wainscot	<i>Mythimna comma</i>
Minor Shoulder-knot	<i>Brachylomia viminalis</i>
Alder Moth	<i>Acrionicta alni</i>
Brown Rustic	<i>Rusina ferruginea</i>
Dark Arches	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>
Reddish Light Arches	<i>Apamea sublustris</i>
Dusky Brocade	<i>Apamea remissa</i>
Marbled Minor	<i>Oligia strigilis</i>
Tawny Marbled Minor	<i>Oligia latruncula</i>
Uncertain	<i>Hoplodrina alsines</i>
Small Yellow Underwing	<i>Panemeria tenebrata</i>
Bordered Straw	<i>Heliothis peltigera</i>
Burnet Companion	<i>Euclidia glyphica</i>
Mother Shipton	<i>Callistegia mi</i>
Silver-Y	<i>Autographa gamma</i>
Four-spotted	<i>Tyta luctuosa</i>

Systematic List Number 4 Birds

The taxonomic nomenclature and systematic order loosely follows both that of Voous (1977) and that found in Lars Jonsson's *Birds of Europe*.

Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	France on the arrival day.
Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	From the motorway in France.
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	From the motorway in France.
Great Egret	<i>Egretta alba</i>	France on the departure day.
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	2 in France.
Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	2 at St.Llorenc.
White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	1 over Toulouse Airport.
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	Noted on two days.
[Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>	Singles at Gavarnie and Troumouse, 2008.]
Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	Widespread, seen on 7 days.
Red Kite	<i>Milvus milvus</i>	Widespread and reasonably common, especially Arreau. Seen on 10 days.
Lammergeier	<i>Gypaetus barbatus</i>	2+ Aigues Tortes. 3 near Ordesa. 1 at Troumouse.
Egyptian Vulture	<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>	A few in Spain, e.g. Perbes.
Griffon Vulture	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>	Widespread and locally very common.
Short-toed Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>	1 at Salas.
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	Widespread in small numbers.
[Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	1 in Ordesa National Park, 2 at Piau-Engaly. 2008]
Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>	Montanana road and Aigues Tortes.
Bonelli's Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus fasciatus</i>	A pair near Pont de Suert.
Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	Widespread in small numbers.
Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>	2 in Spain.
Peregrine	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	On one day in Spain.
Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>	Heard at Peyresourde.
Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus cachinnans</i>	Lower altitudes.
Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	Widespread.
Woodpigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	Widespread in small numbers.
Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	Scattered records, towns.
Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	Santa Engracia area.
Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	Occasionally heard.
Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>	A road casualty on the last day.
Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	Widespread and common.
Alpine Swift	<i>Apus melba</i>	Nesting near Gaudi's Inspiration.
European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>	Santa Engracia area.
Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>	Occasionally heard.
Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>	Occasional in Spain.
Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>	Scattered records.
Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	Scattered records.
Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>	Widespread and reasonably common.
Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Widespread and common.
House Martin	<i>Delichon urbica</i>	Widespread and common.
Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>	Col de Perbes.
Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>	Scattered records.
Water Pipit	<i>Anthus spinoletta</i>	Much in evidence above the tree line.
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	Widespread near streams.
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	Widespread in small numbers.
Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	Scattered records.
Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>	Scattered records along streams and rivers.
Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>	Scattered records at higher altitudes, e.g. Aigues Tortes.
Alpine Accentor	<i>Prunella collaris</i>	2 at Col de Tentes.
Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	Scattered records.
Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>	Very commonly heard in Spain.
Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	Seen every day.

Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>	Vielha tunnel.
Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>	Col de Perbes and Santa Engracia area.
Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>	Scattered high altitude records.
Black-eared Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe hispanica</i>	A male along the Montanana road.
[Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola saxatilis</i>	Below Col de Perbes, and a female feeding young in Gavarnie area, 2008.]
Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>	A few records in Spain.
Ring Ouzel	<i>Turdus torquatus</i>	A male at Neouvielle.
Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	Widespread.
Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	Scattered records.
Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>	Scattered records.
Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>	Heard occasionally.
Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>	Singing at St.Llorenc.
[Melodious Warbler	<i>Hippolais polyglotta</i>	Santa Engracia, 2008.]
Dartford Warbler	<i>Sylvia undata</i>	Heard at Perbes.
Subalpine Warbler	<i>Sylvia cantillans</i>	Perbes and St.Llorenc.
Sardinian Warbler	<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>	A male at St.Llorenc.
Common Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>	St.Llorenc.
Garden Warbler	<i>Sylvia borin</i>	2 at Gavarnie.
Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	Commonly heard.
Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	Heard occasionally.
Western Bonelli's Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus bonellii</i>	Scattered records in Spain, heard only.
Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>	Scattered records.
Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>	Scattered records.
Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>	Lunch site near St.Llorenc.
Crested Tit	<i>Parus cristatus</i>	Aigues Tortes.
Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>	Scattered records.
Blue Tit	<i>Parus caeruleus</i>	Scattered records.
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>	Scattered records.
Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>	Heard only.
Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>	Santa Engracia area.
Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>	Noted on four days.
Southern Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius meridionalis</i>	1 at the lunch site below Perbes.
Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>	On two days in Spain.
Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	Widespread and common.
Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	Widespread and common.
Alpine Chough	<i>Pyrrhcorax graculus</i>	Quite common at high altitudes in France.
Chough	<i>Pyrrhcorax pyrrhcorax</i>	Locally common on both sides of the border.
Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone corone</i>	Widespread and common.
Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	Widespread in small numbers.
Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	Scattered records.
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	Widespread and common.
Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>	Tor.
Snow Finch	<i>Montifringilla nivalis</i>	Col du Tourmalet.
Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	Widespread and common.
Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>	Widespread.
Citril Finch	<i>Serinus citrinella</i>	Tor and Neouvielle.
Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>	Scattered records.
Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	Scattered records.
Linnet	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>	Widespread.
Crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>	A male at Neouvielle.
Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>	On one day in France.
Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	Scattered at higher altitudes.
Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>	Lower altitudes in Spain.
Rock Bunting	<i>Emberiza cia</i>	Perbes.
Ortolan Bunting	<i>Emberiza hortulana</i>	2+ at Col de Perbes.
Corn Bunting	<i>Miliaria calandra</i>	Scattered records at lower altitudes in Spain.

Systematic List Number 5

Mammals

Red fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	Road casualty on the last day
Pine Marten	<i>Martes martes</i>	One road casualty
Beech Marten	<i>Martes foina</i>	1 after dinner one night in Alins, 1 at Neouvielle
Chamois	<i>Rupicapra rupicapra</i>	9 from Piau-Engaly
Mouflon	<i>Ovis orientalis</i>	A small group on a snow patch at Piau-Engaly, 2008
Fallow Deer	<i>Dama dama</i>	A total of 7 in Aigues Tortes
Roe Deer	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>	Alins, and Gavarnie
Alpine Marmot	<i>Marmota marmota</i>	(introduced). Numerous around Gavarnie. Also Piau-Engaly and Neouvielle.
Wild Boar	<i>Sus scropha</i>	Plenty of evidence of feeding by these creatures throughout
Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>	Gavarnie
Snow Vole	<i>Microtus nivalis</i>	Tunnels and holes noted in the Gavarnie area
Garden Dormouse	<i>Eliomys quercinus</i>	One of these beautiful animals dead in Troumouse Valley, 2008

Systematic List Number 6

Reptiles and Amphibians

Pyrenean Brook Newt	<i>Euproctus asper</i>	1 adult near Gavarnie
Common Frog	<i>Rana temporaria</i>	Seen in France
Iberian Water Frog	<i>Rana perezi</i>	Ponds at Col de Perbes, Collegats etc.
Green Lizard	<i>Lacerta viridis</i>	Gavarnie
Viviparous Lizard	<i>Lacerta vivipara</i>	Recorded
Common Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis muralis</i>	Recorded
Iberian Wall lizard	<i>Podarcis hispanica</i>	Scattered records
Montpellier Snake	<i>Malpolon monspessulanus</i>	Alins
Aesculapian Snake	<i>Elaphe longissima</i>	Perbes
Asp Viper	<i>Vipera aspis</i>	2 in Gavarnie