

# The Pyrenees

## *A Greentours Trip Report*

June 25<sup>th</sup> – July 2<sup>nd</sup> 2013

**Led by Phil Benstead, Oron Peri and Richard Cash**

### **Day 1      Tuesday 25 June**

We met up in Bilbao Airport. Phil arrived from Sweden, Oron from Israel so it took a little while to get the rental minibuses – two very nice Mercedes - organised. Phil drove off from the airport with the first arrivals and got to Casa Sarasa with no problems – he even had a scenic detour through Bilbao city! Oron and I set off an hour or so later in our minibuses. We had an easy drive to Casa Sarasa in Berdún, at first through the green hills and forests of the Basque Country and then, once past Pamplona, through dryer mediterranean country. The change from one zone to the other is very marked and suddenly going from Beech forests, pines and green pasture on one side of the Two Sisters Pass to Holm oaks, almonds and wheat fields on the other. We saw plenty of Black Kites and Red Kites on the way plus some Griffon Vultures and a Short-toed Eagle was seen from Phil's van. I saw a Great Spotted Woodpecker and Cirl Buntings at our lunch stop – some excellent sandwiches, cake and coffee – at a small service area. Once at Casa Sarasa the group settled in to the very nice rooms and we had drinks and an introduction with our hosts Pete and Melanie who then served us the first of some excellent dinners.

### **Day 2      Wednesday 26 June**

A beautiful sunny day with not a cloud in the sky and about 27 degrees. This was the weather for most of the week. In the morning after a good breakfast we had a stroll along the tracks around the village enjoying the plants typical of this fairly dry habitat such as Iberian Jerusalem Sage, a lovely Restharrow – *Ononis fruticosa*, Bee Orchid, Santolina, Wall Germander and some wonderful *Leuzia conifera*. Other highlights were some dramatic Lizard Orchids surrounded by Pyramidal and Man Orchids.

Malcolm noticed some Golden Egg bug (*Phyllomorpha laciniata*) which live around *Paronychia argentea* (Algerian tea plant) the bug is perfectly disguised to look like the plant's dry, silvery flowers. The bug is also unique in that both males and females carry their eggs stuck to the upper part of their thorax.

David was on particular lookout for birds and we heard Quail in the fields and Woodlark in the trees, saw Meadow Pipit, Crested Lark, White Wagtail, Stonechat and

many Barn Swallows, Pallid and Common Swifts (hard to tell apart!) Griffon Vultures, Common Buzzard, Black Kites and Red Kites and the ever present Corn Bunting. There were plenty of butterflies on this glorious sunny morning although the wet and cold spring in the area had held things back a little. We saw among others Ilex Hairstreak, Painted Lady, Scarce Swallowtail, Marbled White, Meadow Brown and Queen of Spain Fritillary which uses the Lucerne cultivated in the fields around the village as its food plant.

By the time we had finished this 'short stroll' it was getting hot and we were getting a bit peckish. Pete and Mel very kindly laid out our picnic lunch in the dining room with some delicious salad, crusty bread, Spanish sausage, cheese and fruit setting an excellent standard which they kept up for a week of great picnics.

After lunch and a bit of a rest we ventured 3 km down to the River Aragón at Martes. This is a 'Soto' river margin with poplars, river flats, marsh and sandy soils. A short walk brought us to a marshy area with Early Purple Orchids, Marsh Helleborine, Bug and Marsh Orchids all within a small area. A few of us were lucky to spot Golden Oriole and Hoopoe which weren't obliging enough to hang around. All of us had great views of the Bee-eaters which have a large colony here making burrows into the sandy soil rather than into the vertical river banks which here are of mudstone (marg) too hard to make burrows. In among the poplars were many plants including dogwood, wild asparagus, a very nice *Dipcadi serotinum*, Aphyllanthes, Bee, Pyramidal and Lesser Butterfly Orchids and some beautiful St Bernards Lilies. We heard Cetti's Warblers and Dave was lucky to see a Yellow Wagtail – we also saw White and Grey Wagtail, Blackcap, Garden Warbler, Woodchat Shrike and a few of us saw a female Hen Harrier and a dark phase Booted Eagle. As far as invertebrates there were plenty of butterflies including Swallowtails, Green-veined Whites and a Queen of Spain Fritillary which has its food plant in the nearby Lucerne fields (being cut while we were there).

This was a really productive spot and we could have spent much longer than the three hours we spent there. On the way back we stopped to photograph the village of Berdún looking wonderful across the barley fields with the snowcapped mountains in the background and scarlet poppies bring out the intense greens of the fields.

A really wonderful first day out in the field and we had barely left the village! In the evening we went over our lists with a beer or glass of wine in the excellent Casa Sarasa library (great reference books) before a good dinner well deserved after an excellent day.

## Day 3                      Thursday 27 June

Another fabulous, sunny day! Today we changed the itinerary to go and see the vulture feeding station on a ridge up above the Hecho Valley 25 km north of Berdún. The local authorities dispose of farm animal carcasses by leaving them in fenced off areas (*Muladar*) where the massive local Griffon vulture population make very short work of them. We were in plenty of time so we had a quick stop in the very pretty

village of Hecho to buy postcards and have a wander around. Soon vultures could be seen drifting across the valley towards the feeding station so we headed up the road to the *muladar*.

Having parked we had to make our way 500 metres along a dirt track bordered by Scots Pine and Oak (Portuguese) and of course there was a huge selection of flowers to be seen including Sticky and Beautiful Flax, Rue-leaved Isopyrum, *Gladiolus illyricus*, Fragrant, Pyramidal, Lesser Butterfly and Bee Orchids ..... There were Swallowtail butterflies, Black-veined Whites, a Southern White Admiral, Bee Hawkmoth, Scarce Swallowtails and all the while the flock of circling vultures soared above us and Egyptian Vultures, Kites (Black and Red) and Ravens began arriving for the feast. The birds know when and where food is to be supplied before it arrives.

Soon the truck came and dumped some dead sheep and pigs and eventually, after a long wait (some of the group may have been too close to the feeding spot and the vultures here are very wary of humans), the first vulture flew down to tuck in. In moments the carcasses were totally obscured by about 400 huge Griffon Vultures – a spectacular if gruesome sight. We had great views in the scope and the photographers got some excellent close-ups. What a spectacle! We also had a view of a Lammergeier soaring to the North of us and clearly distinguishable from the Griffons.

When the frenzy had calmed down and we had all had enough of the spectacle (and smell!) we drove back to the Hecho Valley and drove up the beautiful Boca del Infierno (Hell's Mouth) gorge with its limestone cliffs and Beech and Pine forest and craggy peaks above. At Oza we had a picnic by the River Aragón Subordan enjoying the relative cool of the high valley and listening out for Black Woodpecker. The birds were fairly quiet except for a brief appearance by a Citril Finch and Coal Tits in the pines and Griffon Vultures and Chough high above the peaks. Speckled Wood butterflies and Swallowtails were active. While looking for Citril Finch we found a wonderful stand of Great Yellow Gentian in a clearing and saw a few Pine Bolete mushrooms.

After lunch we drove further up the track towards the head of the valley in wonderful alpine scenery. There were a couple of Egyptian Vultures patrolling above the cattle herds grazing in the Valley below us. It was about time to return to Berdún but we had a short stroll along the track seeing Welsh Poppy and local endemic Dragon's mouth (*Horminum pyrenaicum*). There were Yellowhammer and Dunnock in the Dog Rose bushes and we heard Marmot calls.

This was another really varied and productive day in magnificent landscapes.

## **Day 4      Friday 28 June**

This morning we headed East and then North to the Tena Valley a grandiose valley whose road runs up to the Portalet pass (1794m) into France. Here with its different geology (not just limestone but metamorphic rocks and some granite) we were hoping

for some different alpine flowers and particularly hoping to see Ladies Slipper Orchid as one of the three sites in Spain is here.

We weren't disappointed! At the Ladies Slipper site which we shared with an enthusiastic group of French botanists we found the orchid in question – a little worse for wear due to the cold and late spring - but still wonderful. Nearby there was a huge amount to keep us on our knees marvelling at the variety of flowers - Broad Leaved Marsh Orchids, Lesser Butterfly, Elderflower, Fragrant, Black Vanilla and Burnt Orchids, Globeflowers, Alpine Aster, Bogbean, Pyrenean Vetch, Pyrenean Lousewort, Spring Gentian, Cross Gentian and Trumpet Gentian. Phil was thrilled to find a Pyrenean Brook Salamander (*Calotriton asper*) and saw a possible wild cat that turned out to be a big domestic cat. Linda took some wonderful photos of the flowers. Being high up it was good to see Brown Argus and Green Hairstreak butterflies. As we were leaving we saw a Marmot perched on a rock above the layby and checking us out.

We drove up and over the border to France and were greeted with an amazing view of Pic Midi d'Ossou (2844 metres) – a granitic volcanic plug dominating this incredible high mountain country. The good news was that there was still quite a lot of snow around so we could see some of the flowers which appear just as it melts. We stopped shortly below the pass and had our picnic lunch on the alpine meadow with Choughs – Red billed and Alpine - flying and chattering nearby and enjoying a perfect day high in the Pyrenees. Linda particularly wanted to see Alpine Snowbells which we found just next to the picnic spot. Perfect! We also saw Pyrenean and Amplexicaule Buttercups, Narcissus-flowered Anemones, Lesser Wild Daffodil, Birds-eye Primula, some beautiful Pyrenean Toadflax etc etc. A wonderful selection and quite different to that just over the border in Spain.

On the way back to Spain we stopped on the border with its bars and shops catering to French tourists buying cheap booze and us needing the loo! A short stroll away from the buildings gave us some great sights – a Rock Thrush, Water Pipit, Northern Wheatear, Black Redstart and a stand of hundreds of Pyrenean Snakeshead Fritillaries, Martagon Lily, Pyrenean Squill, Alpine Houseleek, and sweet smelling Rock Jasmine. Just on the North side there were some *Dryas octopetala*. After half an hour or so we jumped into the minibuses in order to get back to Casa Sarasa at a decent time. A Lammergeier was spotted on the way down the valley by some of us. We made one last stop in the hay meadows above the village of Sallent spotting a Red-backed Shrike, Hill Crickets chirruping away, and Phil spotted a Broad Bordered Bee Hawkmoth. There were many flowers with two kinds of Yellow Rattle, Spiked Rampion, Large Leaved Meadow Rue and swathes of Ox-eye Daisies. Beautiful! This was another great spot that we had to tear ourselves away from in order to get back to Berdún in time to do our lists (lots to note down!) and relax before dinner – excellent as usual with some very welcome wine included!

## Day 5      Saturday 29 June

For a change in habitats we headed South 40 miles to Riglos in the Pyrenean Foothills with their huge rock pinnacles, Maquis scrub, big stands of Holm Oak and Almond and Olive orchards. The hotter, dryer climate means we had quite a different range of plants, invertebrates and birds to see. The scenery here is a real highlight and the photographers had a great time taking landscape shots.

Our first stop was the village of Aguero dominated by their *Mallos* – huge masses of conglomerate rock. Here we saw some nice Alliums, Yellow Archangel, lots of *Knautia arvensis*, Large Mediterranean Spurge – once used by the locals here as a fishing poison (they would mash it up in a hessian sack and put it in the river to knock out the trout!) - several Sedums and lots of Juniper bushes. We saw Spanish Gatekeeper and Gatekeeper butterflies and Swallowtails. There were many Serin flying and the ubiquitous Griffon Vulture which nests in the cliffs here. Martin was lucky to see Sardinian Warbler and Dartford Warbler, a Lammergeier and a Blue Rock Thrush. We also saw Rock Doves, Rock Sparrow, Kestrel and Red-billed Chough.

We then moved on towards the Mirador de Los Buitres (the Vulture Lookout) a vantage point on top of the cliffs above Riglos. On the way we took a wrong turning along a dirt track which took us to a dead end. This was serendipitous as on retracing our route we saw a Golden Eagle perched on a rock less than 20 feet from the vans. Amazing and it seemed to take a long while to fly away – it was probably less than 10 seconds but being face to face with such an imposing bird was fabulous. An added bonus was a female Hen Harrier seen shortly afterwards.

Once up on the Vulture lookout we had our picnic while looking out over a simply amazing landscape. A stroll after lunch gave us a Tawny Pipit – a lifer for Dave and quite a few Stonechat and some Bagworms (moth caterpillars encased in tiny bits of wood as a protective disguise). On the way down from the picnic spot we saw a noisy family of Dartford Warblers and more Tawny Pipits and a Thekla Lark – a first for many of us. We then stopped at the old castle of Sarsamarcuello with its 12<sup>th</sup> Century hermitage and huge views over the lowlands to the south. Here we saw Rock Bunting, Cirl Bunting, Corn Bunting, Linnet, and Red-backed Shrike. Of course Griffon Vultures and Egyptian Vultures were soaring above us – Riglos is a bit like Vulture Heathrow!

On the way back we had a quick stop near a small river. It was very hot and little was stirring except for a Grey Wagtail by the river and a few Brimstones and an Ilex Hairstreak. Lizard and Fragrant Orchids were also seen. However with the heat we decided to return to Berdún and a cool drink!

An excellent day in a quite different habitat to the high Pyrenees.

## **Day 6      Sunday 30 June**

Today started with quite a long drive up to the high border pass at La Piedra de San Martin. The scenery of the Roncal Valley is really special with steep sides, cliffs and gorges, thickly forested hillsides and, high up, a stunning landscape of karstic limestone

with Bonsai style Mountain Pine, Beech and Silver Firs. One of the vans saw a fox on the way up. One of the main reasons for trekking all the way here was for the high mountain birds to be seen here quite reliably. Once up just below the border at La Contienda we soon saw Citril Finch, a young Crossbill, Ring Ouzel and a Honey Buzzard which was a real highlight for the birders. The snow here had only just melted so flowers were the earliest ones such as Pyrenean and Carinthian Buttercup and Alpine Snowbells – Other flowers seen included Entire-leaved Primula, Spring Squill, Alpine Milkwort, Fairy Foxglove and Alpenrose. Just a week later there were many more different flowers in bloom here (see the trip report for that holiday).

We ate our picnic at La Contienda hearing and seeing the Citril Finches, Coal Tits and the occasional Ring Ouzel call. A magical spot. We then drove over the border and stopped to look for Alpine Accentor which nest on the hillside here – in winter it's a ski slope. We were lucky to see a very obliging male singing and moving around the low Juniper bushes rather than hiding as they often seem to. Another great bird to add to the list! A Honey Buzzard flying along the ridge above us was an extra bonus and we had great sights of Alpine and Red Billed Chough which seem to love flying just for the sake of it! There were both Pyrenean and Alpine Toadflax on the slopes here as well as Moss Campion just coming into flower and low, matted Pyrenean Willow and Retuse Leaved Willow – which hugs the rocks even more. The views down into France were wonderful though the haze meant we couldn't see all the way to the coast at Biarritz.

On the way back to Berdún we came down a different route via the Ansó Valley and a few kilometres North of Berdún stopped in the Biniés Gorge. This is a typical formation in the Pyrenees – a steep sided *Foz* eroded into a gorge very quickly by the water and debris from the glacier that once would have been just above it 15,000 or so years ago. On a North facing bit of cliff we found the Pyrenean speciality *Ramonda myconi* – a must for the botanists and in flower here – up on the border we'd seen just the leaves. Other plant seen here unique to this area were *Petrocoptis pyrenaica* growing on the rocks, Pyrenean Saxifrage with their huge rosette of leaves and spike of white flowers, Pyrenean Germander, some very fine *Allium pyrenaicum* and Pyrenean Honeysuckle. Another plant seen here was *Jasonia glutinosa* (not sure what this is – ed?)- Rock Tea used by locals here as a pick me up herbal infusion.

Martin saw a Peregrine flying above the gorge and Dipper was seen in the river below the road. It was nice to see House Martin nests in the cliffs rather than on houses. They choose different nest spots to the Crag Martins which are here all year round. Griffon Vultures were omnipresent and there was a pair of Egyptian Vultures patrolling near their nest. We saw a very nice Glanville Fritillary and some Scarce Swallowtails and a Bee Beetle. The gorge was beautiful with the river and some shade keeping things cool – it was hot down in the valley!

On the last leg back to Berdún Richard's bus had a great view of a Short-toed Eagle perched on a Pylon. Dave had his telescope up in a flash and the Eagle obliged us by staying perched for a long while. Their faces are so owl-like when they look straight at you. Dave and Mary were thrilled to get such a good sight. We also saw a Hen

Harrier – another female - and Bee-eaters as we passed the village of Biniés with its castle perched above the river.

What a day! Many highlights for birders and botanists alike!

## **Day 7      Monday 1 July**

For our last day in the field we decided to go up to Gabardito in the Hecho Valley and try for Wallcreeper at their nesting site in the cliffs up above the mountain hut. On the way up the road through the forest we spotted a Sword-leaved Helleborine. Just down the slope in the Beech leaf litter was a Birdsnest Orchid – not a pretty flower but...! Once at the hut we walked up the path towards the Wallcreeper site hearing Mistle Thrush and Song Thrush and seeing Wintergreen growing in the shady Beech and Pine forest. Linda saw a Green Woodpecker and we saw Coal Tit, a couple of families of Crested Tit and heard Willow Tit, Nuthatch and Goldcrest. At the cliffs we had great views of Egyptian Vultures which fly so precisely and elegantly. Alpine Swifts gave themselves away as they screamed above the cliffs where they nest. We were all craning our necks on the lookout for Wallcreeper which soon obliged with the appearance of not just one but four - parents and chicks - giving us a fantastic display flitting among the rocks. What a sight! A first for many of us and certainly one of the best moments of the trip. As an extra bonus we had a distant view of Lammergeier across the valley. The views here were wonderful – there's nothing to beat rugged limestone mountains. On the way back to the hut we saw plenty of Maiden Pinks, three kinds of Primula, Burnt and Fragrant Orchids, Aquilegia and Green Hellebore. It was great to see Southern White Admiral, Duke of Burgundy Fritillary, Wood Whites and Swallowtails which can be seen in huge numbers on the peaks above here at breeding time (about now).

After a picnic lunch (regretably the last of the trip!) we drove down to the main valley and drove up to Guarrinza. Here in this quintessential alpine scenery of pasture complete with Pyrenean brown cows grazing, the river and the peaks towering above us we saw Yellow-veined Ascalaphid (*Libelloides longicornis*), Wall butterfly, de Prunner's Ringlet and a Booted Eagle which was surprising as they usually patrol much further down the valley. On a honeysuckle we found hundreds of beetles.

Driving back down the valley we stopped to try and see Western Green Lizard but on this late afternoon they were keeping well out of the way. There were some lovely St Bernard's Lilies, many Fringed Pinks and Rock Soapwort.

Once back at Casa Sarasa we went over our lists for the last time and enjoyed a farewell dinner complete with Cava kindly provided by our hosts Pete and Mel.

## **Day 8      Tuesday 2 July**

On the way back to the airport we saw a Booted Eagle just after leaving Berdún and then a Green Woodpecker flew alongside the minibus for a few seconds as we passed the Yesa reservoir – a wonderful eyeball to eyeball sighting!

We stopped for coffee and cake halfway to Bilbao at a service area and in the car park found Military Orchid and Pyramidal Orchids just to finish off!

It had been a fantastic week, my first working with Greentours. Thanks to everybody for taking part and bringing so much enthusiasm, interest and expertise with them. It was a real privilege and a lot of fun to spend the week in your company and in such a fascinating and beautiful area. Big thanks to Oron for his incredible botanical expertise and Phil for his all round knowledge of every living beast! He deserves a medal for wearing wellies in a Spanish summer!

## Systematic List No. 1 - Flora

### Written by Oron Peri

#### ACERACEAE

*Acer platanoides* Widespread

#### AMARYLLIDACEAE

*Allium ampheloprasum* Large heads of move flowers, Agüero  
*Allium molly* Large inflorescens of Yellow flowers –lower Hecho Valley  
*Allium oleraceum* odd looking inflorescens with many publils, near Martes, Aragón River  
*Allium pyrenaicum* Tall species, flowers are white with dark midvain on petals, lower Hecho valley  
*Allium spaerocephlon* Widespread, particularly abundant in Agüero  
*Allium ursinum* only leaves, Upper Hecho valley  
*Narcissus pseudonarcissus* many at Formigal

#### APIACEAE

*Angelica razulii* Common at higher elevations  
*Buplerum rigidum* Silvery/blue lanceolate leaves widespread at lower elevations  
*Eryngium bourgatii* Lovely blue inflorescens, Upper Hecho valley  
*Eryngium campestre* Berdún area  
*Ferula communis* Many on main road to Vitoria  
*Foeniculum vulgare* widespread  
*Myrrhis odorata* common in woods, Anso and Hecho vallies  
*Sanguisorba minor* common  
*Seseli libanotis* scattered, large white umbels

#### ARALIACEAE

*Hedera helix* widespread

#### ASCLEPIADACEAE

*Vincetoxicum hirundinaria* Anso Valley

#### ASPARAGACEAE

*Anthericum liliago* ' St. Bernard's Lily', tall spikes of white flowers Hecho Vally  
*Anthericum ramosum* Similar to the species above accept flowering stem is branched, slightly smaller flowers, between Berdún and Martes  
*Convallaria majalis* 'Lily of the valley' lower Hecho valley  
*Dipcadi serotinum* locally abundand, Martes, Riglos  
*Leopoldia comosa* in fruit, Agüero  
*Scilla verna* appearing in large numbers after snow melts, at high elevetions

#### ASPLENIACEAE

*Asplanium adiantum-nigrum* Berdún  
*Asplenium septentrionale* Belagua River  
*Asplenium trichomanes* Anso and Hecho vallies  
*Asplenium viride* growing on walls at Hecho Valley

#### BETULACEAE

<i>Betula pendula</i>	widespread
<b>BORAGINACEAE</b>	
<i>Acusa italica</i>	Agüero
<i>Borago officinalis</i>	around Berdún
<i>Echium vulgare</i>	very common and widespread
<i>Lithodora fruticosa</i>	Berdún
<i>Myosotis alpestris</i>	La contienda, Formigal
<b>BRASSIACEAE</b>	
<i>Arabis pumila</i>	La Contienda
<i>Hornungia alpina</i>	Formigal
<i>Erysimum sylvestre</i>	Refugio de Gabardito
<b>BUXACEAE</b>	
<i>Buxus sempervirens</i>	very common and widespread
<b>CAMPANULACEAE</b>	
<i>Campanula latifolia</i>	Anso Valley
<i>Campanula persicifolia</i>	widespread
<i>Phyteuma orbiculare</i>	Hecho Valley
<i>Phyteuma spicatum</i>	Anso Valley
<b>CAPRIFOLIACEAE</b>	
<i>Lonicera etrusca</i>	widespread
<i>Lonicera pyrenaica</i>	Hecho valley
<i>Sambucus ebulus</i>	common at Enso and Echo Vallies
<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	common, widespread
<b>COMPOSITAE</b>	
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Berdün, Hecho valley
<i>Antennaria dioica</i>	Gabardito
<i>Asteriscus spinosus</i>	widespread in different habitats
<i>Artemisia campestris</i>	near Jaca
<i>Carthamus mitissimus</i>	low growing blue species
<i>Carodus carlinoides</i>	Common
<i>Catananche careulea</i>	Hecho valley, Formigal
<i>Centaurea calcitrapa</i>	Agüero
<i>Centaurea montana</i>	Formigal
<i>Centaurea paniculata</i>	Berdün
<i>Centaurea scabiosa</i>	tall species, between Berdun and Martes
<i>Cicerbita plumier</i>	tall slender Chicorium like blue flowers, Agüero
<i>Cichorium itybus</i>	Berdún
<i>Dipsacus fullonum</i>	Widespred particularly in roadsides.
<i>Helichrysum italicum</i>	widespread at lower elevations
<i>Helichrysum stoecas</i>	Riglos, Anso Valley
<i>Lectuca serriola</i>	Widespread
<i>Rhaponticum coniferum</i>	structural golden cone, widespread at lower elevations
<i>Santolina chamaecyparissus</i>	common and widespread
<i>Sylibum marianum</i>	common, roadsides etc.
<i>Tragopogon porrifolius</i>	brounish/purple flower most uncommon for the genus, Agüero
<i>Tussilago farfara</i>	common at high elevations

### **CARYOPHYLLACEAE**

<i>Dianthus seguieri</i>	small, still showy pink flower with white dots at Gabardito
<i>Dianthus monspessulanum</i>	lovely soft pink fringed flowers, Gabardito
<i>Dianthus pungens</i>	very small deep pink flowers, Agüero
<i>Moehringia muscosa</i>	Upper Hecho Valley
<i>Paronychia argentea</i>	flat growing, covered with papery silvery/white flowers, Widespread
<i>Petrocoptis hispanica</i>	white flowers, silvery glaucous leaves, growing in rock crevices at Hecho Gorge
<i>Petrocoptis pyrenaica</i>	similar to the above but smaller plant, Ech valley
<i>Petroraghia prolifera</i>	widespread at lower elevations, dry habitats
<i>Saponaria officinalis</i>	Berdún
<i>Silene acaulis</i>	flat cushions with many small pink flowers Formigal, La contienda

### **CHENOPODIACEAE**

<i>Chenopodium bonus-henricus</i>	Anso Valley
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### **CISTACEAE**

<i>Helianthemum apeninum</i>	pink form, Berdún
<i>Helianthemum cinereum</i>	Agüero
<i>Helianthemum hirtum</i>	small leaves, large deep yellow flowers, Berdún
<i>Helianthemum violaceum</i>	small white flower, Berdún

### **CONVOLVUACEAE**

<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	Martes, Agüero, Rigols
<i>Convolvulus cantabrica</i>	slender semishrub, pink flowers, dry habitat, Agüero
<i>Convolvulus languinosus</i>	bluish hairy plant, soft pink flowers darker outside, Martes near Aragon River
<i>Cuscuta europea</i>	very common and Widespread

### **CRASSULACEAE**

<i>Sedum acre</i>	yellow flowers, Martes near Aragon River
<i>Sedum album</i>	reddish leaves white flowers, very common
<i>Sedum dasyphyllum</i>	small plant with thickened leaves, Hecho and Anso vallies
<i>Sedum sediforme</i>	large upright species with large creamy umbels, Agüero, Rigols

### **CUCURBITACEAE**

<i>Bryonia dioica</i>	Berdún
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### **CUPRESSACEAE**

<i>Juniperus oxycedrus</i>	Agüero, Rigols
<i>Juniperus phoenicea</i>	Agüero
<i>Juniperus sabina</i>	low spreading species, under Formigal
<i>Juniperus communis</i>	widespread

### **DIPSACACEAE**

<i>Knautia arvensis</i>	widespread at lower altitudes
<i>Scabiosa columbaria</i>	Hecho valley
<i>Scabiosa atropurpurea</i>	Hecho valley
<i>Scabiosa lucida</i>	Anso Valley

**DRYOPTERIDACEAE**

*Dryopteris filix-mas* common near streams at higher elevations

**ERICACEAE**

*Archostaphyllum uva-ursi* Upper Belagua River

**EUPHORBIACEAE**

*Euphorbia characias* Agüero, Anso Valley

**FAGACEAE**

*Quercus coccifera* common around Agüero and Rigols

*Quercus ilex* Scattered

**GENTIANACEAE**

*Gentiana acaulis* La contienda

*Gentiana alpine* Formigal

*Gentiana lutea* Upper Hecho valley

*Gentiana pyrenaica* Formigal

*Gentiana verna* Formigal, La contienda

*Gentiana brachyphylla* Formigal, La contienda

**GESENERIACEAE**

*Ramonda myconi* in leaf at high elevations, in flower in lower Anso Valley

**GERANIACEAE**

*Erodium cicutarium* Widespread

*Geranium dissectum* Hecho Valley

*Geranium molle* Berdún, Hecho Valley

*Geranium pyrenaicum* Formigal

*Geranium robertianum* Hecho Valley

*Geranium sanguineum* Upper Hecho Valley

**GLOBULARIACEAE**

*Globularia cordifolia* common in rocky places in Hecho and Anso Vallies

*Globularia nudicaulis* Formigal

*Globularia repens* in rocky places in Hecho and Anso Vallies

**HYPERICACEAE**

*Hypericum nummularium* Widespread

*Hypericum perforatum* Berdún, Agüero

**IRIDACEAE**

*Iris graminea* above Hecho

*Iris latifolia* common at higher elevations [in leaf], one specimen in flower on  
Aragon River under Berdún

*Iris pseudacorus* Aragon river near Martes

*Gladiolus illyricus* road sides at lower elevations, above Hecho

**JUGLANDACEAE**

*Juglans regia* widespread

**JUNCACEAE**

*Luzula campestris* common at higher elevations

<i>Luzula nutans</i>	Pine forests above Hecho
<b>LAMIACEAE</b>	
<i>Ajuga chamaepitys</i>	prostrate, yellow flowers Aragon River near Martes
<i>Ajuga pyramidalis</i>	Formigal
<i>Ajuga reptans</i>	Hecho and Anso Vallies
<i>Ballota nigra</i>	Aragon River near Martes
<i>Clinopodium vulgare</i>	Between Berdún and Jaca
<i>Lamium purpureum</i>	Anso Valley
<i>Lavandula angustifolia</i>	common at Agüero
<i>Marrubium vulgare</i>	Berdún
<i>Melittis melissophyllum</i>	Large Lamium like semishrub Hecho Valley
<i>Origanum vulgare</i>	common at Agüero
<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>	common at Agüero and Riglos
<i>Salvia pratensis</i>	common in fields at lower altitudes
<i>Thymus vulgare</i>	common at Agüero
<i>Phlomis herba-venti</i>	shrub with lilac/purple flowers, Berdún, Hecho Valley
<i>Phlomis lychnitis</i>	narrow silvery leaves, yellow flowers, widespread
<i>Prunella laciniata</i>	scattered, white form
<i>Sideritis hyssopifolia</i>	prostrate, yellow/creamy flowers, Riglos
<i>Teucrium capitatum</i>	slender small shrub with silver/whit leaves, widespread at lower elevations in dry habitats
<i>Teucrium chamaedrys</i>	Berdún
<i>Teucrium pyrenaicum</i>	white flowers, Hecho vally
<i>Teucrium scorodonia</i>	shrub with creamy flowers, very long lip, Between Berdún and Jaca
<b>LEGUMINOSAE</b>	
<i>Anthyllis vulneraria ssp. vulnearia</i>	yellow flowers, Hecho Valley
<i>Anthyllis vulneraria ssp. pyrenaica</i>	red flowers, widespread
<i>Bituminaria bituminosa</i>	large trifolium like shrub with lavender flowers, Agüero
<i>Echinospartium horridum</i>	large cushions with yellow flowers, Agüero, la - Contienda
<i>Genista tinctoria</i>	Martes near Aragon River
<i>Hedysarum boveanum</i>	Bluish leaves with deep pink flowers, Formigal
<i>Lathyrus latifolius</i>	tall specis with deep pink flowers, near Jaca
<i>Lathyrus occidentalis</i>	small shrubby species with creamy/yellow flowes, Echo Valley
<i>Lotus alpinus</i>	low growing, yellow flowers turning orange, common at high elevations
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Berdún
<i>Medicago lupulina</i>	Berdún
<i>Medicago sativa</i>	Berdún
<i>Onobrychis supina</i>	tall spikes of soft pink flowers with darker veins, Berdún
<i>Ononis fruticosa</i>	large showy shrubs, Berdun
<i>Ononis natrix</i>	Martes
<i>Ononis striata</i>	like a small version of O. natrix, Rigols and Agüero
<i>Ononis spinosa</i>	thorny semishrub with soft pink flowers, Martes
<i>Robinia pseudacacia</i>	widespread around viliges
<i>Spartium junceum</i>	common near the main autostrada might be naturalized, sweetly scented.
<i>Tetragonolobus maritimus</i>	small plant with solitary yellow flower at the end of each branch, common in Hecho and Anso Vallies
<i>Trifolium arvense</i>	Hecho Valley

*Trifolium pratense* pink flower heads with marked leaves, Echo Valley  
*Vicia pyrenaica* small plant with solitary purple flower on each branch common at Gabardito.  
*Vicia tenuifolia* widespread

#### **LENTIBULARIACEAE**

*Pinguicula grandiflora* relatively common at higher elevations in wet conditions

#### **LILIACEAE**

*Erythronium denis-canis* only few days after flowering, Formigal  
*Fritillaria pyrenaicum* many in flower at Formigal  
*Gagea liotardii* (syn *G. fragifera*) single fleshy, bright green basal leaf, Formigal.

#### **LINACEAE**

*Linum bienne* slender species with small sky blue flowers, Agüero  
*Linum narbonense* striking blue flowers, widespread  
*Linum strictum* annual with yellow flowers Berdún  
*Linum suffruticosum* lilac/white flowers, Hecho valley, south of Berdún  
*Linum viscosum* large pink flowers, above Hecho

#### **LORANTHACEAE**

*Viscum album* growing in great numbers on Pine trees above Hecho

#### **MALVACEAE**

*Malva sylvestris* widespread at lower altitudes

#### **MELANTHIACEAE**

*Veratrum album* leaves only, Formigal

#### **OLEACEAE**

*Fraxinus angustifolia* widespread  
*Olea europea* Agüero

#### **ORCHIDACEAE**

*Anacamptis coriophora* Aragon River near Martes  
*Anacamptis pyramidalis* common and widespread  
*Cephalanthera longifolia* Gabardito  
*Cypripedium calceolus* Formigal  
*Dactylorhiza maculate ssp.caramulensis* Aragon river near Martes  
*Dactylorhiza majallis* Formigal  
*Dactylorhiza fuchsii* Formigal, upper Hecho valley  
*Dactylorhiza sambucina* both color forms at high elevations, Formigal, la Contienda  
*Epipactis helleborine* in buds, above Hecho  
*Epipactis palustris* Aragon River near Martes  
*Gymnadenia conopsea* Upper Hecho valley, Formigal  
*Gymnadenia austriaca* one specimen at Formigal  
*Himantoglossum hircinum* around Berdún  
*Neottia nidus-avis* Gabardito  
*Neottia ovata* syn. *Listera ovata* Formigal  
*Ophrys apifera* Berdún  
*Ophrys scolopax subsp. Apifera* above Hecho, between Berdún and Jaca

<i>Orchis mascula</i>	upper Hecho valley
<i>Orchis ustulata</i>	Formigal, upper Hecho valley
<i>Platanthera bifolia</i>	Formigal
<i>Platanthera chlorantha</i>	Aragon valley near Martes, Hecho valley

#### **OROBANCHACEAE**

<i>Orobanche gracilis</i>	deep brownish/red flowers, Aragon valley near Martes Hecho valley
<i>Orobanche hederæ</i>	white flowers, Hecho valley
<i>Orobanche mutelii</i>	small plant, blue flowers, Agüero
<i>Melampyrum cristatum</i>	between Berdún and Jacca

#### **PAPAVERACEAE**

<i>Chelidonium majus</i>	La contienda
<i>Corydalis solida</i>	La contienda, Formigal
<i>Meconopsis cambrica</i>	Hecho & Anso Vallies
<i>Papaver dubium</i>	common, widespread at lower altitudes

#### **PINACEAE**

<i>Pinus halepensis</i>	Scattered
<i>Pinus nigra</i>	above Hecho
<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	widespread
<i>Pinus uncinata</i>	Anso valley

#### **PLANTAGINACEAE**

<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	common
<i>Chaenorrhinum organifolium</i>	above Hecho
<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>	in buds, Upper Hecho Valley
<i>Erinus alpines</i>	Hecho and Anso Vallies
<i>Linaria alpina</i>	common at high elevations
<i>Veronica beccabunga</i>	Upper Hecho Valley
<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>	Above Hecho
<i>Veronica fruticans</i>	Anso Valley

#### **POACEAE**

<i>Briza maxima</i>	Between Berdún and Jaca
<i>Briza media</i>	Berdún
<i>Elymus campestris</i>	Aragon River near Martes

#### **POLYGALACEAE**

<i>Polygala alpina</i>	Upper Hecho Valley
<i>Polygala alpestris</i>	La Contienda
<i>Polygala comosa</i>	Gabardito

#### **POLYPODIACEAE**

<i>Polypodium vulgare</i>	Anso Valley
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#### **PRIMULACEAE**

<i>Anagallis arvensis</i>	blue form, Aragon River near Martes, Agüero and Hecho
<i>Primula elatior</i>	Formigal, La contienda, upper Hecho valley
<i>Primula farinosa</i>	Formigal
<i>Primula integrifolia</i>	Gabardito
<i>Soldanella alpina</i>	Formigal, Gabardito

## **PYROLACEAE**

<i>Moneses uniflora</i>	solitary white campanulate flower, Anso valley
<i>Pyrula chlorantha</i>	greenish flowers, Anso valley
<i>Pyrula rotundiflora</i>	pinkish buds, Anso valley

## **RANUNCULACEAE**

<i>Aconitum napellus</i>	Hecho Valley
<i>Anemone narcissifolia</i>	large numbers in Formigal
<i>Aquilegia vulgaris</i>	common and widespread
<i>Caltha palustris</i>	Formigal
<i>Clematis vitalba</i>	Berdún, Agüero, Anso valley
<i>Helleborus foetidus</i>	widespread
<i>Helleborus viridis subsp occidentalis</i>	common at high elevation
<i>Hepatica nobilis</i>	common at high elevations particularly in Formigal
<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	Hecho Valley, Anso valley
<i>Ranunculus amplexicaulis</i>	Gabardito
<i>Ranunculus pyrenaicus</i>	La Contienda
<i>Thalictrum aquilegifolium</i>	Hecho Valley, Anso valley
<i>Thalictrum tuberosum</i>	between Berdún and Jaka, Hecho valley
<i>Trollius europeus</i>	Formigal

## **RESEDACEAE**

<i>Reseda lutea</i>	Anso valley
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## **RHAMNACEAE**

<i>Rhamnus alaternus</i>	large shrub/small tree with red burries, Agüero
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## **ROSACEAE**

<i>Alchemilla lapyrousii</i>	Hecho valley
<i>Alchemilla saxatilis</i>	Hecho valley
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Widespread
<i>Fragaria vesca</i>	Hecho valley
<i>Geum montanum</i>	low growing species, above Hecho
<i>Geum pyrenaicum</i>	above Hecho
<i>Rosa rubrifolia</i> syn <i>R. glauca</i>	dark leaves, deep cerise flowers, Gabardito
<i>Rosa spinosissima</i> syn <i>R. pimpinellifolia</i>	widespread
<i>Sanguisorba minor</i>	above Hecho

## **RUBIACEAE**

<i>Galium lucidum</i>	Berdún
<i>Galium mollugo</i>	widespread
<i>Galium verum</i>	small species with yellow flowers, Anso valley

## **RUTACEAE**

<i>Ruta angustifolia</i>	Agüero
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## **SALICACEAE**

<i>Populus alba</i>	Widespread in particularly in river banks
<i>Populus nigra</i>	Widespread in particularly in river banks
<i>Populus tremula</i>	Widespread in particularly in river banks
<i>Salix eleagnus</i>	narrow silvery leaves, widespread

**SAXIFRAGACEAE**

<i>Saxifraga aizoides</i>	Gabardito
<i>Saxifraga hirsuta</i>	Hecho Valley
<i>Saxifraga longifolia</i>	Anso and Hecho vallies
<i>Saxifraga moschata</i>	Formigal
<i>Saxifraga paniculata</i>	Formigal

**SCROPHULARIACEAE**

<i>Scrophularia pyrenaica</i>	common at Hecho valley
<i>Verbascum sinuatum</i>	deep green leaves, branched inflorescens, widespread

**SIMAROUBACEAE**

<i>Ailanthus altissimum</i>	Tall tree, smooth trunk, reddish new leaves, common near villages
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**ULMACEAE**

<i>Celtis australis</i>	widespread
<i>Ulmus glabra</i>	Anso Valley

**URTICACEAE**

<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Anso and Hecho vallies
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**VALERIANACEAE**

<i>Valeriana Montana</i>	Anso and Hecho vallies
<i>Valeriana officinalis</i>	common in Hecho valley

**VIOLACEAE**

<i>Viola pyrenaica</i>	Formigal, La Contienda
<i>Viola riviniana</i>	La contienda

**XANTHORRHOEACEAE**

<i>Asphodelus albus</i>	common at high elevations
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## Systematic List Number 2      Birds

Species in square brackets were heard only or sometimes recorded by sign.

Grey heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	A few seen along lowland rivers.
Honey buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>	One low along the ridge above La Contienda was a trip highlight for some. Another later on the same day showed more fleetingly.
Black kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	Frequently encountered.
Red kite	<i>Milvus milvus</i>	Frequently encountered but in slightly smaller numbers than the above.
Lammergeier	<i>Gypaetus barbatus</i>	One past the vulture feeding station above Hecho and another whilst driving back from Formigal. One other recorded in the Hecho Valley bringing the trip total to a rather modest three.
Egyptian vulture	<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>	Small numbers daily.
Griffon vulture	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>	Frequently encountered. The spectacle of several hundred gorging themselves at the feeding station was memorable.
Short-toed eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>	Recorded en route to Berdún on the first day and seen well by van 1 on the last day.
Marsh harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	A few recorded in arable farmland.
Hen harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	Two ringtails recorded by the lucky few.
Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	Occasionally encountered in suitable habitat, usually whilst driving.
Golden eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	Excellent views of a perched adult when slightly lost en route to mirador on day 5.
Booted eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>	A total of five during the trip.
Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	A few.
Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>	One over Berdún for Oron.
Peregrine	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	One above Foz de Binies for Martin.
[Quail]	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>	Heard every day in the arable farmland areas around Berdún.
Green sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>	One at Balsa de Encasa for Phil, a southward bound failed breeder no doubt.
Common sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	One or two on the Veral below Berdún for Phil.
Yellow-legged gull	<i>Larus cachinnans</i>	A few along large rivers and over reservoirs.
Rock dove/feral pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	Ubiquitous in urban areas and some convincing 'wild' types in rocky areas in the foothills.
Stock dove	<i>Columba oenas</i>	A few recorded in transit.
Woodpigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	Recorded.
Collared dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	Found in small numbers throughout.
[Cuckoo]	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	Heard only twice, none seen.
Little owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>	Regularly recorded by the Casa Sarasa birding team.
Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	Common throughout in lowland areas.
Pallid swift	<i>Apus pallidus</i>	Some recorded with certainty above Berdún and other urban areas.
Alpine swift	<i>Apus melba</i>	Five screaming around above the wallcreeper cliff at Gabardito.
Common kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	One for van 2 on the way back from Formigal.

European bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>	Breeding birds encountered occasionally, most memorably on the first day down at the Aragon river.
Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>	Seen by the lucky few only with singles on the Aragon and Veral rivers.
[Black woodpecker]	<i>Dryocopus martius</i>	Signs of presence in the Hecho Valley but none seen or heard sadly.
Green woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>	Heard occasionally. Linda saw one at Gabardito.
Great spotted woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopus major</i>	Common in woodland throughout.
Crested lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>	Common around Berdún.
Thekla lark	<i>Galerida theklae</i>	Single on the way back down from the vulture mirador.
Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	A few in the high tops.
Crag martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>	Seen most days in suitable areas close to cliffs and suitable crags.
Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Common throughout low-lying areas.
House martin	<i>Delichon urbica</i>	Found throughout often near suitable nesting cliffs and crags. Nice to see them nesting in their proper habitat for a change.
Tawny pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>	Several at the vulture mirador on day 5.
Water pipit	<i>Anthus spinoletta</i>	Recorded in the high tops.
Tree pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>	Singing bird at the vulture feeding station.
White wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	Widespread and common.
Yellow wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>	Dave had one in Berdún.
Grey wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	Occasional along mountain streams and rivers and even in Berdún on one date.
Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>	A few recorded when walking alongside mountain streams.
Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	Found at a low density in wooded habitat throughout.
Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>	Singing birds located at La Contienda.
Alpine accentor	<i>Prunella collaris</i>	One obliging male singing on the French side above La Contienda.
Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	Only in wooded areas at higher altitude, eg the Hecho Valley.
Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>	Frequently heard at lower altitudes. In the garden at Casa Sarasa (Berdún).
Black redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochrurus</i>	Common throughout, especially around the hotels.
Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>	Occasionally noted in suitable habitat.
Northern wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>	Common at high altitude – recorded on two dates.
Rock thrush	<i>Monticola saxatilis</i>	Nice male at Portalet.
Blue rock thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>	Martin had one above Agüero.
Ring ouzel	<i>Turdus torquatus</i>	Two birds recorded at La Contienda (Spain) and on the slopes above there (in France).
Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	Present throughout in suitable habitat.
Song thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	Noted along road to Gabardito.
Mistle thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>	Scarce, singles at Gabardito and the Atares junction.
[Cetti's warbler]	<i>Cettia cetti</i>	Heard along the rivers Aragon and Veral.
Melodious warbler	<i>Hippolais polyglotta</i>	Recorded frequently around Berdún, a few heard elsewhere.
Dartford warbler	<i>Sylvia undata</i>	Noisy family party on the way back down from the mirador on day 5.
Sardinian warbler	<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>	A few around Berdún and also recorded above Agüero.

Lesser whitethroat	<i>Sylvia curruca</i>	Martin recorded one at Berdún.
Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	Common breeding bird throughout in suitable habitat.
Western Bonelli's warbler	<i>Phylloscopus bonelli</i>	Common breeding bird in Spain in oak woodland.
Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	Heard occasionally.
Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>	Heard in the Hecho Valley.
Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapillus</i>	Heard on two dates, common at Gabardito where birds seen poorly.
Spotted flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>	Recorded on the way up to the mirador on day 5.
[Willow tit]	<i>Parus montanus</i>	Heard above Gabardito (Hecho Valley).
Crested tit	<i>Parus cristatus</i>	Two family parties encountered on the Gabardito walk.
Blue tit	<i>Parus caeruleus</i>	Recorded occasionally in suitable habitat.
Great tit	<i>Parus major</i>	Recorded occasionally in suitable habitat.
Coal tit	<i>Parus ater</i>	Recorded on three dates in high altitude forest.
Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>	Heard on the Gabardito walk.
Wallcreeper	<i>Tichodroma muraria</i>	Four recorded on the 'wall' above Gabardito – a trip highlight.
Golden oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>	Heard and seen by some on the river Aragon on the first day.
Red-backed shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>	One male on slopes below Formigal and another whilst driving later in the trip
Woodchat shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>	Seen in small numbers throughout.
Spotless starling	<i>Sturnus unicolor</i>	Birds around Berdún were this species.
Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	A few records, mostly birds crossing the road whilst in transit.
Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	Recorded daily. Most often seen in transit in the valley bottoms.
Alpine chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax graculus</i>	Frequently encountered at higher altitudes.
Red-billed chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>	Seen wherever suitable breeding cliffs could be found.
Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	Small numbers throughout.
Carrion crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>	Common in suitable habitat.
House sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	Pleasantly ubiquitous.
Rock sparrow	<i>Petronia petronia</i>	Common breeding bird in Berdún.
Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	Common in wooded areas throughout.
Citrel finch	<i>Serinus citrinella</i>	Recorded at La Contienda and high above Hecho.
Serlin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>	Very common breeding bird throughout.
Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>	Pair at Casa Sarasa (Berdún).
Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	Recorded.
Linnet	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>	Small numbers noted at high altitude.
Common crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>	Single immature bird perched up at La Contienda, others heard later that day in France.
Corn bunting	<i>Miliaria calandra</i>	Common farmland bird.
Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	A few observed, usually high up in alpine grasslands with scattered bushes.
Cirl bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>	Observed around Berdún and the mirador on day 5, heard in similar habitat elsewhere.
Rock bunting	<i>Emberiza cia</i>	One at the lady's slipper site and another below the mirador on Day 5.

## Systematic List Number 3      Mammals

Species in brackets were recorded by sign or dead on road (DOR).

Red fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	One for van 3 on the way up to Roncal – a rare triumph!
[Beech marten]	<i>Martes foina</i>	2 DOR.
Chamois	<i>Rupicapra rupicapra</i>	30 at top of the Hecho Valley on the last day.
Alpine marmot	<i>Marmota marmota</i>	Formigal (introduced) and high up the Hecho Valley.
[Wild boar]	<i>Sus scrofa</i>	Sign frequently encountered.
Red squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>	One on the way down from Gabardito for van 2.

## Systematic List Number 4      Amphibians and reptiles

DOR = dead on road.

Pyrenean brook salamander	<i>Euproctus asper</i>	Two in the stream by the lady's slipper orchids below Formigal.
Common toad	<i>Bufo bufo</i>	DOR Hecho Valley.
Iberian water frog	<i>Rana perezi</i>	Small numbers along the Aragon on the first day.
Western green lizard	<i>Lacerta bilineata</i>	One reported by the team.
Common wall lizard	<i>Podarcis muralis</i>	A few encountered.
Iberian wall lizard	<i>Podarcis hispanica</i>	Frequently observed.
[Grass snake]	<i>Natrix natrix</i>	DOR Hecho Valley.

## Systematic List Number 5

## Odonata

Common winter demoiselle	<i>Sympecma fusca</i>	Two males at Balsa de Encasa for Phil.
Blue-eye	<i>Erythromma lindeni</i>	A few at Balsa de Encasa for Phil.
	<i>Ischnura ??</i>	A few at Balsa de Encasa for Phil.
Dainty damselfly	<i>Coenagrion scitulum</i>	Two males at Balsa de Encasa for Phil.
Common bluet	<i>Enallagma cyathigerum</i>	Small numbers at Balsa de Encasa for Phil.
Yellow clubtail	<i>Gomphus simillimus</i>	One at the Atares junction stream for Bruce and Mary...
Western clubtail	<i>Gomphus pulchellus</i>	A few males at Balsa de Encasa for Phil.
Emperor	<i>Anax imperator</i>	Small numbers at Balsa de Encasa for Phil, including an egg-laying female.
Broad-bodied chaser	<i>Libellula depressa</i>	Pair on roadside runnel high up the Hecho Valley.
Black-tailed skimmer	<i>Orthetrum cancellatum</i>	One male at Balsa de Encasa for Phil.
Southern skimmer	<i>Orthetrum brunneum</i>	Single male along the Aragon River on the afternoon of the first day.
Red-veined darter	<i>Sympetrum fonscolombii</i>	Small numbers at Balsa de Encasa for Phil. One at Casa Sarasa on the last day.

## Systematic List Number 6      Butterflies

The taxonomic nomenclature and the systematic order have been taken from Tolman and Lewington's *Butterflies of Britain and Europe* published by Harper Collins (1997).

### *Papilionidae*

Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>	Scattered records.
Scarce swallowtail	<i>Iphiclides podalirus</i>	Recorded daily.
Clouded apollo	<i>Parnassius mnemosyne</i>	Single high up the Hecho valley for Linda.

### *Pieridae*

Large white	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>	Widespread and common.
Black-veined white	<i>Aporia crataegi</i>	Locally very common.
Bath white	<i>Pontia daplidice</i>	Recorded.
Western dappled white	<i>Euchloe crameri</i>	A few in lowland areas.
Clouded yellow	<i>Colias crocea</i>	Widespread.
Brimstone	<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>	Berdún.
Cleopatra	<i>Gonepteryx cleopatra</i>	Lunch time mirador on day 5.
Wood white	<i>Leptidea sinapsis</i>	A few.

### *Lycaenidae*

Ilex hairstreak	<i>Satyrium ilicis</i>	Riglos day.
Blue-spot hairstreak	<i>Satyrium spini</i>	Berdún.
White letter hairstreak	<i>Satyrium w-album</i>	Atares junction stream walk.
Green hairstreak	<i>Callophrys rubi</i>	Celia photographed one on the Riglos day.
Small copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>	Recorded.
Purple-edged copper	<i>Lycaena hippothoe</i>	Dave photographed one.
Little blue	<i>Cupido minimus</i>	Widespread.
Idas blue	<i>Lycaeides idas</i>	Recorded.
Mazarine blue	<i>Cyaniris semiargus</i>	Widespread.
Spanish chalkhill blue	<i>Lysandra albicans</i>	Frequently encountered around Berdún and in similar habitat elsewhere.
Adonis blue	<i>Lysandra bellargus</i>	Recorded on a number of days on dry slopes.

### *Riodinidae*

Duke-of-Burgundy	<i>Hamearis lucina</i>	Gabardito (Hecho Valley).
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### *Nymphalidae*

Southern white admiral	<i>Limenitis reducta</i>	Dave had the first one at the vulture feeding station, thereafter singles at Foz de Binies and Gabardito.
Red admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>	Recorded.
Painted lady	<i>Cynthia cardui</i>	Recorded in small numbers.
Small tortoiseshell	<i>Aglais urticae</i>	Scattered.
Comma	<i>Polygonia c-album</i>	Berdún.
Queen-of-Spain fritillary	<i>Issoria lathonia</i>	Scattered records.
Marbled fritillary	<i>Brenthis daphne</i>	Foz de Biniés.
Glanville fritillary	<i>Melitaea cinxia</i>	One at the Lady's slipper site.
Knappweed fritillary	<i>Melitaea phoebe</i>	Berdún.
Provençal fritillary	<i>Mellicta deione</i>	Berdún.

### **Satyridae**

Marbled white	<i>Melanargia galathea</i>	Atares junction.
Common grayling	<i>Hipparchia semele</i>	One at Berdún.
de Prunner's ringlet	<i>Erebia triaria</i>	High up the Hecho Valley.
Meadow brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>	Berdún.
Gatekeeper	<i>Pyronia tithonus</i>	A few above Aguero.
Spanish gatekeeper	<i>Pyronia bathseba</i>	Widespread and sometime numerous.
Pearly heath	<i>Coenonympha arcania</i>	Scattered records.
Chestnut heath	<i>Coenonympha glycerion</i>	A few.
Speckled wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>	Scattered records.
Wall brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>	Scattered records.

### **Hesperiidae**

Grizzled skipper	<i>Pyrgus malvae</i>	Recorded frequently.
Marbled skipper	<i>Carcharodes lavatherae</i>	Berdún.
Dingy skipper	<i>Erynnis tages</i>	A few.
Small skipper	<i>Thymelicus sylvestris</i>	Casa Sarasa (Berdún).
Large skipper	<i>Ochlodes venatus</i>	Casa Sarasa butterfly meadow.