

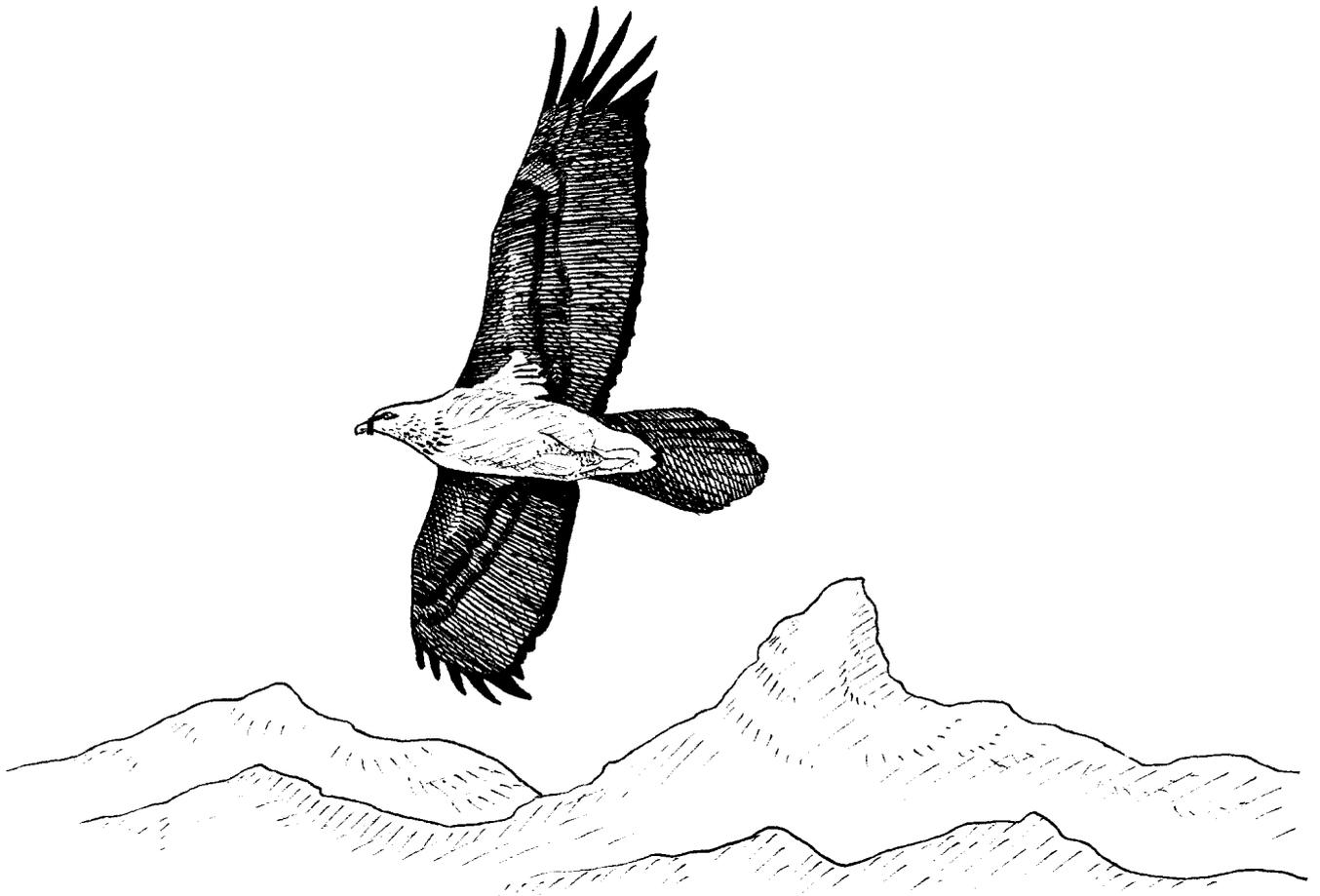
# Honeyguide

**WILDLIFE HOLIDAYS**

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**French Pyrenees**  
**13 – 20 June 2007**

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**Holiday participants**

Sandy and Marie Watt

Karin and Brennan Auger

Lesley Scott  
Suzanne Hunter

Peter and Elonwy Crook

Bob and Pam Harris

Juliet Prior

Will Warham

Derek Boughton

**Leaders**

Chris Gibson  
Robin and Rachel Hamilton

Our hosts in the French Pyrenees: Odile and M Philippe Pujo, Hotel La Brèche de Roland,  
[www.gavarnie.com/hotel-la-breche](http://www.gavarnie.com/hotel-la-breche)

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Report written by Robin and Rachel Hamilton with contributions from Chris Gibson.

Illustrations: field cricket by Maureen Gibson, pyramidal orchid by Sue Staniforth and fire salamander by Brenda Dowsett.

Other illustrations by Rob Hume, including lammergeier on the front cover.

This holiday, as for every Honeyguide holiday, also puts something into conservation in our host country by way of a contribution to the wildlife that we enjoyed. The conservation contribution this year of £25 per person towards lammergeier protection was supplemented by gift aid through the Honeyguide Wildlife Charitable Trust. It was combined with the contribution the group in Dordogne for the 'Refuge LPO' project and in the Camargue for the lesser kestrel conservation project making a total this year of £1228 (€1780) sent to La Ligue pour la Protection des Oiseaux (LPO, the French Bird Protection League).

This brings the total given to LPO to £10,064 (€14,560) since 1991 and the total conservation contributions from all Honeyguide holidays since 1991 was at £48,013 (roughly €69,619) at the end of September 2007.

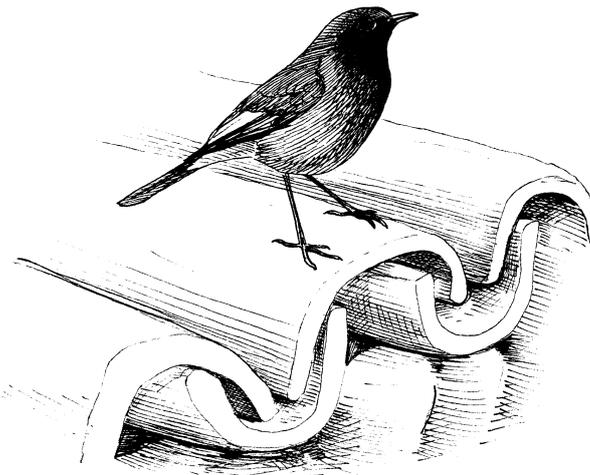
## FRENCH PYRÉNÉES 13 - 20 JUNE 2007

### Wednesday 13 June – Stansted to Pau; Pau to Gèdre; Exploring Gèdre

Our dawn rendezvous at Stansted was a very convivial affair, in spite of the hour; old friendships were renewed and new ones quickly made as we were hustled uneventfully through the airport routine. It was a bright and clear spring dawn and we had beautiful views over the Home Counties, but clouds gathered as we flew over France and when we arrived in Pau it was overcast. There was a Mediterranean warmth in the air and at Pau airport we enjoyed the opportunity to pause and savour a French breakfast, with some excellent and very welcome coffee. The bird watching took some time to get up steam: the carrion crows, house sparrows and a grey heron at the airport did not raise much excitement. But the distant frieze of the snow-capped Pyrénées along the southern horizon did excite us, and we quickly piled our stuff into the minibuses and headed for Lourdes, where Karin and Brennan, two more members of the group, were waiting at the station, en route from Germany.

After Lourdes, the journey became more interesting and the views more and more breathtaking and enticing. Swifts had been a regular sight in the lowland towns and villages along the way and black kites and buzzards had entertained us along the river valleys, but after Lourdes we started to climb steadily, with the occasional view of a red kite and groups of crag martins swooping over the river as the landscape became more rugged.

We arrived at Gèdre to find two more members of our group, Marie and Sandy – now thoroughly settled in having got there the day before – there to greet us. We were warmly and efficiently welcomed by our hosts, Odile and Philippe, and shown to our rooms, and then, the group now complete, we met on the hotel terrace for a drink and lunch.



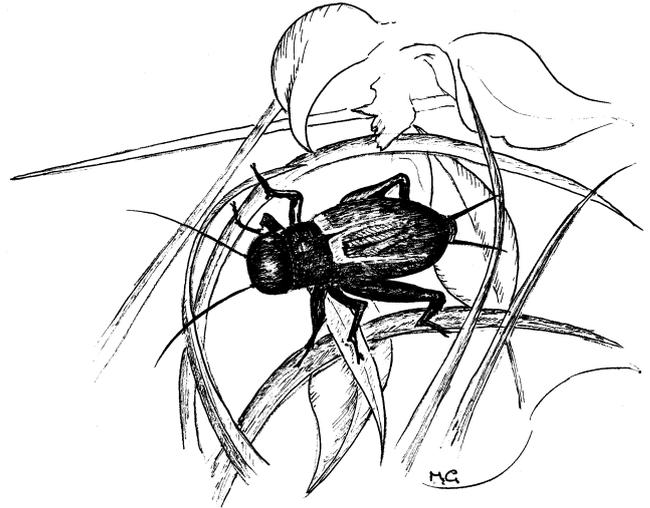
The Hotel takes its name from Le Brèche de Roland, a huge cleft in the mountain top (about 60m deep and 100m wide) right on the Spanish border above the Cirque de Gavarnie. (Charlemagne's nephew Roland created it while he was trying to break his magic sword in order to prevent it from falling into the wrong hands!) It dominates the view up the valley from the hotel and is a potent indicator of the weather. Today, it was a perfect view and we took in our surroundings – visual and aural. The mountains around us were sunlit and green, but not far away, bright patches of snow shone in the sunshine and reminded us of our altitude and of the delights to come. The river, Le Gave de Héas, swollen by snowmelt, thundered through the gorge below the hotel and provided soothing background music to everything. There was the constant sizzle of serins among the treetops and black redstarts sang flutily from the village roofs.

After lunch, we explored the village a little. Every sizeable area of grass is important for its hay crop and some of these little fields lie right in the heart of the village. We paused to admire the kaleidoscope of colour: crimson clover, greater yellow-rattle, dusky cranesbill, bladder campion, vetches and buttercups, amongst a bewildering array of meadow grasses. We stopped at the first bridge, high above the Héas. Peering over the parapet, we could see our first real botanical 'alpine', the emblematic and beautiful ramonda, clinging to the stone structure of the bridge. Then Marie called us across the road: there was more ramonda, growing picturesquely in the fork of a tree overhanging the river. There were plants of fairy foxglove too, rooted in crevices, their flowering shoots pressed against the stonework. The two big lime trees beside the river provided a perfect lesson in lime recognition: they stood side by side, both in flower, with the large-leaved lime flower clusters hanging downwards and the small-leaved lime clusters held 'obliquely upright', just as it says in the books!

Goldfinches and serins flitted about, enabling us to disentangle their twittering songs; swallows, house sparrows, white wagtails and black redstarts were all in evidence, sharing the village houses. We were on the constant lookout for interest high in the sky and were soon rewarded by a buzzard and a raven soaring over the hilltop and in front of the cliffs. Down by the optimistically named (by Honeyguiders) ‘Dipper Bridge’ we waited in vain for the eponymous bird. We carried on up the other side of the valley, hoping for a chance to explore a hayfield at closer quarters, but the path across it was closed to us, as the hay harvest was about to begin. We retraced our steps and were a little luckier this time at the bridge; most people caught a fleeting glimpse of a dipper as it flew quickly beneath us and then upstream and out of sight. A blackcap was singing from the top of a tree in the little gorge and we were able to watch a green woodpecker and a family of nuthatches. From the bell tower of the village church a black redstart was proclaiming his territory and we were intrigued to hear the church clock chiming not only on the hour, but again, a few minutes later. (Suzanne’s researches since our return have revealed that this is an ancient practice, still common in the Mediterranean; the first striking alerts the distant workers in the fields and the hills, the second chime enables everyone to listen carefully and count again.)

Common wall lizards were basking in the road and on the garden walls. We could hear the constant ‘chirp chirp chirp’ of a field cricket and then spotted one scuttling across the road; it allowed itself to be caught and examined and then we replaced it in a slightly safer place. Butterflies in profusion were flying over another of the village hay meadows: small blue, small tortoiseshell, large white, orange tip, swallowtail and many more.

We turned up a steep rocky track that led us above the village to the east where it was cooler and there was some shade. We admired the range of plants that had become established in these rocky and unpromising places, some of them familiar from our gardens. There were tiny ferns and stonecrops, hepatica and pulmonaria, and both green and stinking hellebores. We found a firebug and had a close look at its red and black pattern – reminiscent of the headgear of an old-style French policeman, and accounting for the French childhood name of ‘gendarme’ for the insect. We also encountered a bright, metallic green beetle. It was a specimen of *Lampra rutilans*, one of the family of flower beetles called *buprestids* or jewel beetles, that are characterised by their brightly metallic wing cases – a very striking animal.



Up at the top of the hill we realised we had been seeing a wide range of patterns in the shell of the banded snail, *Cepaea nemoralis*, a favourite food of song thrushes. Robin gave us a neat explanation of how this polymorphism may help the snails to avoid their predators. Suzanne called us over the road to look at a tiny hole at the foot of the wall, with bright eyes looking out at us; it turned out to be the home of another field cricket. We walked down the lane back towards the village and we were in the open again, with distant views. Our first short-toed eagle of the week appeared in the distance, soaring over the hill on the other side of the valley, not an ideal view.

On a sunny, rocky limestone slope there was another butterfly boom: large wall browns, heath fritillaries, Adonis blues and a bloodvein moth *Rhodostrophia calabra*. A whole new flora appeared too, of candytuft and calamint, thymes and rockroses, St. Bernard’s lily and a relative of Venus’s looking glass which turned out to be the uncommon species, *Legousia castellana*. Time was marching on, so we promised ourselves another visit to this charming hillside and headed back to the hotel. We were not in too much of a hurry to stop on the corner and listen to a family of firecrests about their talkative business and enjoy a burst of familiar blackbird song.

We met on the terrace for a drink before dinner and reviewed the day’s sightings and events. Refreshed and content, we then went in to enjoy the first taste of the hotel’s excellent cuisine: a starter of meltingly creamy trout mousse, followed by steaks, which were cooked before our very eyes on hot stones brought to the table – spectacular and delicious – and all accompanied by a plentiful supply of local wine.

#### **Thursday 14 June – Gave de Héas, the Barrage and Lac des Gloriettes**

It was a bright morning and a few early risers set out for a walk before breakfast. The village resident birds were up and about: house sparrows, white wagtails, black redstarts, goldfinches and serins. High around the

cliff tops we saw some griffon vultures searching for updraughts and we caught a very distant view of two short-toed eagles.

After a leisurely breakfast, we set off in the minibuses, taking the road southeast out of Gèdre, up the valley of the Gave de Héas. We were immediately in a botanically extremely rich area and we sped frustratingly past exciting plants: banks of bloody cranesbill, fragrant orchids, butterfly orchids, sword-leaved helleborines and the bright blue of flowering butterwort. As soon as it was safe, we stopped to get a closer look at these treasures. We encountered the Pyrenean hyacinth for the first time – an amazing sapphire blue version of our bluebell, lady's mantle, mountain clover, burnt-tip orchids and cowslips. We walked along the road a little way to a huge rock face where we saw ramonda again and our first saxifrages at close quarters: paniculate (livelong) *Saxifraga paniculata* and pyramidal *S. cotyledon*, while the slopes above produced a frustratingly distant, but flowering, St Bruno's lily. A swallowtail butterfly was flying over the meadow as was a little, sooty black moth: the chimney sweeper, its food plant, pignut, plentiful amongst the grasses. A shout brought everyone's attention to the sky above us and about two dozen griffon vultures were circling overhead. Then we caught the distinctive somewhat paddle-tailed silhouette of our first lammergeier, which glided across the valley close to where we stood, giving us a wonderful view. It was time to move on and Bob arrived back at the minibus with a little black weevil. Armed with Chinery he identified it as *Apion pomonae*, which feeds on vetches. It was not going to be short of food.

We drove on up to our destination, the Barrage des Gloriettes, but not without a hold-up for a herd of cattle being moved onto fresh grazing amongst the alpenrose. On the way up we had our first brief encounter with an alpine marmot, just beside the road. We parked below the dam and watched an ambitious dung beetle tackling a whole cowpat, and an unfortunate, crumpled lacewing whose wings had dried before they were fully expanded. Then walking up the road, we explored the wonderful floral riches of the rocky slopes, including narcissus-flowered anemone, mountain avens, black vanilla orchid and scattered bushes of the deep pink Provence rose *Rosa gallica*, and of alpine rose *Rosa pendulina*, (not to be confused with alpenrose *Rhododendron ferrugineum*, the dwarf rhododendron which clothed the hillsides around us).

Up at the top of the dam, it was time for our picnic lunch. We found comfortable places to perch and look at the view and the birds. We watched a black redstart singing on the rocks above and a rock bunting and a serin singing from the top of a scrubby tree below. It was strange to see them in the company of such familiar garden birds as wren, great tit, chaffinch and dunnock at an altitude of 1500 metres. Across the valley we heard two red-billed choughs calling and watched them fly over and drop down to join some ravens on the ground; a useful comparison to make. Then we were delighted by another lammergeier flying low overhead.

We locked the minibuses and set off to cross the barrage to make our way round the Lac des Gloriettes. Progress was very slow, there was so much to see: banks of the local wild angelica *Angelica razulii*, a rock face covered in dwarf buckthorn *Rhamnus pumillus*, the strikingly orange-flowered chamois ragwort and much more.

As soon as we crossed the impressive dam the path led us onto an astonishing tight turf of grasses, thyme, milkwort and mountain avens. Dwarf shrubs: bearberry, the wonderfully fragrant *Daphne cneorum* (which has the sickly English name 'garland flower'), barberry, wild cotoneaster, juniper and spurge laurel all gave some structure to the sward which was also studded with the powerful magenta flowers of the alpine subspecies of broad-leaved marsh orchid as well as black vanilla orchids, yellow milk-vetch, lousewort, alpine clover and Pyrenean hyacinth to name but a few.

We could hear the piping calls of marmots, and soon we had located them beside their burrows on the hillside on the other side of the lake. We could see them well through the telescopes but the plan was to get much closer. A male wheatear was singing from the top of some rocks and a yellowhammer was singing from a bush; we could watch them both in good light and then a confrontation began between the wheatear and two black redstarts, alternately occupying strategic songposts, only to be ousted by the rival. We walked on round the lake but when a signpost indicated a way-marked footpath down to Gèdre, five of the party decided that they fancied the chance to stretch their legs. Once we were sure that they were appropriately equipped, they set off into the hills.

The weather was deteriorating as we carried on round the lake until we were able to get very good views of the marmots, and we watched their alert behaviour in the face of passing walkers. Soon it began to rain and we decided it was time to turn back, stopping to watch a paper wasp *Polistes* sp. at its beautiful tiny nest attached to a grass stem. As we walked back across the dam, a grey wagtail and a dipper were feeding in the stream.

We stopped on the way back beside a bridge over the Héas and went to examine a stand of the yellow pea, *Lathyrus leavigatus*, magnificent with its bright orange-brown fruits. Hidden beside the pea was another surprise, to Chris's delight, a fine plant of leafy lousewort, its pale yellow flower spikes a foot or so tall. It was much photographed. And we added another butterfly to the day's tally: a wood white.

We were back in good time for a break and then drinks on the terrace and the day's review. We were glad to welcome back the five intrepid wanderers; the weather had not been kind to them and their experience had been less enjoyable than they had anticipated.

Once again, a delicious dinner appeared: cream of salsify soup followed by amazingly tasty mutton chops with haricot beans and carrots, followed by a crème caramel.

### Friday 15 June – Gavarnie

It was another lovely fine morning, with scattered cloud. We walked up to the bridge and looked down on a pair of grey wagtails bobbing on the stones and darting after insects on the edge of the churning water. There were a buzzard and a pair of ravens about and we heard a cirl bunting singing from the row of trees on the hill on our left. The powerful, distant song of a song thrush carried to us over the sound of the river and the rumble of the hydroelectric plant. Then we found him, in a splendid position on the top of a dead tree, commanding the whole village – even the whole valley!

As we turned to go back for breakfast a lammergeier appeared overhead, and was soon joined by a second bird. This was our friend from yesterday, easily recognisable by a missing flight feather. They soared together above us, giving us superb views. The final delight was the reappearance of the buzzard and ravens. This time, the ravens were giving the buzzard a very hard time.

After breakfast Philippe Serre, from the LPO (the French counterpart of the RSPB), came to give us a fascinating illustrated talk about their project for the conservation of Lammergeiers. We also took this opportunity to present Philippe with the Honeyguide donation to LPO for this and two other projects supported by Honeyguide holidays in France: lesser kestrels in the Camargue and LPO Refuges in the Dordogne.

It was perfect day for our next destination. We set off southwestwards, up the Gave de Gavarnie (they proudly use the ancient word 'Gave' for these western Pyrenean rivers), climbing steadily, with frequent glimpses of the river becoming more wild and turbulent as we climbed. Gavarnie is a famous tourist destination – with all that that entails – but it is easy to see why. The situation, with a backdrop of the spectacular Cirque, is irresistible. We drove through the village (noting the ice-cream and other retail opportunities on the way) and parked beyond. Immediately we could hear blackcaps, great tits and a garden warbler singing, accompanied as usual by a chorus of field crickets. We donned our sunhats and shouldered our day bags, with lunch, water, sun cream, butterfly nets and books, and set off up the well-worn path.

The first botanical stop was beside another hay meadow, this one with a breathtaking display of *Viola cornuta*, familiar to many of us as a garden plant. In this meadow, the viola was accompanied by maiden pink as well as the now familiar greater yellow rattle, dusky cranesbill and alpine clover.

The track took us through a wide range of habitats: a hot, dry and open riverside trail, the river quiet now, but obviously frequently overtopping the bank which was lined with willows: *Salix elaeagnos* and *purpurea*, and herbaceous plants more typical of waste places, reflecting the additional nutrients, the silt deposits and the disturbance that result from the regular flooding. Above us, a short-toed eagle, a buzzard and a sparrowhawk appeared and, up among the trees on our left, a tree pipit sang. There were a lot of butterflies about including numerous clouded Apollos; we had a good look at a grizzled skipper and Lesley and Suzanne were delighted to get a lovely view of a Camberwell beauty.

We went on through shady beech woods, with martagon lilies, Spanish bluebells (a nuisance at home but here within their native range), bugle, wood sorrel, yellow archangel and stinking hellebore. We climbed higher, and



into the sunshine again, to see the valley open out into a great amphitheatre, surrounded by the cliffs of the Cirque, the Grande Cascade pouring down and the river meandering through tightly grazed grassland. This was a perfect setting for lunch, so we found a comfortable sunny bank and drank in the scenery.

Resisting the temptation to ‘flop’, people kept jumping up after new sightings, particularly of butterflies. A swallowtail landed on the path nearby, a bright-eyed ringlet allowed us to inspect its ringlets to check the identification, and then, for comparison, a Piedmont ringlet settled on the bank. There were blues, particularly an Adonis blue and a small blue ‘salting’ on some droppings, another skipper, this time an alpine grizzled skipper, a black-veined white and a painted lady. On cue, a fine adult lammergeier appeared over the cliffs of the Cirque and we watched it in those ideal surroundings for a considerable time. And finally, another much hoped-for species – three citril finches flew over and disappeared behind the hill.

One or two people settled for a prolonged rest in the sunshine so we were able to wander off unencumbered by bags. Chris challenged us to find the tiny green frog orchid, but it was too easy – they were plentiful! The broad-leaved marsh and fragrant orchids were so abundant in places that you could hardly avoid treading on them. A garden warbler was singing persistently from a riverside bush and we eventually got a very satisfactory look at it. The grassland was studded with bright flowers and the botanists were in heaven; globeflowers, trumpet gentians, alpine bistort, alpine rockrose, field gentians, mountain tragacanth, alpine figwort, and many more. We had to tear ourselves away.

We gathered up our belongings and turned to follow the western track back down to Gavarnie. Our progress was soon brought to an abrupt halt by a smart green Spanish fly, (actually a beetle, *Lytta vesicatoria*) trying to hide by burrowing in the sandy soil on the path. There were new butterflies and moths to see: a mazarine blue, a slender Scotch burnet moth and a dingy skipper. A garden warbler treated us to a spectacular little song flight and we stopped to watch coal tits feeding young. The first bar on the route back was too tempting for most of the party, but some carried on to the village intent on finding books and maps (well, coffee and ice creams too!) The path back to the village was quite busy with tourists and the view ahead of us fairly ordinary, but if you turned round, the spectacle of the Cirque, bright sunshine glistening off the snow and intense blue sky behind, brought us to a standstill in admiration every time we turned round. The surprise buys of the week were very smart pocketed waistcoats for the bargain price of €12, ideal for carrying notebooks and field guides: about half the party bought one!

Dinner tonight was a spectacular presentation: Philippe had made a roaring fire in the dining room and roasted wonderful chunks of lamb, to order, for us over the embers. Then we were given an amazing orange-flavoured rice pudding – quite delicious. After dinner, the weather was still perfect so we decided on an evening walk in search of glow-worms. We were soon rewarded by three, shining brightly from the bottom of the wall in the lane behind the hotel. We didn’t disturb them for long and diverted down a wooded track armed with bat-detectors, soon finding at least three species, serotine and two pipistrelles.

### **Saturday 16 June – Barèges, Col du Tourmalet, Botanic Garden and Vallée de la Glère**

The longest drive of the week took us first north, to Luz-St-Sauveur, and then east, along the cyclists’ pilgrim route to the Col de Tourmalet, famous for its role in the Tour de France.

We stopped for coffee in the little town of Barèges and it proved a useful stop for additional maps and postcards. Barèges is renowned amongst Honeyguiders for its crag martins. They are astonishingly plentiful, flying up and down the main street, dodging telegraph wires and swooping up to their nest sites under the eaves of the town houses and, famously, on the cinema.

We carried on up the increasingly steep route to the Col, weaving past the little knots of labouring cyclists. Griffon vultures flew close by the vehicles as we drove up the steep hairpins and we were charmed by the increasing quantity of the rosy-mauve Pyrenean thistle as we climbed.

It was sunny with a light haze and scattered clouds when we reached the car park at the top but when we got out of the vehicles, at 2115m up, it was noticeably chilly. There is a good viewpoint at the edge of the car park and we were able to scan the ski-lift and the grassy slopes below. A water pipit obliged us with a pretty display and song flight and we soon saw the first of our real target species. A group of snowfinches flew past in front of us; the light was good so their striking plumage stood out. Then two red-billed choughs flew over, shortly followed by two alpine choughs: an excellent opportunity for comparison. We watched a black redstart and a wheatear squabbling over the same nest hole in the ski-lift pylon.



We left the car park and scrambled up the hill above the road towards a snowbed. Here, in the damp patches around the edge where the snow was still melting we were delighted to find the real alpine icon: alpine snowbell *Soldanella alpina*. Scattered in the tough turf of mat grass *Nardus stricta* and fescue *Festuca eskia*, a Pyrenean endemic, we found other gems: Pyrenean buttercup, spring gentian, trumpet gentian, moonwort, pink rock-jasmine *Androsace carnea* and the incredibly fragrant *Daphne cneorum*. We found snow vole burrows and runs in the turf from which the snow had just retreated and, to our surprise, several viviparous lizards, catching the warmth of the sun. Up above the snowfield, a skylark was singing. The panoramic view from the top across to the Pic du Midi took our breath away (or was it just the high altitude?).

Down at car-park level again we watched a flock of alpine choughs feeding on the hillside below us with an indignant marmot vainly trying to chase them away from its burrow. They were very determined though, and there were a lot of them! Just as we were about to board the minibuses, another snowfinch flew down and, ignoring us, searched for food around our feet. Our departure was interrupted by a commotion: shouts and whistles and flag-waving, and then, struggling up the hill from the east came a procession of 2CVs! There must have been 50 or more, in every imaginable colour - a very surprising spectacle.

They stopped at the top to greet their supporters, so we overtook them and drove back down the hill to stop for lunch beside the Jardin Botanique du Tourmalet. Lunch was accompanied by the song of a mistle thrush and we watched a family of coal tits in the trees on the edge of the botanic garden.

After lunch, many of the party decided to make a quick tour of the garden. In some bushes by the entrance, two male blackcaps were arguing and chasing each other, no doubt competing for the only scrap of suitable breeding habitat in the valley. We all found the botanic garden a very attractive and helpful experience. Plants are grouped together according to their altitude and ecological requirements and the labels on plants that we had been seeing reinforced their names for us and helped to sort out several queries. It is an ambitious project, still very much under development, but a very worthwhile place to visit. And, reassured by the director that it was permissible to take plants on the flight home, several souvenirs of alpine plants, grown in their nursery, were acquired from the sales table.

For our next destination we turned off the Barèges road up a side valley into the Vallée de la Glère. We parked close to an inviting looking café, but we had work to do first, so we set off on foot through a steep pine and beech wood. Birds quickly appeared: a pair of mistle thrushes, a pair of bullfinches, a robin and a short-toed treecreeper. Peter caught sight of a crested tit, which hopped among the branches of a tree giving us tantalisingly brief but excellent views. There were some classic woodland plants: herb paris, yellow archangel, woodruff, greater stitchwort, stinking hellebore, pulmonaria and hepatica. There were lovely stands of ferns too: broad buckler fern, soft shield fern, oak fern and scaly male fern. As we listened to a firecrest singing, a tiny bird appeared: not the firecrest that still sang nearby, but a goldcrest. We heard a chiffchaff singing – but that familiar sound did not hold our attention for long. A little way along the track, a small bird flew up into an isolated tree on the edge of a clearing. We focussed our binoculars and had perfect views of a pair of citril finches.

We stopped by a pond on our way back to *Chez Louise*, and as we watched some enormous medicinal leeches, a red squirrel ran across a clearing nearby. Coffees, beers and ice creams were very welcome and allowed a pleasantly relaxing end to a very full day but it didn't spoil our appetites for the melt-in-your-mouth leek tart that was tonight's starter, followed by baked fish and excellent chocolate pudding.

### Sunday 17 June – Col de Tentes and Vallée d'Ossoue

We woke to an overcast sky with a light drizzle but undeterred, a few of us sallied forth before breakfast. We watched some spotted flycatchers at their nest by the Héas bridge and then took the upper road and crossed the Gave de Gavarnie by the high bridge over the gorge. A nuthatch was singing in the wood but by then, the rain was increasing and breakfast was very attractive.

After breakfast, despite the rain, we drove up towards Gavarnie and then turned right at the beginning of the village onto a steeply climbing road, full of hairpins, to the Col de Tentes. A glimpse of a red-backed shrike and, as usual, lots of brief marmot sightings, enlivened a damp drive. We parked at the top, where the through road ended. We were at an altitude of 2208m and some 1500m from the Port de Boucharo, the Spanish border, but sadly the views were lost in the mist and driving rain.

We waited in the minibuses for a while but the weather was deteriorating even more, so a few stalwarts decided to brave the horizontal shards of rain and took a short walk. We found some trumpet gentians, a few Pyrenean buttercups and then a single, rather sad looking specimen of the delicate purple alpine coltsfoot. We watched a flock of alpine choughs swirling about in the wind and then, as we arrived back at the vehicles, we were astonished to see two ducks flying over – a pair of pintails, crossing the Pyrenees on their migration north.

A slow descent enabled us to catch a few glimpses from the minibuses of some good flowers: the Pyrenean thistle was looking lovely in spite of the weather and we could make out our first plants of moss campion, bright green mounds studded with bright pink. There were snowbells on some scree and the turf was dotted with Pyrenean buttercups.

The rain was obviously here to stay for a while, so everybody leapt at the idea of sitting it out over a cup of coffee in Gavarnie. After about an hour, it was clear that it was not going to stop in the foreseeable future so, warmed, dried and refreshed, we boarded the buses again for the Vallée d'Ossoue. The buses splashed along the rough track, pausing to admire a beautiful show of ramonda and some saxifrages, including the impressive Pyrenean saxifrage in glorious flower, on an overhanging rock.

The weather was not improving so we drove up the valley and ate our lunch in the buses, peering out at the sodden view. It was much more sheltered down there than it had been on the top so a range of choices were selected: some people stayed in their bus to see what turned up, others decided to slosh about and look at flowers and Robin drove another group on up the track to explore some more of the valley. The walkers enjoyed an astonishing spectacle of masses of the magenta broad-leaved marsh orchid; further along the track, Robin's group got fine views of water pipits. We decided to call it a day and just paused a couple of times before we left the valley, once for some sweetly fragrant Pyrenean honeysuckle and once for a very attractive scabious, the cream form of *Knautia longifolia*.

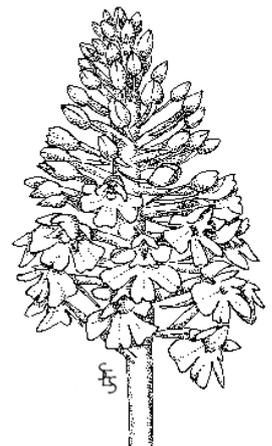
We gave ourselves time to dry out and relax and then met in the bar to review the day and to discuss our plans for tomorrow. Dinner was as wonderful as ever: a fish terrine followed by tender and succulent roast duck with tomatoes and noodles and lemon flan.

## Monday 18 June – Pont and Plateau de Saugué and Vallée de Bué

The early risers were rewarded with fine sunshine and only a few scattered clouds. Some of the raptors must have had a hungry day yesterday. A black kite and a buzzard were out early, and a griffon vulture soared high overhead, but we watched an Egyptian vulture flapping heavily along the cliffs, vainly searching for an updraught.

We decided to walk down through the village today and join the river near the confluence of the Gavarnie and the Héas. Both rivers were swollen by yesterday's rain, but the water coming down the larger Gave de Gavarnie was much more turbid and the two streams of water remained clearly separate at least until the river went out of our sight downstream. Grey wagtails and a dipper were feeding busily and long-tailed tits and a firecrest called from the woods on the far shore. A newly emerged stonefly was resting on a rock and there were several fine leopard slugs enjoying the cool wet grass and rocks. We turned back towards the hotel and saw two great spotted woodpeckers on the trunk of a larch tree. They were searching for food by pulling bits of bark off and tossing them to the ground.

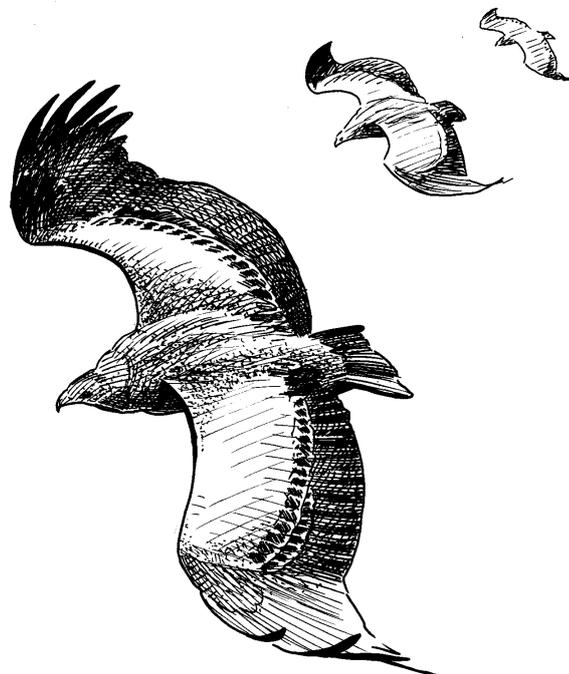
The weather became even sunnier as we set off up the hill to the west of Gèdre. We soon came to a halt where the variety and profusion of roadside flowers could no longer be ignored! The bank was thick with pyramidal orchids, toadflax, basil thyme and milkwort. Quaking grass nodded prettily in the breeze and the glittering flowers of golden oat grass shone in the sunlight. We were distracted from the flowers when two golden eagles, both adult birds, soared along the hillside, and circled just above us, giving unbelievably clear views. As we watched, a buzzard appeared and began to mob



one of the eagles, clearly demonstrating the disparity in size.

Turning our attention back to the meadow, we looked at some of the other sorts of wildlife. Adonis blues, black-veined whites, orange tips, green hairstreaks, pearl-bordered fritillaries, meadow browns and the day-flying moths: chimney sweepers, six-spot burnets and a cream-spot tiger, flashing its fiery orange-yellow hindwings as it flew, all dazzled us in their profusion, and represented potential prey to the dozens of Ascalaphids that were also buzzing about. On a telegraph pole we found a wall lizard that had lost its tail in a narrow escape from a predator and, to complete the picture, a woodlark sang on the hillside above.

As we drove on up the hill, we were surprised to see several griffon vultures fly past us, only a few feet off the ground and looking up, we could see others gathering above. We stopped at the bridge where we could get a good view up the valley. Some 150m away there was the fresh carcass of a cow, perhaps a victim of yesterday's storms, with a large group of griffon vultures beginning the task of devouring it. One picked out an eye, then turned its attention to the tongue, while another tackled other potential points of entry. More vultures tussled for access to the carcass in a flurry of wings and feet and angry beaks and others, further down the peck order, waited solemnly in line on a wall nearby for their turn. All the time, more and more were gather and circling above and then dropping down, craning their long scrawny necks downwards for a good view. After a while, some had had their fill and waddled away, quite unable to take off, to join the waiting group on the wall. And they still kept coming, until 50 or more had gathered – a truly memorable sight. Both red-billed and alpine choughs watched with interest but did not challenge the vultures. Smaller scavengers like them would have to wait their turn.



Eventually, we tore ourselves away, confident that this drama had hours, or even days, to run, and made our way up to the top and onto the Plateau de Saugué. There were breathtaking views of the Cirque de Gavarnie with a magical, flower-strewn hillock in the foreground. A quail was calling from a hay meadow, a tree pipit sang, two argumentative wheatears shouted at one another and a pair of whinchats companionably flew about, looking for food.

The hill was a kaleidoscope of colour: the blue, yellow and white of *Viola cornuta*, buttercups and pignut covered a huge area where the soil was deep and damp, but on the rockier outcrops, carpets of thyme, alpine aster and alpine clover took over. The white-flowered ciliate rock-jasmine *Androsace chamaejasme* and the dainty yellow hoary rockrose clung to rocks and a little houseleek poked out of crevices. The most memorable display was probably that of the Pyrenean hyacinth whose sapphire blue flowers exactly matched the colour of the sky behind. They were much photographed, with the Cirque de Gavarnie beyond or with Chris doing 'Sound of Music' impressions in the background.

Some went in the minibuses back down to the bridge for lunch and others walked. The walkers were rewarded with some lovely displays of a tree pipit doing repeated song flights from the top of a pine tree. A stream tumbled off the hillside into a little boggy bit with large lady's smock, butterwort and twayblade and the damp verge down to the bridge was magenta with broad-leaved marsh orchids.

It was time for lunch when we reached the bridge and the vultures were still trying to get through the cow's tough hide. Some people chose to eat their lunch close to a telescope trained on the gruesome scene while others firmly planted themselves in the shelter of the parapet or on the grassy bank out of sight of the drama. Beside the bridge, on a damp patch of ground, an altogether different drama was developing. An immense crowd of butterflies were sipping salts from the soil: many grizzled skippers, large grizzled skippers and small blues, and smaller numbers of green-veined whites, dingy skippers, Adonis blues, orange tips, wood whites, heath and false heath fritillaries and a carpet moth. They were all packed close together on the muddy remains of a tiny puddle and it was impossible to count them. It was a truly beautiful sight. While all this was going on, a red-backed shrike, always lovely to see, was producing a little sideshow for us, perched on a tree a little way off on the hillside. How he would have liked to visit our puddle of butterflies!

After lunch we retraced our route down the hill, stopping to draw one bus's attention to a large clump of deadly nightshade that they had missed on the way up. Just before Gèdre, instead of turning downhill, we continued northwards up a long unmade road into the wooded Vallée de Bué. We parked the minibuses and immediately noticed a small group of Adonis, small and common blues all 'salting' on some mud in the car park. These mineral licks must have resulted from yesterday's heavy rains. As we strolled down the track, pearl-bordered fritillaries and clouded Apollos fluttered by, and some of us glimpsed a red squirrel. The plants again were vastly abundant, quite different, and everywhere vigorous and lush. Statuesque marsh thistle, wild angelica and wood cranesbill grew in the damp ditches with two valerians: *Valeriana montana* and *V. pyrenaica* contrasting nicely with one another. There were magnificent stands of *Lathyrus laevigatus*, with its startling orange-brown pods. The English name, yellow pea, is totally inadequate for this striking plant. Chris and Robin walked back for the minibuses and the rest of the group straggled on down the hill, following their own particular interests. Juliet and Lesley lingered with Rachel over the flowers and were lucky enough to find a beautiful group of flowering spikes of wintergreen *Pyrola minor*, on the bank. That was a real treat.

Back at Gèdre, a few keen botanists drove up the hill above the village to look again at the rocky bank that we had encountered on the first day. Just before we arrived, we had a nice view of a rock bunting on the cliff and we were rewarded with some charming flowers, the best probably being the display of orlaya *Orlaya grandiflora* and the little brown 'bluebell', *Dipcadi serotinum*.

It was still fine and warm after dinner so we decided to try out the bat detectors again, this time down by the river. We were met with silence. Then, through the village, where insects were drawn to the street lamps we could see bats swirling round and we managed to pick up the calls of three species, pipistrelle, serotine, then finally Daubenton's.

## **Tuesday 19 June – Cirque de Troumouse**

Blue sky with scattered clouds greeted the early risers. There was little wind down in the village but birds flying around the cliff tops were apparently finding some turbulence. A large group of griffon vultures were out early, perhaps going back to yesterday's carcass. We watched a dipper busily carrying food to its nest above the bridge over the Héas and a spotted flycatcher collecting nesting material for its nest nearby. The song thrush was still declaiming from his strategically placed dead tree. We carried straight on and over the high bridge across the Gave de Gavarnie and then we made our way up a narrow, rough pathway and found ourselves in a minute hay meadow. There was burnet rose there, broad-leaved helleborine and the little creeping St John's wort, *Hypericum nummularium*. Goldfinches sang their tinkling little song above our heads as we realised we would have to hurry back for breakfast.

After breakfast, the weather was looking fine and settled, with some blue sky as we set off on our final day's excursion. Would it turn out to be an appropriate finale? The massif of the Pyrénées above Gèdre forms a series of huge cirques along the Spanish border. The Cirque de Gavarnie is much the most accessible and so the most exploited. Some are seriously inaccessible, but our plan was to drive up to the Cirque de Troumouse, a happy compromise.

The road follows the Gave de Héas and we passed the turning to Gloriettes. It winds on, climbing steadily and then enters the fully protected part of the National Park. An entrance fee is charged and we were provided with some information leaflets about the Park and the protection that it is afforded. We then pressed on. The hillside was covered in the beautiful alpenrose and marmots popped in and out of their burrows as we drove by. The road snakes and hairpins and rises steeply up above the tree line to the first stop – a restaurant with a surprisingly large car park! We stopped briefly there to get our bearings, promising to take fuller advantage of it on our way down. A lammergeier glided across the hillside above us and then settled on the ground so that we could have an excellent look at it with binoculars and telescopes. Then, for contrast, a griffon vulture perched on the cliff top beyond. There were wheatears among the rocks and we found a common frog and several froglets in the damp grass and under a bush of *Daphne mezereum*.

It was time to move on and the last climb up to the top. There were more hairpins, wonderful views and slow progress, for the sake of the buses. Finally, we reached the car park at the top and prepared for a walk.

The whole spectacle is mind-blowing, commanding vast views in one direction and the majestic sight of huge vertical cliffs and high peaks disappearing into the cloud in the other. There was a silence there, broken by the song of water pipits and the occasional thunder of avalanches among the cliffs of the Cirque behind.

We set off along the well-made track across the plateau. There were snowfields up on our right and soon we spotted a herd of about twenty Pyrenean chamois, or isard, grazing on the high pasture and moving across the snowfields. Through telescopes we could see that they had young with them, already skipping about and nimbly negotiating the boulder-strewn hillside. We crossed a slow stream meandering through the peaty soil; peering into the water we found not only a common frog but also Pyrenean brook newts skulking about. There were several together showing all their colour forms, pale or dark, with or without a yellow stripe down their back. We found alpine catchfly, bird's eye primrose, mountain everlasting, spring, trumpet and alpine gentians, rock-jasmine and garland flower – all just in a small area. It was a botanical paradise!

We had lunch beside a little peaty lake and Chris set off, determined to find an alpine accentor for us. A skylark and a dunnock were singing, and a shout from Chris sent some of the group puffing and panting up a little hill – too late, it had flown off! Karin and Brennan persisted and managed to spot the alpine accentor but the rest of us had to content ourselves with the related dunnock and with lots of water pipits and a black redstart.

After lunch we explored a little, the botanists in heaven. There were little cinquefoils, violets and alchemillas in the grass and moss campion, musky saxifrage and paronychia on the rocks. We were charmed by a sapphire blue milkwort and the inelegantly named 'entire-leaved' primrose and 'narcissus-flowered' anemone. It was time to turn back and we took the track at a steady pace, on the lookout all the time for new sights. The isard were still grazing on their scree slope and we had another brief look through the telescopes – showing them too to some interested passers by, one of whom, remarkably, knew Chris, having previously booked him to give a talk for the Suffolk Wildlife Trust!

We had a very pleasant refreshment stop at the halfway house, which has a curious Tibetan feel about the décor and a huge sundial made of mountain 'objets trouvés', sticks and stones, bones and skulls bits of plants and odd artefacts. A final farewell fly past from a lammergeier signalled our departure.

There was one more stop. Near the *péage* at the entrance to the Park, we left the buses and went exploring the river, riverbank and hillside. The alpenrose was wonderful and it was the first time we had got really close to it. But the excitement arose when we were admiring a stand of adenostyles, a large member of the daisy family, (a bit esoteric as it was showing no sign of flower!) when we discovered a beautiful group of enormous spikes of leafy lousewort – far finer than the specimens we had got excited about earlier in the week. The cameras got to work at once.

We returned to the hotel in time to pack, to have our final drink on the terrace and review our holiday.

### **Wednesday 20 June – Pau, then home**

In spite of our protestations that it was not necessary, Odile was up at 4.30, with our packed lunches prepared, to give us breakfast. The fine, cloudless sky was a poor consolation as we crammed our luggage into the minibuses to head north again. For various reasons, we left five of our number behind. Peter was cycling home (yes!), over the Col du Tourmalet the next day, then on to Castang, the Honeyguide destination in the Dordogne, where he was to join other cycling friends to explore that area before returning home. Sandy and Marie were continuing their campervan holiday for several more weeks and Karin and Brennan were staying a few more days in Gèdre before flying home to Munich. So we had a little send-off party as we drove away. There were no more vultures as we dropped down out of the mountains but there were lots of black kites beside the wooded lower reaches of the rivers.

Pau was as painless as an airport can be and there were no problems with the little pots of alpine plants bought at the botanic garden. We said goodbye to the distant, but now familiar, line of snow-clad peaks on the horizon as we took off. Greeted by welcome sunshine at Stansted, we went our separate ways after a thrilling and memorable holiday. Thank you all for making it such fun.

**Highlights** (A bird, a flower and a place.....)

**Bob:** All the marmots, doing so many things; the Pyrenean hyacinth; the golden eagle in brilliant light; the Cirque de Gavarnie.

**Brennan:** Monday morning's raptors – Egyptian vultures, golden eagles and griffon vultures; the Grande Cascade at Gavarnie; the alpine aster.

**Derek:** The Cirque de Troumouse - like Gavarnie but without the tat; seeing the sheep being driven through the village led by the little boy with the red flag; the griffon vulture feast – to see it happening naturally; the scent of the Daphne.

**Elonwy:** The marmots; the golden eagles; the Pyrenean violets; the blue water in the river in the Cirque de Gavarnie.

**Juliet:** The Col du Tentes – with the pintails; the wintergreen.

**Karin:** Egyptian vultures and golden eagles; the vultures at the feast; the magenta of the broad-leaved marsh orchids everywhere; the Cirque de Troumouse.

**Lesley:** the wintergreen; the picnic place at Gavarnie; the frogs at Troumouse.

**Marie:** the dramatic views of griffons at the feast; Ramonda, all through the week and in so many different places; the Cirque de Gavarnie; the welcoming hotel and the wonderful food.

**Pam:** Pyrenean thistle; the crested tits; the Cirque de Troumouse.

**Peter:** choughs, always a favourite, especially the flocks of alpine chough and the alpine chough chasing a marmot; the amazing trumpet gentians; the wild strawberries. The worst moment was the walk back from Gloriettes!

**Sandy:** the lammergeiers; the frogs and tadpoles; the pH anomalies – limestone rocks and acid peat in close proximity; the irises in the hotel garden!

**Suzanne:** the Cirque de Gavarnie; the lammergeier and isard at Troumouse; the blue of the gentians.

**Will:** the lammergeier and the golden eagles (NOT the griffon vulture feast. That was the stuff of nightmares!); the isard, and the Cirque de Troumouse altogether; evidence of *transhumance* in practice.

**Chris:** yesterday's magnificent leafy lousewort – photographs live for ever; the Pyrenean brook newts; the Plateau de Saugué, with Gavarnie in the background.

**Rachel:** the scent of the *Daphne cneorum* and the colour-mixture with the gentians; the real griffon vulture feast; the Plateau de Saugué, apparent wilderness with the Cirque de Gavarnie as a backdrop; the parade of 2CVs.

**Robin:** The Cirque de Troumouse – at all scales – so unspoilt; the vultures doing their own thing – plucking out the eye etc, altogether a once in a lifetime sight; alpine aster with the Cirque de Gavarnie behind; the isard



## LISTS

### KEY TO LOCALITIES

Ge – Gèdre	Day 1
Gl – Barrage and Lac des Gloriettes	Day 2
Ga – Cirque de Gavarnie	Day 3
To – Col du Tourmalet	Day 4
Gle – Vallée de la Glère	Day 4
Te – Col de Tentes	Day 5
O – Vallée d'Ossoue	Day 5
S – Pont and Plateau de Saugué	Day 6
B – Vallée de Bué	Day 6
Tr – Cirque de Troumouse	Day 7
H – Héas valley	Day 2 & 7
J – Journeys, Pau to Gèdre	Day 1 & 8

### FLOWERING PLANTS

(Incomplete – a number of widespread and familiar species are omitted)

#### *Dicotyledons*

##### **Aceraceae**

<i>Acer campestre</i>	Field maple	Ge
<i>A. pseudoplatanus</i>	Sycamore	Ge, Ga

##### **Apiaceae**

<i>Angelica razulii</i>		Gl
<i>A. sylvestris</i>	Wild angelica	O, B
<i>Astrantia major</i>	Masterwort, Mountain sanicle	S
<i>Bupleurum falcatum</i>	Sickle-leaved Hare's-ear	Ge
<i>Chaerophyllum aureum</i>	Golden chervil	Ge, Ga, O, B
<i>C. hirsutum</i>	Hairy chervil	Gl
<i>Conopodium majus</i>	Pignut	Gl, O, S, H
<i>Eryngium bourgatii</i>	Pyrenean eryngo	Gl, S
<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i> ssp. <i>montanum</i>	Hogweed	Ga, B
<i>Laserpitium siler</i>	Sermountain	Ge, O
<i>Ligusticum lucidum</i>		Ge
<i>Meum athamanticum</i>	Spignel	Te
<i>Orlaya grandiflora</i>	Orlaya	Ge
<i>Myrrhis odorata</i>	Sweet cicely	Gle
<i>Peucedanum ostruthium</i>	Masterwort	Ge
<i>Pimpinella major</i>	Great burnet-saxifrage	Ga
<i>Sanicula europaea</i>	Sanicle	Ga
<i>Tordylium apulum</i>	Mediterranean hartwort	Ge

##### **Asclepiadaceae**

<i>Vincetoxicum hirundinaria</i>	Swallow-wort	Gl, Ga, B, Tr
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##### **Asteraceae**

<i>Achilla millefolia</i>	Yarrow	Ge, Gl, H
<i>Adenostyles alliariae</i>	Adenostyles	H
<i>Antennaria dioica</i>	Cat's-foot	Gl, Ga, Tr
<i>Aster alpinus</i>	Alpine aster	O, S
<i>Bellis perennis</i>	Daisy	Ge
<i>B. sylvestris</i>	Wood daisy	B
<i>Carduus carlinoides</i>	Pyrenean thistle	Te, To
<i>Carlina acaulis</i>	Stemless carline thistle	Gl, Ga
<i>C. acanthifolia</i>	Cardabelle	Tr
<i>Centaurea jacea</i>	Brown knapweed	Ge
<i>C. montana</i>	Perennial cornflower	Ga
<i>Cirsium eroiophorum</i>	Woolly thistle	To
<i>C. palustre</i>	Marsh thistle	S, B
<i>Crepis pygmaea</i>		Ga

<i>Hieracium alpinum</i> agg.	Alpine hawkweed	Gl, Tr
<i>H. pilosella</i>	Mouse-eared hawkweed	Tr
<i>Homogyne alpina</i>	Purple colt's-foot	Te, Tr
<i>Lactuca perennis</i>	Blue lettuce	Ge, Gle, B
<i>Leucanthemopsis alpina</i>	Alpine moon daisy	Tr
<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	Ox-eye daisy	Ge, Ga, Tr
<i>Mycelis muralis</i>	Wall lettuce	B
<i>Picris hieraceoides</i>	hawkweed ox-tongue	Ge
<i>Scorzonera aristata</i>	Bearded viper's-grass	S
<i>Senecio doronicum</i>	Chamois ragwort	Gl
<i>Tanacetum corymbosum</i>		Ge, S, O
<i>Tragopogon pratensis</i>	Goat's-beard	Ga, O
<i>Tussilago farfara</i>	Colt's-foot	Gl, Ga, B
<i>Urospermum dalechampii</i>		Ge
<b>Berberidaceae</b>		
<i>Berberis vulgaris</i>	Barberry	Gl
<b>Betulaceae</b>		
<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver birch	Tr
<b>Boraginaceae</b>		
<i>Echium vulgare</i>	Viper's-bugloss	Ge, S, Tr
<i>Myosotis alpina</i>	Alpine forget-me-not	Te, To, S, Tr
<i>M. sylvatica</i>	Wood forget-me-not	Tr
<i>Pulmonaria longifolia</i>	Long-leaved lungwort	Gl, Gle, B
<b>Brassicaceae</b>		
<i>Arabis turrita</i>	Towercress	Ge
<i>Cardamine raphanifolia</i>	Radish-leaved bittercress	S, B, Tr, To
<i>Draba aizoides</i>	Yellow whitlow-grass	To
<i>Fibigia clypeata</i>		Ge
<i>Hutchinsia alpina</i>	Chamois cress	Ga, Te, To, Tr
<i>Iberis amara</i>	Candytuft	Ge, B
<i>Sisymbrium austriacum</i>	Austrian rocket	H
<i>S. pyrenaicum</i>		Ga
<b>Buxaceae</b>		
<i>Buxus sempervirens</i>	Box	Ge
<b>Campanulaceae</b>		
<i>Campanula patula</i>	Spreading bellflower	S
<i>C. trachelium</i>	Nettle-leaved bellflower	S
<i>Jasione montana</i>	Sheep's-bit	To, Te
<i>Legousia castellana</i>	A Venus's-looking-glass	Ge
<i>Phyteuma orbiculare</i>	Round-headed rampion	Ge, Gl, S
<i>P. pyrenaicum</i>		Ga, B
<i>P. spicatum</i>	Spiked rampion	Ge, Ga, S
<b>Caprifoliaceae</b>		
<i>Lonicera periclymenum</i>	Honeysuckle	H
<i>L. pyrenaicum</i>	Pyrenean honeysuckle	Ga, O
<i>Sambucus ebulus</i>	Dwarf elder	Gl, O
<i>S. racemosa</i>	Alpine elder	Gl, Ga, Tr
<b>Caryophyllaceae</b>		
<i>Arenaria grandiflora</i>		Gl
<i>Cerastium alpinum</i>		Ga
<i>C. arvense</i>	Field mouse-ear	Ge
<i>Dianthus carthusianorum</i>	Carthusian pink	Ga
<i>D. deltoides</i>	Maiden pink	Ga, To, S, Tr
<i>Gyposophila repens</i>	Alpine gypsophila	Gl, Ga
<i>Herniaria glabra</i>	Rupturewort	Gl
<i>Lychnis alpina</i>	Alpine catchfly	Tr
<i>L. flos-cuculi</i>	Ragged-robin	Ge
<i>Paronychia capitata</i>		Gl Ga
<i>P. polygonifolia</i>		S

<i>Scleranthus annuus</i>	Annual knawel	Gl
<i>S. perennis</i>	Perennial knawel	Gl, To
<i>Silene acaulis</i>	Moss campion	Te, Tr
<i>S. dioica</i>	Red campion	B
<i>S. nutans</i>	Nottingham catchfly	Ge, S, H
<i>S. rupestris</i>		Gl
<i>S. vulgaris</i>	Bladder campion	Ge, Ga
<i>Stellaria holostea</i>	Greater stitchwort	Gl, Gl
<b>Chenopodiaceae</b>		
<i>Chenopodium bonus-henricus</i>	Good King Henry	Gl, To, S, Tr
<b>Cistaceae</b>		
<i>Fumana ericoides</i>		Ge
<i>Helianthemum apenninum</i>	White rock-rose	Ge
<i>H. canum</i>	Hoary rock-rose	Ge, S, Tr
<i>H. nummularium</i>	Common rock-rose	Ge, Tr
<i>H. n. grandiflorum</i>		Tr
<i>H. oelandicum</i>	Alpine rock-rose	Ga
<b>Clusiaceae</b>		
<i>Hypericum nummularium</i>		Ge
<b>Corylaceae</b>		
<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel	Gl, Ga, B, H
<b>Crassulaceae</b>		
<i>Sedum acre</i>	Biting stonecrop	Ge
<i>S. album</i>	White stonecrop	Ge
<i>S. dasyphyllum</i>	Thick-leaved stonecrop	Ge, Gl, Ga, S
<i>S. rupestre</i>	Rock stonecrop	Ge
<i>Sempervivum montanum</i>	Mountain houseleek	O, S, B
<i>S. tectorum</i>		To
<i>Umbilicus rupestris</i>	Navelwort	Ge
<b>Cuscutaceae</b>		
<i>Cuscuta epithymum</i>	Dodder	Gl, Tr
<i>C. europaea</i>	Greater dodder	Tr
<b>Dipsacaceae</b>		
<i>Knautia dipsacifolia</i>	Wood scabious	Ga, O, H
<i>K. longifolia</i>		O
<i>Scabiosa columbaria</i>	Small scabious	Ge, Ga
<b>Ericaceae</b>		
<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i>	Bearberry	Gl
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>	Heather	To
<i>Rhododendron ferrugineum</i>	Alpenrose	Gl, To, Tr, H
<i>Vaccinium myrtillus</i>	Bilberry	Gl, To, Tr
<i>V. vitis-idaea</i>	Cowberry	
<b>Euphorbiaceae</b>		
<i>Euphorbia amygdaloides</i>	Wood spurge	Ga, B
<i>E. characias</i>	Large Mediterranean spurge	Ge
<i>E. cyparissias</i>	Cypress spurge	O
<i>E. hyberna</i>	Irish spurge	Ga, B
<b>Fabaceae</b>		
<i>Astragalus alpinus</i>	Alpine milk-vetch	Ga, H
<i>A. monspessulanus</i>	Montpelier milk-vetch	Ge, Gl, S
<i>A. sempervirens</i>	Mountain tragacanth	Ga
<i>Anthyllis montanum</i>	Mountain kidney-vetch	Gs, Tr
<i>A. vulneraria</i>	Kidney vetch	
sspp. <i>forondae</i> , <i>pyrenaica</i> and <i>vulnerarioides</i>		Ge
<i>Hippocrepis comosa</i>	Horseshoe vetch	Ge
<i>Lathyrus aphaca</i>	Yellow vetchling	Ge
<i>L. laevigatus</i>	Yellow pea	B, H

<i>L. montanus</i>	Bittervetch	Gl
<i>L. niger</i>	Black pea	Ge
<i>L. pratensis</i>	Meadow vetchling	Ge
<i>L. sylvestris</i>	Narrow-leaved everlasting-pea	O, B
<i>L. vernus</i>	Spring vetchling	Gl, Gle
<i>Lotus alpinus</i>	Alpine bird's-foot-trefoil	Tr
<i>L. corniculatus</i>	Bird's-foot-trefoil	Ge
<i>Medicago hybrida</i>	Pyrenean medick	To, Te, S
<i>M. suffruticosa</i>	Sprawling medick	To, S
<i>Ononis rotundifolia</i>	Round-leaved rest-harrow	Ge
<i>Oxytropis campestris</i>	Yellow milk-vetch	Gl
<i>Trifolium alpinum</i>	Alpine clover	Gl, Ga, S
<i>T. campestre</i>	Hop trefoil	Ge
<i>T. incarnatum</i>	Crimson clover	Ge
<i>T. montanum</i>	Mountain clover	H
<i>T. ochroleucon</i>	Sulphur clover	S, B
<i>T. pratense</i>	Red clover	Ge
<i>T. repens</i>	White clover	Ge
<i>Vicia cracca</i>	Tufted vetch	Ge, S
<i>V. pyrenaica</i>	Pyrenean vetch	Gl, Ga, H
<i>V. sativa</i>	Common vetch	Ge
<i>V. sepium</i>	Bush vetch	Ge, S
<b>Fagaceae</b>		
<i>Castanea sativa</i>	Sweet chestnut	Ge
<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	Beech	Gle
<i>Quercus faginea</i>		Ge
<i>Q. petraea</i>	Sessile oak	B
<i>Q. pyrenaica</i>	Pyrenean oak	H
<b>Fumariaceae</b>		
<i>Corydalis solida</i>	Tuberous corydalis	To
<b>Gentianaceae</b>		
<i>Gentiana acaulis</i>	Trumpet gentian	Ga, To, Te, Tr
<i>G. alpina</i>	Alpine gentian	Tr
<i>G. lutea</i>	Yellow gentian	Gl
<i>G. verna</i>	Spring gentian	To, S, Tr
<i>Gentianella campestris</i>	Field gentian	Ga, S
<b>Geraniaceae</b>		
<i>Geranium cinereum</i>	Ashy crane's-bill	Ga Te
<i>G. phaeum</i>	Dusky crane's-bill	Ge, Gl, Ga, S,B
<i>G. pratense</i>	Meadow crane's-bill	Gle
<i>G. pyrenaicum</i>	Pyrenean crane's-bill	Ge, Gl, Ga, S, B, H
<i>G. robertianum</i>	Herb-Robert	Ge, Gl, Ga, S, B, H
<i>G. rotundifolium</i>		Ge
<i>G. sanguineum</i>	Bloody crane's-bill	Gl, B
<i>G. sylvaticum</i>	Wood crane's-bill	Gl,B
<b>Gesneriaceae</b>		
<i>Ramonda myconi</i>	Ramonda	Ge, Gl, Ga, B, Tr, H
<b>Globulariaceae</b>		
<i>Globularia nudicaulis</i>	Leafless-stemmed globularia	Ge, Gl, To
<i>G. repens</i>	Creeping globularia	Tr
<b>Grossulariaceae</b>		
<i>Ribes petraeum</i>	Rock currant	Gl, S
<b>Lamiaceae</b>		
<i>Acinos alpinus</i>	Alpine calamint	Ge, Gl, Ga, S, Tr
<i>Ajuga pyramidalis</i>	Pyramidal bugle	Gl, To, Tr
<i>A. repens</i>	Bugle	Ga, Gle
<i>Clinopodium vulgare</i>	Wild basil	S, Tr
<i>Lamiastrum galaeobdolon</i>	Yellow archangel	Gl, Ga, Gle,
<i>Lamium maculatum</i>	Spotted dead-nettle	Ga

<i>Stachys recta</i>	Yellow woundwort	Ge
<i>Teucrium chamaedrys</i>	Wall germander	Ge
<i>T. pyrenaicum</i>	Pyrenean germander	Ge
<i>T. scorodonia</i>	Wood sage	Gl
<i>Thymus serpyllum</i>	Wild thyme	Ge, Gl, Ga, To, Tr
<b>Lentibulariaceae</b>		
<i>Pinguicula grandiflora</i>	Large-flowered butterwort	Gl, S, Tr
<i>P. vulgaris</i>	Common butterwort	Gl, Ga, S, Tr, H
<b>Loranthaceae</b>		
<i>Viscum album</i>	Mistletoe	Ge
<b>Oleaceae</b>		
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash	Ge, Ga, Gl, B
<b>Oxalidaceae</b>		
<i>Oxalis acetosella</i>	Wood sorrel	Ga
<b>Papaveraceae</b>		
<i>Chelidonium majus</i>	Greater celandine	Ge
<i>Meconopsis cambrica</i>	Welsh poppy	Ga, Gl, Gle B
<b>Plantaginaceae</b>		
<i>Plantago alpina</i>		Ga
<i>P. maritima</i> ssp. <i>serpentina</i>	Fleshy plantain	Gl, Ga, Tr
<i>P. media</i>	Hoary plantain	Ge, Ga, O, S, Tr
<b>Plumbaginaceae</b>		
<i>Armeria maritima</i> ssp. <i>alpina</i>	Mountain thrift	Ge Tr
<b>Polygalaceae</b>		
<i>Polygala alpina</i>	Alpine milkwort	Gl, To, Tr
<i>P. comosa</i>	Tufted milkwort	Ga
<b>Polygonaceae</b>		
<i>Polygonum. viviparum</i>	Alpine bistort	Gl, Ga
<i>Rumex scutatus</i>	French sorrel	Gl, To, S, Tr
<b>Primulaceae</b>		
<i>Androsace carnea</i>	Pink rock-jasmine	To, Te, Tr
<i>A. chamaejasme</i>	Ciliate rock-jasmine	Ga, S, Tr
<i>Lysimachia nemorum</i>	Yellow pimpernel	Gle, B
<i>Primula elatior</i>	Oxlip	Gl, Ga
<i>P. farinosa</i>	Bird's-eye primrose	Gl, Ga, S, Tr
<i>P. hirsuta</i>		Te, Tr
<i>P. integrifolia</i>	Entire-leaved primrose	Tr
<i>P. veris</i>	Cowslip	Gl, H
<i>P. vulgaris</i>	Primrose	Tr
<i>Soldanella alpina</i>	Alpine snowbell	To, Tr
<i>Vitaliana primuliflora</i>	Yellow rock-jasmine	Te
<b>Pyrolaceae</b>		
<i>Pyrola minor</i>	Lesser wintergreen	B
<b>Ranunculaceae</b>		
<i>Aconitum napellus</i>	Monk's-hood	Gl, Ga, B, H
<i>Anemone narcissiflora</i>	Narcissus-flowered anemone	Gl, Tr
<i>A. nemorosa</i>	Wood anemone	Gle
<i>Aquilegia vulgaris</i>	Columbine	Ge, Gl, Ga, Gle, B, H
<i>Caltha palustris</i>	Marsh marigold	Gl, Ga, Gle
<i>Clematis vitalba</i>	Traveller's-joy	Ge, B
<i>Helleborus foetidus</i>	Stinking hellebore	Ge, Ga, Gle, Te, S, B, Tr
<i>H. viridis</i>	Green hellebore	Ge, Gle
<i>Hepatica nobilis</i>	Hepatica	Ge, Gl, Ga, Gle
<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	Meadow buttercup	Ge, Gle, B

<i>R. bulbosus</i>	Bulbous buttercup	Ge
<i>R. pyrenaicus</i>	Pyrenean buttercup	To
<i>R. repens</i>	Creeping buttercup	Ge
<i>Thalictrum aquilegifolium</i>	Great meadow-rue	Gl, To, B
<i>Trollius europeaeus</i>	Globe-flower	GlGl, Ga, S
<b>Resedaceae</b>		
<i>Reseda glauca</i>	Pyrenean mignonette	Gl
<b>Rhamnaceae</b>		
<i>Rhamnus alpinus</i>	Alpine buckthorn	Ga, Tr
<i>R. catharticus</i>	Purging buckthorn	Ge, B
<i>R. pumilus</i>	Dwarf buckthorn	Gl, Te, Tr
<b>Rosaceae</b>		
<i>Alchemilla alpina</i>	Alpine lady's-mantle	Gl, Ga, To, Tr, H
<i>A. splendens</i>	Intermediate lady's-mantle	Gl
<i>A. vulgaris</i>	Lady's mantle	Ga, Tr
<i>Amelanchier ovalis</i>	Snowy mespilus	Ge, Gl
<i>Cotoneaster integerrimus</i>	Wild cotoneaster	Gl
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn	Ge
<i>Dryas octopetala</i>	Mountain avens	Gl
<i>Fragaria vesca</i>	Wild strawberry	Ge, Gl, Ga, Gle, B, Tr
<i>Geum montanum</i>	Alpine avens	Gl
<i>G. urbanum</i>	Wood avens	Ga
<i>G. pyrenaicum</i>	Pyrenean avens	Gl
<i>Potentilla alchemilloides</i>		O
<i>P. montana</i>		Gl
<i>P. rupestris</i>	Rock cinquefoil	Gl
<i>P. tabernaemontani</i>	Spring cinquefoil	To
<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog rose	Ge, H
<i>R. gallica</i>	Provence rose	Gl
<i>R. glauca</i>	Blue-leaved rose	Gl, Ga, S, Tr
<i>R. pendulina</i>	Alpine rose	Gl
<i>R. pimpinellifolia</i>	Burnet rose	Ga
<i>Rubus fruticosus</i>	Blackberry	Gle, H
<i>R. idaeus</i>	Raspberry	Ge, Gl, Tr, H
<i>Sanguisorba minor</i>	Salad-burnet	Ge, Ga,
<i>Sorbus aria</i>	Whitebeam	Ga
<i>S. aucuparia</i>	Rowan	Gl
<b>Rubiaceae</b>		
<i>Asperula cynanchica</i>	Squinancywort	Ge, S
<i>A. hirta</i>		Ga
<i>Cruciata laevipes</i>	Crosswort	Ge, Ga, S, Tr
<i>Galium aparine</i>	Goosegrass	Ge
<i>G. caespitosum</i>		To
<i>G. mollugo</i>	Hedge bedstraw	Ge
<i>G. odoratum</i>	Woodruff	Gle, B
<i>G. verum</i>	Lady's-bedstraw	Ge, Ga
<b>Salicaceae</b>		
<i>Populus tremula</i>	Aspen	Ge, Gl, S
<i>Salix elaeagnos</i>		Ga
<i>S. pentandra</i>	Bay willow	Ge
<i>S. pyrenaica</i>		Gl, Tr
<i>S. purpurea</i>		Ga
<b>Santalaceae</b>		
<i>Thesium pyrenaicum</i>		Gle
<b>Saxifragaceae</b>		
<i>Saxifraga aizoides</i>	Yellow mountain saxifrage	Ga
<i>S. cotyledon</i>	Pyramidal saxifrage	Gl, Ga, H
<i>S. granulata</i>	Meadow saxifrage	Ge
<i>S. harriotii</i>		Tr
<i>S. longifolia</i>	Pyrenean saxifrage	Ge, Te

<i>S. moschata</i>	Musky saxifrage	To, Tr
<i>S. oppositifolia</i>	Purple saxifrage	Tr
<i>S. paniculata</i>	Livelong saxifrage	Gl, Ga, B, H
<i>S. pubescens</i>		Gl
<i>S. rotundifolia</i>	Round-leaved saxifrage	Ge, Gl
<i>S. umbrosa</i>	Wood saxifrage	Gl, S, B
<b>Scrophulariaceae</b>		
<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	Snapdragon	Ge
<i>Bartsia alpina</i>	Alpine bartsia	Gl
<i>Chaenorhinum origanifolium</i>		Ga
<i>Erinus alpinus</i>	Fairy foxglove	Ge, Gl, Ga, To, S, Tr, H
<i>Euphrasia alpina</i>	Eyebright	S, O
<i>Linaria alpina</i>	Alpine toadflax	Gl, Ga, O
<i>L. supina</i>		Gl
<i>Melampyrum pratense</i>	Common cow-wheat	Gl, Ga, Ge
<i>Pedicularis foliosa</i>	Leafy lousewort	Gl, Tr
<i>P. palustris</i>	Marsh lousewort	Ga
<i>P. pyrenaica</i>	Pyrenean lousewort	Gl, Ga, O
<i>Scrophularia alpestris</i>		G
<i>S. canina</i>	Alpine figwort	Ga, S
<i>S. nodosa</i>	Common figwort	Ga, Gl, B
<i>S. pyrenaica</i>	Pyrenean figwort	Ga
<i>Rhinanthus angustifolius</i>	Greater yellow-rattle	Ge, Gl, Ga, S, Tr
<i>Verbascum nigrum</i>	Dark mullein	Ge, S
<i>V. thapsus</i>	Mullein	Ge
<i>Veronica alpina</i>	Alpine speedwell	To, Te, Tr
<i>V. beccabunga</i>	Brooklime	To
<i>V. fruticans</i>	Rock speedwell	Gl, To
<i>V. nummularia</i>	Pyrenean speedwell	Gl, Tr
<i>V. ponae</i>	Pyrenean spiked speedwell	Gl, Ga, S
<i>V. serpyllifolia</i>	Thyme-leaved speedwell	To
<b>Solanaceae</b>		
<i>Atropa belladonna</i>	Deadly nightshade	S
<b>Thymelaeaceae</b>		
<i>Daphne cneorum</i>	Garland flower	Gl, To, Tr
<i>D. laureola</i>	Spurge-laurel	Gl, To, Tr
<i>D. laureola ssp. philippii</i>		Te To
<i>D. mezereum</i>	Mezereon	Tr
<b>Tiliaceae</b>		
<i>Tilia platyphyllos</i>	Large-leaved lime	Ge, Ga, H
<i>T. cordata</i>	Small-leaved lime	Ge
<b>Ulmaceae</b>		
<i>Ulmus glabra</i>	Wych elm	Ge, Ga, B, H
<b>Valerianaceae</b>		
<i>Valeriana montana</i>		B
<i>V. officinalis</i>	Valerian	Tr
<i>V. pyrenaica</i>		Ge, G, To, B
<i>V. tripteris</i>		Gl, B
<i>Valerianella locusta</i>	Lamb's lettuce	Ge
<b>Violaceae</b>		
<i>Viola biflora</i>	Yellow wood violet	Tr
<i>V. cornuta</i>	Horned violet	Ga, S, Ge
<i>V. lutea</i>	Mountain pansy	S
<i>V. palustris</i>	Bog violet	Tr
<i>V. pyrenaica</i>	Pyrenean violet	Te, To, Tr
<i>V. riviniana</i>	Common dog-violet	Gle
<i>V. tricolor</i>	Heartsease	S

**Monocotyledons****Cyperaceae**

<i>Carex caryophylla</i>	Spring sedge	Tr
<i>C. sylvatica</i>	Wood sedge	B
<i>Eriophorum angustifolium</i>	Cotton-grass	H

**Dioscoreaceae**

<i>Tamus communis</i>	Black bryony	Ge
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**Iridaceae**

<i>Iris latifolia</i>		To
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**Juncaceae**

<i>Luzula sylvatica</i>	Great woodrush	B
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**Liliaceae**

<i>Allium senescens</i>	Mountain onion	Ge
<i>Anthericum liliago</i>	St Bernard's lily	Ge
<i>Asphodelus albus</i>	Asphodel	Gl
<i>Convallaria majalis</i>	Lily-of-the-valley	Gl
<i>Dipcadi serotinum</i>	Dipcadi	Ge
<i>Fritillaria pyrenaica</i>	Pyrenean snake's-head	Gl
<i>Hyacinthoides hispanicus</i>	Spanish bluebell	Ga
<i>Hyacinthus amethystinus</i>	Pyrenean hyacinth	Ga, S, H
<i>Lilium martagon</i>	Martagon lily	Ga
<i>Paradisaea liliastrum</i>	St. Bruno's lily	H
<i>Paris quadrifolia</i>	Herb paris	Gle
<i>Ruscus aculeatus</i>	Butcher's-broom	Gle
<i>Scilla liliohyacinthus</i>	Pyrenean squill	Gle
<i>S. verna</i>	Spring squill	Gl
<i>Tofieldia calyculata</i>	Tofield's asphodel	Gl
<i>Veratrum album</i>	White false helleborine	Tr, Gl

**Orchidaceae**

<i>Anacamptis pyramidalis</i>	Pyramidal orchid	Ge, S
<i>Cephalanthera longifolia</i>	Narrow-leaved helleborine	Ga, B, H
<i>Coeloglossum viride</i>	Frog orchid	Ga, S
<i>Dactylorhiza fuchsii</i>	Common spotted-orchid	Gl, Ga
<i>D. incarnata</i>	Early marsh-orchid	S
<i>D. majalis</i> ssp. <i>alpestris</i>	Broad-leaved marsh-orchid	Gl, Ga, S
<i>D. sambucina</i>	Elder-flowered orchid	Gl, Ga
<i>Epipactis helleborine</i>	Broad-leaved helleborine	Ge, Gl
<i>Gymnadenia conopsea</i>	Fragrant orchid	Gl, Ga, B, H
<i>Listera ovata</i>	Common twayblade	Gl, Ga, S
<i>Nigritella nigra</i>	Black vanilla orchid	Gl
<i>Orchis mascula</i>	Early purple orchid	H
<i>O. ustulata</i>	Burnt-tip orchid	Ga, S, H
<i>Platanthera chlorantha</i>	Greater butterfly-orchid	B, H

**Poaceae (very incomplete)**

<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	Sweet vernal grass	Gl
<i>Brachypodium pinnatum</i>	Heath false brome	S
<i>B. sylvaticum</i>	Wood false brome	S
<i>Briza media</i>	Quaking-grass	S
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Cocksfoot	Ge
<i>Festuca eskia</i>		To, Te, Tr
<i>Koeleria cristata</i>	Crested hair grass	Ge, S
<i>Melica ciliata</i>		Ge
<i>M. mutans</i>	Mountain melick	S
<i>M. uniflora</i>	Wood melick	Ge
<i>Molinia caerulea</i>	Purple moor grass	Gl
<i>Nardus stricta</i>	Mat-grass	Gl, To, Te, Tr
<i>Trisetum flavescens</i>	Golden oat grass	Ge

## CONIFERS

<i>Abies alba</i>	Silver fir	Gle
<i>Pinus nigra</i> ssp. <i>salzmannii</i>	Pyrenean black pine	Gle
<i>P. sylvestris</i>	Scots pine	Gle
<i>Juniperus communis</i>	Juniper	Ge, Gl, Ga
<i>Taxus baccata</i>	Yew	Ge, Ga

## FERNS

<i>Asplenium adiantum-nigrum</i>	Black spleenwort	Ge
<i>A. ruta-muraria</i>	Wall-rue	Ge
<i>A. septentrionale</i>	Forking spleenwort	Gl
<i>A. trichomanes</i>	Maidenhair spleenwort	Ge
<i>A. viride</i>	Green spleenwort	Tr
<i>Athyrium alpina</i>	Alpine lady fern	Gl
<i>Botrychium lunaria</i>	Moonwort	Te, To
<i>Ceterach officinalis</i>	Rusty-back fern	Ge
<i>Cryptogramma crispera</i>	Parsley fern	Gl
<i>Dryopteris affinis</i>	Scaly male fern	Ge
<i>D. dilatata</i>	Broad buckler-fern	Ge
<i>D. filix-mas</i>	Male fern	Ge
<i>Gymnocarpium dryopteris</i>	Oak fern	Gl, Gle
<i>Phegopteris connectilis</i>	Beech fern	Gle
<i>Polystichum lonchitis</i>	Holly fern	Tr
<i>P. setiferum</i>	Soft shield-fern	Gle
<i>Equisetum variegatum</i>	Variegated horsetail	O
<i>Huperzia selago</i>	Clubmoss	Gl

## BUTTERFLIES

Large grizzled skipper  
 Grizzled skipper  
 Alpine grizzled skipper  
 Dingy skipper  
 Small skipper  
 Large skipper  
 Swallowtail  
 Apollo  
 Clouded Apollo  
 Camberwell beauty  
 Small tortoiseshell  
 Painted lady  
 Red Admiral  
 Queen-of-Spain fritillary  
 Pearl-bordered fritillary  
 Small pearl-bordered fritillary  
 Heath fritillary  
 False heath fritillary  
 Queen of Spain fritillary  
 Meadow brown  
 Wall brown  
 Large wall brown  
 Bright-eyed ringlet  
 Piedmont ringlet  
 Marbled white  
 Large white  
 Small white  
 Green-veined white  
 Wood white

Orange tip  
 Black-veined white  
 Brimstone  
 Clouded yellow  
 Common blue  
 Adonis blue  
 Mazarine blue  
 Small blue  
 Green hairstreak

## MOTHS

*Nemophora degeerella*  
*Metaxmeste phrygialis*  
 Slender scotch burnet  
 Six-spotted burnet  
 Lackey  
*Rhodostrophia calabra*  
 Carpet sp.  
 Brimstone moth  
 Yellow shell  
 Speckled yellow  
 Chimney sweeper  
 Hummingbird hawk-moth  
 Cream-spot tiger  
 Tawny marbled minor  
 Burnet companion

## OTHER INVERTEBRATES

<i>Hirudo medicinalis</i>	Medicinal leech
<i>Arion ater</i>	a large black slug
<i>Limax maximus</i>	Leopard slug
<i>Cepaea nemoralis</i>	Banded snail
<i>Helix aspersa</i>	Garden snail
<i>Salticus scenicus</i>	a jumping spider
<i>Gryllus campestris</i>	Field cricket
<i>Calopteryx splendens</i>	Banded demoiselle
<i>Graphosoma italicum</i>	Milwall bug
<i>Pyrhocoris apterus</i>	Fire-bug
<i>Libelloides coccajus</i>	an ascalaphid
<i>Cetonia aeruginosa</i>	a rose chafer
<i>Eysarcoris oleraceus</i>	a shield bug
<i>Phyllopertha horticola</i>	a chafer
<i>Oxythyrea funesta</i>	a flower chafer
<i>Lampyris noctiluca</i>	Glow-worm
<i>Cicindela campestris</i>	Green Tiger-beetle
<i>Calosoma sycophanta</i>	a metallic ground beetle
<i>Ocyopus olens</i>	Devil's coach-horse
<i>Adalia bipunctata</i>	2-spot ladybird
<i>Scarabaeus sp</i>	a dung beetle
<i>Aphodius rufipes</i>	a small dung beetle
<i>Dorcadion scopolii</i>	a longhorn beetle
<i>Lytta vesicatoria</i>	Spanish-fly
<i>Lampra rutilans</i>	a jewel beetle
<i>Apion pomonae</i>	a weevil
<i>Polistes sp.</i>	a paper wasp
<i>Vespa crabro</i>	Hornet
<i>Formica rufa</i>	Wood ant

## AMPHIBIANS



Common frog  
Pyrenean brook newt  
Fire salamander (dead)

## **REPTILES**

Viviparous lizard  
Common wall lizard  
Green lizard  
Slow worm (dead)  
Southern smooth snake

## **MAMMALS**

Alpine marmot  
Red squirrel  
Snow vole (runs)  
Mole (hills)  
Pipistrelle  
Soprano pipistrelle  
Daubenton's bat  
Serotine  
Fox  
Isard (Pyrenean chamois)  
Wild boar (rootings)

## BIRDS

Grey heron	J Ge	Blackbird	
Pintail	Te	Song thrush	
Red kite	J	Mistle thrush	
Black kite	J Ge	Blackcap	
Egyptian vulture	Ge	Garden warbler	
Griffon vulture		Northern chiffchaff	
Short-toed eagle	Ge Ga	Goldcrest	Gle
Lammergeier	Ge Ga Tr	Firecrest	Ge Ga Gle
Golden eagle	S	Spotted flycatcher	
Common buzzard		Long-tailed tit	
Sparrowhawk	Ga	Great tit	
Kestrel		Blue tit	
Quail	S	Coal tit	
Woodpigeon		Crested tit	Gle
Rock dove/ Feral pigeon		Nuthatch	
Collared dove		Short-toed treecreeper	Gle B
Cuckoo		Starling	J
Tawny owl	Ge	Red-backed shrike	Te O B
Swift		Raven	
Green woodpecker	Ge	Carrion crow	
Great spotted woodpecker		Red-billed chough	
Skylark		Alpine chough	
Woodlark	S	Magpie	
Swallow		Jay	
House martin		Chaffinch	
Crag martin		Goldfinch	
Tree pipit		Greenfinch	
Meadow pipit		Bullfinch	
Water pipit		Linnet	
Grey wagtail		Serin	
White wagtail		Citril finch	Ga Gle
Dipper		Snow finch	To
Wren		House sparrow	
Dunnock		Yellowhammer	
Alpine accentor	Tr	Cirl bunting	
Robin		Corn bunting	
Black redstart		Rock bunting	O
Whinchat	S		
Northern wheatear			
Rock thrush	Tr		

**Total: 77 species**