

Spring's wild flowers

Head out with **WaitroseGarden** magazine's guide to country lanes, river banks, woodland and meadows and see how many of these flowers you can spot



COW PARSLEY
Anthriscus sylvestris
Look out for a froth of lacy flowers on roadside verges, hedgerows and woodland in May and June.



LILY OF THE VALLEY
Convallaria majalis
These scented May bells love alkaline soil, so are often found in woodland or the cracks of limestone paving.



WOOD ANEMONE
Anemone nemorosa
Keep your eyes peeled for these pretty white flowers in early spring, before the woodland canopy becomes too dense.



GREATER STITCHWORT
Stellaria holostea
Dainty flowers that thrive in hedgerows and grassy banks - listen for the popping of their ripe seedheads in late spring.



CUCKOO FLOWER
Cardamine pratensis
Delicate in colour and form, this native of damp riverbanks, ditches and meadows heralds the start of spring in April.



THRIFT
Armeria maritima
On seaside cliffs, beaches and dunes from April to July, their lilac-pink pincushion flowers are unmistakable.



WILD GARLIC
Allium ursinum
You can smell these star-shaped flowers before you see them, their pungent scent carrying on a warm April breeze.



PRIMROSE
Primula vulgaris
This pale-yellow beauty is among the first flowers to appear in grassland, clearings and hedgerows - as early as December.



COWSLIP
Primula veris
You'll find cowslips in meadows, woodlands and hedgerows in April, if you're lucky - they're increasingly rare.



RED CLOVER
Trifolium pratense
Found on sunny, grassy banks and meadows from late spring to autumn, and popular with bees for its nectar.



RED CAMPION
Silene dioica
A stalwart from May to September, these rose-pink flowers are a fabulous sight on roadsides, and in hedges and woodlands.



SNAKE'S-HEAD FRITILLARY
Fritillaria meleagris
Once common in spring on damp riverbanks and meadows, these graceful chequered flowers are now a rarity.



COLT'S-FOOT
Tussilago farfara
A bright ray of spring, colt's-foot flowers early, usually on disturbed ground, steep slopes and woodland edges.



MARSH MARIGOLD
Caltha palustris
Glossy scalloped leaves and yellow star-like flowers make this a cheery sight in marshes, ditches and damp meadows.



LESSER CELANDINE
Ranunculus ficaria
From February to May, these cheerful yellow flowers brighten up damp woodland and hedgerows.



LUNGWORT
Pulmonaria officinalis
A pretty shade lover with speckled leaves that brightens up hedgerows and woodlands from February to May.



BLUEBELL
Hyacinthoides non-scripta
The native bluebell can cover woodland floors with intense blue in April or May, before the canopy casts too much shade.



BUGLE
Ajuga reptans
The purple-blue flower spikes pop up from a carpet of glossy leaves from April to July, usually in damp grassland.