



Honeyguide

WILDLIFE HOLIDAYS

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Crete

22 – 29 April 2014

Participants

Andrew and Ruth Lapworth
Anne Adams
Mary Tweddle
Len Tebbutt
Mavis Pilbeam
John Cole

Leader

Tim Strudwick
Report by Tim Strudwick

All the photos in this report were taken during the holiday week,
those bordered in green by Andrew Lapworth and in blue by Tim Strudwick.

Cover compilation clockwise: (1) clouded yellow on *Crupina crupinastrum* (2) griffon vulture
(3) restharrow *Ononis reclinata* (4) Sardinian warbler (5) fountain at Spili (6) *Convolvulus elegantissimus*
(7) Cretan cyclamen (8) Cretan tulip *Tulipa doerfleri* (9 centre) hoverfly on crown daisy.

1, 3, 5, 6 & 9 by Tim, 2, 4, 7 & 8 by Andrew.

Below: Coastal scene at Frangocastello with poppies and oleander.

We stayed at the family-run Hotel Sofia in Plakias, www.sofiahotelplakias.com/index.php.



As with all Honeyguide holidays, £40 of the price of the holiday was put towards a conservation project, in this case for the lammergeier project of the Hellenic Ornithological Society (HOS), which is based in Athens but whose work covers the whole of Greece and its islands. There are 6-7 pairs of lammergeiers on Crete.

The conservation contribution this year of £40 per person was supplemented by gift aid through the Honeyguide Wildlife Charitable Trust. We gave £350 / €415 to HOS president Apostolis Kaltis – see the final day's diary – and there is also a note on page X about his botanical work that brought him to Crete.

This donation brings Honeyguide's total contributions to HOS since the first Honeyguide holiday in Crete in 1995 to £9,285. The total for all conservation contributions through Honeyguide since 1991 was £94,787 to May 2014.

More information about the work to protect bearded vultures – as they prefer to call them in Greece – is on the website of the Hellenic Ornithological Society www.ornithologiki.gr/page_cn.php?aID=907

Daily Diary

22 April – day one – arrival

The group assembled at the departure gate, leaving a cool and rain-swept Gatwick at 7am, and arriving just after midday at Heraklion to sunshine and an unexpected 31°C of heat. After peeling off a few layers and quickly loading the minibus, we were soon heading west along the coast road and taking in the Cretan landscape. The snow-capped peak of Mount Ida was barely visible through the heat haze, but the roadside colours of Spanish broom, oleander and the ubiquitous crown daisies provided an appetiser for the island's floral riches that lay ahead of us. It was hot in the van and it was a relief when we reached our lunch stop at Taverna Synolakis at Bali, high above the rocky north coast. Thin cloud had now taken the heat out of the sun so we opted to sit outside and make the most of the coastal breeze. Soon we were sipping freshly squeezed orange juice and feeling much more comfortable. We tucked into a delicious spread of mixed starters and salad, followed by coffee and complimentary deserts.

Before rejoining the bus, the group stretched legs around the taverna. In the afternoon heat bird activity was limited to sparrows (seemingly Italian and house), the scratchy call of Sardinian warblers from the hillside scrub, a couple of red-rumped swallows and the distant call of bee-eaters from somewhere above. Suddenly the bee-eaters came into view, a flock of 30 milling around for a few minutes before quickly moving on.

Continuing our journey we headed west, then turned south at Rethymnon, and noted a badger (sadly the only likely way to encounter this endemic subspecies) among the numerous beech marten road-kill. Passing through Kourtaliótiko Gorge, we stopped briefly to take in the view. Andrew glimpsed a chukar but there was little else moving in the warm, still afternoon. Arriving at the hotel in Plakias we were greeted warmly by Jeannie and Vagelis at Hotel Sofia and quickly unloaded luggage and settled into our rooms. An hour later we strolled around the corner to Taverna Gorgona. Here our genial hosts made us very welcome and we enjoyed chilled white wine and beer and our second taverna meal of the day!

23 April – day two – Plakias and Kotsiphou

After breakfast we set off in warm sunshine, taking one of the lanes out of the village into the surrounding olive groves. Leaving the village, the group began to take in the array of colour and its components: shrubby thyme, pitch trefoil, large blue alkanet, yellow bartsia, bellardia, yellow spiny star, *Lythrum junceum* (a purple loosestrife) by the bubbling stream and everywhere the tiny blue and red forms of scarlet pimpernel. Under the olive trees, many striking black flowers of dragon arum towered above troops of tassel hyacinth. Broomrapes were frequent but of probably three species only the blue branched broomrape could be named. A southern comma and southern speckled wood briefly posed for photos, but Cleopatra, clouded yellow and many other butterflies frustratingly would not settle. On a rocky bank alongside the track grew the unique Cretan wall lettuce, a fern *Cheilanthes persica*, the tiny endemic blue and white flowers of *Solenopsis minuta* (in great abundance) and clusters of Cretan door snails. With each step revealing a new flower to puzzle over, the morning passed by quickly. Throughout the morning the song of three warblers – the explosive Cetti's warbler, the familiar musical notes of blackcap and chattering Sardinian warblers – were regularly heard, though only the last of these showed itself. With lunchtime looming, we wandered back to the village and jumped into the bus for our pre-arranged lunch stop at the Taverna Panorama in the nearby village of Myrthios. True to its name, the taverna had panoramic views over the coast around Plakias. These we took in, sipping fresh orange juice and dining on a lunch of mixed dishes as the local pair of buzzards displayed below us.

After lunch and a short stroll around the village, we boarded the bus and headed up through the Kotsiphou gorge and the village of Kanevos to a shady woodland of downy oak and cypress. Stepping out of the bus into the cool shade of the trees, with the song of wren, blackcap and blue tit, it felt almost like home.



Roadside botanising.



The tiny iris *Gynandriris monophylla*.

This brief illusion was soon dispelled by the carpet of the endemic Cretan cyclamen on the woodland floor. Andrew spotted a girl bunting in the trees that stayed just long enough for most of the group to see it.

Driving back, we parked the bus and walked slowly down into the gorge. The rocky slopes grew thickly with spiny broom, Greek spiny spurge and spiny burnet. On the road verge, distinctive fruits identified Mediterranean hartwort and *Biscutella*, and caterpillars of the mullein moth helped identify a non-flowering *Verbascum sinuatum*. We found our first orchid – pyramidal – and, best of all, the tiny iris *Gynandris monophylla* flowering in profusion among the road gravel. A succession of griffon vultures cruised low overhead and into the gorge. As we walked on, a Cretan festoon settled on a scabious flower, though not quite long enough for the photographers. Further down we found tree flax growing out of a vertical rock face, Spanish hedge nettle and the near-endemic buttercup *Ranunculus creticus*. To save tired legs, Tim walked back up and retrieved the bus, while the group enjoyed crag martins, ravens and more griffons overhead.

Back in Plakias there was time to explore or relax, and it was warm enough for at least one to swim, before we met up to log the first two days' many sightings. We dined at Taverna Tasomanolis where many of the group opted for fresh fish – dorada, sea bass and sardines. Much of the fish, explained the young lady serving us, was caught by her 78-year old father-in-law, and as if we needed convincing the old man arrived with a fresh catch of still very alive fish just as we left.

24 April – day three – Festos and Ayia Triada

Three of the group joined Tim on a pre-breakfast excursion along the coast to the next village of Damnoni. Here a very brief view of a Balkan terrapin in the stream behind the beach was the dubious highlight, with migrant birds conspicuous by their absence. Mavis explored the beach plants, which included sea medick and the familiar sea spurge, prickly saltwort and sea stock.



Julodis sp.

After breakfast we drove 50 km east, where the mountainous landscape gave way to a plain of irrigated fields, greenhouses and orchards, solving the mystery of where on this dry rocky island the lovely salad we had been eating was grown. A few kilometres beyond the bustling agricultural town of Timbaki, the road climbed abruptly up an escarpment to the Minoan settlement of Festos. It was hot and sunny and while some took the option of exploring the archeological site, others mooched around the café area, enjoying the cool shade of pine trees and watching the buzzards, kestrel and woodlarks hanging on the updraft. After taking refreshments at the café, the group set off west along a back road that wound through scrub and olive groves, cooled by a welcome breeze. Along the roadside, the group explored the rich flora, identifying narrow-leaved bugloss, Cretan houndstongue, shining figwort, dragon arum, bug orchids, and eastern and Bergon's tongue orchids. It was definitely insect weather and butterflies included swallowtail, scarce swallowtail, long-tailed blue and pygmy skipper. Other insects of note included nosed and Egyptian grasshoppers, and an enormous green insect that initially had Tim stumped, but revealed itself to be a bee-mimic jewel beetle (*Julodis* sp.). After a while Tim

walked back to pick up the minibus, and then shuttled the stragglers on to our lunch stop at Ayia Triada while others walked the full 3 km, enjoying the splendour of massed pink flowers of Cretan ebony decorating the roadside banks. Regrouping over our packed lunches, reports were shared of a dark-phase booted eagle, a shrike (which remained unidentified) and pine trees draped in the webs of pine processionary moth.

After lunch we continued downhill, finding more bug, pyramidal and tongue orchids, French lavender, thymelea and the familiar wild mignonette, plus numerous Balkan green lizards. After half an hour, Tim doubled back to pick up the van and met everyone at the bottom of the hill by the now dry Geropotamus river. We drove back west, then turned south near Timbaki to explore some coastal pools. This was new territory for Honeyguide and a couple of wrong turns were taken before finding our destination. We walked through an area of undulating sandy ground full of the usual crested larks and Sardinian warblers and a new bird for the trip – a “zit-zit-ing” fan-tailed warbler. Among insect life, a small copper and long-horned general (a soldierfly) were noted.



Cretan ebony.

As we approached some promising-looking reedy pools, a couple of moorhens scuttled into cover and Anne briefly saw what was most likely a squacco heron, but otherwise waterbirds were strangely absent. On some higher ground, two small birds flew up calling: red-throated pipits but, alas, they did not linger. Down in a distant pool a small group of waders was spotted, and after much scrutiny (and regret at leaving the telescope in the van), greenshank, ruff, wood sandpiper and dunlin were identified. A large number of yellow-legged gulls, loafing on the nearby hillside, suddenly got up into the air as something much larger appeared above the skyline – alas not a raptor but a paraglider. Time was pressing so we boarded the van and drove back to Plakias, reaching the hotel with just enough time to freshen up and review the day's sightings before dinner at Taverna Muses.

25 April – day four – Kourtaliótiko Gorge and Spili

After breakfast we drove the short distance inland to Kourtaliótiko gorge, where some well-maintained steps led down to a chapel and stream, providing a safe way to explore this otherwise inaccessible habitat. Passing down a rocky slope with low shrubs – Jerusalem sage, tree spurge, Greek spiny spurge, shrubby thyme – the group examined the smaller plants growing around the rock steps. These included the endemics *Ricotia cretica* and *Centaurea raphanina* (a spiny knapweed). Past the little chapel, the path reached the stream and levelled out under the shade of storax and oriental plane trees. In the damp shade, *Campanula tuberosa* and *Muscari spreitzenhoferi*, two more Cretan endemics, were in flower. Maidenhair fern carpeted the rock where the stream cascaded down a series of waterfalls, and the song of wren, Cetti's warbler and grey wagtail could just be heard through the noise of water. Out of the solid limestone rock grew rustyback fern, and the delicate *Asperula incana*, on which was a large caterpillar, later identified as hummingbird hawkmoth. Resting at the bottom, a little time was spent scanning the skyline for raptors. Looking almost vertically up, this was hard work, but paid off as among the usual griffons a Bonelli's eagle came into view, soon joined by a second bird, soaring along the clifftops a few hundred feet above us. It was now pretty warm, and the ascent back to the bus was taken slowly.



Kourtaliótiko gorge.

We drove on to the charming small town of Spili where we stopped by the famous fountains, where a Cretan festoon flew by, for a picnic lunch followed by coffee and/or shopping. Near the town car park, nightingale and blackcap could be heard. After lunch, a short drive up into the hills above the town led us to the renowned botanical site of 'Spili Bumps'.



Italian man orchids at 'Spili Bumps'.

As we climbed out of the bus, loose-flowered orchids were immediately evident at the roadside. We followed a track down from the road and more orchids appeared either side: Italian man, man, Anatolian and then the first bee orchids – but which were they? As we look at books and puzzled, a man appeared and asked if we needed some help. He introduced himself – Antonis Alibertis, author of 'The Orchids of Crete and Karpathos'. Antonis pointed out *Ophrys ariadne* and *O. cretica*, and a rare hybrid between sawfly orchid (*Ophrys tenthredinifera*) and bishop's ophrys (*O. episcopalis*) which we had missed, just a few feet from the bus. He also asked if anyone would like to buy his book – he was selling old stock for a bargain 5 euros – and many of the group took advantage. Meanwhile, exploring the bank below the road and in his enthusiasm to see one of these orchids, Len lost his footing and took a tumble which left him hobbling around for the rest of the day. The group moved along the road and up a farm track into an area of cultivated fields. Some fields were full of the shrivelled flower heads of *Tulipa doerfleri* with, sadly, just a few red flowers remaining. Along the waysides and across the fallow fields, corn marigold, white asphodel, Barbary nut, fodder vetch, yellow vetchling and perfoliate alexanders provided a riot of colour, leaving the group reflecting on how the British countryside may once have looked. Reaching an uncultivated rocky 'bump', more orchids were found – four-spotted, Borys, yellow bee, marengo, few-flowered and bishop's ophrys.

The song of woodlarks and corn buntings filled our ears, though with eyes mostly looking down, little attention was given to birds. Heading back towards the bus the familiar outline of griffons vultures appeared overhead, together with ravens and an eagle – an adult golden eagle drifting off to the east.

Len's foot was now causing concern so on arriving back at the hotel a doctor was called and remarkably arrived within 15 minutes. The doctor recommended a visit to hospital in the morning to get the foot x-rayed. For dinner the group returned to Taverna Gorgona.

Ophrys phaidra

This orchid was identified by Tim after careful examination of photographs from 'Spili Bumps'. It is not only a new one for Honeyguide, but is so recently separated as a new species – in 2007 – that it does not appear in any of the Crete floras or standard orchid text books, such as Delforge. It has, however, been published in specialist journals and websites. The *Ophrys* orchids – the bee orchid genus – are always complex and there is some evidence that new species are evolving quickly, but it's mostly that there are orchid specialists who are picking up on subtle differences. This orchid is in the large *Ophrys fusca* sombre bee orchid group, and is close to *Ophrys cressa* and *Ophrys creberrima*, which are more widely known and in the books. Compared with these, *Ophrys phaidra* is tall, late-flowering and looks like an *Ophrys creberrima* with a flatter lip. More information, including on the distinguishing features, on http://www.greekorchids.gr/ophrys_phaidra_new.htm



26 April – day five – Plakias and Moni Préveli

With a minor reshuffle of the itinerary, most of the group enjoyed a relaxed morning around Plakias while Len and Tim took an early morning trip to Rethymnon Hospital, where an x-ray showed a broken bone in Len's foot. Arriving back in Plakias late morning, poor Len was grounded for the rest of the day. After lunch, the rest of the group drove a little way east to Préveli, and parked up by the 'Turkish bridge' over the Préveli river. Before leaving the bus, Andrew had spotted a wood sandpiper a few feet away at the river's edge, which surprisingly stayed put as we got out. Cretan marsh frogs called all around but somehow could not be seen. Some of the group got into conversation with a Danish entomologist who was collecting small beetles – most probably endemic species, he explained – from the river gravel. We ambled alongside the river where, in the heat of the afternoon, the shade of trees was welcome. Ruth spotted a freshwater crab basking at the river's edge and a little farther on several Cretan Marsh frogs posed in full view in the shallow water. Looking up, Andrew spotted some raptors around a cloud-capped mountain to the east. There were several griffons, but one bird drifting across the slopes looked a different shape – a lammergeier! It was soon lost against the slopes but a second individual, or possibly the same bird again, appeared against the sky. Back at the bridge, a powder blue southern skimmer dragonfly showed well as we re-boarded the bus.



Woodlark.

We drove on to Moni Préveli where a comfort stop at the café was called for. After ice creams and coffee and a poke around the monastery, the group reassembled in the car park, where we bumped into another entomologist (French) who was collecting the flower chafer we recognised as *Oxythyrea funesta*, but is apparently four species! We strolled down a track through the fields below the monastery to a clump of trees, usually a productive spot for migrants, but this yielded just one each of spotted flycatcher and wood warbler. Woodlarks and a few black-eared wheatears sang on the open hillsides and showed themselves briefly. The familiar gate decorated with goat skulls had a recent addition – a very fresh one with putrid flesh. Driving back along the coast, we stopped at the poignant memorial to the monks who lost their lives for helping allied servicemen escape the island in WW2.

Before dinner, Len visited the local doctor who reassured him that his foot required no treatment other than painkillers and rest, though sadly this meant missing out on the last two days' excursions, but not dinner which was at Taverna Korali.

27 April – day six – Agia Lake and Omalos Plateau

After breakfast, with Len confined to Plakias on doctor's orders, the rest of the group set out on the long drive to the north-east. A change to the so far glorious weather had been forecast, and as we arrived at Agia Lake the sky darkened and rain started to fall. The group huddled under the shelter of a conveniently placed building and scanned through the abundant birdlife. A whiskered tern hawked over the water. On the water were coots, moorhens, little grebes and a mute swan, and several squacco herons, wood sandpipers, ruff and dunlin. A little stint tip-toed across the floating mat of water weed. Balkan terrapins pushed through the weed and a cloud of swallows and martins (house, sand, crag) fed low over the water. As a thunderstorm passed close by, the rain fell harder and the light was dismal and some of the group sought the comfort of the nearby café. As the rain eased off and the light improved, Tim noticed a little bittern in a clump of reedmace and then Andrew picked up on a male little crane nearby. When the rain stopped, more extensive exploration of the causeway overlooking the lake revealed four or five little crakes, black-headed and grey wagtail, sedge and great reed warblers and a very co-operative black-winged stilt. A strange deep booming call was traced back to a party of American bullfrogs in the shallows.



Squacco heron, little bittern and black-winged stilt at Agia Lake.

But it was soon time to move on to Lefka Ori, the white mountains, so we rejoined the road and after a long, spectacular winding climb through oak and cypress forest we pulled off the road just before reaching Omalos Plateau. As we ate our lunch a black-eared wheatear sang from a treetop above our heads and linnets twittered all around. Among the cypress trees and Kermes oak, sculpted by sheep and goats into remarkable shapes, the botanists found Cretan cyclamen and *Daphne sericea* in flower and, in the deep shade, some impressive hailstones remaining from the earlier storm. A woodlark sang overhead and landed on some wires, providing the best views of the trip. As we drove down to and across the plateau there was, surprisingly, a little snow on the roadsides. Looking across the landscape of cultivated field and orchards, northern wheatears seemed to be everywhere, and a few local people could be seen collecting *horta* or 'mountain greens'. We soon came to the head of Samaria Gorge and parked up by a patch of the endemic *Berberis cretica*. We slowly walked up the slope to the café, noting *Ophrys phryganae*, aubretia, one-flowered clover and two very local endemics: Cretan mouse-ear, flowering in abundance, and what must have been the rare *Helichrysum heldreichii*, though not in flower, close to the café. Overhead, red-billed choughs called and a few griffons drifted, but only Andrew glimpsed the prize of a lammergeier at eye level in the gorge shortly before we left.

Following a slip earlier in the day, Mary's ankle had become very painful, so on the way back to Plakias we stopped off at Rethymnon hospital to get it checked out. Mavis volunteered to stay with Mary while she waited to see a doctor and the rest of the group headed back to Plakias for dinner at Taverna Scirocco. After dinner we found Mavis and Mary back (by taxi) with good news and bad news – no broken bones, but a sprained ankle meaning Mary would join Len confined to Plakias for the final day.

28 April – day seven – Souda and Frangocastello

A pre-breakfast excursion to the east of the village produced one fly-over yellow wagtail, but otherwise was unremarkable. After breakfast, minus Mary and Len, the group drove west a few kilometres along the coast road to Souda. Here we spent a few minutes exploring alongside a roadside grove of the near endemic Cretan date palm. A butterfly landed on a parked lorry and was photographed and later identified as the endemic Cretan grayling. A bird on a distant bush proved to be a woodchat shrike, though attempts to get closer were unsuccessful.

Back on the bus, we took the winding road up to the village of Sellia, then drove on west. After half an hour the road descended to a wide and largely cultivated plain, where we parked in the shade of the walls of the 13th century castle. After a quick comfort break, we walked east along the clifftop track, scanning across the coastal fields and scrub. It was soon apparent that, despite the previous day's cloud and rain, the hoped for influx of migrants had not occurred, and the only birds to be seen were a few resident Italian sparrows, stonechats, chaffinch and Sardinian warblers. The earlier cloud had gone and it was warm and sunny again, and clouded yellows, common blues and more Cretan graylings fought the breeze along the clifftop.



Cliff-top house at Frangocastello.

Two mulleins were almost (*Verbascum sinuatum*) or completely (*V. macrurum*) in flower, and an enormous stand of *Ballota pseudodictamnus* and a delicate pink restharrow, *Ononis reclinata*, which John found by a walled cemetery, were additions to the trip plant list. Back at the castle it was time for a picnic lunch, with options to explore inside the castle and buy ice creams and drinks at the nearby taverna. After lunch the group walked down to the beach where Tim was disappointed to find some unwelcome developments: the small stream that had on previous trips flowed across the beach was not just dry but infilled, with the adjacent 'wetland' looking very parched and the vegetated dunes evidently levelled by a bulldozer. Nevertheless, tiger beetles still frequented the sandy path, some 'in tandem', and posed for photographs.

On the way back to Plakias we stopped to take in the view and for a bit of birding. The song of corn buntings, woodlarks and stonechats drifted across the green hillside. Andrew picked up something else on a distant bush, and through the 'scope it proved to be a female ortolan bunting – a new bird for some in the group. A male soon appeared nearby, then frustratingly dropped out of sight, but reappeared and flew closer, singing on top of a large boulder for several minutes. It was now late afternoon so we drove back at Plakias with a little time to spare for some last minute shopping and a head start on packing.

After our final round-up of the last two days' sightings we returned for our third meal at the popular Taverna Gorgona. After dinner, over the traditional complimentary deserts and raki, in the great Honeyguide tradition we each shared individual highlights of the trip:

- John The natural rock garden of Kourtaliótiko Gorge.
- Andrew The walk from Festos to Ayia Triada, the flowerscape, views, with smell of herbs.
- Ruth The walk from Festos to Ayia Triada, Spili Bumps.
- Anne Her first ortolan, the landscape, watching insects with binoculars and the warmth of Greek people.
- Mary Scenery, warmth, flowers, gorge, close views of swallowtail.
- Len Going down into Kourtaliótiko (getting to the bottom and back) and the people in the group.
- Mavis Small irises, Barbary nuts; 8 griffon vultures low overhead at Kotsiphou, flowers en masse.
- Tim The abundance and variety of butterflies, the spectacular flora in general and the orchids at Spili in particular – all the more enjoyable for our meeting with orchid expert Antonis Alibertis.

29 April – day eight – Heraklion airport and home

We awoke to another fine, warm day, and after breakfast bags were loaded into the van and we bade farewell to the Hotel Sofia team. After an uneventful journey north then east to Heraklion we reached the airport, dropped off baggage and collected a couple of wheelchairs for the injured parties. After a bite of lunch and coffee we met with Apostolis Kaltis, President of HOS and a professional botanist at the University of Athens. Receiving the donation from Honeyguide, he thanked the group and explained how wildlife tourism helps generate local support for conservation on Crete by demonstrating the economic value of wildlife.

Soon we were on the flight back to Gatwick and homewards, with memories to cherish, photographs to sort and, for some, wounds to heal. Every holiday in Crete is different and this one was remarkable for the warm, calm weather which was much enjoyed by the Honeyguiders but did not encourage migrant birds to take a break on their journey north. In the absence of numbers of migrants, some very special birds, the volume and diversity of flowers, abundance of insect life and unfailingly impressive Cretan landscape ensured an unforgettable experience for all.

Monitoring Crete's rare flowers

Apostolis Kaltis, who met the group at the airport, is both President of HOS and a professional botanist at the University of Athens. After the holiday he sent information about his work on Crete.

Crete has many endemic plants, and for a few of these the Greek government has to monitor them in accordance with European law. Apostolis was in Crete doing the fieldwork for the University's Department of Botany. The species under scrutiny were the annual daisy *Anthemis glaberrima*, the small annual composite *Crepis pusilla*, the pink *Silene holzmannii* and dittany, *Origanum dictamnus*, known in Greek as diktamos. There is more information about this on the news pages of www.honeyguide.co.uk

SYSTEMATIC LISTS

BIRDS

Little grebe	Several on Ayia Reservoir
Shag	1 on rocks at Plakias on 4 dates
Little bittern	A male and female at Ayia Reservoir
Squacco heron	3-4 at Ayia Reservoir
Little egret	1 at Ayia Reservoir
Grey heron	1 at Ayia Reservoir
White stork	Three flying west near Ayia Triada
Mute swan	One at Agia Lake
Honey buzzard	1-2 at Agia Lake
Lammergeier	1 or 2 at Préveli; 1 at Samaria Gorge
Griffon vulture	Small numbers seen regularly over hills
Buzzard	Common and widespread
Golden eagle	1 adult over Spili Bumps
Booted eagle	1 dark-phase bird at Ayia Triada
Bonelli's eagle	Two at Kourtaliótiko Gorge
Kestrel	Common and widespread
Chukar	Heard calling at Kourtaliótiko Gorge and Spili
Water rail	One at Agia Lake
Little crane	4 or 5 males at Ayia Reservoir
Moorhen	several at Ayia Reservoir
Coot	many at Ayia Reservoir
Black-winged stilt	1 at Ayia Reservoir
Little ringed plover	1 at Plakias on two dates
Little stint	1 or 2 at Ayia reservoir
Dunlin	2 at Kalamaki Pools
Ruff	Singles at Kalamaki Pools and Agia Lake
Snipe	2 or 3 at Agia Lake
Wood sandpiper	Up to 7 daily at Plakias; 8 at Omalos; also at Damnoni, Souda and Ayia Reservoir
Common sandpiper	2-3 birds seen regularly around Plakias, especially at the river mouth; singles at Ayia Triada and Ayia Reservoir
Greenshank	1 at Kalamaki Pools
Whiskered tern	1 at Agia Lake
Yellow-legged gull	Common and widespread; c.300 near Kalamaki Pools
Rock dove	Apparently wild birds in the gorges; feral pigeons everywhere
Collared dove	Common in towns and villages
Turtle dove	Singles on three dates
Cuckoo	A hepatic female at Omalos
Swift	Small numbers at Rethymnon and Agia Lake
Alpine swift	A few seen most days
Bee-eater	A flock of 30 at Bali and heard at Ayia Lake and Plakias.
Crested lark	Common and widespread
Woodlark	Spili, Moní Préveli and Omalos
Sand martin	Small numbers along the south coast and at Ayia Reservoir
Crag martin	In the gorges, coastal cliffs and at Ayia Reservoir
Swallow	Small numbers passing through daily
Red-rumped swallow	1-2 at Plakias, d 4 birds at Moní Préveli; one heard over Plakias
House martin	A few in villages and at Agia Lake
Tree pipit	One at Agia Lake
Red-throated pipit	2 at Kalamaki Pools
Grey wagtail	At Kourtaliótiko Gorge and Agia Lake
Yellow wagtail	1 black-headed at Ayia Reservoir; occasional unspecified flyovers at Plakias and elsewhere
Wren	Small numbers in the gorges and mountains
Nightingale	Singing at Spili and near Plakias
Stonechat	small numbers in most places
Northern wheatear	Around 50 on Omalos Plateau
Black-eared wheatear	Kourtaliótiko Gorge, Préveli and Omalos
Blue rock thrush	In Kourtaliótiko Gorge
Blackbird	Common and widespread

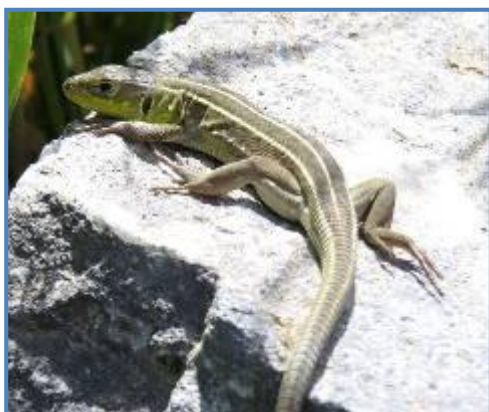
Cetti's warbler	Heard widely near water or dry watercourses
Fan-tailed warbler	2 or 3 singing at Kalamaki Pools
Sedge warbler	2 or 3 at Agia Lake
Reed warbler	1 singing at Agia Lake
Great reed warbler	4 or 5 at Agia Lake
Sardinian warbler	Common and widespread
Blackcap	Small numbers seen and heard in several places
Wood warbler	One at Moní Préveli
Spotted flycatcher	Singles at Moni Préveli and Agia Lake
Blue tit	Common and widespread
Great tit	Common and widespread
Woodchat shrike	One at Souda
Red-billed chough	4 at Samaria Gorge
Jackdaw	A few in the gorges and at Omalos
Hooded crow	Very common and widespread
Raven	Widespread in small numbers throughout
Jay	Singles at Kanevos and Omalos
Italian sparrow	Common and widespread, though males variable in appearance and some possibly intergrades with house sparrow
House sparrow	A male at the Synolakis Taverna looked very like this species
Chaffinch	Common and widespread
Greenfinch	Common and widespread
Goldfinch	Common and widespread
Serin	1 singing at the roadside south of Rethymnon
Linnet	A few birds on several days, especially at high altitude
Cirl bunting	Spili Bumps, Moní Préveli and Omalos
Ortolan bunting	A male in song and female by the road W of Sellia
Corn bunting	Common on coastal slopes and on higher ground

MAMMALS

Eastern hedgehog	At least 2 road casualties
Weasel	1 road casualty
Badger	2 road casualties
Beech marten	Numerous road casualties

REPTILES

Balkan (Stripe-necked) terrapin	One at Damnoni and several at Ayia Reservoir
Balkan green lizard	Plakias, Festos, Spili and various roadside spots
Erhard's wall lizard	One at Frangocastello Castle



Balkan green lizard.



Erhard's wall lizard.

AMPHIBIANS

Cretan marsh frog	Several seen calling and mating at Préveli River; also heard at Kourtaliótiko Gorge and Damnoni.
American bullfrog	Several in song at Agia Lake

BUTTERFLIES

Swallowtail	Seen daily in small numbers
Scarce swallowtail	Seen at Spili, Agia Triada
Cretan festoon	Seen daily in small numbers
Cleopatra	At Plakias
Large white	Seen daily
Small white	At Plakias
Eastern dappled white	At Frangocastello
Clouded yellow	Seen daily
Southern comma (<i>top right</i>)	At Plakias and Spili
Painted lady	Seen daily
Red admiral	At Spili
Meadow brown	At Plakias
Oriental meadow brown	1 photographed at Frangocastello
Cretan grayling	At Souda and Frangocastello
Southern speckled wood	Seen daily
Wall brown	At Spili and Bali.
Small copper	At Kalamaki Pools
Long-tailed blue	At Agia Triada
Common Blue	At Frangocastello
Holly blue	Seen daily
Small skipper	Seen daily
Pigmy skipper (<i>bottom right</i>)	At Ayia Triada



MOTHS (all caterpillars)

Hummingbird hawk-moth
Mullein moth
Pine processionary moth

Kourtalitiko Gorge
Kotsiphou Gorge
Agia Triada



Hummingbird hawk-moth
larva on the endemic
Asperula incana.



Bombus terrestris
on *galactites*.



Nomada femoralis
on crown daisy.

BEEES

Apis mellifera
Bombus terrestris
Bombus ruderatus
Chalicodoma (Megachile) sicula
Andrena fuscosa
Amegilla quadrifasciatus
Osmia signata
Osmia latreilli
Dioxys cinctus
Nomada femoralis
Xylocopa iris
Xylocopa violacea

Honeybee
Buff-tailed bumblebee (but white-tailed in Crete!)
Large garden bumblebee
a mason bee
a mining bee
a flower bee
a mason bee
a mason bee
a cuckoo bee
a cuckoo bee
a carpenter bee
Violet carpenter bee

WASPS

<i>Vespa germanica</i>	German wasp
<i>Polistes gallicum</i>	a paper wasp
<i>Megascolia flavifrons (maculata)</i>	a mammoth wasp
<i>Podalonia hirsuta</i>	a sand-wasp
<i>Sapyga quinquepunctata</i>	a sapygid wasp
<i>Sphex funerarius</i>	a sand wasp

ANTS

<i>Messor barbarus</i>	harvester ant
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FLIES

<i>Lomatia sp.</i>	a bee fly
<i>Machimus sp.</i>	a robber fly
<i>Episyrphus balteatus</i>	marmalade hoverfly
<i>Stratiomys longicornis</i>	Long-horned general (a soldierfly)

BUGS

<i>Graphosoma italicum</i>	"millwall bug"
<i>Spilostethus (Lygaeus) pandurus</i>	a black and red ground bug
<i>Aquarius najas</i>	large pondskater

BEETLES

<i>Trichodes apiarius</i>	a chequered beetle
<i>Tropinota hirta</i>	a chafer
<i>Oxythyrea funesta</i>	a black-and-white flower chafer
<i>Julodis onoporda</i>	a large Buprestid beetle
<i>Cicindela littoralis</i>	a tiger beetle
<i>Coccinella 7-punctata</i>	Seven-spotted ladybird

ODONATA

<i>Orthetrum brunneum</i>	Brown Skimmer
<i>Crocothemis erythraea</i>	Scarlet Darter
<i>Ischnura elegans</i>	Blue-tailed Damselfly

ORTHOPTERA

<i>Cicada sp.</i>	a cicada
<i>Ephippiger sp.</i>	a bush-cricket
<i>Decticus sp.</i>	a wart-biter bush-cricket
<i>Anacridium aegyptium</i>	Egyptian grasshopper
<i>Acrida ungarica/A.turrita</i>	Nosed grasshopper

OTHER INVERTEBRATES

<i>Potamon potamios</i>	Freshwater crab
<i>Albinaria (corrugata) inflata</i>	Cretan door snail

SPIDERS

<i>Philaeus chrysops</i>	red jumping-spider
<i>Micromata virescens</i>	a large green spider
<i>Thomisus onustus</i>	a crab spider



←
Bush cricket



→
Cicada



←
Tiger beetles



→
Ground bug

PLANTS

Key and nomenclature

Latin names of plants follows those used in *Flora of the Cretan Area* (Turland et al 1993),
with additions from *Mediterranean Wild Flowers* (Blamey & Grey-Wilson 1993).
Also used as references: *The Orchids of Crete and Karpathos* by Albertis Antonis (a photoguide);
Wild Flowers of Crete by George Sfikas; *Flowers of Crete* by J Fielding & N Turland;
and *Wild Flowers of Crete* by Vangelis Papiomitoglou.
* Endemic to Crete P Planted NiF not in flower
Introduced and not native to Crete and cultivated or planted species

FERNS AND ALLIES

<i>Adiantum capillus-veneris</i>	Maidenhair Fern
<i>Ceterach officinarum</i>	Rustyback Fern
<i>Cheilanthes persica</i>	
<i>Equisetum ramosissimum</i>	a horsetail
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Bracken
<i>Selaginella denticulata</i>	Mediterranean Club-moss

CONIFERS

<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>	Cypress
<i>C. sempervirens</i> var. <i>pyramidalis</i>	Funeral Cypress
Pinaceae – Pine Family	
# <i>Araucaria araucana</i>	Norfolk Island pine
<i>Pinus brutia</i>	Calabrian pine
# <i>Pinus pinea</i>	Stone pine

FLOWERING PLANTS – Dicotyledons

Aceraceae – Maple Family	
<i>Acer sempervirens</i>	
Aizoaceae – Aizoon Family	
# <i>Carpobrotus edulis</i>	Hottentot Fig
Anacardiaceae – Pistacio Family	
<i>Pistacia lentiscus</i>	Mastic tree or lentisc
Apiaceae (=Umbelliferae)– Carrot Family	
<i>Apium nodiflorum</i>	Fool's watercress
<i>Anthriscus caucalis</i>	Bur chervil
<i>Daucus carota</i>	Wild Carrot
<i>Eryngium campestre</i>	Field Eryngo
<i>Ferula communis</i> ssp. <i>communis</i>	Giant Fennel
<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	Fennel
<i>Oenanthe pimpinelloides</i>	Corky-fruited water dropwort
<i>Scandix pecten-veneris</i>	Shepherd's needle
<i>Smyrniolum olusatrum</i>	Alexanders
<i>Smyrniolum perfoliatum</i> ssp. <i>rotundifolium</i>	Perfoliate Alexanders
<i>Tordylium apulum</i>	Mediterranean Hartwort (equally 2-lobed petals)
Asteraceae (=Compositae) – Daisy Family	
<i>Anthemis chia</i>	
<i>Bellis annua</i>	Annual Daisy
<i>Calendula arvensis</i>	Field Marigold
* <i>Centaurea raphanina</i>	
<i>Chrysanthemum coronarium</i> var. <i>coronarium</i> (now <i>Glebionis coronaria</i>)	
<i>Chrysanthemum coronarium</i> var. <i>discolor</i>	Crown Daisy
<i>Chrysanthemum segetum</i>	Corn Marigold
<i>Cichorium intybus</i>	Chicory
<i>Crupina crupinastrum</i>	Crupina
<i>Dittrichia viscosa</i>	Aromatic inula
<i>Filago (Evax) pygmaea</i>	Evax
<i>Filago pyramidata</i>	Broad-leaved Cudweed
<i>Galactites tomentosa</i>	Mediterranean Thistle
<i>Helichrysum (stoechas</i> ssp.) <i>barrelieri</i>	Curry-plant
<i>Helichrysum conglobatum</i>	a curry-plant without scent
* <i>Helichrysum heldreichii</i>	
* <i>Onopordum bracteatum</i> ssp. <i>creticum</i>	
<i>Onopordum tauricum</i>	
<i>Pallenis (Asteriscus) spinosus</i>	Spiny golden star
<i>Phagnalon graecum</i>	Shrubby Cudweed

<i>Ptilostemon chamaepeuce</i>	
<i>Scorzonera cretica</i>	Cretan Viper's-grass
<i>Silybum marianum</i>	Milk Thistle
<i>Tragopogon sinuatus (porrifolius)</i>	Salsify
Apocynaceae – Oleander Family	
<i>Nerium oleander ssp. oleander</i>	Oleander
Berberidaceae – Barberry Family	
<i>Berberis cretica</i>	
Boraginaceae – Borage Family	
<i>Anchusa italica (azurea)</i>	Large Blue Alkanet
<i>Cerinthemajor</i>	Honeywort
<i>Cynoglossum creticum</i>	Blue Hound's-tongue
<i>Echium angustifolium</i>	Narrow-leaved Bugloss
<i>Echium italicum</i>	Pale Bugloss
<i>Echium plantagineum</i>	Purple Viper's-bugloss
Cactaceae – Cactus Family	
# <i>Opuntia ficus-barbarica (O.ficus-indica)</i>	Prickly Pear
Campanulaceae – Bellflower Family	
<i>Campanula erinus</i>	
* <i>Campanula tubulosa</i>	
* <i>Petromarula pinnata</i>	Cretan Wall Lettuce
* <i>Solenopsis minuta ssp. annua</i>	
Caprifoliaceae – Honeysuckle Family	
<i>Lonicera etrusca</i>	Honeysuckle
Caryophyllaceae – Pink Family	
* <i>Cerastium scaposum</i>	Cretan mouse-ear
<i>Silene bellidifolia</i>	
<i>Silene colorata</i>	Mediterranean catchfly
<i>Silene gallica</i>	Small-flowered Catchfly
<i>Silene bellidifolia</i>	Bladder campion
Chenopodiaceae	
<i>Chenopodium murale</i>	Nettle-leaved goosefoot
<i>Salsola kali</i>	Prickly saltwort
Cistaceae – Rockrose Family	
<i>Cistus (incanus ssp.) creticus</i>	Cretan Cistus
<i>Cistus parviflorus</i>	Small-Leaved Cistus
<i>Cistus salvifolius</i>	Sage-Leaved Cistus
<i>Fumana thymifolia</i>	Thyme-leaved Fumana
Convolvulaceae – Bindweed Family	
<i>Convolvulus althaeoides</i>	Mallow-leaved Bindweed
<i>Convolvulus elegantissimus</i>	
<i>Cuscuta epithymum</i>	Dodder
Crassulaceae – Stonecrop Family	
<i>Umbilicus horizontalis</i>	Navelwort / wall pennywort
Cruciferae (=Brassicaceae) – Cabbage Family	
<i>Aubrieta deltoidea</i>	Aubrieta
<i>Biscutella didyma</i>	Buckler Mustard
<i>Cakile maritima</i>	Sea-rocket
<i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i>	Shepherd's-purse
<i>Matthiola tricuspidata</i>	Three-horned Stock
<i>Nasturtium officinale</i>	Water-cress
<i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i>	Wild radish
* <i>Ricotia cretica</i>	Ricotia
<i>Sinapis alba</i>	White mustard
Cucurbitaceae – Cucumber Family	
<i>Ecballium elaterium</i>	Squirting cucumber
<i>Bryonia cretica ssp. cretica</i>	Cretan white bryony
Dipsacaceae – Scabious Family	
<i>Scabiosa maritima</i>	Mournful widow
Dioscoraceae – Yam Family	
<i>Tamus communis</i>	Black Bryony
Ericaceae – Heather Family	
<i>Erica arborea</i>	Tree-heath
Euphorbiaceae – Spurge Family	
<i>Euphorbia acanthothamnus</i>	Greek Spiny Spurge

Euphorbia characias
Euphorbia dendroides
Euphorbia helioscopia
Euphorbia paralias
 # *Ricinus communis*
Mercurialis annua

Fabaceae (=Leguminosa) – Pea Family

Acacia cyanophylla
Anagyris foetida
Anthyllus vulneraria ssp. *praepropera* (= *rubriflora*)
Bituminaria (Psoralea) bituminosa
Calicotome villosa
 # *Cercis siliquastrum*
Ceratonia siliqua
 * *Ebenus cretica*
Lathyrus aphaca
Lupinus micranthus
Medicago arabica
Medicago orbicularis
Onobrychis caput-galli
Ononis reclinata
Robinia pseudoacacia
Spartium junceum
Tetragonolobus purpureus
Tetragonolobus campestre
Tetragonolobus nigrescens
Tetragonolobus resupinatum
Tetragonolobus stellatum
Tetragonolobus tomentosum
Tetragonolobus uniflorum
Tripodion (Anthyllis) tetraphyllum
Vicia bithynica
Vicia hirsuta
Vicia sativa
Vicia villosa

Fagaceae – Oak Family

Quercus coccifera
Quercus ilex

The following are deciduous oaks on Crete, both doubtfully native:

Quercus pubescens
Quercus ithaburensis ssp. *macrolepis*

Fumariaceae – Fumitory Family

Fumaria macrocarpa

Gentianaceae – Gentian Family

Blackstonia perfoliata

Geraniaceae – Geranium Family

Erodium cicutarium
Erodium malacoides
Geranium dissectum
Geranium purpureum
Geranium rotundifolium

Lamiaceae (=Labiatae) – Mint Family

Ballota pseudodictamnus
Coridothymus (Thymus) capitatus
Lavandula stoechas P
Phlomis fruticosa
Prasium majus
Salvia fruticosa (formerly *S. triloba*)
Salvia verbenacea

Linaceae – Flax Family

Linum arboreum
Linum bienne

Lythracea – Loosestrife Family

Lythrum junceum

Malvaceae – Mallow Family

Mediterranean Spurge
 Tree Spurge
 Sun Spurge
 Sea Spurge
 Castor Oil Plant
 Annual Mercury

Mimosa / blue-leaved wattle
 Bean trefoil
 Red (Mediterranean) Kidney Vetch
 Pitch Trefoil
 Hairy Thorny Broom
 Judas Tree
 Carob Tree
 Shrubby Sainfoin (Cretan Ebony)
 Yellow vetchling
 Hairy Lupin
 Spotted Medick
 Large Disk Medick
 Cock's-comb Sainfoin
 Small Rest-harrow
 False acacia
 Spanish Broom
 Asparagus Pea
 Hop Trefoil
 a common annual white clover
 Reversed Clover
 Starry Clover
 Woolly Trefoil
 One-Flowered Clover
 Bladder Vetch
 Bithynian Vetch (two-tone purple & white)
 Hairy tare
 Common vetch
 Fodder Vetch

Kermes Oak
 Holm or evergreen oak
 Downy oak
 Valonia oak; acorn cups with long, spreading scales

Yellow-wort

Common Storksbill
 Mallow-leaved Storksbill
 Cut-leaved Cranesbill
 Little Robin
 Round-leaved Cranesbill

Shrubby Thyme
 French Lavender
 Jerusalem Sage
 Spanish hedge-nettle
 Shrubby or 3-leaved Sage
 Wild clary

Tree Flax
 Pale Flax

<i>Lavateracretica</i>	Lesser Tree Mallow
<i>Malva parviflora</i>	Small-flowered Mallow
<i>Malva sylvestris</i>	Common Mallow
Moraceae – Fig Family	
<i>Ficus carica</i>	Fig
# <i>Morus alba</i>	White Mulberry
Myrtaceae – Myrtle Family	
<i>Myrtus communis</i> ssp. <i>communis</i>	Common Myrtle
Oleaceae – Olive Family	
<i>Olea europaea</i>	Olive
Orobanchaceae – Broomrape Family	
<i>Orobanche ramosa</i>	Branched broomrape
<i>Orobanche crenata</i>	Bean broomrape
Oxalidaceae – Sorrel Family	
<i>Oxalis corniculata</i>	Yellow oxalis
# <i>Oxalis pes-caprae</i>	Bermuda buttercup
Papaveraceae – Poppy Family	
<i>Glaucium flavum</i>	Yellow Horned–poppy
<i>Glaucium corniculatum</i>	Red–horned poppy
<i>Papaver argemone</i> ssp. <i>nigrotinctum</i>	
<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>	Common Poppy
Plantaginaceae – Plantain Family	
<i>Plantago coronopus</i>	Buckshorn plantain
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort Plantain
<i>Plantago lagopus</i>	
Platanaceae – Plane Tree Family	
<i>Platanus orientalis</i>	Oriental Plane
Polygalaceae – Milkwort Family	
<i>Polygala venulosa</i>	Eastern milkwort
Polygonaceae – Dock Family	
<i>Chenopodium murale</i>	Nettle-leaved goosfoot
Primulaceae – Primrose Family	
<i>Anagallis arvensis</i>	Scarlet pimpernel (Scarlet and blue forms)
* <i>Cyclamen creticum</i>	Cretan cyclamen
Ranunculaceae – Buttercup Family	
<i>Anemone coronaria</i>	Crown Anemone
<i>Ranunculus asiaticus</i>	Turban buttercup
<i>Ranunculus creticus</i>	
<i>Ranunculus peltatus</i> ssp. <i>fucoides</i>	Pond water–crowfoot
Resedaceae – Mignonette Family	
<i>Reseda alba</i>	White mignonette
<i>Reseda lutea</i>	Wild mignonette
Rosaceae – Rose Family	
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i> ssp. <i>azarella</i>	Hawthorn
# <i>Eriobotrya japonica</i>	Loquat
<i>Pyrus spinosa</i>	Almond-leaved or Wild Pear
<i>Rubus sanctus</i>	Bramble
<i>Sarcopoterium spinosum</i>	Thorny Burnet
Rubiaceae – Bedstraw Family	
* <i>Asperula pubescens</i> (<i>A. incana</i>)	showy, pale pink, on calcareous cliffs
<i>Galium aparine</i>	Cleavers
<i>Rubia peregrina</i>	Wild Madder
<i>Sherardia arvensis</i>	Field Madder
Rutaceae – Rue Family	
# <i>Citrus limon</i>	Lemon
# <i>Citrus sinensis</i>	Orange
<i>Ruta chalepensis</i>	Rue
Scrophulariaceae – Figwort Family	
<i>Bellardia trixago</i>	Bellardia
<i>Cymbalaria muralis</i>	Ivy-leaved toadflax
<i>Parentucellia latifolia</i>	Southern red bartsia
<i>Parentucellia viscosa</i>	Yellow Bartsia
<i>Scrophularia lucida</i>	Shining Figwort
<i>Verbascum macrurum</i>	
<i>Verbascum sinuatum</i>	

<i>Veronica anagallis-aquatica</i>	Water speedwell
<i>Veronica cymbalaria</i>	Cymbalaria-leaved speedwell
Solanaceae – Nightshade Family	
# <i>Nicotiana glauca</i>	Tree tobacco
<i>Hyoscyamus albus</i>	white henbane
<i>Hyoscyamus aureus</i>	yellow henbane
Styracaceae – Storax Family	
<i>Styrax officinalis</i>	Storax
Tamaricaceae – Tamarix Family	
# <i>Tamarix smyrnensis</i>	Tamarisk
Thymelaeaceae – Daphne Family	
<i>Thymelaea hirsuta</i>	Thymelea
Ulmaceae – Elm Family	
<i>Zelcova abelicea</i>	Zelcova, or ambelitsiá
Urticaceae – Nettle Family	
<i>Parietaria judaica</i>	Pellitory of the wall
<i>Urtica pilulifera</i>	Roman nettle
Valerianaceae – Valerian Family	
* <i>Valeriana asarifolia</i>	Cretan Valerian
Verbenaceae – Verbena Family	
<i>Verbena officinalis</i>	Vervain
Vitaceae – Vine Family	
<i>Vitus vinifera</i>	Grape Vine
Monocotyledons	
Agavaceae – Agave Family	
# <i>Agave americana</i>	Century Plant
Amaryllidaceae – Daffodil Family	
<i>Pancratium maritimum</i> NiF	Sea Daffodil (leaves only)
Araceae – Arum Family	
<i>Arisarum vulgare</i>	Friar's Cowl
<i>Arum concinatum</i>	
* <i>Arum.idaeum</i>	Cretan Arum
<i>Dracunculus vulgaris</i>	Dragon Arum
Arecaceae – Palm Family	
<i>Phoenix canariensis</i>	Canary Date Palm
<i>P. theophrasti</i>	Cretan Palm
Cyperaceae – Sedge Family	
<i>Cyperus longus</i>	Galingale
<i>Schoenus nigricans</i>	Black Bog-rush
Iridaceae – Iris Family	
<i>Gladiolus italicus</i>	Field Gladiolus
<i>Gynandiris monophylla</i>	
<i>Gynandiris sisyrinchium</i>	Barbary Nut
<i>Iris pseudocorus</i>	Yellow Flag
Liliaceae – Lily Family	
<i>Asphodeline lutea</i>	Yellow Asphodel
<i>Asphodelus ramosus (aestivus)</i>	Common Asphodel
<i>Charybdis (Drimia, Urginea) maritima</i>	Sea Squill
<i>Muscari comosum</i>	Tassel Hyacinth
* <i>Muscari spreitzenhoferi</i>	
<i>Ornithogalum narbonense</i>	A spiked Star-of-Bethlehem
<i>Ruscus aculeatus</i>	Butcher's broom
* <i>Tulipa (saxatilis) bakeri</i>	(pink, Omalos)
* <i>Tulipa doerfleri</i>	(red, Spili)
Orchidaceae – Orchid Family	
<i>Aceras anthropophorum</i>	Man orchid
<i>Anacamptis pyramidalis</i>	Pyramidal orchid
<i>Ophrys ariadne</i>	
<i>Ophrys cretica</i>	Cretan bee orchid
<i>Ophrys (scolopax) heldreichii</i>	Marengo orchid
* <i>Ophrys episcopalis</i>	Bishop's ophrys
* <i>Ophrys phaidra</i>	
<i>Ophrys sicula (= galilaea)</i>	Sicilian yellow bee orchid
<i>Ophrys phryganae</i>	
<i>Ophrys tenthrediniferax episcopalis</i>	Sawfly orchid

Orchis anatolica
Orchis boryi
*Orchis coriophora*ssp. *fragrans*
Orchis italica
Orchis laxiflora
Orchis (provincialis)pauciflora
Orchis quadripunctata
Serapias bergonii (*S. vomeracea* ssp.*laxiflora*)
Serapias lingua
Serapias orientalis

Poaceae – Grass Family

Arundo donax
Briza maxima
Hordeum murinum
Lagurus ovatus
Phragmites australis

Posidoniaceae Sea-grass family

Posidonia aceanica

Smilacaceae – Smilax family

Smilax aspera

Typhaceae – Reedmace family

Typha domingensis

Anatolian orchid
 Bory's orchid
 Bug orchid
 Italian man orchid
 Loose-flowered orchid
 Few-flowered orchid
 Four-spotted orchid
 Bergon's tongue-orchid
 Tongue orchid
 Eastern tongue orchid

Giant Reed
 Greater Quaking-grass
 Wall barley
 Hare's-tail
 Common Reed

Neptune-weed

Common Smilax or Sarsaparilla



Man orchid



Ophrys ariadne



Marengo orchid



Bishop's ophrys



Loose-flowered orchid



Eastern tongue orchid