

Scottish Highlands and Islands Species List | June 8 – 19, 2024 with Naturalist Journeys



Compiled by guide Dave Mehlman with local guides Mark Warren and Stephen Menzie. Our clients included Barbara, Bernie, Betsy, Carol, Dottie, Gerold, Holly, Jack, Jean, Margaret, Melinda, Ron, and Will.

Trip summary: Our group toured the Scottish Highlands from our base at Heatherlea's Mountview Hotel in Nethy Bridge and then transitioned to a fabulous several day finish on the Isle of Mull with day trips to several of the offshore islands. Our amazing guides Mark and Stephen scoured the landscape for birds and wildlife and few, if any, species were left unseen! The landscapes were amazing—much as we pictured, only better, and we visited many habitat types including pine forest, birch forest, moorland, rocky alpine, and both inland and saltwater coasts. The several boat trips we made increased the diversity and grandeur of the trip, letting us see dense nesting colonies of gannets, murre, razorbills, and gulls at very close range. Our accommodations and meals were memorable—there was not a single meal during the trip which we would not repeat. Cultural visits were included, too, such as the Glenlivet Distillery, Iona Abbey, and the Urquhart Castle on Loch Ness, emphasizing for us the ancient history (at least, compared to North America) and the dramatic changes that have passed over this great land. I think all of us are ready to go back!

Following is a list of the birds, mammals, reptiles, and amphibians we were fortunate to observe during the trip.

BIRDS 141 species were recorded of which 2 were heard only, 1 was endemic, and 3 were introduced. Details are included below.

The eBird link below details the birds our group observed during the tour. If you're new to eBird, be sure to click "Show All Details" on the right side of the list to expand the report and reveal where and when each of the birds were seen and how many.

[Naturalist Journeys Scottish Highlands & Islands - eBird Trip Report](#)

DUCKS, GEESE, AND SWANS: Anatidae (17)

Graylag Goose *Anser anser* — A widespread species, we recorded these on 8 days of the tour, sometimes while driving, at many sites; some pairs already were wandering around with downy young

Pink-footed Goose *Anser brachyrhynchus* — Relatively scarce at this time of year, one was with Graylag Geese at Dervaig

Canada Goose (I) *Branta canadensis* — Recorded on 5 days, sometimes in very large flocks at sites in lochs or near the coast

Mute Swan *Cygnus olor* — The classic swan species, we found these on 4 days at several of the Lochs visited

Ruddy Shelduck *Tadorna ferruginea* — An unexpected sighting, one of these was at Udale Bay Reserve; its status as a wild bird is unclear, it could have been an escape from captivity or a wanderer from established, introduced populations in western Europe

Common Shelduck *Tadorna tadorna* — This colorful and elegant species was found at Udale Bay and Loch Spynie Reserves

Northern Shoveler *Spatula clypeata* — Seen by Mark's group on the mainland near Banff

Gadwall *Mareca strepera* — Seen by Mark's group on the mainland near Banff

Eurasian Wigeon *Mareca penelope* — A pair with several chicks at Lochindorb was the only sighting

Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos* — Widespread and common, we recorded these on 8 days at many wetlands visited

Green-winged (Eurasian) Teal *Anas crecca* — Over a dozen were at Lochindorb

Tufted Duck *Aythya fuligula* — A large number in Loch Kinellan was the only sighting of the tour

Common Eider *Somateria mollissima* — Recorded on 4 days at several coastal sites visited

Common Scoter *Melanitta nigra* — Small flocks seen from the boat near Troup Head and again at Loch na Keal

Common Goldeneye *Bucephala clangula* — Seen at Old Spey Bridge, Loch Morlich, and the first visit to Craigellachie Reserve

Common Merganser (Goosander) *Mergus merganser* — Recorded on 3 days, the largest number were at Spey Bay

Red-breasted Merganser *Mergus serrator* — Seen at Chanonry Point, Udale Bay Preserve, and Loch na Keal on the Isle of Mull

PHEASANTS, PARTRIDGES, AND ALLIES: Phasianidae (5)

Willow Ptarmigan (Red Grouse) *Lagopus lagopus* — We had great views of this species at Lochindorb (where there were some chicks) and at the Glenshee Ski Centre; Scotland has a resident subspecies of this ptarmigan which does not molt into a white winter plumage

Rock Ptarmigan *Lagopus muta* — A male very well observed in the rocks on the summit of the munro at Glenshee Ski Centre

Black Grouse *Lyrurus tetrix* — A large group of males seen congregating at a lek site near Tomintoul in the Cairngorms National Park at a distance

Ring-necked Pheasant (I) *Phasianus colchicus* — Seen or heard on almost every day of the tour, these were very noticeable at Mountview and frequently seen while driving

Red-legged Partridge (I) *Alectoris rufa* — One seen in the Findhorn Valley

GREBES: Podicipedidae (2)

Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis* — Only found on Loch Kinellan

Horned (Slavonian) Grebe *Podiceps auritus* — Several on Loch Kinellan were the only ones of the tour

PIGEONS AND DOVES: Columbidae (3)

Rock Pigeon *Columba livia* — Recorded on 6 days of the tour. Birds seen in or around towns and cities were feral populations, but the birds seen out on the Islands were true, wild Rock Pigeons, which should count as a life bird for all North Americans!

Common Wood-Pigeon *Columba palumbus* — This large, obvious, and very vocal pigeon was regularly encountered throughout the tour at many sites

Eurasian Collared-Dove *Streptopelia decaocto* — Recorded on 9 days at many sites visited

CUCKOOS: Cuculidae (1)

Common Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus* — Seen at Old Spey Bridge and seen and heard at Loch Kinellan

SWIFTS: Apodidae (1)

Common Swift *Apus apus* — This large and distinctive swift was a common sight during the tour, often seen flying over water bodies and other open habitats

RAILS, COOTS, AND ALLIES: Rallidae (3)

Eurasian Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus* — Seen by some in the group at Loch Kinellan

Eurasian Coot *Fulica atra* — Seen at Loch Kinellan and by one of the groups on the northeast coast

Corn Crake *Crex crex* — (H) An extremely difficult species to actually observe, we heard the distinctive calls from the tall

grasses on Lunga and Iona

OYSTERCATCHERS: Haematopodidae (1)

Eurasian Oystercatcher *Haematopus ostralegus* — A common, delightful, and conspicuous species, we saw these on every day of the tour both on rocky shores and in inland pastures

LAPWINGS AND PLOVERS: Charadriidae (3)

European Golden-Plover *Pluvialis apricaria* — A large flock was present in some of the fields in the Findhorn Valley; we also saw a pair with chicks near Lochindorb

Common Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula* — This small plover, very reminiscent of the North American Semipalmated Plover, was found at Udale Bay Preserve and on the coastal trail at Whitehills Beach

Northern Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus* — This large and distinctive plover was recorded on 8 days of the tour at both coastal and inland sites

SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES: Scolopacidae (9)

Eurasian Curlew *Numenius arquata* — This large shorebird was recorded on 8 days at many sites visited, both near the coast and inland

Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica* — A large flock was far-off on distant mudflats at Udale Bay Reserve

Sanderling *Calidris alba* — A flock of 7 at Spey Bay was the only sighting of the tour

Dunlin *Calidris alpina* — Several breeding plumaged birds seen at Udale Bay Nature Reserve

Eurasian Woodcock *Scolopax rusticola* — One bird seen several times flying by (or several birds flying by once!) at the Abernethy Golf Club on our evening walk there from the Mountview

Common Snipe *Gallinago gallinago* — Heard at the Devil's Elbow lunch spot and seen by some in the group on Lunga

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos* — Frequently encountered during the tour, we saw these on 8 days along rivers, lochs, and the coast

Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia* — Two birds foraging at the end of the water at Loch Sunart on our last full day were the only ones of the tour

Common Redshank *Tringa totanus* — This distinctive wader was seen on 3 days at Insh Marsh Preserve, Lochindorb, and Dervaig

SKUAS AND JAEGER: Stercorariidae (3)

Great Skua *Stercorarius skua* — One birds seen while on Lunga

Parasitic Jaeger (Arctic Skua) *Stercorarius parasiticus* — Seen on 3 days: from the boat at Troup Head by both groups, on the water at Spey Bay, and while on Lunga

Pomarine Jaeger *Stercorarius pomarinus* — A single bird, seen flying low over the water from the boat, while on the return from Staffa

AUKS, MURRES, AND PUFFINS: Alcidae (4)

Common Murre *Uria aalge* — This elegant seabird was seen at Chanonry Point, near Troup Head from the boat, off Spey Bay, and on Lunga and Staffa, sometimes in quite large numbers

Razorbill *Alca torda* — Seen wherever we found Common Murres, though not in such large numbers; they nest at similar sites

Black Guillemot *Cephus grylle* — This very elegant seabird was seen on the Troup Head boat trip, from the Corran to Ardgour ferry (where they were using nest boxes on the Ardgour side), and near Lunga and Staffa

Atlantic Puffin *Fratercula arctica* — A favorite of everyone's, we saw these great alcids near Troup Head, at the huge colony on Lunga, and near Staffa

GULLS AND TERNS: Laridae (9)

Black-legged Kittiwake *Rissa tridactyla* — This sea-loving gull was seen on 3 days when near salt water, most abundantly

on the Troup Head boat trip

Black-headed Gull *Chroicocephalus ridibundus* — Very regularly encountered almost on every day of the tour, both near the coast and far inland

Common Gull *Larus canus* — Very widespread and encountered every day of the tour, sometimes far inland

Herring Gull *Larus argentatus* — Recorded on 7 days of the tour usually when near the coast; the European and North American birds may be split in the future

Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus* — Only seen on 3 days at Lochindorb, by one group on the northeast coast, and at Dervaig on the Isle of Mull

Great Black-backed Gull *Larus marinus* — Commonly encountered on the days when we were near the coast or on a boat

Common Tern *Sterna hirundo* — Recorded on 4 days at various coastal sites; most numerous at Spey Bay

Arctic Tern *Sterna paradisaea* — Difficult to separate accurately from the preceding species, these were identified on 3 days at several coastal sites

Sandwich Tern *Thalasseus sandvicensis* — Only seen once on the beach of the River Deveron estuary at Banff

LOONS: Gaviidae (3)

Red-throated Loon *Gavia stellata* — Two fly-bys provided the only sightings of the tour. The first was a Loch Morlich and the second at Chanonry Point.

Arctic Loon *Gavia arctica* — Two adults with two fledglings at Lochindorb, a known nesting lake

Common Loon *Gavia immer* — One seen in Loch Na Keal on the way to the islands boat trip and another seen from the boat near Staffa

PETRELS AND SHEARWATERS: Procellariidae (2)

Northern Fulmar *Fulmarus glacialis* — Seen on both the Troup Head and Treshnish/Lunga/Saffa boat trips

Manx Shearwater *Puffinus puffinus* — A distinctive tubenose, we saw many of these on the Treshnish/Lunga/Saffa boat trip, particularly on the return trip to Mull at the conclusion of the trip; apparently, conditions were good to bring them closer to shore

BOOBIES AND GANNETS: Sulidae (1)

Northern Gannet *Morus bassanus* — This elegant seabird, many times shining a brilliant white over the water, was reported on 4 days, with by far the most at the huge nesting colony at Troup Head

CORMORANTS: Phalacrocoracidae (2)

Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo* — Recorded only on 4 days, these were most abundant on the Troup Head boat trip

European Shag *Gulosus aristotelis* — Regularly encountered on our boat trips and at most coastal sites visited; probably most numerous on the Treshnich, Lunga, and Staffa boat trip

HERONS AND EGRETS: Ardeidae (1)

Gray Heron *Ardea cinerea* — The largest of the European herons (and reminiscent of the North American Great Blue Heron), we recorded these on 6 days at many coastal sites visited, though they seemed more abundant on Mull than the mainland

OSPREY: Pandionidae (1)

Osprey *Pandion haliaetus* — Increasingly common in Scotland after being extirpated, we saw these at the nest by Loch Insh, over Lochindorb, and over Spey Bay

HAWKS, KITES, AND EAGLES: Accipitridae (6)

Golden Eagle *Aquila chrysaetos* — Seen in the Findhorn Valley while flying and then again at the Glenlivet Estate

Forestry tract, where a pair were perched high in a rocky crag across the valey

Western Marsh Harrier *Circus aeruginosus* — A female-type bird seen several times, apparently coming and going from a nest, at Insh Marshes Preserve

Hen Harrier *Circus cyaneus* — Found on two days while on the Isle of Mull

Red Kite *Milvus milvus* — We had great views of this distinctive and elegant raptor at Loch Kinellan and Braemar

White-tailed Eagle *Haliaeetus albicilla* — This large and distinctive relative of the North American Bald Eagle was found on 3 days on the Isle of Mull

Common Buzzard *Buteo buteo* — The most regularly encountered raptor of the tour, we found these at many sites from the first day to the last, often soaring high overhead

OWLS: Strigidae (1)

Short-eared Owl *Asio flammeus* — One seen flying and sitting near the Lecht Ski Area

KINGFISHERS: Alcedinidae (1)

Common Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis* — One spotted over the water at Dervaig, it provided acceptable, but distant, views through the scopes

WOODPECKERS: Picidae (1)

Great Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos major* — The only woodpecker species on the tour, we saw this very elegant species multiple times throughout the tour

FALCONS AND CARACARAS: Falconidae (2)

Eurasian Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus* — Recorded on 5 days at sites throughout the mainland part of the tour

Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus* — Seen on our day in the Findhorn Valley

CROWS AND JAYS: Corvidae (7)

Eurasian Jay *Garrulus glandarius* — We found this lovely jay species on our walk through Anagach Woods

Eurasian Magpie *Pica pica* — Surprisingly seldom found on the tour, we recorded these on 3 days, mostly when en-route from one birding site to another

Eurasian Jackdaw *Corvus monedula* — Found almost every day of the tour at most sites visited and while driving; easily the most abundant corvid seen during the tour

Rook *Corvus frugilegus* — Recorded 8 days of the tour at many sites, they were very noticeable at the Mountview

Carrion Crow *Corvus corone* — A very commonly encountered corvid and the most common one on the mainland, these were recorded on the first 8 days of the tour

Hooded Crow *Corvus cornix* — This species and the previous one are known to hybridize frequently; while Hooded is prevalent on Mull and the other Islands, birds of the mainland which show Hooded traits were probably hybrids

Common Raven *Corvus corax* — Recorded on 4 days at higher elevations in mountainous areas

TITS AND CHICKADEES: Paridae (4)

Coal Tit *Parus ater* — The most “chickadee-like” of the tits, we found these on 8 days of the tour at many places

Crested Tit *Lophophanes cristatus* — Much more of an old-growth pine forest specialist than the other tits, we finally found these on our second attempt in the Anagach Woods and were rewarded with extremely close views of adults and fledged young

Eurasian Blue Tit *Cyanistes caeruleus* — Recorded 9 days of the tour at most places visited

Great Tit *Parus major* — Seen on 6 days at many wooded sites and/or those with feeders

LARKS: Alaudidae (1)

Eurasian Skylark *Alauda arvensis* — Although recorded on 4 days of the tour, the highest numbers and best views were

on Culloden Battlefield, our very first stop

REED WARBLERS: Acrocephalidae (1)

Sedge Warbler *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus* — Heard once at Spey Bay and seen very well by the entire group again on Iona

SWALLOWS AND MARTINS: Hirundinidae (3)

Bank Swallow *Riparia riparia* — Recorded on 5 days of the tour, sometimes in large numbers; mostly at the start of the tour, but encountered again on Iona

Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica* — Widespread and frequently encountered on 9 days at many sites

Common House-Martin *Delichon urbicum* — Recorded on 9 days at many sites; they were nesting at the Mountview

LEAF WARBLERS: Phylloscopidae (3)

Wood Warbler *Phylloscopus sibilatrix* — (H) Only heard once at a birch grove in the Findhorn Valley; a declining species in Scotland and now hard to find

Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus* — One of the more ubiquitous species in Scotland, especially after its song was learned; recorded on 9 days of the tour at most sites with appropriate habitat

Common Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita* — Heard at Clava Cairns on the first day by the entire group; found on two more days by smaller parties

LONG-TAILED TITS: Aegithalidae (1)

Long-tailed Tit *Aegithalos caudatus* — Found by the group only in the car park in the town of Braemar (proving that, yet again, birds are where you find them!); they were also seen on 2 other days by others birding on their own

SYLVIID WARBLERS: Sylviidae (2)

Eurasian Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla* — An elusive species on this tour, this was heard or seen on only 3 days, including from the Braemar town parking lot. Mark's group on the northeast coast provided the only actual sighting.

Greater Whitethroat *Curruca communis* — A more cooperative sylviid than the preceding, we saw these on the Coastal Trail at Whitehills Beach (Stephen's group), near Mark's house in Cromdale, and at Loch na Keal

KINGLETS: Regulidae (1)

Goldcrest *Regulus regulus* — This relative of the Golden-crowned Kinglet was recorded on 3 days at Loch Morlich, Loch an Eilein, and Anagach Wood

TREECREEPERS: Certhiidae (1)

Eurasian Treecreeper *Certhia familiaris* — Very similar to the North American Brown Creeper, we recorded this species on 3 days at many sites visited, perhaps most memorably at Craigellachie Reserve, where they appeared to be nesting near where we were standing to look for the Pied Flycatcher

WRENS: Troglodytidae (1)

Eurasian Wren *Troglodytes troglodytes* — Much like the North American Winter and Pacific Wrens in plumage and song, we saw or heard these on 9 days of the tour at many sites, including on the Mull off-islands

DIPPERS: Cinclidae (1)

White-throated Dipper *Cinclus cinclus* — A highlight of the tour, we saw these best at the Old Spey Bridge and at the Devil's Elbow lunch stop in the mountains

STARLINGS AND MYNAS: Sturnidae (1)

European Starling *Sturnus vulgaris* — Recorded on 8 days at many sites (but, at least it counts as a native on this tour!)

THRUSHES: Turdidae (4)

Mistle Thrush *Turdus viscivorus* — This large thrush was recorded on 6 days at many sites, mostly near Nethy Bridge

Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos* — Found on 9 days of the tour in many places; the first sighting was a Culloden Battlefield during the tour

Eurasian Blackbird *Turdus merula* — A widespread and ubiquitous species in Scotland, these were seen on every day of the tour

Ring Ouzel *Turdus torquatus* — Great looks were had of this unique thrush at our picnic site on the highway at Devil's Elbow near the ski centre

OLD WORLD FLYCATCHERS AND CHATS: Muscipidae (7)

Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa striata* — Best seen on the 2 visits to Craigellachie Reserve

European Robin *Erithacus rubecula* — This very attractive old world flycatcher was recorded on 9 days of the tour at many sites visited

European Pied Flycatcher *Ficedula hypoleuca* — One immature male seen on the second try at Craigellachie Nature Reserve

Common Redstart *Phoenicurus phoenicurus* — Becoming very scarce in current years in Scotland, we only found one of these, a singing male, on our second hike in the Anagach Woods

Whinchat *Saxicola rubetra* — Recorded on 3 days, with especially good views of a pair at Loch Morlich

European Stonechat *Saxicola rubicola* — Seen in the Findhorn Valley, at Lochindorb, and at the Devil's Elbow picnic site

Northern Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe* — This unique species was recorded on 3 days; the best views were at the Devil's Elbow picnic site in the mountains

ACCENTORS: Prunellidae (1)

Duncock *Prunella modularis* — This intriguing species was recorded on 7 days of the tour at many sites

OLD WORLD SPARROWS: Passeridae (2)

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus* — Seen every day of the tour, as expected usually, but not always, near human habitation

Eurasian Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus* — Very scarce on this tour; we only saw them at some known nest box sites in the town of Bogmoor on one day

WAGTAILS AND PIPITS: Motacillidae (5)

Gray Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea* — Recorded on the first 3 days of the tour at Old Spey Bridge, Loch Morlich, and Loch Kinellan

White Wagtail *Motacilla alba* — Widespread in Scotland, these were recorded on 8 days at many sites; these were of the Pied Flycatcher form of this highly variable species

Meadow Pipit *Anthus pratensis* — One of the more regularly encountered landbirds of the tour, we recorded this pipit on 8 days of the tour at most open sites visited

Tree Pipit *Anthus trivialis* — Found at Loch Morlich, Loch an Eilein, and Anagach Wood

Rock Pipit *Anthus petrosus* — Restricted in habitat to rocky shores, we first saw this species in MacDuff harbor and then found it again on two of the days on Mull or the surrounding islands

FINCHES AND EUPHONIAS: Fringillidae (10)

Common Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs* — A very frequently encountered species on the tour, both by sight and sound, these were logged on 9 days from many, many sites visited

Eurasian Bullfinch *Pyrrhula pyrrhula* — One flew over one of the vans as we drove to Iona

European Greenfinch *Chloris chloris* — This elegant finch was recorded on 5 days, including several times at the Mountview

Twite *Linaria flavirostris* — Seen or heard by some in the group on Lunga and Staffa

Eurasian Linnet *Linaria cannabina* — This handsome finch was seen at Udale Bay Reserve and at Red Well on the Coastal Trail near Banff

Lesser Redpoll *Acanthis cabaret* — Seen or heard on 6 days of the tour at various forested sites; it was formerly considered conspecific with Common Redpoll

Scottish Crossbill *Loxia scotica* — This species, endemic to Scotland, was only positively identified at Loch Morlich; its possible it will be relumped with Red Crossbill at some future point in time—enjoy it while it lasts!

Red Crossbill *Loxia curvirostra* — Although we saw crossbills on at least 4 days, the only ones positively identified as Red based on sonograms were from birds recorded at Loch an Eilein

European Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis* — An elegant goldfinch, these were seen on 8 days of the tour at many sites, both on the mainland and on Mull

Eurasian Siskin *Spinus spinus* — This very colorful siskin was recorded on 8 days of the tour at many sites, mostly forested areas and at some of the feeders

OLD WORLD BUNTINGS: Emberizidae (3)

Corn Bunting *Emberiza calandra* — Despite its being generally common in the U.K., we only found this species on one day on the Coastal Trail near Whitehills Beach

Yellowhammer *Emberiza citrinella* — This colorful old world bunting was seen at Udale Bay Reserve and again at the Loch Spynie Reserve feeders

Reed Bunting *Emberiza schoeniclus* — This very elegant old world bunting was found at Loch Kinellan and Udale Bay Reserve

MAMMALS 12 species were recorded. Details are included below.

MAMMALS:

Eurasian Red Squirrel *Sciurus vulgaris* — Recorded on 4 days, sometimes at feeders

European Rabbit *Oryctolagus cuniculus* — Seen on 8 days at many places

European Hare *Lepus europaeus* — Seen on two of the early days of the tour near Nethy Bridge

Mountain Hare *Lepus timidus* — Several observed at Glenshee Ski Centre

(Western) Roe Deer *Capreolus capreoleus* — Recorded on 8 days at many places

Red Deer *Cervus elaphus* — This close relative of the North American Elk was seen on 7 days; they are sometimes ranches in Scotland

Common Bottlenose Dolphin *Tursiops truncatus* — Seen off the spit at Chanonry Point

Harbor Seal *Phoca vitulina* — Seen on 2 days

Gray Seal *Halichoerus grypus* — Recorded on 4 days, often hauled out on rocks

Eurasian Pine Marten *Martes martes* — Remarkably, seen twice on the tour, once while driving down from the Glenlivet Forestry Tract prior to the distillery tour and again by the evening birding group near the Mountview

Eurasian Otter *Lutra lutra* — Two seen swimming in Loch na Keal

Common Shrew *Sorex araneus* — One photographed by Dave at the Loch Beg Bridge

HERPS 2 species were recorded. Details are included below.

REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS:

European Toad *Bufo bufo* — Seen by some in the group while exploring around the Mountview

Slowworm *Anguis fragilis* — A species of legless lizard, this good-looking reptile was spotted near some rock outcrops on the Isle of Mull

INVERTEBRATES 3 species were recorded. Details are included below.

INVERTEBRATES:

Common Blue *Polyommatus icarus* — Recorded on one day

Cinnabar Moth *Tyria jacobaeae* — Photographed on the Loch Frisa road, Isle of Mull

Black Slug *Arion ater* — This dramatically large slug was seen several times on the tour in various forests

LOCATIONS AND NOTES:

Day 1: Saturday, June 8, 2024; Culloden Battlefield, Clava Cairns, Old Spey Bridge, Anagach Forest—Poorhouse Woods, Mountview Hotel

Day 2: Sunday, June 9, 2024; Loch Morlich; Craigellachie Nature Reserve; Findhorn Valley

Day 3: Monday, June 10, 2024; Cairngorms National Park—Tomintoul; Loch Kinellan; Chanonry Point; Udale Bay Nature Reserve

Day 4: Tuesday, June 11, 2024; Loch an Eilein; Loch Insh; Insh Marshes Preserve; Craigellachie Nature Reserve; Lochindorb

Day 5: Wednesday, June 12, 2024; Lecht Ski Center (Short-eared Owl); Braemar; Glenshee Ski Centre

Day 6: Thursday, June 13, 2024; MacDuff; Troup Head boat trip; Banff (River Deveron); Whitehills (Red Well); Bogmoor; Spey Bay; Loch Spynie Reserve

Day 7: Friday, June 14, 2024; Anagach Woods; Glenlivet Estate; distillery tour

Day 8: Saturday, June 15, 2024; Loch Linnhie; Isle of Mull: Fishnish, Dervaig, Glen Frisda, Tobermory, Glenforsa Hotel

Day 9: Sunday, June 16, 2024; Loch na Kael; Ulva Ferry; Treshnish Isles; Lunga; Staffa

Day 10: Monday, June 17, 2024; Iona; Fionnphort; Loch Beg

Day 11: Tuesday, June 18, 2024; return trip to Inverness: Loch Sunnart; Loch Lochy; Urquhart Castle; Dochgarroch Lock; Inverness

Day 12: Wednesday, June 19, 2024; departures