

Bulgaria in Summer

Naturetrek Tour Report

13th – 20th July 2023



Bronze Glandular Bush-cricket



Dianthus microlepis



Little Tiger Blue



Julodis ebrenbergii

Tour report and photo by Luca Boscain



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Tour participants: Luca Boscain and Dancho Kutsarov (leaders) with five Naturetrek clients.

Day 1

Thursday 13th July

Sofia airport, Stara Kresna gorge and Melnik

The plane landed in Sofia with only a slight delay, and the group was met by Dancho, the local guide, Luca, the Italian co-leader, and Ken and Veronica, who had arrived a couple of days earlier. Outside the airport the heat was stifling, reaching almost 40°C, but luckily we had the air-conditioning in the minivan for the two-hour southward transfer. Many of us took the chance for a nap, after the early start from Stansted.

We stopped at the Stara Kresna gorge, to have a walk in the shade of Oriental Planes (*Platanus orientalis*), Eastern Hornbeams (*Carpinus orientalis*) and Nettle Trees (*Celtis australis*). We soon started to see White-legged Damselflies (*Platynemis pennipes*), Small Pincertails (*Onychogomphus forcipatus*) and of course butterflies: Balkan Marbled White (*Melanargia larissa*), Common Glider (*Neptis sappho*), Southern White Admiral (*Limenitis reducta*), Scarce Swallowtail (*Iphiclides podalirius*) and Lattice Brown (*Kirinia roxelana*) being the most notable.

We reached a dry meadow with Pink Everlasting (*Xeranthemum annuum*), Field Love-in-a-Mist (*Nigella arvensis*) and Viper's Bugloss (*Echium vulgare*), where other insects attracted our attention: the huge Grand Antlion (*Palpares libelluloides*), but also Sinuated Spoonwing (*Nemoptera sinuata*), Fasciated Cone-head Mantis (*Empusa fasciata*) and Praying Mantis (*Mantis religiosa*). On the White Melilots (*Melilotus albus*) and Diffuse Knapweeds (*Centaurea diffusa*) we found Lang's Short-tailed Blue (*Leptotes pirithous*), Obertur's (*Pyrgus armoricanus*) and Large Skippers (*Ochlodes sylvanus*), Lesser Spotted Fritillary (*Melitaea trivia*) and a cracking Little Tiger Blue (*Tarucus balkanicus*) which posed well, showing the emerald spots on the hindwing.

We had just half an hour more to drive to Melnik, where we found our hotel in a lovely ancient village surrounded by badlands, arriving at 19.45. Supper, half an hour later, took place outside on the terrace, offering a pseudo-Greek salad, with tomatoes, cucumbers and cheese, and pork with chips.

Day 2

Friday 14th July

Kozhuh hill, Rupite hot springs, Dolno Spanchevo and Chuchuligovo

Martin joined Luca and Dancho for a pre-breakfast walk at 07.00, going along the dry riverbed just outside of Melnik: there wasn't much bird activity, with 'only' a family of Cirl Buntings, Red-backed Shrikes and Green Woodpeckers. Butterflies had just started to climb the stems, looking for sunshine: Marbled Fritillary (*Brenthis daphne*), Orbed Red-underwing Skipper (*Spialia orbifer*), Eastern Bath White (*Pontia edusa*) and White-letter Hairstreak (*Satyrium w-album*) were the best finds.

After breakfast, we stopped not far from Ribnik and the Struma river: we found a Bee-eater colony, but also around were several Red-rumped Swallows, a male Black-headed Bunting singing on a wire, and White and Black Storks soaring in the sky.

Then we went to climb the Kozhuh/Kožuch hill, the remain of an ancient volcanic crater. Accompanied by a soundscape made by thousands of cicadas (*Lyristes plebejus* and *Cicadatra atra*), a path climbed gently among low woodlands of Manna Ash (*Fraxinus ornus*), Downy Oak (*Quercus pubescens*), Jerusalem Thorn (*Paliurus spina-christi*) and grassy clearings. The entomofauna was very rich with Scarce and Common Swallowtails (*Papilio machaon*), Keeled Skimmer (*Orthetrum coerulescens*), White-faced Bush-Cricket (*Decticus albifrons*) and Flat-headed Root-borer Beetle (*Capnodis tenebrionis*). A Woodchat Shrike was sitting on a bush, and a few of us had a glimpse of an Eleonora's Falcon and a Honey Buzzard, flying in the distance. We were all pleased when Janine found a baby (Eastern) Hermann's Tortoise (*Testudo hermanni*) and Dancho showed us a massive Bronze Glandular Bush-cricket (*Bradyporus dasypus*). In a nearby quarry we heard the call of a Middle Spotted Woodpecker, which later crossed in flight.

All around, the dry grass was filled with Grand Antlions, the yellowish *Myrmecaelurus trigrammus* and the rare *Bubopsis andromache*, a mainly Middle Eastern species at one of its few European locations. From the top of the hill, we had a wonderful 360° view into the Struma river valley, despite the haze, and we enjoyed a refreshing breeze. The best finds on the way back were the Bloodword Burnet (*Zygnaena laeta*), another Balkan speciality, and an Eastern Baton Blue (*Pseudophilotes vicrama*).

We had a picnic lunch in the shade by the Rupite hot springs. Here we walked by hot water ponds with plenty of terrapins: Pond Sliders (*Trachemys scripta*) from North America, but also native Balkan Terrapins (*Mauremys rivulata*). Blue-tailed Damselfly (*Ischnura elegans*), Broad Scarlet (*Crocothemis erythraea*), Southern (*Orthetrum brunneum*) and Black-tailed Skimmer (*Orthetrum cancellatum*), were also around, despite the rich population of invasive Eastern Mosquitofishes (*Gambusia holbrooki*) and Pumpkinseeds (*Lepomis gibbosum*) in the warm water.

Because of the heat (again almost 40°C), we decided to have a break, recovering for two hours in the cool of the hotel. We went back to the field at 16.15, driving almost to the border with Greece. We stopped first in Dolno Spanchevo, where we found two Syrian Woodpeckers, Turtle Dove and Golden Oriole. We struggled to get glimpses of the woodpeckers, but a Lesser Spotted Woodpecker was more obliging. By a stream were gathering many blues (Common *Polyommatus icarus*, Short-tailed *Cupido argiades*, Chapman's *Polyommatus thersites* and Lang's Short-tailed), Banded Darters (*Sympetrum pedemontanum*) and Demoiselles (Banded *Calopteryx splendens* and Beautiful *Calopteryx virgo*).

In a meadow with giant Illyrian Thistles (*Onopordum illyricum*) and patches of Dwarf Elder (*Sambucus ebulus*), we found Marbled and Lesser Spotted Fritillary, Comma (*Polygonia c-album*), Gatekeeper (*Pyronia tithonus*), Black-winged Saw Bush Cricket (*Ancistrura nigrovittata*) and the massive Mammoth Wasp (*Megascolia maculata*), the largest hymenoptera of Europe.

We had a last stop nearby Chuchuligovo, where Dancho was extremely happy in showing us what was potentially the third Grass Jewel (*Freyeria trochylus*) ever reported in Bulgaria, the smallest of the European butterflies! Other nice finds were, by the way, a Mallow Skipper (*Carcharodus alceae*) and the wonderful jewel beetle *Julodis ehrenbergii*, emerald green with lines of yellow spots. In the evening, supper offered a delicious trout.

Day 3

Saturday 15th July

Marena lake and Petrovo spring

We met at 07.30 for a pre-breakfast walk which offered a Middle Spotted Woodpecker, two Green Woodpeckers and a pair of rare Sombre Tits, among others. Butterflies were already active, including Spotted and Marbled Fritillaries, Sooty Copper (*Lycena tityrus*), Dingy Skipper (*Erynnis tages*) and several Wall Browns (*Lasiommata megera*). At 09.30 we drove south to the Marena (or Marikostino) Lake, a nice pond surrounded by natural vegetation and reed beds. We soon found a lot of dragonflies there: Blue (*Anax imperator*) and Vagrant Emperors (*Anax ephippiger*), Black Pennants (*Selysiothemis nigra*), Southern, Black-tailed and White-tailed Skimmers (*Orthetrum albistylum*), Broad Scarlets, Violet Dropwings (*Tritheimis annulata*), Southern (*Sympetrum meridionale*) and Red-veined Darters (*Sympetrum fonscolombii*), Small Red-eyed (*Erythromma viridulum*), White-legged and Blue-tailed Damselflies. From the reeds we flushed a nice male Little Bittern, while in the water there were swimming several green frogs (*Pelophylax sp.*). Among a swampy bed of rushes, Dancho went in barefoot and managed to show us a sought-after Large Copper (*Lycena dispar*) and Lesser Blue-tailed Damselfly (*Ischnura pumilio*). At the end of the loop, Kevin photographed an Eastern Knapweed Fritillary (*Melitaea ornata*).

We drove for almost an hour to reach the picnic spot, not far from Petrovo, in a deep and forested valley, just on the other side of a mountain on the Greek border. We sheltered from the sunshine under the roof of a derelict building, on whose walls were Common Wall Lizards (*Podarcis muralis*), Silver-washed Fritillaries (*Argynnis paphia*), Red Admiral (*Vanessa atalanta*) and Nettle-tree Butterfly (*Libythea celtis*). In a shady segment of the road many butterflies were gathering to lick salt: Common Glider, Grayling (*Hipparchia sp.*), Chapman's, Small (*Cupido minimus*) and Silver-studded Blues (*Plebejus argus*), Southern Small (*Pieris manni*) and Wood Whites (*Leptidea* *cf.* *sinapis*) and, by the end, Luca showed us even an unexpected Anomalous Blue (*Polyommatus admetus*), with peculiar brown under parts. Dancho caught a female Sombre Goldenring (*Cordulegaster bidentata*) with his net, while several males were patrolling a small stream.

We moved just few hundred metres to reach a spring: it being Sunday, it was crowded with people having picnics, but it was also crowded with clouds of hundreds of butterflies, all gathering along the path to lick salt or to drink the water. In the confusion, we identified twelve species of blues: Phalakron Anomalous (*Polyommatus orphicus eleniae*), Meleager's (*Meleageria daphnis*), Escher's (*Polyommatus escheri*), Amanda's (*Polyommatus amandus*), Turquoise (*Polyommatus dorylas*), Mazarine (*Cyaniris semiargus*), Eastern Baton, Chapman's, Lang's Short-tailed, Silver-studded, Small, Common, Anomalous and Brown Argus (*Aricia agestis*). Among the whites, the commonest were the Mountain Small Whites (*Pieris ergane*), together with Southern Small, Green-veined (*Pieris napi*) and Wood Whites. Along the clear water streams, in the shade of large trees, there were tens of Beautiful Demoiselles and a few Balkan Goldenrings (*Cordulegaster heros*).

We had a last break by a pond near Harsovo, but there wasn't much more than a Silver-studded Blue, Barn Swallows and an army of large White-faced Bush-crickets. We came back to the hotel before 18.00 and we had supper at 19.30: chicken breast and potatoes.

Day 4

Sunday 16th July

Novo Hodzovo, Popovi Livadi and the Orelyak peak

We all met at 07.00 for a pre-breakfast walk which offered several birds. The meadows of thistles were full of Goldfinches, Chaffinches, Cirl Buntings and single Linnets and Greenfinches. Four species of tits were around (Great, Blue, Marsh and Sombre), but we only heard a Short-toed Treecreeper. A bonus was definitely a family of Golden Orioles and a Middle Spotted Woodpecker which showed both in the open, even if in the distance.

After breakfast, we packed our baggage to transfer to another hotel for the following nights. We drove more than half an hour, once again almost to the border with Greece, visiting a nice forested valley of the Pirinska Bistritza river with Black Alders (*Alnus glutinosa*), poplars and willows, not far from Novo Hodzovo. On arrival, Dancho and Veronica saw a Semicollared Flycatcher in front of the minivan, and our efforts scanning the sky produced a couple of both Honey and Common Buzzards. Reaching the dry hill slopes on the other side of the valley, we found many Dinky Skippers, Little Tiger and Adonis Blues (*Polyommatus bellargus*) in the middle of the path, while on the brambles there were Holly Blues (*Celastrina argiolus*), Gatekeepers and Keeled Skimmers. Dancho managed to catch an Eastern Wood White (*Leptidea duponcheli*), showing us the distinctive lack of white on the antenna clubs.

We left the hot Pirinska Bistritza valley to drive for more than an hour to the Pirin mountains. When we got outside, the temperature was definitely more tolerable, so we went downhill through a pine wood, seeing Coal, Crested and Willow Tits. As usual in summer, most of the birds were secretive, but we heard Serin, Bullfinch, Crossbill, Common Treecreeper, Goldcrest, Willow and Wood Warbler. Along a stream were Balkan Goldenrings and Beautiful Demoiselles, while in the undergrowth we noticed many orchids: Wedge-lipped Orchid (*Dactylorhiza saccifera*), Red Helleborine (*Cephalanthera rubra*), Dark Red Helleborine (*Epipactis atrorubens*) and Twayblade (*Neottia ovata*). On the foot of a landslide slope, Luca saw an Apollo (*Parnassius apollo*): it was difficult to get decent photos, because the beast disappeared in the grass and was continuously shaken by the breeze. Other good finds were Purple-shot (*Lycaena alciphron*) and Sooty Coppers, Meleager's and Mazarine Blues, and Pearl-bordered (*Boloria euphrosyne*) and Marbled Fritillaries.

After lunch, we explored the roadside, seeing a wonderful Scarce Copper (*Lycaena virgaureae*) and some Marsh Helleborine Orchids (*Epipactis palustris*). After some exciting driving along a rough road, we parked in the Beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) forest of the Orelyak foothills. From here we continued on foot among Arran Browns (*Erebia ligea*) and Large Ringlets (*Erebia euryale*) until where the road reached some cliffs. Most of the flowers were over, but we still noticed Martagon Lily (*Lilium martagon*), Musk Thistle (*Carduus nutans*), Bloody Crane's-Bill (*Geranium sanguineum*), Alpine Zigzag Clover (*Trifolium alpestre*), White Stonecrop (*Sedum album*), Green-flowered Foxglove (*Digitalis viridiflora*) and *Ajuга laxmannii*. While identifying a Large Wall Brown (*Lasiommata maera*) was easy, to feel certain about all the many blues we saw was almost impossible, but at least we had Escher's and False Eros Blue (*Polyommatus eroides*) for sure!

From the top, at an altitude of about 1600m, we could admire the view till the Mesta river and the Greek mountains and hear a Spotted Nutcracker. Then followed another hour of driving to reach Bansko, our new base for the next four nights, where we arrived at 18.00.

Supper offered a lovely courgette soup followed by a casserole of pork chops.

Day 5

Monday 17th July

Rila monastery and Kirilova Polyana

Today, given that we were staying in a hotel in the middle of the town, we didn't do any pre-breakfast activities and, after breakfast, we drove northwards for more than an hour and half to the Rila monastery. This UNESCO World Heritage Site looks like a fortress from the outside, while inside it opens out into a vast courtyard surrounded by fascinating balconies on the monk apartments, on three or even four floors, with elegant arches and decorations. In the centre stands the Church of the Nativity orthodox church, the largest in Bulgaria, all covered in brightly coloured frescoes and icons showing episodes of the gospel and the lives of the saints, and the fourteenth-century defensive tower, built in brick. In the structures we found the nesting sites of both Pallid Swifts and Crag Martins.

After the visit, we continued a bit further, along the Rila valley, to Kirilova Polyana, a series of nice meadows surrounded by Norway Spruce (*Picea abies*) and Silver Fir (*Abies alba*) forests and high mountains. The first exploration, before lunch, didn't turn up many butterflies in terms of numbers, but there were several nice ones, like Niobe Fritillary (*Argynnis niobe*), Northern Wall Brown (*Lasiommata petropolitana*), White Admiral (*Limenitis camilla*), Peacock (*Aglais io*) and an incredibly tiny Eastern Baton Blue.

During lunch in a small restaurant, which included trout and baklava, the typical Ottoman pastry, we were visited by a huge Common Frog (*Rana temporaria*), with a peculiar pattern of black spots.

In the afternoon we walked a bit further, encountering some more butterflies: Chequered Skipper (*Carterocephalus palaemon*), Scarce Copper, Arran Brown, Scotch Argus (*Erebia aethiops*) but also an unexpected Poplar Admiral (*Limenitis populi*). The upperparts were almost all dark, with just a couple of orange and bluish stripes and weak white spots while, on the underwing, it revealed a complicated texture of orange, white and pale blue polygons. We had another stop by the junction of the rivers Rilska and Manastirska, populated by Grey Wagtails. Here we again found four species of Coppers, but also a wonderful Purple Emperor (*Apatura iris*) which posed on a leaf, showing amazing blue iridescence and looking almost like a tropical butterfly. We chased after the very active blues which were flying around the car park, finally managing to photograph both upper and underwings of the False Eros Blues, with a brighter turquoise tinge, bold black edge of the wings and slightly larger size than the Common Blues.

For dinner we had a nice moussaka in the Bulgarian style, without aubergines, but only with meat and potatoes.

Day 6

Tuesday 18th July

Gotse Delchev and Bezbog area

This morning we left at 08.15 in order to be at the Gotse Delchev chair lift station as early as possible. We drove along about 10km of winding mountain road to reach it, at an altitude of 1473m. From there, we used two segments of a rather old fashioned chair-lift, first through Beech and Spruce forest, and then through Macedonian Pines (*Pinus peuce*) and finally scattered Bosnian Pines (*Pinus heldreichii*) among Dwarf Pines (*Pinus mugo*). This last species has spread recently, colonizing the higher meadows thanks to the climate change, threatening the habitat of the alpine flowers and insects. We often heard the Spotted Nutcracker, and the soundtrack around the enchanting

Bezbog lake, at an altitude of 2243m, was made mainly by Crossbills and Linnets, sometimes with single Bullfinches, Chaffinches and Siskins.

We explored a tributary stream, along which we found many Common Frogs and some interesting plants like the orchids *Dactylorhiza cordigera* and *Gymnadenia frivaldii*, endemic to the Balkans, and also the gentian *Gentiana dsbimilensis*, Spotted Gentian (*Gentiana punctata*), Spreading Bellflower (*Campanula patula*), Starry Saxifrage (*Micranthes stellaris*), *Geum coccineum* and *Pinguicula balcanica*. We climbed the steep path which left the lake to reach a saddle among the Dwarf Pines, but it was worth it because, from the top, the trail got almost flat and finally gave us some nice views into rocky peaks, small snow patches and the distant, deep-blue Popovo lake.

Unfortunately there were fewer butterflies than expected, with just Southern Small White, Queen of Spain Fritillary (*Issoria lathonia*) and Eastern Large Heath (*Coenonympha rhodopensis*) at all frequent. Luca tried to climb to a higher saddle at about 2550m, not far from the Bezbog peak, but it produced just one more Dusky Grizzled Skipper (*Pyrgus cacaliae*) and a few Water Pipits. People who stayed lower, having a picnic lunch in the sunshine, had Ring Ouzel, Dunnock and Alpine Accentor instead! The flora among the rocks was particularly colourful with Small White Orchid (*Pseudorchis albida*), Wild Thyme (*Thymus serpyllum*), Alpine Avens (*Geum montanum*), *Genista depressa*, *Chamaecytisus eriocarpus*, the last Spring Gentians (*Gentiana verna*) and the pink carpets of the subendemic *Dianthus microlepis*.

Back to the Bezbog lake, we found Common Hawker (*Aeshna juncea*) and Four-spotted Chaser (*Libellula quadrimaculata*) and shoals of characteristic minnows, larger and more spotted than western European ones and some of those in attractive nuptial coloration, possibly belonging to the species *Phoxinus strymonicus*. Going downhill, we stopped by the intermediate chair-lift station, to have a look around in the meadows. We found there False Eros Blue, Nettle-tree Butterfly (*Libythea celtis*), Woodland Ringlet (*Erebia medusa*), Black-veined White (*Aporia crataegae*) and a friendly Large Ringlet which came to perch on Kevin's legs. Reaching the bottom car park, a downpour convinced the group to head back to the hotel, where we arrived before 17.00.

Dinner tonight offered mushroom soup followed by chicken in cheese sauce and a portion of white pudding with biscuits.

Day 7

Wednesday 19th July

Vihren Chalet, Banderitsa Camping and surroundings of Bansko

Today we again had an early breakfast, in order to arrive early at the Vihren Chalet, reached via a very narrow and busy mountain road. Despite being early, Dancho couldn't find a parking spot by the Chalet, at an altitude of 1950m, but offloaded the group and had to drive lower to look for an empty space. Left with Luca, we scanned the high mountains all around: on the steep meadows above we located some Alpine Chamois (*Rupicapra rupicapra balcanica*), now in orange summer coat, and a few Alpine Choughs. We followed a rocky uphill path to explore the meadows: two species were very common, Eastern Large Heath and Large Ringlet, but like yesterday, despite our best efforts, we couldn't find any more distinguished high-altitude butterfly species.

So, after we reached a wonderful viewpoint over the Glazne torrent, when Dancho joined us, we decided to retrace our steps and to explore lower altitudes. It was definitely a good idea because, once we dropped below the tree-

line, the variety of butterflies improved, with Mountain Argus (*Aricia artaxerxes*), Ottoman Brassy Ringlet (*Erebia ottomana*), possibly Clouded Apollo (*Parnassius mnemosyne*) in flight, Pearl-bordered Fritillary, Balkan Copper (*Lycaena candens*), Bright-eyed Ringlet (*Erebia oeme*), Large Wall Brown and Clouded Yellow (*Colias croceus*). A Short-toed Eagle appeared, swooping down to perch on the top of a Spruce, and then probably the same individual glided quite low overhead.

We had the picnic lunch in the shade of the Bosnians Pines, characterized by their scaled bark, looking like the roman armour called lorica. A Spotted Nutcracker came to call close in the foliage, but it was a family of the same species which showed much better a few hundred metres lower, with begging youngsters and adults busily feeding them. Other nice bird observations were those of a young Chiffchaff fed by the parent, and of a territorial Firecrest. A bridge led us to see the oldest conifer in Bulgaria: another Bosnian Pine measuring 26m tall and 7.8m in circumference, which is possibly as much as 1300 years old. It wasn't the only centenary giant, because there were tens of large trees, among which we noticed the rare *Verbascum davidoffii*, an endemic mullein restricted to the Bosnian Pine undergrowth.

After a refreshing stop for a drink in the shade, we drove lower to some meadows just outside Bansko, nearby Chalin Valog. Along the Glaznel stream, we found some more butterflies: Sloe Hairstreak (*Satyrium acaciae*), Reverdin's Blue (*Plebeius* cf. *argyrognomon*), Knapweed Fritillary (*Melitaea phoebe*), Spotted Fritillary and Marbled White.

In the sunshine it was again hot, so we again ended our day in the field rather early, before 17.00. The last evening at the Familia Tavern offered a final Greek salad, something we had almost daily during the trip, a long Bansko style sausage and a fruit salad.

Day 8

Thursday 20th July

Dobarsko and surroundings of Sofia

We packed after breakfast and we left Bansko at 09.00, to drive half an hour through villages full of White Stork nests, to Dobarsko. There we climbed on a rough road to a small gravel quarry. The exploration of the nearby "forest" of Hungarian Mulleins (*Verbascum speciosum*), the dry meadows and the stream side produced a huge number of butterflies of almost 40 species, two-thirds of the size of the British list! New ones for the trip were Black Hairstreak (*Satyrium pruni*), Idas Blue (*Plebeius idas baldur*), Map (*Araschnia levana*), Great Banded Grayling (*Brintesia circe*), Woodland Grayling (*Hipparchia fagi*) and Small Skipper (*Thymelicus sylvestris*), but we had a total of seven species of fritillaries and many other wonderful species like Apollo, Scarce and Purple-shot Copper, False Eros Blue, Arran Brown and Purple Emperor. There were not many birds around, but in the pines we saw a pair of Crested Tits, while Dancho spotted a Sombre Tit, and Luca heard Rock and Cirl Bunting calling.

For lunch, we drove back to Gorno Draglishte where we found a lovely picnic spot with two tables under a weeping willow, from where we enjoyed the breeze and noticed several Golden Orioles, Jays and Green Woodpeckers. Then we drove for two and a half hours, and many of us took advantage to have a deserved nap.

We had our last stop in the field to the south and west of Sofia, in the hills near the Gorna Banya district: here we explored first some dry meadows, which were very rich in flowers like Annual Fleabane (*Erigeron annuus*), Creeping

Thistle (*Cirsium arvense*) and Downy Woundwortand (*Stachys germanica*). The flowers were covered in Marbled Whites and Meadow Browns, but also Essex Skipper (*Thymelicus lineola*), Ringlet (*Aphantopus hyperantus*), Queen of Spain Fritillary and a single Great Banded Grayling. Then we followed Dancho among the bushes to greener clearings, full of Common Hedge-nettles (*Betonica officinalis*): he had photographed there, in fact, a rare Dusky Large Blue (*Maculinea nausithous*). We couldn't find the blue again, but we added Lesser Marbled (*Brenthis ino*) and Dark Green Fritillary (*Argynnis aglaja*) to the final list, now easily over the 100 species mark.

We left these quiet backwaters before 18.00, to throw ourselves into the heavy Sofia traffic for about an hour to reach the airport. Dancho led us in safely once again, and we arrived at the airport at 18.50, in plenty of time for farewells to Dancho and Luca, and for the 22.00 flight home.



Rila Monastery and Balkan Goldenring

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Species lists

Birds (H = Heard only)

Common name	Scientific name	July 2023							
		13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>			20					
Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>		2			1			1
White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	10	20	15		20			30
Little Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>			2					
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>		3	1					1
Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	2	3	2					
European Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>		1		2				
Short-toed Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>							1	
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	1	2		2	1			3
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>			h					
Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i> var. <i>domestica</i>	50					2		2
Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>								5
European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>		3	3					
Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	3	5	2					h
Eurasian Scops Owl	<i>Otus scops</i>			LO h					
Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>	LO 3							
Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	5							
Pallid Swift	<i>Apus pallidus</i>				5	20	15	20	5
European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>	2	20	2h	3				
Middle Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocoptes medius</i>		3	1	3				
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dryobates minor</i>		1						
Syrian Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos syriacus</i>		3						
Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>							h	
European Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>		3	2	2h				h
Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	3		2				1	1
Eleonora's Falcon	<i>Falco eleonora</i>		1						
Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>		3	4	2				1
Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>		2	3	2				
Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>	h	3h	h	5				3
Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>					h		h	5
Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	3	3						
Spotted Nutcracker	<i>Nucifraga caryocatactes</i>				h		5	5	
Alpine Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax graculus</i>							3	
Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	5		2			10		h
Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	2			1	1			
Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>				5	2h	2h	3h	
European Crested Tit	<i>Lophophanes cristatus</i>				2			1	2
Sombre Tit	<i>Poecile lugubris</i>			2	1				1
Marsh Tit	<i>Poecile palustris</i>		3h	h	1	2			
Willow Tit	<i>Poecile montanus</i>				1	3		h	
Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		10	1	3			2h	
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		10	5	3			h	2
Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>		1	1	2				
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	5	5	50	20	5			2
Eurasian Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>					10			
Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	30	50	50	30	5	5	5	10

Common name	Scientific name	July 2023							
		13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Cecropis daurica</i>	3	25	5	30			1	
Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>		3h	h					
Wood Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>				LO 2h				
Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>				h				
Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>			1	h		3h	5	
Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>			LO 1					
Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>				5	h			h
Common Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapilla</i>							2	
Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>				h	h		h	
Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>				2h	h	h	h	h
Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>		1	2	3h	2		h	h
Eurasian Treecreeper	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>				2h	2h		5h	h
Short-toed Treecreeper	<i>Certhia brachydactyla</i>		h		h				
Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	10		50		50			20
Ring Ouzel	<i>Turdus torquatus</i>						3	1	
Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>		10	5	5				1
Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>			1		h		1	
Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>						2	2	
Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>		1	1	2			1	
European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>		h	h	3	3	h	1	h
Common Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>	1	2h	h	2				
Semicollared Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula semitorquata</i>				1				
Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>		1	2	2	h	1	1	h
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	3	3	10	10		h	3	5
Spanish Sparrow	<i>Passer hispanicus</i>	20	20						
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>		10						
Alpine Accentor	<i>Prunella collaris</i>						1		
Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>				h		3	h	
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>			1		5	1	h	h
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	2	1	3					2
Water Pipit	<i>Anthus spinoletta</i>						LO 3		
Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		5	2	5	2h	3	3	2
Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>	h		5	3	h			
Eurasian Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>				h		2	3	
European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>		2	h	3			h	h
Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>		2h		2		10	h	
Red Crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>				2h		10	3h	
European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>			h	10		h	h	h
European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>				2			5	
Eurasian Siskin	<i>Spinus spinus</i>						2	h	
Rock Bunting	<i>Emberiza cia</i>								LO h
Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>		5	2	5				h
Black-headed Bunting	<i>Emberiza melanocephala</i>		1						

Other vertebrates

Common name	Scientific name	July 2023							
		13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Mammals									
N. White-breasted Hedgehog	<i>Erinaceus roumanicus</i>	d	d	d					
Common Shrew	<i>Sorex araneus</i>					d			
European Mole	<i>Talpa europaea</i>								s
Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>		LO						
Stone Marten	<i>Martes foina</i>		1						
Alpine Chamois	<i>Rupicapra rupicapra balcanica</i>							5	
Reptiles and Amphibians									
Spur-thighed Tortoise	<i>Testudo graeca</i>	1?	d	d					
Hermann's Tortoise	<i>Testudo hermanni</i>		2	d					
Balkan Terrapin	<i>Mauremys rivulata</i>		5						
Pond Slider	<i>Trachemis scripta</i>		30						
Kotschy's Gecko	<i>Mediodactylus kotschyi</i>	1	5						
A lizard	<i>Lacertidae</i> sp.		2	1					
Sand Lizard	<i>Lacerta agilis</i>						LO		
Green Lizard	<i>Lacerta viridis</i>				1				
Common Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis muralis</i>				6				
Common Frog	<i>Rana temporaria</i>					1	10	T	
A marsh frog	<i>Pelophylax</i> spp.	3h	1	10					
Others									
Eastern Mosquito-fish	<i>Gambusia holbrooki</i>		50						
Pumpkinseed / Blue-gill	<i>Lepomis gibbosus</i>		5	2d					
A minnow	<i>Phoxinus</i> cfr. <i>strymonicus</i>						200		
Amur Carp	cfr. <i>Ctenopharyngodon idella</i>		2						

Invertebrates

Common name	Scientific name	July 2023							
		13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Butterflies									
Orbed Red-underwing Skipper	<i>Spialia orbifer</i>		1	1	1				
Oberthür's Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus armoricanus</i>	1	2	1					
Dusky Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus cacaliae</i>						LO		
Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus malvae</i>						1		
Mallow Skipper	<i>Carcharodus alceae</i>		2						
Oriental Marbled Skipper	<i>Muschampia(=Carcharodus) orientalis</i>			3					
Dingy Skipper	<i>Erynnis tages</i>			4	3			1	
Essex Skipper	<i>Thymelicus lineola</i>						3		1
Small Skipper	<i>Thymelicus sylvestris</i>								20
Large Skipper	<i>Ochlodes sylvanus (=venatus)</i>	1			20	5	1	2	5
Chequered Skipper	<i>Carterocephalus palaemon</i>					1			
Apollo	<i>Parnassius apollo</i>				5				1
Clouded Apollo	cfr. <i>Parnassius mnemosyne</i>							1	
Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>		10	1		1		1	

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		13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Scarce Swallowtail	<i>Iphiclides podalirius</i>	1	5	1	5	1		1	
Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>			1					
Mountain Small White	<i>Pieris (=Artogeia) ergane</i>			50	3				
Southern Small White	<i>Pieris (=Artogeia) mannii</i>			3			5		
Green-veined White	<i>Pieris (=Artogeia) napi</i>	1		10	5	1			
Small White	<i>Pieris (=Artogeia) rapae</i>	2	2	1	5			3	
Eastern Bath White	<i>Pontia edusa</i>		2	2	2				
Black-veined White	<i>Aporia crataegi</i>				2		3		10
Berger's Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias cfr. alfaciensis</i>			2	1	1			
Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias crocea</i>		2	5	5	1	2	10	5
Brimstone	<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>					1		1	
Eastern Wood White	<i>Leptidea duponcheli</i>				1				
Wood White	<i>Leptidea cfr. sinapis</i>			10	3	2	1	2	3
Sloe Hairstreak	<i>Satyrium acaciae</i>							1	1
Black Hairstreak	<i>Satyrium pruni</i>								1
White-letter Hairstreak	<i>Satyrium w-album</i>		3	2					
Purple-shot Copper	<i>Lycaena alciphron</i>				4	2	1	1	5
Balkan Copper	<i>Lycaena candens</i>							2	
Large Copper	<i>Lycaena dispar</i>			2					
Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>	1	1	2	1	1	1		
Sooty Copper	<i>Lycaena tityrus</i>			3	2	2	1		
Scarce Copper	<i>Lycaena virgaureae</i>				2	3	2	1	3
Little Tiger Blue	<i>Tarucus balkanicus</i>	1			5				
Lang's Short-tailed Blue	<i>Leptotes pirithous</i>	1	1	2	2				
Short-tailed Blue	<i>Cupido argiades</i>		3	1					
Little Blue	<i>Cupido minimus</i>			50				2	
Holly Blue	<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>			1	3				2
Eastern Baton Blue	<i>Pseudophilotes vicrama</i>		2	1		1			
Dusky Large Blue	<i>Maculinea nausithous</i>								LO
Grass Jewel	<i>Freyeria trochylus</i>		2						
Silver-studded Blue	<i>Plebejus argus</i>			50	2				
Idas Blue	<i>Plebeius idas baldur</i>					1	2		2
Reverdin's Blue	<i>Plebeius cfr. argyrognomon</i>							1	
Brown Argus	<i>Aricia agestis</i>			3	1				
Mountain Argus	<i>Aricia artaxerxes</i>							2	
Mazarine Blue	<i>Cyaniris semiargus</i>			2	5	5	1	3	1
Meleager's Blue	<i>Meleageria daphnis</i>			5	3			1	
Adonis Blue	<i>Lysandra bellargus</i>			1?	5				
Anomalous Blue	<i>Polyommatus admetus</i>			3	1				
Amanda's Blue	<i>Polyommatus (=Plebicula) amandus</i>			2					
Turquoise Blue	<i>Polyommatus (=Plebicula) dorylas</i>			1			1		
False Eros Blue	<i>Polyommatus eroides</i>				3	3	3		2
Escher's Blue	<i>Polyommatus escheri</i>			1	2				
Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>	5	10	50	10	10	5	20	5
Phalakron Anomalous Blue	<i>Polyommatus orphicus eleniae</i>			5					
Chapman's Blue	<i>Polyommatus thersites</i>		1	100					
Purple Emperor	<i>Apatura iris</i>					1			4
White Admiral	<i>Limenitis camila</i>					1			
Poplar Admiral	<i>Limenitis populi</i>					2			
Southern White Admiral	<i>Limenitis reducta</i>	2	3	1					

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		13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Common Glider	<i>Neptis sappho</i>	3	3	2	1				
Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>			1	1	3	1	1	2
Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>			2	1	1	5	3	5
Peacock Butterfly	<i>Aglais (=Inachis) io</i>					10	5	2	
Small Tortoiseshell	<i>Aglais urticae</i>						5	1	
Comma Butterfly	<i>Polygonia c-album</i>	2	7	5	5	15	2	3	3
Map Butterfly	<i>Araschnia levana</i>								2
Dark Green Fritillary	<i>Argynnis aglaja</i>								1
Niobe Fritillary	<i>Argynnis niobe</i>					5			
Silver-washed Fritillary	<i>Argynnis paphia</i>			3			2	1	3
Queen of Spain Fritillary	<i>Issoria lathonia</i>						10	5	5
Marbled Fritillary	<i>Brenthis daphne</i>		2	2	5	5			2
Lesser Marbled Fritillary	<i>Brenthis ino</i>								5
Pearl-bordered Fritillary	<i>Boloria euphrosyne</i>				2			5	3
Heath Fritillary	<i>Melitaea (=Mellicta) cfr. athalia</i>			3d	1		2		5
Spotted Fritillary	<i>Melitaea didyma</i>		1	3			2	3	2
Eastern Knapweed Fritillary	<i>Melitaea ornata</i>			1					
Knapweed Fritillary	<i>Melitaea phoebe</i>							3	3
Lesser Spotted Fritillary	<i>Melitaea trivia</i>	1	10		1				1
Marbled White	<i>Melanargia galathea</i>			5	5	1	3	5	100
Balkan Marbled White	<i>Melanargia larissa</i>	1							
Hermit	<i>Chazara briseis</i>			2					
Woodland Grayling	<i>Hipparchia cfr. fagi</i>			1					2
Balkan/Common/Delattin's Grayling	<i>Hipparchia senthes/semela/volgensis</i>			2					
Great Banded Grayling	<i>Brintesia (=Kanetisa) circe</i>								3
Scotch Argus	<i>Erebia aethiops</i>					3		1	
Large Ringlet	<i>Erebia euryale</i>				20		3	50	
Arran Brown	<i>Erebia ligea</i>				30	15			5
Woodland Ringlet	<i>Erebia medusa</i>						1		
Bright-eyed Ringlet	<i>Erebia oeme</i>							1	
Ottoman Brassy Ringlet	<i>Erebia ottomana</i>							10	
Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>		5	10	5	10		5	50
Ringlet	<i>Aphantopus hyperantus</i>				5			3	15
Gatekeeper	<i>Pyronia tithonus</i>		1	1	10				2
Pearly Heath	<i>Coenonympha arcania</i>				3			3	10
Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>		5	2			1		5
Eastern Large Heath	<i>Coenonympha rhodopensis</i>						20	30	
Lattice Brown	<i>Kirinia (=Pararge) roxelana</i>	4		2					
Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria aegeria</i>	3	1	2	1	3			
Large Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata maera</i>				3			10	
Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>	1	3	3	5				
Northern Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata petropolitana</i>					1			
Nettle Tree Butterfly	<i>Libythea celtis</i>			2			1		
Moths									
Hummingbird Hawkmoth	<i>Macroglossum stellatarum</i>	3	1		10	1	1	3	
A bee-hawkmoth	<i>Hemaris</i> sp.				1				
Black Burnet	<i>Zygaena ephialtes</i>							LO	
6-spot Burnet	<i>Zygaena filipendulae</i>							2	10
Bloodwort Burnet	<i>Zygaena laeta</i>		1						

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		13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
Slender Scotch Burnet	<i>Zygaena loti</i>				10					
Narrow-bordered 5-spot Burnet	<i>Zygaena lonicerae</i>				50					
New Forest Burnet	<i>Zygaena viciae</i>				1					
A forester	<i>Adscita</i> sp.						1			
Nine-spotted	<i>Amata phegea</i>					1				
Scarlet Tiger	<i>Callimorpha dominula</i>								3	
Common Footman	<i>Eilema lurideola</i>				1					
Four Spotted Footman	<i>Lithosia quadra</i>			1						
A geometrid	<i>Isturgia roraria</i>						1			
Common Pink-barred	<i>Rhodostrophia vibicaria</i>						1			
Blood-vein Moth	<i>Timandra comae</i>		1			1				
Eurasian Copper Underwing	<i>Amphipyra pyramidea</i>			1						
Maillard's Apamea	<i>Apamea maillardi</i>						1			
Silver Y Moth	<i>Autographa gamma</i>						1			
An underwing	<i>Catocala puerpera</i>			1						
Burnet Companion	<i>Euclidia glyphica</i>				1					
Geometrician	<i>Grammodes stolidia</i>		1							
Four-spotted	<i>Tyta luctuosa</i>								1	
A crambid	<i>Agriphila tersellus</i>						1			
A crambid	<i>Metaxmeste schrankiana</i>						1			
A mint moth	<i>Pyrausta falcatalis</i>			1						
A mint moth	<i>Pyrausta limbopunctalis</i>							1		
A mint moth	<i>Pyrausta porphyralis</i>			1						
Common Crimson-and-gold Moth	<i>Pyrausta purpuralis</i>		1			1				
A pyralid	<i>Bradyrrhoa gilveolella</i>			1						
A scythridid	<i>Scythris</i> cfr. <i>flabella</i>	1								
Odonata										
Banded Demoiselle	<i>Calopteryx splendens</i>	1	1	2						
Beautiful Demoiselle	<i>Calopteryx virgo</i>	1	10	100	10					
Blue-tailed Damselfly	<i>Ischnura elegans</i>		2	10						
Scarce Blue-tailed Damselfly	<i>Ischnura pumilio</i>			5						
Common Blue Damselfly	<i>Enallagma cyathigerum</i>			LO						
Small Red-eyed Damselfly	<i>Erythromma viridulum</i>			5						
White-legged Damselfly	<i>Platycnemis pennipes</i>	10		5						
Southern Migrant Hawker	<i>Aeshna affinis</i>					LO				
Common Hawker	<i>Aeshna juncea</i>						5			
Eastern Spectre Dragonfly	<i>Caliaeshna microstigma</i>				d					
Vagrant Emperor	<i>Anax ephippiger</i>			2						
Emperor Dragonfly	<i>Anax imperator</i>			2						
Small Pincertail	<i>Onychogomphus forcipatus</i>	5			3					
Sombre Goldenring	<i>Cordulegaster bidentata</i>			3						
Balkan Goldenring	<i>Cordulegaster heros</i>			2	2					
Black Pennant	<i>Selysiothemis nigra</i>			10						
White-tailed Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum albistylum</i>			50						
Southern Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum brunneum</i>		4	3					2	
Black-tailed Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum cancellatum</i>		1	5						
Keeled Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum coerulescens</i>		1		5					
Southern Darter	<i>Sympetrum meridionale</i>			3						
Banded Darter	<i>Sympetrum pedemontanum</i>		2							
Red-veined Darter	<i>Sympetrum fonscolombii</i>			20						

Common name	Scientific name	July 2023							
		13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Scarlet Darter	<i>Crocothemis erythraea</i>		2	10					
Broad-bodied Chaser	<i>Libellula depressa</i>			1		1			2
Scarce Chaser	<i>Libellula fulva</i>				1				
Four-spotted Chaser	<i>Libellula quadrimaculata</i>						3		
Violet Dropwing	<i>Trithemis annulata</i>			3					
Other Insects									
Common Cone-headed Grasshopper	<i>Acrida ungarica</i>	2							
Slender Digging Grasshopper	<i>Acrotylus patruelis</i>			x					
Broad Green-winged Grasshopper	<i>Aiolopus strepens</i>			1					
Slender Green-winged Grasshopper	<i>Aiolopus thalassinus</i>		1						
Egyptian Grasshopper	<i>Anacridium aegyptium</i>		1	1					
Barbarian Grasshopper	<i>Calliptamus cfr. barbarus</i>		3						
A field grasshopper	<i>Chorthippus sp.</i>						1		
Intermediate Cross-backed Grasshopp.	<i>Dociostaurus brevicollis</i>							1	
Small Gold Grasshopper	<i>Euthystira brachyptera</i>								1
Blue-winged Grasshopper	<i>Oedipoda caerulescens</i>	x	1						
Meadow Grasshopper	<i>Pseudochorthippus parallelus</i>					1			
Blackwinged Saw Bush-Cricket	<i>Ancistrura nigrovittata</i>		1						
Bronze Glandular Bush-cricket	<i>Bradyporus dasypus</i>		1						
Mediterranean Wart-biter	<i>Decticus albifrons</i>		1	1					
Wart-Biter	<i>Decticus verrucivorus</i>								1
Orbelicos Bright Bush-Cricket	<i>Poecilimon orbelicus</i>				2				
Mediterranean Bush-Cricket	<i>Rhacocleis germanica</i>		1						
Great Green Bush-cricket	<i>Tettigonia viridissima</i>		1						
Common Crevice-cricket	<i>Grylломорpha dalmatina</i>		1						
Steppe Mole Cricket	<i>Grylotalpa cfr. stepposa</i>			1					
Fasciated Cone-head Mantis	<i>Empusa fasciata</i>	1	2						
Praying Mantis	<i>Mantis religiosa</i>	2	1						
A shield bug	<i>Carpocoris sp.</i>	x							
Red Shield Bug	<i>Carpocoris mediterraneus</i>		2						
Variiegated Fruit Bug	<i>Codophila varia</i>				1				
Sloe Bug	<i>Dolycoris baccarum</i>		1						
A black-and-red bug	<i>Lygaeus sp.</i>			1					
Mediterranean Spiny Stink Bug	<i>Mustha spinosula</i>		1						
An assassin bug	<i>Rhynocoris punctiventris</i>		2						
Common Froghopper	<i>Cercopis vulnerata</i>				1				
Black Sorrow Cicada	<i>Cicadatra atra</i>		x						
Common Cicada	<i>Lyristes plebejus</i>		x						
River Skater	<i>Aquarius najas</i>		1						
Lake Pondskater	<i>Aquarius paludum</i>			2					
An antlion	<i>Bubopsis andromache</i>		3						
Hook-winged Lacewing	<i>Drepanopteryx phalaenoides</i>			1					
An antlion	<i>Myrmecaelurus trigrammus</i>		5						
Sinuuated Spoonwing	<i>Nemoptera sinuata</i>	1							
Grand Antlion	<i>Palpares libelluloides</i>	2	10						
A robber fly	Asilidae sp.			1					
A fly	<i>Calliphora sp.</i>					1			
Splayed Deer Fly	<i>Chrysops caecutiens</i>			1					

Common name	Scientific name	July 2023							
		13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Migrant Hover Fly	<i>Eupeodes corollae</i>						1		
A fly	<i>Hemipenthes maura</i>					1			
A fly	<i>Hemipenthes velutina</i>			1					
Bee-mimic robber fly	<i>Laphria</i> sp.						1		
Eurasian Smoothwing	<i>Scaeva pyrastris</i>							1	
A globetail	<i>Sphaerophoria</i> sp.							1	
A bee-fly	<i>Thyridanthrax</i> sp.			1					
A fly	<i>Villa</i> sp.		1						
Pellucid Hover Fly	<i>Volucella pellucens</i>						1		
A blue-banded bee	<i>Amegilla</i> sp.		2		1				
A sand wasp	<i>Ammophila</i> sp.			1					
Large Scabious Mining Bee	<i>Andrena</i> cfr. <i>hattorfiana</i>				1				
Western Honey Bee	<i>Apis mellifera</i>		1						
Clay Bumble Bee	<i>Bombus argillaceus</i>				1				1
Red-tailed Bumble Bee	<i>Bombus</i> cfr. <i>lapidarius</i>						1		
Buff-tailed Bumble Bee	<i>Bombus</i> cfr. <i>terrestris</i>								1
Hairy Carpenter Ant	<i>Camponotus vagus</i>				2				
Nodal Desert Ant	<i>Cataglyphis nodus</i>				x				
Six-spotted Scoliid Wasp	<i>Colpa sexmaculata</i>		1						
Mossy Rose Gall Wasp	<i>Diplolepis rosae</i>				s				
Southern Wood Ant	<i>Formica rufa</i> gr.				x				
A bee	<i>Lasioglossum</i> sp.								1
Mammoth Scoliid Wasp	<i>Megascolia maculata</i>		2						
An ant	<i>Messor</i> sp.			x					
A paper wasp	<i>Polistes</i> sp.		x	x					
A wasp	<i>Sceliphron destillatorium</i>		1						
A scoliid wasp	<i>Scolia</i> sp.	1	1						
A chafer beetle	<i>Anomala solida</i>		1		x				
Flat-headed Root-Borer	<i>Capnodis tenebrionis</i>		1						
Grape Wood Borer	<i>Chlorophorus varius</i>		1						
Seven-spotted Lady Beetle	<i>Coccinella septempunctata</i>						2		
Lesser Stag Beetle	<i>Dorcus parallelipedus</i>			1					
A darkling beetle	<i>Gnaptor spinimanus</i>		1						
A buprestid beetle	<i>Julodis ehrenbergii</i>		1						
A weevil beetle	<i>Larinus latus</i>		1						
Stag Beetle	<i>Lucanus cervus</i>				1				
Pine Sawyer Beetle	<i>Monochamus sutor</i>						1		
A blister beetle	<i>Mylabris variabilis</i>		x	1					
European Rhinoceros Beetle	<i>Oryctes nasicornis</i>			d					
Tawny Longhorn Beetle	<i>Paracorymbia fulva</i>			1					
Pine Chafer	<i>Polyphylla fullo</i>						1		
A chafer beetle	<i>Protaetia cuprea obscura</i>							x	
A dung beetle	<i>Scarabaeus pius</i>	1							
Eurasian Bee Beetle	<i>Trichius</i> cfr. <i>fasciatus</i>					1			
Punctated Hairy Checkered Beetle	<i>Trichodes punctatus</i>		1						
Other invertebrates									
A labyrinth spider	<i>Agelena orientalis</i>		1						
Four-spot Orbweaver	<i>Araneus quadratus</i>								1
Wasp Spider	<i>Argiope bruennichi</i>		1	2					

Common name	Scientific name	July 2023							
		13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
A long-jawed orbweavers	<i>Tetragnatha</i> sp.				1				

Flora

Scientific Name	Common Name	Day	Location
BRYOPHYTES			
<i>Aulacomnium palustre</i>	Ribbed Bog Moss	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Racomitrium</i> sp.	A moss	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Sphagnum squarrosum</i>	Crome Sphagnum	6	Bezbog lake
PTERIDOPHYTES			
<i>Asplenium trichomanes</i>	Maidenhair Spleenwort	3	Petrovo
<i>Athyrium filix-femina</i>	Lady Fern	5	Brichebor fishfarm (Ilna river)
<i>Dryopteris</i> cfr. <i>filix-mas</i>	Male Fern	7	Vihren Chalet
<i>Polypodium vulgare</i>	Common Polypody	7	Banderitsa Camping
<i>Polystichum aculeatum</i>	Hard Shield Fern	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Polystichum lonchitis</i>	Holly Fern	6	Bezbog peak
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Bracken	4	Popovi Livadi
GYMNOSPERMS			
Conifers and Allies			
Pinaceae			
<i>Picea abies</i>	Norway Spruce	5	Kirilova Polyana
<i>Pinus heldreichii</i>	Bosnian Pine	7	Banderitsa Camping
<i>Pinus mugo</i>	Dwarf Mountain-pine	6	Bezbog hut
<i>Pinus nigra</i>	Black Pine	4	Popovi Livadi
<i>Pinus peuce</i>	Macedonian Pine	6	Bezbog hut
<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	Scot's Pine	4	Popovi Livadi
Cupressaceae			
<i>Juniperus communis</i>	Common Juniper	7	Bansko
<i>Juniperus communis</i> var. <i>saxatilis</i>	Mountain Juniper	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Juniperus deltoides</i>	Eastern Prickly Juniper	2	Kozhuh
ANGIOSPERMS			
Dicots			
Amaranthaceae			
<i>Chenopodium opulifolium</i>	Grey Goosefoot	3	Melnik
Anacardiaceae			
<i>Cotinus coggygria</i>	Smoke Tree	1	Stara Kresna
<i>Pistacia terebinthus</i>	Turpentine Tree	2	Kozhuh
Apiaceae			
<i>Astrantia major</i>	Great Masterwort	5	Kirilova Polyana

Scientific Name	Common Name	Day	Location
<i>Berula erecta</i>	Cutleaf Water Parsnip	4	Popovi Livadi (leaves)
<i>Bupleurum</i> cfr. <i>apiculatum</i>	A hare's-ear	2	Chuchuligovo
<i>Bupleurum exaltatum</i>	A hare's-ear	7	Banderitsa Camping
<i>Chaerophyllum aureum</i>	Golden Chervil	7	Banderitsa Camping
<i>Daucus carota</i>	Wild Carrot	1	Stara Kresna
<i>Eryngium campestre</i>	Field Eryngo	1	Stara Kresna
<i>Heracleum sibiricum</i>	Siberian Hogweed	4	Popovi Livadi
<i>Heracleum</i> cfr. <i>sphondylium</i>	Hogweed	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Ligusticum mutellina</i>	Alpine Lovage	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Orlaya grandiflora</i>	Large-flowered Orlaya	3	Petrovo
<i>Pastinaca sativa</i>	Wild Parsnip	5	Kirilova Polyana
<i>Sanicula europaea</i>	Sanicle	5	Kirilova Polyana
<i>Torilis</i> cfr. <i>arvensis</i>	Common Hedge Parsley	3	Marena (Marikostino)
Araliaceae			
<i>Hedera helix</i>	Ivy	1	Stara Kresna
Asteraceae			
<i>Achillea coarctata</i>	A yarrow	1	Stara Kresna
<i>Achillea</i> cfr. <i>filipendulina</i>	Fern-leaf Yarrow	2	Melnik
<i>Achillea millefolium</i> gr.	Common Yarrow	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Achillea multifida</i>	A yarrow	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Anthemis cretica carpatica</i>	A chamomile	6	Bezbog peak
<i>Anthemis</i> cfr. <i>ruthenica</i>	Eastern Chamomile	3	Melnik
<i>Arctium minus</i>	Lesser Burdock	3	Petrovo
<i>Artemisia absinthium</i>	Common Wormwood	2	Melnik
<i>Carduus</i> sp.	A purple thistle	2	Melnik
<i>Carduus nutans</i>	Musk Thistle	4	Popovi Livadi
<i>Carduus personata</i>	Great Marsh Thistle	5	Kirilova Polyana
<i>Carthamus lanatus</i>	Woolly Distaff Thistle	2	Kozhuh
<i>Centaurea diffusa</i>	A white knapweed	2	Kozhuh
<i>Centaurea</i> cfr. <i>phrygia</i>	Wig Knapweed	5	Kirilova Polyana
<i>Centaurea mannagettae</i>	A yellow knapweed	7	Bansko
<i>Centaurea nervosa</i>	Singleflower Knapweed	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Centaurea</i> cfr. <i>orbelica</i>	A white knapweed	7	Banderitsa Camping
<i>Centaurea salonitana</i>	A yellow knapweed	2	Kozhuh
<i>Centaurea solstitialis</i>	St Barnaby's Thistle	2	Kozhuh
<i>Centaurea stoebe</i>	Spotted Knapweed	4	Popovi Livadi
<i>Chondrilla juncea</i>	Skeletonweed	2	Dolno Spanchevo
<i>Cichorium intybus</i>	Chicory	2	Melnik
<i>Cirsium</i> cfr. <i>appendiculatum</i>	A thistle	4	Popovi Livadi
<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Creeping Thistle	8	Gorno Draglishte
<i>Cota tinctoria</i>	Golden Marguerite	8	Dobarsko
<i>Crepis</i> cfr. <i>setosa</i>	Bristly Hawk's-beard	4	Popovi Livadi
<i>Doronicum austriacum</i>	Austrian Leopard's-bane	6	Bezbog hut
<i>Doronicum columnae</i>	Heart-leaved Leopardsbane	6	Bezbog peak
<i>Echinops albidus</i>	A globe-thistle	1	Stara Kresna
<i>Echinops microcephalus</i>	A globe-thistle	3	Marena (Marikostino)
<i>Erigeron acris</i>	Blue Fleabane	4	Popovi Livadi
<i>Erigeron annuus</i>	Annual Fleabane	8	Gorna Banya
<i>Erigeron</i> cfr. <i>uniflorus vichrenensis</i>	One-flowered Fleabane	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Galinsoga quadriradiata</i>	Shaggy Soldier	3	Novo Hodzovo

Scientific Name	Common Name	Day	Location
<i>Helminthotheca echioides</i>	Bristly Oxtongue	3	Novo Hodzovo
<i>Hieracium</i> sp.	A hawkweed	7	Banderitsa Camping
<i>Hieracium</i> cfr. <i>pannosum</i>	A hawkweed	4	Orelyak
<i>Jacobaea abrotanifolia carpathica</i>	Pinnate-leaved Ragwort	6	Bezbog peak
<i>Mycelis muralis</i>	Wall Lettuce	3	Petrovo
<i>Onopordum illyricum</i>	Illyrian Scotch Thistle	2	Melnik
<i>Petasites albus</i>	White Butterbur	5	Kirilova Polyana
<i>Petasites hybridus</i>	Common Butterbur	5	Brichebor fishfarm (Iliina river)
<i>Pilosella</i> sp.	A hawkweed	6	Bezbog peak
<i>Pilosella aurantiaca</i>	Orange Hawkweed	7	Banderitsa Camping
<i>Prenanthes purpurea</i>	Purple Lettuce	6	Gotse Delchev
<i>Ptilostemon afer</i>	Grecian Thistle	4	Orelyak
<i>Scorzonera rosea</i>	-	7	Banderitsa Camping
<i>Scorzonerooides</i> cfr. <i>riilaensis</i>	A hawkbit	6	Bezbog peak
<i>Senecio</i> sp.	A ragwort	7	Vihren Chalet
<i>Senecio ovatus</i>	Wood Ragwort	5	Kirilova Polyana
<i>Senecio rupestris</i>	Rock Ragwort	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Sonchus palustris</i>	Marsh Sowthistle	3	Novo Hodzovo
[<i>Tagetes erecta</i>]	Mexican Marigold	2	Melnik
<i>Tanacetum macrophyllum</i>	Rayed Tansy	5	Kirilova Polyana
<i>Tanacetum vulgare</i>	Tansy	7	Bansko
<i>Telekia speciosa</i>	Heart-leaved Ox-eye	5	Kirilova Polyana
<i>Tripleurospermum inodorum</i>	Scentless Mayweed	4	Popovi Livadi
<i>Xeranthemum annuum</i>	Pink Everlasting	1	Stara Kresna
Betulaceae			
<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	Alder	3	Novo Hodzovo
<i>Alnus incana</i>	Grey Alder	8	Dobarsko
<i>Betula</i> cfr. <i>pendula</i>	Silver Birch	5	Kirilova Polyana
<i>Carpinus orientalis</i>	Eastern Hornbeam	1	Stara Kresna
<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Common Hazel	8	Dobarsko
Boraginaceae			
<i>Anchusa officinalis</i>	Common Bugloss	1	Stara Kresna
<i>Cynoglossum officinale</i>	Hound's-tongue	5	Kirilova Polyana
<i>Echium vulgare</i>	Viper's Bugloss	1	Stara Kresna
<i>Echium italicum</i>	Italian Viper's Bugloss	1	Stara Kresna
<i>Heliotropium europaeum</i>	European Heliotrope	1	Stara Kresna
<i>Myosotis</i> sp.	A forget-me-not	5	Kirilova Polyana
<i>Myosotis alpestris</i>	Alpine Wood forget-me-not	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Onosma heterophylla</i>	A golden-drop	3	Melnik
Brassicaceae			
<i>Barbarea vulgaris</i>	Bitter Wintercress	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Berteroa incana</i>	Hoary Alyssum	1	Stara Kresna
<i>Cardamine pratensis</i>	Cuckooflower	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Erysimum</i> cfr. <i>cuspidatum</i>	A wallflower	2	Melnik
Buddleiaceae			
[<i>Buddleja davidii</i>]	Buddleia	1	Melnik

Scientific Name	Common Name	Day	Location
Campanulaceae			
<i>Asyneuma canescens</i>	A bellflower	7	Vihren Chalet
<i>Campanula glomerata</i>	Clustered Bellflower	7	Vihren Chalet
<i>Campanula lingulata</i>	A bellflower	4	Orelyak
<i>Campanula moesiaca</i>	A bellflower	5	Kirilova Polyana
<i>Campanula (alpina) orbelica</i>	A bellflower	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Campanula patula</i>	Spreading Bellflower	1	Stara Kresna
<i>Campanula persicifolia</i>	Peach-leaved Bellflower	6	Gotse Delchev
<i>Campanula rapunculoides</i>	Creeping Bellflower	7	Bansko
<i>Campanula rotundifolia</i>	Harebell	4	Orelyak
<i>Campanula</i> cfr. <i>sparsa</i>	A bellflower	7	Vihren Chalet
<i>Campanula trachelium</i>	Nettle-leaved Bellflower	3	Melnik
<i>Jasione orbiculata</i>	A sheep's-bit	3	Petrovo
<i>Jasione heldreichii</i>	A sheep's-bit	2	Melnik
Cannabaceae			
<i>Celtis australis</i>	Nettle Tree	1	Stara Kresna
Caprifoliaceae			
<i>Knautia</i> sp.	A scabious	4	Popovi Livadi
<i>Knautia integrifolia</i>	Urville's Widowflower	3	Melnik
<i>Knautia</i> cfr. <i>midzorensis</i>	A scabious	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Lomelosia argentea</i>	A scabious	2	Ribnik
<i>Valeriana officinalis</i>	Common Valerian	4	Popovi Livadi
Caryophyllaceae			
<i>Arenaria</i> cfr. <i>biflora</i>	Two-flowered Sandwort	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Atocion armeria</i>	Sweet William Catchfly	8	Dobarsko
<i>Atocion compactum</i>	A catchfly	2	Melnik
<i>Cerastium</i> sp.	A chickweed	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Dianthus</i> sp.	A pink	8	Dobarsko
<i>Dianthus</i> cfr. <i>capitatus</i>	A pink	7	Banderitsa Camping
<i>Dianthus cruentus</i>	A pink	8	Dobarsko
<i>Dianthus</i> cfr. <i>viscidus</i>	A pink	3	Petrovo
<i>Dianthus gracilis</i>	A pink	1	Stara Kresna
<i>Dianthus integer</i>	A pink	7	Vihren Chalet
<i>Dianthus microlepis</i>	A pink	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Dianthus pancicii</i>	A pink	3	Melnik
<i>Heliosperma pusillum</i>	Alpine Catchfly	7	Vihren Chalet
<i>Lychnis coronaria</i>	Rose Campion	3	Petrovo
<i>Lychnis flos-cuculi</i>	Ragged Robin	4	Popovi Livadi
<i>Minuartia</i> cfr. <i>setacea</i>	A sandwort	7	Banderitsa Camping
<i>Moehringia</i> cfr. <i>pendula</i>	A sandwort	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Petrorhagia saxifraga</i>	Tunicflower	1	Stara Kresna
<i>Sabulina</i> cfr. <i>verna</i>	Spring Sandwort	4	Orelyak
<i>Saponaria bellidifolia</i>	Spoon-leaved Soapwort	7	Banderitsa Camping
<i>Saponaria officinalis</i>	Soapwort	2	Melnik
<i>Scleranthus perennis marginatus</i>	Perennial Knawel	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Silene frivaldskyana</i>	A catchfly	1	Stara Kresna
<i>Silene latifolia</i>	White Campion	5	Kirilova Polyana
<i>Silene roemeri</i>	A catchfly	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Silene vulgaris</i>	Bladder Campion	4	Orelyak

Scientific Name	Common Name	Day	Location
<i>Spergularia rubra</i>	Red Sand Spurrey	5	Kirilova Polyana
<i>Stellaria</i> cfr. <i>graminea</i>	Lesser Stitchwort	4	Popovi Livadi
<i>Viscaria vulgaris</i>	Sticky Catchfly	6	Bezbog lake
Celastraceae			
<i>Euonymus europaeus</i>	Common European Spindle	8	Gorna Banya
Cistaceae			
<i>Helianthemum nummularium</i>	Common Rockrose	4	Orelyak
Convolvulaceae			
<i>Calystegia sepium</i>	Hedge Bindweed	4	Novo Hodzovo
<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	Field Bindweed	2	Melnik
<i>Convolvulus cantabrica</i>	Cantabrian Morning Glory	2	Kozhuh
<i>Cuscuta</i> cfr. <i>campestris</i>	A dodder	2	Dolno Spanchevo
Cornaceae			
<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>	Dogwood	2	Dolno Spanchevo
Crassulaceae			
<i>Petrosedum ochroleucum</i>	Creamish Stonecrop	4	Orelyak
<i>Sedum album</i>	White Stonecrop	3	Melnik
<i>Sedum alpestre</i>	Alpine Stonecrop	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Sedum annuum</i>	A stonecrop	5	Kirilova Polyana
<i>Sedum urvillei</i>	A stonecrop	7	Bansko
Ericaceae			
<i>Vaccinium myrtillus</i>	Bilberry	4	Popovi Livadi
Euphorbiaceae			
<i>Euphorbia</i> sp.	A spurge	4	Orelyak
<i>Euphorbia amygdaloides</i>	Wood Spurge	7	Banderitsa Camping
<i>Euphorbia cyparissias</i>	Cypress Spurge	4	Orelyak
<i>Euphorbia esula</i> gr.	A spurge	2	Kozhuh
<i>Euphorbia myrsinites</i>	Glaucous Spurge	1	Stara Kresna
<i>Euphorbia prostrata</i>	Prostrate Sandmat	2	Rupite hot springs
Fabaceae			
<i>Amorpha fruticosa</i>	Bastard Indigo Bush	2	Kozhuh
<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i>	Kidney Vetch	7	Banderitsa Camping
<i>Astragalus glycyphyllos</i>	Wild Liquorice	4	Orelyak
<i>Bituminaria bituminosa</i>	Arabian Pea	3	Novo Hodzovo
<i>Chamaecytisus</i> cfr. <i>eriocarpus</i>	A broom	6	Bezbog hut
<i>Coronilla (Securigera) varia</i>	Purple Crownvetch	2	Melnik
<i>Genista</i> cfr. <i>depressa</i>	A broom	6	Bezbog peak
<i>Lathyrus pratensis</i>	Meadow Pea	4	Popovi Livadi
<i>Lathyrus tuberosus</i>	Tuberous Pea	8	Gorno Draglishte
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Bird's-foot Trefoil	4	Popovi Livadi
<i>Medicago lupulina</i>	Black Medick	4	Orelyak
<i>Melilotus albus</i>	White Melilot	1	Stara Kresna
<i>Onobrychis</i> cfr. <i>montana</i>	A sainfoin	7	Banderitsa Camping
<i>Ononis spinosa</i>	Spiny Restharrow	3	Petrovo

Scientific Name	Common Name	Day	Location
<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	False Acacia	1	Blagoevgrad
<i>Trifolium</i> sp.	A pink clover	2	Melnik
<i>Trifolium alpestre</i>	Alpine Zigzag Clover	4	Popovi Livadi
<i>Trifolium aureum</i>	Large Hop Clover	5	Kirilova Polyana
<i>Trifolium diffusum</i>	Diffuse Clover	3	Petrovo
<i>Trifolium echinatum</i>	Hedgehog Clover	3	Marena (Marikostino)
<i>Trifolium fragiferum</i>	Strawberry Clover	2	Dolno Spanchevo
<i>Trifolium hybridum</i>	Alsike Clover	6	Bezbog hut
<i>Trifolium medium</i>	Zig-zag Clover	7	Banderitsa Camping
<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Red Clover	4	Popovi Livadi
<i>Trifolium purpureum</i>	Purple Clover	2	Melnik
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White Clover	4	Novo Hodzovo
<i>Vicia grandiflora</i>	Large Yellow Vetch	8	Gorna Banya
<i>Vicia villosa</i>	Fodder Vetch	2	Chuchuligovo
Fagaceae			
<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	Beech	4	Popovi Livadi
<i>Quercus pubescens</i>	Downy Oak	2	Kozhuh
Gentianaceae			
<i>Centaureum erythraea</i>	Common Centaury	8	Dobarsko
<i>Gentiana cruciata</i>	Cross Gentian	4	Popovi Livadi (leaves)
<i>Gentiana dshimilensis</i>	A gentian	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Gentiana punctata</i>	Spotted Gentian	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Gentiana verna</i>	Spring Gentian	6	Bezbog peak
Geraniaceae			
<i>Geranium macrorrhizum</i>	Rock Cranesbill	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Geranium phaeum</i>	Dusky Cranesbill	5	Kirilova Polyana
<i>Geranium pyrenaicum</i>	Hedgerow Cranesbill	4	Orelyak
<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	Herb Robert	4	Novo Hodzovo
<i>Geranium sanguineum</i>	Bloody Cranesbill	4	Orelyak
<i>Geranium sylvaticum</i>	Wood Cranesbill	6	Bezbog lake
Hypericaceae			
<i>Hypericum cerastioides</i>	A St John's-wort	4	Orelyak
<i>Hypericum maculatum immaculatum</i>	Imperforate St John's-wort	7	Vihren Chalet
<i>Hypericum olympicum</i>	Mount Olympus St John's-wort	2	Melnik
<i>Hypericum</i> cfr. <i>perfoliatum</i>	A St John's-wort	2	Melnik
<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	Perforate St. Johnswort	5	Kirilova Polyana
Juglandaceae			
<i>Juglans regia</i>	Walnut	4	Novo Hodzovo
Lamiaceae			
<i>Ajuga chamaepitys</i>	Ground-pine	2	Kozhuh
<i>Ajuga laxmannii</i>	A bugle	4	Orelyak
<i>Ajuga reptans</i>	Common Bugle	7	Vihren Chalet
<i>Ballota nigra</i>	Black Horehound	1	Stara Kresna
<i>Betonica officinalis</i>	Common Hedge-nettle	8	Gorna Banya
<i>Clinopodium</i> sp.	A thyme	2	Kozhuh
<i>Clinopodium acinos</i>	Basil-thyme	4	Orelyak

Scientific Name	Common Name	Day	Location
<i>Clinopodium alpinum</i>	Rock Thyme	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Clinopodium vulgare</i>	Wild Basil	2	Melnik
<i>Lamium garganicum</i>	Large Red Dead-nettle	4	Orelyak
<i>Lamium maculatum</i>	Spotted Dead-nettle	7	Vihren Chalet
<i>Marrubium peregrinum</i>	A horehound	1	Stara Kresna
<i>Melissa officinalis</i>	Balm	1	Stara Kresna
<i>Mentha longifolia</i>	Horsemint	2	Dolno Spanchevo
<i>Nepeta cataria</i>	Catnip	4	Novo Hodzovo
<i>Nepeta nuda</i>	A catmint	3	Petrovo
<i>Origanum vulgare</i>	Marjoram	4	Novo Hodzovo
<i>Prunella laciniata</i>	Cut-leaved Self-heal	8	Dobarsko
<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	Self-heal	3	Petrovo
<i>Salvia verticillata</i>	Whorled Clary	2	Melnik
<i>Satureja</i> cfr. <i>pilosa</i>	A savory	4	Novo Hodzovo
<i>Scutellaria alpina</i>	Alpine Skullcap	7	Banderitsa Camping
<i>Stachys alpina</i>	Limestone Woundwort	4	Popovi Livadi
<i>Stachys germanica</i>	Downy Woundwort	8	Gorna Banya
<i>Stachys palustris</i>	Marsh Woundwort	3	Marena (Marikostino)
<i>Stachys recta</i>	Yellow Woundwort	4	Orelyak
<i>Stachys sylvatica</i>	Hedge Woundwort	4	Popovi Livadi
<i>Teucrium capitatum</i>	Felty Germander	2	Kozhuh
<i>Teucrium chamaedrys</i>	Wall Germander	8	Dobarsko
<i>Teucrium montanum</i>	Mountain Germander	4	Orelyak
<i>Thymu</i> sp.	A thyme	4	Orelyak
<i>Thymus</i> cfr. <i>pannonicus</i>	Eurasian Thyme	3	Petrovo
<i>Thymus</i> cfr. <i>praecox</i>	Early Thyme	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Thymus</i> cfr. <i>sibthorpii</i>	A thyme	1	Stara Kresna
Lentibulariaceae			
<i>Pinguicula balcanica</i>	Balkan Butterwort	6	Bezbog lake
Linaceae			
<i>Linum catharticum</i>	Fairy Flax	4	Popovi Livadi
Lythraceae			
<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	Purple Loosestrife	3	Marena (Marikostino)
Malvaceae			
<i>Alcea biennis</i>	Pale Hollyhock	1	Stara Kresna
<i>Althaea cannabina</i>	Hemp-leaved Mallow	2	Kozhuh
<i>Malva sylvestris</i>	Common Mallow	1	Stara Kresna
Moraceae			
<i>Ficus carica</i>	Fig	1	Stara Kresna
Oleaceae			
<i>Fraxinus ornus</i>	Flowering Ash	2	Kozhuh
Onagraceae			
<i>Chamaenerion angustifolium</i>	Rosebay Willowherb	4	Orelyak
<i>Chamaenerion dodonaei</i>	Rosemary-leaved Willowherb	7	Bansko
<i>Circaea lutetiana</i>	Enchanters Nightshade	3	Petrovo

Scientific Name	Common Name	Day	Location
<i>Epilobium</i> cfr. <i>collinum</i>	A willowherb	5	Kirilova Polyana
<i>Epilobium hirsutum</i>	Great Willowherb	8	Gorna Banya
<i>Epilobium</i> cfr. <i>montanum</i>	Broad-leaved Willowherb	7	Banderitsa Camping
<i>Epilobium parviflorum</i>	Hoary Willowherb	3	Petrovo
Orobanchaceae			
<i>Melampyrum sylvaticum</i>	Small Cow-wheat	7	Banderitsa Camping
<i>Pedicularis orthantha</i>	A lousewort	6	Bezbog peak
<i>Pedicularis verticillata</i>	Whorled Lousewort	6	Bezbog peak
<i>Orobanche alba</i>	Thyme Broomrape	4	Orelyak
<i>Rhinanthus alectorolophus</i> gr.	European Yellow Rattle	5	Kirilova Polyana
<i>Rhinanthus minor</i>	Little Yellow Rattle	5	Kirilova Polyana
Oxalidaceae			
<i>Oxalis corniculata</i>	Procumbent Yellow Sorrel	5	Rila monastery
Papaveraceae			
<i>Chelidonium majus</i>	Greater Celandine	4	Novo Hodzovo
<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>	Common Poppy	2	Melnik
Plantaginaceae			
<i>Cymbalaria muralis</i>	Ivy-leaved Toadflax	3	Melnik
<i>Digitalis lanata</i>	Woolly Foxglove	4	Popovi Livadi
<i>Digitalis viridiflora</i>	Green-flowered Foxglove	7	Vihren Chalet
<i>Linaria dalmatica</i>	Balkan Toadflax	7	Banderitsa Camping
<i>Linaria genistifolia</i>	Dalmation Toadflax	2	Melnik
<i>Linaria vulgaris</i>	Common Toadflax	7	Bansko
<i>Plantago arenaria</i> (=indica)	Branched Plantain	4	Melnik
<i>Plantago gentianoides</i>	A plantain	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort Plantain	3	Marena (Marikostino)
<i>Plantago major</i>	Greater Plantain	3	Petrovo
<i>Veronica beccabunga</i>	Brooklime	7	Vihren Chalet
<i>Veronica bellidioides</i>	Violet Speedwell	6	Bezbog peak
<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>	Germander Speedwell	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Veronica serpyllifolia</i>	Thyme-leaved Speedwell	6	Bezbog lake
Platanaceae			
<i>Platanus orientalis</i>	Oriental Plane	1	Stara Kresna
Polygalaceae			
<i>Polygala</i> cfr. <i>comosa</i>	Tufted Milkwort	4	Orelyak
<i>Polygala major</i>	Large Milkwort	7	Banderitsa Camping
Polygonaceae			
<i>Persicaria amphibia</i>	Amphibious Bistort	3	Marena (Marikostino)
<i>Rumex</i> sp.	A sorrel	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Rumex alpinus</i>	Monk's Rhubarb	6	Bezbog hut
<i>Rumex arifolius</i>	Maiden Sorrel	5	Kirilova Polyana
Portulacaceae			
<i>Portulaca oleracea</i>	Yellow Purslane	4	Novo Hodzovo

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Primulaceae			
<i>Lysimachia punctata</i>	Dotted Loosestrife	8	Dobarsko
Ranunculaceae			
<i>Clematis vitalba</i>	Traveller's Joy	1	Stara Kresna
<i>Delphinium</i> cfr. <i>balcanicum</i>	A larkspur	3	Marena (Marikostino)
<i>Delphinium consolida</i>	Forking Larkspur	4	Novo Hodzovo
<i>Nigella arvensis</i>	Love-in-a-mist	1	Stara Kresna
<i>Ranunculus</i> sp.	A buttercup	5	Kirilova Polyana
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Creeping Buttercup	7	Banderitsa Camping
<i>Thalictrum minus</i>	Lesser Meadow-Rue	7	Banderitsa Camping
Resedaceae			
<i>Reseda lutea</i>	Wild Mignonette	2	Melnik
Rhamnaceae			
<i>Paliurus spina-christi</i>	Christ's Thorn	1	Stara Kresna
Rosaceae			
<i>Agrimonia eupatoria</i>	Agrimony	2	Kozhuh
<i>Alchemilla</i> sp.	A lady's mantle	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Cotoneaster integerrimus</i>	Common Cotoneaster	7	Vihren Chalet
<i>Crataegus</i> cfr. <i>orientalis</i>	Eastern Thorn	7	Bansko
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn	2	Kozhuh
<i>Filipendula ulmaria</i>	Meadowsweet	8	Dobarsko
<i>Filipendula vulgaris</i>	Dropwort	4	Popovi Livadi
<i>Fragaria vesca</i>	Wild Strawberry	4	Popovi Livadi
<i>Geum coccineum</i>	Red Avens	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Geum montanum</i>	Alpine Avens	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Potentilla</i> sp.	A cinquefoil	7	Banderitsa Camping
<i>Potentilla</i> cfr. <i>argentea</i>	Silvery Cinquefoil	4	Orelyak
<i>Potentilla aurea chrysocraspeda</i>	Golden Cinquefoil	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Potentilla</i> cfr. <i>inclinata</i>	Grey Cinquefoil	3	Marena (Marikostino)
<i>Potentilla recta</i>	Sulphur Cinquefoil	4	Popovi Livadi
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn	1	Stara Kresna
<i>Pyrus spinosa</i>	Almond-leaved Pear	2	Kozhuh
<i>Rosa canina</i> gr.	Dog-rose	4	Orelyak
<i>Rosa pendulina</i> (= <i>alpina</i>)	Alpine Rose	7	Vihren Chalet
<i>Rubus caesius</i>	Dewberry	4	Novo Hodzovo
<i>Rubus idaeus</i>	Wild Raspberry	7	Vihren Chalet
<i>Rubus ulmifolius</i> gr.	Bramble	1	Stara Kresna
<i>Sanguisorba officinalis</i>	Great Burnet	8	Gorna Banya
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan	5	Kirilova Polyana
Rubiaceae			
<i>Cruciata laevipes</i>	Crosswort	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Galium</i> sp.	A bedstraw	4	Orelyak
<i>Galium verum</i>	Lady's Bedstraw	2	Kozhuh
<i>Gallium odoratum</i>	Woodruff	5	Kirilova Polyana
Rutaceae			
<i>Haplophyllum suaveolens</i>	A rue	4	Novo Hodzovo

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Salicaceae			
<i>Populus alba</i>	White Poplar	2	Melnik
<i>Populus nigra</i> gr.	Black Poplar	2	Melnik
<i>Salix</i> sp.	A willow	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Salix alba</i>	White Willow	2	Melnik
<i>Salix</i> cfr. <i>purpurea</i>	Purple Willow	6	Bansko
Santalaceae			
<i>Osyris alba</i>	Poet's Cassia	2	Kozhuh
Sapindaceae			
<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Sycamore	5	Kirilova Polyana
Saxifragaceae			
<i>Micranthes stellaris</i>	Starry Saxifrage	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Saxifraga exarata</i>	Musky Saxifrage	6	Bezbog peak
<i>Saxifraga paniculata</i>	Livelong Saxifrage	7	Vihren Chalet
<i>Saxifraga pedemontana cymosa</i>	Piedmont Saxifrage	6	Bezbog peak
<i>Saxifraga rotundifolia</i>	Round-leaved Saxifrage	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Saxifraga sempervivum</i>	A saxifrage	4	Orelyak (leaves)
Scrophulariaceae			
<i>Scrophularia scopolii</i>	Italian Figwort	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Scrophularia</i> cfr. <i>umbrosa</i>	Green Figwort	2	Dolno Spanchevo
<i>Verbascum davidoffii</i>	A mullein	7	Banderitsa Camping
<i>Verbascum densiflorum</i>	Dense-flowered Mullein	2	Melnik
<i>Verbascum</i> cfr. <i>longifolium</i>	A mullein	4	Orelyak
<i>Verbascum sinuatum</i>	Wavy-leaf Mullein	2	Ribnik
<i>Verbascum speciosum</i>	Showy Mullein	8	Dobarkso
<i>Verbascum</i> cfr. <i>thapsus</i>	Great Mullein	1	Stara Kresna
Simaroubaceae			
[<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>]	Tree of Heaven	2	Melnik
Solanaceae			
<i>Solanum dulcamara</i>	Bittersweet	2	Dolno Spanchevo
<i>Solanum nigrum</i>	Black Nightshade	1	Stara Kresna
Thymelaeaceae			
<i>Daphne oleoides</i>	A daphne	7	Banderitsa Camping
Ulmaceae			
<i>Ulmus minor</i>	Field Elm	2	Kozhuh
Urticaceae			
<i>Parietaria officinalis</i>	Erect Pellitory-of-the-Wall	1	Stara Kresna
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Stinging Nettle	2	Melnik
Verbenaceae			
<i>Verbena officinalis</i>	Vervain	3	Marena (Marikostino)

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Viburnaceae			
<i>Sambucus ebulus</i>	Dwarf Elder / Danewort	2	Melnik
Violaceae			
<i>Viola</i> cfr. <i>dacica</i>	A violet pansy	7	Vihren Chalet
<i>Viola</i> cfr. <i>ganiatsasii</i>	A yellow pansy	7	Banderitsa Camping
<i>Viola tricolor</i>	Heartsease	4	Popovi Livadi
Monocots			
Alismataceae			
<i>Alisma lanceolatum</i>	Lance-leaved Water-Plantain	3	Marena (Marikostino)
Amaryllidaceae			
<i>Allium guttatum</i>	Spotted Leek	1	Stara Kresna
<i>Allium sphaerocephalon</i>	Round-headed Garlic	2	Kozhuh
Araceae			
<i>Arum</i> sp.	A cuckoo pint	1	Stara Kresna (leaves)
Asparagaceae			
<i>Asparagus acutifolius</i>	Spiny Asparagus	1	Stara Kresna (leaves)
Commelinaceae			
[<i>Commelina communis</i>]	Asiatic Dayflower	2	Rupite hot springs
Cyperaceae			
<i>Bolboschoenus maritimus</i>	Sea Clubrush	3	Marena (Marikostino)
<i>Carex</i> sp.	A sedge	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Carex nigra</i> gr.	Black Sedge	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Carex</i> cfr. <i>leporina</i>	Oval Sedge	7	Vihren Chalet
<i>Eriophorum latifolium</i>	Broad-leaved Cottongrass	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Schoenoplectus lacustris</i>	Common Clubrush	3	Marena (Marikostino)
<i>Scirpoides holoschoenus</i>	Round-headed Clubrush	3	Marena (Marikostino)
<i>Scirpus sylvaticus</i>	Wood Club-rush	6	Bezbog hut
Juncaceae			
<i>Juncus effusus</i>	Soft Rush	8	Dobarsko
Liliaceae			
<i>Lilium martagon</i>	Martagon Lily	4	Orelyak
Melanthiaceae			
<i>Veratrum album</i> gr.	A false helleborine	6	Bezbog lake (leaves)
Orchidaceae			
<i>Dactylorhiza cordigera</i>	Heart-flowered Marsh Orchid	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Dactylorhiza saccifera</i>	Wedge-lipped Orchid	4	Popovi Livadi
<i>Cephalanthera rubra</i>	Red Helleborine	4	Popovi Livadi
<i>Epipactis atrorubens</i>	Dark Red Helleborine	4	Popovi Livadi
<i>Epipactis</i> cfr. <i>helleborine</i>	Broad-leaved Helleborine	5	Kirilova Poljana (leaves)
<i>Epipactis palustris</i>	Marsh Helleborine	4	Popovi Livadi

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<i>Gymnadenia frivaldii</i>	Frivald's Gymnadenia	6	Bezbog lake
<i>Neottia nidus-avis</i>	Bird's-nest Orchid	4	Orelyak (dead stem)
<i>Neottia ovata</i>	Common Twayblade	4	Popovi Livadi
<i>Pseudorchis albida</i>	Small-white Orchid	6	Bezbog peak
Poaceae			
cfr. <i>Aegilops geniculata</i>	Ovate Goat Grass	3	Marena (Marikostino)
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Cock'sfoot	4	Popovi Livadi
<i>Melica ciliata</i>	Eyelash Grass	1	Stara Kresna
<i>Paspalum dilatatum</i>	Dallisgrass	3	Marena (Marikostino)
<i>Phleum</i> cfr. <i>alpinum</i>	Alpine Timothy	6	Bezbog peak
<i>Setaria</i> cfr. <i>viridis</i>	Green Bristle Grass	1	Stara Kresna
Typhaceae			
<i>Typha</i> cfr. <i>domingensis</i>	Southern Cattail	2	Dolno Spanchevo
LICHENS			
<i>Evernia prunastri</i>	Oakmoss	2	Melnik
<i>Parmelia sulcata</i>	Shield Lichen	7	Banderitsa Camping
<i>Peltigera</i> sp.	A pelt lichen	5	Kirilova Poljana
<i>Pseudevernia furfuracea</i>	Tree Moss	7	Banderitsa Camping