The Maritime Alps

Wildlife at Leisure

A Greentours Tour Report

4th to 11th July 2019

Led by Paul Cardy and Ed Hutchings

Daily Accounts, and Plant and Butterfly Systematic Lists written by Paul Cardy Vertebrate lists written by Ed Hutchings

The third of the Greentours summer Alpine trilogy, following on from the Dolomites and the Central Italian Alps, was an excellent week in the western Alps, on both the French and Italian sides of the glorious Maritime Alps. Even after nineteen years of leading tours here, and living just to the north in Italy, the area still holds some surprises.

The wealth of flowers was a daily feature, and among many plant highlights were the local specialities *Allium* narcissiflorum, Saxifraga cochlearis, and Saxifraga callosa all in fine flower, the latter locally abundant cascading from cliffs and walls. Notable were many of the local speciality *Nigritella corneliana*, *Gentiana rostanii*, *Phyteuma globulariifolium*, the endemic *Knautia mollis*, and *Lomelosia graminifolia*.

It was also a very good season for butterflies, stand outs including many Apollos, Large Blue, Duke of Burgundy, Southern White Admiral, Twin-spot Fritillary, and Lulworth Skipper.

Our hotel for the week was situated in the hamlet of Casterino, on the eastern boundary of the Mercantour National Park. The fine location allowed access to a great variety of habitats, the length of the Roya valley, lower Mediterranean influenced sites, and the Italian Alpi Maritime, a superbly productive area. We enjoyed superb dinners in the hotel's excellent restaurant, complete with log fire and paintings of such subjects as Ibex standing among <code>Saxifraga florulenta!</code> Although we were in France, the area has a distinct Italian feel.

During the week our daily excursions mixed lower Mediterranean influenced sites, through mid altitude meadows and subalpine forests, to alpine pastures above the tree line, producing a wealth of flora and fauna in these different habitats.

Four of us arrived in Casterino the day before the tour, having driven from Stelvio National Park in the Central Italian Alps. Ed and I met the group at Nice Airport on the Thursday afternoon, on a selection of flights. Arrivals were prompt, although as usual meeting arrivals at the two different terminals was a

challenge! Late afternoon saw us driving east along the Cote d'Azur, the journey taking us into Italy, the province of Imperia, and we headed inland along the gorges of the Roya Valley, back into France, and took the side valley to our hotel. There we settled into the comfortable rooms.

The first full day was spent visiting sites above and below the hamlet of Casterino. Above the village we admired the floral wealth, with Yellow Gentians numerous still in flower. Here were Common Twayblades, *Phyteuma betonicifolium, Sempervivum montanum, Sempervivum tectorum, Malva moschata,* and Martagons. A shady stream had *Ranunculus platanifolius* and *Streptopus amplexifolius*. Titania's Fritillary and Niobe Fritillary were on the wing and Apollos were in good numbers this year. Male Orange-tip was still on the wing and Scarce Copper was admired. Bonelli's Warblers called continuously and their song was generally a feature of the tour.

A little higher up we parked and walked the track, where cliffs held many special plants. The endemics Campanula fritschii and Campanula stenocodon were in flower. Silene cordifolia, also endemic, was rather common. Asperula hexaphylla and Hypericum coris were here too. This was a beautifuly floriferous quiet rocky track, streams flowing below and across the road. Primula marginata and a few Primula latifolia were in fruit. I was very pleased to find Lomelosia graminifolia, always a special find, and new for the tour. Leucanthemum atratum coronopifolium was also an addition to the list. White felted Hieracium tomentosum, the less so but still very hairy Hieracium villosum, and Hieracium amplexicaule were all seen.

A selection of butterflies included Safflower Skipper, Southern White Admiral, and Blue-spot Hairstreak.

It was already time for lunch and we set out the first picnic here in fine habitat.

Cliffs nearer the hotel had much *Jovibarba allionii* in bud, an impressive endemic, and *Linaria supina* and *Veronica fruticulosa* grew on the river gravels. Here too were *Cerinthe minor*, *Anthyllis montana*, and *Teucrium montanum*. White flowered Caryophyllaceae featured here, with *Arenaria multicaulis*, *Minuartia rostrata*, and *Minuartia villarii*. Swallowtails nectared, and we saw False Heath Fritillary and Provençal Fritillary.

Digitalis lutea and Digitalis grandiflora were commonly in flower on roadsides, Bupleurum praealtum was common in the area, and Campanula persicifolia was in impressive flower. The Malva alcea here had only shallowly lobed leaves, rather than the usual deeply dissected leaves of this species. Allium scorodoprasum was in flower.

Our second full day in the area was spent completing an exciting and productive circuit, driving up to and through the Tende tunnel, into Italy, taking the road to the Col, and then the exciting road back to Casterino on the French side. The tunnel is now controlled by traffic lights whilst extensive works are in progress. Mostly we were lucky with timings this week, and today only had to wait a few minutes for a green light. *Campanula medium* was in superb form on the French side of the tunnel.

Our first scheduled stop was at the old attempt at a tunnel, made as early as 1615. The cave itself was wonderfully cool. Our first *Saxifraga callosa* cascaded, and there was a large mat of *Primula marginata* in fruit. *Arabis alpina* and *Saxifraga rotundifolia* flowered at the shaded cool tunnel mouth. There was more of the

endemic *Micromeria marginata* in flower today than I had ever seen before. *Carex ferruginea tendae* is as the name suggests a local endemic subspecies. The views were already sublime. Northern Wall Brown was on the wing. Robust Fragrant Orchids and *Dactylorhiza fuchsii* flowered at the forest edge.

Woodland edge nearby had lush vegetation with much Alpine Sow-thistle, *Chaerophyllum hirsutum*, and the local umbellifer *Trochiscanthes nodiflora* in good form. *Phyteuma ovatum*, *Veronica urticifolia*, and *Myrrhis odorata* contributed to the lush variety. John gave us a fascinating history of *Cicerbita alpina* in the UK, now only at two of its previous four sites. It was abundant here. Purple-edged Copper was seen nearby.

It was the rocks higher up that revealed many fine flowers. Saxifraga callosa was in fine form, cascading abundantly from cliff faces and fort walls although Saxifraga caesia was in bud this year. The endemic Allium narcissiflorum was one of our targets here. Initially all I found were in bud this year, but it was Howard who found the first of a few in flower, a trip highlight. Both Bupleurum petraeum and Bupleurum ranunculoides were very attractive, and Silene saxifraga was in flower. A bonus this year was the orange flowered endemic Tephroseris capitata. Dryas octopetala was still in bloom. The white-felted Hieracium tomentosum was very common, and Globularia cordifolia and Globularia repens were both in flower. Hypericum richeri, Alpine Aster, Dark Stonecrop, the large flowered Hypochoeris uniflora, and Arenaria grandiflora continued the variety. Nigritella rhellicani was in fine form. Mountain Clouded Yellow and Silky Ringlet flew over the grassy slopes, and Alpine Chough were much in evidence.

Large ruined nineteenth century forts are a feature of the col, a very atmospheric place. A drive a little further along the track on the French side of the col, to one of these forts, gave fine views down the French side of the tunnel, of the amazing series of switchbacks of the old road, and was an ideal picnic site. *Dianthus carthusianorum* was in flower here and beautiful *Scutellaria alpina* was a feature of the area. Griffons and Golden Eagle were in the air.

In the afternoon we continued along the very quiet track on the French side of the col, making a series of short stops as we completed the circuit. Plants continued with *Sedum sexangulare*, *Sedum album*, *Sedum dasyphyllum*, *Sedum anacampseros*, *Sedum annuum*, and *Linaria supina*. There was much superb *Sempervivum arachnoideum*. *Veronica allionii* on one slope caused much interest and *Dianthus pavonius* was very attractive. More prosaic was the *Senecio viscosus* here.

We reached extensive meadows, the vegetation generally showing strong eutrophication, but with gems among it like a fine slope of *Nigritella corneliana* on shorter turf. Both colour forms of Elder-flowered Orchids had only just gone over. There was much *Phyteuma michellii, Potentilla grandiflora, Viola calcarata, Platanthera bifolia*, and Frog Orchids. Quail called. Marmots had been with us all day and near here was a colony.

Fine *Laserpitium halleri* abundant in one gully prompted another stop. Before long Casterino appeared below us, and the welcome sight of our hotel, after a very pleasing and productive circuit.

On Sunday we again managed to avoid most of the weekend traffic. Lower Mediterranean influenced sites produced much of interest. Initially down to the Roya Valley and south along it. A short supermarket stop was made for picnic supplies, at which Richard spotted a Peregrine.

A layby west of Breil was far more than it sounds. The first of very many beautiful blue flowered *Catananche caerulea* were here, with its lovely papery bracts. *Ononis natrix* and *Ononis spinosa* represented the restharrows (last time we had seen *Ononis minutissima* here too). The weather was excellent and this was going to be a fine day for butterflies. Marbled Whites were a feature, Great Banded and Woodland Grayling were on the wing, and Lulworth Skipper nectared. A beautiful Western Green Lizard scuttled over the warm rocks and Broadleaved Helleborine was in flower. *Leucanthemum pallens* was identified, new for the list, as was *Serratula lycopifolia*.

At the next stop *Bupleurum baldense* and *Quercus crenata* were pleasing additions to the plant list. *Centaurea leucophaea* was rather common in the area and *Clematis flammula* was in fine flower on the roadsides, Phoenician and Prickly Juniper, and Lavender, now characterised the habitat. Globe Thistle, *Echinops ritro*, was rather common. Many of the pines were parasitised by Mistletoe.

Butterflies continued with High Brown Fritillary, Dark Green Fritillary, and Silver-washed Fritillary including form *valezina*. Swallowtails and Scarce Swallowtails glided by and Chequered Blue was a pleasant surprise.

A productive day for flaxes, we saw *Linum austriacum collinum* (in fruit), pink *Linum viscosum*, and white *Linum tenuifolium*.

Interesting winding roads took us through and above the town of Sospel. A forest stop was a very productive butterfly site with many species and large numbers of individuals. Among the fritillaries here were High Brown, Queen-of-Spain, Marbled, Knapweed, Spotted, and Heath. Wood White flew at the forest edge. Among blues were Large, Mazarine, Amanda's, Escher's, Adonis, Silver-studded, Idas, and most notably Lang's Short-tailed Blue and a fine male Meleager's Blue.

Great Sooty Satyr and Great Banded Grayling were here. Skippers featured with Large Grizzled Skipper, Redunderwing Skipper, Mallow Skipper, and Tufted Marbled Skipper. The attractive moth *Thyris fenestrella*, the only European representative of its family, nectared. Here we set out lunch to maximise the time spent with the butterflies. *Salvia glutinosa* was in leaf and *Calamintha grandiflora* was in impressive flower.

The winding road took us to and over the forested Col de Turini, and along a road with almost no traffic, the hairpins winding below us. Here among Downy Oaks were Tree Heath, *Filago vulgaris*, and *Carduus litigiosus*.

Another fine Mediterrean site had much *Eryngium campestre* parasitised by many *Orobanche lavandulacea*, although all these were already mostly over this year. A scarce species of burnet was here, *Zygaena sarpedon*, the *Eryngium* its foodplant. Among many other plants here were *Sideritis hirsuta*, *Cuscuta epithymum*, parasitising mostly thyme, *Inula montana*, and *Inula salicina*. Cleopatra was numerous today, with Brimstone common too. Red-backed Shrike was seen. *Stipa eriocaulis* was at the next stop (as always I just had to put some in my hat), and *Elymus aethericus* was an interesting addition to the grass list for those who like such things!

Next we came upon a fantastic scrubby corner that was alive with butterflies around the flowering brambles, another highlight. Amid masses of Marbled Fritillaries were several Twin-spot still in fine condition. Sloe and Ilex Hairstreaks were both here, a larva of Humming-bird Hawk fed on *Galium*, and *Asperula purpurea* was a good find.

The next day saw initially a longer drive back through the Tende tunnel (a short wait) and into Italy, to the other side of Mercantour, and fine habitat that made the journey very worthwhile.

The Santa Anna valley took us into superb habitat, bursting with flowers. *Lychnis flos-jovis* provided splashes of vivid pink, there were some very robust *Campanula spicata*, many fine clumps of *Scutellaria alpina*, large flowered *Lamium garganicum*, *Digitalis grandiflora*, *Veronica fruticans*, *Centaurea nervosa* with its beautiful feathery bracts, and *Polygonum alpinum*. A good area for rampions, here were *Phyteuma betonicifolium*, *Phyteuma michelii*, and *Phyteuma ovatum*. The endemics *Veronica allionii* and *Potentilla valderia* were in fine form. *Armeria alpina* was a feature. *Leucanthemum atratum ceratophylloides* and *Luzula nutans* continued the variety.

Almond-eyed Ringlets and Large Ringlets flew over the flowery slopes and Purple-shot Copper was in superb form. Ascelaphids were on the wing, as always a challenge to explain their affinities!

The Col de la Lombarde, at about 2,300m, boasted fine views of the surrounding peaks as a backdrop. Marmots whistled their alarm calls. One slope had very many of the endemic vanilla orchid *Nigritella corneliana*, in superb flower this year, whilst *Pedicularis rostratospicata* was very common indeed, although much was already over. In wet flushes were *Gentiana rostanii* and a selection of sedges. Trumpet Gentians and *Viola calcarata* were in flower. There were also a few *Ranunculus kuepferi* still in flower. Non-petaloid monocots continued with *Juncus jacquinii*, *Juncus trifidus*, and *Luzula spicata*.

Next we explored the alpine flora around a small lake, although things were somewhat backward this year, especially butterfly wise. One of the first plants that caught our attention was *Adenostyles leucophylla* with its distinctive white woolly leaves, and there were some fine patches of Parsley Fern growing among the rocky outcrops. Yellow Elder-flowered Orchid and Narcissus-flowered Anemone were still in late flower. I was pleased that Cynthia's Fritillary was already on the wing at a reliable colony, a grassy slope where *Carex foetida* featured.

Alpenrose bloomed, and before long we were finding Small White Orchids dotted around in the turf, Frog Orchids too, and Moonwort. The silver leaved *Senecio incanus* was not yet in flower, but splashes of yellow were provided by *Potentilla grandiflora*. The wetter flushes nearer the lake held an interesting selection of rushes and sedges. Hilary found *Limosella aquatica*, not confirmed for Cuneo in Flora Alpina, which caused some excitement. *Viola palustris* was in flower.

Water Pipit, Black Redstart, and Northern Wheatear were the birds typical of this habitat.

Next was an excursion lower down the valley to rocks where I had been fortunate to see *Saxifraga florulenta* in flower in the past. And here it was, one rosette, no flower this year, but still a superb find. Being monocarpic, it flowers only once, after years of growth of the rosette. Also here was *Saxifraga pedemontana*, another regional

endemic. There was also more of the endemic *Silene cordifolia*. Below Isola 2000 was a stunning floriferous bank caused a stop, Common Spotted Orchids abundant.

Back into Italy we made more stops in the superb flowery valley. Among highlights were *Hugueninia tanacetifolia*, and *Tephroseris balbisiana*, and *Carex canescens*, *Epilobium anagallidifolium*, *Epilobium alsinifolium*, and *Epilobium collinum* were added to the list. *Sempervivum arachnoideum* was still abundantly in flower. At the last stop were very close Marmots, and Richard found Damon Blue.

We made the longish drive home after a very enjoyable and productive day. We were making excellent progress until we chanced upon a just happened accident, it involved only one vehicle which had driven into a bridge, but held us up for about forty minutes. At least we did not have to wait long at the tunnel.

The last two full days were spent visiting more local sites in and around the Roya Valley.

Howard showed us the *Gentiana ligustica* he'd found near the hotel, in unusual late flower. He had also found a number of *Gentiana campestris*, and *Gentiana cruciata* was also in leaf (no Mountain Alcon blue eggs though). Also here was *Tofieldia calyculata*. Nearby a short stop was made for *Glyceria notata*.

Above La Brigue we visited a small chapel and walked a wooded track. We soon reached a track that took us away from the driveable dirt road. A bright orange flower caught our eye on the trackside, *Leucanthemum discoideum*, a near endemic, and very attractive, being an ox-eye daisy with no ray petals. *Orobanche gracilis* parasitised legumes, and *Teucrium lucidum* was in flower. Among the butterflies were Speckled Wood, Arran Brown, Amanda's Blue, Southern White Admiral, and Comma.

Rain came so we headed lower following the blue sky. A new site, with an interesting low aqueduct structure was ideal to set out lunch. Richard came back with tales of a labelled *Pinus pinaster hamiltonii*. A walk to this yielded many new Mediterranean plants such as *Cistus albidus* in fruit and *Fumana ericoides* in fruit, *Coris monspeliensis*, *Sedum sediforme*, *Dorycnium pentaphyllum*, *Staehelina dubia*, *Globularia alypum*, and *Aphyllanthes monspeliensis* in fruit.

Back in the Roya Valley we stopped by the eponymous river at Saorge, the town perched impressively above us. Here the cliffs had much *Opuntia*, figs, and other lower altitude species showing the strong Mediterranean influence. *Sedum cepaea* was new to us and Briancon Apricot was heavy with fruit. Southern White Admiral was among the butterflies, and Beautiful Demoiselle, beautiful indeed, frequented the river bank.

A small cave had the endemic *Sedum fragrans* in flower, and *Potentilla saxifraga* in leaf. *Senecio cineraria* was in flower, and Maidenhair Fern grew in the shady cave.

A phenomenon this year was the amazing numbers of the recently naturalised Box-tree Moth, *Cydalima perspectalis*, a native of east Asia. This large black bordered white pyralid also occurs in a darker form, here in much smaller numbers. The species only appeared in Europe in 2006.

Among the many other plants showing the Mediterranean influence were Nigella damascena, Consolida regalis, Coriaria myrtifolia, Bituminaria bituminosa, Lathyrus tuberosus, Tordylium maximum, Orlaya grandiflora, Pallenis spinosa and Jasminum fruticans.

Following a request for a short stop in a picturesque village for a coffee and a stroll, where better than La Brigue, a delightful place, we had a late afternoon stop in this attractive village.

The second morning saw us travelling to Tende for a visit to the excellent Museum des Merveilles, and its attached bookshop. The museum boasts fascinating exhibits on the many rock carvings. There was time for exploration of this characterful town, historically Italian. Bath White was seen in town.

We made a return visit to La Brigue. A short stop to photograph a fine old angled bridge had Berger's Clouded Yellow on the wing. Next were cliffs where the previous evening Dianne and I had found fine *Saxifraga cochlearis* in bloom. *Asplenium fontanum* was common here, and *Cirsium monspessulanum* was in flower.

Lunch was eaten at a shady riverside spot where more fine *Saxifraga cochlearis* flowered commonly on nearby boulders. Back at Saorge, the sun now shining, butterflies included Meadow Brown, High Brown Fritillary, White-letter, Sloe, Blue-spot, and Ilex Hairstreaks, Baton Blue, and Southern Small White. A highlight was a superb mantid *Empusa pennata*, which took a liking to me and for some time would not leave my shirt. The beetle *Oedemera nobilis* landed on my arm.

A bonus during the week was Ed's after dinner showing of Jupiter to the group, impressive in the telescope.

The last dinner was another enjoyable meal. John gave a fine and much appreciated speech to the leaders. I was very pleased to learn he'd seen 83 species new to him during the week.

No need for too early a start the next day. Ed set off at 10 with the earlier departures, whilst those with me left at 11. The last drive down the winding Casterino road saw us saying au revoir to Lion Rock. We reached the coast, blue skies and a tranquil sea. At the airport we said our fond farewells at the 'Kiss and Fly'.

I set off back towards the Tende tunnel and didn't get home until some six hours later.

Systematic List Number 1 Plants

The systematic order and nomenclature follow 'Flora Alpina' by Aeschimann et al (2004), the standard work for the area.

Ferns and Allies

Selaginella helvetica Swiss Clubmoss Roya Valley

Equisetum ramosissimum Branched Horsetail

Equisetum variegatumVariegated HorsetailCasterino areaEquisetum fluviatileWater HorsetailCasterinoEquisetum palustreMarsh HorsetailCasterino

Equisetum arvenseCommon HorsetailScattered recordsEquisetum telmateiaGreat HorsetailScattered recordsBotrychium lunariaMoonwortTende and Lombarde

Adiantum capillus-veneris Maidenhair Fern Saorge

Cryptogramma crispa Parsley Fern Tende and Col du Lombardie

Polypodium cambricum Southern Polypody Saorge Polypodium vulgare Common Polypody Widespread Polypodium interjectum Intermediate Polypody A few records Pteridium aquilinum Bracken Scattered records Asplenium trichomanes Maidenhair Spleenwort Widespread Smooth Rock Spleenwort Asplenium fontanum La Brigue Asplenium adiantum-nigrum Black Spleenwort Saorge Irish Spleenwort Asplenium onopteris Roya Valley

Asplenium septentrionale Forked Spleenwort Locally common on acidic rocks

Asplenium ruta-muraria Wall-rue Above Casterino etc.

Asplenium ceterachRusty-back FernSaorgeAsplenium scolopendriumHart's-tongueRoya ValleyAthyrium filix-feminaLady FernCasterino area

Athyrium distentifolium Alpine Lady Fern Scattered at higher altitudes

Cystopteris fragilis Brittle Bladder Fern Scattered records

Gymnocarpium dryopteris Oak Fern Tende

Gymnocarpium robertianum Limestone Fern

Polystichum lonchitis Holly Fern Numerous Merveilles, 2018

Polystichum aculeatum Hard Shield Fern Casterino

Dryopteris filix-masMale FernLocally commonDryopteris affinisScaly Male FernWidespreadDryopteris villariiRigid Buckler FernTende etc.

Gymnospermae

Pinaceae

Abies alba Silver Fir Casterino road etc.

Picea abiesNorway SpruceWidespread and often dominantLarix deciduaLarchWidespread and often dominant

Pinus pinaster ssp.hamiltonii Maritime Pine Near Olivetta-San Michele

Pinus sylvestris Scot's Pine Widespread and often dominant

Pinus mugo ssp. mugo Dwarf Mountain Pine Higher altitudes

Pinus mugo ssp. uncinata Mountain Pine Widespread

Pinus halepensisAleppo PineNice and lower Roya ValleyPinus cembraArolla PineLocal at higher altitudes

Cupressaceae

Cupressus sempervirensItalian CypressSaorge and NiceJuniperus communis ssp.communisJuniperScattered records

Juniperus communis ssp.alpina Prostrate Juniper Locally common at higher altitudes

Juniperus oxycedrus Prickly Juniper Lower Roya Valley

Juniperus phoenicea Phoenician Juniper Sospel area

Angiospermae

Dicotyledons

Ranunculaceae

Helleborus viridisGreen HelleboreCasterino, in fruitNigella damascenaLove-in-a-MistSaorge, in bud

Trollius europaeus Globeflower Col de la Lombarde and Tende

Actaea spicata Baneberry Tende
Caltha palustris Marsh Marigold Casterino

Aconitum lycoctonum ssp. vulparia Wolfsbane Casterino area, Isola, etc.

Aconitum anthoraYellow Monks-hoodIn leafAconitum napellusMonk's-hoodIn leafConsolida regalisForking LarkspurSaorge

Anemone narcissiflora Narcissus Anemone One still in good flower at Lombarde
Hepatica nobilis Hepatica In leaf in Roya Valley, and Casterino

Pulsatilla alpinaAlpine Pasque FlowerLocally common at higher altitudes, all in seedClematis flammulaVirgin's BowerIn fine flower in Sospel area, locally very common

Clematis vitalba Traveller's Joy Widespread and locally very common

Ranunculus acris Meadow Buttercup Widespread

Ranunculus montanusMountain ButtercupCommon at higher altitudesRanunculus villarsiia mountain buttercupCol de la Lombarde. Endemic.Ranunculus platanifoliusa buttercupCasterino and Lombarde

Ranunculus kuepferi a buttercup A few still in flower at Lombarde

Aquilegia vulgaris Common Columbine Sta. Anna

Aquilegia atrata Dark Columbine Below Isola 2000

Thalictrum aquilegifoliumGreat Meadow-rueCasterinoThalictrum minusLesser Meadow-rueRoya Valley

Berberidaceae

Berberis vulgaris Barberry Casterino area

Coriariaceae

Coriaria myrtifolia Mediterranean Coriaria Lower Roya valley

Papaveraceae

Papaver dubiumLong-headed PoppyRoya Valley 2018Papaver rhoeasCorn PoppyScattered recordsChelidonium majusGreater Celandine

Ulmaceae

Ulmus glabraWych ElmUlmus minorSmall-leaved ElmCeltis australisNettle Tree

Cannabaceae

Humulus lupulus Hop

Moraceae

Ficus carica Fig

Urticaceae

Urtica dioica Common Nettle Common

Parietairia judaica Pellitory-of-the-Wall Scattered records

Juglandaceae

Juglans regia Walnut

Fagaceae

Fagus sylvatica Beech

Castanea sativaSweet ChestnutQuercus ilexHolm OakQuercus cerrisTurkey OakQuercus petraeaSessile OakQuercus pubescensDowny OakQuercus crenataan oak

Betulaceae

Betula pendulaSilver BirchAlnus viridisGreen AlderAlnus glutinosaAlderAlnus incanaGrey AlderCarpinus betulusHornbeamOstrya carpinifoliaHop Hornbeam

Corylus avellana Hazel

Cactaceae

Opuntia sp. a prickly pear Saorge Gorge, O.humifusa?

Chenopodiaceae

Chenopodium bonus-henricus Good King Henry Scattered

Chenopodium album Fat-hen

Portulacaceae

Portulaca oleracea Common Purslane Borgo San Dalmazzo

Caryophyllaceae

Arenaria grandiflora Large-flowered Sandwort Tende and above Casterino

Arenaria multicaulis a sandwort Casterino
Arenaria serpyllifolia Thyme-leaved Sandwort Recorded

Moehringia lebrunii a sandwort Tende. Endemic. 2018.

Moehringia muscosaMossy SandwortLa BrigueMinuartia rostrataa sandwortCasterino

Minuartia recurva Recurved Sandwort Col de la Lombarde and Merveilles 2018

Minuartia villariia sandwortCasterinoMinuartia capillaceaa sandwortTende

Minuartia laricifolia a sandwort Locally common at mid altitudes, e.g.

Sta.Anna and Casterino

Stellaria nemorum Wood Stitchwort

Stellaria media Chickweed

Cerastium arvenseField Mouse-earWidespreadCerastium fontanum ssp.vulgareCommon Mouse-earScattered records

Cerastium glomeratum Sticky Mouse-ear

Sagina glabra Lawn Pearlwort Tende and Lombarde

Spergularia rubra Sand Spurrey Lombarde

Silene flos-jovis Purple Lychnis Widesspread and often very common

Silene italicaItalian CatchflyRoya ValleySilene nutansNottingham CatchflyScattered records

Silene cordifolia a catchfly Above Casterino and below Isola 2000.

Locally common. Endemic.

Silene vulgarisBladder CampionScattered recordsSilene campanulaa catchflyTende upper rocks 2018Silene saxifragaTufted CatchflyAbove Casterino

Silene saxifraga Tufted Catchfly Above Casterino

Silene exscapaa moss campionAcidic rocks at Merveilles, 2018Silene rupestrisRock CampionLocally common, e.g. Lombarde

Silene latifolia ssp. alba White Campion

Gypsophila repens Creeping Gypsophila Tende and Casterino 2018

Saponaria ocymoidesRock SoapwortCasterinoSaponaria officinalisSoapwortRoadsides

Petrorhagia saxifraga Tunic Flower Saorge and Sta. Anna

Petrorhagia prolifera Proliferous Pink Saorge

Dianthus balbisii a pink Near Olivetta-San Michele

Dianthus carthusianorum Carthusian Pink Tende

ssp.atrorubens

Dianthus seguieri a pink Near Col de Turini, 2018

Dianthus furcatus Painted Pink Scattered records, e.g. Casterino

Dianthus pavoniusThree-veined PinkTende and LombardeDianthus sylvestrisWood PinkCommon and widespread

Dianthus subacaulis a pink Tende 2018

Polygonaceae

Polygonum aviculareKnot-grassScatteredPolygonum bistortaBistortCasterinoPolygonum viviparumViviparous BistortLombardePolygonum alpinumAlpine KnotgrassLombarde

Rumex acetosella Sheep's Sorrel

Rumex scutatus French Sorrel Widespread and common

Rumex alpestris Mountain Dock Col de la Lombarde, Tende, and Casterino area

Rumex acetosa Common Sorrel Scattered

Rumex alpinus Monk's Rhubarb Common around alpine pastures

Rumex crispusCurled DockScatteredRumex conglomeratusClustered DockRoya Valley

Rumex obtusifolius Broad-leaved Dock

Plumbaginaceae

Armeria alpina Mountain Thrift Casterino, Tende, and Lombarde

Hypericaceae

Hypericum coris Heath-leaved St.John's-Wort Roya Valley, Casterino Tende

Hypericum montanum Pale St.John's-wort Casterino

Hypericum richeri Alpine St. John's-wort Tende, Casterino, Lombarde

Hypericum perforatum Perforate St.John's-wort Widespread

Tiliaceae

Tilia platyphyllos Large-leaved Lime Tilia cordata Small-leaved Lime

Malvacea

Malva alceaHollyhock MalloCasterino roadMalva moschaMusk MallowAbove CasterinoAlthaea cannabinaa marsh mallowLower roadsides

Cistaceae

Cistus albidus Grey-leaved Cistus In fruit Sospel area

Helianthemum nummularium Common Rock-rose Widespread

ssp.semiglabrum This pink flowered subspecies at Saorge, 2018

Helianthemum apenninum White Rock-rose Tende and Roya Valley

Helianthemum italicum a rock-rose Tende

Fumana procumbensHeath-roseIn fruit Sospel area 2018Fumana ericoidea heath-roseIn fruit Sospel area

Violaceae

Viola palustris Bog Violet In flower Lombarde

Viola biflora Yellow Wood Violet Lombarde

Viola valderia Maritime Alps Pansy Val Sta. Anna. Endemic. Not seen 2019.

Viola calcarata Long-spurred Pansy Lombarde and Tende. sspp. Calcarata and cavillieri.

Viola kitaibeliana Dwarf Pansy La Brigue 2018

Cucurbitaceae

Bryonia dioica White Bryony Roya Valley

Salicaceae

Salix alba White Willow Salix herbacea Dwarf Willow

Salix appendiculata Large-leaved Willow

Salix cinerea Grey Willow Salix caprea Goat Willow

Salix viminalis Osier

Salix eleagnos Olive Willow
Salix purpurea Purple Willow
Populus alba White Poplar

Populus tremula Aspen

Populus nigra Black Poplar

Brassicaceae

Sisymbrium austriacum Austrian Rocket Lombarde etc. 2018

Hugueninia tanacetifolia Tansy-leaved Rocket Lombarde

Bunias orientalis Warty Cabbage Common at Casterino

Erysimum sp. a treacle-mustard Tende. Very complex group. 2018.

Barbarea vulgaris Winter-cress Lombarde

Cardamine asarifolia Asarum-leaved Bittercress In leaf at Casterino

Cardamine resedifoliaMignonette-leaved Bittercress IsolaCardamine impatiensNarrow-leaved Bittercress Tende

Arabis hirsutaHairy Rock-cressScattered recordsArabis turritaTower CressIn fruit La Brigue

Arabis alpinaAlpine Rock-cressTende, old tunnel entranceTurritis glabraTower MustardCasterino and TendeKernera saxatilisKerneraTende and Roya Valley

Capsella bursa-pastoris Shepherd's-Purse Scattered

Iberis sempervirens Perennial Candytuft In fruit above Casterino

Biscutella laevigata Buckler Mustard Widespread

Biscutella coronopifolia a buckler mustard

Diplotaxis tenuifolia Perennial Wall Rocket La Brigue 2019

Resedaceae

Reseda phyteumaCorn MignonetteSospel area 2018Reseda luteaWild MignonetteSospel area

Ericaceae

Erica arboreaTree HeathIn leaf Sospel area 2018Erica carneaWinter-flowering HeathIn leaf at Casterino

Rhododendron ferrugineum Alpenrose Col de la Lombarde, Casterino, and Tende

Arctostaphylos uva-ursi Bearberry Tende

Vaccinium uliginosum Bog Whortleberry Merveilles 2018

Vaccinium myrtillus Bilberry Tende

Primulaceae

Primula verisCowslipScattered records in fruitPrimula latifoliaViscid PrimroseIn fruit above Casterino

Primula marginata Marginate Primrose In fruit above Casterino, Tende, and La Brigue

Soldanella alpinaAlpine SnowbellIn fruit Merveilles 2018Anagallis arvensisScarlet PimpernelScattered records 2018Coris monspeliensisNear Olivetta-San Michele

Crassulaceae

Sempervivum arachnoideum Cobweb Houseleek Widespread, both ssp. arachnoideum and

ssp. *tomentosum*. Locally abundant.

Sempervivum montanum Mountain Houseleek Lombarde, Sta. Anna, Casterino

Sempervivum tectorum Common Houseleek Casterino

Jovibarba allionii a hen-and-chickens In bud at Casterino. Endemic.

houseleek

Sedum telephium ssp.maximumOrpineIn leafSedum anacampserosReddish StonecropLombarde

Sedum sediforme a stonecrop Near Olivetta-San Michele

Sedum anopetalumCreamish StonecropCasterinoSedum montanuma stonecropWidespreadSedum acreBiting StonecropCasterinoSedum alpestrea stonecropMerveilles 2018

Sedum sexangulare Tasteless Stonecrop Tende, Roya Valley, and Casterino

Sedum albumWhite StonecropWidespreadSedum dasyphyllumThick-leaved StonecropWidespread

Sedum fragrans a stonecrop Saorge cliffs and cave

Sedum cepaeaPink StonecropSaorgeSedum atratumDark StonecropTende 2018

Sedum annuum Annual Stonecrop Tende, Casterino, etc.

Saxifragaceae

Saxifraga stellaris Starry Saxifrage By watercourses, e.g. Sta.Anna
Saxifraga rotundifolia Round-leaved Saxifrage Scattered records, e.g. Tende

Saxifraga cuneifolia Lesser London Pride Widespread and locally common, with some in

flower

Saxifraga caesia Grey Saxifrage Rosettes at Tende, in bud

Saxifraga callosa Thick-leaved Saxifrage Many in flower, especially at Tende, where

numerous

Saxifraga cochlearis a saxifrage Commonly in flower at La Brigue

Saxifraga paniculata Paniculate Saxifrage Widespread

Saxifraga florulenta The Ancient King One rosette in France

Saxifraga aspera Rough Saxifrage French side of Col de Tende, 2018

Saxifraga aizoidesYellow SaxifrageA few in flowerSaxifraga exarataMusky SaxifrageCasterino road, in leafSaxifraga pedemontanaPiedmont SaxifrageBelow Isola 2000Ribes uva-crispaGooseberrySta.Anna, Casterino

Rosaceae

Aruncus dioicus Goat's-beard Spiraea Wooded roadsides

Filipendula vulgaris Dropwort

Filipendula ulmariaMeadowsweetScattered recordsRubus fruticosus agg.bramblesWidespread

Rubus idaeus Raspberry

Rosa glauca Glaucous Dog Rose Casterino etc.

Rosa pendulina Alpine Rose Sta. Anna, Tende, etc.

Rosa montanaMountain RoseCasterinoRosa caninaDog RoseWidespread

Rosa subcollina a dog rose

Rosa villosa Downy Rose La Brigue Rosa agrestis Small-leaved Sweet-briar Sospel area

Rosa spp. roses Other species undoubtedly present

Agrimonia eupatoriaAgrimonyScatteredSanguisorba minorSalad BurnetA few records

Dryas octopetala Mountain Avens Tende

Geum montanum Alpine Avens Scattered higher altitude records

Geum rivaleWater AvensCasterinoGeum urbanumHerb BennetTende

Potentilla rupestrisRock CinquefoilAbove CasterinoPotentilla argenteaHoary CinquefoilScattered recordsPotentilla rectaSulphur CinquefoilCasterino road 2018

Potentilla grandiflora Large-flowered Cinquefoil Locally common, e.g. Sta. Anna, Tende

Potentilla erecta Tormentil Widespread

Potentilla reptans Creeping Cinquefoil

Potentilla valderia a cinquefoil Locally common at higher altitudes, Tende,

Casterino, Sta. Anna. Endemic.

Potentilla saxifragaTufted PotentillaOver at SaorgeFragaria vescaWild StrawberryScattered

Alchemilla alpina Alpine Lady's Mantle Locally numerous at higher altitudes

Alchemilla conjuncta Silver Lady's Mantle Scattered records, e.g. Tende

Alchemilla xanthochlora Intermediate Lady's Mantle Col de la Lombarde and probably elsewhere

Alchemilla glabra Smooth Lady's Mantle Col de la Lombarde, Tende Alchemilla spp. lady's mantles Other species not identified

Malus sylvestris Wild Apple

Sorbus aucuparia
Rowan
Common
Sorbus aria
Whitebeam
Widespread
Amelanchier ovalis
Snowy Mespilus
Casterino
Cotoneaster integerrimus
Wild Cotoneaster
Tende
Cotoneaster tomentosus
Brickberry Cotoneaster
Tende 2018

Crataegus monogyna Hawthorn

Prunus brigantina Briancon Apricot Saorge

Prunus spinosa Blackthorn

Prunus avium Wild Cherry Widespread

Prunus mahaleb St.Lucie's Cherry Saorge and La Brigue

Fabaceae

Laburnum anagyroides Laburnum Widespread Laburnum alpinum Alpine Laburnum Widespread Cytisophyllum sessilifolium a broom Tende, Casterino Genista tinctoria Dyer's Greenweed Widespread Genista cinerea Ash-coloured Broom Sospel area Genista hispanica Sospel area Spanish Gorse Genista germanica Turini 2018 German Broom

Spartium junceumSpanish BroomCommon on lower roadsidesRobinia pseudacaciaFalse AcaciaLocally common, e.g. Roya Valley

Colutea arborescens Bladder Senna Nice Astragalus hypoglottis Purple Milk-vetch Isola 2000

Astragalus glycyphyllos Wild Liquorice Scattered records, e.g. Casterino
Astragalus monspessulanus False Vetch Tende and Sta.Anna, 2018

Bituminaria bituminosa Pitch Trefoil Saorge and Sospel

Vicia craccaTufted VetchWidespread and commonVicia parvifloraSlender TareNoted on day 4, 2018Lathyrus pratensisMeadow VetchlingScattered recordsLathyrus tuberosusTuberous PeaRoya Valley

Lathyrus sylvestris Narrow-leaved Everlasting Pea

Lathyrus latifolius Broad-leaved Everlasting Pea Breil to Sospel Lathyrus heterophyllus Norfolk Everlasting Pea Casterino area Ononis natrix Large Yellow Restharrow Sospel area Ononis minutissima a restharrow Sospel area 2018 Ononis spinosa Spiny Restharrow Sospel area Ononis repens Common Restharrow Sospel area

Melilotus altissimus Tall Melilot

Melilotus albusWhite MelilotRoadsidesMedicago lupulinaBlack MedickScatteredMedicago sativaLucerneScattered

Medicago falcata Sickle Medick

Medicago orbicularis Large Disk Medick In fruit, Saorge, 2018

Medicago polymorphaToothed MedickSospel areaMedicago minimaBur MedickSospel area

Trifolium alpinum Alpine Clover Locally common at higher altitudes

Trifolium montanum ssp.montanum Mountain Clover Casterino

Trifolium montanum ssp.rupestre Mountain Clover Tende and Casterino

Trifolium repens White Clover Widespread

Trifolium thalii Thale Cress

Trifolium badiumBrown CloverSta.AnnaTrifolium aureumLarge Hop TrefoilCasterinoTrifolium campestreHop TrefoilRoya Valley

Trifolium arvense Hare's-foot Clover

Trifolium scabrumRough CloverSospel area 2018Trifolium stellatumStar CloverSospel area 2018Trifolium pratenseRed CloverWidespreadTrifolium mediumZigzag CloverCasterino

Trifolium alpestreAlpine TrefoilLombardeTrifolium rubensLong-spiked TrefoilCasterino road

Trifolium angustifolium Narrow Clover In fruit Roya Valley, 2018

Trifolium ochroleuconSulphur CloverCasterinoDorycnium pentaphylluma canary cloverSospel areaLotus corniculatusBird's-foot TrefoilCommon

Lotus alpinus Alpine Bird's-foot Trefoil Common at higher altitudes

Anthyllis montana Mountain Kidney Vetch Tende and Casterino

Anthyllis vulneraria Kidney Vetch Widespread, several subspecies present

Coronilla minima Day 4

Securigera varia Crown Vetch Scattered records

Hippocrepis emerus Scorpion Senna Casterino

Hippocrepis comosaHorseshoe VetchScattered recordsOnobrychis montanaMountain SainfoinCasterino etc.Onobrychis viciifoliaSainfoinScattered records

Lythraceae

Lythrum salicaria Purple Loosestrife Roadsides at lower altitudes

Thymeleaceae

Daphne mezereum Mezereon In fruit

Daphne laureola Spurge Laurel In leaf Sospel area, 2018

Onagraceae

Circaea alpina Alpine Enchanter's Moulinet Forest 2018

Nightshade

Oenothera sp. Evening Primrose sp.

Epilobium angustifolium Rosebay Willowherb Widespread

Epilobium dodonaei a willowherb Below Tende tunnel, 2018

Epilobium fleischeriAlpine WillowherbCasterino area 2018Epilobium hirsutumGreat WillowherbLower roadsides

Epilobium montanumBroad-leaved WillowherbScatteredEpilobium collinuma willowherbSta.Anna, IsolaEpilobium alpestreWhorled-leaved Willowherb CasterinoEpilobium anagallidifoliumAlpine WillowherbLombardeEpilobium alsinifoliumChickweed WillowherbLombarde

Cornaceae

Cornus sanguinea Dogwood

Santalaceae

Thesium divaricatumBranched Bastard Toadflax CasterinoThesium alpinumAlpine Bastard Toadflax Casterino

Loranthaceae

Viscum album ssp.austriacum Mistletoe Parasitic on Pinus

Celastraceae

Euonymus europaeus Spindle

Euonymus latifolius Large-leaved Spindle

Euphorbiaceae

Euphorbia dulcis Sweet Spurge Casterino

Euphorbia spinosa Spiny Spurge Saorge and Sospel area

Euphorbia peplusPetty SpurgeWeed in TendeEuphorbia characiasLarge Mediterranean Spurge Paganin GorgeEuphorbia dendroidesTree SpurgeCliffs east of Nice

Rhamnaceae

Rhamnus alaternus Mediterranean Buckthorn Saorge

Rhamnus saxatilis Rock Buckthorn Tende and Casterino

Rhamnus cathartica Buckthorn

Rhamnus alpinaAlpine BuckthornCasterinoRhamnus pumilaDwarf BuckthornCasterino

Vitaceae

Vitis sylvestris Woodland Grape Presumably this, lower Casterino road

Linaceae

Linum austriacum ssp.collinum a flax Sospel area, all in fruit this year

Linum viscosumSticky FlaxSospel areaLinum tenuifoliuma flaxSospel area

Linum suffruticosum ssp.appressum a flax

Linum strictum a flax

Sospel area 2018

Linum catharticum Purging Flax Casterino

Polygalaceae

Polygala nicaeensis ssp.gariodianaNice MilkwortAbove Casterino 2019Polygala vulgarisCommon MilkwortScattered recordsPolygala alpestrisMountain MilkwortMerveilles 2018

Polygala sp. a milkwort Small white flowers, wet flushes at Casterino

Hippocastanaceae

Aesculus hippocastanum Horse Chestnut

Aceraceae

Acer campestreField MapleAcer pseudoplatanusSycamoreAcer opalusItalian Maple

Anacardiaceae

Cotinus coggyria Smoke Tree Widespread and locally common

Pistachia terebinthusTerebinthSaorge and Sospel areaPistachia lentiscusMastic TreeNear Olivetta-San Michele

Simaroubaceae

Ailanthus altissima Tree of Heaven Very commonly naturalised in lower valleys

Oxalidaceae

Oxalis acetosella Wood Sorrel In leaf

Geraniaceae

Geranium macrorrhizumRock Crane's-billCasterino area 2018Geranium sanguineumBloody CranesbillSospel area 2018Geranium sylvaticumWood CranesbillLocally commonGeranium nodosumKnotted CranesbillCasterino

Geranium pyrenaicumHedgerow CranesbillWidespreadGeranium rotundifoliumRound-leaved CranesbillRoya ValleyGeranium columbinumLong-stalked CranesbillSaorge 2018Geranium dissectumCut-leaved CranesbillSaorge 2018Geranium robertianumHerb RobertScattered records

Erodium cicutarium Common Stork's-bill Sospel area

Araliaceae

Hedera helix Ivy

Apiaceae

Astrantia major Greater Masterwort Casterino
Astrantia minor Lesser Masterwort Isola

Eryngium campestre Field Eryngo Common at one site near Sospel

Chaerophyllum hirsutum Hairy Chervil Tende

Chaerophyllum villarsii a chervil Tende and Lombarde

Anthriscus sylvestrisCow ParsleyScatteredMyrrhis odorataSweet CicelyTendeConopodium majusPignutLa Brigue

Pimpinella major Greater Burnet-saxifrage Scattered, e.g. Casterino

Pimpinella saxifragaBurnet-saxifrageWidespreadAegopodium podagrariaGround ElderTende etc.

Seseli libanotis Moon Carrot Below Tende tunnel

Seseli galloprovinciale a moon carrot

Foniculum vulgare Fennel Sospel area and Saorge

Trochiscanthes nodiflora Trochiscanthes Tende, several, forest edge, and Isola

Meum athamanticumSpignelCasterinoBupleurum baldenseSmall Hare's-earSospel areaBupleurum praealtuma hare's-earLocally common

Bupleurum petraeum Rock Hare's-ear Rocks at Col de Tende, some impressive plants

Bupleurum ranunculoides Three-veined Hare's-ear Tende and Casterino

Buplerum falcatum ssp.cernuumSickle-leaved Hare's-earCasterinoTrinia glaucaHonewortTendeCarum carviCarawayWidespreadAngelica sylvestrisWild AngelicaIn leaf Casterino

Peucedanum ostruthium Masterwort Locally common, some in flower

Pastinaca sativa Wild Parsnip Roadsides in Italy

Heracleum sphondyliumHogweedCommonTordylium maximumHartwortSaorgeLaserpitium silera sermountainTende

Laserpitium latifoliumBroad-leaved SermountainLocally common, as at CasterinoLaserpitium helleria sermountainLocally common, e.g. above Casterino

Laserpitium gallicuma sermountainSospel areaTorilis japonicaUpright Hedge-parsleyRoya ValleyOrlaya grandifloraOrlayaSaorge

Daucus carota Wild Carrot Scattered records

Gentianaceae

Blackstonia perfoliataYellow-wortSospel areaCentaurium erythraeaCommon CentauryCasterino road

Gentiana lutea Yellow Gentian Locally common in flower around Casterino

Gentiana cruciata Cross-leaved Gentian In leaf

Gentiana ligustica Still just in flower at Casterino. Endemic.

Gentiana acaulisTrumpet GentianIn flower at Col de la LombardeGentiana rostaniia gentianLombarde and Sta.Anna. Endemic.

Gentiana campestris Field Gentian In flower in Casterino

Asclepiadaceae

Vincetoxicum hirundinaria Swallowwort Scattered records, e.g. Casterino

Solanaceae

Atropa bella-donna Deadly Nightshade Moulinet Forest, not seen 2019

Convolvulaceae

Cuscuta europaea Greater Dodder Scattered records, on Urtica dioica

Cuscuta epithymum Sospel area

Calystegia sepium Hedge Bindweed Saorge

Convolvulus cantabrica Pink Convolvulus Sospel area, 2018
Convolvulus arvensis Field Bindweed Scattered records

Boraginaceae

Cerinthe minorLesser HoneywortCasterinoEchium vulgareViper's BuglossWidespreadPulmonaria pictaa lungwortScattered in leaf

Myosotis arvensis Field Forget-me-not Scattered

Myosotis sylvaticaWood Forget-me-notScattered recordsMyosotis alpestrisAlpine Forget-me-notMerveilles 2018Myosotis scorpioidesWater Forget-me-notCasterino

Cynoglossum officinale Hound's-tongue Tende and Lombarde

Verbenaceae

Verbena officinalis Vervain Roya valley

Lamiaceae

Ajuga genevensis Geneva Bugle Merveilles 2018 Ajuga pyramidalis Pyramidal Bugle Tende 2019 Teucrium chamaedrys Wall Germander Roya Valley

Locally common, as at Tende, Saorge, and in Teucrium lucidum a germander

Imperia. Endemic.

Teucrium montanum Casterino etc. Mountain Germander

Teucrium polium Penny-royal Germander Not in flower, Sospel area Scutellaria alpina Val Sta. Anna and Tende Alpine Skullcap

a sideritis Sideritis hirsuta Sospel area

Galeopsis ladanum Broad-leaved Hemp-nettle Scattered records, e.g. Val Sta.Anna

Galeopsis pubescens Downy Hemp-nettle Casterino

Galeopsis tetrahit Common Hemp-nettle

Lamium garganicum Gargano Dead-nettle Casterino

Lamium maculatum Spotted Dead-nettle

Ballota nigra Black Horehound Roya valley

Stachys officinalis Betony

Stachys alpina Limestone Woundwort Sospel area 2018

Stachys sylvatica Hedge Woundwort Tende

Stachys recta Yellow Woundwort Scattered, e.g. Casterino

Nepeta nepetell **Small Catmint** Casterino

Prunella grandiflora Large Self-heal Roya valley and Casterino

Prunella vulgaris Self-heal Scattered records

Melissa officinalis Balm Saorge

Acinos alpinus Alpine Calamint Locally common Calamintha grandiflora **Greater Calamint** Moulinet, Casterino

Calamintha nepeta Lesser Calamint Roya valley Clinopodium vulgare Wild Basil Roya valley

Micromeria marginata a micromeria Many in flower at Tende and Casterino. Endemic.

Origanum vulgare Marjoram Roya valley

Commonly in leaf Sospel area Thymus vulgaris Common Thyme

Larger Wild Thyme

Thymus praecox

Hairy Thyme Thymus pulegioides Widespread

Mentha aquatica Water Mint

Mentha longifolia Horse Mint Scattered records in leaf

Lavandula angustifolia Common Lavender Widespread In leaf Salvia glutinosa Sticky Clary Salvia pratensis Meadow Clary Casterino

Plantaginaceae

Plantago major Greater Plantain Scattered records, both ssp. major and intermedia

Plantago maritima ssp.serpentina Fleshy Plantain Casterino Plantago alpina Alpine Plantain Merveilles 2018 Plantago media Hoary Plantain Widespread

Plantago atrata ssp.fuscescens Mountain Plantain Tende and Casterino Plantago lanceolata Ribwort Plantain Scattered records

Buddlejaceae

Buddleja davidii Buddleia Naturalised on river gravels

Oleaceae

Jasminum fruticans a jasmine In fruit at Saorge

Fraxinus ornus Manna-ash

Fraxinus excelsior Ash
Ligustrum vulgare Privet
Olea europaea Olive

Scrophulariaceae

Limosella aquatica Mudwort A few plants on the shore of the Lombarde

lake. New in 2019. Not confirmed for

Cuneo in Flora Alpina.

Verbascum phlomoidesOrange MulleinVerbascum thapsusAaron's RodVerbascum pulverulentumHoary MulleinVerbascum boerhaviia mulleinVerbascum lychnitisWhite Mullein

Verbascum chaixii Nettle-leaved Mullein

Verbascum nigrum Dark Mullein

N.B. There were many hybrids between the above *Verbascum* species, and many individual plants were impossible

to identify

Scrophularia nodosaCommon FigwortA few recordsScrophularia caninaFrench FigwortScattered recordsAntirrhinum latifoliuma snapdragonRoadsides in Italy 2019Chaenorhinum minusSmall ToadflaxSaorge and Sta.Anna, 2018

Linaria repensPale ToadflaxCasterinoLinaria angustissimaa toadflaxCasterino

Linaria supina Prostrate Toadflax Tende, Sta. Anna, and Casterino, 2018

Cymbalaria muralis Ivy-leaved Toadflax Walls

Digitalis grandifloraLarge Yellow FoxgloveWidespread, Casterino area, etc.Digitalis luteaSmall Yellow FoxgloveWidespread, Casterino area, etc.

Veronica serpyllifolia Thyme-leaved Speedwell Scattered records, sspp.serpyllifolia and Humifusa

Veronica alpinaAlpine SpeedwellLombardeVeronica fruticansRock SpeedwellSta.AnnaVeronica fruticulosaa speedwellCasterino

Veronica urticifolia Nettle-leaved Speedwell Scattered records

Veronica officinalis Heath Speedwell Casterino

Veronica allionii a speedwell Tende and Lombarde. Endemic.

Veronica chamaedrys Germander Speedwell Scattered records

Veronica beccabungaBrooklimeCasterinoVeronica anagallis-aquaticaBlue Water-speedwellCasterino

Veronica arvensis Wall Speedwell

Veronica persicaCommon Field-speedwellScatteredMelampyrum velebiticuma cow-wheatRoya valleyMelampyrum sylvaticumSmall Cow-wheatCasterino

Euphrasia alpinaAlpine EyebrightTende and Casterino roadEuphrasia salisburgensisIrish EyebrightPossibly this also at Casterino

Bartsia alpinaAlpine BartsiaLombardePedicularis tuberosaa lousewortVal Sta.Anna

Pedicularis rostratospicata Flesh-pink Lousewort Stem with two lines of hairs (Flora Helvetica)

Pink flowers long beaked. Col de la

Lombarde, where abundant.

Pedicularis gyroflexa Tufted Lousewort Downy, pink flowers short beaked, on limestone.

Lombarde and Tende.2018.

Rhinanthus minorYellow RattleWidespreadRhinanthus burnatiia yellow rattleVal Sta.Anna 2018Rhinanthus ovifugusa yellow rattleScattered recordsRhinanthus alectrolophusGreater Yellow RattleWidespread

Globulariaceae

ssp.helvetica

Globularia bisnagarica a globularia Casterino

Globe-daisy Near Sospel, in fruit, new in 2019

Globularia cordifolia Heart-leaved Globularia Tende 2018

Globularia repens a globularia Tende and Casterino

Orobanchaceae

Orobanche alba Thyme Broomrape Tende

Orobanche amethystea a broomrape Many parasitizing Eryngium campestre in

Sospel area, more or less over this year

Orobanche hederaeIvy BroomrapeSaorgeOrobanche gracilisa broomrapeLa Brigue

Lentibulariaceae

Pinguicula leptocerasa butterwortMerveilles 2018Pinguicula vulgarisCommon ButterwortCol de la Lombarde

Campanulaceae

Campanula rapunculusRampion BellflowerRoya Valley 2018Campanula persicifoliaPeach-leaved BellflowerCasterino road

Campanula medium Canterbury Bells Tende, Sospel area, Sta. Anna

Campanula glomerata Clustered Bellflower Tende

Campanula spicata Spiked Bellflower Many fine plants at Casterino and Sta. Anna

Campanula latifolia Giant Bellflower Tende

Campanula trachelium Nettle-leaved Bellflower Scattered records

Campanula rapunculoides Creeping Bellflower Widespread and common Campanula macrorhiza a bellflower Roya Valley, mostly in fruit Campanula fritschii a bellflower Above Casterino. Endemic. Campanula cochlearifolia Fairy's Thimble Scattered records, e.g. Casterino Campanula stenocodon Cottian Bellflower Above Casterino. Endemic. a bellflower Campanula scheuchzeri Widespread and common Campanula rotundifolia Harebell Widespread and common

Phyteuma ovatum Dark Rampion Casterino, Val Sta. Anna, and Tende

Phyteuma micheliia spiked rampionVal Sta.Anna and Tende. Endemic.Phyteuma betonicifoliumBetony-leaved RampionLocally common, e.g. Val Sta.AnnaPhyteuma orbiculareRound-headed RampionScattered records

Phyteuma hemisphaericum a rampion

Phyteuma globulariifolium ssp.pedemontanum

ssp.peaemontanum

Trachelium caeruleum Throatwort Naturalised on cliffs east of Nice

Rubiaceae

Asperula aristata a squinancywort Above Casterino

Asperula cynanchicaSquinancywortWidespread, common Sta.AnnaAsperula hexaphyllaa squinancywortPossibly this above Casterino

Lombarde Merveille 2018

Asperula purpurea a squinancywort Sospel area 2019
Galium boreale Northern Bedstraw Roya Valley 2018
Galium verum Lady's Bedstraw Widespread
Galium mollugo Hedge Bedstraw Widespread
Galium album Upright Hedge-bedstraw Scattered records

Galium corrudifolium a bedstraw

Galium aristatum a bedstraw Roya Valley 2018 Galium laevigatum a bedstraw Roya Valley

Galium obliquum a bedstraw
Galium rubrum a bedstraw

Galium pumilum Slender Bedstraw Widespread

Galium tendae a bedstraw Lombarde. Endemic.
Galium aparine Cleavers Scattered records

Cruciata laevipes Crosswort Casterino

Cruciata glabra a crosswort Scattered records, eg. Sta. Anna

Rubia peregrina Wild Madder Sospel area

Caprifoliaceae

Sambucus ebulus Dwarf Elder Sospel

Sambucus nigraElderScattered recordsSambucus racemosaRed-berried ElderIn fruit La BrigueLonicera alpigenaAlpine HoneysuckleIn fruit TendeLonicera xylosteumFly HoneysuckleIn fruit La Brigue

Valerianaceae

Valeriana tripteris Three-leaved Valerian Isola 2000

Valeriana montana Mountain Valerian Col de la Lombarde 2018

Centranthus ruber Red Valerian Widespread

Dipsacaceae

Cephalaria leucanthaa cephalariaIn bud lower roadsidesCephalaria alpinaYellow CephalariaIn bud at Casterino 2018

Dipsacus fullonumTeaselScattered recordsKnautia mollisa scabiousCasterino. Endemic.Knautia arvensisField ScabiousScattered records

Knautia integrifoliaa scabiousScattered recordsScabiosa triandraa scabiousScattered records

Scabiosa vestita a scabious Roya Valley, Sospel area, etc.

Scabiosa columbaria Small Scabious

Lomelosia graminifolia Above Casterino 2019

Asteraceae

Eupatorium cannabinum Hemp Agrimony A few records

Solidago virgaurea Goldenrod Lombarde and Casterino

Aster alpinus Alpine Aster Local at higher altitudes, e.g. Tende, Casterino

Aster bellidiastrum Daisy Star Tende

Erigeron annuusTall FleabaneLocally very commonErigeron karvinskianusMexican FleabaneOccasionally naturalised

Erigeron acerBlue FleabaneSta.AnnaErigeron atticusGreek FleabaneTende

Erigeron alpinusAlpine FleabaneMerveilles 2018Conyza canadensisCanadian FleabaneRoya ValleyFilago vulgarisCommon CudweedNear Turini 2018Filago pyramidataBroad-leaved CudweedRoya Valley 2018Helichrysum stoechasShrubby EverlastingRoya Valley etc.

Antennaria dioica Cat's Foot Locally common at higher altitudes

Phagnalon saxatilea phagnalonSospel area 2018Inula salicinaIrish FleabaneSospel areaInula montanaMountain InulaSospel areaInula conyzaePloughman's SpikenardSaorgeInula viscosaSospel area

Sospel area Sospel area

Buphthalmum salicifolium Yellow Ox-eye Scattered records

Pallenis spinosaGolden StarwortSaorgeSantolina chamaecyparissusLavender CottonSospel areaAchillea erba-rottaSimple-leaved MilfoilLombarde

Achillea macrophylla Large-leaved Sneezewort Above Tende town 2018

Achillea millefolium Yarrow Widespread

Achillea setacea a yarrow Apparently this Sospel area, 2019. Not given for 06

Alpes Maritimes in Flora Alpina.

Pineapple Weed Matricaria discoidea Casterino Tanacetum vulgare Tansy Casterino road Casterino road Tanacetum corymbosum a tansy Leucanthemopsis alpina Alpine Moon Daisy Sta.Anna Leucanthemum vulgare Ox-eve Daisy Widespread Leucanthemum pallens an ox-eye daisy Above Breil 2019 Leucanthemum atratum an ox-eye daisy Above Casterino 2019

coronopifolia

Inula graveolens

Leucanthemum atratum an ox-eye daisy Sta.Anna

ceratophylloides

Leucanthemum discoideum Rayless Ox-eye Daisy Very attractive near endemic was seen near the Col

de Turini, and La Brigue, in fine flower.

Leucanthemum spp. ox-eye daisies Other species of this complex genus probably

present

Artemisia vulgaris Mugwort Scattered records

Artemisia absinthium Wormwood In leaf

Artemisia albaa wormwoodSospel area 2018Artemisia chamaemelifoliaa wormwoodRoya Valley 2018

Tussilago farfara Colt's-foot In leaf

Petasites albus White Butterbur

Petasites hybridus Butterbur

Homogyne alpinaAlpine Colt's-footLombardeAdenostyles alliariaeAdenostylesTende

Adenostyles leucophylla an adenostyles Common on Italian side of Col de Lombarde

Arnica montana Arnica Scattered at higher altitudes

Doronicum clusii Lombarde

Senecio cinerariaSilver RagwortOn cliffs, e.g. SaorgeSenecio incanusHoary GroundselMerveilles 2018

Senecio inaequidens Narrow-leaved Ragwort Naturalised near Tende tunnel. Native to

South Africa.

Senecio ovatus ssp.alpestris a Wood Ragwort Scattered woodland records, in bud
Senecio viscosus Sticky Groundsel Locally common at one site, Tende, 2019

Senecio vulgaris Groundsel

Tephroseris capitataTende 2019Tephroseris balbisianaSta.Anna 2019

Carlina vulgaris Carline Thistle Casterino area in bud

Carlina acanthifolia Acanthus-leaved Carline Thistle

Echinops sphaerocephalusa globe thistleSospel area 2018Echinops ritroGlobe ThistleWest of Breil

Arctium lappa Greater Burdock
Arctium minus Lesser Burdock

Staehelina dubia staehelina Imperia Carduus nutans Musk Thistle La Brigue Carduus litigiosus a thistle Turini area Variable-leaved Thistle Common Carduus defloratus Cirsium ferox a thistle In leaf Cirsium vulgare Spear Thistle Day 4

Cirsium montanum a brook thistle Common in damp wooded habitats

Cirsium erisithales Yellow Melancholy Thistle Scattered records

Cirsium spinosissimum Spiniest Thistle Sta. Anna

Cirsium monspessulanum a thistle Stura valley in leaf, in flower La Brigue

Cirsium arvenseCreeping ThistleScatteredOnopordum acanthiumCotton ThistleStura valleySerratula lycopifoliaa saw-wortNear Breil, 2019Centaurea scabiosaGreater KnapweedWidespread

Centaurea leucophaea Whitish-leaved Knapweed Scattered at lower altitudes

Centaurea nigrescensBlack-rayed KnapweedCasterinoCentaurea unifloraPlume KnapweedCasterinoCentaurea nervosaa plume knapweedTendeCentaurea montanaMountain CornflowerCasterino

Carthamus lanatus Downy Safflower Sospel area 2018

Cichorium intybus Chicory Roadsides

Catananche caerulea Cupidone Common in Sospel area

Urospermum dalechampii Saorge 2018

Hypochaeris uniflora a cat's-ear Tende

Hypochaeris radicata Cat's-ear

Leontodon helveticusSwiss HawkbitLombardeLeontodon hispidusRough HawkbitMerveilles 2018

Picris echioides Bristly Oxtongue

Picris hieracioidesHawkweed OxtongueCasterino etc.Tragopogon pratensisGoat's-beardScatteredLactuca serriolaPrickly LettuceSaorgeLactuca perennisPerennial LettuceCasterino

Cicerbita alpinaAlpine Sow-thistleNumerous at TendePrenanthes purpureaPurple Rattlesnake-rootTende, in leafMycelis muralisWall LettuceScattered records

Taraxacum palustre Narrow-leaved Marsh Lombarde

Dandelion

Taraxacum officinale Common Dandelion Locally abundant

Taraxacum spp. dandelion spp. Various species not identified

Lapsana communis.NipplewortScatteredCrepis paludosaMarsh HawksbeardCasterino

Crepis conyzifolia a hawksbeard Above Casterino 2018

Andryala integrifolia

Hieracium staticifolium a hawkweed Scattered, locally common

Hieracium pilosella Mouse-ear Hawkweed Widespread

Hieracium lactucella a hawkweed Local, e.g. Sta. Anna

Hieracium angustifolium a hawkweed

Hieracium cymosum a hawkweed Above Casterino

Hieracium caespitosum Yellow Fox-and-Cubs Apparently this Tende, but distribution?

Hieracium murorum Wall Hawkweed Scattered

Hieracium bifidum a hawkweed Hieracium caesium a hawkweed

Hieracium villosum Shaggy Hawkweed Casterino

Hieracium pilosum a hawkweed

Hieracium piliferum a hawkweed Lombarde

Hieracium pictum a hawkweed Scattered records

Hieracium tomentosum Woolly Hawkweed Roya Valley and Casterino. Abundant at Tende.

Hieracium amplexicaule Casterino

Hieracium intybaceum a hawkweed

Hieracium umbellatum Narrow-leaved Hawkweed Sta.Anna

Monocotyledons

Juncaginaceae

Triglochin palustris Marsh Arrowgrass Lombarde 2019

Potamogetonaceae

Groenlandia densa Opposite-leaved Pondweed Numerous in Casterino lakes

Juncaceae

Juncus monanthos

Juncus jacquiniia rushLombardeJuncus inflexusHard RushCasterino

Juncus effusus. Soft Rush

Juncus trifidus Three-leaved Rush Col de la Lombarde

a three-leaved rush

Juncus alpinoarticulatusAlpine RushRoya ValleyLuzula campestrisField Wood-rushScatteredLuzula multifloraHeath Wood-rushLombarde

Luzula sudetica a wood-rush Not uncommon at mid altitudes

Luzula spicata Spiked Wood-rush Lombarde Luzula nutans a wood-rush Sta.Anna Luzula lutea a wood-rush Lombarde Luzula nivea Snow-white Wood-rush. Casterino Luzula luzuloides White Wood-rush Scattered Luzula alpinopilosa a wood-rush Scattered

Cyperaceae

Trichophorum caespitosum Deergrass Col de la Lombarde

Blysmus compressus Flat-sedge Casterino

Eriophorum angustifolium Common Cotton-grass Col de la Lombarde

Eriophorum latifolium Broad-leaved Cotton-grass

Eriophorum scheuchzeria cotton-grassMerveilles 2018Eleocharis quinquefloraFew-flowered Spike-rushAbove Casterino

Carex paniculata Greater Tussock-sedge Casterino

Carex spicataSpiked SedgeScattered recordsCarex pairaeCommon Prickly SedgeCasterino etc.Carex divulsaGrey SedgeCasterino

Carex foetida a sedge Col de la Lombarde

Carex leporinaOval SedgeLombardeCarex echinataStar SedgeLombardeCarex davallianaDavall's SedgeLombardeCarex canescensSilvery SedgeSta.Anna

Carex curvula a sedge

Carex sylvatica Wood Sedge **Moulinet Forest** Carex flacca Glaucous Sedge Widespread Carex panicea Carnation Sedge Scattered records Carex lepidocarpa Long-stalked Yellow-sedge Scattered records Carex pallescens Pale Sedge Scattered records Carex montana Soft-leaved Sedge Scattered records Carex sempervirens Widespread a sedge

Carex ferruginea ssp.tendae a sedge Tende

Carex nigra Common Sedge Scattered records

Poaceae

Festuca paniculataa fescueLocally abundantFestuca altissimaWood FescueMoulinet Forest

Festuca gigantea Giant Fescue
Festuca rubra Red Fescue

Festuca cinerea

Festuca spp. fescues Other species not identified

Lolium perennePerennial Rye-grassPoa annuaAnnual Meadow-grassPoa trivialisRough Meadow-grassPoa pratensisSmooth Meadow-grassPoa nemoralisWood Meadow-grassPoa bulbosaBulbous Meadow-grassPoa alpinaAlpine Meadow-grass

Dactylis glomerata Cock's-foot

Cynosurus cristatus Crested Dog's-tail Briza media Quaking Grass Sesleria caerulea Blue Moor-grass Melica uniflora Wood Melick Melica ciliata Ciliated Melick Glyceria notata Plicate Sweet-grass Bromus sterilis Barren Brome Bromus tectorum **Drooping Brome** Bromus inermis Hungarian Brome Bromus erectus **Upright Brome** Bromus squarrosus Rough Brome Brachypodium sylvaticum False Brome Brachypodium rupestre a tor-grass Elymus caninus Bearded Couch

Elymus athericus

Elymus repens Common Couch

Aegilops ovata

Hordeum murinum Wall Barley
Avena fatua Wild Oat

Helictotrichon spp.

Arrhenatherum elatius False Oat-grass
Koeleria vallesiana Somerset Hair-grass
Koeleria macrantha Crested Hair-grass

Koeleria pyramidataa hair-grassDeschampsia cespitosaTufted Hair-grassAvenella flexuosaWavy Hair-grassAnthoxanthum odoratumSweet Vernal GrassAnthoxanthum alpinumAlpine Vernal-grass

Agrostis alpina

Agrostis schraderiana a bent

Agrostis capillaris Common Bent Agrostis stolonifera Creeping Bent Phleum pratense Timothy

Phleum alpinum Alpine Cat-s-tail Phleum phleoides Purple-stem Cat's-tail

Phalaris canariensis Canary-grass Milium effusum Wood Millet

Stipa eriocaulis ssp.eriocaulis

Achnatherum calamagrostis Rough Feather-grass

Arundo donax Giant Reed Phragmites australis Common Reed Nardus stricta Mat Grass Sorghum halepense Johnson-grass

Sparganiaceae

Sparganium angustifolium Lombarde lake Floating Bur-reed

Typhaceae

Typha angustifolia Lesser Bulrush Nice

Liliaceae

Tofieldia calyculata Tofield's Asphodel Casterino

Veratrum album White False Helleborine Widespread and locally very common

Tende, Sta. Anna 2018 Asphodelus albus White Asphodel Anthericum liliago St.Bernard's Lily Casterino and Tende Paradisea liliastrum St.Bruno's Lily Sta. Anna and Tende 2018

Aphyllanthes monspeliensis

In fruit in Imperia and Sospel area, locally

very common

Colchicum alpinum/autumnale Alpine Meadow-saffron/ One or both species in fruit in Casterino area

Meadow-saffron

Tulipa sylvestris ssp.australis Wild Tulip In fruit at Casterino 2018 Fritillaria involucrata a fritillary In fruit in Sospel area 2018

Locally common Lilium martagon Martagon Lily

Lilium bulbiferum Orange Lily Widespread in small numbers

a star-of-bethlehem Ornithogalum gussonei In fruit at Casterino

A few in flower at Tende. Endemic. Allium narcissiflorum

Allium schoenoprasum Chives Casterino Allium scorodoprasum Sand Leek Casterino Round-headed Leek Allium sphaerocephalon Widespread Streptopus amplexifolius Streptopus Casterino Asparagus acutifolius Sharp-leaved Asparagus Saorge

Smilax aspera Smilax Near Sospel 2019

Iridaceae

Crocus albiflorus In leaf Lombarde

Dioscoraceae

Tamus communis Black Bryony Saorge

Orchidaceae

Epipactis helleborine Broad-leaved Helleborine Casterino road and Breil Cephalanthera longifolia Sword-leaved Helleborine. Over near Casterino Neottia nidus-avis Bird's-nest Orchid **Moulinet Forest** Listera ovata Common Twayblade Casterino etc. Platanthera bifolia Lesser Butterfly Orchid Above Casterino Gymnadenia conopsea Fragrant Orchid Scattered records Pseudorchis albida Small White Orchid Col de Lombarde

Nigritella rhellicani a vanilla orchid Tende

Nigritella corneliana Many in fine flower this year at Col de la a vanilla orchid

Lombarde. Several at Tende. Endemic.

Coeloglossum viride Frog Orchid Scattered at higher altitudes, e.g. Col de Lombarde

Dactylorhiza sambucina Elder-flowered Orchid One yellow flowered plant still in flower

Lombarde, over elsewhere

Common Spotted Orchid Widespread and locally abundant Dactylorhiza fuchsii

Dactylorhiza majalis Broad-leaved Marsh Orchid Lombarde etc.

Orchis ustulata Burnt-tip Orchid Near Casterino (RSC)

Systematic List Number 2

Butterflies

The taxonomic order and nomenclature follow Tolman and Lewington's 'Butterflies of Britain and Europe'.

Papilionidae

Swallowtail Papilio machaon Widespread in small numbers
Scarce Swallowtail Iphiclides podalirius Widespread in small numbers

Apollo Parnassius apollo Locally rather common, as in Casterino

Clouded Apollo Parnassius mnemosyne

Pieridae

Large White Pieris brassicae Scattered records

Black-veined White Aporia crataegi Widespread in small numbers

Small WhiteArtogeia rapaeWidespreadSouthern Small WhiteArtogeia manniiSeveral at SaorgeGreen-veined WhiteArtogeia napiWidespreadMountain Green-veined WhiteArtogeia bryoniaeLombarde

Bath White/Eastern Bath White Pontia daplidice/edusa Tende. The distribution of both species overlaps in the

area, only biochemically distinguishable.

Western Dappled White Euchloe crameri Sospel area

Orange-tip Anthocharis cardamines A male still on the wing above Casterino

Mountain Clouded Yellow Colias phicomone Tende

Clouded Yellow Colias crocea Widespread in small numbers
Berger's Clouded Yellow Colias alfacariensis A few records, e.g. La Brigue
Brimstone Gonepteryx rhamni Widespread in small numbers

Cleopatra Gonepteryx cleopatra Rather common in Mediterranean zone

Wood White Leptidea sinapis Scattered records

Lycaenidae

Sloe Hairstreak Satyrium acaciae Sospel area

Ilex Hairstreak Satyrium ilicis Sospel area and Saorge

Blue-spot Hairstreak Satyrium spini Above Casterino (rather high altitude record) and Saorge

Satyrium w-album White-letter Hairstreak 1 at Saorge Green Hairstreak Callophrys rubi A few records Small Copper Lycaena phlaeas Scattered records Scarce Copper Lycaena virgaureae Seen on 4 days Purple-edged Copper Lycaena hippothoe Tende and Sta.Anna Lang's Short-tailed Blue Leptotes pirithous 2 in Sospel area Little Blue Cupido minimus Only a few seen Holly Blue Celastrina argiolus Scattered records

Large Blue Maculinea arion Casterino, Tende, Lombarde

Baton Blue Pseudophilotes baton 2 at Saorge Chequered Blue Scolitantides orion 1 east of Sospel

Silver-studded Blue Plebejus argus Scattered records, locally common

Idas Blue Plebejus idas Scattered records

Geranium Argus Eumedonia eumedon Casterino and Lombarde

Brown Argus Aricia agestis Sospel area and Roya Valley

Mountain ArgusAricia artaxerxesSospel areaMazarine BlueCyaniris semiargusWidespreadDamon BlueAgrodiaetus damonSta.Anna

Chapman's Blue Agrodiaetus thersites

Escher's Blue Agrodiaetus escheri Widespread in small numbers

Amanda's Blue Agrodiaetus amanda Scattered records Adonis Blue Lysandra bellargus Scattered records

Meleager's Blue Meleageria daphnis A male in Moulinet Forest

Common Blue Polyommatus icarus Widespread

Riodinidae

Duke of Burgundy Fritillary Hamearis lucina One at Tende

Nymphalidae

Southern White Admiral Limenitis reducta Casterino, Sospel, La Brigue, and Saorge

Red Admiral Vanessa atalanta Scattered records

Painted Lady Vanessa cardui A few records, seen on four days

Comma Polygonia c-album Roya Valley

Silver-washed Fritillary Argynnis paphia Seen on 3 days, also form valezina in Sospel area

Dark Green Fritillary Argynnis aglaja Casterino and Sospel High Brown Fritillary Argynnis adippe Sospel and Roya Valley

Niobe Fritillary Argynnis niobe Casterino
Queen-of-Spain Fritillary Issoria lathonia Moulinet Forest
Twin-spot Fritillary Brenthis hecate Sospel area

Marbled Fritillary Brenthis daphne Locally common, as in Sospel area

Lesser Marbled Fritillary Brenthis ino La Brigue

Titania's Fritillary Clossiana titania Widespread in small numbers
Pearl-bordered Fritillary Clossiana euphrosyne Casterino area, Tende, Sospel

Glanville Fritillary Melitaea cinxia Lombarde

Knapweed Fritillary Melitaea phoebe Widespread in small numbers

Spotted Fritillary Melitaea didyma Sospel area

Lesser Spotted Fritillary Melitaea trivia

False Heath Fritillary Melitaea diamina Casterino area

Heath Fritillary Mellicta athalia Widespread and common

Provencal Fritillary Mellicta deione Scattered records, e.g. Casterino and Roya Valley

Cynthia's Fritillary Hypodryas cynthia Lombarde

Satyridae

Marbled White Melanargia galathea Widespread and locally common

Woodland Grayling Hipparchia fagi Breil and Tende

Great Sooty Satyr Satyrus ferula Sospel area and Roya Valley

Great Banded Grayling Kanetisa circe A few records
Arran Brown Erebia ligea Scattered records

Large RingletErebia euryaleAbove Casterino, and LombardeAlmond-eyed RingletErebia alberganusWidespread, locally common

Silky Ringlet Erebia aethiopella Tende

Piedmont Ringlet Erebia meolans Above Casterino

Meadow BrownManiola jurtinaSospel and SaorgeDusky Meadow BrownHyponephele lycaonRoya ValleySmall HeathCoenonympha pamphilusScattered records

Pearly Heath Coenonympha arcania Widespread and reasonably common

Speckled WoodPararge aegeriaScattered recordsWall BrownLasiommata megeraSospel and Roya Valley

Large Wall Brown Lasiommata maera Widespread in small numbers

Hesperiidae

Large Grizzled SkipperPyrgus alveusScattered recordsSafflower SkipperPyrgus carthamiAbove Casterino

Red-underwing Skipper Spialia sertorius Casterino and Moulinet Forest

Mallow Skipper Carcharodus alceae Moulinet Forest

Tufted Marbled Skipper Carcharodus flocciferus Moulinet Forest and Roya Valley

Lulworth SkipperThymelicus acteonSospel areaEssex SkipperThymelicus lineolaScattered recordsSmall SkipperThymelicus sylvestrisScattered recordsLarge SkipperOchlodes venatusWidespread

Systematic List Number 3 Birds

The taxonomy follows IOC World Bird Names, version 10.1. The number out of 6 indicates the number of days a species was seen – e.g. 3/6 indicates that a species was noted on 3 days during the holiday.

Mute Swan On the river at Breil-sur-Roya (1/6) Cygnus olor Mallard Anas platyrhynchos On the river at Breil-sur-Roya (1/6) Common Quail Coturnix coturnix Heard on the Col de Tende (1/6) Grey Heron Ardea cinereal One on the Lac des Mesches (1/6) Griffon Vulture Gyps fulvus Cols des Tende and Lombarde (2/6) Short-toed Snake Eagle Circaetus gallicus Encountered half the time (3/6) Aquila chrysaetos Casterino and Col de Tende (2/6) Golden Eagle Accipiter nisus Eurasian Sparrowhawk A female hunting near the hotel (1/6)Common Buzzard Buteo buteo Encountered almost daily (5/6) Columba livia Seen in towns half of the time (3/6)

Rock Dove
Columba livia
Seen in towns half of the time (3/6)
Common Wood Pigeon
Columba palumbus
Casterino and Foret de Moulinet (2/6)
Common Swift
Apus apus
Columba livia
Casterino and Foret de Moulinet (2/6)
Apus apus
Encountered daily (6/6)

Common Swift

Apus apus

Encountered daily (6/6)

Lesser Spotted Woodpecker

Picoides minor

One seen at La Brigue (1/6)

Great Spotted Woodpecker

Dendrocopos major

Heard at Casterino (1/6)

European Green Woodpecker Picus viridis Heard at Casterino and Tende (2/6) Common Kestrel Falco tinnunculus Casterino and Col de Tende (2/6) Eurasian Hobby Falco subbuteo A single bird at Col de Lombarde (1/6) One bird picked up over Tende (1/6) Falco peregrinus Peregrine Falcon Red-backed Shrike Lanius collurio An adult at Foret de Moulinet (1/6) Garrulus glandarius Eurasian Jay Recorded almost daily (5/6)

Eurasian Magpie Pica pica Casterino and Col de Lombarde (2/6)
Spotted Nutcracker Nucifraga caryocatactes Recorded near Arolla Pines (3/6)

Red-billed Chough Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax Seen and heard mainly on the cols (3/6)
Western Jackdaw Corvus monedula Several birds seen in Tende (1/6)

Carrion Crow

Carrion Crow

Corvus corone

Pairs at Casterino and La Brigue (2/6)

Coal Tit Periparus ater Heard in pines most days (4/6)
European Crested Tit Lophophanes cristatus Heard in pines half of the time (3/6)
Marsh Tit Poecile palustris Foret de Moulinet and Tende (2/6)

Eurasian Blue Tit Cyanistes caeruleus One seen near the hotel (1/6)

Great Tit Parus major A few near hotel and La Brigue (2/6) Eurasian Skylark Alauda arvensis A handful near the Col de Tende (1/6)

Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica* Several near La Brigue (1/6)
Eurasian Crag Martin *Ptyonoprogne rupestris* Recorded daily (6/6)

Common House Martin Delichon urbicum Encountered almost daily (5/6)

Long-tailed Tit Aegithalos caudatus Casterino and Foret de Moulinet (2/6)

Western Bonelli's Warbler Phylloscopus bonelli Birds heard daily (6/6)
Common Chiffchaff Phylloscopus collybita Heard daily (6/6)
Eurasian Blackcap Sylvia atricapilla Birds heard daily (6/6)

Garden Warbler Sylvia borin Single bird heard near the hotel (1/6)
Lesser Whitethroat Sylvia curruca A bird heard at Foret de Moulinet (1/6)
Subalpine Warbler Sylvia cantillans A bird heard at Foret de Moulinet (1/6)

Common Firecrest Regulus ignicapilla Foret de Moulinet and Tende (2/6) Goldcrest Regulus regulus Casterino and Foret de Moulinet (2/6)

Eurasian Wren Troglodytes troglodytes Recorded most days (4/6) Eurasian Treecreeper Certhia familiaris Heard at Casterino (1/6) Common Starling Sturnus vulgaris Several on the cols (2/6)Common Blackbird Turdus merula Encountered daily (6/6)

Turdus viscivorus Mistle Thrush A single bird on the Col de Tende (1/6)

Erithacus rubecula European Robin Heard most days (4/6)

Black Redstart Phoenicurus ochruros Seen or heard half of the time (3/6) Common Redstart Phoenicurus Recorded daily, mostly near hotel (6/6) Whinchat Saxicola rubetra Single near the Col de Tende (1/6) Northern Wheatear Oenanthe oenanthe Several birds on the cols (2/6)

White-throated Dipper Cinclus cinclus Birds at Casterino and La Brigue (2/6) House Sparrow Passer domesticus Encountered most days in towns (4/6) Passer italiae Italian Sparrow Seen over the border in Italy (1/6) Dunnock Prunella modularis Col de Tende/Foret de Moulinet (2/6) Motacilla cinereal Grey Wagtail Recorded almost daily near water (5/6)

Motacilla alba White Wagtail Encountered half the time (4/6)

Tree Pipit Anthus trivialis Several song flighting on the cols (2/6) Water Pipit Anthus spinoletta A single bird on Col de Lombarde (1/6)

Common Chaffinch Seen or heard daily (6/6) Fringilla coelebs

European Greenfinch Carduelis chloris Bird heard near Foret de Moulinet (1/6)

Common Linnet Carduelis cannabina Seen and heard on the cols (2/6)Lesser Redpoll Carduelis cabaret Casterino and Col de Tende (2/6) Red Crossbill Loxia curvirostra Heard at Col de Tende and Tende (2/6) European Goldfinch Carduelis carduelis Col de Lombarde and Tende (2/6)

European Serin Serinus serinus Heard most days (4/6)

Casterino and Col de Lombarde (2/6) Eurasian Siskin Carduelis spinus Yellowhammer Emberiza citronella Col de Lombarde and La Brigue (2/6)

Rock Bunting Emberiza cia Encountered on the cols (2/6)