

# May Wildflowers Spotter's Sheet



**Columbine**  
*Aquilegia vulgaris*

STAR  
FIND  
\*

A native favourite of cottage gardens. It's name comes from the Latin for dove which its petals are said to resemble.

Where to find it:  
Woods & damp places



**Bird's Foot Trefoil**  
*Lotus corniculatus*

Also known as Eggs & Bacon because of its red & yellow petals. Bees & other pollinators love it as its very rich in nectar.

Where to find it:  
Grassy places



**Bulbous Buttercup**  
*Ranunculus bulbosus*

One of the first buttercups to flower. Easy to spot as the five bracts under the flower (*sepals*) lie down against the flower stalk.

Where to find it:  
Meadows and lawns



**Cow Parsley**  
*Anthriscus sylvestris*

Its frothy white petals are a common sight along country roads. Did you know that it's a close relation of the carrot?

Where to find it:  
Meadows and lanes



**Hawthorn**  
*Crataegus spp.*

In folklore the magical May Tree was the home of fairies. It provides food for caterpillars, dormice & birds.

Where to find it:  
Hedgerows



**Herb-Robert**  
*Geranium robertianum*

Pretty but smelly. According to one theory it was so-named by a botanist as an insult to a "Robert" he knew!

Where to find it:  
Hedgerows & woods



**Red Campion**  
*Silene dioica*

Often adorning country Lanes, these tall, pink wildflowers were once known as "bachelors buttons".

Where to find it:  
Hedge banks



**Red Clover**  
*Trifolium pratense*

Rich in pollen, its an essential food source for bees - in the past it was known as "bee bread". Cows love it too.

Where to find it:  
Parks and lawns



**Sea Campion**  
*Silene maritima*

A coastal cousin of Red Campion. It's fleshy leaves store water & help stop it drying out in such salty conditions.

Where to find it:  
Sea walls & shingle



**White Dead-nettle**  
*Lamium album*

No need to fear a sting from this nettle - as it's name suggests it is safe to touch. Look for the white ruff of flowers.

Where to find it:  
Grassy banks