

Garden Butterflies



Identify the magical jewels that are our garden butterflies

This guide only covers the most commonly occurring garden butterflies. If you see any other species or would like to know more about how to encourage butterflies, please visit www.butterfly-conservation.org



Holly Blue 35mm

The Holly Blue is the only blue butterfly found in our gardens; the caterpillar feeds on Holly and Ivy.



Green-veined White 50mm

There are four white butterflies in Britain, and none of them are called the Cabbage White.



Peacock 63-69mm

The Peacock flashes the eye-spots on its wings to stop birds trying to eat it!



Painted Lady 64-70mm

The Painted Lady arrives here every year after flying all the way from Europe.



Large White 63-70mm

The Large White caterpillar is brightly coloured to warn predators that it is full of poisonous mustard oils.



Comma 55-50mm

The Comma's name comes from the comma shaped marking on the underside of its wing.



Meadow Brown 50-55mm

Because the Meadow Brown caterpillar feeds on many different grasses, this species can be found in many places.



Red Admiral 67-72mm

The Red Admiral used to migrate from Africa but now lives here due to climate change.



Small White 48mm

The Small White is attracted to white flowers where it likes to rest as it is camouflaged from predators.



Gatekeeper 40-47mm

The Gatekeeper gets its name because it likes to live in hedgerows, so it is often spotted around gates.



Orange-tip 45-50mm

Only the male Orange Tip has orange tips. The female is white all over, but both have green camouflage underneath.



Small Tortoiseshell 50-56mm

Blue spots on wing edges are a key difference between Small Tortoiseshell and Painted Lady.



Speckled Wood 47-50mm

The Speckled Wood is territorial and will defend its patch from other butterflies, dogs and people.