

How many of these local Butterflies can you spot and identify?

Local Butterfly Species

Meadow Brown - *Maniola jurtina*



A very common butterfly – the males wings are a darker brown whereas the females have more orange.

Their underwings are a creamy brown with some orange on the top wing. They also have black “eye” dots on the front and back of their wings—with a single white dot in the centre!

Gatekeeper - *Pyronia tithonus*



Gatekeepers are often found feeding off flowers found on field and garden hedges, almost acting like gate keepers!

Females have bright orange wings – whereas males are slightly browner. They are slightly smaller than a Meadow brown; and their underwings have more white markings. They also have 2 white dots in black spots on their wings.

Speckled wood

Pararge aegeria



Speckled woods are normally found in shaded woodland – hence the name.

They can be easily spotted by their chocolate brown wings, bright yellow spots and 8 ‘eye’ spots. Females have much brighter colours – particularly around the ‘eyes’ of the wings.

How many of these local Butterflies can you spot and identify?

Local Butterfly Species

Ringlet - *Aphantopus hyperantus*



Ringlets get their name from the six bright ringed spots on their underwing!

On their upper wings; females are much brighter wood brown colour - with males being a duller colour.

Red Admiral - *Vanessa atalanta*



Red Admirals aren't very fussy eaters and can be found in a wide range of habitats! They are a butterfly which appear early in spring —keep your eyes peeled!

Males and females are very similar and hard to tell apart – but males may be slightly darker. The top underside wing is very colourful. Their wings also are a lot blacker compared to a Small Tortoiseshell, so it's easy to tell them apart!

Peacock - *Agalis io*



Peacock butterflies are easily recognised by the red wings and large blue and white eyes on all four wings – almost looking like an animal is staring right back at you!

Males and females are very similar and are hard to tell apart. Their wing's underside is a dark brown/grey; looking like tree bark.

How many of these local Butterflies can you spot and identify?

Local Butterfly Species

Small Tortoiseshell – *Aglais urticae*



Small Tortoiseshells may be one of the first butterflies to appear in spring – so keep a keen eye out!

The females have slightly whiter splotches on top of their wings whereas males are more yellow. The wing's underside looks like a very dark brown dead leaf.

Painted Lady– *Vanessa cardui*



The Painted Lady is famous for its incredibly long distance migration. Its journey to Britain begins all the way from warmer countries including the Middle East and North Africa.

Appearance very similar to a Small Tortoiseshell with a lighter orange and more black splotches, with white markings on tip of wings. Underside is a mix of white and light browns—with top wing having some orange. Males and females are similar and hard to tell apart.



Comma – *Polygonia c-album*



The wings of a Comma butterfly look like something took a bite out of them!

The underside of their wings looks like a dead leaf for camouflage – but a way to tell it's a comma is by looking for the small white mark in the middle of the wing. Males and females are very similar and hard to tell apart.

How many of these local Butterflies can you spot and identify?

Local Butterfly Species

Large White - *Pieris brassicae*



A large butterfly which are fast and powerful fliers! Normally seen flying over brambles and bushes.

Females have two black spots on the upper wings whereas males do not. The wing underside is a very light green colour.

Marbled White - *Melanargia galathea*



A very beautiful black and white butterfly which cannot be mistaken. Marbled whites love open fields and grassland with a wide variety of flowers.

Males and females have very similar upper wings, but females' underwings are a creamy yellow colour.



Small White
- *Pieris rapae*



Small whites love to lay their eggs on garden vegetables like cabbages – for their caterpillars to munch on!

Much smaller than a Large White; with only one black spot and black markings on the tips of the wings; both genders looking very similar. The wings underside is a lime green.

How many of these local Butterflies can you spot and identify?

Local Butterfly Species

Orange tip - *Anthocharis cardamines*



A small butterfly which gets its name from the bright orange tips on their white wings.

Only the males have the orange tips to attract females. The underside of the wings has a beautiful moss coloured green.

Brimstone—*Gonepteryx rhamni*



The Brimstone is the butterfly species which inspired the name butterfly—through their butter yellow coloured wings! They also appear early in the Spring too!

Males are a light yellow whereas females are a pale white; both having a small orange dot in the centre of each 4 wings. The males wings underside is a light green, with females having pale white underwings.

Green veined white—*Pieris napi*



Green veined whites look very similar to small whites—however the wing markings are duller. The green underwings with very bright “veins” is where their name originates from!

Females have more darker markings on their wings compared to males.

How many of these local Skipper Butterflies can you spot and identify?

Local Skipper Butterfly Species

Small skipper—*Thymelicus sylvestris*



Small skippers can be found during in the middle of summer where they will rest on flowers and other plants . They have quick flight patterns to help escape danger!

Both genders have bright orange wings—with males having a large black border on top of the upper wings. Underwings have a pale beige colour.

Essex skipper—*Thymelicus lineola*



Very similar to the Small Skipper—it wasn't found out it was a completely different species until 1889! It can be told apart from the Small Skipper by the long line running down its upper wing—like a folded piece of paper. It also has a much longer tongue for sipping up nectar!

Males and females very similar—females have darker black markings on the wings. Underwings are also a lighter beige than Small Skipper.

Large skipper—*Ochlodes sylvanus*



Slightly bigger than a Small and Essex skipper. Males have more orange on wings with a thick black line running through – whereas females have more brown markings. Underwings have orange with green markings running on back.

How many of these local Moths can you spot and identify?

Local Day Moth Species

Cinnabar Moth— *Tyria jacobaeae*



An iconic and pretty moth named after the cinnabar red coloration of its back wings and markings on the front wings. They are normally found in open grazed fields where the only flower that their stripy black and orange caterpillars love to munch on grows - Common Ragwort!

Six spot burnet- *Zygaena filipendulae*



This little moth is the same size and colours to a Cinnabar— but actually belongs to the Burnet family of moths. They can easily be spotted by counting the six cinnabar red spots on their wings - hence their name. They have a slow buzzing flight pattern.

Small Magpie— *Anania hortulata*



A beautiful black and white moth which you may have seen in your garden or near woodland. They are mainly active at night but can be seen during the day as well.

Their wings are a creamy white with black spots and borders. Their bodies and abdomen are a creamy orange colour.

How many of these local Butterflies can you spot and identify?

Local Butterfly Species

Common Blue—*Polyommatus icarus*



The most common blue butterfly— they are quite small and love big open grassland. Males have bright blue wings—whereas females have chocolate brown wings with orange splotches on the bottom . Both genders underwings are similar—creamy brown with white and orange spots, though males do have a slight blue tinge.

Holly Blue—*Celastrina argiolus*



This butterfly gets its name from feeding on from holly plants as a caterpillar— emerging later in Spring. Male wings are pure light blue, whereas females have large black splotches on their wings. Underwings of both genders are similar, chalky white with black spots.

Brown Argus— *Aricia agestis*



A very small butterfly found normally on chalk grassland. They look very similar to a female Common Blue, however Brown Argus are completely brown with brighter orange spots on the top wing. They also have a slight silver tinge on the underwing.