

## Common Native Butterflies of San Francisco & larval host plants

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These species are relatively common and may be found in gardens or larger landscapes depending on plantings. The plants listed below are caterpillar food plants. Adult butterflies visit many species of flowering plants though some species may have preferences due to nectar chemistry, sugar content, floral volatiles, flower shape and floral abundance. I suggest visiting a local native plant botanical garden or nursery and observing which plants butterflies are visiting seasonally to choose nectar plants for your area.

Some of these plants are attractive to native bees as well such as *Ceanothus*, *Asclepias*, *Mimulus*, and *Lupinus*. Nectar plants such as salvias are very attractive to native bees.

Butterfly common name	Genus species	Plant name	Plant name	Plant name	Plant name
American painted lady	<i>Vanessa virginiensis</i>	everlasting <i>Gnaphalium</i> spp	<i>G. californicum</i> , <i>G. pupureum</i>	pearly everlasting <i>Anaphalis margaritacea</i>	
Painted lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>	Cryptantha spp	fiddleneck <i>Amsinkia</i> spp	thistle <i>Cirsium</i> spp	Lupine <i>Lupinus</i> sp.
West coast lady	<i>Vanessa annabella</i>	nettle <i>Urtica holosericea</i>	checkerbloom <i>Sidalcea malvaeflora</i>		
Red admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>	nettle <i>Urtica holosericea</i>	Baby tears Soleirolia soleirolii•		
Buckeye	<i>Junonia coenia</i>	monkey flower <i>Mimulus aurantiacus</i>	Owl's clover <i>Orthocarpus purpurascens</i>	brooklime Veronicaca americana	<i>Plantago</i> spp.
California sister	<i>Adelpha bredowii</i>	coast live Oak <i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	canyon oak <i>Quercus chrysolepis</i>		
Lorquin's admiral	<i>Limenitis lorquini</i>	willow <i>Salix</i> spp.	<i>Poplar Populus</i> spp.	Western chokecherry <i>Prunus virginiana</i> var. <i>demissa</i>	
Fiery skipper	<i>Hylephila phyleus</i>	native bunch grasses	Bermuda grass • <i>Cynodon dactylon</i>	Carex spp.	
Common checkered skipper	<i>Pyrgus communis</i> <i>Pyrgus albescens</i>	alkali mallow <i>Sida hederacea</i>			
Umber skipper	<i>Poanes melane</i>	grasses •Bermuda grass	native bunch grasses		
Woodland skipper	<i>Ochlodes sylvanoides</i>	grasses wild rye <i>Elymus condensatus</i>	native grasses		
Queen (east SF Bay)	<i>Danaus gilippus</i>	milkweed <i>Asclepius</i> spp.			
Monarch	<i>Danaus plexippus</i>	milkweed <i>Asclepius</i> spp.	<i>Asclepias speciosa</i>	<i>Asclepias erosa</i>	<i>Asclepias fascicularis</i>
Western checkerspot	<i>Euphydryas chalcedona</i>	monkey flower <i>Diplacus/Mimulus aurantiacus</i>	Bee plant <i>Scrophularia californica</i>	Chinese houses <i>Collinsia heterophylla</i>	
Mourning cloak	<i>Nymphalis antiopa</i>	Willow <i>Salix</i> spp.			

Pale swallowtail	<i>Papilio eurymedon</i>	California coffeeberry <i>Rhamnus californica</i>	Redberry <i>R. crocea</i>	<i>Ceanothus</i> spp.	
Pipevine swallowtail	<i>Battus philenor</i>	Dutchman's Pipevine <i>Aristolochia californica</i>			
Anise swallowtail	<i>Papilio zelicaeon</i>	<i>Lomatium</i> spp.	•fennel <i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	Angelica spp.	
Western tiger swallowtail	<i>Papilio rutulus</i>	cottonwood <i>Populus</i> spp.,	Willow, <i>Salix</i> spp.	California Sycamore <i>Plantanus</i> <i>racemosa</i>	birch, <i>Betula</i> spp. Alder <i>Alnus</i>
Acmon blue	<i>Plebejus acmon</i>	buckwheat <i>Eriogonum latifolium</i>	Acmispon glaber	deerweed	
Echo blue <i>Celastrina argiolus</i>	<i>Chemise Adenostoma fasciculatum</i>	<i>Ceanothus</i> spp.	California buckeye <i>Aesculus californicus</i>	<i>Cornus glabrata</i> , <i>C. occidentalis</i>	<i>Quercus</i> spp.
Green hairstreak	<i>Callophrys viridis</i>	coast buckwheat <i>Eriogonum latifolium</i>			
Common hairstreak	<i>Strymon melinus</i>	cheeseweed <i>Malva parviflora</i> •	. <i>Lotus</i> sp. •	<i>Trifolium</i> sp.-native & non-native •	alfalfa • <i>Medicago sativa</i>
Common white	<i>Pieris protodice</i>	mustard	• <i>Brassica</i>		
Sara orange-tip	<i>Anthoscharis sara</i>	rock cress <i>Arabis</i> spp.	<i>Arabis blepharophylla</i>		

• denotes non-native plant species

[http://www.savenature.org/content/nature\\_academy/guides](http://www.savenature.org/content/nature_academy/guides) Common Bay Area Butterflies 1993. © Leslie Saul-Gershenz, PhD SaveNature.Org

<http://nathistoc.bio.uci.edu/bflyplnt.htm>

<http://butterfly.ucdavis.edu/butterfly/Strymon/melinus> Many species are profiled

<http://sonomamg.ucanr.edu/files/29782.pdf> Pub No. 035-001, Aug 2016

Brown RM and Opler, PA 1967. BIOLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS ON *CALLOPHRYS VIRIDIS* (LYCAENIDAE). J. Lepidopterists' Society, 21 (2): 113-114.

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