The Italian & French Alps

Naturetrek Tour Report

1 - 8 July 2009



Petrocalis pyrenaica



Botanising in Vanoise National Park



Campanula thyrsoides



Glacier clad peaks of La Grand Casse, Vanoise National Park

Report compiled by Philip Thompson

Images courtesy of Peter and Jane Simpson

England



Naturetrek Cheriton Mill Cheriton

T: +44 (0)1962 733051 E: info@naturetrek.co.uk Alresford

Hampshire SO24 0NG

F: +44 (0)1962 736426

W: www.naturetrek.co.uk

Tour Leader: Philip Thompson

Participants: Ken Read

Margaret Read Tony Grange Jennie Grange Angela Bentley Ros Lucas Peter Simpson Jane Simpson

Day 1

Wednesday 1st July

The main group were met at Turin Airport where we transferred to the minibus for the journey to the hotel in Cogne where we were to spend the first three nights. The weather was beautifully sunny, as it was to remain throughout the trip apart from a few short spells of very light rain and cloud. Shortly before arriving in the village of Cretaz on the outskirts of Cogne we stopped briefly to admire a large patch of the localized *Astragalus alopecurus* on the steep roadside bank. The diversity and richness of the local flora was immediately apparent from the accompanying plants on this single bank to whet the appetites of the group botanists!

We arrived at the hotel in the early afternoon, so that after we had been assigned our respective rooms, a short walk was then taken in the valley south of the small village of Lillaz. This first walk allowed for a gentle introduction to the flora of the area in a digestible amount as the following days were to provide something of a floral overload! Among the first plants seen in the meadows were the abundant Bistort-Persicaria bistorta, Campanula rhomboidalis, Phyteuma orbiculare, spicatum and ovatum, Globeflower-Trollius europaeus and Hoary Plantain-Plantago media. As we entered the woodland a large patch of the distinctive thorn less Alpine Rose-Rosa pendulina was found beneath which the attractive yellow Viola biflora was growing. As we progressed through the woodland edge several notable plants were added including May Lily-Maianthemum bifolium, Herb Paris-Paris quadrifolia and Wolfsbane-Aconitum lycoctonum. We also encountered a couple of initially elusive Nutcrackers and a pair of Crested Tits.

Day 2

Thursday 2nd July

Our first full day in the field was spent walking north from the village of Gimillan alongside the Torrent Grauson. The warm sunny weather brought out butterflies in profusion which included several Apollo's, Swallowtail, Dark Green, Titania's, Glanville, Grison's and Pearl-bordered Fritillaries, Mountain Dappled and Black-veined Whites, Almond-eyed and Dusky Ringlets, Great Sooty Satyr, Duke of Burgundy and Green Hairstreak.

The route climbed quite steeply from the village through tall meadows to level out among rocky hillside slopes which were full of flowers. We then entered an area of light Larch and Scots Pine forest before descending to cross the Torrent.

Plants seen along the way included the large glaucous Laserpitium siler, Vincetoxicum hirundinarium, Antennaria dioica, Centaurea montana and uniflora, the large yellow-flowered Chamois Ragwort-Senecio doronicum, Phyteuma scorzonerifolium, the similar looking Pinks, Dianthus sylvestris and gratianopolitanus, and an abundance of Houseleeks of 4 different species. On a scree slope near the river a single plant of the Alpine endemic Large-flowered Bellflower-Campanula alpestris was found to be admired. On the steep slopes below the path were numerous flowering rosettes of Saxifraga paniculata. Birds were proving elusive but did include another pair of Crested Tits and a singing Rock Bunting that was only spotted on our return journey.

Once across the river we climbed again through attractive flowery meadows before entering some light forest where we picnicked in the shade. The slopes nearby contained our first Gentians of the trip in the form of *Gentiana verna* alongside some showy *Pulsatilla halleri*. After lunch we continued on a little further to the base of a steeper climb from which we admired the view back down the valley and across towards the glacier clad summit of Gran Paradiso itself and other nearby peaks. Flying below a nearby cliff-face were several House Martins among which were a couple of Crag Martins. We returned to cross the river by another bridge lower down and take a different route back. Several new butterfly and plant species were seen on our return to round off a wonderful day in the mountains.

Day 3 Friday 3rd July

A pre-breakfast walk was taken by some members into Cretaz and down to the fast flowing Torrent Grand Eyvia in search of Dipper. A bird was spotted soon after our arrival leaving a crack in the river embankment to rapidly fly off downstream. After watching the Serins, Black Redstarts and White Wagtails nearby the bird returned after 10 minutes or so. After a short wait the bird could then be just seen within the entrance to the nest site looking out. It then briefly emerged into the open before once more shooting off downstream.

After breakfast we travelled the short distance through Cogne to the village of Valnontey from where we set off on foot up the zigzag path on the western slopes of the valley. The path led past the fence surrounding the Botanic Gardens which showcased the local alpine flora. The abundant Martogan Lilies within had crossed over to mix with the plants outside to be photographed by many of the group. The open pinewoods through which we climbed had numerous open sunny glades containing an abundance of flowers many of which were new for the trip. Highlights were the handsome spikes of *Campanula spicata* looking at first glance not unlike Viper's Bugloss, another localised member of the Fabaceae in the form of *Astragalus exscapus, Pedicularis verticillata* and *rostratospicata* and Woolly Thistle-*Cirsium eriophorum*. Once more the butterflies were notable by their abundance on the warm sunny slopes with additions including both Scarce and Purple-shot Coppers and Almond-eyed Ringlet.

We climbed as high as the bridge that crossed the waterfall dropping to the valley below. Once cooled and refreshed we made our way back, only to hear another Nutcracker calling from the surrounding pines. Good views were obtained of the bird as it moved about the trees before flying off to perch prominently at the top of a distant Norway Spruce.

Once back at the vehicle we drove a short way up a dirt track to picnic by the river. The banks of the river had several patches of scrubby vegetation containing the Tamarisk relative *Myricaria germanica* and the distinctive Willowherb *Epilobium fleischeri*.

After lunch we then walked up the valley floor on a level track to explore the wet meadows and woodland. Shortly after setting off we were surprised to see a very tame Fox vixen trotting up the path carrying a bag of rubbish scavenged from the nearby campsite. She was unconcerned by our presence and was spotted a couple of times as we progressed on our walk. At the trackside the lilac flowered Alpine Clematis was seen in flower as well as Small Cow-wheat-Melampyrum sylvaticum. At a small wet meadow by a small house built among the rocks were numerous Dactylorhiza alpestris, Alpine Bartsia-Bartsia alpina and orange flowered Crepis aurea. The wet mud alongside the small streams crossing the path attracted numerous butterflies including Mountain Green-veined White, Glandon Blue and Osiris Blue. We crossed the river to return on the opposite side. We investigated a wet boggy area within the meadows that contained several new plants among which were Arnica and Tofield's Asphodel.

Day 4

Saturday 4th July

Today was spent in travelling as we transferred from Italy into France to visit the adjoining Vanoise National Park. Whilst the travelling time was nearly 4 hours the journey was broken up with several stops and we were travelling through some of the most spectacular scenery to keep everyone occupied and was therefore a very enjoyable and exciting day.

We first stopped shortly after crossing the border at the Col du Petit St. Bernard after completing the first ascent of the journey. The grassland here had abundant Alpine Clover-*Trifolium alpinum*, *Soldanella alpina*, *Gentiana bavarica* and *Viola calcarata*. Once everyone was rounded up and back on board we continued on the short distance to La Rosiere where we stopped for coffee and elevenses whilst taking in the fantastic view down into the valley. We then dropped sharply down via numerous hairpin bends before heading towards Val D'Isere and up our second ascent to the very high Col de I'Iseran at 2764 metres. A couple of short stops were taken on the way up to let people check out the flowers at the roadsides. At the Col we stopped for a late lunch in the chilly wind whipping across the ridge. Several new plants were all around us but our attention was concentrated on food since we were due to return here later in the week for a proper exploration. We then moved on and dropped down the other side into the valley of the Arc River that our next destination of Lanslevillard stood alongside. We arrived at the hotel in good time to relax before dinner.

Day 5 Sunday 5th July

We took the short drive from Lanslevillard up onto the Col du Mont Cenis from where the Lac du Mont Cenis could be seen surrounded by the peaks of the Mont Cenis massif. We took the side road around the lake edge towards the Refuge of the same name. A short stop was taken en route to admire a bank of Spring Gentians among others. We parked at the refuge and set off towards the Col du Petit Mont Cenis. Pace was slow as we admired the plentiful flowers and puzzled over a singing Whitethroat with a regional dialect! Before we had even moved off we found several plants of Snow Gentian-Gentiana nivalis in front of the refuge. Moving along the track several Frog Orchids were spotted concealed in the grass and at a small rivulet that crossed the path Primula pedemontana, Allium schoenoprasum and Pinguicula alpina. A little further on in the shelter beneath a large boulder Saxifraga rotundifolia was found. Probably the highlight of the walk was when we climbed a low rocky ridge on which a profusion of the deep pink Dianthus pavonius grew among the deep golden yellow Potentilla grandiflora and nearby the cream coloured alpine endemic Yellow Soapwort-Saponaria lutea was mixed with Euphrasia spp. making for a wonderful clashing mix of colour set among the mountain scenery.

Time was running on so a short cut was taken across the meadows to meet the road back to the refuge, along the way we watched a local pastoralist with his dog round up his frisky cows.

We then drove a short way to picnic overlooking the river among an incredibly colourful array of flowers. Whilst eating a rather distant Golden Eagle was spotted soaring over the nearest peaks to serve as a nice end to lunch. We then drove on to overlook the lake once more where we again stopped to have a scout among the slopes. A large flowering population of Alpine Pasque Flower-*Pulsatilla alpinus* was found, as was a single example of Round-headed Orchid-*Traunsteineri globosa*.

An offer of coffee at a nearby café was rejected in favour of another walk on the other side of the lake on the lower slopes of Mont Cenis itself. Upon alighting from the vehicle we immediately found flowering within an area of recent snowmelt *Corydalis solida*. The walk was a steady climb during which we added the cream flowered *Pedicularis comosa* to our trip tally. Upon reaching a ridge with views of two of the historic defensive forts a small party of Alpine Chough were watched feeding on the slopes above us before the weather began to close in slightly so we returned to the vehicle to head back. A quick stop was taken on the return at a small wet flush within the pinewoods where we found some Round-leaved Wintergreen-*Pyrola rotundifolia*, Twayblade-*Neottia ovata* and Heath Spotted Orchid-*Dactylorhiza maculata*.

Day 6 Monday 6th July

Another short journey was taken towards Termignon before we turned north and started climbing up the gorge of the River Doron. This was a very spectacular and scenic journey before we eventually arrived at the car park of Bellecombe where we stopped and set off on foot towards the Plan du Lac and Refuge of that name. The weather had appeared cloudy at first but as the day went on it burnt off to culminate in another beautiful day in the mountains where everyone was struck by the clarity of air and views towards the glacier clad peaks around us. New plants were beginning to become fewer but we did add Southern Gentian-Gentiana alpina to the growing list of Gentianaceae. The butterflies were continuing to be a feature of the trip with new species such as Peak White, Mountain Grayling and Marsh Fritillary being added to the total. The abundant Trailing Azelea-Loiseleuria procumbens which was all around was eventually found still with flowers. Before lunch we checked out an area known for Ptarmigan but had no luck. We then headed for the refuge to have our picnic at the tables followed by a coffee.

An afternoon walk was then taken over towards the gorge edge and a group of small pools. On the way we found the pretty deep pink Alpine Lychnis. Upon reaching the rocks near the gorge edge we found the short-stemmed *Phyteuma globularifolium ssp. pedemontanum* growing among the cracks. A rest was taken as we once again enjoyed the views and mountain air before we returned to the main road and then split into two groups. One group returned on our original path while the others followed the road back. Nearing the car park the group on the road were lucky to find a few specimens of the sought after alpine speciality Edelweiss-*Leontopodium alpinum*. The rest of the group were then shuttled up in the minibus to join in the group's good fortune.

During the return journey down through the woods a stop was taken for a short walk through the woods to an attractive bridge crossing a torrent. The objective was to find a couple of new plants such as *Dactylorhiza cruenta*, *Epipactus atrorubens*, *Polygonum chamaebuxus*, *Aquilegia atrata* and *Orthillia secunda* all of which were found.

Day 7

Tuesday 7th July

A pre-breakfast walk was taken along a track leading from the village by some of the group. A Sparrowhawk being mobbed by the breeding Fieldfares was a nice start. As we approached an area of tall Meadowsweet and Hogweed vegetation our main target of Marsh Warbler could be heard just starting to break into song and a few brief unsatisfactory glimpses were obtained. A handsome male Bullfinch was added next followed by singing Garden Warbler. New plants included Large Yellow Restharrow-Ononis natrix and melancholy Thistle-Cirsium helenoides. On the return leg of the walk we managed slightly better views of another Marsh Warbler.

The main group visit for the day was the planned return to the Col du l'Iseran for some hoped for high alpine plants. The journey up was spectacular made even better when during a roadside stop an adult Golden Eagle with a dangling leg cruised by along the slopes above us very nearby to be mobbed by an angry Kestrel. Once parked at the Col it wasn't long before we connected with the numerous Snowfinches which were moving all around in small parties, some with fledged young being fed by the parents. These proved to be very tame and provided all with some excellent views. The group split up as we foraged around on the rocky terrain looking for alpine gems. Foremost was the discovery very near our parked vehicle of yet more Edelweiss! Other discoveries included *Petrocallis pyrenaica, Cerastium uniflorum, Androsace alpina, Gentiana orbicularis*, and *Artemesia umbelliformis*.

After a coffee we then drove down to lower levels for a delightful picnic overlooking a spectacular set of waterfalls which we enjoyed sitting among the flowers again. The added bonus here was finding *Phyteuma hemisphaericum* on a nearby rock. Once everyone had finished eating we walked over to admire the falls where we found plentiful *Gentianella campestris* and a few examples of *Thalictrum aquilegifolium*. During our return to the valley bottom a few more roadside stops were taken to allow people to obtain photos of plants missed earlier and also to finally settle in everyone's mind the difference between St Bruno's and St Bernard's Lilies!! On our return to Lanslevillard we still had some time available so we decided to head up towards the Col du Mont Cenis and explore the woodlands for more plants. The result was the finding of Bird's Nest Orchid and 4 species of Wintergreen including the trip addition of *Pyrola chlorantha* and a couple of Marsh and Crested Tits for the birders.

Day 8

Wednesday 8th July

The group said their farewells as we split into three to make our homeward journey. The only bonus for those flying home was the sight of an amazing rainbow as we passed the dam at the head of Lac du Mont Cenis and the addition of a flyby Peregrine Falcon as we travelled along the motorway to Turin. A pleasant relaxing time was then spent waiting to board the plane home to end what I hope was a very successful and enjoyable trip.

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Species Lists

Birds (c = common h = heard only)

		July								
	Common name	Scientific name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Grey Heron	Ardea cinerea	1							
2	Golden Eagle	Aquila chrysaetos					1		1	
3	Common Buzzard	Buteo buteo	2							
4	Sparrowhawk	Accipter nisus						1		
5	Common Kestrel	Falco tinnunculus			3		2	2	3	
6	Peregrin Falcon	Falco peregrinus								1
7	Woodpigeon	Columba palumbus						3		
8	Cuckoo	Cuculus canorus		Н						
9	Common Swift	Apus apus	С	С	С	С	С	С	С	С
10	Skylark	Alauda arvensis				Н	2	2	Н	
11	Crag Martin	Ptyonoprogne rupestris		2	2			1		
12	Barn Swallow	Hirundo rustica	2							4
13	House Martin	Delichon urbica		10	2					
14	Water Pipit	Anthus spinoletta				4	С	С	С	
15	Grey Wagtail	Moticilla cinerea			6			1	2	
16	White Wagtail	Moticilla alba		1	С	С	2		1	
17	Dipper	Cinclus cinclus			2					
18	Winter Wren	Troglodytes troglodytes	Н	Н	Н					
19	Dunnock	Prunella modularis		Н				Н		
20	European Robin	Erithacus rubecula	Н					Н		
21	Black Redstart	Phoenicurus ochruros	1	2	4		2	4	С	
22	Northern Wheatear	Oenanthe oenanthe					С	10	С	
23	Whinchat	Saxicola rubetra		2	4		2		1	
24	Mistle Thrush	Turdus viscivorus			2					
25	Fieldfare	Turdus pilaris	3		4		1	2	1	
26	Blackbird	Turdus merula			2			2		
27	Garden Warbler	Sylvia borin			Н		Н	3	2	
28	Blackcap	Sylvia atricapilla						1		
29	Lesser Whitethroat	Sylvia curruca		Н						
30	Common Whitethroat	Sylvia communis					2			
31	Marsh Warbler	Acrocephalus palustris						2		
32	Chiffchaff	Phylloscopus collybita			Н	Н		Н	Н	
33	Goldcrest	Regulus regulus	6							
34	Great Tit	Parus major						1		
35	Blue Tit	Cyanistes caeruleus			1			1		
36	Coal Tit	Periparus ater	2							
37	Crested Tit	Lophophanes cristatus	2	3					2	
38	Marsh Tit	Poecile palustris							2	
39	Long-tailed Tit	Aegithalos caudatus			6					
40	Red-backed Shrike	Lanius collurio							1	
41	Common Magpie	Pica pica							3	
42	Eurasian Jay	Garrulus glandarius		1	2	1		1		
43	Nutcracker	Nucifraga caryocatactes	3		1					
44	Red-billed Chough	Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax						2		
45	Alpine Chough	Pyrrhocorax graculus				2	6	10	9	
46	Carrion Crow	Corvus c corone	2	5	С		С	4	2	
47	Hooded Crow	Corvus c cornix	6							5

				July								
	Common name	Scientific name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
48	Raven	Corvus corax						3				
49	Common Starling	Sturnus vulgaris	1									
50	House Sparrow	Passer domesticus		6	4			1	4	С		
51	Snowfinch	Montifringilla nivalis							20			
52	Common Chaffinch	Fringilla coelebs	С	С	С	С		С	С			
53	Common Linnet	Acanthus cannabina					2		2			
54	Common Redpoll	Carduelis flammea				1						
55	European Goldfinch	Carduelis carduelis	1		4	4		2				
56	European Serin	Serinus serinus	3		3							
57	Eurasian Bullfinch	Pyrrhula pyrrhula						1				
58	Yellowhammer	Emberiza citrinella		1				Н	2			
59	Rock Bunting	Emberiza cia		2								

Butterflies

Hesperiidae

Papilionidae

ApolloParnassius apolloClouded ApolloParnassius mnemosyneSwallowtailPapilio machaon

Pieridae

Brimstone Gonepteryx rhamni
Clouded Yellow Colias crocea
Mountain Clouded Yellow Colias phicomone
Pale Clouded Yellow Colias hyale

Pierinae

Black-veined White

Large White

Mountain Green-veined White

Green-veined White

Pieris byroniae

Pieris napi

Small White

Pieris rapae

Orange Tip

Mountain Dappled White

Peak White

Wood White

Anthocharis cardamines

Euchloe simplonia

Pontia callidice

Leptidea sinapsis

Lycaenidae

Duke of BurgundyHamaeris lucinaGreen HairstreakCallophrys rubiScarce CopperLycaena virgaureaePurple-shot CopperLycaena alciphronGlandon BlueAgriades glandonOsiris BlueCupido osirisLittle BlueCupido minimus

Large BlueMaculinea arionMazarine BlueCyaniris semiargusCommon BluePolyommatus icarusEscher's BluePolyommatus escheriAdonis BlueLysandra bellargus

Nymphalidae

Painted Lady Vanessa cardui Red Admiral Vanessa atalanta Small Tortoiseshell Aglais urticae Dark green Fritillary Argynnis aglaja Mountain Fritillary Boloria napaea Pearl-bordered Fritillary Boloria euphrosyne Titania's Fritillary Boloria titania Glanville Fritillary Melitaea cinxia **Knapweed Fritillary** Melitaea phoebe Spotted Fritillary Melitaea didyma False Heath Fritillary Melitaea diamina Grison's Fritillary Mellicta varia Heath Fritillary Mellicta athalia Marsh Fritillary Euphydryas aurinia

Satyrinae

Large Wall Brown Lasiommata maera Blind Ringlet Erebia pharte Almond-eyed Ringlet Erebia alberganus De Prunner's Ringlet Erebia triaria **Dewy Ringlet** Erebia pandrose Mnestra's Ringlet Erebia mnestra Silky Ringlet Erebia gorge Marbled White Melanargia galathea

Alpine Grayling

Great Sooty Satyr

Meadow Brown

Alpine Heath

Small Heath

Meaniola jurtina

Coenonympha gardetta

Coenonympha pamphilis

Mammals

Red Fox Alpine Marmot Chamois

Plants

8

Scientific name Common name Location

PTERIDOPHYTES FERNS & ALLIES

EquisetaceaeHorestail FamilyEquisetum palustreMarsh Horsetail

DryopteridaceaeBuckler-fern FamilyPolystichum aculeatumHard Shield-fernPolystichum lonchitisHolly-fern

Ophioglossaceae Adder's-tongue Family

Botrychium lunaria Moonwort

PolypodiaceaePolypody FamilyPolypodium vulgareCommon Polypody

WoodsiaceaeLady-fern FamilyAthyrium distentifoliumAlpine Lady-fern

PINOPSIDA (GYMNOSPERMS) CONIFERS

CupressaceaeJuniper FamilyJuniperus communis subsp. communisCommon JuniperJuniperus communis subsp. nana (alpina)Dwarf JuniperJuniperus sabinaSavin

PinaceaePine FamilyAbies albaEuropean Silver FirLarix deciduaEuropean LarchPicea abies subsp. abiesSpruce

Pinus mugo Dwarf Mountain Pine

Pinus sylvestris Scot's Pine
Pinus uncinata Mountain Pine

MAGNOLIOPSIDA (ANGIOSPERMS) FLOWERING PLANTS

Magnoliidae (Dicotyledons)

Apiaceae (Umbelliferae)Carrot FamilyAnthriscus sylvestrisCow ParsleyAstrantia majorMasterwortAstrantia minorLesser Masterwort

Athamanta cretensis Athamanta

Bupleurum ranunculoides Three-veined Hare's-ear

Bupleurum stellatum
Chaerophyllum hirsutum
Daucus carota
Wild Carrot
Heracleum sphondylium
Hogweed

Laserpitium latifolium Broad-leaved Sermountain

Laserpitium silerNarrow-leaved SermountainLigusticum mutellinaAlpine LovageLigusticum mutellinoidesUnbranched Lovage

Meum athamanticum

Peucedanum ostruthium Masterwort

Pimpinella major Greater Burnet-saxifrage

Pleurospermum austriacum Pleurospermum

Asclepiadaceae Milkweed Family
Vincetoxicum hirundinaria Swallow-wort

Asteraceae (Compositae)

Achillea erba-rotta agg

Daisy Family

Simple-leaved Milfoil

Achillea macrophylla
Achillea millefolium
Adenostyles alliariae
Adenostyles

Antennaria carpatica

Antennaria dioica Cat's-foot

Scientific name Common name Location Arnica montana Arnica Artemesia absinthium Col de L'Iseran Artemesia umbelliformis Artemisia glacialis Glacier Wormwood Alpine Aster Aster alpinus Aster bellidastrum False Aster Musk Thistle Carduus nutans Carduus defloratus Alpine Thistle Carduus personnata Great Marsh Thistle Carduus tenuiflorus Carlina acaulis Cicerbita alpina Alpine Sow-thistle Woolly Thistle Cirsium eriophorum Cirsium helenoides Marsh Thistle Cirsium palustre Cirsium spinosissimum Spiniest Thistle Centaurea scabiosa Centaurea montana Perennial Cornflower Centaurea uniflora Plume Knapweed Crepis aurea Golden Hawk's-beard Doronicum grandiflorum Large-flowered Leopard's-bane Blue Fleabane Erigeron acer One-flowered Fleabane Erigeron uniflorus Gnaphalium luteoalbum Jersey Cudweed Gnaphalium norvegicum Highland Cudweed Hieracium alpinum agg Alpine Hawkweed Hieracium tomentosum (lanatum) Woolly Hawkweed Hieracium pilosella Hieracum villosum Homogyne alpina Blue Lettuce Lactuca perennis Leontopodium alpinum Edelweiss Bellecombe & Col de L'Iseran Leucanthemopsis alpina Alpine Moon Daisy Leucanthemum vulgare Ox-eye Daisy White Butterbur Petasites alba Prenanthes purpurea Senecio doronicum Chamois Ragwort Senecio incanus Dandelion Taraxacum agg Tragopogon crocifolius Tragopogon pratensis Goat's-beard Tussilago farfara Colt's-foot Berberidaceae **Barberry Family** Berberis vulgaris Barberry Betulaceae **Birch Family** Alnus viridis Green Alder Boraginaceae Forget-me-not Family Cerinthe minor Lesser Honeywort Echium vulgare Viper's-bugloss Myosotis sylvatica Wood Forget-me-not

Scientific name Common name Location

Myosotis alpestris Alpine Wood Forget-me-not

Pulmonaria montana Mountain Lungwort

Brassicaceae (Cruciferae) Cabbage Family

Allyssoides utriculata Alyssoides

Arabis hirsuta Hairy Rock-cress
Biscutella brevicaulis (B.laevigata subsp.b) a Buckler Mustard

Coincya richeri Coincya
Descurainia sophia Flixweed

Draba aizoides Yellow Whitlow-grass

Erysimum jugicola Erysimum rhaeticum

Petrocaulis pyrenaica Pyrenean Whitlow-grass

Campanulaceae Bellflower Family

Campanula alpestris Large-flowered Bellflower nr Gimillian

Campanula barbataBearded BellflowerCampanula cochlearifoliaFairy's ThimbleCampanula glomerataClustered BellflowerCampanula rapunculoidesCreeping Bellflower

Campanula rhomboidalis

Campanula rotundifolia Harebell

Campanula scheuchzeri

Campanula spicata Spiked Bellflower
Campanula thyrsoides Yellow Bellflower

Campanula trachelium Nettle-leaved Bellflower

P.globularifolium subsp. pedemontanum a Rampion

Phyteuma hemispericumGlobe-headed RampionPhyteuma orbiculareRound-headed Rampion

Phyteuma ovatum Dark Rampion

Phyteuma scorzonerifolium Scorzonera-leaved Rampion

Phyteuma spicatum Spiked Rampion

CaprifoliaceaeHoneysuckle FamilyLonicera alpigenaAlpine HoneysuckleLonicera caeruleaBlue-berried Honeysuckle

Lonicera nigra

Cerastium alpinum

Lonicera xylosteum Fly Honeysuckle
Sambucus racemosa Red-berried Elderberry

Caryophyllaceae Pink Family

Cerastium arvense Cerastium uniflorum

Dianthus carthusianorum aggCarthusian PinkDianthus gratianopolitanusCheddar PinkDianthus pavoniusThree-veined Pink

Dianthus sylvestris Wood Pink

Gypsophila repens Alpine Gypsophila
Lychnis alpina Alpine Lychnis
Minuartia sedoides Mossy Cyphel

Minuartia recurvaSickle-leaved SandwortMinuartia verna subsp. vernaSpring Sandwort

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Alpine Mouse-ear

Field Mouse-ear

Sagina glabra

Saponaria lutea Yellow Soapwort Saponaria ocymoides Rock Soapwort Silene acaulis Moss Campion Silene dioica **Red Campion** Silene exscapa a Moss Campion Silene nutans Nottingham Catchfly Silene otites Spanish Catchfly Silene vallesia Valleis Catchfly Silene vulgaris subsp. vulgaris **Bladder Campion**

Spergularia rubra

Stellaria nemorum

ChenopodiaceaeGoosefoot FamilyChenopodium bonus-henricusGood King Henry

Cistaceae Rock-rose Family

Helianthemum nummularium Rock-rose
Helianthemum oelandicum subsp. canum Hoary Rock-rose

ClusiaceaeSt. John's-wort FamilyHypericum perforatumPerforate St. John's-wort

Convolvulaceae Bindweed Family

Cuscuta epithymum Dodder

Crassulaceae Stonecrop Family

Rhodiola roseaRoserootSedum acreBiting StonecropSedum albumWhite Stonecrop

Sedum alpestre Sedum annuum Sedum atratum agg

Sedum atratum aggDark StonecropSedum dasyphyllumFat-leaved Stonecrop

Sedum telephium agg Orpine

Sedum rupestreRock StonecropSempervivum arachnoidiumCobweb HouseleekSempervivum grandiflorumLarge-flowered HouseleekSempervivum montanumMountain HouseleekSempervivum tectorumCommon Houseleek

DipsacaceaeTeasel FamilyKnautia arvensisField ScabiousKnautia dipsacifoliaWood ScabiousScabiosa columbariaSmall Scabious

EuphorbiaceaeSpurge FamilyEuphorbia cyparissiasCypress Spurge

Euphorbia seguieriana

EricaceaeHeather FamilyLoiseleuria procumbensCreeping AzaleaRhododendron ferrugineumAlpenrose

Vaccinium gaultheroides

Vaccinium vitis-idaea Cowberry

Fabaceae (Leguminosae)Pea FamilyAnthyllis vulneraria aggKidney VetchAstragalus alpinusAlpine Milk-vetchAstragalus australisSouthern Milk-vetchAstragalus centralpinus (alopecurus)a Milk-vetch

Astragalus centralpinus (alopecurus) a Milk-vetch
Astragalus danicus Purple Milk-vetch

Astragulus exscapus

Astragalus frigidus Pallid Milk-vetch
Astragalus leontinus Tyrolean Milk-vetch
Astragalus monspessulanus False Vetch

Astragalus onobrychis

Astragalus penduliflorusMountain LentilAstragalus sempervirensMountain TragacanthColutea arborescensBladder SennaHippocrepis comosaHorseshoe VetchLathyrus pratensisMeadow Vetchling

Lathyrus latifoliusBroad-leaved Everlasting PeaLotus alpinusAlpine Bird's-foot TrefoilLotus corniculatusBird's-foot TrefoilLotus maritimus (Tetragonolobus maritimus)Dragon's Teeth

Lotus pedunculatus Greater Bird's-foot Trefoil

Medicago sativa Lucerne

Melilotus alba Melilotus officinalis

Onobrychis montana Mountain Sainfoin
Onobrychis viciifolia Common Sainfoin

Ononis natrix Large Yellow Restharrow

Oxytropis campestris Yellow Milk-vetch Oxytropis gaudinii (helvetica) Gaudin's Milk-vetch Trifolium alpinum Alpine Clover Trifolium badium **Brown Clover** Trifolium medium Zig-zag Clover Trifolium montanum Mountain Clover Trifolium pratense subsp. pratense Red Clover Trifolium repens White Clover Vicia cracca Tufted Vetch Vicia onobrychoides False Sainfoin Vicia sepium Bush Vetch

Fumariaceae Fumitory Family

Corydalis solida

GentianaceaeGentian FamilyGentiana acaulisTrumpet GentianGentiana alpinaSouthern Gentian

Gentiana bavarica

Gentiana brachyphyllaShort-leaved GentianGentiana clusiiClusius's GentianGentiana luteaYellow GentianGentiana nivalisSnow Gentian

Scientific name

Common name

Location

Gentiana orbicularis Gentiana punctata

Gentiana verna subsp. delpinensis Gentiana verna subsp. verna Gentianella campestris

Geraniaceae

Geranium pyrenaicum Geranium robertianum Geranium sanguineum Geranium sylvaticum Geranium rivulare

Globulariaceae Globularia cordifolia

Grossulariaceae *Ribes uva-crispa*

Lamiaceae (Labiatae)

Acinos alpinus Ajuga pyramidalis Ajuga reptans

Clinopodium acinos (A.arvensis)

Nepeta nepetella
Prunella grandiflora
Prunella vulgaris
Salvia pratensis
Scutellaria alpina
Stachys officinalis
Stachys recta
Teucrium montanum

Clinopodium vulgare

Teucham montanum Thymus polytrichus Thymus pulegioides Thymus serpyllum

Lentabulariaceae Pinguicula alpina

Pinguicula vulgaris

Linaceae Linum alpinum Linum catharticum

Onagraceae

Epilobium angustifolium Epilobium fleischeri Epilobium montanum

OrobanchaceaeOrobanche alba

Spotted Gentian
a Short-leaved Gentian

Spring Gentian Field Gentian

Crane's-bill Family

Hedgerow Crane's-bill Herb Robert Bloody Crane's-bill

Wood Crane's-bill a Wood Crane's-bill

Globularia Family

Matted Globularia

Gooseberry Family

Wild Gooseberry

Deadnettle Family

Alpine Calamint
Pyramidal Bugle

Bugle Basil Thyme Wild Basil

Large-flowered Self-heal

Self-heal Meadow Clary Alpine Skullcap Betony

Yellow Woundwort

Mountain Germander Hairy Thyme

Greater Thyme
Wild Thyme

Bladderwort Family

Alpine Butterwort
Common Butterwort

Flax Family
Alpine flax

Purging or Fairy Flax

Willowherb Family

Rosebay Willowherb Alpine Willowherb Mountain Willowherb

Broomrape Family

Thyme Broomrape

Scientific name Common name Location

OxalidaceaeWood-sorrel FamilyOxalis acetosellaWood-sorrel

Papaveraceae Poppy Family

Papaver dubium Long-headed Poppy

ParnassiaceaeGrass of Parnassus FamilyParnassia palustrisGrass of Parnassus

Plantaginaceae Plantain Family

Plantago alpina
Plantago lanceolata
Ribwort Plantain
Plantago maritima

Plantago media Hoary Plantain

Plumbaginaceae Thrift Family

Armeria arenaria
Armeria maritima subsp. alpina
Mountain Thrift

PolygalaceaeMilkwort FamilyPolygala alpinaAlpine MilkwortPolygala alpestrisMountain MilkwortPolygala chamaebuxusShrubby Milkwort

Polygala chamaebuxus Shrubby Milkwort
Polygala comosa Tufted Milkwort

PolygonaceaeKnotweed FamilyOxyria digynaMountain Sorrel

Persicaria bistortaBistortPersicaria viviparumAlpine BistortRumex acetosaSorrelRumex alpinusMonk's Rhubarb

Rumex scutatus

Androsace alpina

Primulaceae Primrose Family

Androsace adfinis subsp. puberula Pink Rock-jasmine

Androsace obtusifolia Blunt-leaved Rock-jasmine
Androsace vitaliana subsp. vitaliana Vitaliana

French Sorrel

Primula farinosa Bird's-eye Primrose

Primula pedemontana
Primula veris
Cowslip

Soldanella alpina

Alpine Snowbell

Pyrolaceae

Wintergreen Family

Moneses unifloraOne-flowered WintergreenOrthillia secundaNodding WintergreenPyrola chloranthaPale Green WintergreenPyrola rotundifoliaRound-leaved Wintergreen

RanunculaceaeButtercup FamilyAconitum lycoctonum subsp. vulpariaWolf's-bane

Anemone baldensis Monte Baldo Anemone
Aquilegia atrata Dark Columbine

Scientific name

Pulsatilla halleri

Common name

Location

Aquilegia vulgarisCommon ColumbineCallianthemum coriandrifoliumCallianthemumCaltha palustrisMarsh MarigoldClematis alpinaAlpine ClematisClematis vitalbaOld Man's BeardPulsatilla alpina subsp. alpinaAlpine Pasque Flower

Pulsatilla vernalis Spring Pasque Flower Ranunculus aconitifolius Aconite-leaved Buttercup Ranunculus acris Meadow Buttercup Ranunculus glacialis **Glacier Crowfoot** Ranunculus grenieranus Grenier's Buttercup Ranunculus nemorosus Wood Buttercup Ranunculus kuepferi (pyrenaeus) Pyrenean Buttercup Thalictrum aquilegifolium Great Meadow-rue

Thalictrum aquilegifoli Thalictrum foetidum Thalictrum minus

Sorbus aucuparia

Thalictrum minus Lesser Meadow-rue
Trollius europaeus Globeflower

ResedaceaeMignonette FamilyReseda luteaMignonette

RhamnaceaeBuckthorn FamilyRhamnus pumilaDwarf Buckthorn

Rosaceae Rose Family

Alchemilla alpinaAlpine Lady's-mantleAlchemilla glabraSmooth Lady's-mantleAlchemilla hybrida

Alchemilla pentaphyllaCut-leaved Lady's-mantleAruncus dioicusGoat's-beard SpireaCotoneaster integerrimusWild CotoneasterCrataegus monogynaHawthorn

Dryas octopetala Mountain Avens Filipendula ulmaria Meadowsweet Fragaria vesca Wild Strawberry Geum montanum Mountain Avens Geum rivale Water Avens Potentilla aurea Golden Cinquefoil Potentilla argentea Hoary Cinquefoil Potentilla crantzii Alpine Cinquefoil

Potentilla erecta Tormentil Potentilla grandiflora Large-flowered Cinquefoil Potentilla reptans Creeping Cinquefoil Rosa pendulina Alpine Rose Rosa pimpinellifolia **Burnet Rose** Rubus fruticosus agg. Bramble Rubus idaeus Raspberry Sanguisorba minor Salad Burnet Sibbaldia Sibbaldia procumbens

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Rowan

Rough Saxifrage

Scientific name Common name Location

RubiaceaeBedstraw FamilyAsperula aristataa SquinancywortGalium verumLadies Bedstraw

Salicaceae Willow Family

Populus tremula Aspen

Salix herbacea

Salix reticulata Net-leaved

Salix retusa Retuse-leaved Willow

Salix serpyllifolia a Willow

SantalaceaeSandalwood FamilyThesium alpinumAlpine Bastard Toadflax

Thesium pyrenaicum

Saxifragaceae Saxifrage Family

Saxifraga aizoides Yellow Mountain Saxifrage

Saxifraga androsacea Scree Saxifrage

Saxifraga aspera Saxifraga bryoides

Saxifraga cuneifolia Lesser London-pride
Saxifraga exarata subsp. moschata White Musky Saxifrage

Saxifraga oppositifolia Purple Saxifrage
Saxifraga paniculata Live-long Saxifrage

Saxifraga retusa
Saxifraga rotundifolia
Round-leaved Saxifrage

Scrophulariaceae Figwort Family

Bartsia alpinaAlpine BartsiaCymbalaria muralisIvy-leaved ToadflaxDigitalis ambigua (grandiflora)Large Yellow FoxgloveDigitalis luteaSmall Yellow Foxglove

Linaria alpina Alpine Toadflax

Linaria angustissima
Linaria repens Striped Toadflax

Linaria repens Striped Toadilax
Linaria vulgaris Common Toadflax

Linaria vulgaris Common Toadflax
Melampyrum nemerosum

Melampyrum pratenseCommon Cow-wheatMelampyrum sylvaticumWood Cow-wheatPedicularis cenisiaMt. Cenis LousewortPedicularis comosaCrested LousewortPedicularis roseaPink Lousewort

Pedicularis rostratospicata

Pedicularis verticillata

Verticilate Lousewort

Rhinanthus alectorolophus

Great Yellow Rattle

Rhinanthus minorHay RattleVerbascum nigrumDark MulleinVerbascum pulverulentumHoary MulleinVerbascum thapsusAaron's RodVeronica alpinaAlpine Speedwell

Veronica aphylla Leafless-stemmed Speedwell

Veronica bellidioidesViolet SpeedwellVeronica chamaedrysGermander Speedwell

Veronica frutiucansRock SpeedwellVeronica officinalisHeath Speedwell

Tamaricaceae Tamarisk Family

Myricaria germanica Myricaria

Thymelaeaceae Daphne Family

Daphne alpina

Daphne laureolaSpurge LaurelDaphne striataa Daphne

ValerianaceaeValerian FamilyValeriana montanaMountain ValerianValeriana officinalisCommon ValerianValeriana tripterisThree-leaved Valerian

Violaceae Violet Family
Viola biflora Yellow Violet

Viola calcarata subsp. calcarataLong-spurred PansyViola caninaHeath Dog VioletViola tricolor subsp. tricolorHeartsease

Liliidae (Monocotyledons)

Iridaceae Iris Family

Crocus albiflorus White-flowered Crocus

Juncaceae Rush Family

Luzula lutea

Luzula nivea Snowy Wood-rush

JuncaginaceaeArrow-grass FamilyTriglochin palustreMarsh Arrow-grass

LiliaceaeLily FamilyAllium schoenoprasumChives

Allium sphaerocephalon Round-headed Leek
Anthericum liliago St. Bernard's Lily

Asphodelus albus

Colchicum autumnale Autumn Crocus

Gagea fragifera

Lillium martagonMartagon LilyLloydia serotinaSnowdon LilyMaianthemum bifoliumMay Lily

Ornithogalum angustifolium Common Star of Bethlehem

Paradisea liliastrumSt. Bruno's LilyParis quadrifoliaHerb Paris

Polygonatum odoratumAngular Solomon's-sealTofieldia calyculataTofield's AsphodelVeratrum albumFalse White Helleborine

OrchidaceaeOrchid FamilyCoeloglossum virideFrog Orchid

Scientific name	Common name	Location
Dactylorhiza alpestris	Broad-leaved Marsh Orchid	
Dactylorhiza cruenta	Flecked Marsh Orchid	below Col du Mont Cenis
Dactylorhiza fuchsii	Common Spotted-orchid	
Dactylorhiza maculata	Heath Spotted Orchid	
Dactylorhiza majalis	Broad-leaved Marsh Orchid	
Epipactis atrorubens	Dark Red Helleborine	below Col du Mont Cenis
Epipactis helleborine	Broad-leaved Helleborine	
Gymnadenia conopsea agg.	Fragrant Orchid	
Gymnadenia (Nigritella) rhellicani	Black Vanilla Orchid	
Gymnadenia (Nigritella) cenisia	Red Vanilla Orchid	
Neottia nidus-avis	Bird's-nest Orchid	
Neottia (Listera) ovata	Twayblade	
Orchis mascula	Early Purple Orchid	
Orchis militaris	Military Orchid	
Traunsteinera globosa	Round-headed Orchid	Mont Cenis

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