

# *Slovenia & Croatia*

*From the Peaks of the Julian Alps to the Adriatic Coast*

**Greentours Trip Report**

**11th - 19th June 2025**



Twin-spot Fritillary  
photo by Peter Hilton



Nose-horned Viper  
photo by Vanessa Mann

**Led by Milan Vogrin & Amanda Borrows**  
**Daily report & systematic lists by Amanda**

## Day 1 Wed 11th June Arrival at Ljubljana - transfer to Lake Bohinj, Ribčev Laz - afternoon walk around the Lake environs

Everyone was on the early morning short flight from Gatwick, and most had met up with Amanda before the flight. The pilot was highly informative pointing out the highlights of the journey when flying over the Alps, in particular the Matterhorn for those on that side. The light was good, so you could see the mountain range really clearly.

Customs was relatively straightforward, where we all met up, before finding Milan, who was waiting for us outside. It was hot. Thus, the group found shade, while Amanda went off to sort out the vehicle with Milan.

The journey to the hotel was roughly around 2hrs, driving through the beautiful if what tourist town of Bled. The town is noted for its picturesque 17th-century baroque church in the middle of Lake Bled, with Bled Castle perched on the cliff behind. Very picture postcard

Shortly after, we arrived at our hotel located next to the serene waters of Lake Bohinj at Ribčev Laz, home for the next three days. Once everyone had settled into their rooms, and had food, we met up for an afternoon walk around Lake Bohinj.

**Lake Bohinj** is the largest permanent natural glacial lake in Slovenia. This afternoon was picturesque. The tranquil quietness of the lake surrounded by the towering Julian Alps, combined with the enchanting stone bridge and St John the Baptist Church was picturesque. It was from the bridge that we started our walk. Milan gave a brief introduction to the area, mind you some people were more interested in the fish below, mainly Brown Trout, the water was so clear.

From here we turned left into a wooded area with mainly familiar UK species such as Beech (*Fagus sylvatica*), Hazel (*Corylus avellana*), Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), while further down it was more dominated by Hop Hornbeam (*Ostrya carpinifolia*), with stands of Norway Spruce (*Picea abies*), and Juniper (*Juniperus communis* subsp. *communis*) dotted around. The group were already off, and seeing what was about, white species of butterfly quizzed past our eye-line, frustratingly not stopping followed by John. Andy & Denise had shot ahead, turning over any likely log or stone that might be hiding any reptile. Inge was carefully watching the dead wood piles for any movement, and found, Common Wall Lizard, perseverance does pay off. Meanwhile, the botanists Charlie & Peter were head down. Derek watching the airways, but unfortunately the bird life was very quiet . . . Chaffinch. Vanessa was just looking for that photo that would describe the scene in front of her.

There was an excitement after a spike of Bird's-nest Orchid (*Neottia nidus-avis*) was found a bit of a rare in the UK, but as we walked on, they were littering the side of the path. The delicate Red Helleborine (*Cephalanthera rubra*) was causing a stir, but not as much as the two flowering spikes of Dark Red Helleborine (*Epipactis atrorubens*), where everyone was trying to get good shots without rolling down the slope.

Along the recently cut slopes *Cyclamen purpurescens* was exposed, while people were picking the sweet demure heads of the Wild Strawberries (*Fragaria vesca*). The leaves of Stone Bramble (*Rubus saxatilis*) trailed along the ground. At one point there was a yellow carpet of Common Cow-wheat (*Melampyrum pratense*) with small clumps of Spotted Deadnettle (*Lamium maculatum*) to contrast.

The path took us down to the lakeside car park, which was full, many people were enjoying the hot weather, either swimming, canoeing or paragliding, which seemed very popular. From here



we followed the shoreline, taking in the lake views, which was mesmerizing, while the meadows of Stara Fužina to our right, named after the small alpine village, further up the valley were starting to be cut.

This whole area still comes under the Triglav National Park the only national park in Slovenia, established in 1981, and named after the highest peak of the Julian Alps. It is one of Europe's oldest parks, with the first protection dating back to 1924, when the Alpine Conservation Park was set up. Milan was telling us the park tries to maintain the traditional methods, and so meadows are worked and cut via traditionally methods, and he didn't want us to walk through them, which when presented with a colourful floristic meadow, is very hard.

Field crickets, were singing loudly, hiding amongst the tall yellowing grasses of *Lolium remotum*, False, & Meadow Oat-grass, while the flashes of blue, from Meadow Clary (*Salvia pratensis*), pinks of knapweeds (*Centaurea nigrescens* & *scabiosa*), Field Scabious (*Knautia arvensis*), Crow Garlic (*Allium vineale*), and yellows from the various *Ranunculus* species brightened up the meadow.

Small patches of *Thymus serpyllum*, smelt heavenly as you brushed your hand across, encouraging the Clouded Yellows, & Small Heaths to stop if what briefly. Other interesting plants of note were Slender Broomrape (*Orobanche gracilis*), Nettle-leaved Bellflower (*Campanula trachelium*), Creeping Bellflower (*Campanula rapunculoides*), Wood Scabious (*Knautia dipsacifolia*). The gorgeous *Rosa glauca*, however, I think it must have been the blousy *Lilium martagon*, Turk's head that turned everyone's head.

Reptiles on the other hand were causing quite a stir. Inge had spotted a Nickerl's Fritillary, but then noticed the stunning male Western Green Lizard basking on some dead twigs. There was



Western Green Lizard photo by Peter Hilton

much cooing with admiration for this individual. Andy & Denise had seen tadpoles of Common Frog as well as Yellow-bellied & Common Toad tadpoles.

After a while, it was time to go back, although the path does run all the way around the lake, a distance between 11 - 13km, taking around 3 - 5 hours. It had been a long day already, some of the group had decided to walk a bit further, but for those who came back, there was time for some liquid refreshments, whilst watching a pair of Black Redstarts flit around the dry stony river channel, before dinner, and a

chat about the next day's activities. Dinner was back at the hotel. A self-service style with a wide amount of choice catering for all tastes, although, you soon got to realise who likes the desserts, and to get in quick.

## **Day 2 Thur 12th June Triglav National Park - Pokljuka plateau - Goreljek Bog - Kranjska Gora (ski-resort)**

Most people were up early this morning, even after an early start of yesterday. The early morning feeding times of the very noisy heron colony on top of the pine tree next to the hotel (4am), might have had something to do with it, then the bells, the bells, ringing out from the wooden medieval church of St. John the Baptist at 7am.

By 7.30 everyone was down for breakfast. A bit of a hearty fill with continental style and cooked self-service. Even though everyone had been up early, there was a nice buzz, as people were discussing the delights of their morning walk, Derek with his lovely Spotted Flycatchers, or the peaceful serene view across the lake. Peter had also seen a Black Squirrel from his balcony.

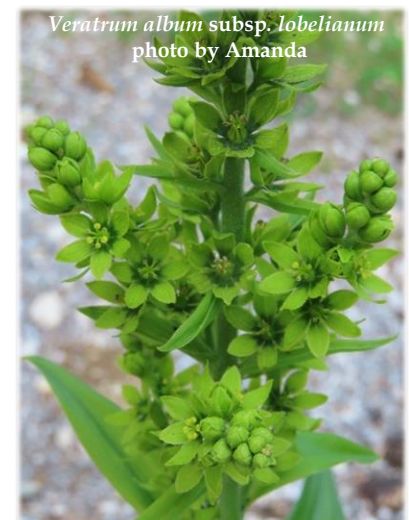
Our destination today was the high karst plateau at Poklijuka, around 1500 metres and mainly covered by vast Norway Spruce forests, and Goreljek Bog a remnant of glacial activity, a rare ecosystem here in Slovenia. By 8.30 we were on our way, mind you we didn't get very far when Milan's bus stopped at Studor, an ideal stop to look at the old traditional 'Kozalec', the wooden hayracks used to dry out the cut grass, that originated in this area, but no, it was for Wryneck.

Of course, the Wryneck had disappeared by the time everyone had emerged from the vehicles, it was only the cheery Tree Sparrows that welcomed us. After a few minutes, the Wryneck did do a flyby to the far trees, and beyond.

Our journey wended us through tight roads passing fairytale Grimm villages the chalet style houses decorated with brightly coloured *pelargonium* flower boxes, spectacular mountain views exposed as we twisted and turned up the mountain road.

Several stops were made along the road, where it was safe to do so, as the rock faces were like miniature rock gardens. Mazarine Blue, Black-veined White & Pearly Heath were patrolling the verges, which were littered with Sword-leaved Helleborine (*Cephalanthera longifolia*), Horned and Round-headed Rampion (*Phyteuma scheuchzeri*), (*Phyteuma orbiculare*), along with the very showy Snowy Woodruff (*Luzula nivalis*). A Black Woodpecker was heard calling in the distance, unfortunately, that is all we had. Looking down onto the wooded pastures below, 3 Roe Deer were walking across the field.

Our next stop was next to a wood pile, what a great spot. Milan was keen to show a plant speciality, but people were too excited following the numerous flouncing butterflies, and searching logs for reptiles. Nevertheless, the plant was quite a stunner Green False Helleborine (*Veratrum album* subsp. *lobelianum*). The enclosed field next to the species contained a delightful swathe of Fox-and-Cubs (*Pilosella aurantiaca*). The rough meadow behind the wood pile offered an interesting array of butterflies such as Mountain Green-veined White found by Inge, Amanda's Blue & Brown Argus spotted by John, while Derek had both Stygian & Styrian Ringlet. It was only this area we had the sightings of Yellow-banded & Alpine Grizzled Skipper.



There were one or two plants to note Golden Hawk's-beard (*Crepis aurea*), Arnica (*Arnica montana*), Pyramidal Bugle (*Ajuga pyramidalis*), lots of the stunning Yellow Ox-eye (*Bupthalmum salicifolium*), the gorgeous Giant Catsear (*Hypochoeris uniflora*), while Yellow Melancholy Thistle (*Cirsium eristhales*) littered the road edges.

Mind you I think the most interesting thing was watching the group stare at a stump, no-one stirred, and nothing stirred on the log either. All because Milan had found a pair of Viviparous Lizards, but they weren't playing ball.



From here we headed on to Visoko Barje Goreljek, a circular educational walk about raised peat bogs. It was Andy who first stopped the group, as he had noticed Herb Pais (*Paris quadrifolia*), closer examination of the area produced May flower (*Maianthemum bifolium*) & a beautiful example of One-leaved Wintergreen (*Moneses uniflora*) a few more were found later on, along the walk.

Next it was Milan who gave some background to the bog, pointing out Round-leaved Sundew (*Drosera rotundifolia*), amongst the Sphagnum moss, and several spikes of Broad-leaved Marsh & Heath Orchid (*Dactylorhiza majalis* & *maculata*) kept the orchid

people happy, along with flowering Bog Rosemary (*Andromeda polifolia*) & Bog Cranberry (*Vaccinium oxycoccos*), Nutcracker was calling from the trees.

Sunlight filtered through the towering Spruce trees as we continued along the path, Speckled Woods 'danced' through the sun-rays, before one of them left, and the winner alighting on a sunny patch. Derek alerted us to a Lesser Whitethroat calling, before getting excellent views of this often-secretive species.

Meanwhile, Milan had led some of the group into a nearby meadow for the very hairy Bearded Bellflower (*Campanula barbata*), nice fine Milan.

Another species that was flitting above our heads was a male Firecrest. Milan had picked it up on call, and we all stood still as it processed to flit from one branch to another around us, flashing that vivid red Mohican stripe. We left it in peace as we noticed it was feeding young.

Lunch was at a small church, surrounded by golden yellow of Bird's-foot Trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*), although Peter did find a nice Whorled Lousewort (*Pedicularis verticillate*). We ate under the shelter, while watching a Coal Tit feed young above us. After which we moved on higher to the ski-resort with Milan checking the ditches to see if there was any water for salamanders, but no. Instead, he found a pair of Alpine Newts in the cattle drought near the resort. Large Tortoiseshell & Northern Wall Brown were found by Charlie.

There was time for refreshment, which was very welcome in the heat, and very entertaining listening to Charlie try and order a coffee. In the end Milan resorted to showing him a picture of the different types of coffee, and how to order them. Both Inge & Charlie got there in the end.

Once everyone was back in the vehicles we started our way back, with a couple of impromptu stops. So much that it was an emergency stop, as Milan had seen something orange, a walk back it was a couple of the stunning Carnic Lily (*Lilium carniolicum*). Meanwhile, Denise had noticed a dead Grass Snake, which she mentioned to Milan, who went back to investigate, and found it was playing dead. It was beautiful.

Walking back to the abandoned vehicles one spike of Military Orchid (*Orchis militaris*) was found by Charlie along the road verge, very nice. Near some Burnt-tip Orchids (*Orchis ustulata*), several Small Blue butterflies were feeding.

Once back at the hotel Charlie had insisted that people come and see the impressive show of Lesser Butterfly Orchids (*Platanthera bifolia*) that were only 20 metres away, 100 metres later, more or less, there indeed was a wonderful display not just of Butterfly Orchid but also Common Spotted (*Dactylorhiza fuchsia*).



*Platanthera bifolia* photo by Amanda

### **Day 3 Fri 13th June Julian Alps - Erjavčeva Koča at Vršič pass**

This morning's feeding session in the heronry was quite quiet, as the morning light flickered through the window. It was a beautiful morning across the lake, quite surreal and mystical. Mind you, you won't think that when you looked down into the crystal-clear water, with the frenetic shoals of fish, probably spawning or mating. Derek had a stunning male Redstart, while Vanessa had seen a Black Squirrel from the balcony, possible the same one Peter saw yesterday.

Today we should have been visiting Mt Mangart, but due to snow covering the numerous tunnels, we headed for another part of the Julian Alps, Erjavčeva Koča at Vršič pass (1,611m). The highest mountain pass in these mountains, and is situated just below the summit on the southern slope of Mala Mojstrovk.

It was still an early morning departure as we wanted to beat the crowds, apparently parking is at a premium up at the pass. It was a good job we did set off early, as the road to the top was closed due to roadwork renovations, and the lower car park was starting to fill. Before the walk up, some of the group headed for a coffee refreshment at Erjavčeva hut (1,525m), while some were exploring the floristic banks, with wonderful shows of Christmas Rose (*Helleborus niger*), Charlie pointed out the stunning Alpine Clematis (*Clematis alpina*), which everyone admired. The slopes were literally decorated with the white of Mountain Avens (*Dryas octopetala*), along with Lesser London Pride (*Saxifrage cuneiformis*) in places and Dwarf Alpenrose (*Rhodothamnus chamaecistus*) with its big blousy flowers.

Andy had found a Slow worm, albeit it small, it was a good find. Duke of Burgundy, Dingy Skipper & Common Winter Damsel were also seen, and Amanda pointed out a Green Hairstreak. Birds were quiet, but there were a pair of Ring Ouzels near the car park, and Alpine Choughs flying high along the mountainous ridge, along with Ravens.

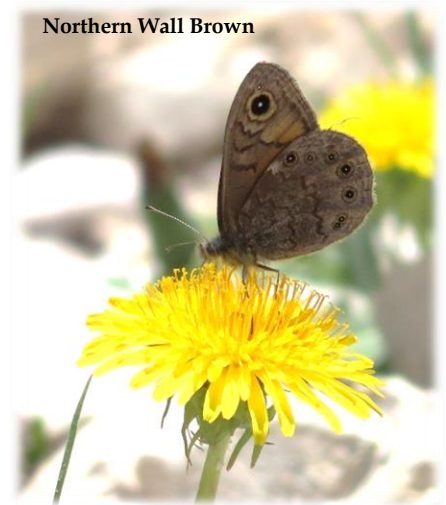
From the coffee hut there is an impressive vista of the mountain range, and The Pagan Girl. A stone relief sculpture depicting the face of a young woman, known locally as Ajdovska Deklica - the giantess who was turned to stone through envy, but in her final moments, she casted a spell of protection over the valley, ensuring the those who lived and walked here would be protected. To the local people she has become a symbol of sacrifice and protection, a silent guardian watching over the valley.

We started our slow wander up the road to the Pass passing all the tarmac lorries, rollers, and workers. This part of the road is referred to as The Russian Road (*Ruska cesta*) built in 1915-17, by the captured soldiers of the Imperial Russian Army. The prisoners built a wooden chapel which you can still see today as you drive up to the pass, to commemorate their comrades killed in avalanches while building over the Vršič Pass. It was this bit they were renovating to cope with the high tourist demand of the area.

Meandering up, stops were made to view the flowery decorated crevices with Alpine Butterwort (*Pinguicula alpina*), or Yellow Wood Violet (*Viola biflora*), while the grassy slopes were splashed with blue from Spring Gentian (*Gentiana verna*), and *Gentiana clusii*, pink from Alpine Heath (*Erica carnea*), Alpine Rockrose (*Helianthemum alpestre*). Large dead heads from Stemless Carlina Thistle (*Carlina acaulis*) littered the short turf, while Peter & Charlie were admiring the tall stands of Bath Asparagus (*Ornithogalum pyrenaicicum*) near the top of the Pass. They also found small clumps of both *Globularia vulgaris* & *nudicaulis*, Common and Stemless-leaf Globularia.



Butterflies were bouncing around, but with the temperature hitting 29°C, they weren't staying long, Dewy Ringlet, gave some nice views for Derek & Vanessa as we slowly walked up the slope, along with Northern Wall Brown.



Eventually, the group got up to the top of the Pass with idyllic mountain views. After refreshments from the hut, it was a circular walk back. A couple of highlights worth mentioning, Derek heard an owl call, and he was right it turned out to be Tengmalm's Owl, which Milan said was really unusual and the group were

incredibly lucky to hear it, but unfortunately it never showed. The other avian encounter was Crested Tit, and a bundle of feathers from a young one in the branches.



Lunch was back down near the vehicles under the shade of the towering Larches, watching the Red Admiral, Small Tortoiseshell & Painted Lady's fly-by, a *Rhagium mordax* landed on John's trousers, and Andy disappeared into the bushes, not a reptile this time, but a Man Orchid (*Orchis anthropophora*). It just looked like Peter in his red trousers!



The temperatures were soaring, as we made our way back through the twisting road, arriving back late afternoon. Once back there was time to freshen up, or go for a short walk, before reconvening at the bar for tomorrow's activity, and a short, yep short plant list before dinner, which was another hearty feast, again the desserts went down well, so you had to get in quick. Although, people were disappointed with not visiting Mountain Mangart, we still saw some wonderful things, and the stunning scenery.

#### Day 4 Sat 14th June Planina Cave (Planinska jama) – Bear Hide/Pivka, Na Meji environs

It was an early morning call today, not from the Pterodactylus's (the young Grey Herons), as they had now become to be known as, nor the church bells, but Milan as it was a bit of a full-on day as well as departure day, we needed to be at various locations for certain times. Our first of which was at the Olm site, for 10am. The vehicles were packed, and we were away by 8am.

Mind you, some of us had time for a quick walk before breakfast for birdwatching, more pictures of the lovely clump of orchids or the bronze statue of a Chamois. This statue is referred to as the Zlatorog or 'Goldhorn' Statue (the Bohinj myth), where a mythical chamois with golden horns hold the key to the treasure hidden in the mountains. It is the gate keeper to Lake Bohinj. We never saw any!



It was another glorious hot morning as we set off through Bled, which was nice and quiet at this time in the morning. The journey to the cave would take around 1½ hrs, and this was a relatively new site to see Olm in its natural habitat, so we didn't want to miss our 10am slot. It was all very exciting.

Planina Cave (Planinska jama) is the largest Slovenian active cave, although we would only be walking around 500 meters to the unique area where two confluences of underground rivers meet Pivka and Rak River uniting them into the Unica. It is one of the largest confluences of subterranean rivers in Europe, and it is home to the 'Human Fish', or The Olm (*Proteus anguinus*), which is endemic to the area, can grow up to 30cms, and live to 100 years.

Once there we duly paid attention to our guide, about the history of the area, who was highly informative explaining the geology of what makes this cave incredibly special and fauna we might see. After which he led us down into the woods, following a crystal-clear stream with a bustling

family of feeding Grey Wagtails at the cavern entrance. Its cavernous mouth is 20 metres wide and 8 meters high, with the fresh cold water of the River Unica echoing around.

Access is only possible by guided tours, via a locked gate. Although people do visit, it is not a tourist cave, so we had to watch where we walked as it was slippery, and torches on. It was black.

Several stops were made as we meandered through, our guide pointing out various cave formation and legends behind them. At one point we passed through tunnels built by the Italian soldiers after WWI, to join the Postojna Cave system up to move from Italy to the Yugoslav border. At another, one or two Schreiber's Bat (long-winged bat) were flapping high between the craved Karst rock formations, the noise echoing around us.

Eventually, he stopped next to a small water tank. There at the bottom of the tank two white, long, Olms were settled on the rocks. There was a stillness amongst the group, ranging from disappointment as they were in a glass container, to excitement of actually getting to see them. After a hefty flurry of photographs, our guide stuck his hand and lifted one out . . . it was plastic. The roar of laughter filled the cavern. He used these models as education tools about the animal's lifecycle. After about 15mins of questions, he gave very precise instructions of what we must do, as we were now going to see if we could see a 'Human Fish' in its natural environment.

The silence was only broken by the rushing water at the back of the cave, before our guide broke the darkness by his torch, and there in the water was an olm. After a while it eventually moved, and disappeared under the silt. Big smiles all around.

Before we left the cave, our guide took us to a platform where the confluence of the rivers met, and told us to turn our torches off, just to emphasise what it is like living in a cave. It was a very welcome sight to see the sun.

Once back, Milan spread out lunch so we could help ourselves before carrying on with our journey to our next accommodation. The journey was broken up with a refreshment break, before a last meadow stop, and to drop off the Bear people who had a 4pm meeting with the guide.

The wooded meadow glowed yellow from swathes of Yellow Ox-eye, & Yellow Rattle (*Rhinanthus minor*), odd stands of Meadow Thistle (*Cirsium dissectum*), white specks from Ox-eye Daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*), and Dropwort (*Filipendula vulgaris*) along with Field Scabious (*Knautia arvensis*), spikes of Fragrant & Burnt-tip Orchid (*Gymnadenia conopsea* & *Orchis ustulata*) respectively, and in the shade side of the meadow a small group of Pyramidal Orchid (*Anacamptis pyramidalis*).

The meadow was alive with insects a couple highlights were the flamboyant Owlfly & Transparent Burnet (*Zygaena purpuralis*), while butterflies included Black-veined, Meadow Browns, Escher's & Adonis Blue, and a number of interesting Fritillaries when we could get onto them, Granville, Knapweed, Spotted, and Titania to name a few. However, it was the Marbled Whites that were causing quite a bit of discussion, as there were a lot of very dark individuals, as well as normal colouration flying around. It was decided in the end that they were *Melanargia galathea* f. *procida*.

The Bear people met the guide at 4pm, who took them to the hide where they would be there for the next four hours. It was a bit of a steep climb up the hide, stopping for fresh bear poo, and paw prints, that, must be a good sign. Our young guide pointing out the



different sizes, how big or heavy they were. Amanda put her size 5 boot, next to a 3-4-month-old bear paw print, mmm, look how big those claws are.

Spirits were high as we rearranged the chairs, and got ourselves settled. Slowly time ticked by, one Jay, then two, no three . . . Wood Pigeon. The meadow in front of us was alive with pollinators, which was taking our mind of the fact that perhaps the Jay's, Blackbirds, & Wood Pigeon were eating the sweetcorn that was put out for the bears, particularly when suddenly 10-15 Wood Pigeons flew up from the ground. Nothing big or furry appeared either.



Spirits were starting to dampen, and we just watched silently, watching any movement of the trees. Nope, just Wood Pigeons, although there was a bit of excitement when a Great Spotted Woodpecker landed on the log, giving excellent views, but no bears. By 8pm, Amanda got out the kit-kat's, for that kit-kat moment, but no. By 9pm we were all packed and waiting for our young guide, who was quite surprised no bears had turned up. It's nature.

It would be another hour before we would reach the hotel, and there were more animal species on the way back with a near miss of Raccoon Dog which ran in front of the guides car, Fox and Badger, mind you I don't think Derek would let Amanda have it as he kept missing them.

## Day 5 Sun 15th June Lake Cerknica, Pivka - Laze pri Gorenjem Jezeru - Trnje

The sun was still beaming, and temperatures were stilling rising as we headed out to a completely new habitat today, Lake Cerknica, an intermittent lake characterized by underground drainage systems with sinkholes, and caves. The water disappears in summer, reappearing early winter, and can reach the lower levels of the small village Otok at the southern end. Fortunately, there was still water abound today.



Edible & Marsh Frogs  
photo by Inge Bristow

The amphibian people were out, and exploring the drains, and pools. Inge was being serenaded by Edible & Marsh Frog together, along the drain, while a Grass Snake swam causally by, while Andy pointed out a very large one alongside the road, keeping Denise busy photographing them, along with any dragonflies she could find.

John meanwhile had headed out amongst the reeds in search of dragonflies. Although the area holds good numbers of Odonata, not many were showing today Black-tailed Skimmer, Norfolk Hawker (*Aeshna isoceles*), Ruddy Darter, Broad-bodied Chaser (*Libellula depressa*), and Lesser Emperor (*Anax parhenope*), which was seen patrolling under the second bridge. Damselflies were out and about, but not stopping for ID purposes.

The wet sedge meadows held a few notable plants for the botanists, such as Fen Ragwort (*Jacobaea paludosa*), both Lax-flower (*Anacamptis laxiflora*) and the similar *Anacamptis palustris*. Further up, pink heads of Wild Gladiolus (*Gladiolus illyricus*) could be seen, along with swathes of Ragged Robin (*Lychnis flos-cuculi*).

Derek & Vanessa meanwhile could be seen standing in the meadow trying to spot Corncrakes that were 'crex-crexing' next to them. Other birds included Red-backed Shrike, Sedge, Great Reed and Reed Warbler singing around the vegetated channels, while two Marsh Warblers were calling from the trees along the road. A male Whinchat perched on a wooden stump.

With temperatures again touching the thirty, a short stop was made at the village Laze pri Gorenjem Jezeru for homemade apple & pear juice. Our hostess was quite interesting telling us about the history of the lake and the village which dates back to 1468. Scarce Swallowtails flew by.

Moving on our next stop was by a bridge stopping to watch the various fish in the water, including a Pike eat a smaller Pike. Derek spotted a Great Crested Grebe, while Andy found Nettle-tree Butterfly puddling at our lunch spot.

Temperatures were soaring so it was decided to head back, and reconvene later with a visit to the highest point in the area at the church in Trnje. Saying that most of the group were out exploring the meadows, 'mad-dogs & Englishmen' come to mind, but the meadows were busy with flouncing butterflies, Clouded Yellow, Marbled White, Small Heath, Copper and Blue, Knapweed & Heath Fritillary were also seen. A juniper bush must have held some kind of attraction as there was a bountiful amount of Marble Whites resting on the cooler side of the bush, along with Meadow Browns, a Forester, and frustratingly a Twin-spot Fritillary which won't settle.

The rest of the afternoon was spent around the church environs at the small village of Trnje, the views of which span across the landscape below. Andy was showing off yet another Slow worm, a bigger one this time, and then found one of the smallest scorpion species in Slovenia, Balkan Scorpion (*Euscorpius tergestinus*), nice fine Andy. Milan pointed out White Asphodel (*Asphodelus albus*), before running around like a madman, he had seen the gorgeous *Zygaena carniolica*, and was trying to catch it for everyone to see.

Dinner was a short trip to an outside restaurant. What a hearty fill, with a mixture of meat and fish platters, mind you there was still room for dessert for some of the group. Temperatures had dropped by the time we got back, and there was no calling from the Scops Owl, that was calling the night before.



*Zygaena carniolica*  
photo by Peter Hilton

## Day 6 Mon 16th June Plitvička Lakes National Park World Heritage Site

It was going to be an early morning start of 7am today, as it was going to be long day, heading south to Croatia, and to the very popular tourist attraction of Plitvička Lakes World Heritage Site for a mid-day slot. The traffic may be bad!! Radios were checked; they were working. Mine you the only problem Amanda had, was who, was giving the call signs for Milan, as there had been a lot of dodgy crackling coming over the line, or some people who just enjoyed using the radio.

Enviably at some point we joined the traffic queues, but it wasn't the M25, so we were soon out of it. Eventually, there was a crackly announcement over the radio, *Welcome to Croatia!* What a contrast, the whole feel was very different to Slovenia. A stop was made for coffee, before the last hour to the lakes.

Once the vehicles had parked, it was a short walk up and over the bridge to the park entrance, and the throngs of the crowds, which we duly joined. Although we didn't get far, as Peter had spotted one or two spikes of Bee Orchid (*Ophrys apifera*).

From here it was a case of following the crowds down to the turquoise crystal water, and admiring the stunning views of the waterfalls. Our trail followed a wooden boardwalk across the top of a waterfall, and down to the highest waterfall in Croatia, The Veliki Slap at 87metres. The whole area was spectacularly stunning.



Mind you, the great excitement came from the finding of Horvath's Rock Lizard, a near threatened species, which Andy had been looking for. Such was the excitement that a small crowd had gathered to find out what the group were looking at. This was shortly followed by a Dice Snake.

The water was so clear, you could make out all the fish, including a Crayfish which Inge & Vanessa were busy looking at. A nice clump of Rock Pink (*Dianthus petraeus*) was also showing well.



Horvath's Rock Lizard  
photo by Inge Bristow

Once everyone had reconvened, it was only a short walk back to the vehicles, where Amanda pointed out a Spotted Flycatcher sitting on a branch near Milan's vehicle. It would be another two hours before we reached our last accommodation, where we were greeted with a refreshing home-made Elderflower cordial. Temperatures were now in the mid 30'sC.

The remainder of the day was either spent exploring the dry meadows around the hotel or across towards the beach environs, before we met up in the garden for a species list for those

who were interested, and to discuss tomorrow's hike up Paklenica gorge, particular in this hot weather. Nightingales called around us. It was the first time we had heard them on the trip.

## Day 7 Tue 17th June Velika Paklenica Canyon, Paklenica National Park - Večka Kula Beach environs

Some of the group had already been out for a morning walk before breakfast, and had been enjoying the early morning chorus of Nightingale, Blackcap, and purring of Turtle Dove. A bird that Vanessa was enthralled about, such a charming bird.

Surprisingly, the morning was cool with the prospective of rain. This was ideal conditions for walking up a gorge. It was only a ten-minute drive to the start of Velika Paklenica Canyon. Nevertheless, the weather could change very suddenly, so everyone took water, and started off towards the infamous steep climb that Milan had been warning us about before dinner last night.

This area is one of the most attractive and dramatic gorges in the southern part of the Velebit mountain range that spans Croatia, with towering cliff faces of 700metres just after you left the car park, and due to its exceptional geomorphological value, is a favourite place for climbers.

Our walk was alongside the dried riverbed with huge collapsed rocks and boulders, lined by the various tree species. The group made a slow ascent up to the Black Pine forest plateau, and the forest house Lugarnica a simple café serving refreshments of tea, and the delight of Turkish coffee. It also had a wonderful flowering Lime Tree that was abound with butterflies, mainly fritillaries, Silver-washed & Niobe, along with Southern White Admiral and Scarce Swallowtail all taking advantage of the nectar. The unusual Bumblebee Robber-fly was also spotted, with the female snacking on a bee, whilst in tandem. A Blue-spot Hairstreak was a delightful surprise for the group.



*Laphira flava* - Bumblebee Robber-fly  
photo by John Davison

Once up on the plateau, the area opened out, allowing the group to have a potter around, spotting the various butterflies. Look it's there . . .

Walking along the wooded path, Milan hooked the highlight of the day, Nose-horned Viper. It wasn't just our group that was very excited over the reptile either, there were a few other on-lookers as well.



Interestingly, considering how venomous this snake is, it was amazing how close people wanted to get for 'that' picture.

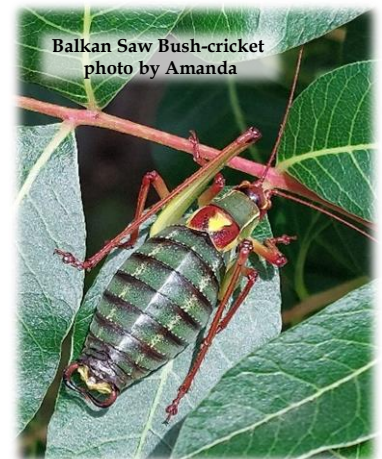
Other reptiles included Balkan Whip and Aesculapian Snake, Eastern Green, and Common Wall Lizard, Agile Frog tadpoles, and a Common Toad near the hut. It was a very enjoyable time up at the plateau, a highlight of the trip. However, the walk back down took a bit longer due to the smoothness of the slope, but there was an ice-cream waiting for people.

Bird species along the route included Alpine Swifts and Crag Martins swooping along the cliff tops and face. One or two pairs of the challenging, hard to find Western Rock Nuthatch, giving some excellent views once found.

Whilst plants included clumps of the endemic *Campanula fenestrellata* littering the rock sides, a large clump of Giant Scabious *Cephalaria leucantha* at the start of the walk, while *Laserpitium siler*, the very

unusual Strawberry Spurge *Euphorbia fragifera*, *Bupleurum longifolium* & *B. veronense* were spotted protruded from the crevices to name a few.

Before everyone was back in the bus, Amanda had found a very interesting Balkan Saw Bush-cricket sat on a Turpentine Tree, which at one point decided to jump onto Derek's hand. A Meleager's Blue was resting on a rock nearby.



Once back, there was time for refreshment, before an afternoon walk to the Večka Kula, stone ruin tower, and surrounding marshland. Just before, we were called over to the garden where Andy had found an incredible and beautiful Glass Snake, after much admiration and pictures we all crossed the road and headed to the beach area.

Male Cirl Buntings were giving excellent views as they fed around the marsh tide line. Zitting Cisticola was heard and seen bouncing around the reeds, while the brightly coloured orange and white, Spotted Fritillary was such a dazzling contrast to the stark surroundings. Italian and Dalmatian Wall Lizards darted in and around the stone piles, and sea bank. While stopping at the stone tower, Milan pointed out an attractive pair of Dalmatian Algyroides.

To end the evening Milan had a surprise for people after dinner. We all piled into the vehicle for a short distance to watch a small colony of Pallid Swift go to roost. It was wonderful. Like Formula 1 cars screaming around your head, suddenly, they would fly high, and then whiz straight pass the group, you daren't move in case there was a collision.

Back at the hotel, those noisy Turkish Gecko's were eventually found by Inge, Denise & Andy.



## Day 8 Wed 18th June Pag Island – Veliko Blato Ornithological Reserve

Well, there was no holding back the sun today. The birders had done their usual morning walk before breakfast, listening to the delights of purring Turtle Dove, the early tuning from Nightingale, and Golden Oriole. Even as we stepped out, temperatures were soaring, it would even be hotter later today as we were heading to the barren moonscape of Pag Island, a long thin strip of land along the coast. The rocky lunar terrain making this island unique, which is created by the winter Bura winds.

It took around an hour to get to our first stop, crossing over the 310m road bridge to the island, and to our first stop near a brackish lagoon area with coastal meadows. Both Marsh and Montagu's Harrier were quartering the fields beyond, Quail called in the nearby meadows, along with Crested Lark, Zitting Cisticola, bubbling calls of Bee-eaters, and a single cry from Stone Curlew as it flew over. Out on the coastal side, a Shag was drying its wing, while a Kentish Plover and Whimbrel probed around in the mud.

People were wandering out and about. The bridge area proved quite a bit of attraction with Terrapins basking along the edge. Lesser Emperor Dragonflies patrolled the brackish vegetation, and Andy found the tiniest Mole Cricket ever. There were some interesting coastal plant species, with a number of different species of *Limonium*, along with *Schenkia spicata* and *Centaureum pulchellum*.

From here we headed to Veliko Blato Ornithological Reserve, a large marsh reed area with karst meadows, surrounded by stone-fenced fields, a wooden hide looks over the marsh. The area was very dry, and rocky underfoot. The tumbled stones from the walls provided excellent basking platforms for the various orthoptera, and with the soaring temperatures, the barren grass was alive with various species such as Common Meadow, & Western Banded Grasshopper, White-faced Bush-cricket which often posed a photographic challenge. Nevertheless, I think everyone was impressed with Giant Steppe Grasshopper, one of Europe's largest grasshoppers, good spot Inge.

The splashes of yellow from Yellow Garlic (*Allium moly*), Common Golden Thistle (*Scolymus hispanicus*), blue from the stands of Chicory (*Cichorium intybus*), or the pink from Illyrian Cotton Thistle (*Onopordum illyricum*) were providing landing pads for the various rose chafer and blister beetles, which John was pointing out.



Antlion photo by Charlie Rugeroni

Derek & Vanessa had taken advantage of the hide from the shade, and to see what birds were around, producing a Purple Heron in the process. Inge was perched near the edge of the pond focusing on the Marsh Frogs, and the gorgeous Scarlett Darter that was flitting around. A sudden flurry of adult winged Antlion (*Palpares libelluloides*) distracted Peter and Charlie's attention from the plants.

This area was also a good place to find the localised rare dragonfly Black Pennant. Amanda had asked Denise if she wanted to go on a mission to find the dragonfly, as she had keen eyes. She did one better, producing an even rarer dragonfly – Bladetail, a stunning male. It caused great excitement, and stealth chase for people to be happy with 'that' picture.



Bladetail photo by Denise Qualtrough

Eventually, wandering back to the van, and Milan, who casually pointed out a pair of Black Pennant dragonflies next to the van. Not as stunning.

It was lunch time, which was near the water's edge at a bar. The shade giving a welcome break from the high 30's degrees. After which we started the journey back with a last stop at a brackish inlet, which produced several Owlfly's around the dry tall grass areas or on the juncus. Yellow-horned Poppy (*Glaucium flavum*) decorated the cracked pathway, with clumps of Curry Plant (*Helichrysum italicum*) attracting the various invertebrates and butterflies, Small Heath, Gatekeepers and Common Blues.



Black Pennant (male) photo by Amanda

Once back it was time to relax, or another wander around the coastal meadows of Večka Kula, finishing the day off with checklists & beer.

### **Day 9      Thur 19th June      Departure back to London from Split**

It was another hot and bright blue-sky morning, for the early departure to Split. The journey back was uneventful if what a bit compacted and bijou in the van. Before long people were boarding the planes for the various flights back home, and bon voyage to our fellow travellers', before heading off to the relative destinations in the British Isles.

### **Itinerary**

Day 1	Wed 11th June	Arrival at Ljubljana – transfer to Lake Bohinj – afternoon walk around the Lake environs
Day 2	Thur 12th June	Triglav National Park – Pokljuka Plateau – Goreljek Bog – Kranjska Gora (ski-resort)
Day 3	Fri 13th June	Julian Alps – Erjavčeva Koča at Vršič pass
Day 4	Sat 14th June	Planina Cave (Planinska jama) – Bear Hide/Pivka, Na Meji environs
Day 5	Sun 15th June	Lake Cerknica, Pivka – Laze pri Gorenjem Jezeru – Trnje
Day 6	Mon 16th June	Plitvička Lakes National Park World Heritage Site
Day 7	Tue 17th June	Paklenica National Park Gorge – Večka Kula Beach environs
Day 8	Wed 18th June	Pag Island – Veliko Blato Ornithological Reserve
Day 9	Thur 19th June	Departure to London from Split

# Systematic Lists

## Systematic List - Reptiles & Amphibians

A total of 26 species were recorded for the trip. The numbers indicate the dates on which a species was seen. Thanks also go to Inge & Milan for filling in on the ones I missed, & correcting my latin.

- Marsh Frog** *Pelophylax ridibundus* several serenading Inge loudly at Lake Cerknica & in the pond at Veliko Blato (15, 18)
- Edible Frog** *Pelophylax kl. esculentus* basking along the water edges (15)
- Common Frog** *Rana temporaria* mainly tadpoles of this species (11)
- Agile Frog** *Rana dalmatina* Milan found some tadpoles of this species in the gorge (17)
- Yellow-bellied Toad** *Bombina variegata* Andy & Denise spotted these (11)
- Common Toad** *Bufo bufo* the group spotted this species along Lake Bohinj (11); boardwalk (16), near hut at top of the gorge (17)
- Fire Salamander** *Salamandra salamandra* only larva found of this gorgeous species (11, 17)
- Olm** *Proteus anguinus* what a highlight, or was it the one in the tank!! (14)
- Alpine Newt** *Ichthyosaura alpestris* Milan found 4 of these beauties in a trough near the ski-resort (12)
- Turkish Gecko** *Hemidactylus turcicus* often heard around the hotel (16-18) & eventually Inge, Andy, & Denise got to see several (17)
- European Pond Terrapin** *Emys orbicularis* several of the group got to see these sliders near the bridge at the first stop (18)
- Slow Worm** *Anguis fragilis* Andy was good at finding this species & getting Denise to take photos of each one, no matter what size (12, 15)
- European Glass Lizard** *Pseudopus apodus* also known as Sheltopusik or Pallas's Glass Lizard. Andy found a beauty in the gardens at our last hotel, a stunner of a beast (17)
- Dalmatian Algyroides** *Algyroides nigropunctatus* Milan found a pair of this dazzling species, pointing out the difference between the male & female (basically colour) near the tower Večka Kula (17)
- Horvath's Rock Lizard** *Iberolacerta horvathi* well Andy caused a bit of a stir when he found this goodie, & that wasn't just from our group (16)
- Western Green Lizard** *Lacerta bilineata* there were some smashing views of this gorgeous species, with Andy finding our first (11, 15)
- Eastern Green Lizard** *Lacerta viridis* seen on side of a wall below the path in the gorge (17)
- Dalmatian Wall Lizard** *Podarcis melisellensis* another attractive species found around the brackish area of Večka Kula (17, 18)
- Common Wall Lizard** *Podarcis muralis* seen on the first day (11), & one on the wall at the gorge hut (17)
- Viviparous Lizard** *Zootoca vivipara sub. carniolica* Milan found a pair basking on a wooden stump (12)
- Italian Wall Lizard** *Podarcis siculus* seen by Inge and Andy at base of the sea wall (17)
- Balkan Whip Snake** *Hierophis gemonensis* an individual was spotted along the route above the gorge (17)
- Aesculapian Snake** *Zamenis longissimus* 3 individuals were seen by the group on the plateau of the gorge (17)
- Dice Snake** *Natrix tessellata* seen by the group near Horvath's Rock Lizard (16)
- Grass Snake** *Natrix natrix* several individuals were found by the group (11, 12, 15, 17); Denise pointed out one she thought was dead, but when Milan went to have a look, it was playing dead (12)

**Nose-horned Viper** *Vipera ammodytes* the crowning glory was found by Milan, who very carefully lifted up the individual with his special snake tool, before laying it gentle near a tree so everyone could get shots of it (17)

### Systematic List - Birds

The taxonomic nomenclature & systematic order follows both that of Collins: *Bird Guide 3<sup>rd</sup> edition*. A total of 98 species were recorded for the trip. The numbers indicate the dates on which a species was seen.

<b>Mallard</b>	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	common throughout near large water bodies
<b>Quail</b>	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>	this species was only heard (15, 18)
<b>Corn Crake</b>	<i>Crex crex</i>	very activity in the long grass at Lake Cerknica (15)
<b>Great Crested Grebe</b>	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	Derek had this attractive species (15)
<b>Shag</b>	<i>Gulosus aristotelis</i>	only seen on Pag Island drying its wings (18)
<b>Little Egret</b>	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	1 or 2 individuals in the latter part of the trip (15, 18)
<b>Great White Egret</b>	<i>Egretta alba</i>	individuals encountered around water bodies (15, 18)
<b>Grey Heron</b>	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	one of the commonest species recorded throughout the trip, with a small colony on the very top of a pine next to the first hotel. Very noisy, you soon realised when feeding time was
<b>Purple Heron</b>	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	Derek & Vanessa watched an individual from the hide on Pag (18)
<b>White Stork</b>	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	occasionally recorded around meadows (14-16)
<b>Short-toed Eagle</b>	<i>Ciracaetus gallicus</i>	Andy noted individuals near Na Meji meadows (14-15)
<b>Marsh Harrier</b>	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	recorded quartering over the meadows (14-15, 18)
<b>Montagu's Harrier</b>	<i>Circus pygargus</i>	a charming male quartering near the coastal area at Pag (18)
<b>Buzzard</b>	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	common, seen everyday
<b>Kestrel</b>	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	common, seen everyday
<b>Hobby</b>	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>	mainly seen around water bodies (12, 15-16, 18)
<b>Coot</b>	<i>Filica atra</i>	only seen at Lake Cerknica (15)
<b>Stone Curlew</b>	<i>Burhinus oedicephalus</i>	only heard near the first stop on Pag (18)
<b>Kentish Plover</b>	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>	Milan pointed out an individual along the brackish marsh of our first stop on Pag (18)
<b>Whimbrel</b>	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	just the one individual near the Kentish Plover (18)
<b>Yellow-legged Gull</b>	<i>Larus cachinnans</i>	recorded everyday
<b>Common Tern</b>	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	only recorded at Pag (18)
<b>Rock Dove</b>	<i>Columba livia</i>	scattered sightings around gorge areas
<b>Stock Dove</b>	<i>Columba oenas</i>	scattered sightings throughout the trip
<b>Woodpigeon</b>	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	mainly seen around wooded areas
<b>Collared Dove</b>	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	mainly recorded around urban wooded areas
<b>Turtle Dove</b>	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	this lovely dove was only recorded on the Croatia side of the trip
<b>Cuckoo</b>	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	only heard (11, 13, 15)
<b>Tengmalm's Owl</b>	<i>Aegolius funereus</i>	Derek put everyone's attention on to this call. Milan said they were very lucky, as Tengmalm's don't call during the day, so very exciting (13)
<b>Scops Owl</b>	<i>Otus scops</i>	heard in the evening at Na Meji guesthouse environs (14-15)
<b>Swift</b>	<i>Apus apus</i>	common recorded every day

<b>Pallid Swift</b>	<i>Apus pallidus</i>	we were treated to a spectacular display from a small colony Milan had found, he was very pleased with himself over this. It was magical to watch as they zoomed around in front and over your head (17)
<b>Alpine Swift</b>	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>	several individuals recorded by the group in the gorge (17)
<b>Hoopoe</b>	<i>Upupa epops</i>	only a couple of sightings of this gorgeous bird on the Croatia side
<b>Bee-eater</b>	<i>Merops apiaster</i>	1 or 2 individuals flying around the brackish area on Pag (18)
<b>Black Woodpecker</b>	<i>Dryocopus martius</i>	only heard unfortunately from the road (12)
<b>Great spotted Woodpecker</b>	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>	fairly common across the two countries
<b>Wryneck</b>	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>	Milan spotted on near the traditional hay racks (12), otherwise scattered records, mainly calls across the rest of the trip
<b>Skylark</b>	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	occasionally around the meadows
<b>Crested Lark</b>	<i>Galerida cristata</i>	only recorded at Pag (18)
<b>Wood Lark</b>	<i>Lullula arborea</i>	singing around the woodland area on the first day (20)
<b>Crag Martin</b>	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>	several individuals in the gorge (17)
<b>Swallow</b>	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	recorded everyday
<b>House Martin</b>	<i>Delichon urbica</i>	recorded everyday around urban areas
<b>White Wagtail</b>	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	often recorded across the trip
<b>Yellow Wagtail</b>	<i>Motacilla flava</i>	only recorded by the group (15, 18)
<b>Grey Wagtail</b>	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	mainly around streams; a very active family near the cave entrance (14)
<b>Dunnock</b>	<i>Prunella modularis</i>	only the odd recording throughout the trip
<b>Robin</b>	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	common, heard or seen most days
<b>Nightingale</b>	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>	only heard on the Croatian side of the trip
<b>Redstart</b>	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>	Derek was the only one to see this handsome bird (13)
<b>Black Redstart</b>	<i>Phoenicurus ochrurus</i>	common around the first hotel, then occasionally around urban areas
<b>Whinchat</b>	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>	close views of a male (15)
<b>Song Thrush</b>	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	recorded every day on the Slovenia side of the trip
<b>Mistle Thrush</b>	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>	recorded every day on the Slovenia side of the trip
<b>Fieldfare</b>	<i>Turdus pilaris</i>	common & recorded everyday
<b>Blackbird</b>	<i>Turdus merula</i>	frequent & recorded everyday
<b>Ring Ouzel</b>	<i>Turdus torquatus</i>	a pair flittering around the car park (13)
<b>Blackcap</b>	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	heard or seen everyday throughout
<b>Lesser Whitethroat</b>	<i>Curruca curruca</i>	Derek pulled this bird out on call, & then gave excellent views (12), and heard again (13)
<b>Sedge Warbler</b>	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>	several individuals singing from the reedbeds (15)
<b>Zitting Cisticola</b>	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>	heard & seen around the coastal areas in Croatia (16-18)
<b>Savi's Warbler</b>	<i>Locustella luscinioides</i>	singing around reedbeds
<b>Reed Warbler</b>	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>	only recorded the one day (15)
<b>Marsh Warbler</b>	<i>Acrocephalus palustris</i>	several individuals scattered across the bushes around Lake Cerknica (15)
<b>Great Reed Warbler</b>	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>	1 or 2 individuals competing with each other amongst the reedbeds Lake Cerknica (15)
<b>Chiffchaff</b>	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	heard or seen everyday

<b>Firecrest</b>	<i>Regulus ignicapilla</i>	a gorgeous male was flitting around the branches above our heads (12)
<b>Wren</b>	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	mainly heard
<b>Spotted Flycatcher</b>	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>	Derek had been watching them on his morning walks at the first hotel (12-14); Amanda spotted one with a damselfly in its bill in the car park (16)
<b>Great Tit</b>	<i>Parus major</i>	only heard or seen on the Slovenia side of the trip
<b>Blue Tit</b>	<i>Parus caeruleus</i>	odd sightings throughout the trip
<b>Crested Tit</b>	<i>Lophophanes cristatus</i>	the group had amazing views of this smart bird, including it feeding young (13)
<b>Coal Tit</b>	<i>Parus ater</i>	mainly around wooded areas (12-13)
<b>Nuthatch</b>	<i>Sitta europaea</i>	only on two days (11-12)
<b>Western Rock Nuthatch</b>	<i>Sitta neumayer</i>	excellent views of several individuals of this challenging to find bird (17)
<b>Red-backed Shrike</b>	<i>Lanius collurio</i>	a striking bird (14-15), with some very excellent close-up views on (15)
<b>Magpie</b>	<i>Pica pica</i>	recorded most days
<b>Jay</b>	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	common
<b>Nutcracker</b>	<i>Nucifraga caryocatactes</i>	only heard (12)
<b>Alpine Chough</b>	<i>Pyrrhocorax graculus</i>	small group very high up near the mountain top (13)
<b>Hooded Crow</b>	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	common seen every day in all habitats
<b>Raven</b>	<i>Corvus corax</i>	seen or heard throughout the trip
<b>Starling</b>	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	mainly around urban areas (15-18)
<b>Golden Oriole</b>	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>	Derek & Vanessa, had this colourful bird near the hotel (17-18)
<b>House Sparrow</b>	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	these cheeky chirpers were common throughout
<b>Tree Sparrow</b>	<i>Passer montanus</i>	only seen the 1 day (12)
<b>Chaffinch</b>	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	common, seen or heard everyday
<b>Linnet</b>	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>	recorded around meadows areas (12, 15)
<b>Goldfinch</b>	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	frequently seen throughout the trip
<b>Greenfinch</b>	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>	recorded mainly around wooded areas
<b>Serin</b>	<i>Serinus serinus</i>	lovely little bird, found singing from tops of buildings around urban area
<b>Bullfinch</b>	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>	Derek had this species (12)
<b>Hawfinch</b>	<i>Coccythraustes coccythraustes</i>	a pair seen in the village of Otok (16)
<b>Common Crossbill</b>	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>	individuals flittering around the pines (12)
<b>Reed Bunting</b>	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>	scattered sightings around reedbeds
<b>Corn Bunting</b>	<i>Miliaria calandra</i>	only recorded on the Croatian side
<b>Cirl Bunting</b>	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>	only recorded on the Croatian side, with some close views of a male feeding, Večka kula (17-18)

### Systematic List - Butterflies

Unfortunately, due to the previous weeks wet weather, butterflies were thin on the ground, but it was still a nice number of 71 recorded for the trip. The numbers indicate the dates on which a species was seen.

#### *Hesperiidae*

**Dingy Skipper** *Erynnis tages* only recorded on the one day (13)

<b>Yellow-banded Skipper</b>	<i>Pyrgus sidae</i>	this striking small skipper showed well on a log near wood pile of one of our stops, only seen the once (12)
the		
<b>Alpine Grizzled Skipper</b>	<i>Pyrgus andromedae</i>	only seen the one day (12)
<b>Essex Skipper</b>	<i>Thymelicus lineola</i>	sightings towards the end of the trip in meadows
<b>Large Skipper</b>	<i>Ochlodes venatus</i>	scattered sightings across various habitats
<b><i>Papilionidae</i></b>		
<b>Swallowtail</b>	<i>Papilio machaon</i>	mainly in the higher altitudes than its cousin (12, 16)
<b>Scarce Swallowtail</b>	<i>Iphiclides podalirius</i>	commonest of the swallowtails to be encountered (14-17)
<b><i>Pieridae</i></b>		
<b>Wood White sp.</b>	<i>Leptidea sp.</i>	often seen bouncing around wooden edges, but unfortunately none stayed around long enough for ID, probably a mixture of Common Wood White & Fenton's (11-13)
<b>Orange-tip</b>	<i>Anthocharis cardamines</i>	regularly seen over the first half of the trip
<b>Black-veined White</b>	<i>Aporia crataegi</i>	common, recorded most days
<b>Large White</b>	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>	only over the first two days (11-12)
<b>Southern Small White</b>	<i>Pieris mannii</i>	the only sightings were in Croatia (16-17)
<b>Small White</b>	<i>Pieris rapae</i>	only on one day (15)
<b>Green-veined White</b>	<i>Pieris napi</i>	fairly common across the meadow habitats
<b>Mountain Green-veined White</b>	<i>Erynnis tages</i>	replaced its cousin at altitude, although on our wood pile stop, both species were flying together, which gave a chance to see the differences between them (12)
<b>Clouded Yellow</b>	<i>Colias crocea</i>	mainly seen most days, it is possible that 1 or 2 of the individuals were Berger's Clouded Yellow, particularly in the meadows around Na Meji
<b>Brimstone</b>	<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>	scattered sightings around woodland areas & clearings
<b><i>Riodinidae</i></b>		
<b>Duke of Burgundy</b>	<i>Hemeraris lucina</i>	mainly individuals spotted (13-15)
<b><i>Lycaenidae</i></b>		
<b>Small Copper</b>	<i>Lycaena phlaea</i>	Peter recorded this lovely species (15)
<b>Purple-edged Copper</b>	<i>Lycaena hippothoe</i>	Andy saw this gorgeous species (12)
<b>Green Hairstreak</b>	<i>Callophrys rubi</i>	Amanda pointed out near the car park (13)
<b>Blue-spot Hairstreak</b>	<i>Satyrrium spini</i>	the group had an excellent view of this species (17)
<b><i>Lycanenidae</i></b>		
<b>Little/Small Blue</b>	<i>Cupido minimus</i>	regularly seen across the trip, & in large numbers
<b>Holly Blue</b>	<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>	recorded by the group (15)
<b>Green-underside Blue</b>	<i>Glaucopsyche alexis</i>	scattered sightings (12-13)
<b>Brown Argus</b>	<i>Aricia agestis</i>	John spotted this in the meadow near the wood pile (12)
<b>Mazarine Blue</b>	<i>Cyaniris semiargus</i>	this gorgeous species caused a merry chase along the roadside, but worth it (12, 14-15)
<b>Escher's Blue</b>	<i>Polyommatus escheri</i>	recorded in the meadows (14)
<b>Amanda's Blue</b>	<i>Agrodiaetus amada</i>	John was fortunate enough to come across this species (12)
<b>Common Blue</b>	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>	regularly encountered across the trip
<b>Meleager's Blue</b>	<i>Meleageria daphnis</i>	Amanda spotted this gorgeous species resting on a rock (17)

<b>Adonis Blue</b>	<i>Lysandra bellargus</i>	very bright individuals flying around the meadows (14)
<b>Chalk-hill Blue</b>	<i>Lysandra coridon</i>	John spotted this (12)
<b><i>Libytheidae</i></b>		
<b>Nettle-tree Butterfly</b>	<i>Libythea celtis</i>	Andy had been watching one puddling, & actually got a photo that you could make out its nose! (15)
<b><i>Nymphalidae</i></b>		
<b>Red admiral</b>	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>	this familiar species made an appearance (12-13,15)
<b>Painted Lady</b>	<i>Cynthia cardui</i>	frequently over the course of the trip
<b>Small Tortoiseshell</b>	<i>Aglais urticae</i>	only the first part of the trip (11-13)
<b>Comma</b>	<i>Polygonia c-album</i>	a single individual (15)
<b>Southern Comma</b>	<i>Polygonia egea</i>	landed on a rock next to the bear cabin (14)
<b>Large Tortoiseshell</b>	<i>Nymphalis polychloros</i>	only Charlie saw this species (12)
<b>White Admiral</b>	<i>Limenitis Camilla</i>	around woodland edge at the olm site (14)
<b>Southern White Admiral</b>	<i>Limenitis reducta</i>	along the gorge feeding on the lime tree at the top (17)
<b>Lesser Purple Emperor</b>	<i>Apatura ulia</i>	flittering around under the bridge (15)
<b>Silver-washed Fritillary</b>	<i>Argynnis paphia</i>	this large frit on the Fritillary tree at the top of the gorge (17)
<b>Niobe Fritillary</b>	<i>Argynnis Niobe</i>	John took a photo of this beauty at the café (17)
<b>Marbled Fritillary</b>	<i>Brenthis daphne</i>	seen by Charlie (12) & the group (14-15)
<b>Twin-spot Fritillary</b>	<i>Brenthis hecate</i>	Peter had this gorgeous, & often hard species to find in the meadows around Na Meji
<b>Pearl-bordered Fritillary</b>	<i>Boloria Euphrosyne</i>	group recorded this in woodland area (12)
<b>Titania's Fritillary</b>	<i>Boloria titania</i>	this smart species only recorded the once by John (14)
<b>Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary</b>	<i>Boloria selene</i>	Derek & Vanessa recorded this species (15)
<b>Granville Fritillary</b>	<i>Melitaea cinxia</i>	occasional recorded across the trip
<b>Knapweed Fritillary</b>	<i>Melitaea phoebe</i>	encountered across meadows
<b>Spotted Fritillary</b>	<i>Melitaea didyma</i>	what a stunner of a butterfly, dry meadows (14, 17)
<b>False Heath Fritillary</b>	<i>Melitaea diamina</i>	Peter had this dark species around Pivka meadows
<b>Nickerl's Fritillary</b>	<i>Mellicta aurelia</i>	captivating views of this perched around Lake Bohinj (11), occasionally thereafter in pasture meadows
<b>Heath Fritillary</b>	<i>Mellicta athalia</i>	only at Pivka (14-15)
<b><i>Satyridae</i></b>		
<b>Speckled Wood</b>	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>	woodland glades, often seen dancing
<b>Wall Brown</b>	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>	records from mountain tops (13, 17)
<b>Northern Wall Brown</b>	<i>Lasiommata petropolitana</i>	another altitude species seen by Charlie (12), Derek & Vanessa on the walk up to the valley (13)
<b>Large Wall Brown</b>	<i>Lasiommata maera</i>	odd sightings of this species throughout
<b>Meadow Brown</b>	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>	common around meadows
<b>Pearly Heath</b>	<i>Coenonympha arcania</i>	encountered several times
<b>Small Heath</b>	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>	fairly common throughout meadow
<b>Woodland Ringlet</b>	<i>Erebia medusa</i>	high altitude woodland edges/ glades (12-13)
<b>Styrian Ringlet</b>	<i>Erebia stitius</i>	Derek spotted this species at the woodpile (12)
<b>Stygian Ringlet</b>	<i>Erebia styx</i>	Derek also had this species (12)

<b>Scotch Argus</b>	<i>Erebia aethiops</i>	this species was also found near the woodpile grounds (12)
<b>Dewy Ringlet</b>	<i>Erebia pandrose</i>	an individual posed nicely for Derek & Vanessa as we were walking up the road (13)
<b>Marbled White</b>	<i>Melanargia galathea</i>	this species was abundant across the meadows
<b>Marbled White</b>	<i>Melanargia galathea f. procida</i>	no matter how much Amanda insisted that there were Balkan White Marbled Whites around, the pictures only showed this form. Nice try Amanda! (14)
<b>Eastern Rock Grayling</b>	<i>Hipparchia syriaca</i>	one or two of the group got this very well camouflaged species (17)

### Systematic List - Dragonflies

Unfortunately, the wet and cold weather that the area had experience before we turned up, may have had an influence on the low numbers and species recorded across the week. The taxonomic nomenclature & systematic order follows both that of BHP - *Field Guide to the Dragonflies of Britain & Europe*, Klaas-Douwe B Dijkstra. A total of 15 species was recorded for the trip. The numbers indicate the dates on which a species was seen.

<b>Common Winter Damsel</b>	<i>Sympecma fusca</i>	Andy eventually got on to this species near the car park at Erjavčeva Koča (13)
<b>Banded Demoiselle</b>	<i>Calopteryx splendens</i>	Charlie was the only one to see this species, and was adamant about it (16)
<b>Beautiful Demoiselle</b>	<i>Calopteryx virgo</i>	regularly recorded amongst the riparian vegetation
<b>White-legged Damselfly</b>	<i>Platynemis pennipes</i>	one of the commoner damselflies often seen regularly near water bodies over the trip
<b>Variable Damselfly</b>	<i>Coenagrion pulchellum</i>	individual encounters around riparian vegetation
<b>Norfolk Hawker</b>	<i>Aeshna isosceles</i>	regularly encountered around water bodies (15-17)
<b>Emperor Dragonfly</b>	<i>Anax imperator</i>	hawking over large water bodies (15-16)
<b>Lesser Emperor</b>	<i>Anax parthenope</i>	hawking under the bridge at Lake Cerknica & Pag Island (15, 18)
<b>Bladetail</b>	<i>Lindenia tetraphylla</i>	wow what a stunner. Amanda had given Denise a challenge to find this, & she came up trumps, with the whole group getting some wonderful views, even if at times it was a bit of a chase. Gold star for you Denise, or was that a beer (18)
<b>Emerald sp.</b>	a species of this family quartering along the edge at Lake Bohinj, but did not perch for a proper ID	
<b>Broad-bodied Chaser</b>	<i>Libellula depressa</i>	scattered throughout the stops at Lake Cerknica (15)
<b>Black-tailed Skimmer</b>	<i>Orthetrum cancellatum</i>	mainly found around the reedbeds a Lake Cerknica (15)
<b>Ruddy Darter</b>	<i>Leucorrhinia pectoralis</i>	one or two individuals were seen at Lake Cerknica (15).
<b>Broad Scarlet</b>	<i>Crocothemis erythaea</i>	Inge had a female of this species (17) & excellent views of this vivid species at the pond (18)
<b>Black Pennant</b>	<i>Selysiothemis nigra</i>	a pair of this rare & unusual species was recorded next to the van (18)

### Systematic List - Mammals

A total of eight species was recorded for the trip. The numbers indicate the dates on which a species was seen.

<b>Wild Boar</b>	<i>Sus scrofa</i>	signs of rooting around from this species were often found at higher altitudes.
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<b>Roe Deer</b>	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>	a male & female with a fawn were seen in the meadow below the road (12), one seen pm (15)
<b>Brown Hare</b>	<i>Lepus europaeus</i>	this enchanting species was spotted around Na Meji, & John would often encounter them in in the morning (14-16)
<b>Red Squirrel</b>	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>	interestingly only the black colour morph was seen of this species near the first hotel, first by Peter, then Vanessa (12-13)
<b>Red Fox</b>	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	an individual was seen on the way back from the bear hide (14), & again running across the meadow at Na Meji am (16)
<b>Badger</b>	<i>Meles meles</i>	an individual crossing the road on the way back from the bear hide, although not sure Derek would let Amanda have it (14)
<b>Raccoon Dog</b>	<i>Nyctereutes procyonoides</i>	all that was seen of this species, of when it ran straight in front of the bear guide car, was its back legs & tail as it dived into the underground, how he missed it we don't know (14)
<b>Schreiber's Bat</b>	<i>Miniopterus schreibersii</i>	one or two individuals flying around the Olm cave (14)

## Systematic List - Other Fauna

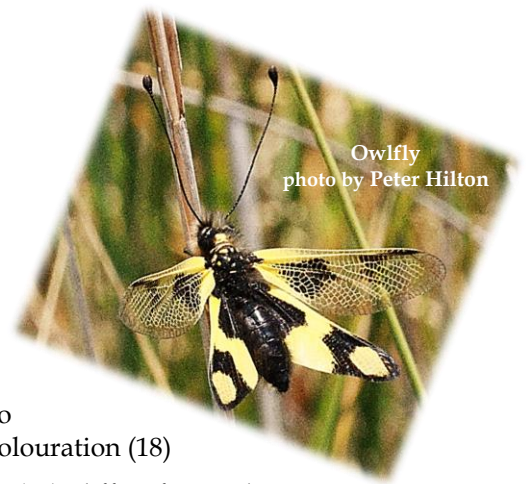
### Moths

<b>Barred Umber</b>	<i>Plagodis pulveraria</i>	
<b>Burnet Companion Moth</b>	<i>Euclidia glyphica</i>	
<b>Cream-spot Tiger Moth</b>	<i>Arctia villica</i>	unfortunately dead, but it was insisted upon it was recorded (12)
<b>Crepuscular Burnet</b>	<i>Zygaena carniolica</i>	where Milan ran around like a mad man to try & catch this species near the Church meadows, 15
<b>Forester</b>	<i>Adscita mannii</i>	possible this species, as prefers dry & open grasslands/pastures (15)
<b>Hummingbird Hawkmoth</b>	<i>Macroglossum stellatarum</i>	around the hotel environs (11)
<b>Large Longhorn Moth</b>	<i>Nematopogon swammerdamella</i>	the beautiful moth with exceptionally long antenna at the church meadow (15)
<b>Latticed Heath</b>	<i>Chiasmia clathrate</i>	(11)
<b>Middle Lace Border Moth</b>	<i>Scopula decorate</i>	woodland meadow (14)
<b>Mullein Moth caterpillar</b>	<i>Cucullia verbasci</i>	(13)
<b>Pale-shouldered Moth</b>	<i>Acontia lucida</i>	(14)
<b>Pine Hawk-moth</b>	<i>Sphinx pinastri</i>	Charlie had one on his arm (13)
<b>Scallop Shell Moth</b>	<i>Rheumaptera undulata</i>	John found this one
<b>Six-spot Burnet</b>	<i>Zygaena filipendulae</i>	meadows
<b>The Nine-spotted Moth/Yellow Belted Burnet</b>	<i>Amata phegea</i> ,	an attractive day-flyer (15-16)
<b>Transparent Burnet</b>	<i>Zygaena purpuralis</i>	meadows (14-15)
<b>Yellow Shell</b>	<i>Camptogramma bilineata</i>	woodland/meadows (12, 14)

### Orthoptera

<b>Balkan Saw Bush-cricket</b>	<i>Barbitistes yersini</i>	Amanda found this attractive male, basking on the leaves of a Turpentine Tree along the gorge, (17)
<b>Balkan Speckled Bush-cricket</b>	<i>Leptophyes boscii</i>	several around the meadows, including a female oviposition on a scabious head Ne Meji (15)
<b>Common Meadow Grasshopper</b>	<i>Chorthippus brunneus</i>	dry meadows (18)
<b>Dalmatian Saddle Bush-cricket</b>	<i>Dinarippiger discoidalis</i>	Inge had a smart individual on Chicory (18)
<b>Dark Bush-cricket</b>	<i>Pholidoptera griseoptera</i>	woodland edges (11)

<b>European Field Cricket</b>	<i>Gryllus campestris</i>	these were mainly heard bringing the floristic meadows countries	alive across both
<b>Lesser Grasshopper</b>	<i>Chorthippus mollis</i>	found in the long grass around the meadows (18)	
<b>Long/Slender-winged Grasshopper</b>	<i>Aiolopus thalassinus</i>	Peter spotted this one amongst the stones (18)	
<b>Short-winged Spiny Bush-cricket</b>	<i>Gampsocleis abbreviata</i>	attractive individuals of the brown	one or two & green colouration (18)
<b>Giant Steppe Grasshopper</b>	<i>Prionotropis hystrix</i>	<i>hystrix</i> with	a pair copulation (18), differs from other having yellow legs, it has several different English names
<b>Mole Cricket</b>	<i>Gryllotalpa gryllotalpa</i>	trumped by	Andy found a ridiculously small one, before being Milan with a slightly bigger one, if what dead (18)
<b>Roesel's Bush-Cricket</b>	<i>Roeseliana roeselii</i>		meadow pastures amongst the long grass
<b>White-faced Bush-cricket</b>	<i>Decticus albifrons</i>		along the stone path to the nature reserve (18)
<b>Western Banded Grasshopper</b>	<i>Arcyptera brevipennis</i>		stony ground to the nature reserve (18)



### Coleoptera

- Anoplotrupes stercorosus* – Woodland Dor Beetle (17)
- Bee-hive Beetle** – *Trichodes sp* (18)
- Big Rose-Chafer** – *Protaetia speciosissima*
- Black-headed Cardinal Beetle** – *Pyrochroa coccinea*
- Black-spot Longhorn** – *Rhagium mordax* (13)
- Blister Beetle** - *Mylabris variabilis* Pag Island (18)
- Cryptocephalus hypochaerides* (small green beetle) (11)
- Green Rose-Chafer** – *Cetonia aurata*
- Lesser Stag Beetle** – *Dorcus parallelipedus* spotted near the cafe at the top of the gorge (17)
- White-spotted Rose Chafer** – *Oxythyrea funesta*
- Ropalopus clavipes* – (a longhorn beetle) (17)
- Stenopterus rufus* – (a longhorn beetle) Croatia side
- Tripocopriss vernalis* – Spring Dumble Dor Beetle (17)
- Wasp Beetle** – *Clytus arietis*
- Xylotrechus arviola* – (longhorn beetle) (16)

### Other fauna

- Owlfly** – *Libelloides macaronius* last meadow (14), roadside stop (18)
- Balkan Scorpion** – *Euscorpium tergestinus* (small) Andy found it around the church environs (15)
- Harvestman spider sp.** – *Leiobunum rupestris* family on the wall of the olm cave(14)
- Red bellied Spider** – *Philaeus chrysops* path near car park (17)
- Laphira flava* – Bumble-bee Robber Fly Charlie spotted this unusual Diptera (17)
- Grand Antlion** *Palpares libelluloides* small flurry of them around the grassland (18)
- European Crayfish** *Astacus astacus* Inge was pointing out one to Vanessa (16)
- Brown Trout** – *Salmo trutta*
- Common Roach** - *Rutilus rutilus*

**Northern Pike** – *Esox lucius* the group were watching several of this species from the bridge

**Common Rudd** – *Scardinius erythrophthalmus*

## Systematic List – Plants

A big thank you also goes to Charlie & Peter, for their collaboration in helping put together this species list, & their assistance whilst out in the field.

### PTERIDOPHYTES – Ferns & Allies

#### *Aspleniaceae*

<i>Asplenium forisiense</i>	Rock Spleenwort	rock crevices/face (13)
<i>Asplenium adiantum-nigrum</i>	Black Spleenwort	stone buildings, cliffs & wall faces fairly common
<i>Asplenium scolopendrium</i>	Hart's-tongue Fern	scattered records
<i>Asplenium trichomanes</i>	Maidenhair Spleenwort	fairly common, rock crevices across the trip
<i>Ceterach officinarum</i>	Rusty back Fern	rocky areas (17)

#### *Dennstaedtiaceae*

<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Bracken	wooded shady areas, mainly recorded on our altitude days (12-13, 17)
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#### *Dryopteridaceae*

<i>Dryopteris filix-mas</i>	Male Fern	scattered records in various habitats
<i>Dryopteris dilatata</i>	Broad Buckler Fern	Poklijuka plateau
<i>Polystichum aculeatum</i>	Hard Shield-fern	Poklijuka plateau
<i>Polystichum setiferum</i>	Soft Shield Fern	Poklijuka plateau

#### *Equisetaceae*

<i>Equisetum palustre</i>	Marsh Horsetail	Lake Bohinj (11), Lake Cerknica (15)
<i>Equisetum sylvaticum</i>	Wood Horsetail	shaded wooded areas along roadsides, in the first part of trip

#### *Polypodiaceae*

<i>Polypodium vulgare</i>	Common Polypody	Peter spotted this species
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#### *Selaginellaceae*

<i>Selaginella selaginoides</i>	Lesser Clubmoss	damp wooded areas, cliff faces (13)
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#### *Woodsiaceae*

<i>Athyrium filix-femina</i>	Lady-Fern	scattered sightings of this attractive fern
<i>Cystopteris fragilis</i>	Brittle Bladder-fern	rock crevices along the mountain walk (13)
<i>Gymnocarpium Dryopteris</i>	Oak Fern	woodland open areas (12-13)
<i>Gymnocarpium robertianum</i>	Limestone Fern	the beautiful delicate fern wooded shaded areas (11-13)

## Gymnosperms

#### *Cupressaceae*

<i>Juniperus communis</i> subsp. <i>alpina</i>	Dwarf Juniper	high altitudes (12-13)
<i>Juniperus communis</i> subsp. <i>communis</i>	Common Juniper	scattered (11-14)

#### *Pinaceae*

<i>Larix decidua</i>	Larch	common at altitudes
<i>Picea abies</i> subsp. <i>abies</i>	Norway Spruce	common around Slovenia
<i>Pinus mugo</i>	Dwarf Mountain Pine	(12-13)
<i>Pinus nigra</i>	Austrian/Black Pine	[Like Scots Pine, but needles 6-18cm & 1-2mm wide] (13,17)
<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	Scots Pine	[2 needle pine, leaves <7cm long] (12,17)

## Dicotyledons

### Aceraceae

<i>Acer campestre</i>	Field Maple
<i>Acer platanoides</i>	Norway Maple
<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Sycamore

### Adoxaceae

<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	Elder
<i>Viburnum lantana</i>	Wayfaring Tree
<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	Guelder Rose

### Anacardiaceae

<i>Pistacia terebinthus</i>	Turpentine Tree	several bush trees along the bottom of the gorge (17)
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### Apiaceae – (Carrot family)

<i>Astrantia major</i>	Masterwort	moist shady conditions (14)
<i>Aegopodium podagraria</i>	Ground Elder	common around Lake Bohinj (11-14)
<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	Cow Parsley	Stara Fuzina meadows (11)
<i>Bupleurum longifolium</i>	Long-leaved Hare's Ear	in seed, crevices in the gorge (17)
<i>Bupleurum veronense</i>	Yellow Hare's Ear	yellow star petals on long thin stems hanging from crevices (17)
<i>Carum carvi</i>	Caraway	large spreading patch of this delicate plant near the woodpile meadows (12)
<i>Chaerophyllum aureum</i>	Golden Chervil	Lake Bohinj meadows (11)
<i>Daucus carota</i>	Wild Carrot	meadows/pastures across the first half of the trip
<i>Eryngium alpinum</i>	Alpine Sea Holly	some of the group spotted this wonderful plant (13)
<i>Eryngium amethystinum</i>	Amethyst Sea Holly	[striking steel-blue flowers & bracts, deeply toothed leaf compared to <i>E.campestre</i> , compact, rosette-forming]
<i>Eryngium campestre</i>	Field Eryngo	[greenish-yellow flowers & bracts, less prominently tooth leaves, hairless tends to be found on roadsides & wasteland compared to above species]
<i>Ferulago campestris</i>	Broad-leaved Giant Fennel	bright mustard yellow umbellifer, meadows around Na Meji (14-15)
<i>Heracleum austriacum</i> subsp. <i>siifolium</i>	Austrian/Pink Hogweed	basically it is a hogweed, but in Slovenia it is pink, rough pasture (12)
<i>Laserpitium latifolium</i>	Broad-leaved Sermountain	mainly leaves near meadows (12, 14, 17)
<i>Laserpitium siler</i>	Laserwort	[differs from <i>L. latifolium</i> by the lack of serrations on leaflets] crevices in the gorge with dead heads (16-17)
<i>Pimpiella saxifraga</i>	Burnet Saxifrage	dry meadows/pastures in the first half of the trip
<i>Sanicula europaea</i>	Sanicle	woodpile stop/road verges with shade (12)
<i>Torilis arvensis</i>	Spreading Hedge-parsley	Peter found this species (17)
<i>Tordylium apulum</i>	Mediterranean Hartwort	Charlie had this species in the garden of the hotel (17-18)

### Amaryllidaceae

<i>Leucoium aestivum</i>	Summer Snowflake	found in clumps near damp areas by Peter (14)
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### Apocynaceae

<i>Vinca minor</i>	Lesser Periwinkle	not in flower (11)
<i>Vincetoxicum hirundinaria</i>	Swallow-wort	small clumps along the first part of the path (11)

### Araliaceae

<i>Hedera helix</i>	Ivy	familiar species fairly regularly encountered
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### Asteraceae – (daisy family)

<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Yarrow	grassy meadows/pastures
<i>Adenostyles alpina</i>	Alpine Plantain	small patches of this lovely plantain around the back of the hotel (11-14)
<i>Antennaria dioica</i>	Mountain Everlasting	dry slopes (12-13)

<i>Arnica montana</i>	Arnica	meadow behind the woodpile (12)
<i>Bellis perennis</i>	Daisy	scattered around urban areas
<i>Buphthalmum salicifolium</i>	Yellow Ox-eye	a large yellow flamboyant Ox-eye daisy frequent across the trip around meadows, Slovenia
<i>Carduus defloratus</i>	Alpine Thistle	noted along Lake Bohinj walk (11), probably overlooked on other days
<i>Carlina acaulis</i>	Stemless Carline Thistle	several head heads around (13)
<i>Centaurea scabiosa</i> subsp. <i>alpestris</i>	a greater knapweed	verges/meadow pasture (11-14)
<i>Cichorium intybus</i>	Chicory	common
<i>Cirsium dissectum</i>	Meadow Thistle	scattered sightings, meadows (14-15)
<i>Cirsium eristhales</i>	Yellow Melancholy Thistle	a striking thistle, wooded edges/verges (12-13)
<i>Cirsium tuberosum</i>	Tuberous Thistle	several spikes in the last meadow (14)
<i>Crepis aurea</i>	Golden Hawk's-beard	damp grasslands near woodpile & bog meadow (12)
<i>Crepis biennis</i>	Rough Hawksbeard	woodpile meadows (12)
<i>Eupatorium cannabinum</i>	Hemp Agrimony	stands around water edges (11, 15)
<i>Helichrysum italicum</i>	Curry Plant	large clumps in dry areas, Croatia
<i>Homogyne alpina</i>	Alpine/Purple Colt's-foot	Peter got a nice head shot of this flashy species (12), around the hotel environs (11-14)
<i>Hypochaeris maculata</i>	Spotted Cat's-ear	meadows (14-15)
<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	Catsear	widespread through various habitats
<i>Hypochaeris uniflora</i>	Giant's Catsear	this lovely plant is a delight to find (12)
<i>Jacobaea paludosa</i>	Fen Ragwort	several large stands in the marsh area (15)
<i>Lactuca muralis</i>	Wall Lettuce	this delicate plant found around disturbed ground (16)
<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	Ox-eye Daisy	common across meadows
<i>Pentanema verbascifolium</i>	Snow Samphire	large clumps of white furry leaves on cliff face (17)
<i>Petasites paradoxus</i>	Alpine Butterbur	along the road behind the hotel (11-14)
<i>Pilosella aurantiaca</i>	Fox-and-Cubs	glamorous spread of this delightful species in the meadow near the woodpile (12)
<i>Onopordum illyricum</i>	Illyrian Cotton Thistle	dry coastal conditions, only seen in Croatia (18)
<i>Scolymus hispanicus</i>	Common Golden Thistle	Večka Kula Beach environs & Pag (17-18)
<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>	Dandelion	grassy edges, fairly common
<i>Tragopogon pratensis</i> subsp. <i>orientalis</i>	Eastern Goat's-beard	this handsome yellow salsify decorating woodland edges/meadows (12, 14-15)
<i>Tussilago farfara</i>	Colt's-foot	woodland edges (11-12, 15-17)

### Asparagaceae

<i>Asparagus acutifolius</i>	Wild Asparagus	long strands of this herb cervices (17)
<i>Ornithogalum pyrenaicum</i>	Bath Asparagus	near the top of the pass (13)

### Betulaceae

<i>Alnus viridis</i>	Green Alder	
<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	Common Alder	
<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver Birch	
<i>Betula pubescens</i>	Downy Birch	(12) in the bog area

### Boraginaceae

<i>Echium italicum</i>	Pale Bugloss	roadside edges on the Croatia side of the trip (16-18)
<i>Echium plantagineum</i>	Purple Viper's-bugloss	dry/waster areas, Croatia (17-18)
<i>Echium vulgare</i>	Common Viper's-bugloss	common around dry areas in Croatia (16-18)
<i>Myosotis alpestris</i>	Alpine Forget-me-not	dry slopes (13)
<i>Myosotis sylvatica</i>	Wood Forget-me-not	Pokljuka Plateau (12)

### Brassicaceae - (cabbage family)

<i>Arabis alpina</i>	Alpine Rock-cress	small clumps of this species (13)
<i>Armoracia rusticana</i>	Horse-radish	roadside verges
<i>Aurinia sinuata</i>	Wavy-leaved Allyssum	dry areas, gorge & Pag island (17-18)
<i>Barbarea vulgaris</i>	Common Wintercress	Vogel ski centre 30/06/2024
<i>Biscutella laevigata</i>	Common Buckler Mustard	stony grassy areas (13)

<i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i>	Shepherd's-purse	familiar plant, waste areas/meadows
<i>Cardamine bulbifera</i>	Coralroot Bittercrest	in seed around Lake Bohinj (11-14)
<i>Draba aizoides</i>	Yellow Whitlowgrass	rocky slopes& crevices (13, 17)
<i>Pseudoturritis turrita</i>	Tower Rock-cress	stony habitats (17)

### Campanulaceae – (Bellflowers)

<i>Campanula barbata</i>	Bearded Bellflower	[large hairy flowers] Milan pointed this charming species out in the nearby field while on the bog walk (12)
<i>Campanula cochlearifolia</i>	Fairy's-Thimble	the group saw this at altitude (12-13)
<i>Campanula fenestrellata</i>	Adriatic Bellflower	small clumps of this gorgeous endemic, cliffs (17)
<i>Campanula glomerata</i>	Clustered Bellflower	several spikes (15)
<i>Campanula patula</i>	Spreading Bellflower	Peter found some nice specimens of this species (11)
<i>Campanula persicifolia</i>	Peach-leaved Bellflower	mainly in leaf, but one or two attractive stems in flower [peach-like unstalked leaves; half-nodding flowers 3-4cm] (11-14)
<i>Campanula rapunculus</i>	Creeping Bellflower	[Creeping perennial: cordate leaves; long spikes of deep purple 2-3cm drooping flowers] common
<i>Campanula rotundifolia</i>	Harebell	scattered sightings around grassy areas (12-15)
<i>Campanula trachelium</i>	Nettle-leaved Bellflower	[Large bristly perennial with jagged heart-shaped leaves and 3-4cm violet bell flowers] (11-14)
<i>Phyteuma orbiculare</i>	Round-headed Rampion	roadside verges (12-13)
<i>Phyteuma spicatum</i>	Spiked Rampion	roadside edges, woodland areas (12-14)
<i>Phyteuma zahlbruckneri</i>	(a rampion)	recorded along the roadside edges (12-13)

### Cannabaceae

<i>Humulus lupulus</i>	Hop	mainly in leaf throughout Slovenia
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### Caprifoliaceae

<i>Cephalaria leucantha</i>	Giant Scabious	a clump of this species near the boulders at the start of the gorge (17) [clump forming, tall, wiry stems, leaves pinnately divided, small white heads]
<i>Knautia arvensis</i>	Field Scabious	[Typical scabious: 4-lobed flowers; upper leaves pinnate-lobed]
<i>Knautia dipsacifolia</i>	Wood Scabious	only on the first day (11)
<i>Lonicera alpigena</i>	Alpine Honeysuckle	a stunning species in flower, & a favourite with Charlie
<i>Scabiosa columbaria</i>	Small Scabious	meadow pastures
<i>Scabiosa lucida</i>	Shining Scabious	a nice little clump of this dwarf species near the hotel (11-14)
<i>Scabiosa vestina</i>	Tyrolean Scabious	rocky pastures (12-13 [differs from <i>K. arvensis</i> , stem hairy with purple spots])
<i>Valeriana montana</i>	Mountain Valerian	Milan pointed out this species along the road edge, several stands along the Pass walk (12-13)

### Caryophyllaceae

<i>Dianthus carthusianorum</i> agg.	(a pink)	scattered spikes amongst the meadows Ne Meji (14-15), also along the gorge walk (17)
<i>Dianthus carthusianorum</i>		
subsp. <i>sanguineus</i>	(a pink)	small clumps scattered across the meadows/car park near out accommodation (14-15)
<i>Dianthus petraeus</i>	Rock Pink	small clumps at Plitvička Lakes (16)
<i>Lychnis flos-cuculi</i>	Ragged Robin	damp wet flush & marsh areas, often in large swathes
<i>Moehrinchia mucosa</i>	Mossy Sandwort	small clumps across short turf areas (13)
<i>Silene dioica</i>	Red Campion	woodland glades (12)
<i>Silene latifolia</i>	White Campion	shaded areas
<i>Silene nutans</i>	Nottingham Catchfly	fairly frequent across Slovenia
<i>Silene vulgaris</i>	Bladder Campion	familiar common species abundant throughout
<i>Stellaria nemorum</i>	Wood Stitchwort	familiar ground cover species in woodlands (11-13)

### Celastraceae

<i>Euonymus europaeus</i>	– Spindle	
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### *Cistaceae*

<i>Fumana procumbens</i>	Common Fumana	along the gorge (17)
<i>Helianthemum nummularium</i>	Common Rockrose	scattered records (11-12, 17)
<i>Helianthemum alpestre</i>	Alpine Rockrose	Peter recorded this species, amongst the rock garden of alpines (13)

### *Convolvulaceae*

<i>Calystegia sepium</i>	Hedge Bindweed	familiar bindweed, fairly common seen most days
<i>Convolvulus althaeoides</i>	Mallow Bindweed	roadsides Croatia part of the trip
<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	Field Bindweed	small pink & white bindweed, mainly along disturbed verges

### *Cornaceae*

<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>	Dogwood	scattered amongst hedgerows
<i>Cornus mas</i>	Cornelian Cherry	this is the incredibly old dogwood tree in the village of Laze, & whose berries are used for homemade jams

### *Corylaceae*

<i>Carpinus betulus</i>	Hornbeam	
<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel	
<i>Ostrya carpinifolia</i>	Hop Hornbeam	fairly common across the trip

### *Crassulaceae*

<i>Sedum acre</i>	Mossy Stonecrop	[leaves broader at base, not arranged in rows, bitter to taste]
<i>Sedum album</i>	White Stonecrop	rocky crevices in the gorge (17)
<i>Sedum dasyphyllum</i>	Thick-leaved Stonecrop	rocky crevices in the gorge (17)
<i>Sedum sexangulare</i>	Tasteless Stonecrop	[leaves arranged in six spiral rows, cylindrical, no taste]

### *Droseraceae*

<i>Drosera rotundifolia</i>	Round-leaved Sundew	Goreljek Peat Bog (12)
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### *Ericaceae*

<i>Andromeda polifolia</i>	Bog Rosemary	Goreljek Peat Bog (12)
<i>Erica carnea</i>	Spring/Alpine Heath	in flower, how spectacular (13)
<i>Moneses uniflora</i>	One-flowered Wintergreen	Andy found a single individual of this delight species, by the end of the walk, there was a nice little clump that caught the botanist eye
<i>Rhodothamnus chamaecistus</i>	Dwarf Alpenrose	wide spreading across the rocky outcrops (13)
<i>Rhododendron hirsutum</i>	Hairy Alpenrose	flowering clumps at altitude (12-13)
<i>Vaccinium oxycoccos</i>	Bog Cranberry	acidic habitats (12)

### *Euphorbiaceae*

<i>Euphorbia amygdaloides</i>	Wood Spurge	Lake Bohinj path, woodland areas (11-13)
<i>Euphorbia characias</i>	Mediterranean Spurge	we started seeing this species in the dry conditions of Croatia at Paklenica (17-18)
<i>Euphorbia cyparissias</i>	Cypress Spurge	often seen across the trip
<i>Euphorbia fragifera</i>	Strawberry Spurge	Peter found this attractive & unusual species, crevices along the gorge (17)
<i>Euphorbia lucida</i>	Shining Spurge	primarily found around the Cerknica Lake area (15)
<i>Euphorbia nicaeensis</i>	Nice Spurge	occasional around sandy areas
<i>Euphorbia spinosa</i>	Spiny Spurge	the spiny bushes around Večka Kula Beach environs & Pag Island (16-18)
<i>Mercurialis perennis</i>	Dog's Mercury	common, woodland areas

### *Fabaceae* (Pea family)

<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i>	Kidney-vetch	meadows/dry slopes (11-15)
<i>Astragalus glycyphyllos</i>	Wild Liquorice	Peter recorded this (12)

<i>Chamaecytisus hirsutus</i>	Hairy/Clustered Broom	dry meadows (14-15)
<i>Genista tinctoria</i>	Dyers Greenweed	scattered clumps of this species across Slovenia
<i>Lotus dorycnium</i>	Dorycnium	lovely species, frequent across the trip
<i>Hippocrepis comosa</i>	Horseshoe Vetch	lower meadows/grassy verges
<i>Hippocrepis emerus</i>	Scorpion Senna	Peter found this species (17)
<i>Lathyrus latifolius</i>	Broad-leaved Everlasting Pea	some lovely clumps of this species in the meadows next to our accommodation (14-15)
<i>Lathyrus vernus</i>	Spring Pea	in seed along the walk (11)
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Bird's-foot Trefoil	common dry areas/meadows
<i>Lotus pedunculatus</i>	Greater Bird's-foot Trefoil	wet marshy meadows
<i>Lotus subbiflorus</i>	Hairy Bird's-foot Trefoil	spread across dry meadows Ne Meji (15)
<i>Ononis spinosa</i>	Spiny Restharrow	dry conditions, Pag (18)
<i>Robinia pseudo-acacia</i>	False Acacia	common & widespread
<i>Securigera varia</i>	Crowned Vetch	only seen on the Croatian side (16-17)
<i>Trifolium campestre</i>	Hop Trefoil	grassland verges
<i>Trifolium dubium</i>	Lesser Trefoil	grassland verges/roadsides/waste ground
<i>Trifolium montanum</i>	Mountain Clover	fairly common at higher altitudes (12-13)
<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Red Clover	meadows (14-15, 18)
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White Clover	verges/meadow pastures
<i>Vicia cracca</i>	Tufted Vetch	woodland habitats (12-13, 15)

### Fagaceae

<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	Beech	common
<i>Quercus petraea</i>	Pedunculate Oak	common
<i>Quercus robur</i>	Sessile Oak	common

### Gentianaceae

<i>Centaurium erythraea</i>	Common Centaury	found along sandy paths (18)
<i>Centaurium pulchellum</i>	Branched centaury	Charlie spotted this species, causing much debate on the brackish area [branched stems and small, star-like flowers] (18)
<i>Gentiana asclepiadea</i>	Willow-leaved Gentian	Peter found a nice stand of this species (13)
<i>Gentiana clusii</i>	Clusius' Gentian	rocky grassy slopes (13)
<i>Gentiana lutea</i>	Great Yellow Gentian	high altitude pastures, leaves only (12-13)
<i>Gentiana verna</i>	Spring Gentian	bright blue clumps of this lively species (13)
<i>Schenkia spicata</i>	Spiked Centaury	Charlie found this species on the brackish area (18)

### Geraniaceae

<i>Geranium phaeum</i>	Dusky Crane's-bill	along meadow edges (12)
<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	Herb Robert	fairly widespread near waste ground
<i>Geranium sanguineum</i>	Bloody Crane's-bill	grasslands/open woodlands (14)
<i>Geranium sylvaticum</i>	Wood Crane's-bill	woodland edges & roadsides (12-13)
<i>Geranium pratense</i>	Meadow Crane's-bill	open woodlands, dry meadows (12, 14-15, 17)

### Juglandaceae

<i>Juglans regia</i>	Walnut	scattered sightings
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### Lamiaceae - (dead-nettle family)

<i>Ajuga genevensis</i>	Blue Bugle	mainly high-altitude wooded pastures (11-13)
<i>Ajuga reptans</i>	Bugle	fairly common across wooded areas
<i>Clinopodium alpinum</i>	Alpine Rock-Basil Thyme	wooded dry slopes (11-13)
<i>Galeopsis speciosa</i>	Large-flowered Hemp-Nettle	woodland walk path (11)
<i>Lamium galeobdolon</i>	Yellow Archangel	woodland edge (11)
<i>Lamium maculatum</i>	Spotted Deadnettle	along the woodland path (11)
<i>Lycopus europaeus</i>	Gipsywort	woodlands & wet meadows (11, 15)
<i>Melittis melissoiophyllum</i>	Bastard Balm	scattered records in shady woodlands (11, 17)
<i>Prunella grandiflora</i>	Large Self-heal	meadows (14)
<i>Pruncella laciniata</i>	Cut-leaved Self-heal	only found on the Croatia side (17)

<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	Selfheal	wooded edges/pastures (11-13)
<i>Salvia pratensis</i>	Meadow Clary	common in meadows throughout
<i>Scutellaria galericulata</i>	Marsh Skullcap	damp areas (16)
<i>Stachys recta</i>	Perennial Yellow-woundwort	dry grasslands (15)
<i>Teucrium chamaedrys</i>	Wall Germander	small scatterings along the gorge (17)
<i>Teucrium flavum</i>	Yellow Germander	a stand of this species along gorge wall (17)
<i>Teucrium montanum</i>	Mountain Germander	rocky crevices (17)
<i>Teucrium polium</i>	Felty Germander	silver-green, woolly foliage clumps with white heads (17-18)
<i>Teucrium viscidum</i>	Sticky Germander	rocky crevices (17)
<i>Thymus longicaulis</i>	Creeping Thyme	small clumps across grassy slopes/pastures (13)
<i>Thymus pulegioides</i>	Broad-leaved Thyme	scattered sightings in meadows (11-14)
<i>Thymus vulgaris</i>	Common Thyme	meadows (14)

**Lentibulariaceae** – (Bladderwort family)

<i>Pinguicula alpina</i>	Alpine Butterwort	small clumps of this attractive carnivorous plant (13)
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**Linaceae**

<i>Linum tenuifolium</i>	Pale Flax	small clumps of this thin stem flax at the church area (15)
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**Lythraceae**

<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	Purple-loosestrife	water margins (11, 15)
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**Malvaceae**

<i>Malva sylvestris</i>	Common Mallow	roadside verges/waste ground
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**Moraceae**

<i>Ficus carica</i>	Fig	common throughout
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**Oleaceae**

<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash	fairly common
<i>Fraxinus ornus</i>	Manna	(bright green stems & leaves, compared to <i>F.excelsior</i> ) (14-16)
<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>	Wild Privet	found in hedgerows

**Orobanchaceae**

<i>Melampyrum nemorosum</i>	Wood Cow-wheat	woodland areas/clearings (11-12)
<i>Melampyrum pratense</i>	Common Cow-wheat	common
<i>Melampyrum sylvaticum</i>	Small Cow-wheat	woodland glades (12)
<i>Orobanche gracilis</i>	Slender Broomrape	the only one recorded for broomrapes
<i>Pedicularis verticillata</i>	Whorled Loosewort	moist meadows (12)
<i>Rhinanthus glacialis</i>	Aristate Yellow Rattle	large flower head compared to next species, meadows around Ne Meji (14-15)
<i>Rhinanthus minor</i>	Yellow Rattle	meadows (11-14)
<i>Rhinanthus alectorolophus</i>	Narrow-leaved/Hairy Yellow Rattle	small clump near the yellow foxgloves along the road behind the hotel (11-14)

**Oxalidaceae**

<i>Oxalis acetosella</i>	Wood Sorrel	woodland ground cover
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**Papaveraceae**

<i>Chelidonium majus</i>	Greater Celandine	roadside verges/waste areas (12)
<i>Glaucium flavum</i>	Yellow-horned Poppy	in seed, roadside/waste areas (18)

**Plantaginaceae**

<i>Digitalis grandiflora</i>	Large Yellow Foxglove	Charlie found this gorgeous species along the road behind the hotel (11-14)
<i>Globularia vulgaris</i>	Common Globularia	small clumps across high altitudes (13)
<i>Globularia nudicaulis</i>	Leafless-stemmed Globularia	Peter found some lovely clumps amongst the heath(13), cliff face/crevices in the gorge (17)

<i>Gratiola officinalis</i>	Common Hedge-hyssop	wet areas (15)
<i>Plantago atrata</i>	Mountain Plantain	car park at ski resort & near mountain hut (12-13)
<i>Plantago coronopus</i>	Buck's-horn Plantain	sandy coastal areas (17-18)
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort Plantain	common throughout the trip in both countries
<i>Plantago major</i>	Greater Plantain	another common & familiar species
<i>Plantago media</i>	Hoary Plantain	meadows/waste area around Ne Meji environs (14-15)
<i>Veronica urticifolia</i>	Nettle-leaved Speedwell	shaded wooded pastures (12)

#### *Plumbaginaceae*

<i>Limonium humile</i>	Lax-flowered Sea-lavender	roadside verges/waste areas (18)
<i>Limonium narbonense</i>	Swamp Sea-lavender	brackish marshes first stop on Pag (18)
<i>Limonium virginatum</i>	Violet Sea-lavender	brackish marshes Pag (18)
<i>Limonium vulgare</i>	Common Sea-lavender	brackish marshes first stop on Pag (18)
<i>Plumbago europaea</i>	Common Leadwort	stony walls/ground (17)

#### *Polygalaceae*

<i>Polygala alpina</i>	Alpine Milkwort	mainly amongst the turf (13)
<i>Polygala comosa</i>	Tufted Milkwort	pink rather than blue dry grasslands (11, 14-15)
<i>Polygala serpyllifolia</i>	Heath Milkwort	[distinguished from <i>P. vulgaris</i> mainly by acidic habitats] (12)
<i>Polygala vulgaris</i>	Common Milkwort	short dry grassland areas (11-12, 14-15)
<i>Polygonum amphibium</i>	Amphibious Bistort	along the channel from the first bridge Lake Cerknica (15)

#### *Polygonaceae*

<i>Reynoutria japonica</i>	Japanese Knotweed	sighting throughout around waste areas & roadsides
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#### *Primulaceae*

<i>Cyclamen purpurescens</i>	Purple Cyclamen	shaded wooden edges/slopes (12-13)
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#### *Ranunculaceae* - (Buttercups)

<i>Anemonastrum narcissiflorum</i>	Narcissus-flowered Anemone	stands of this unusual species woodpile meadow area (12)
<i>Anemone nemorosa</i>	Wood Anemone	woodland clearings/edges (12-13)
<i>Anemone trifolia</i>	Three-leaved Anemone	higher levels (12-13)
<i>Aquilegia iulia</i>	Julian Columbine	attractive endemic recorded by Peter (13)
<i>Aquilegia vulgaris</i>	Common Columbine	roadside verges (12)
<i>Caltha palustris</i>	Marsh Marigold	marshy areas (14-15)
<i>Clematis alpina</i>	Alpine Clematis	what a beautiful species, & it was in full flower (11-13)
<i>Clematis recta</i>	Upright Clematis	wooded areas, mainly leaves, but there were some patches with flowers (11-14)
<i>Clematis vitalba</i>	Traveller's Joy	spreading across the rocks, car park (17)
<i>Helleborus niger</i>	Christmas Rose	many of the plants record had gone over (13)
<i>Hepatica nobilis</i>	Hepatica	leaves only (12-13)
<i>Ranunculus aconitifolius</i>	Aconite-leaved Buttercup	woodland edges (12)
<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	Meadow Buttercup	meadows
<i>Ranunculus alpestris</i> subsp. <i>traunfellneri</i>	(an Alpine Buttercup)	grassy slopes (13)
<i>Ranunculus auricomus</i>	Goldilocks Buttercup	damp woodland edges (13)
<i>Ranunculus bulbosus</i>	Bulbous Buttercup	meadows
<i>Ranunculus plataniifolius</i>	Large White Buttercup	woodland edges Goreljek Peat Bog (12)
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Creeping Buttercup	meadows
<i>Thalictrum minus</i>	Lesser Meadow-rue	meadows (11, 14-15, 17)
<i>Trollius europaeus</i>	Globeflower	wooded wet areas (12-13)

#### *Resedaceae*

<i>Reseda lutea</i>	Wild Mignonette	roadside/grassy verges
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#### *Rhamnaceae* -

<i>Frangula alnus</i>	Alder Buckthorn	fairly common in hedges across the first half of the trip
<i>Rhamnus fallax</i>	an Alpine Buckthorn	(11-13)

*Rhamnus rupestris* Rock Buckthorn rock faces, Croatia (16-17)

### Rosaceae

*Agrimonia eupatoria* Common Agrimony meadows/waste ground Croatia (17)  
*Aruncus dioicus* Goatsbeard Spiraea widespread, woodland edges (12-13)  
*Crataegus monogyna* Common Hawthorn familiar species  
*Dryas octopetala* Mountain Avens (13)  
*Filipendula ulmaria* Meadowsweet damp meadows (15)  
*Filipendula vulgaris* Dropwort dry meadows  
*Fragaria vesca* Wild Strawberry family common through woodland edges  
*Geum rivale* Water Avens Lake Cerknica (15)  
*Geum urbanum* Wood Avens woodland & grassy verges  
*Potentilla anserina* Silverweed meadows (11, 14-15)  
*Potentilla aurea* Dwarf Yellow Cinquefoil alpine meadows (12-13)  
*Potentilla erecta* Tormentil common in meadows & pastures  
*Potentilla reptans* Creeping Cinquefoil grassy turfs (13)  
*Rosa canina* Dog Rose scattered sightings, probably overlooked  
*Rosa glauca* Blue-leaved Rose Lake Bohinj shores (11)  
*Rosa pedulina* Alpine Rose (12-13)  
*Rubus fruticosus* agg. Bramble widespread  
*Rubus saxatilis* Stone Bramble mainly in leaf  
*Sanguisorba minor* Salad Burnet widespread in grassy meadows  
*Sanguisorba officinalis* Greater Burnet occasionally in grassy meadows  
*Sorbus aria* Common Whitebeam  
*Sorbus aucuparia* Rowan (12)

### Rubiaceae

*Cruciata laevipes* Crosswort fairly frequent across meadows in the first half of the trip (12, 14-15)  
*Galium mollugo* Hedge Bedstraw amongst the wet meadow vegetation at Lake Cerknica (15)  
*Galium verum* Lady's Bedstraw lovely yellow feathery species, meadows (11-12)

### Salicaceae

*Populus nigra* Black Poplar river edges/banks (15)  
*Populus tremula* Aspen damp woodland areas (12-15)  
*Salix alpina* Alpine Willow (12-13)  
*Salix caprea* Goat Willow probably the most common of the *Salix* species  
*Salix cinerea* Grey Willow scattered sightings  
*Salix elaeagnos* Rosemary Willow (15)  
*Salix glabra* Hairless Willow dwarf willow amongst the slopes near the car park (13)  
*Salix herbacea* Least Willow leaves only in the crevices (13)  
*Salix reticulata* Net-leaved Willow rocky slopes (easily recognizable from other dwarf willows due to its round leaf) (13)  
*Salix retusa* Retuse-leaved Willow (hairy leaves) (13)

### Saxifragaceae

*Chrysosplenium alternifolium* Alternate-leaved Golden Saxifrage rocks/crevices (13, 17)  
*Saxifrage cuneiformis* Lesser London Pride rock edges (13)

### Scrophulariaceae

*Scrophularia heterophylla* Variable-leaved Figwort a scruffy looking plant hanging on the cliff (17)  
*Verbascum nigrum* Dark Mullein only over the first two days out (12-13)  
*Verbascum pulverulentum* Hoary Mullein the large, branched mullein in the meadows at Ne Meji (14-15)

### Solanaceae

*Atropa bella-donna* Deadly Nightshade Peter recorded this species near the wooded area (13)

### Tiliaceae

*Tilia cordata* Small-leaved Lime occasional recorded in the first half of the trip

*Tilia platyphyllos* Broad-leaved Lime

### Ulmaceae

*Celtis australis* Nettle-Tree scattered records (15, 17)

### Urticaceae

*Parietaria Judaica* Pellitory-of-the-Wall regularly seen throughout  
*Urtica dioica* Common Nettle common

### Violaceae

*Viola biflora* Yellow Violet exquisite small clumps growing along the slopes on the mountain walk (13)

## Monocotyledons

### Allioideae

*Allium sphaerocephalon* Round-headed Leek [Like Wild Leek, but leaves semi-cylindrical; globose dense head of dark purple-red flowers]  
*Allium moly* Yellow Garlic this colourful along the plant to the bird reserve (18)  
*Allium vineale* Crow Garlic frequent across the meadows

### Asparagaceae

*Asphodelus albus* White Asphodel church meadow (15) [Stout dense spike of white starry flowers; strap-leaves]  
*Convallaria majalis* Lily-of-the -Valley mainly leaves  
*Maianthemum bifolium* May Lily small colony found by Andy under the trees (12)  
*Muscari comosum* Tassel Hyacinth along road edges (12-13)  
*Polygonatum multiflorum* Solomon's Seal regularly encountered around woodland edges [3-5 flowers per leaf axil, cylindrical in cross-section]  
*Polygonatum odoratum* Angular Solomon's Seal [1-2 flowers per leaf axil, stem angled sometimes appearing square]  
*Polygonatum verticillatum* Whorled Solomon's Seal a lovely specimen of this unusual species (12)  
*Ruscus aculeatus* Butcher's-broom scattered records around woodland areas

### Liliaceae

*Lilium bulbiferum* Orange Lily Amanda stopped the car to show her group this bright lily, fortunately we all got to see it as we walked up to the church (15)  
*Lilium carnolicum* Carnic Lily Milan was even more excited about this species, as he had spotted whilst driving, good shout Milan (12)  
*Lilium martagon* Martagon Lily Milan got very excited to show the group this species, & there were some exceptional examples [Whorls of elliptical leaves; dark-spotted pinkish nodding Turk's-caps] (11)

### Melanthiaceae

*Paris quadrifolia* Herb-Paris Goreljek Bog (12)  
*Veratrum album* subsp. *lobelianum* Green False Helleborine several impressive spikes of this unusual species (12-13)

### Cyperaceae

*Eriophorum vaginatum* Hare's-tail Cotton-grass Goreljek Bog (12)  
*Schoenus nigricans* Black Bog-Rush Goreljek (12), Pag (18)  
*Schoenoplectus lacustris* Common Club-rush frequent around Lake Cerknica (15)  
*Scirpoides holoschoenus* Roundhead Bulrush fairly common across marshes, Pag (18)

### Iridaceae

*Gladiolus illyricus* Wild Gladiolus found amongst the rushes at Lake Cerknica (15), Pag Island (18)  
*Iris pseudacorus* Yellow Flag clumps around Lake Cerknica (15)

### Smilacaceae

*Smilax aspera* Rough Bindweed clumps in leaf near car park at the start of the gorge (17)

### Tofieldiaceae

*Tofieldia calyculata* Tofield's Asphodel occasional in meadows at altitude (12-13)

### Juncaceae

*Luzula luzuloides* White Woodrush Pokljuka plateau  
*Luzula multiflorum* agg. Heath Woodrush (11 – 14) marshy areas  
*Luzula nivea* Snowy Woodrush this beautiful showy species livening up the woodland edges  
*Luzula pilosa* Hairy Woodrush Pokljuka  
*Luzula sylvatica* Greater Woodrush wooded areas (12)  
*Juncus acutus* Sharp Rush Marsh areas, particularly (15, 18)  
*Juncus inflexus* Hard Rush marsh areas (15, 18)

### Poaceae

*Anisantha sterilis* – Barren Brome  
*Anthoxanthum odoratum* – Sweet Vernal Grass fairly common in meadows throughout  
*Arrhenatherum elatius* – False Oat-grass  
*Arundo donax* – Giant Reed grass very noticeable tall grass, visible around Croatia days  
*Briza maxima* – Greater Quaking Grass  
*Briza media* – Quaking Grass  
*Brachypodium rupestre* – Tor Grass  
*Bromus inermis* – Smooth Brome in flower along the roadside at our first stop (12)  
*Bromus madritensis* – Compact Brome  
*Cynosurus cristatus* – Crested Dog's-tail  
*Dactylis glomerata* – Cock's-foot  
*Eriophorum vaginatum* – Hare's-tail Cottongrass Goreljek Peat Bog  
*Festuca rubra* – Red Fescue Lake Cerknica (15)  
*Helictotrichon pratense* – Meadow Oat-grass  
*Hordeum murinum* – Wall Barley  
*Koeleria pyramidata* – Crested Hairgrass hotel environs sandy patches  
*Lolium perenne* – Perennial Rye-grass  
*Lolium remotum* – a rye-grass  
*Melica nutans* – Mountain Melick (11,13)  
*Melica uniflora* – Wood Melick (12, 14)  
*Phragmites australis* – Common Reed  
*Poa alpina* – Alpine Meadow-grass  
*Poa alpina* var. *vivipara* – Viviparous Alpine Meadow-grass Alpine meadows  
*Poa annua* – Annual Meadow-grass  
*Poa nemoralis* – Wood Meadow-grass  
*Schedonorus arundinaceus* – Tall Fescue  
*Schedonorus pratensis* – Meadow Fescue  
*Sesleria caerulea* – Blue Moor-grass

### Orchidaceae

*Anacamptis pyramidalis* Pyramidal Orchid several spikes towards the woodland area of the last meadow (14)  
*Anacamptis laxiflora* Lax/Loose-flower Orchid several flowering spikes (15)  
*Anacamptis palustris* (a marsh orchid) mixed spikes with the previous species [differs from *laxiflora* by having spots on the lip](15)  
*Cephalanthera damasonium* White Helleborine woodland edge/slope area on the first part of the walk (11) [similar to *C. longifolia* but 3-12 flowers, lower leaves ovate]  
*Cephalanthera helleborine* Broad-leaved Helleborine spotted by the group (11, 14)

<i>Cephalanthera longifolia</i>	Sword-leaved Helleborine	woodland edges fairly common [Several lance-like leaves and 8-20 pure white egg-shaped flowers] (12)
<i>Cephalanthera rubra</i>	Red Helleborine	fairly common throughout Slovenia
<i>Dactylorhiza fuchsii</i>	Common Spotted-orchid	[From other spotted-orchids by clearly 3-lobed long middle lip] (11-15)
<i>Dactylorhiza incarnata</i>	Early Marsh Orchid	Goreljek Bog (12)
<i>Dactylorhiza maculata</i>	Heath Spotted-orchid	Goreljek Bog (12)
<i>Dactylorhiza majalis</i>	Broad-leaved Marsh Orchid	Goreljek Bog (12), Lake Cerknica (15)
<i>Epipactis atrorubens</i>	Dark Red Helleborine	a couple of gorgeous flowering spikes (11), there after the spikes that were noted were in bud
<i>Gymnadenia conopsea</i>	Fragrant Orchid	meadows around Pivka area (13-14-16)
<i>Neottia nidus-avis</i>	Bird's-nest Orchid	quite a common species throughout Slovenia, often in prime colours, & small numbers clumped together
<i>Neottia ovata</i>	Common Twayblade	common throughout
<i>Ophrys apifera</i>	Bee Orchid	several spikes at the start of the walk, Plitvička Lakes (16)
<i>Orchis anthropophora</i>	Man Orchid	Andy found a single spike, which looked very much like Peter in his red trousers (13)
<i>Orchis militaris</i>	Military Orchid	only the one spike of this handsome species
<i>Orchis ustulata</i>	Burnt-tip Orchid	this delicate orchid spotted in meadows (12, 14-15)
<i>Platanthera bifolia</i>	Lesser Butterfly-orchid	very common throughout]