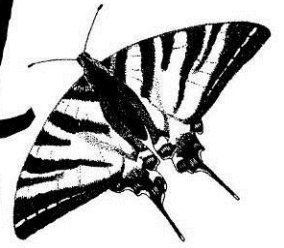


# WILDLIFE TRAVEL

All our profits are donated to The Wildlife Trusts



ICELAND  
15<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2008

## TRIP REPORT



## ITINERARY & DIARY

### Leaders

Andy Jones: Reykjavik, Iceland

Philip Precey: Cambridgeshire

### Travellers

#	DATE	LOCATIONS & NOTES
1	15 <sup>th</sup> June	Keflavík airport: via Nesjavellir (mid-Atlantic Ridge) and crater at Kerið to Skálholt. o/n Skálholtskollu.
2	16 <sup>th</sup> June	Reykjarettir (sheep sorting wheel) to viewpoint of Hekla at Gaukshofdi, waterfall at Hjálparfoss (lunch), and Viking farm at Stöng. o/n Skálholtskollu.
3	17 <sup>th</sup> June	Seljalandsfoss (waterfall), to glacial snout at Sólheimajökull, part of the Mýrdalsjökull icecap (lunch), and on to the coast at Vik. o/n Skálholtskollu.
4	18 <sup>th</sup> June	Þingvellir (Viking parliament site), Hvalfjörður (lunchbreak overlooking the fjord), quick stop at Bargarnes across Snæfellsness peninsula to Grundarfjörður. o/n Grundarfjörður.
5	19 <sup>th</sup> June	Berserkjahraun (lava field), lunch at Helgafell, then to the boat trip out from Ólafsvík. o/n Grundarfjörður.
6	20 <sup>th</sup> June	Rif (phalarope pool) Öndverðarnes (cliffs, lighthouse, lunch), crater at Saxhóll on to Arnarstapi (cliffs). o/n Grundarfjörður.
7	21 <sup>st</sup> June	Travel day: shores of Hvammsfjörður, short stop at Buðardalur, lunch at Borðeyri (oysterplant on the shore). Blönduós (island in river), via Akureyri to Öngulsstaðir. o/n Öngulsstaðir.
8	22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Goðafoss (waterfall), to Lake Mývatn. Dimmuborgir (Black Castles, falcon site), up to lava at Krafla (lunch), settlement at Reykjahlið (Herb Paris site) and back along west side of Mývatn to Eyjafjörður. o/n Öngulsstaðir.
9	23 <sup>rd</sup> June	Interior of Iceland. Afangafjall (lunch stop), waterfalls at Gullfoss and Faxi, and the hot water springs at Geysir. o/n Skálholtskollu
10	24 <sup>th</sup> June	Skálholt to Reykjavík for lunch and on to Keflavík airport, and home.

Total distance travelled: 2285 kilometres

## Day 1: Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2008

An uneventful flight saw us arrive at **Keflavik** airport on time, at 15.00, to be greeted by a dry, chilly wind, a massive swathe of the purple Nootka Lupins around the runway, a singing male Snow Bunting on the airport building, and Andy Jones with our transport for the next 10 days.

Bags packed into the trailer, and the group packed into the minibus, and we were off, heading towards Skálholt. On the way we crossed over the mid Atlantic ridge, travelling from the North American plate back over to the European plate at **Nesjavellir**, where we looked down over the largest geothermal plant in Iceland, as well as enjoying our first botanising, with Moss Campion and Trailing Azalea along the path. Pushing on, we stopped briefly by the crater at **Kerið**, where a pair of Ravens were playing around the rim.

We finally reached **Skálholt**, where we settled in to the comfortable accommodation at Skálholtskolli. The fields around Skálholt were home to several birds which were to become familiar roadside birds over the next few days: Whimbrel, Redshank, Golden Plover, Snipe, Oystercatcher and Black-tailed Godwit were all present in numbers, many singing and displaying overhead, while a small patch of pine trees were home to singing Redwings.

## Day 2: Monday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2008

After an excellent breakfast and with our packed lunches prepared, we headed off for our first full day of exploration.

First stop, the ingenious sheep-sorting wheel at **Reykjarettir**. Arctic Terns and Arctic Skuas flew overhead, a pair of Wheatear flitted about the turf-topped walls of the wheel, and interesting plants to be found included Alpine Catchfly, Alpine Cinquefoil and the curious Moonwort.

On we drove, along the banks of Þjórsá, Iceland's longest river, to the viewpoint at Gaukshofdi, looking out over the Þjórsá and across to the famous **Hekla** volcano, the 'gates of hell' in the distance. Here, Fulmars were nesting incongruously on the cliffs, at least 45km from the sea. The short turf around the viewpoints were home to some wonderful wild flowers, including our first Mountain Avens, Common Butterwort, Scottish Asphodel and three orchid species: Frog Orchid, Small White Orchid and the strange Coral-root Orchid.

Moving on, we arrived at **Hjálparfoss**, an impressive waterfall where Northern Green Orchid, Arctic River-beauty, Alpine Bartsia and Sea Pea all grew amongst the rocks and a very distant pair of Harlequin ducks was seen by some... Here we sheltered out of the wind for our packed lunches.

Driving through the impressive landscapes, we began to learn about the exciting geology of this part of the world, with words like 'tephra' and 'pseudo-craters' starting to become as much a part of our vocabulary as the bird and plant names.

Final stop of the day was the area around the old Viking farmstead at **Stöng**. We first had a look along the riverbank, where we found more Arctic Riverbeauty and Northern Green Orchids in flower, and heard singing Redwing again. Walking further upstream, to an area of impressive geology and more rapid water, we finally tracked down Harlequin ducks on their breeding territory: a pair, with a second male, give fantastic, close views as they swam in and out of the white water. Beautiful birds, and surely one of the highlights of any trip to Iceland.



### **Day 3. Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2008**

#### **Iceland's National Day**

Today, we explored the southern coast, starting off at the waterfall at **Seljalandsfoss**. Here, closer to the coast, there were plenty of Fulmar nesting on the cliffs around the falls, with Arctic Terns Hawking for insects over the fields and, with some searching, we tracked down a singing male Icelandic Wren in the Wild Angelica growing up the cliff sides, a bigger, greyer bird than 'our' wren at home, and with a slightly different song.

On to **Sólheimajökull**, where we were able to walk right up to the 'snout' of the glacier. A little further back from the ice, we stopped for our packed lunch, and some botanising. Interesting plants found included more Frog and Northern Green Orchids, as well as large numbers of the tiny Lesser Twayblade, a single Marsh Saxifrage flower and the deep blue Rock Speedwell. A pair of Great Skua soared overhead, while a well-timed 'comfort break' flushed a male Ptarmigan out for everyone to enjoy good views as he strutted back up the slope.

After lunch, we travelled down to the coast at **Vík** for a walk along the beach, with the Westermann Islands visible in the distance. Here, highlights were the hundreds of Puffins commuting between the sea and the cliffs, as well as the Kittiwakes nesting on the cliffs behind us.

Back to Skálholt, where we joined the National Day celebrations for a medieval banquet. I think it's fair to say that Puffins look a lot more impressive than they taste...

### **Day 4. Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2008**

Today we left Skálholt and travelled up towards the north west.

First stop along the way was at **Pingvellir**, the site of the Viking parliament. Here, a pair of Red-throated Divers slept soundly on a tiny roadside pool, with another male Ptarmigan wandering past. Around the parliament site, several Redwings were singing.

Lunch was taken overlooking **Hvalfjörður** where, after another relaxed meal out of the wind, we found a group of ten Purple Sandpipers feeding on the rocky foreshore.

Another brief afternoon stop at **Bargarnes** revealed a pair of Shelduck on the muddy estuary, a very rare breeding bird in Iceland, although perhaps we were more appreciative of the Whooper Swans here.

After a long day on the road, we arrived at our hotel in **Grundarfjörður**, where we stayed for the next couple of nights.



## Day 5. Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2008

The day started with a quick look around the shore in the town. A small group of Harlequins showed off in wonderful light along the harbour shore. Further round, a group of gulls on a spit were made up mostly of the big Glaucous Gulls, but also a smaller, slimmer immature Iceland Gull and an adult 'Nelson's Gull', the hybrid between Glaucous Gull and Herring Gull, together with Herring, Great Black-backed and Lesser Black-backed Gull and a single Black-headed Gull. Offshore, a Common Seal was swimming around in the harbour.

We headed eastwards into the impressive lava field of **Berserkjahraun**, passing by an immature Great Northern Diver next to the road, and a couple of Black Guillemots. Some botanising around the lava field included plenty of yellow Arctic Poppies along the roadside, and a patch of Bearberry amongst the lava.

On leaving the beach, we picked up a massive adult White-tailed Eagle flying along the coastline, low over the water. Following the eagle along, he landed on a small offshore island, next to a second bird, presumably with a nest.

Further along towards **Helgafell**, stopping to watch a group of Whooper Swans and a Red-throated Diver on a nearby pool, another pair of White-tailed Eagles soared overhead, their short, square tails glowing white in the sunshine.

After lunch at Helgafell, we headed west again, with most of us looking forward to our whale-watching trip out of **Ólafsvík**. Whilst waiting for the boat to arrive, we had good views of a female King Eider at close range in the harbour. Then heading out to see, with Kittiwake, Fulmar and Arctic Tern in sight all the time, we caught up with a party of three Orca, two adults and a youngster, with whom we spent the best part of an hour, travelling eastwards with them with the ice cap of Snæfellsjökull in the background...



## Day 6. Friday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2008

A day spent exploring the Snæfellsness peninsula.

Driving along the north coastline, we passed a flock of around 50 Scaup together with Tufted Ducks on a roadside lake, as well as several small groups of Harlequin and a pale adult Arctic Skua feeding on an Oystercatcher egg.

Our first stop was near the village of **Rif**, where a bird hide looked out over the lake. But before getting to the hide, we had to brave the aggressive attentions of the nesting Arctic Terns, doing their best to drive us back into the van! From the hide, the main highlight was the small group of Red-necked Phalaropes, spinning around feeding on midges at the water surface. Mostly brightly coloured females, there was just a single, drabber male bird. A single Iceland Gull was in amongst the large number of Glaucous, Herring and Great Black-backed Gulls loafing around the lake, while two Sanderling were washing in the shallows. The rarest bird on the lake however was perhaps, for us, the most mundane: a group of three Canada Geese were stood behind the gulls, vagrants from North America, unlike our own, feral birds back home.

We dragged ourselves away from the pirouetting phalaropes and further down the peninsula, to the lighthouse at **Öndverðarnes**. Here we settled down for lunch, overlooking the cliffs, home to nesting seabirds. Four species of auks could be seen, with several Puffins out at sea, and the three larger auks all nesting side by side on the cliff ledges: Razorbill, Guillemot and Brunnich's Guillemot. A male Grey Seal swam past the cliff bottom.

After lunch, a stop at the crater at **Saxhóll** showed us some more exciting volcanic geology, as well as Heath Spotted Orchid and Trailing Azalea nearby.

Our final stop of the day was the low cliffs at **Arnarstapi**, near Strontin. Here the nesting Kittiwakes were abundant on the cliffs, sitting contentedly at amazingly close range. In the grassland, Arctic Terns were nesting everywhere, chasing passers by when they got too close. On a pond, three Red-necked Phalaropes were flitting about amongst the ducks, including Mallard, Eider, Tufted Duck and a single female Wigeon. Offshore, a couple of Shag were the first of the trip, while a single Black Guillemot was the final auk for the day. But perhaps the highlight was the pair of Orca feeding on herring offshore, spending much time idling at the surface, enabling everyone to get good views through the telescope.





## **Day 7. Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2008**

### **Midsummer's Day**

A travelling day, heading across the north of the island.

We passed **Aftafjörður**, the 'Swan Fjord', where Whooper Swans were already starting to gather before their migration south for the winter.

A short stop at **Buðardalur** revealed a calling Merlin perched up on the hillside. The falcon quickly shot out from the cliff down into the lowlands below the road, where he began to mob a massive immature White-tailed Eagle flapping slowly down along the shore, a wonderful surprise sighting!

Lunch was at the old Danish trading post at Borðeyri, where the shore was a swathe of blue with flowering Oysterplant.

Our afternoon stop was at Blönduós, where we explored the island in the river. Here, botanising revealed Wild Pansy, Frog Orchid, Northern Green Orchid, Small White Orchid and Coral Root Orchid growing amongst the Dwarf Birch and willow scrub, together with Rosebay Willowherb. A Common Gull that flew over was the first of the trip.

Further on, we stopped at a roadside pool, where at least two pairs of Slavonian Grebe were nesting, the nearest pair with an impressive brood of 5 chicks. Tufted Duck and Scaup both swam on the lake, with at least 4 or 5 Red-necked Phalaropes posing for photos. This was also the site where Philip managed to leave his telescope behind... ☺

We finally arrived at the lovely guesthouse at Öngulsstaðir.

## **Day 8. Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2008**

A busy day around the north of the island.

Not far from **Öngulsstaðir** we stopped at a viewpoint overlooking some mature Downy Birch scrub, where a couple of Icelandic Redpoll were flitting about, significantly larger and paler than the Lesser Redpolls we have at home.

An adult Great Northern Diver was an impressive sight on the lake at **Lyoservatn**, along with Red-breasted Mergansers.

After a stop at the waterfall at **Goðafoss**, we drove on towards Mývatn, where a pair of female Harlequin were battling the rapids on the River Laxa. Around the eastern edge of **Lake Mývatn** we found large numbers of wildfowl: Tufted Duck, Scaup, Wigeon, Gadwall and Teal were all common. Two Pochard were a good find amongst the hundreds of other diving ducks. Two pairs of Long-tailed Ducks were together close in, alongside 5 Slavonian Grebes and a Great Northern Diver, while large numbers of Red-necked Phalaropes were flitting about on the water. Best amongst the ducks, though, were the Barrow's Goldeneyes, handsome ducks which, like Harlequin and Great Northern Diver, are North American birds which only reach Europe here in Iceland.

From the lake, we headed to the bizarre lava stacks and pillars at **Dimmuborgir**, the 'Black Castles'. Here, with the midges finally starting to make themselves known, we had fantastic views of a pair of Gyrfalcons, the largest falcon in the world and one of the highlights of Iceland. The greyer male spent much of his time perched atop a pillar, being mobbed by a pair of Redwing, while the much bigger, paler blonde female appeared on another stack, plucking a piece of prey before flying off with the prepared corpse, presumably to feed to chicks nearby?

After lunch, we explored the new lava field at **Krafla**, with bubbling mud, hot springs, crystallized sulphur and still warm lava dating back to the eruption of 1975-1984, overlying lava from 1728.

A botanical stop took us to the crevices on the outskirts of **Reykjahlið**, where Herb Paris was found growing, along with Alpine Bistort and Small White Orchid.

Finally, we stopped to check out the wildfowl on the lake again, this time along the western margins. Along with the same common species as previously seen were several Barrow's Goldeneye, a female Long-tailed Duck close to the shore, two Great Northern Divers and two new species: two female Common Scoter and a group of three Pintail, finishing off a 'clean sweep' of Icelandic ducks.

Unfortunately, it was time to return to the hotel... but not before driving past plenty of Hawkweed-leaved Treacle Mustard (such a wonderful name for a weedy cabbage!), and being treated to a fantastic performance from a Short-eared Owl, hunting over the fields near the guesthouse.

### **Day 9. Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2008**

A wonderfully scenic day, travelling across the centre of the island, with visits to the waterfalls at Gullfoss and Faxi, and the hot water springs at Geysir, where we enjoyed three or four 'eruptions'.

### **Day 10. Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2008**

After one last dark-less night, it was time to pack our stuff and head off home... but not before a quick drive-through tour of Reykjavik and lunch. But very soon our time was up, and those of us flying home had to go to the airport...



## ICELAND BIRD & MAMMAL CHECKLIST 2008

	ENGLISH NAME	LATIN NAME	15 <sup>th</sup>	16 <sup>th</sup>	17 <sup>th</sup>	18 <sup>th</sup>	19 <sup>th</sup>	20 <sup>th</sup>	21 <sup>st</sup>	22 <sup>nd</sup>	23 <sup>rd</sup>	24 <sup>th</sup>
<b>BIRDS</b>												
<b>Family Gaviidae (Divers)</b>												
1	Red-throated Diver	<i>Gavia stellata</i>				X	X		X	X		X
2	Great Northern Diver	<i>Gavia adamsii</i>					X			X		
<b>Family Podicipedidae (Grebes)</b>												
3	Slavonian Grebe	<i>Podiceps auritus</i>							X	X		
<b>Family Procellariidae (Shearwaters)</b>												
4	Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
<b>Family Sulidae (Gannets)</b>												
5	Northern Gannet	<i>Morus bassanus</i>					X	X				X
<b>Family Phalacrocoracidae (Cormorants &amp; Shags)</b>												
6	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>					X	X	X			X
7	Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>						X				
<b>Family Anatidae (Ducks, Geese &amp; Swans)</b>												
8	Whooper Swan	<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
9	Pink-footed Goose	<i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>		X					X		X	
10	Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
11	Canada Goose	<i>Branta canadensis</i>										
12	Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>				X						
13	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
14	Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>								X		
15	Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>								X		
16	Wigeon	<i>Anas penelope</i>						X	X	X		
17	Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>		X	X					X		
18	Scaup	<i>Aythya marila</i>					X	X	X	X		
19	Pochard	<i>Aythya farina</i>								X		
20	Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
21	Northern Eider	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
22	King Eider	<i>Somateria spectabilis</i>					X					
23	Common Scoter	<i>Melanitta nigra</i>								X		
24	Long-tailed Duck	<i>Clangula hyemalis</i>								X		
25	Harlequin	<i>Histrionicus histrionicus</i>		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	
26	Barrow's Goldeneye	<i>Bucephala islandica</i>								X		
27	Red-breasted Merganser	<i>Mergus serrator</i>		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
28	Goosander	<i>Mergus merganser</i>		X		X					X	
<b>Family Accipitridae (Hawks &amp; Eagles)</b>												
29	White-tailed Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>					X		X			
<b>Family Falconidae (Falcons)</b>												
30	Merlin	<i>Falco columbarius</i>							X			
31	Gyr Falcon	<i>Falco rusticolus</i>								X		
<b>Family Tetraonidae (Grouse)</b>												
32	Ptarmigan	<i>Lagopus mutus</i>			X	X						
<b>Family Himantopidae (Oystercatchers)</b>												
33	Oystercatcher	<i>Himantopus ostralegus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Family Scolopacidae (Sandpipers)</b>												
34	Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>					X	X				
35	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>						X				
36	Purple Sandpiper	<i>Calidris maritima</i>				X		X				
37	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>				X	X	X	X	X	X	X
38	Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
39	Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa islandica</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
40	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
41	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

## ICELAND BIRD & MAMMAL CHECKLIST 2008

42	Red-necked Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>			X			X	X	X				
<b>Family Charadriidae (Plovers &amp; Lapwings)</b>														
43	Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>				X	X	X	X					X
44	Golden Plover	<i>Charadrius apricaria</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Family Stercorariidae (Skuas)</b>														
45	Great Skua	<i>Stercorarius skua</i>			X		X							
46	Arctic Skua	<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Family Laridae (Gulls &amp; Terns)</b>														
47	Black-headed Gull	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
48	Common Gull	<i>Larus canus</i>							X	X	X			
49	Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>			X	X	X	X	X			X	X	
50	Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	
51	Great Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>			X	X	X	X	X					X
52	Glaucous Gull	<i>Larus hyperboreus</i>			X	X	X	X	X					
53	Iceland Gull	<i>Larus glaucoides</i>					X	X						
54	Kittiwake	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>			X	X	X	X						
55	Arctic Tern	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Family Alcidae (Auks)</b>														
56	Puffin	<i>Fratercula arctica</i>			X		X	X						X
57	Black Guillemot	<i>Cepphus grille</i>					X	X						
58	Guillemot	<i>Uria aalge</i>			X		X	X						X
59	Brünnich's Guillemot	<i>Uria lomvia</i>						X						
60	Razorbill	<i>Alca torda</i>					X	X						X
<b>Family Strigidae (Owls)</b>														
61	Short-eared Owl	<i>Asio flammeus</i>										X	X	
<b>Family Columbidae (Pigeons)</b>														
62	Rock Dove (Feral Pigeon)	<i>Columba livia</i>			X									
<b>Family Motacillidae (Wagtails &amp; Pipits)</b>														
63	Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
64	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Family Troglodytidae (Wrens)</b>														
65	Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes islandicus</i>			X	X						X		
<b>Family Turdidae (Thrushes)</b>														
66	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
67	Redwing	<i>Turdus iliacus</i>	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Family Corvidae (Crows &amp; Jays)</b>														
68	Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Family Sturnidae (Starlings)</b>														
69	Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					X
<b>Family Emberizidae (Buntings)</b>														
70	Snow Bunting	<i>Plectrophenax nivalis</i>	X					X			X	X	X	X
<b>Family Fringillidae (Finches)</b>														
71	Common Redpoll	<i>Carduelis flammea islandica</i>										X	X	
<b>MAMMALS</b>														
<b>Family Phocidae (Seals)</b>														
1	Grey Seal	<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>						X						
2	Common (Harbour) Seal	<i>Phoca vitalina</i>				X	X		X					X
<b>Family Delphinidae (Dolphins)</b>														
3	Orca (Killer Whale)	<i>Orcinus orca</i>					X	X						
<b>Family Phocoenidae (Porpoises)</b>														
4	Harbour Porpoise	<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>												X

# ICELAND PLANT LIST 2008

## Lycopodiaceae

Alpine Clubmoss, *Diphazium alpinum*  
Lesser Clubmoss, *Selaginella selaginoides*

## Equisetaceae

Field Horsetail, *Equisetum arvense*  
Shady Horsetail, *Equisetum pratense*  
Rough Horsetail, *Equisetum hyemale*

## Ferns

Common Moonwort, *Botrychium lunaria*  
Brittle Bladder-fern, *Cystopteris fragilis*

## Cupressaceae

Juniper, *Juniperus communis*

## Ranunculaceae

Marsh Marigold, *Caltha palustris*  
Meadow Buttercup, *Ranunculus acris*  
Alpine Meadow-rue, *Thalictrum alpinum*

## Papaveraceae

Arctic Poppy, *Papaver radicatum*

## Betulaceae

Dwarf Birch, *Betula nana*  
Downy Birch, *Betula pubescens ssp. czerepanovii*

## Chenopodiaceae

Babington's Orache, *Atriplex glabriuscula*

## Portulacaceae

Blinks, *Montia fontana*

## Caryophyllaceae

Arctic Sandwort, *Arenaria norvegica*  
Sea Sandwort, *Honckenya peploides*  
Alpine Mouse-ear, *Cerastium alpinum*  
Common Mouse-ear, *Cerastium fontanum ssp. scandicum*  
Alpine Catchfly, *Lychnis alpine*  
Moss Champion, *Silene acaulis*  
Red Champion, *Silene dioica*  
Sea Champion, *Silene uniflora*

## Polygonaceae

Alpine Bistort, *Bistorta vivipara*  
Common Knotgrass, *Polygonum aviculare*  
Common Sorrel, *Rumex acetosa*  
Sheep's Sorrel, *Rumex acetosella*  
Northern Dock, *Rumex longifolius*  
Mountain Sorrel, *Oxyria digyna*

## Plumbaginaceae

Thrift, *Armeria maritima*

## Violaceae

Heath Dog Violet, *Viola canina*  
Alpine Marsh Violet, *Viola palustris*  
Wild Pansy (=Heartsease), *Viola tricolour*

## Salicaceae

Aspen, *Populus tremula*  
Dwarf Willow, *Salix herbacea*  
Woolly Willow, *Salix lanata*  
Bluish Willow, *Salix callicarpaea*  
Tea-leaved Willow, *Salix phylicifolia*

## Brassicaceae

Hawkweed-leaved Treacle-mustard, *Erysimum hieraciifolium*  
Lady's Smock, *Cardamine nymani*  
Northern Rock-cress, *Cardaminopsis petraea*  
Hoary Whitlow-grass, *Draba incana*  
Common Scurvy-grass, *Cochlearia officinalis*  
Sea Rocket, *Cakile arctica*

## Empetraceae

Crowberry, *Empetrum nigrum*

## Ericaceae

Bearberry, *Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*  
Ling, *Calluna vulgaris*  
Cassiope, *Cassiope hypnoides*  
Bog Bilberry, *Vaccinium uliginosum*  
Trailing Azalea, *Loisleuria procumbens*

## Pyrolaceae

Common Wintergreen, *Pyrola minor*

## Crassulaceae

Roseroot, *Rhodiola rosea*  
Hairy Stonecrop, *Sedum villosum*

## Saxifragaceae

Purple Saxifrage, *Saxifraga oppositifolia*  
Mossy Saxifrage, *Saxifraga hypnoides*  
Tufted Saxifrage, *Saxifraga caespitosa*  
Alpine Snow Saxifrage, *Saxifraga nivalis*  
Marsh Saxifrage, *Saxifraga hirculus*

## Rosaceae

Meadowsweet, *Filipendula ulmaria*  
Stone Bramble, *Rubus saxatilis*  
Alpine Cinquefoil, *Potentilla crantzii*  
Silverweed, *Potentilla anserina*  
Creeping Sibbaldia, *Sibbaldia procumbens*  
Water Avens, *Geum rivale*  
Mountain Avens, *Dryas octopetala*  
Alpine Lady's-mantle, *Alchemilla alpina*  
Common Lady's-mantle, *Alchemilla vulgaris agg.*  
Rowan, *Sorbus aucuparia*

## Fabaceae

Sea Pea, *Lathyrus japonicus*  
White Clover, *Trifolium repens*  
Nootka Lupin, *Lupinus nootkatensis*

## Onagraceae

Rosebay Willowherb, *Epilobium angustifolium*  
Arctic Riverbeauty, *Epilobium latifolium*  
American Willowherb, *Epilobium watsonii*  
Marsh Willoherb, *Epilobium palustre*

## Cornaceae

Dwarf Cornel, *Cornus suecica*

## Geraniaceae

Wood Crane's-bill, *Geranium sylvaticum*

## Apiaceae

Cow Parsley, *Anthriscus sylvestris*  
Sweet Cicely, *Myrrhis odorata*  
Caraway, *Carum carvi*  
Scots Lovage, *Ligusticum scoticum*  
Wild Angelica, *Angelica sylvestris*

## Menyanthaceae

Bogbean, *Menyanthes trifoliata*

## Boraginaceae

Oysterplant, *Mertensia maritima*  
Field Forget-me-not, *Myosotis arvensis*

## Lamiaceae

Wild Thyme, *Thymus praecox ssp. arcticus*

## Hippuridaceae

Mare's-tail, *Hippuris vulgaris*

## Plantaginaceae

Greater Plantain, *Plantago major*  
Sea Plantain, *Plantago maritima*

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## Scrophulariaceae

Rock Speedwell, *Veronica fruticans*  
Alpine Bartsia, *Bartsia alpina*

## Lentibulariaceae

Common Butterwort, *Pinguicula vulgaris*

## Rubiaceae

Northern Bedstraw, *Galium boreale*  
Slender Bedstraw, *Galium normanii ssp. islandicum*  
Lady's Bedstraw, *Galium verum*

## Asteraceae

Dandelion, *Taraxacum spp.*  
Hawkweed, *Hieracium spp.*  
Dwarf Cudweed, *Omalotheca supina*  
Alpine Fleabane, *Erigeron borealis*  
Yarrow, *Achillea millefolium*  
Sea Mayweed, *Matricaria maritima*

## Juncaceae

Three-leaved Rush, *Juncus trifidus*

## Cyperaceae

Scheuchzer's Cottongrass, *Eriophorum scheuchzeri*  
Common Cottongrass, *Eriophorum angustifolium*  
Common Spike-rush, *Eleocharis palustris*  
Stiff Sedge, *Carex bigelowii*

## Poaceae

Lyme-grass, *Elymus arenarius*

## Liliaceae

Scottish Asphodel, *Tofieldia pusilla*  
Herb Paris, *Paris quadrifolia*

## Orchidaceae

Northern Green Orchid, *Platanthera hyperborea*  
Small-white Orchid, *Pseudorchis albida*  
Frog Orchid, *Coeloglossum viride*  
Heath Spotted Orchid, *Dactylorhiza maculata*  
Lesser Twayblade, *Listera cordata*  
Coral-root Orchid, *Corallorhiza trifida*