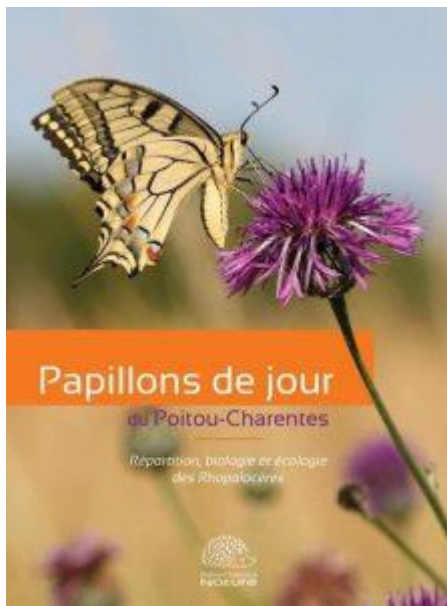


Les Papillons de jour du Poitou-Charentes

This book is one of the most recent in a growing number of butterfly atlases covering different regions of France. The Poitou-Charentes comprises four departments in mid-west France – Vienne, Deux-Sèvres, Charente and Charente-Maritime. It is not the first region that the British butterfly enthusiast thinks of visiting to observe butterflies but there are many expatriots living there and among their friends and relations who visit them, there are no doubt members of the butterfly fraternity who would be interested in the book. In addition, there may well be others stopping over in the region on their way to holidays in the Dordogne, Pyrenees and Spain.



The book is based on surveys comprising 260,000 observations mostly made during the last ten years but includes examination of butterfly collections and records dating back over 150 years. 122 species of butterfly are recorded in the region. Each has been considered in a separate monograph, which includes a distribution map, flight periods, rarity status, habitat types and ecology, complete with many photographs, mostly taken locally by the many contributors that have supplied observations. The text is in French and those with a little of the language may also appreciate chapters on observing and identifying butterflies, the corteges of species, environmental threats and measures of protection. Of particular interest for the visitor, perhaps, is a richly illustrated chapter on 'Promenades naturalistes' indicating key sites in the four departments rich in butterflies and other forms of wildlife.

It is illustrated with more than 300 photographs, and 140 maps.

Sample pages can be viewed on Calmeo, see [here](#)

Price 30€. Further information and details of how to order on the Poitou-Charentes Nature website, see [here](#), or email them at: Poitou-Charentes Nature

Review by Neil Wilding

January 2018