

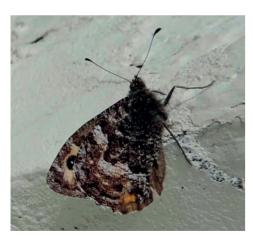
Large Heath
Coenonympha tullia
Common on damp
acid moorland from
June to August. The
northern subspecies
scotica has virtually
no spots on the
underwings, unlike its

southern counterpart.

Small Heath
Coenonympha pamphilus
A common species
most often found on
upland paths and dry
grassy areas from May

to October.





Grayling, Hipparchia semele

It is most likely to be found at the southern end of South Uist and on Eriskay, Barra and associated islands. It is found in in dry and well-drained areas, with sparse vegetation and plenty of bare ground in open positions. Settling with closed wings, it is well camouflaged and can be difficult to spot.

Other butterflies recorded include the speckled wood *Pararge aegeria*, recorded on Lewis since 2004, the ringlet Aphantopus hyperantus, on South Uist since 2008 and the orange-tip *Anthocharis cardamines* was most recently seen on Lewis in 2014.

There are rare occurrences of the clouded yellow (migrant from southern Europe) and there have been two records of the Monarch (North American migrant species).



Speckled Wood Pararge aegeria

You can discover more about the butterflies and moths recorded in the Outer Hebrides by visiting our website www.outerhebrideslepidoptera.co.uk.

We would be interested in receiving information about the butterflies you see, even the common species. For more information please visit the Outer Hebrides Biological Recording website:

www.ohbr.org.uk





## **Outer Hebrides Biological Recording**

# Butterflies of the Outer Hebrides

This short guide gives you an idea of the butterflies that have been recorded in the islands. Fourteen species are regularly recorded, four species are occassionally seen and two are rare migrants.

Isolation, a limited number of habitats and a rigorous climate means there are fewer species than on the mainland, but due to the sparse use of insecticide and herbicide those that are here do well.



Dark Green Fritillary Argynnis aglaja

One of the finest of the islands butterflies, it is the only fritillary found in the Outer Hebrides. It is rarely recorded in Lewis and Harris but common where violets are found in the southern Isles. This large butterfly with a rapid flight is named because of the dark green colour of the underwing.



Green-Veined White Pieris napi



This is our most common and widely distributed butterfly.

It is distinguished from the small white *Pieris* rapae by the prominent greenish veins on the hind wing and the more diffuse black markings on the upper wing.



It is more often encountered as a caterpillar on cabbages in the garden.

A very mobile and widespread migrant species. Most adults are seen close to breeding areas particularly in gardens and around the vegetable patch. Easily distinguished from the other white butterflies by their size.





Meadow Brown Maniola jurtina

A widespread and common grassland species and one of the most common British butterflies. It is a highly variable species and one of the largest and most attractive forms is found in the Outer Hebrides.



Common Blue Polyommatus icarus



Hebridean common blues are thought to be the largest and most attractive of all its many variations. Common in grassland areas from May to

October.



### Small Tortoiseshell Aglais urticae

A once common species, it has suffered a dramatic population collapse in recent years.

It over winters as an adult and can often be found hibernating in outbuildings.



#### Peacock Inachis io

Although nationally common, it is a recent coloniser of the Outer Hebrides and is only seen infrequently.



Red Admiral

Vanessa atalanta

A common migrant species, often found gardens in the late summer and autumn.



#### Painted Lady Vanessa cardui

A common migrant species which is found from April to October. The numbers vary from year to year.