

# THE TRAVELLING NATURALIST

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## SLOVENIA & HUNGARY

### Butterflies of the Alps, Grasslands & Coast

15 – 22 July 2014

#### TOUR REPORT

**Leader:** Attila Steiner

**Local guides & experts:** Rudi Verovnik (butterflies, Slovenia)  
Szabolcs ("Safi") Sáfián (butterflies and moths, Hungary)  
Tibor Danyik (general entomology, Hungary)

#### SUMMARY

Overall, our tour was extremely successful. We achieved our objective of seeing all four currently-recognised species of large blue, including upland and lowland forms of both "common" large blue and Alcon blue. We saw the majority of the upland ringlets possible at this time of year, including both Styrian and Stygian ringlets and the eastern alpine endemic Lorkovic's brassy ringlet. In total we saw 116 species of butterfly.

Good weather conditions meant that we were able to fully appreciate the major habitat types we visited. In particular, the many types of meadow were spectacularly flowery and the diversity of plants supported a wonderfully diverse population of invertebrates. Our small party was also able to benefit considerably from the great expertise of all of the local guides and experts used.

## DAILY REPORT

### Tuesday 15 July

#### Ljubljana to Pivka

The afternoon flight from Stansted to Ljubljana arrived on time and we were quickly on our way towards Pivka, where we were staying at a small farm that provided excellent accommodation just outside the town.

We had sufficient time before dinner to make a brief exploration of the valley at around 500 metres above sea level, which was principally meadowland with a few small strips of crops and produce surrounded by forest. A strip of Indian hemp *Cannabis sativa* was particularly attractive to stonechats and whinchats. Other birds heard or seen included raven, hawfinch, serin and linnet. Butterflies were limited to common grassland species, including the very dark local form of marbled white. Our first mammal for the trip was a brown hare.

### Wednesday 16 July

#### The South-West Littoral Region and the Slovenian Karst Rim

At breakfast Rudi joined us and we set off on the short journey into the south-western corner of Slovenia, which is bounded by the Italian and Croatian borders and the Adriatic Sea.

Our first stop was at 1,000 metres at the top of Mount Slavnik, which we accessed up an unmade road through forest containing much hornbeam. From here we had a good view of Trieste and, in theory at least, it was also possible to see Venice. The hillside was very exposed and the wind limited numbers of butterflies flying. Nevertheless we saw Scotch argus, woodland and great-banded graylings, great sooty satyr, mountain brown argus, and blue-spot hairstreak. Fritillaries included dark-green, silver-washed, niobe and spotted. Plants along the track included many dark-red helleborine.

From there we headed to the more sheltered Sočerga, where we almost immediately found an Italian wall Lizard. Butterflies at this location included: Idas, Reverdin's, Chapman's, eastern baton, and long-tailed blues; cardinal and wall. The long-tailed blue was found in an extensive area of one of its larval foodplants, bladder senna *Colutea arborescens*. Another common plant in at this location was the Eurasian smoketree *Cotinus coggygria*. Birds were also good with numbers of red-backed shrikes, corn buntings and woodlarks. A honey buzzard and a short-toed eagle both gave good in-flight views while we lunched.

We made a couple of stops in Alfalfa (*Lucerne Medicago sativa*) fields near Hrastovlje but saw little new. From there we went to the village of Osp, nestling under the Karst Rim cliffs, which were home to large numbers of Alpine swifts and house martins. As we walked down to the village we saw a handsome Dalmatian Algyroides with a bright blue chin. Butterflies here included southern small white, southern white admiral, southern comma, and chequered blue. A griffon vulture flew high over the cliff.

After a stop for ice cream and a beer we went to our final location, a stony hillside where once there had been tree grayling, now likely lost due to lack of grazing. However, we did see purple hairstreak and saw our third *Plebejus* of the day – silver-studded blue, taking our total butterfly count for the day past 60. The possible highlight of this site was the grasshopper *Prionotropis hystrix*, in which the male is large and yellowish in colour and the female even larger and brown.

We returned to our accommodation for an excellent meal and some samples from the farm's cellar of home-made liqueurs.

### Thursday 17 July

#### Mount Nanos and the Croatian Border

Our principal objective for the day was to explore Mount Nanos, a large standing stone plateau, 12 kilometres long by six kilometres wide. At its highest point it stands 1,313 metres above sea level. We

concentrated on the western slopes, part of a 2,600 hectare national park, which we accessed by driving to the church of Saint Jerome below the Pleša Peak.

Our journey there contained much of interest. *En route* we were surprised to see a black stork flying overhead. The twisty road up the western slope was used to bask by common wall lizards and we found two splendid beetles: a very fresh small male Stag Beetle and the beech and oak specialist longhorn beetle *Morimus funereus*. After parking near the church virtually the first butterfly we found was a tufted marbled skipper. Other butterflies seen here included a male of the dry grassland form of the Alcon blue (until recently was generally regarded as a separate species, mountain Alcon blue *Maculinea rebeli*); many great sooty satyrs; twinspace, heath and lesser marbled fritillaries; blue-spot and sloe hairstreaks; and Meleager's blue.

We then drove a little way back down the hill to a spring with very welcome cool drinking-water. On the rock-faces here we finally located Styrian ringlet and saw more Dalmatian Algyroides. Other things of note here were a Balkan emerald dragonfly and Mueller's Helleborine *Epipactis muelleri*.



Styrian Ringlet (*Erebia stirus*) at Mount Nanos © Attila Steiner

Our next destination was Babno Polje on the Croatian border, which is statistically the coldest place in Slovenia. The first forest trail we walked was very flowery, with great drifts of the pretty blue and yellow cow-wheat *Melampyrum bhariense* and both Martagon and Carniolan lilies *Lilium martagon* and *L. carnolicum*. The weather here, however, was rather too dull and damp for butterflies. We drove on a little way, re-entering the forest near some bee-hives protected from predation by bears by electric fences. In this area two of us had a brief view of a woodland brown, and we also saw Arran browns and a marbled fritillary. This area had many dark red helleborines and fragrant orchids. As we left a flock of about 20 fieldfares was moving through nearby meadows.

We drove back to our accommodation virtually all the way through vast tracts of forest – principally pine and beech – in the faint hope of seeing bears. This natural forest is best for brown bears in Slovenia and

also contains wolf and European lynx but, unsurprisingly, we saw none of them. The drive through the forest was nevertheless very interesting as the forest, like many of the trees near where we were staying, had sustained great damage during the winter from a downpour of freezing rain that had left all trees coated in five or more centimetres of ice and was then followed by very strong winds. Throughout this forest virtually all trees had sustained some damage and in some areas 10-20% of them had been blown down.

### **Friday 18 July**

#### **To the Julian Alps**

We made an earlier start than usual to drive to our second base beneath the Julian Alps near the Italian border. In order to have as much time there as possible we took the motorway until Nova Gorica.

Our first stop was at Log, where we set off on a trail along the Soca river much used by rafters and kayakers until a point where a landslip had completely obliterated the path. Here we saw our first “common” large blue of the trip and the hillside contained several Apollos. Other butterflies here included mountain small white; numerous sooty coppers and a few purple-shot coppers; ringlet; dryad; and chalkhill and Adonis blues. Other taxa included a goshawk circling a distant mountain-top and both green and viviparous lizards.



Apollo (*Parnassius apollo*) at Log © Attila Steiner

Rudi's first-choice site for Stygian ringlet had been on the escarpment beyond where the path now ended so we went to an alternative site, the Boka waterfall near the village of Bovec. After climbing to a viewpoint to admire the 100+ metre drop of the waterfall we clambered down to the boulder-strewn riverbed below, where we saw a couple of Stygian ringlets, one of which settled on a distant boulder giving us reasonably good telescope views.

We then went higher to the Vršič Pass at 1,600 metres above sea level. Here, the butterfly fauna was markedly different with mountain green-veined white and Alpine heath the dominant species. Other

species seen included Asian fritillary; and bright-eyed, dewy, mountain, blind and large ringlets. A rather worn narrow-bordered bee-hawk moth was also seen.

Our final stop for the evening was on a rocky hillside near Soča, which Rudi had previously found good for basking nose-horned vipers. We were unable to locate any vipers but the stop was made worthwhile by finding a marbled white of the occasional female form *leucomelas* that has a plain yellowish-white underside hind-wing.

Our hotel accommodation in the village of Log pod Mangartom was pleasant as was an associated restaurant nearby in the village where we dined.

### **Saturday 19 July**

#### **Higher in the Julian Alps**

We drove up Mount Mangart to a height of approximately 2,000 metres. From the car park we walked up to a meadow favoured by hang-glider enthusiasts and then took a level but rocky path a kilometre or so across to a lovely flowery alpine meadow, which we had to ourselves despite the large numbers of holidaymakers and weekenders at the car park. The flora included large numbers of black vanilla orchid *Nigritella nigra* and small white orchid *Pseudorchis albida*. Butterflies included the diminutive high altitude form of the woodland ringlet and rather dusky marsh fritillaries. We also found Lorkovic's brassy ringlet but failed to find our other target species of yellow-spotted ringlet. The birdlife at this altitude was also different and included Alpine chough, Alpine accentor and water pipit. The avian highlight was a raven mugging an Alpine chough and circling down to catch in mid-air the piece of food the chough had been forced to drop.

We ate our picnic lunch a couple of hundred metres lower. Afterwards, we explored the nearby rocky meadows which were very productive for butterflies. Within the course of ten minutes we were able to examine a silky ringlet that Rudi had netted, followed in quick succession by a Warren's skipper and a large blue. This mountainside is the only location known for Warren's skipper in Slovenia. The large blue was of the darker mountain form and although not as dark as is possible very handsome.

After heading back down the mountain we visited two more sites. The first was a hillside near the village where we were staying where we saw several more Styrian ringlets. From there we visited meadows at Bavšica, which yielded a further six apolloes.

After dinner it was time to say our farewells to Rudi, who had made a splendid contribution to the success of the trip.

### **Sunday 20 July**

#### **To the Hungarian Border**

We made a brief stop in woodland near our hotel while we waited for our packed lunches to be completed, where we saw crested tits and heard grey wagtail. We took the quickest route out of Log pod Mangartom, which briefly took us into Italy. On re-entering Slovenia we stopped at Planica near the little town of Kranjska Gora to visit a hillside site recommended by Rudi. Here we quickly located geranium argus and saw several false heath fritillaries. We watched what was unmistakably a poplar admiral crossing the meadow below the hill and found a ruddy darter dragonfly.

We then drove to the Órség National Park in Hungary, near the border at Kercaszomor, stopping only at a service area to take lunch. Upon arrival, we met up with Tibor and set off into the reserve, where we quickly located our first scarce large blues. We were soon joined there by Szabolcs Sáfián ("Safi"), director of conservation for the reserve, who hosted our visit to the site. He quickly found us a population of dusky large blues, explaining that these insects prefer shade in the heat of the afternoon. Both scarce and dusky large blues use burnet plants as their larval foodplants and we were able to watch females of both ovipositing on great burnet *Sanguisorba officinalis*, scarce on buds, dusky on fully opened flowers. We also

saw the lowland form of Alcon blue and clusters of its white eggs on the flowers of marsh gentian *Gentiana pneumonanthe*. Other butterflies seen here included Map; Duke of Burgundy; and small pearl-bordered and Weaver's Fritillaries. Other insects included wart-biter (cricket) *Decticus verrucivorus*. Birds, which seemed more numerous generally on the Hungarian side of the border, included white storks and turtle dove and the much damper habitat provided our first amphibian, a large agile frog.

We then re-crossed the border back into Slovenia to our final hotel, another comfortable place in the unprepossessing spa town of Moravske Toplice.

### Monday 21 July

#### Revisit Órség National Park and surrounding area

After breakfast, which featured a platter of splendid home-cured meats and sausages made by the proprietor, we headed back to Órség, where Safi showed us several more areas of this beautiful reserve and described the conservation methods being employed. Although the weather was a little more overcast we saw good butterflies, including dryad, scarce copper, short-tailed blue, common glider and both grizzled and Oberthur's grizzled skippers, in addition to many more large blues.



Large Chequered Skipper (*Heteropterus morpheus*) at Kercaszomor © Attila Steiner

The second site we visited produced the greatest highlights. First, we had our first definite sightings of the very pretty large chequered skipper, which has a very characteristic flight pattern. Then Safi found us a male large copper with a seemingly uncommon aberration in which several of the black spots on the underside are elongated into streaks. Other insects seen included the dragonflies blue featherleg, Balkan emerald and blue-eyed hawk; praying mantis *Mantis religiosa*; larvae of the pine jewel beetle *Buprestis mariana*; great diving-beetle *Dytiscus marginalis*; and water scorpion *Nepa cinerea*. During the day amphibians included yellow-bellied toads and birds were good again, with good numbers of hawfinches, turtle doves and tree sparrows. We also saw a European crayfish *Astacus astacus* that Tibor wrangled from a stream for us to inspect closely.

We took supper at an excellent local restaurant that specialised in fish dishes before going back to Safi's house where he ran a couple of moth traps. Moth highlights from the traps included good numbers of small elephant hawks; pine hawks; and plum lappet *Odonestis pruni*. The most notable other insect attracted to the traps was a mantis fly *Mantispa styriaca*. Slightly the worse for wear, we said thanked Safi for his hospitality and providing us with so many excellent insights into his conservation work.

## **Tuesday 23 July**

### **River Mura and return to Ljubljana**

The plan for our last morning was to again cross the border into Hungary to look for Freyer's purple emperor in the riparian woodlands of the River Mura. However, the weather was against us and we were happy to be able to walk this wetland habitat before the rain set in in earnest. The wet underfoot conditions meant that wildlife was dominated by molluscs, particularly the highly invasive, non-native Spanish Slug *Arion vulgaris*. Birds included golden oriole, black stork, marsh harrier and our first black kite. Our best insect sighting was the dragonfly western willow spreadwing *Lestes viridis*. Sadly the time had come to bid farewell to Tibor and for the rest of us to return Ljubljana for the return flight to London.

## SPECIES LIST

### BUTTERFLIES

Dingy Skipper	<i>Erynnis tages</i>	common
Mallow Skipper	<i>Carcharodus alceae</i>	Hrastovlje
Tufted Marbled Skipper	<i>Carcharodus flocciferus</i>	1 at Nanos
Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus malvae</i>	Kercaszomor
Oberthür's Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus armoricanus</i>	1 at Kercaszomor
Warren's Skipper	<i>Pyrgus warrenensis</i>	1 at Mangart
Large Chequered Skipper	<i>Heteropterus morpheus</i>	4 at Kercaszomor
Essex Skipper	<i>Thymelicus lineola</i>	fairly common
Small Skipper	<i>Thymelicus silvestris</i>	common
Large Skipper	<i>Ochlodes sylvanus</i>	common
Apollo	<i>Parnassius apollo</i>	8 at Log, 6 at Bavsica
Clouded Apollo	<i>Parnassius mnemosyne</i>	Mangart
Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>	common
Scarce Swallowtail	<i>Iphiclides podalirius</i>	Slavnik, Nanos, Kercaszomor
Wood White	<i>Leptidea sinapis</i>	common
Black-veined White	<i>Aporia crataegi</i>	Babno Polje, Planica, Kercaszomor
Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>	fairly common
Green-veined White	<i>Pieris napi</i>	common
Mountain Green-veined White	<i>Pieris bryoniae</i>	Vrsic Pass, Mangart
Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>	common
Southern Small White	<i>Pieris mannii</i>	Osp, Nanos
Mountain Small White	<i>Pieris ergane</i>	Log, Moznica
Eastern Bath White	<i>Pontia edusa</i>	Hrastovlje
Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias croceus</i>	Pivka, Hrastovlje, Mangart
Berger's Pale Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias alfacariensis</i>	Hrastovlje
Brimstone	<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>	common
Duke of Burgundy	<i>Hamearis lucina</i>	Kercaszomor
Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>	Socerga (leader only)
Sooty Copper	<i>Lycaena tityrus</i>	fairly common
Scarce Copper	<i>Lycaena virgaureae</i>	2 at Kercaszomor
Purple-shot Copper	<i>Lycaena alciphron</i>	Log, Soca, Planica
Purple-edged Copper	<i>Lycaena hippothoe</i>	Vrsic Pass, Kercaszomor
Large Copper	<i>Lycaena dispar</i>	1 aberration form at Kercaszomor
Purple Hairstreak	<i>Neozephyrus quercus</i>	Kastelec, Nanos, Kercaszomor
Blue-spot Hairstreak	<i>Satyrrium spini</i>	Slavnik, Nanos
Sloe Hairstreak	<i>Satyrrium acaciae</i>	Nanos
Long-tailed Blue	<i>Lampides boeticus</i>	1 at Socerga
Geranium Bronze	<i>Cacyreus marshalli</i>	Osp
Little Blue	<i>Cupido minimus</i>	common
Short-tailed Blue	<i>Cupido argiades</i>	Kercaszomor
Provençal Short-tailed Blue	<i>Cupido alcetas</i>	Hrastovlje
Holly Blue	<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>	Hrastovlje
Eastern Baton Blue	<i>Pseudophilotes vicrama</i>	Socerga, Kercaszomor
Chequered Blue	<i>Scoliantides orion</i>	Osp, Nanos, Log
Large Blue	<i>Maculinea arion</i>	Log, Mangart
Scarce Large Blue	<i>Maculinea teleius</i>	Kercaszomor
Dusky Large Blue	<i>Maculinea nausithous</i>	Kercaszomor
Alcon Blue	<i>Maculinea alcon</i>	Nanos, Kercaszomor
Silver-studded Blue	<i>Plebejus argus</i>	Kastelec, Planica
Idas Blue	<i>Plebejus idas</i>	Slavnik, Nanos, Kercaszomor
Reverdin's Blue	<i>Plebejus argyrognomon</i>	Hrastovlje, Nanos
Geranium Argus	<i>Aricia eumedon</i>	4 at Planica
Brown Argus	<i>Aricia agestis</i>	Socerga, Nanos, Kercaszomor
Mountain Argus	<i>Aricia artaxerxes</i>	Slavnik, Vrsic Pass, Soca, Mangart,
Moznica		

Mazarine Blue	Cyaniris semiargus	Vrsic Pass, Mangart, Kercaszomor
Chapman's Blue	Polyommatus thersites	Hrastovlje
Common Blue	Polyommatus icarus	common
Meleager's Blue	Polyommatus daphnis	Nanos
Adonis Blue	Polyommatus bellargus	Log
Chalk-hill Blue	Polyommatus coridon	Log, Soca, Moznica, Bavsica
Silver-washed Fritillary	Argynnis paphia	common
Cardinal	Argynnis pandora	1 at Socerga
Dark Green Fritillary	Argynnis aglaja	common
Niobe Fritillary	Argynnis niobe	Slavnik
Queen of Spain Fritillary	Issoria lathonia	Slavnik, Nanos, Kercaszomor
Lesser Marbled Fritillary	Brenthis ino	Nanos
Marbled Fritillary	Brenthis daphne	Babno Polje
Twin-spot Fritillary	Brenthis hecate	Slavnik, Nanos, Planica
Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary	Boloria selene	Kercaszomor
Weaver's Fritillary	Boloria dia	Kercaszomor
Asian Fritillary	Euphydryas intermedia	3 at Vrsic Pass
Marsh Fritillary	Euphydryas aurinia	Mangart
Knapweed Fritillary	Melitaea phoebe	Hrastovlje, Planica
Spotted Fritillary	Melitaea didyma	common
False-heath Fritillary	Melitaea diamina	Planica
Heath Fritillary	Melitaea athalia	Nanos, Log, Soca, Mangart,
Kercaszomor		
Red Admiral	Vanessa atalanta	common
Painted Lady	Vanessa cardui	common
Peacock Butterfly	Inachis io	common
Small Tortoiseshell	Aglais urticae	common in the mountains
Comma Butterfly	Polygonia c-album	Slavnik, Babno Polje, Log
Southern Comma	Polygonia egea	1 at Osp
Large Tortoiseshell	Nymphalis polychloros	Kastelec, Nanos
Map Butterfly	Araschnia levana	2nd brood at Kercaszomor
White Admiral	Limenitis camilla	Babno Polje, Log pod Mangartom
Southern White Admiral	Limenitis reducta	Osp, Nanos
Poplar Admiral	Limenitis populi	1 in flight at Planica
Common Glider	Neptis sappho	Szõce
Speckled Wood	Pararge aegeria	common
Large Wall Brown	Lasiommata maera	Nanos, Vrsic Pass, Moznica
Wall Brown	Lasiommata megera	Slavnik, Nanos, Kercaszomor
Woodland Brown	Lasiommata achine	Babno Polje
Gatekeeper	Pyronia tithonus	Hrastovlje
Ringlet	Aphantopus hyperanthus	Log, Kercaszomor
Meadow Brown	Maniola jurtina	common
Small Heath	Coenonympha pamphilus	common
Chestnut Heath	Coenonympha glycerion	Slavnik, Nanos
Pearly Heath	Coenonympha arcania	common in Slovenia
Alpine Heath	Coenonympha gartetta	Vrsic Pass, Mangart
Arran Brown	Erebia ligea	Babno Polje
Large Ringlet	Erebia euryale	Vrsic Pass
Woodland Ringlet	Erebia medusa	Mangart
Bright-eyed Ringlet	Erebia oeme	common at Vrsic Pass, Mangart
Styrian Ringlet	Erebia stirus	Nanos, Vrsic Pass, Moznica
Stygian Ringlet	Erebia styx	3-4 at Boka waterfall
Scotch Argus	Erebia aethiops	Slavnik, Moznica
Blind Ringlet	Erebia pharte	1 at Vrsic Pass
Silky Ringlet	Erebia gorge	Mangart
Mountain Ringlet	Erebia ephron	Vrsic Pass, Mangart
Dewy Ringlet	Erebia pandrose	Vrsic Pass, Mangart
Lorkovic's Ringlet	Erebia calcaria	Mangart
Marbled White	Melanargia galathea	common

Great Sooty Satyr  
Dryad  
Great Banded Grayling  
Woodland Grayling  
Grayling

Satyrus ferula  
Minois dryas  
Brinthesia circe  
Hipparchia fagi  
Hipparchia semele

Slavnik, Nanos, Log  
Log, Kercaszomor  
Slavnik, Nanos, Kercaszomor  
Slavnik, Nanos  
Slavnik

## MOTHS

Pyrausta cingulata  
Zeuzera pyrina  
Zygaena filipendulae  
Zygaena transalpina  
Zygaena trifolii  
Dendrolimnus pini  
Lasiocampa quercus  
Odonestis pruni  
Phyllodesma tremulifolia  
Hyloicus pinastri  
Deilephila porcellus  
Hemaris tytius  
Macroglossum stellatarum  
Drepana falcataria  
Habrosyne pyritoides  
Thyatira batis  
Acronicta alni  
Ascotis selenaria  
Biston betularia  
Catarhoe rubidata  
Chiasmia clathrata  
Chlorissa cloraria  
Cyclophora linearia  
Ematurga atomaria  
Hypomecis punctinalis  
Hypomecis roboraria  
Hypoxystis pluviana  
Idaea aversata  
Ligdia adustata  
Lomographa bimaculata  
Macaria liturata  
Noctua interjecta  
Noctua pronuba  
Polypogon tentacularia  
Pseudopanthera macularia  
Rivula sericealis  
Scotopteryx chenopodiata  
Drymonia oblitterata  
Gluphisia crenata  
Notodonta dromedarius  
Phalera bucephala  
Ptilodon cucullina  
Spatalia argentina  
Lymantria dispar  
Penthopthera murio  
Amata phegea  
Eilema complana  
Eilema sororcula  
Lithosia quadra  
Callimorpha dominula  
Diacrisia sannio  
Euplagia quadripunctaria

Leopard Moth  
Six-spot Burnet  
  
Five-spot Burnet  
Pine-tree Lappet  
Oak Eggar  
Plum Lappet  
Aspen Lappet  
Pine Hawkmoth  
Small Elephant Hawkmoth  
Narrow-bordered Bee Hawkmoth  
Hummingbird Hawkmoth  
Pebble Hook-tip  
Buff Arches  
Peach Blossom  
Alder Moth  
Giant Looper  
Peppered Moth  
Ruddy Carpet  
Latticed Heath  
Southern Grass Emerald  
Clay Triple-lines  
Common Heath  
Pale Oak Beauty  
Great Oak Beauty  
  
Riband Wave  
Scorched Carpet  
White-pinion Spotted  
Tawny-barred Angle  
Least Yellow Underwing  
Large Yellow Underwing  
  
Speckled Yellow  
Straw Dot  
Shaded Broad-bar  
Indistinct Marbled Brown  
Dusky Marbled Brown  
Iron Prominent  
Buff-tip  
Maple Prominent  
Argentine  
Gypsy Moth  
  
Nine-spotted Moth  
Scarce Footman  
Orange Footman  
Four-spotted Footman  
Scarlet Tiger  
Clouded Buff  
Jersey Tiger

Mangart  
Kercaszomor moth evening  
Slavnik  
Nanos  
Slavnik  
Kercaszomor moth evening  
Mangart, Kercaszomor  
Kercaszomor moth evening  
Kercaszomor moth evening  
Kercaszomor moth evening  
Kercaszomor moth evening  
Vrsic Pass  
Slavnik  
Kercaszomor moth evening  
Log pod Mangartom  
Kercaszomor moth evening  
Log, Kercaszomor moth evening  
Mangart  
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Mangart  
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Planica  
Kercaszomor moth evening  
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common  
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Kercaszomor moth evening  
Kercaszomor moth evening  
Babno Polje  
Kercaszomor  
Kercaszomor

Parasemia plantaginis  
Phragmatobia fuliginosa  
Spilosoma lubricipeda  
Autographa gamma  
Colocasia coryli  
Colobochyla salicalis  
Cryphia algae  
Deltote bankiana  
Euclidia glyphica  
Laspeyria flexula  
Melanchra persicariae  
Phytometra viridaria  
Pseudoips prasinana

Wood Tiger  
Ruby Tiger  
White Ermine  
Silver Y  
Nut-tree Tussock  
Lesser Belle  
Tree-lichen Beauty  
Silver Barred  
Burnet Companion  
Beautiful Hook-tip  
Dot Moth  
Small Purple-barred  
Green Silver-lines

Mangart  
Kercaszomor moth evening  
Kercaszomor moth evening  
common  
Kercaszomor moth evening  
Kercaszomor moth evening  
Kercaszomor moth evening  
Kercaszomor moth evening  
Kastelec  
Kercaszomor moth evening  
Kercaszomor moth evening  
Mangart  
Kercaszomor moth evening

#### DRAGONFLIES

Beautiful Demoiselle  
Western Willow Spreadwing  
Blue Featherleg  
Blue-eyed Hawker  
Balkan Emerald  
Broad-bodied Chaser  
Keel Skimmer  
Ruddy Darter  
Moustached Darter  
Southern Darter

Calopteryx virgo  
Lestes viridis  
Platycnemis pennipes  
Aeshna affinis  
Somatochlora meridionalis  
Libellula depressa  
Orthetrum coerulescens  
Sympetrum sanguineum  
Sympetrum vulgatum  
Sympetrum meridionale

Hrastovlje, Kercaszomor  
Letenye  
Kercaszomor  
Kercaszomor  
Nanos, Kercaszomor  
Osp  
Szőce  
Planica, Kercaszomor  
Kercaszomor  
Kercaszomor

#### OTHER INSECTS

Raft-spider  
Noble crayfish  
Water Scorpion  
Praying Mantis  
Blue-winged Grasshopper  
Large Conehead  
Short-winged Conehead  
  
Saw-tailed Bush-cricket  
Roesel's Bush-cricket  
Green Mountain Grasshopper  
Wart-biter

European Mantid Fly  
Large Pied-hoverfly

Dead-nettle Leaf Beetle  
Flatheaded Pine Borer  
Great Diving-beetle  
Poplar Leaf Beetle  
Spotted Longhorn Beetle  
Capricorn Beetle

Stag Beetle

Dolomedes fimbriatus  
Astacus astacus  
Nepa cinerea  
Mantis religiosa  
Oedipoda coerulescens  
Ruspolia nitidula  
Conocephalus dorsalis  
Prionotropis hystrix  
Barbitistes serricauda  
Metrioptera roeseli  
Miramella alpina  
Decticus verrucivorus  
Libelloides macaronius  
Mantispa styriaca  
Volucella pellucens  
Scolia hirta  
Chrysolina fastuosa  
Chalcophora mariana  
Dytiscus marginalis  
Chrysomela populi  
Rutpela maculata  
Cerambyx scopolii  
Morimus funereus  
Lucanus cervus  
Hoplia argentea  
Trichius fasciatus  
Otiorhynchus cardiniger  
Cteniopus sulphureus

Szőce  
Szőce  
Kercaszomor  
Mt Nanos, Kercaszomor  
Kercaszomor  
Kercaszomor  
Kercaszomor  
Kastelec  
Mt Nanos  
Mt Slavnik  
Mt Slavnik  
Kercaszomor  
Mt Slavnik  
Kercaszomor  
Babno Polje  
Kercaszomor  
Mangart  
larvae, Kercaszomor  
Kercaszomor  
Kercaszomor  
Mt Nanos  
Log  
Mt Nanos  
Mt Nanos  
Mt Nanos  
Mt Nanos  
Mt Nanos  
Mt Nanos

#### BIRDS

Mute Swan  
Mallard

Cygnus olor  
Anas platyrhynchos

2 on river Drava en route  
1 on river Soca

Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>	1 seen from motorway near Nanos, 1 in field near Letenye
White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	first at Lake Cerknica, many in Hungary
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	1 on river Soca, 1 in a field near Kercaszomor
Griffon Vulture	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>	1 flying high at Osp
Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	1 in a field near Letenye
European Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>	1 in flight at Socerga, 1 at Mt Nanos
Short-toed Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>	1 at Socerga
Northern Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>	1 circling high at Log
Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	1 at Lake Cerknica, 6 in a field near Letenye
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	seen every day
Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	seen every day
Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>	1 seen by David in the morning at Pivka
Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>	1 seen in flight near Letenye
Feral Dove	<i>Columba livia feral</i>	seen every day
Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	fairly common in the lowlands
European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	heard and seen in the Órség region
Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	common in villages and towns in Goricko and Órség
Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>	breeding on the high crags at Osp, seen also in Log pod Mangartom
Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	seen frequently in the first 5 days
European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>	2 birds hunting from the wire near Szőce in Órség
Middle Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos medius</i>	1 heard at Szőce study trail
Syrian Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos syriacus</i>	heard in Moravske Toplice
Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>	seen in Kercaszomor
European Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>	heard and seen in Kercaszomor
Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>	fairly common in the lower regions
Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>	1 seen perched for a short time in Órség and several heard near Letenye
Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	seen on five days in woodlands
Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	common roadside bird
Alpine Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax graculus</i>	several flocks on Mangart
Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	common
Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	seen near Pivka and on Mangart
Marsh Tit	<i>Poecile palustris</i>	fairly common, seen on 5 days
Willow Tit	<i>Poecile montanus</i>	seen at Vrsic Pass
Coal Tit	<i>Periparus ater</i>	heard in the Julian Alps
European Crested Tit	<i>Lophophanes cristatus</i>	seen in Log pod Mangartom
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>	fairly common
Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>	heard or seen on 3 days only
Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>	seen twice en route
Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>	1 singing bird at Socerga
Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	seen at Kastelec
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	seen every day
Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	seen every day
Eurasian Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>	4 seen at the Styrian Ringlet site in Moznica
Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>	heard at Kercaszomor
Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	heard or seen most days
Western Bonelli's Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus bonelli</i>	a family seen well at Log, several at Log pod Mangartom during morning walks
Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	heard or seen most days
Common Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>	1 near Pivka
Subalpine Warbler	<i>Sylvia cantillans</i>	1 heard calling at Hrastovlje
Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>	heard and seen in Kercaszomor

Short-toed Treecreeper	<i>Certhia brachydactyla</i>	1 heard by Attila near Letenye
Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	seen most days
Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	seen most days
Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	seen on Nanos and in Szőce
Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>	only seen at Log pod Mangartom
Fieldfare	<i>Turdus pilaris</i>	a post breeding flock seen at Babno
Polje		
European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	heard on 4 days in woodlands
Common Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>	heard calling at Hrastovlje
Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	seen on 5 days in villages
European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>	seen near Kmetija na Meji and Kercaszomor
Whinchat	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>	common near Kmetija na Meji
Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>	seen at Osp and Kercaszomor
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	common
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>	seen near Kmetija na Meji and Kercaszomor
Alpine Accentor	<i>Prunella collaris</i>	3 singing birds on Mangart
Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>	heard singing at Vrsic Pass
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	1 at Log pod Mangartom
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	common
Water Pipit	<i>Anthus spinoletta</i>	1 seen and several heard calling on Mangart
Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	common
Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>	1 near Pivka, 6 seen perched at Kercaszomor
European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>	common
Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>	heard or seen on 3 days
European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	fairly common, seen on 4 days
European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>	common, seen on 6 days
Eurasian Siskin	<i>Spinus spinus</i>	heard at Vrsic Pass
Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>	only at Socerga
Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	heard at Socerga and seen at Kercaszomor
Rock Bunting	<i>Emberiza cia</i>	seen at Slavnik and Nanos, heard at Soca
Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>	heard singing at Osp and Kastelec
<b>MAMMALS</b>		
Brown Hare	<i>Lepus europaeus</i>	1 near Pivka, 1 at Kercaszomor
Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	1 seen by David at Kmetija na Meji
Alpine Marmot	<i>Marmota marmota</i>	several heard on Mangart
Roe Deer	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>	seen on 4 days
<b>REPTILES</b>		
Dalmatian Algyroides	<i>Algyroides nigropunctatus</i>	seen at Osp and Mt Nanos
European Green Lizard	<i>Lacerta viridis</i>	1 at Log
Viviparous Lizard	<i>Zootoca vivipara</i>	1 at Log
Common Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis muralis</i>	seen at Mt Nanos
Italian Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis siculus</i>	1 seen at Socerga
<b>AMPHIBIANS</b>		
Yellow-bellied Toad	<i>Bombina variegata</i>	several in a roadside pool at Szőce
Agile Frog	<i>Rana dalmatina</i>	1 at Kercaszomor
Marsh Frog	<i>Pelophylax ridibundus</i>	several near Letenye
<b>FLOWERS</b>		
Fragrant Orchid	<i>Gymnadenia conopsea</i>	common, first seen at Babno Polje
Dark-red Helleborine	<i>Epipactis atrorubens</i>	common, first seen at Mt Slavnik
Mueller's Helleborine	<i>Epipactis muelleri</i>	Babno Polje

Broad-leaved Helleborine  
Black Vanilla Orchid  
Small White Orchid  
Red Helleborine

Wood Cow-wheat  
Martagon Lily  
Carnic Lily  
Orange Lily  
Edelweiss  
Marsh Gentian  
Great Burnet

*Epipactis helleborine*  
*Nigritella nigra*  
*Pseudorchis albida*  
*Cephalanthera rubra*  
*Melampyrum bihariense*  
*Melampyrum nemorosum*  
*Lilium martagon*  
*Lilium carnolicum*  
*Lilium bulbiferum*  
*Leontopodium albinum*  
*Gentiana pneumonanthe*  
*Sanguisorba officinalis*

Log pod Mangartom  
Mangart  
Mangart  
Vrsic Pass  
Babno Polje  
Kercaszomor  
Babno Polje, Mangart  
Babno Polje  
Nanos, Mangart  
Mangart  
Kercaszomor  
Kercaszomor