






# BLUE BUTTERFLIES



Use this guide to help tell apart commonly seen UK blue butterflies

## Common Blue *Polyommatus icarus*

Fly May-Oct

<p><b>MALE</b></p>  <p>(c) Charles J Sharp CC BY-SA 4.0</p>	<p><b>FEMALE</b></p>  <p>(c) Charles J Sharp CC BY-SA 4.0</p>	 <p>(c) Steve J McWilliam</p>	
	<p>Pale white fringe</p>	<p>Vary in colouration</p>	<p>White-ringed black spots &amp; Orange spots</p>



## Holly Blue *Celastrina argiolus*

Fly March - Oct

<p><b>MALE</b></p>  <p>(c) Charles J Sharp CC BY-SA 4.0</p>	<p><b>FEMALE</b></p>  <p>(c) gailhampshire CC BY 2.0</p>	 <p>(c) Charles J Sharp CC BY-SA 4.0</p>
<p>Thin black band</p>	<p>Thick black band</p>	<p>Black dots with no white rings, no orange dots</p>

## Small Blue *Cupido minimus*

Fly May-Aug.  
Not currently found in Cheshire

 <p>(c) Zeynel Cebeci CC BY-SA 3.0</p>	<p>Forewing length 8-12mm</p> <p>Male + female same colour</p> <p>White ringed black dots</p> <p>Darker colour than other species</p>	 <p>(c) Charles J Sharp CC BY-SA 4.0</p>
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