

Sussex Butterflies - Wider Countryside Species and Habitat Specialists



Wider countryside species can occur almost anywhere their larval food plants are available and therefore these species are more widespread.

For habitat specialists, the availability of the larval foodplant may not be sufficient to support a breeding colony and other environmental factors may be required.

Wider Countryside Species
Brimstone
Brown Argus
Clouded Yellow
Comma
Common Blue
Essex Skipper
Gatekeeper
Green-veined White
Holly Blue
Large Skipper
Large White
Marbled White
Meadow Brown
Orange-tip
Painted Lady
Peacock
Ringlet
Small Copper
Small Heath
Small Skipper
Small Tortoiseshell
Small White
Speckled Wood
Wall

Specialist Habitat Species	Specialist Habitat
Adonis Blue	Chalk downland - mostly on south-facing slopes
Brown Hairstreak	Where Blackthorn is abundant - predominantly in West Sussex
Chalk Hill Blue	Chalk downland
Dark Green Fritillary	Open chalk downland
Dingy Skipper	South facing chalk hillsides and woodland clearings
Duke of Burgundy	Sheltered slopes on the South Downs where Cowslip is abundant
Grayling	Single site in East Sussex, at Deep Dene, Wilmington
Green Hairstreak	Scrubby downland, woodland clearings and heathlands
Grizzled Skipper	Warm, downland slopes and a few woodland rides
Pearl-bordered Fritillary	Woodland clearings where Common Dog-violet is plentiful
Purple Emperor	Usually deciduous woodland with mature Oaks and where Sallow is plentiful
Purple Hairstreak	Oak woodland
Silver-spotted Skipper	Very warm chalk grassland with short turf
Silver-studded Blue	Heathlands where heather is sparse such as ride edges
Small Blue	Sheltered sites with Kidney Vetch
Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary	Woodland clearings where Common Dog-violet is plentiful
Wood White	Woodland rides in a few woods in West Sussex
White-letter Hairstreak	Where there are elms