



Worcestershire Wildlife Trust

Who we are | What we do | How you can help | Nature Reserves | Wildlife | Discover & Learn | What's on

Silver-washed Fritillary *Argynnis paphia*

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Protect local wildlife



Wildlife > Invertebrates > Butterflies and moths > Silver-washed Fritillary



Species information

i **Common name**
Silver-washed Fritillary

Latin name
Argynnis paphia

Category
Invertebrates
Butterflies and moths

Statistics
Wingspan: 6.9-8cm

🌍 Conservation status
Common.

About

The Silver-washed Fritillary is a large, pale orange butterfly, so-named for the silver streaks on its underside. Adults are on the wing throughout the summer from late June to the end of August. They live in large broad-leaved woodlands (especially Oak woodlands), and feed on flowers such as Bramble in sunny glades and rides. The caterpillars feed on violets, particularly Common Dog-violet.

How to identify

The Silver-washed Fritillary is pale orange with an intricate pattern of black spots and lines on the upper wings. The underside of the rear wing is washed lime green and pink, with silvery streaks running across it. Fritillaries are one of the trickier groups of butterflies to identify; the Silver-washed Fritillary can be distinguished from the other large fritillaries by the pattern on its underside. The male also has four, very broad, black stripes across the forewings.

Where to find it

Found in woodlands in southern England.

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Habitats



When to find it



How can people help

The Silver-washed Fritillary suffered declines in the 20th century but has been spreading in recent years. The Wildlife Trusts are working closely with farmers, landowners and developers to promote wildlife-friendly practices that benefit butterflies and other wildlife. We have a vision of a 'Living Landscape': a network of habitats and wildlife corridors across town and country, which are good for both wildlife and people. You can support this greener vision for the future by joining your local Wildlife Trust.

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