

Butterfly family - Satyridae

Painted Lady (*Cynthia cardui*)



Upper Surface



Underside

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When Seen: Please note these dates are variable depending on the weather conditions.

Butterfly: (1) 4th wk Mar–end Oct.

Larvae: (1) 3rd wk Apr – 2nd wk Oct

Pupa: (1) 1st wk Jul – 3rd wk Oct.

Note: A migrant butterfly from North Africa. None, at any stage of development, survive our winter. Both male and female are similar except that the female is larger. They start to arrive at the end of March and quickly spread through the UK to Iceland.

Food Plants:

Larvae: Common Nettle (*Urtica dioica*), Mallows (*Malva* spp.), Thistles (*Cirsium* spp. And *Carduus* spp.), Vipers bugloss (*Echium vulgare*)

Butterfly: Birds foot Trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*), Bugle (*Ajuga reptans*), Carlina Thistle (*Carlina vulgaris*), Hawkweeds (*Hieracium/Hypochoeris*), Heather (*Calluna vulgaris/Erica* spp), Ivy (*Hedera helix*), Knapweeds (*Centaurea* spp.), Privet (*Liqustrum vulgare*), Ragwort(*Seecio jacoaea*) Red Clover (*Trifolium patense*), Thistles (*Cirsium* spp. And *Carduus* spp.)

Habitat: Can be seen everywhere from the sea shore to mountain tops. A very strong flier.

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