

# Honeyguide

**WILDLIFE HOLIDAYS**

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**Discovering Menorca  
15 – 22 April 2011**

## Holiday participants

George Malcolm  
and Sonia Donaghy  
Doug and Val Thompson

Janet Barwell  
Vanessa Fox  
Jenny Loring

### Leader

Chris Gibson

Cover montage (and other photos edged blue) by Jenny Loring – clockwise from top left: by-the-wind-sailor; atop the glass-bottomed boat; two purple gallinules; common blue ♀; garden flowers on the bar at Matchani Gran; Chinese oak silk-moth; Cala Galanda; wild carrot with pollen chafer at centre; Honeyguiders at Naveta des Tudons; driveway to Matchani Gran; stained-glass window from church on El Toro; Menorcan gates and donkey at Matchani Gran; swallowtail on sainfoin; gull mobbing osprey at Montgofre Nou; view from El Toro; courtyard bar at Matchani Gran.

Daily diary, species lists and photos edged green by Chris Gibson.

Below – the group on El Toro.

Our base at Matchani Gran: <http://menorcacountryhouse.com>  
Also joining the group during the week were Bego and Aina from GOB  
(*Grup Balear d'Ornitologia i Defensa de la Naturalesa*).



This holiday, as for every Honeyguide holiday, also puts something into conservation in our host country by way of a contribution to the wildlife that we enjoyed. The conservation contribution this year of £40 per person was supplemented by gift aid through the Honeyguide Wildlife Charitable Trust, leading to a total of £348/€400 given to the Grup Balear d'Ornitologia i Defensa de la Naturalesa (GOB Menorca – see [www.gobmenorca.com/english](http://www.gobmenorca.com/english)).

This brings the total given to GOB since 1991 to £9,225, and the total conservation contributions from all Honeyguide holidays since 1991 to £72,591 as at June 2011.

## Daily Diary

### Day 1 – 15 April: arrival and orientation around Matchani Gran

After early flights, the two small groups (from Luton and Manchester) met successfully at Mahón, flights arriving only ten minutes apart. On completing formalities and collecting the minibus we set off for our base Matchani Gran, just a short drive from the airport, as the sun tried hard to break through the low clouds.

Lawrence (our host) was there to meet us and guide us to our rooms, to unpack before assembling again for a superb lunch of salad and then paella, served by Paul our waiter and barman for the week. As we ate, signs of spring and migration were all around – swifts and swallows were on constant move overhead, and a peregrine cruised over – although Vanessa was able to confirm it was still early spring: she had already ventured into the (very cool) pool!

Keen to get exploring despite the brisk, cool northerly wind, it was time to explore the fields surrounding Matchani Gran. As we assembled there was chance to familiarise ourselves with the bread-and-butter bird song that would accompany us all week – Sardinian warbler, corn bunting and nightingale, the latter just starting up.

The most striking feature of the fields is the asphodels which have until recently been taking over. These spectacular plants grow to nearly two metres, and while impressive, they do tend to suppress other plants coming through, as well as being indicative of over-grazing. But this year the converse was true – the first field, previously the richest one botanically, has remained ungrazed, with the result that the grasses have grown thick and rank, suppressing much of the flowering diversity: a field of contradictions, with signs of both over- and under-grazing. However with a bit of searching there were other plants to find: crown daisy, mostly of the ‘poached-egg’ form *discolor*, tassel hyacinth, mallow-leaved bindweed, both blue and scarlet scarlet pimpernels, and the striking lemon-yellow dandelion *Urospermum* all created splashes of colour, although the orchids formerly so apparent here were restricted to a few sawflies. Hopefully ‘not apparent’ rather than ‘gone’: with restorative grazing this pasture could be brought back to its former glories.

Above us, swift movement was continual; these included several alpine swifts, their chickering calls merging with the screams of common swift, but try as we might, no pallids could be found. Northern wheatears perched prominently on walls and rocks, as did several tawny pipits, which were also undertaking prolonged song-flights, and a confiding Thekla lark showed most of its features, apart from its greyish under-wing coverts. Several stone-curlews added their wild, eerie calls to the soundscape, and a few butterflies were on the wing in sheltered corners, including common blue and small heath. Less prone to buffeting by the wind, a lesser emperor dragonfly made more wide-ranging flights in search of prey and several oil-beetles lumbered across the stony ground.

To finish the afternoon’s ramblings, we then walked down the pine-lined drive. Here, orchids were still noticeable, springing up in the verges and fields. Early (or giant) orchid, the first and largest species, was well over, but sawfly and bumblebee orchids were in much better condition. At the end of the drive, we were drawn like iron filings to a magnet by the beautiful dark-centred, ivory-white flowers of a colony of Arabian star-of-Bethlehem, set amid a swathe of ferny foliage, erupting in places into the tall, spikes of giant fennel.

As we headed back, a migrant marsh harrier drifted over, and a male pied flycatcher fed under the tree canopy: a gentle start to the week, laying the introductory foundations to the wildlife of Menorca. Before long, it was dinner-time, as always an excellent spread, before an early night to counteract the early start – apart from those kept awake by the incessant calling of scops owls!

## Day 2 – 16 April: Son Bou and Torre d'en Gaumes

As day broke, the skies were clear and bright, although the chilly north wind was still all too apparent. Indeed, it was to remain from the north-east sector until the day of our return home. Consequently our pre-breakfast walk lacked significant numbers of bird migrants, although both willow warbler and (northern) chiffchaff showed briefly. Hoopoes were calling unseen, but a stone-curlew showed fleetingly in the pig field.

A sumptuous breakfast of local breads, cereals and eggs set us up well for the day ahead, although had George, Sonia and myself not taken it upon ourselves to decamp the laid table indoors, frostbite might have been the outcome! A short drive west took us to the beach at Son Bou. This is a popular holiday centre in high season with a marsh and dune system saved from the developers by the actions of GOB. The town was very quiet as we drifted down to the car park behind the beach. From here our route took us across the sand to well laid-out paths across the dunes, roped and 'boardwalked' to minimise disturbance to fragile plant communities. And the evidence is that this management technique is working, as to either side the dunes were riots of colour, with bird's-foot-trefoil, purple viper's-bugloss, scabious and a host of other flowers. Less welcome perhaps, but fascinating on account of its fiercely-spined leaf veins, was the apple-of-Sodom, one of many plant species introduced from other parts of the world with a Mediterranean climate by the early explorers from the region.

Drinking and bathing among the motley mallards at the outflow stream from the marsh, there were several Audouin's gulls, showing their blood-red bills to advantage. Now a relatively common sight, these beautiful gulls were once a rare breeding bird – and are still a Mediterranean speciality. Out to sea the local shags were feeding alongside yellow-legged gulls, while a few Cory's shearwaters drifted past, albeit well offshore. Looking landward, the scrub was home to several stonechats and numerous Sardinian warblers, and at least five purple herons flew tantalisingly just along the tops of the reeds before plunging into deep cover. The beach was covered in the remains of Neptune-weed, the 'nun's farts' ranging in size from modest little fartlets to Mother Superiors nearly 10cm in diameter.



Audouin's gull, which rarely scavenges like other gulls but feeds almost exclusively on fish; short-toed larks at Matchani Gran; and Balearic woodchat shrike, lacking a pale patch on the primary feathers and with less black on the forehead than the nominate race.

The sun was by now increasing in strength, so on our return to the car park we decided to take lunch on the picnic tables under the pines, among the feeding signs of black rats – cones which had been demolished squirrel-fashion on this squirrel-free island. Despite the proximity to the resort, clearings within the trees were bursting with flowers, with *Bellardia*, viper's-bugloss and poppies, and the cluster of trees provided cover for a few migrant birds – redstart and spotted flycatcher – along with a couple of robins, largely winter visitors to these parts.

Moving round to the back of the marsh, we then set off for a short walk down the track. We managed good views of woodchat shrike (of both the local breeding form *badius* as well as the passage migrant nominate race) and typically rather less satisfactory ones of zitting cisticola.

Several Egyptian locusts fled for safety as we approached, more like birds than insects, but one stayed put, as she was vainly trying to lay eggs on the compacted earth of the track. Mallard, coot and moorhens were busy on the patches of open water, with little egret and black-winged stilt stalking the margins, and when spooked by a passing marsh harrier, the true numbers of waders showed themselves, with single greenshank and redshank, and about 10 wood sandpipers. After much searching, a distinctive red leg and blue body was seen moving behind some rushes, a purple gallinule, prized eating of Romans and prized tick of birdwatchers, here at its only regular site on Menorca. Then with a little patience on our part, it moved out into the open, even swam across the pool, before appearing with a second, and then a third bird: the best views and largest number I have ever had at the site. Heading back to the bus, insects were coming out in the warm sunshine, including several common darters and a few passing clouded yellows and brimstones.

Back on the road, a brief stop at the back end of town produced a lovely display of pyramidal orchids, ranging in colour from pure white to rose pink, amid a complementary display of cerise gladioli. Then on the short drive to the archaeological site of Torre d'en Gaumes, we came to a rapid halt when we spied four red-footed falcons, perched on the electricity wires and making aerobatic feeding forays into the fields. Torre d'en Gaumes is the remains of a settlement dating back to 1300BC, strategically placed on a hill overlooking fields down to the coast allowing panoramic views across the open countryside. This vista continued to provide migrating birds, including a couple more falcons, masses of swifts and hirundines in distinct waves, along with several booted eagles and a red kite. The rocky buildings and walls are home to many interesting plants, such as pale periwinkle and *Prasium majus*, being visited by the only hummingbird hawk-moth of the week, while Italian wall lizards basked in the sun, skittering away into cover as they heard our approach.

Back to Matchani Gran for the evening log and dinner; from our elevated vantage point in the minibus, most of us had good views of a stone-curlew seemingly sitting tight (perhaps on eggs) just five metres inside the roadside stone wall.

### **Day 3 – 17 April: Tirant and Cap de Cavalleria**

The morning dawned clear, bright and (thankfully) calm and it soon became apparent that there had been a fall of migrants overnight. Hoopoes were in force, with at least five singing and others seen, although it would appear they moved through very quickly as the following mornings numbers were down to just one or two. The supporting cast included pied flycatcher, willow and wood warblers, and several blackcaps.

The drive to Tirant took us past a small *depuradora*, a water treatment plant near Es Mercadal, with concrete-edged pools often attractive to waders and wagtails. Today the banks of the pools were devoid of wagtails, a feature of the whole island throughout the week, but three wood sandpipers, a greenshank and several little ringed plovers fed among the throngs of yellow-legged gulls, and a tawny pipit serenaded us in 'song' flight overhead.

Waders also featured strongly at Tirant, a seasonal wetland with plenty of water and wet grassland, at least in the first pool. Several little egrets were feeding in the shallows; altogether more secretive were the groups of wood sandpipers, although the few green sandpipers proved even more difficult to pin down. At least five marsh harriers were quartering the marshes, as always causing consternation among the familiar fare of mallard, moorhen and coot. Booted eagles performed overhead, distracting all but George from the water's edge. His reward? A water rail zipping between clumps of vegetation. The air was filled with bird song – nightingale and Cetti's warblers from the bushes, and the incessant zitting of cisticolas overhead – but as we moved on, the pools became progressively drier and lacking significant bird interest.

Approaching Cala Tirant, we parked overlooking the cove, scanning longingly at the empty bee-eater nests in the sand cliffs. And then, right on cue, a distant liquid bubbling soon transformed itself into a party of 12 bee-eaters, tumbling out of the sky, to make a quick circuit of the nesting arena, before heading ever onwards. Seemingly the vanguard of this spring's migration, these proved to be our only birds of the trip. Still looking skyward, three Egyptian vultures hove into view,

and then a masterclass in big bird i.d. as booted eagle, red kite, raven and a steppe buzzard picked up a thermal together. Around us the scrubby slopes and grassland were in good flower, with grey-leaved cistus, Mediterranean honeysuckle and wild carrot all vying for our attention; the umbels of the last harboured a range of insects, including the distinctive spotty flower chafer *Oxythyrea funesta*.

And so on to a very different habitat. The Cap de Cavallería is a very exposed rocky promontory a few kilometres away, almost like a moonscape in places. Birding was quiet at the lighthouse in the midday heat, although a couple of blue rock thrushes perched on the rocky outcrops watching us watching them. A peregrine swept past, tawny pipits were singing overhead, and single redstart and willow warbler, an anomalous sight among the patchy low scrub, were welcome signs of migration. But the plants were still there, including a few Balearic endemic plant species: wherever one goes, it is the stressed, skeletal habitats which harbour the gems. Mauve *Senecio rodriguezii* was nestling in the rocky crevices alongside *Digitalis dubia* just coming into bloom, and the slopes were covered in the prickly cushions of several 'vegetable hedgehogs', including *Launaea cervicornis*, the hedgehog lettuce, the only one getting towards flowering. The vegetable hedgehogs, or *socarrells*, are a group of unrelated but convergently-evolved plants which grow as spiny cushions, adapted to withstand extreme exposure and intense grazing. The most magnificent local endemic, Balearic dragon arum, was flowering amid the rocky jumble, its large purplish-pink flowers, palmate leaves and spotted stems quite a contrast to *Lotus tetraphyllus*, again endemic but a short, yellow-flowered bird's-foot-trefoil, mostly growing within the hedgehogs for protection against browsing.



The Cap de Cavallería; and Balearic dragon arum.

On the way back we stopped at the narrow portion of the peninsula and had a look out to the bay and its attendant Audouin's gulls and shags before walking to the inviting cove to the west, down a track fluttering with small heaths, to several more dragon arums. Stonechats scolded us from many a bush, including one male which was particularly well marked, its pure white rump and very pale belly bearing all the hallmarks of the race *variegata*, normally found in Asia Minor.

An ice-cream/coffee/loo/culture stop at the visitor centre and ecomuseum gave us some welcome shade, a pair of passing ravens, and a few new plants including pale viper's-bugloss and the dwarf fan-palm, so abundant elsewhere in the Balearics but surprisingly scarce on Menorca. To ring the changes we took the delightful but slower Kane road back to Mahón, and a peek into the hidden heart of the island, away from the main roads and resorts.

Back at Matchani Gran, the first field held a flock of about 40 short-toed larks, and Jenny came across a couple of Hermann's tortoises. Our evening meal was taken in St Climent at The Casino restaurant, where we were treated to excellent local food, including for some the soup of the day, essentially a lobster in a bath!

## Day 4 – 18 April: Mahón, Es Grau and Binidali Cove

In contrast to yesterday, the pre-breakfast walk produced little of note, apart from two wood warblers and a singing chiffchaff, while a lovely male hen harrier drifted north just over the tree-tops.

On to Mahón, where we were due to catch a boat for a tour of the harbour, some history and a few birds – and fish, as this was a catamaran with windows built into the sides of the two hulls. Deceptively calm in the sheltered harbour, when we reached the mouth the boat started to rock quite violently under the influence of waves driven in by the northerly wind. Not that this stopped us from heading below deck for underwater viewing of the Neptune-weed meadows, a plant so familiar washed up along the shore as tideline litter and nun's farts but, from this unique perspective, a living plant providing a habitat for numerous fish species. Even topside, between the rocking, there was plenty to see – Audouin's and yellow-legged gulls trailing the boat; flocks of up to 20 shags, including several immatures with the clear white underparts so characteristic of the Mediterranean form; blue rock thrushes on the cliffs; and single common sandpiper and (remarkably) avocet feeding on the more sheltered rocky shores.

An hour or so later we were back in dock, after having to park in the middle of the harbour to let one of the giant ferries out. Then time for a quick coffee before heading to Es Grau and lunch in the shade of the car park trees, before we set off across the marsh at the heart of the only statutory nature reserve on Menorca. A pair of black-winged stilts and a greenshank feeding unconcernedly in the shallow salt pans were just about the only water birds to be seen, apart from mallards, coots and little grebes out in the main lake. The salt-marsh vegetation contained a number of British species, along with an abundance of rose garlic, in a form bearing more bulbils than flowers, perhaps an adaptation to salt stress which may inhibit the germination of seeds. Heading through the woodland, silence was the watchword, barely a bird sound to be heard. But emerging into the open once again, the slopes were vibrant and blooming with spiny broom, tree spurge and everywhere *Cistus*.

A walk back to the bus along the shore of the bay, the drift-line glistening with stranded by-the-wind-sailors and a few unsavoury turd-like sea cucumbers, and low dunes flowering with yellow horned-poppy, sea medick and sea spurge, led us inexorably to a welcome drink in the sea-front café. Then with a little time to spare, we headed to Binidali, the closest cove to home, for more Audouin's gulls; again distant views of both Cory's and Balearic shearwaters; several patches of the red broomrape *Orobanche*



Our reward after a hard slog along the beach!

*sanguinea*; and as a final flourish, an Algerian hedgehog which sprinted across the road. And I mean sprinted – with longer legs than its more familiar northern counterpart, an adaptation to desert living, the Algerian moves with speed and fluidity – although I still felt compelled to intervene to prevent a one-sided interaction with a passing truck.

## Day 5 – 19 April: Tirant, Fornells, Sa Roca, and Monte Toro

Despite the sunny start, there were no early walkers today, so the migrating turtle doves and marsh harrier were for the leader's eyes only...

Heading back to the north coast, we first paid a return visit to Tirant, where we located 15 cattle egrets and a squacco heron, in addition to the harriers, vultures and sandpipers from a few days ago. Our intended coffee stop in Fornells had to be called off as the whole village was suffering a power cut, so it was on then to the point, another windswept but beautiful rock-scape. The endemic *Limonium minutum* (here in flower), sea heath, sea chamomile and *Helichrysum* adorned the harsh rocks below the Moorish tower, and both yellow and purple broomrapes were found parasitizing their favoured hosts.



Sa Roca is a delightful area of pine and holm oak forest inland, to the north-east of El Toro, Menorca's largest hill. The woodland gave us shelter and shade, a lovely place for lunch under the pine trees. Afterwards, a short walk up a forest track produced a few flowering pompoms of *Cytinus ruber* (left), a parasitic plant which attacks pink *Cistus* species, here *C. albidus*. This is a plant for which Honeyguide can take considerable credit as we recorded it new to the island at this very spot in 2002. A little more searching then produced several other target species: violet bird's-nest orchid, wild gladiolus, and a few remnant spikes of *Ophrys balearica*, all with a backdrop of singing nightingales and great tits.

Here, while I was extolling the virtues of the strawberry-tree *Arbutus unedo* which is so much a part of the understory, Janet felt moved to sing....and this is what she subsequently sent me:

### My Love's an Arbutus

(Poem by AP Graves, music is an old Irish air, edited and arranged by CV Stanford)

<i>My love's an arbutus</i>	<i>But tho 'ruddy the berry</i>	<i>Alas, fruit and blossom</i>
<i>By the borders of Lene</i>	<i>And snowy the flower</i>	<i>Shall lie dead on the lea</i>
<i>So slender and shapely</i>	<i>That brighten together</i>	<i>And Time's jealous fingers</i>
<i>In her girdle of green</i>	<i>The arbutus bower</i>	<i>Dim your young charms, Machree.</i>
<i>And I measure the pleasure</i>	<i>Perfuming and blooming</i>	<i>But unchanging, unchanging</i>
<i>Of her eye's sapphire sheen</i>	<i>Through sunshine and shower</i>	<i>You'll still cling to me</i>
<i>By the blue skies that sparkle</i>	<i>Give me her bright lips</i>	<i>Like the evergreen leaf</i>
<i>Thro' the soft branching screen.</i>	<i>And her laugh's perly dow'r.</i>	<i>To the arbutus tree.</i>

Not knowing the poem, I then launched into my own tale of love for Arbutus – in my case the eastern strawberry-tree *Arbutus andrachne*, and the sensual qualities of its smooth, silky, golden bark, just crying out to be caressed... Mr Graves obviously has a different image of love to mine, as he is clearly referring to the western species which we saw and which also occurs in Ireland, but is a rough-skinned upstart in comparison. Perhaps mine is a case of lust, rather than love!

Our return home was via the beautiful but narrow forest roads south of Sa Roca, and thence to the summit of El Toro. Dramatic views over almost the whole of the island and a welcome cup of coffee rounded off a very full day, as booted eagles and Egyptian vultures played overhead in the strong wind.

And so back to Matchani Gran, where our evening meeting was enlivened by a Chinese oak silkmoth, a veritable giant, and one which is seemingly well established in the wild on the island. We were joined for our evening meeting by Bego and Aina from GOB Menorca, there to receive the Honeyguide cheque to help with their conservation work.



As they described their successes and challenges, it became clear that their role is crucial and remarkably diverse, a non-governmental organization encompassing aspects of the work of the RSPB, RSPCA, FWAG, the Hawk & Owl Trust and the Marine Stewardship Council in the UK. Some of their achievements are quite remarkable: red kites now at 30 pairs, up from just five less than 20 years ago; 9,000 tortoises rescued and recuperated from all sorts of injury. Sadly, our cheque was for only €400, although it brings our total Honeyguide contribution to GOB over the years to more than £9,000, and several of the group were moved to enquire about making an additional donation on their return home. And we are still the only tour company which has ever made **any** donation to GOB Menorca...



#### **Day 6 – 20 April: Algendar Gorge, Cala Galdana, Ciutadella and Naveta d'es Tudons**

Early morning brought a few new migrants to Matchani Gran, including spotted flycatcher and tree pipit.

Algendar Gorge, our main destination today, is the best known of Menorca's famous gorges, or *barrancos*, cut deep into the limestone and draining the south side of the island. The wetlands at the mouth of the gorge held six little egrets and a grey heron, along with a small flock of wood sandpipers, while a pause by the start of the woodland path produced singing firecrest and blackcaps. We then progressed up the floor of the gorge along a track lined with lush vegetation; brambles, nettles, huge leaves of Italian lords-and-ladies and sea squill, giant fennel and luxuriant grasses. We soon became immersed in olfactory botany, 'savouring' the scents of stink aster and pitch trefoil. On some rocky outcrops by the track, we found rock samphire (another addition to the foliar scentscape). Surprisingly far inland, these plants may well be relicts from the time the valley floor was tidal before the development of the nearby tourist resort. Some showy stands of yellow *bartsia* and *Lythrum junceum*, bright yellow mixed with vivid purplish-pink, caught our eyes, while pyramidal orchids and *Verbascum creticum* added to the botanical delights.

Overhead, there were several Egyptian vultures, no doubt from the nesting sites further up the gorge, with alpine swifts, a peregrine and a couple of kestrels, while a scops owl called unexpectedly in the middle of the day. All along the path nightingales filled the air with song, while speckled woods (of the south-western tawny-speckled form) and a couple of large wall browns danced amongst the vegetation. Then our eyes were drawn downwards again by the sight of European pond terrapins basking on a half-submerged log, welcome but rather surprising given that last year the only ones we saw here were of the alien red-eared species.

And so to lunch above Cala Galdana, the classic holiday brochure view of the island. The *mirador* gave us shelter, a sea view, and shags and alpine swifts to accompany the picnic, before the cameras came into action to capture the azure intensity of the sea in the cove. Then onward to Ciutadella, the original capital of Menorca until the British moved it to Mahón. This is still the religious capital however and the town houses a fine cathedral amongst ancient streets. This was a brief coffee stop, chance to recharge after the morning's walk and one of very few opportunities for a spot of retail therapy!

Heading homewards, our final stop was at the Naveta d'es Tudons, a splendid archaeological site, a two-storey stone burial chamber, like an upturned boat, set amidst extensive flower-rich grassland and sparse, 'weedy' arable fields. Several new plants were duly found, including *Linaria triphylla*, *Campanula erinus* and bug orchid, and – much to Doug's delight! – the leaves of *Cyclamen balearicum* growing out of a crevice on the Naveta, exactly the same location as I had found it on my last visit some ten years' previously.

After dinner – excellent as always – the bat detector was pressed into action, although only Daubenton's bats came out to play while the eerie wailing of stone-curlews echoed around.

### Day 7 – 21 April: Montgofre Nou and Cap Favàritx

A change in the weather today, with sunshine replaced by low cloud and a blustery east wind, but no significant response from the birds: the only migrants of note before breakfast were single pied and spotted flycatchers.

After breakfast we prepared for rain and set off to Montgofre Nou, leading ultimately to a narrow track consisting of holes with a small amount of surface in between. Speed was therefore somewhat reduced, allowing plenty of time for the branches of bushes and stems of grasses to enter the vehicles through open windows on their tactile journey along the paintwork. This track took us alongside fantastic weathered sandstone rock faces (right), with deep holes and overhangs providing a home to a pair of kestrels, before ending at the entrance to Montgofre. We then set off on foot down the Cami de Cavalls, the new public route right around the island coast, which led us alongside the lagoons, salt pans and estuary.



Here again we were among good numbers of water birds. Numerous black-winged stilts, always bickering, kept to the deeper waters, while little ringed plovers, redshank, greenshank, wood, green and common sandpipers and dunlin fed and roosted around the pools, all northern migrants apart from the first mentioned. On the open water there were many coots and mallards, a gadwall and four shelducks. Several little egrets stalked around, but they were dwarfed by the greater flamingo – no doubt a bird displaced from one of the mainland hotspots in Spain or France. Overhead, lots of hirundines were wheeling around and feeding on flies over the pools, their activity reaching fever pitch when a long-awaited osprey flew in from the west and crossed the main lagoon, creating mayhem in its wake.

Gradually the cloud lifted, and had given way to hot sunshine by lunchtime, after which it was time to negotiate the pot-holes once again. But not surprisingly, everyone opted to walk as far as they could, to avoid the trials of the bouncing bus!

Then we headed to Cap Favàritx at the extreme north-east of the island and only a short distance from the track to Montgofre. The habitat could not be more different here, with lush vegetation slowly giving way to open areas of shale and an almost barren landscape with a few specialised plants being enveloped in places by the South African Hottentot-fig. The walk out to the end of the point took us through a wonderful geological story, including trace fossils of burrowing marine worms which presumably ended up in that state as a result of some geo-environmental cataclysm.

A final stop as we headed back from the point was just far enough inland for the vegetation to develop largely out of the reach of salt spray, although the salt-pruned *Phillyrea* bushes and vegetable hedgehogs bore testament to the fact that, in storm conditions, spray envelops the whole area. And here, in a remarkable example of the recovery powers of nature following the removal of the choking blanket of Hottentot-fig, the vegetable hedgehogs were at their very best, six species growing in a veritable rock garden, including two species – *Astragalus balearicus* and *Teucrium subspinosum* – we had not seen in flower previously. This area is renowned for hosting spectacled warblers, a bird which is equally renowned for its extremely skulking habits and ability to disappear in the smallest of bushes. And that proved to be the case – the only birds visible were the ever-present 'Sardines' and a migrant whinchat.

Back at Matchani Gran, our final meal gave us chance to reflect upon what had been a wonderful week, and to revisit our personal highlights:

#### The best bits

- Sonia** The remarkable geology on display at Montgofre Nou; fields of *Hedysarum*; and the hoopoe on our final drive up the track, so well camouflaged against the stony ground.
- George** The three varieties of *Cistus*; Audouin's gulls; and the meals at the Casino.
- Jenny** The sheer number of birds in the air, as at Torre d'en Gaumes (swifts, hirundines and raptors); Naveta d'es Tudons and its environs.
- Doug** Algendar Gorge and its wheeling vultures; wonderful fields of flowers; and of course the couple of manky *Cyclamen* leaves!
- Val** Sa Roca, so peaceful save for the nightingale serenades; the mass of waders at Montgofre Nou.
- Vanessa** Nightingales, stilts and tortoises.
- Janet** The contrasting environments and perfumes of Sa Roca and Cap Favàritx; 'our' stone-curlews, flying and calling.

As for me, it had to be the purple gallinules, and the GOB girls ..!

A respectable total of 92 birds was recorded, although it was a pity that orioles were absent, bee-eaters almost so, and the wrong winds kept mass migration at bay.

#### Day 8 – 22 April: Homeward bound...(eventually!)...

Heavy overnight rain was still with us at dawn, and rather limited our last chance to take in the sights, sounds and scents of the Mediterranean. So we said our farewells, took our last journey down the drive – still the minibus remained unscathed by the encroaching pines – and headed expectantly to the airport. The Manchester flight was on time, but those of us heading for Luton picked up a delay. At first an hour, but by the time we got airside, it became three hours, and eventually indefinite...so we waited and watched as the sun came out and the wind picked up from the south-west – the first time from that sector all week. But we could do nothing about it, other than to watch the booted eagles and Egyptian vultures as they quartered the runway. A full day airside in Mahón airport passes very slowly, but eventually a plane was found to replace the one which had flown into a bird on take-off from Luton, and we were finally under way, some eight hours late...

My thanks to all who made this such a fun trip to lead, and apologies for the slow production of this report, largely due to a series of computer breakdowns.

## BIRDS

<b>Little Grebe</b>	Son Bou and about 20 at Es Grau
<b>Great Crested Grebe</b>	One at Montgofre Nou
<b>Cory's Shearwater</b>	Offshore from Son Bou and especially Cap Favàritx
<b>Balearic Shearwater</b>	A few passing Binidali, Fornells and Cap Favàritx, all rather distant
<b>Cormorant</b>	One at Montgofre Nou
<b>Mediterranean Shag</b>	Small numbers at all coastal sites; lots at the mouth of Mahón harbour
<b>Squacco Heron</b>	One seen on two days at Tirant
<b>Cattle Egret</b>	Son Bou (4), Tirant (12) and Montgofre Nou (1); also several groups, up to 15 strong, as we drove around the island
<b>Little Egret</b>	Small numbers at most wetland sites; up to 6 at Algendar Gorge
<b>Grey Heron</b>	Small numbers at Cap de Cavallería, Montgofre Nou, Algendar Gorge, Binidali and Tirant
<b>Purple Heron</b>	At least 5 at Son Bou
<b>Greater Flamingo</b>	One at Montgofre Nou
<b>Shelduck</b>	At least 4 at Montgofre Nou
<b>Gadwall</b>	One at Montgofre Nou
<b>Mallard</b>	Son Bou, Tirant, Es Grau and Montgofre Nou – some hybridisation with domestic ducks
<b>Wigeon</b>	One at Son Bou
<b>Red Kite</b>	Individuals seen almost every day, though rather less numerous than on some previous trips
<b>Egyptian Vulture</b>	Tirant (3), Monte Toro (2) and Algendar Gorge (6)
<b>Marsh Harrier</b>	Tirant (5), Son Bou (1) and one migrating past Matchani Gran
<b>Hen Harrier</b>	One over Tirant and two migrating past Matchani Gran
<b>Steppe Buzzard</b>	One buzzard over Tirant, showing all the characters of this subspecies
<b>Booted Eagle</b>	Numerous sightings almost every day; dark and pale forms almost equally abundant
<b>Osprey</b>	One at Montgofre Nou
<b>Kestrel</b>	Seen every day, breeding at Matchani Gran, Montgofre Nou and Algendar Gorge
<b>Red-footed Falcon</b>	6 at Torre d'en Gaumes, inc. 4 on telephone wires; 2 at Cap de Cavallería
<b>Peregrine Falcon</b>	Matchani Gran, Cap de Cavallería and Tirant
<b>Red-legged Partridge</b>	Matchani Gran and Cap de Cavallería
<b>Quail</b>	Heard calling in several places, regularly around Matchani Gran
<b>Water Rail</b>	One at Tirant
<b>Moorhen</b>	Son Bou, Tirant and Algendar Gorge
<b>Purple Gallinule</b>	Three seen well at Son Bou
<b>Coot</b>	Son Bou, Tirant, Es Grau and Montgofre Nou (about 200)
<b>Black-winged Stilt</b>	One at Son Bou and about 50 at Montgofre Nou
<b>Avocet</b>	Montgofre Nou (3) and one on the rocky shore of Mahón harbour
<b>Stone-Curlew</b>	Heard around Matchani Gran on most nights (perhaps 4 pairs) and seen most mornings in the pig field
<b>Little Ringed Plover</b>	Es Mercadal <i>depuradora</i> (4) and Montgofre Nou (15)
<b>Dunlin</b>	About 7 at Montgofre Nou and 10 at Montgofre Nou
<b>Redshank</b>	Singles at Son Bou, Tirant and Es Grau; 20 at Montgofre Nou
<b>Greenshank</b>	Singles at Son Bou and Es Grau; 3 at Montgofre Nou
<b>Green Sandpiper</b>	Singles at Tirant and Montgofre Nou
<b>Wood Sandpiper</b>	Numerous at all wetland sites, including Algendar Gorge (6), Son Bou (10) and 20 at both Tirant and Montgofre Nou
<b>Common Sandpiper</b>	Singles at Mahon, Es Grau, Algendar Gorge and Montgofre Nou
<b>Audouin's Gull</b>	Seen regularly at most coastal sites
<b>Yellow-legged Gull</b>	Seen at all coastal sites and frequently inland
<b>Rock Dove</b>	Apparently wild birds at Algendar Gorge and Montgofre Nou and numerous feral birds near buildings throughout the island
<b>Wood Pigeon</b>	5 flew over Montgofre Nou

<b>Collared Dove</b>	Widespread and plentiful near villages
<b>Turtle Dove</b>	Small numbers at Matchani Gran and Tirant
<b>Cuckoo</b>	One at Matchani Gran
<b>Scops Owl</b>	Heard at Matchani Gran on most evenings and at Algendar Gorge by day
<b>Common Swift</b>	Seen frequently throughout the island; some notable arrivals especially during the first 4 days, with numbers thereafter much lower
<b>Pallid Swift</b>	A couple with Common Swifts over Matchani Gran
<b>Alpine Swift</b>	Several at Cala Galdana; one over Matchani Gran in large swift movement
<b>Bee-eater</b>	A group of 12 appeared from high overhead at Tirant
<b>Hoopoe</b>	Individuals seen nearly every day, especially at Matchani Gran, with a notable arrival of 8 or more on 18 <sup>th</sup> ; 3 at Algendar Gorge
<b>Short-toed Lark</b>	Groups of up to 40 in the fields around Matchani Gran; Naveta d'es Tudons
<b>Thekla Lark</b>	Individuals seen most days, at Matchani Gran and elsewhere
<b>Sand Martin</b>	Small numbers at Son Bou, Tirant and Algendar Gorge
<b>Swallow</b>	Seen every day, with some notable movements early in the week
<b>House Martin</b>	Seen most days, especially around towns
<b>Tawny Pipit</b>	Territorial birds noted most days in several places
<b>Meadow Pipit</b>	Singles over Matchani Gran and Monte Toro
<b>Tree Pipit</b>	Two singles over Matchani Gran
<b>Yellow Wagtail</b>	A fly-over bird at Son Bou not racially identifiable
<b>Robin</b>	Singles at Son Bou, Torre d'en Gaumes and Algendar Gorge
<b>Redstart</b>	Singles at Matchani Gran, Son Bou and Cap de Cavallería
<b>Nightingale</b>	Heard frequently throughout the week
<b>Whinchat</b>	Singles at Cap de Cavallería and Cap Favàritx
<b>Stonechat</b>	Pairs/individuals seen on several days, inc. a juvenile at Cap Favàritx; one male at Cap de Cavallería had the appearance of distinctive <i>variegata</i> race
<b>Northern Wheatear</b>	Singles at Matchani Gran and Naveta d'es Tudons
<b>Blue Rock Thrush</b>	Cap de Cavallería, Son Bou, Mahón, Fornells, Monte Toro, Algendar Gorge and Binidali
<b>Blackbird</b>	Seen frequently at Matchani Gran, occasionally elsewhere inland
<b>Cetti's Warbler</b>	Frequently heard in wet and scrubby places
<b>Zitting Cisticola</b>	Frequent and widespread, though small numbers apart from at Tirant
<b>Blackcap</b>	Monte Toro, Algendar Gorge and Matchani Gran
<b>Sardinian Warbler</b>	Widespread and numerous
<b>Wood Warbler</b>	Up to two birds seen on several early morning walks at Matchani Gran
<b>Willow Warbler</b>	Small numbers at Matchani Gran, Algendar Gorge and Cap de Cavallería
<b>Common Chiffchaff</b>	Singing in Algendar Gorge and at Matchani Gran
<b>Firecrest</b>	Heard in Algendar Gorge
<b>Spotted Flycatcher</b>	Small numbers at Matchani Gran and Son Bou
<b>Pied Flycatcher</b>	Small numbers most days at Matchani Gran
<b>Blue Tit</b>	Heard in Algendar Gorge
<b>Great Tit</b>	Seen or heard most days
<b>Woodchat Shrike</b>	Singles and pairs on most days at several locations; both the nominate and Balearic forms were identified
<b>Raven</b>	Occasional throughout the island; large aggregations of 18 and 15 at Monte Toro and Tirant
<b>House Sparrow</b>	Near houses all over the island
<b>Chaffinch</b>	Singing birds at Sa Roca
<b>Greenfinch</b>	Widespread and abundant
<b>Goldfinch</b>	Widespread and abundant
<b>Linnet</b>	Widespread though not numerous
<b>Corn Bunting</b>	Seen and heard all over the island

**TOTAL: 92 species**

## OTHER ANIMALS

### Butterflies

Large White	Swallowtail	Speckled Wood (south-western form)
Small White	Red Admiral	Small Heath
Clouded Yellow	Painted Lady	Brown Argus
Brimstone	Large Wall	Adonis Blue
Cleopatra	Wall	Common Blue

### Moths

Pine Processionary-moth – larvae and larval webs  
 Hummingbird Hawk-moth – Torre d'en Gaumes  
 Yellow Belle  
 Chinese Oak Silk-moth (*right*) – Matchani Gran



### Dragonflies and Damselflies

Lesser Emperor                      Common Darter                      Blue-tailed Damselfly

### Other invertebrates

By-the-wind-sailor *Verella verella* – Es Grau  
 Sea-cucumber *Holothurium tubulosum* – Es Grau  
 Egyptian Locust *Anacridium aegyptiacum* (*right*)  
 Praying mantis (egg mass)  
 Paper wasp *Polistes gallicus*  
 Violet Carpenter-bee *Xylocopa violacea*  
 Tawny Mining Bee *Andrena fulva*  
 Fire Bug *Pyrrhocoris apterus*  
 A ground beetle *Calosoma sychophanta*  
 Oil Beetle *Meloe proscarabaeus*  
 Churchyard Beetle *Blaps mucronata*  
 Bloody-nosed Beetle *Timarcha tenebricosa*  
 Devil's Coach-horse *Ocyopus olens*  
 7-spot Ladybird *Coccinella septempunctata*  
 Flower Chafer *Oxythyrea funesta*



### Amphibians and Reptiles

Stripeless Tree-frog  
 Italian Wall Lizard (*right*)  
 Moorish Gecko  
 Hermann's Tortoise (*far right*) –  
 Matchani Gran, Sa Roca and  
 Cap de Cavallería  
 European Pond Terrapin – Algendar  
 Gorge and Es Grau



### Mammals

Algerian Hedgehog – Binidali                      Weasel – Algendar Gorge, Matchani Gran and  
 Rabbit – Matchani Gran                      Montgofre Nou  
 Black Rat – Eaten pine cones                      Daubenton's Bat – Matchani Gran

## PLANTS

In the lists that follow, the localities are identified by the following codes:-

MG	Matchani Gran	MN	Montgofre Nou
SB	Son Bou	CF	Cap Favàritx
TG	Torre d'en Gaumes	F	Fornells
EM	Es Mercadal <i>Depuradora</i>	SR	Sa Roca
T	Tirant	AG	Algendar Gorge/Cala Galdana
CC	Cap de Cavallería	NT	Naveta d'es Tudons
MT	Monte Toro	M	Mahón
EG	s'Albufera Es Grau	B	Binidali

For many of the more widespread species, no attempt has been made to list all the localities. Indeed, in many cases, no localities at all are given as the species was ubiquitous in the right habitats. I have tried to be as comprehensive as possible in the species listings, although some are more complete than others. For example, the plant list has ignored many species not in flower, together with difficult groups such as grasses. English names are given only where there is one used in the books, or one can justifiably be coined.

After the scientific name, an indication is given for those species or forms considered to be endemic to the region i.e. to be found in the wild there and only there. The scale of the endemism is taken from the *Flowers of Menorca* (GOB):-

<b>E</b>	endemic to Menorca	<b>EB</b>	endemic to the Balearic Islands
<b>EG</b>	endemic to Menorca and Mallorca	<b>ET</b>	endemic to the western Mediterranean island area

### LICHENS

<i>Cladonia foliacea</i>		MN
<i>Xanthoria parietina</i>	sunburst lichen	

### FERNS & ALLIES

<i>Equisetum ramosissimum</i>		SB
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	bracken	SR

### CONIFERS & ALLIES

<i>Ephedra fragilis</i>	joint-pine	EG CF
<i>Juniperus phoenicea</i>	Phoenician juniper	SB EG
<i>Pinus halepensis</i>	Aleppo pine	
<i>P. pinea</i>	stone pine	B

### FLOWERING PLANTS

#### Agavaceae

<i>Agave americana</i>	century plant (planted)	
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#### Aizoaceae

<i>Carpobrotus edulis</i>	Hottentot-fig	CF B
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#### Alismataceae

<i>Alisma lanceolata</i>	narrow-leaved water-plantain	T
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#### Amaryllidaceae

<i>Leucojum aestivum</i>	summer snowflake	AG
<i>Narcissus tazetta</i>		AG
<i>Pancratium maritimum</i>	sand daffodil	SB CC EG CF

#### Anacardiaceae

<i>Pistachia lentiscus</i>	lentisc	
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#### Apiaceae

<i>Apium nodiflorum</i>	fool's watercress	SB
<i>Crithmum maritimum</i>	rock samphire	AG B SB
<i>Daucus carota</i>	wild carrot	
<i>Eryngium campestre</i>	field eryngo	NT
<i>E. maritimum</i>	sea-holly	SB EG
<i>Ferula communis</i>	giant fennel	
<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	fennel	
<i>Scandix pecten-veneris</i>	shepherd's-needle	NT
<i>Smyrniolum olustatum</i>	alexanders	

#### Apocynaceae

<i>Vinca difformis</i>	pale periwinkle	TG
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#### Araceae

<i>Arisarum vulgare</i>	friar's-cowl	MG SB
<i>Arum italicum</i>	Italian lords-and-ladies	AG CC SB
<i>Dracunculus muscivorus</i> (ET)	Balearic dragon arum	CC
<i>Zantedeschia aethiopica</i>		AG

<b>Araliaceae</b>		
<i>Hedera helix</i>	ivy	AG
<b>Asclepiadaceae</b>		
<i>Vincetoxicum hirundinaria</i> <i>ssp. intermedium</i>	swallow-wort	CC
<b>Asteraceae</b>		
<i>Anthemis maritima</i>	sea chamomile	F
<i>Artemisia coerulescens</i>		EG
<i>A. gallica</i>		F CF
<i>Asteriscus aquaticus</i>		
<i>Bellis annua</i>	annual daisy	MG
<i>Calendula arvensis</i>	field marigold	
<i>Carduus tenuiflorus</i>	slender thistle	MG
<i>Carlina corymbosa</i>		CC
<i>Chrysanthemum coronarium</i>	crown daisy	
<i>Cichorium intybus</i>	chicory	TG T
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	spear thistle	
<i>Evax pygmaea</i>		MG CC CF
<i>Filago gallica</i>	narrow-leaved cudweed	CF
<i>Galactites tomentosa</i>		
<i>Helichrysum stoechas</i>		CC CF B
<i>Hyoseris radiata</i>		
<i>Hypochaeris achyrophorus</i>		
<i>Inula crithmoides</i>	golden-samphire	EG SB
<i>I. viscosa</i>	stink aster	
<i>Launaea cervicornis (EG)</i>	hedgehog lettuce	CC CF
<i>Pallenis spinosa</i>		MG
<i>Phagnalon rupestre</i>		
<i>Reichardia tingitana</i>		
<i>Santolina chamaecyparissus</i> <i>var. magonica (EM)</i>	lavender-cotton	CC CF
<i>Senecio rodriguezii (EG)</i>		CC CF
<i>Silybum marianum</i>	milk-thistle	
<i>Sonchus tenerrimus</i>		MG SB
<i>Urospermum dalechampii</i>		MG T
<b>Boraginaceae</b>		
<i>Borago officinalis</i>	borage	
<i>Cynoglossum creticum</i>	blue hound's-tongue	MG AG SB
<i>Echium italicum</i>	pale viper's-bugloss	AG CC
<i>E. plantagineum</i>	purple viper's-bugloss	MG SB CC
<b>Brassicaceae</b>		
<i>Brassica napus</i>	rape	
<i>Cakile maritima</i>	sea-rocket	SB EG
<i>Cardaria draba</i>	hoary cress	AG
<i>Lobularia maritima</i>	sweet Alison	MG SB EG CC
<i>Matthiola incana</i>	hoary stock	AG M
<i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i>	wild radish	
<i>Sisymbrium officinale</i>	hedge mustard	
<b>Cactaceae</b>		
<i>Opuntia ficus-indica</i>	prickly-pear	MG EG MN
<b>Campanulaceae</b>		
<i>Campanula erinus</i>		CC NT
<b>Caprifoliaceae</b>		
<i>Lonicera implexa</i>		AG EG B T
<b>Caryophyllaceae</b>		
<i>Polycarpon polycarpoides</i>		CF
<i>Silene gallica</i>	small-flowered catchfly	MG EG AG
<i>S. secundiflora</i>		CC NT
<i>S. sedoides</i>		CF
<i>S. vulgaris</i>	bladder campion	



<b>Chenopodiaceae</b>		
<i>Arthrocnemum macrostachyum</i>		EG MN T
<i>Atriplex portulacoides</i>	sea-purslane	EG MN
<i>Beta vulgaris</i> ssp. <i>maritima</i>	sea beet	SB
<i>Salicornia ramosissima</i>	glasswort	EG MN
<i>Sarcocornia fruticosa</i>	shrubby glasswort	EG MN CF
<b>Cistaceae</b>		
<i>Cistus albidus</i>	grey-leaved cistus	EG SR AG MN T
<i>C. monspeliensis</i>	narrow-leaved cistus	EG AG
<i>C. salvifolius</i>	sage-leaved cistus	EG MN NT SR
<i>Fumana thymifolia</i>		SR
<b>Convolvulaceae</b>		
<i>Calystegia sepium</i>	hedge bindweed	SB
<i>C. soldanella</i>	sea bindweed	EG
<i>Convolvulus althaeoides</i>	mallow-leaved bindweed	
<i>C. arvensis</i>	field bindweed	
<b>Crassulaceae</b>		
<i>Sedum rubens</i>		CF
<i>Umbilicus rupestris</i>	navelwort	MG TG AG
<b>Cyperaceae</b>		
<i>Carex extensa</i>	long-bracted sedge	AG
<i>C. flacca</i>	glaucous sedge	SR
<i>C. otrubae</i>	false fox sedge	AG
<i>Eleocharis palustris</i>	common spike-rush	T MN
<i>Schoenus nigricans</i>	black bog-rush	CC EG
<i>Scirpus maritimus</i>	sea club-rush	T MN EG
<b>Dioscoreaceae</b>		
<i>Tamus communis</i>	black bryony	AG
<b>Dipsacaceae</b>		
<i>Scabiosa atropurpurea</i>		SB EG
<b>Ericaceae</b>		
<i>Arbutus unedo</i>	strawberry-tree	SR
<i>Erica arborea</i>	tree-heath	SR
<b>Euphorbiaceae</b>		
<i>Euphorbia dendroides</i>	tree spurge	EG CF
<i>E. helioscopia</i>	sun spurge	
<i>E. paralias</i>	sea spurge	SB EG
<i>E. pithyusa</i>		CC F
<i>E. terracina</i>		CF
<i>Ricinus communis</i>	castor-oil plant (planted)	MG SB
<b>Fabaceae</b>		
<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i> ssp. <i>font-querii</i>		NT
<i>Astragalus balearicus</i> (EG)	hedgehog milk-vetch	CF
<i>A. boeticus</i>		SB
<i>Calicotome spinosa</i>	spiny broom	
<i>Coronilla juncea</i>		SR AG
<i>Dorycnium fulgurans</i> (EG)		CF
<i>D. hirsutum</i>		MN SR
<i>D. pentaphyllum</i>		MN SR
<i>Hedysarum coronarium</i>	Italian sainfoin	
<i>Lathyrus annuus</i>		MG EG
<i>L. clymenum</i>		CC
<i>L. ochrus</i>		TG
<i>L. sphaericus</i>		NT
<i>Lotus cytisoides</i>		
<i>L. ornithopodioides</i>		AG
<i>L. tetraphyllus</i> (EG)		CC
<i>Medicago arborea</i>	tree medick	B
<i>M. marina</i>	sea medick	SB EG
<i>Melilotus sulcata</i>		AG
<i>Ononis reclinata</i>	small rest-harrow	CC

<i>Psoralea bituminosa</i>	pitch trefoil	EG AG
<i>Scorpiurus muricatus</i>		SR
<i>Trifolium campestre</i>	hop trefoil	EG
<i>T. nigrescens</i>		
<i>T. resupinatum</i>	reversed clover	EG
<i>T. stellatum</i>	starry clover	
<i>T. tomentosum</i>		MG
<i>Vicia benghalensis</i>		EG
<i>V. sativa</i>	common vetch	
<i>V. tetrasperma</i>	smooth tare	EG
<b>Fagaceae</b>		
<i>Quercus ilex</i>	holm oak	MG EG MN AG
<b>Frankeniaceae</b>		
<i>Frankenia hirsuta</i>	hairy sea-heath	F CC CF
<b>Fumariaceae</b>		
<i>Fumaria capreolata</i>	ramping fumitory	SB
<b>Gentianaceae</b>		
<i>Blackstonia perfoliata</i>	yellow-wort	EG SR
<i>Centaurium maritimum</i>	yellow century	CF
<i>C. pulchellum</i>	lesser century	CF
<b>Geraniaceae</b>		
<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	common stork's-bill	CC
<i>Geranium columbinum</i>	long-stalked crane's-bill	AG
<i>G. dissectum</i>	cut-leaved crane's-bill	AG
<i>G. purpureum</i>	little-robin	MG AG
<i>G. rotundifolium</i>	round-leaved crane's-bill	
<b>Iridaceae</b>		
<i>Gladiolus illyricus</i>	wild gladiolus	SR
<i>G. italicus</i>		SB MG
<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	yellow flag	SB
<b>Juncaceae</b>		
<i>Juncus acutus</i>	sharp rush	T EG MN SB
<i>J. maritimus</i>	sea rush	EG MN CF
<b>Lamiaceae</b>		
<i>Mentha aquatica</i>	water mint	AG
<i>M. suaveolens</i>	apple-scented mint	SB
<i>Micromeria filiformis</i>		SR
<i>Prasium majus</i>		MG TG AG
<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>	rosemary	SR
<i>R. officinalis</i> var. <i>palaui</i> (EG)		CC
<i>Salvia verbenaca</i>	meadow clary	MG AG
<i>Teucrium subspinosum</i> (EG)	hedgohog germander	CF
<b>Liliaceae</b>		
<i>Allium ampeloprasum</i>	wild leek	B SB
<i>A. roseum</i>	rose garlic	
<i>A. triquetrum</i>	three-cornered leek	EG
<i>Asparagus acutifolius</i>		
<i>A. albus</i>		
<i>A. horridus</i>		MG F
<i>Asphodelus aestivus</i>	white asphodel	
<i>A. fistulosus</i>	hollow-stemmed asphodel	
<i>Muscari comosum</i>	tassel hyacinth	
<i>Ornithogalum arabicum</i>	Arabian star-of-Bethlehem	MG
<i>Ruscus aculeatus</i>	butcher's-broom	SB EG MN
<i>Urginea maritima</i>	sea squill	MG EG AG C
<b>Linaceae</b>		
<i>Linum bienne</i>		MN
<i>L. usitatissimum</i>		SR
<b>Lythraceae</b>		
<i>Lythrum junceum</i>		AG

<b>Malvaceae</b>		
<i>Lavatera arborea</i>	tree mallow	AG SB
<i>Malva sylvestris</i>	common mallow	
<b>Moraceae</b>		
<i>Ficus carica</i>	fig	
<b>Myoporaceae</b>		
<i>Myoporum laetum</i>	(planted)	MG M
<b>Oleaceae</b>		
<i>Phillyrea latifolia</i>		EG T MN
<i>P. latifolia</i> var. <i>rodriguezii</i> (EM)		F CF
<i>Olea europaea</i>	olive	
<b>Orobanchaceae</b>		
<i>Orobanche clausonis</i>		F
<i>O. crenata</i>		SB
<i>O. loricata</i>		F
<i>O. sanguinea</i>		B
<i>O. ramosa</i>	branched broomrape	MG SB
<b>Orchidaceae</b>		
<i>Anacamptis pyramidalis</i>	pyramidal orchid	AG B SB
<i>Barlia robertiana</i>	giant orchid	MG
<i>Limodorum abortivum</i>	violet bird's-nest orchid	SR
<i>Ophrys balearica</i> (EB)		SR
<i>O. bombyliflora</i>	bumblebee orchid	MG
<i>O. lutea</i>	yellow bee orchid	SB
<i>O. speculum</i>	mirror orchid	MG SR
<i>O. tenthredinifera</i>	sawfly orchid	MG SR
<i>Orchis coriophora</i> ssp. <i>fragrans</i>	bug orchid	NT
<i>Serapias parviflora</i>	small-flowered tongue-orchid	MG EG
<b>Oxalidaceae</b>		
<i>Oxalis pes-caprae</i>	Bermuda buttercup	
<b>Palmaceae</b>		
<i>Chamaerops humilis</i>	dwarf fan-palm	CC
<b>Papaveraceae</b>		
<i>Glaucium flavum</i>	yellow horned-poppy	EG CF
<i>Papaver hybridum</i>	rough poppy	NT
<i>P. rhoeas</i>	common poppy	
<b>Phytolaccaceae</b>		
<i>Phytolacca arborea</i>	Ombu (planted)	MG
<b>Plantaginaceae</b>		
<i>Plantago afra</i>		CF
<i>P. bellardii</i>		MG
<i>P. coronopus</i>	buck's-horn plantain	
<i>P. crassifolia</i>		SB EG CF
<i>P. lagopus</i>		
<b>Plumbaginaceae</b>		
<i>Limonium echioides</i>		CC CF MN
<i>L. minutum</i> (EB)		CC CF
<b>Poaceae</b>		
<i>Ammophila arenaria</i>	marram grass	SB EG
<i>Ampelodesmus mauritanicus</i>		MN CC
<i>Arundo donax</i>	giant reed	AG
<i>Briza maxima</i>	large quaking-grass	MG EG
<i>B. media</i>		NT
<i>Cynosurus echinatus</i>		EG
<i>Elymus farctus</i>	sea couch-grass	SB EG
<i>Hordeum marianum</i>	sea barley	MN
<i>H. murinum</i>	wall barley	
<i>Lagurus ovatus</i>	hare's-foot grass	
<i>Phragmites australis</i>	common reed	SB
<i>Polypogon monspeliensis</i>	annual beard-grass	MN

<b>Polygonaceae</b>		
<i>Rumex bucephalophorus</i>		
<b>Posidoniaceae</b>		
<i>Posidonia oceanica</i>	Neptune-weed	
<b>Primulaceae</b>		
<i>Cyclamen balearicum</i>		NT
<i>Anagallis arvensis</i>	scarlet pimpernel (red and blue varieties)	
<b>Punicaceae</b>		
<i>Punica granatum</i>	pomegranate	AG
<b>Rafflesiaceae</b>		
<i>Cytinus ruber</i>		SR
<b>Ranunculaceae</b>		
<i>Clematis cirrhosa</i>	maiden's-bower	MG TG AG
<i>Ranunculus aquatilis</i>	common water-crowfoot	SB T
<i>R. macrophyllus</i>		MN
<i>R. parviflorus</i>	small-flowered buttercup	AG
<i>R. sceleratus</i>	celery-leaved buttercup	AG
<b>Resedaceae</b>		
<i>Reseda alba</i>	white mignonette	
<b>Rhamnaceae</b>		
<i>Rhamnus alaternus</i>	Mediterranean buckthorn	AG
<b>Rosaceae</b>		
<i>Potentilla reptans</i>	creeping cinquefoil	AG
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	blackthorn	
<i>Rosa sempervirens</i>		EG
<i>Rubus ulmifolius</i>	bramble	
<i>Sanguisorba minor</i>	salad burnet	T AG
<b>Rubiaceae</b>		
<i>Crucianella maritima</i>		SB
<i>Galium aparine</i>	cleavers	
<i>Rubia peregrina</i>	wild madder	
<i>Sherardia arvensis</i>	field madder	
<i>Valantia muralis</i>		NT
<b>Salicaceae</b>		
<i>Populus alba</i>	white poplar	AG
<b>Santalaceae</b>		
<i>Osyris alba</i>		EG
<b>Scrophulariaceae</b>		
<i>Bellardia trixago</i>		
<i>Digitalis dubia</i> (EG)		CC
<i>Linaria triphylla</i>		NT
<i>Parentucellia viscosa</i>	yellow bartsia	MG NT AG
<i>Verbascum creticum</i>		AG
<i>Veronica cymbalaria</i>		
<b>Smilacaceae</b>		
<i>Smilax aspera</i>		MN
<b>Solanaceae</b>		
<i>Solanum nigrum</i>	black nightshade	SR
<i>S. sodomaeum</i>	apple-of-Sodom	SM MN
<b>Tamaricaceae</b>		
<i>Tamarix africana</i>		SB
<i>T. gallica</i>	tamarisk	EG MN
<b>Thymelaeaceae</b>		
<i>Thymelaea hirsuta</i>		B
<b>Urticaceae</b>		
<i>Parietaria judaica</i>	pellitory-of-the-wall	
<i>Urtica membranacea</i>		
<b>Valerianaceae</b>		
<i>Centranthus calcitrapae</i>		SB AG

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Dear colleagues,

We would like to thank you for your generous donation, **400 Euros**, to GOB Menorca. We are extremely grateful for the effort you did and we hope you felt welcomed to Menorca during your trip here.

As an environmental NGO we do believe that actions as yours have multiple benefits for the environment. Firstly, we will be able to go on working on nature's conservation, and moreover, we feel that people like yourselves will also contribute the environmental awareness to other collectives.

GOB Menorca is running several projects related to nature's protection and environmental awareness that your generous donation may contribute to:

Study and protection of wild fauna and flora, especially endangered species: the Centre for the recovery of injured wild animals, a reserve of tortoises that have been in captivity, campaigns against use of poisons and furtive hunters, Vivarium of autochthonous plants...

Defence of natural areas from destructive activities: proposal of alternatives for the urbanistic planification, detection and reporting of illegal building operations, publication of the problems and possible solutions related to natural landscapes, regeneration of degraded zones and promotion of Marine Reserves...

Popularization of the environment: conferences, meetings, exhibitions, excursions, edition of posters, brochures and reports, edition of books, education on environment for children and adults, Nature Centre...

Thanks again for your great contribution; we hope to see you soon in Menorca.

Best regards;

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